

**Report of P. Kerrigan to ECCL,
[May 1938]¹**

South-African Question
by Peter (Karrigan)²

ON THE SITUATION OF THE C.P.

1. The Py has done a real effort on the T.U. question and in the work for T.U. that it happens to be ~~done~~ realised before six months (hold W.³). It has begun first steps on the Native question: quite nothing has been done on the decisive strata of white people the Africanders.

2.) a.) The factional struggle is actually based on the groups of Capetown G., K. and B.⁴ helped by some mistakes of the CC which expelled once more K. from the CC. The most dangerous is R.⁵ whom the wife is a Trotskyist one and himself entirely in opposition; and that he is member of CC.

b.) On another side B. attacked very strongly W.⁶ in the Commission on a wrong basis trying to show that Mafutsanyana was put back wards by W. and K. (the 2 other secretaries). B. is a lawyer from Russian extraction with very few connections with the workers.

c.) In Durban are beginning new struggles inside the Py on a badly definitive bases.

d.) Rimond (Marks) the former secretary of the Py is leading one mass organisation in Johannesburg.

e.) Foreign peoples not born in S.A. (Latvian, etc.) are continuing to influence the Py. Such as Kalk, which born in S.A. is from German extraction.

3.) The CC of the Py has no members from the decisive strata of the S.A. people (miners, metalworkers, railwaymen and transportmen, dockers). Not a single Africander (worker and/or farmer) is inside. Till now it was too much connected with the Jewish workers club in Johannesburg.

1. The document is undated but it was registered in the Comintern on 31 May 1938. The text is reproduced as is.
 2. These words were added in the Comintern.
 3. I. Wolfson. The meaning of the first word in brackets is not clear.
 4. G = J. Gomas; K = M. Kotane. B is probably a mistake: the author must have meant E. Roux.
 5. E. Roux.
 6. B = H. Basner; W = I. Wolfson.

4.) The plenum of CC is called for the end of November. W. will be present. I had a ^{long} talk with W. in presence of B. before leaving. He stayed in very good mood.

Peter

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(in Russian)

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**Resolution of Central Committee, CPSA,
29 December 1938–2 January 1939**

RESOLUTION OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

The Central Committee of the CPSA met at Johannesburg on Thursday, December 29th, 1938, and continued in session until the 2nd January 1939. It considered and discussed reports on the following:

1. Political situation in S.A. (W. Kalk)
2. The Struggle of the Africans (E. Mofutsanyane).
3. The Struggle for peace and against Fascism (R. Alexander)
4. The Trade Unions (I. Wolfson).
5. The Non-Europeans in Industry. (M. Kotane)
6. The Indian people in S.A. (H.A. Naidoo).
7. The Coloured people in S.A. (S. Nikin).
8. Party Organisation (M. Kotane)
9. Youth Movement. (M. Joffe).

After having heard the reports and the discussion thereon, the Central Committee decided on the following resolution for the CPSA:

The Munich Four Power Pact,¹ which sealed the fate of Czechoslovakia, was a blow not only against the people of Czechoslovakia, but an attack on the

1. The Munich Pact of 1938 which was signed by Britain, France, Germany and Italy permitted an immediate occupation of the Sudetenland, an area in Czechoslovakia with a large German population, by the Germans. It became a symbol of the appeasement of the aggression of Nazi Germany on the part of Western powers.