Dear Coalition members:

As a result of Tuesday's meeting, we have agreed to make the US Tennis Association our main target.

We will meet again on Tuesday, August 2nd to finalize details for a demonstration outside the headquarters of the USTA on August 4th. The meeting on the 2nd will be at the Church Center for the UN (777 UN Plaza, 11th floor) at 9 AM. It will be followed by a press conference at 11 AM to announce the demonstrations on the 4th. More specific information is contained in the enclosed minutes. Also enclosed is a fact sheet on how the USTA has supported South Africa in tennis.

Right now we need your help in three ways:

1. While we realize that your budgets are low, it is going to cost at least $150 to $200 just to print materials and to organize for the 4th and for the later demo at Forest Hills. Please send us $20 or more for this purpose, in the next few days if possible.

2. We need to have all our bases covered with the USTA. Therefore, please write to them if you have not already done so, sending me all copies so I can document things. Send copies with a cover letter to Carter, Young and the other government officials listed. The tone of the letter to the USTA could be 'we want to meet with you to convince you that you are wrong by supporting South Africa in the ILTF' and are prepared to demonstrate at Forest Hills.

3. Please help to inform your people about being at the demo on the 4th at 12 Noon.

(over)
It is crucial that each of our coalition members bring out 15 to 20 people so we will build on our credibility. Cary Goodman will be organizing at 682 3633 (the phone and office generously donated by the Methodists). Call him if you need leaflets or information. Also be sure to let him know how many people you expect to bring on the 4th no later than July 29th. If you can lend volunteer help, it will be great.

One final thing: immediately after the demonstration on the 4th we will need to talk about what we can do at Forest Hills. Plan to spend several hours at the Church Center for this purpose.

Good luck. I will see you on the 2nd.

Fraternally,

Rich Lapchick
Chairperson

enclosures: minutes of July 12th meeting
fact sheet on USTA
reply form regarding: attendance at meeting on August 2nd
funds to defray costs of organizing volunteer help
Minutes of ACCESS meeting, 12 July 1977, Hardin Room, Church Center for the UN, 10AM to 1PM. Rich Lapchick, Chairperson, presiding.

Members present: Ray Gould (ACOA), Melba Smith (Women's Division, United Methodist Church), Jewell Gresham (CCBA), Jim Bristol (APSC), Ruth Sillman (WILFP), Tom Carlson and Paul Hoch (SFTP). John Dommisse, acted as Sec. Dave Dugan of the SALC sat in on the meeting at the request of ACCESS.

Before discussing plans for the U.S. Open, the group was brought up to date on the resolution against sports contacts with South Africa as taken by the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference. It was also mentioned that New Zealand, Canada and Australia, all former allies of South Africa in the International Lawn Tennis Federation (ILTF), led the fight for expelling South Africa at that body's meeting. This meeting was held right after the PM's Conference. The US Tennis Association successfully led the group that wanted South Africa to remain in the ILTF.

It was mentioned that very few of the coalition members have written the letters to the tennis people and government officials as had been asked. They agreed this had to be done immediately.

The group then moved to the main issue: what action, if any, to take against the USTA at Forest Hills. The group requested that the Chairperson prepare a fact sheet on the USTA's role in supporting South Africa in the ILTF. (That is enclosed). It was unanimously accepted that we should hold a warm-up demonstration at the USTA headquarters (50 E. 42nd Street) on Thursday, August 4th from 12 to 2 PM.

A press conference was scheduled to announce the demonstration on Tuesday, August 2nd at 11AM (Hardin Room, Church Center for the UN). The press conference will be preceded by a meeting of the coalition at 9AM to finalize plans.

A meeting will be held immediately following the August 4th demonstration to plan the major Forest Hills demonstration (September 10th or 11th).

The following responsibilities were delegated:

Ray Gould: contact union people to be at demos; also people involved with the bank loan campaign. Contact TV people to arrange for a show in which Brutus and Lapchick could discuss the issues. Work with Jewell to get NAACP and Urban League to join ACCESS.

Jewell Gresham: contact church people, i.e., ministers who might bring large segments of their congregations to demos, especially at FH. Get endorsements of political figures, and to have them bring out their people. Special aim: get all mayoral candidates to support. Get Black community out. Get entertainers, including those involved with the RFK Tennis Tourney. Get Black media people.

Cary Goodman: act as principle coordinator. Use United Methodist office approximately 3 days a week from now through FH. Phone 682-3633. Put together coordinating leaflet for organizing August 4th. Get athletes endorsement and get them to press conference.
Minutes - page 2

Millard Arnold: get endorsements of Black athletes.

Paul Hoch: do further research on backgrounds on the USTA Executive.

Rich Lapchick: prepare USTA fact sheet; voting structure of ILTF.

Dave Dugen: get permit for loudspeaker at the demonstration for August 4th. Be responsible for personally bringing 40-60 people from the South Bronx on the 4th.

Mark Naison (not present): coordinate college campuses for the September demos. Contact all the Black Studies departments in the Metropolitan area; get local tennis players to demonstrate.

Melba Smith: get women and church people to the demos. Methodists are providing office space and support services for organizing.

ALL COALITION MEMBERS: responsible for bringing 15-20 people on the 4th. Supply support services and funds to help defray the costs (approximately $20 each).

It was announced that Dennis Brutus and Rich Lapchick would attend the World Conference on Apartheid in Lagos. There will be a meeting of the sports people on the International Advisory Commission to End Apartheid Sport before the Conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 1PM.
FACT SHEET ON THE USTA AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE INTERNATIONAL LAWN TENNIS FEDERATION (ILTF) AND SOUTH AFRICA (Rough draft)

1. Prior to 1970, the USTA consistently voted for South Africa (SA) in the ILTF.

2. In December of 1969, Arthur Ashe applied for a visa to compete in the SA Open. His application was directly supported by Sec of State Rogers. Submissions on his behalf were made at the ambassadorial level in Washington and in Pretoria. Prime Minister Vorster, after meeting with his Cabinet solely for this purpose, denied Ashe the visa. World sportspersons were outraged. As a result of great pressure, the USTA was forced to ask for South Africa’s suspension from the Davis Cup in March of 1970 (they were suspended for 2 years). In May of 1970, South Africa became the only nation to have been expelled from the Olympic Movement. Since 1970, the teams from SA have been excluded from every major international sports federation except the ILTF.

3. When the outcry about Ashe and SA died down, the USTA voted for ending South Africa’s suspension in 1972. Since then, the position of the USTA has consistently been that only through sports contacts with SA will sports apartheid change. This flaunts numerous resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) mandating an end to such sports contacts. It also contradicts history which has proven that only isolation leads to change in the case of SA.

4. In 1974, India courageously refused to meet SA in the finals of the Davis Cup, making a mockery of the championship.

5. When Mexico refused to compete with SA in the North American Zone of the Davis Cup (SA competes in the N American Zone where it was felt that SA would be free from public pressure), the USTA led a movement to expel Mexico from the ILTF.

6. When the USTA could not muster enough votes for this, the USTA actually withdrew from the ILTF in a blatant attempt to try to get more votes. When the ploy failed, the USTA reentered the ILTF after two weeks. The ILTF did, however, change its rules to require a 2/3rds vote for expulsion to protect SA.

7. In 1976, the USTA hosted the women's equivalent of the Davis Cup, known as the Federation Cup. South Africa and the illegal Rhodesian regime both sent teams. Many US citizens demonstrated, while several nations withdrew in protest. The USTA demanded that these nations pay $10,000 fines to the ILTF. The fines were imposed.

8. In April of 1977, the USTA actually hosted the South African Davis Cup Team in Newport Beach, California. 1,000 people demonstrated their opposition.

9. Following the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference vote to oppose sports contacts with South Africa, New Zealand, Canada and Australia, all former ILTF allies of SA, voted for its expulsion. Canada has withdrawn from the N. American Zone of the Davis Cup. However, due to the weighted voting system favoring predominantly white nations, the vote for expulsion failed. The USTA led the fight to keep SA in the ILTF.

When you hear, “Tennis, anyone,” remember that the USTA takes "anyone" to include South Africa and their racist regime. ACCESS intends to change the USTA position. We need your help.
I will/will not be present at the August 2nd meeting and press conference.

I have enclosed___ to defray costs of organizing the demonstration.

We can/cannot provide volunteer help to Cary Goodman for organizing.

___date___

___signed___

___organization___