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******PRESS RELEASE******

July 8, 1982
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Anita Thayer
462-6753 - days

Vera Michelson
489-1767 - evenings

NATIONAL ANTI-KLAN LEADER HELPS LOCAL ANTI-KLAN FIGHT

Rene Dubose, noted Anti-Ku Klux Klan activist and Baltimore, Maryland civil rights leader, will hold a press conference at the Albany Airport in the News Media Room on Wednesday, July 14, 1982 at 1:15 PM. All press is invited to attend.

Two KKK rallies in Vermont this May and incidents of local Klan activity have prompted the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism to hold a July 14, 1982 educational forum on the Ku Klux Klan. Ms. Rene Dubose, the chairperson of People United Against Government Repression and the Klan/Nazis, a national organization based in Maryland, will speak on "The KKK: Closer Than You Think", Wednesday, July 14 at 7:30 PM at the Albany United Methodist Society (formerly St. Luke's Church) at the corner of Clinton and Lexington Avenue, Albany.

Ms. Dubose is a staff member and national organizer for the American Federation for Government Employees, and a former public school educator. She will speak about her experiences in the State of Maryland which had the highest level of Klan activity of any state in 1981.

In announcing the forum, Vera Michelson, forum committee chair said, "The first step in fighting racists like the Klan is to understand who they are and how they operate. The next time the Klan rallies near our city we will be ready with even more demonstrators than in May."

The sponsor of this event, the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism was organized one year ago and spearheaded the opposition to the September 22, 1982 rugby game with South Africa.

Over thirty local organizations and churches have endorsed this important event.