# Unless otherwise stated, all Aid Unit publications are produced separately in English, Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi, Gujerati and Bengali.

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  English only. £2.50
- 13. 'No-one is illegal'
  The regular newsletter of the Unit. English only. Back copies 25p each.
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- D. "From ill treatment to no treatment". Internal immigration controls through the NHS. English only. £1.50.
- **E.** "What would you do if your fiancee lived on the moon?" An examination of the notorious primary purpose rule. Free, but please send stamped self-addressed envelope. **English only.**

# TWO NEW ADVICE AND INFORMATION PAMPHLETS FROM THE GREATER IMMIGRATION AID UNIT

Following the Asylum and the Immigration Appeals Act the Immigration Aid Unit has produced two pamphlets in various languages. Both pamphlets are comprehensive, practical, non-legalistic and aimed at helping people get the immigration status they want. They are written in a style to be clear to both advisors and users.

# 1. INFORMATION ON THE IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS FOR VISITORS TO THE UK

(available in English, Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, Bengali, Gujerati, and Chinese)

# 2. INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON APPLYING FOR ASYLUM IN THE UK

(available in English, Chinese, Arabic and Turkish)

per Pamphlet Cost

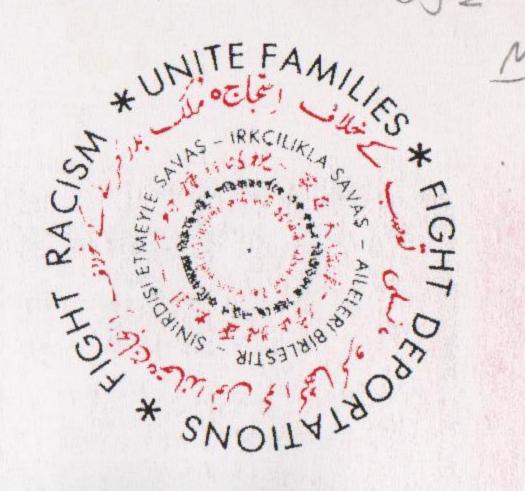
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# NO ONE IS ILLEGAL

Newsletter of the Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit

No. 16 Spring 1994

Tel: 061 740 7722



# COMMUNITIES OF RESISTANCE AGAINST RACISM AND FASCISM

# NATIONAL RALLY

SATURDAY APRIL 9TH (1.00 pm - 5.00 pm)

# PAKISTANI COMMUNITY CENTRE STOCKPORT RD LONGSIGHT MANCHESTER

# To Manchester Piccadilly Station HINDERORD RSTOCKPORT ROAD STOCKPORT ROAD KIRKMANSHULME LANE KIRKMANSHULME LANE Car Park at Rear Pakistani Community Centre A34

# THE RISE OF FASCISM

Throughout Europe there is a new wave of fascism unseen since the 1930s. This country is not physically safe for black people. Racist attacks are the norm. Racist murders are no longer unique. And in London the openly fascist British National Party has won its first council seat.

# THE RISE OF STATE RACISM

Alongside this rise in fascism the British government continually tightens immigration controls - giving out a clear message that black people are not wanted. The mass detention and expulsion of nearly a planeload of Caribbean visitors showed the confidence of the immigration service in its own strength. And the death of **Joy Gardner** showed the extremes this service will go in trying to deport a black woman.

# THE FIGHT-BACK IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

There has been resistance to this racism and fascism. And this resistance has come from black people organising in the community.

Black people under threat of deportation are fighting back in campaigns such as those in defence of the Rahman Family from Bolton, The Okolo Family from Manchester, Bayo Omoyiola from Liverpool, Hemlata Patel and Prakesh and Prem Chavrimootoo from Birmingham. And the Joy Gardner Campaign is calling for a public inquiry into her murder.

The families and friends of framed-up black prisoners have organised in the Winston Silcott Campaign and the M25 Three Campaign.

The families and friends of those attacked and murdered have spoken out throughout the country. In Manchester there have been campaigns for Mohammed Sarwar and Siddik Dada. In Birmingham and Newcastle there have been campaigns for Ashiq Hussain and Aziz Miah. In London there have been campaigns for Stephen Lawrence, Rolan Adams, Rohit Duggal, Ruhullah Aramesh and Quddas Ali. Those arrested for protesting at the attack on Quddas Ali are themselves fighting back in The Tower Hamlets Nine Campaign.

# STRENGTHEN THE FIGHT-BACK! COME TO THE RALLY!

April and May 1994 are crucial months in resisting fascism and racism. The British National Party and the National Front will be campaigning all over the country in the May council elections and the June European elections. Also around this time the government is expected to announce further restrictions in the immigration rules. The Communities of Resistance Rally has been called and organised by the Rahman Family Defence Campaign. There will be speakers from all other campaigns. The aim of the rally is to publicise and develop grassroots, community resistance to racism - and to see how we can organise to defend our communities against fascism.

NO DEPORTATIONS! NO POLICE FRAME-UPS OF BLACK PEOPLE! DEFEND BLACK COMMUNITIES UNDER ATTACK!

For further information contact the Rahman Family Defence Campaign, 16 Wood St, Bolton BLI IDY

OF ASE

# The forgotton history of Black People's Resistance to Immigration Controls

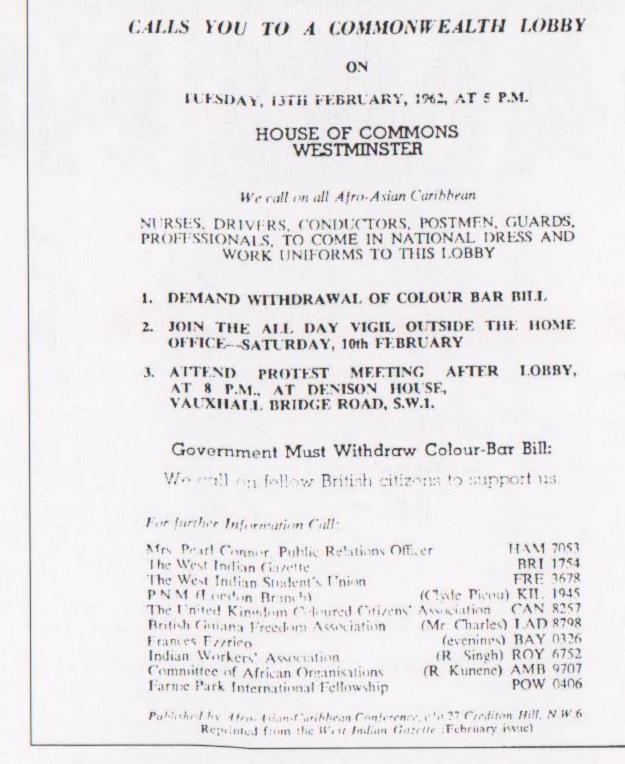
### Introduction

There are two basic lessons from history. Firstly the struggle against oppression is always led by those most directly oppressed. Secondly, unsuccessful resistance to oppression is quickly obliterated from history. The history we are taught in schools and see on television is the history of the victors.

Post-war immigration controls have been directed at black people. Resistance against control has been led by black people. This resistance has taken two forms. Since the 1970s it has taken primarily the form of individual campaigns, rooted in communities, against deportations and for the uniting of families separated by controls. In the three decades from the 1950s to the 1970s the resistance took another form. It took the form of a long struggle against the actual enactment of immigration legislation. The three pillars of post-war controls were the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act, the 1968 Commonwealth Immigrants Act and the 1971 Immigration Act. Each new Act was met by increasingly strong waves of rebellion which themselves reflected the increasing strength and cohesion of the black community. In the end this opposition was insufficient to prevent controls and hence it has been lost to history. However the struggle against immigration legislation forged solidarity between peoples recently arrived in the UK from the Caribbean, Africa and the Indian sub-continent. It helped break down superficial cultural differences and replaced these with the unity of struggle against racism.

# Resistance against the 1962 Act

Significant black immigration into this country only commenced in the 1950s. By 1962 racism had triumphed with the enactment of the Commonwealth Immigrants Act. Parallel to and opposed to this racism was the growth of autonomous black organisations and



AFRO-ASIAN CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE

### PROTEST MEETING AGAINST 1962 ACT

black journals. For instance the West Indian Gazette was established in 1958 by Claudia Jones. Claudia Jones had herself been deported from the USA as a communist. The December 1961 edition of the Gazette was devoted entirely to speaking out against the proposed controls. It described the organisations that were fighting controls:

"Perhaps the most important developments have been the formation of the Pakistani Workers Association and the West Indian Workers Association. The Indian Workers Association has been in existence for many years and has a national membership of several thousand. The West Indian Workers Association came into existence in Birmingham almost one year ago following a national lobby of Parliament in order to oppose an earlier attempt to introduce a Bill to restrict immigration".

The Gazette reported the "...three immigrant organisations coming together and sponsoring a new broad movement, the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racist Discrimination (C.C.A.R.D.)". In November 1961 the three organisations

had produced a joint pamphlet against restrictions under the title "Immigration -Can control be justified?" (Daily Worker 10.11.61). They had also organised a joint lobby of Parliament lead by Avtar Jouhl, General Secretary of the I.W.A. (Daily Worker 17.11.61). By 1962 there had been forged an Afro-Asian Caribbean Conference opposed to controls. This called an all-day vigil outside the Home Office, a protest lobby outside Parliament followed by an evening meeting. The Home Office picket began at midnight and "several hundred" people were reported to have taken part (Daily Worker 12.2.62).

# Resistance against the 1968 Act

The 1968 legislation was enacted by a Labour government and was aimed at preventing the entry of East African Asians with British passports. It was rushed through Parliament in a racist panic with little warning and in thirty six hours. Nonetheless there was far bigger and more organised resistance than six years previously. In particular a large protest demonstration was organised by, amongst others, C.C.A.R.D. with the Movement for Colonial Freedom and the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants. The Morning Star (previously the Daily Worker) carried the headline "Storm rises against new Bill. Thousands in protest on race bar" (26.2.1968). The article stated "More than 3000 people marched through London's West End to Downing Street yesterday to protest

MANCHESTER DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE 1968 ACT. NOTE FASCIST GRAFFITI IN THE BACKGROUND (MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS 29.2.68)



against the Government's new Immigration Bill. Africans and White people marched shoulder to shoulder with hundreds of Asians who are alarmed by the Home Secretary's panic measures to stop the entry into Britain of Kenya Asians holding British passports. Mergers not immigrants create unemployment' read one of the banners". The demonstration was followed the next day with a lobby of parliament by different black organisations (Morning Star 27.2.68).

There were also demonstrations in other cities. This is how the Manchester Evening News reported a protest in Manchester: "Chanting 'Callaghan out, racialism out' marchers paraded Manchester through afternoon....The march, escorted by policemen, was lead by six placard-carrying Asians including .:. the President of the National Federation of Pakistani Associations" (29.2.68).

# Resistance against the 1971 Act

The opposition to the 1971 Act was qualitatively larger than anything previous. Seventy Asian groups came together to form a Standing Conference of Asian organisations to campaign against the Act (Times 8.3.71). The West Indian Standing Conference organised a protest vigil outside the Home Office protesting that the Act was a step towards identity cards for black people (Times 9.3.71).

There were two major national demonstrations against the proposed Act within a couple of weeks of each other. The first was reported by the Guardian: "About 5000 demonstrators against the Immigration Bill marched yesterday from Hyde Park Corner to Whitehall. Most of the marchers were black and represented groups ranging from the Black Panthers through the West Indian Standing Conference to community associations from Smethwick and Bradford. Police precautions assumed the proportions of the most vigorous



NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE 1971 ACT. (TIMES 22.3.71)

period of protest against the Vietnam war....Mr J Joshi, general secretary of said...'We refuse to accept second class citizenship. We shall continue to fight until the Bill is smashed to pieces. This is only the beginning of the fight." (22.3.71).

The second demonstration was reported by the Times:"Indian, Pakistan and West Indian immigrant organisations from all over Britain marched through London yesterday...protesting against the Immigration Bill...A dozen organisations including the Supreme Council of Sikhs, the Indian Workers Association and the West Indian Standing Conference took part in the march which was headed by Mr Vishnu Sharma, convener of the Coordinating Committee against the Racist Immigration Bill. Between 3000 and 4000 immigrants marched" (5.4.71)

# Black self-organisation and British trade unionists

All the struggles against the enactment of post-war immigration legislation were initiated and led by black people. From the beginning of agitation for control some trade union organisations did voice opposition. For instance the London Trades Council passed a resolution which was "opposed to any form of immigration control based solely on the question of race or colour" (Daily Worker 13.9.58). And the Scottish National Union of Miners declared its opposition to "any government restriction on the free movement of coloured workers with British passports"(Daily Worker 9.9.58). However these statements were exceptional and were anyhow passed at the height of racist attacks in 1958 in Notting Hill in London. The major organisations of the British labour

movement and in particular the Trades Union Congress were silent. This is not the Indian Workers Association surprising given that the General Council of the TUC, in its report to their 1958 Conference, announced that it had been petitioning the government since 1956 to restrict the entry of Commonwealth immigrants.

> However the consequence of black selforganisation and self-activity was to draw many British workers away from the straitjacket of the TUC into the struggle against controls. Reports of the protests against both the 1968 and 1971 Acts mention the presence of trade unionists both white and black. In particular a demonstration against the proposed 1971 legislation was organised under the name of Trade Unionists for Race Relations. At this a member of the executive of the postal workers union said "the British worker could not afford to stand by and let racialism take control and he urged the Trades Union Congress to come off the fence and start campaigning against the Immigration Bill" (Morning Star

### Conclusion

The TUC continued to refuse to oppose the legislation and eventually it became law. However the significance of this black struggle throughout the 1960s and early 1970s was to alert increasing sections of the trade union movement to the racism of immigration control. This has meant that the new struggles of the last two decades, that is the struggles against the enforcement of the law through campaigns against deportation and for the uniting of families, has met with increasing support from the labour movement. None of this would have happened without the historic and continuing selforganisation of black people against immigration controls.

# IMMIGRATION AID UNIT PUBLICATIONS

The Aid Unit has published leaflets, pamphlets and books that will be of use both to those under threat of immigration controls and to their advisors. Our publications are usually free to individuals seeking advice but a subsidised charge is made to organisations and their workers. Prices include postage. All publications are printed separately in English, Gujerati, Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi and Bengali unless otherwise stated.

1. 'Information for men and women coming to the UK for marriage'

A practical guide to entry clearance interviews. 25p each.

2. 'Home office change of policy on the Immigration Marriage Rules - Does it help you?'

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Completely revised and updated to include the changes following the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act. 35p each

4. 'Information and advice on applying for asylum in the UK'

A detailed, practical guide to all aspects of applying for political asylum. Also includes changes following the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act. Presently available only in English, 35p each.

- 5. 'Changes in the returning residents rule'
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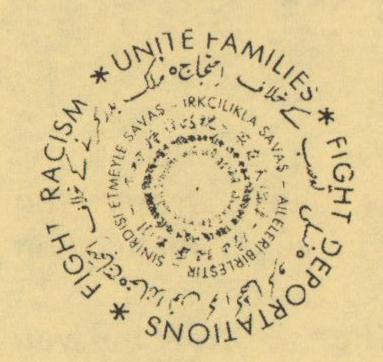
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  Internal immigration controls through the NHS.
  English only. £1.50
- E. "What would you do if your fiancee lived on the moon?"

An examination of the notorious primary purpose rule. Free, but please send stamped addressed envelope. **English only**.

Publications are Available from: GMIAU 400 Cheetham Hill Rd Manchester M8 9LE

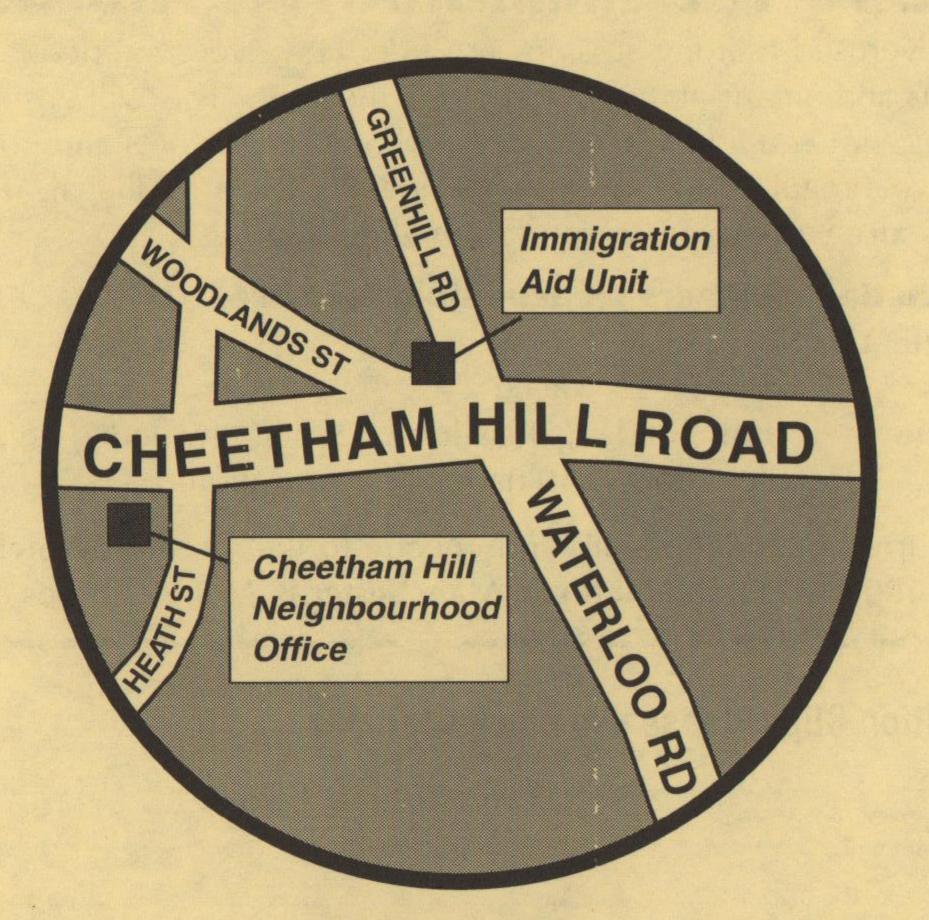


# GREATER MANCHESTER IMMIGRATION AID UNIT

400 Cheetham Hill Road Manchester M8 9LE Tel: 061 740 7722 Fax: 061 740 5172

# TRAINING PROGRAMME

1994



# Venue

Cheetham Hill Neighbourhood Office, 549 Cheetham Hill Road, Manchester 8 (Side Entrance)

# THE PURPOSE OF OUR TRAINING PROGRAMME

Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit holds a regular series of training sessions. The aims of the sessions are to be non-technical and to be of value to people who are starting to give immigration advice. The sessions concentrate both on immigration law and actual Home Office practice.

The sessions are open to anyone who wishes to attend. They are free and you need not book in advance.

Please note that the venue is not at the Immigration Aid Unit. It is at Cheetham Neighbourhood Services which is almost opposite the Unit, please use the side entrance.

# FURTHER TRAINING AVAILABLE FROM THE UNIT

As well as our regular training sessions the Unit is able to provide specialist training courses to organisations on immigration law and practice. These are for either a half, one or two days. We charge for these at a fee to be negotiated. Please contact us for whatever course you require.

# AFFILIATE TO THE IMMIGRATION AID UNIT

All the advertised training sessions are free. However we encourage all sympathetic individuals and organisations to affiliate to the Unit. This will ensure we keep in regular contact with you and you are informed of all our events and publications. You will also receive a regular copy of our newsletter - 'No One Is Illegal.' Therefore please try and make sure you or your organisation affiliates.

### Would existing members please rejoin for 1994.

Cost of affiliation is:

Individuals - £1 unwaged, £5 waged

Organisations - £5 unfunded organisations, £20 locally funded organisations and trade unions, £50 national organisations

Please return the affiliation slip and cheque to the Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit, 400 Cheetham Hill Road, Manchester 8. Make cheques out to GMIAU.

Name	 
Address	
Post code	 Telephone No
Post code Enclosed is a cheque of £	payable to Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit (GMIAU)

# TOPICS FOR IMMIGRATION TRAINING SESSIONS



### "INTRODUCTION TO IMMIGRATION LAW AND PRACTICE"

Thursday, March 3rd, 10am - 1pm

This session will provide a framework for understanding how immigration controls operate. It will look at the relevant laws and immigration rules. It was also look at the actual practice of the Home Office and of Entry Clearance Officers overseas and Immigration Officers in the UK. Finally it will look briefly at internal immigration controls within housing, social security and health law.



### THE OPERATION OF THE NEW ASYLUM AND IMMIGRATION **APPEALS ACT"**

Thursday April 28th, 10am - 1pm

This Act is probably the most significant piece of immigration legislation in the last decade. It has now begun to be implemented. This session will look at how the Act has been interpreted by immigration officials and the courts. It will look at the operation of the provisions relating to asylum, to visitors and to appeals.



## **'IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND HEALTH"**

Thursday June 23rd, 10am - 1 pm

There are many issues in immigration control relating to health. Ill-health can be a reason to prevent entry. Alternatively entry may be given on condition that treatment is private. Ill-health of a sponsor in the UK may prevent a family member overseas complying with the maintenance and accomodation provisions of the immigration rules. Health can be an issue in deportation cases. There are now NHS regulations requiring the charging for treatment of people not ordinarily resident in the UK. This session will look at the role of medical professionals and social workers on all these issues.



# "IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND HIV/AIDS" Thursday September 22nd, 10am - 1pm

Politically HIV/AIDS will in the next few years become a major factor in immigration control. All the issues in the previous training session are relevant. In addition there are others. A person resident in the UK who has HIV/AIDS may want to live overseas with a partner or family and it is important to know the immigration laws of other countries. It is also important to see how UK immigration law views gay relationships



### "IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND HOUSING"

Thursday November 24th, 10am - 1pm

There are many situations where issues of housing relate to immigration control. The need for "adequate maintenance and accomodation" is built into the immigration rules for people wanting to come to the UK. Alternatively, obtaining accomodation under the homeless persons legislation is regarded as "public funds" under the immigration rules and could jeopardize immigration status. Under the new Asylum Act asylum-seekers are now no longer eligible for full entitlements under the homelessness legislation. In any event coming to the UK can itself be regarded as "intentional homelessness" under the legislation.



# TWO NEW ADVICE AND INFORMATION PAMPHLETS

Following the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act the Immigration Aid Unit has produced two pamphlets in various languages. Both pamphlets are comprehensive, practical, non-legalistic and aimed at helping people get the immigration status they want. They are written in a style to be clear to both advisors and users.

# 1. INFORMATION ON IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS FOR VISITORS TO THE UK

This is a revised, improved and updated version of our old visitors leaflet. It details all the issues that are likely to arise in an interview for a visitors visa and how to deal with these issues. In particular it includes an explanation of the removal of appeal rights by the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act. 16 pages.

Available in the following languages:

English, Urdu, Punjabi, Bengali, Hindi, Gujerati, Chinese

# 2. INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON APPLYING FOR ASYLUM IN THE UK

This is a new leaflet. It details all the issues relating to asylum claims. It explains all the factors that need to be presented to the Home Office in order to gain asylum. It shows in detail the evidence that needs to be submitted. It highlights the practical consequences of the changes brought about by the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act and by the consequent changes in the immigration rules and immigration procedure rules. 16 pages.

Available in the following languages:

English, Chinese, Arabic, Turkish

## **Prices**

Orders less than 100 35p a pamphlet.

Orders over 100 25p a pamphlet after the first 100

Orders over 500 20p a pamphlet after the first 500

Note...These discounts apply to the visitors and refugee leaflets in any combination of languages.

Order Form (Please Print)	Amount Enclosed £
Name	I would like of  Visitors Pamphlets
Address	of 🖵 Asylum Pamphlets
	Please advise languages required
Postcode Telephone No.	Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit 400 Cheetham Hill Rd Manchester M8 9LE Tel 061 740 7722



# (RE)AFFILIATE TO THE IMMIGRATION AID UNIT FOR 1994

# HISTORY OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER IMMIGRATION AID UNIT

The Unit was established in 1989. It was only set up after a long struggle by black people and anti-racists. In particular it's establishment was the result of various anti-deportation campaigns within Greater Manchester getting together to fight for an independent Unit. The Unit is now funded by Manchester, Bury and Tameside councils.

# IMMIGRATION CONTROLS AND THE IMMIGRATION AID UNIT

The Unit has a very clear position on immigration controls. We are opposed to them. Immigration controls are racist. They are aimed at keeping black people out of the UK. They divide black families. They cause distress and misery to black people. We are for the complete abolition of immigration restrictions. We support all campaigns against deportations and for uniting families.

# WORK OF THE UNIT

The core work of the Unit is advice and legal representation on immigration cases. We also produce leaflets and pamphlets in different languages. We provide training on all aspects of immigration law and practice.

# AFFILIATE TO THE UNIT

We encourage all our supporters to affiliate to the Unit. This enables us to keep in touch with you. You will receive copies of our newsletter - No-One Is Illegal. You will be informed about all our literature and activities. You will be able to vote at our AGM and stand for our Management Committee.

# COST OF AFFILIATION

Individuals - £1 unwaged, £5 waged

Organisations - £5 unfunded organisations, £20 locally funded organisations and trade unions, £50 national organisations

# **DONATIONS**

The Unit was previously funded by Rochdale council. When this ceased to be Labour controlled we lost this funding. Therefore we also encourage donations from our supporters.

Affiliation Form (Please Print)			
Name	Amount Enclosed £		
Address	Is this a new Affiliation? Yes	No	
Postcode Telephone No.	Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit 400 Cheetham Hill Rd Manchester M8 9LE Tel 061 740 7722		