

Oct. 1989.

East London

ECC disbanded before the restrictions
SASH & NAMDA were the only organizations existing
but their focus was not anti-military.

CAS: was set up in February with 7
counsellors. Meetings are fortnightly and we have
the facility of a telephone & office. Weekly
insertions in the Daily Dispatch, stickers &
card distribution have been a form of
advertising, but we have experienced a
lack of media.

Closer to call-up time we were receiving ~~1~~
2 phone calls per week which have
now lessened.

CAS has organized the publicity and arrange-
ments for CO Day which highlighted the
fact that we were publicly campaigning
on anti-militarization issues because of the lack
of an organization to fill this role.

E.L. hosted the NCC in June.

We are organising house-meetings with matric
pupils, which are proving worthwhile.

Strengths: commitment strong, developing sound network,
support of national com., groups & individuals.

Weakness: support is there but not public.
few queries/calls because we're virtually unknown
and we're experiencing harassment by Security
when an event is CAS initiated & also at
the NCC venue. Some members are temporarily
in E.L.

ELAF:

In July a new progressive organization was formed to address the broader political issues which were not being taken up by existing organizations in E.L. This group has been very effective in drawing together people who are organizing around the issues of the group bears let, conscription, Namibia, Lusaka Report - Back, defiance campaign as well as providing ~~problem-solving~~ an educative role in the white community.

Public meetings were held on conscription & National Service, & out of this came an Alternative National Service sub-committee which is in the process of working on a project in Duncan Village Township.

The strengths of this new organization is that there has been a positive response from members, the group is gaining publicity, growth in membership, gaining recognition and making inroads into well-established institutions such as City Council, working with Black civic & other organizations.

The weaknesses: a number of new & inexperienced people with little depth to draw on for leadership. Although ELAF has prioritised anti-militarization work, a lot of time has been devoted to other issues because of the broader nature of the organization. The other drawback is that ELAF has experienced considerable harassment.

EOSAC: formed in July in E.L. after the National Meeting in Durban. Becoming a support group for mothers who have & are to face the crises of conscription. ~~the forum is being created where~~ this group is gaining support and calling for Alternative National Service.

CAS has done a presentation at our meeting, conscripts of shared their dilemmas, the ~~DP's~~ candidate addressed the group on DP's attitude to conscription & anti-military videos have been shown. Press coverage has been arranged on several occasions.

A strength is the good press contact that we have, the enthusiasm of mothers and the general support of conscripts. The leadership is thin and people are easily threatened.

ELAF: attached.

SUMMARY: E.L. took part in the 771 stand against conscription in Sept. Address conference was held for the 9 CO from E.L. but the coverage was disappointing. One of the 9 has had substantial intimidation and harassment from the Security Police & there have been threats to the others.

etc.

Summary CONTD.

In January 1989 nothing was happening with the anti-militization campaign in E.L.

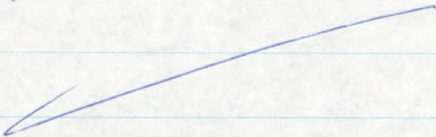
Since then three organizations have been set up which are taking forward this issue. There is potential in E.L. to continue this work.

It is becoming apparent that people need a forum where they can share common hopes, ideals, fears and goals & also for them to experience a support group.

Our regional weaknesses are a lack of co-ordination around anti-militization issues there is a lack of experience amongst general members, the leadership is very thin, and harassment has been a constant problem. Every meeting is monitored by the security police & some members and their families have been threatened.

Mandy,

Reports of organizations in
East London.



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END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)

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