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KENYA

86 Rochester Row, London, S.W.1 3rd March 1954

The Kenya Committee welcomes the news that the death sentence on Warihiu Itote (General China') will not be carried out, and that the opportunity has thereby been opened for bringing an end to the slaughter in Kenya by negotiation.

COMMITTEE

It notes, however, that the Colonial Office has stated that while discussions with African leaders are being held, "there will be no relaxation of the impact of the security forces", but that on the contrary these operations "will be continued and intensified." In such an atmosphere it is difficult to see how a just and honourable peace can be brought about and the Kenya Committee therefore urges the Government to follow up its welcome gesture by declaring an immediate truce.

The end of the fighting must be the first step towards the granting of the legitimate demands of the African people in Kenya. There must be no reprisals and the African leaders now in prison should be released so that the way can be open for the people to have their own organisations and representation, and thus put an end to the racial discrimination and exploitation that have led to the present situation.

The Kenya Committee calls on all organisations and individuals to be vigilant in this new situation and to press for an immediate truce, for the release of the African leaders and for negotiations at Government level to end the repression and bring about a just solution to the problems which have caused and are causing so much suffering to the African people.

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86 Rochester Row London, S.W.1. 12th April 1954

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PRESS STATEMENT

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An opportunity to end the fighting in Kenya by peaceful negotiation has been thrown away. The news that on April 7th, while the cease-fire was in operation, the security forces killed 25 Africans in a "clash" in a tribal reserve near the truce area amply explains why the Africans who had been invited to come out of the forest feared that the whole operation was a trap and refused to give themselves up.

KENYA COMMITTEE

Now it is announced that military operations have been resumed and Vampire aircraft have been added to the Harvards and Lincolns already being used to bomb the defenceless Africans; this is referred to in the press as "more orthodox methods of inducing surrender".

Further bloodshed will in no way resolve the situation in Kenya; it can only increase the hatred of the Africans for white rule, prolong the suffering on all sides and make the solution of the problem of this tortured land more difficult.

The Kenya Committee, which is organising a National Deputation to the Colonial Office on Empire Day (May 24th), writes:

"Where do the hopes for peace lie? With the armed settlers who shoot on sight, call for more bloodshed and rely on British troops to protoct their property with fire and blood? With the <u>War Council</u> set up by Mr.Lyttleton before he left Kenya in <u>March? Or with African leaders like Dedan Kimathi, who wrote</u> "We are not fighting for an everlasting hatred but are creating a true brotherhood between white and black while living in a peaceful Kenya. Let us end the emergency and return peace to our lovely country"

Already, organisations representing over 600,000 people have signed the protest postcard issued by the Kenya Committee, which calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities, the release of the African leaders and the lifting of the ban on the Kenya African Union. The signatures willbe taken to the Colonial Secretary by a deputation in which Labour Parties, Trade Unions and CoOoperative organisations have already elected delegates to take part.

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RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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