On September 26, 1992, CD-CAAR members Vera Michelson and Eileen Kawola presented a slide show and question and answer session to a gathering of about 150 people at the Albany Public Library on the topic "Apartheid is not dead" where they discussed the violence in Southern Africa and the long term effects of apartheid on other countries in the region, especially in Mozambique and Namibia. In July of '92 Michelson and Kawola visited Southern Africa and the slide show is based on things they saw and people they talked to while there. An article on Southern Africa and some of their experiences there appeared in the October 15th edition of Metroland and is reprinted in this newsletter. The November event, outlined above and in a flyer in this newsletter, will offer a further chance to gain information and understanding about what is happening in Southern Africa from two nationally recognized experts.

(Note: Instead of monthly meetings, CD-CAAR will offer bi-monthly programs this year aimed at reaching a broader base of community people. Regular CD-CAAR business will be conducted by subcommittees which meet on a monthly basis. If you are interested in working with a subcommittee on Southern Africa or racism issues, call 436-0562).

Oversight: The editor apologizes for an oversight in the mailing and flyer which announced the September program. The book by CD-CAAR member, Iris Berger, entitled Threads of Solidarity - Women in South African Industry, 1900-1980, is available at the Boulevard Book Store, 15 Central Avenue, Albany, N.Y.
SAFE

CD-CAAR members Merton Simpson, Mark Mishler and Gail Byrnes are working with the SAFE (Safety, Accountability and Fair Enforcement) Coalition which has been organized by the Capital Region Chapter of the NYCLU. The aim of the coalition is to promote police accountability in the City of Albany by creating an effective, independent investigation and review process for allegations of police misconduct. The group plans a long term campaign to implement a permanent, autonomous body to:

* receive complaints against individual police officers...
* employ independent investigators - with no allegiance to the police...
* have power to issue subpoenas to compel testimony and the production of documents...
* hold hearings with procedural safeguards...
* determine discipline for police officers found responsible for misconduct...
* reinstate community confidence in the police department.

The group maintains that police accountability to the public is sacrificed when police are put in the position of policing themselves through internal review of police misconduct.

For more information call 436-8594.

CAARV

Merton Simpson, CD-CAAR Co-chair, and Deborah Williams-Muhammad are the Co-Coordinates of a Center for Law and Justice* program, CAARV (Capital District Community Action Against Racism and Violence). This coalition, born out of community outrage over the Rodney King decision, seeks to put anti-racist activism on the criminal justice agenda and to give a voice to community people.

CAARV projects include: Youth Violence Prevention; Criminal Justice Sensitivity Training; Child Care in the Courts; Court Monitoring; and studies of alternatives to incarceration programs, jury selection; and community/policing relations. Volunteers are still needed to work on these and other projects. As Deborah Williams-Muhammad said at one of CAARV’s general meetings, "There are things that we can all do. If we want to see a change we must become change agents."

*The Center for Law and Justice, Inc., headed by Alice Green, is a non-profit community based criminal justice program funded in 1985 to effectively address discriminatory treatment of poor people, people of color, and other powerless groups. The Center sees to involve a diverse community population in working for change in criminal justice policy.

This Fall, a new publication was introduced to the Capital District Community. "The Advocate," the official newsletter of the Center for Law and Justice will be published quarterly and will deal with a variety of criminal justice issues for the purpose of informing and educating. To contribute articles or other materials to "The Advocate," please submit to: Editor, "The Advocate; The Center for Law and Justice; Pine West Plaza #2; Washington Ave. Ext. Albany, N.Y.12205

Mozambique

The CD-CAAR members Merton Simpson, Mark Mishler and Gail Byrnes are working with the Federation of the African Teachers Organization for Eileen Kawola, CD-CAAR member, and requesting a letter of support for the group, a letter and funds to help the Federation of the African Teachers Organization in Mozambique.

Upon return from Pittsburg, where they passed the second convention Pittsburg August 8-9, holding of demonstration for humanitarian aid in Mozambique. It was the AFT President A. Flaherty with his pressing to stand against conditions in Mozambique. II

South Africa

At the June 1990 meeting of the Africa Fund of the Committee of CD-CAAR, we discussed what is behind the "Apartheid is not destruction of anti-racist activists.

While in South Africa, we speak to people who have been destroyed by Inkat." We are interested groups.

We have released Correspondence No. 1, "Hlatshwayo Madoda's "We shall...)
Mozambique Work - Update...

The CD-CAAR Mozambique Support Committee congratulates Bill Ritchie, CD-CAAR member and Vice President of the Albany Public School Teachers Association, for the wonderful work he has been doing for Mozambique. At the June meeting of APSTA he arranged for Eileen Kawola, CD-CAAR member and also an Albany public school teacher to speak to the Albany building representatives at a meeting, informing them of her trip to Mozambique, requesting a letter of greeting to the teachers of Mozambique and a token gift. As a result of her report, a letter and 1,000 pencils were given to Kawola to take on the trip. (He also arranged for Kawola to receive letters of greeting to Mozambican trade unionists from the Central Labor Federation of the AFL-CIO and the Solidarity Committee of the Capital District.)

Upon return, Ritchie also arranged for her to give a report on her meetings with members of the Teachers Organization of Mozambique and on a visit with teachers and school children at a school for children dislocated by the war.

Also in June, Ritchie presented the APSTA Advisory Council with a resolution which they passed, entitled "Mozambique Support," for presentation at the seventy-second convention of the American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO), held in Pittsburg August 11-15. The resolution supported the ending of violence and the holding of democratic elections with international observers, an increase in humanitarian aid and it expressed solidarity with teacher unionists in Mozambique. It was passed by the body. This resolution has been signed by AFT President Albert Shanker and sent to both Executive and Legislative branches of the U.S. government. Ritchie is continuing to do Mozambique work, along with his pressing teaching and union duties, by publishing facts in the APSTA newsletter about conditions in Mozambique and seeking support for the Mocatini School project. (The CD-CAAR plan to help this school, the Mocatini School Project, is described elsewhere in this newsletter)

South Africa - Stop the Violence Update...

At the June meeting of CD-CAAR a video entitled "Stop the Violence," produced by the Africa Fund of the American Committee on Africa was shown. The Stop the Violence Committee of CD-CAAR has made the video and speakers available to the community to explain what is behind the violence in South Africa.

While in South Africa this past summer, CD-CAAR member Vera Michelson was able to speak to people who have been affected by the violence and witness some of homes that have been destroyed by Inkatha in Soweto and Inanda Newtowm townships. A slide show entitled "Apartheid is not dead" and the "Stop the Violence" video are available, along with speakers, to interested groups. For more information, call 436-0562.

We have reprinted in this newsletter a copy of an address given to the Committees of Correspondence National Convention held in Berkely, California, July 17-19, 1992 by Hlatshwayo Madoda, Deputy Head of the African National Congress mission to the United States. Madoda's "We shall end minority rule and apartheid in any guise" addresses the question of "who is behind the violence in South Africa?"
Two Capital Region activists report on the continuing struggle against apartheid

The bride wore white. The groom, in an elegant black tuxedo, was well-dressed too. And the sun reflected brightly off the bridesmaids' purple satin dresses.

For Vera Michelson and Eileen C. Kawola, it was a joyous, if incongruous, moment during a remarkable July fact-finding trip to southern Africa. During their monthlong visit, the two activists from the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism traveled to Mozambique, South Africa and Namibia. They visited squatter camps and tribal homelands, saw elegant cities hard by grinding poverty. They caught up with old friends who had spent years in exile and welcomed political prisoners who had just been released from jail.

But for all that, there was something special about the invitation to join a wedding party in Ovamboland, an eight-hour drive north from Windhoek, Namibia's capital city. The groom was a cousin of Helmut Angula, Namibia's Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources. Like many other southern Africans Michelson and Kawola visited, Angula was an old friend. While an exiled official of the South West Africa People's Organization, he came to Albany to rally support for his nation's independence fight against South Africa's apartheid government.

"It's a great honor to be invited to an African family's wedding," says Prexy Nesbitt, founder and executive director of the Mozambique Solidarity Office. Nesbitt, an African-American who lives in Chicago, helped organize the trip and traveled with Michelson and Kawola in Mozambique and Namibia. Nesbitt was making his 37th visit to the region.
One of the exciting things to me was to watch the kind of international link that exists because people in Albany showed hospitality and support to people from Namibia and South Africa for so many years," Nesbitt says, "and to see the joy with which people received Vera and Eileen." Namibia, where the activists spent seven days, is on Africa's west coast between South Africa and Angola. It was a South African colony until 1989.

"The wedding was a combination of customs," Michelson recalls. The bride and groom dressed in their best Western, but many of the guests wore traditional clothes. It was a Christian ceremony, performed outside a small church. Afterward, women in traditional dress led the procession across the dry, Namibian desert to the bride's kraal, the enclosed family compound typical of rural southern Africa. There the couple received gifts and congratulations before setting off on a 10-mile journey to the groom's home, which, in accordance with tradition, the bride had never seen.

On their long drive across the dry landscape, which is currently facing the worst drought in years, Michelson and Kawola saw the efforts Namibians must make to survive. "We saw water holes that are drying up, and we saw people walking for miles looking for water and tending cattle," Michelson says. "We sometimes saw people having to get water from the same water hole the cattle were drinking from."

Back in Windhoek, which has the flavor and style of a modern European city, the activists visited Katutura, a black township on the outskirts of town. "It was as oppressive as any township or squatter camp we saw in South Africa," Kawola recalls. "After two years of independence, why does this still exist?" Michelson asks rhetorically.

National elections were held in 1990, she explains, with SWAPO the winner. But the town has yet to hold local elections. So, much of country is still under the control of the same government and civil service that ruled during colonial days. As part of the United Nations-negotiated agreement that led to South Africa's withdrawal from Namibia, the country's whites will retain their government jobs for life. And South Africa still controls Walvis Bay, the country's main South Atlantic port.

So SWAPO looks to the future. "They are focused on educating the young people to expect their new constitutional rights," Michelson says. The youth will have learn to claim all the rights their parents fought for.

The travelers began their African jounry July 2 in Johannesburg, South Africa's largest city, but left almost immediately for Mozambique.

"Enjoy your visit, or whatever you're doing," the pilot said ominously as the commercial airliner descended to land at the airport in Mozambique's capital, Maputo. The country, which won its independence 17 years ago, has been devastated by war and internal political conflict.

Like Nicaragua's Sandinistas, whose dreams for independence were crushed by war with the U.S.-backed contras, the Mozambique Liberation Front, known as FRELIMO, had to defer its vision while it fought a civil war against South African-backed rebels. In 1975, along with Angola and Guinea Bissau, Mozambique won its freedom from Portugal. In the early years after independence, FRELIMO, left with a bankrupt government by the fleeing Portuguese, set out to bring education to a population that was 93 percent illiterate. The country's 1,300 public schools soon grew to some 7,600.

"Mozambique had this wonderful socialist dream," says Kawola, "which got crushed by the South Africans and anyone in the world community who didn't want to see it exist."

Today, after a decade of civil war with a South Africa-backed group called the Mozambique Resistance Movement (RENAMO), there are fewer than 600 schools left. The country, like Somalia and Namibia, is gripped by the worst drought of the century. Without help, millions more lives will be lost.

"The drought in Somalia and Mozambique is not the result of God, African personality traits or accident," says Nesbitt. "It's the product of specific policies and practices that have left Africa unable to cope. The Mozambican drought and famine would be manageable if not for the war with South Africa."

Mozambique was once one of the most productive agricultural regions in all of central and southern Africa. Now it's not only the poorest, but the most foreign-aid dependent country in the world. It is deep in debt to the United States, Italy, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. "One of the things we are pressing for now is forgiveness of debts," says Nesbitt. "Mozambique will be paying until 2085 on just the interest of its World Bank loans."

Author Joseph Hanlon, in Mozambique: Who Calls the Shots?, his landmark study of foreign aid, says that the West's largesse has been used to "subjugate Mozambique to its pre-1975 status." Donors insist on setting up their own channels for administering the aid, circumventing existing government structures, "thereby lowering the confidence, responsibility and sovereignty of the Mozambican government."

"What struck me in Maputo," recalls Kawola, "is that two blocks away from downtown, you see a squatters' settlement being set up. There are people all over selling whatever they can to get some money: charcoal, a couple of oranges."

Meanwhile, the country's former exploiters are coming back. For example, in Maputo, FRELIMO had to sell its future party headquarters, a former hotel, to South African businessmen. And most of the waterfront property along the city's Indian Ocean coastline has been bought by South Africans or Portuguese.

"Now the people who destroyed it are back reaping the benefits," says Kawola.

"Our most chilling memory, the one that will never go away," says Kawola, came the afternoon the three activists met with six ragged teenage boys who had been forced to serve with RENAMO, the Mozambique Resistance Movement. "The atrocities these children had seen or even committed were told in their eyes—eyes so sad and devoid of feeling."

RENAMO was created by the Rhodesian intelligence agency to patrol and harass Mozambique's borders when Rhodesia's white government was trying to defeat its own liberation movement. Rhodesia failed, and today the country is called Zimbabwe. But the South African Defense Force took over RENAMO, with the goal of using it to destroy independent Mozambique.

The organization became a darling of right-wingers in the United States, too, who saw it as a vehicle to disrupt another socialist experiment. In that, it has succeeded. But RENAMO has fought one of the most violent wars in modern history, killing and torturing more than a million of its fellow citizens. Nesbitt calls it "a war of mutilation." Teachers and rural medical workers are favorite targets.

RENAMO also has become known for taking young boys, like the six who spoke with Kawola and had been recaptured by the Mozambican military, and forcing them into service. Sometimes, the boys are made to commit an atrocity against their family or village to ensure that their home ties will be severed.

"We asked them what they would like to do now," says Kawola. "They answered that they would like to go to school and be reunited with their families." But one of the boys isn't welcome at home. He had been forced to tell RENAMO where his mother was hiding. They found her and she was abducted. She survived, but is afraid that if her son comes home, she will be kidnapped again. Another of the boys admitted that he had once killed someone with a machete.

"I wanted to ask hard questions about how they felt," says Kawola. But they looked so wounded, she didn't have the heart. "I never asked, did you do something to your family?"

But Kawola did ask if they were ever afraid. Zamito, one of the boys, answered that he had been "immunized" against fear. "He told us that the boys would take
razer blades, slice a cut in their legs, and put some kind of powder they were given into the open wound. When the sore healed over, they would prick the scar with a pin whenever they felt fear—or hunger or cold—and those feelings would go away," Zamito couldn't say what type of powder, or drug, it was.

"Those kids, who should be going to school and playing with their friends, were learning how to terrorize and kill," says Kawola, an Albany public school teacher. The boys have been reclaimed, she says, "but their childhoods are long gone."

Other Mozambican children have been relatively fortunate. On a visit to the Ricatla region outside Maputo, Michelson and Kawola visited the Mocatina Primary School, where some 600 children, about 200 of them orphans, are taught by nine teachers earning the equivalent of $25 a month. It's a school without walls, since RENAMO would destroy it. The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism plans to begin a fund-raising project for the school.

Nesbitt, back in Chicago, reflected on the recent U.N. decision to consider war-crimes trials for those who commit atrocities in the name of "ethnic cleansing" in the former Yugoslavia. "Why can't they put on trial those who have been responsible for the killing of over 1 million people in Mozambique?" he asked bitterly. "Kill a bunch of white folks in Europe, it's like playing with fire. Kill some black folks in Africa, it's like swatting flies."

After five days in Mozambique, Michelson, Kawola and Nesbitt flew back to South Africa. "I just sat on the plane and quietly cried," says Kawola. "And we certainly didn't see the worst of Mozambique."

Over the years, Soweto, the community of 3 million black South Africans near Johannesburg, has become synonymous with apartheid.

"There's a clear division," says Kawola. "Johannesburg is a big, industrial city. And then you drive 10 miles, and you see a green highway sign that says Soweto, and the grass is all gone. It's dirt all over."

During a tour of the township, the women saw two funeral processions within a half-hour. Even though the South African government has legalized the African National Congress and released the organization's president, Nelson Mandela, from jail, violence is still a fact of life in the country's black townships, squatter camps and workers' hostels. Townships like Soweto were created to be reservoirs of cheap black labor to serve the white cities.

Then Michelson and Kawola went to visit Albertina "Mama" Sisulu, a heroic figure in the anti-apartheid struggle and the wife of Walter Sisulu, an ANC leader who was jailed with Mandela. Their son, a journalist, arrived shortly thereafter, coming from yet another funeral. Much of the killing in recent years is due to fighting between ANC supporters and Zulus loyal to Chief Mangosuthu Gatsha Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party.

Kawola stayed in a middle-class Soweto house—it had electricity and a bathroom—with the family of Yolande Chimwa, a student who attends Hamilton College in upstate New York. Chimwa often spends her weekends in Albany, staying with Kawola or other coalition members.

Later, in Cape Town, Michelson and Kawola stayed with the families of two students who had lived with them in Albany while the ANC was still a banned political organization. Today, Sean Lewis is getting his doctorate at the University of Pittsburgh in applied linguistics, and Siboniso Gqoboka is a research biologist at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City. But in 1989, this writer was asked not to publish the students' names in a METROLAND article, for fear of retaliation against their families.

In Cape Town, Michelson and Kawola participated in an ANC "human chain" demonstration. Thousands of activists held hands and surrounded the downtown business district. It was a prelude to a planned stay-away, an ANC show of strength, that took place in August, shortly after the women returned to Albany. More than 4 million black and white South Africans stayed away from work or school for two days. It was a peaceful protest that shook up both South African President F.W. de Klerk and Buthelezi.

And in Durban, the women stayed in Kwamashu Township with Nathi Ncobo and his family. Ncobo lived in Albany in 1990 and 1991 with coalition members. It was in Durban, a port city on the Indian Ocean, that Michelson and Kawola saw some of the most enduring conditions in a squatter camp. "You think of [the camps] as temporary," Kawola says. But people can live there for years. In Kwamashu, there was no electricity, so there were no lights at night and the people lived in fear of crime. "Water is a concern every day," Kawola adds. They saw several hundred families using a single outhouse. They saw one water tap for 3,000 families, and it was turned off each weekday at 5 PM. "People spend hours getting to work," she says, then they have to come home and find water.

"It's a very dangerous time," says Michelson of South Africa, "after returning to Albany. "There is an obvious danger because the state-sponsored violence has disrupted the negotiating process. It's dangerous because of the frustrations that build when negotiations don't happen the way people had hoped. It's dangerous because the eye of the international community is not on South Africa any more, like it once was."

The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism is certainly one group that will keep watching southern Africa. Formed in 1981 to lead demonstrations against the South African Springboks, a rugby team invited to play in the Albany area, the coalition's efforts have earned it an international reputation.

"We find many people doing solidarity work all over the country," says Nesbitt, whose own efforts have taken him to 48 states. "But the coalition stands out because we don't find people doing it at the same level for so many years."

In 1990, the coalition presented SWAPO with a check for $1,500, part of the city of Albany's settlement with Michelson and two others who were illegally arrested during the anti-Springboks protests. In Namibia, Michelson learned the coalition's money had helped purchase a computer SWAPO used to keep track of the 1990 elections. And a $1,000 contribution, raised during the coalition's 10th anniversary celebration last year, was used by the ANC to set up a rural radio network in South Africa.

Once negotiations started between the ANC and the South African government, however, worldwide pressure to boycott South Africa faded. The country's athletes, for example, were allowed back into the Olympics this year. In fact, efforts to create a new South African government where whites and blacks will have equal votes have stalled. In late September, Zulu leader Buthelezi withdrew his Inkatha party from the talks.

According to a recent New York Times story, Buthelezi has allied with the rulers of two other black South African homelands. And the Times reports that he has been "flirting" with conservative whites "who would rather see South Africa fragmented into ethnic states than have a Zulu chief lead a separatist bloc.'

€ileen Kawola and Ve
in Mozambique.
District Coalition Against Racism is certainly one I keep watching southern and in 1981 to lead days against the South African rugby team invited to play in that year, the coalition's announced an international any people doing solidarity the country," says Nesbitt, forts have taken him to 48 the coalition] stands out don't find people doing it at the so many years." coalition presented SWAPO or $1,500, part of the city of cement with Michelson and were illegally arrested Springboks protests. In helson learned the coalition's helped purchase a computer to keep track of the 1990 a $1,000 contribution, raised dition's 10th anniversary, was used by the ANC al radio network in South nations started between the South African government, wide pressure to boycott ized. The country's athletes, are allowed back into the year. In fact, efforts to create a ican government where whites have equal votes have stalled. Zulu leader Buthelezi nkatha party from the talks. a recent New York Times has allied with the rulers of t South African homelands. reports that he has been conservative whites "who e South Africa fragmented cipalities than handed over n." The most ominous times imagined, is that the ld lead a separatist bloc r to South Africa like says Michelson, "is to get sick on the agenda and going struggle there." getting about South Africa, s to talk about the ness of the violence in the Africa region." As long as remains in turmoil, Namibia and Angola totters on the n to civil war, pressure on government to reform is g about the violence in it is sponsored by helson concludes, "and the aid has organized across its d Kawola saw little, if any, During their nights in ear gunfire in the streets, and a visit to Mozambique's western border area was impossible because of the fighting. But they saw the day-to-day pain of life under apartheid in three different countries: "You realize how long its going to take for that to disappear," Michelson says. "The struggle there will continue until the people have freedom. They make that very clear. That is not in question." 

Eileen Kawola and Vera Michelson in Mozambique.

Mocatini School Material Aid Project

Before going to Mozambique, Eileen Kawola, an Albany Public School teacher, was given a letter of greeting to the school children of Mozambique from the Albany Board of Education, signed by the President of the Board, Mr. Ward DeWitt. She presented this letter to Graca Machel, former Minister of Education and widow of Mozambique's first president, Samora Machel. Graca Machel now heads up the National Organization of Children of Mozambique, an organization set up to help deal with the devastation caused by the war on the children of the country. In a meeting with Michelson and Kawola, Mrs. Machel told them of her great concern for the children of her country who have suffered from war, atrocities, dislocation, and malnutrition. One of the objectives of the trip to Mozambique was to identify a material aid project for the Mozambique Support Committee of CD-CAAR. After talking with Mrs. Machel, and after visiting a school for dislocated children, the Committee made a commitment to raising funds for the children of the Mocatini school. A description of this project is included in this newsletter (on brightly colored flyer). For more information call Debbie Maxwell at 393-4002.
We shall end minority rule and apartheid in any guise

by Hlatshwayo Madoda

In 1990-91, at a conference called CODESA (Convention for a Democratic South Africa), both the ANC and the government and other groups committed themselves to a new South Africa. The process started at CODESA has now been deadlocked. The problem, fundamentally, is with the ruling white minority party, which continues to seek ways to guarantee itself continued power regardless of its electoral support. The regime insists that the political majority, no matter how large, should be subjected to a veto by minority political parties in the main, white political parties. Unless the government comes forth with a firm commitment to full democracy based on internationally-recognized principles and acceptance of sovereignty, the process cannot move forward.

After many years the struggle inside and outside South Africa was brought to a point where we all generally accepted that it could be peacefully resolved. The ANC went to the General Assembly [of the United Nations] and put forward the conditions under which it was prepared to enter into negotiations with the de Klerk government. Among the most important was that the negotiations must be undertaken only in an atmosphere free of violence. The General Assembly was in full agreement. Indeed, the South African government itself adopted this position - free discussions without intimidation, a clear, easy political atmosphere in the country, and no violence. However, as we all know, the violence has continued and the ANC feels it cannot continue negotiations as long as the people are being slaughtered.

It is not only the ANC which is pressing the issue of violence. Other, non-political, independent organizations have pointed out the de Klerk regime's involvement in the violence. An independent organization, Community Agency for Social Development, has issued reports which found that the violence appears to be switched on and off at strategic moments. "Behind the so-called new era and the so-called new regime, they still hold their fascist fantasies and are prepared to negotiate for a democratic South Africa. This is one of the fundamental problems here. Their perception of the African people is as less than human. In spite of the so-called new era and the so-called new regime, they still

...Continued...
Apartheid is alive and well in South Africa. Last year, after Mr. de Klerk declared that apartheid was history, President Bush rushed to lift the sanctions. We need the sanctions now, more so than ever. Apartheid will not wither away and it will not be dismantled by de Klerk or Bush. We have to keep the pressure on.

Toward this end, the ANC, the South African Communist Party, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and other democratic forces in the Black communities, such as Azanian Peoples Organizations and the Pan-African Congress of South Africa, are all going to be involved in a general strike on Aug. 3. We are asking for solidarity. The ANC views the international community and its solidarity efforts as essential to our struggle. Let’s keep the faith.

Today’s situation is new for everybody, not only for the left movement in the United States. The situation that is in transition in South Africa is new both for South Africans and for the solidarity movement. Recognizing this, the ANC National Executive Council, meeting at the end of May, called on the ANC to organize international solidarity conferences in the areas where it has been operating most effectively: the Pacific Basin, Europe and North America. At these solidarity conferences, the ANC will present to the movement its reading of the new situation, and the solidarity movement will present to the ANC its reading on new developments. This conference is planned in November in New York City. These conferences can only be a success if the grassroots are involved. The comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 was enacted because of the pressure from the grassroots. Mr. Reagan vetoed it thrice, but Congress overruled him. So it’s very, very important that the grassroots be mobilized, that they hear directly from the people who are involved on the ground on the new situation that has arisen and how the ties, based on equality, should be enhanced.

We share the situation the left finds itself in in this country today. The ANC itself, as an organization, is still reeling from the new situation it is confronted with. Not only does it have to fight against the apartheid monstrosity, but the ANC has to rebuild organized structures within the country, working through at least three different traditions that have arisen in the course of the struggle. The ANC has a tradition of struggle from the UDF [United Democratic Front – a coalition of legal mass organizations – Ed.]. The second stream is the people who participated in the struggle by spending most of their lives in prison. And that’s a large number of people – not only in the leadership but also among the rank and file. The third stream in the ANC today is composed of people like me, people who have spent 29 plus years in exile and struggled in exile. This indicates some of the tasks that the ANC is confronted with. Thank you for the support. A luta continua! Amandla!

Address of Hlatshwayo Madoda, deputy head of the African National Congress mission to the United States

This address was given by Mr. Madoda at the National Conference of the Committees of Correspondence, in Berkeley, California, July 17-19, 1992

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1992

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1992

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1992

On the next page you will find a full page flyer describing the National Conference in Support of the African National Congress and other Democratic Forces for a New South Africa November 13-15, 1992 at Riverside Church, New York City

If you have any questions, call the number listed, or locally, call 438-0309.
There've been lots of shows on TV in the last few weeks about the Cuban missile crisis and the almost unbelievable mistakes and misunderstandings that surrounded that event. Now, thirty years later, the U.S. continues a mistaken and misguided Cuba policy and continues to enforce a punitive embargo on Cuba. This places incredible hardships on our Caribbean neighbors. And, normalized relations would benefit not just Cuba but also the U.S. If the embargo were lifted, our right to travel freely between the U.S. and Cuba would be restored and trade between the U.S. and Cuba could account for up to $3 billion annually, creating jobs here. It's time the misunderstandings stop. Promote

**U.S. Cuba Friendship**

An exciting new project - U.S. Cuba Friendshipment - is being organized throughout the country by Pastors for Peace, with the endorsement of many organizations including the Venceremos Brigade. On November 6th, caravans of trucks, vans and cars will begin traveling on eight different routes through the U.S., meeting in Texas before crossing the border into Mexico. Once in Mexico, the convoy will travel to a port city to be met by a Cuban boat which will take the donations to Havana. Caravan participants will fly to Cuba, where they will deliver the aid and tour the island for a week. The plan also calls for bringing Cuban products back into the U.S. as the caravans return to their home cities.

There is no way to know how the U.S. government will respond to this initiative, although they may consider it a violation of their embargo. They could prosecute in court and people convicted of a crime under the embargo statutes are liable for fines of up to $250,000 and prison sentences of up to 10 years.

At a July 8th press conference announcing the Friendshipment, Rev. Lucius Walker said, "The U.S. government may view this humanitarian project as a challenge to its embargo. In this case the U.S. government will have to decide how it chooses to view the donation of food, medicine, Bibles and bicycles to people who are not our enemy, who are no threat to the U.S. and with whom we are not at war. Nevertheless, if our government decides to block this shipment, we will not back down."

Locally, we are accepting donations to send to Pastors for Peace to purchase medical supplies, dry milk and bicycles. Make checks or money orders payable to IFCO - Pastors for Peace and send to The Committees of Correspondence, P.O.Box 6811, Fort Orange Station, Albany, N.Y. 12206. Anyone interested in hosting a slide show presentation by individuals recently returned from Cuba, please contact Mabel Leon at 372-1531.

**A Friendship Renewed ... a letter from Nathi Ncobo**

It's 11 pm on the 20th of July 1992 and I am sitting at my desk writing this note. It's still hard to believe that I have Mike (Vera Michelson) and Eileen (Kawola) with me in my house in Kwa Msh township. Anyway, they are here. They have had a hectic day touring the townships and squatter camps with my friend, Emmanuel (Mthimkhulu) who has been an excellent tour guide for them. They have had an opportunity to pass solidarity messages to the striking MWASA (Media Workers Association of South Africa) members who are on strike against the South African Broadcasting Corporation. All of today's events have made me remember the CD-CAAR - a fine organization with people who really care.

The fight against apartheid is not over yet but the spirit of the people is still as resilient as ever. We are sons and daughters of heroes of Africa. We are not going to give up the fight - not when we know we have people like you on our side. Amandla!
The almost never, the U.S. embargo on Cuba. This is not just fit not just and Cuba would million annually, much of many through the U.S., Mexico, the will deliver the into the U.S. effective, although and people and prison Walker said, to its who are not not at war. will not back makers medical for Peace, Albany, N.Y. recently returned It's still hard to wa Mash and squatter for them. Workers Broadcasting organization with resilient as fight - not

Social Justice Center

The Social Justice Center, formed in 1981, is an umbrella organization for peace and social justice groups in the Capital District. The Center's purpose is to increase the effectiveness of the progressive movement by sharing resources, equipment, organizing ideas and skills, and expenses whenever possible. The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism is one of twenty one groups which belong to the Center.

We urge you to support the Center. How?

1. The Center publishes a quarterly newsletter, the "Activist," which includes articles on peace and justice issues. The October, 1992 issue focuses on multi-cultural coalition building. To subscribe to the "Activist," send $10 to the Social Justice Center, 33 Central Avenue, Albany, New York 12210.

2. You can also support the Center by shopping at Peace Offerings, the store set up by the Center to benefit Third World craftspeople and local peace and justice activism. The store has a huge selection of beautiful hand made crafts from around the world, cards and note paper, jewelry, clothing - it is the most interesting store in the Capital District, selling goods from cooperatives and other sources of nonexploited labor. Peace Offerings is located in the Center building at 33 Central Avenue, Albany - just a few doors down from Henry Johnson Boulevard. From September 11th to October 15th, Peace Offerings sponsored a unique and eye-opening exhibit - The Indigenous Cultures of the Americas. The exhibit united art and politics through a series of events which blended discussions of issues relevant to indigenous American people with craft displays. On Friday, November 27, Peace Offerings invites you to a Post Thanksgiving Celebration - with food, music and a chance to see the goods available for holiday shopping.

3. attend Social Justice Center's Annual Awards Celebration

Sunday, November 8th - 5:30
Westminster Presbyterian Church
262 State Street, Albany, NY

Indian-Pakistani Cuisine by Shalimar - Desserts and Appetizers

Tickets:
$15 in advance $6 limited income and children
$20 at the door $40 sponsor
Child care available

Information and reservations, call 434-4037

This annual fundraising celebration is held to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the movement for social change in the Capital District. This year's celebration is entitled "People Building Bridges for Justice" and the winners include: Deborah Williams-Muhammad, Bonita Davis, Matilda Arias, Vera Michelson (CD-CAAR co-chair), Rev. Carl Taylor and Gwen Wright.
Save the date!!! Tuesday, November 10, 1992
CD-CAAR program:
"South Africa: Stop the Violence; Mozambique: Promote the peace"

Quick Updates...
Elections were held in Angola at the end of September. Jonas Savimbi, leader of the South-African/U.S.-backed rebel group Unita which has been terrorizing the Angolan people and destabilizing the country since the time of independence in 1975, had agreed to accept election results. Now that it appears he has lost the election, he is threatening to resume his war. Pik Botha of South Africa, Savimbi's old friend, has made visits to Savimbi to try to dissuade him from resuming the fighting but as of the time of this newsletter printing, the ominous threat of war hangs over Angola.

The Frelimo government of Mozambique and the South African-backed terrorist army, Renamo, signed a cease fire in Rome on October 4, 1992. As of this printing the cease fire seems to be holding and elections are planned for twelve months from now. The cessation of fighting will make it easier for food relief to reach Mozambique which is now being ravaged by the worst drought of the 20th century. The drought threatens approximately 3 million Mozambicans with starvation.

Important Date...The Albany Branch NAACP will hold its 57th Anniversary Celebration at the Annual Freedom Fund Dinner, Friday, November 20, 1992. The dinner will be at the Empire State Convention Center. The theme for this year's dinner is "Linking the Progress of the Past with the Prospect of the Future." The goal is to create an awareness and appreciation for the contributions of traditional institutions and organizations within the African American culture. For tickets or information, call the NAACP at 462-1823.
Mozambique is a country that has been devastated by war. The war has had crippling effects on the basic services to the people—health care and education have been especially targeted by RENAMO, the South African backed terrorist army that has been waging this war against the people of Mozambique.

In July, 1992 two members of CD-CAAR had the opportunity to visit a school for deslocados (those who have been dislocated by this brutal war of destabilization). At this school, Escola Primaria de Mocatini, in a rural area outside the capital city of Maputo, they found:

- a shelled out school building;
- classes being held under trees with children sitting in the dirt;
- no supplies, no books, no pencils, no paper;
- 9 teachers committed to providing the best education possible;
- and 900 children enthusiastic about being in school.

When asked what could be done to help the school, the teachers said their most immediate need was for portable blackboards that they could use outside, paper and pencils, and textbooks. They also would like to be able to provide the children with lunches (because for both students and teachers this is sometimes the only meal all day). And, in the long term they would like to be able to construct a school building.

CD-CAAR is launching a material aid campaign to raise funds for the most immediate needs of this school. It is possible to buy the blackboards, paper and pencils and books in Mozambique which is much more efficient than trying to send supplies from here. Our goal is to raise $2,000 which we can send in the form of a registered money orders to Mr. Simiao Manhica, a community organizer working with this school. He has a truck and can make the purchase of supplies in Maputo, and bring them to the school.

Donations for the school can be sent in the form of a check made out to CD-CAAR and noted Mocatini School Project. If you belong to an organization or a school which would like to become involved in this project CD-CAAR can arrange for a speaker and/or a slide show for your group. Contact Eileen Kawola at 438-0309 for arrangements or further details.
the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
with co-sponsor
SPECTRUM - Black Student Union of the College of St. Rose
assisted by the History and Political Science Departments
and the Peace and Social Justice Club, College of St. Rose

SOUTH AFRICA:
STOP THE VIOLENCE
with Bernard Magubane
Professor of Anthropology, University of Connecticut;
Author: Political Economy of Race and Class
and The Ties that Bind - Afro Americans and Africa

MOZAMBIQUE:
PROMOTE THE PEACE
with Prexy Nesbitt
Senior Consultant to the Government of Mozambique;
Regional Organizer for the Africa Fund and the American Committee on Africa; Involved
with Southern Africa work since 1965 - taking fact-finding missions over 50 times to Africa;
Editor of special edition of "Africa Today" on Angola and Mozambique

You've read about the continuing violence that is gripping South Africa with the worst
incidents this year occurring in Boipatong and Ciskei.
You've read about the effects of war and drought on Mozambique and now the signing of the
long awaited peace accords between the government and the apartheid-backed terrorist army,
Renamo.
Bernard Magubane and Prexy Nesbitt are coming to Albany to discuss what is really
happening in South Africa and Mozambique, what is the violence and the peace about,
how the two countries are linked, and what hopes there are for the future.

Tuesday, November 10, 1992, 7:30 p.m.
the College of St. Rose, St. Joseph's Auditorium,
985 Madison Avenue, Albany, N.Y.

For more information, call 436-0562
NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS AND OTHER DEMOCRATIC FORCES FOR A NEW SOUTH AFRICA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1992

9:00am - All Day Conference Registration

9:30am - 12:00 noon OPENING PLENARY

Speakers - The Hon. Nelson Mandela, Pres. of the ANC; The Hon. Ronald V. Dellums

LUNCH BREAK

1:00pm - 5:00pm ISSUES WORKSHOPS, EACH REPEATED TWICE

3:00pm - 5:00pm SPECIAL RECEPTION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN LEADERSHIP

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1992

Registration Continues

9:00am - 11:00am PLENARY: U.S. POLICY IN SOUTH AFRICA
Randall Robinson, Director, TRANSAFRICA

Highlights of Issues Workshops

Reports presented

(Complete Workshop Reports will be distributed to all attendees.)

11:00am - 1:00pm CONSTITUENCY WORKSHOPS

(Distinguished members of U.S. constituent groups will lead these workshops)

A particular focus in each workshop will be the organization of constituent groups to advocate support for U.S. foreign policies that will provide the aid and material assistance in each issue area needed to accomplish the building and growth of a democratic and equitable society in South Africa.

2:00pm - 6:00pm CONSTITUENCY WORKSHOPS continue

PROGRAMS OF ACTION completed

7:00pm MASS 80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY RALLY FOR THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1992

FINAL PLENARY

9:00am - Noon Discussion of Programs of Action and national initiatives to implement the Programs of Action and new approaches for U.S.-based work in support of the Democratic Forces for a new South Africa.

All listed participants have been invited.

ISSUES WORKSHOPS

- Labor unions and the rights of workers.
- Healthcare issues including how to halt the death and disfigurement which have resulted from Apartheid policies and practices.
- Planning and development of housing and the establishment of infrastructures to provide the masses of the people, adequate shelter, potable water, power and energy sources.
- Education, training and retraining needs with a particular focus on the roles U.S. educational and not-for-profit institutions can play.
- Investment policies and economic development: how the international economic community can help in the building of the democratic state.
- The roles and rights of South African women.
- The proposed South African constitution, the new South African legality and its impact on legal and human rights.
- The impact of the Apartheid policies of the minority regime on all of southern Africa and the frontline states.
- The dismantling of Apartheid cultural, sports and artistic institutions and the emerging transformation of culture, arts and sports.
- The reform of land and natural resource ownership.
- The special needs of the children and youth ravaged by Apartheid policies.
- The role of the media in presenting the case for a new democratic South Africa.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS AND OTHER DEMOCRATIC FORCES FOR A NEW SOUTH AFRICA

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ANC SUPPORT CONFERENCE, c/o District 65-UAW, 13 Astor Place New York, NY 10003 Telephone (212) 673-9120 x 308 • Telefax (212) 460-8371

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Please reserve ______ places at the Conference at $25 each.

Please add me/us as a Conference Sponsor as follows: (Please indicate, if organization is for identification only*)

Name(s): ____________________________ Organization ____________________________ Title ____________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ________ Telephone ____________________________ Fax ____________________________

We are enclosing a donation of $_______ in addition to $_______ for the pre-paid Conference registration fee of $25 per person as follows:

□ SUPPORTER, $100. □ SPONSOR, $50. □ DONOR, $_______ (includes Sponsorship)

TAX EXEMPT DONATIONS CAN BE MADE PAYABLE TO IFCO, EARMARKED, 'ANC CONFERENCE.'

Please send Conference information to the attached list of people and organizations (Please print and make sure addresses are complete).

□ We will need childcare (Indicate age(s) and number of children). □ We prefer to stay in someone's house or a hostel. □ (Indicate number of adults and children and any special needs.)

A detailed final Conference Program will be sent you with confirmation of your pre-paid registration and any other requested arrangements.

Please return the completed form with your registration check payable to the "ANC Support Conference" and tax-exempt donations payable to "IFCO," to:

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