The first meeting of the Southern Africa Committee of the NSCF was held September 24, 1965 at noon in the fifth floor conference room of the Interchurch Center. As this meeting was the first of the academic year the topics of discussion were varied and dealt with a wide range of our concerns, both past and future.

Bill Winters, chairman of the committee, reviewed the history of the committee for newcomers; he mentioned the founding of the committee in 1964 and the activities of 1964-65; including our participation in the UCCF sponsored UN Seminar on South Africa; the "Emphasis Week" on South Africa in March, 1965 in coordination with NSA, NFCE, and the Newman Clubs; Chase Manhattan demonstrations and discussions in conjunction with SDS and NSA; and our work with and recommendations to the National Council of Churches concerning an examination of its former resolutions on investment in South African concerns (i.e. American companies and banking interests) its present policy and practices in this field, its role in the education of church opinion on South Africa, relief and aid funds, and United States governmental connections.

There was a general review of the summer's activities of Southern African oriented groups and of church related matters which occurred over the summer including:

a) The General Assembly of the NSCF was held in September in Chicago and several members of the committee attended. There was a great deal of discussion and hopefully those interested persons and groups will be aroused to act in the field of Southern African affairs during this year.

b) United States Youth Council held a meeting on September 18, 1965 and is interested in acting on the issue of South Africa in Washington where they have a Commission on Government Affairs.

c) NSA is now primarily involved in the Vietnam question and the peace movement.

d) NSA is going to print a newsletter on Southern Africa and is still involved in discussions with Chase Manhattan; The NSA offices have moved from Philadelphia to Washington and now employ two full-time staff members on Africa; no doubt the question of pressure on the American government will occupy some of their time.

e) The American Committee on Africa sponsored four people to do research this summer in the field of American economic relations with South Africa. This research group produced various reports on such topics as Labor, Industries (Mining, Rubber, Automobile), United States government relations (Import-Export Bank, AEC etc.) Hopefully the several reports will be available for publication and the use of interested groups. (ACOA now employs a staff person to coordinate S.A. functions with Civil Rights groups.

f) The Pan-African Students of the Americas sponsored the production of a Ghanaian play, "The Adoption" this summer, the proceeds of which went to Freedom Fighters. This play will be reproduced in Late October at the Theater in the Round in New York and Harvard.

Most of the meeting was spent discussing our present commitments plans and priorities to determine our actual role and action on the question of Southern Africa and our relationship to existing groups and their projects.
A. EDUCATIONAL AND CONSTITUENCY:

1. We are committed to produce articles for NCC publications; Already the Commission on World Mission magazine "A Second Look," has published several articles on Southern Africa.

2. Letters will be sent to all participants in the NSCF General Assembly Seminars. These people must be encouraged to get to work and to report what they are doing. Packets of materials (bibliographies, lists of speakers, special pamphlets etc.) will be sent to them as well as a specific letter outlining possible problems and alternatives for their specific campus or area.

3. We must provide material and to tie in academic work with committee work. We should think up relevant research topics for students to do and ways that such information could be presented on a campus. These groups should also be tied into the question of raising money for defense and aid. We should keep contact with groups which are in existence such as the Rhodesia oriented Princeton group and a committee which is being formed in the MIT-Harvard area.

4. It was brought up at the General Assembly that this committee should live up to its title, that of the Southern Africa Committee, and prepare materials on Rhodesia, the Portuguese territories etc. as well as revise our South Africa material.

5. Other suggested activities, on a more specific and somewhat different level, included, on the suggestion of Dr. Oscar Lee, that our committee sponsor a seminar for interested journalists in strategic areas of publication on the South African question, drawing aid from qualified South African journalists in this country. No doubt other seminars of this kind could also be held.

B. CHURCH:

1. David Hunter, Assistant Director of the NCC, has requested the various divisions of the NCC to examine their economic relations and investment policies in relation to South Africa, and in conjunction with this, a meeting was held on Tuesday, Sept 28 of the National Committee on Tithin in Investment including member church treasurers to discuss this question. A memo will be sent to us. In the same vein the Presbyterian Church is going to call together prominent laymen in the business field to review their economic policies toward South Africa.

2. The Division of Overseas Missions, African Committee, is in the process of preparing or ratifying a report on the South African question, in addition to United States involvement.

3. Bill Nelson reported that plans are in the works for a Prayer Vigil for South Africa in Washington, D.C.

C. LIASON: OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. The Committee for Christian Work Among International Students of the NSCF is planning an African Conference. The Planning Committee is meeting October 8, and it is hoped that the Southern Africa question will play a significant role in this conference which is to be held next spring or summer.

2. Our committee is involved in aiding the UCCF/NSCF Southern Africa Seminar of travel and Study to be held next summer in Africa.

3. On October 19 the Department of International Affairs of the NCC is holding a World Study Conference. NSCF will send five representatives, some of whom are on our committee.
4. The African Studies Association is holding their annual conference in Philadelphia, October 27-33, and it is anticipated that the question of the role of the academic world and South Africa will be discussed.

5. Our committee should find all groups in the New York Area who are interested or involved in African and Southern African questions and keep in touch with them.

6. We must utilize the services of Henry Bucher, Travel Associate for the CWM. We should get his itinerary before he leaves on a trip so we can give him any contacts we might have.

Basil Brown, Secretary of the Christian Council of South Africa spoke to the committee. The Meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The next meeting is to be Saturday, October 2.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet MacLaughlin
Secretary

* The meeting will be held at Mary McAnnally's apartment, 9:30 a.m. till 5 (approx)
434 West 120th St
NYC, phone # 662-1527

GAE:be
Sept 30, 1965
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