

2. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

Overall Gains

- a) ECC stronger organisationally
- b) ECC now has a strong presence as a national movement
- c) Good content was given to the demands

Churches

Have been more actively drawn in through the fast, and inroads have been made beyond the hierarchies. Support from the Anglican and Catholic churches has been particularly strong. Contact needs to be established with the National Initiative of Reconciliation (NIR)

Townships

Generally, very good support was given by the townships, reflecting a new constituency in which ECC has made inroads.

Press

Overall, outstanding coverage was given.

Negative Aspects

In PE, Grahamstown and Pietermaritaburg confusion was caused by the NIR fast

Generally, there was bad co-ordination on the last day (the 24-hour fast), and very little monitoring of the impact.

3. REPRESSION

We discussed the recent detentions of ECC people (6 in all).

The main areas of interest in ECC were :

- history and structure of ECC and COSG
- the alleged ANC and COSAWR links
- the relationship between ECC and UDF
- finances
- international contacts
- schools work

The only legislation that Branch indicated ECC could potentially be charged under was Sec 59 of the Internal Security Act.

This section makes it an offence to encourage or assist anyone or any group of people to commit an offence by way of protest against any law or in support of any campaign against any law or in support of any campaign for the repeal or modification of any law.

4. NSF

Laurie and Jo'burg ECC will investigate the possibility of legal action against the NSF for their advert published in the Sunday Times and Sunday Tribune

5. NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Dates : 31 January to 2 February

Venue : Durban/Pietermaritzburg

Numbers : Between 5 and 20 from each region

Agenda ; to be drawn up by Laurie and one region in early January, with areas for discussion to be forwarded to all regions. National committees will meet on Friday 31 and finalise the agenda.

Suggested topics : regional reports, interest group reports, employees, structures and co-ordination, head office, festival, campaigns, UN Year of Peace, reports from international trips, overall direction of ECC, repression/security, etc.

6. STRUCTURE AND EMPLOYEES

The following proposals were made :

- a) that we retain the national committee system as it exists at present (ie, meeting approximately 4 times between national events)
- b) that we ensure some efficient co-ordination between regions (eg, media co-ordinators, press officers, etc.)
- c) that we appoint a full-time national secretary, with the following areas of work :
 - national administration and correspondence
 - national press
 - international liaison
 - resource co-ordination
 - (if possible) national finances
- d) that we set up a national office in Johannesburg
- e) that regions examine possibility of opening local offices with part-time employees.

7. LAURIE'S PLANS

These were decided on before the international tour issue was discussed.

16 Oct - 7 Nov	: Johannesburg
7 Nov - 14 Nov	: Pietermaritzburg
14 Nov - 7 Dec	: Eastern Cape, including East London
7 Dec - 28 Dec	: Holiday, including an ECC Wild Coast hike from 7 - 14 December
28 Dec - 8 Jan	: Cape Town
8 Jan - 31 Jan	: Natal

8. INTERNATIONAL TOURS

The following points emerged in discussion :

- that we should push hard for a 2nd representative to the UN
- that we should try to include a USA tour with the UN trip
- that with regard to both tours, one (but not both) reps should be public ECC reps
- that no one should go on more than one trip
- that people representing ECC should (if possible) have a national feel for ECC and some knowledge of broader issues (particularly with regard to the UN trip)
- that the War Resisters International Conference trip should include a conscientious objector.

Short List (drawn up from regional proposals) :

UN : Mike, Janet, Clare, Gary, Jacqui (with Ivan as an alternative "up-front person")

Finaldn/Europe/India : Laurie, Peter H, Ivan, the people who don't go to UN, Paula (there is a possibility of 4 people going on the India leg of the tour.

9. JANUARY CALL-UP

Some suggested actions included :

- a petition directed at mothers, girlfriends, etc
- a big Sunday newspaper advert
- cultural events
- peace walks/cycle rides
- a "Your National Service" booklet (probably too late for 1986)
- an alternative national service project. (This last proposal was discussed in some depth. Durban will draw up and circulate a concrete proposal).

10. OTHER AREAS DISCUSSED

- * State of the Nation as it effects ECC
 - * Culture
 - * International Relations
 - * Finances - we need to produce a statement and budget for the national conference.
-

MINUTES of the 43rd Meeting of the End Conscription Committee held on
14 November 1985.

PRESENT: UCT SRC, NUSAS, Anglican BSR, Women's Movement for Peace, Black Sash, Observatory UDF, Claremont UDF.

APOLOGIES: WPC

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

(i) Schools

The schools group is planning a campaign for the first term of 1986 which they will take up in conjunction with other organisations. The campaign will focus on cadets and youth preparedness. An afternoon workshop on 8th December is planned to which organisational reps and ECC activists are invited.

(ii) Culture

Major projects are being planned for early next year - the film festival, a very big concert and possibly an art exhibition. There is ongoing work and smaller projects which are presently being undertaken.

(iii) Contact

Another newsletter will be coming out next week.

(iv) Churches

Churches are being approached regarding the Alternative Service Campaign and, also, the Board for Religious Objectors is going to be raised as an issue in the Church particularly when the Geldenhuys Committee evidence is debated in parliament. The national campaign within the church will be addressed to both the church hierarchy and church membership.

ORGANISATIONAL REPORTS:

(i) UDF Area Committee - in the house visits conducted by members of the area committee, the issue of conscription is raised regularly.

(ii) NUSAS - the NUSAS Congress is to be held at UCT this year and part of the programme sessions will be held on conscription. ECC members will be welcome to attend.

(iii) ABSR - they have been sending letters to the Bishops pushing them on their position and explaining the influence of cadets on school children and possible action for Anglicans in this regard.

NATIONAL REPORT:

Laurie was at the meeting and gave a national report.

* Media Council

There were approximately 23 factual inaccuracies in the Rapport article and ECC is accused of breaking some very serious pieces of legislation. Rapport is being taken to the Media Council and ECC is demanding: an apology; retraction of the inaccuracies; and an assertion of ECC's correct position.

The Sunday Times is also being taken to the Media Council the NSF advert, and we would expect an apology to appear on the leader page.

* Sunday Times Advert

The national committee suggested ECC put an ad in the Sunday Times around the time of the January call-up. It will cost approximately 4½ thousand rand.

We discussed the value of such an ad and there was general endorsement for it with an emphasis on the importance of layout and placement in the paper.

* Joburg

They have been restructuring with an emphasis on rebuilding subcommittees. There has also been discussion about exec - both people and role - and as regards role a strong feeling that exec should be more of an administrative than decision-making body.

There has also been vigorous discussion in Joburg around issues such as the convention alliance, the PFP Youth, etc.

Laurie also reported on various atrocities committed by soldiers in the Transvaal.

* National Conference

A provisional agenda will be circulated and should be discussed by all regions. There are issues which we as a region need to discuss before the Conference.

* Alternative Service Campaign

Most regions favour Easter for the timing of campaign but PE and Grahamstown would still prefer July.

* National Co-ordination

Laurie will be away for 7 weeks at various conferences overseas and so national co-ordination will have to be handled by the regions. Cape Town has been asked to co-ordinate the alternative service campaign and should work out who is to take on that responsibility.

4. ALTERNATIVE SERVICE

It was proposed that an ad-hoc structure be set up to start working on this programme. Reps should be sent from each sub-committee plus anyone interested. There will be a meeting on Sunday 24 at 30 Malleson Road.

5. 23 ORGANISATIONS

When ECC met the night the State of Emergency was declared in the Western Cape, we decided to pull together a broader range of organisations. There was a very encouraging response from that broader grouping who met a few days later. They decided that jointly they would hold a public meeting, do pickets and a pamphlet drive. When the public meeting was banned, the PFP proposed that either they host the meeting, or that they host a similar meeting later, or alternatively they would go ahead and hold their own meeting which would not be linked at all to the banned meeting. Some reps from the PFP met with the co-ordination group of the 23 Organisations and they rejected the first two proposals. The 23 are considering taking up a Free Speech campaign.

We had some discussion about ECC's continued participation in the 23, and felt that the initiative is very exciting and should be supported. There was some hesitation about ECC's role as a front participating in another front, and also ECC as a single issue body being involved in a broader campaign. We felt that this issue should be thoroughly discussed soon.

ECC was approached to give a statement at the PFP meeting. There wasn't time to discuss it at the General Body meeting, but exec and Media Comm had approved us giving the statement and so we went ahead.

6. DETENTIONS PROCESS:

In the event of someone in ECC being detained, an exec member should be contacted. The exec member will consult with someone else on the exec and they will decide on the appropriate immediate response.

7. NATIONAL EMPLOYEES:

ECC already employs a national organiser and it has been agreed that we will employ a national secretary to be based in Joburg. It was felt that we should appoint the person as soon as possible, but they would only start to work after the national conference. Two subcommittees had discussed the matter and brought their proposals to the General Body meeting where it was discussed. There was general support for David doing the job.

8. LOCAL EMPLOYEE:

Exec proposed that ECC Cape Town employ a part-time person who works from 9.00 - 1.00 doing most administrative work in the office. The new exec will have to take responsibility for working out job definition and processes of employment.

9. AGM:

We went through the programme for the AGM:

Welcome
Subcomm & front reports
Treasurer's report
International report
SUPPER
Chairperson's report
Exec elections
Thanks

Subcomm's should put together displays for the entrance.

10. NEW EXECUTIVE:

Each subcommittee presented its motivations for each person they had nominated.

11. GENERAL:

- (i) Anyone who owes ECC money should pay it.
- (ii) The next open forum will be on 4/12/85.
- (iji) The next General Body meeting will be on 28/11/85.

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the End Conscription Campaign held on 21/11/85 at Rondebosch Congregational Church Hall.

1. WELCOME:

The outgoing ECC chair welcomed those present to the First AGM of the ECC, Cape Town - in particular the representatives of the 18 organisations present, members of the ECC subcommittees and invited observers.

2. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 2.1 Media: a very productive year, in which media work has formed the backbone of ECC's campaigns. ECC is well-known for the quality of its media and can feel proud of this. The committee has grown over the year, but is losing many of its most skilled workers.
- 2.2 Schools: the schools' programme has faced enormous difficulties, in particular the ban of ECC from government schools, and has not had much success in drawing school students to ECC workshops. However, a strong presence has been established through pamphleteering and other media. An exciting "Cadets Out!" programme is in the pipeline for next year.
- 2.3 Contact: although a small subcommittee, "Contact" has fulfilled a large and necessary role. The press work has been of outstanding quality and is a pointer for the future. The newsletter has played an important task. "Contact" has been involved in liaison with ECC's front member-organisations as well as other sympathetic individuals and organisations. A number of successful "open forums" have been held. International contact and internal education have been further roles of "Contact".
- 2.4 Culture: this subcommittee has surged ahead with a number of ambitious projects, including a poster exhibition, an art exhibition, a number of concerts, a wide variety of popular T-shirts, many many badges, regular ECC stalls at various venues, and are now planning a film festival.
- 2.5 Churches: a young subcommittee that drew in the churches during the ECC "fast" and has put out a number of pamphlets. Two major thrusts in the new year will be pushing churches in broadening the definition of conscientious objection and the issue of military chaplaincy.

3. ORGANISATIONAL REPORTS:

Three of the ECC's organisations, the Black Sash, the Civil Rights League and the UCT SRC, presented reports.

- 3.1 Black Sash: conscription is part of the Sash's work, and a conscription sub-group has been set up. Some generous donations have been collected for ECC. National contact around ECC has been set up in Sash. Two stickers have been printed and Sash members have participated in pamphleteering and picketing.
- 3.2 Civil Rights League: Sir Richard Luyt, President of the CRL, has been of invaluable support to the ECC, and participated at many of their functions. The CRL hosted a VE Day meeting at which the ECC has a speaker and have written a number of letters to the paper, as well as articles in their house journal. The CRL has also launched the Movement AD PACEM, calling for alternative forms of national service.
- 3.3 UCT SRC: a subcommittee, CAG, has over the year been raising the issues of militarisation and conscription on campus. A number of meetings and workshops have taken place. Advice bureau work has been done. The SRC participated in the fast activities.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Over the period 1/8/85 to 20/11/85, ECC spent R14 785,16 and had an income of R16 400,07. This leave us with a balance of R1 614,91. R5 327,96 has been made from the sale of media, badges and T-shirts.

5. INTERNATIONAL REPORT:

International contact has forged links with sympathetic organisations around the world. Much of this work took place around the ECC Peace Festival and around the fast for a just peace. During the fast we received messages of support from organisations in 12 countries. In Asia, Latin America, Europe and the United States.

The AGM then broke for supper.

6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

The ECC chair reviewed the growth of the campaign since he took office. To a large extent, this paralleled political developments, especially the growth of civil war in South Africa and the extensive deployment of troops in the townships. ECC has responded to the growth potential by setting up a number of subcommittees, which have drawn in members and done very useful work. However, this has often left the front structure of ECC behind and a major task for the new year will be to pay more attention to the front structure. While major initiatives have been launched in a number of constituencies, ECC still remains very homogenous and should broaden its membership in the new year.

7. ELECTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE:

The following people were elected:

Nicholas Borain	- Chair
Ivan Toms	- Vice-Chair
Crispian Olver	- Secretary-General
Paula Hathorn	- Publicity Officer
Alistair Teeling-Smith	- Treasurer

8. MOTIONS OF THANKS:

The following people were thanked for their contribution to the ECC over the year:

UCT "Green Level" staff; Mr Patel and Esquire Press; Mr Allie Parker and staff; Douglas Bax and the Rondebosch Congregational Church and the Community Arts Project, particularly Trish and Lionel.

9. A press release on the AGM was read out.

10. Closing.

MINUTES of the 44th Meeting of the Cape Town End Conscription Committee held on 28 November 1985.

PRESENT: CAG, NUSAS, BSR, UDF (Obs.), Quakers, UDF (Gardens), Koeberg Alert, UCT SRC.

1. AGM ASSESSMENT:

Much confusion existed around formal voting procedures, and a clear voting procedure must be finalised. The extent of subcommittee representation is at issue. National conference may give some clarity. A motion of thanks to the producers of the festival video was tabled. The extent of democratic processes within ECC was noted.

2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

2.1 Schools: The "Cadets Mini-Campaign" has had good responses, especially from Black Sash and Women's Movement for Peace. A workshop will be held on 7/12/85 at 2.00 pm at Ron Con and subcommittee reps are needed.

2.2 Media: are engaged in work for the "Alternative Service" campaign. There was some debate around the poster image ("This is a protest poster, not an ad for Paratus.") National consultation over the sticker is necessary.

2.3 Culture: are producing a "fanzine" and concert for December. The Concert has eight bands and will be on 18/12/85 at Yellow Level. Culture are putting on a stall at CAP's open day and are busy producing many more badges.

2.4 Churches: are linking into ASP (Alternative Service Project) with a pamphlet and church service early in January (service will be on 12/1/86 at Ron Con).

2.5 Contact: old and new contact groups will meet on 1/12/85.

3. LOCAL SECRETARY:

A job description and closing dates for application will be circulated to subcommittees and member organisations.

4. LOCAL OFFICE:

"How slick do we want it to be?" Street presence, presentability and PRO potential were cited as requirements as well as work space, toilets, storage facilities and running water. The exec was mandated to make a decision.

5. ALTERNATIVE SERVICE PROJECT:

Planning for a focus around the January call-up is underway, with a strong media drive and emphasis on the "the right to choose". A group is investigating the plans for the maternity wing at SACLA clinic and will present the options available to us next year. The Civil Rights League's Movement AD PACEM was discussed. Cape Town ECC is co-ordinating the Alternative Service Campaign nationally while Laurie is away.

A meeting of everyone interested in the call-up focus will be held on Sunday, 5/1/86 at 5.00 pm at 30 Malleon Road.

6. INFORMATION GROUP:

There is a need for on going monitoring of SADF activity and volunteers have been called for to work on this. Margot will co-ordinate.

7. NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND CO-ORDINATION:

Subcommittees are asked to submit written feedback to Mike E. Subcommittee reports also need to be written. On the question of policy issues to be debated at NC the "individual conscript" and "PFP" were not considered important and opinions were divided over "right-wing attacks" and "ECC as a single issue campaign". It was stressed that inputs to the conference should not be centralised, and that different centres be allowed to chair different sessions. We can send a maximum of 20 reps to the NC and must work out how we shall choose them.

8. NATIONAL SECRETARY:

David was supported unanimously for this position.

9. THE "23 ORGANISATIONS" WORKSHOP:

A good turnout with the generation of plenty of ideas for action and issues to be addressed. A programme of action will be drawn up. ECC, being a single issue campaign, should limit its involvement. The initiative is seen as an important alliance within the white community. ECC will send two observers to further meetings.

10. VACATION PERIOD:

Justin Hardcastle will be the holiday exec contact person. We will hold a general body meeting on 12/12/85, but not on 26/12/85. The next GB will be on 9/1/86.

11. GENERAL:

- 11.1 UDF (Obs.) are holding an open forum on 5/12/85 at 8.00 pm at the Gordon's Institute, on the topic of UDF under the state of emergency, as well as the schools' crisis.
- 11.2 ECC as underwriters of the "Prescription for Peace" are asked to help in a blitz to collect signatures on Saturday. Contact Ingrid.
- 11.3 Newsletter is out; to be distributed to subcommittees and organisations.
- 11.4 Open Forum on Wednesday 4/12/85. Topic: The Effects of Conscription.
- 11.5 Our mailing is going on to a computer.

2/12/85
src press uct

A 2.1.1

MINUTES OF AN ECC MEETING HELD ON 10/12/85 AT ECT AT 5.30pm.

PRESENT: Debbie, Steve, Gary, Paula, Chippie, Anita, Richard, Fiona, sue, Val
Jeremy, Ntombi, David(journalist)

1) CORRESPONDENCE:

- letter from Germany which supports the work we are doing.
- media from Cape Town
- letter from Justin about the film festival. Cape Town can't offer to co-ordinate national programme. CT are working through the film festival people. It was decided to hand the this over to culture group. It was suggested that they try a similar arrangement to CT.
- job definitions of the EXEC from CT
- minutes of past meetings. These will be kept in the Resoutce Centre.
- proposed agenda for national conference (attached to minutes) This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Jo'burg sent us an outline of their new structure.
- Laurie sent us a report on his work in JHB.
- document on India conference
- minutes and press clips from PMB. These will be in the Resource Centre.
- motivation for the national secretary.

Gary read through the motivation for David Shandler from CT. He is the only candidate at this stage as support for him was very strong. Paula and Chippie further motivated for him. They said that his press work is outstanding, his work in the contact group is excellent, he is very enthusiastic about ECC, the job is a challenge for him.

It was decded that Durban would give him total and unqualified support.

2) VERBAL REPORT FROM CT ON THEIR ACTIVITIES

Their fast meeting was phenomenal. The public was impressed with the non-racial vibe at the meeting. Good balance of speakers. AChoir opened and closed meeting - set the right tone. It was a major success. The members they signed during this campaign will be drawn into the alternative service programme.

CT responded to the State of Emergency by calling together a meeting of 23 organisations. ECC's role in drawing together these organisations was questioned . This has been clarified with ECC having observer status in this forum.

Their alternative service campaign will start in Jan with a media focus. They will have a press conference later and they launch the project at Easter. Most centres agree with the launch in Easter. Grahamstown would like to launch in June.

3) JANUARY CALL UP

Developments on the concert and pamphlet - pamphlet - the media group was to be revived and hopefully their first project would be the pamphlet The culture group would be doing a T-shirt. They still might do a concert.

We should not be over ambitious. We should limit it to a media campaign. Should concentrate on a sticker, advert, pamphlet. Chippie will organise 1000 stickers from CT to be sent here.

Record launch - should follow up Faces idea. If we can launch the record then invites will be mailed out.

COSG campaign - need to generate more signatures for the declaration of support. We should follow the smalls in the papers.

4) JANUARY PLANNING MEETING

It will deal with the following areas - long term planning

- preparatory discussion for national conference
- restructuring and AGM
- relationship between ECC and its affiliates.

DATE: 19 JAN

TIME: 10am - 4pm (bring own lunch)

VENUE: Oblate centre

Gary, Val, Steve to send out invitations to all affiliates

5) LAMONTVILLE

At present we have had scattered contact with Lamontville. Richard will write a letter to them asking that they discuss what they want from us. We will then try set up a meeting on the basis of that.

6) SKYF

We should reproduce the blue pamphlet and distribute here.

7) SLIDE - TAPE PROGRAMME

Should be used in a workshop situation and an Ecc person should go with the programme if hired out. Jeremy will sort out the payment.

8) NEXT MEETING

9 January 5.30 pm at ECT

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE, JANUARY 1986

A provisional agenda for national conference is being circulated early so that regions can participate in the drawing up the final agenda and can discuss the issues to be covered before the conference.

At this stage we are concerned with the content of the conference which is divided into three broad categories: national structures and co-ordination; assessment and planning; national policy and conceptual discussion.

We would like each ECC to comment on the provisional agenda and suggest additions, subtractions, modifications etc as soon as possible. A final agenda can then be drawn up and circulated by the beginning of January.

The final agenda will include a framework for discussing those areas that regions should have worked through before the conference. These areas include 'national assessment and goal setting' and all those issues covered in the category of national policy and conceptual discussion.

The reports that are indicated by a star (*) should be written and circulated to all the regions by the beginning of Jan. Other reports should be ready by the conference.

The provisional agenda does not reflect the order and the way in which the items will be discussed. National Committee, which is meeting on the Friday before the conference, will work out the process and the form of the conference.

1) NATIONAL STRUCTURES AND CO-ORDINATION

national press liaison - * report and assessment

international liaison - * report, assessment and discussion of issues arising

national committee - report and assessment

national finances - * report and discussion on new financial system

national organiser - * report, assessment, 1986 job definition and appointment

national office plus secretary - function of national office, and job definition and appointment of national secretary

regional part-time workers - ratification

2) ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

annual regional reports*

national assessment and broad future direction - a framework for discussing this will be circulated

interregional subcomm discussions

alternative service national action - regional reports and national discussion

July call up action - if above action is in Easter

1986 Festival - are we having one? If so, when and where, form and content and process of organising it

other national action for 1986 - film festival, ECC record, UN year of peace and any other ideas

3) NATIONAL POLICY AND CONCEPTUAL DISCUSSION

This category is obviously the most difficult to fill without input from the regions. Please comment on the proposed areas and subtract or add to them. Once this is done, a framework for discussing each area can be worked out and circulated.

- STATE OF STRUGGLE DISCUSSION - The aim is to develop a broad overview and analysis of developments in the black and white communities that will inform our understanding of ECC's role in the future.

- STATE AND RIGHT WING ATTACKS ON ECC - We need to be aware of all these attacks and their implications for us, and we need to discuss our public response, our legal action & the level of our security.

- ROLE OF SADF - This could take the form of each region presenting input on the role of the SADF in its area, followed by a general discussion. It would be important to look at the SADF in Namibia and Southern Africa.

- ECC AND PFP YOUTH

- ECC'S POSITION ON THE INDIVIDUAL SOLDIER

- ECC AS BOTH A FRONT AND AN ORGANISATION

- ECC AS A SINGLE ISSUE CAMPAIGN

Do we need a national discussion on any/all of them?

- OTHER ISSUES?

} All of these areas have been debated to some degree in the regions.

Minutes of the 45th meeting of the End Conscription Committee held on 12th December 1985.

Present: UCT SRC, NUSAS, Anglican BSR, Women's Movement for Peace, Black Sash, Observatory UDF, Claremont UDF, Koeberg-Alert, Religious Society of Friends, Grahamstown ECC.

Apologies: WPCC.

Subcommittee Reports.

i) Schools

The first 'Cadets Out' had been held on the 7th and was well represented. The meeting discussed militarization in our society and ways of resisting it. It would be necessary to work in subcommittees and organisations and many representatives will be needed in the campaign. The group would submit a formal proposal to the ECC later. The next meeting would be at 2pm on the 11th of January.

ii) Culture

Three new LAG T-shirts and a reprint of the Troops Out were being produced and stockpiled for January. There were some problems with the fanzine. The film festival and Art for Peace 2 would be finalized by the 19th. Pietermaritzburg was also holding a film festival. There would be a concert on the 18th at 8 pm on Yellow Level. Since Culture people were in detention a lot of help would be needed from 2pm onward. Culture would try to get CAYCO people to the concert; everybody should spread the word about it.

iii) Media

Media was producing a sticker for Culture which should be ready by the following Wednesday.

iv) Churches

People were needed to help distribute call-up pamphlets to the churches in the first week of January.

v) Contact

They had stopped work for the year but planned to work in the front in 1986. A video was being prepared comparing military training with solitary confinement. Contact wouldn't handle internal education any more.

National and International Reports.

-Media Council

The Rapport/Sunday Times articles would soon be before the Media Council. As well as the ECC demanding apologies, retractions and room to present our own case, individuals could sue for defamation if the council ruled against the newspapers.

-Johannesburg

A workshop on the International Year of Youth was to be held soon. The previous Sunday Shifty Records had launched the Forces Favourites record; Culture would handle distribution.

-Pietermaritzburg

A schools pamphlet was being prepared along with a radio phone-in, a picket, a service and a women's meeting, all call-up related.

-Durban

The alternative service plan was that people should work at the Phoenix settlement.

-Grahamstown

The alternative service launch would be made along with the ECC launch. There should be 50-60 people in the initial organisation.

-Laurie's letter

A letter from Laurie on the overseas trip was read. They had been interviewed in London by the BBC, Guardian, CBS and National Peace Council. Understanding of our non-racial situation was developing. Television restrictions seemed to

be reducing South African coverage; however, the Cardinal Arms banning had strongly raised the South African issue in Brazil. ECC hasn't yet realized the potential of foreign contacts.

In Finland they were interviewed by radio, met a cabinet minister and Finnish peace movements, and showed the ECC video. It seemed that the alternative service program would be supported there.

In Sweden the radio interviewed them and they met Amnesty International. The PFP was attacked in the newspapers on well-justified grounds; people seemed well-informed about South Africa.

23 Organisations.

A pamphlet on the Sea Point demonstration would be handed out on Saturday morning. Mary Burton would send a letter to the press. People were urged to support the service at the Buitenkant Street Methodist Church at 7pm the next Wednesday, and to take candles with them.

Arrests.

The previous Wednesday in Athlone James, Cathy, Rob and Steve Schmidt were detained. A support group had been set up. Ivan contacted the British Consulate since Rob and Cathy had British passports. From 7:30 onwards Radio Good Hope was piped into Polismoor and people should phone in requests for the detainees. They had only Bibles to read but should come out the following Wednesday. Vernon Matzopoulos and Guy Timmin had been detained in Sea Point; a support group was being set up for them.

Frontline Article.

Helmoed-Romer Heitman had written a competent article attacking the idea of a voluntary army. Mike Evans and Harald Winkler were suggested as people who could write letters to the editor in reply.

Harald Winkler

He applied for category 3 exemption (alternative service) but had been given category 1 (non-combatant), and there was no appeal. This might be linked to his ECC status. Action about this should be held over until he was actually called up.

General

Mary Burton sent the ECC a letter expressing admiration for us. CAP also wrote to thank us for support on their open day.

The Alternative Service Programme (ASP) would meet on the 5th at 5pm at Ivan's house.

The next General Body meeting would be on the 9th.

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