Workers, Defend Your Colonial Brothers!¹

Worried about the growing revolt among their colonial slaves, the international imperialists are feverishly increasing their regime of terror in order to crush the Soviet Movement in China and the revolutionary struggles of the toiling masses in India, Africa, and other colonies.

In order to carry out their bloody policy more effectively, the dictators of Versailles have given order to Brüning and his social-democratic lackeys, to help them in suppressing the revolutionary movement of the colonial peoples. This indeed, is the reason why the police raided the office of the League against imperialism in Berlin, after this organization had already carried on its work in public for over 6 years. And the same is true of the raid, which the Hamburg police undertook one day later upon the bureau of the International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers, where they confiscated about 10,000 copies of various pamphlets published by the Committee, amongst them, the “Negro Worker”, the official organ of the Committee, and an anti-imperialistic pamphlet, which calls upon the Negro workers to watch out against the imperialistic war danger and to protect the Chinese Revolution, as well as the Soviet Union against intervention of the capitalist war mongers.

The attitude of the police clearly showed that they were carrying out the instructions of foreign masters. The German bourgeoisie, having lost their colonies in Africa and elsewhere in the last imperialist war, have now become the willing tax collectors for the Versailles robbers. It is also not an accident, that these raids on the organizations of the colonial peoples have taken place just at a time when the League of Nations and America have appointed the former governor of German East Africa, Dr. Schnee, now president of the “Deutsche Kolonialgesellschaft” (German Colonial Society) as a member of the Manchurian Investigation Commission. By playing the bootlickers of their Versailles masters, the German imperialists hope to receive as a reward for their services some of their former colonies.

In degree in which the crisis in Africa is increasing, the colonial enslavers, especially England, France, Belgium, and America are getting more and more excited about the tremendous upward swing of the revolutionary movement among the toiling black masses in South and West Africa, the Congo as well as the U.S.

In the last months, the imperialist powers have let loose a reign of terror against the Negro workers. This we can see by open massacres which are taking place in the Congo, the brutal attacks of the police on native workers in South Africa, and the almost daily occurring cases of lynching in America.

In all the colonies, Negro workers, suspected of the least revolutionary activity, are being arrested, and even without the usual gesture of bourgeois “justice”, are being thrown into

¹ Appeal published in The Negro Worker, Vol 1, No 12, December 1931, page 1, organ of the International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers, 8 Rothesoodstr., Hamburg, Germany, [RGASPI, fond 532 opis 4/94].
prison. In West Africa, ships with native crews are being spied by the C.I.D. and colonial police, and as soon as they arrive in port are being searched for revolutionary literature.

Through these methods, the imperialists hope to suppress the revolutionary movement of the Negro workers, and to drive the International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers underground. But they and their German henchmen will never succeed, for this Committee, which was organized at an international conference of Negro workers in July 1930 in Hamburg has already found the enthusiastic support of the toiling Negro masses in all countries. The International Committee gives expression to the growing revolutionary consciousness of the black masses in Africa, the West Indies and America, who have decided to fight under the slogan “Class against Class” for national freedom and societal emancipation, together with the workers in the “mother”-countries, and all other oppressed toilers in the colonies and Semi-colonies.

The International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers appeals to all revolutionary workers and honest fighters against imperialism to support the fight of the Negro masses and to defend their international organization against all attacks of imperialists.