

Dear friends,

From November 4-December 15, Bill Anderson, a young white South African who recently testified before the United Nations about atrocities in Namibia, will conduct a speaking tour of the U.S. Accompanying Mr. Anderson will be the Rev. Edgar (Ted) Lockwood, director of the Washington Office on Africa, a research office monitoring U.S. legislation on Africa. (Rev. Lockwood will be available for only part of the tour. See reverse for schedule.)

Mr. Anderson is well prepared to speak on various aspects of the Southern African situation, ranging from his military experience in Angola and Namibia, where he witnessed the torture of Namibians, to his personal experience with the socio-political dynamics of apartheid. Rev. Lockwood has visited Africa, and as a leader in African issues in the U.S., can speak on U.S. foreign policy and Southern Africa. Their tour is being sponsored by the American Committee on Africa, the American Friends Service Committee, the Bay Area Namibia Action Group, Clergy and Laity Concerned, the Episcopal Churchmen for South Africa, and the Washington Office on Africa.

The plight of the South African and Namibian people is a matter for international concern. Religious, community, academic and human rights organizations continue to voice their concern to our government and to international organizations. We must continue to raise the consciousness of U.S. citizens concerning the Southern African situation. The momentum of outrage must be continued and strengthened. For that to happen we ask your assistance in these ways:

- 1) Can you arrange for a day of speaking engagements and press interviews for Bill Anderson and Ted Lockwood? (See attached sheet for organizing suggestions.) In order to organize in local communities, we need local concerned citizens. We need you.
- 2) Can you arrange a major speaking engagement that will provide a substantial honorarium? Honorariums are needed to finance travel and other expenses for Bill's and Ted's tour.
- 3) Do you know other individuals who might be interested in organizing events in their communities during the nationwide tour? We invite you to write to them or send us their names and addresses.

Due to time constraints and travel arrangements, we need to have a schedule for Mr. Anderson and Rev. Lockwood as soon as possible. Therefore, we urge you to notify us immediately of your interest in having them visit your community. The Southern Africa situation is timely, particularly given the recent U.S. involvement in that area. We hope that your community can take advantage of this unique and valuable opportunity to hear Bill Anderson and Ted Lockwood.

Dear Alan -

This is the info. I mentioned - have instructed Mary Pottle to get in touch @ you, and suggested she come to Russell Johnson @ AFSC if you can try to make some contacts/arrangements in the Black community, possibly the Black Caucus - also a few drama depts. (as I mentioned) - churches - anything you can think of. Please phone me as soon as something is solidified. Thanks for all your efforts - a date certain, Lynn

Lynn Snuffer
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TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR BILL ANDERSON AND TED LOCKWOOD

- Nov. 3 - 8 North East states
Boston, East Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine,
Vermont, Amherst, Connecticut, Philadelphia (?)
- Nov. 9 - 14 New York and mid-Atlantic
Ithaca, Syracuse, Binghamton, New Jersey, Allentown, Westchester
- Nov.15 - 18 Pittsburgh and Ohio
Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Univ. of Ohio (Columbus), Dayton
- Nov.19 - 21 Michigan
Ann Arbor, East Lansing
- Nov.22 - 24 Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin
Elkhart, Chicago, Madison
- Nov.25 - 26 Minnesota
St. Paul, Minneapolis, St. Peter
- Nov. 27 BREAK
- Nov.28 - 30 Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado (?)
- Nov.31 - California
Dec. 2 San Fransisco, Los Angeles, Pasadena, maybe Berkeley, Chico
- Dec. 3 - 5 Arizona, New Mexico, El Paso
- Dec. 6 - 8 Texas
San Antonio, Austin, Dallas
- Dec.9 - 11 South
Mississippi, Alabama
- Dec. 12 Georgia (Atlanta), North Carolina
- Dec. 13 Washington, D.C.
- Dec. 14 -15 Philadelphia, New York

Ted Lockwood will be accompanying Bill Anderson for the first three weeks of the trip, from Nov. 3 thru Nov. 24. This first portion of the trip will be by car. The second half will be Bill Anderson alone, when he will be traveling by plane.

This schedule is very tentative. As we discover the centers of interest and possible activities, it will be revised. For up-to-date information, contact Lynn Snuffer (202) 546 - 8985; 1114 G St., S.E. Washington, D.C. 20003

THE WASHINGTON OFFICE ON AFRICA

BILL ANDERSON

Bill Anderson is a young white South African who has deserted the South African army rather than be a silent witness to atrocities being committed in Namibia. Because of his first-hand experience, Bill can speak with authority on the tense situation prevailing within South Africa and the neighboring territory of Namibia (South West Africa). During his military service in Namibia, Bill was a witness to various tortures, the impact of which led him to leave South Africa and defect to England in July of 1976.

During his assignment in Namibia, Bill witnessed the harassment and displacement of the native African population, search and seizure operations in which all adult males were systematically detained, interrogated, and tortured, and the destruction of entire villages. Shortly after his defection, Bill made a sworn statement regarding his experience to the *Manchester Guardian* in London. The article, published August 30th, 1976, was given worldwide coverage in countries including Germany, France, Canada, Australia, Norway and Sweden, and appeared in the *Washington Post* on August 31st.

In September Bill Anderson was invited by the United Nations to testify before the Council for Namibia. Later in the month he spoke to groups in Washington, D.C., including representatives from major religious organizations and Congressional staff.

Born in Cape Town, South Africa, Bill spent his school days at an all-white private school in Natal. He studied drama at the University of Cape Town, and spent 9 months working in a multi-racial theater in that city. As an opponent of the white government's policy of apartheid, or separation of the races, Bill was active in student organizations prior to the 1974 elections. In June 1975 he was drafted into the army.

Bill Anderson's father, an eminent marine biologist and oceanographer, as well as his mother and sister remain in South Africa. By having published his story, Bill has made his return to South Africa impossible. Should he return, Bill would be immediately detained without trial under South Africa's Internal Security Act, which forbids any activity such as speaking out against government policy, which could be deemed a danger to the "security" of the state.

Apartheid, the white South African government's policy of racial separation, has been condemned by the United Nations as a "crime against humanity." Bill Anderson has this to say about U.S. support for apartheid:

"The people of the United States must come to realize that it is support from the U.S. and other nations that keeps the racist apartheid system alive in South Africa. For decades Black South Africans have struggled to raise their standard of living and claim their human rights through peaceful means. But repression and resistance by the White government has made the Black population frustrated and impatient; the longer the inhumane policies are maintained, the more blood will be lost in efforts for change.

"As long as economic conditions in South Africa remain stable-- and they will, as long as the U.S., Britain and other nations continue to lend support--apartheid will remain firmly entrenched, and intensified violence and a mounting death toll will be the result."

October 1976

THE WASHINGTON OFFICE ON AFRICA

EDGAR LOCKWOOD

Edgar Lockwood, Director of the Washington Office on Africa since its opening in 1972, came to that post from a background in law and the church.

The Washington Office on Africa is a coalition office established to represent the interests and concerns of a range of church, civil rights and social activist groups throughout the country who want to support the struggle for majority rule, self-determination and popular government in Southern Africa.

The Washington Office on Africa coordinated a national campaign to restore U.S. compliance with UN sanctions against Rhodesia from 1973 to 1975. From September 1975 until February 1976 it devoted major efforts to opposing U.S. intervention in the Angolan civil war. In concert with other groups, the Washington Office brought information and pressure to bear on the Congress in support of the cut-off of appropriations for CIA activities in Angola. It publishes a quarterly review of developments in U.S. policy toward Southern Africa called *Washington Notes on Africa* and in addition publishes voting records, legislative action bulletins and other publications of interest to citizens. In addition, it circulates information to members of Congress who may desire accurate, detailed analysis of Southern Africa issues.

The Washington Office on Africa is sponsored by the American Committee on Africa, the Africa Office of the Board for Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church, the United Presbyterian Church, the Board of World Ministries and the Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ, the Public Affairs Office of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Born in Greenwich, Connecticut in 1920, Edgar Lockwood was educated at Hotchkiss School and Yale University, where he graduated with honors in American History in 1942. After serving as an officer on a destroyer of the Pacific Fleet in World War II, he prepared for a law career at the University of Virginia Law School. He practiced law in New York City for 2 years and then joined the firm of Durey, Pierson, Ward and Pringle in Stamford, Connecticut, in 1951.

Following a developing interest in Christian theology and work in adult Christian education, he studied at Virginia Theological Seminary, from which he graduated cum laude in 1960. After ordination as a deacon and priest in the Episcopal Church, he served as an assistant in Trinity Parish, Hartford, Conn. and as rector of the Church of the Messiah in Woods Hole, Mass. from 1962 to 1967. As a parish clergyman, Mr. Lockwood helped to organize a local task force to combat racism in housing and became involved in resistance to the Vietnam war.

His interest in social issues brought Mr. Lockwood to Washington to study at the Institute for Policy Studies for 18 months where he did research on the moral responsibilities of churches in their investment policies. He helped to found the Council on Economic Priorities, an organization devoted to researching activities of corporations in areas such as fair employment practices and pollution. He served on the Committee for Social Responsibility in Investment of the Episcopal Church from 1970 to 1973.

In 1971, he visited the Republic of South Africa for 2 months and attended two political trials under the Terrorism Act as a legal observer on behalf of the International Commission of Jurists and Amnesty International as well as the National Council of Churches. He reported to the United Nations on his findings in November of that year and his report appeared in *Objective Justice* and *Christianity and Crisis*.

Tuesday, August 31, 1976

S. African Soldier Says Comrades Tortured Namibians

By Martin Walker
Manchester Guardian

LONDON—A South African soldier says he witnessed the torture and killing of captive black Africans by South African troops during operations to clear the civilian population from the border area of Namibia (Southwest Africa).

South Africa announced in May that it would clear a half-mile wide zone along the 1,000-mile border with Angola because Namibian nationalist guerrillas had infiltrated across the border.

The soldier, Bill Anderson, said in a sworn statement to the Guardian that during one sweep operation the troops were told to kill all men over the age of puberty who ran away and arrest those who did not run. Those who were arrested were beaten and tortured "without exception," he said.

[A Guardian special correspondent reported from Windhoek, the Namibian capital, that a priest had described to him the mistreatment of African prisoners in detention camps near the Angolan border.]

The soldier said he saw men tortured with water until they drowned, beatings of blindfolded and handcuffed young boys and repeated burnings of prisoners with cigarette butts.

He said troops were encouraged by officers to participate in the beatings, and some officers boasted of using field telephones to apply electric shocks to prisoners' genitals, ears and nipples.

Anderson is the son of a well-known marine biologist and has been described by friends of the family as honest and reliable. A member of his battalion still in South Africa confirmed his story and said: "I would have done the same as Bill if I had been in England."

If he returns to South Africa he could be charged under the Official Secret Acts. If he does not report to his battalion for another tour of duty within two weeks he will be listed as a deserter.

Sean MacBride, the U.N. commissioner for Namibia, has charged that South African troops have uprooted between 40,000 and 50,000 villagers in Namibia, which South Africa administers in defiance of a U.N. order that the territory be given self-government.

There have been conflicting reports of the number of persons displaced in the South African effort to create a free-fire zone along the border.

Anderson, who was conscripted last year, said African prisoners were often taken during patrols as well as during a border sweep in June code-named Operation Cobra.

Anderson, who is white, said suspects picked up on patrol were first interrogated by South African police who beat them with whips and fists and stamped them with their feet.

"All the troops were welcome to join in the beatings," he said.

At night soldiers were served alcoholic drinks in a tent they called the pub, he said. More torture went on from the time the pub closed at about 9 p.m. until midnight, he added.

"I saw two suspects given water torture at the camp near Inahan," 7 miles from the Angolan border, he said. "Their heads were stuffed into an ordinary iron bucket full of water and they were held under until they ceased to struggle. It lasted a good minute. I saw one large suspect who struggled so that five men had to hold him into the bucket."

Anderson said "a good 80 per cent" of the men in his battalion cooperated with the torture.

"The bulk of my company took part in the beatings—it was spoken of as a pleasure," he said.

At another time, when his battalion was 12 miles north of the Angolan border, Anderson said a rifleman in his battalion "cut the ear off one dead prisoner whom he had shot and sent the ear home in a bottle" of alcohol.



He said some suspects were handcuffed to trees at night or kept in pits. "I was the cook and the only food I know they were given was scraps once a day which were piled into a big bin," he added.

[The official censor of South Africa's Ministry of Defense ordered the Rand Daily Mail Sunday night not

to publish its account of Anderson's allegations. The type had already been set for Monday morning's paper when the censor made the order.]

A special correspondent for the Guardian reported the following from Windhoek:

A priest who is respected in Namibia reported seeing a detention camp at the military base at Oshakati, in the northern part of the country. He said he had spoken to torture victims and had seen injuries he believes were inflicted by torture.

A number of other Anglican, Catholic and Lutheran clergymen said they have heard accounts of torture, and one said: "Torture has become a cultural trend in the northern area."

The priest who just returned from Ovamboland in the north said the Oshakati detention camp has three sections: a reception camp where people thought not to have information about guerrillas are detained; an interrogation center where torture is used to extract information, and a place to hold those to be tried for aiding the guerrillas.

A South African soldier confirmed that there is a detention center at Oshakati.

The priest, who asked not to be identified, said he had spoken to a woman who was arrested, blindfolded, and suspended by her wrists so her feet could not touch the ground. She was then beaten, he said.

He added that any cattle or people who stray into the free-fire zone are shot. A recent example, he said, was three young boys who were killed while cycling from Angola to Namibia.

Members of the Kwanyana tribe live on both sides of the border, and before the free-fire zone was declared there was a good deal of traffic between Namibia and Angola.

The civilian population is trapped between two antagonists: The South African troops and the guerrillas of the South West African People's Organization.

(A spokesman for Amnesty International said the human rights group had received persistent reports in recent years of the use of torture by South Africans in Namibia. The organization cabled South African Prime Minister John Vorster asking for an international inquiry into the charges.)

(A spokesman for the Namibian guerrilla group issued a statement in London saying SWAPO had received information from Namibia that South African forces had increased "their reign of terror against people suspected of harboring . . . guerrillas.")