

Who Are Reliable Allies In Fight Against Hitler?

By GEORGE PADMORE

(These paragraphs by George Padmore, well-known Negro socialist leader, are taken from the September 6, 1940 issue of the London Tribune —Editor.)

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M. EBOUE, the first French colonial governor to revolt against the Petain sell-out, is a Negro. This is no accident. Felix Eboué, who is a distinguished West Indian and formerly governor-general of Guadeloupe, knows that there is no future for black intellectuals under Nazidom. The other French colonial administrators, being white men, can hope to find a place for themselves under Hitler's controlled Vichy regime; but no Negro can have such illusions. What is the moral?

Blacks, like other oppressed colonial peoples (including Hitler's European natives), are prepared to throw in their full weight in the struggle if they too are included among those for whom we are supposed to be fighting to liberate from capitalistic plutocracy, fascism and its twin-brother, imperialism.

It is time for our left-wing and progressive friends in Britain to realize that they can never hope to have real security and peace, even when Hitlerism is destroyed, if the Empire remains half free and half slave. Let Britain show by deeds—not words—that she is worthy of this moral leadership, and she will find thousands of Eboués from among the ranks of her colonial subjects, for they know what the denial of freedom means.