

UPDATE ON ECC'S INTERNATIONAL DESK

Much work has been done to build ECC's profile overseas and establish contact with peace groups in other countries. This report is a brief summary of what has and can be done, so that everyone in ECC is aware of our international developments.

A WORK DONE

- * In May packs were sent to about 150 peace, anti-apartheid and church groups informing them of ECC and the Festival. Over 60 sent messages of support to the Festival. They have all been thanked and sent Festival pressclips, media and articles.
- * Articles on the Festival were written for publication in CND, END, Peace News, New Internationalist, Sojourners, War Resisters League and War Resisters International journals.
- * Reports on the Festival appeared in the London Observer, New York Times, International Herald Tribune and Brazilian newspapers. Interviews with ECC were broadcast by the BBC World Service before the Festival and by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation afterwards.
- * ECC resources are regularly given to foreign visitors and to South Africans going overseas. Mike van Lyaan (ex-Cape Town ECC and Suca) is currently overseas and doing excellent work promoting ECC. Richard and Anita (Durban ECC), who were instrumental in establishing ECC's international links, regularly keep the groups that they are networked into informed of our activities.
- * CND publications and resources left by Carol Tongue have been copied and distributed to the ECC's.

B GAINS

- * ECC's profile, the role of the SADF and resistance to it have been raised in other countries, both publicly and within the established peace groups.
- * ECC is integrating itself into the networks that exist among these groups.
- * There now exists the potential for international solidarity action around our demands, which will intensify international pressure.
- * We are broadening our understanding of international militarisation and the cold war, and ^{can} learn from the strategy and tactics of other peace groups.
- * There is the possibility of ECC being financed to attend the 'Youth and conscientious objection' conference in Helsinki at the end of the year and the War Resisters International triannual conference in India in January.
- * The prospects of raising overseas finances have greatly improved.

C FUTURE / NEW AREAS OF WORK

- * Winning support for and solidarity action around the ECC national campaign and fast.
- * Keeping the peace groups informed of ECC's developments and of the activities of the SADF, and writing more articles for the peace-orientated publications.
- * Releasing press statements to the international press.
- * Raising issues of international militarisation in ECC publications and at meetings where appropriate.
- * ECC Resource co-ordinators should take out subscriptions to the

important publications and pass interesting articles on to ECC members.

D STRUCTURE

National Committee in August felt that our international work should be decentralised and that the following areas should be co-ordinated by the following people:

international press - David Shandler

international contact - Vava Cornell

international finances - Steve Lowie

support and back up - ECC chairs, Richard, Anita and Laurie

NB: No links have or should be made with any organisation with whom contact would be dangerous for us eg ANK, Comair, IUS, Peace Councils etc.

BAN THE BOMB !

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