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**END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (CAPE TOWN BRANCH) ANNUAL ASSESSMENT IN
PREPARATION FOR THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JANUARY 1984**

Contents

- 1) Chronology of the years activity
- 2) Report from assessment workshop
- 3) Sub-committee reports

Chronology of activities-1985

- JAN** - Pamphlet distributed to coincide with the call up
- Workshop to plan the IYY campaign
- First National conference at Botha's Hill, Natal - ended with raid by Security Police
- FEB** - ECC represented on IYY committees of churches and UDF
- Workshop on security and detentions, with assistance from ADAC
- Production of "Hands off Crossroads" statement poster.
- Roadshow perform for UCT orientation week and Black Sash
- MAR** - Public meeting on Civil War - addressed by Trevor Manuel and Laurie Nathan.
- Concert in Observatory
- ECC participates in IYY launch
- APR** - First meeting of the national committee in JHB
- Participated in NANSO workshop at UWC
- Assessment of sub-committee work and broadening of executive to include sub-comm. representatives.
- Held first schools workshop
- Held first 2 open forums on alternatives to conscription and Namibia
- First edition of ECC Calender
- MAY** - Participated in Civil Rights League meeting celebrating 40 years since the defeat of facism
- Planning work for Peace Festival
- JUN** - Open forum on Civil War
- ECC writes SA Outlook, focussing on conscription
- Fund raising supper
- Pamphlet distributed to schools
- Highly succesful Peace Festival in JHB, attended by 400 delegates and over 2000 participants - extensive international support
- JUL** - Second National Conference in JHB
- ECC speaks at UDF meeting on State of Emergency
- Early planning for Troops Out Campaign
- AUG** - ECC gives evidence to the Geldenhuys Committee
- Participated in Habonim panel
- "Troops out" statement poster

- Public meeting on Troops in the Townships attended by 200
 - 4th open forum on "40 years since Hiroshima" and the international cold war
 - Hold first creative action workshop
- SEP - Public meeting in the Cathedral hall to co-incide with Sept.3 Sebokeng anniversary
- Detention of Chairperson, Mike Evans
 - 5th open forum on "State of the Nation" attended by 250
 - Meeting and vigil to launch Ivan's 20 day fast
 - Launch of 2 week "Art for Peace" exhibition at the Baxter - attended by 500 people
 - Regular services, lunch time programmes and evening workshops in the Cathedral
 - One week programme for schools to co-incide with the vacation
 - Vigils at Cathedral, Ron Con and Manenberg
 - Relay fasts at St. Mary's Cathedral and by UCT SRC
 - Pickets on the United Nations International Day of Peace, Sep 17
 - Production of 250 000 items of media for Troops Out Campaign
- OCT - 6th open forum on "State of the Nation"
- Church services to begin and end 24 hour fast
 - Altogether nearly 2000 people sign visitors book in Cathedral
 - "Peace Rally" attended by 4000 people, addressed by Molly Blackburn, Archbishop Russel, Nomainda Mfaketo, Mike Evans, Ivan Toms and Christmas Tinto
 - Assessment and planning workshop
 - ECC initiates coming together of 23 organisations in response to declaration of State of Emergency
 - Statement poster against State of Emergency
- NOV - Another newsletter released
- Alternative service co-ordinating committee meets
 - Churches sub-committee formed
 - ECC continues participating in range of activities with 23 organisations
 - LAG produces "No news is bad news" T-shirt
 - The first Cape Town AGM is held and a new executive elected
- DEC - "Cadets Campaign" planning workshop held
- ECC concert with poster exhibition: good school student attendance
 - Stall at CAP's open day
 - 4 new T-shirt designs printed
 - '23 organisations' pamphlet and candle light vigil
- JAN - Service for conscripts
- Pamphlet for churches distribution
 - 8000 call-up pamphlets released
 - Stickers and poster "Conscripts with no right to choose"
 - Picket held to protest call up

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- 2 successful creative actions - a sand castle and a jog-in
- Planning for alternative service and cadet campaigns
- Open forum with Laurie and Pete

Introduction

This report was drawn from an afternoon assessment and planning session. We started the assessment by (very briefly) re-examining why we take up the campaign in the first place. In doing so we attempted to establish a reference point for our planning and assessment. This report is divided into three main sections: A - Successes and Failures; B - E.C.C. Internal; C - E.C.C. External.

A. Successes and Failures

i. Successes

The first that came to mind was the "Troops Out" campaign, in particular the Peace Rally, and the Art for Peace exhibition. Both were very well attended, and provoked considerable public interest. The Peace Rally was a landmark in Cape Town political history, swaying many undecided people onto our side. The exhibition was the first of its kind for many years, and created a ripple effect within the arts community.

Other successes were our media 'presence', and our reputation as a dynamic political organisation.

Contact work in the form of 'open forums', the newsletter, press work and international liaison has been very successful.

Other points of note are our non-hierarchical methods of organisation and our ability to cope with crises e.g. Mike's detention.

ii. The Failures

Our IYY campaign was, in a word, a flop, into which we had channelled considerable planning and energy. In part this was due to objective conditions and the demise of the IYY campaign generally in the Western Cape, but we certainly failed to address ourselves to Western Cape youth.

The Claremont Civic meeting following the Uitenhage massacre was poorly attended. We had considerable problems with the City Council over our advertising.

Organisation for the meeting to launch the fast was poor, and created some friction. The cathedral programme organised during the fast was planned too late, poorly publicised, and poorly attended. Follow-up to the fast was non-existent.

Other low points, are our lack of skills training, the neglect of front structure, poor publicising of SADF activity beyond the townships, internal education programmes. Cape Town ECC also has a very poor grasp of the national ECC dynamic.

B. ECC Internal

1) Recruitment into ECC structures

This has been a major problem area. Not only do we fail to involve new contacts in areas of ECC work, but we are faced with a high activist turnover rate, and have provided poor follow-up to campaign work so as to pull in peripheral supporters. A number of approaches to these problems have been suggested:

i) the need for an 'Orientation' group to provide new recruits with an overall grasp of ECC work, and the arguments behind it, and to present them with an exciting and enjoyable "first contact" with ECC.

ii) the opening up of new constituencies into which we can channel activists.

iii) the creation of more initiatives like CAG (loosely affiliated grouping).

iv) the awareness of a group of peripheral supporters who do not want to work in sub-committees - we must provide regular suitable activities such people can participate in.

ii) Making space for individuals' participation and development in ECC?

Activists are often too busy to be passing on skills, and we need to set up regular skills work-shops. We should also be developing leadership skills with ECC. (assessment workshops are a small part of this). Certain patterns of domination within group discussions have become entrenched, reflecting a limited perception of humanism within ECC. The need to address the area of feminism in ECC work has been expressed. While internal education has failed to get off the ground as a viable answer to these problems, there is a programme in the pipeline that may well go some way to redressing them.

iii) Building the ECC front structure

The organisation vs front dilemma has been raised a number of times over the past year. In its formative stages Cape Town ECC put a lot of work into its front structure. Later, as campaign orientated work became a priority, far more attention was focussed on sub committee work and building up an organisational machinery. The front structure has as a consequence been neglected. Contact committee has done much to correct this, but it is seen as a priority for 1986 and will receive far greater attention.

C. ECC External

i) Popularising ECC

The last year has provided us with a number of opportunities of which we have taken advantage. In particular the Troops Out Campaign. The bulk of our profile has been through good media, press and public relations work. This has given us an image that is at times 'larger than life', and helped to make ECC a household name. We have generated a fairly popular and 'trendy' image amongst younger constituencies. Our international profile has been given an enormous boost. Certain key constituencies, however, have been neglected (see later).

ii) Exposing the role of the SADF in South Africa

While our media has conveyed the overall pattern of SADF actions within the townships, we have failed to provide detailed information on these actions, and we have neglected to emphasize SADF activity beyond the townships (border conflict, resettlement, etc.). In many ways this reflects our failure to adequately collate this material, and an information group has been set up to fill this gap. It has been suggested that we bring out an informative magazine on SADF actions that acts as a counter to Paratus.

iii) Presenting Alternatives to the SADF

This has been a major omission of our work, and is very much behind our motivation for taking up the alternative service project. It is vital that ECC presents itself in a positive light and is seen to be engaged in looking for new alternatives.

iv) Building Non-Racialism

While our priority has been organising whites we have had some successes in building non-racialism through the efforts of some of our activists. The Troops Out Campaign was pushing demands that were relevant to a township audience, and the Peace Rally was well supported by township residents. Informal contacts with CAYCO have been maintained, and we have produced a play jointly with their NYI branch. ECC media has also penetrated the townships on a number of occasions. The Sand Castle action was an expression of non-racialism. We are lacking in a more formalised approach to work in black areas, but we are surprised at the widespread knowledge of ECC and its objectives within the townships.

v) Target Groups

a) Schools

Although continually identified as a priority area, our gains have been small. Our media has achieved a presence and identity in some schools. It is other organisations like PAAG that have made greater inroads. Our concerts have attracted some school students.

b) Conscripts

This has been our most neglected area, and prompted our recent January call-up focus. It has been suggested that we form a 'conscripts' group. 'Campers' constitute a numerically very large group and need attention.

c) Students

While our presence on UCT campus through CAG is good, we are not maintaining our gains there. We must liaise through CAG and NUSAS and clearly strategise our future work on campus. The Technikon has to date been ignored (except by MSM!).

d) Academics

A neglected area. Other centres e.g. Johannesburg have made far more use of this constituency.

e) Yuppies (Young upwardly mobile professionals).

They have been clearly targeted by ECC and are a heterogeneous grouping. Where are the Yuppie breeding grounds?

f) Churches

The ECC churches group is starting to make in-roads in this area, considerably improving our previously in-roads approach.

g) The Liberal White Public

Again, hard to define as a group, but certainly we have addressed ourselves mainly to this constituency during the year's work. This area has probably been where the majority of our gains have come from, but a definitive 'right of centre' has become evident and they view ECC with grave suspicion.

h) Afrikaans Constituency

We are very tentatively making initiatives in the Stellenbosch community, and may well develop these further soon.

END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN, JOHANNESBURG ANNUAL REPORT, 1985.

This report is drawn from a series of assessments of our activities over the past year. Looking back over 1985, we were encouraged to be able to identify so many areas in which we had learned from previous experience, developed more appropriate strategies and had seen the concrete results of this growth.

A. Our Successes and Weaknesses.

i) Successes

Six areas of significant progress stand out together these have led to the development of an ECC which is vibrant, exciting and on the brink of being self-generating.

(a) Our Increasing Public Profile.

This has been achieved through a progressively more concerted press strategy, especially through the Troops Out Campaign and the Festival.

Although there is much still to be done in terms of publicity (and not only press publicity), ECC increased it's public profile to the extent that we are reasonably well known in the constituencies with whom we work. Both the international and local press continue to seek comment from ECC on various issues.

(b) Growth of Self-confidence as an ECC Region.

This is related to the successes of the Festival and the Troops Out Campaign (which happened at a difficult time in terms of the effect of the State of Emergency in Johannesburg). We have developed into an inspired group, characterised by support for each other, cohesion, lack of political cliquishness and a general sense of enjoyment in our work.

(c) Development of a sense of National Pride for ECC.

We have seen the power of national action, and are pleased to be developing national solidarity.

It is exciting to see our development from a "Cape - Town - Conscious" region, to one which is uplifted by and proud of the achievements of other ECC regions.

(d) Our Creative Energy.

Our successes have been related fundamentally to the nature of our campaigns. The Festival was a highlight which put ECC on the map in Johannesburg. The Troops Out Campaign drew many new people into involvement. We are pleased that our actions have inspired or generated further campaigns, such as the Moroko Action, and anti-military graffiti. We are now moving towards a more outgoing and active approach to our work.

(e) Development of Efficient Structures.

This is the most obviously dynamic area of our development. We realised the importance of creating structures according to our needs and organisational strengths. We are developing appropriately democratic methods of working, particularly since the State of Emergency.

(f) Our Campaigns.

We feel that issue-based, politically appropriate activities such as the Troops Out Campaign are important, though general education around militarisation must continue. We have broadened our understanding of what can be done in a campaign, and our creativity is continually expanding.

Different methods were used to organise the two major events of '85. For the Festival, ideas were generated from a small working group, who found difficulty in involving others fully in conceptualising the Festival. For the Troops Out Campaign, conceptualisation and decision-making as well as action happened from the General Body.

The second method of running a campaign proved more satisfactory.

ii) Our Weaknesses.

Our major problem this year has been in the lack of successful follow-up and integration into ECC of those who express interest in ECC, especially in Campaigns.

We do not have carefully enough strategised plans for particular constituencies, and we do not always have sufficient understanding of these constituencies.

Our other major problem is that we are not always action-oriented, and although we have spurts of creativity, we often let opportunities for action, politicisation and publicity slip by.

B. ECC Internally.

i) Structures.

At the beginning of the year we set up sub-committees which never really functioned and were suspended by June. These committees fell apart largely because the "front" vs "organisation" debate was unresolved and only organisational reps were in the sub-committees. Insufficient co-ordination and inadequate definition of role also contributed to their downfall.

The Festival and the Emergency helped us to develop a sense of doing things well. With growing self-confidence and the new people coming in from the Troops Out Campaign, it was possible to set up sub-committees again.

There may still be some co-ordination problems with the sub-committees, but we feel they are the best forum for getting people working, learning and involved.

There have been positive changes in the role the executive plays. Initially the exec. was responsible for co-ordination, political discussion and national contact. There is now greater awareness that this should happen in the general body and the exec. plays a largely co-ordinating and facilitating role.

ii) The Impact of ECC on Affiliates : Our Nature as a Front.

During the course of the year we gained three new affiliates; the Organisation for Appropriate Social Scientists of South Africa (OASSSA), the Young Progressives (Southern Transvaal) and a newly-formed Wits ECC group.

All our affiliates have tried to raise issues of the military and militarisation with their membership, but it is difficult to assess whether this interest was stimulated by their involvement in ECC or by the issues themselves. Reps to ECC are generally working more as individuals than taking back a programme to their organisations. During the Festival, and more successfully in the Troops Out Campaign. We tried to involve affiliates in taking responsibility for different aspects of the programme.

A monthly Affiliate Newsletter and a series of meeting with affiliate executives and ECC reps are planned to improve this situation.

iii) Composition of ECC.

We now have about 30 people regularly involved in General Body meetings. They come from a range of backgrounds and age-groups. Approximately two thirds of these members are representatives from affiliates. Others are involved in sub-committees, but do not come to General Meetings. There is also a broader grouping who help with particular activities and campaigns.

iv) Internal Education.

We tried to have discussions on the role of the SADF at General meetings, but have not been able to do this systematically. We are now planning regular information evenings for internal and external education. The involvement of our members in discussion around issues such as PFP affiliation, the TV debate, and structures helped develop their political thinking.

C. ECC Externally.

i) Building a Mass Campaign.

We feel that ECC is on the brink of being self-generating. We have identified the need to develop a more active approach to our constituency and to build ECC into a mass campaign. Mass support is our best protection and greatest strength. This will mean more concerted public work (pamphleteering, postering, house-meetings etc), and more careful plans for particular constituencies.

ii) Impact of ECC on The Public and Press.

The Weekly Mail has given ECC excellent coverage, but we must build stronger relations with the other local papers. Different individuals have been reached through our varied approach : eg, The Woman's Page, news items letters etc.

We need to build a more aggressive press strategy in Johannesburg.

iii) The Impact of ECC on Our Constituency.

Afrikaans Community.

RAU has shown some interest, with an article in their student newspaper and approaching ECC for discussion. It is probable that a group of Afrikaans writers, in conjunction with ECC will produce a book of anti-military short stories and poems in Afrikaans.

We need to make a concerted effort in this community, writing pamphlets in English and Afrikaans and creating a media presence in Afrikaans residential areas.

Students.

This is a constituency with whom we have a lot of unrealised potential. The formation of an ECC group at Wits will help to draw people into the campaign. An ECC group has also been set up on Medical Campus.

Religious Groupings/

Religious Groupings.

We have made sporadic attempts to reach church congregations but the follow-up has been poor. Nevertheless, we have increasing support from the churches, and are building contacts with the Jews for Justice and Hahonim.

Cultural Groupings.

Johannesburg bands and the music world are very excited about ECC, and we built good relationships with them on Forces Favourites.

We did not have much impact on the "arty, classy, market" type grouping, but the film festival and the proposed Art exhibition will begin to make amends.

"Concerned Citizens.

We made some impact on the "Concerned Citizens" type of people. The Mother's Perspective in the Troops Out Campaign was very successful. Our participation in programmes run by the Concerned Citizens group is difficult to evaluate beyond the favourable response to Laurie's speech. The Black Sash is becoming much more supportive of ECC.

School Students.

We have never had a concerted campaign aimed at school students. The Festival's Schools debate was effective in showing the potential for such work. The Education Committee is planning workshops in schools, and Neusa, one of our affiliates is discussing ways of working within white schools, partly around militarisation issues. We have also done workshops in two coloured schools.

Conscripts.

We feel that ECC has made conscripts think more about their role in the SADF, but we did not effectively make use of the "right to refuse townships duty" approach during the Troops Out Campaign.

D. The Effect of The State Of Emergency.

Initially, there was a degree of paranoia in Johannesburg after the declaration of the State of Emergency. This related to the response of other organisations. We were soon able to take initiative and develop new ways of operating. A defiant spirit developed among us, and we feel we were correct in deciding to continue operating, and for most of us not to go into hiding. This won us respect in our constituency.

The S. of E. forced us to re-examine and democratise our functioning. We needed to deal with the real possibility of leadership being taken away and what that would mean for our continued existence.

We were able to develop contact systems, and our house-meetings were good innovations, providing much internal solidarity and support.

The biggest problem was the lack of contact with township residents as a result of the S. of E. We now need to rebuild those relationships.



End Conscription Campaign

END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN

JOHANNESBURG REGION

1. Chronology of Activities February 1985 - January 1986.

February

- ECC represented on Churches IYY co-ordinating committee.
- Stall at Wits Free Peoples Concert.
- Stall at UDF Concert.
- Sub-groups set up (Media; Resources and Research; Newsletter).

March

- Uitenhage Protest Meeting (Initiated by ECC - convened jointly with JODAC, BLACK SASH, DPSC, SACC and SABC).
- Poster (Uitenhage).
- Pamphleteering blitz in shopping centers.
- Production of a package of activities on military for CIYY folder.
- Planning work for Peace Festival begins.

April

- First edition of ECC Focus.
- Weekly stall at Yeoville Market (with Jodac Militarisation Group).
- Stickers for budget debate.
- Participated in picket protesting Raditsela's death.
- Security Workshop.
- ECC runs seminar on campus.

May

- Open information evening on Namibia.
- Meetings with school students begin.
- Two newsletter production workshops.
- Fundraising videos on Vietnam.
- Stall at IYY launch.
- Republic Day picket.
- Work started on Forces Favourites.

June

- Public debate with PFP.
- 2nd Edition ECC Focus.
- Stop the Call-up Peace Festival.

July

- 2nd National Conference held in Johannesburg.
- Seminars on ECC at Nusas July Festival.
- "State of Emergency" protest meeting.
- Detention of Gavin Evans, Joy Marnden and Ian Moll.
- Clare Verbreek questioned and searched.

August

- Stall at Yeoville Market (x2).
- ECC holds housemeetings as response to State of Emergency.
- ECC invited to play "A little Ward Music" (in which we featured).

September

- Statement at "Banning of Cosas" meeting.
- Houses of four ECC members raided.
- Troops Out Campaign.
 - regular lunch-time programmes.
 - "Mother's Perspective" is highly successful.
 - relay fasts in churches and on campus.
 - Public meeting addressed by Glenda Glover.
- 3rd Edition of ECC Focus.

October

- ECC organisational workshop looks at directional issues.
- Restructuring of ECC results in re-definition of exec portfolios and reforming of sub-committees.
- Workshop at C.J. Botha School.
- Input at concerned citizens meeting by Laurie Nathan.
- Production of Socks.
- Fundraising activity:- Play "Walking Wounded"

November

- Media workshop.
- Production of package on militarisation for CIYY folder.
- New members meeting.
- New executive elected.
- Work on Maternity Leave issue begins.
- Work on ECC case against Rapport begins.

December

- Record launch.
- Pre-Christmas Community Evening (with Jodac).
- Input at IYY Festival.
- Stall at IYY Festival.
- Production of Postcards and Calendar.



End Conscription Campaign

STATE REPRESSION AGAINST and PRESS ATTACKS ON
END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN, JOHANNESBURG REGION, JANUARY 1985
- JANUARY 1986.

A. STATE REPRESSION

1. JUNE

Visa refused to Cardinal Arns of Brazil, scheduled to address ECC Peace Festival.

2. JULY 30

Clare Verbreek questioned and home searched.
ECC documents confiscated.
Sylvia Brett (minute taker) raided.

3. AUGUST

ECC members Gavin Evans, Ian Moll and Joy Marnden detained for two weeks. Questioned, amongst other things, about ECC Johannesburg.

4. SEPTEMBER 9

In simultaneous raids, homes of ECC member Anne Makay, Peter Cranko, Anne-Marie Rademeyer and Clare Verbreek are searched and ECC documents confiscated.

5. DECEMBER 14

One copy of "Forces Favourites" tape confiscated after raid on Screen Training Project (STP).

6. JANUARY

Peter Cranko questioned and home searched.
Telephone numbers of ECC and Wits ECC members taken.

GENERAL

Impressions from all those questioned were that the Security Police have little knowledge of the workings of Johannesburg ECC, and appear to be investigating only at the moment.

B. MAJOR ATTACKS ON ECC IN THE PRESS

1. 18 AUGUST 1985

Ken Owen in the Sunday Times says the Campaign to end conscription was launched to prepare the way for revolution.

2. 4 SEPTEMBER 1985

Star Editorial questions the real motives of a number of organisations, particularly in relation to violence. Is ECC's real motive the abolition of the army?

3. 5 SEPTEMBER 1985

Ken Owen in Business Days says ECC uses the myth of conflict to serve political ends; accuses ECC of being uncritical of violence from all sides and says this is intended to draw battle lines.

4. 10 SEPTEMBER 1985

Vlok in the Citizen says EEF (sic) is being used by the ANC to further its goals.

5. 21 SEPTEMBER 1985

Magnus Malan in The Star defends the role of troops in the townships and accuses ECC of aiming to break down law and order by weakening the state machinery.

6. 30 SEPTEMBER 1985

NSF advert appears in Sunday Papers.

7. Rapport published three stenderous attacks.

END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN- PORT ELIZABETH

ANNUAL ASSEMENT FOR JANUARY 1986 CONFERENCE.

CONTENTS.

1. Chronology of year's activity.
2. Assessment based on Troops Out Campaign and General Meeting discussion

CHRONOLOGY OF ACTIVITIES. 1985

MARCH: PE Area Committee of UDF (White Areas) call a meeting of intereste organisations to discuss the formation of an ECC on 21 March. All agree to launch ECC.

APRIL: Inaugural meeting of ECC. Attempted disruption by 60 UPE students. Black Sash, PFP Youth, PEAC, GRACONS affiliate.

MAY: ECC addressed by Uitenhage township resident. Cultural road show for Festival. Republic Day picket. (APARTHEID REPUBLIC = CIVIL WAR)

JUNE: All military issues banned from UPE students newspaper due to PFP Youth wanting to put ECC position on conscription forward. Advice Group formed. Janet Cherry - ECC chairperson detained. 10 PE ECC members attend Festival. Cultural road show put on play at Festival.

JULY: ECC arrange tour of townships for Carole Tongue. Media group produce "Peace Kite" and distribute this. ECC members attended Mathew Goniwe's funeral in Cradock.

AUGUST: Advice group hold a workshop to train counsellors. Strategised for the fast at a general meeting. Contacts and promotion of the fast started.

SEPTEMBER: (See Troops Out Campaign assessment.)

OCTOBER: Assessment of campaign held.

NOVEMBER: ECC holds an organisational skills workshop.

DECEMBER: Picket held: WHY AN ARMY CHRISTMAS - STOP THE CALL-UP.
PEACE AND GOODWILL TO ALL...END CONSCRIPTION.

YEAR'S ASSESSMENT MADE AT GENERAL MEETING:

The ECC contributed to pressure leading to troops leaving the townships. Campaigns should be co-ordinated with S.A.D.F. activities eg. Call-ups, and should be national - this shows unity and strength. ECC has become well-known in the past year, but should concentrate on Afrikaans public as well. Cost of war should be used as incentive to stop war which undermines negotiation. Quality of publications were good, but distribution could improve. Membership was only slightly boosted. Contact was made but not followed up. Members other than core-group must become more involved. Churches should send consistent representatives to meetings. Subcommittees should be flexible and have more direction. Priority next year should be consolidation.

ECC P.E. Report on Repression 1985

Firstly, the context in which ECC was established in March/April 1985 was one of extreme repression. The forum at which it was decided to form ECC was held on 21 March, the night of the Langa massacre.

Meetings of the UDF and many of its affiliates, mainly the township organisations, were banned on 29 March 1985, for six months. The PE Area Committee of UDF fell under this banning. The meeting ban did not affect ECC, however, and when the banning order was renewed in December 1985 for a further 6 months it did not include ECC. No meetings of ECC have been banned. However, in this context the PE ECC was cautious about the viability of organising large public meetings.

Repression has affected the PE ECC in two main ways:

1. Direct intimidation by security police in the form of raids, detention etc.
 2. Indirect harassment of ECC members, which has been extensive.
1. Janet Cherry, ECC Chair, was detained under Section 29 of the ISA from 27 June 15 July, and release without being charged. She missed the ECC Peace Festival in Johannesburg. In assessing how ECC handled this situation, it was felt correct that the detention was not allowed to disrupt ECC and prevent the PE delegation from attending the Peace Festival.

On September 13, Security Police searched the houses of Sand Stewart, ECC Secretary, and of Janet Cherry and others. Search warrants were produced for each individual in the houses. ECC minutes and other documents were confiscated from Sandy, and some publications from the other houses. Janet Cherry's office was also searched, and an ECC poster confiscated after she attempted to put it up on the wall and photograph it. All materials were later returned, and no charges were laid.

While ECC pickets have been held, Security Police have openly intimidated members of ECC by photographing them at close range. On one occasion, SADF members seized a placard by force from one of the picketers. A charge of theft was laid by the ECC member concerned, and the poster was returned. The public prosecutor refused to prosecute on the grounds that the picket had been confiscated in terms of the Emergency regulations. ECC members have also been followed on occasions by security police.

2. Informal harassment has included 2 attempts at burning out Janet's car (while parked in the backyard of her home) - the second one successful

The tyres of her car were also over-inflated while parked outside a house in Grahamstown; on many occasions the tyres of her car and other ECC members' cars have been deliberately punctured or cut

Threatening phone calls and death threats have been received by ECC members; on one occasion an ECC member was told that his father in East London had had a heart attack, and drove there to find that it was a hoax. Other incidents have included a strange burglary at St Patrick's road, the sending of R380 worth of alcohol to Sandy's work; the enrolment of an ECC member's children at a school for retarded children; an attempt at burning an ECC member's car; false advertisements placed in the local papers (advertising a house for sale, or an escort agency.).

In addition, the Rapport article and an article in the NP sympathetic newspaper were direct attacks on ECC, coming from journalists in P.E. It is clear from the Media Council hearing on the Rapport article that there is a 'source' in the PE ECC who is passing information, documents and false information to hostile sources.

This report was drawn up from an assessment meeting, the ECC workshop and sub-group reports

Pmb ECC has worked almost entirely in the white community. It attempted to broaden public support by producing all its media in both English and Afrikaans. Pmb started off with about 25 people attending meetings and actively involved however, we are now down to between 10 to 15 active members. In addition to our active membership we have a large peripheral group that do ECC pickets, write letters to the newspaper, etc. This group consists of about 25 people. Because of the fall off in numbers ECC subgroups all folded for the call up campaign but are being reestablished again.

The Executive

The following portfolios exist - Chair, Vice-chair, Press-officer, Secretary, Treasurer and reps from the various sub-groups. (for role definitions of these portfolios see our last lot of minutes.)

F

Sub-groups

In 1985 we had churches, culture, media and schools however, due to the shortage of people culture has been abandoned.

Churches: Due to the overlap between the membership of the ECC churches group and The PACSA War and Peace sub-group it was decided that ECC should not have a separate churches group but, that ECC church work should be undertaken by the W and P Group. The W and P group is focussing around issues of the military, conscription, violence and non-violence. This group is also responsible for the Advice bureau. Activities have been - Establishing Advice bureau and pamphlet and the co-ordinating of a vigil and service for the TOC.

Culture: This groups aim was to create an ECC culture in Pmb, to draw people into ECC and to offer a creative alternative to the violence of the SADF. Although culture did recruit some people this was counted by the rapid fall in its membership. Activities included - A play at the launch, kite building (unsuccessful flying), collection of photos for photo essay and a play for a campus meeting were all done for the TOC.

Media: In the past media has been responsible for all ECC media requirements. After much debate it was decided that in the future media would be a group with its own dynamic and identity and that it would not be responsible for other groups media. Activities included - The production of T-shirts, stickers, pamphlets, posters, banners, newsletter and Xmas cards.

Schools: This group was formed in mid-October in response to the perceived need to fully inform men eligible for call up of their alternatives. The fairly narrow objectives were defined as - 1. To make ECC literature available to this group. The consequences of entering the SADF and the alternatives to military service would be clarified. 2. To determine what additional literature should be disseminated to this group. School students would eventually be encouraged to take over the running of this group. Activities included - Initiating contact with a few educationists and discussing how a basis for starting work in the schools could be established. A pamphlet in English and Afrikaans was distributed to matric pupils. A start was made compiling useful data on Pmb schools. Literature of other groups was compiled.

National:

It was pointed out that local press officers should be notified when national statements are released so they can incur these are published. A overall assessment of National was however not discussed.

ECC office:

We are in the process of finding a venue.

ECC worker: (Pmb region)

Durban and Maritzburg decided to have separate part time workers. The detailed job definition and the appointment are still to be made.

Alternate service campaign:

Several discussions and a workshop were held to discuss this. From these criteria were set and a few of the possibilities were looked at in more depth. A decision on the exact project to be undertaken has not been made. Most of the work on this was done by an adhoc group.

Aims: 1. Make a statement and raise awareness. 2. Provide alternatives. 3. Challenge national service. 4. Cohesion and unity in ECC. 5. Draw people into ECC.

Criteria: 1. Select a project that the community has control over not the government. 2. Must be consistent with aims. 3. Must be feasible. 4. Work with established progressive organisations. 5. Work with the community. 6. Short term for ECC but long term benefits for the community. 7. Be for common good. 8. Low risk project. 9. This is to be planned as a once off campaign. Depending on its success it could possible continue. 3 projects are being considered - Eastwood, Edendale and Compensation. With above priorities in mind they will be further investigated.

BROAD GAINS AND LOSSES:

The question of inroads into the Pmb community was raised. It was pointed out that we had created a greater awareness in Pmb. Also there was an increase in the attendance at our public meetings. We considered the good press coverage in the Witness and the security police harassment as some indication of how seriously ECC is taken. A quantitative approach to gains made is however difficult.

Failings: ECC has not gained many activists. There is a need to focus on building ECC. A point was made that we need to be less introspective and more positive. ECC has not kept up good contact with non-ECC groupings e.g. Church J&R groups, PFP, Nusas and Neusa (ie groups who do not send reps to meetings). A loss to ECC is the number of people leaving Pmb - about 10. ECC reps have not spoken on many public platforms. Pmb has a lack of public speakers. There is a lack of ECC presence on campus. Lack of knowledge of our existence in townships. ECC has not been attending affiliates meetings.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN PMB:

<u>MAY:</u>	ECC formed ECC market on campus
<u>JUNE:</u>	Workshop on ECC and arising issues Preparation for Peace Festival
<u>JULY:</u>	ECC peace festival Seminar on SOE
<u>AUGUST:</u>	ECC public launch - meeting and concert. Advice bureau workshop and subsequent formation of an advice bureau.
<u>SEPTEMBER:</u>	Meeting of organisations to discuss fast. ECC dinner. TOC- SADF on mock trial, pickets and pamphlets, seminar on Inkatha, relay fast at the Cathedral and unsuccessful kiteflying. Space on Neusa AGM
<u>OCTOBER:</u>	Meeting on campus. Service and vigil for 24 hour fast. Unsuccessful balloon flying. Public meeting. Formation of schools group. News letter started.
<u>NOVEMBER:</u>	Election of Press officer, Vice-chair, secretary. Workshop on alternative service campaign and some conceptual issues. Pamphlet blitz to matric pupils.
<u>DEC/JAN:</u>	Pickets and pamphlets re call-up. ECC workshop and assessment.

OVERVIEW:

ECC has made enormous strides in 1985. We have seen the establishment of two sub-committees - media and Artists Against Conscription (AAC) - as well as the formation of a new affiliate - Conscription Action Group (CAG) on the local NUSAS campus. Our public profile has increased dramatically. This is due to good and regular media, a consistent level of activity, increased press coverage, and to ECC being a national organisation. We have had good personal contact with the public, particularly through having a stall at the local flea-market and one-to-one distribution of pamphlets at the International Film Festival. Our activities have been well planned and cohesive. And we have reached a number of new constituencies, for example school students and the arts community. On a regional level, our relationship with Pietermaritzburg has been of mutual benefit. And nationally, contact has been good. Laurie has been invaluable in offering guidance to ECC, and he must take some credit for Durban's phenomenal growth in 1985.

INTERNAL ORGANISATION:

1. General Committee meetings - The GC met every second week at first, then every week as the rate of activities accelerated. These were attended by reps from affiliates and the sub-committees. COSG, CAG, NUSAS, NEUSA, NOW, SUCA, Black Sash and Catholic J & R reps attended meetings regularly. Others attended less regularly - Diakonia, Methodist Youth, SCA and the Wentworth Improvement Project.

At first, a small group would get together beforehand to plan agendas and decide on chairs. It then emerged that this was almost the same people who constituted GC, and thereafter the agendas and chairs were decided on at the end of GC meetings. The meetings were generally very long, and much time was spent on planning. People at the GC meetings were expected to take on tasks - not as reps but as active individuals. Representation was not formally worked out by affiliates, nor was affiliation itself a formal process. The GC operated much more as a task group than as a front. Reps rarely reported from their organisations and there seems to have been much less work done in these organisations by the reps than was possible, around the issue of conscription.

2. Work process - Work tended to be done largely by the media committee and a few people on the GC. The latter had work in their own groups to do and were often overburdened. Work was generally very quickly, and there was little time for consultation with or involvement of affiliates. In fact, activities were planned more with a view to public impact than to affiliate participation. This compounded the problem of involvement of affiliates and meant we were often not in touch with the plans of these organisations, and had no channels for feedback to guide future activities. However, this is not to say that there was no affiliate participation - most were part of the pickets and during the fast a different organisation took responsibility for each day. This worked very well indeed.

No programme for the year was worked out, and activities were generally in response to national events. Ultimately, this did not prove to mean a lack of cohesion - a theme did emerge: 'Troops Out'.

3. Affiliate organisations - An effort was made to maintain

contact. ECC people spoke at their meetings and on occasion organised workshops. While gaining an important affiliate in CAG, we also lost the proper involvement of other affiliates, particularly church groups. This could be attributed to the points raised above, the orientation of activities, and to the fact that for many organisations conscription is not a priority on their agendas.

4. Sub-Committees - These proved invaluable for recruiting new individuals and in doing the bulk of work for campaigns. This is particularly true of the media committee, the AAC is still very young and has its own programme of activities. However, it does seem that a very particular kind of person has been drawn into sub-committees - mainly young people - and others who expressed an interest in getting involved after public events were not followed up or drawn in, except for being mailed stuff. This was because we were not sure where they could be effectively involved or how. (See addenda 4 & 5 for detailed reports)

5. Internal Education - There was minimal internal education or training in ECC, and a number of important issues like the role of Inkatha were neglected to be carefully examined. There was also no forum to bring together all those active in or interested in ECC, and therefore sub-committee people particularly were not given a sense of belonging to a coherent organisation.

6. The New Structure - (See addendum 1) The new structure has been conceptualised and drawn up after much assessment and discussion in the light of the weaknesses outlined above. Essentially it is the same structure with more clearly defined roles/portfolios and a tightening up of process. Additions are the Open Forums and workshops. The Open Forums will hopefully provide a forum to bring together all those active in ECC, and anyone interested in becoming involved with or in touch with ECC. They should also be a forum for education and for informing members of the public and affiliates of activities ECC is planning, and in which they can participate in some way. Open Forums should also provide us with a means of feedback on our campaigns and put us in touch with the concerns of our constituency. New sub-committees should emerge as the need arises. The workshops are planning forums for those already active in the campaign, and should serve to shift planning work from GC and involve affiliates more effectively. GC will be solely for co-ordination and information sharing.

7. Relations with Non-Affiliates - (See addendum 3 for a list of activities related to conscription or militarisation) Laurie did a lot of work with non-affiliates, particularly with UDF organisations. However, we didn't continue with this contact in any systematic fashion. We were approached by some groups to help them with related campaigns they were embarking on. In some instances, our attempts to assist failed more because of difficulties on their side than ours, and in others, we didn't make enough effort and lacked initiative, time and energy. Hopefully, the Open Forums will be of use in maintaining contact with these organisations. Also, the proposed newspaper and the constant contact this will entail in newsgathering, as well as the newly defined roles of regional organiser and spokesperson will serve to improve this crucial area of work.

ACTIVITIES: (See addendum 2 for a comprehensive list)

1. Film Festival - Our first major public activity of the year was distribution of a pamphlet and sticker at the International Film Festival (+ 7 000). We learnt a great deal in this initial venture. The pamphlet had a good explanation of the call to end conscription and an insert on the Uitenhage massacre which also advertised a forthcoming public meeting near the venue of the Festival. The media was generally well received. We were able to get feedback in that distribution gave us an opportunity to interact on a one-to-one basis with the public. Distribution was well-planned in that we targetted a specific cultural interest group which was contained and generally supportive. People had time to read the pamphlet while waiting for the movie. The event served as the point around which we built the media committee. This subsequently proved to be a dynamic working group, spurred on by the positive response to the media produced. The Uitenhage massacre occurred during the preparation for the Film Festival media blitz. We responded by adding an insert describing the event and relating it to our campaign, as well as advertising the public meeting. Although the crowd we attracted was fairly small (+ 150), it generated great excitement about the campaign and gave ECC a vibrant image. The meeting was very different in that there was a lot of discussion from the floor, facilitated by the way the meeting was structured, and an intimate, sympathetic vibe created. Names of those interested in being on the ECC mailing list were collected.

2. Republic Day - We organised a picket which received mixed reactions, but nevertheless was seen by thousands of commuters on their way to work. Its greatest value was possibly in providing a context for the media blitz of high schools the following day.

This blitz proved highly controversial, and led to both positive and critical press coverage. The intensity of the reaction was something of a shock to us. It revealed that the schools are fertile ground for ECC, but also that we need to be extremely cautious and clear about our objectives.

We did separate pamphlets for boys and girls (plus stickers for the boys stating the law that says cadets are not compulsory). The boys seemed to have shown great interest in the pamphlet, and particularly in this law. Classes and cadets seem to have been affected. The girls' pamphlet failed in that it was difficult to make it specifically relevant for them, and the 'Dear John' letter was interpreted to mean that ECC encouraged girls to break up with boyfriends in the army. The authorities, teachers and parents generally seemed to react very negatively, and no doubt this had an influence on how the students came to see ECC. We did not consider them in the pamphlet, and were therefore insensitive to their reaction. Our biggest lesson was the huge impact of such novel actions - it was the first time white school students had been directly addressed politically. The consequent press coverage put ECC on the map locally. We had a follow-up movie for the students which was poorly attended, showing up the difficulty of drawing in students this way. The ones who did make the effort to come were not drawn in either. To lend continuity to the programme of ECC, we advertised the movie and our stall at the fleamarket which was to follow.

3. Fleamarket Stall - The fleamarket is a monthly event at the beachfront and attracts up to 15 000 people a time. Our stall was very prominent, and we sold a number of creative items. We estimated that about 500 people came up to the table during the course of the day, generally interested and/or supportive. It was highly successful and we reached a broad cross-section of the Durban public in a creative and non-threatening way. Our

image was very positive as demonstrated by the public support we received on the intervention of the riot police! However, we wasted a good opportunity to recruit people and were banned from hiring a stall in future.

4. State of Emergency - We organised a picket and a lunch time meeting in the centre of town. A number of affiliates, notably the Black Sash participated in the picket. We were rushed in organising the meeting hence fairly poor media and insufficient build-up. The meeting was a good experiment with regards to time and venue, and attracted a number of new faces. We handed out short questionnaires during the meeting. There was a good return and these suggested that the meeting had been very informative. However, it lacked dynamism despite the calibre of the speakers invited (Molly Blackburn, Archbishop Hurley and Paddy Kearney). The international press filmed the meeting, but their attention was diverted by a march of students through the centre of the city.

5. Troops Out and Peace Fast - The major success was the extent to which affiliates were involved in the activities - a different organisation took responsibility for organising the events of each day. We attracted mainly existing supporters and fringe supporters, who did learn much about ECC. However, we failed to significantly involve the general public despite the extent to which the fast was publicised and the wide coverage of ECC during the detentions. A possible reason is the dominant Christian flavour that emerged which might have alienated other religious groups and non-religious people. The campaign required a lot of work, and revealed our limited capacity. The positive and extensive media coverage of the detentions saved us. It created a platform from which the campaign could be launched. Again, we did not do enough to draw people into ECC although there were a number of people who expressed active support to the extent that there were spontaneous solidarity fasts. Some such fasts began with the detentions, and threatened to continue until their release. By the end of October, ECC people were quite drained leading to a serious decline in our level of public activity.

6. Call-Up - We were not in a position to do much around the call-up given the effects of the fast and the holidays in between. Public activity was limited to a pamphlet for general distribution - timing was a bit off as it came out late. There were also a number of letters to the press by Richard. The bulk of our time has rather been spent on assessing ECC, consolidating the organisations and preparing for the year ahead.

7. Conclusion -

- (i) We have been active in getting to the public, and have reached a number of new interest groups. This has meant a massive growth in our public profile.
- (ii) We have generally managed to maintain a healthy image, although at times ECC might have been too closely identified with the churches or students.
- (iii) On the whole, media has been of a high standard, carefully targetted reaching a wide range of people, and positively received. It generally came across as serious, informed and professional.
- (iv) Press work was a bit slow early in the year with little to show for a lot of work. This improved dramatically mid-year with the Peace Festival, detentions and the fast, but then tailed off again. We battled to maintain consistency with regard to the press, often missing opportunities to comment on or respond to issues. We could have done much more to create our own stories. The major achievement is well-established relationships with journalists.
- (v) The main weakness we have identified is our failure to draw more people into ECC despite the opportunities.

1985 was our first year of public activity, and Durban has much to be proud of. We hope to build on this strength in 1986.

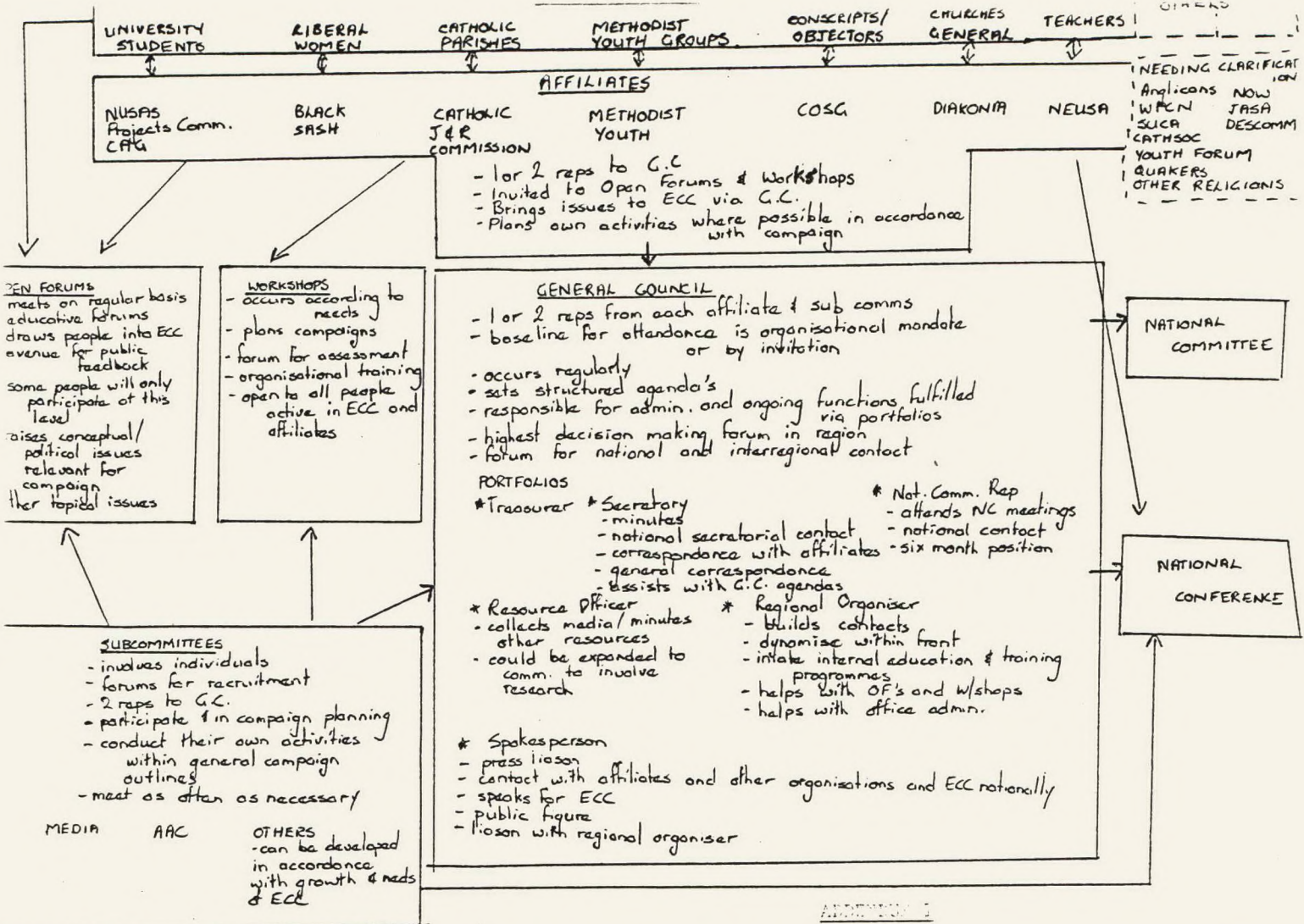
NATIONAL:

1. National Organiser - Laurie played an invaluable role in the growth of ECC in Durban this year, mainly through:
 - a. attending meetings of affiliates.
 - b. attending our meetings regularly when in town.
 - c. making contacts with non-affiliates.
 - d. reaching out to the press (one direct result being an excellent two-part article in the Natal Mercury, April 1985)
 - e. spending time with ECC activists.
 - f. helping to sort and file peace resources in the Ecumenical Centre Resource Centre.
 - g. helping CAG onto its feet.
 - h. local co-ordination work during the Fast, including press work.
 - i. keeping us informed of other ECC regional activities.
 Unfortunately, we failed to maintain a regular reference group system for Laurie while he was with us.
2. Inter-Regional - The most contact we had was with Pietermaritzburg, both formal and informal. We shared some media. This contact has been mutually encouraging. General informal contact by attending other regional meetings when out of Durban, having others visiting us. Received material from the other regions, but had no good way of ensuring all Durban ECC members were exposed to it. Pity, because the material was always of a high standard. We especially appreciated receiving newsclippings from other regions. We relied too much on the national organiser for inter-regional liaison.
3. Being Part of a National Organisation - This felt good, strong. In general, the press has come to perceive ECC as a national organisation. This was particularly evident in the way they reported the detentions. Also in the way ECC activities in other regions were reported in local papers, eg. the Fast, Cape Town sandcastles, the Rapport case.
4. Peace Festival - Excellent. Helped sell ECC as a national organisation. Established strong international links. A very representative group attended from Durban. The quality of the programme helped establish ECC as a significant body in the progressive movement in South Africa.
5. National Planning Meetings - Generally well planned, productive, exciting to get the feel of growth and purpose.
6. National Committee - NC meetings proved to be a valuable forum for co-ordination, swapping information and ideas, and for developing national assessments of campaigns. There was a feeling that in some instances there was inadequate prior discussion. On the whole, however the relationship between GC and NC worked well. We had one NC rep for the first 6 months, and then a new person was elected for the next 6 months.
7. Detentions - The timing of the detentions gives the impression that the immediate objective was to disrupt our organisation, and publically discredit ECC just prior to the Fast. Our assessment is that this did not occur, and that publically we were actually boosted as a result. Internally, the detentions did not disrupt our working. In fact, they served to galvanise a greater number of affiliates into working for the Fast. At the same time, we received a great deal of very sympathetic press coverage. The ultimate victory came with the Supreme Court ruling that the detainees in Durban be released. This vindicated both the individuals concerned, and the campaign as a whole. The detentions reminded us of the need to watch the law, and to continually prepare ourselves for the possibility of future state repression.

8. International - Durban helped to build up the network of international contacts for ECC. Many of the messages of support at the Peace Festival were as a result of such contacts, likewise during the detentions and fast. We are keeping touch with organisations and individuals (mainly through sending them newsclippings and media) who contacted Durban ECC directly.

LOOKING TO 1986:

- Our primary organisational goal for 1986 is consolidation. The process for this is outlined in the 'revamped structure' (see addendum 1). From this strengthened base, we plan to develop in 5 main areas:
1. Media - begin and build a major newsletter; better skills training; political training.
 2. Culture - involve more people from the arts community (mainly through Artists Against Conscriptio); devise street theatre; establish a creative action group; political training.
 3. Internal Development - develop and implement the 'revamped structure'. Emphasis to be on regular organisational and political skills training. Establish new sub-committees eg. monitoring and research; resources; creative action; alternative service projects.
 4. Alternative Service - we are still in the early stages of preparation. We plan to proceed as follows:
 - a. research into historical lessons.
 - b. research into possible projects - the more 'concrete', the better.
 - c. feedback from various community organisations.
 - d. clarifying the gains we as ECC wish to make.
 - e. discerning the appropriate involvement of the various affiliates and constituencies involved in ECC.
 - f. establishment of a Volunteer Services sub-committee.
 5. Outreach - we would like to reach out to a number of new constituencies: gays, veterans, soldiers in service, schools (students and teachers), religious groups other than Christians, Indian and coloured communities (in the event of extension of conscription), the Afrikaans community, Natal Technikon, teachers' training colleges.
- A programme for the year is to be drawn up after the national conference. Discussion with affiliates and sub-committees about the newly defined structure and processes will also then begin in earnest.



ADDENDUM 2 END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN JANUARY 1985 TO JANUARY 1986:

MONTH	EVENTS	PUBLIC ACTIVITIES	MEDIA	PRESS	INTERNAL EVENTS
JAN	CALL-UP				NATIONAL CONFERENCE
FEB		LAURIE IN UND DEBATE			NAMIBIA WORKSHOP
MAR	IYY LAUNCH UITENHAGE		STICKER		MEDIA COMM. FORMED
APR		PUBLIC MEETING @ UND SPEAKERS: ANN COLVIN, LAURIE, PADDY KEARNEY, ZAC YACOOB. READ OUT AFFIDAVITS.	POSTER ON LAMP POSTS. PAMPHLET & STICKER DISTRIB- UTED AT FILM FESTIVAL. BANNER. PAMPHLET FOR METHODIST CHURCH.	TWO LEADER PAGE ARTICLES IN NATAL MERCURY.	
MAY	REPUBLIC DAY	MOVIE FOR SCHOOL PUPILS. PICKETS IN TOWN.	PAMPHLETS FOR BOYS & GIRLS. CADETS STICKERS FOR BOYS. DISTRIBUTED AT SCHOOLS.	LETTERS FROM PUBLIC. TWO ARTICLES IN THE MERCURY (ONE, AN INTERVIEW). CAPITAL RADIO.	LEGAL WORKSHOP.
JUN		STALL AT FLEAMARKET.	PAMPHLET, STICKER & VARIOUS GOODS FOR SALE.	MENTION IN A SUNDAY TRIBUNE COLUMN.	
JUL	CALL-UP STATE OF EMERGENCY	PUBLIC MEETING @ CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH. SPEAKERS: MOLLY BLACK- BURN, ARCHBISHOP HURLEY, PAUL GRAHAM. PICKET IN CITY CENTRE.	POSTERS ON LAMP POSTS. LEAFLETS IN POST BOXES. PAMPHLET FOR ANGLICANS.	PRESS CONFERENCE. WIDE COVERAGE OF MEETING (INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL PRESS) COVERAGE OF PEACE FESTIVAL & GOLDEN- HUYS & DODSON TRIAL.	ECC PEACE FESTIVAL. PMB MEDIA WORKSHOP. GELDENHUYS COMMISS. ALAN DODSON'S TRIAL.
AUG	NATAL UN UNREST. DETENTIONS.			WIDE COVERAGE OF DETENTIONS.	PMB LAUNCH. CAG FORMED.
SEP		FAST IN TOWN: RICHARD STEELE. PUBLIC MEETING IN TOWN.	POSTERS, PAMPHLET FOR PUBLIC AND FOR CHURCHES. BANNER. USED CAPE TOWN MEDIA.	WIDE COVERAGE.	
OCT					ASSESSMENT OF FAST.
NOV					ARTISTS AGAINST CONSCRIPTION FORM.
DEC		STALL AT FLEAMARKETS IN PIRETOWN & DURBAN.	NATIONAL MEDIA SOLD: TAPES, CALENDARS, T-SHIRTS.	ADVERT IN MATRIC RESULTS EDITION OF MERCURY - CALL-UP.	
JAN	CALL-UP	STALL @ FLEAMARKETS	OWN T-SHIRTS, LADGES, PAMPHLETS SOLD. PLUS DISTRIBUTION OF CT MEDIA.	REVIEW OF TAPE IN THE DAILY NEWS. LETTERS TO THE PRESS CLUB NEWSLETTER. COVERAGE OF RAPPORT. CASE & SANDCASTLES & GRAFFITI BLITZ.	MURAL PAINTING. ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP. ECC SOCIAL.

AFFILIATE ACTIVITIES 1985:

1. Diakonia White Development Programme - workshops, articles in Diakonia News.
2. Methodist Christian Education and Youth Department - a series of workshops leading to support for the campaign at their Congress in October. ECC produced a pamphlet for this. ECC held a workshop at the Youth Conference.
3. Anglican Justice and Reconciliation - ECC produced a pamphlet for distribution at the Anglican Synod meeting, resulting in support for the campaign.
4. NEUSA - a small group was formed to look at conscription and militarisation. They held some workshops.
5. CAG - started a newsletter for campus distribution. Three students fasted during the detentions. Two fasted in the Troops Out Fast. They hosted a public meeting on campus. Put out media surrounding the detentions. Organised a 'Troops Out' concert.
6. Catholic Justice and Reconciliation - drew up and distributed a CO counselling pamphlet.
7. Black Sash - invited Laurie to speak at one of their meetings. Participated in ECC organised pickets.
8. COSG - held a 'Peace not Call-Up' poster stand at July call-up.
9. NUSAS - survey on attitudes to conscription amongst students. Richard Steele spoke at a University Forum. Laurie spoke during Orientation Week. CO and the Law - organisation reports. Internally, there were seminars by Brendan Barry and Duncan Greaves respectively, on 'Conscription and the role of the SADF' and 'Militarisation and the State'.
10. During the Fast, groups took turns running the daily programmes. Groups which actively participated in this were: SUCA, Quakers, Women For Peaceful Change Now, CAG, Catholic J&R, various parish groups, Methodist CEYD, Black Sash, COSG, Diakonia, UND Catholic Society, Natal Health Group.

CONSCRIPTION RELATED WORK BY NON-AFFILIATES 1985:

1. Wentworth Improvement Project - successful campaign to stop SADF involvement with Boy Scouts.
2. Austerville Youth - campaign concerning SADF in schools.
3. Lamontville Women's League (Natal Organisation of Women) - concern about SADF in the township and recruitment of youth for the SADF (Zulu Battalion). Great concern was also expressed at allegations of rape of local women by soldiers, and prostitution in the police/army camp.
4. Youth Forum - workshop on militarisation.
5. SA Institute of Race Relations - debate in Durban, then support for the call to end conscription.
6. St. Augustine's Catholic Parish - discussion on CO.
7. Emmanuel Cathedral (Catholic) - Mass for Peace, September 1985.

MEDIA SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT:

1. Introduction - The Media Sub-Committee was established in March around the Film Festival media blitz. Between 8 and 12 people were actively involved, and the committee worked very well for the first 6 months, meeting once a week.
2. GC - There was at least one rep at each GC meeting, who reported on ideas from the media sub-committee and who took plans and tasks back to it. The media sub-committee saw itself as a key working group in ECC, displaying much initiative. Accountability to GC, however, was sometimes taken too literally and this made for a protracted process of ratification, prolonging production and stifling dynamism.
3. Conceptualising/Planning of media - This was good in that we were aware of the need to gear the media in the most appealing and appropriate way for the targetted group. We felt it was important to include hard facts as well as our arguments in pamphlets. This made the media more credible, and also served to arm those who agreed with ECC for discussions/arguments they might have with friends/family after reading the material. We recognised that media blitzes are limited unless the media allows for further contact with ECC on the part of the recipients. We therefore ensured that we advertised the next public activity, goods for sale or contact numbers. The latter were a good idea in that they allowed for, and generated feedback. However, some phone calls particularly those around the schools' pamphlet got quite hairy - being largely abusive. An address is probably a better idea. Stickers were generally distributed with pamphlets. These were a bonus for the recipients, gave them something active to do, and made a more permanent impact. They also proved extremely popular.
4. Production Process - The standard of media, particularly pamphlets and stickers, was very high although the street posters were none too successful. But, it generally took a long time to produce anything as the process was very protracted:
 - a. GC planned activities and the media sub-committee took on tasks with regard to information, publicity etc.
 - b. ideas were generated at media sub-committee meetings - basic text and design.
 - c. these went back to GC for ratification and suggestions.
 - d. text was worked on.
 - e. production eventually happened.
 - f. legal advice was sought.
 - g. distribution.
 We managed to streamline this, but were then slack with regard to presenting material to GC before production, and in seeking legal advice. More effort could also have been made to draw in people from outside the sub-committee - either from affiliates generally or from the GC - for particular projects. Most people involved acquired the necessary skills. The committee gelled well, and developed a good working dynamic. We regularly assessed the media we produced, and made sure that lessons were applied the next time round.
5. Faltering - The group faltered around August with a number of people having to withdraw for personal reasons, unrelated to ECC. It was properly revived and new people drawn in during December around the January call-up.
6. National Contact - There was fairly regular national contact,

and we generally received media from other centres. It was heartening to note that some of our ideas were used nationally, and that there was generally a national consistency with regards to content and pitch. We did feel, however, that we have a lot to learn with regards to being more succinct in the text of our pamphlets - we tend to want to say too much and take too long in saying it.

7. Forward Planning - The major plan for 1986 is to establish a credible, regular and informative newspaper which will be distributed as widely as possible eg. in tearooms. This will have a number of advantages for ECC:

- a. increase our public profile
- b. increase the level of public awareness of the issues
- c. increase our credibility with the public
- d. increase contact between ECC's affiliates, groups in the townships, and anyone else who could provide information to the newspaper team, and who would be interested in receiving information from ECC.

There would be a division of labour in that we would have:

- a. a team of newsgatherers - professional journalists, contacts in affiliates, contacts in the townships, contacts in each regional ECC. This would entail an efficient co-ordinator.
- b. a team of photographers, cartoonists, graphic artists.
- c. a production team - typesetters, layout artists, subs, camera workers. This would need a co-ordinator to ensure it all happened, resources are available, presses booked etc.

It is envisaged that the newspaper will be a minimum of 4 tabloid pages with a creative, eye catching page design (eg. big headlines, lots of pics etc, ongoing cartoon strip). Hopefully, we will be able to bring one out every two weeks.

There would be a page or more of hard news written in proper 'journalese'; a page of ECC comment and news; and a page of culture.

It will be very expensive and we will have to get subscriptions, and later even adverts to help subsidise the project.

We'll be having a workshop in early February, given by professional journalists who will help us design the layout, teach us to write good 'journalese', and be creative with regards to headlines, captions etc.

The establishment of AAC takes a load off the media sub-committee as it seems to have taken charge of production of t-shirts and badges. We will be concentrating on pamphlets, stickers and posters, as well as the newspaper. Joint projects are envisaged, however.

We intend to put more effort into recruitment and skills and political training. We also hope to integrate members of the sub-committee more into ECC as a whole. Hopefully, the Open Forums and Workshops will facilitate this.

We feel a real need for a regular workplace/meeting place, and are hoping that ECC will find an office soon.

ARTISTS AGAINST CONSCRIPTION REPORT:

1. Introduction - The establishment of the AAC in November was a significant stride forward. It evolved more or less organically. It involves an entirely new group of people - musicians, artists, silkscreeners, dramatists, technikon students, club jokers - many of whom are very skilled. This has given ECC an inroad into a large constituency of mainly young people, local counter-culture groups, and the arts community generally.

2. Relationship to ECC - The group has not yet clearly defined its working relationship to ECC. It is vacillating between defining itself as an affiliate and a sub-committee. The AAC sees itself as doing both campaign work and initiating its own projects. Reps have been attending CC and members of the media sub-committee have been attending AAC meetings.

3. Activities - work done this far:

- a. having stalls at fleamarkets in Pinetown and Durban beach front. Here the tapes and calendars, plus Cape Town t-shirts and a variety of ECC stickers were sold. This was in close co-operation with Shifty records and the local punk community.
- b. production of 2 t-shirts. The one was 'Troops Out of the Townships' and the other 'What's Your Choice, Johnny' for the call-up.
- c. production of badges with the AAC logo on them.
- d. These were sold at the Durban beach front fle market.
- e. design of a 3 piece mural which will be displayed at fleamarkets in Pinetown and the Durban beach front.
- f. they have also approached shops about selling ECC tapes, t-shirts and badges.
- g. they have written a piece for the local club newsletter.

The tape has had coverage in the local Arts section of The Daily News.

The AAC has made important contacts in a number of fields - local jazz organisers, cartoonists, professional artists.

4. Forward Planning - AAC is hoping to host a mini cultural festival soon. Either incorporated into this, or separate, a big art exhibition is planned. AAC is also hoping to approach a local group of cartoonists to do a comic on conscription. A creative action group has also been mooted as an idea - this group would do a variety of publicity stunts. AAC would appreciate guidance and ideas from other centres' Culture Committees, particularly Cape Town's. The group is still young and developing, needing some training in organisation and better integration with ECC as a whole. But it is a dynamic group with infinite potential.

E.C.C. PEACE CAMPAIGN, GRAHAMSTOWN

Background

There is as yet no E.C.C. branch in Grahamstown. There has, however, for some time been talk of starting one amongst members of NUSAS, GRACONS (who are both affiliated to E.C.C. in P.E.) and GCD (Grahamstown Committee of Democrats, a UDF affiliate which started a militarisation subcommittee) since it proved to be impractical to attend meetings in P.E. on a regular basis. Members from these three organisations and a support group for Dave Hartman met on 25 Aug. to discuss participation in the national E.C.C. Troops Out campaign. It was felt there that the time was not right to launch E.C.C. in Grahamstown but that a committee would be formed to run the campaign.

The Campaign

On 1 Sept. an exec was elected comprising Liora Rachmann (chair), Sue Lund (Media), Mike Kenyon (Secretary/Treasurer) and Wilhelm Liebenberg (Contact).

The campaign was originally centred around Dave Hartman fasting in the cathedral. When this fell through it was decided to follow the example of P.E. and organise a relay fast of prominent Grahamstownians. Due to time pressure it was decided to make this a two week fast.

Other events would be a debate with the S.A.D.F., an "Arts for Peace" concert and an ecumenical service to end the general 24 hour fast on the 7th.

There were many other things happening in Grahamstown at the time - especially activity around the consumer boycott - with the result that we experienced a manpower problem. A small but committed group of 12 at the outside ran the whole campaign in town while students ran their own campaign on campus (see separate report). As planning only got underway at a relatively late stage it involved a lot of last minute rushing around and what was achieved should be seen against this background.

What follows is a report of an assessment of the campaign held on 10 October.

1. Media

Our Media catered for our specific Grahamstown constituency. We accommodated the wishes of the Anglican church (which made the cathedral available for the relay fast and gave the campaign a lot of support) by making the theme "Fast for a Just Peace" the central focus of publicity involving the cathedral.

We produced a folded A3 pamphlet on the campaign, of which about 250 were disseminated publicly. A church pamphlet from Cape Town and a pamphlet from P.E. were also used. Our poster with the faces of the 14 prominent fasters was effective in serving to legitimise the campaign. Posters were made to advertise all the other events.

We received very good coverage in Grocott's Mail, the local newspaper, and also in the Eastern Province Herald. Publicitywise, it was felt, the campaign was very successful in establishing E.C.C.'s presence in Grahamstown.

2. Relay Fast

Prominent fasters included Bishop Oram, Bishop Dwane, Dean Barker and three other priests, Torquil Paterson, Duncan Buchanan and Frank Nelson (all from the Anglican church), proff. André Brink, Malvern van Wyk Smith, Peter Vale and Ian MacDonald (chair of the Grahamstown branch of the PFP), Rosemary Smith (local Black Sash chair), Billy Ndwabisa and Dan Sandi (the chair and general secretary of the

Grahamstown Civic Association) and Gugile Nkwinti, a civic leader from Port Alfred. Just before and during the fast Gugile Nkwinti and Dan Sandi were detained. We had six relays, with six people fasting every day and manning the cathedral between them.

It was felt that, although the relay fast was successful in terms of publicity, it was no real drawcard to get people to the cathedral to get our media and talk to the fasters. A lot of work went into this with minimal gains, and in fact those fourteen people fasting on the same day would have served just as well. It was also quite apparent that we would not have had the manpower to carry off a three week fast like the one in Cape Town.

3. The 24 hour fast

This was a bit of a non-event. We had competition from four other fasts during the same period.

4. Breaking of the fast

We could not manage to organise an ecumenical service, largely due to church involvement in the national day of prayer on the 9th. The turnout to the bring and share supper we organised was rather disappointing. It was well supported by the Black Sash though.

5. Arts for Peace concert.

Poetry by Guy Butler and Don McLennon, music by well known Grahamstown musicians, play readings. This was a very successful event to which we managed to pull a lot of people that do not otherwise turn up at meetings of a political nature. They were mostly campus people however with a sprinkling of townspeople. There could have been more political content to the numbers performed. A collection took in R150,00 which more than covered the cost of the venue.

6. Debate

We organised a debate in which André Brink challenged the SADF to debate the issue of conscription. The local head of the SADF expressed interest but turned down the offer to participate at the last moment, apparently on instructions from above. This event was successful in terms of publicity and turnout, although the response to André Brink was a bit dry. It was felt that he drew an audience that would not have come otherwise.

7. Schools

A subcommittee of the contact group was set up to concentrate on schools, of which there are quite a few in Grahamstown. They decided that it would not be wise to try and involve the schools in this campaign and that their approach would have to be a long term one. A lot of groundwork has been done and contacts have been made. We anticipate formal access to all the schools but one before the end of the term.

8. House meetings

This, which is seen as the most important thrust of the campaign as it is the only way of getting to a wide spectrum of people, got off to a slow start due to a manpower problem in other areas. House meetings have started and are to be continued after the campaign. It was felt that the position and direction of E.C.C. in Grahamstown needed to be clarified so that people who show an interest could be given a clearer idea of where they could slot in.

The Campaign in General

On the whole the campaign did not have a strong enough thread running through it since the relay fast failed to make other events cohere properly. It was a useful start, however, since the E.C.C. was well publicised and got the support of various groupings and prominent people. It was felt that under the circumstances the committee achieved miracles.

Where to from here

In the immediate future house meetings and work on the schools will continue and the interim committee will go on meeting regularly. The idea is to draw in people who show an interest during the housemeetings and to work towards a launch early next year.

PETE AND LAURIE'S TRIP OVERSEAS

A. Introduction

This report to national conference on our trip overseas consists of: the four letters describing our activities and impressions that we sent back to ECC, some comments on the different types of groups we made contact with, and an assessment of our work on the trip.

B. The Letters

5/12/85

Dearest ECC

How are you all and how is ECC? We've only been away for 2½ weeks and it seems like ages. We're really missing ECC, the action, the sea and the sun.

Here is a fairly brief report on some of our activities in London, Helsinki and Sweden, and some impressions.

Unfortunately, much of our time in London was spent struggling for visas - for some strange reason white South Africans aren't that popular round these parts.

We weren't entirely inactive though: we did two radio interviews with BBC, one internal news and the other the world service; had lunch with the Foreign News Editor of the Guardian for background information; spent time with someone from CBS television who is doing a documentary on South African war refugees in January; and met the staff of Peace News for a useful rap.

We spoke to, and made very useful contacts at the AGM of the National Peace Council, a broad national co-ordinating forum with reps from peace, womens, church, anti-nuclear, anti-apartheid groups and TU's. We spoke to a small group of people in Bath at a meeting organised for us by the local Labour Party and had lunch with Trevor Huddleston which was very exciting. We also spoke to about 60 people at a public meeting organised for us by WRI and chaired by Meg Beresford, the new Gen. Sec. of CND.

As a result of the current international focus on SA, Pete and I have been 'star attractions' at these and other meetings and discussions. Everyone is very keen to meet and talk to us, and all want us to maintain regular contact. In the context of talking about ECC and the role of the SADF, we have tried to develop in particular an understanding of the non-racial character of our struggle and of the continuing resistance and repression since the latest press clampdown.

The anti-apartheid movement is very strong and active, with considerable support from the 'establishment'; its recent rally in Trafalgar Square was the biggest ever, attracting about 100 000 people, and was the climax of other smaller and more widespread actions. It is noticeable that there exists an anti-apartheid consciousness at a grass-roots level - on TV pop shows, on buses and tubes, at concerts and in the newspapers. It is difficult to tell what long term effect the TV restrictions will have - it definitely is having an effect already.

We picked up a very interesting bit of news in London. Did you know that the Brazilian government imposed sanctions against SA in July. No? Well they did. And do you know why? Well it was a direct and immediate consequence of the cancellation of the visa of Cardinal Arnns! Another result of this dastardly act by Pretoria has been that

South Africa, and also lil' old ECC, are now high on the agenda of the progressive Catholic community in Brazil.

We have had time for a bit of a jorl in London: saw two excellent movies that won't come to South Africa (although Pete slept through the one!), visited Greenwich and went down the Thames, discovered Bengali food and socialised with a few South Africans we met.

The Helsinki conference was especially exciting for the contacts we made and the informal discussion we had with people. It is clear that we haven't even begun to realise the full potential of international solidarity networks. We are considered important as being from the 'third world', but our own contacts with other third world countries are noticeably lacking.

In Helsinki we also: participated in a press conference which resulted in good coverage (enclosed); did a radio interview with Finnish radio; spent 40 minutes with the Finnish minister of Education who is one of the strongest anti-SA members of the cabinet and met two former cabinet ministers; did interviews with War Resisters League, a Greek peace publication, the Finnish equivalent of Time magazine, and Finnish Peace Radio and peace publications. We showed the ECC video and everyone wanted a copy!

We are much clearer on the gains that ECC can make from our overseas contact now, and on how much this contact assists groups overseas. The alternative service campaign will definitely be taken up. There is also much that Pete and I have learnt about struggles in other countries and from campaigns that have been conducted there.

Finland was cold, snowy but beautiful. I went for a jog in the snow which was amazing, and we had saunas - a new experience for the yokels from the third world.

In Sweden we were hosted jointly by the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society (the largest peace organisation in Sweden with a membership of 15 000) and SIDA (the Swedish International Development Agency which is a government department)

We spoke to a group of CO's doing their alternative service with SIDA; did a radio interview with Swedish radio and one with Swedish television; had another press conference; met with people from Amnesty International; met with the Head of Section Southern Africa, at the Foreign Ministry; and had smaller discussions with other groups.

We saw an article in the largest TU journal (circulation of 600 000) which attacked the local Liberal Party for its connections with the PFP on the basis of the latter's links with Inkatha, decision to work in the coloured and indian communities and refusal to support the End Conscription Campaign!! It's really amazing how much anti-apartheid work is being done in London, Helsinki and Stockholm and how well informed people are.

Pete and I are very excited at the work we've done and the progress we think that we've made. One of our difficulties is that the pace has been very fast, with the result that we don't always have sufficient time to assess our work properly, nor the situation we're in and groups we meet, adequately. This is really an excuse for the above not-so-analytical report. Hopefully the next report will say more about the groups we've met, and not so much about our activities.

All strength to your work. Lots of love and solidarity,
Laurie and Pete

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END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)

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