

THEY WANT TO CONSCRIPT OUR YOUTH TO DIE FOR THEM!

"We stand for universal military training" (that is, conscription).

—R. G. Menzies, on behalf of the "Liberal"-Country Party coalition, Courier-Mail, 11/11/49.

SINGAPORE, April 20.—A frontier force on commando lines to fight Malayan terrorists was urged today by Australian Defence Minister, Mr. Eric J. Harrison.

—Courier-Mail, 21/4/50.

And this is what it means—



Hired killers grin over the blood-bespattered body of Lau Yew, who marched in the London Victory Parade as a selected representative of the Malayan Anti-Japanese Resistance fighters but who has now been butchered as a "bandit."

NOW the Menzies Government wants to conscript Australian youth to be killers—and to be killed themselves in the pestilential Malayan jungles.

What for?

It's not just to put down groups of "bandits." It's to fight the Malayan people, throughout the whole Malayan peninsula, who are now struggling to secure nothing more than their independence and freedom in their own country. This was promised

to them, under the Atlantic Charter and elsewhere, while they were fighting with us, against the Japanese. But as soon as the Japanese were beaten, the promise was brushed aside.

It is the struggle of the whole Malayan people. That is why 70,000 British troops, bomber and fighter planes, hired Gurkha killers, barbarous Dyak head-hunters—all the tens of thousands of men and millions of pounds' worth of equipment that the moneyed interests of Britain have sent there—have

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failed to beat the independence struggle. No force, no guns can crush a people determined to win justice and freedom in their own land.

But now the Menzies Government wants to send Australians to fight and die there. Why?

Because Australian monopolists, whom the Menzies Government represents, have been drawing fat profits from the exploitation of the Malayan people.

The Malayan worker's average wage in 1948 was £1 a week, with prices of necessities eight times higher than before the war.

BUT—

- Australian millionaires have £25 million invested in Malayan tin-mining alone, yielding huge dividends each year.
- BHP magnate Sir Walter Massey Greene alone is a director of nine Malayan tin companies.
- Menzies' External Affairs Minister Spender is an Australian director of the Goodyear combine which gets rubber at exorbitant profits from the sweated labor of Malaysians.

They want to conscript our youth and send them to fight against Malayan freedom, to die for

the sake of the millionaire interests who wax fat and rich on Malayan exploitation.

Despatch of Australian youths to the Malayan jungles will bring grief and bereavement. It will incite the bitterness of all South-East Asia's millions, whose friendship is of such importance to us. It will be a step towards the horror of a new atomic world war, for which the millionaires of U.S.A. and Australia, with their daily newspapers, are trying to whip up hysteria.

Australian people—youth, men and women—want peace. We have lost so grievously in war—husbands, fathers, sons, sweethearts dead or maimed, scarred physically or, some of them, mentally. Five years after the war, repatriation hospitals are full. That is war.

The Menzies Government's threat of conscription is a policy not for "defence." What nation can, or wants to, invade Australia? Certainly not the Soviet Union, China, or the South-East Asian people. Conscription is for aggressive war for the benefit of the millionaires.—Towards which foul aim Menzies' "anti-Communist" Bill also is directed.

12th May, 1950.

Conscription, intervention in Malaya both menace peace. They must be fought!

No Australian troops to die for millionaires' Malayan booty!

No conscription of Australian youth for a millionaire-incited third world war!

Join your fellow-Australians in the fight for enduring peace!

(See Over)