



End Conscription Campaign

The SADF claims to be defending all South Africans. The End Conscription Campaign and a growing number of young people who object to service in the SADF refute this claim — and so do millions of South Africans living in the townships.

The fact is, the SADF is being used more and more to suppress opposition to apartheid. Not only on the borders of the country, but in the townships and homes of ordinary South Africans. In anyone's language, **THIS IS CIVIL WAR.** And young South African men are being forced into the frontline of this civil war, **whether they like it or not.**

Many patriotic young men are deciding that they cannot be part of this war. They are refusing to



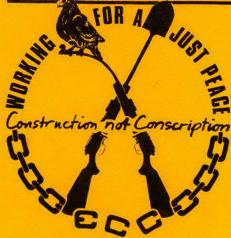
be conscripted to fight against unarmed citizens, their fellow South Africans. The numbers refusing to fight apartheid's war grow annually — so much so that the Minister of Defence, Magnus Malan, has this year refused to release the figures of those who have failed to report for duty.



ECC calls for an end to conscription because we feel that these young men should have the right to choose not to fight in a civil war on the side of apartheid. We defend their right whether they are facing the dilemma of conscription for the first time or whether they are already serving in the SADF because they felt there was no alternative.

It is the right of all people to refuse to take up arms when their conscience dictates otherwise. The overwhelming majority of South Africans support us in our defence of this right.

Working for a Just Peace



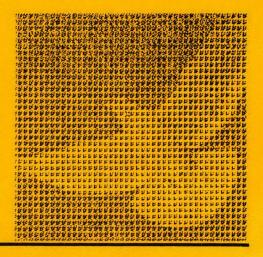
During April, ECC is organising a national "Working for a Just Peace" campaign where people will be able to show their opposition to conscription through positive and symbolic actions. The idea behind the campaign is to challenge apartheid's definition of National Service. Many people see conscription as destructive in that it is imposed on conscripts and communities and leads to untold suffering. We believe that service to this country must necessarily be in consultation with communities and according to their needs. There are many patriotic young people willing to serve their country in this way. They are not prepared to become involved in the civil war created by apartheid.

The projects will all be focusing on constructive ways of benefiting our society and will involve large numbers of people in an active demonstration of their commitment to a just and peaceful future for all in South Africa. In Johannesburg these include:

- A children's holiday programme in Western Township during the first week of April. The programme will encourage the co-operative involvement of the children in non-violent games and actions. There are also plans for a festival or parade at the end of the week.
- Laying out a park for mentally handicapped children in Eldorado Park (19/20 April) where little is provided at present.
- A non-racial picnic is planned for April 27.
- First Aid training programmes are being considered.

Join the action. Become involved. If you can help, contact:

> Clare (648-9282), Steve (643-4689), or Ann Marie (643-6405).



29 April ECC RALLY 8 pm CITY HALL speakers, choir poetry



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