

Johannesburg 22/8/1986

Dear ECC's,

A promised report!

We have just had our "leadership" training weekend, which was an overall success. We still didn't get as far as climbing the mountains together, though! It was attended by exec, campus and 2 reps from each sub-committee. We went through an analysis of the State of the Nation, looking particularly at implications for ECC; the qualities and role of sub-com co-ordinators, identifying skills we need to develop, ECC's methods of working and also getting a thorough overall picture of activities, problems, strengths and mood in all the various parts of EA; finally we discussed the Day of Action and "RAS" in detail. I think we came home with a deeper sense of unity and with an understanding of ECC as a whole, which seems to have been lacking since the S. of E.

Let me start with the Day of Action, which hasn't yet gone through full sub-com discussion, so this is based largely on the weekend away and exec perceptions. Essentially people came out with the same position as N.C. with respect to the nature of our participation, a joint call from national white organisations and linking our participation to ECC demands. As far as action goes, Joburg thinks we should not have a fast now, and should go all out for yellow ribbons. My feeling is that this may need to be rethought since it now looks as if this Day of Action won't happen for at least another month, and we had planned the yellow-ribbon campaign linking up RAS and the Day of Action.

We will be seeing IADF people this week about our participation in the campaign. You have most probably heard reports from

the COSATU CEC, where the Day of Action was in fact discussed for the first time within COSATU and a decision made to take the idea back to the grassroots, explain it thoroughly and organise around it before engaging in Action. So there is as yet no concrete date for the Day. Confusion also seems to exist amongst comrades + organisations as to whether the call is for a Day of Action or a day of Closure. I think it may make a difference to our participation + approach, but we need to try to get clarity before discussing it.

As far as Right to Speak goes, we have planned a fairly public campaign which was intended to link up with and lead up to the September Day of Action. It would involve

- * A VIP action (local nob's, reps from affiliates and a sample of brave conscripts) go to Wits Command + place yellow flowers in gun barrels + spend time talking to the soldiers on duty, about their right to choose, to refuse township duty, to have alternatives etc.
- * A week later, a public meeting (originally to be just before the Day of Action)
- * A cabaret evening (featuring Jennifer Fergusson + the likes ^{many called 'our own yellow ribbon' etc. etc.} and devised especially for us) somewhere in the N. Subs?
- * Church congregations 'adopting' an ECC detainee + a similar township detainee; they would use comparison of their backgrounds + pamphlets to explain each's position, + have amnesty candles lit in their memory.
- * National Advert + pamphlet (this would be taken door-to-door in specified areas)
- * Media: Buttons, posters, 'Dummies', letter campaign to the press (already under way) feature article on anti-war movement in America talk shows on Radio (!)

Campaign. In a fit of unrealistic excitement we even went so far as to decide to get a Johnny Clegg type to rewrite the original song and cut a 7-single, which we would get to the top of the Charts! I think the record part has now died a quiet death, the song is being rewritten + will be used in the Cabaret, and the emphasis will be on getting yellow ribbons all over town. The ^{meaning of the} symbolism would be: release ECC + other detainees, let ECC organise, let troops come back from the war in the townships, let us stop apartheid + build a just peace. We still have to work on this side of things more.

Structurally, we'll run this campaign through the sub-coms, with each one taking responsibility for a major action. A campaign group consisting of co-ordinators of each activity + any other enthusiastic person will see to overall co-ordination.

Affiliates (the Big Bogey) will be linked into the campaign through their involvement in the WP action, through articles in their newspapers, through supportive activities and through the Day of Action. We are also writing a letter to the papers signed by the Chairpeople of all the affiliates.

Outreach (the Other Bogey) will happen through collecting names for the mailing list + then holding housemeetings. We are hopefully going to reconstitute Contact Coms. to deal with all this.

One of the more promising developments over the last few weeks has been the integration of campus ECC into the rest of our activities. For the purposes of the Campaign, some campus people will be involved in our structures, and we will try to mirror activities on + off campus. Wits ECC, by

the SRC, after a very successful campaign in which ECC's profile on campus increased dramatically. As you know, it was a very dirty election, and we definitely have problems to deal with as a result. But all under control.

Wits people have been convinced to do National Campus Coord, so can we have names + phone numbers please? They also came up with the idea of sending around amateur videos of the people in various campus ECC's working, talking etc, so that other campuses can get an at-a-distance feel for student ECC activity and faces. What do other campuses think?

I have been asked to motivate an idea which has come up for next year (there are still optimists amongst us!); That is that we should organise a big Troops Out Fast ~~leading~~ ^{between} from the Feb. call-up. To Sharpeville Bay, possibly in conjunction with other actions by other organisations. I'm afraid that's the sum-total of the motivation at this stage, but can you bear it in mind before deciding to use a fast for any reason this year?

Otherwise... We have been having informal meetings with progressives from white organisations to try to identify where the white constituency is at as well as to review starting up a Concerned Citizens type initiative again. It is an objectively useful process anyway.

And we are trying to do something about the front. And generally our morale is high, but if only some of us could go home. Have you all?

And I think that is the end of this report. RSVP!

With much, much love and (believe me) constant thought

C. (for Feb.)

End Conscription Campaign

Stellenbosch

227/9 Khotso House
42 De Villiers Street
Johannesburg
2000
Tel: 337-6796
Telex: 4-86519 S.A.

21 August 1986

Hello, and welcome,

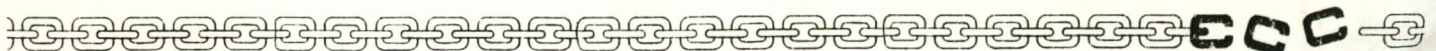
This is a note to accompany all the goodies in the package. It contains some of our press releases, some media from Jhb and CT, a rundown on the repression of ECC members which accompanied our note to the UN Human Rights Commission, background reading for an internal education discussion on the last three years of struggle, and two items related to alternative service. The first is the SACC evidence to Geldenhuys. This is useful in specifying changes to the law etc. The other is a much broader ranging, and very interesting document by Judith Baker of the Quaker UN office. It presents arguments for alternative service as well as providing a philosophical understanding of what alternative service should be about. It is also useful in presenting many examples of working alternatives. We used it as the basis for a press release on alternative service. We got a very good article in the Financial Mail as a result.

On the issue of the press: PLEASE SEND THE PRESS CLIPS AS REQUESTED. The sooner this is done, the sooner you can have a useful national compilation of clips to use for resources as well as for PR work.

I have also enclosed the art work for our ad. The space at the bottom of the page has been left open to allow you to fill in the names in the order that suits you. It should not be difficult to get the names typeset in the same face as the ad.

Please remember I need the following:

- 1). The names, contact addresses and phone numbers of people doing work into the psychological effects of militarisation.
- 2). A catalogue of the resources related to militarisation in your area. A useful place to look as well would be in your local peace library. These are
Pietermaritzburg - PACSA
Durban - Diakonia
PE - Holy Rosary Convent
CT - Ron Con Church
East Londo - Francis Xavier Centre
- 3). By the time you receive this you should already have sent the list of incidents of harassment. So...
- 4). Lists of welfare and church organisations and community etc orgs in your area.
- 5). Has your region discussed the principle of a national ECC meeting with the military?
- 6) What has the feeling in your region been regarding the actions we envisaged around the call for national unity?
- 7). Don't forget the fortnightly written report from the region.
- 8). Is your local campus happy with the ideas we came up with regarding national campus coordination?
- 9) Don't forget to send your new address. By the way there was nothing wrong with



End Conscription Campaign

the Jo'burg adress.

Tuesday evenings between 7.00 and 8.00 is going to be difficult time for me to take calls. I would prefer it if you could phone instead on Wednesdays. The days to phone then would be Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please phone at least once a week even if there is nothing specific for you to report.

News.

The evidence to the Un Human Rights Commission has been sent off. It was a brief rundown of the effect of the emergency provisions on ECC and direct repression. It also highlited conscription as denying fundamental huma rights and also placed emphasis on the denial of our right to speak. We got quite good press out of it in Jhb. How did it go in your region.

We have received a letter from Dennis Healey saying how good it was to meet with Adele and that he referred to us in his report to the British Parliamentary Select Committee on South Africa.

The lawyers are busy assessing our case. The major angle they are talking about at this stage is to concentrate on the notion of "incitement" contained in the clause which refers to "compulsory military service" in the emergency regulations. They would argue that one can only incite another to engage in an illegal activity. Since it has never previously been illegal to oppose conscription the would challenge the regulation onthat ground. Also it is a perfectly legitimate thing to do . In support of such an argument we would present affidavits from the following people: Dennis Hurley, Mary Burton, Richard Luyt, Stuart Saunders, Colin Eglin and Rabbi Franklin. What do you think of the list? We tried not to duplicate categories of people, and sought to find the most eminent people on our nob's list. A further person who was added to the list was Nthato Motlana who would provide a "black perspective" on the role of the SADF and on conscription.

Thats about all I have

And as the "chairmen (sic) of the board" Frank Sinatra would say,

I love ya, you're beautiful,

All my love

David



End Conscription Campaign

Room 227

Khotso House

42 De Villiers Street

Johannesburg.

30 September 1986

Dear Bishop Tutu

We would like to thank you for the donation from the Diocese of Johannesburg towards the cost of the ECC newspaper advert.

In these times it is encouraging to know that there are many who support ECC and who contribute to our ongoing work.

Once again, we appreciate your support and contribution to our Campaign.

In Peace

Akirsten

Adele Kirsten (ECC Executive - Jhb)

End Conscription Campaign

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Telex: 4-86519 S.A.

12 September 1986

Hello,

sanction (sangk'- shun) n. solemn ratification; express permission; authorisation; approval; legal use of force to secure obedience to law; anything which serves to move a person to observe or refrain from given mode of conduct.

Now isn't that something. I had just popped into the library to take my daily reading from the dictionary when, lo and behold, my eye befell the above wonderous extract.

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Now the ECC, as you well know, does not have a position on sanctions. And this is despite Steven having views to the contrary. Surely this has to do with the Roman root of the word.

The point of this introduction is twofold, actually threefold. Firstly I suppose I had to think of something snappy to start my letter with. Secondly I thought it was quite interesting that the definition of sanctions can be used to describe the system of conscription. So if we are running into severe problems with the legal space in which we work we can always reorient ourselves and change our name to the End Sanctions Campaign. Not only will this allow us the space for a broad campaign but it will introduce us to a new and untapped constituency in the white community i.e. all those who oppose the dreaded sanctions. I suppose, though, that we would have to give our campaign some content to explain exactly where we are coming from. (Isn't it amazing what one can do with a bit of jargon). We will of course also have to consult with our nobs, including the new Archbishop. The third reason is that Steven is entering the earlier stages of apoplexy about our financial affairs. So remember what sanctions really mean in ECC circles.

This letter is actually about all different kinds of things which I have arranged under different headings for your reading pleasure.

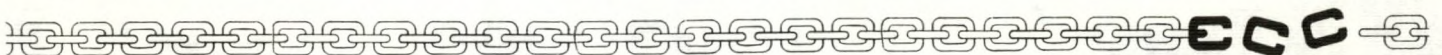
National Day of Unity

We met with the UDF, providing them with a report of our ideas, as well as gathering new information from them.

Most importantly we were told that the date for the day of unity was going to be moved to the end of October at earliest. This was largely due to the need to accommodate the COSATU exec's wish that there be thorough consultation and discussion within their ranks at the factory-floor level. They did not wish to repeat the problems associated with the July 14 stayaway.

An aspect of the national day which was clarified was its tone. Rather than it being a day of ungovernability it is rather being seen as being more "dignified". In this vein there is the idea for it to take the form of a national day of prayer or of fasting. The intention is that this kind of approach will lessen the likelihood of the day assuming a mood of confrontation.

2/...



ECC
End Conscription Campaign

The people we met with were happy with our ideas re yellow ribbons, the fast and our call to other white organisations to support the call for unity.

I have still not had a full report from all the regions as to how you are feeling regarding ECC supporting the call. Could you please let me know?

Yellow Ribbons/Fast/Right to Speak

What's happening, exê? Is your region taking these issues up? If so, what ideas do you have in mind? And what kind of content is going into it? Similarly for the Right to Speak campaign.

We had agreed that these focusses would be decentralised, i.e. that regions would work out their own programmes, and we would have national coordination around media, the ad, and the date of the fast (if regions agree to it). There is a lack of clarity around these issues at present. I think that the best way of clarifying it would be for regions to send around their ideas, plans and feelings. These can then be pulled together and discussed.

Harrasment

Well parliament has sat and unsat itself. You know, sometimes I wonder where some of the members of that hallowed institution learned the skills of sitting the right way up on a bench; but anyway that's beside the point. The point in fact is that we have sat through a parliamentary session without delivering our much anticipated harrasment document. Some regions have still not submitted their details; we can't proceed without these. Any ideas how we can use the document once it has been compiled?

Leagal

1) The return of Gabs Malan:

Remeber her? She was the one who got a prime spot on SATV News to conduct a tirade against us. Anyway she's at it again with the enclosed pamphlet. It was distributed to a Std 9 class at Glenn High School in Pretoria. Andrew Pearce, a lawyer at Bell, Dewar and Hall has written her a stinker of a letter contesting about 15 points of fact and opinion in it. He also threatens her with legal actin. He has suggested that we first proceed with the Aida Parker case before following up on this one.

2) Aida Parker here we come department

Bob Steyn of the Media Council did us a wonderful turn by discovering that the APN is in fact registerd as a newspaper. As such it is subject to the jurisdiction of the media council. This means that we will after all be taking up the case in the Media Council. A hearing has been set for October 6 in Cape Town.

Dave Dison, assisted by Andrew Pearce will be our lawyers in the council. Dave says that our case would consist of affidavits concerning the contested facts in APN 79, as well as evidence in chief given by Laurie. Someone from ECC would need to be present throughout to give assistance and direction.

A further point is that we should maximise our publicity around the case. A major aspect of it would be to have a large and coordinated media presence at the hearings, which Dave says could run for a few days.

We have to sign a waiver in which we agree that we will not take the matter of APN 79 to any other court. This is a formal requirement of the media council.

Dave feels that we should conclude this application before proceeding with our challenge to the emergency regulations. He intends to include in our case in the council a focus on the fact that the APN has been used by the Branch (and thus the state) as a source to argue why ECC people have been detained. The Grahamstown judge who ruled in that case, rejected the APN after Dave Dison filed an affidavit about it. This fact will,

no doubt, count in our favour in the council.

It is around this point, i.e. the link between the state's use of the APN in arguing why it has taken action against us under the emergency and our effectively exposing the lies in the APN, that we can gain maximum publicity. By defeating the APN in Media Council we will be publicly defeating the arguments that the state uses against us. Much more than simply taking on the APN we are taking on the state. This is why we have to super hype this case.

Could your region discuss all the issues around the APN matter?

Vula!

We have been offered the possibility by Vula! of placing an insert in their next issue. The cost to us would be that of the 10000 leaflets we would print as inserts. As Vula! is a national publication, it is important that all regions consider whether we should do it; and if so, what kind of content should it have?_

International

Two items of news here. The first is that we have received a telex from WRI asking us whether it will be alright with us if next year's international CO day which is on May 15 focusses on South Africa. They would like a response from us, so could your region discuss it?_

The second item is that we met with the second in charge at the French embassy. He gave us a very sympathetic hearing and will try to bring French pressure on Janet's case. It was best to focus on Janet because of her French links and experience.

Birthday

Anyone know when ours is? We in Joburg are thinking of using the declaration launch date of October 14. There is an idea that we should do something public on the day. A fuller motivation will follow. What do you think?

Campus coordination (!)

With the university year fast drawing to a close we have an agreement from the Wits ECC to do phoning around between campuses. They however need the names and phone numbers of the campus contacts around the country. Could you please send these to me?_

Nag department

Please send

- 1) The names of people doing research into the psychological effects of conscription etc.
- 2) A catalogue of resources in your region.
- 3) Pressclips
- 4) A list of local church and welfare organisations.
- 5)_ A fortnightly report from your region to other regions.

6)
Thats all I have to write.

Go well.

Love and solidarity

David

1 September 1986

Hi all

I am writing this letter on a most beautiful first day of spring. All is well considering the conditions. We have seen no action from the state since Janet's detention. There are applications underway for the release of Mike Loewe on Port Elizabeth, Karen Thorne and Melissa deVilliers in Grahamstown, and in a separate application for Bridget Hilton-Barber also in Grahamstown. The papers have been presented to the court and we are at the moment awaiting the outcome of the applications. In Karen's case she wrote an affidavit which was put before the court which outlined an incident in which one of her interrogators, a Grahamstown security policeman by the name of Lloyd Edwards made sexual advances to her in her cell. Edwards is well known in Grahamstown as he used to be involved in NUSAS during his student days. After leaving campus he re-emerged as a member of the security police. His older brother, Carl, is also in the Branch.

There was another humorous incident involving Edwards when Peter Vale, the husband of another Grahamstown detainee Christine Vale, emptied the contents of a beer bottle over Edwards' head when he bumped into him a few weeks ago in a pub in the town. Peter was found guilty of the act and fined R10,00. Much more significant than the fine has been the appearance around Grahamstown of posters with the legend "Down a Lloyd, and feel satisfied".

ECC work at the moment is largely related to getting our "right to speak" campaign going. We are approaching it from the point of view that we need to be engaging in far more public work than we have done up till now during the emergency. We feel the need to test the space that is available to us to engage in public work. Practically, this means that we will be involving ourselves in a series of activities which are increasingly overtly public in their nature. From a media campaign to start with we will progress to public meetings and so on. Conditions vary from centre to centre and as such the activities will as well.

A number of things have already been started. We have printed about 40 000 post cards addressed to PW Botha and to Colin Eglin calling on the government to end the silencing of ECC. The postcards to Eglin are largely as proof that PW has been sent a copy. We have started to distribute these. I have enclosed a few copies for you. Is it possible to distribute these internationally?

The statement "We call on the Government to recognise Freedom of Conscience" has been endorsed by a number of prominent individuals. I have enclosed a copy of the list. We are at present attempting to place the statement together with the list of endorsers as an advert in a number of newspapers. We have run into difficulties with a number of papers whose lawyers have turned down the ad as they are afraid that while it is not subversive, it might lead to administrative action being taken by the police. They are afraid that the edition of the paper carrying the ad might be taken off the streets by the police. The papers say they are waiting for the outcome of the SAAN/Argus application against the state of emergency before they might publish the ad. This kind of reaction is symptomatic of the behaviour of the commercial liberal press at the moment. They appear not to be prepared to challenge the state in any substantial way at present. Even after the state gave permission to the papers to once again carry news of unrest which was not first cleared by the Bureau for Information The Star still carried a front page imprint which said that they were restricted in that the Bureau controlled the flow of information. Fortunately they have since stopped this.

With respect to the press, we have been conducting a vigorous campaign of attempting to get coverage. We have put out many press releases and have built up good relations with a number of journalists. We have seen results with some good coverage. The clips from around the country are being pulled together at the moment, and as soon as they are compiled I will send you a copy.

There are also other ideas to promote the right to speak campaign being developed in centres around the country at the moment. They are largely to do with the production and distribution of media.

There have been a number of public meetings lately in which ECC has participated. In Johannesburg we participated in an ad-hoc grouping called the Coalition for the Right to Know. As you will no doubt have gathered the coalition focussed on the denial of free speech under the emergency regulations. There was a very successful public lunch-time meeting held in the Jo'burg City Hall attended by about 1000 people, mostly from the business sector. ECC presence at the meeting consisted of an ECC rep sitting on the platform and also an ECC pamphlet put out for the meeting. In Pietermaritzburg and Durban there have been similar meetings called by coalitions which included ECC. At both there were ECC speakers who both went down very well with the audiences. Attendance at both exceeded expectations. About 400 people attended each meeting. The meetings, particularly those in Natal, were a useful test for us of what we are capable of doing at present. There was a large security police presence at the Durban meeting, yet no action was taken.

This Thursday we are holding a meeting in Cape Town, entitled "ECC Speaks". It is thus an ECC meeting specifically and there will be an ECC Speaker, as well as Di Bishop and Alex Boraine. Ivan Thoms is to chair the meeting. I will let you know more about it next week.

Another significant area of action around the right to speak theme will be our possibly bringing a Supreme Court action to challenge that aspect of the Emergency Regulations which directly affects us. Our Lawyers are asking us to hold on this at the moment as they are awaiting the outcome of the SAAN/-Argus application. That application has also challenged the clause which limits our work, amongst other challenges it is making.

Still on the legal front, we are still bringing an action against the Aida Parker Newsletter in the Media Council. This has however run into bureaucratic difficulties in the Council with the effect that there is a slowing up in the proceedings. We are pushing our lawyers as best we can to speed up the proceedings. A similar attack to that made on us by Aida Parker has just been published by Gabs Malan who heads the 500 000 strong vrouefederasie. The 16 page document written by Malan is entitled "The Dangerous Game (of the ECC To end conscription)". It is published by an organisation called Women for South Africa. We are following it up with the lawyers.

A final item of news is that the Defence Act is at present being amended. The proposed amendment aims to narrow the definition of "religious" in terms of religious objectors. The amendment now defines someone as religious only if their beliefs are based in the belief in a supreme being. Previously this has not been so narrowly defined. The effect of this is that someone, like Dave Hartman a Buddhist, will no longer qualify for alternative service as he just has following the Supreme Court ruling in his favour. The amendment indicates a clear hardening in the attitude of the state.

With the rent boycotts and the school conflict intensifying in the townships, the situation here is reaching another peak. Just last week 30 people were shot by the police in Soweto in a few days of struggle related to rent evictions. In the schools there is a constant presence of SADF troops. This has led to boycotts in many schools. The troops have taken the responsibility of maintaining "law and order" in the schools with the obvious effect of incensing the students. They have been involved in the execution of corporal punishment, of barging into classes and removing students, as well as ordering teachers to do things such as discipline classes they are not responsible for. The National Education Crisis Committee, the UDF, and COSATU have all made calls for the troops to get out of the schools. We have also made public calls to this effect.

As you can see the struggle continues! Yay.

Could you please add the following names to the international list. Mrs Hanna Steffens Feldweg 8, 3102 Hermannsburg, West Germany. And Bridget Farrell, PO Box 1905, Christchurch New Zealand. A final note is that if you want to send things by post do not use the address I gave you for Joburg. There is a problem with it and it would be better to use the other

End Conscription Campaign

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10 September 1986

Mr C Blanchemaison
French Embassy
807 George Ave
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083

Dear Mr Blanchemaison

Consequent to our discussion of yesterday I have put together a few items concerning the End Conscription Campaign and the repression it has suffered due to the present State of Emergency. I refer you especially to the notes on Janet Cherry which you requested. Also enclosed are details of ECC members still being held in detention, as well as an overview of the repression suffered by ECC and our members during the emergency.

Also enclosed are items which will clarify for you the views and aims of ECC. The document entitled "Evidence submitted to the Geldenhuys Committee, Cape Town 13 August 1986" is particularly useful in this respect. It contains our submissions to the SADF appointed committee which investigated all aspect of the operation of the SADF. It is a coherent outline of our aims and objectives. Also included as appendices within it are lists of our member organisations, some of the organisations who have signed our declaration, as well as individual endorsers of it. As this document was drawn up in August 1985, it does not include the fact that we have since started branches of the ECC in Stellenbosch, East London, Grahamstown, and Pretoria.

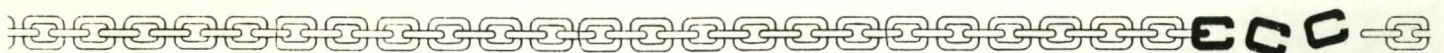
You have been most helpful in the assistance you have offered us. We are most grateful for this.

For a Just Peace

Yours sincerely



David Shandler
ECC National Secretary



ECC

End Conscription Campaign

End Conscription Campaign

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Johannesburg
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12 September 1986

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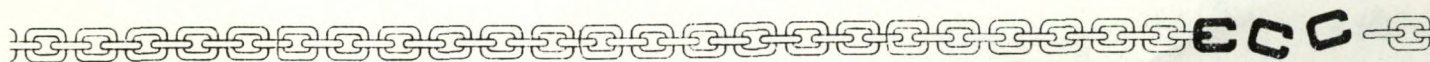
National Day of Unity

We met with the UDF, providing them with a report of our ideas, as well as gathering new information from them.

Most importantly we were told that the date for the day of unity was going to be moved to the end of October at earliest. This was largely due to the need to accommodate the COSATU exec's wish that there be thorough consultation and discussion within their ranks at the factory-floor level. They did not wish to repeat the problems associated with the July 14 stayaway.

An aspect of the national day which was clarified was its tone. Rather than it being a day of ungovernability it is rather being seen as being more "dignified". In this vein there is the idea for it to take the form of a national day of prayer or of fasting. The intention is that this kind of approach will lessen the likelihood of the day assuming a mood of confrontation.

2/...



ECC
End Conscription Campaign

The people we met with were happy with our ideas re yellow ribbons, the fast and our call to other white organisations to support the call for unity.

I have still not had a full report from all the regions as to how you are feeling regarding ECC supporting the call. Could you please let me know?

Yellow Ribbons/Fast/Right to Speak

What's happening, exê? Is your region taking these issues up? If so, what ideas do you have in mind? And what kind of content is going into it? Similarly for the Right to Speak campaign.

We had agreed that these focusses would be decentralised, i.e. that regions would work out their own programmes, and we would have national coordination around media, the ad, and the date of the fast (if regions agree to it). There is a lack of clarity around these issues at present. I think that the best way of clarifying it would be for regions to send around their ideas, plans and feelings. These can then be pulled together and discussed.

Harrasment

Well parliament has sat and unsat itself. You know, sometimes I wonder where some of the members of that hallowed institution learned the skills of sitting the right way up on a bench; but anyway that's beside the point. The point in fact is that we have sat through a parliamentary session without delivering our much anticipated harrasment document. Some regions have still not submitted their details; we can't proceed without these. Any ideas how we can use the document once it has been compiled?

Legal

1) The return of Gabs Malan:

Remeber her? She was the one who got a prime spot on SATV News to conduct a tirade against us. Anyway she's at it again with the enclosed pamphlet. It was distributed to a Std 9 class at Glenn High School in Pretoria. Andrew Pearce, a lawyer at Bell, Dewar and Hall has written her a stinker of a letter contesting about 15 points of fact and opinion in it. He also threatens her with legal actin. He has suggested that we first proceed with the Aida Parker case before following up on this one.

2) Aida Parker here we become department

Bob Steyn of the Media Council did us a wonderful turn by discovering that the APN is in fact registerd as a newspaper. As such it is subject to the jurisdiction of the media council. This means that we will after all be taking up the case in the Media Council. A hearing has been set for October 6 in Cape Town.

Dave Dison, assisted by Andrew Pearce will be our lawyers in the council. Dave says that our case would consist of affidavits concerning the contested facts in APN 79, as well as evidence in chief given by Laurie. Someone from ECC would need to be prsent throughout to give assistance and direction.

A further point is that we should maximise our publicity around the case. A major aspect of it would be to have a large and coordinated media presence at the hearings, which Dave says could run for a few days.

We have to sign a waiver in which we agree that we will not take the matter of APN 79 to any other court. This is a formal requirement of the media council.

Dave feels that we should conclude this application before proceeding with our challenge to the emergency regulations. He intends to include in our case in the council a focus on the fact that the APN has been used by the Branch (and thus the state) as a source to argue why ECC people have been detained. The Grahamstown judge who ruled in that case, rejected the APN after Dave Dison filed an affidavit about it. This fact will,

no doubt, count in our favour in the council.

It is around this point, i.e. the link between the state's use of the APN in arguing why it has taken action against us under the emergency and our effectively exposing the lies in the APN, that we can gain maximum publicity. By defeating the APN in Media Council we will be publicly defeating the arguments that the state uses against us. Much more than simply taking on the APN we are taking on the state. This is why we have to super hype this case.

Could your region discuss all the issues around the APN matter?

Vula!

We have been offered the possibility by Vula! of placing an insert in their next issue. The cost to us would be that of the 10000 leaflets we would print as inserts. As Vula! is a national publication, it is important that all regions consider whether we should do it; and if so, what kind of content should it have?_

International

Two items of news here. The first is that we have received a telex from WRI asking us whether it will be alright with us if next year's international CO day which is on May 15 focusses on South Africa. They would like a response from us, so could your region discuss it?

The second item is that we met with the second in charge at the French embassy. He gave us a very sympathetic hearing and will try to bring French pressure on Janet's case. It was best to focus on Janet because of her French links and experience.

Birthday

Anyone know when ours is? We in Joburg are thinking of using the declaration launch date of October 14. There is an idea that we should do something public on the day. A fuller motivation will follow. What do you think?

Campus coordination (!)

With the university year fast drawing to a close we have an agreement from the Wits ECC to do phoning around between campuses. They however need the names and phone numbers of the campus contacts around the country. Could you please send these to me?_

Nag department

Please send

- 1) The names of people doing research into the psychological effects of conscription etc.
- 2) A catalogue of resources in your region.
- 3) Pressclips
- 4) A list of local church and welfare organisations.
- 5)_ A fortnightly report from your region to other regions.

Thats all I have to write.

Go well.

Love and solidarity

David

Howzit bra!

Could you please pass these letters to people @ the Conf. from the relevant regions to be sent to NC reps. Ag, you know what I mean.

Cape Town
12 Sept. 1986

Dearest Dave

Cheers!

Hullo? Hullo? Is there anyone out there? Hullo can you hear me? Hullo-o? My feeling of being isolated from other regions is so acute that I've seized the ECC mascot, Peace Dove (the flying chicken), and am training it to take messages to various parts of the country. So if one day you step outside, look up to the sky and see a multi-coloured flying chicken strutting across the horizon with an olive-branch in its mouth, you'll know its P.D. out on a mission.

In the meantime, how're things going? Pushed back any good legal space lately?

This letter carries no real news. Nothing, in fact. But as most of you don't read my letters anyway, I'm not sure that's a problem. There are however some points to ponder. Ready? Lets ponder then!

1) National Committee extended

Can regions consider the idea of enlarging NC to include two reps from each branch. The second rep. could possibly be a rotating position.

The move would be consistent with our current emphasis on developing skills, and reducing dependency on too few people. It would make NC less 'elitist' and give a greater number of people the opportunity to participate in

national discussion. I feel that the advantages of this far outweigh any problems with NC becoming a little more cumbersome. If NC members travel by car rather than fly up/down, a few extra people from each region wouldn't increase costs substantially.

Can you let David know how your region feels.

2) National employees

At the last NC we felt we should postpone discussion on national employees for 1987 until we're clearer on the future of ECC. Given the fact that by October we may not be any clearer and that the process of discussion is such a lengthy one, perhaps we do need to begin now.

I'm proposing that by the next NC, regions discuss the following: 1) Is it worth deciding on new employees at this stage? 2) If so, what would their role/job definition be? 3) Do there still support for the idea of having two national organisers? 4) Do there anyone from your own region that you would like to propose for any of the positions? If there is, a full motivation for that person would help.

At the next NC we can work out how to take the discussion further.

3) Lobbying Members of Parliament

At the last NC, Cape Town undertook to canvass PFF MPs in support of the Let EC Speak Campaign. With

Parliament having gone into early recess, Cape Town suggests that regions take responsibility for canvassing their local MPs (where this would be useful and hasn't already been done).

5) Ada Parker Newsletter (Episode 58)

We're on the road! Here we go! See David's letter for 'further details' (Episode 59).

6) Lyabhamtown Court Case

The recent application for the release of ECC and other detainees in Lyabhamtown give rise to several problems which point to the need for us to discuss regionally and nationally how to handle court cases.

The problems related to what the detainees said in their affidavits, to the way in which ECC was presented in Court, and to the fact that the application was made for white detainees alone.

The real problems however are that there was no ECC position on court cases to guide the Lyabhamtown ECC detainees, and that there was no consultation or communication between the Ly'atown ECC and the lawyers at any stage.

Clearly we need to discuss our approach to court cases in general and around applications for the release of detainees in particular, and develop some working guidelines. Can this be done before the next NC?

Shave it! Goodbye for now. Over and out.
Love, Laurie

15-sept.

Dear David,

At last a response to a request you have had all year! This is incomplete, mostly because of my lack of vigilance as regards the Argus + Die Burger. I swear to . . . that I really tried, but a daily forced feed of those 2 papers was just not on. I can't understand Afrikaans anyway, so Die B. was a really difficult prospect. Blah Blah Blah.

Do you know that in this week's W.M. They had an ad. advertising jobs at UWC for people in linguistics honours. ~~It~~ Well I never. Anyway I'm going to apply, mostly because I'm filled with excitement that someone, somewhere ~~wants~~ has even heard of linguistics.

Tony's father is doing repairs + stuff at Polo Rd + so I get woken up every morning with a hammer

in my head. Its not the greatest experience. Mornings are difficult at the best of times, now they're almost impossible.

We are ~~trying~~ trying to move our office into the WPC + others building which is being set up in Salt River. The C.T. (Kotso House equivalent). The bldg is being practically rebuilt (its in Salt River) and should be v. better. Our problem is the 3 yr lease on our present office. The landlord is a sharky creep and dealing w him is the worst part of my job.

I have included still more Austrian orange postcards. I'm quite sick of them - hope you enjoy them!

Have you got all I have sent you lately?

- out now
- MAIL (international) copies of calendar + various bits + pieces
- Addresses of welfare orgs.
- and now press clips.

I haven't seen you for many moons, hope you are well + hope I'll see you soonish. ☒

Lots of Love
Paula.

P.S. Please send my love to nice people you work with.

End Conscription Campaign

227/9 Khotso House
42 De Villiers Street
Johannesburg
2000
Tel: 337-6796
Telex: 4-86519 S.A.

18 September 1986

Hello,

Thank you for the note that you sent us.

We are all doing well. There has not been any state action against us for some weeks now and while the situation has not returned to normality again there does seem to be a more relaxed attitude in ECC circles around the country. The Eastern Cape and Jo'burg are still encountering the greatest threat of repression. Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Stellenbosch, Cape Town and Pretoria are experiencing conditions in which one would think that there were no emergency.

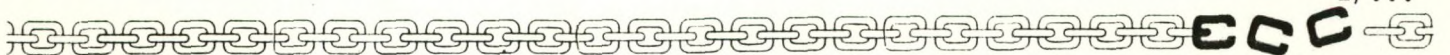
Three of our detainees have been released. They are Karen Thorne from Grahamstown, Mike Loewe and Sandy Stewart of Port Elizabeth. Mike and Sandy have been issued with emergency banning regulations which effectively bar them from participating in political activities. Despite this they are all well and raring to go. We have received news of Janet and that is that she is well and has been taken out of solitary confinement and placed with two white women detainees from Grahamstown viz., Anne Burroughs and Louise Vale. We have approached the French Embassy here for assistance and pressure in Janet's case. They gave us a sympathetic hearing due to Janet's ECC work in France earlier this year. Regarding Dominic, we have heard that his Mauritian passport has expired and that he is not to be issued with a new one. This effectively jams up the bureaucratic works for the South African authorities. It should provide the time and opportunity for pressure to remove his deportation order.

We are at the moment in between intensive periods of public work. We held a successful meeting in Cape Town entitled ECC speaks which was attended by 7-800 people. While this figure is well below the 3 or 4000 that ECC people in Cape Town have become accustomed to, it was good considering the fact that the white South African public have been very frightened by the state of emergency and can not be relied on to come forward in big numbers. The speakers, Alex Boraine, Di Bishop and ECC's Nic Borain were very well received. There was an enormous amount of media distributed around Cape Town as part of the run up to the meeting. In Cape Town then, we have reestablished a strong public presence. This ties in very well to our right to speak campaign in that we are demonstrating our right to speak by speaking out on a range of issues and at the same time pointing out those issues we have been forbidden from speaking about.

In Grahamstown, Pietermaritzburg and Johannesburg we have distributed a whole lot of media about our right to speak. I have included some of this. We are also shortly to be running a campaign in Jhb with a dual focus: firstly we will be calling for the right to speak; and in the second place protesting at the fact that troops are in the townships. This campaign which will have a large media component, use yellow ribbons as a symbol of our call for a troop withdrawal from the schools will culminate with a public meeting. This meeting is being seen as a testing of the legal ground on which we operate. People in Durban are looking at a focus with the theme of "Is the war worth the cost of fighting it". Also in Durban there is a new issue of the very good publication "At Ease" about to start rolling off the presses. They are also planning a dinner on October 19 to celebrate three years of our existence. They are expecting about 250 of our close supporters to attend the dinner and intend to have a speaker address the gathering.

Perhaps one of the most exciting aspects of our work at present is the growth and consolidation of our branch in Pretoria. As you know Pretoria is the heartland of the white South African military machine. Any development of white resistance to apartheid is thus a very exciting development in the city. We are most pleased that the ECC group

2/...



ECC
End Conscription Campaign

there is pulling together very well, and after only a few months of being in existence is planning a public campaign around the right to speak theme.

In an earlier letter I wrote about our possibly taking the state to court, challenging it around the emergency regulations that restrict our work. We were also in the process of bringing an action against the Aida Parker Newsletter. At that stage we were in the process of presentin argument to the Media Council as to why we felt the APN should fall under the jurisdiction of that body. This followed Aida Parker refusing to subscribe herself to its authority claiming that only registered newspapers were obliged to do so. It has since transpired that Aida Parker by doing this had in fact lied to the council as it has been discovered that she is registered as a newspaper. This has meant that the case is going ahead on the 6th of October in Cape Town. Our lawyer is very confident of our succeeding in the case. We have decided to conclude this case before bringing any further action against the state.

By taking Aida Parker on in this way we are in effect taking the state on as regards the arguments it uses against ECC. In the recent application for the release of detainees in Grahamstown security police pointed to the argument in the Aida Parker Newsletter as a basis for their detaining members of ECC. A number of right wing publications with close links to the state have quoted from the newsletter. Our case against Aida Parker then is more than a simple matter between us and her. It in fact assumes the proportions of an ideological challenge to the state. If we win, which we are confident of doing, it will mean that we are setting back the state's attack on us in a significant way. We thus stand to gain a great deal from this action. As a result we also intend to have a big media drive around the hearings.

Justin Hardcastle is set to arrive in Britain on September 28. He is going to register for the course he is taking on the following day and would like a couple of days to settle in. He would be available to start with activities for ECC from October 1. It might be useful for you to start drawing up some form of itinerary for him now although you could work out the details with him when he arrives. He will be available to do high profile work, such as speaking engagements and press work. He is very good at this kind of thing.

It was a shame to hear that you had not received the outline of the book. Laurie had sent a copy directly to your offices. I have included a copy of it with this letter. A point about the progress of the outline is that when Janet was detained a copy of it was taken by the security police. This is not very sericus but it is important that you know.

Thank you very much for starting to work on our mailing list. I should be sending another letter for international distribution shortly. The following are a few more names for the list:

National Council of Swedish Youth
Elisabeth Dahlin
LSU-secretariat
Box 49005
s-100 28
Stockholm
SWEDEN

Norwegian Youth Council
Elise Sandnes
Rolf Hofmosqt. 18
0655 Oslo 6
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Fellesradet
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School Students' Union of Sweden
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Norwegians Students' Christian Movement
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 EH10 6AS
 UNITED KINGDOM

Bettina von Clausewitz
 Elsass Strasse 16
 4300 Essen 15
 West Germany

We were disturbed to hear that there were problems regarding the New York Friends' money. Is it possible for you to send more details as we are unclear as to what the problem might be. Regarding deposits you can still deposit directly into the SACBC account. There are new details on the way regarding the transfer of funds.

Go well,

Love

David.

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END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)

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