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IDEAS FOR PAMFLET ON WAYS TO EVADE CONSCRIPTION

Legal Methods

Deferment or exemption on study, work, medical or welfare grounds. Classification as a CO. Exile.

Challanging the legallity of your call-up even if it is on a minor technicality. An expert lawer is usefull here.

Offer to discuss you objections with the OC of your unit. This is only really feasible for campers and is easier if you are a commissioned officer. At best it is probably only a delaying tactic.

Illegal Methods

Please note : ECC cannot guarantee the effectiveness of any of these. However many of them have been used extensively over the years and tens of thousands of people were able to evade the SADF using 1 or more of them. Thus there is always a risk that you are 1 of the unlucky few that are caught. If so, one should either have an alternative plan available or be prepared to confront the SADF by refusing to serve.

If possible do not register.

Change your residential and work addresses without informing the SADF. Also ensure that nobody (who cannot be trusted) at your previous abode or work knows where you now live or work. Post office boxes and a telephone in a friend's name can be very useful here.

Do not report when called up. The chances are that so many others will also have stayed away that the MPs will not be able to follow everyone up. This works best if you are a camper at a very slack unit. Post, or get a friend to post, a letter from outside South Africa telling the SADF that you are permenantly resident outside the country. If necessay even the "independant homelands" can be used for this.

Do not collect any registered letters which you suspect may be from the SADF and do not allow anybody to do so on your behalf. Inform the SADF that you intend to applying to the Board and delay actually applying. This should result in your call-up not being enforced and thereby should give you a few months breathing space. Feign a serious physical and/or mental disability.

For Campers : Bribe or blackmail the clerk who writes out call-ups at your unit. Remove and destroy your file and all other records of your existance at your unit.

CONSCRIPTION

Although government has repealed the Population Registration Act, it continues to conscript white male South African youths for compulsory service in the South African Defence Force.

In some cases charges against conscientious objectors have been withdrawn. The majority of conscripts are not reporting for duty, and only a few of them are being arbitrarily prosecuted. Objections by the church to the continuation of the call-up have not been accepted.

Under these circumstances the church has a duty to advise its members whether or not to obey the provisions of the Defence Act in terms of which they are being called up. It has been decided to advise those who have been called up for duty not to cooperate with the South African Defence Force in this perpetuation of the racist policies of government.

This may be done in one of two ways.

First, a person who has been called up may refuse to serve. This will involve informing the Defence Force of your intention to refuse to serve, reporting at the time and place at which you are required to do so, and formally refusing to serve. Legal assistance is multikely to will be required for this procedure, which may result in prosecution; the sentence usually consists of a specified number of hours of community service.

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Secondly, you may merely fail to report. The most likely result would be that you will be ignored. If, however, you are charged for failing to report, you will need legal assistance. are fined.

A register of those who wish to take either of these steps openly is being compiled by call-y the End Conscription Campaign. If you desire not to serve in the Defence Force, the church solution and will ensure that you receive adequate support.

If you would like to pursue either of these alternatives, or if anyone known to you may wish to do so, please let me know at the conclusion of this service.

Although recognition of conscientious Objectors is now provided in the Defonce Act, this option cannot be reconnended since such a supplication would also constitute in agreement with the conscription laws.

DRAFT LETTER TO MINISTERS

Dear

CONSCRIPTION

I shall appreciate it if you will read the enclosed notice to your congregation during 4 October services on 1st November, or as soon after that date as possible. The purpose of the notice is self-explanatory, but if you have any question please let me know.

Please note that the reading of this notice will constitute an infringement of section 121(c) of the Defence Act. However, it is felt that, if the church is to encourage its members to disobey that Act, it should be prepared to do so too. If there are any repercussions please let me know and I shall ensure that you receive the necessary support.

If any person wishes to obtain further information that you are unable to provide, please also let me know. Finally, if any person wishes to be included in the register referred to in the notice, please take his name, postal and residential addresses and telephone number and send them to me as soon as possible.

Yours etc

* Quete 121(c)

FAX TO: END CO	HSCRIPTION CAMPAIEN
FAX NO: 834-3189	PAGE: 1 OF: 2
ATTENTION OF: D. BRUCE FROM: R. THOMSON	DATE: 14/9/92
COMPANY:	Post-It Notes from 3M

1 "Legal Options"

- 1.1 Apply for deferment: Send a letter requesting deferment to the Exemption Board or, if you are a camper, to your unit. Your application can be supplemented by affidavits, for example from your employer. If you've got some spare cash then get an attorney to apply on your behalf.
- 1.2 Apply for full exemption: Exemptions can be granted on medical grounds, for example. Deferments are usually easier to get but exemptions are permanent.
- 1.3 Exile: Not to be recommended. Why leave the country because of the SADF when you can avoid them with not too much difficulty at home?
- 1.4 Challenge the validity of your call up: Your camp call-up could, for instance, be invalid if it does not provide you with "reasonable" advance warning of your camp.
- 1.5 Don't sign for or collect registered post (and ensure that no-one does this on your behalf): If you have not received a call-up you cannot be prosecuted successfully for not reporting.
- 1.6 Request an interview with the Commanding Officer of your unit to discuss your objections: This is only really feasible for campers and is easier if you are an officer. At best it is probably only a delaying tactic, but some OC's are approachable.
- 1.7 Inform the SADF that you intend to apply to the Board for Conscientious Objection. Then make an application which will definitely be rejected by them. This should give you a few months breathing space.

2 "Not So Legal Options"

Please note that there is a risk of prosecution involved in all of these options. However in nearly all of the cases where people break these laws nothing happens to them. Where people have been convicted, sentences are usually substantially less than the maximum sentence provided for. ECC would also like to make it clear that we are not encouraging you to perjure yourself in court or to engage in bribery or blackmail of SADF officials.

- 2.1 Don't register: This option is mostly only open to those who are still at school. Your teacher is often the person who registers you at 16. You could indicate that you wish to register yourself and then fail to do so. (Maximum fine R2 000).
- 2.2 Don't notify the SADF of your change of address: Ask a friend if you can use their name to open a post-office box or get a telephone. Also ensure that people, at your previous home or work, as well as your parents, do not provide your address or telephone number to anyone. Instead they should take messages for you and offer to pass these on to you "if they see you". (Maximum fine R2 000).
- 2.3 "Leave the country": Send the SADF a letter from outside South Africa (even from one of the "independent homelands") saying that you are permanently resident outside the country. The SADF may then defer you and request that you inform them of your new South African address on your return. After you return you may then "forget" to tell the SADF that you are back. If you are not leaving the country yourself, ask a friend who is going overseas to post the letter for you. (Maximum fine R2 000).
- 2.4 Don't report: Nothing happens to over 90% of people who don't report for their call-ups. If you are followed up, prosecuted, and found guilty the average sentence is R300 R500. (Maximum fines: Private R600, NCO R1 200, Officer R5 000).
- 2.5 **Refuse to serve:** Directly inform the SADF that you refuse to do any (or any more) military service. The SADF hardly ever prosecute people for this as it usually results in them getting very bad publicity. In the unlikely event of your being prosecuted and found guilty, you would most likely receive a sentence of community service. (Maximum sentence imprisonment).
- 2.6 Get your file "lost": This is an option for campers or national servicemen who have direct access to SADF personnel records or friends or contacts with such access.

3. "Non Options"

- 3.1 **Registering as a Conscientious Objector:** If you are officially recognised by the Board for Conscientious Objection as a CO you will be ordered to do full time "community service" in a government department for one-and-half times your total outstanding military service commitment. If you do not complete all your community service you can be imprisoned in DB.
- 3.2 Applying for deferment after reporting for your call-up; the SADF may suggest to you that you should report for your call-up, and that the unit will then consider your application for deferment. They may then take advantage of this situation and refuse the application thereby forcing you to do your full camp.

In the PWV area, more than 35 advocates have put their names on a roster indicating that they are willing to defend people, for free, on all call-up charge. If you are outside the PWV area, ECC may also be able to help you in getting legal assistance. Contact us for more details.

Don't co-operate with the call-up!

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- 1.4 Challenge the validity of your call up: Your camp call-up could, for instance, be invalid if it does not provide you with "reasonable" advance warning of your camp.
- 1.5 Don't sign for or collect registered post (and ensure that no-one does this on your behalf): If you have not received a call-up you cannot be prosecuted successfully for not reporting.
- 1.6 Request an interview with the Commanding Officer of your unit to discuss your objections: This is only really feasible for campers and is easier if you are an officer. At best it is probably only a delaying tactic, but some OC's are approachable.
- 1.7 Inform the SADF that you intend to apply to the Board for Conscientious Objection. Then make an application which will definitely be rejected by them. This should give you a few months breathing space.

2 "Not So Legal Options"

Please note that there is a risk of prosecution involved in all of these options. However in nearly all of the cases where people break these laws nothing happens to them. Where people have been convicted, sentences are usually substantially less than the maximum sentence provided for. ECC would also like to make it clear that we are not encouraging you to perjure yourself in court or to engage in bribery or blackmail of SADF officials.

- 2.1 Don't register: This option is mostly only open to those who are still at school. Your teacher is often the person who registers you at 16. You could indicate that you wish to register yourself and then fail to do so. (Maximum fine R2 000).
- 2.2 Don't notify the SADF of your change of address: Ask a friend if you can use their name to open a post-office box or get a telephone. Also ensure that people; at your previous home or work, as well as your parents, do not provide your address or telephone number to anyone. Instead they should take messages for you and offer to pass these on to you "if they see you". (Maximum fine R2 000).
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 2.3 "Leave the country": Send the SADF a letter from outside South Africa (even from one of the "independent homelands") saying that you are permanently resident outside the country. The SADF may then defer you and request that you inform them of your new South African address on your return. After you return you may then "forget" to tell the SADF that you are back. If you are not leaving the country yourself, ask a friend who is going overseas to post the letter for you. (Maximum fine R2 000).
- 2.4 Don't report: Nothing happens to over 90% of people who don't report for their call-ups. If you are followed up, prosecuted, and found guilty the average sentence is R300 R500. (Maximum fines: Private R600, NCO R1 200, Officer R5 000).
- 2.5 **Refuse to serve:** Directly inform the SADF that you refuse to do any (or any more) military service. The SADF hardly ever prosecute people for this as it usually results in them getting very bad publicity. In the unlikely event of your being prosecuted and found guilty, you would most likely receive a sentence of community service. (Maximum sentence imprisonment).
- 2.6 Get your file "lost": This is an option for campers or national servicemen who have direct access to SADF personnel records or friends or contacts with such access.

3. "Non Options"

- 3.1 **Registering as a Conscientious Objector:** If you are officially recognised by the Board for Conscientious Objection as a CO you will be ordered to do full time "community service" in a government department for one-and-half times your total outstanding military service commitment. If you do not complete all your community service you can be imprisoned in DB.
- 3.2 Applying for deferment after reporting for your call-up; the SADF may suggest to you that you should report for your call-up, and that the unit will then consider your application for deferment. They may then take advantage of this situation and refuse the application thereby forcing you to do your full camp.

In the PWV area, more than 35 advocates have put their names on a roster indicating that they are willing to defend people, for free, on all call-up charge. If you are outside the PWV area, ECC may also be able to help you in getting legal assistance. Contact us for more details.



At a time when thousands of SADF personnel are being retrenched, and thousands of volunteers are being turned away by the SADF, we cannot think of one good reason why you should have to report for compulsory military service. We cannot think of one good reason for maintaining the present racist call-up system.

But it seems that the SADF and the government do not respond to reason. In circumstances such as these, we believe that your best option is to make up your OWN MIND about what to do about your call-up. We believe that you have a right to choose whether or not to serve in the SADF.

In this pamphlet we outline what some of your options are if you do not wish to report for your call-up. If you have been called up and you do not have positive reasons of your own for actually wanting to do military service, we urge you not to report for your call-up.

Help us to end the call-up!

Join our register.

Many people are already, in one way or another, not co-operating with the call-up system. However, if we stand together, we can be more effective in expressing our rejection of the call-up. If:....

- you are liable for military service
- you are not prepared to do any (or any further) military service at least under the present call-up system
- you are not prepared to apply to the Board for Conscientious Objection and you are prepared to commit yourself to not applying for deferment, and
- you wish to take your non-cooperation with the call-up system one step further, then

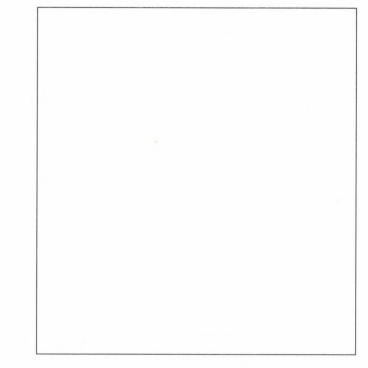
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*

To find out about the ECC Register or our petition, or for general information about the call-up, contact ECC at (011) 836-8423.

For free and independent advice about the call-up phone the Conscription Advice Service: Durban - 305-6001 (Sue), Pietermaritzburg - 94-4079 (Mark), East London - 43-0047, Grahamstown - 2-6043 (Dusty), Queenstown - 3965 (Rudi), Port Elizabeth - 51-2804, Cape Town - 689-1194, Pretoria - 320-2230 (Linda), Johannesburg -648-5887 (Neil).

WANTED



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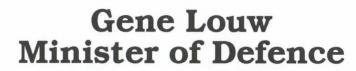
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