MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE END CONSCRIPTION COMMITTEES OF DURBAN, JOHANNESBURG AND CAPE TOWN ON 22 JULY 1984 AT WILGESPRUIT FELLOWSHIP CENTRE

1. PRESENT: Laurie, Mike, Imre, Richard, David, Beaver, Margot (Cape Town); Nan, Benito, Robbie, Adele, Lois (Johannesburg) Fiona, Gary, Paul, Sue, Meryl, Jenny (Durban.)

2. REPORTS:
Reports were given by each region on structure, activities and ideas for the campaign.

In discussion it appeared that in each centre the brunt of the work was being handled by people who were also members of COSG. There was general agreement on the directions being taken in each region.

The base for organisation had been established over the year under review and now gains needed to be consolidated.

While some organisations could be heavily involved there would always be some who could only give moral support and could not be active.

There was a need for people within the campaign who could take a higher public profile.

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3.2.3 Any survey needed to be followed up, and this was quite difficult off-campus.

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3.2.5 A compilation of results from any national questions might be helpful.

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This had been amended by the replacement of the word 'citizens' by the word 'youth' in the sixth paragraph.

Various individuals and organisations in the Cape had endorsed the declaration. The Black Sash had also distributed it to its members and got a good response.

3.3.1 It was agreed that the declaration should become a national declaration and that regions should work on getting endorsements in preparation for a national launch in mid-October.

3.3.2 This national launch would consist of simultaneous regional events. The form of these would be discussed in September. As part of the launch a pamphlet would be printed containing the declaration, information on conscription, and a list of national and regional endorsees.

3.4 Armistice Day

This is November 11. Various organisations are looking for a day to remember Namibia. It was reported that a U.N day for Namibia does exist. Regions were asked to discuss this as a possible project for local areas.

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COSG Conference had suggested the ECC take on a particular focus on schools. Regions were asked to decide whether they should become a priority area for the campaign. COSG's would need to work on this a little more.

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4.1 Nature and Structure.

It was suggested that new interest groups/organisations (e.g. Parents, groups, ex-service men) be initiated.

A co-ordinating group seemed necessary; with a front organisation, with individual volunteers coming in to the campaign through a group of some sort.

Tasks could be delegated to organisations during any particular part of the campaign.

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This would take place from the 25 - 27 January 1985 in Durban. The local group would take responsibility for administering this event.

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Participants in the ICT feminist theology consultation would approach representatives of organisations present at this event.
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Endorsements would need to be returned on a telex number. 3 were suggested and should be included in the letter.

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Cape Town would be responsible for contact with Namibia.

Sue would approach Seek to cover the ECC in October.

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Regions might want to establish internal newsheets for affiliated organisations.

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Educational work could be facilitated through the COSG's, while resource sharing would be on each ECC agenda.

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7. The minutes would be circulated to each participant in the meeting and through them to other ECC members.
Present: Cape Town: Mike Evans
Durban: Sue Britton
Jo'burg: Benita Pavlicevic
National Organiser: Laurie Nathan.

Minutes: We agreed not to minute the entire meeting, but simply to minute the main decisions. Reps to NC will report back more fully to their regions.

1. Resources
(a) National coordination of resources
   (i) Circulate press clips on:
      - local 'flashpoints'/Events that all ECC's need to know about and respond to
      - ECC - any story, editorial or letter mentioning ECC.
   (ii) Circulate material on militarisation
      - analytic papers, articles or talks
      - workshop type material.

(b) Resource packs.
   (i) Collect analytic material (as opposed to factual info) on militarisation + select the best to form a regional resource pack.
- at National Council in July - the regional packs will be put together into a national pack.
- The final resource pack will be reproduced for resource centres and will be advertised by the regions.

2. National campaigns
   (a) Defence debate in parliament (April/May) is a time for a campaign - focus also on budget suggestions - press work
       - public 'informative' meeting
       - pickets
       - media.
   (b) The campaigns discussed in January still stand.

3. National festival
   Date: 5-6th July - depending on Nusas etc.
   Place: Jo'burg.
   Theme: Include concepts: Peace/Friendship/Conscription
   Nature: hi powered, public, using big names, inviting all affiliates + all others.
       Opening night - panel of high profile speakers
       Day of 6th - programme suggestions needed from regions
4) Geldenhuys Committee
Set up to explore alternatives to military service
ECC to encourage all affiliates especially COSA + churches to write

Geldenhuys Commission
Ministry of Defence
Hendrik Verwoed Building
Cape Town 8000

5) Media
A National pamphlet on "Peace + friendship"
will be produced by Jo'burg ECC.
- Draft content + layout will be circulated by early May.
- Each region is to get 4 copies for printing.
- Printed + distributed by June.
- Distributed during week of June 16 to June 26.

Contact People.
5. **PLENARY: REPORT BACK ON PLANS FOR NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS:**

(i) **Youth and Call-up**

Republic Day looks like it will be 'celebrated' again and there is a need to counter this.

* May 29 - blitz schools with a national pamphlet
* May 30 - poster stand in town
* June 1 - public event to be regionally defined, eg. Rock the Republic concert.
* June 16 - 26 - National Council is to discuss plans for this week. Plans need to be made well in advance as this will be a very busy period.
* July - call up - a national pamphlet will be needed, as well as national slogans for a picket. Letters
to the authorities and the press should be written. The National Council should also discuss the question of the possibility of a peace march by C.O.s around this time.

The media people in each region should note the media needed.

(ii) National Day of Protest (September 3)

* Objectives: to focus on civil war.
  to build popular feeling for the demand: 'Keep Troop's out of the Townships'.
  to challenge people facing call-ups.
  as an expression of solidarity with those faced by the military in the townships.

* Timing: a) Reactive (i.e. response to an invasion) - particular regions can initiate this.
     b) Commemorative - Parliamentary Defence Debate Sharpeville Sebokeng

* Preparation: There needs to be close contact with what is happening in the townships, and there needs to be media packages.

* National Campaign: a) reactive - creative protest action
    * national picket
    * street theatre
    * vigils

b) commemorative - public meetings, close press liaison, letters & opinions in the press.
* National media campaign: (it is important that this be targetted)
  - exciting posters
  - pamphlets for schools and parents
  - graffiti
  - national slogan (to the effect 'Keep Troops out of the Townships'
  - stickers

There needs to be close coordination with the national organiser
and the National Council.

(iii) Namibia (reactive)

The national organiser will be in contact with people in Namibia
and will get the input back to ECC. This will help with the
Namibia campaign. In the event of something flaring up there,
the national organiser and the National Council need to work out:
  * the feasibility of launching the campaign
  * the slant of the campaign and slogans
  * allocate regional work
  * regulate press releases.

Resource material is needed NOW. The issue needs to be hooked
into other campaigns, the costs of war, civil war, destabilisation,
'call-up for what' and so on.

Other times at which a campaign could be launched are around
Hurley's trial in February, and on Namibia Day August 26. The
latter could be planned at the conference in July. The former
should be the particular responsibility of Johannesburg as that
centre has access to the affidavits, international press agencies,
and the trial is in Pretoria.
The programme for the year thus stands at:

February (18) | Hurley and Namibia
May (29 & 30) | Republic Day
June (16 - 26) | Youth Focus (tie in with UDF and call up)
July (1st week) | Church IYY focus
August (26)   | Namibia Day
September (3) | National Day of Protest (Sebokeng)
1. ASSESSMENT
We set a meeting for Thursday 18 July to assess festival and the national conference, and to review Laurie's role and work.

2. CULTURE COMM.
The art exhibition - the Baxter foyer is available as a venue for the art exhibition for a 2 week period. 5 artists will be displaying their work. We will get a fuller report after culture comm's next meeting.

3. THE FAST
The idea for ECC to hold a 24 hour fast was raised at the national conference. It was suggested that we launch a "troops out" campaign on September 3 with a fast, and continue the campaign until October 23.

We discussed whether a fast would appeal to the public. Some of the problems were: *a fast has appeal to a Christian constituency, but not much broader (eg. is unlikely to appeal to the concert-going-types); *a fast is by nature removed from the public and is a relatively private action; *through fasting one is not achieving much, and most people like to feel that they are contributing something concrete; *a fast seems like a very 'soft' action compared to what is going on around us.

Some of the advantages:
* people are looking towards taking some sort of action and yet are unwilling to make too much of a sacrifice, and action should be encouraged. If too much is demanded it will put people off, but a small action can be seen as a big step forward in our constituency.
* a fast is a good way in which to get publicity.
* we could get international support.
* a fast need not appeal only to a christian constituency, but can be motivated, billed and projected as something broader. Fasts also have a political tradition.

Some of the decisions coming out of this discussion were:
* we should have a fast as a national action, but it should not be our only activity. It needs to be backed up by other different types of actions.
* ECC should call the fast rather than an affiliate.
* timing of the 'troops out' campaign. We felt 7-8 weeks is a long time for a campaign even if it has high and low points. We also questioned whether September 3 is a significant date for ECC since this is when the police went into Sebokeng, not the army. Another important date is October 7 when the army invaded Soweto, or October 23 when the army moved into Sebokeng. We eventually decided that the peak of the campaign should be from October 7 - October 23, but the build up to that peak would be from September 3.
* timing of the fast: we felt the campaign should be launched with a fast. A public meeting could be held on Monday 7 October and fasting on Tuesday 8 October.

* Other ideas for the fast were that there could be a central venue in which to spend the day of fasting if one so desired; also we could ask people to donate the money they would have spent on food to a relief fund in the Eastern Cape so that the action has some concrete results.

* Other ideas for the 'troops out' campaign were: pickets; a speaking tour of an ECC person and someone else; an investigatory tour of some of the townships collecting affidavits etc and releasing information to the public; producing a booklet of the information we already have.

4. UDF CLAREMONT MEETING
A public meeting is being planned for Thursday 26 July to respond to the killing of the Cradock 4 and other issues. An ECC speaker might be invited and we should consider who would be suitable. We discussed this and decided on our speaker, and gave some ideas for the content of the talk.

5. GENERAL
1) Janet Cherry, the ECC PE chair who was detained managed to phone her mother yesterday (on the Monday following this ECC meeting Janet was released from detention).
2) The poster exhibition wasn't put up at the Grahamstown Festival for bureaucratic reasons. It was suggested we consider carefully what contribution we make in the future and take full advantage of the festival.
3) ECC's name is included on a petition calling for the release of detainees. The petition mentions Janet and her involvement in ECC.
4) There are buses going to the funeral of the Cradock 4, if people would like to go.
5) Because of the public meeting being organised for Thursday 26 July we will change our regular ECC meeting to Wednesday.

SO THE NEXT ECC MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 8.00PM ON WEDNESDAY 25 JULY AT 26 ARNOLD STREET, OBSERVATORY.

- Ideas to ECC churches etc
- Ideas

Oct 7 Footman in
Oct 23 J. B. S. O. Palmeid
PRESENT : Janet (PE), Clare & Steve (JHB), Gary (DBN), Jacque (PMB), Ivan & Mike (CT)

NB : These are not comprehensive minutes of the meeting, but merely a summary of the main areas covered.

1. REGIONAL REPORTS

A. DURBAN
Took a while to get going after the festival, but on Friday (2nd) they held a successful protest meeting on the state of emergency attended by about 300. Addressed by Richard S, Molly B, Archbishop Hurley and Ann Cowin, the meeting received good press coverage. It was preceded by a picket. Sub-committees seem to be struggling, but encouraging in the formation of a conscription action group on campus.

B. PIETERMARITZBURG
Most energy has been geared towards their successful launch held on 3 August. This included a public meeting addressed by Molly B, Ivan and Laurie and an evening concert. The meeting was addressed by Molly B, and Laurie and it included songs by Stan James and an excellent 'cultural road-show'. The relatively poor attendance at the meeting (200) was partly because of the time (Saturday afternoon) and partly because of poor student support. Pmb ECC has also had a stall at the IYY launch; set up an advice bureau under PACSA, started a newsletter and set up an issues group with a first open forum on the state of emergency.

C. GRAHAMSTOWN
Within the next month Grahamstown will probably be established as ECCs 6th region. They key organisations will include: GRACONS (strong and attracting much interest since commandos are on 1-hour standby), Grahamstown Committee of Democrats (which has a militarisation group but is banned from holding meetings), Rhodes Conscription Action Group (newly established as a front on campus), Black Sash and the churches. They will probably have one central projects committee.

(We also discussed East London and decided that Laurie should visit there on his forthcoming 3-week stretch in the Eastern Cape).

D. PORT ELIZABETH
The state of emergency has not effected ECC directly and they are going ahead with plans to build an advice forum independent of ECC, issue a position statement, put out a "soft" pamphlet stressing the issue of freedom of choice and bring out their newsletter. After the declaration of the state of emergency ECC called a meeting of 30 people from ECC orgs, churches, PFP etc. to discuss responses. They decided to hold an inter-denominational church service next Sunday (11th).
E. JOHANNESBURG
Here ECC has been affected by the state of emergency with raids on 3 ECC houses, confiscation of resources and the detention of 2 ECC members. ECC's main action has been to join with a range of organisations in calling a public meeting for August 6 (P.S. this went ahead very successfully - over 500 present - addressed by Molly B, John Dugard, Smangaliso Mkatschwa and Diliza Machoba of SACC). I will discuss the effect of the state of emergency at our (CTECC's) next meeting.

2. TROOPS OUT CAMPAIGN
Cape Town's proposed dates for the campaign were accepted i.e.
Build-up - from now until September 16
The Fast - September 16 - October 7
Climax, with national and international fast - October 7

The main discussion focussed on the nature of the demands of the campaign. This will be discussed at the Cape Town ECC meeting. Durban ECC will draw up a motivation for the campaign which can be used for contact with the press, organisations and the international community.

It was agreed to make money raised during the fast available to a relief fund co-ordinated through SACC.

3. NATIONAL POSITIONS
It was felt that the National Press Officer should be based in Johannesburg, but that David S should act as National Press Officer at least until Jo'burg is able to take on this role.

Laurie will speak to Richard and Anita about assisting Vaun with the international work.

4. GELDENHUYYS
It was agreed that Richard and Mike will give evidence on August 13. A national press statement will be released to co-incide with our presentation.

5. FINANCES
These are now being housed in Durban. Our financial situation remains tight.

6. LAURIE'S ASSESSMENT
Generally, there was very strong support for the way Laurie has worked over the past 6 months. There was some agreement with Cape Town's suggestion that areas of Laurie's work could be decentralised, eg. his resource role. The question of Laurie as "national ECC spokesperson" was also discussed.

7. FILM FESTIVAL AND T-SHIRTS
I will pass on details to culture comm.

8. PFP
There was some "information-swopping" on the likely course of the National Congress at the end of the month.

9. NEXT NATIONAL COMMITTEE
It will be held in late October, probably in Cape Town. One of the main areas of discussion will be the January National Congress.
MINUTES OF THE 37TH MEETING OF THE END CONSCRIPTION COMMITTEE HELD ON 8 AUGUST 1985

PRESENT: Black Sash, NUSAS, Board of Social Responsibility, SUCA, Observatory UDF, Claremont UDF, Women's Movement for Peace, COSG, sub-committees and visitors.

APOLOGIES: WPCC, UCT SRC (whose representative was reported to have been in Pollsmoor Prison)

1. CHURCHES

**Anglican Synod:** ECC declaration submitted for endorsement - drastically pruned and noted the campaign given "general support". Military chaplains and cadets also discussed.

C.O. Rev Danes removed from the Board. Alternate service to be done in church/welfare organisations.

**ECC Proposal:** Need to involve members of churches in ECC, and to aim a section of work at that constituency. Work with SUCA and WPCC in this regard.

2. NATIONAL REPORT

National committee report tabled

Other news - PMB has been launched; Durban held a public meeting; Grahamstown to be set up as a region separate from PE; JHB is experiencing harassment.

Durban - people, including University of Natal students, being called up on half-an-hour's notice.

3. TROOPS OUT CAMPAIGN

a) **ECC Proposal** tabled - stressed that it was a draft proposal and was quite ambitious. 6-week campaign to be characterised by each week having a particular focus.

Fast to start on the 16 September (the day after the COSG conference) and to last for three weeks till 7 October (anniversary of troops into townships). There will be one person in each centre fasting for the entire period. St George's Cathedral has been made available in Cape Town.

Fast to culminate in a National Day of Fasting, and to be ended in a mass rally around the "Troops out" theme.

Concern was expressed about loss of momentum after the campaign. There was a suggestion for the next campaign to be around the January call-up.

b) **Structures**

Co-ord. committee to be set up to co-ordinate campaign, consisting of reps from a sub-committee, and drawing on new ECC members.

Work also to be done in sub-comms.
To do work that doesn't fall into sub-comm categories
Members of affiliated organisations to be involved.

c) Proposed Meeting - 14 August
People accepted the proposal to have a meeting on the 14 August at Rondebosch Congregational Main Hall to be an information meeting on the national, as well as Cape Town, happenings.
Media working on a flier, and A3 poster to be made.
Theme to be "Troops out of the townships".

d) Nature of demand
Two options had been discussed at Nat. Comm:
1) "Troops to be withdrawn from the townships"
2) "Freedom of choice for conscripts"

The possibility of different demands for different regions had also been discussed at Nat. Comm. and while there were differing opinions as to which demands would be useful, it was decided that a national call should be made.
Durban drawing up a national proposal for the campaign. It was agreed that the demand should be for troop withdrawal from the townships.

4. U.C.T. MEETING
ECC had agreed to speak at the meeting to be held on UCT campus tomorrow. It was decided that Justin would speak, especially on the half-hour call-up situation in Durban.

5. SUB-COMM REPORTS
a) Culture concert on Sunday night on campus - advertising has been problematic so help requested. There will be stalls and displays at the concert.
Art exhibition at the Baxter still going ahead.
b) Schools pamphlets distributed to 10 schools last week - some response from students who phoned in. Camps Bay High may host ECC at a meeting (?) Pamphlet on registration for the military being produced.
c) Contact Organisations being contacted for next week's meeting with organisation reps (Ecc organisations and others) on Tuesday 27 August at St Paul's around "Troops Out" campaign. Resource package around troops in the townships to be distributed locally and nationally.
A volunteer was found to monitor activities in the press and hearsay.
Two press releases being prepared:
1) conscripts' experiences in the townships
2) Geldenhuys Committee
Teleletters - Organisations used to take rotating responsibility but that is no longer working.
People asked to put their names on a roster so that this would continue.
d) Roadshow

The possibility that it be incorporated into culture comm. is being discussed.

6. SUCA

Following the decision by ECC to relate informally to the PFP, SUCA has had to decide to withdraw from ECC, as their national policy is not to participate in any organisation that has dealing with parliamentary groups/politics.

In addition, the white constituency thrust that has emerged is not a priority for SUCA. Thus the need to withdraw, but not with any sense of umbridge was expressed for continued informal working relationship between SUCA and ECC. SUCA was thanked for the great effort and contribution to ECC.

7. GENERAL

Geldenhuys Committee

ECC appearing before the committee on Tuesday 13 August in the afternoon at the Castle. This is to be publicised.

Habonim

Mike to be part of a panel on the military at Habonim tomorrow night.

Issue of Jewish objection to be raised.

Grassroots

The Youth Express Festival happening this weekend was advertised. ECC will be speaking on "Troops Out" on the final meeting on Saturday night.

Forum

Thursday 15th - "Nuclear Power and Cold War at Rondebosch Congregational.

Next Meeting

Thursday 22 August 1985
MINUTES of the End Conscription Campaign General Body Meeting 12/9/95.

PRESENT: Black Sash, COSG, NUSAS, Observatory and Claremont UDF Area Committees.

AGENDA:
1) Repression update: Cape Town and National
2) Troops Out Campaign
3) Organisational Report-backs
4) Non-violent Direct Action
5) Finance
6) General

1. REPRESSION UPDATE: CAPE TOWN AND NATIONAL
There was a report-back on the local and national situation. It was noted that ECC was strong and handling the crisis well.

1.1. Press and Publicity - Newspapers in the affected areas had responded. Coverage in Pietermaritzburg and internationally was particularly good.

1.2. In the event of more repression, the exec would be able to draw in members on an ad-hoc basis. This would not be a decision-making body as such.

2. TROOPS OUT CAMPAIGN
The campaign is in the final stages of organisation. It was noted that ECC members had worked with dedication.

A list of activities was read out as follows:

* The central activity will be the fast, (from September 17 - October 7). This will be launched with a meeting in St George's Cathedral Hall on September 17. The fast will last for three weeks and church leaders will fast in relays throughout that period. Other people are encouraged to fast for as long as they can during the three weeks.

* From October 6th - 7th there will be a 24-hour period of fast. As many people as possible will be fasting for this period.

* There will be a solidarity fast at St Mary's Cathedral and the Anglican church in Stellenbosch. Those detained people who have undertaken to fast, will fast in detention.

* On Friday 13th September, there will be an ECC/CAG party on campus.

* The COSG Conference will be held from the 13th - 15th September.

* Tuesday 17 September is International Day of Peace. As well as the meeting and launch of the fast (above), a picket will be held.

* On Sunday 22nd September the Art Exhibition at the Baxter will open.

* On Tuesday 24th September, a second picket will be held.

* On an evening between 24th - 28th September, there will be a cultural evening in Red Level.

* Vigils will be held at the Rondebosch Congregational and Athlone Methodist churches.

2/....
* Sunday the 6th October marks the beginning of the 24-hour fast.

* Monday 7th October - a mass rally will be held at the City Hall to mark the culmination of the campaign.

The Troops Out committee will handle overall co-ordination while sub-committees take on specific tasks.

2.1. The media sub-committee will be doing pickets; statement posters; advertising posters for meetings; a small, round sticker; a banner and an information pamphlet discussing the troops out campaign, ECC's demands with respect to the troops out campaign. The media sub-committee will also produce a banner.

2.2. Culture sub-committee will produce badges, T-shirts, balloons etc and is investigating the chances of selling these at a stall in Green Market Square and at various clubs in town.

2.3. Campaign Committee will be bringing out banners to advertise the fast and the troops out theme. They will also produce stickers for the fast and for schools. A poster will be produced for the international day of peace, and another for the fast itself. Advertisements for the campaign as a whole will be inserted in suburban newspapers.

2.4. Contact Committee feels that to promote non-racialism in the campaign, contact with organisations in the black areas must be established and maintained.

In response to the attack on ECC by Ken Owen in the Cape Times, ECC will be writing an article and a letter.

2.4.1. International Work

The publicity generated this week has promoted the campaign. There has been news coverage in BBC Africa and ITV. Approaches have been made to Neil Kimock and the European parliament.

In addition, a message of support has been received from Cardinal Arns and there has been an article on ECC in a USA publication "The Progressive".

2.5. The Schools Group has produced a pamphlet on the International Day of Peace and the fast. A sticker is in the pipeline.

2.6. The Churches Group has produced two pamphlets, one on the fast and another on ECC and the troops our campaign. Two vigils (above) will take place and an article will appear in St George's parish news.

2.7. Plans are afoot to organise a mini-festival in St George's cathedral for five weeks. This is hoped to generate input from organisations and develop a momentum of its own. Ideas include bulletin boards, pamphlets, displays, music, general cultural input and stalls where ECC media will be sold.

3. ORGANISATIONAL REPORT BACKS:

3.1. The Black Sash has organised two people to fast every day with Ivan from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.

3.2. The COSG national conference will be on the 13 - 14 September. Its primary purpose would be to evaluate the functioning of the Board for Religious Objectors and alternative service.
4. NON-VIOLENT DIRECT ACTION (NVDA)
NVDA has identified three areas of action; this includes both "hard" and "soft" action.

4.1. (a) Illegal action that ECC will have nothing to do with (like graffiti).
    (b) Legal action.
    (c) A grey area.
Two proposals have therefore come from NVDA:
(a) "Soft" creative action (balloons, banners etc);
(b) "Mill-ins" (collective shopping with T-shirts on).
Following discussion on 4.1.(a), ECC formally passed the following resolution unanimously:
ECC will neither participate in, nor encourage, any illegal activity.

5. FINANCE:
There is a small improvement in finance; people are, however, encouraged to be prudent.

5.1. Stop-orders
Some people are willing to donate a fixed amount monthly and everyone is encouraged to donate money whenever possible (no matter how little).

6. GENERAL:
6.1. Conferences
ECC has been invited to (1) the UN Conference on Youth and Conscription in Helsinki and (2) The International War Resisters Conference in India.

6.2. A contact person has been established to monitor all personal instances of harassment and intimidation within ECC locally.

6.3. Petition
ECC has become a co-signatory to the UDF Prescription for Peace.

6.4. Ivan
A roster has been established for people from ECC to spend time with Ivan while he fasts.

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16/9/85
src press uct
MINUTES of the 41st Meeting of the End Conscription Committee held on 10 October 1985.

It was a short, informal meeting held outside on the steps on the evening of a public holiday.

1. Responses to the Peace Rally:
   Everyone had heard positive reports of the rally from a range of people. There have been phone calls coming in to various ECC public figures congratulating ECC and expressing support.

   The schools group is going to distribute a pamphlet as a follow-up to the rally.

2. National Report:
   a. PE held a successful service, led by George Irvine, Bishop Evans and a black priest, and attended by approximately 250 people.
   - Durban had a meeting addressed by Di Bishop and Paul Graham. They felt the content was good but were disappointed by the attendance.
   - Johannesburg held a service which was fairly well attended.
   - Maritzburg were very pleased with both the content and attendance of their meeting. Archbishop Hurley, Helen Joseph, Laurie and a UDF person spoke.

   b. There is a National Committee meeting this weekend. Items for the agenda will include the National Conference, repression, ECC structures, film festival, employees and an assessment of different ECC's.

3. Workshop:
   This will be held on 19 October at Ron Con. Exec will structure the programme.

4. AGM:
   The date is 21 November and an ad hoc group was established to work on the programme, food, invitations, etc.

   The proposal for the structure of the new executive is as follows:
   Subcomm reps; Chair; Vice-chair; General Secretary; Treasurer, Publicity Secretary. It was suggested that subcommittees discuss the overall structure of the new exec as well as people who would be suitable. At the next general body meeting (24 October), subcommittees should put forward their nominations. Then letters to organisations will go out inviting them to the AGM and mentioning the exec nominations. The organisations can add to the list of nominations which must all be in by the day of the AGM. At the AGM we will take a straw vote to get a general feeling before taking a formal vote as a front.

5. General:
   a. The Baxter management staff have all been very supportive of ECC (they all fasted on Monday) and should be thanked for everything they have done for us.

   b. The next General Body meeting is on 24th October, 8.00 pm at Ron Con.

17/10/85
src press uct
NOTE: These are not minutes of our discussions, but rather summaries of the main areas covered.

1. CENTRE REPORTS

A. Durban

Activities:
- 3 people fasted for 2 weeks, and relay fast of ECC people
- organisations took responsibility for each day
- began and ended the fast with a service - +- 150 people at each
- concluded with meeting addressed by Di Bishop and Paul Graham, followed by supper.

Comment:
- drew support from fringes of ECC, rather than general public
- too little attention given to publicity
- work co-ordinated through general body - sub-comms not functioning effectively
- CAG now active on Durban campus
- Durban ECC has a profile, but it is largely a religious pacifist profile and not one which attracts widespread support.

B. Pietermaritzburg

Activities:
- relay fast, with organisations taking responsibility for each day (114 fasters & 9 organisations)
- one or two letters each day in the paper
- a formal dinner preceded the fast, followed by a service to launch
- held a very successful mock trial - 2 soldiers "charged" for refusing to go into the townships - organised jointly with lawyers for human rights
- pickets every Saturday
- balloons and kites - failed embarrassingly
- townships produced a support pamphlet
- very good meeting to end - over 200 people, with Archbishop Hurley, Helen Joseph, Laurie & a NEUSA speaker.

Comment:
- overall, a very successful and creative campaign
- attracted particularly strong support from older constituency.

C. Johannesburg

Activities:
- Harold fasted in Khotso House and 600 signed to fast with him
- meetings were held at lunchtime - not well-attended
- 4 panel discussions were held, all organised by affiliates, including well-known figures on violence, peace, conscientious objection and women
the womens panel, entitled "Sons in the Hippos; Sons in the Streets -a mother's perspective" was astoundingly successful, with 70 mothers sharing their feelings and dilemmas

- 8 schools burnt "fast candles" in classrooms, although only one was able to continue for the full 3 weeks
- a schools debate was held - government vs the people
- St Anthony's Church had a 3-week relay fast
- a public meeting was held on the last Wednesday - addressed by Bishop Nkoane, Glenda Glover and JODAC Culture Group - 300 attended - should have been at the end of the campaign
- 24 hour fast began and ended with a service - both too narrowly Christian
- Wits campus, through CAG, had an information table, a concert attended by 1000, a meeting and 3 pamphlets.

Comment :
- new constituencies were reached, eg academics, churches, mothers
- good support from black areas, especially from trade unions involved in unity talks
- overall, a very good effect on ECC member organisations
- very extensive overseas press.

D. Port Elizabeth

Activities:
- relay fast, with each evening being led by a faster
- a series of videos in the last week
- began with a successful press conference
- held a public debate between Ken Owen and Janet Cherry
- ended with a very successful service and supper attended by 250 people

Comment :
- ECC now firmly established as a force with a solid support base, especially in the churches
- but, organisationally still fairly weak, with a small committed core.

E. Grahamstown

Activities:
- relay fast of prominent people at the Cathedral -average of 6 people per day
- held a very successful arts for peace cultural evening with local poetry (eg Guy Butler), drama, music, etc
- arranged a debate between Andre Brink and SADF, but SADF withdrew at the last minute
- started to run house meetings
- Rhodes ECC - active as a front on campus - held a successful launch during the fast with David Schmidt and others.

Comment :
- the campaign was decided on very late; yet it succeeded in establishing ECC in Grahamstown
- ECC has not been formally launched yet and instead exists as an interim committee.
END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)

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