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Attention

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~~SECRET~~

## DECLARATION

WE, the ex-servicemen of South Africa, hereby pledge to uphold the principles of a free and democratic South Africa based on civilised Christian ethics.

WE reject without reservation any attempts, from any source, to undermine the Christian, democratic foundations upon which South Africa is built.

WE particularly reject the atheistic Soviet communist doctrine and its perpetrators who have sworn to overthrow the existing Christian order in the Republic of South Africa and to replace it with a godless one-party state.

WE further reject and condemn the African National Congress and other puppet terrorist organisations which are the tools of devious masters in Moscow and Peking.

WE reject, as sacrilegious and unworthy, certain churches and other so-called Christian organisations in South Africa and abroad who sacrilegiously manipulate the Word of God.

WE reject Liberation Theology totally and the agents of evil who preach and espouse it.

WE reject too those organisations and people who, unwittingly or otherwise, align themselves with the sinister campaign to undermine the defence capability of South Africa.

**HOWEVER, WE, THE EX-SERVICEMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA, COMMEND AND PLEDGE OUR FULL SUPPORT TO:**

Those young men and women of all races who at present or in the future will serve in the SADF/SAP in defence of all the inhabitants of South Africa.

Those organisations and people who oppose the insidious threat of communism.

Those churches, organisations and people who condemn terrorism and the Liberation Theologists who espouse it.

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## THE END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN ARGUMENT AND HOW TO COUNTER IT

It has come to our attention that counter arguments to ECC propaganda are needed in South Africa today. The following is a point for point argument on how to play the ECC at their own game.

What does the ECC stand for? It stands for the END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN.

Conscription is the term of abuse applied by the left wing lobby in South Africa to describe South Africa's system of compulsory national service. They always choose their terminology very carefully and have chosen the term conscription to imply unwillingness and compulsion.

When was the ECC launched? In 1983, following a call by the Black Sash, the ECC was launched in Cape Town.

Black Sash, like the ECC itself consists of a small minority of high profile left wing activists. However, Black Sash aims to mobilise women where ECC has the more strategically important task of mobilising the youth against the so-called unjust and oppressive system in South Africa.

Why was the ECC formed? The ECC was formed to oppose conscription of all South African males into the SADF for the following reasons:

Conscription violates a human right - the right of any individual to refuse in conscience to render military service and be granted instead a non-military alternative.

This so-called human right is valid only when a country is at peace. At a time when South Africa faces serious external and

internal threats to its survival, the safety of all South Africans becomes a higher priority than the individual's right to choose whether he wants to serve or not.

Conscription intensifies the violent conflict in our society.

Compulsory national service allows South Africa to maintain a strong and credible defence deterrent which alone allows for the possibility of containing the extent of the conflict and of defeating the enemy. In any case, the ECC fails to condemn conscription in Cuba or other Eastern Bloc countries and were conspicuously silent on Cuban attacks on Ovambo water supplies awhile ago.

South Africa is confronted by a civil war. Attempts to stop this by compulsory conscription can only result in escalating violence and further division.

The so-called civil war is not the product of natural hostilities, but has been artificially stimulated by Soviet and Cuban military hardware and ideology imported to the sub-continent. The departure of communist forces and influence from Southern Africa will alone create the conditions for peace. Until such time as this comes about, national service remains an essential element of South African defence against these forces.

Conflict can only be resolved by dismantling the apartheid system and recognising all South Africans as full citizens.

It is well-known that major reform is under way in South Africa. Discrimination based on the colour of a person's skin alone is in all important respects a thing of the past and South Africans are standing together as never before in the face of a common threat and a common enemy.

Who belongs to ECC? Nationally, 50 organisations are represented on the ECC including a range of youth, church, women, student, political and human rights groupings and individuals.

## ECC member organisations:

Anglican Board of Social Responsibility

Black Sash

Catholic Justice and Peace

Civil Rights League

Conscientious Objectors Support Group

United Democratic Front

Womens Movement for Peace etc. etc.

In what centres does the ECC now function? The ECC is a rapidly growing movement, with committees existing in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth and Grahamstown.

The support obtained by the ECC in various parts of the country is distinctly uneven particularly in Grahamstown where, due to lack of support, there was an amalgamation of two committees. In towns with a university there is a students committee and an urban committee. In Grahamstown, the ECC were forced to operate as a single committee. In the light of the halving of national service to one year, ECC at recent meetings have been lucky to have as many as 30 people attend.

Is the ECC not just an ANC front? No the ECC is not affiliated to any other organisation, nor is it aligned with any political groupings.

The issue must be seen in the light of the value attached by the ANC to the ECC's work and not vice versa. Nevertheless, an ECC spokesman in London in 1985 is reported to have stated that "The ANC is now entering the effective stage of their operations due to ECC's work."

Is the call to end conscription not romantic and simplistic? There are thousands of white men currently confronted with an agonising choice - to be deployed in the townships, or face the following prospects:

- going to jail for three years, should they refuse on moral grounds
- three years community service, if they are religious pacifists
- leaving South Africa permanently

These men filled with the horror of the immediate prospect of taking up arms against fellow South Africans, would not regard the call to end conscription as romantic or simplistic.

It is a fundamental error to assume that troops doing duty in the townships are taking up arms against the bulk of their fellow South Africans.

In reality, they are taking up arms in defence of the bulk of their fellow South Africans in order to neutralise the small minority of thoroughly anti-social, criminal and terrorist elements who for too long were permitted to terrorise the black townships because the police were too thin on the ground and members of the defence force had not yet been sent in to support them. The penalties for individual who refuse national service are indeed harsh, but necessarily and justly so, because the alternative is for South Africa to stand defenceless against attacks externally and from within.

Is the End Conscription un-South African and un-patriotic? There is a long tradition in South Africa to opposition of the draft. During the two world wars, many South Africans refused to fight for a cause with which they disagreed. In fact, in 1914 this led to an armed rebellion led by General de Wet.

In the two world wars of the twentieth century South Africa's immediate survival was not immediately threatened. Sentiment could then be allowed to play a part in the individual's decision whether to volunteer to serve or otherwise. Current circumstances are different because South Africa's national survival is directly under threat. The needs of the community therefore outweigh the individual's freedom of choice in these circumstances.

Many supporters and leaders of the present government refused to go to war. Now that these people are in power, they insist that all white males be drafted into the army and fight for apartheid, a system totally rejected by the majority of South Africans. In fact, those young men who reject being conscripted to fight for a system which has brought this beautiful country to its present very sorry state, and who refuse to bear arms against their fellow South Africans, are being truly patriotic. Patriotism is based on a love for South Africa and all its people, not on blind allegiance to the government.

Apartheid as an excuse for communist intervention is, however, absolute nonsense. The communist policy of global strategic expansion is not based on any particular desire to help groups which are discriminated against.

The communist system itself is the most discriminatory in the world, because only a minority of the populations of communist countries are allowed to become members of the Communist Party, which gives them extreme and unfair privileges in every aspect of social existence, such as shopping in special shops, getting the best jobs, medical care, holidays etc.

Communists will always find excuses, whether true or false, to extend their global ambitions.

In South Africa, apartheid has been the excuse, yet different reasons have been found by communists to take sides in conflicts all over the globe, from elsewhere in Africa to the Middle East, from South and Central America to Asia.

Statements like the foregoing which virtually equate true patriotism with treason and vice versa should be totally rejected in the light of South Africa's achievements over the years. South Africa is a lighthouse on the dark, derelict and bankrupt continent of Africa.

Don't only cowards try and get out of their national service? Many of the men who don't want to serve in the SADF do so for a variety of reasons. Many do so out of religious conviction that it is wrong to bear arms for any cause, such as Jehovah's Witnesses and the Quakers. Many believe that it is immoral to fight and die for the system of apartheid, universally condemned as oppressive. Many of these people are prepared to work in the community for the benefit of society, or to spend three years in jail rather than violate their conscience and participate in a system they find repugnant. These men are not cowards - they are brave enough to question the military system - this takes guts.

The present laws cater adequately for religious objectors who may render service in a non-combatant capacity. The politically-based objections are frequently an excuse for cowardice or else are based upon malevolent desire to disrupt our national defence. National defence is an issue on which South Africans of all reasonable persuasions are united. The far left whose political objections are the basis of ECC ideology are, in themselves, the threat and enemy to South Africa's stability and as such deserve whatever penalties the law provides for them.

What does the ECC recommend in place of conscription? The creation of a just society, based on peace and friendship, where the need for a conscripted

army disappears. Until such time as this becomes a reality, we call upon the authorities to allow each individual freedom of conscience. In the present

situation, conscripts should have the right to choose not to go into the townships.

To imagine that South Africa could evolve into a peaceful and prosperous society without the defence umbrella created (by the system of national service) against the communist onslaught is to display incredible depths of naivety. Such thinking is the clearest example of the thinking of Lenin's useful idiots.

Countries which have been influenced by this type of thinking include Hungary (invaded by USSR in 1956), Czechoslovakia (invaded by USSR in 1968), Poland, where the solidarity trade union movement was suppressed by the USSR in the middle 1980's, Nicaragua, Cuba, Mozambique, Angola, Ethiopia etc. etc. - all countries which fell into communist hands.

What can I do to help in the growing campaign against conscription? Contact ECC for further information.

The question should rather be in light of what I have learned - what can I do to oppose the ECC and prevent it from contaminating the minds of my friends?

### Notes:

No society is perfect - there is no perfectly just society on this planet. However South Africa is almost certainly less unjust than the majority of countries on the continent or anywhere else in the world.

The Soviet Union, which wishes to conquer our country is without a doubt the ultimately unjust system in the world. Therefore fighting the influence of the Soviet Union is inevitable contributing to a more just world.

## THE ECC DICTIONARY

"I believe that the side of justice and truth is the side of the oppressed and poor."

**JUSTICE:** Conformity with the Marxist-Leninist representation of justice, which holds, "If it helps communism, it has to be just."

**TRUTH:** The quality of conforming to the Marxist-Leninist representation of reality.

**OPPRESSED:** (people) - people not living under communism.

"I am committed to South Africa and I believe that the truly patriotic action for me is to go to prison rather than deny my faith and my belief."

**PATRIOTISM:** Allegiance to whether or not one is a citizen of the Soviet Union; support for the communist side against one's own government.

**ACTION:** A civil disturbance formented in pursuance of the cause.

"His decision to become an objector was based on a sound religions grounds."

**RELIGION:** (adj. religions) - a vehicle for promoting THE CAUSE through liberal or communist religions, leaders and groups.

"We believe that the root cause of the war is apartheid. It creates poverty and in-equality."

We believe that South Africans have nothing to fear from a non-racial democratic society where all have equal rights.

**EQUALITY:** The state or quality of being advantageous or more beneficial to the socialist, collectivist, or revolutionary goals, to the Party elite, or to the cause in general.

"A peaceful transition to democracy."

**DEMOCRATIC:** The word is used to describe persons, organisations or policies which further THE CAUSE.

"It will bring stability, peace and progress."

"To move away from the predominantly single issue/focus on conscription to a broader focus on militarisation and just peace".

**PEACE:**

(A) Absence or cessation of resistance to communist expansionism.

(B) Western policy or practice favourable to Soviet or communist objectives.

(C) An international climate in which communism may flourish.

(D) A communist victory.

**PROGRESS:** Advancement toward collectivism or communism.

"The campers were generally liberal and sympathetic to ECC's views."

**LIBERAL:** (Liberalism) - advocacy of socialistic or collectivistic policies and practices, to be enforced by the State - pseudo liberalism.

"In the latter half of the year a series of internal education on National Democratic struggle were run which were well attended."

**NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC:** Pro-Soviet, pro-communist.

"The main thrust of the campaign is directed at the government, in order to bring about a change in the law."

**CHANGE:** To destroy; to restructure.

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## **END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)**

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