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"THE RELEVANCE OF IVA VALLEY MASSACRE IS IN THE HEROISM OF YESTERYEARS, THE CONTINUED STRUGGLES OF THE WORKING CLASS AGAINST POVERTY IGNORANCE & DISEASE, AND THE OPTIMISM FOR THE FUTURE - THAT WE SHALL OVERCOME"

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EDITORIAL- BUDGET OF SORROW

It has become customary, at the end of every year, for the head of State to announce the budget for the coming year. The budget is no more than a statement of how the economy is expected to look next year, how much they intend to spend and how much they think will come into the nation's purse. Essentially it is a statement of how the ruling class intends to loot the treasury in the coming year ! So Alhaji Shehu Shagari delivered the 1983 budget proposals on Wednesday, 3rd Nov. 1982.

As usual it contains a lot of figures and lies which are meant to confuse us and cover up the real fraud they intend to carry out. These figures indicate hard times ahead for workers and it is because of this that our foreign exploiters have praised the President for 'a job well done'. For us however, this budget is not a source of joy and this is why we need to look closely at some of the contents.

Alhaji Shagari started by looking at what he called the world economic situation. He said that "there is no country in the world that is not battling" with problems like inflation, unemployment, armed robbery, prostitution etc. He tried to prove his case by giving examples of Britain, Canada, U.S.A, West Germany. Yes these countries have those problems but the President failed to tell us that countries like Cuba, Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Libya etc are not facing these problems. Or are they not part of the world ?

The point is that these problems are caused by the Capitalist system which is based on the exploitation of the many by the few. When Britain colonised Nigeria and some other African countries, they did not have these problems but now that they have to share our resources with countries like U.S.A etc there are problems.

Why is it that Cuba, a country without any resources apart from Sugarcane and Tobacco, is able to wipe out illiteracy, unemployment and prostitution and Nigeria with all resources like Oil, marble, steel etc still faces these problems ?

Secondly, Alhaji Shehu Shagari announced that he is pleased to say that the "austerity measures" are yielding expected results. Yes, it is yielding results, but we the working people of Nigeria are NOT PLEASED to say so. The

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