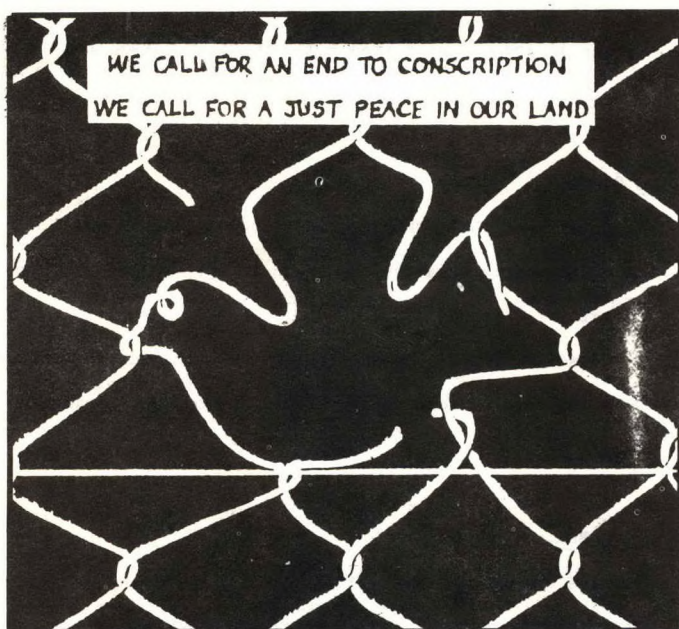


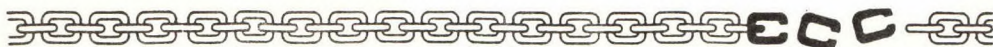


FAST for a  
JUST PEACE

# ***Fast for a Just Peace***



# **CATHEDRAL PROGRAMME**



ECC CATHEDRAL PROGRAMME: Monday 30 September to Monday 7 October

VENUE: Cathedral Crypt

MONDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

- 1 pm Video on Vietnam - protest and the building of an anti-war movement in the United States.
- 8 pm Rape Crisis Workshop on " A scream from silence "

TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER

- 1 pm Molo Songololo Puppet Show
- 8 pm " Celebration of Peace " A candle-light service in St John's Chapel in the cathedral. An opportunity for all to demonstrate their fellowship with Ivan Toms and their personal commitment to the cause of justice and peace in our country.

WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER

- 1pm " Oppositional Art - Protest and Accomodation in Black Art " Slide-tape show presented by Gavin Younge of Michaelis School of Art.
- 8 pm " Threads " A video on the consequences of nuclear warfare. John Weinberg of Koeberg Alert will introduce the video and answer questions.

THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER

- 1.15 pm Justice and Peace prayer service in the cathedral.
- 8 pm Detentions Workshop. Know your rights - Ad Hoc Detentions Action Committee (ADAC). Psychological effects of detention on detainees and family. Effects on organizations - Detention Treatment Team (DTT).

\*\*\*\*\* "ART FOR PEACE" 17 SEPT-7 OCT BAXTER THEATRE FOYER \*\*\*\*\*  
OVER 100 WORKS BY 30 OF CAPE TOWN'S LEADING ARTISTS

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- 1 pm Latin America video or slide-tape show with David Fig of the UCT Sociology Department.
- 8 pm ECC Open Forum: " Unrest " - What the SABC Hasn't Shown Us, Part II. Venue: Cathedral Hall. Overseas television footage plus a short informal talk - " Impressions from the townships "

SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER

- 1 pm Women Writers Workshop
- 2.30 pm Video on the British Miners Strike. Jeremy Krikler of the Miners Support Group will give a short talk and answer questions.
- 8 pm " The Trial of Dedan Kimathi " The Community Art Project's production of Ngugi's play. There will be a small charge for those who can afford it. Production of this play is dependant upon the conditions laid down by the Publications Appeal Board. For confirmation ask in the cathedral crypt or phone Mark at 654987.

SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER

- 8 pm ECC national fast day begins. Called to support our call for the withdrawal of troops from the townships and our vision of a future peace founded upon justice. All who are able to are invited to spend this 24 hours, or any part of it, in St George's Cathedral with Ivan Toms. There will be a Sunday evening programme.

MONDAY 7 OCTOBER

A programme of activities will run throughout the day, including songs, film and art. More details will be posted in the Cathedral Crypt or phone Mark at 654987.

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# PEACE RALLY



**Beyers Naudé**

**Archbishop Russell**

**Molly Blackburn**

**Mike Evans**

**CITY HALL**

**8 PM**

**MON**

**OCT 7**

# FAST FOR A JUST PEACE

TIME: 24 HOURS

PLACE: WHEREVER YOU ARE

DATE: 8 PM SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER - 8 PM MONDAY 7 OCTOBER

VIGIL FOR PEACE: THE FAST WILL START WITH A VIGIL AT 7 PM  
ON 6 OCTOBER AT TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL CHAPEL,  
WESTERN ROAD.

This is a national fast called to show out commitment to a just peace in South Africa. We call on you to make this act of solidarity with those who propose negotiated instead of military solutions to South Africa's problems.

## ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR A JUST PEACE

conducted by :

BISHOP BRUCE EVANS

REVEREND GEORGE IRVINE

REVEREND MATIWANE

FATHER MARTIN



TIME: 7 PM

DATE: MONDAY 7 OCTOBER

PLACE: St AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL, PROSPECT TERRACE

The service will address the lack of peace in our country, while offering hopeful alternatives to the violence. The central theme will be the need to work for a JUST PEACE in our land.



*End Conscription Campaign*



# CHRISTIAN YOUTH FAST

8:00 am Saturday 28 Sept

TO

8:00 pm Sunday 29 Sept



# WE ARE FASTING FOR:

- the lifting of the state of emergency
- troops out of the townships
- the release of all detainees and political prisoners
- negotiation with the true leaders of the people
- justice and peace in our land

\*\*\*\*\*

South Africa is facing a crisis, as never before. Over 2 500 people have been detained in 8 weeks of the State of Emergency. It is striking that in this INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR 60 % of these, are younger than 25 years old.

More than 650 people have been killed from September last year. Almost everyone has been affected to this state of affairs. Brothers have been shot.... sisters sjambokked,... mother's and babies teargassed... father's have been detained. The cry for Justice and Peace in our land has never been greater.

That is why, on the week-end of the 28/29th September, as we all fast, we will think of those who have suffered and rededicate ourselves to working for a better future in our country.

From the 18th of September, to the 7th of October, the E.C.C. (End Conscription Campaign), will run a 3 week "Troops out of the Townships" fast. We support and pray for our brothers:-

Dr. Ivan Toms (Cape Town)

Harold Winkler (Johannesburg)

Richard Steele (Durban)

in their 3 week fast

\*\*\*\*\*

Lastly, you are invited to ask your friends and family to fast as well. There is a list on the next page for the names of those who want to fast.

Each person is encouraged to dedicate their fast to someone -: a brother, relative, or friend who has suffered in this time of crisis.

# Names Dedicated to

1		
2		
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14		

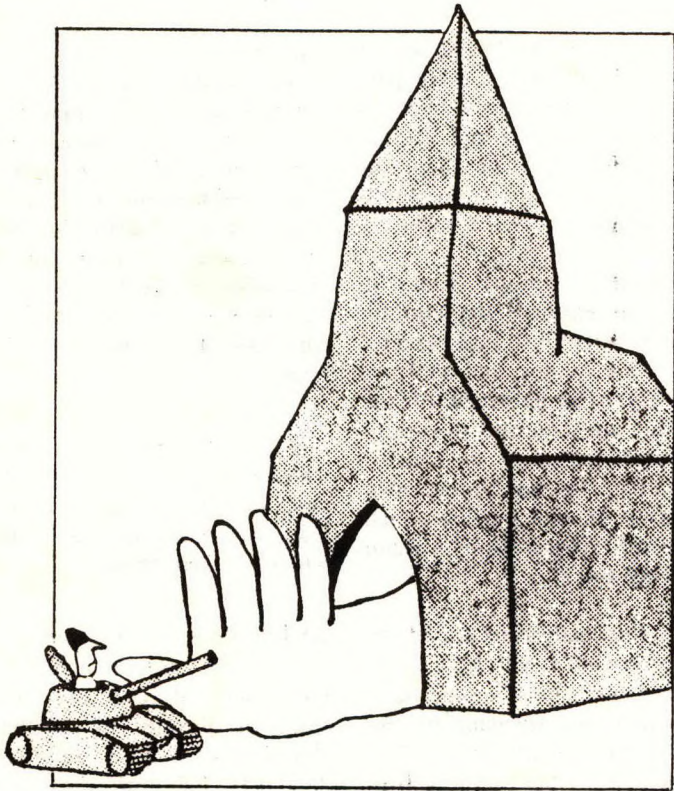
## PROGRAMME:

- 17 Sept SADF on mock trial
- 21 Sept ECC Dinner and launching of the 2 week relay fast
- 22 Sept Relay fast protesting against the presence of the troops in the townships  
and to show our commitment to working for peace starts  
Venue: Anglican Cathedral, Church Street  
INK. SEMINAR
- 29 Sept ECC stall at Sat market
- 6 Oct Day of prayer at the Anglican Cathedral, Church Street  
Eccumenical Church Servicetto launch the 24 hr 'Peace Fast'
- 7 Oct 24 hr 'Peace Fast.'  
Protest Public Meeting to break the fast

# **FAST**

FOR A

# **JUST PEACE**



**A CALL TO ALL CHRISTIANS**

**ECC**  
End Conscription Campaign



# Towards a JUST PEACE

The End Conscription Campaign wishes to invite all churches to participate in the Fast for a Just Peace which has been initiated as the central feature of a more general campaign calling for the withdrawal of troops from South Africa's townships.

The withdrawal of troops from the townships is an essential pre-requisite for any serious attempt to find peaceful solutions to the unrest and violence in our society. The presence of the South African army in the townships only aggravates the state of conflict in our country, forcing young men into a situation of civil warfare which belies the South African army's claim to be a "defence force".

Motivated by this analysis of our situation, we discern God's will for a deep peace in our land - not a superficial calm based upon the silencing of the cries of the oppressed people through force, but a peace built upon a true foundation of justice and equality. Thus the special relevance of the Fast for a Just Peace for Christians, believing as we do that reconciliation and justice form an integral unity within our faith.

Involvement in the Fast provides a unique opportunity for Christian communities to express opposition to state action in the townships, solidarity with those suffering in the present situation and commitment to a just peace in South Africa. Fasting has always played an important role within the Judaic-Christian tradition. In the Prophets, fasting is frequently linked with the cry of the righteous for justice and freedom:

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chain of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?" (Isaiah 58.6)

At this time, more than ever before in our history, our country needs prayer and signs of concrete commitment from its people. By participating in this act of personal sacrifice, we are demonstrating our deep concern as Christians for the violence and injustice prevalent in our country, thus affirming the fundamental Christian value of loving Christ through responding to the suffering of His people.

# How to participate

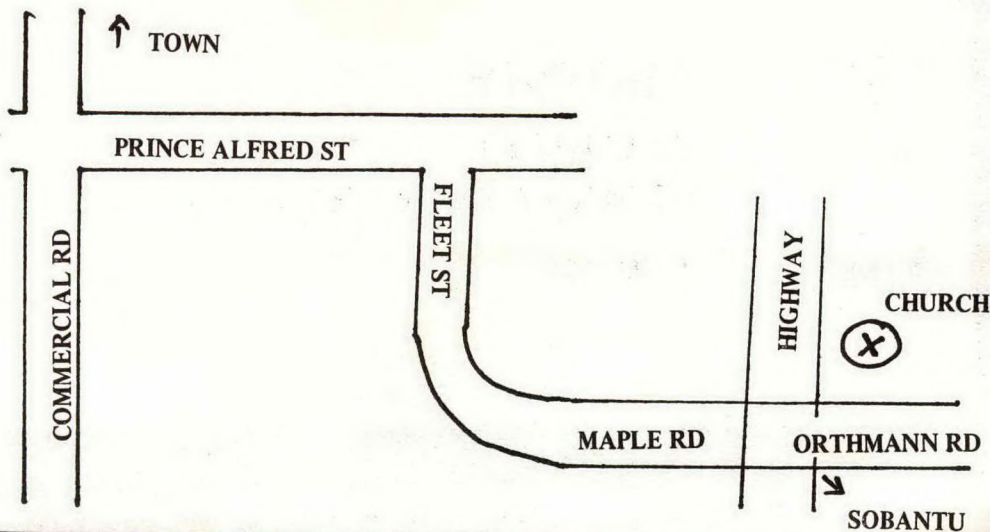
On Tuesday 17. September, International Day of Peace ECC began its three week campaign calling for a just peace for SADF out of the townships in South Africa and for individual conscripts to be given the right to choose. Through out the country various individuals have been fasting for three weeks on water. In Pietermaritzburg a two week relay fast (26.Sept.to 6.Oct.) is being held at the Anglican Cathedral, Church Street.

This fast will be culminated in a mass 24 hour fast on the 7.October for a just peace in South Africa. This peace fast has been endorsed by the South African Council of Churches and the South African Catholic Bishops Conference and so all Christians are invited to participate. As well as South Africans, there will be members of the international community will be fasting with us. Those people who would like

to, Are asked to donate the money they would have spent on food to PACSA (P.O. Box 2338, PMB) This will be forwarded to the SACC Relief Fund in the Eastern Cape, to aid victims of the violence.

This peace fast will be launched at an Ecumenical Service on Sunday 6. October at 5pm. This will be held at Orthmann Rd. Catholic Mission (St. Joan of Arc's). The service will be followed by a vigil. Anybody prepared to commit themselves to participating in this vigil may contact Anton – 34882pm or PACSA – 20052.

Any further information concerning the fast and related activities may be obtained from ECC Chair, Jac Boule-67788.





FAST FOR A JUST PEACE



# PUBLIC MEETING

SPEAKERS: HELEN JOSEPH  
ARCHBISHOP HURLEY  
REV TISANE  
ECC SPEAKER

DATE: 7 OCTOBER

VENUE: 92 LOOP ST  
ST MARY'S CENTRE HALL

TIME: 7.30 pm



ISSUED BY PMS ECC, Box 2332. PRINTED ON SRC PRESS, PMS.

E.C.C. PEACE FAST : PROGRAMME

- Sept Sun 22nd 7.30pm SERVICE to mark the beginning of the fast  
St. Anthony's Church, Centenary Rd.
- Mon 23rd Catholic Justice and Reconciliation Commission organizing
- Tue 24th Catholic Justice and Reconciliation Commission organizing
- Wed 25th World Council of Churches day of prayer for South Africa  
and Namibia
- Thu 26th
- Fri 27th Black Sash organizing
- Sat 28th Church Youth Groups organizing
- Sun 29th Quakers meet in Botanical Gardens 12-Ipm
- Mon 30th Conscientious Objectors Support Group organizing
- Oct Tue 1st 1.10pm Debate on the right to object: University of Natal  
campus
- Wed 2nd Students Union for Christian Action organizing
- Thu 3rd W.P.C.N. organizing
- Fri 4th Conscriptio Action Group organizing
- Sat 5th End Conscriptio Campaign organizing
- Sun 6th 12-Ipm Quakers meet in Botanical Gardens  
7.30pm SERVICE to mark the beginning of the 24-hour fast  
St. Anthony's Church, Centenary Rd.  
VIGIL to follow service
- Mon 7th 6pm ~~Solidarity evening: Breaking of the fast~~  
St. Anthony's Church Hall

FAST FOR A  
JUST PEACE



*End Conscription Campaign*



2000

# 3 Week Fast For A Just Peace

The central thrust of the ECC's "Troops out of the Townships" campaign, will be a 3 week fast for a just peace. Spear-heading this fast will be Dr Ivan Toms in Cape Town, and Harold Winkler in Johannesburg. They will fast from the 17th of September, International Day of Peace, until the 7th October, the day SADF troops first entered the townships last year. Richard Steele will fast in Durban for 2 weeks from the 22nd September. He is at present in detention. If not released before the 22nd, he will fast in jail.

At the same time as these fasts are taking place, solidarity relay fasts will take place in St Mary's Catholic Cathedral in Cape Town, St Augustine's Catholic Cathedral in Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown Anglican Cathedral and in Stellenbosch. In Durban there is a possibility of 3 people fasting for the two week period at St Anthony's Church in Greyville.

At all the fast venues regular daily activities will take place. The public are encouraged to participate in these.

## IVAN TOMS

Dr Ivan Toms, an active member of the Cape Town ECC, is a medical doctor who for the past 5 years has been involved in setting up and working in a team in the Empilisweni SACLA clinic - a Christian primary health care clinic serving the health needs of the 100 000 people who live in the Crossroads squatter camp. After graduating from the University of Cape Town in 1976 he served 2 years in the SADF. While in the SADF Ivan says that he was "able to reconcile the Christian injunction to love my enemy and the demand of the SADF to shoot him, so I applied for, and received, non-combatant status."

His experiences in Crossroads solidified these feelings. "There," says Ivan, "I have learned first hand of the viciousness of apartheid and the extreme oppression of the blacks. I have witnessed people shot indiscriminately by riot police and the SADF, people's shelters ruthlessly torn



down day in and day out for 3 weeks in 1983."

"Could I continue to serve in the SADF with war declared on the very people I work with and believe I am called by God to serve? Could I put on the SADF uniform - the same uniform that symbolises the oppressors in the townships? Some people want peace at any price, I believe the only peace that is meaningful is a just peace - where apartheid is abolished and people can live freely as citizens of a unified country, with a truly democratically elected government."

Ivan's views have convinced him to become a conscientious objector. He is liable to serve 3 years in jail if called up for further camps. In the meantime Ivan continues his work as a doctor as well as being an associate member of staff of the St John's parish, Wynberg.

"Fasting has a long Christian and political tradition", says Ivan. I have chosen to fast in order to protest against the oppression of blacks in what is now a civil war."

He is also concerned with the plight of the individual conscript. "The SADF's marching into the townships amounted to a declaration of war on fellow South

Africans. It is yet another step to uphold apartheid at all costs."

"In a situation like this where young men are expected to fire on fellow South Africans, the very least we can call for is that the individual conscript be given the right to decide not to go into the townships."

"For the three weeks that I fast in St George's Cathedral, Cape Town, my prayer is that many will recognise, with the ECC, the injustice of the use of troops in the townships, and will support the ECC's call - that troops be withdrawn from the townships now, and that we work for a just peace in our land."

"We call people nationally and internationally to join in a 24 hour fast to express solidarity with those who are suffering at the hands of the SADF in the townships and in so doing call with us for a just peace in South Africa."

## HAROLD WINKLER

Wits student Harold Winkler, an active member of ECC in Johannesburg, is fasting in support of the ECC's "Troops Out" call. "I face the dilemma of going into the townships myself," he says. "I was called up for the 13th of January next year. I do not believe that I can go to the army and remain sincere in my understanding of the Christian faith. I am therefore objecting to military service on religious grounds."



"Fasting is a time-honoured Christian tradition, being used for personal cleansing, and also for a whole nation to reflect on its situation, mourn its sinfulness, and petition God for help. Having grown up in a Christian family I have come to know fasting as an effective means of purification and protest. Therefore I have chosen this method of expressing my deep horror at what is happening in the townships."

"Fasting for three weeks will bring home to me that I am affected by all that goes on around me. The person on top of the Casspir could be my brother, or my friend - or me, and the one being sjambokked, teargassed, or shot could be my fellow-student from Wits. I feel that to put myself into such a situation or to support it, would be simply wrong."

"I believe that the fast will also help me personally, to reflect on my faith, and what that means for the situation in this country. Integrating my faith and life in this way is something I continually work towards, in the Young Christian Students, an ecumenical, non-racial student movement."

He sees his fasting as having a broader impact. Says Harold, "I hope that the fast will have effects on a far wider group of people. My particular concern is that the churches consider urgently where they stand in the growing conflict in South Africa. This fast is my small contribution towards initiating such processes, so that one day we may see a just peace in a non-racial, democratic South Africa."

## RICHARD STEELE

Richard Steele is the caretaker and programme coordinator of the Gandhi Phoenix settlement in Durban. He is an active member of the End Conscription Campaign and the Conscientious Objector Support Group. In 1980 he served 12 months in military detention for conscientious objection. During this time he fasted one day a week, and on one occasion for three days to protest repeated periods of solitary confinement.

Richard, who describes himself as a "political pacifist, committed to justice and equality through non-violent

action" is also involved in facilitating non-violent direct action training workshops.

He sees his fast as "a classic non-violent action in the face of massive violence on the part of the military, the state and even between community groups."

"When our social, political and emotional environment is in turmoil, we tend to react in stereotyped patterns, usually characterised by fear and

aggression. I see fasting as a conseious effort to step out of the spiral of such stereotyped behaviour," says Richard.

"I hope that the ECC fast will open up a space where we can be open in new ways to ourselves, each other, God, our environment and our society - I feel that this new openness can help us understand more fully what is happening in our country and how through our actions we can reach out for and grasp hold of a just peace."



**Sebokeng · Soweto  
Kwanobuhle · Tembisa  
Duduza · New Brighton  
Galeshewe · Bhongolethu · Joza  
KwaThema · Guguletu · Langa...**

**TROOPS OUT NOW !**



*End Conscription Campaign*

ISSUED BY: ECC, P.O. BOX 208, WOODSTOCK

PRINTED BY: ALLIE'S PRINTING SERVICES, COLLEGE RD, GREENHAVEN

# Fasting for a Just Peace

For two weeks from the 22 September to 7 October E.C.C. will be conducting a national campaign for troops out of the townships and a Just Peace. The central feature will be a First by Conscientious Objector, Richard Steele and others, leading to a mass 24-Hour fast on 7 October, the date when the SADF first occupied a township last year.

## Why the campaign?

Today the army is being used more extensively and with greater powers (particularly under the State of Emergency, than ever before. Throughout the country the troops are using violence to suppress the resistance of Black people to Apartheid.

There are continual allegations of township residents being indiscriminately beaten up, women being raped, looting, assaults on shoppers to break the consumer boycott and involvement in forced removals.

The army has not only failed to bring peace to the townships but is actually inflaming the situation. True peace can only prevail when the root causes of the conflict are eradicated.

JOIN THE CALL FOR TROOPS OUT

## Why the Fast as an action?

Fasting is a non-violent protest action of great symbolic strength and meaning whereby we can pressure the state to end conscription, withdraw troops from the townships or in the interim to give conscripts the right not to serve in the townships.

Fasting is an act of solidarity with township residents who suffer SADF brutality and contributes to building non-raciliasm by showing the extent of white opposition to apartheid and the SADF's role in 'defending' it.

Above all, it is an individual acknowledgement of the moral responsibility for one's actions and a statement of our commitment to working for a Just Peace in our land.

## Programme

September 22 - October 7, Richard Steele, a National serviceman and others will fast for two weeks. Everybody is welcome to visit and join in the public activities at lunch time and in the evenings. Events will include: talks and discussions on topical issues, slides and movies, displays, drama.

September 22 - Service to begin the fast.

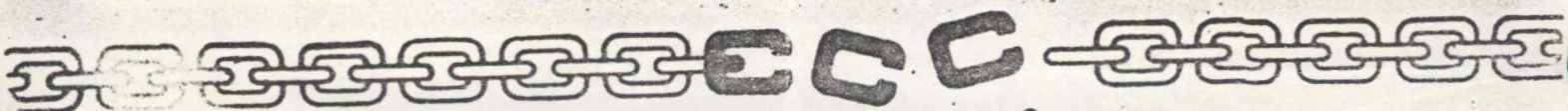
October 6 - Evening service/meeting to launch National 24-hour fast.

October 7 - Cultural evening of celebration to break the fast.

All events at St Anthony's Church, Centenary Road.

## Fast from October 6, 6pm for 24 hours

For more information, offers of help, letters of support or suggestions, please contact Loek 301-8088 or 284320, Richard 301-5663 or write to Peace Fast c/o Diakonia, P O Box 1879, Durban, 4000.



*End Conscription Campaign*

# TROOPS OUT 3 WEEK FAST



**I NEED  
YOU!**

**JOIN THE  
ARMY AND SEE  
THE TOWNSHIPS**

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The State of Emergency was declared 2 months ago. Since then presence of the SADF in the townships has been on the increase.

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In response, ECC has called a 'troops out' campaign to protest the presence of SADF in the townships. A fellow Wits Student will be fasting for 3 weeks, ending on October 7th to join the call for troops out the townships.

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# ECC calls 'Troops Out' Campaign

A fellow Wits student, expected to meet his January call-up next year, has joined other individuals in a National three-week fast to protest the presence of SADF troops in the townships.

They believe their fast will focus attention on the plight of those faced with SAP and SADF presence in South Africa's townships. This SAP and SADF presence has intensified under the State of Emergency, but is nothing new. The fasters believe that the use of the army in South Africa's townships will not break the cycle of violence in our country, but will rather intensify it.

Many South Africans are demanding that Apartheid in all its forms should be abolished and replaced by a society based on the principles of non-racialism and democracy in a unitary state. The call for a universal franchise is being sounded from many quarters as the urgency and severity of South Africa's situation becomes clearer.

A growing number of White South Africans demand the right to choose whether or not to serve in an army that occupies townships on the borders of the 'white' suburbs, that is widely believed is actively engaged in destabilising neighbouring countries, and that is present in Namibia in what is declared by the United Nations as an illegal occupation. This is reflected by the growing numbers of white men who are refusing to serve in the SADF and by many people including graduates from this university who are leaving the country to escape the army.

Wits students are faced with a dilemma. When the next army call-up arrives, must we be expected to participate in Apartheid's Army, and in the name of 'Law and Order' enter the townships to 'quell unrest'. For increasing numbers of South Africans, having no option but to be conscripted into an army that fights fellow South Africans is becoming intolerable.

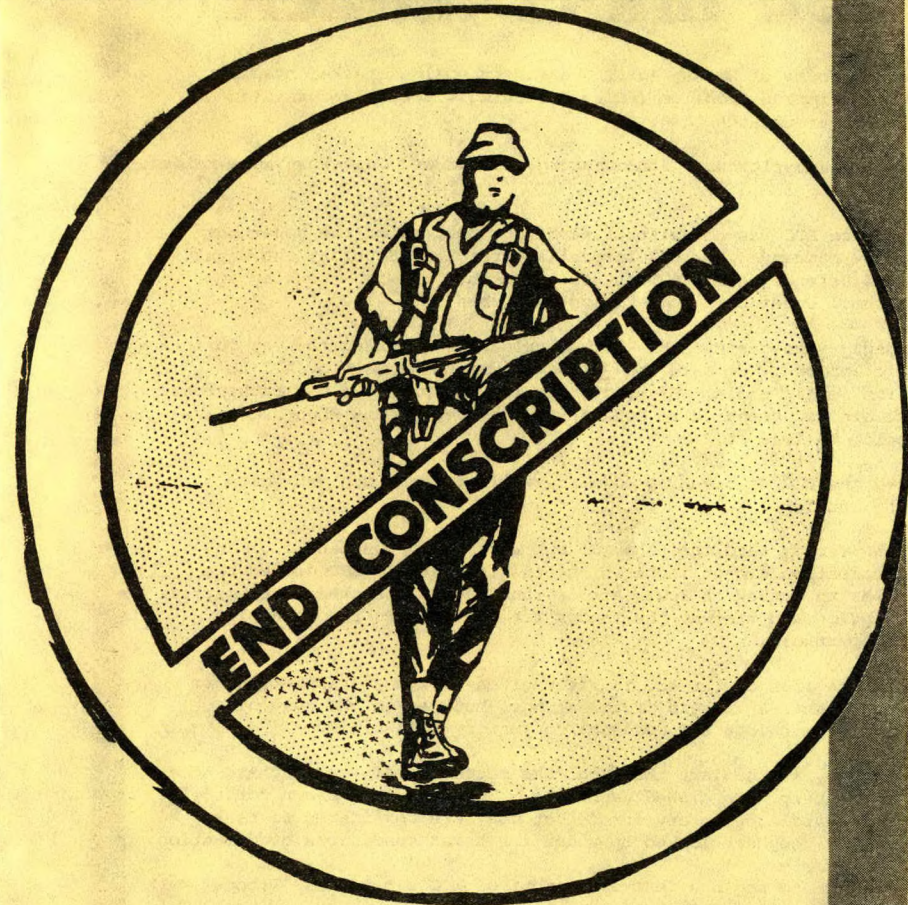
The National fast, set to end on October 7 with a one-day fast of all those who support the demand for SADF to leave the townships, is supported by many prominent personalities, church, civic and student groupings. It is an attempt to publicly protest the army's presence in the townships.

We say 'Troops Out'

We demand the right to choose

End Apartheid Wars

Show your support for the 'Troops Out' Campaign. Fast from sunset on October 6th to sunset on October 7th !



NUSAS, YCS, BSS, PROGSOC, SAUJS, CATHSOC, have all joined the call for troops out of the townships. They support the fast that our fellow Wits student is undertaking for a three week period. The Conscription Adhoc Group has been formed to support the fast and the call to end conscription. Anyone wishing to join the group should contact the SRC.

WITS  
NUS  
CATHSOC

# ECC under attack

In the early hours of Monday morning security police cracked down on the End Conscription Campaign (ECC), detaining 4 people and raiding several homes around the country.

Houses in Pietermaritzburg, Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town were raided.

This attack on ECC was not without warning. Members of the government have already condemned the ECC in parliament. Last Saturday the Deputy Minister of Defence, Adriaan Vlok, followed this up when speaking at an interschool cadet band competition in Durban.

In a strongly worded speech Mr Vlok was clearly smoothing the way for Monday's clampdown. He said the campaign was being used by ANC to achieve its 'evil' goals. He went on to say "we have but one fatherland and if we are not prepared to defend it with the weapon, when necessary, we are going to lose it."

He accused the ECC of breaking down the will of young men and women to defend the country.

The ECC, in reply, said that they do not work for or on behalf of any other organisation except those which are affiliates. ECC denied the campaign was an attack on South Africa, but rather directed at the system of conscription and the way the troops are deployed in the townships to defend Apartheid.

Furthering the aims of the ANC is often given as the justification for repression of Anti-Apartheid organisations, but, as in the case of the ECC there is seldom any evidence to justify this claim.

More startling, is the fact that 2 of the recent detainees, Richard Steele and Anita Kromberg, are avowed pacifists. Both are well known for their opposition to violence in any form. Yet they are considered to be so dangerous that they are locked up under the harsh conditions of detention.

Richard was due to begin a fast in support of ECC's national "Troops Out" campaign.

It is possible that the clamp on ECC is simply its remarkable growth in popularity over the last 18 months. ECC has clearly given young white men the courage and the forum to make known their opposition to conscription.

It has shown the government that without compulsion it would battle to staff its army which by its actions is clearly the last line of Apartheids defence.

# TROOPS OUT



**FAST FOR A  
JUST PEACE**



**End Conscription Campaign**



# Withdraw the Troops from the Townships

When South African history is re-written, October 7, 1984 will be remembered as a significant date. For on that SADF troops assisted the police in combined search and seize operations in Soweto and Grahamstown.

It was not the first time that the SADF had been involved in quelling internal resistance. They had done so in 1976, 1980 and 1981. But October 1984 marked the beginning of the most extensive internal use of the army in our history - what will soon be 12 months of almost continuous presence in South Africa's townships.

At least 23 townships have experienced this presence in the form of tanks and ratels, army camps and patrols, teargas and live ammunition, and regular "scar and search operations. Many townships have effectively been placed under military occupation.

Over the last year young white men have arrested African people on pass and influx control offences and have been involved in forced removals. They have assaulted township residents and fired teargas at funeral mourners. And they have killed at least five people, according to official estimates.

## Conscription questioned

Not surprisingly, October 1984 marked the point when conscripts began, in large numbers, to question the role they were required to play. The number who



Combined police and army roadblock at the University of Durban-Westville entrance

failed to report for duty in January 1985 was 7589, five times the figure for the whole of 1984. Since then ECC has been approached by and heard of a large number of conscripts who are sickened by the actions of the army and are facing acute crises of conscience.

They know that the primary role of the SADF is not to maintain law and order but to defend apartheid and that the army has not brought peace to the townships but fear and destruction. They know too that the use of troops is no solution to the escalating cycle of violence and that a just and enduring peace will only prevail when the root causes of conflict - minority rule and the system of apartheid - are

eradicated.

Above all, they know that the violence of apartheid is the reason for black resistance, even if they do not agree with all the forms the resistance takes. And they therefore find it morally repugnant to have to participate in attempts to crush it.

Yet under current legislation there are no adequate alternatives to national service. Community service can only be granted by the Board for Religious Objection to Christian pacifists. Those who object on moral or ethical grounds are sent to jail for six years or leave South Africa forever.

## Troops seen as enemy

Since October 1984, another significant development has taken place; township residents have come to fear and hate the SADF and to see white soldiers as their enemy. According to Stone Sizane, publicity secretary of the UDF in the Eastern Cape: "The SADF and SAP act jointly to pick up large numbers of young people who are on the street. If you happen to resist arrest because you are frightened, they can shoot you. Everyday people are being shot.

At the moment people are too afraid to move in the streets, especially after dark, because they are terrified of being confronted

by a weapon wielding eighteen year old in browns. We are not saying that ordinary policemen should get out the townships. We need them to take care of crime and prevention. It is these armed forces, who behave in such a hostile and aggressive fashion, that we want out.

We are not shutting off avenues of communication with white people. We are still prepared to hold discussions with them in the hope that they will abandon the laager and relax their prejudice to speak to us. But we will refuse to welcome anyone who wears the uniform of oppression, who pretends to be our friend while holding us at bay with automatic weapons."

It is in this context - of the widespread internal use of the SADF and of growing opposition to it from both township residents and conscripts - that the ECC National Troops Out Campaign is taking place.

Through the campaign we aim to examine critically the actions of troops, to protest against their use in the townships, to build non-racialism and to provide support for the young men whose consciences are violated by their participation in the military.

And we want to build support for our calls to the government to end conscription and immediately withdraw its troops from the townships or, until this happens, to at least give soldiers the right to refuse to go into the townships.



ECC members, Steven Collins, Richard Steele and Donn Edwards, discuss their 2-week fast with Archbishop Dennis Hurley



Considering the crisis that our country is in, it is important that we understand that we are not helpless and that we can make constructive responses which will bring about a just peace in our land."

We welcome you to spend time with Richard in St Anthony's and enjoy the programme of activities that will take place there, and to fast with us on October 7.

The thrust of the Campaign in Durban will be a two week fast by Richard Steele, an ECC member and conscientious objector, in St Anthony's Church and a mass 24 hour fast on October 7.

According to Richard, "We have chosen the fast as a political action because it enables us to express our commitment to a cause and our solidarity with those experiencing injustice and oppression. It is an action which causes no harm to anyone else and is accessible to everyone. It also has immense symbolic value, so its witness reaches many people at many different levels.

**Join the  
24 hour  
Fast  
on 6/7  
October**

**PUBLIC MEETING  
Di Bishop (MPC)  
Paul Graham (ECC)**

SOLIDARITY EVENING  
AND  
PUBLIC MEETING  
MONDAY 7 OCTOBER  
6.00 PM  
(Light supper included)

ECUMENICAL SERVICE  
SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER  
7.30PM  
ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH



**Collection Number: AG1977**

**END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)**

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