

Dear Paula, + Ales ECC commi,

You are invited to attend a workshop on Sunday, October 25, 1987 to discuss ways of taking forward the initiative started at the Five Freedoms Forum\* conference in Johannesburg recently.

The conference was of historic significance in that it pioneered a process of bringing together individuals from a broad range of anti-apartheid constituencies and organisations to discuss ways of advancing their common commitment to a non-racial democracy in South Africa. All participants accepted that this goal was more important than the issues on which they differed. They agreed that the time was right for a broad-based initiative to mobilise support for a non-racial democracy among white South Africans.

To this end it was resolved unanimously that participants would carry the spirit and experience of the conference to their regions and examine the best way of taking the initiative forward. A small group of Cape Town participants felt that a workshop would be the best way to introduce this idea to our region, to generate discussion and examine appropriate responses.

The workshop will be held in the Robert Leslie Building, UCT on October 25 from 10 a.m. Please bring a sandwich for lunch. Beverages will be provided. We will aim to end at 4,00 p.m.

If you are able to come, please reply as soon as possible to the person who approached you, or phone:

Mornings: 685-3513 (Black Sash Advice Office)  
Afternoons and Evenings: Jenny de Tolly: 689-3763  
Helen Zille: 689-1094

If you think of anyone who might wish to participate in the workshop, please indicate this when you respond.

\* The Five Freedoms Forum is a Johannesburg-based alliance of organisations united by the goal of a non-racial democratic South Africa. An important focus of their work is to encourage and assist whites to become part of the transition to a democratic society and its freedoms ...

FREEDOM ... from want  
from discrimination  
from fear  
of conscience  
of speech and association

We have enclosed a copy of the conference programme, (amended to reflect last-minute changes) to give you an idea of the importance and uniqueness of this event.



# FIVE FREEDOMS FORUM

## Towards Democracy Whites in a changing South Africa

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 25 - 27 SEPTEMBER

Friday 25 September 1987

### Public Meeting

8.00 pm "Towards Democracy: Whites in a changing South Africa"

Venue: Wits Arcade

Chairperson: Sheena Duncan, Vice-President of the SACC and former National President of the Black Sash.

Speakers: Dr F Van Zyl Slabbert, IDASA Director of Policy and Planning.  
Bob Tucker, Managing Director of the South African Permanent Building Society.  
Prof Abram Viljoen, IDASA Director, Northern Transvaal Region.  
~~Is-Smangaliso Mhahlewa, Secretary General of the SAGBE.~~  
Rapu Molekane, SAYCO General Secretary

Saturday 26 September 1987

8.00 am Registration

Venue: Wits Arcade

9.00 am Plenary: "South Africa in Crisis"

Venue: Wits Arcade

Chairperson: Sir Richard Luyt, Ex-Vice Chancellor, UCT.

Speakers: Prof Mike Savage, Head of Sociology Department, UCT.  
Sefako Nyaka, Journalist, Weekly Mail.  
Jan van Eck, Independent MP.

10.30 am Tea

11.00 am Forums: "The cost of apartheid"

Delegates can choose to attend one of the following forums:

A. "Economic stagnation and international isolation"

Speakers: Tony Gilson, Chairman, Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce.  
Prof Peter Vale, Director of the Institute for Social and Economic Research, Rhodes University.

B. "Learning and teaching under apartheid"

Speakers: Steyn Krige, Former Principal Woodmead School.  
Steve Kromberg, NUSAS President  
Academic speaker

C. "The deafening silence: No news is bad news"

Speakers: Rory Riordan, Operation Real South Africa  
Ameen Akhalwaya, Editor of "The Indicator"

D. "Living in a war torn society"

Speakers: ECC speaker  
Marion Lacey, Department of Political Studies, Rhodes University.

E. "Sporting and cultural isolation"

Speakers: Dr Andre Odendaal, History Department, UWC.  
Prof Ampie Coetzee, Afrikaans Department, UWC.

1.00 pm Lunch

2.30 pm Plenary: "Forces for Change"

Venue: Wits Arcade

Chairperson: Prof Eddie Webster, Industrial Sociology Department, Wits University.

Speakers: Dr Tom Lodge, Political Studies Department, Wits University.  
PFP speaker - Robin Carlisle, Presidents Council.

3.30 pm Tea

4.00 pm Plenary: "Forces for Change" continued

Azhar Cachalia, UDF National Treasurer.  
Sydney Mufamadi, Assistant General Secretary, Cosatu.

5.30 pm

The speakers will be available to answer further questions on an informal basis.

6.30 pm Buffet Supper

7.30 pm Entertainment

Venue: GR Bozzoli Complex, Wits University.

Sunday 27 September 1987

9.30 am Perspectives: "Whites in a changing South Africa"

Chairperson: Dr Jackie Cock, Sociology Department, Wits University.

Speakers: Wynand Malan, Independent MP.

Rev Nico Smith, NG Kerk of Africa and Theology Department, UNISA.

Mike Evans, lawyer, former chairperson of the ECC, Western Cape.

PFP speaker

A speaker giving a township perspective - ERIC HOLDEN NECC

11.30 am Open session followed by lunch

During this break anti-apartheid organisations will staff information points

1.00 pm Workshops: "Ways of Working for Change"

A. "Parliament: What are the possibilities?"

The workshop will look at the potentials and limitations of the tricameral parliament.

B. "Churches: Searching for a just peace"

The workshop will deal with ways in which the church can help bring about change.

C. "Business as usual?"

The workshop will look at the role the business community is playing and what role it could play to pressurise for change.

D. "Breaking the silence"

Media restrictions are destroying freedom of the press and preventing South Africans from knowing what is going on in their own country. The workshop will deal with ways of opposing curbs on freedom of speech.

E. "Countering repression"

State repression and forced removals continue to affect black people. The workshop will look at how whites can most effectively campaign against repression and removals and support the victims of state action.

F. "Preserving academic freedom"

Attempts by the universities to meet the challenges of the future have come under heavy state attack. The workshop will deal with ways in which university staff, students and the broader public can oppose the attack on academic freedom and make the universities more relevant for the South Africa of tomorrow.

G. "A different role for professionals"

The workshop will deal with ways in which professionals can help to contribute towards change.

H. "For our children's future"

Apartheid education not only affects black scholars. White school students are also affected by Christian National Education and segregated schooling. The workshop will deal with ways that teachers, school students and parents can act to ensure a better education for all.

I. "In tune with change"

The workshop will deal with ways in which whites involved in the cultural sphere can contribute towards change.

J. "Extra-parliamentary organisation"

The workshop will explore the role of extra-parliamentary organisations in the white community such as the UDF.

K. "Opposing militarisation"

The workshop will look at ways in which whites can work against the increasing militarisation of our society and for a just peace.

3.00 pm Tea

### Public Meeting

3.30 pm "Towards the Future"

Chairperson: Dr David Webster

Speakers: Christo Nel, Business Consultant.

Cyril Ramaphosa, General Secretary of NUM.

Rev Frank Chikane, General Secretary of SACC.

Motions and resolutions.

5.00 pm Press Conference

**REGISTRATION:** From 4.00 pm Friday 25th Sept. and throughout the Conference for individual sessions

**VENUE:** The Arcade, Wits University

# E.C.C. PRETORIA

WRITTEN REPORT TO N.C. AUGUST 1988

Hi from the NEW Pretoria ECC. We had a great weekend away and although not everyone attended that should have attended, it proved to be very inspiring and motivation is high at this point in time. For the first time since the S.O.F. we feel we know where we're going and how we're going to get there. SO... keep an eye on Pta. Things are going to start happening here.

We have a core group that is pretty tight knit at this stage and are busy drawing in our less active members. Minette will elaborate on the new structure and functioning if necessary.

Thanks to Durban for their news and package of info. We'll hopefully be seeing some of them when we're in Durban at year-end. We will also be sending regular info out to other regions so please let us have an up-dated postal address list.

P.O. Box 35889  
Menlo Park 0102

## ① FUNDRAISING:

- slow in Pretoria
- we've raised money mostly through selling T-shirts, Faces Favourites and posters
- were getting our associate membership going properly now and this will bring in some solid funding at local level. Strong interest has been shown by people wishing to become associate members.
- a couple of members are planning to have regular Pizza-sales at shopping centres soon. This has proven popular in the past & good for funding.
- we will be having tables at a school fete in Pta on 24<sup>th</sup> 18. Should help to bring in money.
- our new treasurer has also been delegated the task of initiating fund raising campaigns & activities. We hope to present a series of activities for this purpose.
- looking at becoming self sufficient. (in case of govt action.)

## 2. Elections:

- limited discussion taken place.
- mostly people have felt the need to get involved and use the elections to our advantage.
- suggested actions: challenge candidates at public meets  
: use this to bring the issues of JMC's and whose controlling the city councils to public attention eg "is your vote really counting?" "do you really have a say?"
- Pta situation is unique. AFP and NDM combined to set up Pretoria 2000 (a non party political organisation)
- they have offered to mail 2000 David Bruce pamphlets for us. We can use this to our advantage.

- we also intended hosting forums about election issues and doing pamphlet drops.
- we did a drop at Worralls meeting in Pla and had a fairly good response by people there.
- our feeling is that we should take a neutral stand. It isn't really our job to encourage or discourage voting.
- the feeling is that possibly 6 Pla 2000 candidates getting into office would be of some limited benefit in the future (eg use of city hall for meets etc).
- we have a problem in that Mamelodi Civic and Mamelodi Youth Org. want to know what our position is and why we think the way we do. They have however been understanding about our position.

- ③ AGMs - haven't really been implemented here.
- not much discussion around the issue as we felt it's an issue to be dealt with once things are going properly.

#### ④ Assessment of National Structures.

- structure seems to be OK.
- we've had good attendance at meets etc by National people (after complaining about lack of it for so long).
- the organizers seem to be getting around more from our point of view. How do other regions see them?
- possibly job descriptions need to be redefined after an assessment by reps and office bearers.

National meets could be more regular. Feeling that we would feel more contact at regional levels should be instituted. Possibly set up regional co-ordinator positions.

- are they covering areas sufficiently.

#### German Tour.

- in favour of the tour.
- who's it being hosted by and what is their image like locally & here.
- great! as long as there can be no nasty links made and it won't cause hassles in the long term.
- the more international contact we have the better.
- as far as motivations for reps go, were in favour of whoever is sent. Were behind Rob Goldman. Unfortunately we don't know people from other regions (which is difficult for us) but would feel comfortable with the decision of other regions.
- Rob's motivation seems solid enough.
- sorry we can't comment more. (We would eventually like to see Pla names on nomination lists).

#### Logo.

- we all tend to think that the old logo has a special place in our hearts (very sentimental!!!)
- but if image needs jacking up, the logo isn't going to do it alone.
- people (public) know our emblem and to change it might create a problem.
- we would however like to see it used on T-shirts etc as per proposal, but not as a replacement to our old logo.

## Durban Cultural Studies Book.

- GREAT!
- this has been excellent for our resources and education of members.
- has given us a lot of insight in areas never really touched before.
- congrats to Durban C.S and Durban branch.

## Namibia.

- were keen on proposal no. 3.
- unfortunately Pretoria might not be ideal for a public meet.
- thought we could host a joint meet with other organisations.
- we would have to see how our involvement would fall in with national action due to strength of our branch.
- Proposals 1 & 2 could be integrated into one action. We felt that possibly actions 1 & 2 could be used as ongoing methods of highlighting the issue, but that 3 should be a specific action. (Build up to action 3).

## Angola

- were happy with JTB meeting.
- not much action in Pretoria due to busy climate.
- try and incorporate Namibia/435/Angola into a single issue.
- cost of war (lives & money) deaths of conscripts. Is it worth it? Why/what for are young people dying.

- why did they die? what was the point of the war? Didn't the govt just stall for time? Unita's time?

- still conflict in region.
- isn't UNITA still active → SFA support. Are we really withdrawing or is Unita our surrogate force.

## P.O.A

K.Y.R.

- good meeting.
- signed up a good number of people.
- had enquiries about ECC through sales of books.
- book distribution not as we would have liked but were pushing it on an ongoing basis.
- ads in papers & leaflet drops still to be done on an ongoing basis.
- our coord comm will plan more in depth follow-up action for the next few months.
- Camps start ± Oct → Jan → we are going to push for exposure in this time again.

Re ECC August iss

## PRETORIA REGION REPORT

B2.2

### Morale

The morale is very good. The group is enthusiastic and committed. New people are joining and we can have up to 15 people at a meeting. The group hasn't achieved too much yet but it is fairly positive about the future.

### Security

There has been no police or right-wing harrasement, so security for meetings became fairly slack. Recently, this has been tightened up and the group has started looking at general security issues and a security workshop is scheduled.

### Activities

Continued to enlarge the mailing list - includes PFP, UNISA lecturers, Cathsoc, some Black Sash and other names gathered on an individual basis.

Two meetings have been held with scholars and parents, where we gave talks on Cadets, Alternative Service options and the Rights of Conscripts. This type of activity has been identified as a very effective way of working in Pretoria and we hope to hold several such meetings with different groupings.

Out of the above meetings, it was requested that we print a pamphlet on the rights of conscripts and cadets. The pamphlet has been drawn up and is waiting to be printed.

Contact has been made with PFP Youth and IDASA and this process will be continued with other organisations in Pretoria.

The National Organisator was with us for about two weeks and Nick helped us to focus on certain aspects. Target areas were indentified and they include students, scholars and parents, and churches. Although no official sub-committees exist, the group has been divided and ways of working in these areas are being examined. As regards the emphasis on the Conscript, at this stage the area with the most potential appears to be the conscripted scholar or student.

As yet, we have no direct access to tertiary education institutions but we have students from Tukkies, Pretoria College for Education, Technikon and the Nurses Home in the group and we hope to extend our influence indirectly through these people.

### Conclusion

~~There~~ An ECC speaker at Tukkies - along to other orgs.  
NUSAS regrouped into another org.

An area of concern is the predominance of English people in a mostly Afrikaans enviroment. The group is aware that this is a problem and effort will be made to encourage more Afrikaans people to join.

The group is fairly stable nad Pretoria as a region is moving slowly ahead. Hopefully we will soon be able to contribute more to the overall movement.

Pretoria sends regards to all the other regions and is looking foreward to meeting people at conference.

PRETORIA  
OCTOBER 1987

Got a school student involved.  
Now a general schoolsgp is being started in Pra.  
Pra is setting goals accurately. v. NB.

REPORT OF PRETORIA ECC

HISTORY & STRUCTURE:

Pretoria ECC started in 1986 about a month before the SOE was declared. The initial support was very good but this dwindled after the emergency. Pretoria became fairly successful and was running mini campaigns (Yellow Ribbon Campaign) but relied fairly heavily on National. Then with a combination of the December vacation, raid on members houses at a stage when they were not ready to handle them and personal problems of members, Pretoria ECC virtually collapsed.

In April 1987 the National Coordinator conducted a series of interviews with individuals and with his help, it was decided to disband the old exec and structure and start afresh. It was decided to initially build up a core group who were aware of security risks through internal education and at the same time establish a mailing list.

ECC Pretoria consists of a group of 9 regular members with about another 3 who attend occasionally. Recently, however, we have recruited 2 more people and a number of others have <sup>shown</sup> interest and will be drawn into activities.

At present there is no formal structure and the group operates as a single body with a rotating chair. One person is in charge of national contact and after some confusion with the financial function, one person has assumed responsibility as treasurer.

MORALE:

Being inexperienced, the group got off to a slow start and was also noticeably effected by the July vacation. However, the active members are very keen and eager to do something active and recently the group has taken a definite step forward.

SECURITY:

The group has followed the usual security measures of not using the phone and having 1st and 2nd meeting places. Since regrouping, there has been no security or right wing action but then we have't really tested the reaction as yet through public activities.

PAST ACTIVITIES:

Internal Education: A session was conducted by Johannesburg members on the Democratic movement and where ECC fits in as well as a report back on the previous national meeting. The tours by Ivan Toms and Lawry also proved very interesting and informative.

A Mailing list of about 150 - 200 people has been established and is currently being extended. National pamphlets have been sent out.

## PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

### Definite Activities:

1. Speaker from IDASA  
ECC will help in a construction project in Mamelodi organised by IDASA in consultation with the community involved.
2. Official contact with other groupings in Pretoria, ie. Black Sash, Cathsoc, PFP Youth, Pretoria Institute for Reconciliation.
3. Extension of Mailing List

### Proposed Activities:

1. House meeting explaining the rights of conscripts as well as alternative service option with three different groups
  - a) School Kids
  - b) Tech Students who have shown interest.
  - c) Cathsoc
2. Stall at the flea Market selling the Forces Favorite Books and T-Shirt (being investigated) and maybe buttons.
3. Semi-public meeting at a church hall or a meeting on Campus when the VVAW Tour is conducted.

Pretoria ECC sends regards to all other regions and wishes to thank National and Johannesburg for their support and help.



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**END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)**

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