Mandela Calls on Chicagoans to Aid Alexandra Township

On April 13th, ANC leader Nelson Mandela called upon Chicagoans to aid victims of violence in Alexandra Township, Chicago's sister community in South Africa. The call came during a 20 minute presentation by Mandela to the press and assembled Chicago politicians and activists who gathered at the Community Renewal Society for the unique 9:30 AM teleconference. Mandela stressed the importance of continuing economic sanctions against South Africa until an interim government can be formed. He indicated that pressure on the South African government is needed at this time because of the proven government complicity in the violence currently plaguing South Africa's townships. Mandela called for an international peace keeping force to end fighting in the townships, particularly Alexandra township.

Illinois Senator Paul Simon, Chair of the Senate subcommittee on Africa, responded positively to Mandela's call for an international peace keeping force. He said we must look to the United Nations or the Organization of African Unity for this action. He does not feel that it would be proper for the U.S. to lead this effort. Simon agreed that no further economic sanctions should be lifted at this time.

The teleconference was organized by members of the Chicago-Alexandra Sister Community Project and the national U.S. South Africa Sister Community Project to attract media attention to the carnage currently being carried out in Alex. The teleconference was facilitated by Harold Rogers of the Illinois Labor Network Against Apartheid who announced the establishment of "The Alex Fund" to aid victims of violence in Alexandra. Contributions may be sent to the Fund in care of CCISSA, P.O. Box 578066, Chicago, IL 60657-8066. CCISSA has audio-tape copies of the teleconference available for loan.

Also participating by phone in the teleconference was Alexandra Civic Organization leader Moses Mayekiso, the ANC's Chief Representative to the United States, Lindiwe Mabuza, and (continued on page 2)

June 13th Soweto Day Walkathon to Benefit Women of Southern Africa

For the women of southern Africa, the struggle continues. The 1992 Walkathon will raise funds to assist women in rebuilding their lives and in taking their rightful place in the establishment of a democratic South Africa and peaceful future for the entire region.

South African women are still raising families alone in remote homelands while husbands and fathers toil in apartheid's mines and factories, returning at night to notorious single sex hostels. Many other women are separated from their own children to care for the children and homes of their white employers. The women of South Africa's townships suffer from government sponsored violence calculated to stifle the movement to major rule. In the past year, hundreds of women have been killed, raped and left homeless by Inkatha gangs and in random terrorist hit squad attacks.

The women of Mozambique are still reeling from years of the South African backed war of destabilization. Renamo rebels have raped, mutilated and murdered countless women, kidnapping their children and forcing them into their gangs. Hundreds of thousands of Mozambican women have fled their homes, choosing the uncertainty of (continued on page 2)

CCISSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Kay Burnett, Basil Clunie, Selena Derey, Michael Freedberg, Joan Gerig, Cheryl Harris, Toni Moore, Linda Noonan, Barbara Ransby, Zeva Schub, Carol Thompson
Report from Alexandra Township

"The Battle Zone"
(by Vicky Baecher reporting from Alexandra Township)

Since the disrupted Inkatha Freedom party (IFP) funeral march/rampage through Alexandra Township on March 7, Alexandrians have been locked in a battle zone.

The battle is between Alex residents and IFP supporters housed in one of the male hostels in Alexandra. The IFP took over the M1 or Modala Hostel in March 1991, forcibly removing Hostel residents who had lived there for years.

From that time on, the M1 Hostel area has been a trouble spot. Residents around the hostel who were lucky enough were moving out of the area to safer places, many times moving in with families or friends who were already overcrowded. Attacks by the IFP thugs at the hostel have been a constant and brutal reality.

But in the past four weeks the violence has escalated. Over 700 families around the Hostel (now being called the Beirut area) have fled their homes in fear and panic and are living as refugees in churches, recreation halls and abandoned school buildings. Attacks from the IFP supporters had become hourly realities and they were indiscriminate, often attacking Zulus (who IFP claims to represent) and even people who hold IFP membership.

Last January, Sheila Mitane, a street cleaner for the council authority, who is not a member of any political party, was attacked by the IFP, robbed, and threatened into promising to take out an IFP membership card. After the attack she and her family went to stay with friends. Periodically, she came back to her home to make sure that their things were still there. While checking on her home on March 16 she relates, "I walked out of my house and found a murdered body laid on the door step, He was put there by Inkatha as a lesson for everyone on the block that if you don't cooperate and give them money, they will kill you." Sheila and her family are now living in a condemned, abandoned school building classroom with another family.

On Thursday, March 26, over 30,000 residents marched through Alex taking over the streets. They were demanding that the government close the Modala Hostel, remove Inkatha and that the refugees from the area be protected and allowed to return to their homes. All they got from the South African government was teargas and birdshot.

On the morning of March 31, the IFP hostel residents killed an old man and attacked a school. They then went out and tried to take over more streets of Alexandra. Alex residents started to fight back, using their organized defense units and people power to protect the community from both Inkatha and the South African Police. All war broke loose and during that week 22 people were killed and over 230 injured.

This week things were comparatively quiet and still tense in Alex. The Beirut area is still a no go area and the township is heavily patrolled by military helicopters and police hippos.

Mandela (continued from page 1)

Mayors and representatives of other Sister Communities across the United States. Local leaders attending the teleconference in support of Alex included U.S. Representative Charles Hayes, State Senator Alice Palmer, Cook County Clerk David Orr, Cook County Board Member Danny Davis, Aldermen Bobby Rush, Helen Shiller and Joe Moore.

Walkathon (continued from page 1)

refugee life over the threat of Renamo violence.

Half of the Walk proceeds will be sent to the Alexandra Women's Congress (AWCO) in Alexandra Township, Chicago's sister community in South Africa. The AWCO is active in issues of housing, health and economic development. They have established a sewing collective. Half of the proceeds will be sent to the Christian Council of Mozambique (CCM) for their work in resettling refugees. The CCM provides refugees with food, tools, seeds and medicine. Their rehabilitation efforts include the rebuilding of clinics, schools and agricultural and water resources destroyed by Renamo rebels.

At last year's Walkathon, over 200 walkers raised $8500.00 for the struggle for a new South Africa. The 1992 Soweto Day Walkathon will take place on June 13th. Registration will begin at 9:00 AM and the Walk will step off at 10:00 AM. The Walk will begin and end at Malcolm X College, 1900 West VanBuren St. in Chicago. (use the parking lot on Jackson). Once again this year, the 10 kilometer Walk will take us through Chicago's West side where historical sites of highlighting women's work will be identified. For pledge forms, contact CCISSA at 312-427-9868.

Thanks from Mary

Martha Campbell, sister of Mary Ntingane has written to express thanks for efforts in helping to investigate the disappearance of Mary's son, Itumeleng. Although he has not been found, they feel that calls and letters to the local police have led to the small breakthroughs they have made in the investigation. The family believes that he is probably dead and now want to find his body so that he may be properly buried and grieved.

Follow-up calls may be made to the Wynberg Police Inquiry Department at (011) 440-4874. Intumeleng Ntingane's file number is 51.
MOZAMBIQUE
End the Violence—Promote the Peace
Questions and Answers

QUESTION 1: Why are we talking about Mozambique? Where is Mozambique anyway?
ANSWER: Mozambique, on the south east coast of Africa, gained independence in 1975 after 13 years of armed struggle against colonial Portugal. The struggle was led by FRELIMO, the Mozambique liberation front. South Africa, on the southern border of Mozambique, has been waging a brutal war against Mozambique for the past twelve years.

QUESTION 2: Why?
ANSWER: Since 1980, the apartheid government of South Africa has practiced a policy of destabilization in the Southern Africa region in order to keep her neighbors weak. South Africa has used RENAMO terrorists to destroy the people, institutions, infrastructure and economic resources of Mozambique.

QUESTION 3: What is RENAMO?
ANSWER: The beginnings of RENAMO can be dated back to the liberation struggle in colonial Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). The Rhodesian Central Intelligence Organization (CIO) created RENAMO to maintain white minority rule and weaken the liberation movement in Rhodesia. After Zimbabwe gained independence in 1980, RENAMO forces were provided weapons, vehicles and military training by the South Africans and unleashed on Mozambique to create chaos and destruction.

QUESTION 4: How has this war been carried out?
ANSWER: This war has not been a civil war or a war against the armed forces. South Africa/RENAMO have perpetrated "one of the most brutal holocausts against ordinary human beings since World War II." The violence has been directed against civilians. Acts of mutilation, the cutting off of noses, ears, lips, breasts and genitals, have been used to terrorize the people. Houses are burned, crops ravaged and meagre stores of rice and cassava are stolen by the bandits called RENAMO. Services to the people such as education and health care, priorities of the FRELIMO government after independence, have been systematically destroyed. Schools and teachers, health clinics and health care workers have been major targets of RENAMO. Some of the grim statistics are as follows:

- Mozambique (total population, approximately 15 million);
- one million people killed, over half of them children;
- over two million displaced inside the country;
- over one million and a half have become refugees in neighboring countries;
- over 250,000 orphans of war.

The cost to the children of Mozambique has been especially horrendous. A favorite tactic of RENAMO has been to kidnap children after making them witness atrocities. An estimated 200,000 children have been forced to serve in RENAMO. These children have not only been traumatized by what they have seen, but in addition, they have been turned into killers—killing their own families, friends and neighbors. In Mozambique, people say the children have been "instrumentalizado" (turned into instruments of war).
QUESTION 5: What have been the economic costs of this war to the people of Mozambique?
ANSWER: The economy is in ruins, a major objective of the South African destabilization strategy. Ports, roads, and railways have been bombed to ensure that Mozambique and its neighbors (some of them landlocked) would be completely dependent on South Africa for economic survival. Food supplies have been disrupted and destroyed with the mass devastation of villages, livestock and crops. This destruction, coupled with drought, has made Mozambique the "most food insecure country in the world" according to the U.S. Agency for International Development. The economic cost of the war has been estimated at 15 billion dollars.

QUESTION 6: Isn't this war "Black on Black" violence?
ANSWER: This is no "Black on Black" violence. This is not tribal violence. This is political violence which has been engineered and financed by the apartheid regime in South Africa. RENAMO in Mozambique, like Inkatha in South Africa, has been trained and supplied by the South African government. In fact, now that change is coming to South Africa, former RENAMO fighters from Mozambique are being used to commit acts of violence and destabilization in South Africa.

QUESTION 7: Aren't there some kind of peace talks going on about Mozambique?
ANSWER: The FRELIMO government of Mozambique has done everything possible to attain peace with RENAMO. Since July, 1990, FRELIMO has been meeting with RENAMO in Rome, Italy. The talks have been directed at ending the war. This negotiation process has broken down repeatedly because of RENAMO's intransigence and blatant violations of agreed upon conditions. Meanwhile RENAMO massacres continue throughout the country.

QUESTION 8: From where does RENAMO get its support?
ANSWER: RENAMO is supported by South Africa, Kenya, and private right wing U.S. sources (the Heritage Foundation, Rev. Pat Robertson, Senator Jesse Helms, and others. Regular contact between RENAMO leaders and South African Defence Force (SADF) officers is still being maintained. Keeping Mozambique at war with itself and importing elements of that war into South Africa clearly meets the needs of SADF hardliners and white racists.

QUESTION 9: What can the people of the United States do about Mozambique?
ANSWER: STOP IGNORING THIS "UNRECORDED HOLOCAUST"...AND ACT! Learn about the situation in Mozambique. Educate your community about this tragedy. Initiate material aid campaigns to help the Mozambican people. Write letters urging Congress to pass laws that will curtail private support for illegal armies in Mozambique and laws that will pressure RENAMO to negotiate in good faith so there can be peaceful elections. Encourage Congress to also greatly increase humanitarian aid to Mozambique especially for the orphans of war and those children who have suffered RENAMO violence. Ask the Presidential candidates to address the issue of Mozambique in their campaigns.

Prepared and distributed by:
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Mozambique Solidarity Office
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Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 922-3915
Hold the Line on Sanctions

Nelson Mandela insists that apartheid continues so long as he and 30 million black people still cannot vote in their own country. Mandela has urged states and cities to hold on to their sanctions until South Africa is ruled by more representative interim or transitional government and de Klerk is no longer in power.

Early this year, representatives of the South African government and their agents were actively campaigning to prematurely repeal the state and local sanctions which we so strongly supported and passed through the Illinois legislature and the Chicago City Council.

Now, Members of Congress, in their enthusiastic support for de Klerk following the March 17 referendum, have called for lifting all remaining Federal sanctions and state and local sanctions. Senate Africa Subcommittee Minority Leader Nancy Kashebaum (R-KS) and William Broomfield (RMI), House Foreign Affairs Ranking Minority Member are leading this drive.

Sanctions have been instrumental in pressuring the South African government to adopt its present course of negotiation. While progress has been made, the de Klerk government has not yet released all political prisoners nor has it stopped complicity by security forces in the continuing violence which has claimed approximately 300 lives since the white referendum was called a month ago. Furthermore, proposals by de Klerk for a new constitution include permanent white veto power which would only serve to continue the legacy of apartheid.

Remaining sanctions must not be lifted before a transitional government based on the principle of one person, one vote is in place. It is imperative that, in light of statements by key Members of Congress, action is taken to prevent Congress from attempting to preempt state and local sanctions laws. We urge you to take action immediately:

Contact your Alderman and Mayor Daley and let them know that sanctions against South Africa must not be lifted. You can write them at Chicago City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60602.

Write Illinois Senators Simon and Dixon, Senator Kashebaum, Representative Broomfield and your Members of Congress, urging them to resist attempts to preempt state and local sanctions against South Africa.

To a Representative:
The Honorable ____________________________
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

To a Senator:
The Honorable ____________________________
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Covert Aid to UNITA Continues

The Angolan central government charged before the OAS that the U.S. 1992 fiscal covert assistance package to UNITA is in violation of Angolan laws which prohibits aid to political parties. Covert aid to UNITA was approved by the Bush administration and the House and Senate intelligence committees for FY 1992. The amount of aid is estimated at between 20 and 30 million dollars. U.S. and international NGO's monitoring the election process have noted that this covert aid is still being channeled through traditional covert channels with no way of monitoring either its purpose or distribution. The fear is that these funds are having a direct effect on campaign activities and serve to jeopardize a fair process. The U.S. government admits that aid is being given to UNITA is for implementation of the peace accord and assisting the electoral process. In addition to U.S. aid, the South Africans are thought to have a major covert operation underway with the intent to manipulate the outcome of the Angolan election.

At the same time, U.S. Senator James Baker has recently demanded from UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi a full explanation of charges about murder and human rights abuses within his movement. The charges are a major embarrassment to the U.S. government which has supported UNITA throughout its campaign to destabilize the Angolan government.

A February 1992 South African Research and Documentation Center report entitled "Preparing for Elections in Angola" is available from CCISSA.

Anti-Apartheid Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>&quot;STILL DANCING: SOUTHERN AFRICA IN TRANSITION&quot; Conference sponsored by Church World Service and the South African International Students Organization 9:00 to 2:30 PM Schmitt Academic Center, DePaul University, 2323 N. Seminary Ave. For more information call CWS (708) 963-2767.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>CHICAGO-ALEXANDRA SISTER COMMUNITY PROJECT MEETING 6:00 PM, First Church of the Brethren, 425 S. Central Park, Chicago (the Project normally meets on the second Sunday of each month at the above time and place) For information (312) 421-5513.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>SANCC (SOUTHERN AFRICA NETWORK OF CHICAGO CHURCHES) 12 Noon, AFSC Offices, 59 East VanBuren, 14th Floor, Chicago (SANCC meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month at the above time and place) For information call Joan (312) 421-5513.</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE 13</td>
<td>THE 1992 SOWETO DAY WALKATHON TO BENEFIT WOMEN OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. Registration 9 AM, Step-off 10 AM. Malcolm X College, 1900 W, VanBuren, Chicago. For pledge forms and information call CCISSA (312) 427-9868.</td>
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Religious Leaders Visit Consulate

On March 23, a delegation of Chicago religious leaders met with the South African Consul to express their deep concern over the escalating violence in Alexandra Township. The delegation included Dr. William Love of the Chicago Presbytery, Dr. Sterling Carey of the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ, Rabbi Robert Marx of Congregation Hakea and retired United Methodist Bishop Jesse DeWitt. The delegation was led by Rev. Don Benedict of Clergy and Laity Concerned who visited Alexandra in 1991.

The delegation was supported by members of the South African Network of Chicago Churches and the Chicago-Alexandra Sister Community Project who demonstrated in front of the consulate during the meeting.

Stop Apartheid’s Violence
Video Available in Chicago

Recently, the Africa Fund produced a 15 minute video which documents the violence ripping South Africa. They are distributing the graphic, poignant video as part of their Stop Apartheid’s Violence Campaign. Copies of the tape are available through CCISSA (312-427-9868) and Synapses (312-421-5513) in Chicago. We encourage use of the video in churches and other organizations as a brief introduction to a discussion of current events in South Africa.

Join CCISSA

You can support the work of CCISSA, the Chicago-Alexandra Sister Community Project and Chicago’s sister community in South Africa, the Alexandra Civic Organization by joining CCISSA. We would welcome you to the Amandla Club with a contribution of $100.00 or more per year. With a contribution of $25.00 or more, you can become a member of both CCISSA and the Alexandra Civic Organization and receive an ACO membership card. A $10.00 CCISSA membership contribution will keep you on the CCISSA mailing list and help support our 1992 anti-apartheid campaign. Please show your support by sending your contribution today.

Chicago—Alexandra Sister Community Project
c/o Synapses
1821 W. Cullerton
Chicago, IL 60608

Chicago-Alexandra Sister Community Project

Please return to CCISSA, 343 S. Dearborn, #316, Chicago, IL 60604

Name__________________________________________________________
Address______________________________________________________

Enclosed is my check for: I would like to get involved in the I would like to support the Soweto Day
$100. or more, Amandla Club Sister Community Project: Walkathon
$25. CCISSA & ACO General _______ General
Membership Media Committee
$10. CCISSA Membership Housing Committee
Additional Contribution Education

I will work on the Walkathon Committee
Send me a pledge form
Enclosed is my Walkathon contribution