

17.7  
A8.17.7

The End Conscription Campaign Nationally

Generally all regions seemed to have been stimulated by the conference and went back inspired to their regions with our glorious message. Work around Ivan has been going well with most regions having had vigils. Repression does not seem to have been a major problem in our work although smears are still appearing and there has been some level of harassment. Here are some brief snippets from some of the regions.

Port Elizabeth

The commic was distributed at UPE and the technicon and seemed to go down well. Ivan spoke to about 20 Sash types at a house meeting which was successful, a finger lunch was served afterwards. A vigil was held for Ivan which was attended by 50 people. A problem was that none of the newspapers would accept an advert for the vigil. An anti-ECC pamphlet was issued by the Positive Students Organisation (an NSF affiliate) and was distributed at UPE and Tech

UCT

Orientation week went well with about 130 people being recruited. Ivan spoke, in bad weather, on the plaza to about 400 people and was very well received. A cocktail party was held for new members and was attended by about 100 people. Plans are to introduce ECC to campus constituencies through possibly a survey and follow up work on Ivan's campaign

Pretoria

A vigil was held for Ivan at the Anglican cathedral which was attended by about 50 people. During the service, a brick was thrown through one members window and another had his bedroom wall graffitied

Cape Town

Ivan: A successful service was held for Ivan at Bishop's Court which was attended by about 400 people. It was preceded by picnic.

Smears: A press conference was held to announce that ECC is to apply for a supreme court interdict. It received very good press in Cape Town with a big editorial in the Argus. The interdict will probably take between three to six months.

Debate: A debate between ECC and Cloete Breytenbach (the cross-boarder MNR and UNITA photographer), hosted by the Civil Rights League, was held in Durbanville (a new area for ECC); topic: "Is conscription necessary?"

The debate was attended by 60 people and ECC did very well in it. SADF meeting: The SADF has responded to a request that ECC meet with Cape Town. It should take place soon.

Pietermaritzburg

A meeting held for Ivan on campus was attended by 250 people which was very exciting. Ivan had a lunch with VIPS.

Durban

Durban is needing to consolidate after have lost a number of key activists. It planned a vigil for Ivan and has been involved in discussions with Idasa which is setting up a branch in Durbs.

Johannesburg

Ivan's vigil went well with about 200 people attending. There was a nasty incident at the vigil when two members confronted some suspicious looking individuals prowling around the church. They turned out to be branch, who promptly arrested Andrew Wais and Eckardt Schloffeld and charged them with illegal possession of a weapon (a mace spray!), assaulting a police officer and obstruction of police. They spent the night at John Vorster and were released after appearing in court. The trial continues

Wits

160 people signed up at orientation week. 200 people attended Ivan's mtg with 250 people coming to a disco. A cocktail party was held for new member and was attended by 65 people. A vigil has been planned for Ivan on the 7th. Other planned activities include Float Building, selling the Rag magazine Wits-Wits and a painting ASP project at the Muldersdrift Clinic.

Durban campus

Recruited 25 new people but all very enthusiastic and have a nice core. Ivan spoke at a late afternoon meeting at which 50 people appeared. Commic went down well

Grahamstown

Organised a meeting for Ivan on campus which was attended by 200 people.

29 February 1988

0819

**Collection Number: AG1977**

**END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN (ECC)**

**PUBLISHER:**

*Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive*

*Location:- Johannesburg*

©2013

**LEGAL NOTICES:**

**Copyright Notice:** All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

**Disclaimer and Terms of Use:** Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a collection held at the Historical Papers Research Archive at The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.