

**WALTER, THAYER & LONG
LAW OFFICES**

ONE COLUMBIA PLACE
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207

(518) 462-6753

January 22, 1988

ANITA THAYER
LANNY E. WALTER
MARY JO LONG

Lucretia M. Diggs, President
YWCA
28 Colvin Avenue
Albany, NY 12206

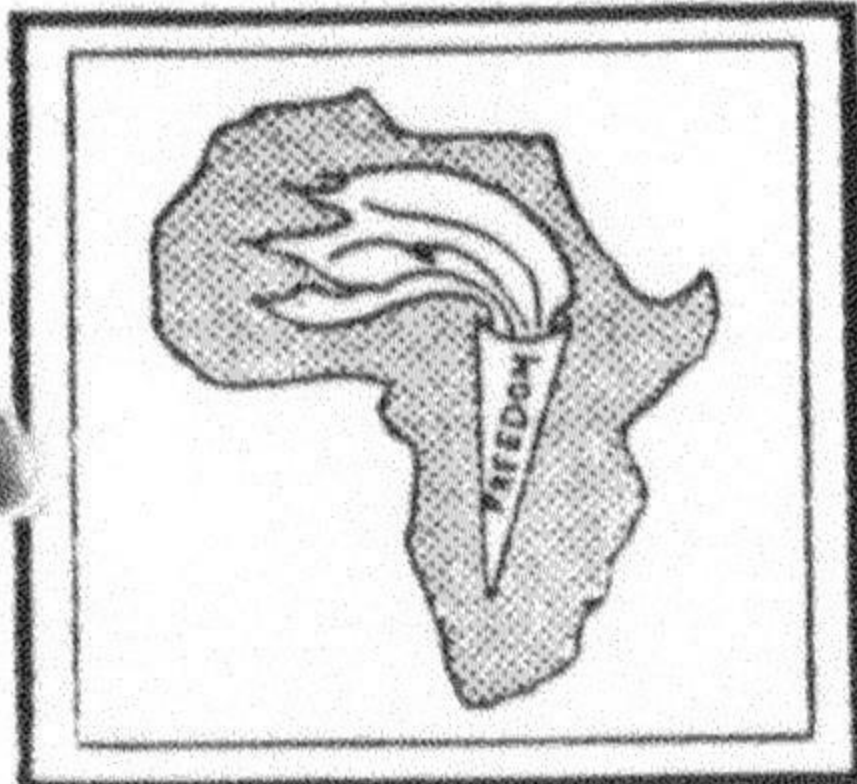
Re: YWCA TRIBUTE TO WOMEN
Nomination of Eileen Kawola
39 Academy Rd., Albany, NY
Phone: (h) 438-0309; (w) 462-7197

Dear Ms. Diggs:

This nomination of Ms. Eileen Kawola is submitted on behalf of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism. I can be reached at the above number during the day, and at 462-2542 weekends and evenings.

Eileen Kawola is a true treasure and asset to our community. She is a person who personifies -- both in her volunteer work and in her employment -- a person dedicated to the YWCA Imperative; i.e., the elimination of racism.

Eileen's primary political and emotional commitment is to the Street Academy in Albany's Arbor Hill where she has taught for 15 years. Her teaching is purposeful and enthusiastic. She is intent (and adept) at reaching students who have been labeled failures, incapable, having behavioral problems, etc., and who have been cast off by a traditional educational structure. Eileen believes she makes a difference by "breaking through" to her students -- and by reaching out to the whole student. Not one of her former students (there are over 1,000) ever believed that they were not important to Eileen. See attached excerpt from the newsletter of SUNYA's Afro American Institute. Besides teaching a variety of required and elective Social Studies classes, including studies on apartheid and the Holocaust, Eileen has worked effectively with her students to develop social learning skills -- communication, mutual respect, confidence, etc. Eileen has also taught drama and worked with her students on a myriad of other projects -- including a nearly annual dramatic presentation -- usually produced for Black History Month. Eileen is regularly involved in bringing her students into the community -- by inviting them (and transporting!) them to various community activities, ... a Channel 10 interview show, a conference on current Black issues, a Harry Belafante concert, etc.



Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

July 20, 1987

Albany Community / Police Relations Board
Room 254-M City Hall
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Board Members:

Along with other individuals and organizations, the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism paid close attention to the recently completed McKeever trial in federal court. Our understanding is that the Albany Police Department has not imposed discipline upon Officer Valerie Von Dollen Burke, despite the fact that the federal court jury found her liable for violating the constitutional rights of the McKeever family. We are writing to ask the Community / Police Relations Board to take action in regard to the failure of the Police Department to respond adequately and appropriately to the outcome of this trial. Some background is provided below for your information.

Proper functioning of a police department can only occur if officers are disciplined when they have committed a wrongful or illegal act. The Albany Police Department conducts its own internal reviews of complaints of misconduct and comes to its own conclusions based on these investigations. However, the existence of internal investigations does not provide a basis for ignoring the existence of other procedures. One such alternative procedure is the commencement of civil suits by aggrieved citizens. The Police Department should regard court decisions against police officers as conclusive proof of the officer's wrongdoing even if the prior internal investigation had come out with a different result.

Officer Valerie Von Dollen Burke has, to our knowledge, twice been found liable in federal court for violating the civil rights of Albany residents. Yet, to our knowledge, she has never been disciplined by the Albany Police Department for her conduct. In September, 1984, then federal district court judge Roger Miner found Officer Von Dollen Burke liable for assaulting a 51 year old, 4'11" tall, Black woman with a five cell flashlight. (Keyes v. City of Albany, 594 F. Supp. 1147 [1984]). Judge Miner awarded \$5,000. against Von Dollen Burke and stated that, "the force applied to Mary Keyes by Officer Von Dollen was unprovoked, unnecessary and clearly excessive. In fact, there was no need for the application of any force whatsoever . . ." (594 F. Supp., at 1154.) In the McKeever case, Von Dollen Burke was found liable for violating the Fourth Amendment rights of the McKeever family.

Community / Police Relations Board

July 20, 1987

-2-

There are several disturbing similarities between the Keyes and Mckeever cases. Both cases involved violations of the civil rights of Black residents of Albany by a white officer. Both cases resulted in verdicts against Von Dollen Burke but not against other officers sued, indicating that these verdicts are not the result of "anti-police" judges and juries. Both cases resulted in the City of Albany spending money to compensate citizens for the wrongful acts of Von Dollen Burke. And, in what can only be described as a bizarre commonality, neither case resulted in disciplinary action being taken against Von Dollen Burke.

We are troubled by the similarities mentioned above, as we are also troubled by the fact that an Albany Police officer has twice been found liable for violating the rights of Albany citizens. We do not understand why Von Dollen Burke is still permitted to patrol the streets of this City when it is possible that she will injure other citizens and cost the City more money. We also do not understand how the Police Department could announce immediately after the Mckeever verdict that there would be no further investigation and no disciplinary action taken. Doesn't the Police Department take federal court verdicts seriously? Isn't the Department concerned about potential future violations of the rights of citizens by this officer? Isn't the Department worried about the potential cost involved in allowing Von Dollen Burke to continue to patrol our streets?

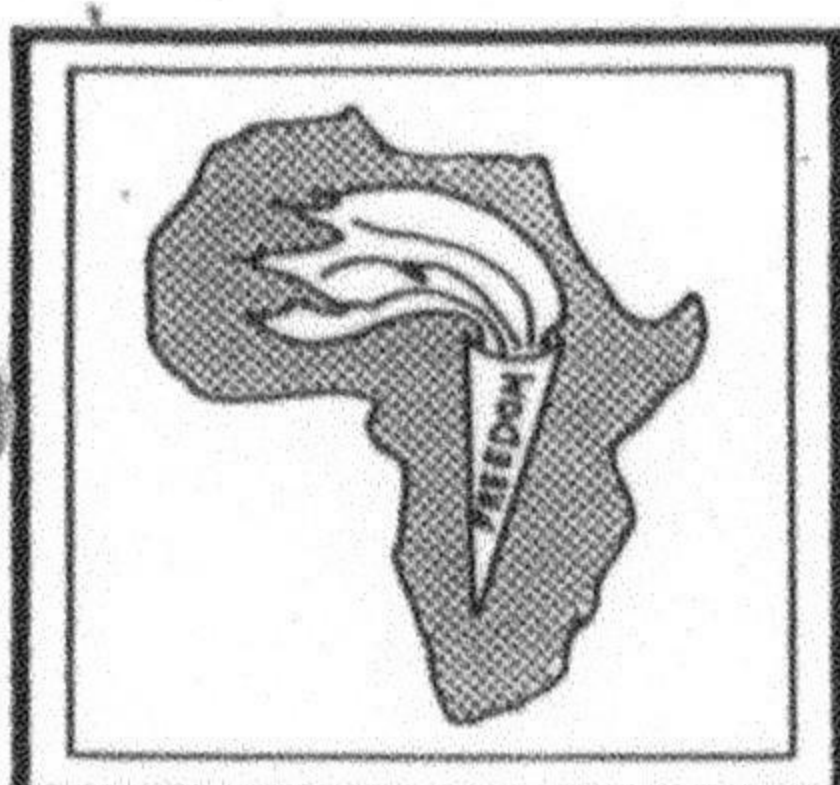
We ask the Community / Police Relations Board to demand that action be taken by the Police Department to protect the safety of our citizens and the integrity of the City's budget by disciplining Von Dollen Burke and taking steps to keep her off of the streets. How can the community have confidence or trust in the Police Department if the Department refuses to deal with proven 'bad apples'?

We thank the Community / Police Relations Board for your attention to this important matter. We have asked our representative on the Board to pursue this issue through introduction of an appropriate resolution.

Very truly yours,

Vera Michelson, Co-Chairperson

Merton Simpson, Co-Chairperson



Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

7/24/87

Dear Editor

The 7/19/87 issue of the Times Union carried an article regarding the protest of South African tennis players in the OTC tournament.

You cite tournament organizers as saying that they would ^{not} ask players what their political views are. After all they are just tennis players. And sports persons should compete regardless of their nationality.

Simply put, there is an international boycott of all South African sports people, teams and individuals, called for Black South Africans inside the country. This boycott is part of an overall strategy to isolate South Africa at every level: military, economically, diplomatically and in sports and culture.

It is - "totally irrelevant what each individual tennis player thinks. After all, talk is cheap and people are dying. South African tennis players who are sincerely against apartheid should join anti-apartheid tennis associations at home, not the apartheid sports ~~grouping~~ organizations which support and promote these players in order to bring South Africa out of its isolation.

(2)

Let us not get caught up in misplaced sympathies.

There is something much larger at stake here and that is the ability of the international community to ~~effectively~~ effectively isolate South Africa at every level

Hereby hastening the day of freedom for all South Africans

W 370-7306

Vera Michelson
Capitol District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism



Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

8/18/87

Yvette Scarlett
80 Clinton Ave
Albany, N.Y. 12210

Dear Yvette,

On behalf of the steering committee and the Coalition we would like to welcome you to your new steering committee position. Over the time that you have worked with us you have demonstrated leadership skills and a genuine desire to participate in the antiapartheid, antiracist movement.

We are convinced that you will be able to make a significant and meaningful contribution in your new leadership role.

We are all looking forward to working with you on a regular basis as the struggle continues.

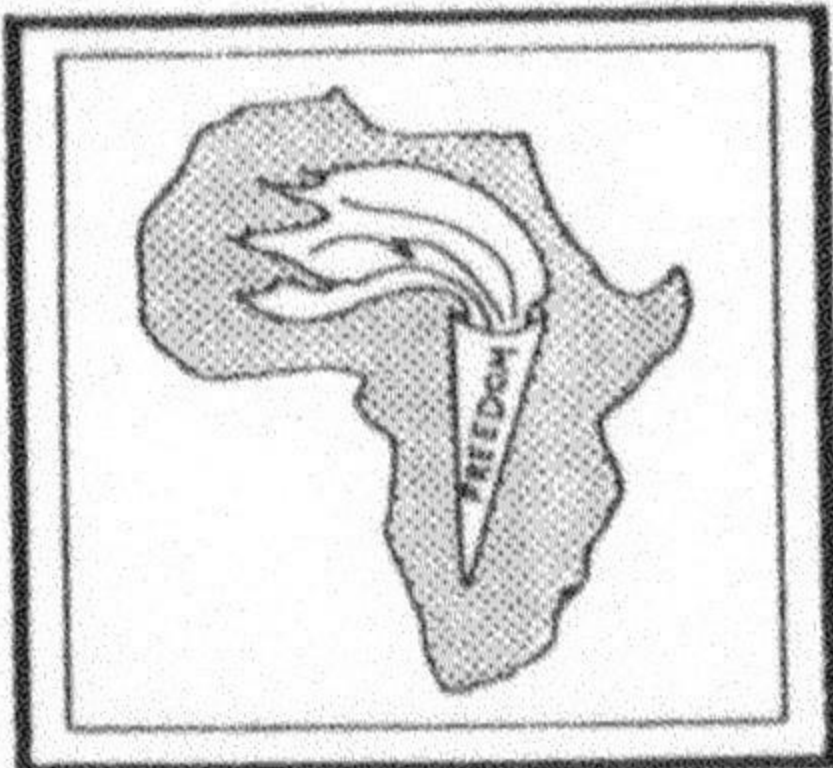
VIVA ANC

VIVA SWAPO

Vera Michelson
VERA MICHELSON COCHAIR

Merton Simpson
MERTON SIMPSON COCHAIR

C.C Steering committee members



Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

October 7, 1987

E. J. Josey
University of Pittsburgh
School of Library and Information Science Building
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15260

Dear E.J.,

How nice to hear from you. I hope all goes well with you personally.

Thank you for seeking our input regarding the questionnaire approach to the South African Libraries which are affiliated with the IFLA.

While the IFLA survey might be well intended, it clearly runs counter to any demands that are coming from within South Africa. In fact, this kind of approach gives the impression that reforms under apartheid are desirable when in fact they are only cosmetic.

Bishop Tutu himself has said that Blacks do not want the chains of apartheid, they want to get rid of the chains. One only needs to read statements of the ANC, the UDF, the Congress of South African Youth, COSATU, etc. to see that the demand is for complete sanctions - i.e., no relations of any kind with apartheid institutions. Libraries in South Africa, without question, fall under that category. The demand for sanctions covers any sports, culture, educational and scientific exchange.

I would even take this argument further by saying that the recent conference in Harare on Children, Repression and Law has clearly shown that children in South Africa are not going to libraries. They are being detained and tortured in great numbers. When they are released many cannot see, let alone read.

Apartheid must be destroyed not reformed. If the IFLA were to outright drop South African institutions from its membership until apartheid is dismantled, this move would be hailed in the international community.

I know this response sounds harsh, E.J., but the concrete facts about what is going on inside the country, the escalating repression and brutality of the apartheid government have brought things to this level. I hope this framework will be helpful to you in your discussions. More information on sanctions can be obtained from the United Nations, TransAfrica and the American Committee on Africa.

Your friend in struggle,

Vera Michelson
Vera Michelson
Co-chair

CAPITAL DISTRICT SECTION
AGAINST APARTHEID & RACISM
P.O. BOX 3002
ALBANY, N.Y. 12203

11/4/87

Dear Member,

We hope you found the first study group with Sean and Shobda and the meeting with Vicki challenging.

We are holding these study groups because everyone seems to agree that in order to fight the battle we need to be better equipped. It is our hope that in this way we will be building a stronger foundation which will strengthen the anti-apartheid, anti-racist movement in the Capital District.

For our November 15 study session, Mojaki Thulo will be returning to Albany. Many of you will remember our comrade Mojaki from the Youth Section of the ANC (African National Congress). She was in Albany in June as part of the ANC/Swapo Women's Tour. Mojaki says that she will love coming back to Albany to see her friends again. The basis for our discussion on November 15 will be the Freedom Charter (enclosed).

The Freedom Charter was adopted by the people of South Africa in 1955 at a conference in Klipton sponsored by the ANC. The Charter continues to serve as the basic document of the ANC and the people of South Africa. It has been formally "re-adopted" many times over the past 30 years, most recently by Cosatu and Sayco, (the major trade union and youth formations in South Africa). Please review the Charter carefully and think about it in the context of how it can truly work and be implemented in a free South Africa.

In addition, we will discuss some controversial issues so that we can be better prepared to respond. For example:

1. Is the ANC a communist, terrorist organization?
2. What is tribalism - Does it exist in South Africa? In what form?
3. Has the apartheid regime been successful at creating permanent divisions by race? Are there alliances between racial groups in the struggle, and what is the strength of those alliances?

You may have other questions or thoughts. Please bring copies of the enclosed Charter with you.

If you are coming please call Anne Mattai immediately at 436-0974. We are taking a count. If you can bring food or need child care, please tell Anne.

See you at Mike's house: 414 Third Street, Albany, New York
Sunday, November 15 at 3:00 p.m.
Note the 3:00 starting time.
Mojaki has to take a bus at night.

Towards a free South Africa,

V. "Mike" Michelson

Merton Simpson

Enclosure

Lucretia M. Diggs
Page Two of Two
January 28, 1988

For many people, a hard day on the front lines of teaching would be enough, but Eileen does not rest on her professional contributions.

Eileen's understanding of oppression and recognition of the debilitating effects of racism resulted in her decision in 1982 to join the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism. Little did we know that when Eileen walked into one of our meetings in 1982 and said she would like to do a little work the Coalition was getting its most dedicated volunteer ever.

Eileen is a member of the Coalition Steering Committee, our newsletter editor (most recent newsletter is enclosed), the designer of most of our graphic materials, and the author of our fund-raising letters. She is a tremendous contributor to the boring, tedious, behind-the-scenes tasks that no one in an activist organization really has time to do, i.e., check the mailbox, type correspondence, collate and assemble the mailings to our mailing list of 1,000, etc., order supplies for the literature table, etc. She is also actively involved as a leader in our organization. Her opinion and advice are sought after and respected. She has played an important role in regard to deciding what issues the Coalition becomes involved in, the appropriate tactics we should apply and the development of an overall strategy.

In addition to Eileen's teaching and service to the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism, Eileen is a member of the YWCA Black History Essay Committee. As a member of this committee, she edits selected essays for television showings. She is also a member of the NAACP, the Coordinating Committee of the Social Justice Center, Women for Racial and Economic Equality (W.R.E.E.), the Capital District Council for Social Studies, and Albany Public Schools Teachers Association.

A motivating reason for this nomination is so there can be some acknowledgment publicly of Eileen's tremendously significant ongoing activities. What is remarkable is that, in spite of all of Eileen's efforts and contributions, she is not known for her contributions -- she has labored under a cloak of anonymity.

Thank you for your consideration of Eileen Kawola as our candidate for YWCA Centennial Tribute Honoree.

Sincerely,

Anita Thayer

AT:meh

Dropout Issue Grips Black Community

Street Academy Tries To Keep Spirits High Against Great Odds



Lillian G. Tillman

The 100-year-old red-brick school house at 165 Clinton Avenue, Albany, may be historic, but it is not too habitable. Its ceilings are leaking, doors rattling and paint peeling. The students have no cafeteria, gymnasium or laboratory—facilities most other high schools take for granted. Yet, the population of this 19th-century structure has a decidedly upbeat, 21st-century attitude.

"We feel we have no way to go
(Continued on p. 4)



Larry Prince

CUNY, NYC Education Board Pursue Various Steps Against Problem

Editor's Note: School dropouts constitute one of the state's and the nation's most agonizing problems and, despite an array of remedies—some tried and some only talked about—the problem remains. To gain some perspective on it, the following is a review of several anti-dropout measures in a single jurisdiction—New York City.

In New York City, a three-program effort to prevent dropouts is jointly funded by the City University of New York (CUNY) and the Board of Education.

The first program is the Student Mentor Program, in which CUNY students serve as academic, vocational and cultural role models for at-risk high school students.

The second program is the Middle College High School Program, designed not only to help identify probable dropouts but also to groom students for careers and college.

The third program is the College Now Program, offering high-school seniors free college credits to stoke their interest in higher education.

The Student Mentor Program's goals are to show students that there are other, better alternatives to dropping out; to help them develop goals based on these options; and to provide them with the coping, learning, and communication skills necessary for finishing school.

The program's administrators say



Gaston Cancer

they realize that it is virtually impossible for a one-semester intervention to have a marked impact on the overall dropout rate in the City's schools, but by keeping its goals specific, the Mentor Program has been shown to have a positive effect on students: more of them are willing and able to stay in school.

Middle College High School

The Middle College High School Program is a public alternative high school on the campus of LaGuardia Community College (LCC). Middle College students spend 10th, 11th, and 12th grades in the school, with each year divided into trimesters. All students work on one internship each year, spending a third of each academic year on a job.

Students qualify for a high school diploma when they complete the New York State requirements. (The time needed to achieve this varies with each student.)

After 10th grade, students may, with permission of their counselors, enroll in free college classes at LCC. Credit for these courses is banked for their college requirements, and they can amass as much as one year of college credits while still in high school.

Faculty counselors ensure that students meet the necessary requirements for both high school graduation and college entrance, while achieving valuable work experience at the same time.

College Now

The College Now Program, for high-school seniors who are undecided about whether or not to go to college, is aimed at encouraging them to further their formal education, with an offer of one free college-credit course per semester, in business, sciences, or the humanities.

Another part of the program is geared for students who would like to attend college, but who may need help with basic skills before they can start working towards a degree. In the spring of their junior year, they take a College Skills Assessment Test. Based on the results, college counselors help each student devise a course of study appropriate to his or her individual needs.

In addition to taking one college (or college-preparatory) course per semester, each participating student takes a one-credit college course covering areas related to the general college experience, such as study techniques, time management, and career planning. Students can thus earn up to seven college credits in their senior year—completely free of charge.

Albany School Battles Dropouts

(Continued from p. 3)

but up," says Lillian G. Tillman, principal of the institution—the Street Academy, a public high school for students at risk of dropping out. Ninety-five per cent of the Academy's 70 students are African American. Most are transferred from other schools, where they have experienced emotional, scholastic or social problems impeding advancement.

In the last year, a controversy has ensued over the search for a new building to house the Academy. The Board of Education of the Albany School District has initiated a search for suitable quarters at an affordable cost, but concerned parties have not been able to agree on a location. The problem remains unresolved at this writing, as Street Academy parents, teachers and other supporters speak out increasingly on the necessity to meet the students' needs.

"One of our needs," says Ms. Tillman, "is that we don't get the students early enough to do the most with them. We get them when they're already too much of a problem for the other schools to handle."

Still, she noted, 75 per cent of those who start their senior year there go on to graduate.

The stories of two of those graduates follow.

Larry Prince, Class of '83, had an 85 average at Albany High School with only two weeks to go in the 1980-81 school year. There was no doubt in anyone's mind that he would return to Albany High in the fall, to excel both in his studies and on the football team. But it did not work out that way.

His family moved to Virginia, and he had to go too. But life in the new location was harder than in Albany, and 10 weeks later, the family was back in Albany. Larry was told he would have to repeat his entire sophomore year at the Street Academy, because of his failure to take his finals.

As a football player, Mr. Prince now says, he learned never to quit. That helped him to make his decision to attend Street Academy, where he found a group of concerned, caring teachers.

"They gave me good advice: to set realistic goals, devise a plan for achieving them, and stick to it no matter what," he said, citing in particular the help of Dorinda Davis, who teaches African American history, and social studies teacher Eileen Kawola.

"Eileen took me aside and told me all about Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, the Tuition Assistance Program and other means that were available

to help me get through college and into a good career," he said. "That gave me hope. I knew nothing about these things before that."

Ms. Davis, he added, taught him to be aware and proud of the contributions Africans had made to American and world culture and civilization. She also helped him get a summer job with the state's Minority Business Intern Program. And when he started to have academic problems, she got him a personal tutor.

When Mr. Prince graduated in 1983, he was the Academy's first recipient of an Albany City School District Scholarship.

He is now attending Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC), and working part-time to ensure that he will have enough money to continue. In the summer of 1987, he was a Recreational Aide at an Albany youth center, and a counselor with the Albany County Cooperative Extension. He says he may want to pursue a career in law, but he is leaving his options open.

"Law school is expensive," he says, "and when you set your goals, you've got to be realistic."

Gaston Cancer, Class of '79, is part owner of CarCare Automotive Garage in downtown Albany. He proudly shows visitors a rival garage, across the street from his own house, that his neighbors drive past in order to take their cars to CarCare.

"They know I'm a good mechanic," he smiles.

He developed his mechanical skills early. By the time Mr. Cancer reached high school, his interest in mechanics had eclipsed his interest in studying. By the end of his junior year, his attendance had become so spotty that school officials told him he could either attend the Street Academy or drop out.

Roger Green on Technology

(Continued from p. 2)

"The Institute," he concluded, "by providing needed information serves as the light that can help in identifying and developing those instances and issues and strategies that we, as a people, need to embrace in our lifetime."

The Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus was successful last summer in procuring \$200 million in funding for critical programs, initiatives and human service organizations which deliver needed services for African Americans and Hispanic New York

ers. These funds will allow for development of programs, such as the following: the SUNY Minority Graduate Fellowship Program, Minority Access to the Professions, Work Skill Programs, Pre-Natal Care Programs, funding for cultural arts groups, and a host of others directly pertinent to the development of the African American New Yorker.

Legislation the Assemblyman has sponsored includes the TAP/STAP law which provides more than \$47.5 million for educational enrichment to working class and disadvantaged students throughout the state.

At the time, Mr. Cancer did not see how finishing his academic coursework could help him get a job fixing cars. He credits Street Academy teachers Dorinda Davis and Eileen Kawola with providing the answers.

"When you're trying to find out what's wrong with a car, there's a lot of places to look...you can't quit," he says, adding:

"Dorinda and Eileen told me that when you apply for a job, if you're a dropout, the boss thinks you're a quitter. They also told me that more and more mechanics are high-school graduates, so it would be hard to compete with them for jobs without a degree."

After graduating, Mr. Cancer began majoring in automotive repair at Hudson Valley Community College. But it was not long before he decided to join the Army National Guard, which provided him with eight weeks of excellent training in diesel mechanics.

"The service was more my style," he says. "In college, I read about it; in the Guard, I lived it."

He is now in the Reserves, and works full-time repairing trucks for the City of Albany. He is also a city Democratic Party committeeman.

His commitment to helping people stems from his experience at the Street Academy, he said.

"If I had dropped out of school, I'd probably still be hanging out on street corners, and not doing anything constructive."

To help youngsters in the black community stay in school, Mr. Cancer would like to be a part-time high-school hall monitor.

"I'd like to try to give kids today the same kind of guidance that I got," he says. "I'd like to try to set an example for them, and give them some good reasons to graduate."

Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism
A Project of the Social Justice Center
33 Central Avenue
Albany, New York 12210

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NO ONE IS FREE UNTIL EVERYONE IS FREE

**JOIN THE STRUGGLE
AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM**

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203
A Project of the Social Justice Center

January 25, 1987

Dear Brothers and Sisters in struggle,

In December, 1987, we included in our newsletter an urgent plea for your financial help. Our sincere and deep thanks to those of you who gave to us so generously. That appeal came at a difficult time of the year for many people but we made it then because we could not wait any longer to ask for your help.

Although we received many generous donations, **we still need help.** If you were not able to give to the last appeal, please consider this time. The struggle against apartheid and racism has continued to go forward because of the determination, dedication and long term commitment of so many of you. Unfortunately, the struggle also takes money.

The Coalition is currently involved in many projects:

- a local campaign for sanctions against Albany police officer Valerie Von Dollen Burke for violating the rights of Black citizens of Albany
- an educational campaign about police and racial violence in New York State
- educational forums and study groups on apartheid in Southern Africa
- opposition to legislative initiatives against the ANC and SWAPO and support for legislation which would place sanctions against South Africa
- an ongoing commitment to strengthen and expand the struggle
- a monthly newsletter mailed free to over 800 people

There are no dues to be a member of the Coalition - just a commitment to ending racism and apartheid. But without dues, all our operating expenses come from periodic fund raisers and mail appeals like this one. We have no paid staff people but expenses are still considerable. **Our current funds are very limited. We need your help to continue the work.**

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

In solidarity,

Eileen Kawola

Eileen Kawola, Newsletter Editor

A Project of the Social Justice Center



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
And Racism**

Box 3002, Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12203

**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



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

March 23, 1988

Father Kofi Ammisah
St. George's Church
50 Thorton Ave.
Albany, NY. 12206

Dear Father Kofi,

As per our phone conversation on 3/23, I am sending you some material(see attached) regarding the recent bannings in South Africa and the call for comprehensive sanctions against the apartheid regime.

As I mentioned, the area Baptist ministers and the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance are working with us to make April 24th Sanctions Sunday. On this day, participating churches will allow 15 minutes for a presentation and congregation members will be asked to write a letter to Senator Moynihan asking him to co-sponsor sanctions legislation pending before Congress. This legislation calls for total and mandatory sanctions. The congregation will be asked to write the letters before they leave service. Sample letters and possible speakers will be provided by our Coalition. The churches will provide envelopes, papers and stamps.

It is our hope that the Catholic churches will be able to join us in this effort.

Janice Mapagwa of the Cap. District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism is coordinating the logistics of this event. If you think that the churches will want to join in please call her at 462- 2915.

As usual we are grateful for your assistance.

Towards freedom in Southern
Africa,

Vera Michelson
Co Chair

c.c Sis. Janice Mapagwa



Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

April 15, 1988

Rev. E.H. Jeffress
Wilborne Temple
121 Jay St.
Albany, N.Y. 12210

*March 7 08
Large 5x8
1988-89*

Dear Elder Jeffress,

Please use the enclosed fliers for distribution at service on Sunday April 17. Anything you can do to encourage the members of your congregation to attend the event will be greatly appreciated.

As promised, I am writing to confirm the details of the evening.

Brotherhood

-We will need the church opened at 6:00P.M. At that time members of the Coalition will meet your church representative and begin setting up chairs and tables etc.

-We will need as many tables as you can spare to be set up in the back and possibly around the room. I think you mentioned seven. We will also need approximately 200 chairs.

- One table set up in front of the room with a microphone. The panelists will sit at this table. One stand-up microphone to be placed in the audience.

- We will bring coffee and tea.

-The Rev. Leonard Comithier has agreed to do the invocation.

-Can we use the church collection plates?

We expect to finish our program by approximately 10:00P.M. At that time we will clean up as per your instructions.

Finally, as usual we will be making a small contribution to the church to show our appreciation.

*5. Eld Jeffress - don't forget
to have someone selling
Wilborne Gospel Albums*

In Peace and Freedom,

Vera Mchelson
4361562

CALL: (518) 436-0562
(518) 449-8875

April 17, 1988

Dear

I am writing to provide you with some more specific details related to the Coalition sponsored "Community Forum on Racist Violence." This event is scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 1988 at 7:30 pm at the Wilborne Temple Church in Albany, New York.

We are requesting that all forum speakers arrive in Albany by 5:00 pm for a light dinner and some advance press work. The press work may involve taking you and the other speakers to the TV or radio station. The specific details related to the press work will be confirmed when you arrive.

As you may know, Colin Moore has offered to drive up from New York City. You may want to contact him at (718) 434-1430 to make arrangements.

When you arrive in Albany, we ask that you meet Vera Michaelson and myself at her home which is located at 414 Third Street in Albany. The directions are on the reverse side of this letter with a phone number.

With regard to the forum, we are in the process of printing a formal program. Since I am, however, unable to provide you with a copy at this time, I have briefly described below the program and what we would like each speaker to focus on.

FORUM

Welcome and Invocation

Introduction: Brief Background on the Coalition
Purpose of the Forum
Introduction of Speakers

Speakers: Each speaker has 15-20 minutes. A period of time has been designated for questions and answers after all speakers have spoken.

Page two

- Colin Moore - statistical and factual analysis of of racist violence in New York State;
- Lillie Howard - a review and analysis of violence in Orange County and the mid-Hudson area. An update on the Goshen Jail incident would be very important;
- Zoilo Torres - an analysis of the violence against the Latino community and their response such violence;
- Roger Green - a review of the legislative responses to bias related violence and the demand for a special prosecutor; and,
- Elombe Brath - an analysis of the movement against racist violence in New York State with international linkages.

Each speaker will have the opportunity to speak with me and other forum organizers on Saturday upon your arrival about the program. However, please feel free to contact me at (518) 436-8757 (day) or (518) 449-8875 (eves.) if additional information is needed.

Looking forward to seeing you on Saturday !

Towards Justice!



Vickie A. Smith
for the Coalition



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

April 18, 1988

Dear Friend:

This letter will confirm our recent telephone conversation.

Your organization, _____, is invited to set up a book, literature and/or craft table at our April 23 forum. See enclosed flyer.

All displays should be set up by 7:00 P.M. Space is limited. You will be assigned a table or part of a table upon your arrival.

If your participation has not already been discussed with me by telephone, you must call to confirm prior to Saturday.

Please note that the walls and partitions of Wilborne Temple's basement have been freshly painted. We are not allowed to tape posters, etc. to the walls. All transactions at the tables will have to be conducted either while people are arriving or at the end of the programs to avoid distraction for the audience.

There is no charge for the use of a table.

Amandla,

Anita Thayer
462-2542 (h)
462-6753 (w)

May 12, 1988

Karen Johnson
Mayor
City of Schenectady
City Hall
Schenectady, NY 12301

Dear Mayor Johnson:

We are writing as a follow-up to resolution 87-164 adopted unanimously by Councilmembers and approved by you on July 14, 1987. That resolution stated that the Mayor and Council of the City of Schenectady would:

" make every effort to communicate to the sponsors, Nabisco, OTB, the Mens' International Professional Tennis Council and the Womens' Tennis Association of the outrage which this community feels about the system of apartheid and the violence which is done daily to the black majority in South Africa with the goal of stopping South African participation in future tournaments."

To date, we have not received any communication indicating that you have made or attempted to make contact with any of the three aforementioned parties. If you have contacted any of the sponsors, we are anxious to hear their response to your expression of our outrage towards apartheid and our goal of stopping South African participation in future tournaments.

As you probably know, the State of Emergency is still in effect in South Africa. In fact, since last year, the situation in South Africa has grown considerably worse. The recent closing of newspapers and added press restrictions, as well as, the continued repression and murder of its citizens and the recent banning of 17 anti-apartheid organizations, only emphasizes the fact that the South African system of Government is inconsistent with democratic values. Accordingly, South Africa must be isolated and denied any normalized relations with America, particularly the Capitol District.

We know that if we unite as a community, we can make a difference and contribute to a better World for everyone. We are confident that you and the Council will follow-up on last years actions and finally remove the shadow that South African participation has cast over the Schenectady OTB/Nabisco Grand Prix Tennis Tournament.

Thank you for your cooperation. We will be expecting to hear from you soon concerning the progress you have made on this gravely important issue.

Sincerely,

Vera Michaelson
Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism

Joseph Allen
Schenectady Chapter NAACP

cc: Editor Schenectady Gazette



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

July 6, 1988

President P.W. Botha
State President's Office
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

President Botha,

We are outraged at the recent announcement of the S.A. Minister of Defence calling for the mobilization of its' army reserves to repress the peaceful resistance of the Namibian people through violent and brutal means.

We are also disgusted, as is most of the world, with your war of aggression against the People's Republic of Angola. South Africa's **illegal** occupation of Namibia proves that your brand of government is deserving of the description "crime against humanity"

We join the international community in demanding the withdrawal of the occupying South African troops from Namibia.

Vera Michelson

Vera Michelson

Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism

39 Academy Road
Albany, New York 12208
July 18, 1988

Ms. Lucretia Diggs and the Board
Y.W.C.A.
Colvin Avenue
Albany, New York

Dear Ms. Diggs and Members of the Board:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the YWCA of Albany for the honor bestowed on me by naming me as one of the Y's Women of the Year. Personally, of course, it was very special. On another level the award is much more important because it helps to further the struggle against apartheid and racism since the honor was given to me for my work against those evils.

I was pleased to see that the YWCA's association with the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism was mentioned in the video of the Y as an evidence of the work the Y does to fulfill its one imperative - to fight racism wherever it exists and by whatever means necessary. I would like to suggest that it would help to strengthen the Coalition and the Y if the ties between the two groups be closer and if the Y be actively represented in the Coalition. I must express to you my serious concern about the fact that the Y is still "talking" about the issue of divestment of Y assets from South Africa.

I am leaving the country on July 21 for a one month teacher exchange program in Costa Rica. If you are interested, I would like to speak with you further about ways the YWCA could increase its participation in the Coalition. I can be reached at 438-0309 after my return on August 20th.

I highly value the work of the YWCA and again, I would like to express my gratitude to you for the award.

Sincerely,

Eileen C. Kawola
Eileen C. Kawola

*a little attempt
at Coalition building*

*Love you
Have a good month!*



Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

August 22, 1988

Dear Coalition Member,

We are at a juncture in history when the South African regime has never been more repressive. The butchery, the detention and torture of children and adults alike, the terrifying police raids, the bannings of seventeen peaceful anti-apartheid organizations, the complete "white-out" of any real news from South Africa, the continuing state of emergency, the utter chaos, death and destruction inflicted by the apartheid regime on Angola, Namibia, Mozambique and other countries in the Southern region, all of these horrors abound at a relentless pace. The Rev. Jessie Jackson put it this way; "South Africa is like an octopus its heart is in Pretoria and its tentacles are in Angola, Mozambique, Lesoto, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Namibia".

We have a very big job to do. While our brothers and sisters in South Africa and Namibia continue to struggle against the oppressive regime they call upon us to intensify our efforts in the United States. The demand from inside the country is clear: isolate South Africa, isolate the apartheid regime.

Here in the Capital District we have been able to have our voices heard for over 7 years. It is now time to move to a new level, a level which will demonstrate our understanding of the increasingly important tasks and new directives ahead of us.

Enclosed you will find a description of a major regional anti-apartheid conference to be held in New Haven, September 23, 24 and 25th. We are hoping you will be able to attend.

We view this conference as a way to build the anti-apartheid movement regionally and help strengthen the work locally. Those returning from the conference should have gained energy and ideas which will help carry us forward in the upcoming year.

All reservations and fees should be sent to Jennifer Smith at 158 No. Lark St., Albany, NY 12210 by September 7th. Please do not send anything to New Haven, we are attempting to coordinate free private housing and transportation. Persons desiring hotel accommodations should make them directly by calling:

The Park Plaza
155 Temple St.
New Haven, Conn.
203-772-1700

or

The Colonie Inn
1157 Chappel St.
New Haven, Conn.
203-776-1234

(Both hotels are in walking distance from Yale University, the conference site).

If you choose to stay at a hotel you still need to send your conference registration fee and registration form to Jennifer. Please indicate on the form if you will need private housing.

We are asking all conference participants not to book at the Holiday Inn. They are known for their unfair labor practices and presence in South Africa.

If you have any questions regarding arrangements etc. please call Jennifer at 459-3455 until August 31 and 432-3594 after September 1.

We sincerely hope you will be able to set aside this time to join us in what we expect to be a most productive enjoyable weekend.

Towards Freedom in Southern Africa,

Vera Michelson

Vera Michelson, Co-chair

Merton Simpson

Merton Simpson, Co-chair



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

August 22, 1988

Dear _____, organizational representative

We are at a juncture in history when the South African regime has never been more repressive. The butchery, the detention and torture of children and adults alike, the terrifying police raids, the bannings of seventeen peaceful anti-apartheid organizations, the complete "white out" of any real news from South Africa, the continuing state of emergency, the utter chaos, death and destruction inflicted by the apartheid regime on Angola, Namibia, Mozambique and other countries in the Southern region, all of these horrors abound at a relentless pace. The Rev. Jessie Jackson put it this way; "South Africa is like an octopus whose heart is in Pretoria and its tentacles are in Angola, Mozambique, Lesoto, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Namibia".

It is no longer enough to abhor apartheid. The United States is the number one trading partner of South Africa. We have a very big job to do.

While our brothers and sisters in South Africa and Namibia continue to struggle against the oppressive regime they call upon us to intensify our efforts in the United States. The demand from inside the country is clear: isolate South Africa, isolate the apartheid regime.

Here in the Capital District, with your assistance we have been able to have our voices heard for over 7 years. It is now time to become even more effective.

There are fifteen organizations and many individuals that make up the Coalition. Some organizations are more active than others. Some have anti-apartheid work on their national agenda. If you represent an organization which belongs to the Coalition but is not active we are asking you to reassess the situation and make 1988-1989 the year of rededication to the active support that South Africans and Namibians seek from freedom loving people in the U.S.

We invite your organization to join us in intensifying the local efforts against U.S. support of apartheid.

Enclosed you will find a description of a major regional anti-apartheid conference to be held in New Haven, September 23, 24 and 25th. We are hoping that you, along with at least one other member of your organization will be able to attend. Additionally, we are looking for financial assistance to offset the cost of transportation.

We view this conference as a way to build the anti-apartheid movement regionally and help strengthen the work locally. Those returning from the conference should have gained energy and ideas which will help carry us forward in the upcoming year.

Please let us know by September 12th if any one from your organization will be attending the conference. All reservations with fees should be sent directly to Jennifer Smith at 158 No. Lark St., Albany, NY 12210 by the 12th and not to New Haven. We will arrange for transportation and free private housing. Those desiring hotel accommodations should make them directly by:

The Park Plaza
155 Temple St.
New Haven, Conn.
203-772-1700

or

Colonie Inn
1157 Chappel St.
New Haven, Conn.
203-776-1234

Both hotels are in walking distance from Yale University, the conference site. Please DO NOT make arrangements at the Holiday Inn. They are known for their unfair labor practices and their presence in South Africa. Jennifer's telephone number is 7-3455 until August 31 and 432-3954 after September 1.

We sincerely hope you will be able to set this time aside to join us in what we expect to be a most productive and enjoyable weekend.

Looking forward to a productive year,

Vera Michelson

Vera Michelson, Co-chair

Merton Simpson

Merton Simpson, Co-chair

Organizations Which Belong to the Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism

SASU (Student Association of State University)
NAACP
BIG (Blacks in Government)
YWCA
Central America Solidarity Alliance
Malcom X Study Network
Black Social Workers of Albany
Capital District Labor/Religious Coalition
Palistinian Rights Committee
Student Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, SUNY Albany
Albany County Federation of Labor
A Phillop Randolph Institute
Delta Sigma Theta
A Universal Being Inc.
Urban League
Kitchen Table Press

August 29, 1988

Dear Pastor,

We are at a juncture in history when the South African regime has never been more repressive. The butchery, the detention and torture of children and adults alike, the terrifying police raids, the bannings of seventeen peaceful anti-apartheid organizations, the complete "white out" of any real news from South Africa, the continuing state of emergency, the utter chaos, death and destruction inflicted by the apartheid regime on Angola, Namibia, Mozambique and other countries in the Southern region, all of these horrors abound at a relentless pace. The Reverend Jesse Jackson put it this way; "South Africa is like an octopus. It's heart is in Pretoria and its tentacles are in Angola, Mozambique, Lesoto, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Namibia".

It is no longer enough to abhor apartheid. The United States is the number one trading partner of South Africa. We have a very big job to do.

While our brothers and sisters in South Africa and Namibia continue to struggle against an oppressive regime they call upon us to intensify our efforts in the United States.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, Reverend Allan Boesak, President World Alliance of Reformed churches, the Reverend Frank Chikane, General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches and countless others have been untiring in their efforts to bring world wide sanctions against South Africa.

Here in the Capital District, with your assistance, we have been able to have our voices heard for over 7 years. It is now time to become even more vocal and active. It is clear that this cannot be done without the consistent and forward thinking leadership of the religious community.

We invite you, as a religious leader of this community to join in intensifying the local efforts against U.S. support of apartheid.

Enclosed you will find a description of a major regional anti-apartheid conference to be held in New Haven, Connecticut on September 23, 24 and 25. We are hoping that you, along with at least one or two other members of your congregation will be able to attend. Additionally, we are looking for financial assistance to offset the cost of transportation.

We view this conference as a way to build the anti-apartheid movement regionally and help strengthen the work locally. Those returning from the conference should have gained energy and ideas which will help carry us forward in the upcoming year.

We have some other ideas for future work and we need to determine the kind of interest that exists in the Capital District religious community.

Please let us know by September 12th if any one from your congregation will be attending the conference. All reservations with fees should be sent directly to us by the 12th and not to New Haven. We will arrange for transportation and private housing. Hotels will also be available.

If you are unable to attend the conference but are interested in joining our efforts, please call Reverend Comithier as soon as possible.

Looking forward to a productive year,

Reverend Leonard Comithier
Macedonia Baptist Church
172 North Allen Street
Albany, New York 12206
439-4313 evenings

Vera Michelson
Capital District Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism
P.O. Box 3002
Albany, New York
436-0562

Enclosure



Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

October 18, 1988

Ms. Monica Nashandi
Deputy Permanent Observer
to the United Nations
S W A P O
801 Second Avenue
Room 401
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. Nashandi:

This letter is a follow up to our recent telephone conversation, concerning the scheduling of a press conference and a series of other media events which will be scheduled sometime on the week of November 14th, in Albany, New York, under the auspices of the Capital District Coalition against Apartheid and Racism. The major press conference will be highlighted by the presentation of a check for over \$1,000.00 from the Coalition against Apartheid and Racism to (SWAPO).

On the same day as this press conference we would like to make the most of your presence in Albany and schedule you for other media events which may include radio, television or newspaper interviews and other appropriate activities.

In our telephone conversation we set a tentative date for Thursday 17, 1988 at 9:00 am for your arrival in Albany. We need to confirm this date as soon as possible so that we can finalize our media contacts.

If you have any questions feel free to call me at (518) 457-5183 from 9 - 5.

Yours in Struggle

Merton Simpson
Merton Simpson, Co-Chair

NEWSFRONT

SPRINGBOK SCORE SETTLED

ONCE AGAIN THE CITY OF ALBANY is paying a hefty price for the illegal actions of its law-enforcement officials. This time the price tag is \$47,000, to be divided between two anti-apartheid activists, Vera Michelson and Aaron Estes. The payout stems from police efforts to disrupt demonstrations planned to protest the visit to Albany nearly seven years ago by the South African Springbok rugby team.

At a Tuesday afternoon press conference on the steps of City Hall, Michelson discussed the settlement of the long-standing lawsuit against the city. "We are very pleased," she said. The settlement means the city has acknowledged that Albany police abused their powers when they arrested Michelson and Estes early in the morning of Sept. 22, 1981. That evening, more than 1,200 demonstrators protested the game, played in a drenching rain at Bleecker Stadium.

The protest received national and international attention, in part because all other games on the Springbok schedule were canceled due to pressure from the anti-apartheid movement. Organizing for the protests led to the creation here of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, an organization of 12 local groups that today is represented on Albany's Police-Community Relations Board. And Michelson recently represented the Coalition in Arusha, Tanzania, at an international conference of supporters of the African National Congress.

"The police had absolutely no right to terrorize us in the middle of the night," Michelson said. "They burst into the apartment looking for an arsenal of weapons which they did not find." Instead they arrested Michelson and Estes on charges of possession of tiny amounts of marijuana and a few old firecrackers.

"The police ransacked my apartment, snooped in all of my drawers . . . rummaged through my papers and confiscated material I and others were using to organize opposition to apartheid and the city's invitation to the South African team," said Michelson, who recalls waking up to find a non-uniformed police officer standing over her. With a shotgun to her head, she was forced to crawl to another part of the apartment, where she was handcuffed to a table.

According to attorney Lanny Walter, who represented Michelson during the long litigation that led to the settlement, the officers came to her apartment based on the false statement of an FBI informant. The report that guns were being stockpiled in the apartment, which was used to justify the search warrant, proved false. "That allegation was a lie," Walter said. But that didn't prevent the invading officers, including not only the Albany police but also the New York State Police, FBI and an assistant district attorney, from expanding their search. They took personal books and papers from Michelson. All were later returned, except for her address book.

The activists also are suing the FBI and have asked a Federal District Court judge to allow them to question the FBI's informant. "We feel confident that if we had access to the informant and were able to question him or her on these lies, the claims against the FBI would hold," Michelson said.



(l-r) Walter, Michelson and Coalition members Anita Thayer, Merion Simpson and Mark Mishler.

So far, access to the informant has been denied, the judge citing concerns for that individual's safety. Appeals of this ruling have been delayed until the resolution of the case with the city. According to Walter, this litigation can now proceed.

"We're persuaded there was a conspiracy to take the more vocal members of the Coalition off the street in order to prevent them from participating in the demonstration," Walter said. Two other organizers arrested the previous day on weapons-possession charges were cleared by a jury the following year.

When former Gov. Hugh Carey canceled the game on the grounds that there was potential for violence, the late Mayor Erastus Corning intervened on behalf of the South African team, terming it a civil-liberties issue. Although not a lawyer, Corning was allowed to speak in favor of the game before Federal District Court Judge Howard Munson. The judge ruled that the game should be played.

—Jeff Jones

BIO FEEDBACK

BRAIN TRANSPLANTS, CUSTOM-made mammals, organ sweeps of street people willing to make a trade . . .

These were a few of the future possibilities contemplated at a week-long gathering of scientists, including Isaac Asimov, and 60 non-expert citizens last week at the Rensselaerville Institute. The Asimov Hearings, as they were dubbed, simulated congressional hearings set in 1998, the topic: bio-engineering. Conference participants played one of three roles: executive in a mock bio-engineering firm—Organswap, Chromozoom or Mutatone—member of a watchdog group or member of the congressional committee charged with licensing the firms. Asimov and other Institute scientists acted as consultants.

Public-relations representative Mary-Ann Ronconi noted that while the products imagined and imaginatively debated during the week at the 100-acre estate may seem like chapters out of H.G. Wells' *Island of Dr. Moreau*, the issue is with us today. "Once we decided on the topic," she reported, "the things we were talking about regularly came up in the news."

Harvard, for example, has just patented a

handy-dandy new variety of mouse specially designed and guaranteed to develop breast cancer. (The market of course is researchers, not pet shops.) Genetically engineered pigs also have been patented. So the questions raised in the simulated congressional hearings may only be ahead of their times because the times are way behind.

One problem that arose during the hearings may not repeat itself in reality. Conference participants assigned the role of bio-engineering firm representatives were overly ethical. "We had to push them," said Ronconi, noting that many of those who registered for the conference (at a cost of \$600 per person) were environmentally minded and perhaps more concerned than the average executive with the effects of their products. Participants did, however, include a marketing specialist and a vice president of Campbell's Soup.

The results? The congressional committee voted to license the three bio-engineering firms, but with some qualifications. Like real-life congressional committees, they appointed another

committee—an ethics panel—to weigh ethical questions. They also ruled that brain transplants be postponed pending further study, and a close rereading of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.

—Kathryn Gordon

CONTRA SCAPEGOAT

Source: San Francisco Bay Guardian

JACK TERRELL SAYS HE'S PAYING a hefty price for blowing the whistle on a U.S. covert operation.

Terrell worked as an operative in Oliver North's secret contra-resupply network. In 1985, when the network was still a White House secret, Terrell became the first witness to expose its dirty underbelly to the FBI and Congress.

He didn't know at the time that the government would eventually use his own testimony against him. Last week, a grand jury in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., indicted Terrell and six others in a move that smacks of a politically motivated attack against the earliest whistle-blower of Contragate.

The indictment charges seven operatives in a Miami-based covert operation with violations of the Neutrality Act and federal firearms laws. The Neutrality Act bars U.S. citizens from waging war against a country with whom the U.S. is at peace. According to the indictment, Terrell and six accomplices recruited, trained and armed a group of U.S. mercenaries to fight with the contras in Honduras against the government of Nicaragua.

But what stands out in the indictment is that the U.S. Attorney's office in Miami has targeted the "small fish" in the Miami operation, while mysteriously ignoring those in the conspiracy who called the shots.

"Where are the policy-makers, where are the generals in this indictment?" asked John Mattes, a Miami public defender and legal advisor to Terrell, in an interview.

Documents released during the Iran-contra hearings show that the little-known

► 8

AGENDA

Forums, lectures, meetings, rallies and other political events.

THURSDAY, AUG. 4

Television: *OurTown*, WMHT, Channel 17, 8 PM. This week's program is titled *Cruelty to Animals or Putting Meat on the Table: the Raising of Veal*.

FRIDAY, AUG. 5

Open House: *Capital District Mothers' Center*, First Congregational Church, 405 Quail St., Albany, 9:30 AM-noon. Weekly drop-in mornings are scheduled Fridays in August for this organization that offers support and educational services to parents. Call Risa Scranton at 482-4508 for more information.

SUNDAY, AUG. 7

Meeting: *Capital District Free Inquirers*, President's Dining Room, Campus Center, College of Saint Rose, 420 Western Ave., Albany, Noon. The speaker will be Andy Meier, who will talk about the Tenth International Humanist and Ethical Union Congress. \$5.50 for buffet lunch. 794-7791.

TUESDAY, AUG. 9

Benefit Concert: *Chuck Mangione*, Palace Theatre, 19 Clinton Ave., Albany, 8 PM. Mangione brings his trademark flugelhorn to town for a concert to benefit the Unity House Families-in-Crisis Program, which provides counseling and emergency shelter to battered people, their children and abused/neglected teens. Ticket prices range from \$300 (corporate box) to \$15 (general admission). 274-2607.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 10

Benefit: *Rising From the Ashes*, QE2, 12 Central Ave., Albany, 8 PM. In commemoration of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Featuring performance artist Julie Kabat, songwriter-poet Cathy Winter and blues-rock band Begonia. Proceeds to benefit the Social Justice Center of Albany. \$5. 434-4037.

have been made. Gov. Mario M. Cuomo has pushed for public campaign financing, and has been asked by the commission to call a special session of the Legislature to enact other campaign finance reform.

Bruno was one of a number of legislators cited by name in the report for their large fund-raising operations. An aide said Bruno was not available for comment this morning because he

raised \$700,000 in 1980-81. He was followed by Sen. Norman Levy, R-Nassau County, who raised \$289,600, and Sen. Tarky Lombardi, R-Syracuse, who raised \$254,400 during that same two-year period.

Albany to pay \$47G in civil rights suit

By Jay Jochowitz

Staff writer

Times Union 8/2/88

ALBANY — The city of Albany has agreed to pay \$47,000 to settle a \$9 million civil rights lawsuit brought by two would-be protesters arrested before the controversial 1981 Springboks rugby game.

According to an order filed with U.S. District Court in Utica, the city will pay Vera Michelson of Albany and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism \$12,000. Aaron Estis, now a Maryland resident, will receive \$35,000.

Michelson and Estis had charged that the city and four police officers — along with the FBI and Albany County district attorney's office — orchestrated their arrests to keep them from peacefully protesting during the South African rugby team's game at Bleecker Stadium.

"The whole thing was very bizarre and we're encouraged by the settlement," Michelson said Monday. "To us, it says they blew it. You have a police force that feels they can suspend the Constitution."

In a telephone interview from Maryland, Estis said, "I came to Albany in 1981 to protest the denial of rights in South Africa and I found those same rights could be denied by police and the FBI."

However, Vincent J. McArdle Jr., city corporation counsel, said the settlement was not an admission that the city conspired to violate Michelson's and Estis' civil rights.

The city and police officers were the only defendants left in the case after a federal judge found in 1987 that there was either insufficient evidence or improper grounds for bringing charges against the FBI and district attorney's office.

McArdle said the settlement was agreed to after Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III and the city's legal staff decided that a federal jury might find against the city and officers because there was no one else left to blame.

"We felt we could have gone in there and the probability was we would have come out with a no cause," said McArdle. But "it was decided that if we could come out with a reasonable settlement, we just couldn't jeopardize ... some good honest cops."

The settlement, which came Monday, when the case was to go to trial, was based mainly on how much time Michelson and Estis spent in jail, McArdle said. Michelson was in jail three days; Estis, a week.

The case dates back to the Sept. 22, 1981, arrest of several people who planned to demonstrate at the Springboks game against the Schenectady-based Eastern Rugby Union.

Estis, then a Harvard University student and now an official in the federal Office of Management and Budget, had traveled to Albany for what Michelson and other members of the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism claimed was to be a peaceful protest of South Africa's policy of racial segregation.

At 3 a.m. on the morning of the game, several local, state and federal law enforcement officers broke through the door of Michelson's 400 Central Ave. apartment, which overlooks Bleecker Stadium. They arrested Michelson, Estis and Michael Young. A fourth person, John Spearman, was arrested that day, driving Young's car.

Police contended that the arrests were made after the FBI received a tip from a confidential informant who allegedly charged that some of the protesters were Communist Workers Party members and planned a violent demonstration.

About 1,200 people demonstrated that evening with no serious incidents.

Marijuana and fireworks possession charges against Michelson and Estis were dropped, while Young and Spearman were acquitted of weapons possession charges at trial.

Michelson, the coalition and Estis filed suit in 1982, charging illegal search, arrest and incarceration. Michelson, who admitted to having a small amount of marijuana and a few firecrackers in her apartment, compared the charges to a traffic ticket.

U.S. District Court Judge Neal P. McCurn last September dismissed the suit against the FBI because of insufficient evidence to prove a conspiracy. He also dismissed the suit against the county, which argued that district attorneys could not be held liable for actions they initiated as prosecutors.

McCurn, however, let the suits stand against the city, Police Chief John F. Reid, former Chief Thomas Burke, Capt. William Murray and Detective John Tanchak.

Michelson said she plans to appeal last fall's ruling which denied the plaintiffs access to the confidential FBI informant.

The Coxsackie facility opened in 1935 as a work for juvenile delinquents came a maximum-security in 1978, has been the scene of a number of hostage taking disturbances in the past 1

The incidents include:

April 1972 — 40 inmates half-hour strike, seeking money for their labors.

August 1973 — 330 refuse to start work after admonished about waste

Breakfast Preview

This Wednesday and Wednesday of August Season will preview the fashions and breakfast at the come enjoy our area's finest and see the fashions too!

EPA moves to slow ozone depletion

Scripps Howard

WASHINGTON — The Environmental Protection Agency announced new manufacturing quotas on chlorofluorocarbons Monday, to slow future depletion of the upper-atmosphere ozone layer.

The EPA also said it is leaning toward a "windfall profits" fee designed to make sure that the federal government, and not chlorofluorocarbon manufacturers, benefits from rising prices for the man-made gases.

But with growing evidence that chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, are severely damaging the ozone layer, EPA Administrator Lee Thomas abandoned earlier claims that the regulation could effectively "save" ozone from destruction.

"This regulation provides a low-cost means of achieving our goal of reducing CFC and halon damage to stratospheric ozone," Thomas



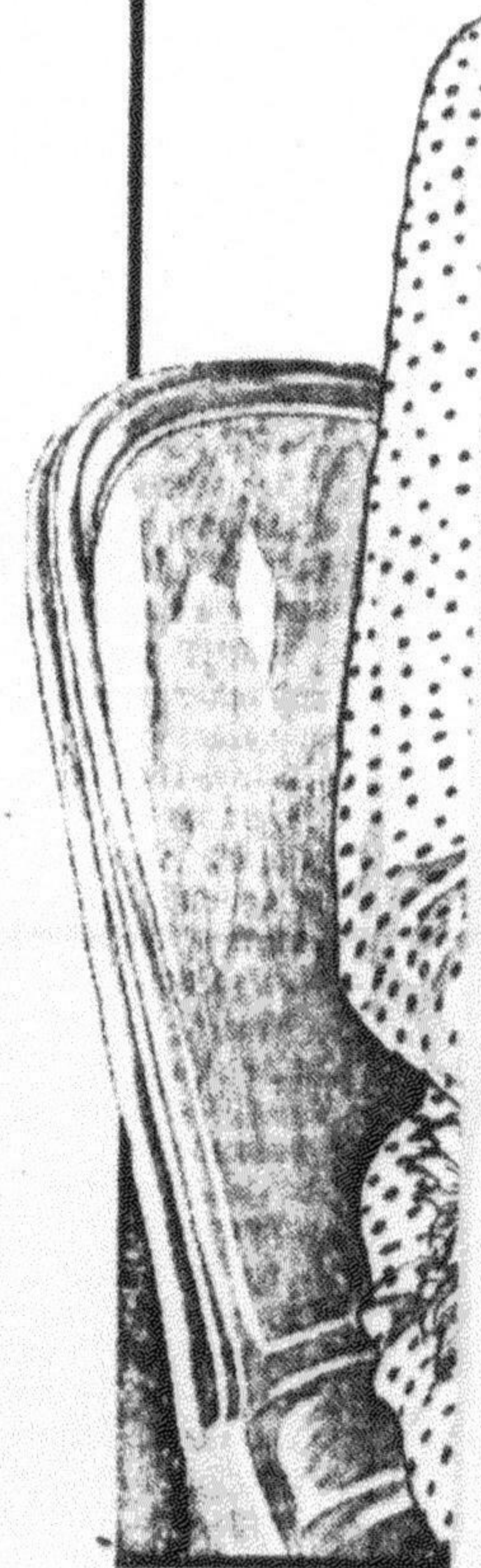
THOMAS

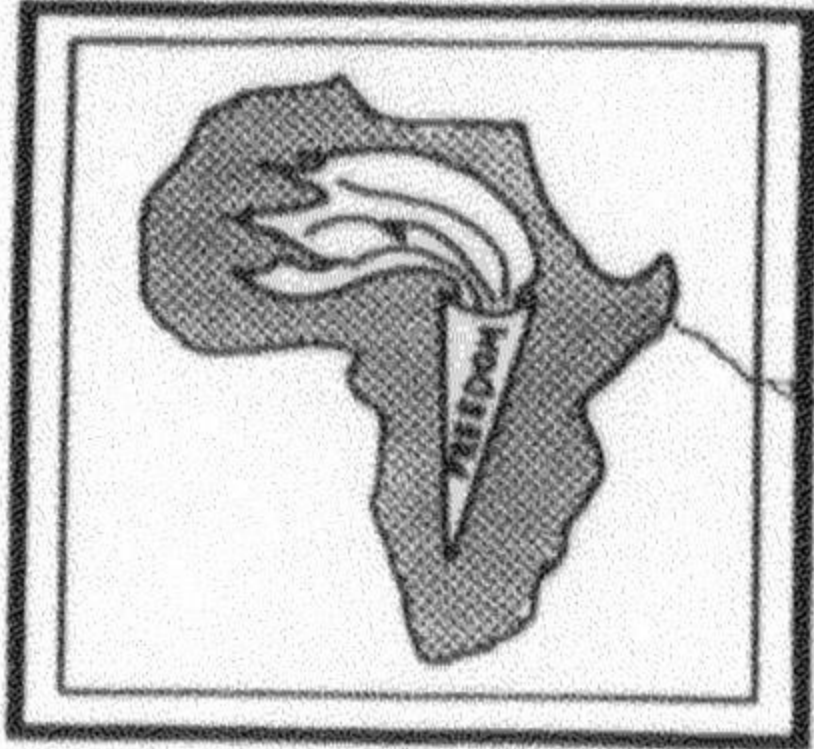
said. CFCs are used in refrigeration, foam blowing, computer manufacturing and, in many nations, aerosol sprays for personal use. Halons are ozone-depleting compounds used in fire extinguishers.

Stable for a century or more, both types of chemicals waft up to the ozone layer miles above the Earth's surface. There, chemical reactions cause the destruction of ozone molecules.

The EPA regulation will require a freeze on CFC and halon production and consumption at 1986 levels, then a steady reduction to 50 percent of those levels by 1999. Seven U.S. companies produce either or both of the chemicals.

The rules are the U.S. contribution to an international effort to stop the breakdown. Although 37 nations have signed the international agreement, only five, including the United States, have gone through the formal process of ratifying it. Six more signatories are needed before the agreement would take effect.





**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

Community Events Page

The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism will hold its' regular monthly meeting on Thursday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. , the Urban League, 95 Livingston Ave. Albany, N.Y.. Monica Mashandi Deputy Chief Representative of Swapo to United Nations will brief the organization on the status of the current talks focusing on Angola and the reality of Namibian independence. Other important agenda items will also be discussed. The public is invited to attend. Promptness is urged. For more information call 436-0562.

Please print on November 14th or 15th.



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

Nov. 8 1988

Dear Coalition Member,

By now you know that we had to cancel October's general Coalition meeting... Because our regularly scheduled in Nov. would fall on Thanksgiving, we have had to rearrange our Nov. meeting also. We apologize for any inconvenience or meeting conflicts that this causes.

Our November meeting will be held on **THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17th** at 7:00 P.M. sharp... same place .. Urban League, 95 Livingston Ave.

At the Nov. meeting we will be honored by the presence of Monica Mashandi, Deputy Chief Permanent Observer ^{of} ~~to the United Nations.~~ ^{SWAPO} Monica will be in Albany all day at the invitation of the Coalition. At an early morning press conference the Deputy Chief will accept a \$1,500. donation on behalf of Swapo. The contribution is a result of of the Michelson /Springbok rugby lawsuit and is being made on behalf of the Coalition. Merton and Naomi are making arrangements for Monica to do press work for most of the day.

We are expecting that Monica's attendance at our meeting will give Coalition activists with an opportunity to hear first hand, Swapo's assessment of the current talks in **ANGOLA** and the reality of **NAMIBIAN** independence. There are also other very important agenda items we need to discuss.

As you can see we are starting the meeting a half hour earlier than than usual. **N.B. 7:00P.M.. I am asking all of you to please be prompt.** We want to start on time and finish by a respectable hour.

Towards Namibian Independence,

Thom Michelson

Don't forget to save Sat. Nov. 19 for an all day continuations meeting of the Free Southern Africa Northeast Coalition. We are expecting people from all over the Northeast to be in Albany on that day. Watch for a mailing from Vicki Smith regarding this. **LET ME KNOW IF YOU CAN PROVIDE ACCOMODATIONS ON THAT WEEKEND.**

NORTH EAST SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY NETWORK

MINUTES OF THE CONTINUATIONS MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 1988
ALBANY, NY

Host Organization: Capital District Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism (Albany)

Meeting Co-Chairs: Vera Michelson (Albany)
Tim Johnson (NYC)

Recorder: Vickie Smith (Albany)

Present: (See attached list)

=====

I. Welcome - Vera Michelson
Reverend Cathers (AME Zion Church, Albany)

II. Overview - Vera Michelson

Following the New Haven Conference this past September, a Continuations Committee was established to organize an agenda and provide direction for this meeting in Albany. The Committee has attempted to incorporate the ideas, suggestions, and proposals presented in New Haven.

One of the major goals of the North East Southern Africa Solidarity Network is to set up and expand a regional network ready to work consistently on a plan of action against apartheid. Similiar attempts have been made unsuccessfully, however. The momentum, in the past, occurred in sparks and involved only anti-apartheid work on the local level. Our task is to hammer out a program as one mass voice or movement.

III. Agenda - Tim Johnson

The agenda was reviewed. Tim also explained that the Freedom Charter was inadvertently excluded from the agenda for today's meeting. This item is deferred until the next meeting.

IV. Update from the ANC

- o UDF comrades found guilty of treason, terrorism, and other various counts. The BBC reported that no sentences were given. Belief is that the judge is trying to advance the definition of a communist.
- o In the last elections held in South Africa, few seats were won by the Afrikaners whose success appeared to be limited to big cities. This perhaps redefines racism and creates a split between whites.
- o The right wing continues its attack on churches and people which only gets noticed when large numbers of people are killed.
- o More and more whites refusing to join the army - refusing to perpetuate the evil system of apartheid. The South Africa has lost its power - not as superior as Cuba and Angola. The Dutch Reform Church recently asked SA what it was doing in other countries. More academicians speaking out on the situation.

V. Update from the SWAPO

- o Namibia is tense right now to say the least. The negotiations have been complicated by the arrival of a large reinforcement of South African troops. Some 50,000 troops are estimated to be at the border; and more around the country.
- o There have been school boycotts, on and off, since March. Social conditions are bad: many are roaming the country without education or employment; some in exile in Angola and Cuba in numbers as high as 10,000 to date; many detained by paramilitary units, especially those suspected to be helping the movement, and some attempts are made to train those captured to go against the liberation movement; and many young girls and women are raped. The whereabouts of people are difficult to know.
- o With regard to talks involving the withdrawal of SA and Cuban troops, Cuba and Angola have accepted the UN (435) plan. South Africa has not accepted the plan as of this writing. (information regarding the details of the plan and tentative deadlines have not been included in the minutes)

- o SWAPO requested that Namibian be discussed at the UN general discussion. Third world and neutral countries voted in favor of a debate. The US and SA wanted to defer the debate.

V. Decision-making Process (for this meeting)

The group decided that a vote would be taken on each proposal after discussion. If there was significant disagreement, the proposal would be put back on the table and re-examined.

The co-chairs were permitted to use their discretion to cut off discussion or to refocus the discussion.

VI. Approved Campaign Proposals (Discussion omitted)

A. Product Boycott

Proposed by: Vickie Erenstein

Motion carried
1 abstention

There are many national, local, and international boycotts that could be taken on by this network. The Shell boycott is an international one taken up by the ANC, unions, and others. It was proposed that the People's sanction work be to take up the effort of the Shell boycott and coordinate this effort with others in the region.

It is understood that the region would take up and emphasize the Shell boycott but not exclude other local campaigns.

B. Regional Legislative Campaign

Proposed by: Tim Johnson

Motion carried
All in favor

It was proposed that the region focus its legislative activities on the passage of comprehensive sanctions at the national level and disseminate information about other anti-apartheid legislative work/strategies developed at the local level to the network. Regional activities may include developing a leaflet explaining sanctions and supporters, a people's petition to present legislators, and participating in lobby days.

The legislative work of the region will be flexible so that emergencies and other areas of concern, i.e., divestment and stopping aid to UNITA can be included.

C. Material Aid Campaign

Proposed by: Andrea Ross
Amended by Mark Mishler

Motion carried
All in favor

It was proposed that the region engage in a material aid campaign with specific assignments, goal, and time-frame. The proposal includes collection of specific material items and financial contributions.

(the full discussion on material aid will be kept on file as a great deal was learned from others about their material aid campaign experiences)

D. Structure

Proposed by: Tim Johnson
Vera Michelson

Deferred

It was proposed that a Advisory Council be established to help facilitate the work of the network. Members would consist of prominent people from all areas of the network. This body would on an infrequent basis. In addition, a Steering committee would also be established. This body would consist of a representative from each area, in addition to a representative from varying constituencies.

It was apparent that further discussion was needed before agreement could be reached. It was also suggested that a written description of the proposal be mailed to everyone so that this can be addressed at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

It was agreed, however, that the next interim body meet to work on some of proposals and organize an agenda for the next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 1989 at District 65 located at 13 Astor Pl. in New York City (Cleve Robinson's Office).

PLEASE
NOTE ENCLOSED
1/2 - SHEET FOR
CHANGE IN TIME

CONTINUATIONS MEETING

**Interim Committee

ATTENDANCE LIST
November 19, 1988
Albany, NYAlbany, New York

<p>Arlena Adams CDCAAR 24A Limmerick Dr. Albany, New York (518) 434-8725</p> <p>Claudia Bremer 328 Hudson Ave. Albany, NY 12210 (518) 423-6772</p> <p>Celia-Bess Cotton 150 Lark St., #2R Albany, NY 12210 (518) 436-9234</p> <p>David Finz SASU/SCAAR 664 State St. Albany, NY 12206 (518) 432-4200</p> <p>Ronn Goldberg SCAAR 118 Spring St. Albany, NY 12203 (518) 432-8302</p> <p>Shobhna Gopal CDCAAR 39 Academy Rd. Albany, NY 12208 (518) 438-0309 (h) (518) 442-4383 (w)</p> <p>Jeff Jones Metroland Newspapers 55 Brookline Ave. Albany, NY 12203 (518) 489-2241</p>	<p>Everette Joseph 285 1/2 Hudson Ave. Albany, NY 12210 (518) 436-9695</p> <p>Eileen Kawola CDCAAR 39 Academy Rd. Albany, NY 12208 (518) 438-0309 (h) (518) 462-7197 (w)</p> <p>Daniella Korotzer Young Communist League/ SCAAR/Peace Project 429 Manning Blvd. #3 Albany, NY 12206 (518) 438-5949 (h) (518) 442-5690 (w)</p> <p>Lawrence Lane 345 Hudson Ave. Albany, NY 12210 (518) 434-2641</p> <p>Sean Lewis CDCAAR/SCAAR 13 Pennsylvania Ave. Albany, NY 12206 (518) 436-0562</p> <p>Peggy Lumpkin P.O. Box 116 Albany, NY 12210 (518) 432-9687</p> <p>Vera Michelson CDCAAR 13 Pennsylvania Ave. Albany, NY 12206 (518) 436-0562</p>
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(518) 463-2500

Attendance List

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CDCAAR
58 South Manning Blvd.
Albany, NY 12203
(518) 438-2845 (h)
(518) 462-6733 (w)

Dennis Phayle
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Ann Pope
NAACP
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(518) 443-5798 (w)

Bill Ritchie & Anita Thayer
CDCAAR
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Albany, New York 12202
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Toni Robinson
400 Central Ave., #22F
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(518) 482-3759

Arlette Slachmuylder
SASU
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Vickie Smith
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Aemut Woef
328 Hudson Ave.
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Rochester, New York

Jen Freedman & Jephtha Varavaer
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Troy, New York

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Joshua Nessen
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Caroline Rioux
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Attendance List

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UN Journalist
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(212) 962-1210 (w)

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Diane White
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for a Free South Africa
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Kathleen Callister
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Joseph Reilly
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(203) 688-5845

Clinton Robinson
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(203) 387-2572 (w)

Andrea Ross
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(203) 624-5161 (w)

Barbara Winters
YWCA/New Haven Free South
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(203) 624-5569

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Catherine Sedwick
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Jersey City, NJ 07304

Paula Bower
Educators Against
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625 Linden Ave.
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(212) 836-6644

****Interim Committee****

-
- | Cleve Robinson Vickie Erenstein |
- | Diane White |
- | Tim Johnson |
- | Andrea Ross |
- | Vera Michelson |
- | Rob Jones |
- | Reps from SUNYA/SCAAR, |
- | ANC and SWAPO |
- | Josh Nessen |
-



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

Nov. 30 1988

Rev. James Lawrence
Israel A. ME
381 Hamilton St.
Albany, N.Y.

Dear Rev. Lawrence,

Just a brief note to thank you for the warm hospitality and the use of your church as host facility for the Nov. 19 Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network meeting.

It is my sense that everything ran smoothly. Rev. Gathers gave us a very warm welcome and everyone did feel at home.

We look forward to a continuing working relationship with you and your congregation around the question of Southern Africa and racism here at home.

If I don't speak with you before the holidays, have a nice Christmas.

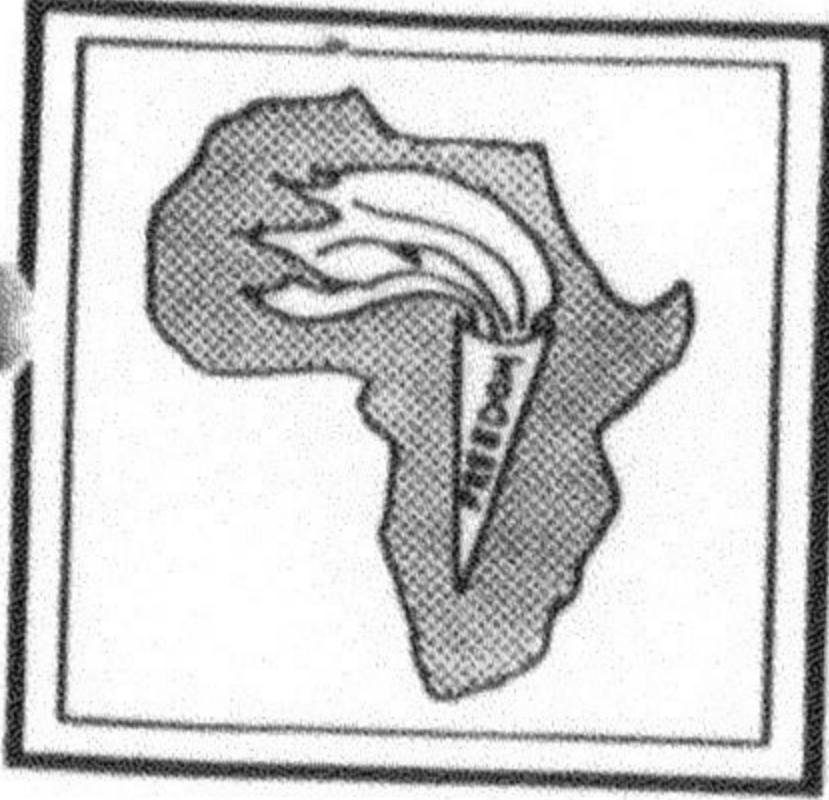
Towards freedom in Southern Africa,

Vera Michelson

P.S. If you are still interested in one of our members speaking to your youth group, please let me know.

436-0562

CC Keké Tloti



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

December 23, 1988

Dear Coalition Member:

Happy Holidays!

The Coalition is reinstituting our Sunday afternoon study sessions. Last year many of you attended the superb sessions on the Freedom Charter, Namibia, Angola and South Africa.

The first study session of 1989 will be on "Police Abuse and Racial Violence: What is to be done?" This discussion will take place on Sunday, January 8, 1989 at 3:00 p.m. sharp at Vera Michelson's new home-13 Pennsylvania Ave. Albany, New York. (Pennsylvania Avenue is off of Livingston Avenue, west of Northern Blvd.) We expect the presentations and discussions to take approximately three hours. A potluck dinner will follow the discussion.

In order to stimulate discussion, we ask that you think about the following questions:

1. Why should (or shouldn't) the Coalition's work on domestic racism focus on racial violence and police abuse as opposed to other forms of racism such as housing or job discrimination, education issues, "poverty" issues or media stereotypes?
2. What special role can the Coalition play in regard to issues of racial violence and police abuse?
3. What is the relationship between police abuse and racial violence?
4. What does "community control" of the police mean?
5. How can we achieve a higher level of community control or accountability over the police in Albany? How can the Community/Police Relations Board become more effective and valuable? What should the Coalition do in addition to participation on the Board?
6. July, 1989 will be the fifth anniversary of the police murder of Jesse Davis. What has changed since 1984?

NOTIFICATION
December 23, 1988
Page Two of Two

The session on January 8th will include an historical overview of police abuse and racial violence in Albany. But, the focus will be on the question of what steps should be taken now to have a positive impact in regard to police abuse and racial violence.

Please come and please be prepared to participate. These issues are of crucial importance for our community.

Please R.S.V.P. to Anne Frazier at 479-3202 and also indicate to her what food item you will bring for the potluck dinner.

We'll see you on January 8th.

In struggle,

Vicki Smith
Arlena Adams
Mark Mishler