

command of the Comintern is meagre, and a joint delegate from the Communists and the Brigades who spent a week here on urgent business had to return empty handed owing to the danger of provocateurs and the lack of the necessary information in our archives to confirm credentials, which information it would be the task of a Colonial Bureau to collect.

Africa: A Pan-African Congress of the Negroes of the world was recently held in London, Brussels and Paris, promoted by Americans.⁴ The negroes of Africa have no bourgeoisie. This Pan-African movement has therefore no progressive traits like the other Colonial National movements. The African Negroes are beginning to move along class lines. The Governments are using the Pan-African idea to divert them from it. The great COLONIAL AND SUBJECT NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS are unprovided for the technical apparatus of the Comintern, and it is my duty as a Colonial delegate to plead for the Comintern to place itself as the only co-ordinating head of these movements, not only in word, but by the formation of a COLONIAL BUREAU, at first to gather data and watch events, later to be extended to any function that may be deemed necessary.⁵

D. Ivon Jones,
Communist Party of South Africa.

RGASPI, 495/64/160/44.

Original in English.

Typed. Copy.

Inscription: Archives of the Comint (on the back of the page) (in Russian)

16

Minutes of Meeting, Presidium of ECCI, 10 January 1922 (Extract)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDIU OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COMINTERN

Present: Cds. Zinoviev, Radek, Thomas, Kuusinen, Lozovsky, Rákosi, Gural'sky, Humbert-Droz, Remmele, Bela-Kun, Brandler, Safarov, Souvarin, Tsigler, Brichkina.

4. Second Pan-African Congress (1921) convened by W.E.B. DuBois.
5. According to 'Minutes of the Preliminary Meeting of the Bureau of Colonial and Semi-Colonial Countries at ECCI' (RGASPI, 495/154/76/1) such a Bureau had already been created (See footnote 1 to document 11, vol. D). It would seem that Jones was not satisfied with the fact that it existed only on paper and wanted a stronger body with a better technical support.

[...] Discussed:

18. About the South African united
Communist Party.

Decided:

To take cognisance of the
information about the unification of
the old party of South Africa with
several other groups and inform the
ECCI about this.

General Secretary of the Exec. Com. of the Comintern
O.V. Kuusinen

RGASPI, 495/2/11/5, 6.

Original in Russian.

Typed.

Stamped: 1) No. 691 12 Jan. 1921

(in Russian)

SECRETARIAT

Exec. Communist Internat.

2) ARCHIVES OF THE ECCI

(in Russian)

Inscription: To Com. Zinoviev

(in Russian)

17

Report of D.I. Jones to ECCI, 15 March 1922

MEMORANDUM ON SOUTH AFRICAN SITUATION TO THE PRESIDIU OF THE COMMINTERN.

(per Comrade Kuusinen, Secretary)

15 March, 1922.

Comrades,

The news in today's 'Pravda' indicate a state of bloody civil war in South Africa, arising from the strike in the gold mines.¹ I have submitted several notes on the Press reports of the situation. I shall only repeat here that the issue of

1. The strike of thousands of white gold miners began on 10 January and was joined by white workers in related industries. The strikers protested against wage cuts and against the employment of black workers whose wages were much lower. On 10 March, after the strikers mobilised armed commando support, the Smuts government called in the army and the police and suppressed the strike, subsequently called the 'Red Revolt'.