

AGENDA for Peace and War meeting 7/10/87

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Matters arising from previous minutes
  - 2.1 Philip Wilkinson Booklet
  - 2.2 'You and the Army ' pamphlet - ready by 10.10.87.
  - ✓ 2.3 Alternative Service Programme
    - a. Comments on the second draft
    - b. Planning for the October Board meeting
    - ~~c. Ideas for 4 November meeting~~
  - 2.4 Namibia
    - a. Reportback on trip
    - b. Discussion on Statements
    - c. Proposal to the October Board meeting
- 3. Justice and Peace meeting
  - 3.1 Is there anything we want to take to the commission meeting
  - 3.2 How do we see Justice and Peace groups being involved in our projects
    - Alternative Service Programme
    - War in Namibia
  - 3.3 Should our report include an analysis of the situation , particularly relating to militarisation and the war?
    - If so do we need to co-opt more people onto the sub-committee?
- 4. Cape Town militarisation group
- 5. General - Symposium Jan 16<sup>th</sup> + 17<sup>th</sup>
- 6. Next Meeting

1. PW's pamphlet into the booklet.

MINUTES OF FPEACE ANS WAR MEETING

7th October, 1987

1. PRESENT: Archbishop Daniel, Jacqui Boulle, Steve Lowry, Steve Sadie, Adele Kisten.

2. APOLOGIES: Noel Stott.

2. Matters Arising from previous minutes.

2.1. Philip Wilkinson Booklet

This has finally been printed and distributed. 17000 copies were made. SACBC took 2 000 of these. re financing the booklet we are trying to sell them for 50c. Also an application has been made to German Justice and Peace for assistance.

Comments on the booklet:

Positive: Layout very good, just the right length.  
Negative: No details about the outcome of the trial were included. Hurley's evidence was not included. (Idea of doing an insert with the outcome of the trial and Hurley's evidence was raised. This was agreed on).

2.2. 'You and the Army' Pamphlet

This too has finally been printed. 2 000 copies were made. Distribution will be done next week.

2.3. Alternative Service Proposal:

- a. The second draft is a great improvement. The Steering Committee is in the process of finalising the proposal.
- b. The proposal needs to be presented to the October Board Meeting. This should be done through Hurley.

2.4. Namibia

- a. Jacqui gave a reportback on the trip to Namibia. This will be drawn up for the October Board Meeting.
- b. Archbishop Daniel had presented the draft statement to the Transvaal meeting of Bishops. These were the comments he received.

- The document needed to include more theology and scriptural basis.
- Most agreed that it should be written according to the just war criteria. This is universally accepted by the Catholic Church and most other mainline churches (The government also subscribed to it.)
- We should be careful about our arguments re-conduct of war. People often pick out particular atrocities and argue about them. This was a lesson learnt from the Namibia Report.
- The document had an element of apology about it.
- We should hardly mention SWAPO. The statement is about the war being waged by S.A. This should be the focus.

It was noted in the meeting that next year is the 10th anniversary of Resolution 435. This could be the context in which the Bishops release the Statement: The Peace Plan was agreed upon 10 years ago yet nothing has changed. The war is still going on. 1988 will also be the 5th anniversary of the Namibia Report.

- c. A draft document should be presented to the Board Meeting together with a report on our visit.

### 3. Justice and Peace Meeting

PAW felt their mandate was quite clear. We were recognised by the bishops and by Justice and Peace. Up to now most of our work has been directed towards the Bishops - we need to look at how we take the issues up with J/P. It was suggested that at our next meeting we do an evaluation of the past year and analysis of the situation and plan for the next year.

### 4. Cape Town Militarisation Group

The Cape Town Commission has set up a militarisation project. Jacqui should put Imelda in contact with the Kolbe Group and David Smidt.

### 5. General

- a. Objectors Support Group of the 23.

Some of the group of 23 who made a statement in Cape Town are trying to publicise their stand. It was suggested that they speak to the October Board Meeting. Jacqui to approach Archbishop Hurley on this.

- b. January Symposium

On 16/17 January there will be a three day symposium in Cape Town. The 1st day will be hosted by Peace and Justice. The next 2 days will focus on Objector Support and co-ordination of militarisation work. Once plans are clearer we should look at the role and participation of PAW, WAP and the Cape Town project in this.

- c. Board for Religious Objection

Archbishop Daniel raised the point that he is not always informed when catholics are due to appear before the Board. It was suggested that he write to Major Fourie stating that for various reasons the Catholics had decided not to provide a theologian for the Board - however many catholics still applied to the Board. Please could he (Major Fourie) inform us when catholics were appearing so we could help them prepare themselves. Other suggestions were for Jacqui to write to all the advice services to ask them to please notify us if any catholics are appearing before the Board. Ask Rob Robertson how he keep up to date with who was appearing.

## d. Exiles

A draft letter to all governments asking for the recognition of war resisters as political refugees was presented. The idea is that the SACBC takes up the letter getting all the other churches and prominent organisations and people to enclose it. The group felt this was an excellent idea but the letter needed to be rewritten. Once this had been done it could be presented to the October Board Meeting.

## e. Next Meeting

If we need a meeting after the Board meeting it will be on 30 October at 2pm. If not the next meeting would be in early January.

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