

Finger curled tight - light squeeze.
Upon the hell bent terror bearing down on me
As I lie in the dirt
With my corporal behind me.

Its 's not until you've had to kill that you understand
he says
Once you've understood there's no return.

The hell bent terror bears down on you
from every wall that clothes you and your square bed and shining
floors and screaming corporals.

Who sit with you on Sundays watching rugby.

We love another, work together, sneak through the grass together
Save each others lives from the hell bent terror bearing down on
you..

And soon the night descends with every cigarette glow drawing
death
With every careless move
With every doubt which shadows your eyes drawing death from
the hell bent terror bearing down on you.

Until you can't remember if you've ever had a friendly conversa-
tion with a black man, with a man outside the white nation who
protects you from the hell bent terror bearing down on you.

And if you ever feel drawn to the sound of kwela on the
streetcorner
You're supposed to remember the hell bent terror
You listen no longer
You turn up your memories of the cigarette glow drawing
death from the black of the night where the cocking of a rifle
travels 500m to the ears of the hell bent terror bearing down
on you.

And if you travel through the dry starvation of the homeland
homeless
You ought to remember the hell bent terror.

But as the terror fades and you re-adjust you may find yourself
listening to the kwela on the streetcorner with the nostalgia of a
child crying for a mother removed by the lack of a dompas.

And if you walk through the ghetto
On a kwela-living evening
you may well remember
The red glow of a brazier warming the hands of a cold night-
watchman.

And you realise
That the hell bent terror is bearing down on you.

And you realise
That the hell bent terror is bearing down on you.

You may ask yourself
Who is the hell bent terror

And you realise
That the hell bent terror was a poster on the wall of your
bungalow.

And you realise
That the hell bent terror was a cardboard cut-out on the
shooting range.

And you begin to wonder.
If there isn't someone sitting in Pretoria
Cutting out hell-bent terrors.

And posting them on the walls
To scare the children into believing
That if you don't sit tight
When you hear the kuda

Then the postman arrives with a brown envelope
You tear it open
You notice the red stamp
You recognise the camp
Your heart quickens
The words glow brighter
The letter swirls
The nation calls
The night descends
You hear the cocking of a rifle
Your cigarette butt glows and you realise
That the hell bent terror is bearing down on you.

The hell bent terror is going to leap off the wall and bear down
on you.

TOMS GETS 21 MONTHS

The Grahamstown End Conscription Campaign strongly condemns the 21 month sentence imposed on conscientious objector Dr Ivan Toms.

After refusing to report for a camp late last year Dr Toms was arrested and charged with failing to report for military service.

Last Thursday Ivan was given the maximum sentence of 21 months without political prisoner status. Despite having just sentenced Ivan as a common criminal, Magistrate A P Kotze said Toms was "not a menace to society. You are the opposite, an asset".

Dr Toms served the Crossroads squatter community for seven years as a medical doctor. His experiences there and the role played by the army in the townships in stifling legitimate opposition to apartheid convinced him of the impossibility of continuing with any form of service in the SADF.

ECC believes that Dr Toms' work in Crossroads is the kind of National Service that will build a non-racial democratic South Africa we can all be proud of.

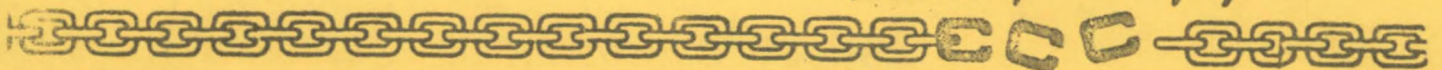
As a committed and active Christian, Ivan could have applied for objection on religious grounds, but his moral and political beliefs prompted him to take a stand in support of conscripts without this option. "I hope that I, and the others who follow me, might in some small way pressurise the government to change the law and provide real alternatives for objectors", says Ivan.

Grahamstown ECC calls on you to support Dr Toms and the many other unwilling conscripts who have no options of constructive alternative service.

SUPPORT ALL CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS -

SIGN THE PETITION

End Conscription Campaign



ISSUED BY END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN

END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN SURVEY RESULTS

A recent survey has revealed that the majority of campus:

- opposes compulsory military conscription into the SADF
- opposes the presence of the SADF in the townships and in Angola
- supports the implementation of Alternative National Service
- supports the aims of the End Conscription Campaign

The survey was run for 2 weeks and 520 students (16% of campus) responded.

Here are the results of the survey:

	Yes	No
• Should military service be compulsory in S.A.?	12%	86%
• Do you think there should be alternatives to military service?	92%	6%
• Do you think that alternative service should be available not only to religious pacifists but to everyone?	72%	7%
• Should alternative service be the same length as military service?	75%	21%
• Should alternative service be restricted to government institutions?	14%	81%
• Is the presence of the SADF in the townships justified?	15%	75%
• Is the presence of the SADF in Angola justified?	17%	70%
• Do you support the aims of the End Conscription Campaign?	72%	15%

“

Effectively, this survey has shown that there is broad support for the ECC on campus and that Rhodes students have added their voice to the growing number of people from all sectors, calling for alternatives to military service.

A more detailed analysis of the survey results will be made available in the future.

”

We know that many National Servicemen are dissatisfied with the present system of National Service. We believe that these people are prepared to serve their country and that constructive forms of Alternative Service should exist.

In view of this, we, the undersigned, call for:

- Alternative non-military forms of National Service to be made available to all conscripts
- Alternative Service to be made available in religious, welfare and community organisations
- Troops to have the right to refuse to serve in the townships
- Troops to have the right to refuse to serve in Namibia, Angola or elsewhere outside South Africa's borders

- Patrick Tandy (SRC President)
- Ray Hartley (SRC Vice President)
- Simon Pamphilon (SRC)
- C Morley (SRC)
- Louise Vincent (SRC)
- Shelley Corrigan (SRC)
- Jon Rees (SRC)
- Pam Sykes (SRC and Rhodexo acting editor)
- S Meyer (SRC)
- P Andersson (SRC)
- Rod Dixon (SRC)
- Geoff Woods (lecturer)
- Prof TM Letcher (Chemistry)
- Prof JB Daniel (Geography)
- Pete Hawthorn (articled clerk)
- Ron Hall (lecturer)
- MG Whisson (Dean of Arts)
- EK Moorcroft (farmer and former PFP MP)
- Roelien Theron (freelance journalist)
- B Davenport (community worker)
- V Mchunu (BSM Media committee)
- Prof Gavin Stewart (Head of Department of Journalism and Media Studies)
- Sue Middleton (NUSAS regional organiser and lecturer)
- Dr Jeff Peires (lecturer)
- Charles Riddle (lecturer)
- Graham Hayman (lecturer)
- Rod Amner (SASPU exec)
- Robin Taylor (NUSAS Projects co-ordinator)
- Marijana Baleta (Rhodexo Editor)
- Christine du Plessis (Psychology intern and teaching assistant)
- Professor Malvern van Wyk Smith (Head of English Department)
- Prof Hummel (History lecturer)
- Gavin Ivey (psychology intern)
- A Campbell (housewife)
- N Newman (Rhodexo editor)
- L Lazarus (SAJAI chair)
- S Mokgothu (Creative Arts chair)
- N Hodgson (Womens' Movement chair)
- Jean Fairbairn (lecturer)
- Andre Dornmehl (Gaming Society chair)
- Noel Ndhlovu (Rhodexo acting editor)
- Toni Petra (Young Progressives National Chair)
- Bill Davies (Professor of Development Studies)
- Raymond Hartle (journalist)
- E Higgins (Professor Emeritus)
- Marian Lacey (lecturer)
- David Butler (teacher)
- Jenny Butler (administrator)
- MJ Hartzenberg (Head Librarian, G'town Public Library)
- Prof Terence Beard (Head of Politics)
- M Barker (community worker)
- Prof PD Terry (Head of Computer Sciences)
- Prof Rodney Davenport (Head of History Department)
- SM Maclennar (librarian)
- C Davies (mother)
- R Smith (Social Worker)
- Dr M Roux (lecturer)
- Alison Love (Womens' Movement treasurer)
- Alex Yazbek (MA student)
- A Beater (Golf committee)
- Julian Cobbing (lecturer)
- M-L Peires (lecturer)
- Anthony Collins (Oppidan Board)
- Kim du Plessis (Oppie Media officer)
- Monty Roodt (lecturer)

Grahamstown ECC May '88

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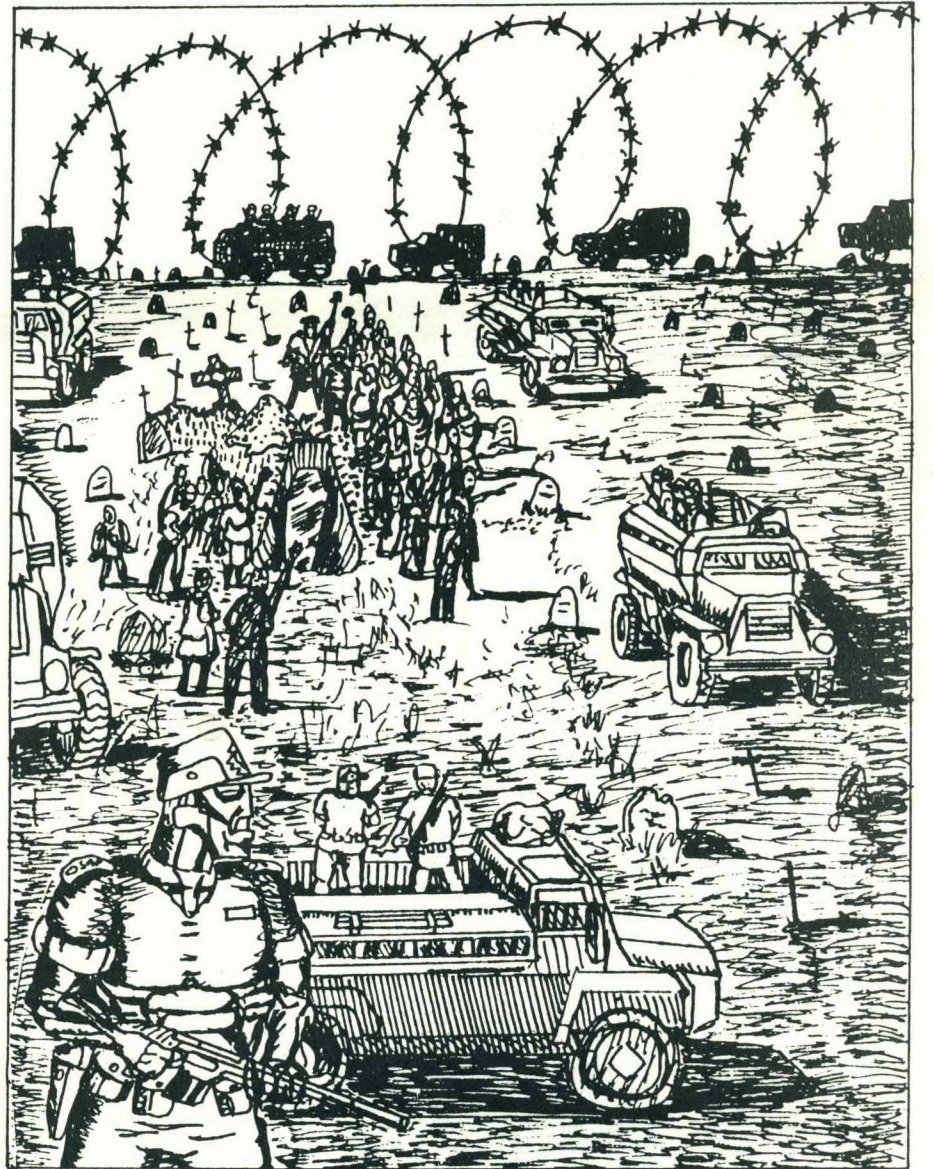
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A bridge too far

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However, thanks to censorship, and the mercenary news values of the commercial press, most South Africans have precious little knowledge of what is going on there.

After months of rumours, news of massive battles in Southern Angola was forced onto the front page of South African newspapers in November last year.

High conscript casualties -- 21 SADF casualties in 14 days -- were announced by the SADF. Details of the battles were provided by the Angolan News Agency (Angop) and foreign news crews.

Since then, progress of the battle has had to be gleaned from sporadic and notoriously vague SADF press releases, the occasional foreign news report, and the whispered accounts of South African conscripts who were there.

The most telling press releases -- which indicate that the battle is going horribly wrong for the SADF -- have been the casualty figures. Since September, the SADF has announced over 46 combat deaths -- 37 of them conscripts.

This figure does not include deaths among its black battalions, which bear the brunt of the combat. Angolan sources put the SADF casualty figures closer to 140.

The scale and intensity of the fighting for the strategically-pivotal Cuito Cuanavale has never been equalled in the 13-year-old Angolan war. For the first time the use of tanks by the South Africans, and poison gas by their opponents, was announced by the SADF.

The Angolans are using sophisticated helicopter gunships, and advanced Mig-23 fighter aircraft.

The battle has also provided indications that South Africa has lost its crucial air superiority in the region. FAPLA pilots and gunners have undertaken ten-year training programmes.

With sophisticated radar protection, Angolan troops have supplied South African readers with a number of reports of missing or dead SADF pilots. Angop says the SADF has lost six aircraft since September.

Indeed, the shift to artillery, rather than air bombardment, of Angolan positions in Cuito Cuanavale, indicates an important change in the military balance of power in the region.

While the battle was on the go, the first major signs of discontent among South African and allied forces surfaced -- 400 South West African Territorial Force troops were reported to have refused to fight in Angola.

As the director of Rhodes University's Institute for Social and Economic Research, Professor Peter Vale, has argued, Cuito Cuanavale may well "be a bridge too far for the SADF."

A withdrawal of SADF troops from Angola was announced in December. However, last month the SADF announced the withdrawal "was slowing". One wonders how a withdrawal which has taken four months could possibly slow any more.

It is easy, possibly a cliché, to compare South Africa's Angola to America's Vietnam. There are, after all, many similarities. But there is a major difference. The American public knew what was going on in Vietnam, and therefore put a stop to the war. We don't know.

Want to dance to a different tune?

Join an ECC sub-committee and have a **rave**

- Media
- Churches
- Contact
- Creative Action.

Contact Pauline Higgins (28131) Sylvia du Plessis (22023x337), or Joy Bownes-Roos (29650)



Grahamstown ECC May '88

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THE largest battle in Africa since World War 2 -- at one stage involving 7000 South African troops, Angolan army chiefs say -- is still raging around the town of Cuito Cuanavale, 300 kilometres inside Angola.

However, thanks to censorship, and the mercenary news values of the commercial press, most South Africans have precious little knowledge of what is going on there.

After months of rumours, news of massive battles in Southern Angola was forced onto the front page of South African newspapers in November last year.

High conscript casualties -- 21 SADF casualties in 14 days -- were announced by the SADF. Details of the battles were provided by the Angolan News Agency (Angop) and foreign news crews.

Since then, progress of the battle has had to be gleaned from sporadic and notoriously vague SADF press releases, the occasional foreign news report, and the whispered accounts of South African conscripts who were there.

The most telling press releases -- which indicate that the battle is going horribly wrong for the SADF -- have been the casualty figures. Since September, the SADF has announced over 46 combat deaths -- 37 of them conscripts.

This figure does not include deaths among its black battalions, which bear the brunt of the combat. Angolan sources put the SADF casualty figures closer to 140.

The scale and intensity of the fighting for the strategically-pivotal Cuito Cuanavale has never been equalled in the 13-year-old Angolan war. For the first time the use of tanks by the South Africans, and poison gas by their opponents, was announced by the SADF.

The Angolans are using sophisticated helicopter gunships, and advanced Mig-23 fighter aircraft.

The battle has also provided indications that South Africa has lost its crucial air superiority in the region. FAPLA pilots and gunners have undertaken ten-year training programmes.

With sophisticated radar protection, Angolan troops have supplied South African readers with a number of reports of missing or dead SADF pilots. Angop says the SADF has lost six aircraft since September.

Indeed, the shift to artillery, rather than air bombardment, of Angolan positions in Cuito Cuanavale, indicates an important change in the military balance of power in the region.

While the battle was on the go, the first major signs of discontent among South African and allied forces surfaced -- 400 South West African Territorial Force troops were reported to have refused to fight in Angola.

As the director of Rhodes University's Institute for Social and Economic Research, Professor Peter Vale, has argued, Cuito Cuanavale may well "be a bridge too far for the SADF."

A withdrawal of SADF troops from Angola was announced in December. However, last month the SADF announced the withdrawal "was slowing". One wonders how a withdrawal which has taken four months could possibly slow any more.

It is easy, possibly a cliché, to compare South Africa's Angola to America's Vietnam. There are, after all, many similarities. But there is a major difference. The American public knew what was going on in Vietnam, and therefore put a stop to the war. We don't know.

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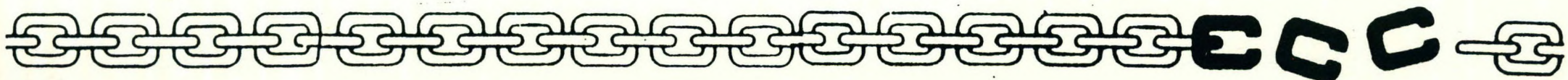


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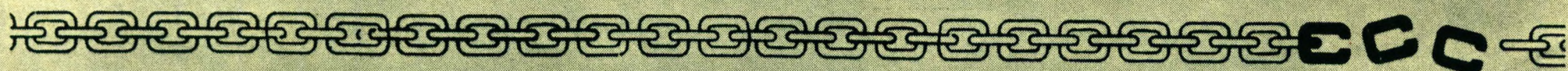


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