

Culture, Community and Activism – Black British History in London

Lesson 1: Publishing Is A Political Act



Unlocking Our Sound Heritage

LONDON
METROPOLITAN
ARCHIVES

the International Book Fair of Radical Black & 3rd World Books



Poster design: Bill Swales (01753 6627)

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR OF RADICAL BLACK AND THIRD WORLD BOOKS

BOOK FAIR
Thursday March 6th to Saturday March 8th 1986
 Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, Kings Cross, London NW1
 11.00am to 5.30pm daily
 Entrance 80p Children under 16 20p
OPENING CEREMONY
 12.00 noon Thursday March 6th

Sunday March 2nd
FORUM: India After Indira — New Directions in The Indian State and Society
 Speakers: Darryl D'Monte (India), Meghnad Desai (India) Moderator: Farrukh D'hoody
 Brixton Recreation Centre, 1.30pm

FILM EVENING: Adapt or Die, Finye (The Wind) Discussion on Finye led by Mactar Gueye (Senegal), Florence Alexis (Haiti), William Tanfeari (Benin)
 Moderator: John La Rose
 The Ritzy Cinema, Brixton Oval, 6.30pm Admission £2.75 concessions £1.70

Monday March 3rd
FORUM: The Working Day Technology and Society
 Speakers: Darryl D'Monte and others
 Tottenham Town Hall, Moselle Rooms, 2.00pm

FORUM: Racist Killings and the Rise of Fascism in Europe
 Speakers from campaigns in the UK, France, Norway and West Germany.
 Moderator: Gus John
 Tottenham Town Hall, Moselle Rooms, 7.00pm Admission £1.00

Tuesday March 4th
POETRY FOR A FREE AZANIA — International Poetry Evening
 Paul Dakeye (Cameroun), Edouard Gissant (Martinique), Nancy Morejon (Cuba), Oda Ofeimun (Nigeria), Faraz Khan (Pakistan), and others
 Brixton Town Hall, 7.30pm. Admission: £3.00

Wednesday March 5th
FORUM: The Tale, The Short Story, The Novella and The Novel. What is Emerging?
 Speakers: Ama Ata Aidoo (Ghana) Micere Mugo (Kenya) Carolyn Cooper (Jamaica) Edouard Gissant (Martinique)
 Moderator: John La Rose
 Tottenham Town Hall, 7.00pm. Admission: £1.00

Thursday March 6th
PANEL: to continue Wednesday evening discussion on The Novel
 Committee Room, Camden Town Hall, 2.00pm

PANEL ON PUBLISHING: A round table discussion with participating publishers and others on the problems of distribution between and across continents.
 Committee Room, Camden Town Hall, 4.00pm

FORUM: Nkrumah — 20 Years After
 Speakers: Abdul Kalkimat (USA), Ama Ata Aidoo (Ghana), Yao Graham (Ghana), Abubakar Siddique (Nigeria)
 Moderator: John La Rose
 Council Chambers, Camden Town Hall 7.00pm Admission: £1.00

SCHOOL SESSIONS
 to meet visiting writers and artists
 Thursday March 6th 1.30pm — 3.30pm
 Friday March 7th 11.00am — 1.00pm

Friday March 7th
PANEL: to continue Thursday discussion on Nkrumah
 Committee Room, Camden Town Hall, 11.00am

FORUM: Young Creative Artists
 Moderator: Michael La Rose
 Basement Study Room, Camden Centre 2.00pm

FORUM: The Struggle For Southern Africa
 Speakers: Jean Sindab (USA), Representative from Metal and Allied Workers Union (South Africa) and others
 Moderator: Darcus Howe
 Council Chambers, Camden Town Hall, 7.00pm Admission £1.00

Saturday March 8th
PANEL: to continue Friday discussion on Southern Africa
 Committee Room, Camden Town Hall, 11.00am

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FAIR
 Small Hall, Camden Centre, 1.00pm — 4.00pm

Sunday March 9th
Womens Concert to Honour and in Solidarity with the Liberation Struggles of Southern African Women artists appearing Jean 'Binta' Breeze (Jamaica) Marie Laure Edom (Guadeloupe) Nancy Morejon (Cuba) Serious Bizness (USA) Ama Ata Aidoo (Ghana) Vera Brama (India) Lioness Chant (UK) and others
 Arts Theatre, Great Newport Street, WC2 7.30pm Admission: £4.00

For advance tickets and further information:
 New Beacon Books, 76 Stroud Green Road, London N4. Telephone: 01-272 4889.
 Race Today Publications, 165 Raiton Road, London SE24. Telephone: 01-737 2268.
 Bogle-L'Ouverture Publications, 5a Chignell Place, London W13. Telephone: 01-579 4920.

ADDRESSES & DIRECTIONS TO VENUES
 The Ritzy Cinema, Brixton Oval, SW2 (opposite Lambeth Town Hall (Brixton - Victoria Line))
 Tottenham Town Hall, Town Hall Approach Road, N15 (Seven Sisters - Victoria Line)
 Brixton Town Hall, Brixton Hill, SW2 (Brixton Station - Victoria Line)
 Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, NW1 - adjoins Camden Centre but entrance is in Judd Street not Bidborough Street. (Kings Cross Station - Victoria, Piccadilly, Northern, Circle and Metropolitan lines)
 Camden Centre Bidborough Street, NW1 (Kings Cross Station - Victoria, Piccadilly, Northern, Circle and Metropolitan lines)
 Arts Theatre, Great Newport Street, WC2. (Leicester Square - Piccadilly and Northern Lines)
 Brixton Recreation Centre, Brixton Station Road, SW2 (Brixton station - Victoria line)

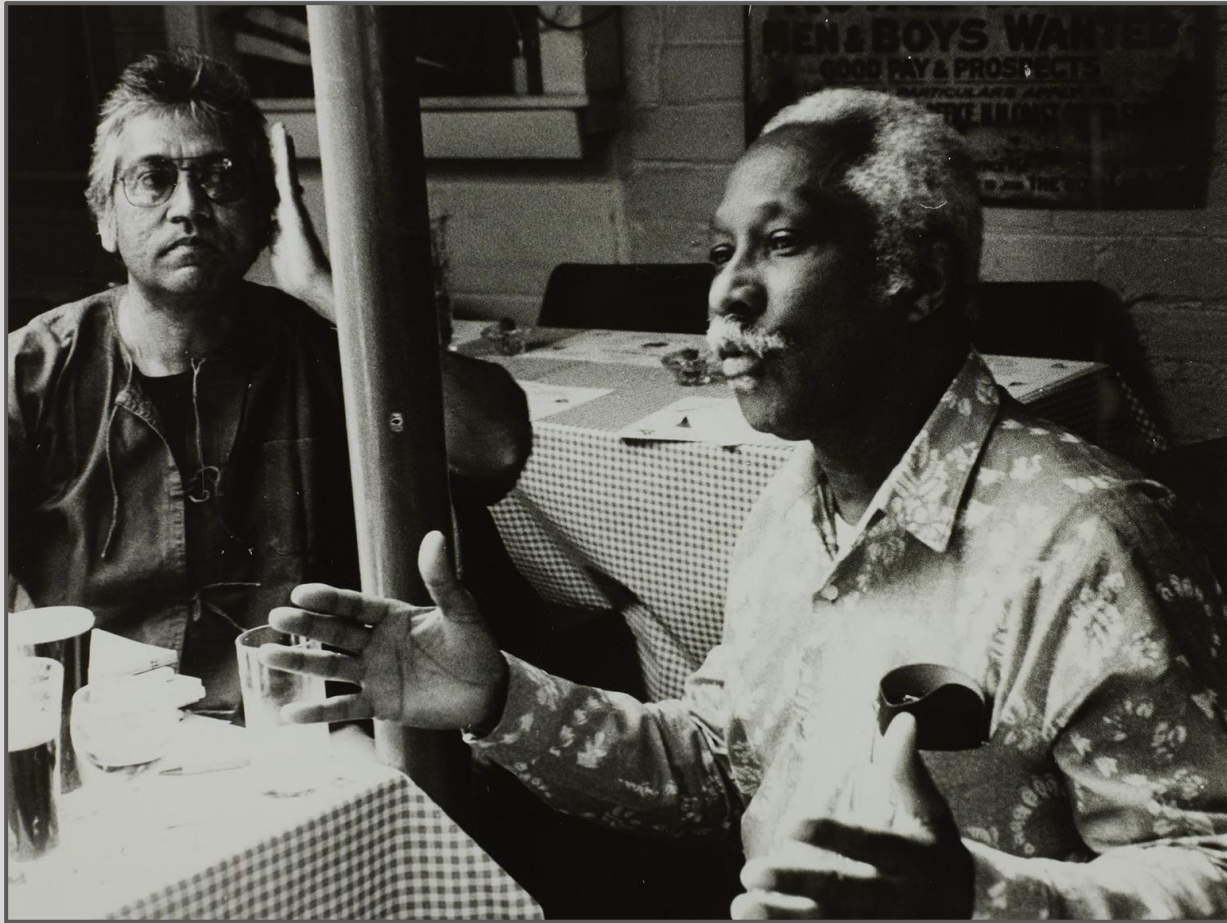
MANCHESTER
 26 February — 1st March 1986
 For further information contact:
 Manchester 061-228 7236 061-881 2784
 London 01-272 4889 01-737 2268 061-579 4520

B R A D F O R D
 12 March — 16 March 1986
 For further information from:
 International Book Fair Committee
 Flat 1, 9 Oak Avenue, Bradford 3DB 7AQ
 Telephone: 0274 4800586

Fifth Fair poster, 1986. LMA/4462/M/03/005/Poster



Jessica Huntley at the bookshop, 198-. Photography by S. Saunders. LMA/4462/F/02/036



Cecil Rajendra (left) and Eric Huntley (right), 1996. LMA/4462/C/01/082



TORCH

Strategy for a Black Agenda

Vol. 1 No. 1 Bi-monthly July 1986

Price 50p

FIRE THIS TIME

BLACK PEOPLE — what are we doing in support of our people fighting and dying to remove the final presence of colonial racism in Southern Africa?

As people of African descent living in Britain we must add our voices ever more strongly to the growing clamour world-wide for justice and democracy in South Africa.

But in doing so we must not merely respond to the current upsurge of protest but ensure our own support comes from a deep rooted concern which links all African people — a link which is as much one of colour, as having shared a common experience.

The efforts of the Pan African Congress in the struggle for African independence and its many stalwarts such as George Padmore, CLR James, Walter Rodney, Kwame Nkrumah, Henry Sylvester Williams, Ras Makonnen, Peter Abrahams and Marcus Garvey are well known and an example to us all.

What is less well known is that during the late 19th century until comparatively recently West Indians have been returning to Africa where they have played a crucial role in politics, medicine, law and education.



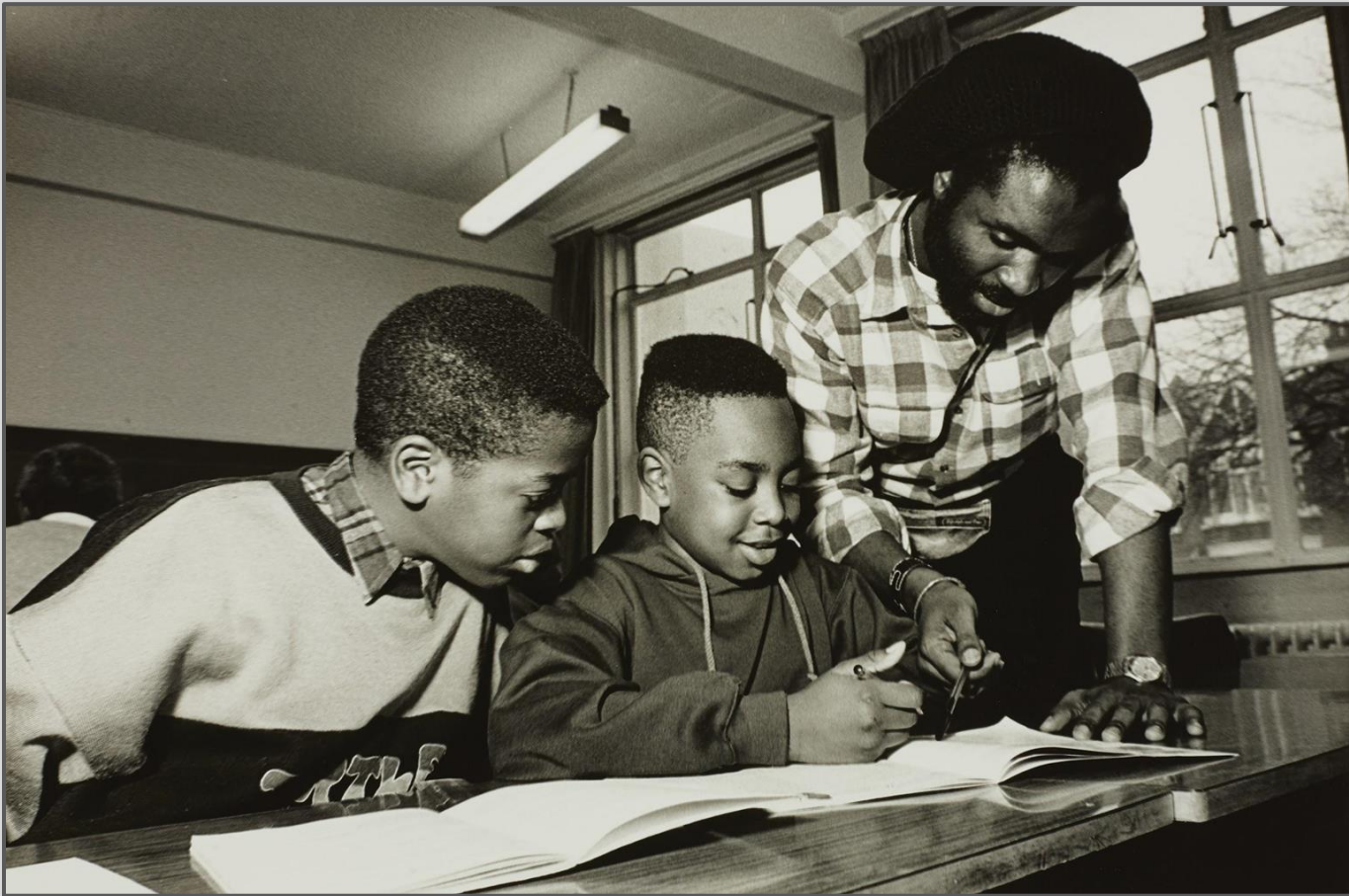
Torch Vol. 1 No. 1, 1986. LMA/4462/O/02/001

**Why are so many
black children
failing in the
British school
system???**

You are invited to attend a

**TWO DAY CONFERENCE ON
YOUNG BLACK PUPILS
TALKING FOR YOUNG
BLACK PUPILS**





Depicts pupils and teachers. Photography by Melanie Friend. LMA/4463/D/11/05/001/2

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Lesson 2: How Can A Bookshop Change Society?

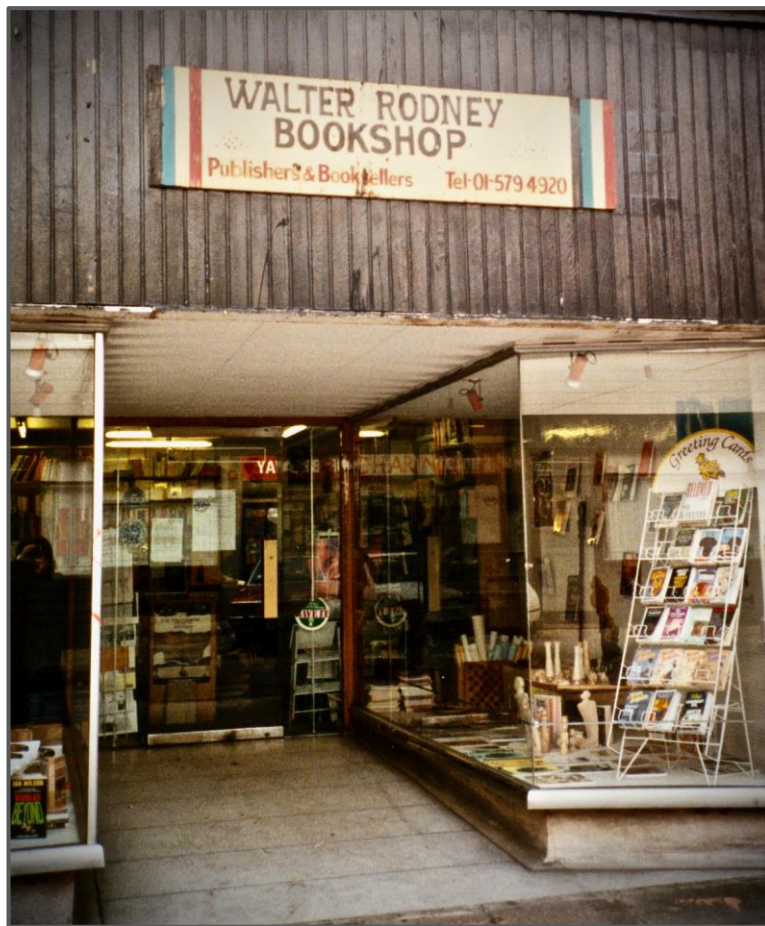


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Family at the bookshop. LMA/4462/F/02/054/4



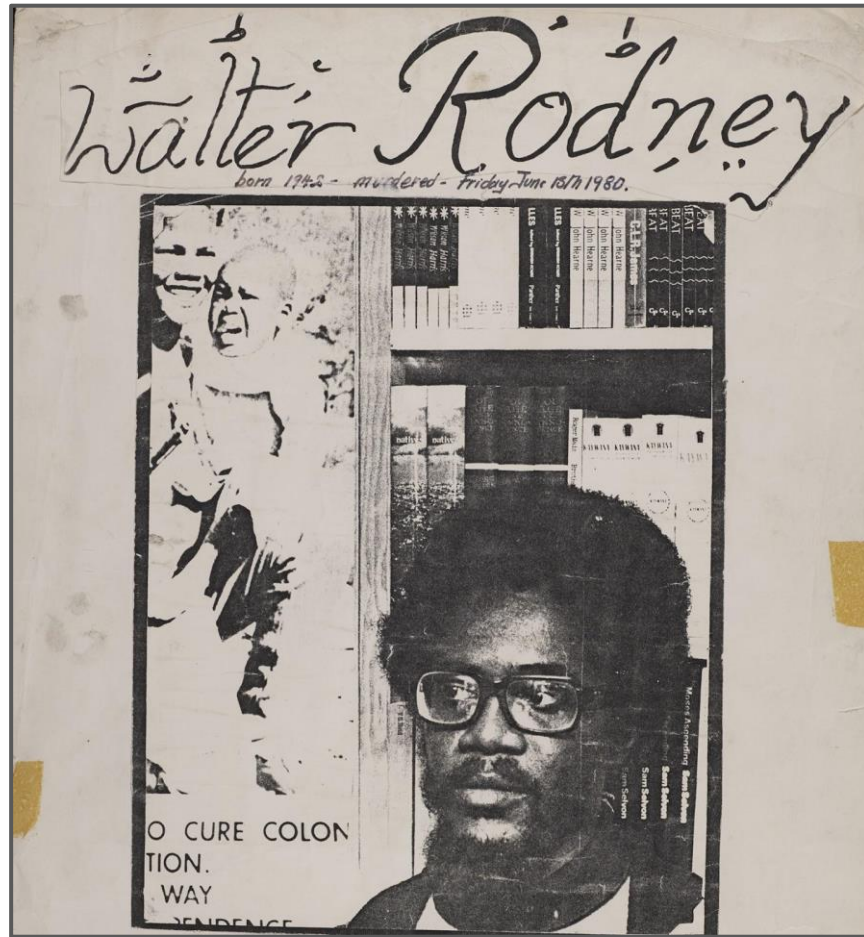
Walter Rodney bookshop exterior. Photography by S. Saunders. LMA/4462/F/02/036/05



Paul Bogle (left), Toussaint L'Ouverture (right). Not LMA archive images.



Walter Rodney at Huntley's house, 1975. Photography by Lance Watson. LMA/4462/F/03/015/06



Notice announcing the murder of Walter Rodney by the Burnham regime. LMA/4462/C/01/109b



Inside the bookshop. LMA/4462/F/01/03/005



Eric Huntley outside vandalised bookshop. LMA/4462/F/01/03/007



Bookshop activities. LMA/4462/F/01/03/005



Lucinda Roy (third from right) at the Huntley's house. Photographer: Carl Kirton. LMA/4462/F/02/031

Culture, Community and Activism – Black British History in London

Research Material: How Can A Bookshop Change Society?

Today February 1977

BOGLE ATTACKED

The single L'Ouverture bookshop in Ealing was attacked by racist vandals between February 19 and 20, 1977. Below, we reprint extracts from the leaflet left behind by the racists and a press statement issued by the management of the bookshop.

'Are the natives restless in your school? Have they made your halls and school-yards resemble the Congo? Have the bathroom blackbirds made the restrooms unsafe?'

'What was the last time one of your friends was attacked by the banana brigs? When was the last time they tried to proposition one of your girlfriends? ...'

'The jungle bunnies are organized. As a result, they can exert pressure on the chicken school administrators — and get what ever they want. ...'

'The time has come for action — not words! For action — contact the National Party.'

PRESS STATEMENT

Bogle-L'Ouverture Bookshop, at the above address, was vandalised between Saturday and Sunday, February 19 and 20, 1977, by individuals with racist sentiments. Obscene racist signs were smeared on the glass windows and doors — NIGGERS GET OUT, K.K.K., — KNIGHT — and WHITE POWER. A leaflet, dropped through the door, contained a whole range of racist abuse and was signed by the National Party. They left their phone number — 486-3697. A member of the Bogle-L'Ouverture management discovered the act of vandalism at about 1.30 pm on Sunday, February 20, 1977. The bookshop was closed on Saturday, February 19, 1977 at 6.15 pm. We called the local police who have taken statements, we hope, with a view to prosecuting the offenders.

For over five years, Bogle-L'Ouverture Publications has been providing services to libraries, schools, teacher training colleges, curriculum development centres and teachers resource centres throughout Britain. Local education authorities have been increasingly concerned with the need not only to get books we stock into schools and colleges, but also to seek assistance for teachers to use those books in the classrooms.

Bogle-L'Ouverture Bookshop is one of the few bookshops in the country where the black community can find literature and writings from Africa, Afro-America, Asia and the Caribbean.

The bookshop community ought to be made aware of this activity on the part of the National Party because of the dangers it represents to the entire country.

It is for these reasons that we have been attacked by the racists.


Issued February 21, 1977.

Bogle-L'Ouverture Publications Ltd.

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Large stocks available for Parents, Children, Teachers, Students.
Come and visit us or send your order to:
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PAINT ATTACK IN CAMPAIGN OF HATE

JESSICA HUNTLEY is the innocent victim of a hate campaign which has included threatening phone calls, racist graffiti and windows obliterated by smears of paint.

Mrs. Huntley manages a bookshop, and, like numerous other bookshops in London, hers has been the target over the past year of vicious racist vandalism. Now a group of ten owners have got together and pledged action.

The latest attack on the Bogle-L'Ouverture Bookshop, in Chigwell Place, Ealing, came last Sunday when yellow paint was splashed all over the front.

An earlier attack, on July 16, left the shop covered with National Front stickers and was followed by an anonymous phone call to Mrs. Huntley allegedly saying: "This is a warning, move out or we will get you tonight you black bastard."

The first attack came in February when racist signs such as "White Power" and "Black" were sprayed across the shopfront.

Mrs. Huntley is one of the ten bookshop owners, whose group issued its first statement on Monday.

Despite a letter to the Home Secretary in March demanding a meeting and informing him of the attacks, Mrs. Huntley has had only one reply — stating the letter was misplaced.

Since then there have been more serious attacks on other bookshops and a telegram has been sent to the Home Secretary. He has not replied.

Further action is being organised and all the victims are treating the terrorism as a very serious matter of course.

Athen Gazette 1977



'This is organised vandalism'

Mrs. Ch. Douga, community relations officer, said she felt the police should be able to put a stop to the vandalism.

He added that he hoped such attacks would not frighten the black population in the borough as it was intended to do.

"I just hope it does not disturb their peace of mind. We feel the police should be able to apprehend these vandals. I know it is an organised vandalism aimed at frightening black people and this is what we must avoid."



Mrs. Jessica Huntley — the latest victim.

RACIST DAUBS ON SHOP



BY OUR OWN REPORTERS

would asking the then Home Secretary to meet them and discuss the political nature of the attacks.

Mrs. Jessica Huntley, manager of the well-known community bookshop, told News Line: "This is a continuation of harassment we have been suffering at the hands of fascist and racist in the area."

Mrs. Huntley said "She P...

near the smashed window. Workers at the bookshop are angry at the assault and broken on Friday night 19th October. Jessica Huntley who among others work at the bookshop, have no doubt that the attack was by extreme right-wing racist groups.

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Walter Rodney Bookshop Vandalized

Three Friday 30th October to Thursday 5th November 1971

The Walter Rodney Bookshop, formerly known as Bogle-L'Ouverture bookshop, was attacked and broken on Friday night 19th October. Jessica Huntley who among others work at the bookshop, have no doubt that the attack was by extreme right-wing racist groups.



Walter Rodney assassinated last year.

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Further action is being organised and all the victims are treating the terrorist as a very serious warning of worse things to come.



The wrecked facade of Bogle L'Overture, a typically cluttered, quiet bookshop which supplies many multi-cultural books to schools throughout the borough.

KKKK

THE KU KLUX KLAN, a racist organisation which operates in the Southern States of America, and whose activities include the killing of blacks in broad daylight, have said that they are determined to destroy all black establishments in the United Kingdom.

Their first attack since they extended their operations to Britain was against a London bookshop which specialises in books and pamphlets for educational purposes.

The shop, Bogle L'Overture Publications at 5a Chignell Place, Ealing, W13, is owned and managed by Jessica Huntley, a black educationist who is the pioneer of black literature to the United Kingdom.

For a number of years Miss Huntley has supplied

books on black history and culture to various schools, libraries, teacher training colleges among other educational institutions throughout the United Kingdom.

The attack took place, two Sundays ago when the bookshop was closed. The vandals identified themselves as the Ku Klux Klan on leaflets which they pushed through the letter-box of the shop. Also on the leaflet is a Californian address which they claim to be their headquarters, as well as a London telephone number 486 3697 on which they can be contacted.

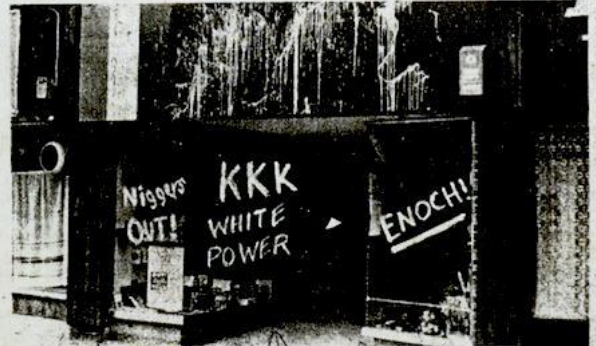
Determination

In addition, there are racist passages on the leaflet and a warning of their determination to destroy all black businesses and establishments in Britain.

Among the anti-black abuses on the leaflet which is American in tone are:

In Britain!

by
World
Staff
Reporter



• BOGLE L'OVERTURE bookshop in Ealing which was recently vandalised by the Ku Klux Klan.

"Have they made your hall... resemble the Congo... including reference to 'jungle orgies.'"

The culprits responsible are the UK members of the National Party of 3201 Dumaine Street, California 70119.

As can be seen in the picture, the vandals wrote huge signs all over the shop and splashed the upper part of it with paint.

But Miss Huntley who remains undaunted by the experience says: "The black community has been under attack for a long time now, but this seems to be the prelude to worse things and we must be watchful."

The Sunday Mirror this week reported the activi-

ties of the Ku Klux Klan in several areas in the United Kingdom, including Southampton, Plymouth and Bolton, and revealed the organisation's method of recruitment which was: "We will come out into the open in Britain this year. We are building up our membership."

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THE NATIVES RESTLESS?

RACIST DAUBS ON SHOP



STAFF at Ealing's Bogle L'Ouverture bookshop in West London were confronted once again with racist graffiti daubed on the shop windows when they arrived for work yesterday.

Mrs Jessica Huntley, manageress of the left-wing community bookshop, told News Line: 'This is a continuation of harassment that we have been suffering at the hands of fascists and racists in the area.'

'This harassment reached its peak in 1977 and arising from that series of attacks, which also included bookshops throughout the country, a group of us came together and formed the Bookshop Joint Action Committee.'

Other staff at the shop added that they had organised a demonstration outside the Home Office. Letters were sent by them and by sympathisers all over the

BY OUR OWN REPORTOR

world asking the then Labour Home Secretary to meet them and discuss the political nature of the attacks.

'The Home Office, however, maintained it was a police matter only, and the police say nothing can be done to protect the bookshops, they added.'

Mrs Huntley said: 'But if the National Front or the British Movement had attacked W.H. Smith's or the Tory Party Central Office, I am sure that the police would be a lot more vigilant in ensuring those properties were protected.'

• The bookshop is shortly to change its name to the 'Walter Rodney Bookshop' in memory of Walter Rodney, murdered by the Burmese regime in Guyana in March this year.

News line 27/8/80

Culture, Community and Activism – Black British History in London

Lesson 3: The Power Of The Voice



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Valerie Bloom. Photography by Charlie Baker. LMA/4462/F/03/002/12



Eric and Jessica Huntley at home. LMA/4463/F/06/01/008b



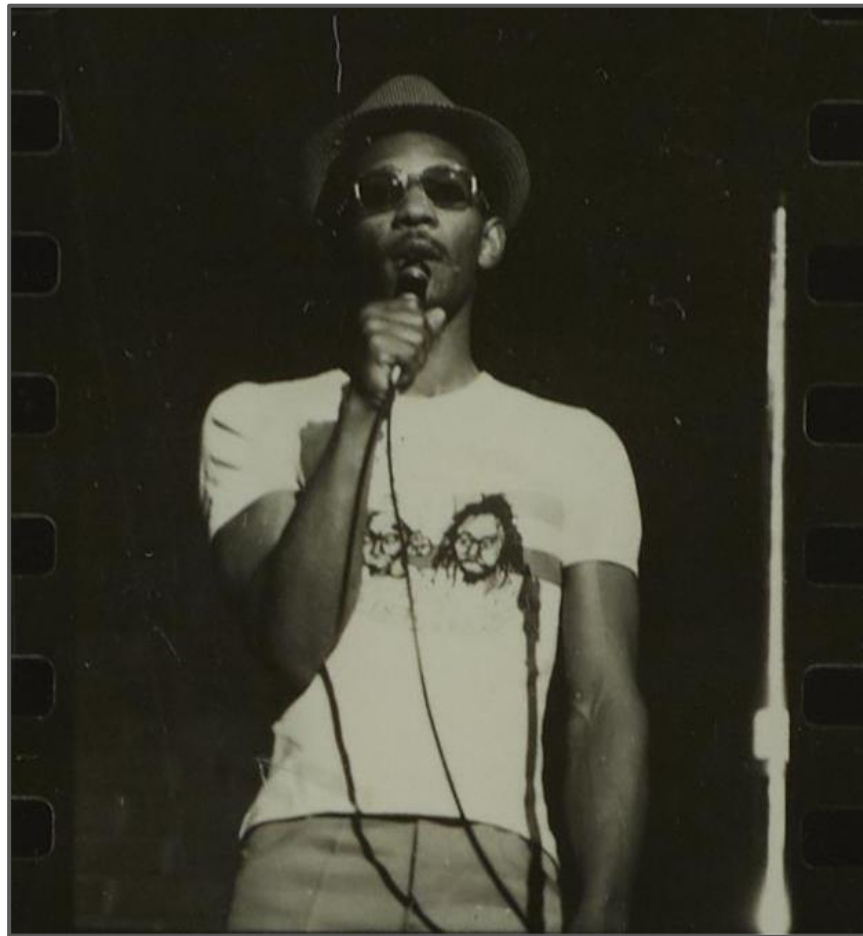
First International Book Fair. LMA/4462/M/03/001



John Agard, Cultural Memorial for Walter Rodney, Kensington, 1980. LMA/4462/R/03/002



Valerie Bloom. Photography by Charlie Baker. LMA/4462/F/03/002



Linton Kwese Johnson. Cultural Memorial for Walter Rodney, Kensington, 1980. LMA/4462/R/03/002