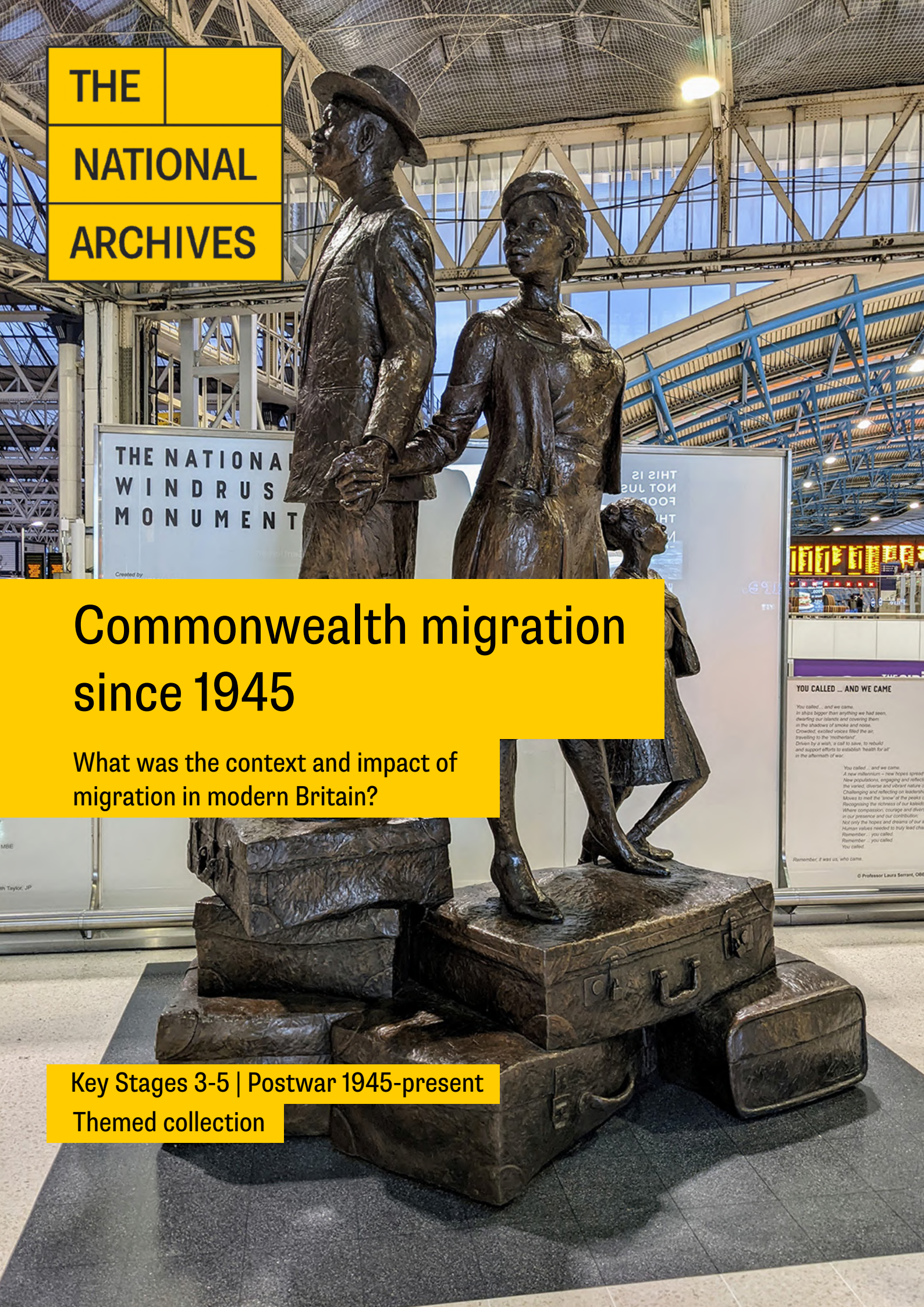


THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Commonwealth migration since 1945

What was the context and impact of
migration in modern Britain?

Key Stages 3-5 | Postwar 1945-present
Themed collection



Introduction

This collection of original documents can be used to support GCSE units on modern British immigration for AQA History: Britain: Migration, empires, and the people: c790 to the present day; Edexcel, Migrants in Britain c800-present; OCR, Migrants to Britain c1250 to present (Schools History Project) and for 'depth studies' on 'Modern Britain' at A Level for AQA and Edexcel.

Some of sources could be selected by teachers to support history lessons for the Key stage 3 unit: 'Challenges for Britain, Europe, and the wider world 1901 to the present day: social, cultural, and technological change in post-war British society; Britain's place in the world since 1945'.

Suitable for:

KS 3 - 5

Time period:

Postwar 1945-present

Connections to curriculum

Key stage 3:

Challenges for Britain, Europe, and the wider world 1901 to the present day: social, cultural, and technological change in post-war British society; Britain's place in the world since 1945. 1964-1974 issues of immigration and race

Key stage 4:

AQA GCSE History: Britain: Migration, empires, and the people: c790 to the present day

Edexcel GCSE History: Edexcel, Migrants in Britain c800-present

OCR GCSE History: OCR, Migrants to Britain c1250 to present (Schools History Project)

Key stage 5:

AQA GCE History: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007: Attitudes to immigration; racial violence 1951-1964 & Issues of immigration and race 1964-1970.

Edexcel GCE History British Political History, 1945- 90: Consensus and Conflict

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Teacher's notes

This collection of original documents is particularly useful for knowledge selection on modern British migration. Teachers can use it with students to develop their own historical enquiries as well as to prepare and practice source-based exam questions. The collection includes a wide range of source types to encourage students to think more broadly when exploring attitudes towards migration and its impact. Teachers have the flexibility to download all documents and transcripts to create their own resources.

It is important to note that many documents cover sensitive subjects. Some include language and concepts that are entirely unacceptable and inappropriate today. We suggest that teachers look at the material carefully before introducing to students. It would be helpful to discuss the language and ideas contained in a source beforehand. Teachers may wish to break the documents into smaller extracts if they appear too long or create additional simplified transcripts.

With each document we have provided a 'brief descriptor' on the web page to signal the content; a document caption, and 3-4 suggested prompt questions. We hope this will allow students to work independently if wished on any document, or within small class discussion groups, or to assist teachers in the development of their own questions. Also included in these notes is a suggested starter activity. The aim is to familiarise learners with the types of sources contained in the collection. We hope too that exposure to original source material may also foster further document research.

Types of records

The collection allows the students to explore different types of government records including: the Home Office (HO), the Colonial Office (CO), the Foreign Office (FO), Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the Ministry of Labour (LAB), Board of Trade (BT), Assistance Board (AST), Admiralty (ADM) and the Ministry of Information (INF). Here is [a short video introduction](#)¹ to records at The National Archives.

It is worth discussing with students the functions of these various departments and there is more detail in The National Archives' research guides on individual record series, for example: the [Foreign Office and its successor, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office](#)², or the [Home Office](#)³.

¹ <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/start-here/what-we-have/>

² <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/foreign-commonwealth-correspondence-and-records-from-1782/>

³ <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/home-office-correspondence-1782-1979/>

Teacher's notes

Looking at different types of sources

Starter Activity: 15 minutes

Students look at the document collection.

Find an example of each source in the table below. Fill in the reference of the source & answer the two questions in the table. Discuss your findings if possible.

Source type	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Which government department does the source come from?How does this help to understand more about the source?
Ship's passenger list Ref:	
Local Newspaper Ref:	
Government Report Ref:	
Telegram Ref:	
Handwritten letter Ref:	
A typed official letter Ref:	
Memorandum Ref:	
Photograph Ref:	
Registration of British Nationality form Ref:	
Diagram Ref:	
Statistical information Ref:	
Copy of a speech Ref:	

Teacher's notes

Source questions

Once students get to grips with the type of source, they can work out what is being said and how it is being said. Encourage them to 'look behind the source'. Where has the record come from and why has it been created? Does it offer a national or local perspective? What is the difference between a government report and a local newspaper? What is the value of oral testimony? What type of sources help with specific investigations?

Encourage students to consider both the 'witting' and 'unwitting' testimony a source may reveal. Part of this evaluation is to consider if there are any gaps in the evidence or issues of accuracy in authorship. Why would we trust/not trust this source? What other sources might be needed to provide additional information/context? Does the document support other knowledge that you already have for a certain line of enquiry? Use the document prompt questions to promote discussion of the content.

Finally, some photographs are included in the collection. Students should always consider: why has the photograph been taken? Is it posed, is it an official press photograph, or is it a snapshot? Remember too that a photograph can be selective in choice of subject – or could it have been cropped? Is there an original caption linked to the photograph? Original captions add meaning to a photograph and add a particular message – we cannot necessarily take them on face value.

The purpose of the following questions is to analyse, evaluate and understand the documents to develop interpretations and draw conclusions. Teachers may wish to print out them for discussion prior looking at the collection.

- What is the date of the source?
- Who wrote/created it?
- Do you know anything about the author?
- What type of source is it? (Letter, report, newspaper, telegram, diagram, photograph, memorandum, statistical data)
- What is the source saying/showing?
- Check the meaning of any words you are unsure about.
- How useful is this information, does it support what you know already?
- What can you infer (information which is not directly stated)?
- What type of enquiry would be this record be useful for?
- Does the document show the writer's opinions/values?
- Are there any clues about the intended audience for the document?
- Why was the document created?
- Does it have any limitations or gaps?
- Does it link to other sources in this group?
- Does it share the same ideas, attitudes, and arguments?
- How would you explain any differences between these documents?

Teacher's notes

Suggested enquiry questions using documents in this collection

Ensure that students refer to specific named documents as part of any enquiry. Break the class up into groups and get students to feedback and/or annotate at a white board which sources could be relevant to any of these suggested enquiries:

1. For what reasons did people choose to migrate from British colonies to Britain after the Second World War?
2. How and why did the British government prepare for the arrivals on the Empire Windrush?
3. Where did the first Empire Windrush arrivals find work and settle?
4. Why and what arrangements were made for the reception of V.W.s [European Voluntary Workers] and ex-Polish servicemen?
5. What do the documents reveal about attitudes towards migrants and the experience of migrants living in Britain in the 1950s and 1960s?
6. How did government legislation in Britain impact on migrants coming to Britain in the 1960s and 1970s?
7. Select THREE sources that you have found most interesting/shocking/surprising and compare with a partner/discuss in class.
8. Use the documents here, the Background, and your own research to create a timeline entitled: 'Migration in Modern Britain from 1905 (Aliens Act) to the present'.
9. Listen to the oral testimonies provided in the external links below from the [British Library](https://www.bl.uk/windrush/articles/windrush-generations-1000-londoners)¹ and [London Docklands Museum](https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london-docklands/windrush-stories/listening-to-the-windrush-generation#:~:text=Windrush%20Conversations%20is%20a%20collection,very%20vivid%20and%20lively%20conversations.)². How to these deepen our understanding of the documents concerning experience of the Empire Windrush arrivals and later migrants? Discuss in class.
10. Use appropriate documents from this collection to provide a national context for your own GCSE historic environment local migrant case study from 1940s-1960s.

¹ <https://www.bl.uk/windrush/articles/windrush-generations-1000-londoners>

² <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london-docklands/windrush-stories/listening-to-the-windrush-generation#:~:text=Windrush%20Conversations%20is%20a%20collection,very%20vivid%20and%20lively%20conversations.>

Background

Commonwealth migration to Britain

Migration from the Caribbean to Britain, symbolised by the arrival of the Empire Windrush, hides the fact that there had already been a long tradition of men and women emigrating from islands such as Jamaica to work in Central and South America and the United States. The Caribbean economy, heavily reliant on the export of agricultural products, was an economy where labour was cheap and unemployment rates high, so seeking seasonal work, particularly in the US, was normal. After the Second World War, there was a dramatic reduction in the requirement for Caribbean labour in the US, and this was an important push factor for the arrival of Caribbean men and women to Britain from the late 1940s and early 1950s. In addition, there was more familiarity with Britain, as during the Second World War people from the Caribbean had come to serve in the war. In the wake of the arrival of the Empire Windrush, consideration was given by British officials to restrict further arrivals; however, there was resistance, most notably from the Governor of Jamaica, who could see the tough economic conditions people were operating under and acknowledged that people were British subjects and had only recently contributed to the war effort.

British cities needed rebuilding after the devastation of five years of bombing. Britain also had to recruit a huge number of workers to support the newly founded Welfare State and to rebuild its infrastructure.

There was a significant demand for labour which came not only from the Caribbean but also from mainland Europe, Ireland, India, and Pakistan. However, it was opposition to Commonwealth and empire immigration that stood out, with a reluctance for example to accept skilled Caribbean labour. While wanting to allow entry to white people from the old Commonwealth, the government did not want to appear racist in any plans to restrict immigration from elsewhere in the empire and Commonwealth as governments of the newly emerging black Commonwealth took offence at moves to restrict movement to Britain from their respective countries while not applying the same rules to those from the white Commonwealth.

European Volunteer Workers Scheme and Polish resettlement

There was also the question of European migration. Polish troops who fought alongside the western allies chose not to return to Poland. In 1946, the British Foreign secretary announced that the Polish Resettlement Corps was to be formed as a body of the British Army whereby any Pole who served under the British would be discharged from the Polish Army and could enlist as a British soldier until demobilization. Wives and dependents were brought to Britain to join them. The Polish Resettlement Bill was drawn up in 1946 and the Act was passed in 1947. It was the first ever mass immigration legislation passed by Parliament in Britain and allowed over 200,000 Poles to remain in the United Kingdom.

The Polish Resettlement Corps was disbanded in 1949. During its short-lived existence, it brought about the reunion of families and integration into British society for displaced Poles. It was these Poles who established the Polish communities throughout the United Kingdom.

Background

Over 84,000 or so European Voluntary Workers (EVW) arrived in Britain from 1947-1949. The Displaced Persons (DPs) who were brought to England as EVW to supplement Britain's workforce were East Europeans who were taken as forced labour by the Germans, being held after the war in the military zones in Germany.

Arrival of the Empire Windrush and beyond

Before the much-publicised Empire Windrush docked at Tilbury Harbour in June 1948, earlier ships arrived at UK ports carrying West Indian labourers. The Ormonde, for example, docked at Liverpool in March 1947 with 108 migrant workers from Bermuda, Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica. At the end of that year, the Almanzora arrived at Southampton with a similar number of mainly ex-service men from the West Indies who had fought alongside Britain and her allies.

Many migrants travelled alone, leaving behind their families while they settled in. There was an acute shortage of housing, particularly in big cities, to accommodate the growing number of migrants and many endured racist abuse and were denied access to hostels. The problem was so severe in London that many were housed in a deep underground shelter at Clapham Common. The British Nationality Act 1948, which came into force on 1 January 1949, made it much easier for Commonwealth migrants to settle in Britain as it created the opportunity for all to register their British Nationality.

By June 1948, a variety of Government Departments including the Home Office, the Ministry of Labour, the Assistance Board, and the Housing and Local Government Board were becoming more co-ordinated in preparing for future influxes of Caribbean migration across the United Kingdom. The 1950s would see the arrival of tens of thousands of workers and their families as Britain continued its policy to nationalise key industries, such as transport and energy, and with it demand more labour.

Nearly 70 years after the arrival of the Windrush, it emerged in 2017 that hundreds of Windrush generation migrants had been wrongly detained, deported and denied legal rights, despite having lived in the UK since before 1973. In March 2020, Home Secretary Priti Patel apologised for the scandal and the harm inflicted upon families.

Experience of the first arrivals in the 1950s and 1960s

The Empire Windrush ([BT 26/1237](#)) as well as the Ormonde, Almanzora, and many other ships' passenger lists reveal a diverse range of skills and professions amongst the migrants, including accountants, chemists, carpenters, and more. However, as a result of the colour bar in Britain, many could only find employment in the least desirable areas of the economy, in work that was typically semi- and unskilled, with low wages and poor conditions. Indeed, a study by the sociologist Ruth Glass carried out between 1958-9¹ showed that 55% of Caribbean migrants experienced job downgrading after their arrival.

Background

In housing, many of the West Indians' initial stays in the air raid shelters underneath Clapham South underground station ([HO 205/253](#)) only served to delay their confrontation with landlords reluctant to let rooms to Black people, with the now infamous 'no blacks, no dogs, no Irish' signs displayed in lodging house windows.

This hostility would grow throughout the 1950s, culminating in the Nottingham and then Notting Hill (West London) riots of 1958, which largely consisted of gangs of Teddy boys attacking the new arrivals. The following year, Kelso Cochrane, a carpenter from Antigua, was brutally stabbed to death in West London. These events would lead to increased calls for immigration control, resulting in the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act, leading many to argue that the migrants were being blamed for the prejudice directed towards them.

Racism was, however, always met with resistance. The Caribbeans, for instance, downed tools and walked away, and petitioned and organised against discriminatory practices in the workplace (even where unions weren't supportive). They developed 'pardner' or 'sou-sou' schemes to raise money for down payments on homes (as banks would frequently refuse to lend to Black people), and mobilised against racist attacks in the streets. Claudia Jones emerged as a key activist in this period, founding the West Indian Gazette Newspaper and, following the Nottingham and Notting Hill riots in 1958, organised the UK's first Caribbean-themed carnival in St Pancras Town Hall, London.

¹ Glass, Ruth (1960) *Newcomers: The West Indians in London* Harvard University Press, p.31, cited in, Hiro, Dilip (1992) *Black British, White British: A History of Race relations in Britain* Paladin, p26.

External links

Links

- Runnymede Trust: Our Migration story website: [Stories from 1900 to 2000](#)¹
- Watch short film portraits from Londoners of Caribbean heritage: [British Library](#)²
- Articles and historical sources from [the British Library on Windrush](#)³
- Museum of London Docklands oral history collection called '[Listening to the Windrush generation](#)'⁴
- More photographs and film about the Empire Windrush from [Royal Museums Greenwich](#)⁵
- [Articles from the Windrush Foundation](#)⁶
- [Workshops](#)⁷ at the Black Cultural Archives including Windrush
- Explore collections at the [Migration Museum](#)⁸
- Students could consider [British Pathé film sources](#)⁹ as interpretations of the migration post 1945 in relation to this learning resource.

Research guides

- The National Archives website: [Immigration and immigrants](#)¹⁰
- The National Archives Education website: [Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic histories](#)¹¹

¹ <https://www.ourmigrationstory.org.uk/oms/by-era/1900%E2%80%932000>

² <https://www.bl.uk/windrush/articles/windrush-generations-1000-londoners>

³ <https://www.bl.uk/windrush/articles/how-caribbean-migrants-rebuilt-britain>

⁴ <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london-docklands/windrush-stories/listening-to-the-windrush-generation#:~:text=Windrush%20Conversations%20is%20a%20collection,very%20vivid%20and%20lively%20conversations.>

⁵ <https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/windrush-histories/story-of-windrush-ship>

⁶ <https://windrushfoundation.com/articles/>

⁷ <https://blackculturalarchives.org/schools>

⁸ <https://www.migrationmuseum.org/>

⁹ <https://www.britishpathe.com/>

¹⁰ <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/immigration/>

¹¹ <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/black-asian-and-minority-ethnic-histories/>

Tasks

Source 1: Jamaican economic conditions 1930s

A handwritten letter from a Jamaican man who lived in Scotland and petitioned the Colonial Secretary about conditions in Jamaica, 13 June 1938. Catalogue ref: CO 137/827/1

- What has caused problems in Jamaica according to the writer?
- What is the writer's view of Britain as a colonial power?
- What does the letter infer about its writer and British identity in Jamaica?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of personal letters as historical sources?

Source 2: Disturbance: Tate & Lyle estate

Telegram from the Governor of Jamaica to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, 2 May 1938. The telegram concerns a disturbance at Tate and Lyle's Frome estate in Westmoreland, Jamaica, where a new factory was being built. Catalogue ref: CO 137/826/9

Other documents from the same file outline the charges put to the 'ring leaders' of the strike and detail police conduct during the disturbance, including the use of gunfire to control the crowd.

- What caused the disturbances at the Tate and Lyle factory?
- How did the authorities deal with the situation?
- What does this source infer about the economic situation in Jamaica?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of telegrams as historical sources?

Source 3: Kingston Bakery Strike

A photograph to show the interior of a bakery with wasted dough and a telegram from the Governor of Jamaica's office to the Secretary of State of the Colonies, which accompanied the photograph. The telegram gave details of a strike at Kingston's main bakery, 28 April 1943. Catalogue ref: CO 137/855/11.

Alexander Bustamante was an important politician, trade unionist and critic of the colonial system. He spoke out about unemployment, low wages, and poor working conditions for Jamaicans in the 1920s and 1930s. In 1938 he founded the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU), previously known as The Jamaica Workers Union. He was imprisoned in September 1940 for an alleged violation of the Defence of the Realm Act and released in February 1942. A year later he founded the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) and became the first Prime Minister of Jamaica in 1962 when Jamaican gained independence.

Defence Regulations were laws that could control almost every aspect of everyday life in the country.

Tasks

- Why were the telegram and photograph both sent to the Secretary of State of the Colonies?
- What is the viewpoint of Sir R. Adams towards the bakery strike?
- Why do you think he wants an 'amendment of Defence Regulations'?

Source 4: Sugar strike 1943

A letter sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies concerning working conditions for sugar workers in Jamaica. 26 January 1943. Catalogue ref: CO 137/852/7

Alexander Bustamante was an important politician, trade unionist and critic of the colonial system. He spoke out about unemployment, low wages, and poor working conditions for Jamaicans in the 1920s and 1930s. In 1938 he founded the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU), previously known as The Jamaica Workers Union. He was imprisoned in September 1940 for an alleged violation of the Defence of the Realm Act and released February 1942. A year later he founded the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) and became the first Prime Minister of Jamaica in 1962 when Jamaican gained independence.

- Why has this letter been sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies?
- Find out more about the life and work of Alexander Bustamante here.
- Does this letter infer anything about the relationship between Britain and Jamaica?

Source 5: Colonial Office history of migration from 1919

A memorandum from the Colonial Office Working Party on 'the employment in the United Kingdom of surplus colonial labour,' which provides an outline history of settlement from the First World War, 5 October 1948. Catalogue ref: CO 1006/2

Contains original language used at the time which is not appropriate today.

- When and where have colonial citizens settled in Britain before the arrival of the Empire Windrush?
- What problems have they faced in the port cities?
- How was the issue of accommodation tackled for Windrush workers?

Source 6: Unemployment statistics British colonies

Extract from a Colonial Office report on unemployment in the Colonies. The table of figures shows the variation between countries, 1948. Catalogue ref: CO 1006/2

Contains original language used at the time which is not appropriate today.

- Which country has the highest unemployment?

Tasks

- Which country has the lowest unemployment?
- Do these statistics help explain why people chose to come to Britain on the Empire Windrush?

Source 7: Polish resettlement scheme

The document comes from a file about the General Policy for Polish Resettlement in Britain 1946-50. It gives information on accommodation for the 1st Polish Armoured Division and their dependents, 7 March 1947. Catalogue ref: AST 18/1

- What government department is going to support the Polish resettlement scheme?
- Where were the Polish settlements?
- Can you find out the reason behind Polish resettlement?

Source 8: 'Westward Ho' scheme

Extract from a document describing the 'Westward Ho!' scheme developed for the Allied resettlement of refugees and displaced persons after the Second World War, 6 April 1948. Catalogue ref: FO 1052/487

- What was the 'Westward Ho' policy?
- Why was recruitment of single men and women preferable?
- Why does the document refer to the British, French, and American 'Zones'?
- How does this scheme compare to the plans for Empire Windrush arrivals?

Source 9: Migration of German nurses' scheme

Telegram from the British zone of occupied Germany after the Second World War about the transfer of 50 German nurses by 25 July 1948. Catalogue ref: FO 1052/487

The British zone included the following areas: North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony Schleswig-Holstein, and Hamburg. Lübbecke is a town in northeast North Rhine-Westphalia in north Germany.

- What proposal is outlined here?
- Can you find out the date of the start of the National Health Service in Britain?
- Why might this proposal be linked to this?

Source 10: S.S. Ormonde

A press photograph of ex-troop ship SS Ormonde. This was one of the first of the lesser-known ships that carried postwar migrants. It docked in Liverpool on 31 March 1947 for over a year before the Empire Windrush. Catalogue ref: ADM 176/999

Tasks

The passenger list for the ship reveals that there were 241 onboard, including 11 stowaways and six distressed seamen. It shows a diverse range of skills and professions. Due to an unofficial colour bar in Britain, many could only find employment with low wages and poor conditions. Find out more about this and other ships in this National Archives [blog](#).

- How can you tell from the photograph that this is an ex-troop ship?
- What do you think is the purpose of a 'press photograph'?
- Can you find the document reference for this ship's passenger list in The National Archives [online catalogue](#)?

Source 11: Government preparations for increased migration

This document, dated 27 May 1948, comes from a file that includes discussions about finding work for the first Commonwealth immigrants after the arrival on the HMT Ormonde with 100 Jamaicans in 1947 and the bookings for a further 300 to come on the Empire Windrush. It reveals opposition from the unions and management to hiring Black workers in various industries, including the Merchant Navy, brickworks, agriculture, and dockyards. Catalogue ref: LAB 8/1499

Contains original language used at the time that is not appropriate today.

- What steps did government departments take to prepare for increased immigration?
- Why had immigration increased, according to the document?
- Apart from Commonwealth immigrants, which other individuals came to work in Britain?
- How would you describe the tone and attitude of the document towards immigration?

Source 12: Barbadian women workers' scheme

This document extract comes from a file dealing with efforts to find work for the first Commonwealth immigrants. The extract gives details of a pilot scheme for the recruitment of Barbadian women. 1947-1948. Catalogue ref: LAB 8/1499

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- Why were women workers needed to work in Britain, according to the document?
- What were the concerns about a women's recruitment scheme for Barbados?

Source 13: Telegram about Windrush passengers

Telegram from the Acting Governor of Jamaica to the Secretary of State for the Colonies informing him of troop deck passengers booked on the Empire Windrush, 11 May 1948. Catalogue ref: HO 213/714

Tasks

- Find out what the term 'troop deck passenger' means.
- Does this telegram provide different information from the telegram dated 6 June 1948 in this collection? (CO 876/88, Source 19)
- What steps had the Jamaican Government taken to discourage travel to Britain?
- What are the advantages/disadvantages of telegrams as historical sources?

Source 14: Push factors for migration

Memorandum from the Secretary of State for the Colonies entitled 'S.S. Empire Windrush-Jamaican Unemployed', 15 June 1948. Catalogue ref: CO 537/2583

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- What factors caused Jamaicans to choose to come to Britain, according to this document?
- What is the attitude of the Colonial Office and the Government of Jamaica towards this?
- What preparations were made for the arrival of these citizens as well as their future employment?

Source 15: Preparations for Windrush arrivals

Minutes from the Welfare Department of the Colonial Office 26 May 1948. Catalogue ref: CO 876/88

- Why were the Home Office, Colonial Office and Ministry of Labour present at this meeting?
- What plans were discussed for the arrival of 350 Jamaicans for their employment and accommodation in and outside London?
- What appear to be the main concerns of the meeting?

Source 16: Categories of passengers

Extracts from Assistance Board Memorandum about arrangements for Windrush arrivals, including information about treatment of stowaways, 1948. Catalogue ref: AST 21/8

- What was the number of passengers?
- How were they grouped into categories?
- What support was given to stowaways?

Source 17: Early report on migrants in Britain

Extracts from report by Eric Walrond entitled 'Negro migrants in Britain', 1947 December – 1948 October. Catalogue ref: CO 876/88

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

Tasks

- How many who travelled on the Empire Windrush got jobs and accommodation through government services?
- Which industries employed these workers?
- Does the document give us any idea about the experience of those who settled in Britain?

Source 18: Cummings address to Windrush passengers

'Short address to West Indian Workers on H.M.T. Windrush', by I. G. Cummings. Catalogue ref: CO 876/88

- What assistance is to be provided by the Ministry of Labour and National Service departments/?
- What travel support is to be given and who is it for?
- What plans have been made for accommodation on arrival for those staying in London?

Source 19: Telegram with Windrush passengers' skills

A telegram to Mr Cummings, Colonial Office in London, from Mr Smythe about passengers on the Windrush, 6 June 1948. Catalogue ref: CO 876/88

- Why do you think this telegram was sent?
- What skills do the passengers have?
- What information is not provided?

Source 20: Clement Attlee on Windrush arrival

Letter from Prime Minister Clement Attlee to Mr J. D. Murray M.P and ten others concerning the arrival of the Empire Windrush and the implications for future immigration, 5 July 1948. Catalogue ref: CO 876/88

- What does Attlee say about the rights of British subjects in the colonies and dominions?
- How does he suggest the arrivals should be viewed?
- What seems to be his attitude towards future immigration?

Source 21: Passenger list from Windrush

A page from the passenger list of M.V. Empire Windrush (the New Zealand Shipping Company Ltd) travelling from Kingston, Jamaica to London, 22 June 1948. Catalogue ref: BT 26/1237

- What does the document reveal about the age range/sex/occupation of the passengers?
- Can you spot another country of origin, apart from Jamaica, on this page?
- What does the list infer about reasons for coming to Britain?
- Can you find out what arrangements the government made for those who had no

Tasks

accommodation to go to on arrival?

- According to the list, where did others intend to go on arrival?

Source 22: Clapham South tube station: accommodation

Diagram to show accommodation of Windrush arrivals in Clapham South tube station. There are named shelter points on the top floor and lower floor. The diagram also shows the location of various canteens and various canteen cash desks. Clapham North and Stockwell were also planned as shelters. Undated. Catalogue ref: HO 205/253

- What does this diagram show in terms of how accommodation was organized?
- How were people looked after?
- Why do you think this tube station was used for short term accommodation?

Source 23: Newspaper article: 'Welcome is planned'

Newspaper article entitled 'Attlee steps in as a colony protests: Welcome is planned' from the *Evening News*, 17 June 1948. Catalogue ref: LAB 26/218

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- What appears to be the attitude of Mr Isaacs, Minister of Labour, towards the Windrush arrivals?
- How has Prime Minister Attlee resolved the issues concerning their arrival?
- What is the value of newspapers as historical sources?

Source 24: Finding employment in London

A letter from Mr. Hardman at the Ministry of Labour and National Service Department to all Reception Centres for receiving passengers from Empire Windrush, 1948. Catalogue ref: LAB 26/218

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- What does the term 'British Subject' mean in the context of this document?
- What preparations are being made to find employment for those arriving from Jamaica?
- Why does London have an unemployment problem, according to this document?

Source 25: Employment for industry

A response to Mr Hardman's letter on 19 June about the employment of men arriving on the Windrush, 21 June 1948. Catalogue ref: LAB 8/1516

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

Tasks

- What preparations are needed for the employment of these men according to the writer?
- What concerns does the writer have about finding them jobs?
- Which industries are suggested as possible employers?

Source 26: Treatment of European workers and colonial citizens

Extracts from a file entitled 'Colonial Office working party on the recruitment of West Indians for United Kingdom industries', 1948-1949. Catalogue ref: LAB 26/226

Contains original language used at the time which is not appropriate today.

- What were the aims of the working party?
- What economic problems existed in the 'West Indian Islands economies'?
- How successful was the employment of immigrants 1947-1948?
- What was the 'Westward Ho scheme'?
- What concerns did the working party have about the difference between European workers and colonial citizens?

Source 27: Booklet: 'West Indian on England'

Information booklet called 'A West Indian in England' written by H.D. Carberry and Dudley Thompson.

The pamphlet was designed to give early immigrants some idea of life in Britain. It was distributed by the Colonial Office to colonies in the Caribbean, 1949-1951. Catalogue ref: CO 875/59/1

In the preface, the authors state, 'the picture we have here painted is inadequate to express the full reality behind it, but we have attempted to give the visitor from the West Indies as fair and frank a picture, neither too fair nor too dark of the circumstances he will find on his arrival in this country'.

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- How do the writers describe post-war London?
- What advice is given concerning finding somewhere to live?
- How do they describe race relations in the country?
- How realistic is the content of this pamphlet do you think?
- Why do you think this document was created?

Source 28: Final report on Windrush dispersal

Final report from National Assistance Board on the dispersal of Windrush arrivals, 1948. Catalogue

Tasks

ref: AST 7/1125

- In which regions of the country have the men settled?
- In which industries have they found employment?
- How does the National Assistance Board view the success of the process?

Source 29: Staff nurse Ena Sullivan

Registration of British Nationality for Ena Clare Sullivan. Country of Nationality or Birth: Jamaica, 3 December 1968. Catalogue ref: HO 334/1406/110478

Ena Clare Sullivan was a passenger on the Empire Windrush ship, which docked at Tilbury harbour in Essex on 22 June 1948. After arriving to Britain, Ena trained as a nurse at West Middlesex Hospital from 1948 to 1951. Her registration of British nationality reveals a significant amount of information about her story, most notably her family, employment history, and the places she lived. In the form, her occupation is listed as 'S/N' from 1948 to 1959, which most likely refers to Staff Nurse, Health Visitor from 1959 to 1961, and Staff Nurse from 1961 to 1968.

- At what age did Ena apply for British citizenship in 1968? [Clue: find her date of birth on form]
- When did she come to Britain [Clue: find date of her first address at end of the form]
- What does the address tell us about what she did?
- Write a paragraph about her work as a nurse in Britain using both pages of the document.
- Why was Ena's contribution so important in Britain at the time and afterwards?

Source 30: Report on migrant experience in Britain 1950

These are extracts from a report written by a 'colonial student', Derek Bamuta, at the University of Bristol in 1950. It describes 'Conditions of Colonial People in Stepney'. He was invited to write the report whilst volunteering at the Bethnal Green Family Welfare Association in 1949. The report was later sent to the Prime Minister, Clement Attlee. Catalogue ref: CO 876/247

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- Which British subjects were identified in the report?
- What was their experience of living in Britain?
- What can be inferred about race relations at that time?
- Why did people choose to settle in Britain according to the report?

Source 31: Causeway Green hostel riot 1949

Article entitled 'Dispersal decision after race riot' from Birmingham's *Evening Despatch*, 15th April 1949. Catalogue ref: LAB 26/198

Tasks

This is an early example of a crisis in post-war race relations. It involved an attack by Poles on 65 Jamaicans living in a Ministry of Labour hostel in Causeway Green, Oldbury, West Midlands. After the Second World War, Britain had a huge labour shortage. Various schemes were set up to take European Voluntary Workers, ex-prisoners of war and Polish ex-servicemen. Many West Indians who had served in the armed forces and related occupations hoped to find jobs in Britain owing to the lack of opportunities in the colonial islands.

The Ministry of Labour set up the National Service Hostels Corporation to organise hostel accommodation near the workplace for these migrant workers. The NSHC provided a list of 97 hostels across the country to accommodate 1128 migrant workers in 1950. After events at Causeway Green, the hostel reduced the number of Jamaicans allowed to stay to 30 (it was originally 12) but many refused to leave and lose their jobs. Find out more about these disturbances and other hostels in this National Archives blog.

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- What was the cause of the rioting at Causeway Green, according to the article?
- How did the authorities respond to the disturbances? What do you think of their response?
- What do you think the impact of living in a government hostel would be for these workers?

Source 32: Arrival of SS Georgic 1951

National Assistance Board on the arrival of Jamaican Workers on the SS Georgic, arriving in August 1951. Catalogue ref: AST 7/1125

- What route did these Jamaican passengers take to Britain?
- What arrangements were made for their accommodation and employment in the country?
- Why did another group of 100 Jamaicans come to Britain at the end of August?
- What do these notes infer about the attitude of the Ministry of Labour towards Jamaicans seeking work in Britain?

Source 33: 700 Jamaicans arrive in 1954

Newspaper article from the *Southern Daily Echo* [Southampton] entitled '700 work- wanting Jamaicans arrive at Southampton', 3 May 1954. Catalogue ref: AST 7/1125

- What was the name of the ship that brought over 700 Jamaicans?
- Why have they come to Britain?
- What is the value of this newspaper as a historical source?

Tasks

Source 34: Jamaican Regiment in Blue Mountains 1955

Central Office of Information photograph issued in March 1955. Catalogue ref: INF 10/153. Original caption says: 'Photograph shows Newcastle Hill Station Military Camp in the Blue Mountains. The Hill Station is 3,719 feet up and some 19 miles from Kingston.'

- Why do you think this photograph was taken?
- What jobs did some men do in Jamaica after service in the Jamaican Regiment?
- Does the photograph and caption reveal anything about the relationship between Britain and Jamaica?

Source 35: Arrival in Plymouth 1956

Newspaper article from the Express and Star [Wolverhampton] 9 August 1956. Catalogue ref: AST 7/1125

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- Why was this article written?
- What does it reveal about the difficulties of finding decent accommodation and jobs for some Jamaicans?
- What does the article reveal about attitudes in British society towards immigration at that time?

Source 36: Arrival of S.S. Ascania 1958

Letter from the Area Officer in Southampton East to the Secretary of the National Assistance Board, concerning arrivals on the S.S. Ascania, 15 April 1958. Catalogue ref: AST 7/1125

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- How many British Caribbean arrivals were expected on 15 April 1958?
- What does this document reveal about the role of the British Caribbean Welfare Service?

Source 37: Notting Hill Riots

Newspaper article entitled 'Police may get coloured recruits soon' from the *Daily Herald*, 5 June 1959. Catalogue ref: HLG 117/122

The newspaper went out of print in 1964.

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

Tasks

In 1958, Britain saw rioting in Nottingham and in a part of West London called 'Notting Dale', known as Notting Hill today. In this area, relations between new Caribbean migrants and the white working classes were poor. Black people were frequently excluded from skilled employment, pubs, and clubs. Landlords refused to rent to Black families. Other landlords exploited these immigrants by renting them over-priced, overcrowded accommodation. Added to this racial discrimination, the shortage of decent housing and the poor living conditions made matters worse. Racist behaviour and activities were fuelled by fascist organisations such as the White Defence League, the League of Empire Loyalists, and supporters of Oswald Mosley, as well as 'teddy boys' on the streets.

In the Notting Hill area, Commonwealth immigrants were attacked, and their homes damaged by gangs of young white men. A year later, Kelso Cochrane, a carpenter from Antigua, was brutally killed. It was a racist murder and not, as the police later claimed, an attempted robbery.

Following these events, there was a strong effort to improve relations in the area from Black activist Claudia Jones and members of the Caribbean community, which eventually gave rise to the Notting Hill Carnival and the start of legislation designed to prevent racial discrimination.

- Why do you think Mr Butler, Home Secretary, wished to introduce Black constables into police forces in areas 'where there is no racial rivalry'?
- What is your view on this plan?
- Can you explain the meaning and significance of the expression 'no legal colour bar' as used in this article?
- How does the government explain the causes of racial tension in the area? Do you think there are other factors?
- What is the value of newspapers as historical sources?
- Find out more about the causes of the riots in Notting Hill and in Nottingham in 1958.

Source 38: Housing for migrants 1960s

Extracts from a Report by the Commonwealth Immigrants Advisory Council, July 1963. The council was set up to advise the Home Secretary on matters affecting the welfare of Commonwealth immigrants and their integration into the community. Catalogue ref: HLG 39/32

The source gives some information on the experience of migrants in Britain in terms of finding accommodation. Not all Commonwealth immigrants were welcomed by white British communities. Despite the shortage of labour in the 1950s and 1960s, some still found it difficult to get decent jobs or accommodation.

Most of the accommodation that was available was often in the poor inner cities. Even if they did have enough money to rent better quality housing, many had to face the fact that some landlords refused to rent to Black people. In 1958 in Nottingham and London's Notting Hill, areas where larger numbers of West Indians lived, there were outbreaks of violent attacks against them.

Tasks

The language used in this source is of its time; however, it is inappropriate and unacceptable today

- What does this source reveal about housing for Commonwealth immigrants in Britain?
- What do you think the source does not reveal about the contribution made by immigrants?
- Find out about the changes in law in the 1960s concerning immigration and race relations. Why do you think these changes were made?

Source 39: Firefighter Frank Bailey

Registration of British Nationality for Frank Bailey, 1968. Bailey joined the West Ham Fire Brigade in 1955 where he served at Silvertown Fire Station, making him the first full time Black firefighter in England. Catalogue ref: HO 344/1405/10992

- Where was Frank Bailey born?
- What is the purpose of this document from the Home Office?
- What is the value of this source for historians studying:
 - immigration history?
 - the history of the British Empire?

Source 40: 'Employment of surplus colonial labour'

Two 'minute papers' dated 15 April and 3 May 1948, from a working party on the employment in the UK of surplus colonial labour. Catalogue ref: LAB 13/42

- What do these 'minute papers' reveal about the views of the Ministry of Labour on colonial migrant workers coming to Britain?
- What appears to be the view of trade unions?
- What is inferred about the government's attitude towards Northern European migration to Britain?
- How can 'minute papers' be considered useful historical sources?

Source 41: Race relations in industry 1953

Extracts from a report entitled 'The employment of coloured workers, note by the Ministry of Labour and National Service'. Their statistics were gathered in the week beginning 15 June 1953. Catalogue ref: HO 344/105

Immigration was vital to the British economy; however, the report reflects a climate of hostility towards migrants.

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

Tasks

- Which parts of the country experienced the highest unemployment figures for migrant workers?
- Which were the main countries they migrated from?
- What evidence does the report provide of race relations in the workplace at that time?

Source 42: Benefits of immigration 1961

Extracts from a memorandum from the Treasury entitled 'Economic Effects of Immigration into the United Kingdom' from July 1961. This could have been part of an attempt to gather information for the Immigration Act passed the following year. Catalogue ref: HO 344/144

- What are the benefits of immigration for the economy outlined in the source?
- Why is it seen as an error to restrict immigration in the long term at this time?
- What other benefits of immigration are not discussed?
- Why do you think this document was labelled 'Confidential'?

Source 43: Controversy over Italians in Bedford

An article from the Daily Herald, 9 November 1961. Catalogue ref: LAB 8/2201

Although immigration had been encouraged because of the post-war labour shortage, many of those who arrived in Britain during the 1950s and 1960s encountered resentment from local people in the areas where they lived and worked. This article gives a glimpse of the controversy regarding Italian workers that erupted in Bedford in 1961.

Contains original language used at the time, which is not appropriate today.

- Why do you think this newspaper was saved in a Ministry of Labour file?
- Why were 200 Italians banned from living and working in Bedford?
- What is the difference in the attitude of the writer towards immigrants from Italy and those from the Commonwealth?

Source 44: Immigration Act 1962

Table showing an analysis of the purpose of the journey of Commonwealth citizens according to the Commonwealth Immigration Act 1962. The Act admitted immigrants by means of work vouchers, but dependants were freely admitted. Catalogue ref: HO 344/234

- Can you tell from the table why immigrants chose to come to Britain?
- Which countries are these immigrants coming from?
- Can you find out the terms of the Commonwealth Immigration Act 1962?

Tasks

Source 45: Immigration Act 1968

This document comes from a file entitled 'The Commonwealth Immigrants Act 1968: Qualification for entry into the UK'. Catalogue ref: FCO 50/329

It is a summary from the British High Commissioner in Kenya sent to the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs about the impact of the new Commonwealth Immigrant Act on Kenya, 21 May 1968.

The British colonial rule came to an end in 1963 when an ethnic Kenyan majority government was elected and the independent Republic of Kenya formed in 1963.

In 1968, the Labour government passed the Commonwealth Immigration Act, which restricted UK citizenship to those born in the UK and their children or grandchildren. Those living in the ex-colonies without a direct family connection to the UK were no longer entitled to enter the country.

- Find out the terms of the Commonwealth Immigration Act 1968.
- Find out how and why Kenya became independent from Britain.
- How did the 1968 Common Immigration Act affect Kenya, according to the British High Commissioner?

Source 46: A response to Powell's speech 1968

Copy of a press clipping from the newspaper called The Daily Nation, Nairobi, 24 April 1968.

The article refers to British Conservative MP Enoch Powell's speech made in Birmingham on 20 April 1968. He strongly criticised Commonwealth immigration to the United Kingdom and the proposed Race Relations Bill. Catalogue ref: FCO 50/329

The speech was regarded as racist in tone and highly inflammatory. Powell was dismissed from Edward Heath's shadow cabinet as result.

- According to the article, what are roots of racial conflict?
- What steps are suggested to improve living and working conditions for immigrants?
- Why, according to the article, are anti-discrimination laws not enough on their own?

Source 47: Changes to British Nationality Act with Immigration Act 1971

Document from a file from 1972 entitled 'Amendment of British Nationality Act 1948 by the Immigration Act 1971'. Catalogue ref: FCO 53/269

Tasks

The document sums up how the Immigration Act 1971 affects the registration for British citizenship.

British citizenship gives the right to live and work in the UK permanently, without any immigration restrictions, and the right to obtain a UK passport. It can contribute to a sense of identity and belonging and allows a person to participate in the political life of a community and country.

Until 1948, people described as 'British Subjects' were people with a close connection to the UK who lived in the UK or overseas. The British Nationality Act 1948 created the status of a 'Citizen of the UK and Colonies' [CUKC] who were also British subjects. When the colonies became independent from the late 1950s onwards, these citizens were no longer CUKCs but retained the status of British subjects and with it the right to abode. They are also called Commonwealth Citizens.

From the 1960s, some CUKCs and British Subjects began to lose their right to abode. The Immigration Act of 1971 introduced the term 'patrial'. This meant a person who had the right to live in the UK through the British birth of a parent or grandparent. The 1971 Act classified people as 'patrials and non-patrials'.

- Find out the terms of the Immigration Act of 1971.
- According to this government summary, under what terms could immigrants register to become British citizens?
- What powers does the Secretary of State have if a person applies to register for citizenship?

Source 48: Race Relations Act & Board 1968

Extracts from a booklet explaining the terms of Race Relations Act and Board set up in 1968.
Catalogue ref: LAB 44/286

- According to the Race Relations Act what is meant by discrimination and segregation?
- How did the Race Relations Board work and deal with complaints?
- Why do you think this booklet was produced?

Source 1: Jamaican economic conditions 1930s.

Catalogue Ref: CO 137/827/1

142
143
144
145

Mr: Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Office,
London,
England.

Dear Sir,

Unfortunately, I have not had
an acknowledgment of my previous letter
to you, but that will not prevent
me from stating the deplorable con-
ditions under which Jamaicans
labourers are forced to live and
work. It is quite possible that
my efforts will be like water falling
on burning ground, but I shall have
the satisfaction of knowing that
I have done my share to help so-
lve the conditions of modern slavery
which exists in Jamaica, after all,
this land of liberty is not
conditions in the island are
such that frankly I am ashamed
to be British.
Whether you wish to believe it
or not Sir, the notes are the

direct result of the wished oppo-
sition of black by white - in other
words, colour prejudice!
It is not only the labourers who
suffer as a result of this subtle form
of British colour prejudice, but they
suffer more because opposition over
a period of years has reduced them
to a state of helplessness.
Prejudice of colour prejudice
was shown during the last elections
of members to the Legislature of the
Island which resulted itself into a
black versus white competition in
which I am glad to say (even although
at that time I was away, not yet
having experienced some of your
home prejudices) that black won.
Next it has been the turn of the
underdogs to rebel and they have
chosen the only available means of
obtaining a living.
But, communists have done
very little to improve conditions.
In my opinion it would be far
better to get a full report from

those in Jamaica who have the
interests of the labourers at heart
and who know far more than
your commissioners will ever find
out. If you like Lord Stirling
and the late Sir Alexander Pearce
Christians (a good word to Jamaica)
were allowed to have their own way
things would not have reached such
a deplorable state.
During the years 1910-1915, Jamaica
to a man, offered to fight for King
and Country. Some fifteen years not
necessary. In all probability Africans
and Indians were justified then.
Today, I am convinced that British
Africans and West Indians would
only be too glad to stand along in
order to expose the folly of this
underland British prejudice in an
Empire which is made up of some
70% coloured people.
Britain is fast becoming the laughing
stock of the world, and will con-
tinue to be as long as education is not
reached that many of us know the

difference between "diplomacy" and
hypocrisy.
You may if you wish this regard
me as a fanatic or even a lunatic,
but I would to advise you that
there are few Britishers more loyal
than I am, as indeed than any
Jamaican is, but we all know
what happens when a Kingdom
becomes divided against itself and
this is fast happening to Britain.
It is not too late to improve con-
ditions; not only in the West Indies
but throughout the Empire and I
trust that a sincere effort is being
made to do so.
Yours truly,
- Clifford
P.S. The Jamaican government has done
a great deal for the peasants. It is the
same and banana companies that exploit
cheap labour.
Britain would be far more for Jamaica
she could at any rate put a 15 per cent
on Chinese and other big money power.
R.H.

Transcript: Source 1

3 King Street

Aberdeen

Scotland

13th June 1938

Hon: Colonial Secretary

Colonial Office

London

England.

Dear Sir,

Unfortunately, I have not had an acknowledgment of my previous letter to you, but that will not prevent me from stressing the deplorable conditions under which Jamaican labourers are forced to live and work. It is quite possible that my appeals will be like "seeds falling on stony ground" but I shall have the satisfaction of knowing that I have done my share to help expose the conditions of modern slavery which exists in Jamaica, after all this boast of "British is Best".

Conditions in the island are such that frankly I am ashamed to be British.

Whether you wish to believe it or not Sir, the riots are the direct result of the wicked oppression of BLACK by WHITE- in other words colour prejudice!

It is not only the labourers who suffer as a result of this subtle form of British colour prejudice, but they suffer more because oppression over a period of years has reduced them to a state of helplessness.

Resentment of colour prejudice was shown during the last elections of members of the Legislature of the Island which resolved itself into a black versus white competition in which I am glad to say (even although at the time I was sorry, not yet having experienced a sample of your home prejudice) that black won. Now it has been the turn of the under-dogs to rebel, and they have chosen the only available means of obtaining a hearing.

Past commissions have done very little to improve conditions. In my opinion it would be far better to get a full report from those in Jamaica who have the interest of the labourers at heart and who know far more than your commissioners will ever find out. If men like Lord Olivier and the late Sir Alexander James Swettenham [Governor of Jamaica 1904-1907] (a 'god-send' to Jamaica) were allowed to have their own way things would not have reached such a deplorable state.

During the years 1914-1918, Jamaicans, to a man, offered to fight for "King and Country". Conscription was not necessary. In all probability, Africans and Indians were just as keen.

Today, I am convinced that Indians, Africans and West Indians would only be too glad to stand aloof

Transcript (cont.): Source 1

in order to expose the folly of this underhand British prejudice in an Empire which is made up of some 70% coloured peoples.

Britain is fast becoming the laughingstock of the world and will continue to be as long she does not realise that many of us know the difference between "diplomacy" and hypocrisy.

You may if you wish Sir, regard me as a fanatic or even a lunatic, but I wish to assure you that there are few Britishers more loyal than I am or indeed than any Jamaican is, but we all know what happens when a kingdom becomes divided against itself, and this is fast happening to Britain.

It is not too late to improve conditions, not only in the West Indies but throughout the Empire, and I trust that a sincere effort is being made to do so.

Yours truly,

R. S. Peat

P.S. The Jamaican Government has done a great deal for the peasants. It is the cane [sugar] and banana companies that exploit cheap labour. Britain could do more for Jamaica. She could at any rate put a 15 year bar on Chinese [China] and also buy more sugar from us.

Source 2: Disturbance: Tate & Lyle estate.

Catalogue Ref: CO 137/826/9

COPY FOR REGISTRATION

RECEIVED
3 - MAY 1938

Telegram from the Governor of Jamaica to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. 269

Dated 2nd May 1938. Received 1.55 a.m. 3rd May 1938.

Immediate.

No 69.

Regret to inform you that serious labour disturbances occurred at the West Indies Sugar Company's Tate and Lyle Frome estate Parish of Westmorland where new factory now being erected. Telegraphic reports from the police indicate as follows:-

Slight disturbance occurred at the factory 0730 p.m.

29th April Friday during weekly pay. Some windows smashed and pay clerks fired revolvers in the air to frighten the crowd ; no casualties. Police Inspector found all quiet on visit one hour later. On 30th Saturday 400 to 500 labourers employed on the new factory struck for higher wages and stopped all workers but all quiet and no disturbance through the week end when 90 extra police were drafted to Westmorland.

2nd May Reports received today indicate that ^{of} crowd/fully 3000 strikers demolished the Company's office at Old Frome, attacking the staff and police with stones, sticks and iron bars ? necessitating immediate firing by the police. Two killed, about 11 wounded, 30 arrests made. Crowd then withdrew from the factory. Motor traffic attacked on road near by and cane fields in the vicinity of the factory on fire in several places. Reinforcements urgently demanded and 70 more police despatched this morning. Disturbances appear to be entirely a local one due to trouble on the estate with regard to pay of labourers and dispute as to rates creating ill feeling towards the estate staff. Will cable further developments.

Transcript: Source 2

COPY FOR REGISTRATION

Stamp: RECEIVED 3-MAY 1938

Telegram from the Governor of Jamaica to the Secretary of the State for the Colonies.

Dated 2nd May 1938, Received 1.55 a.m. 3rd May 1938.

Immediate.

No. 69.

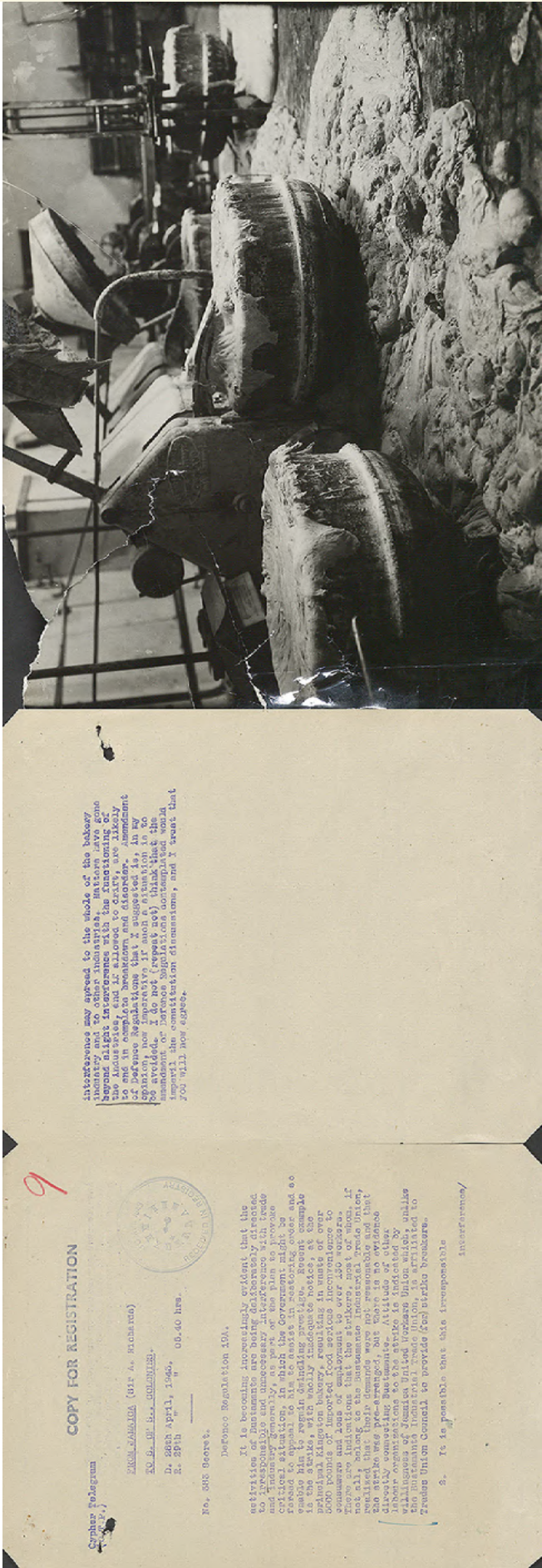
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Slight disturbance occurred at the factory 0730 p.m. Friday during weekly pay. Some windows smashed and pay clerks fired revolvers in the air to frighten the crowd; no casualties. Police inspector found all quiet on visit one hour later. On the Saturday 400 to 500 labourers employed on the new factory struck for higher wages and stopped all workers but all quiet and no disturbance through the week and when 90 extra police were drafted to Westmorland.

Reports received today indicate that crowd of fully 3000 strikers demolished the Company's office at Old Frome, attacking the staff and police with stones, sticks and iron bars necessitating immediate firing by the police. Two killed, about 11 wounded, 30 arrests made. Crowd then withdrew from the factory. Motor traffic attacked on road near by and cane fields in the vicinity of the factory on fire in several places. Reinforcements urgently demanded and 70 more police despatched this morning. Disturbances appear to be entirely a local one due to trouble on the estate with regard to pay of labourers and dispute as to rates creating ill feeling towards the estate staff. Will cable further developments.

Source 3: Kingston Bakery Strike

Catalogue Ref: CO 137/855/11



Transcript: Source 3

COPY FOR REGISTRATION

Cypher Telegram

(O.T.P.)

FROM JAMAICA (Sir A. Richards)

28th April 1943.

29th April 1943 05.40 hrs

No. 383 Secret.

Defence Regulation 19A.

It is becoming increasingly evident that the activities of Bustamante are being deliberately directed to irresponsible and unnecessary interference with trade and industry generally, as part of the plan to provoke critical situation, in which the Government might be forced to appeal to him to assist in restoring order and so enable him to regain dwindling prestige. Recent example is the strike, with wholly inadequate notice, at the principal Kingston bakery, resulting in waste of over 5000 pounds of imported food serious inconvenience to consumers and loss of employment to over 130 workers. There are indications that the strikers, most of whom, if not all, belong to the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union, realized that their demands were not reasonable and that the strike was pre-arranged, but there is no evidence directly connecting Bustamante. Attitude of other labour organizations to the strike is indicated by willingness of Jamaica United Workers which, unlike the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union, is affiliated to Trades Union Council to provide (for) strike breakers.

2. It is possible that this irresponsible interference may spread to the whole of the bakery industry and to other industries. Matters have gone beyond slight interference with the functioning of the industries, and if allowed to drift, are likely to end in complete breakdown and disorder. Amendment of Defence Regulations that I suggest is, in my opinion, now imperative if such a situation is to be avoided. I do not (repeat not) think that the amendment of Defence Regulations contemplated would imperil the constitution discussions, and I trust that you will now agree.

Source 4: Sugar strike 1943

Catalogue Ref: CO 137/852/7

Jesmond Cottage,
NEWCASTLE/ON/TYNE, 2.
26th January, 1943.

Col. the Rt. Hon. Oliver Stanley, MC.MP.
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Minister,

SUGAR WORKERS, JAMAICA.

I have received a communication re the deplorable conditions of the above from an official source, which appears to demand your prompt intervention.

2. During the imprisonment of Alexander Bustamante, President of the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union, his Deputy, without consulting his Executive Committee, irregularly signed a remarkable Agreement with the Jamaica Sugar Manufacturers to the effect that from March 1941 to February 1944 these workers should not receive any increase in their basic pre-war wages excepting a cost of living bonus. The official figures quoted for the latter, however, are alleged to be seriously incorrect - not less than 25% too low. The cost to the workers of bus and rail fares, which are some 33-1/3% higher than pre-war, are wholly ignored, whilst the prices of food and clothing are substantially higher than the official figures.

3. When the workers learnt of this manifestly unjust Agreement, their wages being in the main below reasonable subsistence levels, they protested strongly and in some cases refused to continue at work - their offending official being promptly dismissed.

4. Under present conditions of no basic wage increase, and an incorrect cost of living bonus, these

/OVER...

workers and families are suffering great hardship and impoverishment, intolerable in any British Colony today. It is further alleged that the working day is of 12 hours without lunch time, food having to be eaten whilst working. In addition, the huts in which they are housed are of the poorest character, and often situated in the morass, swamps and levels of the sugar estates, and are unfit for human habitation.

5. It is also stated that there is a notable shortage of Doctors and Medical Supplies.

6. It would appear, and to which you may agree, that in spite of this repudiated Agreement which on appeal by the Union has been upheld, there should, as collective bargaining is arrested, be enacted a minimum wage ordinance giving these workers reasonable maintenance; a reduction in the hours worked; proper housing conditions and the requisite medical services.

I will be glad to learn in due course that you will give this problem your personal consideration.

Yours faithfully,

D. Kemp
for. David Adams.

Transcript: Source 4

Jesmond Cottage

NEWCASTLE/ON/TYNE, 2

26th January 1943

Col. The Rt. Hon. Oliver Stanley, M.C.M.P.
Secretary of State for the Colonies
Colonial Office
Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1

Dear Minister,

SUGAR WORKERS, JAMAICA.

I have received a communication re the deplorable conditions of the above from an official source, which appears to demand your prompt intervention.

During the imprisonment of Alexander Bustamante, President of the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union, his deputy without consulting his Executive Committee, irregularly signed a remarkable Agreement with the Jamaican Sugar Manufacturers to the effect that from March 1941 to February 1944 these workers should not receive any increase in their basic pre-war wages excepting a cost of living bonus. The official figures quoted for the latter, however, are alleged to be seriously incorrect- not less than 25% too low. The cost to the workers of bus and rail fares which are some 33-1/3% higher than pre-war, are wholly ignored, whilst the prices of food and clothing are substantially higher than the official figures.

When the workers learnt of this manifestly unjust Agreement, their wages being in the main below reasonable subsistence levels, they protested strongly and, in some cases, refused to continue to work- their offending official being permanently dismissed.

Under present conditions of no basic wage increase, and an incorrect cost of living bonus, these workers and families are suffering great hardship and impoverishment, intolerable in any British Colony today. It is further alleged that the working day is of 12 hours without lunch time, food having to be eaten whilst working. In addition, the huts in which they are housed are the poorest character, and often situated in the morass, swamps, and levels of the sugar estates, and are unfit for human habitation.

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Transcript: Source 4

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I will be glad to learn in due course that you will give this problem your personal consideration.

Yours faithfully

David Adams

Source 5: Colonial Office history of migration from 1919

Catalogue Ref: CO 1006/2

the coloured people were freed. During and since the late war a great change for better relationship has come about. Perhaps less visible progress has been made in Liverpool than elsewhere. Conditions in Liverpool are not improved by the continual influx of seamen, born free and otherwise plus stowaways, many of whom appear to be unemployable.

Because of the existing Colonial Communities described above, Colonial workers (i.e. people arriving in the United Kingdom from the Colonies in search of employment) usually go direct either to Liverpool or Cardiff, with London a close third. It is in these places in particular that accommodation generally and especially for coloured people is most difficult to obtain. With the exception of London, the other sea-port towns still regard all coloured people as seamen, and as belonging to the local coloured community, and they expect them to keep their places and live within the section of the city occupied by the coloured community. The result is that unscrupulous lodging-house keepers, who know all the local circumstances, doubt that the most undesirable thing which can happen is that large numbers of new coloured workers should be forced or encouraged to go into these areas. It is true to say however, that if they are to be in these sea-port towns their chances of obtaining accommodation outside of these "ghetto" districts are negligible.

who have immigrated to the United Kingdom. The Colonial Office has no financial authority in peace time to establish and manage industrial hostels. Through the good offices of the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Health recent arrivals (such as the EMPIRE WINNERS and OREITA men) have been accommodated in appropriate Government hostels. Firms wishing to employ the labour have in a few isolated instances helped in the accommodation problems e.g. at Leicester, the Royal Ordnance Dept. have accommodated the men. Many men could have been employed in the Midlands, especially Birmingham, but accommodation was not available. In Liverpool and Cardiff, when a new coloured man can squeeze in with the coloured community, there is in which the Ministry of Labour has followed an unhelpful line. The position is that men who could not be employed in the private sector on account of accommodation difficulties must be housed in Government hostels to swell the already large number of unemployed coloured people in these areas.

It would appear from past experience that the first difficulty in the accommodation of coloured workers is not the question of finding them work. It should be recorded that despite the social difficulties confronting these people, these anxious to work, usually find employment, especially

It might be observed here that the town of Bolton is a good example of how a small colonial labour force can be integrated into the ordinary life of an English community. The Colonial workers numbered about 100, most of whom were accommodated in a hostel. Bolton had no "colour problem" and the men settled down. Many have remained there and they have been joined by some West Indians who were formerly in the R.A.F. In order then to get the best out of Colonial workers careful attention must be given to their accommodation and their welfare constantly supervised until they become completely acclimatised. This process may take as long as 12 months.

2. Employment

It is difficult to give an accurate picture of how West Indian workers stand up to their jobs. It is perhaps a fair observation to say that there is a fair amount of movement from job to job. The arrival of the EMPIRE WINNERS men and the placing of them in employment has been a recent experience. On the whole, it would appear that the men have, for the time being, remained in the employment found for them, with the exception of a small group placed in a tin-plate works in Wales. These men complained that the work was unsuitable and that they could not work near the furnaces. The result is that nearly all have left and have drifted to Cardiff where the majority are unemployed. In other parts, large numbers of group sent to Leicester (the Royal Ordnance Dept.) have settled down reasonably well. A small group employed as radio technical trainees in Wales are well reported on. The Salvation Army are satisfied with about a dozen tailors whom

/they

CLWP(48)5.
October.

WORKING PARTY ON THE EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF SURPLUS COLONIAL LABOUR

Colonial Office experience of Colonial workers in the United Kingdom

This memorandum deals with two aspects of the significance of Colonial workers in the United Kingdom namely accommodation and their ability to find and retain employment.

1. Accommodation

Historical

During the past 30 years groups of Colonial workers have been domiciled in Great Britain. Originally they came here as seamen in the 19th-18th century. After the war, they have come down, married and have lived here ever since. They have produced a group of citizens of mixed birth. During the depression periods, the original settlers endured, in common with other workers, years and years of unemployment, and for the most part their families were reared during these periods. Upon reaching working age their off-springs had little opportunity for employment, partly because of the economic depression, but more so on account of racial prejudice. These family units therefore became social problems. The fathers were for the most part Negroes from West Africa, the West Indies and Semiland, also from Aden. A smaller proportion came from Ceylon, Malaya and Hong Kong. (Maltese, Cypriotes and other Mediterranean Colonial workers excluded for the purpose of this memorandum). These seamen settled, for the main part, in the sea-port towns which were familiar to them - viz. Liverpool, London, Cardiff, North and South Shields and Hull - these towns are arranged in the order of size of their colonial communities. As it is not customary in Great Britain to include in any census particulars of racial origin, it is impossible to give with any certainty statistics of coloured people in any particular sea-port town. There are reasons for thinking that at the commencement of the late war these communities in the towns aforementioned numbered 15,000 persons. This estimate must of course include English wives.

In all of the sea-port towns mentioned above, the colonial communities live in the most depressed and sordid part of the town. In Liverpool and Cardiff in particular their districts are no more nor less than "coloured ghettos". In London, North and South Shields and Hull conditions would appear to be a little better. With town-planning and slum clearance it is very reasonably assumed that these conditions will be greatly improved in due course. In particular in Cardiff, where plans have been submitted for the virtual replacement of what is now known as Tiger Bay.

The relationship between these sea-port coloured communities and the rest of the population has varied from place to place, and over periods of time. Liverpool and Cardiff, which contain the largest communities have not had a very good history. The riots of 1919 in Liverpool and in Cardiff will be recalled. Even 20 years ago Tiger Bay was notorious for the lawlessness of its cosmopolitan (which included, as it does today, hundreds of Mediterranean people) inhabitants - a reflection no doubt of the difficulties with which

/the

Transcript: Source 5

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(b)

Transcript (cont.): Source 5

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Because of the existing Colonial Communities described above, Colonial Workers (i.e. people arriving in the United Kingdom from the colonies in search of employment) usually direct either to Liverpool or Cardiff, with London a close third. It is in these places in particular that accommodation generally and especially for coloured people is most difficult to obtain. With the exception of London, the other sea-port towns still regard all coloured people as seamen, and as belonging to the local coloured community, and they expect them to keep their places and live within the section of the City occupied by the coloured community. The result is that unscrupulous lodging-house keepers, who know all the local circumstances batten on these inexperienced newcomers. There can be no doubt that the most undesirable thing which can happen is that large numbers of new coloured workers should be forced or encouraged to go into those areas. It is true to say however, that if they are to be in these sea-port towns their chances of obtaining accommodation outside of these "ghetto" districts are negligible...

(c)

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It would appear from past experience that the first difficulty is the accommodation of coloured workers, not the question of finding them work. It should be recorded that despite the social difficulties confronting these people, those anxious to work, usually find work ...

(d)

...

It might be observed here that the town of Bolton is a good example of how a small colonial labour force can be integrated into the ordinary life of an English community. The colonial workers

Transcript (cont.): Source 5

numbered about 100, most of whom were accommodated in a hostel. Bolton had no "colour problem" and the men settled down. Many have remained there and they have been joined by some West Indians who were formerly in the R.A.F. In order then to get the best out of Colonial workers careful attention must be given to their accommodation and their welfare constantly supervised until they become completely acclimatised. This process may take as long as 12 months.

2. Employment

It is difficult to give an accurate picture of how West Indian Workers stand up to their jobs. It is perhaps a fair observation to say that there is a fair amount of movement from job to job. The arrival of the EMPIRE WINDRUSH men and placing them in employment has been a recent experience. On the whole, it would appear that they have, for the time being, remained in the employment found for them, with the exception of a small group placed in the tin-plate works in Wales. These men complained that the work was unsuitable and that they could not work near furnaces. The result is that nearly all have left and have drifted to Cardiff where the majority are unemployed. On the other hand, a large group sent to Bicester (the Royal Ordnance Depot) have settled down reasonably well. A small group employed as radio technical trainees in Wales are well reported on. The salvation Army are satisfied with about a dozen tailors...

Source 6: Unemployment statistics British colonies

Catalogue Ref: CO 1006/2

The Present Position in the various Colonies.

11. There are significant differences between the various colonies and unemployment is a problem of much greater magnitude in some than others. The proportion of the unemployed to the total labour force and the proportion of the experienced unemployed (excluding persons seeking a first job) to the experienced labour force at the time of the last census shown in Table III:-

Table III
(c)

Territory	Total Labour Force		Experienced Labour Force	
	Number	%	Number	%
Jamaica	559,248	143,137	505,092	88,981
Trinidad	218,784	15,241	213,093	9,550
Barbados	93,664	7,259	91,369	4,964
Grenada	28,239	1,549	27,606	916
St. Lucia	32,813	3,234	31,891	2,312
St. Vincent	22,954	1,178	22,691	915
Dominica	21,934	1,519	21,310	895
Leeward Is.	48,684	2,414	48,025	1,755
Br. Guiana	147,481	3,731	146,164	2,414
Br. Honduras	20,335	1,151	20,133	949
TOTAL	1,199,832	180,889	1,132,594	113,651
				10.1

12. It is evident that though the proportion unemployed in the whole area is large, this is due to the Jamaica figures. In British Guiana in 1946, unemployment was low; and in most of the smaller islands and British Honduras the numbers unemployed were neither great nor a disturbing proportion of the population. In Trinidad and Barbados the figures were high enough to cause anxiety. But Jamaica with rather less than half the total population had seven-ninths of the unemployed (unless there was a fall in unemployment between 1943 and 1946, of which there seems to be no evidence).

Transcript: Source 6

The Present Position in the various Colonies

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Table III (c)

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Jamaica	559,248	143,137	25.6	505,092	88,981	17.6
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Barbados	93,664	7,259	7.8	91,369	4,964	5.4
Grenada	28,239	1,549	5.5	27,606	916	3.3
St. Lucia	32,813	3,234	9.9	31,891	2,312	7.3
St. Vincent	22,954	1,178	5.1	22,691	915	4.0
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Transcript (cont.): Source 6

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Source 7: Polish resettlement scheme

Catalogue Ref: AST 18/1

- 2 -

It seems essential that there should be a conference between myself and a senior representative of the Assistance Board, so that we may give you a full picture, and that you may afford us full information as to your plans for the future. I suggest that your representative should come to this H.Q. where all the facts and figures are available.

In the meantime, Camp Commandants of Hiltingbury and Stockbridge have been instructed to afford your representatives all the facilities you have asked for.

Brigadier,
Commander,
British Advisory Staff,
Polish Resettlement Corps,
Southern Command.

To:- The Assistance Board,
Vicarage House,
Soho Square,
London, W.1.

Copies to:- H.Q. BAS/PRO London.
H.Q. Southern Command.
Major L.H.H. Payne R.A. H.Q. BAS/ERC (SC)
BAS/ERC Hiltingbury } for action on
BAS/ERC Stockbridge } the last paragraph.
BAS/ERC Haydon Park
BAS/ERC Flasterdown
BAS/ERC Coombe Park

18-MAR-1947
FILE CHARGING

From: Brigadier H.R.B. [unclear], CBE, DSO.

Bulford 2171 Ext 273

PRO/2/Wel

British Advisory Staff,
Polish Resettlement Corps,
Southern Command,
Syrecoat House,
Fitcheldean,
Nr. Salisbury, Wilts.

7 Mar 47.

Reference your letter No E 10059 dated 27 Feb 47 addressed to the Command Welfare Offices.

We were informed some time ago that the Assistance Board is to take over the responsibility for looking after Polish Dependents in Great Britain. But no comprehensive instructions on this subject have yet been received from the War Office.

It is noted that you propose to take over the responsibilities enumerated in your letter with effect from 1 April 47, at HILTINGBURY and STOCKBRIDGE Camps.

These Camps do not, however, represent our total commitments in Southern Command.

We have a certain number of dependents in unit camps, and we are expecting a large influx with 1st Polish Armoured Division, which will begin arriving from Germany about the middle of this month.

The dependents of 1st Armoured Div are being accepted into Gt Britain progressively as accommodation becomes available for them. The first 500 are to arrive in March.

In our final lay-out for families and dependents of Polish Land and Naval Forces in this Command, we are planning to accommodate the bulk in four main family and dependents camps

i.e. HILTINGBURY Near Chandlersford Hants
STOWELL PARK Near NORTHLEACH Glos
HAYDON PARK Near SHERBORNE Dorset
FLASTERDOWN Near TAVISTOCK S Devon

The remainder, mostly close relatives, will be with soldier relatives in Unit camps. STOCKBRIDGE Camp, you should note, is being closed on 12 Mar 47, and the dependents accommodated there are being transferred to STOWELL PARK.

Transcript: Source 7

... British Advisory Staff,
Polish Resettlement Corps,
Southern Command,
Syrencot House,
Figgheldean,
Nr. Salisbury. Wilts.
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The remainder, mostly close relatives, will be with soldier relatives in Unit Camps.

Transcript (cont.): Source 7

STOCKBRIDGE CAMP, you should note, is being closed on 12 Mar. 47, and the dependants associated there are being transferred to STOWELL PARK.

It seems essential that there should be a conference between myself and a senior representative of the Assistance Board, so that we may give you a full picture, and that you may afford us full information as to your plans for the future. I suggest that your representative should come to this H.Q. where all the facts and figures are available.

In the meantime, Camp Commandants of Hiltingbury and Stockbridge have been instructed to afford representatives all the facilities you asked for.

To:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| The Assistance Board | Brigadier |
| Vicarage House | Commander |
| Soho Square | British Advisory Staff |
| London W.1. | Polish Resettlement Corps |
| Southern Command. | |
| ... | |

Source 8: 'Westward Ho' scheme

Catalogue Ref: FO 1052/487

DLs Employment in U.K. 6.4.48

Tel: LENGO 523
Ref: W/11

MINISTRY OF LABOUR H.Q.
ZONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES,
LENGO,
66 HQ. C.C.G.,
LENGO B.L.O.R. 15.

To: Secretariat, Sec "C",
Zonal Executive Offices,
C.C.G., LUBROCK,
60. HQ. C.C. .,
B.L.O.R.

SUBJECT: Operation "Westward Ho"

With reference to your H.O.11127/Sec "C" of 24th April, the following observations are made on the points mentioned in Appendix to your letter.

- GENERAL.
The demands for Great Britain for 1948 include 20,000 men for agriculture to replace German prisoners of war, and some 30,000 men for the mines. In addition the textile industry needs 20,000 women, and hospitals and other institutions are still in need of large numbers of domestics. It is still necessary to confine recruitment to single men and women in view of accommodation and placing difficulties in England for married couples, and to extend the field of recruitment approximately 180,000 Volksdeutsche in Austria, and Austrian women will be asked to volunteer at an early date. For this purpose a new Ministry of Labour Zonal Office has been established at Vienna in Austria, and Mr. F.M. Gabbott has transferred from Germany to Austria to take charge of the extended operation there. The possibilities of recruiting D.P.'s in Italy are also being explored.
- RECRUITMENT.
(a) British Zone.
The recruitment of single Polish and Yugoslavian men and women continues to be successful. A Polish interpreter who was sent over from England in February to stimulate the recruitment of Poles has had very successful meetings in the Hannover Region, and will proceed shortly to the Dusseldorf and Kiel Regions. A Yugoslavian interpreter from England is expected at an early date for the same purpose.
1. So far is running down.
More hopeful!
Smaller numbers of other nationalities continue to volunteer, but interviewing is very much slower in view of the number of borderline or previously rejected cases, or queries regarding the entrainment of dependants.
Recruitment from the G.M.P. and C.M.O. Units is proceeding satisfactorily in the Hannover and Kiel Regions and meetings have been held at all posts. The volume of applications is not nearly so high as was anticipated. A considerable number of these employees are ex-officers who are not prepared to undertake manual work, while others are satisfied with their present conditions of employment which include short hours, heavy rations and uniform. Those who have volunteered are enthusiastic, and after their arrival in England it is hoped that they will encourage others to apply. There has been delay in the commencement of recruitment in the Dusseldorf Region but it is hoped to start at an early date.
- (b) French Zone.
Over 1,000 men have volunteered since recruitment started at the end of last year, and approximately 200 additional women. A second round of visits to all the local Kreis at which D.P.'s living privately are registered will be completed by the beginning of May, when it is proposed to close down the operation in the Zone and to arrange for the Dusseldorf Regional Office to undertake any further interviewing. Although the numbers recruited from this Zone are small the quality is good as the D.P.'s are mainly in agricultural employment and living privately.
- (c) American Zone.
Up to and including 13th. March 1948 5662 men and 1837 women had been entrained for Munster. It appears that the peak period of recruitment has been reached, and the intensive competition from the Canadian scheme is having a somewhat adverse effect on our scheme, but very good publicity is being stimulated by letters from D.P.'s now in England, and continued good results are anticipated.
The Ministry of Labour Headquarters in the American Zone were transferred from Heidelberg to Augsburg on 26th. March 1948. The new address is:-
United States Mission,
CO. I.R.O. Area 5,
Resettlement Centre,
Immunologic Research,
S.P.O.178 U.S. Army,
AUGSBURG. Tel: 7674
- (d) German Rk.
To date 129 men and 17 women have been entrained for England; the next group is expected to travel on 18th. or 19th. April. Recruitment has not been as good as was anticipated, but as in the case of the French Zone the majority of the D.P.'s are employed under good conditions and are not over anxious to leave their present employment.

Transcript: Source 8

To: Secretariat, Sec "G",
Zonal Executive Offices,
C.C.G., LUBBECKE,
60. HQ. O.C.
B.A.O.R. [British Army of the Rhine]

Ministry of Labour H.Q.
C/O Zonal EXECUTIVE OFFICES
C.C.G. LEMGO
66 HQ. C.C.G.,
LEMGO B.A.O.R. 15.

SUBJECT: Operation "Westward Ho"

With reference to your HQ. 011127/Sec "G" of 24th April, the following observations are made on the points mentioned in Appendix A to your letter.

GENERAL

The demands for Great Britain for 1948 include 20,000 men for agriculture to replace German prisoners of war and some 30,000 men for the mines. In addition, the textile industry needs 20,000 women, and hospitals and other institutions are still in need of large numbers of domestics. It is still necessary to confine recruitment to single men and women in view of accommodation and placing difficulties in England for married couples, and to extend the field of recruitment approximately 180,000 Volksdeutsch in Austria, and Austrian women will be asked to volunteer at an early date. For this purpose a new Ministry of Labour Zonal Office has been established in Vienna in Austria, and Mr. F.E. Gabbutt has transferred from Germany to Austria to take charge of the extended operation there. The possibilities of recruiting D.P.s (displaced persons) in Italy are also being explored.

RECRUITMENT

British Zone

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Smaller numbers of other nationalities continue to volunteer, but interviewing is very much slower in view of the number of borderline or previously rejected cases, or queries regarding the entrainment [boarding trains] of dependents.

Recruitment from CMWF and CMLO Units is proceeding satisfactorily in Hannover and Kiel Regions and meetings have been held at all posts. The volume of applications is not nearly as high as was anticipated. A considerable number of those employees are ex-officers who are not prepared to

Transcript (cont.): Source 8

undertake manual work, while others are satisfied with their present conditions of employment which include short hours, heavy rations and uniform. Those who have volunteered are enthusiastic, and after their arrival in England it is hoped that they will encourage others to apply. There has been delay in the commencement of recruitment in the Dusseldorf Region, but it is hoped to start at an early date.

French Zone

Over 1,000 men have volunteered since recruitment started at the end of the last year, and approximately 200 additional women. A second round of visits to all the local Kreis [unit of German local government] at which D.P.'s living privately are registered will be completed by the beginning of May, when it is proposed to close down the operation in the Zone to arrange for the Dusseldorf Regional Office to undertake any further interviewing. Although the numbers recruited from this Zone are small the quality is good as the D.P.'s are mainly in agricultural employment and living privately.

American Zone

Up to and including 13th March 1947²⁸, 5662 men and 1837 women had been entrained for Munster. It appears that the peak period of recruitment has been reached, and the intensive competition from the Canadian scheme is having a somewhat adverse effect on our scheme, but very good publicity is being stimulated by letters from D.P.'s [displaced persons] now in England and continued good results anticipated.

The Ministry of Labour Headquarters in the American Zone were transferred from Heidelberg to Augsburg on 20th March 1948. The new address is: –

...

Denmark

To date 129 men and 17 women have been entrained for England; the next group is expected to travel on 18th or 19th April. Recruitment has not been as good as was anticipated, but as in the case of the French Zone, the majority of the D.P.s are employed under good conditions and are not over anxious to leave their present employment.

Source 9: Migration of German nurses' scheme

Catalogue Ref: FO 1052/487

Control Commission for Germany (British Element)

Incoming Confidential Telegram

82577
82

FROM: CONCOMB LUBBECKE IYB 18947

TEL. NO: CCG 21498

26TH JUNE 1948

RECD: 2000 26TH JUNE 1948

CRYPTER

CONCOMB LUBBECKE TO FOREIGN OFFICE TELEGRAM NO. CCG 21498
OF 26TH JUNE 1948

ROUTINE

REPTD: BERCOMB BERLIN

Subject Employment of German Women in U.K. Reference your D2/18 to PW and DP Division of 17th June 1948 and your 11397 BASIC of 24th June 1948.

- At the meeting yesterday it was decided that owing to administrative difficulties it would not be possible to start the whole scheme immediately but we are making temporary arrangements to ensure arrival of the 50 nurses in the U.K. by 25th July.
- Following are brief details of the proposed movement arrangements of the 50 nurses.
 - We propose to move them by the Hannover/Hook route, i.e. the route which is at present used by distressed persons and fiancées. While cost of movement will be greater by using this route - total approximately £12.10/- per head - its use is necessitated for the following reasons:-
 - We are unable to establish a transit camp at Munster or other suitable place in the time given. Whereas by using the proposed route we can utilise existing accommodation at Hannover with little or no detriment to the movement of distressed persons and fiancées to the U.K.
 - To avoid mixing with E.V.W. personnel we cannot accommodate them in present PW and DP camp at Munster.
 - In view of the special status of these 50 nurses as compared with the remaining personnel to be moved under the scheme Public Health Adviser considers that they should receive somewhat better conditions and treatment in transit.
 - May we please have your approval to this proposal earliest so that necessary arrangements can be made.
- Reference para.6 of your D2/18 of 17th June there are no difficulties with regard to returnability and return visas will be given to conform with the length of contract for each individual i.e. 3 years.
- Proposals regarding main scheme following in a few days.

* IYB 18673 refers

INITIALS & DATE	INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION
CHIEF	ACTION: MANPOWER DIV.
D/CHIEF	DISTRIBUTED: Chief Secretary
SO 1	Central Secretariat (3)
SO 2	Chief Info. Serv. Div.
SO 3	Finance Div. (4)
SO 4	DP BRANCH GOVSC/POL. DIV. (2)
SO 5	Info. Serv. Div. (3)
SO 6	M. & M.C. FILE & SPARES (6)
PA	
CHW	

Transcript: Source 9

Control Commission for Germany (British Element)
Incoming Confidential Telegram

FROM: CONCOMB [Control Commission for Germany] LUBBECKE
18947

IYB

TEL. NO. CCG 21498

RECD [Received]: 2000 26TH JUNE 1948

CONCOMB LUBBECKE TO FOREIGN OFFICE TELEGRAM NO.CCG 21498

OF 26TH JUNE 1948

-----ROUTINE
REPTD: BERCOMB BERLIN

Subject: Employment of German women in U.K. Reference your D2 18 to PW [Prisoners of War] and DP [Displaced Persons] Division of 17th June 1948 and your 11397 BASIC of 24th June 1948.

1. At the meeting yesterday it was decided that owing to administrative difficulties it would not be possible to start the whole scheme immediately but we are making temporary arrangements to ensure arrival of the 50 nurses in the U.K. by 25th

2. The following are brief details of the proposed movement arrangements of the 50 nurses. We propose to move them by Hannover/Hook route, i.e. the route which is at present used by distressed persons and fiances. While cost of movement will be greater by using this route- total approximately £12.10/- [10 shillings]- per head- its use is necessitated for the following reasons: We are unable to establish a camp at Munster or other suitable place in the time given. Whereas by using the proposed route we can utilise existing accommodation at Hannover with little or no detriment to the movement of distressed persons and fiances to the U.K.

(ii) To avoid mixing with E.V.W. [European Volunteer Worker] personnel we cannot accommodate them in present P.W. and D.P camp at Munster.

(iii) In view of the special status of these 50 nurses as compared with remaining personnel to be moved under the scheme Public Health Adviser considers that they should receive somewhat better conditions and treatment in transit.

(b) We may please have your approval to this proposal earliest so that necessary arrangements can be made.

3. Reference para 6. Of your D2/18 of 17th June there are no difficulties with regard to returnability and return visas will be given to conform with the length of contracted for each individual i.e 3 years.

4. Proposals regarding main scheme following in a few days.

Transcript (cont.): Source 9

IYB 18673 refers

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

ACTION: MANPOWER DIVISION

DISTRIBUTION: Chief Secretary

Central Secretarial (3)

Chief Info. Serv. Div.

Finance Div. (4)

Info. Serv. Div. (3)

& M.C. File & Spares (6)

Source 10: S.S. Ormonde

Catalogue Ref: ADM 176/999



Source 11: Government preparations for increased migration

Catalogue Ref: LAB 8/1499

UMH

MINUTE SHEET.Reference E.M.530/1947.MR. HARDMAN

We have been advised by the Colonial Office that more than 350 Jamaicans have booked troop deck passages on the s/s "Empire Windrush" due to dock at Tilbury Docks about 19th June and that it is likely that this number will be increased by another 100 before the vessel leaves. Most of them are said to have no particular skill and few are expected to have more than a few pounds on their arrival.

The disembarkation of some 450 coloured men with little skill and meagre resources is bound to present considerable difficulties and unless special steps are taken to see that they are accommodated and found employment with the minimum of delay there may be some awkward incidents.

The Colonial Office are approaching the Ministry of Health about the provision of accommodation and subsistence for men who may be in need of it. Meantime we have been examining what can be done in advance to find the men employment. Their prospects, however, are not good as you will see from the replies from L. & S.E. and N.W. Regions to the preliminary enquiries I have made. Mr. Griffin is pursuing with the Ministry of Agriculture the possibility of some of the men being found work in agriculture and housed in special hostels but I am not optimistic of the result. L. & S.E. Region are also discussing with the London Transport Executive the possibility of employing coloured men on railway maintenance work and some success may be achieved in this direction but I understand there has been some trouble about the few coloured men previously employed owing to their indiscipline and the attitude of white workers.

Mr. German, Overseas Department, wishes to see these papers in connection with a proposed Working Party on the desirability of organised recruitment of Colonials for employment in this country, but I thought you and Mr. Glen would like to be informed of the difficulties which are anticipated in finding employment for the Jamaicans expected to arrive shortly.

From what was said at a meeting at the Colonial Office on 26th May the pressure of unemployment in the British West Indies and the social services in this country are likely to lead to increasing numbers of coloured men coming to this country. This could only be stopped by restrictions which would be difficult to justify politically unless there was an organised scheme of recruiting. Whilst Poles and E.V.W's are being found jobs in this country British subjects would be bound to resent any restriction on their entry particularly when constant publicity is given to the shortage of labour in this country. The difficulty about an organised scheme of recruitment is that most industries do not take readily to coloured workers and the prejudice is strongest on the workers' side.

J.B. Wilson

E.M.3.27th May, 1948.

M. Glen

You should be aware of this

problem.

There is no bar to entry

of British Subjects into G.B.

About 6 months

[OVER]

Transcript: Source 11

MINUTE SHEET

MR. HARDMAN

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Mr. German, Overseas Department, wishes to see these papers in connection with a proposed Working Party on the desirability of organised recruitment of Colonials for employment in this country, but I thought you and Mr. Glen would like to be informed of the difficulties which are anticipated in finding employment for the Jamaicans expected to arrive shortly.

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G. C. Wilson

27th May 1948

Transcript (cont.): Source 11

[Hand-written annotation]:

Mr. Glen: You should be aware of this problem.

There is no bar to the entry of British subjects into G.B. above...

Source 12: Barbadian women workers' scheme

Catalogue Ref: LAB 8/1499

C. The Recruitment of Barbadian Women.

- (a) There is no doubt of the need of women workers in hospitals, laundries etc. in Britain, but it is very difficult to get employers to give any guarantee that they will employ a given number of workers, particularly coloured workers, and at a distance of 3,000 miles.
- (b) It would be highly desirable that there should be some preliminary selection of suitable women workers in Barbados before sending them to this country.
- (c) Recruitment of women workers from Barbados under an organised recruitment scheme would almost certainly lead to demands from other West Indian Colonies, and it would, therefore, be necessary to recruit on a West Indian basis not a Barbadian basis.
- (d) Barbadian women workers employed under any official scheme in this country would have to be paid at the same rates as British women workers, and this might give rise to difficulties, since employers would be doubtful whether the output of Barbadian women would be as good.
- (e) An official recruitment scheme might be possible, but before this could be decided, much more careful investigation would be necessary by sounding more closely what guarantees of employment could be given in hospitals, laundries etc.

Transcript: Source 12

...

C. The recruitment of Barbadian Women

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Barbadian women workers employed under any official scheme in this country would have to be paid at the same rates as British women workers, and this might give rise to difficulties, since employers would be doubtful whether the output of Barbadian women would be as good.

An official recruitment scheme might be possible, but before this could be decided, more careful investigation would be necessary by sounding more closely what guarantees of employment could be given in hospitals, laundries etc.

Source 13: Telegram about Windrush passengers

Catalogue Ref: HO 213/714

INWARD TELEGRAM

Copy

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

FROM JAMAICA (Acting Governor)

D. 11th May, 1948.

R. 11th May 1948 23.10 hrs.

IMPORTANT.

Not numbered

Your telegram No.499 of 1947

Jamaican Workers for the United Kingdom.

I regret to inform you that more than 350 troop-deck passages by EMPIRE WINDRUSH - your telegram MAST 272 refers - have been booked by men who hope to find employment in the United Kingdom, and that it is likely that this number will be increased by another 100 before the vessel leaves. Most of them have no particular skill and few will have more than a few pounds on their arrival.

2. Public announcements on the difficulty of obtaining work have not discouraged these bookings and only 40 persons have, so far, provided information such as was sent with my savingram No.801 of 3rd December, 1947. This is being sent by airmail and every effort is being made to secure similar information in respect of the remainder in order that it may reach you as long as possible before the vessel arrives in the United Kingdom.

Transcript: Source 13

Note: Savingram: This means correspondence that uses the informal and abbreviated language of a telegram, but sent by mail, which is less expensive.

INWARD TELEGRAM

Copy TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

FROM JAMAICA (Acting Governor)

D: 11th May 1948.

B: 11th May 1948 23.10hrs

IMPORTANT

Not numbered

Your telegram no. 499 of 1947

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Public announcements on the difficulty of obtaining work have not discouraged these bookings and only 40 persons have, so far, provided information such as was sent with my savingram No. 801 of 3rd December, 1947. This is being sent by airmail and every effort is being made to secure similar information in respect of the remainder in order that it may reach you as long as possible before the vessel arrives in the United Kingdom.

Source 14: Push factors for migration

Catalogue Ref: CO 537/2583

and most of the unemployed are men who are untrained or unwilling to enter agricultural employment. Some of the kind they want might be attracted by extensive industrial development but, even apart from the limitations placed on such development by the extent of the local market, we have hitherto found it impossible to get the machinery, structural steel and other equipment necessary for such development on any large scale. For example, various proposals for cement production have all so far foundered on that difficulty. We have now the report of the Commission on British Guiana and projects are being examined in the hope that some relief may be given by settlement both in British Guiana and British Honduras.

5. Measures Proposed. The matter has been discussed between the various departments concerned, and I think it is clear that the problem has got to be tackled, as an outside operation without too much insistence on normal departmental responsibilities. I need not recount all the possibilities which have been considered and rejected as impracticable on one ground or another. The most hopeful solution so far suggested is that the men should be provided with transport from Barbary to some central point which can be used as a "clearing house" or "transit camp." For this purpose I have asked the Secretary of State for War whether he can make available the Deep-Halter at South Cleatham. If this can be done, the immediate problem of accommodation will be solved, though even worse will have to be made for seais. It is not ideal, but ordinary surface accommodation for so large a number is apparently unobtainable; and there is considerable convenience in having the men (other than the odd 70 at the Colonial Office hostel) all together.

6. Arrangements are being made for the boat to be met by representatives of the Colonial Office and the Ministry of Labour, and the Ministry of Labour have undertaken to do everything in their power to help the men find employment in England as quickly as possible. It is understood that some at any rate of the arrivals are anxious to join the Armed Forces. About the third of the total are in fact ex-servicemen. If the Cleatham Deep Shelter can be used as a clearing house it may be possible, if all goes well, to arrange for the dispersal of the men and their placing in industry in a period of three or four weeks. Many of the men will arrive with only a limited amount of funds, having spent most of their savings on buying their passages to England. It may therefore be necessary to grant them public assistance until they find employment, but there is machinery for dealing with this particular problem through the Assistance Board. They may also need assistance towards railway fares to their ultimate destinations. The whole matter is being vigorously dealt with by the Departments concerned under the chairmanship

7. Possibility of Employment Overseas. The doors of Cuba and Panama are now closed and employment in U.S.A. is very restricted. These men want work in England. We shall try to open out possibilities in British Guiana and British Honduras. There have been psychological difficulties about employment in Africa and I am informed that it is doubtful if these men have the skills that are wanted there from time to time. But that problem will be explored further though my present enquiries are not encouraging.

A.C.B.

15th June, 1948.

1
Memorandum by Secretary of State for the Colonies.

In view of the interest which is being shown in Parliament and in the press in the matter of the 417 Jamaicans who are due to arrive at Barbary on the 21st June on the "S.S. Empire Indrush," I think it is desirable that the Cabinet should be aware of the arrangements which the various departments concerned are trying to make to deal with the situation. I should, however, first like to explain the circumstances in which these men decided to come to Great Britain.

2. Circumstances of Arrival. It will be appreciated that the men concerned are all British subjects. The Government of Jamaica has no legal power to prevent their departure from Jamaica and the Government of the United Kingdom has no legal power to prevent their landing. This is a spontaneous movement by Jamaicans who have saved up enough money to pay for their own passages to England, on the chance of finding employment, as they are free to do now that government allocation of berths has been discontinued. We do not know who were the ring-leaders in the enterprise, but I have asked the Governor of Jamaica for a report on this point. It was certainly not organised or encouraged by the Colonial Office or the Jamaica Government. On the contrary, every possible step has been taken by the Colonial Office and by the Jamaica Government to discourage these influxes. Not only has the position about employment and accommodation in the United Kingdom been explained as by us to the Governors in correspondence but a senior officer of my department visited Jamaica and certain of the other West Indian Islands last year and made great efforts to explain the difficulties at this end and to discourage people from coming over to this country on the chance of finding work. There was some publicity in the Jamaica press of the difficulties which men might meet if they came to England. Before this party of 417 left Jamaica they were warned by the Jamaica Government about the difficulties which would beset them on their arrival in this country, but they decided, as they are free to decide, to take the risk. As I say, the Jamaica Government has no legal power to prevent them leaving the island, and I doubt the wisdom of authorising a British Colonial Government to take such power in peace-time. In any case, Jamaica has reached such an advanced stage on the road to self-government that it would be impossible to compel them to legislate in this sense by directions from London. I do not think that a similar mass movement will take place again because the transport is unlikely to be available, though we shall be faced with a steady trickle, which, however, can be dealt with without undue difficulty. The immediate point however is that these 417 men are due to arrive on the 21st of June, and unless there is to be a public scandal and the possibilities of disorder, some arrangements must be made to deal with the situation.

3. Underlying Causes. Until the economic situation in Jamaica improves there is bound to be a desire among many persons there to seek work elsewhere. The Jamaica Government is doing everything it can to deal with unemployment in a situation of over-population and high birth rate. There are at present some 50,000 unemployed or underemployed in the island. Some limited relief is given by the recruitment of West Indian labour for work in the United States of America but most external fields of employment no longer exist. The problem is a long-term one and, for the constitutional reason given above, the internal economy of Jamaica cannot be planned from London. The economic developments now going forward in Jamaica are mainly agricultural

and

Transcript: Source 14

SECRET

S.S. EMPIRE WINDRUSH-Jamaican unemployed

Memorandum by Secretary of State for the Colonies

In the view of the interest which is being shown in Parliament and in the press in the matter of the 417 Jamaicans who are due to arrive at Tilbury on 21st June on the S.S. Empire Windrush, I think it is desirable that the Cabinet should be aware of the arrangements which various Departments concerned are trying to make to deal with the situation. I should, however, first like to explain the circumstances in which these men decided to come to Great Britain.

2. Circumstances of Arrival. It will be appreciated that the men concerned are all British subjects. The Government of Jamaica has no legal power to prevent their departure from Jamaica and the Government of the United Kingdom has no legal power to prevent their landing. This is a spontaneous movement by Jamaicans who have saved up enough money to pay for their own passages to England, on the chance of finding employment, as they are free to do now that Government allocation of berths has been discontinued. We do not know who were the ring-leaders in the enterprise, but I have asked the Governor of Jamaica for a report on this point. It was certainly not organised or encouraged by the Colonial Office or the Jamaican Government. On the contrary, every possible step has been taken by the Colonial Office and by the Jamaican Government to discourage these influxes. Not only has the position about employment and accommodation in the United Kingdom been explained by me to the Governors in correspondence but a senior officer of my Department visited Jamaica and certain of the other West Indian Islands last year and made great efforts to explain the difficulties at this end and to discourage people from coming over to this country on the chance of finding work. There was ample publicity in the Jamaican press of the difficulties which men might meet if they came to England. Before this party of 417 left Jamaica they were warned by the Jamaican Government about the difficulties which would beset them on their arrival in this country, but they decided, as they are free to decide, to take the risk. As I say, the Jamaican Government has no legal power to prevent them leaving the island, and I doubt the wisdom of authorising a British Colonial Government to take such power in peacetime. In any case, Jamaica has reached such an advanced stage on the road to self-government that it would be impossible to compel them to legislate in this sense by directions from London. I do not think that a similar mass movement will take place again because the transport is unlikely to be available, though we shall be faced with a steady trickle, which however, can be dealt without difficulty. The immediate point however is that these 417 men are due to arrive on 21st June, and unless there is to be a public scandal and the possibilities of disorder, some arrangements must be made to deal with the situation.

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Transcript (cont.): Source 14

external fields of employment no longer exist. The problem is a long-term one and, for the constitutional reason given above, the internal economy of Jamaica cannot be planned from London. The economic developments now going forward in Jamaica are mainly agricultural and most of the unemployed are men who are unfitted or unwilling to enter agricultural employment. Work of the kind they want might be afforded by extensive industrial development but, even apart from the limitations placed on such development by the extents of the local market, we have hitherto found it impossible to get machinery, structural steel and other equipment necessary for such development on a large scale. For example, various proposals for cement production have all so far floundered on that difficulty. We have now the Report of the Commission to British Guiana and projects are being examined in the hope that some relief may be given by settlement both in British Guiana and British Honduras.

...

5. Measures proposed. The matter has been discussed between the various Departments concerned, and I think it is clear that the problem has got to be tackled, as one outside ordinary provision such as the Poor Law and as a combined operation without too much insistence on normal departmental responsibilities. I need not recount all the possibilities which have been considered and rejected as impracticable on one ground or another. The most hopeful solution so far suggested is that the men should be provided with transport from Tilbury to some centre point which can be used as a "clearing house" or "transit camp". For this purpose I have asked the Secretary of State for War whether he can make available the Deep Shelter at South Clapham. If this can be done, the immediate problem of accommodation will be solved, though arrangements will have to be made for meals. It is not ideal, but ordinary surface accommodation for so large a number is apparently unobtainable; and there is considerable convenience in having the men (other than the odd 70 at the Colonial Office hostel) all together.

6. Arrangements are being made for the boat to be met by representatives of the Colonial Office and the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Labour have undertaken to do everything in their power to help the men find employment in England as quickly as possible. It is understood that some at any rate of the arrivals are anxious to join the Armed Forces. About two thirds of the total are ex-servicemen. If the Clapham Deep Shelter can be used as a clearing house it may be possible, if all goes well, to arrange for the dispersal of the men and their placing in industry in a period of three or four weeks. Many of the men will arrive with only limited amount of funds, having spent most of their savings on buying their passages to England. It may therefore be necessary to grant them public assistance until they find employment, but there is machinery for dealing with this particular problem through the Assistance Board. They may also need assistance towards railway fares to their ultimate destinations. The whole matter is being vigorously dealt with by the Departments concerned

...

7. Possibility of Employment Overseas. The doors of Cuba and Panama are now closed and employment in the U.S.A. is very restricted. These men want to work in England. We shall try to open out possibilities in British Guiana and British Honduras. There have been psychological

Transcript (cont.): Source 14

difficulties about employment in Africa and I am informed that it is doubtful if these men have the skills that are wanted there from time to time. But that problem will be explored further, though my present enquiries are not encouraging.

A.C.J.

15th June, 1948

Source 15: Preparations for Windrush arrivals

Catalogue Ref: CO 876/88

MINUTES

MEETING HELD IN THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF THE
COLONIAL OFFICE 26th MAY, 1948

Present:

Mr. L.S. Smith, Colonial Office
(Chairman)

Mr. G.C. Wilson, Ministry of Labour

Mr. S.E. Dudley) Home Office, Immigration
Mr. C.P.J. Ruck) Branch

Mr. S.E. Southgate)
Mr. I.G. Cummings) Colonial Office.
Mr. M. Jewell)
Mr. R.E.C. Young)

The Chairman said the question for discussion was what was to be done with the 350 or more Jamaicans who would arrive from the Colony on the "Empire Windrush", seeking employment in the U.K.

Before the main discussion was begun, the question of dealing with stowaways was referred to and Mr. Dudley said that the Home Office would not consider the matter of legislation to deal with such people.

Mr. Dudley said that the Home Office was only concerned with the admission of these Jamaicans into this country and not what became of them.

Mr. Wilson said that he had been exploring the possibilities of employment for these men particularly in agriculture, including fruit picking, and said that there was not much hope of employment in the north of England. The kind of particulars so far supplied by the Colonial Government did not help the Ministry very much. The difficulty was not only to find suitable employment but to satisfy the employers as well. London was the best area but accommodation was the problem. He suggested that the Ministry of Health should be informed of this matter and be invited to get in touch with the London County Council with a view to the men who are found employment, being housed in hostels; and also that some one should be at the ship when it arrives to explain matters to the men, find out what their occupations were and direct them to appropriate Employment Exchanges. Mr. Wilson was requested to look into the position as regards the building industry.

Mr. Cummings raised the question of having a special Employment Exchange to deal with these people, but Mr. Wilson did not favour this suggestion and mentioned that it would lead to charges of segregation.

The Chairman concluded the meeting by saying that the Ministry of Health and the L.C.C. would be fully informed of the position, & contact with the

Ministry of Labour maintained



Transcript: Source 15

MINUTES

MEETING HELD IN THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF THE COLONIAL OFFICE 26th MAY 1948

Present

Mr. L.S. Smith, Colonial Office (Chairman)

Mr. G.C. Wilson, Ministry of Labour

Home Office, Immigration Branch:

Mr. S.E. Dudley

Mr. C.P. J. Ruck

Colonial Office:

Mr. S.E. Southgate

Mr. I.G. Cummings

Mr. M. Jewell

Mr. R.E.C. Young

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Before the main discussion was begun, the question of dealing with stowaways was referred to and Mr. Dudley said that the Home Office would not consider the matter of legislation to deal with such people.

Mr. Dudley said that the Home Office was only concerned with the admission of these Jamaicans into this country and not with what became of them.

Mr Wilson said that he had been exploring the possibilities of employment for these men particularly in agriculture, including fruit picking, and said that there was not much hope of employment in the North of England. The kind of particulars so far supplied by the Colonial Government did not help the Ministry very much. The difficulty was not only to find suitable employment but to satisfy the employers as well. London was the best area, but accommodation was the problem. He suggested that the Ministry of Health should be informed of this matter and be invited to get in touch with the London County Council with a view to the men who are found employment, being housed in hostels; and also that some one should be at the ship when it arrives to explain matters to the men, find out what their occupations were and direct them to appropriate Employment Exchanges. Mr. Wilson was requested to look into the position as regards the building industry.

Mr. Cummings raised the question of having a special Employment Exchange to deal with these

Transcript (cont.): Source 15

people, but Mr. Wilson, did not favour this suggestion and mentioned that it would lead to charges of segregation.

The Chairman concluded the meeting by saying that the Ministry of Health and the L.C.C. would be fully informed of the position and contact with the Ministry of Labour maintained.

Source 16: Categories of passengers

Catalogue Ref: AST 21/8

Index of Applicants 2

The s.s. Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury on the 22nd June - the total number of passengers concerned was 492 and there were also some 20 stowaways. The boarding party actually had to deal with the following numbers:-

Category A - Volunteers for the Armed Forces	-	52
" C B - Those who had nowhere to go and who were accommodated in the Olaphan deep shelter	-	236
" A Q - Those who had places to go to and were dispersed direct from Tilbury	-	204

/The

33

The Ministry of Labour and National Service established at the shelter a miniature employment exchange under an officer who had had considerable experience in dealing with Colonial labour at the Stepney Employment Exchange. As a result of the publicity concerning the arrival of these Jamaicans and through the normal action of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, offers of employment have come in from various parts of the country. Placings have been made at the Stanton Iron Works, Nottingham, British Railways Works, Swindon, Tin Plate Works Heath and in the Catering Trades in and around London. Nine of the stowaways on the ship have been placed in Heath Tin Plate Works, and arrangements to supply them with suitable clothing were made at the Hostel where they are being accommodated. The result of the drive made to get these men employment has revealed that there are a number of employers who are without prejudice and are prepared to give Colonial labour a trial. By the 3rd July only 38 Colonials remained to be placed in work and the Ministry of Labour do not consider that this will present any difficulty.

4. Arrangements were made whereby an officer of the National Assistance Board worked alongside the officers of the Ministry of Labour and National Service and the Colonial Office in order to provide those who were short of money, for example stowaways, with money to cover incidental expenses involved either in visiting prospective employers or to obtain additional clothing from the W.V.S. etc. The officer was also prepared to pay out pocket money if required to do so.

5. At the shelter the men who are unable to pay for their accommodation and food are receiving free meal vouchers and free accommodation. It has also been necessary to give small amounts to men who have not yet been placed in employment. Up to 3rd July the amount advanced under the Special Scheme for Assistance to Colonials was £38 6s. The payments consisted of small payments to cover fares of men referred to employers - fares to main Railway Stations

/together

together with pocket money where parties of men were going to employment in the provinces. All the men were well supplied with clothing with the exception of the stowaways. The provision of an overall and cap for a man starting work as a cook in a confectionery business was the only exceptional needs grant required.

6. The conduct of the Colonials has been exemplary and there have been no unpleasant incidents of any kind.

Transcript: Source 16

Extract (a)

The s.s. Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury on 22nd June- the total number of passengers concerned was 492 and there were also 20 stowaways. The boarding party actually had to deal with the following numbers:

Category A- Volunteers for the Armed Forces- 52

Category B- Those who had nowhere to go and who were accommodated in the Clapham deep shelter- 236

Category C- Those who had places to go to and were dispersed direct from Tilbury-

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Extract (b)

The Ministry of Labour and National Service established at the shelter a miniature employment exchange under an officer who had had considerable experience in dealing with Colonial labour at the Stepney Employment Exchange. As a result of the publicity concerning the arrival of these Jamaicans and through the normal action of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, offers of employment have come in from various parts of the country. Placings have been made at the Stanton Iron Works, Nottingham, British Railways Works, Swindon, Tin Plate Works Neath and in the Catering Trades in and around London. Nine of the stowaways on the ship have been placed in Neath Tin Plate Works, and arrangements to supply them with suitable clothing were made at the Hostel where they are being accommodated. The result of the drive made to get these men employment has revealed that there are a number of employers who without prejudice and are prepared to give Colonial labour a trial. By 3rd July only 38 Colonials remained to be placed in work and the Ministry of Labour do not consider that this will present any difficulty.

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Extract (c)

Transcript (cont.): Source 16

together with pocket money where parties of men were going to employment in the provinces. All the men were well supplied with clothing, with the exception of the stowaways. The provision of an overall and cap for a man starting work as a cook in a confectionary business was the only exceptional needs grant required.

6. The conduct of the Colonials has been exemplary and there have been no unpleasant incidents of any kind.

Source 17: Early report on migrants in Britain

Catalogue Ref: CO 876/88

Of the 492 who came over on the "Empire Windrush" 241 had accepted the Colonial Office's offer of assistance in the task of finding jobs and accommodation. The other 251 had friends to go to, but news about the group has been scanty.

"It is thought, however," a Colonial Welfare Officer told me, "that the 251 have succeeded in settling down. Otherwise the Area Officers of the Colonial Office would have seen or heard about them. Perhaps it should be added that the men who went to Liverpool and Manchester from this group have become part of the fairly large number of coloured colonial unemployed in the northwestern region."

One group of 15 men went to Hampshire to help bring in the harvest. When the job was done the County Agricultural Committee returned the men to the Ministry of Labour, who promptly directed them into the Royal Ordnance Depot in Bristol to fill vacancies there.

Commenting on the operation one of the West Indians remarked: "It was as smooth as silk. Quite an eye-opener to us, too. It was so different from anything we'd experienced before. And such a contrast with the way things are done back home where industry, the trade unions and Government House all seem to be pulling in different directions."

The tin plate industry in South Wales has absorbed 15 of the migrants. Two ship's plumbers, both "fairly well trained", have been found jobs in Glasgow. One firm near Nottingham, the Stanton Ironworks Company Ltd. already had six Jamaican Negroes working in the foundry when the contingent on the "Empire Windrush" arrived. It now has 39. Another engineering firm, the Allied Iron & Steel Works, Wellington, Shropshire, has found room for 20.

The West Indians and Guianese so far have met with no discrimination from the employers on the ground of colour or colonial status. As the personnel manager of one concern told me, "It does not matter to us whether a man comes from Yorkshire or Jamaica, so long as he does his job."

In the Chippenham, Wiltshire, works of the Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co. 13 of the migrants are employed --- 12 in the foundry and one in the machine shop operating a Capstan lathe. Elsewhere in the provinces --- in places as far apart as Gloucester and Lincolnshire --- others have found jobs as brick layers, cabinet makers and house painters. The housing shortage has

What effect the coming of the migrants will have upon the pattern of race relations in the United Kingdom is anybody's guess. One fact, however, cannot be blinked. In the London area the social complexion of the Negro population is changing. It is no longer a floating population of seamen on the one hand and 'Varsity students on the other, with a conglomeration of clerks in the various government departments in Whitehall, stage and film folk, a small number of professional and business men and a down-at-heel Soho element lying in-between.

The change is reflected in the occupations which some of the migrants are now following.

At the Salvation Army Tailoring Establishment, 121 Judd Street, I saw fourteen journeymen tailors from Jamaica quietly sitting at their work in a room on the top floor of the four-storey building.

"I am very pleased," said Brigadier James Weaver, the production manager, "to give you a good account of these men. They are quite acceptable, well-behaved and they are good workers. They were not used to our style of working --- it's purely tunic making; but they have adapted themselves and we are quite pleased."

--- 4 ---

The variety of jobs which the migrants are doing is almost bewildering. Fifteen of them are employed on the railways. Twelve have gone into the Post Office --- two as letter sorters, three in the canteen and seven in a training school. Ten have been accepted as trainees in the Overseas Relay Service of the BBC. (Miss Mona Baptiste, a 'blues singer' from Trinidad, who was in the contingent on the "Empire Windrush", appeared recently as a guest artiste in "Band Parade", a popular BBC variety feature program). Four of them are working for a well-known firm of confectionery makers. Three are engaged in reconditioning metal kegs and drums at a salvage factory in the East End. One young man, Lloyd Jackson, who did farm work in America during the war, has got a £9.2.0-a-week job as a rotary machine minder. Another young man by the name of Hamilton, formerly a sugar chemist in Jamaica, is employed as a laboratory assistant by the British Oxygen Co., Wimbledon.

--- 5 ---

Going through the works with Mr. Monkman (the factory was bombed during the war: "we hardly had a roof left but we never stopped working") I saw many of the men who had come over on the "Empire Windrush."

One welder, Eric Linton, a 36-year-old native of Jamaica, trained at the Kingston Technical School, had given up a job with a private engineering firm on the island to come to England to 'better himself.' Another welder, Anthony Simmons, was a 24-year-old Guianese. Before coming to England to serve with the RAF during the war he had worked at the U.S. Army Air Base at Atkinson Field in British Guiana. As a piece worker, drawing the top rate for a skilled man, he averaged £8 to £9 a week and was a member of the Construction Engineering Union.

"It's fine up to now," declared O. Jones, the sole Negro blacksmith in the works, when I asked him he was getting on. A big, heavily built man of fifty he was another of the migrants from the 'Isle of Springs'. For 23 years he had worked on the Jamaica Government Railways. The little shed roofed with corrugated iron in which he stood perspiring in blue overalls beside the forge was shared with another blacksmith, a white man.

"I have applied to join the union," he went on, "but I have not heard from them yet."

As there appeared to be two unions represented among the firm's 1,000 workers, I asked Mr. Jones which one he was trying to get into.

"The Amalgamated Engineering Union," he replied.

A moment later, still in company with Mr. Monkman, I met R. Arkley, the convener of the shop stewards.

"We are not antagonistic," Mr. Arkley told me, speaking of the feeling towards the Negro migrants. "We try to be as helpful to them as far as we can. There is no shortage of work at the moment and the general attitude is friendly. There is no bar on nationality in our unions. The only people we bar are the Poles because we believe there is plenty of work for them to do in their own country."

Mr. Arkley paused. "Of course," he added, "if there is redundancy the people who come last will go first."

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Transcript: Source 17

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Of the 492 who came over on the "Empire Windrush", 241 had accepted the Colonial Office's offer of assistance in the task of finding jobs and accommodation. The other 251 had friends to go to, but news about the group had been scanty.

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Mr Arkley paused. "Of course," he added, "if there is redundancy the people who come last will go first."

Source 18: Cummings address to Windrush passengers

Catalogue Ref: CO 876/88

<p>62</p> <p><u>SPEECH ADDRESS TO THESE INDIAN REFUGEES ON 18.1.45, WINDRUSH</u></p> <p>BY I.G. CUMMINGS, Colonial Office.</p> <p>First of all, let me welcome you to St. Britain and express the hope that you will all achieve the objects which have brought you here. As many of you know, I am from the Colonial Office, and although you have come over here as private individuals, we want to do what we can in consultation with other departments to assist and guide you through the next two or three weeks.</p> <p>I know that many of you have been in this country before, but to those of you who are new to England, and who will be particularly in need of guidance, I want to say that I hope you especially will take very careful heed of the advice which is given you.</p> <p>Tomorrow morning representatives of the Ministry of Labour and National Service will board this ship in order to give what assistance they can.</p> <p>Now I come to the advice and help which I think we as officials can give you. We have asked that you should be separated into three categories :</p> <p>(a) Those of you who wish to volunteer for service in the Army and Air Force.</p> <p>Service Departments have undertaken to consider you for enlistment at an early date, and in order to facilitate this (and as I believe most of you who are volunteers have already been in the Services), the Colonial Office has arranged for you to be accommodated temporarily at the Colonial Servicemen's Club, 77 Bishop's Street. You will be required to stand by at the Club pending the carrying out of formalities by the War Office and Air Ministry.</p> <p>You will of course be responsible for your own board and lodging, the cost of which will be £11.10. per week for bed and breakfast.</p> <p>(b) /</p> <p>83</p>	<p>(b) I know that many of you have friends and relatives to whom you wish to go in various parts of the country, and that you have good prospects of employment.</p> <p>In order to facilitate your departure the Ministry of Labour proposes to give free travel warrants from Tilbury to your places of destination to those of you who may not be able to pay for long distance journeys.</p> <p>I hope I shall hear that many of you have in actual fact got somewhere to go.</p> <p>(c) I now want to address my friends who may have nowhere to go and no plans whatsoever.</p> <p>I am afraid that you will have many difficulties, but I feel sure that with the right spirit and by co-operating as I have suggested above, you will overcome them.</p> <p>As far as you are concerned, we have not been able to arrange any hostel accommodation or accommodation in private lodgings owing to the acute shortage of such facilities in the Greater London Area, but through the courtesy of the War Department, arrangements have been made for those of you who wish to go, to have temporary sleeping accommodation at the Deep Shelter at Clapham South. This shelter is organised on military lines and I shall have to ask you to conduct yourselves accordingly.</p> <p>The charge for the accommodation is 2/- a night and you will be responsible for purchasing meals for yourselves, which we are trying to make available on the spot.</p> <p>At the shelter my colleagues in the Ministry of Labour and National Service propose to interview you and have you registered with regard to employment, and it is our sincere hope that in the shortest possible time we shall be able to get you dispersed to other parts of the country. As you know a number of forms have to be filled in in England in almost every walk of life and therefore I do want to stress that in connection with getting a job the Ministry of Labour cannot</p> <p>function/</p>	<p>2.</p> <p>function in the matter of assisting anybody by placing them in employment until such time as that person has become registered.</p> <p>At the shelter you will find the Regional Officer of the Colonial Office Welfare Department, Mr. P. S. Dillidge, who is being assisted for your purposes by Mr. Colin Bryan, a Jamaican social worker, and they will be available to give you advice.</p> <p>Although conditions at the shelter are far from ideal for a stay of more than 72 hours, some of you may have to be there for a week or so, and I want to stress how important it is that you exercise patience and comply strictly with all the rules and regulations of the shelter.</p> <p>An equally important matter is that you should be sure that you are available for interview by the Ministry of Labour officials at the time - to be notified at the shelter - when they wish to see you.</p> <p>As I have explained, those of you who have made your own arrangements and have places to go to will get travel vouchers where necessary from the Ministry of Labour and will depart from Tilbury to your various destinations by train. The others will be conveyed by coaches to the Servicemen's Club and to Clapham.</p> <p>You will appreciate that it will be necessary for us to have an organised disembarkation of categories (a) and (c), and I want your fullest co-operation in this.</p> <p>All that remains for me to say is that I wish you the very best of luck.</p>
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Transcript: Source 18

SHORT ADDRESS TO WEST INDIAN WORKERS ON H.M.T WINDRUSH

By I.G. Cummings, Colonial Office

First of all let me welcome you to Gr. Britain and express the hope that you will all achieve the objects which have brought you here. As many of you know, I am from the Colonial Office, and although you have come over here as private individuals, we want to do what we can in consultation with other departments to assist and guide you through the next two or three weeks.

I know that many of you have been in this country before, but to those of you who are new to England, and will be particularly in need of guidance, I want to say that I hope you especially will take very careful heed of the advice which is given to you.

Tomorrow morning representatives of the Ministry of Labour and National Service will board this ship in order to give what assistance they can.

Now I come to the advice and help which I think we as officials can give you. We have asked that you should be separated into three categories:

- Those of you who wish to volunteer for service in the Army and Air Force.

Service Departments have undertaken to consider you for enlistment at an early date, and in order to facilitate this (and as I believe most of you who are volunteers have already been in the Services), the Colonial Office has arranged for you to be accommodated temporarily at the Colonial Servicemen's Club, 77 Wimpole Street. You will be required to stand by at the Club pending the carrying out of formalities by the War Office and Air Ministry.

You will be of course, be responsible for your own board and lodging, the cost of which will be £1.1.0. per week for bed and breakfast.

- I know that many of you have friends and relatives to who you wish to go in various parts of the country, and that you have good prospects of employment. In order to facilitate your departure the Ministry of Labour proposes to give free travel warrants from Tilbury to your places of destination to those of you who may not be able to pay for long distance journeys. I hope I shall hear that many of you have in actual fact got somewhere to go.
- I now want to address my friends who may have nowhere to go and no plans whatsoever.

I am afraid that you will have difficulties, but I feel sure that with the right spirit and by co-operating as I have suggested above, you will overcome them.

As far as you are concerned, we have not been able to arrange any hostel accommodation or accommodation in private lodgings owing to the acute shortage of such facilities in the Greater London Area, but through the courtesy of the War Department, arrangements have been made for those of you who wish to go, to have temporary sleeping accommodation at the Deep Shelter at

Transcript: Source 18

Clapham South. This shelter is organised on military lines, and I shall have to ask you to conduct yourselves accordingly.

The charge for the accommodation is 2 shillings a night and you will be responsible for purchasing meals yourselves, which we are trying to make available on the spot.

At the shelter my colleagues in the Ministry of Labour and National Service propose to interview you and have you registered with regard to employment, and it is our sincere hope that in the shortest possible time we shall be able to get you dispersed to other parts of the country. As you know a number of forms have to be filled in in England in almost every walk of life and therefore, I do want to stress that in connection with getting a job the Ministry of Labour cannot function in the matter of assisting anybody by placing them in employment until such time as that person has become registered.

At the shelter you will find the Regional Officer of the Colonial Office Welfare Department, Mr. P.S. Bulleid, who is being assisted for your purposes by Mr. Colin Bryan, a Jamaican social worker, and they will be available to give you advice.

Although conditions at the shelter are far from ideal for a stay of more than 72 hours, some of you may have to be there for more than a week or so, and I want to stress how important it is that you exercise patience and comply strictly with all the rules and regulations of the shelter.

An equally important matter is that you should be sure that you are available for interview by the Ministry of Labour officials at the times – to be notified at the shelter – when they wish to see you.

As I have explained, those of you who have made your own arrangements and have places to go to will get travel vouchers where necessary from the Ministry of Labour and will depart from Tilbury to your various destinations by train. The others will be conveyed by coaches to the Servicemen's Club and to Clapham.

You will appreciate that it will be necessary for us to have an organised disembarkation of categories (a) and (c), and I want your fullest co-operation in this.

All that remains for me to say is that I wish you the very best of luck.

Source 19: Telegram with Windrush passengers' skills

Catalogue Ref: CO 876/88

Charges to pay _____ s. _____ d.

RECEIVED
at Central Telegraph
Office, E.C.1

POST OFFICE

TELEGRAM

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words

136 W 1355 6 EMPIRE WINDRUSH

PORTISHEAD RADIO 59/58

To _____ m

By _____

TELEGRAM OFFICE STAMP
* OFFICE STAMP
6 JUL 48
CENTRAL TELEGRAM OFFICE LONDON

= CUMMINGS COLONIAL OFFICE WELFARE DEPT KINNAIRD HOUSE PALLMALL LONDON

= FROM SNYTHE EMPIRE WINDRUSH STOP 350 WITHOUT ANY ARRANGEMENTS

FOR ACCOMMODATION 'PREFERENCE FOR EMPLOYMENT REPORTED TO BE SKILLED

ENGINEERS 50 BUILDERS 50 EXFACTORY WORKERS 50 FARMERS 30 MINING

30 TO REENLIST RAF 50 ARMY 25 STOP. REMAINDER 1 NO PREFERENCE

REGARDING ACCOMMODATION SUGGEST YOU CONTACT DISEMBARKATION AUTHORITIES

SOUTHAMPTON 060955 = OC TROOPS +-+

RAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form B or C
m, and, if possible, the envelope. C

CT 350 50 50 30 30 50 25 060955

14/P4666 9/46 G.N.P.Co. Ltd. 51-7260

Transcript: Source 19

[Stamp: Central Telegraph Office London Office London 6 July 1948]

POST OFFICE TELEGRAM

136 W 1355 6 EMPIRE WINDRUSH

PORTISHEAD RADIO 59/58

= CUMMINGS COLONIAL OFFICE WELFARE DEPARTMENT KINNAIRD HOUSE PALLMALL LONDON, S.W.

= From Smythe Empire Windrush STOP 350 without any arrangements for accommodation. Preference for employment reported to be skilled engineers, 50 Builders 50 Ex-factory workers, 50 Farmers, 30 Mining, 30 to re-enlist RAF [Royal Air Force] 50 Army STOP. Remainder no preference regarding accommodation suggest you contact disembarkation authorities Southampton 060955 + O.C. Troops ++

CT 350 50 50 50 30 30 50 25 060955

Source 20: Clement Attlee on Windrush arrival

Catalogue Ref: CO 876/88

10 Downing Street
S.W.1

5th July, 1948

I am replying to the letter signed by yourself and ten other Members of Parliament on the 22nd of June about the West Indians who arrived in this country on that day on board the "Empire Windrush". I note what you say, but I think it would be a great mistake to take the emigration of this Jamaican party to the United Kingdom too seriously.

It is traditional that British subjects, whether of Dominion or Colonial origin (and of whatever race or colour), should be freely admissible to the United Kingdom. That tradition is not, in my view, to be lightly discarded, particularly at a time when we are importing foreign labour in large numbers. It would be fiercely resented in the Colonies themselves, and it would be a great mistake to take any measure

which

a genuine contribution to our labour difficulties at the present time.

You and your fellow signatories say that Colonial Governments are responsible for the welfare of their peoples. That is true, and all the Colonial Governments have their ten-year plans of development, assisted from the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of the United Kingdom. But they, like this country, are embarrassed by shortages of materials and shortages of skilled directing personnel as well as to some extent by the universal dollar shortage. These factors prevent them driving ahead as fast as they and we would wish.

It is difficult to prophesy whether events will repeat themselves, but I think it will be shown that too much importance - too much publicity too - has been attached to the present argosy of Jamaicans. Exceptionally favourable shipping terms were available

to

which would tend to weaken the goodwill and loyalty of the Colonies towards Great Britain. If our policy were to result in a great influx of undesirables, we might, however unwillingly, have to consider modifying it. But I should not be willing to consider that except on really compelling evidence, which I do not think exists at the present time. We have not yet got complete figures on the disposal of the party which arrived on the "Empire Windrush", but it may be of interest to you to know that of the 256 who had nowhere to go and no immediate prospects of employment, and who were therefore temporarily accommodated at Clapham Shelter, 145 had actually been placed in employment by the 30th June and the number still resident in the Shelter at this last week-end was down to 76. It would therefore be a great mistake to regard these people as undesirables or unemployables. The majority of them are honest workers, who can make

a

to them, and there was a large proportion of them who had money in their pockets from their ex-service gratuities. These circumstances are not likely to be repeated; yet even so not all the passages available were taken up.

It is too early yet to assess the impression made upon these immigrants as to their prospects in Great Britain and consequently the degree to which their experience may attract others to follow their example. Although it has been possible to find employment for quite a number of them, they may well find it very difficult to make adequate remittances to their dependants in Jamaica as well as maintaining themselves over here. On the whole, therefore, I doubt whether there is likely to be a similar large influx.

(SIGNED) C.R. ATTLEE

J.D. Murray, Esq., M.P.

Transcript: Source 20

10 Downing Street,
S.W.1
5th July 1948

I am replying to the letter signed by yourself and ten other Members of Parliament on the 22nd of June about the West Indians who arrived in this country on that day on board the "Empire Windrush". I note what you say, but I think it would be a great mistake to take the emigration of this Jamaican party to the United Kingdom too seriously.

It is traditional that British subjects, whether of Dominion or Colonial origin (and of whatever race or colour), should be freely admissible to the United Kingdom. That tradition is not, in my view, to be lightly discarded, particularly at this time when we are importing foreign labour in large numbers. It would be fiercely resented in the Colonies themselves, and it would be a great mistake to take any measure which would tend to weaken the goodwill and loyalty of the Colonies towards Great Britain. If our policy were to result in a great influx of undesirables, we might, however unwillingly, have to consider modifying it. But I should not be willing to consider that except on really compelling evidence, which I do not think exists at the present time. We have not yet got complete figures on the disposal of the party which arrived on the "Empire Windrush", but it may be of interest to you to know that of the 236 who had nowhere to go and no immediate prospects of employment, and who were therefore temporarily accommodated at Clapham Shelter, 145 had actually been placed in employment by the 30th June and the number still resident in the Shelter at this last week-end was down to 76. It would therefore be a great mistake to regard these people as undesirable or unemployables. The majority of them are honest workers, who can make a genuine contribution to our labour difficulties at the present time.

You and your fellow signatories say that Colonial Governments are responsible for the welfare of their peoples. That is true, and all the Colonial Governments have their ten-year plans of development, assisted from the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of the United Kingdom. But they, like this country, are embarrassed by shortages of skilled directing personnel as well as to some extent the universal dollar shortage. These factors prevent them driving ahead as fast as they and we would wish.

It is difficult to prophesy whether events will repeat themselves, but I think it will be shown that too much importance- too much publicity too- has been attached to the present argosy of Jamaicans. Exceptionally favourable shipping terms were available to them, and there was a large proportion of them who had money in their pockets from ex-service gratuities. These circumstances are not likely to be repeated; yet even so not all the passages available were taken up.

It is too early yet to assess the impression made upon these immigrants as to their prospects in Great Britain and consequently the degree to which their experience may attract others to follow their example. Although it has been possible to find employment for quite a number of them, they may well find it very difficult to make adequate remittance to their dependants in Jamaica as well as maintaining themselves over here. On the whole, therefore, I doubt whether there is likely to be a similar large influx.

(SIGNED) C.R. ATTLEE

Source 21: Passenger list from Windrush

Catalogue Ref: BT 26/1237

NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF BRITISH PASSENGERS.																				
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)						(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)							
Port of Embarkation	Port at which Passengers have been landed	NAMES OF PASSENGERS	CLASS (Where 1st, 2nd, Tourist or Other)	AGES OF PASSENGERS						Proposed Address in the United Kingdom	Profession, Occupation, or Calling of Passengers	Country of last Permanent Residence*	Country of Intended Future Permanent Residence*							
				Adults of 12 years and upwards		Children between 1 and 12		Infants					England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Eire	Other parts of the British Empire	Foreign Countries	
				Accompanied by husband or wife	Not Accompanied by husband or wife	Children between 1 and 12	Infants													
				Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females											
505. KINGSTON.	Lithuania	AMOS Kenneth	"C"			21				No address.	Welder.	Jamaica.								
506. "	"	ADOLPHUS Robert	"			24				"	Carpenter.	"								
507. "	"	AUXILLY Allan	"			25				5, Balton St., Haywood, Lanes.	Mechanic.	"								
508. "	"	AQUIART Walter	"			32				22, Hampstead Rd., N.W.1.	Clerk.	"								
509. "	"	ARMSTRONG Joseph	"			24				No address.	Artist.	"								
510. "	"	ARCHER Henry	"			26				21, Norrington Cres., N.W.	Mechanic.	"								
511. "	"	ANDERSON Dudley	"			23				No address.	Clerk.	"								
512. "	"	ANGUS Alva	"			52				Colonial Welfare Dept., 6, St. Martins Place, W.C.2.	Fitter.	"								
513. "	"	ANDERSON Gerald	"			29				50, Treherne Rd., S.W.9.	Carpenter.	"								
514. "	"	ARCHER Gladstone	"			27				157, Grove St., L'pool.	Hatter.	"								
515. "	"	ANDERSON Herman	"			22				No address.	Mechanic.	"								
516. "	"	ANGUS Herbert	"			20				3, Tower Place, Leith.	Seaman.	"								
517. "	"	AUSTIN Edison	"			25				196, Shirland Rd., W.9.	Clerk.	"								
518. "	"	ALLEN Rupert	"			21				National Service Hostel, 16, Score St., W. Bromwich.	Cabinet Maker.	"								
519. "	"	ANDERSON Frank	"			34				16, Sapling Rd., Bolton.	Engineer.	"								
520. "	"	ATCHERSON Wallace	"			25				22, Collingham Gdns., S.W.5.	Mechanic.	"								
521. "	"	BAUGH Cecil	"			39				25, Collingham Place, S.W.5.	Potter.	"								
522. "	"	BROOKS Alfred	"			19				No address.	Clerk.	"								
523. "	"	BURROUGHS Edwin	"			17				"	Barber.	"								
524. "	"	BAKER Charles	"			23				22, Gordon Rd., S.E.	Engineer.	"								
525. "	"	BROWN Vincent	"			35				190, Mudvake, Haslingden, Lanes.	Tinmith.	"								
526. "	"	BROOKS Clarence	"			23				24, Fairfax Rd., W.4.	Seaman.	"								
527. "	"	BROADLEY Leslie	"			50				80, Selbourne St., L'pool.	Tailor.	"								
528. "	"	BURGESS Newton	"			27				19, Carlisle Rd., Grimsby.	Draughtsman.	"								
529. "	"	BROWN Astor	"			31				83, Cleveland St., W.1.	Fitter.	"								
530. "	"	BLAIR Wentworth	"			26				204, Rute St., Cardiff.	Mechanic.	"								
531. "	"	BROWN Joseph	"			21				6, St. Martins Sq., W.C.2.	"	"								
532. "	"	BRUCE Lisea	"			26				Colonial Club, London.	Cabinet Mkr.	"								
533. "	"	BROWN Joseph	"			33				10, St. Georges Square, Liverpool.	Musician.	"								
534. "	"	BALWIN Frank	"			28				408, W. Ave., Bethnal Green, E.2.	Boxer.	Br. Honduras.								
535. "	"	BRANDMONT Stephen	"			37				20, Brenner St., W'chester.	Mechanic.	Jamaica.								
536. "	"	BROWN Joseph	"			24				21, Norrington Cres., N.W.	"	"								
537. "	"	BROWN Allan	"			44				27, Red Lion St., London, W.C.	Tailor.	"								
538. "	"	BLAKE Linton	"			42				112, Westbourne Pk. Rd., Paddington, W.2.	"	"								
539. "	"	BRADY Leslie	"			20				No address.	Cabinet Mkr.	"								
540. "	"	BROOKS Maurice	"			22				93, New St., Cambridge.	Engineer.	"								
541. "	"	BENNETT Robert	"			32				15, College Rd., S.W.11.	Tailor.	"								
542. "	"	BROWN Audrey	"			26				1, R. O. St. Russell St., London, W.C.1.	Welder.	"								
543. "	"	BRENNAND Terence	"			23				65, Selbourne St., Liverpool, 5.	Mechanic.	"								
544. "	"	BROWN Wilmoth	"			36				93, Fenners Hill, S.W.8.	Bricklayer.	"								
545. "	"	BRYAN Chadleigh	"			25				No address.	Farmer.	"								
546. "	"	BENTHORN Amelia	"			28				"	Cabinet Mkr.	"								
547. "	"	BUCKLEY Stanley	"			27				128, Broadfield Rd., Manchester, 14.	Mechanic.	"								
548. "	"	BAPOTIER Finc	"			19				181, Sutherland Ave., W.9.	Student.	"								
549. "	"	BENJAMIN Vincent	"			31				Friends House, Austin	"	"								
550. "	"	BLACK Frederick	"			28				83, 18, W. York Hall	Carpenter.	"								
551. "	"	BENNETT Vincent	"			23				Estates, Hull, Yorks.	Engineer.	"								
										64, Grayfriar, Stafford.	Carpenter.	"								

4964223393251

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45

45

By permanent residence is to be understood residence for a year or more.

Northern Ireland and Eire are to be regarded as separate countries.

Transcript: Source 21

(1) Port of Embarkation	(2) Port at which Passengers have been landed	(3) NAMES OF PASSENGERS	(4) CLASS (Whether 1st, 2nd, Tourist or 3rd)	(5) AGES OF PASSENGERS		(6) Proposed Address in the United Kingdom	(7) Profession, Occupation or Calling of Passengers	(8) Country of last Permanent Residence
				Accompanied by husband or wife	Females			
Kingston	Tilbury	AMOS Kenneth	"C"	21		No address	Welder	Jamaica
"	"	ADOLPHUS Rubert	"	21		"	Carpenter	"
"	"	AUXILLY Allan	"	25		5, Hilton Street, Haywood, Lancs	Mechanic	"
"	"	AQUART Walter	"	32		22, Hampstead Rd, N.W.1	Clerk	"
"	"	ARMSTRON Joseph	"	24		No Address	Artist	"
"	"	ARCHER Kenry	"	26		21 Mornington Cres. NW.	Mechanic	"
"	"	ANDERSON Dudley	"	23		No address Colonial Welfare Department	Clerk	"
"	"	ANGUS Alva	"	32		6, St Martins Place, W.C.2	Fitter	"
"	"	ANDERSON Gerald	"	29		50 Treherne Rd, S.W.9	Carpenter	"
"	"	ARCHER Gladstone	"	29		157, Grove St. Liverpool	Hatter	"
"	"	ANDERSON Herman	"	22		No address	Mechanic	"
"	"	ANGUS Herbert	"	20		3, Tower Place, Leith	Seaman	"
"	"	AUSTIN Edison	"	25		196 Shirland Rd, W.9 N.S.Hostel	Clerk	"
"	"	ALLEN Rupert	"	21		16 Score St.W.Bromwich	Cabinet Maker	"
"	"	ANDERSON Ebank	"	34		16 Sapling Rd, Bolton	Engineer	"
"	"	AITCHESON Wallace	"	25		22, Collingham Gdns, S.W.5	Mechanic	"
"	"	BAUGH Cecil	"	39		25, Callingham Place, S.W.5	Potter	"

Transcript (cont.): Source 21

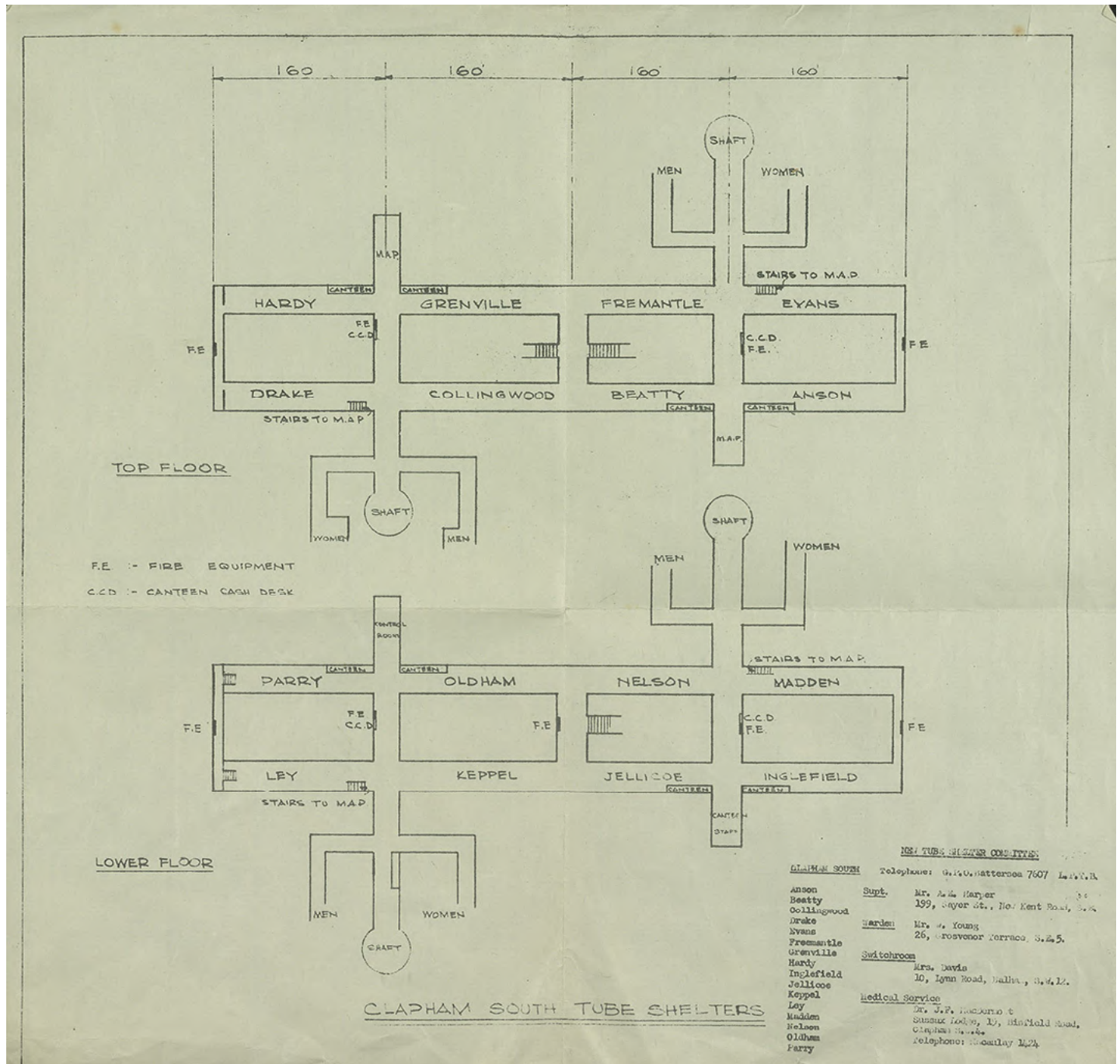
(1) Port of Embarkation	(2) Port at which Passengers have been landed	(3) NAMES OF PASSENGERS	(4) CLASS (Whether 1st, 2nd, Tourist or 3rd)	(5) AGES OF PASSENGERS		(6) Proposed Address in the United Kingdom	(7) Profession, Occupation or Calling of Passengers	(8) Country of last Permanent Residence
				Accompanied by husband or wife	Females			
Kingston	Tilbury	BROOKS Alfred	"C"	19		No address	Clerk	"
"	"	BURROWES Edwin	"	17		"	Barber	"
"	"	BAKER Charles	"	23		22, Gordon Road S.E.	Engineer	"
"	"	BROWN VINCENT	"	35		190, Hudrake, Haslingden, Lancs	Tinsmith	"
"	"	BROOKS Clarence	"	23		24 Fairfax Rd W.4	Seaman	"
"	"	BROADLEY Leslie	"	50		80, Selbourne St, L'pool	Tailor	"
"	"	BURGESS Newton	"	27		19, Carlisle Rd, Grimsthorpe	Draughtsman	"
"	"	BROWN Aston	"	31		83 Clevelend St, W.1.	Fitter	"
"	"	BLAIR Wentworth	"	26		204, Bute st, Cardiff	Mechanic	"
"	"	BROWN Jocelyn	"	21		6, St Martins Sq. W.C.2.	"	"
"	"	BRUCE Lisso	"	26		Colonial Club, London 16, St George's Square	Cabinet Maker	"
"	"	BROWN Joseph	"	33		Liverpool, Rest Centre	Musician	"
"	"	BALDWIN Frank	"	28		Bethnal Green, E.2	Boxer	"
"	"	BEAUMONT Stephen	"	37		20 Bremner St, M'chester	Mechanic	"
"	"	BROWN Joseph	"	24		21 Mornington Cres. N.W.	"	"
"	"	BROWN ALLAN	"	44		27 Red Lion St. London W.C.	Tailor	"

Transcript (cont.): Source 21

(1) Port of Embarkation	(2) Port at which Passengers have been landed	(3) NAMES OF PASSENGERS	(4) CLASS (Whether 1st, 2nd, Tourist or 3rd)	(5) AGES OF PASSENGERS		(6) Proposed Address in the United Kingdom	(7) Profession, Occupation or Calling of Passengers	(8) Country of last Permanent Residence
				Males	Females			
Kingston	Tilbury	BLAKE Linton	"C"	42		112 Westbourne Pk. Rd. Paddington, W.2.	"	Jamaica
"	"	BRADY Leslie	"	20		No address	Cabinet Maker	"
"	"	BROOKS Maurice	"	22		93, Kew Road Cambridge	Engineer	"
"	"	BENNETT Robert	"	32		35 Cologne St. S.W.11	Tailor	"
"	"	BROWN Aubrey	"	26		Y.M.C.A Russell St, London W.C.1	Welder	"
"	"	BRENNAND Terence	"	23		Liverpool 8	Mechanic	"
"	"	BROWN Wilmoth	"	36		93 Tanners Hill S.E.8	Bricklayer	"
"	"	BRYAN Chudleigh	"	25		No address	Farmer	"
"	"	BRONTHORNE Amelius	"	28		"	Cabinet Maker	"
"	"	BUCKLEY Stanley	"	27		128 Broadfield Rd, Manchester 14	Mechanic	"
"	"	BAROVIER Tino	"	19		Friend's House, Euston Rd., N.W.1	Student	"
"	"	BENJAMIN Vincent	"	31		? Ave, York Hull	Carpenter	"
"	"	BLACK Frederick	"	28		Estate, Hull, Yorks.	Engineer	"
"	"	BENNETT Vincent	"	23		64 Greyfriar, Stafford	Carpenter	"

Source 22: Clapham South tube station: accommodation

Catalogue Ref: HO 205/253



Transcript: Source 22

CLAPHAM SOUTH TUBE SHELTERS

[Key]

F.E. – Fire Equipment

C.C.D – Canteen cash desk

[The plan shows two floors, each consisting of two parallel corridors crossed through with three shorter parallel corridors. The shorter corridor on the right leads to a round room labelled SHAFT in the top right, and the shorter corridor on the left leads to a round room labelled SHAFT in the bottom left. Two branching corridors next to each shaft leads to a room labelled MEN and a room labelled WOMEN.]

TOP FLOOR

[Long corridor to top of page:]

HARDY GRENVILLE FREMANTLE EVANS

[Long corridor to bottom of page:]

DRAKE COLLINGWOOD BEATTY ANSON

LOWER FLOOR

[Long corridor to top of page:]

PARRY OLDHAM NELSON MADDEN

[Long corridor to bottom of page:]

LEY KEPPEL JELlicoe INGLeFIELD

NEW TUBE SHELTER COMMITTEES

CLAPHAM SOUTH Telephone: G.P.O. Battersea 7607 L.T.T.B.

Anson

Beatty

Collingwood

Drake

Evans

Freemantle

Grenville

Hardy

Jellicoe

Keppel

Ley

Madden

Nelson

Oldham

Parry

Transcript (cont.): Source 22

Superintendent Mr. A.E. Harper 199, Sayer Street New Kent Road, S.E.

Warden Mr. W. Young, 26 Grosvenor Terrace, S.E.5

Switchboard Mrs Davis 10, Lynn Road, Balham S.W.12.

Medical Service Dr J.F. MacDermott, Sussex Lodge,
19, Binfield Road, Clapham S.W.4.
Telephone: Macaulay 1424

Source 23: Newspaper article: 'Welcome is planned'

Catalogue Ref: LAB 26/218

Officials Will Meet Barbados Workers After All**Attlee Steps In As a Colony Protests****WELCOME IS PLANNED****"Evening News" Reporter**

REPERCUSSIONS in the West Indian Parliament have caused a change of heart in the Government regarding the reception of 417 men due here on the Empire Windrush next Monday.

The replies given by Labour Minister Isaacs led Barbados M.P.s to table a motion that his attitude "is not

calculated to promote loyalty and affection on the part of British citizens in the Caribbean."

Mr. Attlee himself has now taken charge of the matter. "Decisions of policy regarding the reception are being made at Cabinet level," I was told to-day.

Decision Changed

Confidential reports at the Colonial Office indicate that Mr. Isaacs' "great disappointment" at the venture, coupled with the hope that "no encouragement will be given to others to follow their example," has had a bad effect on propaganda among the coloured population. Labour troubles are already acute in the islands, with one out of every nine men unemployed.

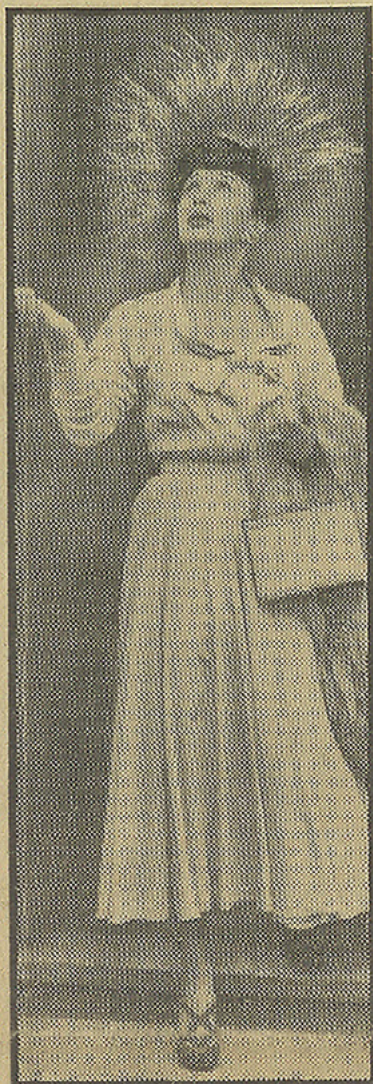
Mr. Isaacs had added: "We cannot put a man on the dock to guide these people into jobs."

I understand that decision has now been changed and that in fact representatives of the Labour Ministry will be present, together with Colonial Office officials, when the Empire Windrush arrives.

'No Colour Bar'

An official of the Colonial Office said to-day: "Welfare officers and a Press officer are going down from here to welcome these men. They will be cordially received and given the best accommodation available. The majority may have to be put into hostels, but better accommodation will be found where possible."

At the Ministry of Labour it was stated: "The men are British subjects and will be given the same assistance as any others to find a job. Some want to go into the mines or on the land. Those selected as trainees will go to the various centres in the normal way. We shall do our best for the others, but of course they cannot be our responsibility indefinitely. There is no colour bar against them."



GOOGIE WITHERS holds her hand out—it was spotting with rain as she left for Ascot and she was worried about

Transcript: Source 23

Officials Will meet Barbados After All

Attlee Steps In As a Colony Protests

WELCOME IS PLANNED

"Evening News" Reporter

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Mr. Isaacs had added: We cannot put a man on the dock to guide these people into jobs."

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[Caption for Photograph]:

Googie Withers [actress] holds her hand out- it was spotting with rain as she left for Ascot and she was worried about [getting wet].

Source 24: Finding employment in London

Catalogue Ref: LAB 26/218



MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE

Telephone No: AMBassador 1212

15, Portman Square,
London, W.1.

Dear

(all Re's except London)

I expect that you have seen references in the press to 400 Jamaicans who are on their way to this country, and I believe that the problem that was likely to be created by their arrival was mentioned at the last monthly Conference. They are, of course, British subjects, and there is no restriction on their entry into this country. They are coming on their own initiative, and when they get here there is no logical reason why they should be treated differently from other individual unemployed British subjects.

Nevertheless, public attention has been focused on them, and in such circumstances, and as a large proportion will have to be accommodated together in London, a problem for the Government has automatically been created.

They will be leaving the ship at Tilbury on Tuesday, 22nd June, and it is known that some will disperse themselves to friends or employment. We shall be there ready to assist this dispersal. Others may do the same gradually. Unfortunately there is in London already a problem of unemployed coloured men, and it will be necessary to make special efforts to find employment for as many as possible. Unless something can be done, there will remain a nasty residual problem of a comparatively large group of men unemployed and all together.

They will be registered for employment as soon as they arrive in London, and I will let you have a general idea of their experience and capabilities as soon as possible, but in the meantime I should be glad if you would give preliminary consideration to what special and extraordinary steps you can take to help to solve a share of the problem. You may assume that while many of them have had some sort of experience of skilled or semi-skilled work, very few are likely to be skilled in the sense that we understand the term.

If they were all dispersed, there would be no general problem to which public attention would be drawn, and one way of dealing with the matter might be to get parties of not more than 10 or a dozen to go to different places where they might be expected to be absorbed into employment.

I see at once two serious objections; first the men might not be willing to go, and secondly if they were, what could be done about accommodation both before and after they had got jobs? Nevertheless I should be grateful if you would give consideration to this and any other possibility that may occur to you as a way to solve the problems.

Yours sincerely,

W.H. HARDMAN

Paucis 11/1/6

Transcript: Source 24

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE

Telephone No: Ambassador 1212

15, Portman Square,

London, W.1.

Dear (All R.C.s [Reception Centres] except London,

I expect that you have seen references in the press to 400 Jamaicans who are on their way to this country, and I believe that the problem that was likely to be created by their arrival was mentioned at the last monthly Conference. They are of course, British Subjects, and there is no restriction on their entry into this country. They are coming on their own initiative, and when they get here there is no logical reason why they should be treated differently from other individual unemployed British subjects.

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I see at once two serious objections; first the men might not be willing to go, and secondly if they were, what could be done about accommodation both before and after they got jobs? Nevertheless, I should be grateful if you would give consideration to this and any other possibility that may occur to you as a way to solve the problems.

Yours sincerely
W.H. HARDMAN

Source 25: Employment for industry

Catalogue Ref: LAB 8/1516

Reference

EM.2543/48.

Mr. Hardman.

1. In your minute of 19th June you asked us to give urgent consideration to the question of finding employment for the 400 or so Jamaican men who are expected to leave their ship at Tilbury tomorrow. (Incidentally I understand that the B.B.C. have announced that the men in question are in fact arriving tonight.)
2. What would you do if 400 or so white British subjects suddenly appeared in this country wanting employment if no steps had been taken beforehand to find out what their experience was, what sort of jobs they were willing to take and where they might be suitably placed with the necessary accommodation?
3. Whatever would be appropriate in the hypothetical case suggested in the preceding paragraph would no doubt be appropriate in the case of these Jamaicans. In their case, however, there is undoubtedly the additional problem that, whether we like it or not, there is among certain sections of the population a colour prejudice which will add to the difficulties of placing and accommodating the Jamaicans. I am afraid we have no specific information readily available about the existence of any such prejudice in the case of the industries for the labour supply to which we are responsible.
4. I assume that arrangements have been made to interview the men immediately it becomes possible to do so and if we could be given particulars of the men's ages, qualifications, past experience and so on we might be able to help with suggestions for placing them in suitable employment.
5. In so far as the men are found to have some skill or experience in particular industries there will probably be very little difficulty in placing them. So far as the unskilled men are concerned we would suggest that consideration should be given to the possibility of their filling vacancies in such industries as the foundries, iron ore mines, china clay, sugar refining, food canning and possibly flax processing.
6. In connection with the selection of appropriate vacancies the Officer concerned will no doubt be bearing in mind any possibility of colour prejudice affecting the men being suitably accommodated.

L.S.A.I.*R. K. Ingram*21st June, 1948.

Transcript: Source 25

1. In your minute of 19th June you asked us to give urgent consideration to the question of finding employment for the 400 or so Jamaican men who are expected to leave their ship at Tilbury tomorrow. (Incidentally I understand that the B.B.C. have announced that the men in question are in fact arriving tonight.)
2. What would you do if 400 or so white British subjects suddenly appeared in this country wanting employment if no steps had been taken beforehand to find out what their experience was, what sort of jobs they were willing to take and where they might suitably be placed with necessary accommodations?
3. Whatever would be appropriate in the hypothetical case suggested in the preceding paragraph would no doubt be appropriate in the case of these Jamaicans. In their case, however, there is undoubtedly the additional problem that, whether we like it or not, there is among certain of the population a colour prejudice which will add to the difficulties of placing and accommodating the Jamaicans I am afraid we have no specific information readily available about the existence of any such prejudice in the case of the industries for the labour supply to which we are responsible.
4. I assume that arrangements have been made to interview the men immediately it becomes possible to do so and if we could be given particulars of the men's ages, qualifications, past experience, and so on we might be able to help with suggestions for placing them in suitable employment.
5. In so far as the men are found to have some skill or experience in particular industries there will probably be very little difficulty in placing them. So far as the unskilled men are concerned, we would suggest that consideration should be given to the possibility of their filling vacancies in such industries as the foundries, iron ore mines, china clay [pottery industry], sugar refining, food canning and possibly flax processing.
6. In connection with the selection of appropriate vacancies the Officer concerned will no doubt be bearing in mind any possibility of colour prejudice affecting the men being suitably accommodated.

L.S.A.I.

A. Kingham

21st June 1948

Source 26: Treatment of European workers and colonial citizens

Catalogue Ref: LAB 26/226

REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE EMPLOYMENT IN THE
UNITED KINGDOM OF SURPLUS COLONIAL LABOUR

INTRODUCTION

1. The Working Party was set up in October 1943 with the following terms of reference:-

"To enquire into the possibilities of employing in the United Kingdom surplus manpower of certain colonial territories in order to assist the manpower situation in this country and to relieve unemployment in those colonial territories."

The Colonial Office, the Ministries of Labour and National Service, Agriculture and Fisheries, Fuel and Power, National Insurance, and Health, the Home Office, the Foreign Office and the Treasury were represented on the Working Party which has met four times.

2. Owing to the fact that the unemployment problem is most serious in the West Indian Colonies, our attention has been directed mainly to the possibility of bringing West Indians to employment in this country. We have also assumed that a large majority of any workers brought here would be coloured, and this fact and its repercussions have been borne in mind throughout our discussions. We have also borne in mind the possible political effects in the Colonies of any schemes which might be arranged for the employment here of Colonial workers, while the successful inauguration of such schemes would create a favourable impression, their failure would have a serious political effect and indeed, from this point of view, might do more harm than the total absence of any arrangements. We therefore regard it as of great importance that any schemes which are to be undertaken should be assured of success from the beginning.

THE PROBLEM OF SURPLUS LABOUR IN THE WEST INDIES

3. In 1943, 17.6% of Jamaica's "experienced" * labour force of 505,092 were involuntarily unemployed and, although there are recent indications that the number of unemployed has decreased, the figure is undoubtedly still very high. In the other West Indian island colonies for which figures are available, 4.7% of the labour force of 455,905 were involuntarily unemployed in 1946; whilst in the mainland territories of British Guiana and British Honduras, the 1946 figures were 2.5% of the labour force of 166,277.
4. This unemployment has replaced the earlier condition of an unsatisfied demand for labour because the expansion of economic opportunities has not kept pace with the growth of the population. The West Indian colonies depend mainly upon agriculture and most of them on a few basic crops, of which sugar is by far the most important, and the world market for sugar up to 1939 did not encourage expansion. Market declines, diseases and hurricanes have affected other crops. Subsistence agriculture has not been able to absorb the increase in population, partly because good arable land is not everywhere available, and partly because people have drifted to the towns. Industries, other than agriculture, although they have made progress, have not provided employment on the scale required. Meanwhile, the inflow into the labour market greatly exceeds the wastage owing to a high birth rate and a falling death rate. The natural increase in population is now, in many colonies, at a rate which will cause the population to double in 25 or 30 years.
5. The possible solutions to the problem of surplus labour in the West Indies which have been suggested, apart from the long-term possibility of a reduction in the birth rate, are the introduction of secondary industries and

* This refers to persons who have at some time been employed.

10. In June 1948, 492 Jamaicans landed at Tilbury on arrival in the United Kingdom on the "Empire Windrush" as unskilled immigrants. They had been warned before leaving Jamaica of the difficulties which they were likely to meet in finding work and accommodation in the United Kingdom. Many of them had made no arrangements and their only plans were to land and then to seek work. Owing to the size of the influx special steps were taken officially to handle them and every assistance was given. As most of these men were either skilled or semi-skilled the finding of work for them was not too difficult; the provision of accommodation however presented very great difficulties and those who had not made any private arrangements had to be accommodated at the Deep Shelter at Clapham South Tube Station whilst the Ministry of Labour attempted to find work for them. Within three weeks of their arrival work had been found for all these men (240 in number) in foundries, agriculture, railways and as welders, carpenters, bricklayers, painters and tailors. In September 1948 106 further Jamaicans landed at Liverpool on the "Orbits", but as many of these had made their own arrangements there was not so much difficulty as with the "Empire Windrush", though a certain number of men from both these vessels have since fallen out of employment and now form part of the unemployed coloured community in this country. Altogether since December 1947 about 800 West Indians (mostly Jamaicans) have reached the United Kingdom in addition to the usual influx of steamships, which during 1948 amounted to 212 from the West Indies. Although statistics are not available, no serious repercussions have been felt by the Colonial Office, and this would suggest that not a large proportion of these men can now be unemployed or dissatisfied with their jobs. It should be stressed however that those who are unemployed are mostly in Liverpool and London, and that their presence there aggravates the existing unemployment problem of colonials. Similar difficulties to those mentioned above would have to be faced in the case of any future influx of Colonial workers whether aided or unaided.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

11. The "Westward Ho" scheme for the importation of European Volunteer Workers was launched over two years ago, at a time when there was a considerable over-all shortage of workers in this country, especially in certain of the basic industries - e.g. coalmining, agriculture, building and works of construction, and textiles. Since then, 80,000 specially selected E.V.W.s., 80,000 former members of the Polish Resettlement Corps, 15,000 German ex-P.O.W.s., and 8,000 Ukrainian ex-P.O.W.s. - a total of over 200,000 foreign workers - have been allocated to vacancies in the undermanned industries. During the same period there has been extensive re-deployment of labour within the country; while the labour demands in certain industries - e.g. building and civil engineering - has simultaneously contracted as a result of the cuts in the Investment programme. As a result of these measures there is no longer a great deal of scope for the further importation of labour from overseas: indeed, unemployment among British workers has risen from 331,477 at the beginning of 1948 to 375,713 at the beginning of this year. In addition to the registered

14. In the first place the undermanned industries are ex-hypothesi irregular ones, either because the wages are below the general level or because the working conditions are relatively unattractive. E.V.W.s. are subject to stringent labour control as they have entered into a firm undertaking to accept the employment allocated for them by the Ministry of Labour and if they leave such employment without permission they may be prosecuted or in serious cases deported. Colonial workers, being British subjects, are free from the labour controls imposed under the Aliens Restriction Orders, and could not be sent out of the country if they elected to leave the "essential" jobs to which they had been sent. There is the further danger that Colonial workers who found life lonely and unattractive in certain of the industrial areas (where there would be insufficient vacancies to enable groups of coloured workers to be employed together) would drift to the seaport towns where a coloured community exists, and would there aggravate existing over-crowding besides increasing the burden on Public Funds as a result of their inability to find employment in such areas. In this connection it would be unrealistic not to call attention to the fact that the lowest subsistence level likely to be available to Colonial workers in receipt of financial aid from the National Assistance Board would be very much higher than anything to which unemployed Colonial workers have ever been accustomed in the West Indies. A drift away from essential work in order to take advantage of these relatively generous N.A.B. rates would frustrate the object of the Colonial recruitment scheme.

15. In the second place, although in this country coloured persons do not suffer from any formal disabilities or discriminations - and this may well be due to the fact that at the present time the coloured section of the community here is nowhere large - we cannot escape the conclusion that neither the employers nor the workers in industry would look with favour on the introduction of coloured workers in factories and workshops where this class of labour has not previously been employed. The Ministry of Labour's experience in the placing of coloured workers already in the

Transcript: Source 26

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2. Owing to the fact that the unemployment problem is most serious in the West Indian Colonies, our attention has been directed mainly to the possibility of bringing West Indians to employment in this country. We have also assumed that a large majority of any workers brought here would be coloured, and this fact and its repercussions have been borne in mind throughout our discussions. We have also borne in mind the possible political effects in the Colonies of any schemes which might be arranged for the employment here of Colonial workers: while the successful inauguration of such schemes would create a favourable impression, their failure would have a serious political effect and indeed from this point of view, might do more harm than the total absence of any arrangements. We therefore regard it as of great importance that any schemes which are to be undertaken should be assured of success from the beginning.

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4. This unemployment has replaced the earlier condition of an unsatisfied demand for labour because the expansion of economic opportunities has not kept pace with the growth of population. The West Indian colonies depend mainly upon agriculture and most of them on a few basic crops of which sugar is by far the most important, and the world market for sugar up to 1939 did not encourage expansion. Market decline, diseases, and hurricanes have affected other crops, Subsistence agriculture has not been able to absorb the increase in population, partly because good arable land is not everywhere available, and partly because people have drifted to the towns. Industries, other than agriculture, although they have made progress, have not provided employment on the scale required. Meanwhile, the inflow into the labour market greatly exceeds the wastage owing to a high birth rate and falling death rate. The natural increase in population is

Transcript (cont.): Source 26

now, in many colonies, at a rate which will cause the population to double in 25 or 30 years.

5. The possible solutions to the problem of surplus labour in the West Indies which have been suggested, apart from the long-term possibility of a reduction in the birth rate, are the introduction of secondary industries and

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10. In June 1948, 492 Jamaicans landed at Tilbury on arrival in the United Kingdom on the "Empire Windrush" as unaided immigrants. They had been warned before leaving Jamaica of the difficulties which they were likely to meet in finding work and accommodation in the United Kingdom. Many of them had made no arrangements and their only plans were to land and then to seek work. Owing to the size of the influx special steps were taken to handle them and every assistance was given. As most of these men were either skilled or semi-skilled the finding of work for them was not too difficult; the provision of accommodation however presented very great difficulties and those who had not made any private arrangements had to be accommodated at the Deep Shelter at Clapham South Tube Station whilst the Ministry of Labour attempted to find work for them. Within three weeks of their arrival work had been found for all these men 240 in number) in foundries, agriculture, railways and as welders, carpenters, bricklayers, painters and tailors. In September 1948, 108 further Jamaicans landed at Liverpool on the "Orbita", but as many of these had made their own arrangements there was not so much difficulty as with the "Empire Windrush", though a certain number of men from both these vessels had fallen out of employment and now form part of the unemployed coloured community in this country. Although since December 1947 about 800 West Indians (mostly Jamaicans have reached the United Kingdom in addition to the usual influx of stowaways, which during 1948 amounted to 212 from the West Indies. Although statistics are not available, no serious repercussions have been felt by the Colonial Office, and this would suggest that not a large proportion of these men can now be unemployed or dissatisfied with their jobs. It should be stressed however that those who are unemployed are mostly in Liverpool and London, and that their presence there aggravates the existing unemployment problem of colonials. Similar difficulties to those mentioned above would have to be faced in the case of any future influx of Colonial Workers whether aided or unaided.

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Transcript (cont.): Source 26

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14. In the first place the undermanned industries are ex-hypothesi [supposedly] unpopular ones, either because the wages are below the general level or because the working conditions are relatively unattractive. E.V.Ws. are subject to stringent labour control as they have entered into a firm undertaking to accept the employment selected for them by the Ministry of Labour and if they leave such employment without permission they may be prosecuted or in serious cases deported. Colonial workers, being British subjects, are free from the labour control imposed under the Aliens Restrictions Orders and could not be sent out of the country if they elected to leave "essential" jobs to which they had been sent. There is further danger that Colonial workers who found life lonely and unattractive in certain of the industrial areas (where there would be insufficient vacancies to enable groups of coloured workers to be employed together) would drift to the seaport towns where a coloured community exists, and would there aggravate existing over-crowding besides increasing the burden on Public Funds as a result of their inability to find employment in such areas. In this connection it would be unrealistic not to call attention to the fact that the lowest subsistence level likely to be available to Colonial workers in receipt of financial aid from the National Assistance Board would be very much higher than anything to which unemployed Colonial workers have ever been accustomed in the West Indies. A drift away from essential work in order to take advantage of these relatively generous N.A.B. rates would frustrate the object of the Colonial Settlement Scheme.

15. In the second place, although in this country coloured persons do not suffer from any formal disabilities or disqualifications-and this may well be due to the fact that at the present time the coloured section of the community here is nowhere large-we cannot escape the conclusion that neither the employers or the workers in industry would look with favour on the introduction of coloured workers in factories and workshops where this class of labour has not previously been employed. The Ministry of Labour's experience in the placing of coloured workers already in the

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Source 27: Booklet: 'West Indian on England'

Catalogue Ref: CO 875/59/1

The Approach to London

After several hours' travelling we got into London. Frankly, this first sight of the world's largest city, especially by rail, was disappointing. About half an hour before reaching the terminus I became aware that we were passing through something; there were rather more houses, and the nearer we got to London the greater their density. To me the buildings looked all the same. Row after row of rather dreary brick houses, all with chimney-pots some six or more to the house and with the washing hanging out in the back garden, which overlooks the railway line. In English towns the houses are usually run together, and bungalows or detached houses such as we have at home, each standing in its own yard, are less common.

As you approach, you will not come suddenly into a world of skyscrapers. No Statue of Liberty will rise from the sea to greet you. Your entry will be casual and undramatic. For all that the place will grow upon you, and you will come to love certain parts of it, such as the view at Westminster, where the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, with Westminster Abbey in the background, rise quite as dramatically from the river as the Statue of Liberty, and their delicate spires and traceries, black with age, form a pretty picture against the background of clouds, whether the sky is dull or grey, or, as sometimes happens, when a perfectly blue or cloudless day occurs and the wonderful stonework gleams bronze and gold on the blue background. The light in England is never as fierce in intensity and brilliance as it is at home, nor is the range of natural colours as great. Instead there is a soft pastel effect, with light blues and greys, and days of really brilliant sunshine are so rare that when they do come the entire scene is transformed and seems quite strange and foreign. On the whole the softer light is kinder and more suited to the old weathered-stone buildings and the mellow brick to be seen in most quarters of London.

As you get closer into London, you may begin to notice the effect of the blitz. Several houses and warehouses beside the railway lines are mere shells, completely burnt out and gutted, mute reminders of the German effort to dislocate the complex railroad system that connects London with the rest of England.

You are likely to remember for ever the scene of your arrival ... the vast railway station with some twenty or more platforms

8

You can only do this by moving out of the hostel (for unfortunately the hostels are limited to colonial students only and are not shared by other English students) and getting "digs" on your own. This is not always easy. It is particularly difficult in London, where the blitz destroyed thousands of houses, and even the English student finds it difficult to get lodgings. You have an additional difficulty, "colour prejudice". You may find that on answering an advertisement for lodgings by telephone or letter and saying you are a student or tourist you will be told by the landlady that the rooms are available, that the rent is so much, and would you like to come and have a look at them? On arrival, the landlady, suppressing a gasp, and puzzling over the fact that a coloured person could have so English a name as Smith or Brown, will politely tell you that she is very sorry, but that she has just let the rooms to someone else who also answered the advertisement. This will hurt, because in most cases you will be sure that it is untrue, but there is little that you or anyone can do about it. The basic cause is the misconception behind the prejudice. Often the landlady might have been prepared "to risk the unknown", but fear of what the neighbours would say has deterred her.

There are on the other hand landladies who will be quite willing to take in West Indian students, because they have had others before and have been favourably impressed, and some indeed will show a great deal of real kindness in doing your mending and sewing as well as serving you also with your midday and evening meals (most landladies offer only bed and breakfast). It is largely a matter of luck, though you are more likely to get this hospitable type of landlady in the outer suburbs of London and the provincial towns rather than in the places closer in. Here your own attitude to the problem will be of the greatest importance in deciding whether your stay in this country will be happy or not. Over self-consciousness and sensitivity will often cause you to feel a hurt where none was intended. You may resent people staring at you on the bus or as you walk by, but remember they may seldom have seen anyone like you before. For example, an English friend and I were travelling the other day in the bus and after the little girl aged four sitting behind me had studied my hair for some time she announced to her mother "Mother, his hair is just like little clock springs!"

18

175

The scheme ensures to every person who has a ration book the basic essentials of his food for the week at a very low cost. No one will be without the opportunity of obtaining these goods because some selfish person has bought more than he really needs and is hoarding it. Further, in some special cases people who have extra needs recognized as worthy of protection are given more than the ordinary person. Thus expectant mothers and invalids may get special priorities of milk, butter and eggs, and babies will be given special orange juice and cod-liver oil.

After living at home in the West Indies under a "free" or open market system those of you who attempt to feed yourselves instead of leaving it all to the landlady, especially if you have had some experience of marketing at home, with its rising costs of everything, the high profits of the middlemen who handle food, the periodic scarcity of things like meat and butter, will concede the efficiency of the organization of food distribution here. The rising standards of health among the poorer classes of the population, particularly the children, are convincing evidence of the value of the scheme.



Cafeteria lunch

11

No Colour Bar

It is important to realize that while there is a certain amount of colour prejudice in England, there is no legal colour bar, and that what colour prejudice does exist is not as deep-rooted and specific as it is even in the north of America. A West Indian is entitled to demand that he be served in any public place of entertainment, just like anyone else, provided of course that he is suitably dressed and conducts himself properly. As an illustration of this you may remember that the famous cricketer Learie Constantine, was denied accommodation at a fashionable hotel in London where he had reserved it beforehand, because the manager feared that his American guests might protest. Later, he successfully sued the hotel for breach of contract and recovered damages. A decision such as this, and the sympathetic publicity it received in the English press, reflects the attitude of liberal and informed public opinion and is supported by the official statements of every political party in England. The Government has however no direct power or the means of striking at private persons who refuse to board West Indians. Where it can act it does, as in a recent case where the Minister of Food threatened to withdraw the catering licence of a small restaurant which refused to serve a coloured person who went there with some English friends.

Getting to Know Each Other

The Government also by the use of films, pamphlets and exhibitions attempts to present the man in the street with more accurate pictures of the life and conditions in the Colonies, though it is perhaps unfortunate that the emphasis is usually more on the problems from the colonial administrator's point of view, and less on the problems and human angle as the colonial people see it.

There exists also a large number of unofficial bodies who have as one of their main objects the promotion of good relations between Britain and the Colonies through hospitality to colonials in England, conducted tours, etc. They include the Victoria League, the British Council, the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. Several of these organizations also run hostels which offer accommodation to colonials as well as English members. Indeed the British Council now looks after the welfare of colonial students,

19

Transcript: Source 27

(a)

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You are likely to remember for ever the scene of your arrival... the vast railway station with some twenty or more platforms

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(b) [This section relates to post war rationing]

The scheme ensures to every person who has a ration book the basic essentials of his food for the week at a very low cost. No one will be without the opportunity of obtaining these goods because some selfish person has bought more than he really needs and is hoarding it. Further in some special cases people who have extra needs recognized as worthy of protection are given more than the ordinary person. Thus, expectant mothers and invalids may get special priorities of milk, butter

Transcript (cont.): Source 27

and eggs, and babies will be given special orange juice and co-liver oil.

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...

(c) [This section relates to finding accommodation]

You can only do this by moving out of the hostel (for unfortunately the hostels are limited to colonial students only and not shared by other English students) and getting “digs” on your own. This is not always easy. It is particularly difficult in London, where the blitz destroyed thousands of houses and even the English student finds it difficult to get lodgings. You have an additional difficulty, “colour prejudice”. You may find that on answering an advertisement for lodgings by telephone or letter and saying you are a student or tourist you will be told by the landlady that the rooms are available, that the rent is so much, and would you like to come and have a look at them? On arrival, the landlady, suppressing a gasp, and puzzling over the fact that a coloured person could have so English a name as Smith or Brown, will politely tell you that she is very sorry, but she has just let the rooms to someone else who also answered the advertisement. This will hurt, because in most cases you will be sure that it is untrue, but there is little that you or anyone can do about it. The basic cause is the misconception behind the prejudice. Often the landlady might have been prepared “to risk the unknown”, but fear of what the neighbours would say has deterred her.

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(d)

Transcript (cont.): Source 27

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...

Source 28: Final report on Windrush dispersal

Catalogue Ref: AST 7/1125

EMPIRE WINDRUSH

West Indian Workers

Final Report

1. The Clapham Deep Shelter was finally evacuated of Jamaican workers on Monday, 12th July, i.e. less than three weeks after their arrival. It is interesting to note that the Manager and Staff of the Shelter spoke well of the men's behaviour and no incident of disorder or even minor loss of belongings was reported during the occupation period. On the 12th July a residue of 17 men were unemployed and had to be accommodated, by arrangement with the London County Council, in various institutions. It is reported that a few of them have since found private lodgings.
 2. **Employment.** About 12 men in the London area remain unemployed, but the respective Employment Exchanges of the Ministry of Labour are doing their best to place them. Little news has been received about the men who went straight from Tilbury to the provinces. It is thought, however, that they have succeeded in settling down. Otherwise the Area Officers of the Colonial Office would certainly have seen or heard about them. It is possible, however, that some at any rate of the men who went to Liverpool and Manchester may have become part of the fairly large number of coloured colonials **unemployed in the North Western Region**. A report has been received from South Wales of a small group who have obtained employment in that area. As far as the operation of placing the men who came to London is concerned (over 230 in number) Departments may like to know that geographically the Ministry of Labour dispersed them in the following areas:-
 - Scotland
 - South Wales
 - Gloucester
 - The Midlands
 - Lines.
 - Chippenden.

Their occupations vary, but in the main they are at present employed as or on -

 - Foundry work
 - Agriculture
 - Railways
 - Welders
 - Carpenters
 - Bricklayers
 - Painters.**
 - Tailors.**
- A small group (10) have been accepted as trainees by the Broadcast Relays (Overseas) Ltd.
3. **Service Volunteers.** Only 18 have been finally accepted

accepted by the R.A.F. to date. Approximately 12 are awaiting call-up. One man who volunteered for the Army has not reported again to the Department. In short, a very much smaller number volunteered for the Armed Services than had been anticipated.

4. **Finance.** Towards the end nearly all of the men at Clapham ran out of funds, and had to receive National Assistance. It is proposed to convene shortly an inter-departmental meeting of the Treasury, War Office, National Assistance Board and Colonial Office for discussion of the final accounts which are now being received by the Colonial Office.

5. I think it can be said that a situation which contained complex social and other difficulties has been in the main resolved satisfactorily.

Transcript: Source 28

EMPIRE WINDRUSH

West Indian Workers

Final Report

The Clapham deep Shelter was finally evacuated of Jamaican workers on Monday, 12th July, i.e., less than three weeks after their arrival. It is interesting to note that the Manager and Staff of the Shelter spoke well of the men's behaviour and no incident of disorder or even minor loss of belongings was reported during the occupation period. On the 12th July a residue of 17 men were unemployed and had to be accommodated, by arrangement with the London County Council, in various Institutions. It is reported that a few of them have since found private lodgings.

2. Employment. About 12 men in the London area remain unemployed, but the respective Employment Exchanges of the Ministry of Labour are doing their best to place them. Little news has been received about the men who went straight to Tilbury to the provinces. It is thought, however, that they have succeeded in settling down. Otherwise, the Area Officers of the Colonial Office would certainly have seen or heard about them. It is possible, however, that some at any rate of the men who went to Liverpool and Manchester may have become part of the fairly large number of coloured colonials unemployed in the North Western Region. A report has been received from South Wales of a small group who have obtained employment in that area. As far as the operation of placing the men who came to London is concerned (over 230 in number) Departments may like to know that geographically the Ministry of Labour dispersed them in the following areas:

Scotland
South Wales
Gloucester
The Midlands
Lincs.
Chippenham

Their occupations vary, but in the main they are at present employed as or on-

Foundry work
Agriculture
Railways
Welders
Carpenters
Bricklayers
Painters
Tailors

A small group (10) have been accepted as trainees by the Broadcast Relays (Overseas) Ltd.

Transcript (cont.): Source 28

3. Service Volunteers. Only 18 have finally accepted by the RAF to date. Approximately 12 are awaiting call-up. One man who volunteered for the Army has not reported again in the Department. In short, a very much smaller number volunteered for the Armed Services than had been anticipated.

4. Finance. Towards the end nearly all the men at Clapham ran out of funds and had to receive National Assistance. It is proposed to convene shortly an inter-departmental meeting of the Treasury, War Office, National Assistance Board and the Colonial Office for discussion of the final accounts which are now being received by the Colonial Office.

5. I think it can be said that a situation which contained complex social and other difficulties has been in the main resolved satisfactorily.

Source 29: Staff nurse Ena Sullivan

Catalogue Ref: HO 334/1406/110478

HOME OFFICE
FORM RI
(Second Copy)

BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT 1948, SECTION 6 (1)
COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS ACT 1962, SECTION 12 (2)

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES MADE BY A BRITISH SUBJECT OR CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND ON THE GROUND OF ORDINARY RESIDENCE OR CROWN SERVICE
CAUTION: To give false information on this Form purposely or recklessly is a criminal offence punishable with imprisonment. (British Nationality Act 1948, Section 28 (1)).

1. ENA CLARE SULLIVAN
of NEWALL HOUSE, BAGDALEY, WILKENS SHAKE, MANCHESTER
am of full age and capacity and was born at ST. ANNS, JAMAICA, WEST INDIES
on APRIL 7th 1913

2. My father's full name (was) DAVID ALEXANDER SULLIVAN
and he was born at ST. ANNS, JAMAICA on date not known

3. I am (single) (married) (widow) (divorced from my wife/husband).

4. My (wife's) (husband's) full name (is) (was) TAMARA
and (she) (he) was born at on

5. I am (a) a citizen of the following country or countries* mentioned in section 1(3) of the British Nationality Act 1948, that is to say [Insert name of country or countries].
JAMAICA

OR (b) a citizen of the Republic of Ireland.

OR (c) a British subject without citizenship under section thirteen or section sixteen of the British Nationality Act 1948.

OR (d) a British Subject by virtue of section 1 of the British Nationality Act 1962 by reason of the fact that [Here state the grounds on which the applicant claims to be such a citizen or British subject].
By British nationality

6. (a) I am ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom
[Here insert "the United Kingdom" or, if ordinarily resident in any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a colony, a protectorate, or the protected state of Brunei, the name of the island, colony, etc.]

(b) I am in Crown service under Her Majesty's government in the United Kingdom.

7. (a) I have been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Colonies during the past five years as follows:

Addresses at which ordinarily resident	From (date)	To (date)
<u>WEST MIDDX. HOSPITAL, U.K.</u>	<u>June 1948</u>	<u>Sept 1957</u>
<u>Private Residence, Stoke on Trent</u>	<u>Sept 1957</u>	<u>May 1961</u>
<u>NEWALL HOUSE, BAGDALEY, MANCHESTER</u>	<u>May 1961</u>	<u>Oct 1968</u>
<u>employed as a Nurse, WILKENS SHAKE, Manx</u>		

*The countries so mentioned are Australia, Barbados, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Ghana, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaya, Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Southern Rhodesia, Tanzania, The Gambia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and Zambia.

(P.T.O.)

7. (b) I have been in Crown service under Her Majesty's government in the United Kingdom during the past five years as follows:

Department	Government	Capacity	From (date)	To (date)
<u>Hospital</u>	<u>Manx</u>	<u>S.N.</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1957</u>
<u>Public Health</u>	<u>Local Authority</u>	<u>Health Visitor</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1961</u>
<u>Hospital</u>	<u>Regional Board</u>	<u>Staff N.</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1968</u>

8. The special circumstances in which I desire that the period of ordinary residence or Crown service shorter than five years which is mentioned in paragraph 7 above should be accepted are as follows:

9. I (have) (have not) previously renounced or been deprived of citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies. [If the applicant has renounced citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies, here state the date on which the declaration of renunciation was made; and if the applicant has been deprived of citizenship, state the date on which, and the authority by whom, the order of deprivation was made.] I became Jamaican citizen 1966

10. I hereby apply to be registered as a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies. [This application must be signed in the presence of one of the persons specified in the Appendix to the Instructions.]

I, (full name) Ena Clare Sullivan
do solemnly and sincerely declare that the foregoing particulars stated in this application are true and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true.

Made and subscribed this 25th day of October 1968
before me EASIE SHELMEER DINE at 31 YARMOUTH DRIVE
(Signature of applicant) Ena Clare Sullivan
(Signed) E. Shelmeier Dine J.P.
[Here state whether Commissioner for Oaths, Justice of the Peace, Notary Public or other authorized person specified in the Appendix to the Instructions.] Justice of the Peace

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING BELOW THIS LINE

The above named applicant has been registered as a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies.
P. E. POTTER
NATIONALITY DIVISION
HOME OFFICE, LONDON
3 DEC 1968

Transcript: Source 29

...

BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT 1948, SECTION 6 (1)

COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS ACT 1962, 12 (2)

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE COLONIES
MADE BY A BRITISH SUBJECT OR CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND ON THE GROUND OF
ORDINARY RESIDENCE OR CROWN SERVICE.

CAUTION: To give false information on this Form purposely or recklessly is a criminal offence
punishable with imprisonment. (British Nationality Act 1948, Section 28 (1)).

1. I, ENA CLARE SULLIVAN
of NEWALL HOUSE, BAGULEY, WYTHENSHAW, MANCHESTER 2-3

am of full age and capacity and was born at ST. ANNES, JAMAICA, WEST INDIES.

On APRIL 7TH 1913.

2. My father's full name (was) DAVID ALEXANDER SULLIVAN

And he was born at ST. ANNES' JAMAICA on date not known

3. I am (single) ~~(married)~~ ~~(a widower)~~ ~~(a widow)~~ ~~(divorced from my wife/husband)~~

4. My ~~(wife's)~~ ~~(husband's)~~ full name (is) ~~(was)~~

and ~~(she)~~ ~~(he)~~ was born at _____ on _____

5. I am (a) a citizen of the following country or countries* mentioned in section 1 (3) of the British
Nationality Act 1948 that is to say [insert name of country or countries.]

JAMAICA

OR ~~(b) a citizen of the Republic of Ireland.~~

OR ~~(c) a British subject without citizenship under section thirteen or section sixteen of the British
Neutrality Act 1948.~~

OR (d) a British Subject by virtue of section 1 of the British National Act 1965.

by reason of the fact that [Here state the grounds on which the applicant claims to be such a citizen
or British subject.] By British Nationality

Transcript (cont.): Source 29

6. (a) I am ordinary resident in the United Kingdom

[Here insert the "the United Kingdom" or, if ordinarily resident in any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a colony, a protectorate, or the protected state of Brunei, the name of the island, colony, etc.]

- (b) I am in Crown Service under Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.
- (a) I have been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Colonies during the past five years as follows:

Addresses at which ordinarily resident	From (date)	To (date)
WEST MIDDX.HOSPITAL U.K.	JUNE 1948	SEPT 1957
PRIVATE RESIDENCE, STOKE ON TRENT	SEPT 1957	MAY 1961
NEWALL HOUSE BAGULEY, MANCHESTER 23	MAY 1961	OCT. 1968
Employed as a nurse WYTHENSHAW Hosp.		

*The countries so mentioned are Australia, Barbados, Botswana, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Ghana, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Southern Rhodesia, Tanzania, The Gambia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, and Zambia

[PAGE 2]

7. (b) I have been in Crown service under Her Majesty's government in the United Kingdom during the past five years as follows:

Department	Government	Capacity	From (date)	To (date)
South-West Middlesex				
Hospital	Regional Hospital Board	S/N [Staff Nurse]	1948	1957
Public Health	Local Authority, Manchester	Health Visitor	1957	1961
Hospital	Regional Board	Staff /N	1961	1968

Transcript (cont.): Source 29

8. The special circumstances in which I desire the period of ordinary residence or Crown service shorter than five years which is mentioned in paragraph 7 above should be accepted are as follows:

.....

.....

.....

9. I (have) (have not) previously renounced or been deprived of citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies. [If the applicant has renounced citizenship of the United Kingdom and the Colonies, here state the date on which the declaration of renunciation was made, and if the applicant has been deprived of citizenship, state the date which, and the authority by whom, the order of the deprivation was made. I became a Jamaican citizen 1966

10. I hereby apply to be registered as a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies. [This application must be signed in the presence of one person specified in the Appendix to the instructions.]

I (full name).....

Do solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars stated in this application are true and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true.

(Signature of applicant) Ena Clare Sullivan

Made and subscribed this 25th day of October 1968
Before me ELSIE SHELMEARDINE at 31 YARMOUTH DRIVE

Signed E. Shelmerdine .J.P.
Justice of the Peace

...

Source 30: Report on migrant experience in Britain 1950

Catalogue Ref: CO 876/247

POPULATION - This can be divided into two main groups. (a) The Residents. (b) The Floating population. The latter can again be sub-divided into the group that comes into Port and is ashore until financial resources are exhausted and eventually signs on with another ship for another Port, and the group that moves from one town to another looking for means of sustenance. I was unable to get statistical data as this would have meant interviews with dock authorities and registration bureaux. Even then a true picture would have been most difficult to arrive at. The greater number of these people come from the Colonial Empire and are British subjects in this country so apparently there is no special form of registration for them. Most probably one could get this information from National Registration offices. Before going on to speak about the people it should here be indicated which main groups form this population - they are Indians, West Indians and Africans, (I do not intend to touch the Chinese at all), and I will deal with them under these heads.

1.

INDIANS

They are of different caste and are from different parts of India or where Indians are resident, i.e. South Africa, East Africa, etc. They mostly work as pedlars, running eating houses, ships cooks, small shops, etc.

Although of different castes they seem to live peacefully together. The only time they mention differences of caste is when they have had a row over some woman or money, and then they are prepared to cut each other's throats. But generally they seem to hold together and they have their own eating houses and particular way of life. It is most difficult to understand these people. They have a very different outlook as to recreation and amusement; their form of entertainment seems to be sitting round talking and smoking for hours on end. A great deal of 'hashish' smoking goes on.

The residents have been able in some cases to obtain houses which they sub-let to their friends at the most high rents. To give an example of this, I became friendly with four Indian lads; they had come over as ships' cooks. They had come on shore for holiday, so they put it, i.e. they were spending their earnings and when exhausted intended to sign on again for another port, or if they could obtain employment preferred to stay. They were a very happy group and a nice bunch of chaps and seemed to enjoy life immensely which was divided

When I asked these lads if they ever intended going back to their own homes, they said they preferred to stay away. They gave me the impression that the conditions they were living under were far better than they have at home. In England they are free and have no restrictions as long as they do not violate the law.

Quite a number of the Indians have their women folk and families with them. They are very conciliated about the 'freedom of India' and brag about it a great deal as to how they have their own government in England i.e. Indian Government representatives. This feeling holds them together in more of a community and they look down on the other coloured peoples as inferior. As they are more wealthy and able to lead they hold quite a status amongst the less fortunate.

WEST INDIES

Mostly from Jamaica. They work on the docks, railway porters, run eating houses, some very shady clubs and gambling dens, etc.

The majority are residents, and seem to have little or no inclination of ever returning to their own homes. These people have been more used to the white peoples' ways of life in their own countries and soon settle down in their surroundings. They are a very merry people but very sensitive. They seem to have a great colour consciousness; this may be caused by the relationship that exists between themselves and the white people in their own homes.

2.

AFRICANS

Are from different parts, as follows:-

West Africans - Nigeria, Gold Coast, French West Africa.

East Africans - (very few) - Arabs, Somalis, Zanzibar, Sudan.

Miscellaneous - Egypt, Arabs, South Africa (Malayans), Somalis.

The greater number of these people is the West African. Therefore the following concerns them more than the rest who, although under this head, should in the case of Somalis, Egyptians and Arabs, be dealt with separately; but as their numbers are so small it will not really matter. It would have been too ambitious single-handed to have hoped to learn very much about all the groups as shown above, even if given the time and facilities.

These people are for the greater part illiterate, but all speak a "kind of English." They take on all kind of jobs, such as factory cleaners, stockers, porters etc. One or two have houses in the back streets that they sub-let to their friends. They all seem a healthy & strong lot of men, quite a number are resident and live with white women. It was difficult to find out if these marriages were legal or not as the women referred to their men as their husbands, but I am sure very few of these unions were legal marriages; yet all parties seemed to be quite content, and indeed some of the women had the greatest pride in their husbands.

This group of people live in some of the worst conditions, and I have reason to suspect that a lot of them actually sleep in bombed out houses. It would appear that they hang about the streets till 1-2 a.m. and then find a reasonably sheltered spot for a night's rest.

They are a very happy group on the whole and enjoy London as much as they possibly can. The main amusement is sitting in cafes and drinking tea and talking, later, in the evenings, going into pubs for a drink and looking for girls. They are not as a rule heavy drinkers, and in a pub usually ask for half-a-pint, but they indulge in a far greater evil than beer, and this is hashish. This Indian hemp they pay for from very well "kept" places at the rate of 2/6d. for a

3.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

These are very poor indeed. There are one or two clubs; the Colonial, which I understand is very limited. There is a club in Cable Street run by some Franciscan Brothers. Although it is a very fine effort made by these Brothers, the place is situated in rather a bad area, and the surroundings are not the ideal. Another club is the Jamaican Club - this is more of a dancing place with drinks.

5.

In other words, there is no properly organised way in which these people could spend their leisure. To break the monotony of the very bad living rooms, there is the street with the cafes, and in the evenings the pubs, or when they have money, the cinema, or to the West End to dance halls.

COLOUR BAR.

A few words perhaps should be said about this problem, if indeed it is a problem. It must first of all be appreciated that between men there is really little or no colour bar. This colour bar question is aggravated when the women-folk come on to the scene, and it must be remembered that the colour bar is by no means one-sided as some people believe, but is mutual on both sides, that is, of course, if it has been aggravated by the women, as I have said.

The white people resent their women consorting with black men, and they show this by belittling the black man to their women. The black man on the other hand is aware of this mode of attack (does he not use the same tactics in his own land when whites make off with black women?) and therefore makes sure that if he gets a white woman she does not get a chance of talking to those men. However, I have known a white man to ask a black friend of his to get him a girl (white) and has been obliged. It will be seen that in this part of London amongst the younger people the colour bar seems to revolve round a jealousy basis more than the actual feeling that one colour is superior to the others.

I saw one girl standing at the corner of a street, and when spoken to by a coloured man, said: "I don't talk with coloured men". This was for the benefit of a group of young white men a few paces off, but as soon as they had moved off, she went off on the arm of the coloured man - so it would appear, in some instances, that these girls are afraid of being locked down upon by their men folk.

the lighting, water, transport, cinemas etc. In spite of the fact that in England a man has a higher cost of living, he can earn in accordance with this cost of living. He is a free man, and has no petty restrictions such as would be imposed on him in his own country by a District Officer or other Government officials. He is all round far better off in England, and intends to stay and recommend to his friends at home to come over to England. This sense of freedom and wellbeing does not merely apply to these people alone, but can be extended to include the students in the country, and it will be noticed that there is a tendency for them to wish to stay in England, after qualifying. It boils down to the fact that they get a far better deal than in their own countries under the Colonial system.

From this it will be seen that these people will come over to England and continue to do so rapidly. The answer would, I think, be such alterations in Colonial administration so that with a certain higher standard of living and social freedom they will have more encouragement to stay at home.

One might suggest that if these people are here and continue to come over, they should be allotted a special area where they could live in their own way and at the same time have the benefits and freedom of England. This would be a form of segregation, which would only lead to a "South Africa" in London, which would be most undesirable. Both the above two answers are very debatable points.

I personally think that as these people are in the country and have come to stay, and it is evident that there will be more and more coming into the country. The answer is to devise some organisation that will help these people to become full members of the community with a sense of responsibility towards the community as a whole.

Transcript: Source 30

(a)

POPULATION – This can be divided into two main groups. (a) The residents (b) The floating population. The latter can again be sub-divided into the group that comes into Port and is ashore until financial resources are exhausted and eventually signs on with another ship for another Port, and the group that moves from one town to another looking for means of sustenance. I was unable to get statistical data as this would have meant interviews with the dock authorities and registration bureaux. Even then a true picture would have been most difficult to arrive at. The greater number of these people come from the Colonial Empire and are British subjects in this country so apparently there is no special form of registration for them. Most probably one could get this information from National Registration offices. Before going on to speak about the people it should here be indicated which main groups form this population-they are Indians, West Indians and Africans, (I do not intend to touch the Chinese at all), and I will deal with them under these heads.

(b)

INDIANS

They are of different caste and are from different parts of India or where Indians are resident, i.e. South African, East African, etc. They mostly work as pedlars, running eating houses, ships cooks, small shops, etc.

Although of different castes they seem to live peaceably together. The only time they mention differences of caste is when they have a row over some woman or money, and then they are prepared to cut each other's throats. But generally they seem to hold together and they have their own eating houses and particular way of life. It is most difficult to understand these people. They have a very different outlook as to recreation and amusement; their form of entertainment seems to be sitting round talking and smoking for hours on end. A great deal of 'hashish' smoking goes on.

The residents have been able in some cases to obtain houses which they sub-let to their friends at the most high rates. To give an example of this, I became friendly with four Indian lads; they had come over as ships' cooks. They had come on shore for a holiday, so they put it, i.e. they were sending their earnings and when exhausted intended to sign on again for another port, or if they could obtain employment preferred to stay. They were a very happy group and a nice bunch of chaps and seemed to enjoy life immensely which was divided between...

(c)

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When I asked these lads if they ever intended going back to their own homes, they said they preferred to stay away. They gave me the impression that the conditions they were living under were far better than they have at home. In England they are free and have no restrictions as

Transcript (cont.): Source 30

long as they do not violate the law.

Quite a number of the Indians have their women folk and families with them. They are very conceited about the 'freedom of India' and brag about it a great deal as to how they have their own government in England i.e. Indian Government representatives. This feeling holds them together in more of a community and they look down the other coloured peoples as inferior. As they are more wealthy and able to lend, they hold quite a status amongst the less fortunate.

WEST INDIES

Mostly from Jamaica. They work on the docks, railway porters, run eating houses, some very shady clubs and gambling dens etc.

The majority are residents and seem to have little or no inclination of ever returning to their own homes. These people have been more used to the white peoples' ways of life in their own countries and soon settle down in their surroundings. They are a very merry people but very sensitive. They seem to have a great colour consciousness; this may be caused by the relationship that exists between themselves and the white people in their own homes.

...

(d)

...

AFRICANS

Are from different parts, as follows: –

West Africans– Nigeria, Gold Coast [Ghana], French West Africa

East Africans– (very few– Arabs, Somalis, Zanzibar, Soudan [Sudan])

The greater number of these people is the West African. Therefore, the following concerns them more than the rest who, although under this head, should in the case of Somalis, Egyptians and Arabs, be dealt with separately; but as their numbers are so small it will not really matter. It would have been too ambitious single-handed to have hoped to learn very much about all the groups as shown above, even if given the time and facilities.

These people are for the greater part illiterate, but all speak a "kind of English". They take on all kinds of jobs, such as factory cleaners, stokers, porters etc. One or two have houses in the back streets that they sub-let to their friends. They all seem a healthy & strong lot of men. Quite a number are resident and live with white women. It was difficult to find out if these marriages were legal or not as the women referred to their men as their husbands, but I am sure very few of these

Transcript (cont.): Source 30

unions were legal marriages; yet all parties seemed to be quite content, and indeed some of the women had the greatest pride in their husbands.

This group of people live in some of the worst conditions, and I have reason to suspect that a lot of them actually sleep in bombed out houses. It would appear that they hang about the streets till 1-2 a.m. and then find a reasonably sheltered spot for a night's rest.

They are a very happy group as a whole and enjoy London as much as they possibly can. The main amusement is sitting in cafes and drinking tea and talking, later, in the evenings, going into pubs for a drink and looking for girls. They are not as a rule heavy drinkers, and in a pub usually ask for half-a-pint, but they indulge in a far greater evil than beer, and this is hashish. This Indian hemp they pay for from very well "kept" places at the rate of 2/6 [two shillings and six pence].

...

(e)

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

These are very poor indeed. There are one or two clubs; the Colonial, which I understand is very limited. There is a club in Cable Street run by some Franciscan Brothers. Although it is a very fine effort made by these Brothers, the place is situated in rather a bad area, and the surroundings are not ideal. Another club is the Jamaican Club- this is more of a dancing place with drinks.

(f)

In other words, there is no properly organised way in which these people could spend their leisure. To break the monotony of their very bad living rooms, there is the street with the cafes, and in the evenings the pubs, or when they have money, the cinema, or to the West End to dance halls.

COLOUR BAR

A few words perhaps should be said about this problem, if indeed it is a problem. It must first of all be appreciated that between men there is really little or no colour bar. This colour bar question is aggravated when the women-folk come on to the scene, and it must be remembered that the colour bar is by no means one sided as some people believe, but is mutual on both sides, that is, of course, if it has been aggravated by the women, as I have said.

The white people resent their women consorting with black men, and they show this by belittling the black man to their women. The black man on the other hand is aware of this mode of attack (does he not use the same tactics in his own land when whites make off with black women?) and therefore makes sure that if he gets a white woman she does not get a chance of talking to these men. However, I have known a white man to ask a black friend of his to get him a girl (white) and has been obliged. It will be seen that in this part of London amongst the younger people, the colour

Transcript (cont.): Source 30

bar seems to revolve round a jealousy basis more than the actual feeling that one colour is superior to the others.

I saw one girl standing at the corner of a street, and when spoken to by a coloured man, said: "I don't talk with coloured men". This was for the benefit of a group of young white men a few paces off, but as soon as they had moved off, she went off on the arm of the coloured man- so it would appear, in some instances, that these girls are afraid of being looked down upon by their men folk.

...

(g)

...

In spite of the fact that in England a man has a higher cost of living, he can earn in accordance with this cost of living. He is a free man and has no petty restrictions such as would be imposed on him in his own country by a District Officer or other Government officials. He is all round far better off in England and intends to stay and recommend to his friends at home to come over to England. This sense of freedom and wellbeing does not merely apply to these people alone but can be extended to include the students in the country, and it will be noticed that there is a tendency for them to wish to stay in England, after qualifying. It boils down to the fact that they get far better deal than in their own countries under the Colonial system.

From this it will be seen that these people will come over to England and continue to do so rapidly. The answer would, I think, be such alterations in Colonial administration so that with a certain higher standard of living and social freedom they will have more encouragement to stay at home.

One might suggest that if these people are here and continue to come over, they should be allotted a special area where they could live in their own way and at the same time have the benefits and freedom of England. This would be a form of segregation, which would only lead to a "South Africa" in London, which would be most undesirable. Both the above two answers are very debatable points.

I personally think that as these people are in the country and have come to stay, and it is evident that there will be more and more coming into the country. The answer is to devise some organisation that will help these people to become full members of the community with a sense of responsibility towards the community as a whole.

...

Source 31: Causeway Green hostel riot 1949

Catalogue Ref: LAB 26/198

EXTRACT FROM "EVENING DESPATCH" DATED 9 SEP 1949

DISPERSAL DECISION AFTER RACE RIOTING

AFTER the meeting today of officials, police and spokesmen from the Poles and Jamaicans, the two sides engaged in race rioting at Causeway Green Hostel, near Oldbury, last night, Supt. F. R. Bache, of Oldbury said:

"This has got to such dimensions that it has forced the hand of the Ministry of Labour and we are making arrangements to disperse some of the men before tonight.

"We shall have a detachment of police still standing by. This is a miniature feud."

Ministry of Labour officials, representatives of the National Service Hostels Corporation and police had met to decide what action to be taken. The National Service Hostels Corporation administer hostels for the Ministry of Labour.

Last night Poles armed with sticks, stones and razors attacked the Jamaican quarters. About 50 police were rushed to the hostel to quell the riot. Three Poles and a Jamaican were hurt.

Second time

It was the second time they had had to deal with such an occurrence.

Last Saturday night fighting began after a dance, and a policeman was hurt.

Polish residents allege that Jamaicans take young girls into the hostel.

Residents in nearby houses are incensed and alarmed. They intend to organise a petition to the Mayor.

A housewife living near the hostel gates told the *Evening Despatch*, "There is tension all along the road."

"Last night some of the men climbed into our gardens. One ran into a house and a gang waited outside for him until my husband persuaded them to leave.

"Four young girls were screaming for people to protect the coloured men. It was like a scene from a Hollywood gangster film."

Transcript: Source 31

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"Last night some of the men climbed into our gardens. One ran into a house and a gang waited outside for him until my husband persuaded them to leave."

"Four young girls were screaming for people to protect the coloured men. It was like a scene from a Hollywood gangster film".

Source 32: Arrival of SS Georgic 1951

Catalogue Ref: AST 7/1125

PA 17/8

Copy for file 14184

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARDExtract from Items of Interest AUGUST 19511. Migrant workers from Jamaica

A party of 117 men and 33 women from Jamaica arrived at Southampton in the S.S. Georgic on the evening of Friday, 3rd August. They had come to look for employment in this country and had paid their passages here, travelling by air from Jamaica to New York, by Pan-American Airways planes at specially reduced fares, and then by the Georgic, also at reduced rates. The total cost of their journey to this country was about £100 each. The boat was met at Southampton by representatives of the Ministry of Labour, the Colonial Office and the Local Welfare Authority; the Board's Southampton Area Officer was also present. The Ministry of Labour had found employment and accommodation for 30 men in the Southampton district, but only 14 were willing to accept the work; they stayed only one night in Southampton, however, and the next day travelled up to London where, as in the case of the great majority of the others, their tickets entitled them to go. The remainder, apart from a few who went on to Cardiff direct from Southampton, caught the boat train to London and arrived there about mid-night. Officers of the Colonial Office and of the Board met them at Waterloo Station and by prior arrangement with the L.C.C. directed the men who had no accommodation to go to, or who could not reach their destination that night, to the Camberwell Reception Centre. A number of the women were offered accommodation in the Clapham Deep Shelter, which has been used for Festival visiting parties, but they left there after a few hours and presumably found other accommodation. Altogether 87 men (including the 14 who travelled from Southampton the following day) were admitted to Camberwell Reception Centre at considerable inconvenience to the officials there and the other inmates, and, of these, 38 who were immediately found work by the Ministry of Labour but had nowhere to stay were allowed to remain at the Centre until they could get accommodation of their own; the remaining 49 went off, either to relatives or friends, to other parts of the country or to accommodation they found for themselves.

A further party of 114 persons left Jamaica very soon after the hurricane disaster and arrived at Southampton on the morning of Friday, 31st August. It is felt by Government Departments other than the Colonial Office that previous parties arriving here have been given too much reason to think they are welcome guests of His Majesty's Government, for whom the path will be eased in every way, and some endeavour is now being made to correct the impression; in particular on this last occasion the Board and Ministry of Labour did not make contacts with the party at Southampton, and the whole party came straight to London, reaching Waterloo in the afternoon. The number admitted to Camberwell was 61, of whom only 25 were still there on Monday: three women admitted to another institution of the London County Council left almost at once.

There seems no reason to doubt that these parties come with the intention of getting work, and, as mentioned in the July Notes, a recent census by the Ministry of Labour and National Service showed that very few coloured men were unemployed.

Transcript: Source 32

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

Extract from Items of Interest August 1951

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There seems no reason to doubt that these parties come with the intention of getting work, and as mentioned in the July notes, a recent census by the Ministry of Labour and National Service showed that very few coloured men were unemployed.

Source 33: 700 Jamaicans arrive in 1954

Catalogue Ref: AST 7/1125

DURRANT'S PRESS CUTTINGS

29-39, Mount Pleasant, London, W.C.1.

Telephone: CENTRAL 3149 (Two Lines).

Southern Daily Echo

Portland Street, Southampton.

Cutting from issue dated..... **3 - MAY 1954****SOUTHERN DAILY ECHO**

Above: The little girl in the white bonnet is Carol Hinds, also of Kingston, and with her is her cousin, Joyce Bonnick, who gives her bonnet a final adjustment before entraining for Waterloo.

Left: Stepping out on a new adventure is little Dawn Levy, of Kingston, Jamaica, as she came ashore with her mother.

—"Echo" photos.

700 work-wanting Jamaicans land at Southampton

NEARLY 700 Jamaicans, the biggest party to come to this country in one ship, sailed into Southampton on Saturday in the Dutch liner *Zuiderkruis*.

All of them are hoping to get work in Britain. The party comprised 439 men, 229 women, four married couples, and 16 children.

Many of the Jamaicans were met at the Docks by relatives or friends who have come to this country since the war, and others were met at Waterloo. Colonial Office officials estimated that only about a dozen would need hostel accommodation in London.

The bright dresses and hats of the women made a gay splash of colour in the dock shed as the Jamaicans came ashore for Customs examination before leaving in two trains.

majority of the women were dress-makers. All said they were very keen to get work.

The fare from Jamaica to New York by air and to Southampton by sea cost each about £20.

Since the war 20,000 people from the West Indies have come to Britain, and only a few have become chargeable to public assistance.

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£99.95

Transcript: Source 33

Caption: right photograph

Above the little girl in the white bonnet is Carol Hinds, also of Kingston and with her is her cousin, Joyce Bonnick, who gives her bonnet a final adjustment before entraining for Waterloo.

Caption: left photograph

Stepping out on a new adventure is little Dawn Levy, of Kingston, Jamaica, as she came ashore with her mother. "Echo photos".

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Nearly 700 Jamaicans, the biggest party to this country in one ship, sailed into Southampton on Saturday in the Dutch liner Zuiderkruis.

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£90 Fare

... [Newspaper damaged]

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The fare from Jamaica to New York by air and to Southampton by sea cost about £90. Since the war, 20,000 people from the West Indies have come to Britain, and only a few have become chargeable to public assistance

Source 34: Jamaican Regiment in Blue Mountains 1955

Catalogue Ref: INF 10/153



Transcript: Source 34

Further notes are provided on the reverse of the photograph as follows:

'THE JAMAICAN REGIMENT

The Colony of Jamaica, British West Indies

An unrecognised militia existed in Jamaica before 1914, but it was at the beginning of the First World War that the Jamaica local forces really came into being. In November 1940 the Jamaica Infantry Volunteers (later called the Jamaica Battalion and now known as the Jamaican Regiment) was granted colours by the late King George VI. It is believed to be the first colonial local force to be granted colours by a reigning monarch.

The Jamaican Regiment is a full-time force. Recruits, of whom there is a steady stream, are required to serve for twelve months. Many are tradesmen, and after their years' service they return to their trade. Others on leaving the Regiment join the police force or enlist to the prison service as warders. All recruits are given basic recreational instruction, and athletics, cricket and football are included in their course.'

Source 35: Arrival in Plymouth 1956

Catalogue Ref: AST 7/1125

DURRANT'S PRESS CUTTINGS

29-39, Mount Pleasant, London, W.C.1.

Telephone: CENTRAL 3149 (Two Lines).

Express & Star

Queen Street, Wolverhampton.

Cutting from issue dated.....

9 AUG 1956

Little help here for the bewildered West Indian

COLOURED
SURVEY-2

By John Baker

WHEN the immigrant West Indian lands in England, usually with only a little money after his £75 trip from the sunny Caribbean colony, he invariably encounters something that is not exactly a colour-bar: apathy.

Many West Indians interviewed for this survey maintained that they had to find their own way to the town, without any freely given guidance, and with plenty of snubs.

For a man who has spent much of his life in the quiet acres of the West Indian fruit, coffee, sugar and tobacco plantations the bustle of big rail termini (especially London's Victoria) can be utterly bewildering.

ACCENT

The peculiar West Indian accent does not help, either. Often high-pitched, with "brown" vowel sounds and offbeat accentuation, it sounds strangely novel to English ears. The result, the newly-arrived West Indian cannot easily be understood, and, conversely, finds normal English conversation hard to follow.

Initial discouragement is sometimes completed at Wolverhampton's railway stations. Last month three Jamaicans arrived in the town and left the same day. They were unusual Jamaicans... they had enough money for a return passage home.

But mostly, West Indians are stuck here once they arrive. And so they must find beds, and jobs, if they want to save to go back home.

Usually, a job is easier to find than a bed, despite the fact that

many Wulfrunian workmen see in coloured labour a threat to their own industrial security.

But until he gets a job, the West Indian can go to public assistance, filling in a form which is signed by a National Assistance Board officer and honoured by payment at the employment exchange.

At this point, it is necessary to correct a fallacy, spread by white people on the "dole." West Indians are not overpaid on public assistance. Skilled N.A.B. officers allow them bare living sums and often inspect lodgings to check up on wealth and income.

The search for a bed is often a living nightmare for the West Indian. If he finds a boarding house with rooms to spare he is often turned away, sometimes apologetically, sometimes rudely, as soon as the landlady sees his skin.

The general housing shortage intensifies the difficulty. Last week I heard a Wolverhampton Citizens Advice Bureau official relate how she had to turn away a West Indian six times in a week, when he asked for accommodation information.

HOUSE FULL

"In desperation," she concluded, "I had to give him the address of a house already brimming with West Indians. After all, he had got to have a bed, and shelter!"

On the other hand, some immigrants like to join up with earlier arrivals. Unsophisticated, naturally warm-natured, they are easily depressed by loneliness, seek the company of their own folk—and very often pay for the privilege in the form of a stiff rent for crowded rooms owned by coloured landlords.

But the picture is not always dark. Some West Indians pre-



When this party of West Indians stepped ashore at Plymouth their worries had only just begun. And few people were ready to give them a helping hand.

pare comprehensively for immigration: cultured folk like the brothers James, now living happily in Wolverhampton and Willenhall.

Says Clarence James, family man and devout Methodist: "I had a good idea what to expect in England, because I tried hard to find out."

"ACT SENSIBLY"

"And then I met an Englishman on the ship last year who said, 'If you want to get on, act sensibly. See the minister. See the welfare officer. Don't be afraid to ask advice of the policeman on the pavement.'"

"Today I have many white friends, and I know I am happier than many West Indians here."

His older brother, Wentworth James, of Penn-road, Wolverhampton, agrees, and adds the rider: "I am happy, yes... but I would not dream of bringing my wife and children here until I was sure I could own my own home."

We had been discussing the increase in the flow of Caribbean

women to England (and whose prospects of jobs in Wolverhampton are far below those of their menfolk).

Courteous, cultured, the James brothers have an insight into Wulfrunian housing and social problems rare in white counterparts.

Yet when I walk through Wolverhampton streets with these two charming BRITISH gentlemen, passers-by give us glances that range from blank curiosity to downright contempt...

5 WORCESTER STREET
for the finest selection of
WALLPAPERS
in **WOLVERHAMPTON**

Transcript: Source 35

Caption for the photo:

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Transcript (cont.): Source 35

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On the other hand, some immigrants like to join up with earlier arrivals. Unsophisticated, naturally warm-natured, they are easily depressed by loneliness, seek the company of their own folk-and very often pay for the privilege in the form of a stiff rent for crowded rooms owned by coloured landlords.

But the picture is not always dark. Some West Indians prepare comprehensively for immigration; cultured folk like the brothers James, now living happily in Wolverhampton and Willenhall.

Says Clarence James, family man and devout Methodist: "I had a good idea what to expect in England because I tried hard to find out"

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"And then I met an Englishman on the ship last year who said, "If you want to get on, act sensibly. See the Minister. See the Welfare Officer. Don't be afraid to ask the advice of the policeman on the pavement."

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Source 36: Arrival of S.S. Ascania 1958

Catalogue Ref: AST 7/1125

P.A.

1 NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD
A 17 APR 1958
14184

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

From: The Area Officer,
Southampton East.

To: The Secretary,
Headquarters,
London.

R.O. Ref: 06/659
Our Ref: 0603/23

Distressed British Subjects
arriving from Abroad

Further to the Regional Controller's instructions dated the 7th January, 1958, that advance notice of repatriates would be notified to this office by Headquarters, herewith report on another type of case/cases which arises and takes up much staff time, often at most inconvenient times.

On Monday last I was telephoned by Mr. Johnson of the British Caribbean Welfare Service, 2 Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, S.W.1., that 1200 coloured people were arriving at Southampton on the s.s. "Ascania" on the evening of Tuesday the 15th April, 1958.

He requested or wondered if a Board's officer/officers could be in attendance as it nearly always happens that in spite of all the efforts the Caribbean Service makes by way of prior advice, propaganda etc., that some of these people land and are destitute.

I pointed out to Mr. Johnson that neither he nor ~~us~~ knew what the extent of the problem if any, at all would be and it was difficult to arrange staff out of normal duty hours.

I learned locally that the ship was due in at 6.30 p.m., would begin disembarking at approximately 7 p.m. and that two boat trains for London and on for Birmingham were laid on to leave between 9 and 10.30 p.m.

In view of the uncertainty I arranged for a C.O. to come with me to the Dock at 7.30 p.m. armed with forms, sub-imprest and travel warrants.

Everything was going smoothly and having contacted Mr. Johnson at 8.45 p.m. he said there was only one person he knew of at that time who was destitute but anxious to get to Manchester. I arranged with Johnson to stay until 9.45 p.m. when it was hoped this one person would be found and the disembarking and entraining completed.

This of course did not happen and finally we had to deal with 14 destitute men and women, getting them away on the last boat train at 10.50 p.m.

Applications were taken and travel warrants issued for 7 to go to London, 3 to Manchester, 2 to Slough, one to Derby and one to Leeds.

This little venture entailed a C.O. and myself being on duty from 7 p.m. until arriving home at 11.20 p.m.

The British Caribbean Welfare Service officers meet these ships and advise immigrants, but do not apparently have any funds available to deal with any emergency.

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Southampton East

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Source 37: Notting Hill Riots

Catalogue Ref: HLG 117/122

- 5 JUN 1959

Police may get coloured recruits soon

MR. BUTLER is considering the recruitment of coloured police as part of his campaign to end racial tension.

These coloured constables would not be used in such trouble spots as North Kensington and Notting Hill at first but would be tried out in cities—Cardiff, Bristol, Liverpool—which have mixed populations but no race rivalry.

The Home Secretary may discuss his idea with chief constables from all over the country when he goes to their Torquay conference next Wednesday. Before he goes to Torquay, he is to see a deputation of six or eight MPs from both sides of the House specially concerned with racial questions.

Last night the Home Office confirmed that there is no legal bar to coloured policemen, provided they are British subjects.

Another step will be a second visit by Mr. Henry Brooke, the Housing Minister, to North Kensington and Notting Hill next week.

The Government believes that much of the trouble is due to overcrowding and the pressure of West Indian arrivals on slum and semi-slum accommodation. Although the Government plans no anti-colour bar legislation, Mr. Butler told the Commons last night that:

"Every effort will be made in areas where there is a large coloured population to encourage their effective integration into the community."

He appealed "to anyone who can help investigations into the recent deplorable murder of a coloured man in Notting Hill."

First motive for the murder is now believed to have been robbery. But the fact that Kelso Cochrane, the victim, was coloured certainly comes into it.

STRENGTHENED

Police patrols in the area have been strengthened—with regulars. The Home Office prefers not to use special constables on this job.

Figures for North Kensington show that 118 cases of 156 for serious assault in the past year involved white people only. No more than 16 concerned white and coloured.

There were 75 prosecutions for violence, seven for drug trafficking, 131 for soliciting, 11 for living on immoral earnings and five for keeping disorderly houses.

Transcript: Source 37

Police may get coloured recruits soon By Hugh Pilcher

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Source 38: Housing for migrants 1960s

Catalogue Ref: HLG 39/32

Housing

3. We are all aware of the housing problem, and the extent of overcrowding in certain parts of London and other large cities. Our examination of the evidence submitted to us has, however, strongly reinforced our sense of the gravity of the problem, and we decided to devote our first attention to it. The housing problems of immigrants reflect the housing problems of the big cities, and must be tackled as part of the whole. Immigrants and non-immigrants alike are affected by what the Ministry of Housing themselves described to us as "the absolute shortage of low-cost dwellings in the areas in which immigrants find it easiest to get jobs". We are sure it would be wrong to propose specially favourable treatment for immigrants. But since housing is at the base of so many immigrants' problems we have ventured to make proposals which though of general application would we think be of special help to them.

4. The fact is that immigrants do face special problems in finding somewhere to live. They have seldom been able to arrange for any accommodation before they arrive and their first need is to get a roof over their heads; they frequently turn for help to compatriots who have preceded them to an unfamiliar land and who are usually anxious to help newcomers who have nowhere else to go. Both parties therefore frequently accept conditions which otherwise would be regarded as intolerable. Subsequently the immigrant finds it difficult to get anything better. Many immigrants are anxious to save as

3

high a proportion of their wages as possible and may be unwilling to pay more than the absolute minimum in rent, and it has to be remembered that many come from a climate where people are able and accustomed to spend more time out of doors and correspondingly less time in their houses than in this country. Some landlords are reluctant to let rooms to coloured people, and in addition, not having lived in this country before, immigrants have no previous period of residence which would help them to qualify for a local authority house. The fact that they often move from one part of the country to another may mean that in practice it is pointless for them to add their names to the housing waiting list of a particular authority.

5. What has happened is that immigrants have moved into older houses in what estate agents might describe as "less desirable" parts of the big cities. Very often an immigrant buys one of these houses and lets off the rooms to other immigrants to meet the natural demands of his compatriots and for financial gain. These houses were never designed for "multi-occupation", and the cooking and sanitary facilities are often totally inadequate. This applies to furnished equally with unfurnished accommodation. An immigrant family, living in only one room, may pay a high proportion of income in rent, and some of the most overcrowded conditions are found where rooms are let to unaccompanied men.

6. We realise that there are no quick and easy solutions to the housing problem in the big cities. But present-day conditions are so bad that some immediate improvement is essential. We use the words "some improvement" quite deliberately, because we consider that action should be taken now, rather than it being deferred until perfect standards of housing are attainable. There is a real danger of a remote ideal being an enemy of an attainable good.

Housing for families

9. We have explained that, because of the length of the waiting lists, few immigrant families have so far qualified for a local authority house, but we are satisfied that local authorities treat applications from immigrant families on the same basis as all other applications and rehouse such families when their turn comes. We reject any suggestion that houses should be provided especially for immigrants, and while a local authority may choose to put four or five immigrant families within easy reach of each other, we endorse the general view expressed to us that larger grouping is undesirable.

"Patching"

10. Local authorities have power to acquire slum houses for reconditioning pending ultimate clearance. When they acquire such houses, they may "patch" them to make them weather-proof and provide them with whatever is practicable in the way of basic amenities. Obviously no house acquired for clearance can come up to present-day standards, even when "patched" by the local authority, but at least the condition of a family allocated such a house will be better than that of many other families, immigrant and non-immigrant, compelled to live in overcrowded conditions.

Transcript: Source 38

...

Housing

3. We are all aware of the housing problem, and the extent of overcrowding in certain parts of London and other cities. Our examination of the evidence submitted to us has, however, strongly reinforced our sense of the gravity of the problem, and we decided to devote our first attention to it. The housing problems of immigrants reflect the housing problems of the big cities and must be tackled as part of the whole. Immigrants and non-immigrants alike are affected by what the Ministry of Housing themselves described to us "the absolute shortage of low-cost dwellings in the areas in immigrants find it easiest to get jobs". We are sure it would be wrong to propose specially favourable treatment for immigrants. But since housing is at the base of so many immigrants' problems, we have ventured to make proposals which though of general application would we think be of special help to them.

4. The fact is that immigrants do face special problems in finding somewhere to live. They have seldom been able to arrange for any accommodation before they arrive, and first need is to get a roof over their heads; they frequently turn for help to compatriots who have preceded them to an unfamiliar land and who are usually anxious to help newcomers who have nowhere else to go. Both parties therefore frequently accept conditions which otherwise would be regarded as intolerable. Subsequently the immigrant finds it difficult to get anything better. Many immigrants are anxious to save as high a proportion of their wages as possible and may be unwilling to pay more than the absolute minimum in rent, and it has to be remembered that many come from a climate where people are able and accustomed to spend more time out of doors and correspondingly less time in their houses than in this country. Some landlords are reluctant to let rooms to coloured people, and in addition, not having lived in this country before, immigrants have no previous period of residence which would help them to qualify for a local authority house. The fact that they often move from one part of the country to another may mean that in practice it is pointless for them to add their names to the housing waiting list of a particular authority.

5. What has happened is that immigrants have moved into older houses in what estate agents might describe as "less desirable" parts of the big cities. Very often an immigrant buys one of these houses and lets off the rooms to other immigrants to meet the natural demands of his compatriots and for financial gain. These houses were never designed for "multi-occupation", and the cooking and sanitary facilities are often totally inadequate. This applies to furnished equally with unfurnished accommodation. An immigrant family, living in only one room, may pay a high proportion of income in rent, and some of the most overcrowded conditions are found where rooms are let to unaccompanied men.

6. We realise that there are no quick and easy solutions to the housing problem in the big cities. But present-day conditions are so bad that some immediate improvement is essential. We use the words "some improvement" quite deliberately because we consider that action should be taken now, rather than it being deferred until perfect standards of housing are attainable. There is a real danger of a remote ideal being an enemy of an attainable good.

Transcript: Source 38

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"Patching"

10. Local authorities have power to acquire slum houses for reconditioning pending ultimate clearance. When they acquire such houses, they may "patch" them to make them weather-proof and provide them with whatever is practicable in the way of basic amenities. Obviously, no house acquired for clearance can come up to present-day standards, even when "patched" by the local authority, but at least the condition of a family allocated such a house will be better than that of many other families, immigrant and non-immigrants, compelled to live in overcrowded conditions

Source 39: Firefighter Frank Bailey

Catalogue Ref: HO 334/1405/10992

HOME OFFICE *Guyana* FORM R1 109922
B206819 (Second Copy)

BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT 1948, SECTION 6 (1)
 COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS ACT 1962, SECTION 12 (2)

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES MADE BY A BRITISH SUBJECT OR CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND ON THE GROUND OF ORDINARY RESIDENCE OR CROWN SERVICE.
 CAUTION: To give false information on this Form purposely or recklessly is a criminal offence punishable with imprisonment. (British Nationality Act 1948, Section 28 (1)).

1. I, FRANK BAILEY
 of 222 CLEMENTS ROAD, NEWHAM, LONDON, E6.
 am of full age and capacity and was born at GEORGETOWN, GUYANA,
 on 26th NOVEMBER, 1925.

2. My father's full name (is) (was) LAURENCE MURTON BAILEY
 and he was born at CHRISTCHURCH, BARRADAS on 17th MARCH 1887.

3. I am (single-) (married) (a widower-) (a widow-) (~~divorced from my wife/husband~~).

4. My (wife's) (~~husband's~~) full name (is) (was) JOSE BAILEY
 and (she) (he) was born at WHITLEY BAY, NEW HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND. on 22nd JULY 1935.

5. I am (a) a citizen of the following country or countries* mentioned in section 1(3) of the British Nationality Act 1948, that is to say [Insert name of country or countries.]
GUYANA
 OR (b) a citizen of the Republic of Ireland.
 OR (c) a British subject without citizenship under section thirteen or section sixteen of the British Nationality Act 1948.
 OR (d) a British Subject by virtue of section 1 of the British Nationality Act 1965.
 by reason of the fact that [Here state the grounds on which the applicant claims to be such a citizen or British subject.]

6. (a) I am ordinarily resident in UNITED KINGDOM.
 [Here insert "the United Kingdom" or, if ordinarily resident in any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a colony, a protectorate, or the protected state of Brunei, the name of the island, colony, etc.]
 6. (b) I am in Crown service under Her Majesty's government in the United Kingdom.

7. (a) I have been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Colonies during the past five years as follows:

Addresses at which ordinarily resident	From (date)	To (date)
<u>222 CLEMENTS ROAD, NEWHAM, LONDON, E6</u>	<u>2-6-61</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>

*The countries so mentioned are Australia, Barbados, Botswana, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Ghana, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Southern Rhodesia, Tanzania, The Gambia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and Zambia.

[P.T.O.]

NOTE:
 Evidence of existing citizenship and of ordinary residence should be sent. See Section III of Instruction leaflet. (HOUSE OWNER).

Transcript: Source 39

...

BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT 1948, SECTION 6 (1)

COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS ACT 1962, 12 (2)

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE COLONIES
MADE BY A BRITISH SUBJECT OR CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND ON THE GROUND OF
ORDINARY RESIDENCE OR CROWN SERVICE.

CAUTION: To give false information on this Form purposely or recklessly is a criminal offence
punishable with imprisonment. (British Nationality Act 1948, Section 28 (1)).

I, FRANK BAILEY
of 222 CLEMENTS ROAD, NEWHAM, LONDON, E.6

am of full age and capacity and was born at GEORGETOWN, GUYANA.

On 26th NOVEMBER, 1925.

My father's full name (was) LAWRENCE MILTON BAILEY
And he was born at CHRISTCHURCH, BARBADOS on 17th MARCH 1887.

I am (married)
My (wife's) full name (is) JOSIE BAILEY
and (she) was born at WHITLEY BAY, NTW, HUMBERLAND, ENGLAND on 24th JUNE 1935.

I am (a) a citizen of the following country or countries* mentioned in section 1 (3) of the British
Nationality Act 1948 that is to say [insert name of country or countries.]
GUYANA

OR (b) a citizen of the Republic of Ireland.

OR (c) a British subject without citizenship under section thirteen or section sixteen of the British
Nationality Act 1948.

OR (d) a British Subject by virtue of section 1 of the British National Act 1965.

by reason of the fact that [Here state the grounds on which the applicant claims to be such a citizen
or British subject.]

(a) I am ordinary resident in UNITED KINGDOM
[Here insert the "the United Kingdom" or, if ordinarily resident in any of the Channel Islands, the Isle
of Man, a colony, a protectorate, or the protected state of Brunei, the name of the island, colony,

Transcript (cont.): Source 39

etc.]

(b) I am in Crown Service under Her Majesty’s Government in the United Kingdom.
(a) I have been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Colonies during the past five years as follows:

Addresses at which ordinarily resident	From (date)	To (date)
222 CLEMENTS ROAD, NEWHAM, LONDON, E.6	2.6.61	PRESENT (HOUSE OWNER)

*The countries so mentioned are Australia, Barbados, Botswana, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Ghana, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Southern Rhodesia, Tanzania, The Gambia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, and Zambia.

Source 40: 'Employment of surplus colonial labour'

Catalogue Ref: LAB 13/42

MINUTE SHEET.

Reference _____

Mr. Veysey.

Please see Sir Thomas Lloyd's letter of 5th March and Sir Harold Wiles's minute above. We have from time to time had to deal with particular aspects of this general problem and I have, therefore, prepared a comprehensive minute setting out the position so far as we know it.

As regards the possible importation of West Indian labour, I would suggest that we must dismiss any idea of this from the start. With regard to Maltese, Cypriots and Gibraltarians I do not think that when it comes to brass tacks the numbers involved will be very large, possibly not more than four or five thousand. It seems clear, however, that the labour offered is not the kind that will be of much value to us as manpower. The main question seems rather how far the United Kingdom Government should go to assist the Colonies concerned to dispose of their surplus population and, in the case of Malta, to resettle Maltese who are surplus to the economy of the Island and are at present stranded in other countries.

With reference to the point made in Sir Harold Wiles's minute, my feeling is that any arrangements made to bring these people here would have to be on the basis of permanent settlement. Leaving West Indians out of the picture, it can be argued that there should be no great difficulty in absorbing a few thousand Maltese and Gibraltarians. Looking outside the question of expense, the difficulty seems to be that if these people are brought over under official arrangements, we shall have to accept responsibility for their accommodation, for guaranteeing them employment and maintaining them until it is found and also that they might be awkward as to the employment they would take. It is also true, of course, that British workers will regard them very much as foreigners and placing would have to take this into account.

Other points that arise are set out in the draft reply attached and need not be repeated. It may not be desired to reply in such detail, but I have gone into the matter fully because my experience of dealing with particular aspects of the problem satisfies me that no real progress will be made without some definite decision of policy. From the Ministry of Labour point of view I do not think there is any sufficient reason to take action because we need these people as workers and the question is rather whether Empire policy requires that we should accept direct responsibility for their resettlement.

I am afraid I have deliberately left it somewhat vague in the draft reply as to which Department might be expected to take the lead in the matter. My own view is that it is largely a Colonial Office responsibility and that they would be well advised to examine the problem as a whole and deal at the same time with alternative possibilities of resettlement.

M. J. Dean
15th April, 1948.

*Secretary*Sir Harold Wiles.

I think you should see this paper again and the reply it is proposed that the Secretary should send to Sir Thomas Lloyd's letter.

We must, I feel sure, rule out any question of a concerted plan to bring West Indian coloured workers here both for the reasons you give and for those which are pretty fully set out in the memorandum opposite. Their suitability for the kinds of employment for which we are importing foreign labour is open to the greatest possible doubt but I think that there is no possible doubt as to their unacceptability to trade unions.

As regards Maltese, Cypriots or Gibraltarians, I am by no means sure that a scheme for bringing them here would be free of trade union difficulties or that we should find these Mediterranean peoples anything like as suitable for the kinds of employment we want to man up as the Northern Europeans whom we have been recruiting. Probably we should have to try and fit them into a variety of jobs of less importance.

But there are all sorts of questions concerning their maintenance and accommodation in this country which would also have to be settled if it were decided to try an experiment. I agree that it would be best for the matter to be explored in detail by a working party to see whether any practical scheme can be devised.

For cases in
2nd May, 1948.

*Mr. Veysey (away)**Sydney Wiles 10/5**Mr. Pennington*

Transcript: Source 40

(a)

Mr Veysey

Please see Sir Thomas Lloyd's letter of 5th March and Sir Harold Wiles' minute above. We have from time to time had to deal with particular aspects of this general problem and I have, therefore, prepared the comprehensive note attached setting out the position so far as we know it.

As regards the possible importation of West Indian labour, I would suggest that we must dismiss any idea of this from the start. With regard to Maltese, Cypriots and Gibraltarians I do not think that when it comes to brass tacks the numbers involved will be very large, possibly not more than four or five thousand. It seems clear, however, that the labour offered is not the kind that will be of much value to us as manpower. The main question seems rather how far the United Kingdom Government should go to assist the Colonies concerned to dispose of their surplus population and in the case of Malta, to resettle Maltese who are surplus to the economy of the Island and are at present stranded in other countries.

With reference to the point made in Sir Harold Wiles's minute, my feeling is that any arrangements made to bring these people here would have to be on the basis of permanent settlement. Leaving West Indians out of the picture, it can be argued that there should be no great difficulty in absorbing a few thousand Maltese and Gibraltarians. Apart from the question of expense, the difficulty seems to be that if these people are brought over under official arrangements, we shall have to accept responsibility for their accommodation, for guaranteeing them employment and maintaining them until it is found and also that they might be awkward as to the employment they would take. It is also true, of course, that British workers will regard them very much as foreigners and placing would have to take this into account.

Other points that arise are set out in the draft reply attached and need not be repeated. It may not be desired to reply in such detail, but I have gone into the matter fully because my experience of dealing with particular aspects of the problem satisfies me that no real progress will be made without some definite decision of policy. From the Ministry of Labour point of view, I do not think there is any sufficient reason to take action because we need these people as workers and the question is rather Empire policy requires that we should undertake direct responsibility for their resettlement.

I am afraid I have deliberately left it somewhat vague in the draft reply as to which Department might be expected to take the lead in the matter. My own view is that it is largely a Colonial Office responsibility and that they would be well, advised to examine the problem as a whole and deal the same time with alternative possibilities of resettlement.

M.A. Bevan

15th April 1948

Transcript: Source 40

Transcript

(b)

Secretary

Sir Harold Wiles

I think you should see this paper again and the reply it proposed that the Secretary should sent to Sir Thomas Lloyd's letter.

We must, I feel sure, rule out any question of a concerted plan to bring West Indian coloured workers here both for the reasons you give and those which are pretty fully set out in the memorandum opposite. Their suitability for the kinds of employment for which we are importing foreign labour is open to the greatest possible doubt, but I think that there is no possible doubt as to their unacceptability to trade unions.

As regards Maltese, Cypriots or Gibraltarians, I am by no means sure that a scheme for bringing them here would be free of trade union difficulties or that we should find these Mediterranean peoples anything like as suitable for the kinds of employment we want to man up as the Northern Europeans who we have been recruiting. Probably we should have to try and fit them into a variety of jobs of less importance. But there are all sorts of questions concerning their maintenance and accommodation in this country which would also have to be settled if it were decided to try an experiment. I agree it would be best for the matter to be explored in detail by a working party to see whether any practical scheme can be devised.

3rd May 1948

Mr. Veysey (away)

Bevan

Mr. German

Source 41: Race relations in industry 1953

Catalogue Ref: HO 344/105

Part I: Unemployment among Coloured Workers

2. Returns received from all Regions showed that at 15th June, 1953 there was a total of 3,366 unemployed coloured workers on our registers (including 270 women), and these were concentrated in comparatively few places, namely in the ports and big towns of six Regions. Over two-fifths (1,412) were in London and South Eastern Region and over a quarter (879) were in North Western Region.

3. The main concentrations in London and elsewhere were as follows:-

London:

Stepney	341
Edgware Road	202
Camden Town	175
Brook Green	157
Brixton	90

Other towns:

Liverpool	563
Manchester	293
Birmingham	301
Cardiff	181
Leeds	111
Sheffield	
Bradford	
Hull	50

/08

Of the total number of unemployed coloured workers rather more than half (1,813) were being paid National Assistance.

4. Analysis of the unemployed coloured workers by country of origin showed that there were 1,979 Colonials (presumably for the most part West Indians and West Africans), 771 Indians and Pakistanis, 175 Arabs, and 90 Chinese and other Far Eastern peoples. Since the classification was made by observation only, the origin of the remaining 597 could not be determined. According to the count, 92 of the unemployed coloured workers were aliens, but it is possible that this figure is an underestimate since the Ministry of Labour does not have a precise method of distinguishing between British and alien registrants.

5. On the other hand, all the Regions (except Scotland, where there are very few coloured people) report special difficulty in placing coloured workers in employment. London and South Eastern, North Western and Midlands Regions say that the position has deteriorated in the last year or two, and that there is a hardening amongst employers against accepting coloured workers. Some firms who previously accepted coloured workers now refuse to do so. Nearly one half of the total live orders at Camden Town Employment Exchange on a particular date were for employers who will not consider coloured workers. Objections to coloured workers which are raised by employers are on four main grounds: their relatively low output; their high rate of turnover; their irresponsibility, quarrelsomeness and lack of discipline; and the objections of white employees, real or imaginary.

/Part II

Transcript: Source 41

...

Part I Unemployment among Coloured Workers

2. Returns received from all Regions showed that at 15th June, 1953 there was a total of 3,366 unemployed coloured workers on our registers (including 270 women), and these were concentrated in comparatively few places, namely in the ports and big towns of six Regions. Over two-fifths (1,412) were in London and South Eastern Region, and over a quarter (879) were in North Western Region.

3. The main concentration in London and elsewhere were as follows-

London:

Stepney 341
Edgware Road 202
Camden Town 175
Brook Green 157
Brixton 90

Other towns:

Liverpool 563
Manchester 293
Birmingham 301
Cardiff 181
Leeds)
Sheffield) 111
Bradford)
Hull 50

Of the total number of unemployed coloured workers rather more than half (1,813) were being paid National Assistance.

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On the other hand, all the Regions (except Scotland, where there are very few coloured people)

Transcript (cont.): Source 41

report special difficulty in placing coloured workers in employment. London and South Eastern, North Western and Midlands Regions say that the position has deteriorated in the last year or two, and that there is a hardening amongst employers against accepting coloured workers. Some firms who previously accepted colour workers now refuse to do so. Nearly one half of the total live orders at Camden Town Employment Exchange on a particular date were for employers who will not consider coloured workers. Objection to coloured workers which are raised by employers are on four main grounds: their relatively low output; their high rate of turnover, their irresponsibility, quarrelsomeness and lack of discipline; and the objection of white employees, real or imaginary.

Source 42: Benefits of immigration 1961

Catalogue Ref: HO 344/144

CONFIDENTIAL

10. Any temporary suspension of immigration would have little effect over a longer period, since many of the frustrated immigrants would presumably postpone their migration rather than abandon it. Thus some labour shortage during the period of control would be followed by an extra large inflow of unskilled workers.

CONFIDENTIAL

7. In the long run, immigration will raise the population both directly and indirectly through the increase in births. In a greatly overpopulated country primarily dependent upon agriculture this would have harmful economic effects. In the United Kingdom however, the position is different; as in Germany, there is a presumption that a more rapidly expanding labour force will facilitate growth. The reason is that a growing labour force means for flexibility in the economy. It is easier to re-allocate labour between occupations by channeling additional labour into the industries where it is needed than to re-allocate it by shuffling round the existing labour force. Such re-allocation is a very important part of the process of economic growth.

8. It is, of course, true that capital formation requirements are raised by immigration. More houses will have to be built and more equipment will have to be installed than if the population is increasing less fast. Yet this is not a disadvantage. The new workers will pay for their housing and other social capital by way of rent, rates and taxes, and the additional factories and other productive capital will be profitable investments. The faster growth of population will thus not only require capital formation, it will also provide resources to meet it and will stimulate it.

9. A total, or almost total, suspension of immigration would, per contra, deprive the economy of the benefits of immigration. The effects would not be disastrous, but neither would they be avoidable by the substitution of capital for the frustrated immigrants. Hospitals, bus services and building, for example, can achieve such substitution only to a limited extent, so that in the absence of fresh immigrant labour, wages would probably have to rise considerably in order to attract more native labour into these occupations. Substitution in manufacturing would be more practicable, at the cost, however, of adding to investment demands in a period when the claims of investment upon the national resources are already very high.

3.

CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX A
Economic Effects of Immigration into the
United Kingdom
Memorandum by the Treasury

1. This paper deals only with the economic effects of immigration and is concerned primarily with Irish and coloured immigrants, the great bulk of whom are relatively young and active people (together with their children) who seek work in unskilled occupations or in occupations which provide training on the job, such as nursing.

2. These immigrants come to this country mainly in order to achieve a higher standard of living and it is clear that they themselves benefit from migration. The question at issue is whether the existing inhabitants - i.e. the natives of this island - also benefit. They will do so if the immigrants add more to the value of Gross National Product than they consume and result abroad, for then the Gross National Product available for the natives will be increased. A necessary, though not sufficient, condition for this is that the bulk of the immigrants find employment without creating unemployment among the natives. This condition has certainly been fulfilled in recent years, since unemployment has been low throughout, and it must be assumed that it will continue to be fulfilled, as it is Government policy to maintain a high level of employment.

3. There are no statistics of the employment pattern of immigrants, but common observation suggests that large numbers of them have found employment in hospitals, building and construction and public transport, while many others obtain unskilled jobs in manufacturing industries. These are largely occupations where there is an acute labour shortage and the importance of staffing hospitals, expanding the building industry and maintaining transport services is indisputable. Thus the immigrants make a contribution to the productive capacity of the economy. The value of this contribution, at least where the immigrants ease bottlenecks in labour supply,

1.

Transcript: Source 42

CONFIDENTIAL

Appendix A

Economic Effects of Immigration into the United Kingdom

Memorandum by the Treasury

1. This paper deals only with the economic effects of immigration and is concerned primarily with Irish and coloured immigrants, the great bulk of whom are relatively young and active people (together with their children) who seek work in unskilled occupations or in occupations which provide training on the job, such as nursing.
2. These immigrants come to this country mainly in order to achieve a higher standard of living as it is clear that they themselves benefit from migration. The question at issue is whether the existing inhabitants- i.e. the natives of this island-also benefit. They will do so if the immigrants add more to the value of the Gross National Product than they consume and remit abroad, for then the Gross National Product available for the natives will be increased. A necessary, though not sufficient, condition for this is that the bulk of the immigrants find employment without creating unemployment among the natives. This condition has certainly been fulfilled in recent years, since unemployment has been low throughout, and it must be assumed that it will continue to be fulfilled, as it is Government policy to maintain a high level of employment.
3. There are no statistics of the employment pattern of immigrants, but common observation suggests that large numbers of them have found employment in hospitals, building and construction and public transport, while many others obtain unskilled jobs in manufacturing industries. These are largely occupations where there is an acute labour shortage and the importance of staffing hospitals, expanding the building industry and maintaining transport systems is indisputable. Thus, the immigrants make a contribution to the productive capacity of the economy. The value of this contribution, at least where the immigrants ease bottlenecks in labour supply

...

CONFIDENTIAL

7. In the long run, immigration will raise the population both directly and indirectly through the increase in births. In a grossly over-populated country primarily dependent upon agriculture this would have harmful economic effects. In the United Kingdom however, the position is different; as in Germany, there is a presumption that a more rapidly expanding labour force will facilitate growth. The reason is that a growing labour force makes for flexibility in the economy. It is easier to re-allocate labour between occupations by channelling additional labour into the industries where it is needed than to re-allocate it by shuffling round the existing labour force. Such re-allocation is a very important part of the process of economic growth.
8. It is of course, true that capital formation requirements are raised by immigration. More houses

Transcript: Source 42

will have to built and more equipment will have to be installed than if the population is increasing less fast. The new workers will pay for their housing and other social capital by way of rent, rates and taxes, and the additional factories and other productive capital will be profitable investments. The faster growth of population will thus not only require capital formation it will also provide resources to meet it and will stimulate it.

9. A total, or almost total, suspension of immigration would, per contra, deprive the economy of the benefits of immigration. The effects would not be disastrous, but neither would they be avoidable by substitution of capital for the frustrated immigrants. Hospital, bus services and building, for example, can achieve such substitution only to a limited extent, so that in the absence of fresh immigrant labour, wages would have to raise considerably in order to attract more native labour into these occupations. Substitution in manufacturing would be more practicable, at the cost, however, of adding to investment demands in a period when the claims of investment upon the national resources are already very high.

10. Any temporary suspension of immigration would have little effect over a longer period since many of the frustrated immigrants would presumably postpone their migration rather than abandon it. Thus, some labour shortage during the period of control would be followed by an extra inflow of unskilled workers.

Source 43: Controversy over Italians in Bedford

Catalogue Ref: LAB 8/2201

PRESS CUTTINGS
MINISTRY OF LABOUR
ST. JAMES'S SQUARE

DAILY HERALD

DATE 29 NOV 1961

When a town puts a bar on immigrants

Public opinion is sharply divided on the Government's decision to control the growing number of immigrants, mainly coloured, from the Commonwealth. Here is a report from a town that has imposed its own ban—on WHITE immigrants.

EXACTLY a year ago Bedford banned Italians from settling in the town.

Not because it disliked Italians. But because it already had 5,000 of them in a population of 60,000, and the town council thought that enough.

Nobody threw bottles through the Town Hall windows. The mayor was not threatened. There were no protests, except from the local brickfields, which desperately needed more Italians to solve their labour shortage.

The Italians already in the town hardly shrugged their shoulders.

Would the decision have been taken so calmly if their skins were black?

Largest

Bedford has, in ratio to population, one of the largest immigrant communities in the country. In 1951 there were only 864 aliens out of 53,000 people.

But since the brickworks began recruiting labour in Italy, the number has multiplied rapidly. Many of the newcomers were virtual paupers

By JACK LUCAS

from southern Italy, to whom a pay packet of £10 15s. in the brickfields was a fortune.

Like so many immigrants, white or coloured, they lived in overcrowded conditions. Locals voiced familiar complaints: "They dump their rubbish in the gardens. . . They knock hundreds off the value of your house as soon as they move next door. . ."

To combat overcrowding, the council decided that Italians could bring their families to Bedford only if they had a certificate which said that accommodation was available and had been approved by the Health Department. Four out of five applications were granted.

The council took on extra staff to improve sanitary conditions. It offered limited loans to help Italians with house purchase, and later gave loans on the same terms as British applicants.

What has been the result of this sensible approach?

Bedford has never experienced racial troubles. Nobody tries to get elected to the council by screaming that Italian women fill the maternity homes and English girls sometimes cannot get a bed. Even though there is some truth in it.

When an Italian boy passed the 11-plus, a few people wrote to the newspapers saying he was keeping an English child out of a grammar school. The protest fizzled out.

"The Italians have a sense of humour," said a shopkeeper. "They laugh when they can't think of the right word for something. But the coloured people, they think you're laughing at them."

The Marston Valley Brick Company, which employs 500 Italians, is not so happy. It wanted another 200 to solve a labour shortage which is causing a daily loss of up to 300,000 bricks.

The council refused. Although the foreign population had been assimilated to a certain extent, it argued, the influx of 200 more families would aggravate the overcrowding.

No permit

And Bedford's decision is what counts, because neither the Ministry of Labour nor the Italian Government will give the Italians a work permit to go where they are not wanted. Besides, the Italians, as foreigners, are under the supervision of the Aliens Office.

No such control can ever be exercised over Commonwealth immigrants. They are British subjects.

Transcript: Source 43

When a town puts a bar on immigrants

BY JACK LUCAS

Public opinion is sharply divided on the Government's decision to control the growing number of immigrants, mainly coloured, from the Commonwealth. Here is a report from a town that has imposed its own ban- on WHITE immigrants.

EXACTLY a year ago Bedford banned Italians from settling in the town. Not because it disliked Italians. But because it has already had 5,000 of them in a population of 60,000 and the town council thought that enough.

Nobody threw bottles through the Town Hall windows. The mayor was not threatened. There were no protests, except from local brickfields which desperately needed more Italians to solve their labour shortage. The Italians already in the town hardly shrugged their shoulders. Would the decision have been taken so calmly if their skins were black?

Largest

Bedford has, in relation to population, one of the largest immigrant communities in the country. In 1951 there were only 864 aliens out of 53,000 people. But since the brickworks began recruiting labour in Italy, the number has multiplied rapidly. Many of the newcomers were virtual paupers from Southern Italy, to whom a pay packet of £10 15shillings in the brickfields was a fortune.

Like so many immigrants, white or coloured, they lived in overcrowded conditions. Locals voiced similar complaints: "They dump their rubbish in the gardens... They knock hundreds off the value of your house as soon as they move next door..."

To combat overcrowding, the council decided that Italians could bring their families to Bedford only if they had a certificate which said accommodation was available and had been approved by the Health Department. Four out of five applications were granted. The council took on extra staff to improve sanitary conditions. It offered limited loans to help Italians with house purchase, and later gave loans on the same terms as British applicants. What has been the result of this sensible approach?

Bedford has never experienced racial troubles. Nobody tries to get elected to the council by screaming that Italian women fill the maternity homes and English girls sometimes cannot get a bed. Even though there is some truth in it.

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Besides, the Italians, as foreigners, are under the supervision of the Aliens Office.

No such control can ever be exercised over Commonwealth immigrants. They are British subjects.

Source 44: Immigration Act 1962

Catalogue Ref: HO 344/234

COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS ACT 1962
Analysis by purpose of journey of Commonwealth citizens subject to control under Part I
of the Act who entered the United Kingdom in February 1963

From	Students	Long term visitors	Voucher holders	Dependents	Other Immigrants	Remaining incoming passengers (mostly short term visitors and returning residents)	TOTAL
1) Canada Australia and New Zealand	94	1,514	146	175	36	5,037	7,002
2) India Pakistan West Indies	57 43 25	44 15 23	233 242 91	421 107 264	31 11 45	891 364 261	1,677 782 709
Total from Group 2	125	82	566	792	87	1,516	3,168
3) Remaining territories	269	179	206	233	42	1,564	2,490
TOTAL	488	1,775	948	1,200	165	8,114	12,660

Transcript: Source 44

COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS ACT 1962

Analysis by purpose of journey of Commonwealth citizens subject to control under Part I of the Act who entered the United Kingdom in February 1963

From	Students	Long term visitors	Voucher holders	Dependants	Other immigrants	Remaining incoming passengers (mostly short term visitors and returning residents)	Total
Canada, Australia and New Zealand	94	1,514	146	175	36	5,037	7,002
India	57	44	233	421	31	891	1,677
Pakistan	43	15	241	107	11	364	782
West Indies	25	23	92	264	45	261	709
Total from Group 2	125	82	566	792	87	1,516	3,168
Remaining territories	269	179	206	233	42	1,561	2,490
TOTAL	488	1,775	918	1,200	165	8,114	12,660

Source 45: Immigration Act 1968

Catalogue Ref: FCO 50/329

CONFIDENTIALW/349 R.
(plw entered copy)**THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT****COMMONWEALTH OFFICE PRINT**

21 May, 1968

CO Ref.: GM 10/131

Copy No. 24

KENYA: THE "ASIAN EXODUS" AND THE COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS' ACT, 1968*British High Commissioner in Kenya to the Secretary of State
for Commonwealth Affairs***SUMMARY**

The Commonwealth Immigrants' Act, 1968, became law on 1 March, 1968. Its object is to control the rate of inflow into the United Kingdom of citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies holding United Kingdom passports who have no substantial connection with the United Kingdom. The legislation was rushed through Parliament to check the "Asian exodus" from Kenya. (Paragraph 1.)

2. The citizenship arrangements in the Kenya Independence Act gave citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies resident in Kenya a period of two years' grace to apply, as a constitutional right, for registration as Kenyan citizens. But few of the British Asian community chose to exercise this right; most preferred to remain British and many applied for United Kingdom passports. The Kenya Government was being increasingly criticised for not "Africanising" fast enough in commerce. To meet this pressure they published the Immigration Bill; they expelled a number of Asians at random *pour encourager les autres*; and they published the Trade Licensing Bill which was clearly designed to Africanise the smaller businesses, 80 per cent of which were in Asian control. These, and lesser Africanisation measures by the Kenya Government thoroughly unnerved the Asian community, who panicked when Mr. Duncan Sandys and others proposed action that could make their "insurance policies"—their British passports—to be worthless. Asian immigration to Britain increased steadily from an average of about 100 per week to about 400 through 1967, and by the first week of February 1968 it had reached an estimated 800. (Paragraphs 2–9.)

3. Faced with this flood of immigrants from Kenya, Her Majesty's Government had to consider whether to legislate to check the inflow, or if some other solution was possible. Restrictive legislation was bound to meet with considerable opposition; inevitably there would be charges of racialism, broken promises, &c. But the practical problems of assimilating so large an influx had to be faced. President Kenyatta's Government was not disposed to join with Her Majesty's Government in any joint effort to reassure the Asian community and check the exodus. Her Majesty's Government were therefore left with no alternative to legislation if they were to avoid the establishment of underprivileged minorities in Britain. (Paragraphs 11–13.)

4. The Commonwealth Immigrants' Act, 1968, was passed. The Kenya Government did not engage in any overt criticism, but predictably—and disingenuously—have put the blame for the Asian exodus on the threat of British legislation. Other Commonwealth Governments, notably Uganda and especially India, were strongly critical. The Indian reaction appears to derive from a mixture of guilt and frustration. (Paragraphs 14–27.)

5. The Asian British community in Kenya expressed widespread regret that the Act should have been passed. The European British community generally welcomed the Act in private. But both communities were mainly interested in understanding how the Act would affect them personally. (Paragraphs 28–34.)

6. The first effect of the new Act was naturally to increase severalfold the work of the Passport Office in Nairobi. It is as yet too early to judge whether the Act can be made to operate as intended. (Paragraphs 35–38.)

CONFIDENTIAL

Transcript: Source 45

COMMONWEALTH OFFICE PRINT

21 May, 1968

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2. The citizenship arrangements in the Kenya Independence Act gave citizens of the United Kingdom and the Colonies resident in Kenya a period of two years' grace to apply, as a constitutional right, for registration as Kenyan citizens. But few of the British Asian community chose to exercise this right; most preferred to remain British and many increasingly criticised for not "Africanising" fast enough in commerce. To meet this pressure they published the Immigration Bill; they expelled a number of Asians at random, pour encourager les autres [encourage the others] and they published the Trade Licensing Bill which was clearly designed to Africanise the smaller businesses, 80% of which were in Asian control. These, and lesser Africanisation measures by the Kenyan Government thoroughly unnerved the Asian community, who panicked when Mr. Duncan Sandys and others proposed action that could make their "insurance policies"- their British passports- to be worthless. Asian immigration to Britain increased steadily from an average of about 100 per week to about 400 through 1967, and by the first week of February 1968 it had reached an estimated 800. (Paragraphs 2-9).

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Transcript (cont.): Source 45

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Source 46: A response to Powell's speech 1968

Catalogue Ref: FCO 50/329

6

DAILY NATION

Nairobi

Wednesday, April 24, 1968

Mr. Powell's castle

AN Englishman's home, the adage says, is his castle. And it is this castle about which Mr. Enoch Powell, a former Conservative spokesman, spoke when he addressed a large audience in Birmingham last weekend.

He said, among other things, that Britain must be mad — "literally mad" — to allow an annual influx of 50,000 foreign families. This was like piling up the nation's funeral pyre.

The statement annoyed his own Conservative party, the Labour administration, liberals and various leaders of public opinion. It was Powell who was literally mad, some people suggested.

Is Powell guilty of racialism? One unfortunate aspect of this matter is that it has been judged against the background of Asian immigrants from this country. And yet Mr. Powell's speech was not restricted to the influx of Indians. It sought to survey the scene half a century or more hence, when the Indian problem will have been resolved.

In such circumstances, will it be wise for Britain to allow an annual inflow of 50,000 families, without regard for their welfare? In order to answer this question, it is necessary to examine some of the potential causes of conflict.

One, as anyone who has been to Britain will readily admit, is that the quality of most immigrants into Britain is not always the best. While it is true that some students who have specialised in various spheres of learning do settle in Britain, instead of returning to their mother countries, it is equally true that the majority of immigrants have never gone to school.

Some of them do not know how to read and write; nor do they speak the English language, nor have they specialised in any kind of job. They just go to Britain because colonial propaganda said Britain was the land of opportunity for everyone.

But without some kind of training and education, the majority of these people can neither afford housing nor the funds necessary to send their children to school, not to mention feeding them. They are to be seen, sullen and almost without hope, quietly walking to their dwellings in a line, often after spending a day at the labour exchange. And, if they are lucky, eating potato chips.

To this is added the fact that most immigrants into Britain are not widely diffused throughout the country. They settle in little pockets in some of the major cities, where they practise their culture and share a community of interest.

It may be argued that integration does not presuppose assimilation in the broad meaning of that term, and in some cases this view may be right. But history has shown racial conflict is inevitable where human beings live in a society where wealth, social status and education are stratified in terms of race.

What can prevent racial conflict in a society where unemployed immigrants live in poverty amid affluence? What is to become of poor children, without education and roots in a society they call their own? And what is to become of social groups occupying certain urban areas where social facilities are not available? These problems are genuine, and Mr. Powell was right in mentioning them.

They can only bring resentment and racial hatred. It is therefore no use for Mr. Wilson to pretend that the problems do not exist or that the anti-discrimination Bill will provide solutions to these problems though it will help.

What they should do is to allocate Government money to provide housing, schools, and social facilities for these social groups. For those immigrants who cannot read and write, and who are not trained in any vocation, it should be possible to enrol them for workers' education classes, thus giving them a chance to secure employment.

If this is done, Mr. Powell's castle will be quieter, more peaceful and perhaps safer.

Transcript: Source 467

DAILY NATION

Nairobi Wednesday, 24th April, 1968

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Transcript (cont.): Source 46

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Source 47: Changes to British Nationality Act with Immigration Act 1971 Catalogue Ref: FCO 53/269

N 356A

HOME OFFICE

THE EFFECT OF THE IMMIGRATION ACT 1971 ON REGISTRATION AS
A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES

1. The Immigration Act 1971 contains some provisions relating to nationality which will come into force on a date to be appointed by the Secretary of State. This leaflet explains the broad effect of those provisions. The Act provides that some people shall still have an entitlement to registration (see paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 6 below); while others may in future be registered at the discretion of the Secretary of State (see paragraph 7).

ENTITLEMENT TO REGISTRATION FOR COMMONWEALTH CITIZENS/BRITISH SUBJECTS AND
IRISH CITIZENS WHO ARE ALREADY SETTLED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

2. After the Act has come into force an applicant for registration on the basis of ordinary residence in the United Kingdom* will have an entitlement to registration only if he can satisfy the Secretary of State that on the date the Act came into force, and at all times since, and throughout the 5 years ending with the date of his application, he was lawfully ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom without being subject to any restriction on the period for which he might remain. A person who is the subject of a recommendation for deportation, or who has been given notice of a decision to make a deportation order in respect of him will not be entitled to be registered.

3. Thus, a person of full age (18 years or over) who has been lawfully ordinarily resident here and free of conditions since before the coming into force of the Act (provided he has not been recommended for deportation or given notice that a deportation order is to be made in respect of him) will have an entitlement to registration once he has completed 5 years' ordinary residence free of conditions.

4. A person who satisfies the conditions set out in paragraph 2 will have a continuing entitlement to registration so long as he remains ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom. There is no need for him to make application for registration before the Act comes into force simply in order to preserve his entitlement.

5. Crown service will no longer be a qualification for entitlement to registration, unless the applicant is patril (see paragraph 6), but persons will be able to apply on the basis of Crown service, for registration at the Secretary of State's discretion (see paragraph 7).

ENTITLEMENT TO REGISTRATION FOR COMMONWEALTH CITIZENS/BRITISH SUBJECTS WHO ARE
PATRIAL UNDER THE ACT

6. A person of full age who is a Commonwealth citizen/British subject will have an entitlement to registration after completing 5 years' ordinary residence or relevant employment (see note A overleaf) or, in the special circumstances of a particular case, after a shorter period, if he can satisfy the Secretary of State that -

- a. he is patril within the meaning of section 2(1)(d) of the Immigration Act, ie that "he is a Commonwealth citizen born to or legally adopted (see note B) by a parent who at the time of the birth or adoption had citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies by his birth in the United Kingdom or in any of the Islands" (that is to say the Channel Islands and Isle of Man), or

* see Home Office leaflet R1 or N 356.

- b. in the case of a woman, she is patril under section 2(2) of the Act by virtue of her marriage to a person who is patril under section 2(1)(d).

It should be noted that this provision does not apply to citizens of the Irish Republic.

REGISTRATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

7. A person of full age who is a Commonwealth citizen/British subject, or a citizen of the Irish Republic, but who cannot fulfil the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 6 will be able to apply for registration at the discretion of the Secretary of State after completing at least 5 years' ordinary residence (see note C) or relevant employment (see note A) or partly the one and partly the other, (or, in the special circumstances of a particular case, after a shorter period) provided -

- a. he is of good character,
- b. he has sufficient knowledge of the English or Welsh language (see note D), and
- c. he intends, if registration is granted, to reside in the United Kingdom or a colony or protectorate (see note E) or to enter into or continue in relevant employment (see notes A and F).

Transcript: Source 47

HOME OFFICE

THE EFFECT OF THE IMMIGRATION ACT 1971 ON REGISTRATION AS

A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES

1. The Immigration Act 1971 contains some provisions relating to nationality which will come into force on the day appointed by the Secretary of State. This leaflet explains the broad effect of these provisions. The Act provides that some people will still have an entitlement to registration (see paragraphs 2,3, 4, and 6 below while others may in the future be registered at the discretion of the Secretary of State (see paragraph 7).

ENTITLEMENT TO REGISTRATION FOR COMMONWEALTH CITIZENS/BRITISH SUBJECTS AND IRISH CITIZENS WHO ARE ALREADY SETTLED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

2. After the Act has come into force an applicant for registration on the basis of ordinary residence in the United Kingdom will have an entitlement to registration only if he can satisfy the Secretary of State that on the date the Act came into force, and at all times since, and throughout the 5 years ending with the date of his application, he was lawfully ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom without being subject to any restrictions on the period for which he might remain. A person who is the subject of a recommendation for deportation, or who has been given notice of a decision to make a deportation order in respect of him will not be entitled to be registered.

3. Thus, a person of full age (18 years of over) who has been lawfully ordinarily resident here and free of conditions since before coming into force of the Act (provided he has not been recommended for deportation or given notice that a deportation order is to be in respect of him) will have an entitlement to registration once he has completed 5 year's ordinary residence free of conditions.

4. A person who satisfies the conditions set out in the paragraph 2 will have a continuing entitlement to registration so long as he remains ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom. There is no need for him to make application for registration before the Act comes into force simply in order to preserve his entitlement

5. Crown service will no longer be a qualification for entitlement to registration unless the applicant is patial (see paragraph 9), but person will be able to apply on the basis of Crown service for the registration at the Secretary of State's discretion. (see paragraph 7.)

ENTITLEMENT TO REGISTRATION FOR COMMONWEALTH CITIZENS/BRITISH SUBJECTS WHO ARE PATIAL UNDER THE ACT

6. A person of full age who is a Commonwealth citizen/British subject will have an entitlement to registration after completing 5 years' ordinary residence or relevant employment (see note overleaf) or in the special circumstance of a particular case, after a shorter period, if he can satisfy

Transcript (cont.): Source 47

the Secretary of State that-

- He is patrial within the meaning of section 2 (1) (d) of the Immigration Act, is that "he is a Commonwealth citizen born to or legally adopted (see note B) by a parent who at the time of the birth or adoption had citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies by his birth in the United Kingdom or in any of the Islands" (that is to say the Channel Islands and Isle of Man)
- In the case of a woman, she is patrial under section 2(2) of the Act by virtue of her marriage to a person who is patrial under section 2(1) (d)

It should be noted that this provision does not apply to citizens of the Irish Republic.

REGISTRATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

7. A person of full age who is a Commonwealth citizen/British subject, or a citizen of the Irish Republic, but who cannot fulfil the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 6 will be able to apply for registration at the discretion of the Secretary of State after completing at least 5 years ordinary residence (see note C) or relevant employment (see note A) or partly the one and partly the other, (or, in the special circumstances of a particular case, after a shorter period provided-

- He is of good character
- He has sufficient knowledge of the English or Welsh language (see note D) and
- He intends, if registration is granted, to reside in the United Kingdom or a colony or protectorate (see note E) or to enter into or continue in relevant employment (see notes A and F)

...

Source 48: Race Relations Act & Board 1968

Catalogue Ref: LAB 44/286

The Race Relations Act 1968

Discrimination and segregation

The Act defines discrimination as treating a person less favourably than another person on grounds of colour, race, or ethnic or national origins in the provision to the public of goods, facilities and services, and in employment and housing.

Discrimination includes segregating people on grounds of colour, race, or ethnic or national origins.

Throughout this booklet 'discriminate' and 'discrimination' are used in that sense.

Goods, facilities and services

It is unlawful to discriminate in the provision to the public, or a section of the public, of any goods, facilities or services. Examples are given of such facilities and services. They include:

access to, and use of, any place which members of the public are permitted to enter

facilities for entertainment, recreation, refreshment, transport or travel

accommodation in a hotel, boarding house or similar establishment

facilities for education, instruction or training

facilities for banking, insurance, grants, loans, credits or finance

the services of any business, profession, trade, local or public authority

These are given as *examples only*.

Employment

It is unlawful for an employer or anyone concerned with the employment of others to discriminate against a person by refusing to employ him for work which is available and for which he is qualified, or by refusing him the same terms and conditions of work which are available to others having the

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The Race Relations Board

Functions and powers

The function of the Race Relations Board is to secure compliance with the Act.

In the first instance the Board endeavours to resolve complaints by conciliation. Only when conciliation has failed does the Board seek proceedings in court.

Under the Act certain changes have been made in the Board's composition and powers, including the new power, already mentioned, to take cases to the courts and to seek injunctions and damages. Further, though the Board will continue to work through its conciliation committees, it can, if it wishes, investigate complaints itself. It can also initiate investigations where no complaint has been made.

Conciliation committees

Conciliation is central to the work of the Board and its conciliation committees. These committees cover the whole of Great Britain. Their addresses and telephone numbers are given at the back of this booklet.

Committee members serve on a voluntary basis and are appointed in a personal capacity. They do not represent any particular organisation or group but, collectively, they are able to deal constructively with the problems brought before them.

Conciliation committees are assisted by full-time conciliation officers.

Investigation and conciliation

There are two stages in dealing with complaints: investigation and conciliation.

First, the Board or committee must, by investigation, form an opinion that unlawful discrimination has occurred. Only then does the Board or committee try to secure a settlement of the differences between the complainant and the discriminator and an assurance from the discriminator about his future conduct.

Only where it has not been possible to achieve a settlement and assurance, or where an assurance against future discrimination has been broken, can the Board decide to take court proceedings.

7

The Public Service

Government departments are also bound by the Act.

Advertisements and notices

It is unlawful to publish or display discriminatory advertisements or notices, even if the act to which the advertisement or notice applies is not itself unlawful under the Act.

Incitement etc.

It is unlawful deliberately to aid, induce or incite another person to discriminate unlawfully.

Incitement to racial hatred (as distinct from unlawful discrimination) may be a criminal offence but is not within the jurisdiction of the Race Relations Board. It is a matter for the Police and the Attorney General.

Complaints

Complaints of discrimination must be made within two months of the act complained of. They will be investigated by a conciliation committee, or by the Race Relations Board.

Employment complaints are dealt with in the next section.

If, after investigation, the Board or committee forms an opinion that there has been unlawful discrimination it must try to get a voluntary settlement of the differences between the parties. It must also, where appropriate, try to get a written assurance against further discrimination.

5

Complaints

Who can complain

A person who believes he, or she, has been unlawfully discriminated against can complain. Or someone can complain on their behalf.

How to complain

A complaint can be made in writing, or by word of mouth.

When to complain

A complaint must normally be made within two months of the act complained of, but complaints are best dealt with if they are made quickly.

Where to complain

A complaint should be made to the nearest conciliation committee or direct to the Race Relations Board. Employment complaints may also be made to an Employment Exchange.

Complaints made on behalf of another person

Anyone complaining on behalf of another person must have that person's authority to do so, in writing.

Transcript: Source 48

The Race Relations Act 1968

Discrimination and segregation

The Act defines discrimination as treating a person less favourably than another person on grounds of colour, race or ethnic or national origins in the provision to the public of goods, facilities and services, and in employment and housing.

Discrimination includes segregating people on grounds of colour, race, or ethnic or national origins.

Throughout this booklet 'discriminate' and 'discrimination' are used in that sense.

Goods, facilities and services

It is unlawful to discriminate in the provision to the public, or a section of the public, of any goods, facilities or services. Examples are given of such facilities and services. They include:

Access to, and use of any place which members of the public are permitted to enter

Facilities for entertainment, recreation, refreshment, transport or travel

Accommodation in a hotel, boarding house or similar establishment

Facilities for education, instruction or training

Facilities for banking, insurance, grants, loans, credits or finance

The services of any business, profession, trade, local or public authority

These are given as examples only.

Employment

It is unlawful for an employer or anyone concerned with employment of others to discriminate against a person by refusing to employ him for work which is available and for which he is qualified, or by refusing him the same terms and conditions of work which are available to others having the

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The Public Service

Government Departments are also bound by the Act.

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Advertisements and notices

It is unlawful to publish or display discriminatory advertisements or notices, even if the act to which the advertisement or notice applies is not itself unlawful under the Act.

Incitement

It is unlawful deliberately to aid, induce or incite another person to discriminate unlawfully.

Incitement to racial hatred (as distinct from unlawful discrimination) may be a criminal offence but is not within the jurisdiction of the Race Relations Board. It is a matter for the Police and the Attorney General.

Complaints

Complaints of discrimination must be made within two months of the act complained of. They will be investigated by a conciliation committee, or by the Race Relations Board.

Employment complaints are dealt with in the next section.

If, after investigation, the Board or committee forms an opinion that there has been unlawful discrimination it must try to get a voluntary settlement of the differences between the parties. It must also, where appropriate, try to get a written assurance against further discrimination.

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The Race Relations Board

Functions and powers

The function of the Race relations Board is to secure compliance with the Act.

In the first instance the Board endeavours to resolve complaints by conciliation. Only when conciliation has failed does the board seek proceedings in court.

Under the Act certain changes have been made in the Board's composition and powers, including the new power, already mentioned, to take cases to the courts and to seek injunctions and damages. Further, though the Board will continue to work through its conciliation committees, it can, if it wishes, investigate complaints itself. It can also initiate investigation where no complaint has been made.

Conciliation committees

Conciliation is central to the work of the Board and its conciliation committees. These committees

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cover the whole of Great Britain. Their addresses and telephone numbers are given at the back of this booklet. Committee members serve on a voluntary basis and are not appointed in a personal capacity. They do not represent any particular organisation or group but, collectively, they are able to deal constructively with the problems brought before them. Conciliation committees are assisted by full-time conciliation officers.

Investigation and conciliation

There are two stages in dealing with complaints: investigation and conciliation.

First, the Board or committee must, by investigation, form an opinion that unlawful discrimination has occurred. Only then does the Board or committee try to secure a settlement of the differences between the complainant and the discriminator and an assurance from the discriminator about his future conduct. Only where it has not been possible to achieve a settlement and assurance, or where an assurance against future discrimination has been broken, can the Board decide to take court proceedings.

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Complaints

Who can complain

A person who believes, he, or she, has been unlawfully discriminated against can complain. Or someone can complain on their behalf.

How to complain

A complaint can be made in writing or by word of mouth.

When to complain

A complaint must normally be made within two months of the act complained of, but complaints are best dealt with if they are made quickly.

Where to complain

A complaint should be made to the nearest conciliation committee or direct to the Race Relations Board. Employment complaints may also be made to an Employment Exchange.

Complaints made on behalf of another person.

Anyone complaining on behalf of another person must have that person's authority to do so, in writing.



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