

REPORT OF THE SIXTH CONGRESS
COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRITAIN (MARXIST-LENINIST)

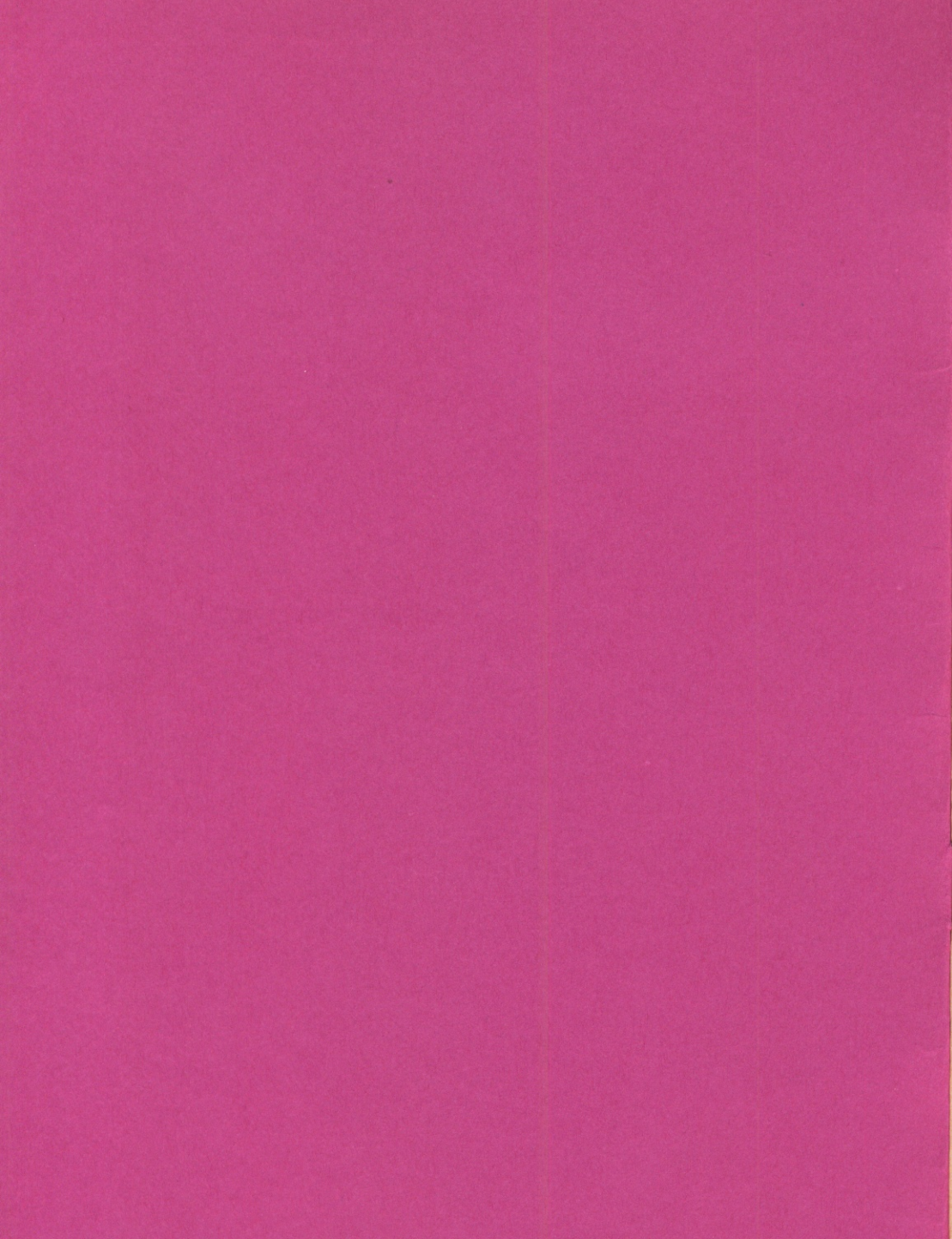
CPB(M-L)

CONGRESS

82

A decorative graphic consisting of several rows of black dots. The dots are arranged in a wave-like pattern, starting from the left side and moving towards the right, with each row slightly offset from the one above it. The dots are of uniform size and are set against a dark red background.

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INTRODUCTION

At the time of the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Britain the Falkland conflict, a folly with its tragic consequent loss of life, was well on the way.

Which made the second undeclared war waged in the name of the British people by the Thatcher Government. The one for centuries so in Ireland; now the Falklands which promises a hundred years war. To believe this episode is terminated by the eviction of Argentinian military personnel as other than temporary is to ignore historical fact.

What next by way of diversion for this Government, of course a return to bellicosity and hate of the Russian people; always a runner in 'News' and parliamentary utterance synonymous with alternating periodic switching to 'down with the working class here' in the name of freedom.

Capitalist freedom, destruction of life and livelihood at home, with a make war on Russia.

Meantime Begin for Israel now King David runs rampant on the Lebanon, directly aided and encouraged by the US with Thatcher & Co silently approving.

Yet it appears that the British working class (en masse that is) have yet to see that the clamour for war against the USSR, against the Palestinians and elsewhere, is war on workers of the world and intensified assault on the British working class.

In parallel with the active creation and encouragement of Hitler bringing a 2nd World War on all working people.

From long years of depression then re-armament then war.

Now 4 million unemployed here, and in the capitalist world widespread depression, called trade recession.

The Bolshevik Revolution upon which the Soviet Union is established owes its place in history to being the only change in class power from bourgeois to proletariat, the only change

of relation of production from capitalist to socialist in the world.

This revolutionary development has dictated the role of the Soviet Union in the world irrespective of individual leaders, for it is the relations of production that determines the political superstructure - hence the domestic and international line.

Such a development, revolutionary as it must be, similar to the development of man from ape, is irreversible. Man cannot be restored to previous state, he can only be destroyed.

So is the case of socialist relations of production. Capitalism cannot be restored in the Soviet Union.

The latter can only be destroyed in the literal sense of the word through a world war, which would see the end of man's civilisation, that would be the final act of Capitalism; its final victory, and final defeat.

The life and death struggle between classes has reached its absolute peak. Only the working class can survive, the opposing class can only destroy all.

Capitalism cannot co-exist with socialism in a national or international arena.

Hence Kruschew's overtures to US imperialism were never reciprocated.

Civil war, workers' revolution dictates the policies of the capitalist ruling class today.

This fear is driving them to war against the Soviet Union. Such is the effect of their fear that Thatcher in common cause together with the US and the Common Market countries joined with Japanese capitalism, began a costly war, against Argentina and their own man Galtieri, over the Falklands.

It was to be a show of force - to intimidate all workers in their homelands.

Socialist revolution can only be so if capitalist relations of production are changed into a socialist mode.

That can only be achieved under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Unlike the bourgeoisie who used the proletariat as the driving force to gain power from the feudal lords, the proletariat in its struggle for power has to do the job itself for socialist revolution is in the interest of one class only - the proletariat.

Alliance between the proletariat on the one hand and the peasantry or other class forces on the other are tenuous and temporary. There is no reason why the peasantry forming the vast majority of the population in an underdeveloped country should fight for the proletarian line, when its class interest lie with the bourgeoisie. Hence Mao's concept of 'New Democracy' which he defined as a republic in a transition between a capitalist state and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

From then on it was a race between the two contending classes to establish its economic base which ultimately decided the political power in China where capitalism is today established.

REVOLUTION AND THE SOVIET UNION

In the world decline of capitalism, the focal point of strength of the opposing force, the working class, is repositied in the one truly social change of Capitalist rule: the triumph of a proletariat in the USSR.

The Bolshevik Revolution still is the most truly historic change in class forces. It represents the power to do by a working class. It is the example and hope for all other workers' aspiration. It did because of that great historic change accelerate the course of history in the world. Because of it, the Bolshevik Revolution, others were strengthened, invigorated and inspired. As in China, Vietnam, Cuba, Albania and so on.

In its contradictions and dilemmas the capitalist ruling class throughout the world ever see the 'spectre' not as a ghost but substance: the USSR. Which prevents the subjugation of its own working class. This especially so in the developed capitalist

world, the western world. Therefore the crusade against the USSR, and above all today the adventurist call for war.

Now that the dust of the International 'Polemic' has receded it is time to take stock.

Concerning the 'Polemic', as right in Marxist terms was the break, it undoubtedly became not distorted but perverted for and because of chauvinist ends, as in China.

That the revisionists within the USSR secured control in the hierarchy is not to be questioned, though the reasons for such a political crime do not rest wholly or yet mainly on the Russian proletariat. The failure of the world working class in its separate countries to secure revolution created enormous problems and internal contradictions within the USSR from 1917, never diminishing in effect, culminating in the engulfing of the peoples of the USSR in the second World War in which they defeated the Nazis, at great sacrifice.

That these contradictions created a Krushev and all his ilk, does not nor cannot efface the Russian proletariat. Whilst they must accept that revisionism secured power since they permitted it to be so it does not make them - the Russian people - Revisionist. No more than to say because capitalism rules in Britain the British working class is capitalist. Nevertheless to the extent that permission be given, that passivity provides the danger is ever present. That in such contradictions a Krushev could call for a cessation of revolutionary struggle only triggered the 'Polemic'.

Today the greatest peril is the desire in order to prolong the longevity of capitalism for capitalism to seek to procure the complete subjugation and corruption of its working class to begin anew. That is a war which would become a World War, a Third, against the USSR.

We have always said that the main crime to be laid at the door of the Soviet Union was their revival under Krushev and continued encouragement of revisionism. The Soviet Union did

not originate revisionism. Its origins lay in the Second International where it was exposed and opposed invariably by Lenin and the Bolsheviks. Nor did the Soviet Union supply the first so-called 'modern' revisionism (really no different from the earlier type) - the 'British Road to Socialism' preceded the arrival of Khrushchev.

Revisionism in 1982 does not derive from the USSR at all. In its Chinese form it identifies the USSR as its principal enemy and, to establish its credentials as a member of the Western Alliance, attacks Vietnam, a Socialist country which has never wavered and which, by defeating the USA, made a contribution to the survival of civilisation of equal moment to the defeat of Nazi Germany by the USSR.

In its Eurocommunist form it puts forward policies that make British Labour governments look progressive and takes every opportunity to denounce the Soviet Union and to say to the West European bourgeoisie: We are different. Well, they are. Here is Berlinguer, leader of the largest revisionist party in Europe, on the Polish crisis: 'the driving force for renewal of society emanating from the Russian Revolution is now exhausted ... the working class movements of Western Europe should search for a new road to socialism based on pluralism, democracy and East-West detente'. What better way of saying to NATO, 'If you want to start World War III we won't stop you'?

The enemy of the working class throughout the world is first and always its own ruling class capitalism in the land wherein they labour and exist, and secondly the dominant capitalist force i.e. the USA. It is not a question of two superpowers. It is not a matter of hegemony of the USSR with imperialist aims.

All actions since 1977 of the USSR have been for survival within as yet a predominantly capitalist hostile world. It has ever been their international proletarian duty; a duty not shirked whatever the sacrifice. The question is, is the working class elsewhere going to win, going to change the social order,

or is it to die with its capitalism?

We need not heed any, no matter how allegedly high in theoretical standing in this 'Marxist' world, who call for co-existence, who call for a third world, who call for a Euro-communism. We know the only example of change has come as always predicted through revolution, as in Russia the Bolshevik Revolution. If the proletariat the working class within the capitalist world is not to be engulfed in the demise of capitalism, then it must follow the road of revolution also as in Russia 1917.

It is an essential that in our present difficulties we do not follow the capitalist road, that we do not lump USA capitalism and imperialism and the USSR.

We the workers are not dominated by two great 'superpowers' First in Britain as in all other lands we the workers are dominated by the ruling class, capitalism. That ruling class British capitalism is hand in glove with US capitalism, almost at times its handmaiden.

In Britain we the workers are the superpower, as in the world there is but one superpower the working class. To the extent that we are not deceived. USSR is not our enemy, this ruling class in Britain is not the defender of freedom and liberty but its overlord and vanquisher. We cannot subscribe to the belief that capitalism is our strength and salvation. We are our own strength, internationally we are strengthened because of the USSR.

Long live the USSR, Long live the Revolution, must be our watchword.

Not Thatcher, Reagan, the Pope - but Us the Workers

BRITAIN

In the absolute decline of world capitalism the weakest go to the wall. Britain, once pre-eminent in world capitalism, started on a long decline from the beginning of the twentieth century; the decline accelerated in the imperialist first world war when Britain suffered dismemberment of its capitalist power, that is dominance of world trade; in the second world war through sacrifices in defence of liberty. It is now, as a capitalist state, compelled to take the lesser role of comprador to international capital and the dominant capitalist state, at present the USA.

In capitalist Britain with its capitalist government, its capitalist establishment in all its parts, especially its Parliament, including its political opposition party which is also part of the establishment, must contribute to this role, that is comprador the capitalist world power in all its manifestations, political and economic. Hence we must not be dismayed, must not find puzzling, the Thatcher crusade against the Bolsheviks, the Thatcher servility to Reagan, the deference of Foot and the Parliamentary Labour Party to the establishment and the ruling party, the emergence of the 'Social Democrats', the death of the Liberal Party no longer an oppositional party.

Capitalism can never trade equally, it can only succeed in a position of dominance over another, since the profit motive is all. Without dominance there is no further expansion, no further investment.

It is not a question of technology, a fancy word for changes in manufacture. It is not a fact that British workers cannot build ships as cheaply as Japanese or cannot produce steel as cheaply as anyone else or make motor cars as cheaply as General Motors. It is a question of chronology of domination. Who comes latest in expansion is therefore greatest in investment and in re-equipment. In the case of change, recrudescence, it is a question of time.

The anachronism of capitalism in Britain provides and proves that the only way out is socialism. Britain can no longer exist as a capitalist state.

In the role of comprador the Thatcher position was to destroy the working class, not just its organisations but the people themselves. The Thatcher election was a declaration of war on the working class. The Tory Party was returned by a large majority with a substantial working class vote. This followed incompetent and weak, both Labour and Tory, governments, and Thatcher with her promise of destruction of the unions and her image of single-minded strength, bogus though it was, a whim of an advertising agent, succeeded in winning the election. She was going to bring back economic stability and restore 'law and order'. Large numbers of simple-minded people believed this propaganda. As well as capitalists the lumpen element in the population, the 'management' and 'young executive' types and some fairly comfortable manual workers as well sadly as many women were her firm allies, at first. Thatcher's deliberate creation of 4 million unemployed is the result.

The Trade Unions epitomise the working class, therefore the Unions have to be destroyed. The crusade against Trade Unions was adopted by the majority, including some Trade Unionists, as was Hitler's crusade against Communists, Trade Unionists, gypsies, some religious people (though not the present Pope) and the Jews. The policy was the more easily accelerated by the malpractice of previous Labour governments who also made war on the wage earners but not on the capitalists. The problem is of course the deep and wide support from the far left to the far right of the belief that Trade Unionism is the villain of the piece. Even some members of unions adopt the position that unions (not mine, the other fellow's) are greedy and irresponsible, so wrecking the nation's economy. This was shown by the cowardly lack of support for the firemen and the seamen. The line was that it was wrong for them to demand more money but all right for us.

The one clear policy that Thatcher had was that she would crush the Trade Unions, the 'disease of Britain' but meaning 'crush the working class'. All this began with the consent of a large section of wage-earners. Today no sane person agrees with anything Thatcher says and she is the most hated politician in the history of Parliament. Her claws would be cut if the foolish idea (extant since the Tolpuddle Martyrs) that trade unionism is not quite respectable could be destroyed; this is mouthed by so-called Marxist-Leninists both at home and abroad. It is the same bed-rock philosophy of the Roman Catholic church - workers are ignorant foolish people and have to be told what to do and think. The new 'marxist' line from abroad is to repeat revolutionary slogans to workers, discourage them from any effort to fight their oppressors, and lo they will be brainwashed into revolution - Paul on the way to Damascus! This is as destructive and anti-working class as anything the capitalists have put up. The carefully fostered belief that trade unionists are heretics, traitors, lacking politics, peddled from the right as lack of patriotism and from the left as anti-revolutionary. The line has the strength of corruption.

The same evil as the cold war against Trade Unionism, following the same course and supported also by left and right, is the cold war, the crusade against the USSR. Give up trade unionism, kill a Russian for Reagan and we shall have the affluence and splendour of a free world, viz the USA!

Part of the same lie is that the economic ills of capitalism are the fault of workers and that the failure of world capitalism is because of the existence of the USSR. Many workers throughout the world believe these lies and so do many so-called Marxist leaders. This to date, is the failure of communists everywhere.

Our Party also has a deficiency. Those of us who say, "We must tell the workers that Socialism will be good," are admitting that they have doubts. Once again the 'stupid workers'

must be told what is good for them. We must be certain that there is no freedom under capitalism, not even the freedom to exist and be exploited.

The total destruction of Britain by capitalism increased by geometrical progression in the short period of this government, has been regularly documented in 'The Worker', at first the only newspaper to do so; now the press, suffering from schizophrenia, prints on the first page, "We are on the up and up" and then prints each further disastrous blunder on the other pages.

Is then the position of the British working class, faced with starvation and/or a war against the USSR with Britain as Flander Fields and nuclear bombs as tanks, hopeless? No. You do not have to study Marxism to know that it is impossible to destroy a population if they do not wish to be destroyed. Even nature cannot do it. The Black Death that reduced the European population by two thirds resulted in Britain, in surviving peasants demanding freedom from their feudal lords and wages. In spite of indecision, vacillation, lack of political acumen and the superstition that it is possible for workers to live with capitalism, constantly is the flag of war against capitalism being raised. Any struggle against this government is a struggle for progress and every section of the class, teacher, medical worker, publishers, miners, the list goes on endlessly, have attacked this government on wages, redundancy, living conditions, the destruction of all civilisation in Britain. They have put to shame the alleged Parliamentary opposition. Everywhere in Britain are pockets of resistance and in the most unexpected places. Who would have believed it possible that a group of girls in a publishing house could hold at bay a big tycoon or that Inland Revenue workers could stop the government receiving taxes? Workers took Britain out of NATO for one day. Why not for ever? Like a cheap thriller the press announced that masked men, SAS types, dived out of helicopters to collect electric motors for nuclear

submarines from a striking factory in Manchester. Certainly the Thatcher government has lost all dignity in the world.

The manufactured inflation and the cuts were to starve workers, close schools, hospitals and universities, but have caused fierce opposition from people who never before were in struggle. Whole councils, even Tory ones, are in opposition. There is a formidable army of citizens not prepared to watch Britain being destroyed and differences between different sections of workers in a trade or profession are being dropped to unite in a battle against the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse. In all this great reservoir of class struggle the direction concerning the occupation of Ireland is a political test; for without the will and strength to drag the troops out of Ireland the British working class cannot be free. The judicial murder of ten young Irishmen, including an elected MP, shocked many, but not enough.

Young people, no longer necessary for labour when there are to be no factories and no longer necessary for the next war which is to be a push-button missile one, are to be starved of work, education and training. They have shown however that they are not going to be amenable to tyranny. Various attempts to discipline them behind barbed wire have been dropped and even the army opposes conscription. This is not because the generals and politicians have become civilised, but because they are afraid.

Outside Britain there are splendid allies. The enormous anti-war demonstrations in most European countries are pushing some of their rulers into opposition to the Thatcher-Reagan line which is a road to certain defeat. The strength and unity of the USSR is the main obstacle to a third world war.

A few of the struggles of the working class have been listed, not least of the brave young Irishmen. There is no cause for despair. The fighting strength and class understanding of the working class have not slackened. But none of

this is enough, since it is not directly politically class conscious. It is at its highest class hatred. What is essential is the understanding that capitalism is not only obsolete therefore dying, but the danger to us the working class is that we die with it.

This of course is the thought of capitalism, that if they must die all must die with them. Class force is inevitable and inexorable so that class force must produce change and a new social structure be created. This will be socialism. It will not come of itself from evolution but only from revolution. This is the only reason for the existence of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist).

For revolution!

For socialism!

THE PARTY

The Congress '82 of the Communist Party of Britain is our sixth since founding in 1968.

The founding was an act forced by events, taken after long thought.

We were compelled to do so and our beginnings were small and composed mainly at that time of workers from the industrial section of our class, craftsmen, many of whom had years in class struggle as workers, and in direct political activity. Together with them were other workers, including some professional workers.

The break from past association was accelerated by events throughout Europe following the turn in the Soviet 'leadership' at the time of Kruschev.

And although there was much beating of breasts in the European parties (communist) nevertheless they conformed and began to bury revolutionary aims.

We write accelerated, because here in Britain this trend and betrayal had preceded anything in Russia of 1956 and the decay and departure from Marxist revolutionary aims was already long entrenched making intolerable our remaining in such an arena.

The founding therefore was inevitable, the delay stemming from reluctance to accept such duty with the responsibility it imposed.

Today we are now a well balanced party and force made up of all sectors of our class, the working class.

Our sole purpose of existence as a party - **Revolution.**

The one, only reason for existence of a Communist Party in any nation.

To assist the revolutionary force, the working class, and that most advanced section, its vanguard, to achieve the seizure of power, replacing the Capitalist in Britain with the Dictatorship of the Working Class, the proletariat.

Through these years we have directly been involved in place of work and have also rendered aid and counsel where accepted in all features of our workmates' struggles; class struggles, and in direct political action.

Our paper, 'The Worker', is a weekly, and we claim is the most truthful and objective record and commentator of workers' struggle in Britain.

We have produced numerous pamphlets.

We have frequent meetings in all principal towns.

Our bookshops are listed in 'The Worker' as is all notice of our activities, meetings and publications.

We have regular study groups.

We are constantly involved with workers in struggle.

Our resources and finance come solely from our own membership, and such donations as are received from meetings and worker sympathisers and friends; we have no patrons, our patron the working class.

All work is voluntary, unpaid and no member receives

any payment whatsoever.

We dedicate ourselves to assistance of the working class to revolution, and will take our place in the scheme of things and that arduous struggle for the seizure of power, and thereafter the hard road to building socialism.

We are a solid, serious, well balanced force, part of the working class.

Long live the working class!

September 1982

THE WORKER

A newspaper written by workers for workers, published weekly by the Communist Party of Britain, Marxist-Leninist.

See back cover for subscription details.

CPBML Pamphlets on Britain

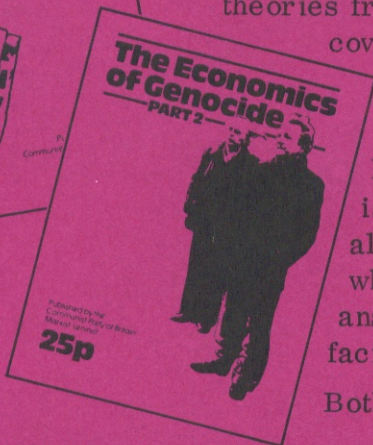
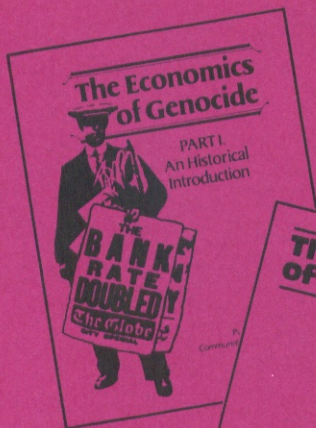
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