

STOP THE SEVENTY TOUR

What is "Stop the Seventy Tour"?....It is a co-ordinating committee formed to obtain the withdrawal of the MCC invitation to the South African all-white cricket team to tour here in 1970. If the MCC do not withdraw their invitation, the committee intends to prevent any matches being played.

The committee is organised to co-ordinate the work of:UNSA, (United Nations Student Association),SCM(Student Christian Movement), Young Liberals,NUS(National Union of Students),MCF(Movement for Colonial Freedom),Church,Reading Joint Anti-Apartheid Committee,Anti-Apartheid, Movement,Young Communists,the International Socialists,andSAN-ROC(the South African non-racial Olympic Committee).

The cricket team from South Africa due to tour Britain next summer,will be chosen on racial lines;it will consist of white cricketers only-non-white cricketers will not be considered for selection.

In South Africa,the Apartheid system,which is based on racialism and intolerance,has infiltrated into every aspect of the country's life-including sport.Facilities and opportunities for African sportsmen are far inferior to those for white sportsmen.Two well-known examples of sportsmen who have been forced to leave South Africa in order to further their sporting careers are Basil d'Oliveira,the coloured South-African cricketer who plays for England;and Precious McKenzie,the coloured South African weightlifter,who was in Britain's Olympic team in Tokyo and Mexico.

All teams representing South Africa abroad in cricket,tennis, athletics,rugby etc.are chosen on racial lines.The team touring Britain next year will not be"a South African" team,it will be a "white South-African"team.White South Africa will play England in test matches next year.

Public opinion in Britain was incensed at the South African government's attitude to,and the MCC's complicity in, the "d'Oliveira affair"which resulted in the cancellation of the MCC's tour to South Africa last winter.In agreeing to allow next year's tour to continue, the MCC is not only agreeing to play a country which swept aside all cricketing instincts of fair play over Basil d'Oliveira,it is also giving its implied support for racialism in South African sport.This concession is an affront to black South African sportsmen and to Britain's coloured community,but,above all,is a repudiation of basic principles of human rights and racial equality.