



THE EMERGENCY

You can stop the conflict, says a black mum to a soldier's mum ...

City Press 29/9/85
By MONO BADELA

'COME, GET

A BLACK mother has told the mothers of white South Africa: "March on Soweto and take your young sons - and their guns - out of our townships".

SACC Home and Family Life Unit director Bernadette Mosala called upon a group of white mothers to march to

Soweto and "pull out their young sons", who are now engaged in violent conflict with school children.

Mrs Mosala was addressing more than 50 white mothers who attended a lunchtime meeting at Khotso House, Johannesburg, convened by the End Conscription Committee on Wednesday called to discuss the escalating violence and the continued occupation by SADF members of the black townships.

She said it was time for all mothers to take action.

Mrs Mosala said she was very

worried about the temperament of the young soldiers who have been trained to kill.

"I am also worried about the temperament of our children. If we claim to love South Africa and we are Christians, let us be prepared to put our lives on the line."

One of the ECC members said fasting for a day or more "will bring home to me that the person on top of the Caspir could be my brother, my friend or me".

"And the one being sjamboked, teargassed or shot could be my fellow student from the university."



YOUR SONS OUT OF SOWETO'

Fasting for City Press 29/9/85 change

CONSCIENTIOUS objector Dr Ivan Toms doesn't think his three-week fast will make Defence Minister Gen Magnus Malan withdraw troops from the townships.

But he wants to challenge the belief by people in the townships that whites did not care about their plight, he said.

Dr Toms is fasting in St George's Cathedral in support of an ECC call for troops to be removed from black areas.

He told about 200 people at UCT Medical School that someone had jokingly suggested he fast until the troops were withdrawn.

"But I'm not into committing suicide," he said. - Sapa.



Dr Ivan Toms lights a candle which will burn throughout his 20-day fast in St George's Cathedral. Before lighting the candle on Tuesday night, he said the End Conscription Campaign was organizing the fast to try to rally people round a call for a just peace and the withdrawal of troops from the townships. He said he hoped people would come to the cathedral to join him in fasting or simply to talk.

Rabbi joins Crossroads doctor in fast

Argus 19/9/85
Staff Reporter

THE Rabbi of the largest Cape Town Jewish congregation has joined Crossroads doctor and conscientious objector Dr Ivan Toms in his fast for "a just peace".

Rabbi Selwyn Franklin, senior rabbi of the Green and Sea Point Congregation, was one of the first to join Dr Toms, who is fasting for three weeks, in St George's Cathedral for a solidarity fast of 24 hours.

Western Cape chairwoman of the Black Sash, Mrs Mary Burton, also joined Dr Toms yesterday in a 24-hour solidarity fast.

Dr Toms's fast is part of the End Conscription Committee's "troops out of the townships" campaign.

UCT SRC starts fast

C.T. 19/9/85

Staff Reporter

MEMBERS of the University of Cape Town SRC last night decided to fast for periods of 24 hours each in solidarity with the End Conscription Campaign's (ECC) call for a three-week fast for a "Just Peace" in South Africa.

SRC president Mr Glen Goosen started the fast at midnight last night. It will be continued by other members of the council, Ms Carla Sutherland, SRC vice-president, said last night.

The SRC also appealed to all UCT students to participate in the national days of fasting on October 6 and 7.

The fast was aimed at showing the university's concern over the continued presence of the SADF in black townships. It was also a gesture of support for those who responded to the ECC's call, who included Dr Ivan Toms, a doctor at the Sacla clinic in Crossroads, who yesterday completed the first day of his three-week fast at St George's Cathedral.

"Fasting is a non-violent means of protest and it is important to show our support for all those fasting in solidarity with the people suffering throughout South Africa in their desire for a just peace," Ms Sutherland said.

Ms R Shapiro, Rondebosch: "What greater proof of denial of rights than police declaring war on children seeking education? Let Dr Ivan Toms, who is fasting for peace, be an example to us all." *C.T. 19/9/85*

City leaders bid for peace

C.T. 18/9/85

Staff Reporter

TWENTY-THREE leading Cape Town citizens including the principal of UCT, Dr Stuart Saunders, prominent theologians, academics and civil rights leaders have signed a statement promising to work for a "Just Peace" in South Africa.

In the statement they said:

"Over the past year we have witnessed the escalation of violence throughout South Africa and a continuing failure on the part of government to make significant moves to bring about a just and lasting peace.

"We believe that the presence of troops and the use of force will only inhibit the establishment of a climate in which a negotiated settlement of South Africa's future is possible.

"On this International Day of Peace we rededicate ourselves to working for a just peace in our country. To this end we call on government to:

- "Create the conditions whereby all South Africans can freely participate in the peace process.

- "Eliminate all forms

of apartheid and racial discrimination.

- "Create a non-racial South Africa based on the concept of common citizenship for all.

"The choice South Africa faces is a clear one: To continue to move towards a state of civil war or to dismantle apartheid and use the resources of our country to build a South Africa based on principles of justice and democracy."

The signatories were:

Dr S J Saunders, Sir Richard Luyt, Monsignor Henry, Roman Catholic Bishop of Oudtshoorn, Mr Michael Evans, Mr Gerald Gordon QC, Mrs José Olivier, Prof Nic Olivier, Mr H Bernadt, Mr John Whitehead, Mrs Frances Whitehead, Mrs R N Robb, Prof Francis Ames, Mr D Janes Baigrie, Prof John de Gruchy, Dr Charles Villa-Vicencio, Prof J Leatt, Prof Francis Wilson, Mrs Moira Henderson, Prof Michael Savage, Mrs D Cleminshaw, Mrs Di Bishop, Mrs Mary Burton and Mr Brian Bishop.

Rabbis in peace call

C.T. 19/9/85
Staff Reporter

TWO rabbis have joined 23 leading Cape Town citizens, including prominent theologians, academics and civil-rights leaders, who have signed a statement promising to work for a "Just Peace" in South Africa.

Rabbi S Franklin and Rabbi J Spiro joined Dr Stuart Saunders, Sir Richard Luyt, Professor Nic Olivier, Mr Gerald Gordon, QC, Professor Francis Ames, Dr Charles Villa-Vicencio, Professor Francis Wilson, Mrs Di Bishop, Mrs Mary Burton and others who have already signed the statement, which calls on the government to create the conditions whereby all South Africans can freely participate in the peace process.

- In a report in the Cape Times yesterday, Monsignor Lawrence Henry was erroneously referred to as the Roman Catholic Bishop of Oudtshoorn. He is in fact the vicar-general of the Cape Town Archdiocese.

Support for Crossroads doctor in 3-week fast

Argus 16/9/85
Staff Reporter

AT least 100 Cape Town people will join a nationwide fast for peace in solidarity with Crossroads conscientious objector Dr Ivan Toms, who begins a three-week fast tomorrow.

Father Roger Hickley, the administrator of St Mary's Cathedral, said nearly 100 Catholic parishioners and priests had signed a roster to fast for 24-hour periods during Dr Toms's fast.

A Catholic priest, who wishes to remain anonymous, is to fast for the entire three weeks.

Twenty-one priests would fast for 24 hours each in St Mary's Cathedral during Dr

Toms's fast in St George's Cathedral.

The End Conscription Committee has called for a "mass fast" on October 7 — the day Dr Toms's fast is scheduled to end — in support of the call to withdraw troops from the townships.

Dr Toms has publicly refused to serve in the SADF as he said he could not take up arms against a community he felt called to serve.

The fast at St Mary's Cathedral will begin after a mass at 5.45pm tomorrow.

Dr Toms's fast begins after an 8pm meeting in St George's Cathedral hall tomorrow.

3-week protest fast over SADF starts

Argus 17/9/85
Staff Reporter

THE United Nations International Day of Peace today will be marked in South Africa by the start of a three-week protest fast by members of the End Conscription Campaign.

The fast, which takes place in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban, Grahamstown, Maritzburg, Port Elizabeth and Stellenbosch is part of the ECC's "troops out of the townships" campaign.

Dr Ivan Toms, a conscientious objector, will spearhead the action in Cape Town, beginning his fast after a meeting in St George's Cathedral at 8pm. He plans to fast until October 7.

The ECC has called on other objectors to join in and fast that day in a national protest against the troops' presence in the townships.

Dr Toms will be supported by 100 Catholic parishioners and priests who have signed a roster to fast for 24-hour periods at St Mary's Cathedral.

Apartheid cause of violence and polarization

C.T.
17/9/85

From ANDREW MILLER, National Chairman, Young Progressives (Cape Town):

KEN OWEN in his column (September 5) accuses left and liberal organizations of promoting polarization in this country by promoting talk of civil war or siege. I would suggest that it is the Nationalists' apartheid policy which is the major source of polarization in South Africa.

Mr Owen disputes the use of the terms "invasion" and "occupation" to describe the first use of the SADF on a major scale in Sebokeng in October last year. He says all it turned out to be was an "old-fashioned SAP-style pass raid in Sebokeng". If a government uses 7 000 conscripts to seal off an area from 3am on a given day, it is occupying the area. The fact that all they did was arrest pass offenders supports the assertion that people opposing apartheid and rent increases are not criminals!

I take great exception to Mr Owen's claim that beneath this "rhetoric" lies a celebration of violence. Members of the Young Progressives are committed to political change, with the loss of as few lives as possible.

We do condemn all violence. However, we take care to recognize that in most cases the root cause of violence is the Nationalists' apartheid policy.

I don't believe it is right for comfortable whites to condemn the

response of angry and bitter people without trying to discover how we would feel bearing the brunt of the violent apartheid system.

Mr Owen quotes from the Young Prog pamphlet which was handed out at the PFP Congress in Durban. He says if the SADF was only able to kill five civilians, it "would make them the least effecient soldiers since the discovery of the bow and arrow".

The figures quoted in our pamphlet were the latest available from Hansard. Since Parliament has risen we have seen the increased use of the SADF, particularly since the declaration of a state of emergency.

Finally he accuses the End Conscription Campaign of drawing battle lines, of separating friends and enemies and of serving to polarize the population. It is precisely because the Young Progressives believe the government to be guilty of these crimes that we have affiliated to the ECC in Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown and Maritzburg.

The Young Progs, the congress and the leader of the PFP, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, have served notice that if the government is intent on fighting an apartheid war, the townships of South Africa we want no part of it. The use of white conscripts in black townships spells polarization.

Mr Owen might have reported more extensively on the anger of young whites at the misuse of our minds and bodies in the Nationalist apartheid army.

ECC 3-week fast to begin today

C.T. 17/9/85
Staff Reporter

THE main thrust of the End Conscription Campaign's "Troops Out" action is a nation-wide three-week fast for "a just peace" to start today at the United Nations International Day of Peace.

The fast — which will be taken up in Johannesburg, Durban, Maritzburg, Grahamstown, Port Elizabeth and Stellenbosch — will be announced at a public meeting at St George's Cathedral Hall tonight.

The fast will be spearheaded by Dr Ivan Toms, Cape Town doctor who for the past five years has been involved in the operation of the Empiweni Sacla clinic at Crossroads, and Mr Harold Winkler, a student at the University of the Witwatersrand. Both plan to fast until

October 7, the first anniversary of the SADF's first entry into townships. ECC press officer Mr David Shandler said: "Dr Toms will fast at St George's Cathedral and a solidarity relay fast will take place at St Mary's Catholic Cathedral in Cape Town."

Clare Harper reports from Johannesburg that in a statement Mr Winkler, 21, said he had chosen fasting as a means of purification and protest to express his "deep horror of what is happening in the townships".

"I face the dilemma of going into the townships myself — I do not believe that I can go to the army and remain sincere to my understanding of the Christian faith," Mr Winkler said. He is objecting to military service on religious grounds.

Daily News
**Security
police
detain
women
pacifists**

Daily News
Reporter

SECURITY police today detained two members of the End Conscription Campaign in Durban.

Mrs Sue Britton and Miss Anita Kromberg were detained at their homes early this morning.

Police arrived at Miss Kromberg's flat in central Durban, searched it and then took her to her home in the Ecumenical Centre, Trust Complex in St Andrew's Street.

Miss Kromberg is the South African representative of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, a pacifist organisation. She is also an active member in the End Conscription Campaign.

Mrs Britton, a Dikonika staff member, was detained at her Pinetown home. She is director of the white development programme at the ecumenical church organisation and has also been very active in the End Conscription Campaign and conscientious objectors' support groups.

The director of Dikonika, Mr Paddy Kearney, was detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act two weeks ago. The police took with them a lot of stickers calling for an end to conscription.

Security police arrived at Mrs Britton's home at about 6am and searched through files and belongings in her lounge and bedroom. They did not go into the rooms of her two teenage daughters.

They then took Mrs Britton to her office in St Andrews Street and searched there as well.

ECC to fast in bid
for 'just peace in SA'

W.S. 11/9/85
Witness Reporter

MEMBERS of the Pietermaritzburg branch of the End Conscription Campaign (ECC) are to undertake a two-week relay fast at a city centre church as part of a national campaign for a just peace in South Africa.

The three-week campaign begins on September 17 — the United Nations International Day of Peace — and will end on October 7, the first anniversary of SADF presence in one of South Africa's townships.

ECC has announced that at least three of its members — Dr Ivan Thoms in Cape Town, Dave Hartman in the Eastern Cape and Richard Steele in Durban — will fast throughout the

campaign.

The ECC also called for a mass peace fast on the last day of the campaign.

"Through the fasts ECC will be observing a traditional and widely honoured means of non-violent protest," Pietermaritzburg ECC chair, Ms Jacque Boule said yesterday.

"The campaign is intended to highlight ECC's calls for individual conscripts to be allowed to choose not to serve in the SADF and that troops be ordered out of the townships.

"The 200 deaths in the townships since the declaration of the state of emergency underlines the urgency of our call," Ms Boule said.

Priests to fast for peace

CAPE TOWN — Thirteen Roman Catholic priests will fast for three weeks in St Mary's Cathedral in Cape Town for a "just peace", in conjunction with other priests in Johannesburg, Durban and Grahamstown.

The fast, which begins next Tuesday, was announced yesterday by the administrator of St Mary's, Father Roger Hickley.

The call for a fast and vigil of prayer emerged from a meeting of clergy called by the vicar-general of the Roman Catho-

lic Archdiocese, Monsignor Laurie Henry, to discuss the crisis facing the country.

One priest will fast under medical supervision for the entire period, taking only water, and the others for 24 hours each.

Dr Ivan Toms, a doctor in Crossroads and member of the End Conscription Campaign, will fast for the same period in St George's Cathedral.

The fast will end on October 7, which is a national day of fasting for a just peace. — Sapa.

ECC members
detained

11/9/85
FOUR people were detained on Monday in an early morning swoop by security police on the homes of about 20 End Conscription Campaign (ECC) officers in four centres, including Pietermaritzburg.

Chairperson of the Cape ECC, Mr Michael Evans, and three Durban ECC members, Ms Sue Britton, Ms Anita Kromberg and Mr Richard Steele were detained. —

Army role in unrest prompts flight from SA

Drowns flee overseas
to dodge SA draft

BUSINESS DAY 12 September 1985
LONDON — There has been a sharp increase in the number of Defence Force conscripts seeking asylum in Britain and Europe.

A spokesman for the London-based Committee of SA War Resisters (COSAWR) said yesterday the increased flow reflected the concern of many conscripts about being used to enforce the state of emergency.

"Since last year the trickle has become a steady stream," he said.

"The London office of COSAWR is seeing an unprecedented number of conscripts or SA men opposing conscription and seeking help or asylum.

"An even greater number are seeking help through the COSAWR offices in The Netherlands."

COSAWR's Amsterdam office recently reported as many as 7 000 draft dodgers were living in Britain and Europe and said Western governments were showing increasing compassion and concern for their plight.

A joint statement by the British and Dutch offices of the movement condemned the arrests this week of four End Conscription Cam-

IAN HOBBS

The statement denied the claim by Law and Order Deputy Minister Adrian Volk that the ECC was, "being used by the ANC to achieve the banned organisation's evil goals".

"Apartheid, and its maintenance through police and military forces, has always been the major source of suffering and resistance in SA," the statement said.

"The ECC has called for the removal of troops from the townships, for an end to conscription and a just peace in our land.

"Its programme of peaceful resistance has presented the military-dominated state with an unprecedented challenge.

"Once again, the state's actions have demonstrated that it is apartheid and not the forces opposing it which reject peaceful protest."

PETER WALLINGTON writes that the police crackdown on the ECC comes in the wake of growing support for the organisation.

COSAWR ECC Press officer David Shandler told Business Day the state of emergency had

and many did not like what they saw.

"They don't want to fire on fellow South Africans, and they don't want to be responsible for apartheid," he said.

Shandler said this week's detentions were based on government's fear "that their system of conscription and the deployment of troops in the townships was meeting growing opposition from the white community".

The London-based Catholic Institute for International Relations had calculated that, from the late 1970s to the early 1980s, about 4 000 young men had fled SA rather than undergo national service.

Shandler said by July this year the Board of Religious Objectors had received over 350 applications, compared with the same figure for the whole of last year.

And, he said, more than 7 500 men had not registered with the SADF in January, up from the previous January's 1 700.

A spokesman for the SADF said 6 000 of the 7 589 were students, who had since been allocated to another call-up. Another 890 had failed to notify the SADF of their change of address while others

City protest fasts for 'just peace' begin in cathedrals

Argus 18/9/85
Staff Reporter

THREE-week protest fasts "for a just peace" have begun in St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral and St George's Anglican Cathedral in Cape Town.

A Mass in St Mary's last night to launch the fast for about 120 participants was attended by more than 200 people and a similar number packed St George's Cathedral crypt.

The fast is led in Cape Town by conscientious objector Dr Ivan Toms from Sacla Clinic in Crossroads and has support in Johannesburg, Durban and Grahamstown.

ONLY WATER

Dr Toms — who will take only water while he fasts — will be joined in relays at St George's by more than 100 people.

About 100 Roman Catholic parishioners and 20 priests have signed a roster to fast in relays at St Mary's Cathedral.

One priest, who asked to remain anonymous, will fast for three weeks until October 7, which has been called as an international day of prayer and fasting. Other priests and lay people will fast in relays for periods of six, 12 or 24 hours.

The administrator of St Mary's, Father Roger Hickley, who led last night's Mass, told the congregation that fasting was a time-honoured Christian practice.

"TROOPS OUT"

The Rev David Russell said at the St George's service that the End Conscription Committee (ECC), spearheading a "troops out of the townships" campaign, was trying to prevent civil war in South Africa.

The Bishop of Port Elizabeth, Bishop Bruce Evans, said the whole concept of conscrip-



Picture: PIERRE OOSTHUYSEN, The Argus

Dr Ivan Toms lights a candle that will burn throughout his 21-day fast in the crypt of St George's Cathedral.

tion was "contrary to the Scriptures".

He told a meeting before the St George's service that many young men felt "a tremendous tension of conscience" about taking arms into the townships.

Mr Crispian Olver of the ECC said the presence of white conscripts had contributed to a "disturbing resurgence of anti-white feeling in the townships".

He said the ECC called for the immediate withdrawal of troops from the township, an end to conscription and the institution of a just peace.

"The ECC is committed to non-violence and we believe that the act of fasting captures the essence of non-violence. By renouncing the most basic of human needs — food — we hope to humble and cleanse ourselves."

Speaking at the launch of the campaign at the cathedral last night, Bishop Bruce Evans of Port Elizabeth expressed support in his "personal capacity" for the ECC in its campaign against conscription and the use of SADF troops in black townships.

Bishop Evans said every individual had the right to choose whether he was prepared to kill.

Mr Harald Winkler, 21 is fasting in support of the End Conscription Campaign call for Troops Out of the Townships. He faces a January call-up next year and intends objecting to military service on religious grounds.

Clare Harper reports from Johannesburg that a young University of Witwatersrand student began a three-week fast yesterday to protest at the presence of the SADF in the townships.

main or injure — a right denied to them by the policy of conscription. ECC spokesman Mr Crispian Olver said the State's attempt to "pull out the tongues of the dispossessed" had failed and now met with a violent response.

ECC starts fast for 'just peace'
C.T. 18/9/85

Buraer 18/9/85



DR. IVAN TOMS, 'n mediese dokter wat in die Ou Kruispad-plakkerskamp werk, het gister begin vas ter ondersteuning van 'n veldtog waarin gevra word dat die Weermag uit woonbuurte in Suid-Afrika onttrek moet word. Hy wil drie weke lank vas.



IVAN THOMS, doctor for the Crossroads community in Cape Town, lights a candle at St George's Cathedral on Tuesday at the start of his three-week fast "to express our prayers for the withdrawal of troops from the townships".

Others around the country will join him in fasting as part of the End Conscription Campaign's "Troops Out" call.

Thoms was joined in the first day of his

fast by Rabbi Selwyn Franklin of the Green and Sea Point congregation in Cape Town and by Mary Burton of the Black Sash.

In Johannesburg, Harald Winkler of the Young Christian Students association, moved into the chapel at Khotso House to begin a three-week fast there "to make a strong statement to conscripts that they have a choice, that they should not follow orders blindly".

Picture: MURRAY MICHELL (AFP)

WEEKLY MAIL 20 SEPT 85

Detainee joins 21 day fast for peace

DETAINEE Richard Steele has pledged to fast as part of the "Troops out of the townships campaign", despite being held by the Security Police.

He will be one of three people around the country who are holding a three-week "fast for peace". Others — including Bishop Desmond Tutu, Dr Beyers Naude and Sheena Duncan — will be fasting for 24 hours at a time in solidarity.

And the organisers, the End Conscription Campaign, have called on the public to join them in the fast for stretches of 24 hours or more.

The campaign, which includes a full programme of meetings and events, was centred on the three-week fasters. However, one of them, Steele, was among the ECC leadership detained last week in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

Friends and family say that when he was held he pledged to continue with the fast in prison.

In Johannesburg, 21-year-old student Harald Winkler has based himself in the chapel at the SA Council of Churches headquarters and will drink only water and herbal tea for three weeks.

Winkler is facing a January call-up for his military service and he has applied to be registered as a conscientious objector on theological grounds.

He said this week that his fast was in support of the ECC call for troops to be removed from the townships and, in the interim, for national servicemen to be given the right to refuse to serve in the townships.

The ECC said in a statement this week that it believed the use of the army would not break the cycle of violence in South Africa and was creating an "acute crisis of conscience" among many conscripts.

Also in Johannesburg, members of the St Antony's United Church in Pageview are fasting in solidarity with Steele in shifts of 24 hours each.

And in solidarity with a member of their congregation, Anita Kromberg, who is also detained, they will be releasing a balloon every midday in the city centre.

Spearheading the Cape Town "fast for peace" is Crossroads squatter camp doctor, Ivan Toms, a conscientious objector who has received non-combatant status.

Toms was this week installed in St George's Cathedral, where he will remain for the duration of the fast. He has called on people to join him in fasting for 24 hour stretches, "in

WEEKLY MAIL 20/10/85
 YOUNG MEN WHO REFUSE TO SERVE ARE FACED WITH CHOICE OF A LIFE OF EXILE OR A POSSIBLE 6 YEARS IN



Harald Winkler

solidarity with those who are suffering at the hands of the SADF in the townships".

After serving his two years' initial training in the SADF, Toms decided he was "unable to reconcile the Christian injunction to love my enemy and the demand of the SADF to shoot him".

As a doctor at the Empilisweni SACLA clinic — a Christian primary health care clinic for about 100 000 squatters — Toms said, "I have learnt first hand of the viciousness of apartheid and the extreme oppression of the blacks".

In Port Elizabeth, 16 white activists, based in the St Augustine's Cathedral, are to refuse to eat for up to 48 hours at a time.

At a press conference to launch the campaign, ECC local leader Janet Cherry said all 16 were white and privileged, but had become critical of conscription to protect white advantage.

"Many of us do not want privileges based on the colour of our skin. We want an equal and non-racial society ... We are not willing to defend and kill for this system of apartheid we abhor."

During the build-up to the campaign over the last week, Cherry has been the victim of a dangerous act of vandalism, while police searched two houses and ECC media and minutes were confiscated.

While in Grahamstown, Cherry made a routine check at a filling station to discover that one tyre of her car had been overinflated to almost five times the normal pressure. Another had been deflated by nearly a third.

"The attendant came over to me with an incredulous look on his face and asked me, 'Who pumped up your tyre?'"

"We have been confronted with heightened Security Police surveillance, but this has not held us back," she said.

Boesaks to challenge detention

WEEKLY MAIL REPORTER, Durban

AT least four Supreme Court applications are soon to be made for the release of Section 29 detainees — including Allan Boesak — following the landmark judgement in the Natal Supreme Court last week.

On September 11, Justice Leon ruled that the detention of Durban church leader, Paddy Kearney, was unlawful. Although the state was granted leave to appeal, the judge rejected a submission that Kearney be held in detention pending the outcome to the appeal and ordered that he be immediately released.

Lawyers acting for Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, say they are bringing an application for his detention to be quashed.

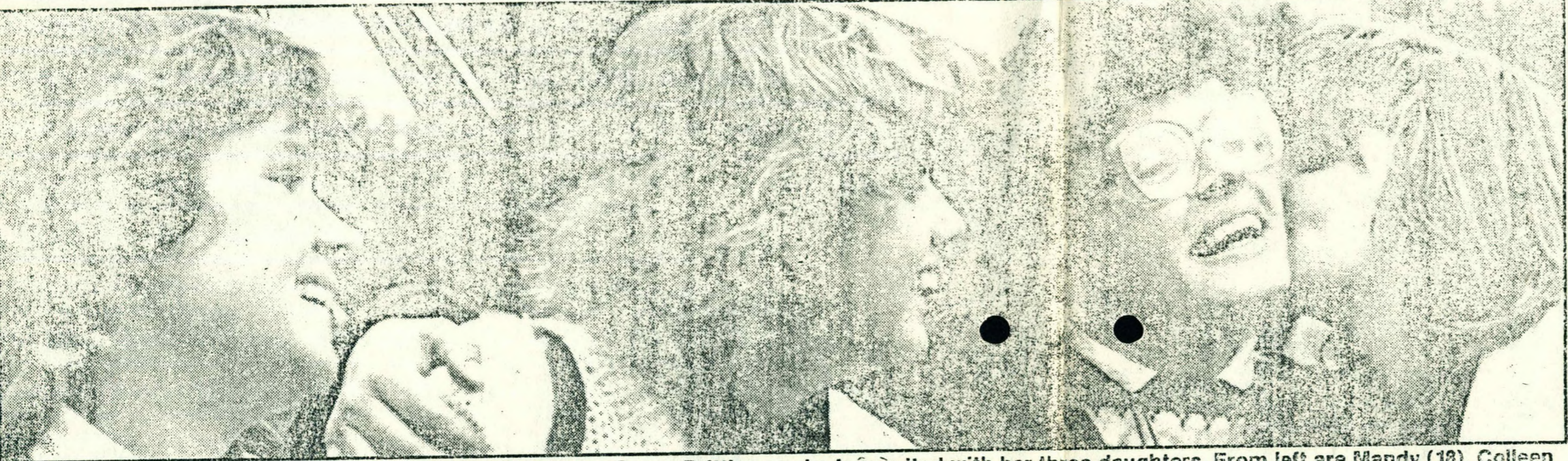
Boesak is being held in Pretoria, after he was flown from Cape Town following his detention under Section 29. He has had at least two visits so far during his detention, including one from his wife Dorothy.

Three applications will be heard in Natal for activists for the End Conscription Campaign. Conscientious objector Richard Steele, Anita Kromberg and Sue Britton, were detained on September 9 as part of a nationwide Security Police swoop on the ECC.

Lawyers for all four detainees will be relying on the arguments and judgement in Kearney's case, which was the first time the provisions of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act had been challenged in the South African courts and the first time the courts had freed any detainee held under this section.

NEWLY-RELEASED DETAINEE FASTS

Pacifist Richard Steele joins nation-wide campaign to get troops to withdraw from townships



JOY and relief show on the face of newly released detainee Susan Britton as she is reunited with her three daughters. From left are Mandy (18), Colleen Graham (23), Mrs Britton and Fiona (15). Picture: Morris Reddy

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BY LINDA VERGNANI
NEWLY-RELEASED detainee Richard Steele is to begin a two-week long fast today as part of a nation-wide campaign to get troops to withdraw from the townships.

A universal Christian pacifist and conscientious objector, Mr Steele was one of three detainees released in terms of a Supreme Court judgment on Friday. The case followed the landmark civil rights judgment of Mr Justice Leon which led to the release of Diakonia director Mr Paddy Kearney earlier this month.

Following an urgent Supreme Court application, Mr Justice Wilson ordered the immediate release of Mr Steele, Anita Kromberg and Susan Britton declaring that their detention in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act was unlawful.

The Minister of Law and Order, the Commissioner of Police and the Divisional Commissioner of Police for Port Natal were given leave to appeal against the judgment.

After their release the three detainees said physically they had been treated well by the security police, but they feared for the safety of black detainees still being held. They expressed compassion for the security police.

Mrs Britton, a Diakonia worker and committed Christian, said it was "actually possible to pity" the security police.

"I realised when I started being questioned that those guys are just caught up in their own propaganda and they really believe what they are saying. I

don't think they are being cruel for the sake of being cruel. I think they are caught in the story that is being fabricated that this country is under threat."

The security police had never physically molested her but had "bullied" her for the first few days and reduced her to tears several times.

"The worst thing was being locked into a cell — I hated it, being locked in alone for hours and hours.

"The thought of those still in detention makes me feel very, very sad but almost glad that I shared something of what they are going through."

Mr Steele, an End Conscription Campaign worker, said he would start his two-week long water-only fast on Sunday night. He had intended to start the fast for peace and a withdrawal of troops while in detention.

Now he would begin his fast in private while visiting his family in Johannesburg but would continue the fast in St Anthony's Catholic Church in Durban from Tuesday night.

Mr Steele said he felt anger and concern about his "brothers and sisters still in detention".

He also felt "a great compassion for the security police and an urge to reach out to them. They weren't egres to me, they were just human beings.

"I was in those offices against my will but those to go into those barred rooms and spy on people day after day. They were stopping my normal life unfairly, cutting me off from my friends and family unfairly. They had the moral responsibility for locking me up.

"Part of our liberation struggle is to

help those people to be free in themselves, free of their paranoias and fears."

Mr Steele said after a few days in detention he had taken a decision not to co-operate with security police interrogation. He had discussed broad philosophical and moral issues with them but would not respond to questions about his own activities.

"I live my life publicly and I felt if they thought I had broken the law, they should lay charges against me and question me publicly in court. I've got nothing to hide."

The security police threatened to leave him sitting alone in his cell "for ever" because of his stand.

Miss Anita Kromberg, regional secretary of the International Fellowship

of Reconciliation, said: "I feel great about being out, but I feel very anxious about the people still in detention. It was not a pleasant experience. They treated me with kid gloves because I was white and a woman."

The special treatment was "unfair".

Miss Kromberg said if detention was the result of working for peace then it was "airight to be in there".

The public has been invited to join in the just peace and "troops out" fast for 24 hours at a stretch. Those who fast will be asked to donate the money they would have spent on food to a South African Council of Churches fund which will be used "to assist the victims of SADF actions in the townships".

Conscription: Amend the Defence Act!

THE National Council of Women has written to the Defence Department Committee on conscription expressing the view that no government should impose duties on its citizens whereby the community are in conflict with the call of conscience.

It calls on the Government to amend the Defence Act of 1957 so those who do object on strongly held moral, ethical or religious grounds are permitted to render alternative service in fields unrelated to the Defence Force.

The council calls on the Government to encourage:

- Intensive research to formulate peaceful and constructive forms of National Service to be undertaken by the youth of all racial groups, and
- Public and private experimentation with pilot programmes. Conference calls upon religious and educational leaders to take the initiative in discussing, planning and experimenting with pilot programmes.

We believe this to be of particular importance now, when young conscripts can find themselves involved in military action against fellow South Africans in black townships.

We are deeply concerned that what is seen by many South Africans to be a tendency to equate the safety of the State, which belongs to all its citizens, with protection of a political system supported by only part of the population, will increase the tensions that already exist.

We urge the committee to reconsider most seriously the impact of general conscription on the youth of our country, black and white.

Elise Schreiner
President, National Council of Women

We are disgusted

WE wish to express our disbelief and disgust at the arrest and imprisonment of Sue Britton, Anita Kromberg, Michael Evans and Richard Steele.

All these people are known to be working in the light of their religious beliefs for justice and peace in a country internationally reviled for a national and political system which engenders injustice and violence.

Such people, and the ideals which they represent, are the hope of this country. But it seems that both their ideals and gentle courage are too great

a challenge for the authorities whose reliance on brutality and confrontation is daily leading us to chaos.

Apparently the reason for this recent spate of detentions is fear of the movement to end compulsory conscription. We support this movement, believing it to be corrupting and degrading to force young men of one race group to take part in a civil war against their repressed fellow countrymen.

Compulsory violence cannot bring peace to a divided society, nor can the jailing of those committed to peace and reconciliation.

Trevor and June Cope
SEE story on Page 7

Police and troop action: Dr Ivan Toms has seen it from the 'other side'

By Chris Whitfield

DR IVAN Toms, the man spearheading of the End Conscription Campaign's three-week fast, has seen the police and troop activity in the townships from the other side.

As a medical doctor at the Empilisweni SACLA Clinic in Crossroads, Dr Toms has treated the victims of police actions. "Many of the people we treated were innocent folk."

"One man had been shot twice while trying to get rid of a teargas canister that had stuck on his roof and was billowing gas into his house."

"The black children see all the police and troops as 'ama Johnny' and they feel a lot of aggression and anger towards them."

The catalyst that changed the doctor from a non-combatant medic during national service to a conscientious objector was a three-week period in 1983 when he saw "riot police and Administration Board people ripping up shelters and leaving people in the rain."

"It would be crazy for me to leave work in Crossroads and then come back and shoot the people living there."

This week he started his three-week fast in Cape Town's landmark St George's Cathedral — only metres away from the Houses of Parliament — for a "just peace".

He is drinking only water. "I still feel good but I'm sure it will be different after 20 days," he laughed.

"The ECC has two demands — for a just peace and for the withdrawal of troops from the townships."

"And we think that troops should at least be allowed to choose whether they want to go in," he said.

His personal reasons for fasting were his "Christian perspective" and as a member of the ECC to "highlight issues for people".

He served two years in the army as a national serviceman and "thought during that time that I could serve as a non-combatant doctor".

"But I found that even in as a non-combatant you are a cog in the whole military machine."

"Then when I came to Crossroads I saw for myself the viciousness of apartheid."

"So I felt it was right as a Christian, a conscientious objector and a member of the ECC to highlight the issue and to pray and make contact with the people by this fast."

The opening day of the fast was marked by visits from about 40 people expressing solidarity and wanting to discuss the issue. A rabbi joined Dr Toms for the first 24 hours of his fast.

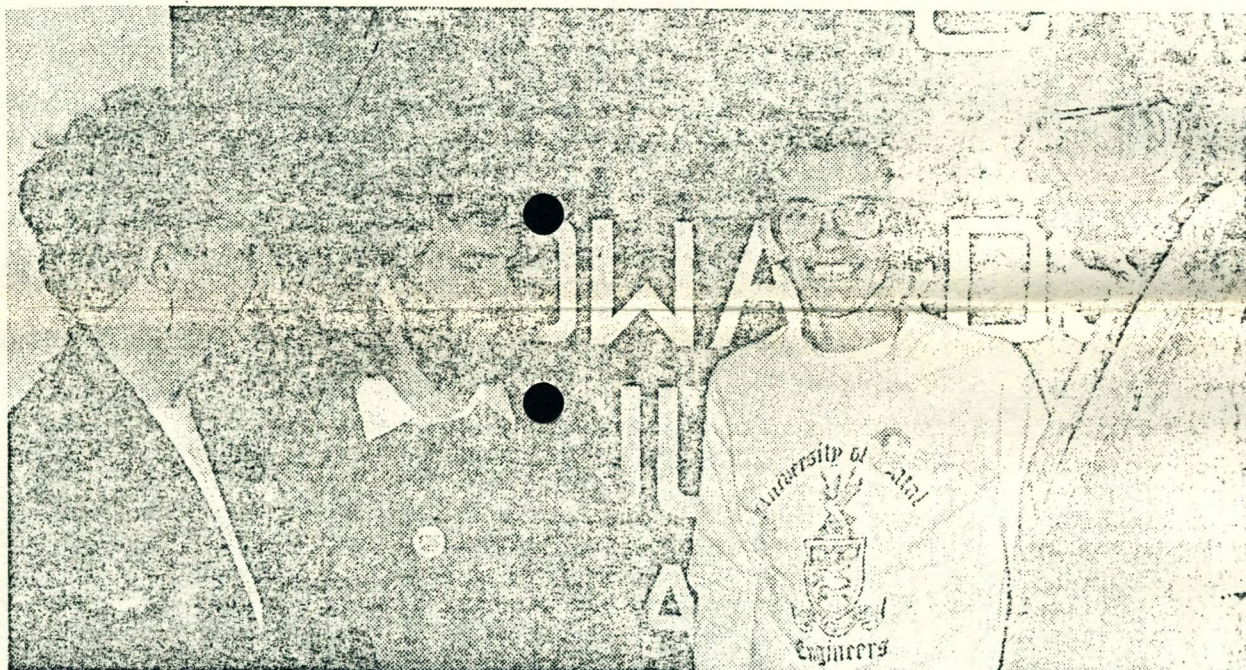
A solidarity relay fast is also taking place at the St Mary's Catholic Cathedral in Cape Town.

The ECC has also called on people to fast in solidarity with Dr Toms and other ECC members on October 7.

DO YOU KNOW?

STAR 23/16
In 1984, 34 393 people served in the SADF; 1596 of those conscripted did not report for duty. In 1985 this figure has risen to a staggering 7589. This indicates a refusal to be part of a system that calls for young people to have to take up arms against their fellow South Africans. Four people who have been actively involved to end conscription were detained under the Internal Security Act; one is still in detention.

It is not possible to ascertain how many conscripts suffer crises of conscience for having to serve in the townships. However, there are more than 40 organisations including civil rights and women's movements, student and church groups and a teachers' union who are actively registering objection to conscription and actively campaigning for troops to move out of the townships.



ANTI-CONSCRIPTION protesters Mr Steven Collins (left), Mr Richard Steele and Mr Donn Edwards discuss their campaign with Archbishop Denis Hurley.

Hurley calls for repeal of law on military service

Political Reporter

THE demands placed on young South African Defence Force conscripts in the black townships was one of the arguments why conscription itself should be ended, the Catholic Archbishop of Durban, the Most Reverend Denis Hurley, said yesterday.

He was speaking at St Anthony's Church in Durban at a Press conference on the stepping up of the campaign to have the SADF withdrawn from the townships through protest fasts and education programmes.

Pacifist Mr Richard Steele, who has already started a two-week fast, is providing a focus for the campaign by staying at St Anthony's during the day, meeting and talking to people.

Two university students, Mr Steven Collins and Mr Donn Edwards, are fasting for the same period, while other supporters have fasted or are to fast for shorter periods, culminating in a general 24-hour fast on October 7.

In supporting the campaign, Archbishop Hurley said they wanted to concentrate attention on the need for an end to conscription.

"Some people interpret this as disloyalty, as an attempt to disband the army, but the intent is to work for the repeal of the law which requires young whites to do military service."

He said young conscripts were having to carry out a policing task in the townships for which they had not been trained and this was unfair to them and the residents.

Referring to the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference report on police conduct in the townships, he said that even the police did not appear to have proper training in handling situations with minimum violence, and could not be an example to conscripts.

"It is unthinkable young conscripts should be subjected to this, and it is one of the arguments why conscription should be ended."

No confirmation on ECC man's fast

CAPE TOWN. — There has been no indication that former detainee Mr Richard Steele, a member of the End Conscription Campaign, has begun his planned fast for a "just peace in South Africa" yesterday.

Mr Steele, who was detained under the Internal Security Act in Pietermaritzburg on September 9, was released by a court order on Saturday.

He had intended to begin his fast yesterday for a "just peace in South Africa" and the removal of troops from the townships, and to end it on October 7, the day troops first entered the Black townships last year. — Sapa.

CITIZEN 24.10.85

DAILY NEWS 27/9/85
Publisher Aida
Parker apologises

Political Reporter

RIGHT-wing publisher Miss Aida Parker has issued a public apology to the Catholic Archbishop of Durban, the Most Rev Denis Hurley, for false allegations she made against him in her Aida Parker Newsletter last year.

Miss Parker's apology, published in The Daily News today, follows a settlement reached recently between her lawyers and those of Archbishop Hurley after more than a year of litigation.

The apology states Miss Parker had reported that Archbishop Hurley had tried to portray members of the South African Defence Force as "uniformed butchers".

It said the report alleged he had taken part in a Dutch television programme containing background material,

which he had knowingly endorsed or failed to criticise, portraying alleged SADF atrocities.

The report alleged he had been concerned with the showing in various Catholic parishes of a film of allegedly Cuban origin, depicting alleged SADF atrocities in Namibia.

The apology said Miss Parker was satisfied there was no truth in the allegations against Archbishop Hurley.

She accordingly retracted any suggestion that Archbishop Hurley had been responsible for a programme of false propaganda against the SADF, knowingly assisted the publication of Cuban propaganda or used his position in the church to disseminate such propaganda.

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