NEXT REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: THURSDAY, DEC. 10, 1987 at 7:30 p.m.
Urban Leauge, corner of Livingston and Ten Broeck, Albany, New York

TOPICS:

- **PETITION CAMPAIGN** seeking the disciplining of Albany police officer Valerie Von Dollen Burke for violating the civil rights of Black citizens of Albany (see below)

- **EDUCATION/DISCUSSION** (Barbara Winters and Naomi Jaffe) on Namibia - the South African controlled country in South West Africa. Namibia is illegally occupied by the apartheid regime and suffers under the same racist oppression as is practiced in South Africa. (see contra map inside)

(Child care will be available)

**NEWS NOTES**

PETITION CAMPAIGN - The Coalition has initiated a campaign to have Det. Valerie Von Dollen Burke disciplined for her role in two cases in which she was found liable in federal court for violating the civil rights of Black residents of Albany. This officer has never been disciplined by the Police and, in fact, has been promoted. A petition is being circulated asking the Mayor and the Common Council to impose some discipline on Von Dollen Burke. For information, call Vicki Smith at 436-8757.

STUDENT COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM (SCAAR) at Sunya - has taken an active part in the campaign to oppose reactionary Congressional legislation against the ANC and SWAPO of Namibia. Over 300 letters sent!

ALBANY COMMUNITY POLICE RELATIONS BOARD - The next meeting of the Board is Monday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. Prior to this meeting the Coalition needs to evaluate its involvement with the Board. The terms of all members expire at the end of December. Any thoughts or ideas about our participation should be forwarded to Mark Mishler, Coalition representative, 462-6753.
STUDY GROUPS - Many members of the Coalition have expressed a need to learn more about what is happening in Southern Africa. Study sessions have been set up to address this need. Sean Lewis and Shobna Golpa led the first discussion answering questions about their experiences as South African students and organizing in South Africa. Vicki Erenstein of the National Lawyers Guild led a discussion at the November Coalition meeting about the aggression of South Africa throughout Southern Africa and the atrocities committed by the apartheid regime beyond its borders. At another session in November, Mojaki Thulo of the ANC led a session on the Freedom Charter of South Africa. At our regular meeting in December, we have scheduled time for an educational presentation on Namibia. In Jan. and Feb. we have planned for two more study sessions - one on Mozambique and one on Angola. If you would like to participate, call 436-0562.

TALKING ABOUT LEARNING MORE... As a result of the showing of "Mandela" by HBO in October, despite some criticisms of the film, the American public had a chance to see the horrifying realities of life under apartheid and to see also a clearer picture of the ANC.

Now we have available two more media events which give accounts of the oppression of the racist apartheid system and which can be considered anti-apartheid films. They are:

"Cry Freedom" a film about Stephen Biko, the Black Consciousness Leader and Donald Woods, the writer, is open now in local theaters.

"Cry! The Beloved Country" a five hour FRONTLINE series tracing South Africa's history, starting Monday, Dec. 14th at 9 p.m., Channel 17.

Also, in recognition of the third national Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday, there will be a free public lecture by long-time civil rights activist, HARRY BELAFONTE, on Tues., Jan. 19, 1988 at 10 a.m. at Siena College.

A project of the Social Justice Center 434-4037

Peace Offerings craft and gift store with a social conscience, has re-opened for the 1987 holiday season. The store is at 33 Central Avenue, Albany and the hours are Tues. and Sat. 10-6. One of the store's goals (other than multi-cultural and political education) is to raise money for the Social Justice Center. We urge your support.

Speaking of support, please consider our plea for help which is enclosed in this newsletter. At this time of giving, put the struggle on your list.

DEEPEST SYMPATHY from the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism to Vera Michelson and her family on the death of her father, Harry Michelson, 11/20/87
Dear Friend,

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As we head toward a new year and prepare for the struggles against apartheid and racism which lie ahead, we take this occasion to thank you for your past support. We know you are committed to the continuing fight against oppression and we look forward to your continued support.

We usually write asking for your help in planning projects and events to protest apartheid and racism. Sometimes we send educational information or ask you to attend a forum. This letter is different. This time we are asking for your financial support.

As you know, there are no membership dues for the Coalition. We raise money only from periodic fundraisers - usually twice a year.

As the new year approaches we find ourselves with very little money to operate. We need your help in order to continue the work.

Some of our current campaigns are:
- opposition to national legislation currently in Congress which would severely limit the ability of the ANC and SWAPO to inform the people of the U.S. of the struggles in South Africa and Namibia.
- educational forums
- a local campaign against police and racial violence in Albany (currently working on a drive for sanctions against Officer Von Dollen Burke - see newsletter for details)
- a monthly newsletter mailed free to over 800 people
- an ongoing commitment to expand the organization so that we can extend the work

It takes all kinds of determination, dedication, initiative, perseverance and long term commitment to make a movement. It also takes money.

We need your help!

In solidarity,

Eileen Kawola, Newsletter Editor

(over)
I WANT TO HELP CARRY ON THE STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM.
Enclosed is my contribution of:
$50  $25  $10  $5  $other

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
Street ____________________________ City __________________ State ________ Zip __________

Please make check payable to:
Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism


CONTRA: A USA financed and controlled puppet army, established for the sole purpose of overthrowing a legitimate government of the people. The term was first used to describe the band of soldiers, recruited by the CIA in an effort to overthrow the Nicaraguan government and its revolution. The term CONTRA means counter-revolutionary. They perform the function of keeping American businessmen rich and powerful and the people poor and embattled.

SOUTHERN AFRICA CONTRA MAP

ANGOLA: has been under constant attack by South Africa. UNITA: a band of Angolan contras led by Jonas Savimbi, financed by the US and South Africa. Unita is portrayed as a group of Black freedom fighters. They are not. They are contras. They attack roads, railway lines, women, children, farmland. The Cubans, at the request of the Angolans, are in Angola to help the Angolan govt. stave off the combined onslaught of SA, USA and UNITA.

NAMIBIA: has been illegally occupied by South Africa for over 20 years. Over 100,000 South African troops are enforcing apartheid in Namibia.... homelands, shanties, no Black voting rights, etc.

MOZAMBIQUE: is also under attack by South Africa and RENAMO: (or Mozambique National Resistance - MNR) is the contra group in the country. Renamo is financed and run by South Africa and is responsible for the massacres of thousands of Mozambicans. At this time Renamo is not being openly funded by the US but there are moves in Congress to get this to happen.

NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
SNAPU represents the aspirations of the struggling people of Namibia. Its military wing is PLAN, the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia.

The ANC represents the struggling people of South Africa. Its military wing is UMKHONTO WE SIZWE (The Spear of the Nation).

THE FRONT-LINE STATES
Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Angola, Zambia, Tanzania. This does not include Namibia, which has colonial status.
"I AM A MEMBER OF THE A.N.C.
THE IDEAS FOR WHICH I WENT TO JAIL,
FOR WHICH THE A.N.C. STANDS, I STILL EMBRACE."

Govan Mbeki, 77, who is the former national chairman of the African National Congress (ANC) was released Nov. 5, from life imprisonment after being jailed on Robben Island for 23 years. The ANC Information Dept in Lusaka, Zambia issued the following statement: "The release...is...a victory for the democratic forces throughout South Africa and the international community who have fought relentlessly for the unconditional release of our leaders and all political detainees in South Africa.

...Even as we receive him with joy and renewed determination we remain acutely aware that his release in a real sense also means a change in prison address from the confines of Robben Island into the prison house of South Africa. His release will significantly enrich and augment the leadership of the democratic forces as a whole and as the fight continues till all are released, we say: let him speak to the people."