

Defend Mozambique - Defeat Apartheid



Soweto Day '90 Walkathon

June 16, 1990
Registration 9AM - Step Off 10AM
Charles A. Hayes Community Center
4859 S. Wabash, Chicago

Prayer Service

Preceding Walkathon 9-9:30AM
St. John Church Baptist
4835 S. Michigan, Chicago
Sponsored by Church World Service

Soweto Day Rally

Following Walkathon at 1 PM
Charles A. Hayes Community Center
4859 S. Wabash, Chicago
Sponsored by Illinois Labor Network Against Apartheid
Food and Drinks will be available at the Rally

(see story on page 2)

Chicago - Alexandra: Sister Communities

On Friday, April 6, Moses Mayekiso, General Secretary of the South African Metalworkers Union, was on the phone to Chicago's City Hall congratulating those who worked to make his home town, Alexandra, a "sister community" to Chicago. That morning, the Chicago City Council unanimously passed a resolution declaring the city's solidarity with the township of Alexandra and the Alexandra Civic Organization (ACO).

The resolution, introduced by Alderman Jesus Garcia, resolved that the Chicago City Council recognize the ACO as a legitimate repre-

sentative of the people of Alexandra; that Chicago and Alexandra be "sister communities"; and that Chicago urge the government of South Africa to recognize and negotiate with the ACO to solve the township's need for land and for affordable, decent, non-segregated housing. Co-sponsoring the resolution were Ald. Bobby Rush, Ald. David Orr and Ald. Danny Davis.

Joan Gerig of Synapses and other organizers of the Chicago-Alexandra Sister Community Project solicited a broad base of support for the resolution, and drew parallels between ACO's grassroots struggle and bat-

ties in Chicago for fairness and community control over decisions which impact on neighborhoods. Over 30 schools, churches and other local organizations have officially endorsed the project.

On April 3, the Chicago City Council's Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs, chaired by Ald. Roman Pucinski, held hearings on the unusual resolution. Representatives of Synapses and other religious groups, CCISSA, the Mozambique Support Network, TransAfrica and organized labor

(continued on page 4)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Basil Clunie, Joan Gerig, Cheryl Harris, Judy Hatcher, Toni Moore, Alice Palmer, Zeva Schub, Lucille Teichert, Carol Thompson, Rev. Booker Vance

Defend Mozambique - Defeat Apartheid

Join the Soweto Day 1990 Walkathon

On June 16, 1976, 20,000 students in Soweto South Africa marched to protest the use of Afrikaans as the medium of instruction in their schools. These students were inspired by the 1975 liberation of Mozambique from Portuguese rule.

Little did those students or their brothers and sisters in Mozambique realize what lay ahead for them at the hands of the apartheid regime.

The June 16th demonstration was met with violent police action. Over 1000 children ranging in age from 6 to 20 were killed or wounded; many were shot in the back as they ran to avoid the conflict. Out of this terrible massacre at Soweto came a new resolve of the South African people to free themselves from apartheid. Thousands of young people left South Africa to join the ranks of the ANC. June 16 became a day of commemoration throughout the anti-apartheid community in honor of the courageous students who gave their lives in the struggle for freedom.

In Mozambique, the triumph of independence which inspired the students at Soweto was soon soured by the terrorist destabilization caused by the Mozambique National Resistance (RENAMO). RENAMO was first directed and funded by

the white colonialist government of Rhodesia in an attempt to thwart liberation forces in its own war of independence. Since the 1980 liberation of Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), support for RENAMO has been taken over by the South African government. South Africa's motives have been to keep Mozambique from being used as a base for anti-apartheid forces as well as to maintain South Africa's economic stranglehold on this newly independent nation. South Africa's war against Mozambique was to be an example to the oppressed of South Africa as well as the other frontline states of what was in store for those who challenged South Africa's white minority control.

In the past 13 years of terrorism, RENAMO has killed over 100,000 people, many of them young children, created one million refugees and threatened five million with starvation. RENAMO tactics often involve random, brutal attacks aimed at destroying Mozambique's infrastructure as well as demoralizing survivors. Schools, hospitals, factories and farms have been targets of terrorist attacks destroying Mozambique's fragile post-colonial economy. Attacks on individuals

Mozambique. Learn More About It Become Involved!

Community Forum

Featuring: Lisa January
National Coordinator of the
Mozambique Support Network

Saturday, May 26 5-8PM
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
8500 S. Maryland, Chicago

For more information call
Rev. Booker Vance 312-994-2700

often include mutilation, murder and rape of victims in front of their children and other family members. Men, women and children are frequently kidnapped and forced into service of RENAMO. Babies too young to be useful are killed or left behind. RENAMO has no consistent political philosophy or organization. The rebels are known in Mozambique as "bandits".

And yet, in spite of South Africa's attempts to destroy their country, Mozambicans have not lost their resolve to remain a free and independent nation. The Mozambique government, led since independence

(continued on page 6)



Since 1982, South Africa's war has cost Mozambique

- 100,000 lives - as a direct result of RENAMO activity
One Mozambican child dies every four minutes.
- 100,00 lives in famine of 1983-84 due to drought and war
- 25% of the population forced to become refugees
- 400 teachers assassinated, kidnapped or mutilated. 36% of schools destroyed or forced to close causing 25% attendance loss.
- \$6,000 million - twice the country's foreign debt and 60 times the value of 1987 exports in material damage.
- 31% of health post destroyed with a loss of health care to 2 million people.

Freedom Looming on the Horizon

by Molefe Tsele

"The sight of freedom looming on the horizon should encourage us to double our efforts...We call on the international community to continue the campaign to isolate the apartheid regime. To lift sanctions now would be to run the risk of aborting the process towards the complete eradication of apartheid. Our march to freedom is irreversible." Nelson Mandela February 11th, 1990

Most of us must have been overwhelmed with the excitement surrounding Mr. Mandela's release that his sober plea against the continuing cruelty of apartheid must have gone unheeded. Of course we must be pardoned that oversight because we could not help but celebrate this single important victory against apartheid. Moreover, most of us had campaigned tirelessly for the freedom of Mandela, that it was only fitting that we should indulge in self congratulations for this major victory. However, the spell must now be broken and we should come to terms with the reality of the apartheid situation and brace ourselves for the greater task that lies ahead. In this article I hope to raise some of these challenging tasks that lie ahead especially in view of the new political reality inside the country, namely, that the African National Congress is alive and operating inside the country with stalwarts like Mandela and Sisulu at its helm.

Bogus Signals

First it is important to expose the true intentions of the deKlerk regime with its rhetoric about negotiations and power sharing. There is no doubt that the deKlerk regime was caving in under the international pressure and the mass defiance actions inside the country. To ward off such pressure they had to send extraordinarily positive signals to the international community in

particular, and hence the unbanning of the ANC and the Release of Mandela. Unlike those who are ready to pronounce deKlerk the Great reformer and a statesman, we must be reminded that there is nothing that deKlerk has done which was not in fact a reality inside the country. Certainly since the release of Comrade Sisulu and others and especially since their welcome celebration, the ANC was for all intent and purposes unbanned. And the same can be said of Mandela that he had long negotiated his own release, that he was really holding his prison keys in his own hand. All that deKlerk had to do was to legalise what was already a reality. Contrary to those who claim that Deklerk is on the way of eliminating apartheid, one need only take a look at his track record even as he preaches the doom of apartheid.

- He has consistently refused to open empty white schools in spite of the crisis in black education arising from a shortage of facilities.
- He has refused to appoint an independent commission of inquiry to investigate alleged Police Death Squads, thus continuing to cover up for the killing machine of apartheid
- He has refused to grant amnesty to political prisoners and those on the Death Row;
- He continues to state as his firm policy that one - person - one vote principle as demanded by democratic rule, is out of question.

It is clear for all who want to see that deKlerk is acting for the international community and not ready nor willing to negotiate a new South Africa, unitary, undivided, and non-racial country. It is unfortunate that the American media and public has allowed itself to be misled. One can only see the evidence of this misinformation in the total silence in the media about the the police who con-



Nelson Mandela

tinue to shoot defenseless protesters. We have not heard any indication from Washington that in view of the continuing police brutality and killings, they will consider increasing sanctions.

Apartheid is still a reality

Mr. Mandela, even as he continued to commit the ANC to the path of negotiations, is well aware that apartheid is still a reality. He argued that the factors that necessitated armed struggle, namely police hostility, still exist. Moreover he reminded us that the conditions that led to his historic Rivonia trial speech are still as true and thus nothing that he said at that time is outdated. The reality is that a lot remains unchanged in South Africa today.

- Many contract workers continue to be exploited and to stay away from their families as a result of the cruel migratory labour system;
- Many residents continue to pay exorbitant rates to corrupt community councillors;
- Many people remain homeless in spite of the fact that houses in white areas are unoccupied;
- Many students continue to suffer the inferior Bantu Education policies and therefore drop out of school without skills or careers.

(continued on page 4)

Freedom Looming

(continued from page 3)

The list of things that remain unchanged is endless and this should caution those who are tempted to follow the false prophets who preach that deKlerk be given a chance.

Enormous task ahead

We should be impatient with apartheid and never relent until we have truly eradicated it. We have waited too long for freedom and suffered too long under apartheid. We cannot afford the luxury of time especially at a time when people continue to suffer under the policies of apartheid. Urgent attention must be given to the reporting of events in the country, to the extent that these may be intended to enhance the role of the deKlerk regime, in the run down to a post apartheid South Africa.

The following issues become burning grievances and must receive our support.

- The call in the townships, which are still administered by the unpopular community councils, is for "One City-One Council". This means apartheid cities must be abolished.
- The "All Schools for All People" campaign aims at removing apartheid in education by the opening of education facilities to all South Africans.
- The campaign for the ending of apartheid in social services like pension funds and the demand for health for all whereby the hospitals will be opened for all patients disregard their race.
- The "One Country - One People" campaign is aimed at dismantling apartheid homeland systems by creating a unitary state with no ethnic or group enclaves. It is in this context that the people in the homelands are presently waging a fierce struggle against homeland governments so that the future of South Africa can be negotiated by all South Africans.
- The call for the ending of the State

of Emergency is central to any meaningful negotiations that are expected to commence.

- The prisoners of apartheid who continue to languish in jails need to be freed and this not only refers to political prisoners but to all convicts whose crime cannot be separated from the reality of apartheid life in terms of its onslaught on normal family life and upbringing.
- And lastly, the question of the restoration of the land rights of the African masses who were dispossessed of their land under apartheid policies that reserved 87% of the land for occupation by the white minority who constitute 14% of the population.

It is a matter of both economic justice and political rights that this issue receive urgent attention and that those who benefitted from apartheid's inhuman laws bear the task of redressing the poverty and suffering created by apartheid.

All this should serve as caution to us to realise that in as much as the release of Mr. Mandela and the unbanning of the ANC are positive events and have advanced our struggle to greater heights, we need to realize that more remains to be done. The time has come when we must redouble our efforts and strengthen our campaign for the total isolation of the Pretoria regime. And we must not let go of the pressure until apartheid has been totally obliterated in all areas of the South African life. And it is the oppressed masses themselves through their representative organizations and leaders who will tell us when the time to let go the pressure has arrived.

Molefe Tsele was formerly the Secretary of the Education Crisis Committee in South Africa. He is currently a student at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago.

Sister Communities

(continued from page 1)

spoke forcefully in favor of the resolution

"The City Council can play a positive role in helping the democratic forces of South Africa by endorsing the Sister Community Project," testified Carl Shier, representing the United Auto Workers. "By doing this, they can protect the leaders of ACO from deportation and loss of citizenship, and fight the bulldozing of communities that would mean that the people would be transported to Bantustan areas."

A number of individuals also urged the Aldermen to support the resolution. The most moving testimony was delivered by Rev. Zolani Ngwane, a former resident of Alexandra, who is attending the Chicago Theological Seminary. Ngwane, speaking for "the dreams and aspirations of the people of South Africa", described life under apartheid, and life in crowded urban townships like Alexandra. Ngwane explained the role of groups like ACO in the fight for democracy, by establishing community-based schools, government and other alternatives to the current regime.

The Intergovernmental Affairs Committee passed the resolution with no opposition, and forwarded it on to the next City Council meeting.

Just before the full Council convened on April 6, Mayekiso, who is also chairperson of ACO, participated by phone hookup in a press conference near the Council Chambers. And in a written statement, Mayekiso said, "Forward to a good future, strengthened by the relationship that will develop between the City of Chicago and the township of Alexandra."

The next step for the Chicago Sister Community Project will be to put the resolution into practice. Plans include educational efforts, letter-writing campaigns, financial support and other concrete expressions of solidarity. The committee needs more support from CCISSA members. For more information on how to get involved, contact Mark Weber at 312-427-4351, or CCISSA.

CCISSA Celebrates Mandela's Release



Chicagoans demonstrated one last time for the release of Nelson Mandela on February 2 when South African President deKlerk failed to announce the date of Mandela's release.

CCISSA finally celebrated Mandel's release on February 24 at Malcolm X College in Chicago where over 500 people enjoyed wonderful food and music. The celebration was a time of solidarity and recommitment to the struggle against apartheid until one person – one vote is won for all South Africans.

Thanks to all who contributed to making the celebration a success. A special thanks to Ms. Harriet Parker, Guild Books and Kuumba Theater for donating door prizes.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOAN GERIG

Nesbitt Outlines Action Agenda

Prexy Nesbitt, longtime Chicago anti-apartheid activist, currently working as a consultant to the Mozambique government, has summarized legislation and issues pending in the U.S. Congress that deserve our attention and support:

- ANGOLA: Support Wolpe Bill - HR 203 which calls for U.S. recognition of Angola; oppose continued aid to Savimbi and UNITA; support reconstruction aid and open trade for Angola.
- MOZAMBIQUE: Urge the U.S. government to provide non-lethal military aid for protection of civilians as well as reconstruction and capital development assistance to Mozambique; urge Bush administration to pressure RENAMO to engage in talks.

(continued on page 8)

Remember to Watch **SOUTH AFRICA NOW**

**Sundays at 10:30 AM
Channel 11 WTTW Chicago**

"South Africa Now," the weekly television news program on southern Africa affairs, is reaching a growing audience both here and outside the United States. The program produced a documentary on Nelson Mandela for PBS which was seen by 11 million people. Special editions of the show were seen in

Finland and Spain.

The show also continues to receive positive reviews from news critics and from its peers in the TV news business for its consistent in-depth coverage of issues which often do not get picked up by the major networks. The program is a project of the Africa Fund.

Soweto Day Walkathon (continued from page 2)

by the Frelimo Party, has battled South Africa and RENAMO militarily and diplomatically. The Mozambican people through their churches and other organizations have struggled to deal with the tragic results of RENAMO's terrorism.

The Soweto Day 1990 Walkathon will raise funds to assist two of these organizations in their efforts to rebuild Mozambique:

- The Christian Council of Mozambique (CCM) helps to meet the emergency needs of Mozambicans by providing seeds, tools, household implements, clothing, blankets and medicine to some of the people displaced by the war. CCM's rehabilitation efforts include developing agricultural and water resources, rebuilding medical clinics, developing primary health care programs, building schools and developing training programs to support long term development goals. CCM supports the Mozambican economy by purchasing materials and emergency supplies within the country when possible.
- The Organization of Mozambican Women (OMM) conducts production, health care and education programs with the full participation of women. The OMM promotes maternal and child health programs, conducts literacy campaigns and organizes the building of temporary housing for people displaced from their land. OMM has been instrumental in developing programs to help children traumatized by the war. OMM has always prioritized the economic participation of women and has organized a variety of programs including agricultural, sewing and brickmaking cooperatives and bakeries to help women develop the skills and independence essential to their full and equal participation in the new Mozambican society.

Last year's Soweto Day

Walkathon, which was sponsored by CCISSA and Church World Service, raised \$12,000 to aid detainees and their families inside South Africa. This year, joined by the Mozambique Support Network, we hope to raise even more to aid victims of South Africa's war against Mozambique. Walkathon pledge forms are available through any of the sponsoring organizations. If you cannot participate in the Walkathon, please make a contribution by mail using the clip-off form on page 8 of this newsletter.

However, we encourage you all to attend the Walkathon on June 16th. Last year's walkers really enjoyed the South side route and the fine company of a wide variety of city and suburban participants from churches, labor unions, peace and justice groups and civic and community organizations.

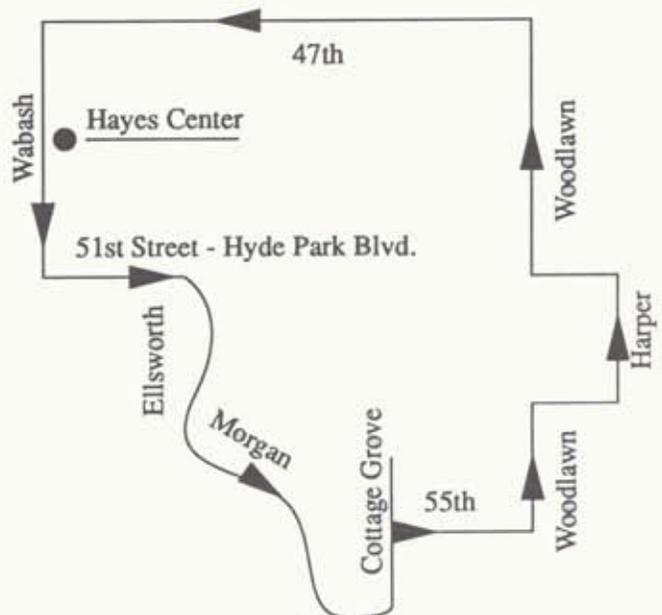
Again this year the Soweto Day Walkathon will begin and end at the Charles Hayes Community Center at 4859 S. Wabash in Chicago. This year's route will be slightly different but will again include a variety of South Side neighborhoods (see map).

This year the Walkathon will be preceded by a Prayer Service at St. John Church Baptist at 4835 S. Michigan from 9 - 9:30 AM. The Prayer Service will be sponsored by Church World Service.

Once again, the Walkathon will be followed by a 1 PM Rally sponsored by the Illinois Labor Network Against Apartheid at the Hayes Community Center. Food and beverages will be available for a reasonable price at the Rally.

Walkathon Map

Total Distance ~10 Kilometers (6.2 Miles)



Join us for this important event! Heed the call of Nelson Mandela and the ANC to redouble our efforts until apartheid is completely abolished - freeing not only South Africa's majority population but also the Southern Africa region from apartheid's stranglehold. Commemorate Soweto Day by participating in the 1990 Walkathon.

Dr. Rubin Leaves for Mozambique

Former CCISSA chairperson Rachel Rubin has recently left Chicago for a year of medical practice in Mozambique. Dr. Rubin will be working as the District Medical Officer for the Development and Health Project for the District of Manica. This project is a joint effort of the Seattle-based Mozambique Health Committee and the Mozambique Ministry of Health. Besides providing medical services at the District hospital in Manica, Dr. Rubin will be responsible for the training and supervision of village health workers throughout the district.

South African Student Organization Formed

South African students across the U.S. have come together to form SAISCO - the South African International Students Congress. The primary purpose of SAISCO is to keep South African students who are studying here in touch with each other and with the Mass Democratic Movement and the African National Congress in South Africa. SAISCO members will also initiate material aid projects to improve educational opportunities in South Africa.

SAISCO members meet regularly to discuss developments in South Africa and to study papers and documents of the struggle for democracy in order to be able to participate fully once they return to South Africa. SAISCO also reaches out to

students who may not have been politically active in South Africa and engages them in consciousness raising dialogue. SAISCO will serve as a support system for students grappling with the difficulties and instability of study abroad.

SAISCO will be officially launched at an August 1990 National Conference at Michigan State University. However, regional chapters have already been formed on the East coast, in California and here in the Midwest. A campaign to send textbooks to South Africa has already begun. CCISSA will provide some initial technical support to SAISCO and we are committed to establishing a close ongoing relationship with this exciting new organization.

Support the SAISCO Book Drive

One of SAISCO's goals in 1990 is to start a project that will improve education in the black communities of South Africa. In South Africa, Black people belong to the BANTU EDUCATION system. The system is inferior and wanting in many respects. For example, the teacher-pupil ratio is 1:80 in the rural area and 1:46 in the metropolitan area as compared to 1:12 in the white education system. The government spends 9 times as much on education for a white child as for a black child. Library facilities in the rural areas do not exist. Most of the teachers in Black schools are under qualified.

The pass rate for matric examination for 1989 was 34% in Black schools as compared to 97% in white schools. The situation needs a lot of improvement. The South African government refuses to integrate the school system.

As one way of improving education, SAISCO had initiated the building of community libraries.

SAISCO is collecting books in the USA to be used in these libraries. 3000 books have already been shipped to South Africa by individual donors. You can contribute to this project by sending your used books directly to South Africa. Due to logistical and financial constraints, SAISCO is not able to collect books here and requests that you ship them directly to South

Africa where they will be sorted and distributed to community libraries. The books can be sent through M-bag post office rate special for printed materials.

SAISCO believes that the improvement of education is an important part of building toward peace and freedom in South Africa. CCISSA urges you to join them in their efforts!

SEND YOUR USED BOOKS TO:
Rev. Zwo Nevhutalu
P.O. Box 862
Louis Trichardt. 0920
South Africa



Chicago Sanctions Hearing May 18

The Chicago City Council Finance Committee has scheduled a public hearing to evaluate existing Chicago city sanctions against South Africa and to consider the strengthening of these sanctions. The hearing will take place on Friday, May 18 at 10 AM in the Chicago City Council Chambers at City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle Street.

The resolution to evaluate Chicago's policy was introduced by Alderman Helen Shiller earlier this year along with a second resolution urging the U.S. Congress to increase Federal sanctions against South Africa. This second resolution was passed by the City Council on February 28 following a hearing before the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs.

ALL CCISSA MEMBERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND THIS HEARING AND TO TESTIFY TO THE NEED FOR INCREASED SANCTIONS UNTIL ONE PERSON - ONE VOTE IS THE RULE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

For more information contact CCISSA at 312-427-9868 or Alderman Shiller's office at 312-878-4646.



What is CCISSA ?

CCISSA seeks to increase public awareness of the situation in southern Africa in order to mobilize support for the struggle against apartheid. CCISSA members operate an educational resource center stocking pamphlets, books and videos, provide speakers on anti-apartheid issues, participate in public forums and present educational programs. CCISSA supports demonstrations, letter writing and material aid campaigns which not only protest against apartheid but also build support for liberation movements throughout southern Africa.

Action Agenda *(continued from page 5)*

- NAMIBIA: Support House Bills HR 4404 and HR4445 which call for increased monetary aid to Namibia.
- SOUTH AFRICA: Support S507 - the Dellums-Simon Comprehensive Sanctions bill which would strengthen existing sanctions against South Africa; contest the idea that apartheid is reforming as a result of deKlerk's actions; support aid to the African National Congress and/or the Mass Democratic Movement inside South Africa.
- AFRICA - GENERAL: Support HR 4443 - the Mickey Leland Africa-Caribbean Development Act

which would increase U.S. aid to Africa to \$1 billion.

CCISSA urges you to contact your representatives in support of these measures intended to bring an end to apartheid and a beginning to security and self-determination for all of southern Africa.

Senator Paul Simon
230 S. Dearborn Suite 3892
Chicago, IL 60604 312-353-4952

Senator Alan Dixon
230 S. Dearborn
Chicago, IL 60604 312-353-5420

Mozambique Support Network

343 S. Dearborn Suite 314
Chicago, IL 60604

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CCISSA needs your support and involvement. Please be generous! Thank you in advance for your support of our mutual struggle to end apartheid.

PLEASE RETURN TO CCISSA, 343 S. DEARBORN, #918, CHICAGO, IL 60604

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

_____ Enclosed is my check for
CCISSA membership \$10.00
_____ Additional contribution
to CCISSA enclosed.

I WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED IN:
_____ CCISSA educational work
_____ Sister Community Project
_____ Soweto Day Walkathon

_____ I would like to join the AMANDLA Club
contribution enclosed _____
pledge per month. _____

_____ Enclosed is my Walkathon contribution