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Race Today

VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY IN BRITAIN JULY/AUGUST 1984 70P

Schooling Crisis in Bradford



US, the Caribbean & the Future

The New Cross Massacre Story Continues



CB5/3/845

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The title of this column means what it says. The column is open to our readership to say what it likes and how in a manner of its choosing. Its contents are not necessarily the views of the Race Today Collective.
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Letters

CORRECTION

Dear Editor

Please be advised that poems – 'Human Being I Am' 'Justice' and 'Whats it all for' have been mistakenly credited to me. These poems were published in the April/May issue of 1984. Will appreciate therefore earliest clarifying corrective on the matter.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter, Best wishes to all at Race Today.

Delano Malik DeCouteau
Trinidad
West Indies.

MANCHESTER EDUCATION DEPT REPLIES

Dear Editor,

I am responding to observations made in the April/May issue of *Race Today* in the item headed 'Funds, a problem for black students in Manchester'.

The decision about Sigismund Tucker's award follows the practice of the Education Committee to offer a discretionary award for the second and final years of a degree course in cases where students have previously undertaken an HND course. This policy is in line with recommendations made by the North West Assocated Education Authorities. The prime contributor to hardship in such cases might well be thought to be the education institutions which are able to grant remission from the first year of a degree course when previous studies have been in related subjects. This would, by saving a year, be of far more benefit to the student. Even if you disagree with our policy, that does not make it racist. It applies to all students and actually affects far more white than black students.

The Access Course is one of two pilot schemes being offered by local authorities to prepare 'members of ethnic minorities' for entry into higher education. Manchester and ILEA are the only authorities offering major awards for such courses. From 1 September 1984 unmarried women with dependants will receive additional maintenance for dependants.

G. Hainsworth
Education Department
Crown Square
Manchester

BLACK SOCIAL WORKER – NEW ASSOCIATION

Dear Editor,

The Association of Black Social Workers and Allied Professionals was set up in March 1983 by a group of Black professionals who had become quite tired of waiting for changes within society towards an equal opportunity for black people and other ethnic minority groups

The group decided to try to pave the way itself to affect changes for a better standard of life for black people and to challenge racist policies and attitudes throughout society. We are at present particularly concerned with the issue of Black children in Local Authority care, their fostering and adoption policy. We feel that black children in care have a right to be socialised within the black community so that they do not lose sight of their identity, a situation which has already occurred to a large extent within the black community.

M.E. Gordon
Brixton
London SW9.

WANTON SLAUGHTER IN JAMAICA

Dear Race Today,

The Managing Committee of the Jamaica Council for Human Rights condemns the wanton slaughtering of seven(7) persons in Rema, the wounding of several others and the displacement from their homes of many hundreds more, by armed marauding gangs from Tivoli Gardens.

A terrifying aspect of the reports of these acts of anarchy is that their perpetrators were openly armed with automatic weapons, sten guns and high-powered rifles equipped with telescopic sights.

It is a cause for very great concern that, in relation to these deplorable acts which reportedly emanate from the political heart of his own constituency, the Prime Minister did not see it fit to address the nation and to reassure us that adequate measures were being taken to deal with the marauders.

Further, the reports of his speech to some residents of the area do not contain even an expression of mild concern over the possession and use of such 'a frightening array of sophisticated weaponry' by apparently organised groups of his constitutents.

We are alarmed at reports of 22 gunmen from Tivoli being cordoned in Rema yet all escaped the cordon.

We are also alarmed at reports which indicate heavy police patrols were instituted on Thursday night in the areas involved in the war, except Tivoli Gardens.

We question how is it that members of the police force watched armed civilians passing the Denham Town Police station and yet *not one* was apprehended! Is it that our police can only apprehend, wound or kill persons armed with icepicks or machetes?

If, as media reports indicate, a cause of the war was the apparent growth of unity between opposition and government factions, then the Nation needs to question why the development of unity should be met with such force.

We call for most thorough investigation into the reported acts of murder and arson.

Dennis V. Daly
Chairman
Kingston, Jamaica

2nd. Open Exhibition By Black Artists

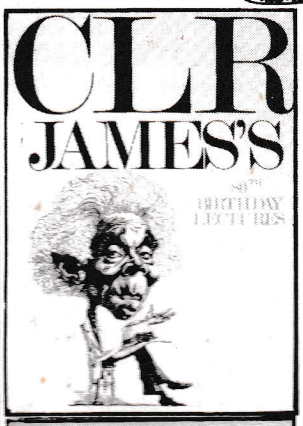
To be held at Brixton Art Gallery
21 Atlantic Road, London SW9 (under the railway arches)
Tuesday 17th July – Wednesday 8th August 1984
Opening times: Weekdays 11am – 7pm
Saturdays 10am – 7pm Sundays 12 – 6pm
Nearest Tube: Brixton (Victoria Line)
(then two minutes walk)
Buses: 2 2b 3 35 37 50 95 109 133 159 172 196

Creation for Liberation, The Basement, 165 Railton Road, London SE24 OLU. Telephone 01-737 2074.



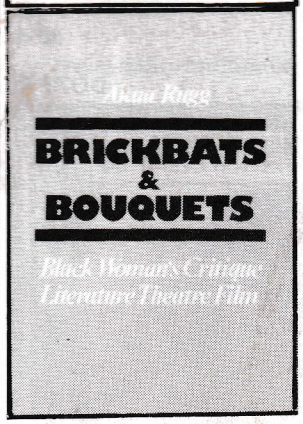
BOOKS by POST





CLR JAMES, the renowned Marxist historian, political theorist, literary critic and cricket writer has produced yet another illuminating publication.

The lectures were organised by the Race Today Collective, but the choice of topics was CLR James's: Socialism or Barbarism; England and America: Two English Speaking Democracies; and Immigrants to Britain: Formerly Colonial Peoples. Darcus Howe, Editor of Race Today, chaired the series.
Price: £2.50 (p&p 45p)



BRICKBATS AND BOUQUETS by AKUA RUGG . . . covers a fairly representative cross section of literature, film and theatre by and about blacks. This endeavour craves out for her, perhaps, the position of being the only consistent critic in this field.
Price: £2.75 (p&p 45p)

OTHER RT PUBLICATIONS

The Struggle of Asian Workers in Britain by the Race Today Collective	£1.95 (p&p 36p)
Walter Rodney and the Question of Power by CLR James	£0.95 (p&p 30p
The Black Explosion in British Schools by Farrukh Dhondy, Barbara Beese and Leila Hassan	£1.75 (p&p 36p)
Voices of the Living and the Dead by Linton Kwesi Johnson	£1.75 (p&p 36p)
Inglan is a Bitch by Linton Kwesi Johnson	£1.75 (p&p 30p)
The Road Make To Walk on Carnival Day by Darcus Howe	£1.00 (p&p 30p)
The Race Today Review 1984	£1.25 (p&p 36p)

(Reviews for 1982 and 1983 are still available)

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