

Manchester

London

**JULY 5-26**

**VIRAJ MENDIS**

**ANTI**

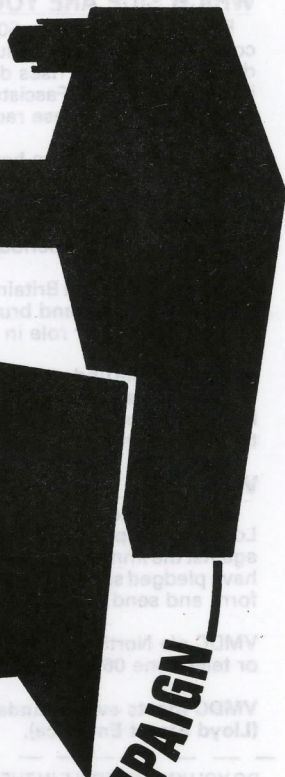
**RACIST**

**MARCH**

**ARM OF**

**THE**

**PEOPLE**



**DEFENCE CAMPAIGN**

# ANTI-RACIST MARCH

MANCHESTER-LONDON JULY 5-26

Viraj Mendis has lived in Manchester for over 12 years. He has been actively involved in anti-racist and anti-deportation campaigns as a Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism! supporter.

Viraj is a known supporter of the oppressed Tamil people of Sri Lanka, and would face certain persecution at the hands of a brutal regime if he were to return. In spite of this, the Home Office has turned down his appeal for Political Asylum.

This kind of racism must be publicised. Thousands of signatures and countless letters are not enough. Viraj, and thousands of others, must have a large scale display of solidarity now!

## WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON?

Every week more than 50 black people are deported from Britain. Immigration controls are directed exclusively against black people. Every year the number of deportation orders rises dramatically – within the last ten years the number has increased five-fold. Fascists are enormously strengthened and encouraged by the intensification of these racist immigration laws.

Fascist attacks & fire bombings on black peoples' homes, have increased to unprecedented levels. Police deny that such attacks are racist despite official records showing a 50% increase in attacks on Asians in the Newham area alone. Manchester Law Centre recorded 11 incidents (mainly attacks on Asian women) during a six month period.

The police force in Britain has a history of racist attacks on the black community and police racism and brutality towards black people has been massively reinforced by their role in enforcing the immigration laws.

Black people under threat of deportation are often detained for long periods — all the apparatus of the State, Police, Courts, DHSS etc. are used to harass the black community. Open police racism is becoming more and more apparent — the attacks on black people and their communities increase daily.

## WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

The Viraj Mendis Defence Campaign is organising a momentous march to London in support of Viraj Mendis and all those threatened with deportation, against the immigration laws and against racism. A broad range of organisations have pledged support for this march, you too can support the march — fill in the form and send it to . . .

VMDC c/o North Hulme Centre, Jackson Crescent, Hulme, Manchester M15 5AL or telephone 061-795 3870.

**VMDC meets every Sunday at 7.30pm at Manchester Town Hall, Albert Square, (Lloyd Street Entrance).**

DO YOU KNOW PEOPLE IN THESE TOWNS WHO MAY SUPPORT US? WE NEED THEIR SUPPORT

You can support the march in many ways:-

I/we will march from ..... to .....

I/we have contacts in ..... towns .....

I/we can offer secretarial/administration skills .....

I/we will sponsor the march with £ . . . . donation

I/we can get my organisation to sponsor the march . . . . Please send a sponsor form.

I/we will attend the campaign meetings . . /have free time on . . . . days.

I/we can help in other ways .....

Name ..... Tel.No. ....

Address .....

**ARM  
OF  
THE  
PEOPLE**

Manchester  
Stockport  
Macclesfield  
Alsager  
Stoke on Trent  
Stafford  
Wolverhampton  
Handsworth  
East Birmingham  
Coventry  
Rugby  
Northampton  
Milton Keynes  
Luton  
St Albans  
Watford  
London

**VIRAJ  
MENDIS  
DEFENCE  
CAMPAIGN  
VMDC**