

STORY	Writer	Legwork	Contacted	Received
1. Ngk booklets	Era + Marlian		✓	
2. Methodist church	Alan Jackson	Joy	✓	
3. ecc: actions, future plans, Dinner, vip drive	Joy / Contact	Joy		
4. Film reviews: Salvador & Platoon	William	Ima		
5. Militarisation of schools: cadets, veld school	Judith Education	Joy Joy		
6. Diary - get a copy for graphics		Joy		
7. Laurie Nathan	Claire P.C	Joy		
8. Interview with a manuscript	Ima	Ima		
9. Repression, right wing - state, cross border, new farm	Anne Gavin	Joy Chris / Joy		
10. Book review of Forces Favourites	Ima	Ima	✓	
11. Hillary - Albrecht Volschenk: coloured manuscript	Marlian	Marlian		
12. Ecc publication & media nationally	Adele	Joy		
13. Budget stuff	Claire P.C.	Joy		
14. Campus: wits	Clare	Joy		
15. " : FEE	<del>Contact</del>	Joy		
16. Culture	PAP	Era		
17. Namibia	Sheena	Joy	✓	
18. Philip	Mike Loew	Chris / Joy		
19. Crossword puzzle	Culture	Joy		
20. Progressive Engineers	Campus	Joy	✓	
21. <del>Radio group</del>	<del>Culture</del>	Joy		
22. June 12th				

- Stuff may be translated into Afrikaans.
- All contributions gratefully accepted.



### Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream

1. Last night I had the strangest dream  
I'd ever dreamed before  
I dreamed the world had all agreed  
To put an end to war
2. I dreamed I saw a mighty room  
The room was filled with men  
And the paper they were signing said  
They'd never fight again
3. And when the papers all were signed  
And a million copies made  
They all joined hands and bowed their heads  
And grateful prayers were prayed
4. And the people in the streets below  
Were dancing round and round  
And guns and swords and uniforms  
Were scattered on the ground

### What a Friend We Have...

1. What a friend we have in Magnus  
Who will guard our every shore  
Spends a quarter of our taxes  
Getting ready for a war  
  
Guns must make our coastline whistle  
And we have to fill the sky  
Full of planes and guided missiles  
They'll be paid for by and by
2. Have you noticed all the progress  
In our mighty airborne fleet?  
By the time the Ratel's fighting  
It's already obsolete
- There's no factory profit brother  
And we have to do or die  
One improvement then another  
They'll be paid for by and by
3. Modern bombs are sure to carry  
Loads of glory, joy and thrills  
What a privilege to bury  
All the dead our money kills  
  
Nevermind the widow's weeping  
Disregard the orphan's cry  
When God wakes the dead and sleeping  
They'll be paid for by and by

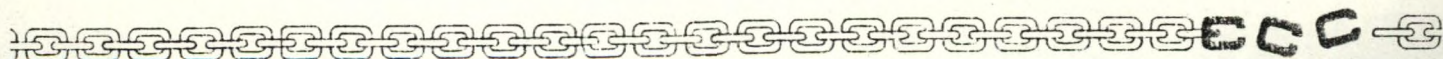
### What Did You Learn in School Today

What did you learn in school today dear little child of mine (2X)  
We learnt that west is always best and white usually right  
That rich and poor will always be and that's what makes us free

What did you learn in school today dear little child of mine (2X)  
That education brings opportunities in this advancing age  
But we'll end up working the factories for a measly wage

And what did you learn in the streets today dear little child of mine (2X)  
We learnt that teargas burns the eyes, we learn how police dogs bite  
We learnt that batons break our bones, and we're learning how to fight

What did you hear in the news today, dear little child of mine? (X2)  
That agitators stir us up and lead us all astray  
But we can think and we can see and we're looking for change today



*End Conscription Campaign*



dont have the necessary time. This could therefore be a task of the regional employee.

Another area (which will require further discussion, especially within the Publicity-subgroup) is that of layout. We have Ventura (desktop publishing software) available on our computer. This could save us a fortune in both time and money were it correctly utilised. Im not sure if this is the role of the regional worker, but it is something that must be considered.

We say that we want to move away from the left fringe, and become a more respectable, open, and accessible organisation. Clearly the best way to achieve this is to open an office. Having an office is a great morale boost for any organisation, as well as making all our work much easier. Associates would have somewhere to go with ideas or suggestions, people wanting to become activists could just enquire at the office, press could contact us there, we could all leave messages for people who live in hiding, etc etc. An office would also solve many of the workers problems which relate to the job being so unstructured. I think that we need to consider the office as a serious option, and evaluate whether or not the reasons for closing the office still apply. I think that the office should be in Rosebank or Parktown - not Khotso House. We could consider asking one of the embassies to pay the rent - the possibilities are endless !

I also think that the worker could be available to do some schlepp work, in extreme cases, when it cant be done by an activist. There are obvious dangers to this (I had people knocking on my door at all hours, asking me to do whatever they couldnt get around to doing). I think that the only way to control this sort of thing is to stipulate that the worker must be asked in advance, must be able to say that they are too busy, and that the request must go through some decided on channels. The worker can also be available for national or regional emergencies (as any other activist would be).

I think that the worker would benefit greatly from having a review group (consisting of at least one exec member) which would (at least initially) meet regularly (about every 10 days) to bounce ideas, raise problems, get support, feedback etc. I dont think that it is necessary for the worker to be on the executive. I think that some of the problems this year have come from the fact that I was on the exec, and took on quite a lot of exec work. Obviously, the worker could be an elected exec member, and could get involved in whichever ad hoc projects that they wanted, but this would be as an activist, and should not be expected of the worker. Because of the nature of the work, I feel that the worker should be part of the Contact subgroup.



### Evaluation of new strucs of JHS ECC:

#### Sub-group reports:

- a. Creative actia : peaa project beginning - memb. extended.  
Older memb. need to change ideas about acts take up by this sub-grp - not just culture type acts.
- b. Submbs:  
Heening pamphlet - 4000 blitz at Melville.  
2000 general.  
Parents mtg. to set up possibility of regular parent grp - CT to send info. up.  
Memb. drive: int. educat. for. that grp- to conceptualize.  
Clear change in focus of this group to that of old Contact grp - more focus on memb. drive rather than front & other issues.
- c. Churches:  
Feel less out a a link & more in the mainstream.  
Streamlining their work wrt forgetting consits; Clarity of diff. theo. perspectives in the group;  
Id. areas of involvement of ind. memb. in the various churches & which strucs. to walk through to take ECC's message.
- d. Publicity:  
12 memb. Amalgamat of media pp. & new memb.  
Still need to integrate the diff. functs. of the group 
  - press
  - newsletter.
  - general media.
- e. Educat: (put more firmly on the agenda)  
memb. seeing need for it.  
Front portfolio being neglected 'cas no sub-grp accountability - need to use Exec as that forum.

#### Problems: \*

What priority is JHS's thinking getting on a national level.  
Whole arena of conscripts is untapped & unstrategised.  
Integratn of regional worker & new restructuring  
more vulnerable to security clampdowns  
on verge of unprecedented breakthrough in white politics 

- extra-parliamentary democracy



Process to discuss in conscripts:

Process:

Small working groups in regions to discuss issue of targeting conscripts → JHB: - then present to GB ECC thru internal educat.  
- present to Nat. Conf.  
- after Conf. set up working grp.

JHB memb. drive!

who & how do we target - needs to be revised.

Targets: • friends of ECC activists who are sympathetic  
• membs. of other progressive orgs.  
• ind. activists take responsib. for getting ± 5 membs.  
• major drive in the church ← how to couple & subvert work.

3

NB to experiment in this area so can evaluate what works.

- Focus on getting memb. orgs. membs. to be assoc. membs.
- Veteran / conscript target has to be integral in our memb. drive.  
↳ need info. on how conscript<sup>n</sup> affects them. eg: have done mil. service.

Regional worker's role within memb. drive.

- need to take more initiative in estab. memb. drive rather than waiting for org. to take the lead.
- need to see major focus of her work as memb. drive.



## EDUCATION '87

### INTERNAL

#### Reading Groups

Reading material available. Decision not to have formalised reading groups but to try to educate in other ways. Only one group started by personal incentive.

#### Seminars

Attempt at organising conceptual discussion on ECC's role and direction.

Discussions did not help.

Seminars on ECC too vague. Other seminars organised on specific issues and targeted at a specific group, eg P.E.G. Seminar. Has enormous potential.

#### Pamphlets

All pamphlets produced by ECC were done by the Education Group.

Pamphlets tried to target specific areas, eg destabilisation, education and the military, etc., but tended to be too long and too far between to have any effect.

Layout skills only developed by those who already had, and those who became actively involved.

#### Intro Booklet

Produced and laid out but censored by the lawyers to the extent that it could not be distributed onto campus.

### OTHER AREAS OF WORK:

#### News Broadcasts

Occasional broadcasts on V.O.W. , potential exists but was not properly utilised.

#### Wits Student

Again occasionally used but not to its full potential.

#### Organisational Comment

#### Focus

Uncertainty as to the role of the internal education. In '87 we spent more time pushing out media onto campus that educates ourselves.



The Education Group was seen as being solely responsible for educating campus as well. This was impracticable and organisationally incorrect. Otherwise, no specific outline of activities mapped out, many good ideas, but tended to concentrate on one at a time to the detriment of others.

### Activists

Too few committed activists to handle the workload - those that participated were experienced. Too many other responsibilities posted on to the Education Group as well, with the result that we were over extended.

### Skills Workshops

Seldom organised, as we felt that skills would be acquired by people as they worked. Occasional workshops organised by Johannesburg EEC and Media Group.

### Education Sub-Committee in '88

We have spent much time assessing last year's mistakes and shortcomings. On this basis we have planned the form and structure of the Education Sub-Committee for this year.

Education Group is seen as being responsible for passing on two types of skills:

- 1) Practical skills: Media and organisational skills, design, layout, different aspects of organisational democracy. The media aspect of things will be worked on in conjunction with the Media Group.
- 2) Political Skills: Internal education in the form of seminars reading packs, discussion within organisation. Internal education will also incorporate our affiliates, i.e. joint seminars with NUSAS, SAUJS, the Progressive Engineers Group (P.E.G.) etc., In this way our relationship with affiliates is built and contact is ensured.

As far as ECC's new direction is concerned, we have noted the need for a more professional approach. For us this means a more solid internal education on a variety of conscript related issues, i.e. conscripts rights, options, destabilisation, militarisation and the question of women and the military etc. It is the Education Sub-Committee's responsibility to ensure EEC is seen as a reference point to the conscript and campus in general. We are looking forward to an exciting year.



8 12

General Picture of Organisations' Work in Johannesburg

Most organisations are continuing with their usual work with the added dimension of participation in alliances. Broad anti-apartheid alliances and a focus on the role of whites and the role in change of extra-parliamentary organisations have been chosen as focuses in response to the outcome of the white election.

Many organisations are overstretched because of alliance demands. Some organisations are in "Free the Children", 5 Freedoms and are also part of UDF. They also may be ECC member organisations. Thus it becomes increasingly difficult to cope with all these alliances.

Repression and surveillance of white organisations has been minimal, with only two incidents: the sudden brief detention of the Jhb UDF Area Committee (comprising reps from each of the UDF affiliates); and Security Police visits to two Free the Children members. We have always known that surveillance is continuing (even though we don't observe it) and this seems to be confirmed because the UDF group was endeavouring to operate in a secure way and were unaware there was any problem.



## Legal questions (Jub)

- 1) What is the legal status of the ECC declaration under SOE regulations?
- 2) Fundraising - what forms of fundraising can ECC legally engage in?
- 3) ECC's position generally - what can/can't we do?
- 4) What are the limits on press reporting on ECC?  
(This question is probably based on the suspicion that the press is unduly cautious in handling ECC.)
- 5) Rights of ECC members under SOE regulations:
  - During a house search
  - During questioning (pre-detention)
  - During arrest/detention
- 6) Under what conditions can a citizen's arrest be made?  
What is involved, practically?
- 7) What are the implications of contravening municipal regulations and bye-laws?



JHB Member organisations <sup>A + C</sup> "MUST" BE DISCUSSED.

Things to discuss for ECC National Conference.

A. The organisation's role within ECC

- description **MUST BE DISCUSSED**
- evaluation
- future possibilities / limitations

⇒ There will be a slot when all the representatives from all the member organisations of ECC from different regions can meet together and discuss their role within ECC, etc.

B. Policy

B.1. LEGAL

Discuss our position (ECC's) with regard to the issue of deliberately breaking the law, municipal by-laws, etc.

(At present ECC only uses legal means, although some actions have taken place e.g. Women's Action at Wits Commando in Oct 86).

Does this policy need to change under the present situation? Should we have a principled stand on the issue of legality?

What implication does our position with regard to the law have on our use or not of the ECC Declaration?



(which repeatedly calls for the end to conscription).

## B2. International Relations

- What criteria do we need to establish or determine whether or not we accept invitations for international tours?
- the value or otherwise of international tours?
- what is the rationale for maintaining good relations with international support organisations?
- What are the aims of networking with such organisations?
- How to deal with the issue of COSAWR (Committee of S. African War Resisters)?

## B3. Alliances

What is the value of working in alliances (for ECC), such as 5 Freedoms Forum?

## C. ORGANISATIONAL

MUST BE DISCUSSED

What is ECC's constituency (broadly + specifically)?

What forms should the ECC CAMPAIGN-work take?

Suggested actions, new areas of work (for a brainstorming session)

x ECC is planning to focus extensively on the CONSCRIPT



Jodac - Wilhelm 648 7745 / 716 3404

- Willie Currie - Sached 834 1341

NEUSA - Patrick - Sached 834 1341

- Jessica Sherman 648 8898

COSG - Nan Cross 614 7458 / 777 1111 x 2029

10+P - Neil Mitchell 614 8106

Sash - given

PFP Youth - Sean McKay - 29 0211 / <sup>PFP</sup>Head office

OASSA - given

- Melvin Friedman - Wits

Joyco - Mohammed 836 0250 bet. 9am - 10am



Proposed ECC action re: Int. Management Council<sup>proposed</sup> majority have amendment.

① 1st. approach & discuss with relevant unions.  
- Adele will do this on 12/12/85.

② Provide ~~out~~ other groups & organisations with the proposed resolution (as there are a number of approaches to opposing it)

B. Sash

Women for Peace

Women's Committee of Concerned Citizens

? Barclays Business Women's Club

Mahiro

SOAC Women's Group

POWA

Glenda

Adele

Emma Mashini - Glenda.

③ Early in January post our "objections" (see draft attached) to all? or PFP City Councillors (definitely all women Councillors)  
get individuals, ECC members & public to lobby their particular councillor or <sup>and</sup> a councillor known to them.

④ If the resolution is passed - prepare a press release in advance for immediate release.

⑤ Liaise with Molly Koper - should be high on the list.

P.T.O.



⑥ We presume that this resolution will come up at the Council meeting on Tuesday 28th Jan.

Should attend Council meeting.

On re reading our objections they can probably be improved on and maybe made stronger. We have stuck to the military issue so as not to get confused and would hope other organisations would take other angles.

Citinda.



It has come to our notice that a proposed amendment to conditions of service - Maternity leave - for Municipal employees is due to be put to the JHS City Council by the Management Committee.

We, as the End Conscription Campaign, register our strong objection to certain conditions in this amendment.

(1) "Maternity leave shall be granted to any female employee (excluding specifically the wives of religious objectors) whose husband, whether in the employ of the Council or not, has commenced or completed his initial military training., ~~"for a period~~

(a) In granting the improved maternity benefits only to wives of husbands who have commenced or completed their compulsory military training the Council would be guilty of gross discrimination.

Not only should a woman be granted maternity benefits completely independent of her husband's situation but, we believe, making a husband's military service a condition for improved maternity benefits allows the military to encroach on civilian life.

(b) We take strong exception to the fact that the Management Committee has felt it necessary to specifically exclude the wives of Conscientious Objectors from the proposed improved benefits. We point out that the resolution contradicts itself by, in paragraph (1) "(excluding specifically the wives of religious objectors)" but in paragraph (2) "and shall include . . . and any other service regarded by the State as equivalent to compulsory military service in terms of the Defence Act, 1957,



or any amendment thereof or legislation which may be substituted therefor."

The Defence Amendment Act of July 1983 made provision for alternative National Service for Religious Objectors stating that it would be regarded as an equivalent to compulsory service.

It would seem that both the State and local Government are intent on discriminating against those who, for reasons of conscience, refuse to participate in the military.

This is evident in some of the punitive measures for Religious Objectors in the Defence Amendment Act and now in this particular proposed amendment.

(2) It would seem, by implication that, because the husband's military training is a condition of this benefit, all women of race groups other than white will be excluded from this benefit.

We are concerned about the increasing militarization of our society. This proposed discriminatory amendment can only alienate the people from one another.



There are many unions in the Jhb City Council eg  
- Transport workers' Union  
- Jhb Municipal Water Works Mechanics Union.

The largest union, however, has recently become non-racial by  
an amalgamation of a black + a white union.

It is the Jhb Municipal Workers' Employees Association, and is affiliated  
to the national union for municipal workers.

General secretary: Mr THEO KRAUSE

724-8415

President: Mr Vic Kleynhans

(H) 782-9744

Former General Secretary: Mr Sarel van den Bergh  
(Linden address)

All this information was supplied confidentially by  
Mr Pretorius: PRO - 777-1111

He was very distressed at the news of the whole issue.  
Many council workers are amazed at the stupidity.

Shaw



AB (1) Write letter to Guildhall  
Heber

(2) SAB. — who?



## END CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN WORKSHOP - JOHANNESBURG REGION.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

### 2. 1) CONTEXTUALIZATION

#### 1) 5 minute small group discussion -

What are the most significant points coming out of this which have bearing on ECC presently and for the workshop?

### 3. THE ISSUES.

These will take the form of brief inputs followed by 10 minute group discussion. Then there will be 10 minute plenary discussion.

### <sup>3</sup>A ONE ISSUE CAMPAIGN. Glenda

"Conscription is one aspect of apartheid rule. Therefore we take up the conscription issue within the broad framework of anti-apartheid groupings. This means that other issues besides conscription also concern us and require our comment and work.

"Conscription is our issue - anyone who is opposed to conscription can join us and fight our campaign. Other organisations will address other issues. We will address conscription.

- a) Do you agree with either of these approaches. Consider the nature of ECC as a front, our overall aims and the most effective ways of reaching these.
- b) Frikkie is an H.N.P member. He doesn't believe in conscription because P.W.'s reform initiatives are going too far, and he is not prepared to fight for this. Should we allow him to join ECC.

## LUNCH TIME!

### <sup>3</sup>B. RELATIONSHIP TO SADF Clare Jean.

Some of our affiliates take the view that, as a matter of principle we should not have contact with the SADF because this would give a platform and legitimacy to the military. Others argue that certain strategic gains could be made from public discussion with the SADF eg giving evidence before the Geldenhuys Commission established our sincerity in the eyes of the white constituency and will hopefully offer us some degree of protection.

- a) Do we have principled objections to having contact with the SADF or do we approach the issue on the level of strategy?
- b) What would be the possible losses and gains for ECC of debating the SADF on a public platform.



### <sup>3</sup>C. THE INDIVIDUAL SOLDIER. Anne

The question of the position of the individual soldier has often been raised in ECC. On the one hand some people say that everyone who has an objection to conscription can join us and that soldiers are particularly oppressed by conscription and we need to make soldiers aware that ECC is catering for their needs. Others maintain that those who wear the uniform and participate in the activities of the SADF, should not be allowed to be part of ECC while they still do so: seeing a fundamental contradiction between being part of apartheid's oppressive army and being a member of ECC. In this debate there has also been a distinction drawn between participation in ECC on the level of ordinary member, member of an affiliate, and executive member.

- a) Do we aim some of our work at winning the support of the individual soldier? Why?
- b) To what extent should we make short term demands which address the problems of the individual soldier? eg "Troops to have right to refuse in townships"
- c) Do we make an attempt to actively encourage soldiers to join ECC structures.

### <sup>3</sup>D) OUR CONSTITUENCY. Nan

The situation of conflict in this country is presenting white South Africans with very real challenges. A variety of groupings have been inspired to become involved in initiatives to reduce the conflict eg Big business is now prepared to meet the ANC, 60 women's groups including Conservative Afrikaans groups call for the lifting of the emergency, and thousands of whites support our demand for Troops out of the Townships. At the same time The Troops Out Campaign has generated a good deal of support for ECC among black communities, and this has helped to build non-racialism.

- a) How does all this effect the potential of ECC within the white community?
- b) Which groupings within this constituency can be drawn into supporting the call to end conscription.
- c) Should we direct our work more towards the black communities.



3 E) PFP Sean. Now 3rd PFP ~~Not Congress~~ Steve  
Fed. Exec.

largely through the efforts of the PFP youth, the PFP now supports a phasing out of conscription and the establishment of a professional army. Involving the PFP youth in ECC would bring the support of a large constituency to our campaign; it would give us legitimacy in the eyes of the liberal white public. BUT the PFP has now decided to participate in the coloured and Indian Houses of Parliament which have absolutely no credibility. In addition, ECC has suffered severe attack from PFP leader Van Zyl Slabbert.

... tied to issue campaign.

- What gains / losses would be experienced by the involvement of PFP youth in ECC
- How do we make a decision with regard to the affiliation of PFP to ECC considering that different ECC affiliates have different positions on the issue.

HALF HOUR TEA

3 F) THE RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL NATURE OF ECC Steve Claer.

ECC is taking on a Christian nature through activities such as the fast. Many churches are issuing statements of support for ECC.

- Why / why not is it important to draw in religious groupings into ECC.
- How do we incorporate Christian groupings into ECC and continue making ECC attractive to them, while not alienating other groups.
- How do we incorporate other religious groupings in ECC - Jews, Muslims, Hindus etc.

campaign =  $\rightarrow$  pop  $\rightarrow$   
Memo's to MCC - diff betw. 3rd world + 1st world PM  
ECC  $\neq$  to Intl PM.

3 G) PEACE MOVEMENT. (Peter)

Our most basic call in ECC is for an end to conscription. The declaration makes this call as a step towards building a just peace in South Africa. We attempt to give content to the term Just Peace. The concept of peace is catching on and sometimes we are referred to as a peace movement. This relates to the fact that our activities reflect to some extent the activities of international peace movements - the festival, fairs, the fast

- 1) What factors characterize international peace movements?  
ii) Could these apply to ECC? Why should/shouldn't we project ourselves as a peace movement.
- Is it appropriate for ECC to be called "The peace movement" in the S.A context, where so many other groups are essentially working for peace.



#### 4. ECC STRUCTURES

##### a) ECC AS A FRONT AND AS AN ORGANISATION INVOLVING INDIVIDUALS Est. btw. organizat aspect + front char.

i) INPUT (covering the advantages and disadvantages of our front structure and of our nature as an organisation involving individuals participating in our activities as well as affiliates)

ii) DISCUSSION: ① Should we be encouraging participation of individuals in ECC - Why?

② What are the implications of this for our structures and way of working and making decisions?

##### b) SUBCOMMITTEES

(i) General discussion on the role of subcommittees as - forums for discussion related to activity  
- forums for more general internal education  
- forums for involvement of new members  
- other.

(ii) Brainstorm of ideas for subcommittees  
- decisions.

##### c) EXECUTIVE

(i) What kind of an exec. do we want?  
- role of exec in relation to general body  
- role in relation to sub-committees

(ii) Do we need elections in the near future?

(iii) What kind of lead-up process is needed?

d) AFFILIATES: Break up into Affiliates to discuss how you are going to improve relations with ECC.  
REPORT BACK



01.11  
We have almost no-one in Joburg ECC who has experience and training in another organisation. This is something which weakens us. It is clear that we need to emphasise training of our activists, but it also points to the need to convince our affiliated organisations of the vital importance of ECC in the struggle and of the need to be placing activists in ECC. Some concerted PRO work is required.

- SUGGESTIONS:
- \* Actively attempt to recruit people with training and experience into ECC. Obviously not to the exclusion of others.
  - \* Arrange to meet with NUSAS/YCS people before their final exams, to inform them about ECC, convince them of the importance of ECC and recruit them.
  - \* Start a similar programme of PRO visits to other organisations, such as Jodac, Sash, etc. to build an ongoing consciousness of the potential and role of ECC.
  - \* Each member take the responsibility to bring friends along to education forums, sub-coms etc.
  - \* What about a membership month?

### 5. PROFILE

One of our major aims is to build broad-based support for our demands in our community, and we'll never do it unless we are visible and engage with our constituency. We want to come across as serious but fun, professional but active, effective, positive, open to debate, open to different ideas and approaches and people.

We need to put a lot of energy into PRO work in our different constituencies and affiliates. We want the government to see us as a force to be reckoned with, which means that other organisations and the public need to take us seriously. Making this happen is our responsibility.

- SUGGESTIONS:
- \* Visit organisations in the white community to enthuse them about our campaign and suggest ways they can compliment our work. This requires prior thought and planning.
  - \* Consult with other sectors of the struggle. (NB)
  - \* Work out clearly what we want out of our involvement in FFF.
  - \* Keep in regular contact with VIP's and supportive organisations. (contact/ worker/ chair)
  - \* Make sure we take the gaps - get out on the streets when we can, set up tables at meetings, look for creative responses to issues.etc.

### 6. CAMPAIGN

This year's "campaign" is more a programme of action. We are introducing 2 new elements into our work, while continuing with other elements from the past. The new elements are that we provide a service to conscripts by informing them of their rights within the army and that we will campaign for those rights to be increased (The campaign for Alternate Service as well as the call to End conscription fit in here). The more traditional elements are that we continue to expose and oppose the role of the SADF, that we continue to take up the issues of Angola & Namibia, that we continue to work with a variety of constituencies (though we take a more carefully systematic approach to them), that we continue to play a protest role, to broaden our support base to extend geographically and in terms of the type of people involved.

We have spent an awfully long time conceptualising this new approach. Now we need some action and we will iron out the intricacies of our message and form in relation to concrete plans.

- SUGGESTIONS:
- \* GB to create a vision of how we intend to achieve our goals. This means asking why, how, who, when?
  - \* How can we create the space for people to come into the campaign? Maybe we need a short-term campaign group.
  - \* Who is taking responsibility for the campaign as a whole? We have to have someone/some people who are seeing the thing as a whole.
  - \* Connect with Wits and Pretoria re ADF and start working on it now.
  - \* Have clarity as to who takes responsibility for certain projects and let them get on with it.

### 7. OVER-DEMOCRACY

While democratic practices are a principle for us in ECC, we seem to have got a bit bogged down in an endless cycle of discussing the same thing in every structure and this is holding us back from effective operation. We need a clear understanding of the GB as our major decision making forum, of the exec as an overall facilitating group and of the sub-coms as taking the campaign forward in particular areas. Being conscious of this will facilitate different groups seizing the initiative in different areas and getting on with concrete work.

- SUGGESTIONS:
- \* Avoid having every issue discussed in every structure.
  - \* Once a general idea is reached about what we want to achieve and the task is allocated, don't keep reworking the goals unnecessarily.
  - \* Be absolutely clear where decisions are to be made.
  - \* Work out report-backs beforehand, and make them appropriate to the structure being reported to.



A report-back needs to be succinct, brief, reflect debate only where this will be instructive and the reporter needs to be clear whether it is purely an informative report (in which case, first ask why people need to be informed and in relation to what) or whether issues need further discussion (identify the issues and facilitate a constructive discussion). Given the frequency of report-backs, this kind of planning would really improve meetings.

- \* Write up minutes of discussions and record decisions clearly. If someone has missed a meeting, they should read the minutes before the next meeting. If we find ourselves discussing the same thing over again refer to the minute book.
- \* We should all be responsible for the quickest, yet most informed reaching of consensus. Facilitate this by not harping on once a decision has been reached.

#### 8. NATIONAL CONTACT AND FEEL

The booklet has taught us something of the difficulties of national co-ordination, and the need to bear in mind sensibilities outside of our own branch. This is a very difficult process sometimes. We have learnt that the National Feel means more than simply knowing what is going on in other regions.

- SUGGESTIONS:
- \* Ensure regular reports back from other regions. Perhaps structure some of them to answer the question what is it like being part of ECC in x region? What makes it easy/difficult/different?
  - \* All sends out packages of interesting information, educational resources, material from the regions etc from time to time. The GB may like to be informed of this and be able to copy/borrow material, possibly from the office.
  - \* It would be useful to set up direct contact with the other regions especially round the campaign. This could be telephonic or in writing. Who takes responsibility?

#### 10. MISCELLANEOUS

- a) Let's encourage the possible! ECC is alive, effective (Yes!), onto a challenging wicket and a really important element of the struggle. Believe in it and act!
- b) What are the possibilities of bringing together an alliance of organisations around Angola?
- c) We had a mightily successful Education Forum: Let's have more!
- d) Thank you for having me and all that...I hope it's been useful. I'd appreciate any form of feedback about my work/style/approach/pushiness/whatever.



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