Dear Fellow Members of the Coalition for the Liberation of S.A.,

On Sunday, August 15, the Philadelphia Coalition to Stop Rhodesian and South African Imports requested that the phone tree be alerted and an emergency meeting be held to discuss a proposal that we had drawn up. Some groups had yet to even see the proposal, and others, because of the lack of time were not going to be able to attend. The purpose of the meeting was to have an informal discussion of the proposal. We knew, that a full quorum would be impossible for such little notice, but we felt that a discussion on a national level might reap the benefit of a better proposal that could be made to the Coal. Because we knew that this body would have no official authority, we felt that we could invite other forces who had been active in the support movement for Southern African Liberation.

Invited were: All members of the Coal.; the Patrice Lumumba Coal.; the National Anti-Imperialist Movement for the Liberation of Southern Africa; El Comite; PSF; AFSC; Workers World Party; YAWF; San Francisco Bay Area Coalition; New Hampshire Coal; Alan Zaslavski, Boston; the Guardian; the National Conference of Black Lawyers; the Norfolk Black Military Resistance League; and Bob Van Lierop.

All of those contacted had less than 4 or 5 days notice. This necessarily led to a lack of attendance. In attendance was: Kevin Clark, AAMUSA; Vince Klingler, PCTSR&SAI; Chris Root, WOA; Paul Irish, ACFA; Bill Hohnston, ECSA; Alan Zaslavski, Boston; Bob Van Lierop and Bill Ryan, Guardian.

The following is the report from discussion of the participating members.

I. The Phila. proposal was discussed and a number of important points were made:

1) The proposal was too long and wordy and tended to be both unclear and vague in its specific implications. This created confusion and was therefore examined for the purpose of coming up with the essence of the proposal in a simple, comprehensible and manageable form.

2) All of the discussion of the political linking up of the struggle against racism here and in Southern Africa would have to be taken up on a local level and in a very specific way rather than attempting to designate National areas where this struggle should be taken up.

3) The main emphasis of all of our work should be local.

4) Given three very significant obstacles: 1) the political diversity of the groups who we would hope to work together in such a campaign; 2) the organizational, political and financial complexities that would be involved in creating a real national structure and organizational form, and 3) the lack of time to do this preparation work correctly especially given the experience of the July 4th Coalition and given the fact that September is already upon us; we concluded that it would be almost impossible to build the kind of nationally concerted campaign that was so imaginatively designed in the proposal.

5) Finally, the paper created confusion on whether we were
talking about an organizational form, or a programmatic focus. The title of the paper should have read Campaign rather than "Coalition". This would have lent the emphasis we had envisioned to local work that is necessary to pull off such an activity to begin with.

II Therefore, having discussed and concluded the above, the meeting agreed to propose the following:

1) A NATIONAL CALL
We propose that the Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa make a Nationwide CALL for mass Local Demonstrations in opposition to the racist policies of both Carter and Ford whenever either they, their running mates or their representatives (eg Kissinger) come to our cities. That we also demand full support to the liberation struggle from the American People.

2) LOCAL EMPHASIS
We propose that all the local organizations in the Coal initiate this action in their own communities.

3) COMMUNICATIONS
We propose that the WOA act as a center for national communications and that all leaflets produced in the local Coal be sent to it along with reports concerning local activities throughout the course of the Campaign. Then, the WOA would send out packets of this material to all members so that we can learn from each other's work as we go along.

4) RESOURCES
We propose that the WOA develop materials on Carter and Ford, their statements, positions and platforms such that they could be used by local groups
We propose that the movie "The People Organized" by Frelimo and Van Leiro be used by groups in the Coal. Scheduling details can be gotten from him at 240 E. 23 St, NY, NY 10010 (212-686-0394).

We propose that in order to find out when Carter or Ford will be coming to your town, send a student who would pose as an eager organizer for the candidate to one of the offices and let him or her do investigation. This was very effective last time around.

We propose that in order to pull off last minute demonstrations, local phone trees be developed at all educational and building events prior to the demo. These trees can be invaluable at later times also.

5) POLITICAL CONTENT
We propose that in the next few months we be on the lookout for the possibility that certain elements of Apartheid will surrendered, but that the system of racial, economic and political exploitation of the people of SA will continue. We should take care to focus on the system as a whole in all of our work.

We propose that we be particularly critical and harsh towards all "liberal solutions to the oppression of the Black people of SA: Bantusans, so-called Independence, etc.

We propose that the struggle against racism in our own communities be linked up to the fight for liberation in SA in concrete
ways in each city that takes up the call

We propose, that local Coal. develope slogans that address these general outlines and communicate them to the national mailing address (WOA)

****************************************

In thinking about this proposal, we would like you to think about the question of the development of the Coal. We feel that by taking this initiative, the Coal will enhance its own growth and will hasten the development of our movement in this country. As you can see, this is not as ambitious as was the Phila proposal, but the Philly people also agree with the general criticisms of its proposal.

Therefore, because this is a concrete proposal to the Coal, we ask that a vote be held by polling all members of the Coal. The most efficient way to do this is for all members to can in their response immediately.

Paul Irish will receive the responses for Chris while she is on vacation. Paul can be reached at 212-838-5030. A yes or no vote, with additions or subtractions to the enclosed draft of a call is crucial to our ability to pull this campaign off.

THEREFORE, WE ASK THAT ALL MEMBERS CALL PAUL WITH THEIR YES OR NO VOTE ON THE CALL NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

If, the majority of groups are in favor of the proposal contained here-in, then we will initiate the call.

Hoping it will be favorable, we anxiously await your response!

In Solidarity,

[Vince Klingler]
PCTSR&SAI
for those present

ps please excuse my dreadful typing

cc all present at meeting and all members of Coal