

DEMOCRATIC PARTYNATAL COAST REGIONUMAG07.11.90

02.11.90
KWA MASHU

A meeting at the Scout Hall in E Section was threatened by the presence of several cars full of armed men in the vicinity. It was alleged that they were Vilakazi's men.

EMPANGENI

Accommodation was sought for about 70 people who have been taking refuge in the COSATU office. The churches in Empangeni have apparently been told stories of theft, prostitution, bad language and behaviour by the refugees, as was apparent when help was sought from them. It was pointed out that when the 50 were accommodated in Durban a few months ago, apart from a few minor disciplinary and health problems, they had been in no trouble of this kind. The help of local DP members was enlisted and the Municipality approached with little or no result. Willis Mchunu has yet to report back about a proposed tent town which would need the protection of the SAP.

05.11.90
NTUZUMA

Many calls for help came during Friday night and Saturday. Ngubo and Nene were accused, and Ngubo removed by the SADF. SADF patrols were promised throughout the night.

KWA MASHU

On Friday, 02.11.90 a man was shot at E Section and police protection was called so that he could be taken for medical treatment. The SAP had to be called twice before they responded. On the same night another call from E Section accused Ndluli's men being responsible for another shooting at another house. They had surrounded the house and fired shots but no injuries were reported.

UMLAZI

The widow of Cllr Samson Simelane has been alarmed by telephone calls made to ascertain her whereabouts. She is in hiding.

07.11.90

EMPANGENI

A call for SAP protection throughout the night for a family in a rural area of Mtubatuba was made.

The question of suitable premises for COSATU office was discussed and the help of local DP members was again sought.

STEVE, SORRY CANNOT MAKE THE MEETING TONIGHT, EVE.

End Conscription Campaign

National Office
P.O. Box 537
2100 Kengray

Durban Office
56 Ecimenical Centre
20 St Andrew's St.
4001 Durban

Tel (011) 836-8423
Fax (011) 834-3189

Tel (031) 304-5883
Fax (031) 301-6611

DEAR Mr BOTHA

FACT FINDING MISSION. MAY 1991

Further to our telephonic conversation of the 15th instant, an explanation of the reasons for my visit follows.

I am employed by the End Conscription Campaign as a Fieldworker in the townships of Natal. My primary brief is to monitor the role of the Security Forces on the ground. Where possible I also work with them in their efforts to quell the violence between the two main protagonists in the conflict, viz. the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party. However the major part of my time is spent in facilitating communication between, on the one hand, members of the community in general and the SADF and SAP on the other, as well as reporting on any misconduct and negligence on the part of the latter.

The other major aspect of my work, and unfortunately it is an aspect which I have neglected due to more immediate pressures such as attending to crises as they arise, is the more positive and long-term work of promoting reconciliation and reconstruction once some degree of social normality has returned. It is this aspect of my work which I believe could benefit from speaking to Namibians involved in similar activities. While it is difficult to be specific about who I should ideally be speaking to, I would imagine that some Church workers would be very helpful, along with other progressive organisations, including officials from government. Needless to say, not only are we concerned at the growing tendency to label the violence in South Africa (particularly on the Reef) as an "ethnic conflict," we are also alarmed at the lack of progress that has been made in reducing the divide of black versus white perceptions, values and politics in general.

In short then, the issues which I would be looking to discuss would be how Namibians intend to, or are dealing with divisions in society at two primary levels: i) conflict within the previously disenfranchised and oppressed majority, whether along ethnic or other lines, and ii) conflict between that majority and their previous oppressors, whether along racial, class or other lines.

These discussions would of course be in the context of a (previously) militarised and violence-wracked state, such as Namibia has been in the past, and as South Africa finds itself at present.



End Conscription Campaign

Although it would almost certainly be erroneous to draw too close a parallel between Namibia and South Africa, we nonetheless feel that there are similarities and as such, lessons to be learnt. And it would perhaps be fitting here to raise the issue of conscription. How for instance, the new government and the authorities responsible for overseeing the transition process, initiated and executed the removal of compulsory military service, as well as the consequences thereof - positive or negative. These are questions which I would also like to discuss.

We would greatly appreciate your advice and introduction to parties which you may feel would be beneficial to us in our efforts to eradicate the barriers imposed and entrenched by decades of Apartheid. I will be arriving in Windhoek on Monday the 6th of May, and will be staying there until Thursday the 9th. I will be contacting you closer to the time, but if anything that requires discussion should arise before then, you may contact me at the above number, or at home in Durban on (031) 286 594. From Thursday the 2nd to Sunday the 5th, I will be holidaying at Swakopmund, and my number there is (0641) 311.

On a more personal level, I am looking forward to seeing the country which I last visited as an unwelcome intruder - as a member of the South African Defence Force. I am not much older than I was then, but I do believe I am considerably less ignorant, although there is still so much that I look forward to learning about your country.

I do hope that I will have the opportunity of meeting you during our trip.

Yours in Peace



HAYDN OSBORN

JUN 26 31 FRI 09:35 ID: ECONOMETICAL CENTRE TEL NO: 031 3016611 #376 P01
TO: ECC (JTB) (NAN BROWN)
- FAX: 8343187

28/06/91

FROM: ECC (DBN) (HAYDIN OSBORN)
- FAX: 3016611

Dear Nan -

Herewith some of the reports you requested. You should have no NNS (from Nat. Conference). I can't find a copy of NN 1 - so I'll do a print-out for you.

Thank
in Peace
Haydin

END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN

P.O. Box 537
Kengray 2100

Phone: 836-8423
Fax: 834-3189

TO ALL BRANCHES.

REPLACEMENT OF ECC'S FIELDWORKER IN NATAL.

1. Haydn Osborn will be leaving his job with ECC probably at the end of December 1991, to return to full-time studies next year.

2. Haydn has done invaluable work in his time as Fieldworker, monitoring the violence in Natal and probing its causes. He now has a very full picture of events and protagonists over the whole Natal region, with more detailed knowledge of the Richmond area. He is spending his final weeks in systematising his material for publication; this includes a special report on SADF clandestine forces involvement in the Natal violence.

3. However, he has found that the ECC label has been a handicap in his dealings with State authority, particularly the SADF itself, although his presence in the black communities has enhanced ECC's image there.

4. Durban ECC has therefore proposed that Haydn's replacement should continue to be supported by ECC but should work under other auspices; he would still be responsible to provide regular reports and feed-back to ECC, specifically with regard to SADF involvement. This proposal has also been discussed briefly in Johannesburg ECC, who suggested further that such a monitor could be appointed jointly (probably with IDASA) and that some contract be drawn between the two organisations regarding funding for the post, and accountability of the employee. ECC would then have full access to the material and retain personal contact with the monitor, and would be responsible for part of the salary (say two-thirds).

5. The budget submitted by ECC for 1992 includes a salary for a full-time fieldworker, and this valuable part of ECC's work has been emphasised in approaching donors.

6. The proposal therefore is:

- * that ECC continue to support a violence monitor in Natal, subject to such a person being available;
- * that IDASA be approached about a jointly-funded position, with IDASA as the employing agency;
- * that conditions of employment will include
 - special responsibility to monitor the role of the SADF
 - regular written reports to ECC, and meetings with Durban members.

Please let me have the comments of your branch on this proposal as soon as possible. Silence will be taken to mean consent!


Nan

8 November 1991

 **ECC** 
End Conscription Campaign

End Conscription Campaign

National Office

P.O. Box 537
2100 Kengray

Tel (011) 836-8423

Fax (011) 834-3189

ref: Min DF1.

Durban Office

56 Ecimical Centre
20 St Andrew's St.
4001 Durban

Tel (031) 304-5883

Fax (031) 301-6611

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
PRIVATE BAG X 427
PRETORIA
0001

Dear Sir

URGENT REQUEST FOR MEETING: NOVEMBER 1991
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In the first place, the ECC wishes to congratulate you on your appointment to the Defence portfolio. We are encouraged by the sentiments you have voiced, your reputation as a fair negotiator (as displayed during the recent Peace Accord negotiations) and news of an enlightened new approach by your ministry and department (apparently encapsulated in the SADF Code of Conduct, yet to be released).

We welcome these changes and their implications, and hope accordingly, that the government has softened its previously antagonistic regard for the ECC. Recognition of the ECC (and its legitimate support base) by the Department of Defence is long overdue, and we hereby wish to register our desire to commence constructive dialogue with you and your representatives. We submit that such engagement is not only appropriate in this era of negotiation, but also necessary and mutually beneficial.

For instance the ECC has created the position of Natal Fieldworker, whose brief it is to monitor SADF activity in the violence-wracked townships of Natal. Regular reports have been published - and we have posted our latest report to your office for your perusal - and a number of disclosures leading to criminal prosecutions have resulted. We wish to point out that we are not blind to the positive role that is so often played by the SADF in these situations (see Pg 2. of the October report), but simply stand by the public's right to know exactly how conscripts - who are after all, members of the public themselves - are utilised in their present internal role.



*End Conscription Campaign*

We also believe that the conduct of non-conscripts, ie. Permanent Force members of the SADF, has a direct bearing on the conscription issue, since young men are currently being compelled by the Defence Act to associate themselves with the SADF, and therefore all its other employees. Thus we believe that the activities of the SADF's Special Forces for example, are entirely relevant to the conscription issue.

On the basis of the new era of tolerance and the imminent changes within the South African Defence Force itself, the End Conscription Campaign wishes to meet with you personally to discuss inter alia, the following points:

## 1. VIOLENCE AND THE ROLE OF THE SADF

- 1.1 Our perceptions on the successes and failures of the SADF in its domestic/law-enforcement capacity,
- 1.2 The possibility of the ECC playing a facilitative role between SADF personnel and representatives from (specifically Natal) communities where the former are deployed, in line with the National Peace Accord or otherwise, including representation of the SADF on Local Dispute Resolution Committees, and the content and application of the proposed Code of Conduct for Defence Force members, and
- 1.3 Our concerns about (possibly unsanctioned) actions on the part of certain individuals and elements within the SADF, especially so-called "covert" units such as Special Forces, and their accountability (or otherwise) to DMI and your office.

## 2. COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE:

- 2.1 The progress or otherwise of the Gleeson Committee on Conscientious Objection,
- 2.2 The report of the Van Loggerengerg Committee on SADF Manpower policy,
- 2.3 The anomalous nature of racially based conscription at the present time,

We acknowledge the sensitivity of aspects of this proposed agenda, but urge your office in turn to recognise both our bona fides and our potential contribution to your information network. We intend to approach any discussions emanating herefrom, in a spirit of frankness and openness, and sincerely hope that you will do the same.

We must emphasise that we regard this proposed meeting as a matter of the utmost urgency and accordingly request that you respond to this letter (fax) by Friday 23 November, with a proposed time and venue for the meeting to take place within ten (10) days from that date, ie. before the end of November 1991. Our delegation, which will consist of 4 representatives, will be prepared to travel to Pretoria.

For the sake of convenience, we recommend that your office deal with the ECC's National Office [tel + fax nos. SUPRA] who will in turn liase with other branches and the Natal Fieldworker in particular.

We anxiously await your reply,

Yours Faithfully

H B OSBORN  
NATAL FIELDWORKER

pp ECC NATIONAL



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**END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)**

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