

# Gearing up for battle

WAR IS  
NO  
SOLUTION

Where are we heading? The unrest toll rises daily, crime and violence have escalated, shoppers have their bags and cars searched as a matter of course, security firms have multiplied, arms sales have escalated. We are bombarded with adverts from international movers and adverts and products have a decidedly military flavour.

These daily realities point to a society preparing for war. Yet most people would say "What war?" Wars are declared, enemies defined - the absence of these formalities makes it difficult to talk about war in South Africa.

**"Initially the Smith regime actually denied it was fighting a war... amazingly even at the height of the war, white Rhodesians rarely spoke of 'the war', it was always 'the war situation'."**

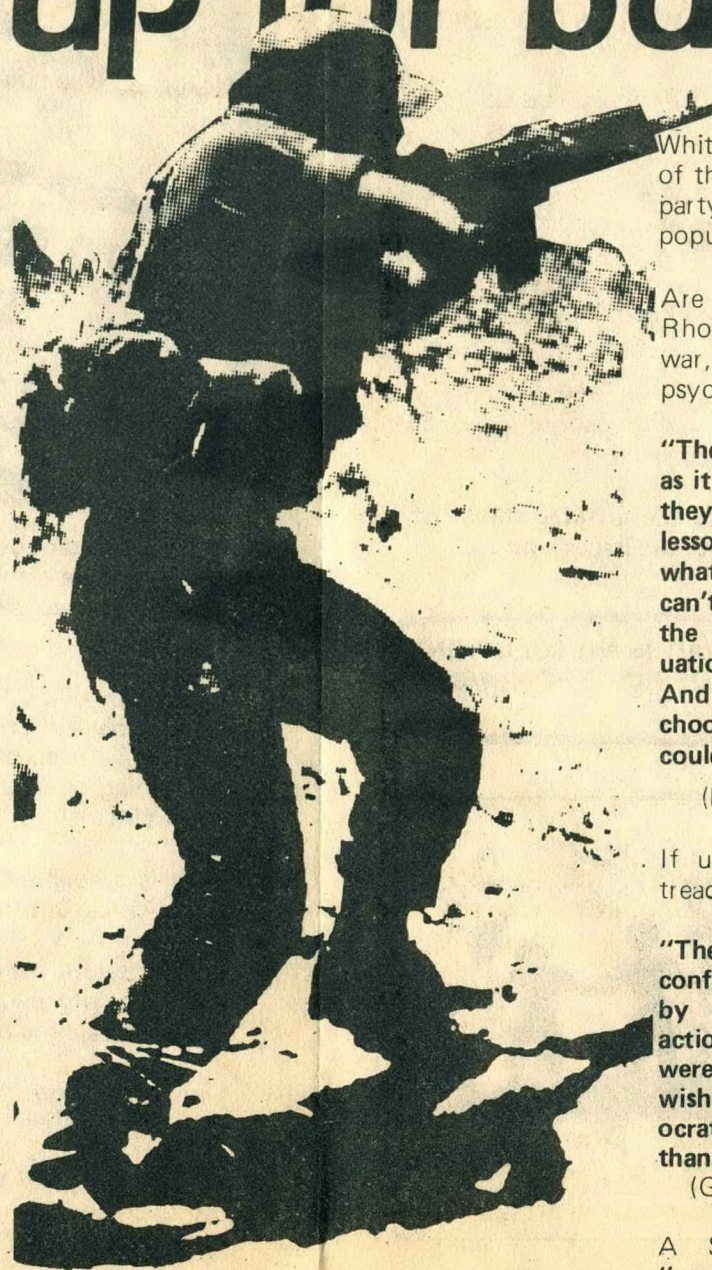
(white zimbabwean resident)

We too, here, have our own terminology - 'the unrest situation'. If we can be so cushioned as not to notice the collective impact of what is happening around us, how can we even begin to know the context.

The information we receive is limited, particularly under the state of emergency. What we do receive is open to distortion. People emigrate or buy more arms and live in fear of the unknown. The 'unknown', which is given the general name of 'the onslaught' and attributed to small bands of violent, generally unpopular radicals.

**"To dignify them with names like 'freedom fighters' and 'guerillas' is to afford them a status they do not and will never deserve. In the six years of the terrorist war in Rhodesia, the armed forces have demonstrated time and time again that they are more than a match for these criminals."**

(Rhodesian Broadcasting Corporation)



White 'Rhodesians saw Robert Mugabe, as the leader of these 'criminals'. And yet in 1980 Mugabe and his party were elected to power in an overwhelmingly popular victory.

Are we not unwittingly 'being dragged through what Rhodesia went through? The cost was 20 years of war, 35 000 lives and countless physically and psychologically maimed.

**"The end result 's going to be the same there (in SA) as it was here. So I figure if they can avert bloodshed, they should. But they won't. They could learn a lesson from us, like start now instead of going through what we went through. Then lots of people say you can't equate the situations. But, mind you, while the war was in full swing we said then that the situation here was different to anywhere else in Africa. And it wasn't. What was that saying about if you choose to ignore history you live to regret it? It could be the case down there. Could be."**

(Member of Rhodesian Intelligence Corps)

If unchecked the path of violence and misery we tread will become irreversible. But it is not too late.

**"The least dangerous (course open to SA) ... is to confront the issue of politically motivated violence by opening up opportunities for direct political action. There is encouraging evidence that if this were done, the majority of South Africans would wish to take part in the political process on a democratic basis, and would favour negotiation rather than violence."**

(Gavin Relly, Chairman Anglo American.)

A Soweto child writing says that the leaders must "meat and tok". Beyers Naudé asks "will we heed the words of this child?"

# support our campaign...

The End Conscription Campaign is launching a **WAR IS NO SOLUTION** campaign.

We do not believe that the armed might of the SADF is the answer to South Africa's problems.

We believe that peace in our country is only possible through the breaking down of false barriers. Ordinary South African men and women can help work towards that peace by rejecting apartheid and coming together to construct a common vision. All South Africans have a right to know what is happening: The ECC is holding a series of public talks, films and meetings to focus debate on the nature of the South African conflict.

All South Africans can break down barriers. We hope to offer activities in this campaign that give us a place to come together - through our peace picnic, concerts, an alternative service project and a walk against war.

All South Africans can express their opposition to the growing threat of civil war. We urge you to support our campaign and debate the issues with us.

**IF ANYONE WANTS TO BE PART OF THE "WAR IS NO SOLUTION" CAMPAIGN, PLEASE PHONE PAULA AT OUR OFFICE' THE NUMBER IS 47-9170.**

## SYMPOSIUM

A series of public lectures, examining the nature of war in Southern Africa.

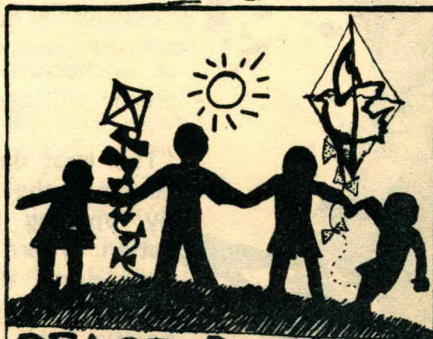


TIME: 1:00 PM

VENUE: ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL HALL

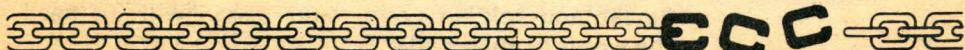
DATE: WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAYS  
FROM 12 NOV - 10 DEC

**THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR**



**PEACE PICNIC**

Join us on 30th November.  
Phone PAULA: ph 479170



End Conscription Campaign



# E.C.C. DOES PAVEMENT ART



GRAND PARADE  
28<sup>th</sup> FEB • 10 am

# WAR

AN ECC FILM FOCUS

10 MAY — 3 JUNE



## INTRODUCTION

'WAR' is a captivating seven-part film series released in 1983 by the National Film Board of Canada. Expertly presented by Gwynne Dyer, the series analyses the nature, development, consequences and future of modern warfare.

The End Conscription Campaign is hosting a series of these films as part of its current campaign - 'War is not Compulsory - Let's choose a just peace'. The series can be seen at any of three venues - UCT Campus, St James Church Hall in Sea Point, and the Rondebosch Congregational Church Hall. The showings are free and open to anyone wishing to attend. Donations towards the cost of the films will be welcome.

1986

## WAR - PART 1: THE ROAD TO TOTAL WAR

producer and director, Barbara Sears.

The first in a series of seven films in which Gwynne Dyer analyses the nature, development, consequences and future of modern warfare. The starting point is the French Revolution, which introduced two new concepts: modern nationalism and a way of enforcing it - conscription. New political ideals, coupled with the new technologies of the industrial revolution, gave people new ways of killing each other. With the introduction of weapons like the machine-gun and the tank, the old ideals of honour, glory and patriotism became increasingly anachronistic. Together with the technique of trench warfare, World War 1 introduced the deliberate targeting of enemy civilians, brought to a horrifying climax with the mass bombing of European cities and the dropping of the Atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War 2.

## WAR - PART 2: ANYBODY'S SON WILL DO

director, Paul Cowan.

In this film Gwynne Dyer looks at recruitment and military training. The method of turning ordinary young men into soldiers is called 'basic training' and is essentially the same the world over. This film takes the viewer to the Parris Island Marine Recruiting Depot in South Carolina to observe the rituals that will transform a motley group of eighteen-year-olds into the fighting men of the United States Marine Corps. For ten weeks, raw recruits are subjected to a brutal, but precisely calculated regimen of physical and mental stress in an isolated, highly disciplined environment. At the end of it, they will have been thoroughly indoctrinated with a new set of morals that will allow them to kill human beings on command.

## WAR - PART 3: THE PROFESSION OF ARMS

producers and directors, Michael Bryans and Tina Viljoen.

This film deals with the career officers, men in every country who devote their lives to maintaining military organisations and nurturing the attitudes that go with them. To show how professional soldiers function in a framework where normal rules of human conduct do not apply, it first discusses how combat actually works and then explains the officer's role of imposing order on the chaos of battle. Interviewing career soldiers from the Israeli, American, Soviet and Canadian armed forces, Dyer shows how these men see themselves and their jobs. Although they still cling to the old military precepts of glory, honour and sacrifice, technology is rapidly removing the human element from warfare, thus threatening their self-image.

## WAR - PART 4: THE DEADLY GAME OF NATIONS

director, Paul Cowan.

In this chapter Gwynne Dyer explores some of the reasons why people and their governments feel the need to keep armies and fight wars. To this purpose he focuses on the state of Israel, whose struggle for a secure place among the Arab nations of the Middle East clearly illustrates the issues involved, and whose successes have so far prevented the Palestinians from creating a nation of their own. For a closer look at the disruptive effect of constant war, Dyer visits the kibbutz of Kfar Giladi on the Golan Heights and examines the consequences of the June, 1982 invasion of Lebanon on the lives of several individuals there. Though there is ample evidence that military action cannot provide a permanent solution, the acceptability of settling disputes by means of war has seldom been challenged.

## WAR - PART 5: KEEPING THE OLD GAME ALIVE

producer and director, Douglas Kiefer.

In central Europe, the armed forces of NATO countries and those of the Warsaw Pact face each other across the border between East and West Germany. It is predicted that the next major conflict will begin here and every Autumn the armies of the western alliance conduct elaborate rehearsals for World War 3. Dyer attends these manoeuvres and assesses some of the technically sophisticated weapons that would be used should another war break out. He explains such military terminology as 'forward defence' and 'flexible response' and also considers the possibility of a limited conventional war escalating into an all-out nuclear war. He comes to the conclusion that, because of untested technological developments all strategic theories are largely conjecture.

## WAR - PART 6: NOTES ON NUCLEAR WAR

producers Tina Viljoen and Michael Burns; director, Tina Viljoen.

No rational person wants a nuclear war, yet we all conspire to make one possible, whether by actively participating in preparations for it, or simply through our votes and taxes. In this film Dyer follows the development of the arms race, from Hiroshima to the Cuban missile crisis of the early sixties, to the nuclear stalemate that exists today. He also attempts to unravel some of the political doctrines and military strategies that have been devised by the superpowers to justify their enormous and multifaceted nuclear weapons systems and reveals some of the vested interests on both sides that keeps the arms race alive. He points out that, although there are elaborate plans to protect our leaders, ordinary citizens will have little chance of surviving a nuclear war and that such an event will inevitably mean the end of civilisation.

## WAR - PART 7: GOODBYE WAR

producer, Donna Dudinsky; directors, Donna Dudinsky, Judith Merritt and Barbara Sears.

For centuries, countries everywhere have attempted to settle questions of power, territory, national pride and sovereignty through military force. Today, at any given time, there are about twenty wars being waged in different parts of the world. In all of them, those involved have a particular goal which, they believe, outweighs the cost of war. Dyer discusses some recent examples and then considers the most ambitious effort to impose order upon the settling of conflicts, the founding of the United Nations. He examines the organisation's failures and limited successes, as well as those of the strategic arms limitation talks. Finally the film depicts efforts of peace movements to promote disarmament and Dyer ends with the warning that if we do not abolish war, war will abolish us.

# PROGRAMME

|   | UCT Campus<br>Robert Leslie Building<br>LT 2D<br>12.40 | St James Church Hall<br>St James Road<br>Sea Point<br>8.00 pm | Rondebosch Congregational<br>Church Hall<br>Belmont Road<br>Rondebosch<br>8.00 pm |
|---|--|---|---|
| Part 1: The Road to <b>Total War</b>      | Wed 13 May   | Sun 10 May  | Wed 13 May  |
| Part 2: Anybody's <b>Son Will Do</b>      | Fri 15 May   | Wed 13 May  | Sun 17 May  |
| Part 3: The <b>Profession of Arms</b>     | Mon 18 May   | Sun 17 May  | Wed 20 May  |
| Part 4: The <b>Deadly Game of Nations</b> | Wed 20 May   | Wed 20 May  | Sun 24 May  |
| Part 5: <b>Keeping the Old Game Alive</b> | Fri 22 May   | Sun 24 May  | Wed 27 May  |
| Part 6: <b>Notes on Nuclear War</b>       | Mon 25 May   | Wed 27 May  | Sun 31 May  |
| Part 7: <b>Goodbye War</b>                | Wed 27 May   | Sun 31 May  | Wed 3 June  |

N. 86

# CADETS

## A DUTY TO HELP PROTECT THEIR FATHERLAND

- Paratus: Feb., 1985



**BUT...**

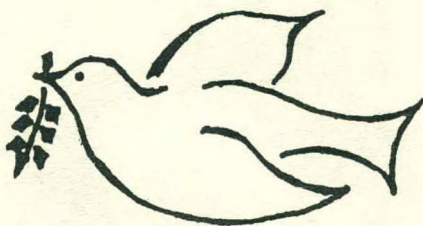
# CADETS IS NOT COMPULSORY

**SECTION 57 of the Defence Act states that:**

**LIABILITY FOR SERVICE AS A CADET** – Every person domiciled in the Republic may, if he is a scholar or student at a school or other educational institution, be required between his twelfth and his seventeenth year, both included, to undergo training as a cadet in accordance with regulations, unless –

- (a) his parent or guardian has objected thereto in writing; or
- (b) he has been exempted from such training under prescribed conditions, and may voluntarily undergo such additional training as may be prescribed.

(No. 44 of 1957)



**ECC invites you to a meeting to look at militarisation and cadets in schools. Speakers will be calling for an alternative to cadets.**

**DATE:** Wednesday, 5 February 1986  
**VENUE:** Rondebosch Congregational Church  
**TIME:** 4.30 pm

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