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CAMPAIGN FOR ALTERNATIVE NATIONAL SERVICE: MINUTES 17 APRIL 1988

Schools Group: As ECC is banned from operating in most schools in Cape Town, the schools group plan to organise a workshop for teachers, parents and interested pupils. Information around conscripts rights would be made available to them so that they could advise pupils etc themselves. Schools group would consult with the CAS.

They also want to host a public panel discussion aimed at scholars facing a call-up, entitled "Does the army make a man out of you?" They want to know what the campaign group thinks of the idea and how it could fit into the campaign.

They are also considering producing a special publication for scholars, but this depends on amount of work required.

Churches sub-committee: Churches are prepared to take on 2 or 3 specific KYR meetings. They will also be running their usual broader youth programmes and will include KYR work in them. They are involved in the CBC alternative service project and will be tied up with that until the end of May.

They still need to finalise dates for their church constituency KYR meetings.

Parents and Supporters Group (PSG): The PSG are prepared to organise 1 or 2 house meetings aimed at the parents of conscripts. They would provide information about conscripts rights. They intend also to build up their list of contacts.

Contact: They intend to find out weather front organisations will host KYR meetings when they approach them. The Young Progs have been approached and are keen to host one for their members and maybe more public.

They are also trying to make contact with service groups such as the Lions Club and Rotary. Any other ideas for leads are welcome.

Conscripts: Conscripts are prepared to take on about 2 of the public KYR meetings in suburbs, eg. Wynberg.

They are also making progress on the business /KYR contact, exploring advice columns in magazines and working on a pamphlet.

ECC's Information Service

The overall message we want to convey at this stage of the campaign is that ECC is concerned about conscripts, not anti-conscript and concerned about conscripts rights in the army. We want to provide information about rights, obligations and life in the army. Attached to this info about existing rights would be political content in the form of our alternative service demands.

It is suggested that we hold a "Conscript Crisis Line Phone In" near the beginning of May. This would take the form of a 24/36/72 hour round the clock phone service possibly over a weekend. We would advertise with posters, advertising and press. Hopefully it is a form which would interest the press.

We would then hold a press conference announcing some of the kinds of problems conscripts had, illustrating the need for such a service and explaining how, in recognition of the problem, ECC will be dealing with it by running series of conscript information meetings. We would announce the package of the service, listing all meetings and activities. (including Stellenbosch meetings).

We have a **press advert** on the following day listing all the meetings and include in the advert an explanation of what we are offering.

A suggested build-up to the press conference would be letters to the papers and articles from ordinary conscripts expressing a need for such a service. A "have you got conscription problems?" sticker with ECC phone number.

Public Information meetings: Four public meetings suggested to run over 4 week period. To be held on Wednesdays. We should

1. Set up house meetings in the areas with eg. PFP people to investigate the suburb, find most appropriate approach, venue, introduce ECC and explain campaign. Hopefully even get locals to help organise them.
2. Send out programme of meetings to all mailing lists.
3. Advertise programme with explanation in press.
4. Suggest newspaper feature on meetings if possible.
5. Booths in particular suburb on Saturday preceding, with KYR pamphlet, experienced counsellors to give advice. Meeting advertising posters around the booth etc.
6. Pole posters to go up on Sun night/Mon morning.

Programme:

Booth: 14 May	Meeting: 18 May
25 May	21 May
1 June	28 May
8 June	4 June

The 4 areas suggested are Wynberg, Sea Point, Rondebosch and Muizenburg.

Booklet Launch: We are unable to set final dates for the booklet launch because we await a proposal from Joburg. However we suggest early June. Suggestions of an evening weekday launch. A cocktail party at a private house/bookshop/Baxter. Possibly in conjunction with photo exhibition or film showing.

Idea for a promotional video showing conscripts etc saying how useful booklet is. To be shown at three selected bookshops alongside booklet promotion.

Aim launch at press, members of our target constituencies, front organisations, mailing list.

Distribute booklets to press in time to get review of book in press on day of launch.

Possibly sell booklets at promotional booths (at reduced prices).

Conclusion: We felt that the meetings package should include all the more informal forums organised by sub-comms as well as the 4 public meetings. The advertising programme should include the whole lot, giving a sense of a tight package of events over a concentrated period of time.

CAMPAIGN FOR ALTERNATIVE NATIONAL SERVICE: MINUTES 17 APRIL 1983

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