

Apartheid

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egalitarian community of tribes, they are still only interested in preserving the relative autonomy of all tribal identities but not necessarily in crossing those identities." So even among the Liberals, the Orwellian saying that "All people are equal but some are more equal than the others" holds true....But there are signs of hope. There are some who want to break down the system, and in the arts and literature there is a rising awareness on the part of whites towards the injustice of their system. Nadine Gordimer is one author Ash mentioned, who is confronting the realities and the degree to which whites have exploited Blacks and others. In her book *July's People*, set in the future in the midst of a revolution where blacks have taken over, she tells the story of a white family who must escape and are helped by their black gardener named July. In the story they learn of the life of July's people, hence it's title. So perhaps things will change for the better, if not in concrete terms, at least in an understanding for

now.

"I'M NOT SURE IF I'D LIKE TO GO BACK, Ash confided. Part of me says yes, and the other part no....I could have stayed there after the last time...as for the future of South Africa, I can't be certain. What amazes me is the power the Afrikaners have to ensure the balance of power - making compromises and concessions by desegregating restaurants, buses and so on. But they don't have the money to keep it going and that's why they make concessions. It is expensive to build two toilets, one for blacks, one for whites, in every public place...South Africa has only been able to sustain itself because it is a wealthy country with vast natural resources in their gold and diamond fields, and a cheap labour force found in the Homelands. With the growing Unionization and heavy mobilization of trade unions who are backed by the African National Congress, whites are forced to deal with the ANC and thus their only real opposition...And concessions are only dependent upon the degree to which two pressures, one inside, in the form of organized opposition and one outside, in the form of economic pressure, keep it up.

I don't believe that the Western countries are truly sincere because the West is in a bad economic situation itself. Britain for instance, has the most economic interests in South Africa and cannot take the chance of divesting. As well the overriding trend towards conservatism in the West is discouraging. "People use the excuse that if the blacks did get power in South Africa, that it would soon deteriorate into a dictatorship, but I say that it's been a dictatorship based on racial supremacy so what's so bad about the idea of there being a dictatorship under blacks?"

"SOUTH AFRICA IS DEFINATELY THE MOST EXHILERATING COUNTRY IN TERMS OF INTENSITY. I never met a more passionate people - politically and socially. The coloured community is so alive that they laugh in the face of adversity and they suffer under it. People think that all they want is social change, but it's not true! They have zest!...and not only among the Coloureds, the Indians, and the Blacks, but among the whites as well. Even they have zest! People have a jaundiced view of the "white ogre", and although there is tension undoubtedly, they are not all

"ogres".

IT IS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT ASH JAMAL LOVES HIS COUNTRY, but the realities that he must face the moment he steps off of a plane in Capetown immediately place him on the fringe of white society. No, the whites are not "ogres", but they will remain so in our "jaundiced" view until there are some real changes in South African society and when the bloody system of racial domination called *Apartheid* is dismantled.

Whites, Indians, Coloureds, and Blacks all love the country they call home because it is their home and the only one they have known...and perhaps that is the essence of this interview with Ash Jamal -recognizing that all South Africans are the same under the sun will lead to an understanding which will make it possible for people like Ash to return to their country knowing that they will be treated the same as any other: *with equality, with respect, and as brothers.*

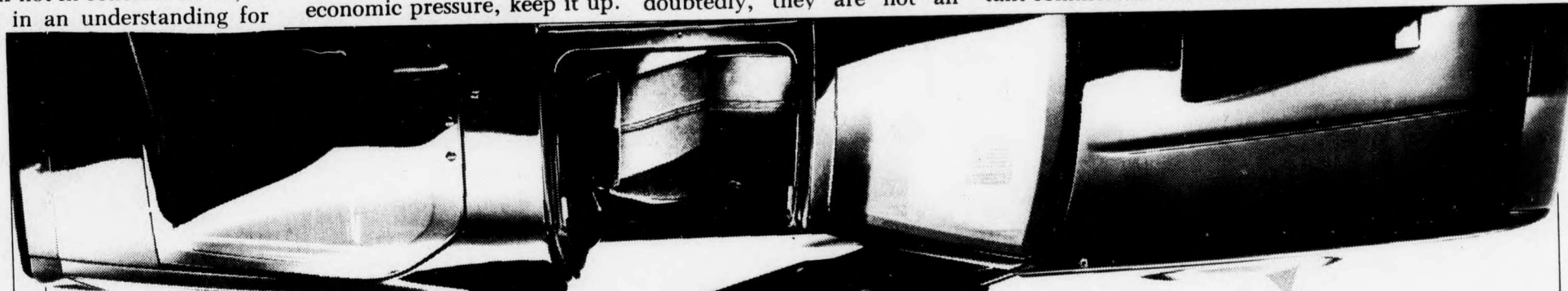
OPENING OF A CANADIAN OFFICE IN BOMBAY

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and the Minister for International Trade, the Honourable James Kelleher, jointly announced today the official opening of a Canadian Trade Office in Bombay.

Mr. Clark remarked that "the opening of the Bombay office demonstrates the importance which Canada attaches to trade with India. The new office will significantly improve services to Canadian exporters in India's most important commercial and economic

center". Bombay is close to the heartland of India's heavy industry sector; it is the financial and business capital of India and the headquarters of key manufacturing groups.

The opening of this office is being implemented as part of the Asia/Pacific component of the National Trade Strategy. "If you look at our trade figures, you will see that Canada today exports more to the Asia/Pacific region than to all of Europe", said Mr. Kelleher, adding "this is not only a sign of the times, it is a sign of the future".



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