

Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East
New York: 36 E. 12 St. NY, NY 10003 • (212) 777-1246
Washington: 2025 'I' St. NW, Suite 1020
Washington, DC 20006 • (202) 332-5049

NATIONAL MARCH ON THE WHITE HOUSE **SATURDAY JAN. 19**

Tell Bush, the Pentagon, and Congress:

STOP THE WAR!

**BRING
THE**



**TROOPS
HOME!**

- Fight racism and for social and economic justice, not oil companies' profits

- Money for jobs, education, housing, healthcare, AIDS, not for war

SAMPLE ENDORSERS: Several Act-Up chapters, African-American Coalition Against U.S. Intervention, Ramsey Clark, Clergy and Laity Concerned, Several AFSCME locals, American Indian Movement, Black Veterans for Social Justice, William Kunstler, Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, Pete Seeger, Vinceramos Brigade, Students and Youth Against Racism, Several individual striking Greyhound workers.

CONTACT NUMBERS FOR ALBANY BUSES TO THE JANUARY 19 MARCH:

Judith 463-0754 or Social Justice Center 434-4037



**MARCH ON WASHINGTON
FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

Saturday, January 26th

**NO WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST
BRING THE TROOPS HOME NOW
MONEY FOR HUMAN NEEDS, NOT WAR**

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

P.O. Box 5009, Church St. Station, New York, NY 10008 (212) 727-3069

SAMPLE ENDORSERS: American Friends Service Committee, CISPS, Church Women United, Jobs With Peace, National Rainbow Coalition, National SANE/FREEZE, Palestine Solidarity Committee, Peace Program of the American Baptist Churches, Student Environmental Action Coalition, United States Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Vietnam Veterans Against the War, US Peace Council, War Resisters League, Network in Solidarity With the People of Guatemala

CONTACT NUMBERS FOR ALBANY BUSES TO THE JANUARY 26 MARCH:

Marion Harwick 439-3403 or Grace White 432-4260 or Social Justice Ctr.
434-4037

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
Pledge of Resistance

SPONSORED BY
THE CAPITAL DISTRICT COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM
AND
THE CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE, INC.

"STOP POLICE ABUSE: DO THE RIGHT THING"

...a community meeting to address the problem of police abuse

**If you are tired of being beaten up and harrassed by the Albany
Police, come to this IMPORTANT MEETING on:**

MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 1991

ARBOR HILL COMMUNITY CENTER

50 LARK STREET, ALBANY

from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Moderator: Merton Simpson, Co-Chair, Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
Speakers: Deborah Muhammad, Human Relations Specialist, NYS Division of Human Rights
Mark Mishler, Activist Attorney
Carolyn Edmonds, Community Leader
James H. Bouldin, County Legislator, 3rd Ward
Alice Green, Executive Director, Center for Law and Justice, Inc.

Call 427-8361 for more information



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

January, 1991

○ "If Martin Luther King
were alive today,
he'd be organizing"



Next General CD-CARR Meeting

Thursday, Jan. 24, 1991 - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Albany Public Library

Washington Avenue, Albany, New York

Why would Martin Luther King be organizing?

We encourage all to come and participate in a community discussion on Dr. King's legacy and how it applies to local, national and international issues today.

○ *(you have time to read some of the writings of Dr. King before the meeting that would be helpful.)*

Please note article inside on Dr. Martin Luther King.

Some CD-CARR Business...

Steering Committee Election - At the November 1990 general meeting of CD-CARR, election to the steering committee was held. The following people were elected:

Merton Simpson, Co-Chair	Vera Michelson, Co-Chair
Eileen Kawola, Newsletter Editor	Anita Thayer
Deborah Maxwell	Dicki Smith
Mabel Leon	Pat Trowers Johnson
Anita Thayer	Mike Riddick
Jim Bouldin	Mark Mishler

(Roll Varma will continue as Treasurer)

Membership Letter - Early this month a membership letter was sent to everyone who receives this newsletter. This letter was the annual request for your \$5.00 (or more!) yearly dues. If you haven't sent your dues in yet, please do so. This will guarantee you continued mailing of the newsletter, and a membership card which will be sent to you on receipt of your dues. Most importantly, it means you are continuing your commitment to the fight against apartheid and racism.

Coalition Events - Past and Future

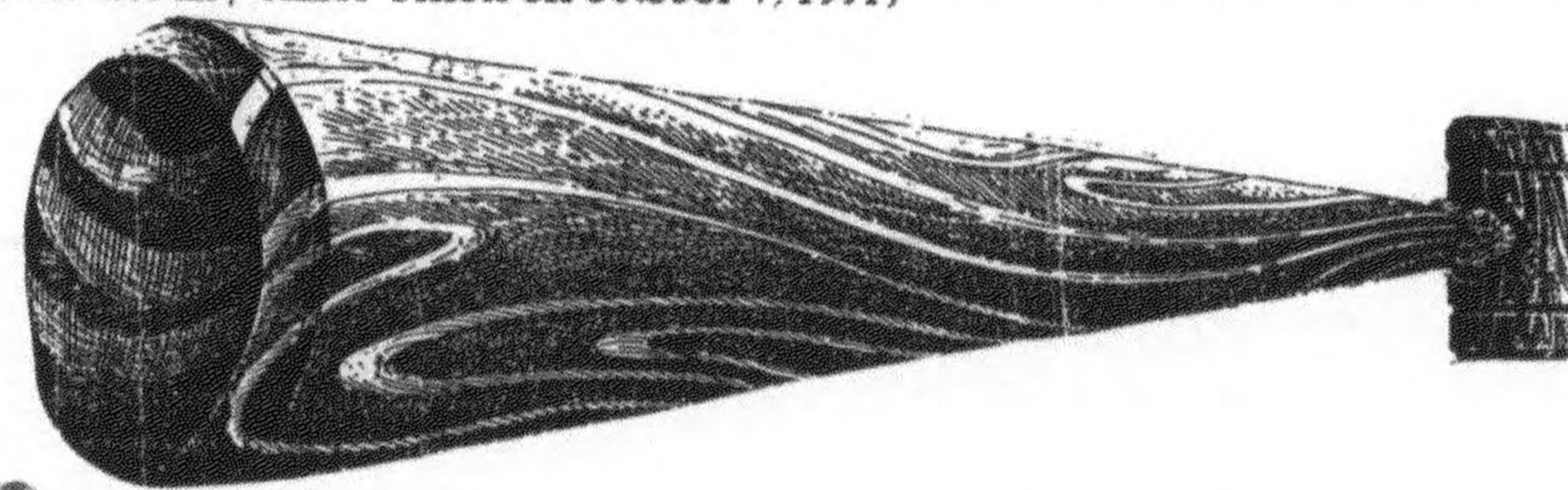
On December 14, 1990 the Coalition held a fundraiser "Party with a Purpose." Thanks to party chair Mike Riddick and his committee, Judy Rubenstein and Deborah Muhammad, the party was a financial and a social success-continuing the tradition that CD-CARR throws the best party in town!

Speaking of parties, in September, 1991, CD-CARR will celebrate its tenth year anniversary. This will be a very special event and we are beginning to organize for it now. If you would like to be involved in the planning stages, call Pat Trowers Johnson at 463-4486.

County Bail Record Far from Impartial

by Alice Green

(The following article is adapted from a piece written by Dr. Green of the Center for Law and Justice of Albany, a private, tax-exempt advocacy organization. It appeared in the Albany Times Union on October 7, 1991.)



Dale McGrath, an Albany County Jail inmate, underwent a hunger strike this summer to call attention to the longheld practice of using bail for purposes other than that intended. Bail should be used only as a measure for assuring the defendant's appearance in court. Historically, bail has been used in Albany County in many instances strictly as a measure of social control and oppression directed against certain people. The practice has been to set unreasonably high bail in cases of the poor and powerless who find themselves accused of a crime. Most recently we saw how it was used to harass and punish those who dare to challenge the system. A case in point was that of Donna DeMaria, longtime community activist whose bail was set at \$10,000 on a trumped-up felony charge.

A large number of admissions to local jails in New York state are pretrial detainees, and most are confined for want of modest amounts of bail. Consequently, those unable to afford their release are poor. It also follows that people of color, who are disproportionately represented among the poor, will suffer the most. In Albany County, they have suffered for years from the destructive impact of this practice in terms of loss of jobs, housing, the breakup of families, the foster placement of children, and higher conviction and incarceration rates. Research shows that those who fail to be released are much more likely to be convicted.

There is a growing awareness that certain ill-defined criteria, once relied upon as "objective criteria" to be used in making release decisions, are not objective at all.

For example, "employment" and "residence" may simply have more to do with defining one's ethnic group or economic status than one's "riskiness." Therefore, Assistant District Attorney Lawrence Wiest was wrong in suggesting that McGrath, who admittedly has lived at several different residences within the community, poses a "risk to society" simply because he has "...a checkered employment history and has lived in at least four different places this year." For often those characteristics simply describe the plight of the poor and the homeless.

The practice of unreasonable bail increases disrespect for the law and adds to the overcrowding problem in the jail, as well as the burden placed upon taxpayers.

The Center for Law and Justice, as well as the Coalition for Criminal Justice, supported McGrath's valiant effort. He has asked all of us in the community to reexamine our commitment of the cherished constitutional principle that the accused should stand innocent until proven guilty. He has also asked that the community at least explore more creative measures that both honor this principle and provide protection to our community.



CD-CAAR's Subcommittee on Police Abuse and Racist Violence is working with Dr. Green and the Center for Law and Justice to coordinate the anti-police abuse campaign. On January 7, 1991, the two groups sponsored a community meeting to address the problem of police abuse. From the time of the planning of that meeting and the actual meeting there was the suicide of Corey J. Sheldon, a robbery suspect, in the Albany City Division II Lockup. This case as well as other issues of police abuse which were brought up at the community meeting will be discussed at the general CD-CAAR meeting on January 24th.

UPDATE...

Jail death spurs blacks'

THE TIMES UNION

Albany, N.Y., Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1991

protest against police

By Richard Wexler
Staff writer

ALBANY — Singing "We Shall Overcome" and braving bitter cold, about 65 people demonstrated in front of the home of Mayor Thomas Whalen III Monday night, protesting what they charge is widespread brutality against blacks by Albany police.

For 20 minutes, the demonstrators chanted, "What happened to Corey Sheldon?" a reference to a black robbery suspect who died in a cell in the Division 2 lockup. Police say the death was a suicide, but the demon-

strators did not believe it. They also chanted, "Whose mayor are you?" and, "Where is Whalen?"

Lights were switched off at the Whalen household on South Pine Avenue as the protest began and the mayor did not come to the door when reporters sought comment after the protest. Shortly after the demonstrators left, police arrived. Whalen, clad in a bathrobe, opened the door, asked, "Is it quiet now?" again refused comment, and shut the door. One of the officers on the scene said he did not know who had called police.

The demonstration was unplanned. It happened after people attending a meeting at the Arbor Hill Community Center about alleged police brutality demanded that some sort of action be taken immediately. More than 100 people attended the meeting, which had to be moved to the gymnasium from a smaller room.

The meeting was called in the wake of the Sheldon death and the alleged beating of several members of the Cancer family in Arbor Hill last month. John Cancer, a family spokesman, said Monday night that

formal complaints would be filed with the Police Department's internal affairs unit this morning.

"I brought with me a copy of the Constitution of the United States," said Alice Green, who has resigned her job with the New York Civil Liberties Union to work full time on issues of police abuse. "The Albany Police Department doesn't seem to believe it exists for black people."

"I was scared (to speak out) but I couldn't take it any more," said Carolyn Edmonds, a merchant in Arbor Hill. "I have seen people harassed, abused, beaten and

charged for no reason at all," though she added that she has seen "good officers, too."

"Racism is alive and well right here in Albany," charged Deborah Muhammad, a human relations specialist for the state Division of Human Rights. Like other speakers, Muhammad cited what she said was the widespread feeling among blacks that they faced retaliation if they complained about brutality. "Even if there is no abuse, there is a problem when people are this afraid," Muhammad said.

See PROTEST / B-3

UPDATE UPDATE...

THIS AND OTHER ISSUES INVOLVING POLICE ABUSE AND RACIST VIOLENCE WILL BE PART OF CD-CAAR'S JANUARY 24TH MEETING.

PROTEST

Continued from B-1

Corey Sheldon's aunt Joyce Frederick, who now lives in Maryland, came to Albany to plead for help in investigating her nephew's death. "Help me find out what happened to my nephew," she said. "He didn't kill himself." The pastor of Sheldon's church, Emmett Jeffress, said that shortly before his death, Sheldon "led the devotion service. He sang, he praised God, he was happy, he rejoiced. ... I just don't believe he did this."

Mark Mishler, an attorney and former member of the city's Police-Community Relations Board, alleged that police routinely stop young

black men on the street for questioning, and sometimes partial strip-searching, without cause. He charged that searches at the Greyhound Bus Terminal targeted blacks. And he blasted the county public defender's office for allegedly failing to fight for its clients. Mishler is now representing the Cancer family.

Mishler called for creation of an independent civilian review board with the power to conduct its own investigations into alleged police misconduct.

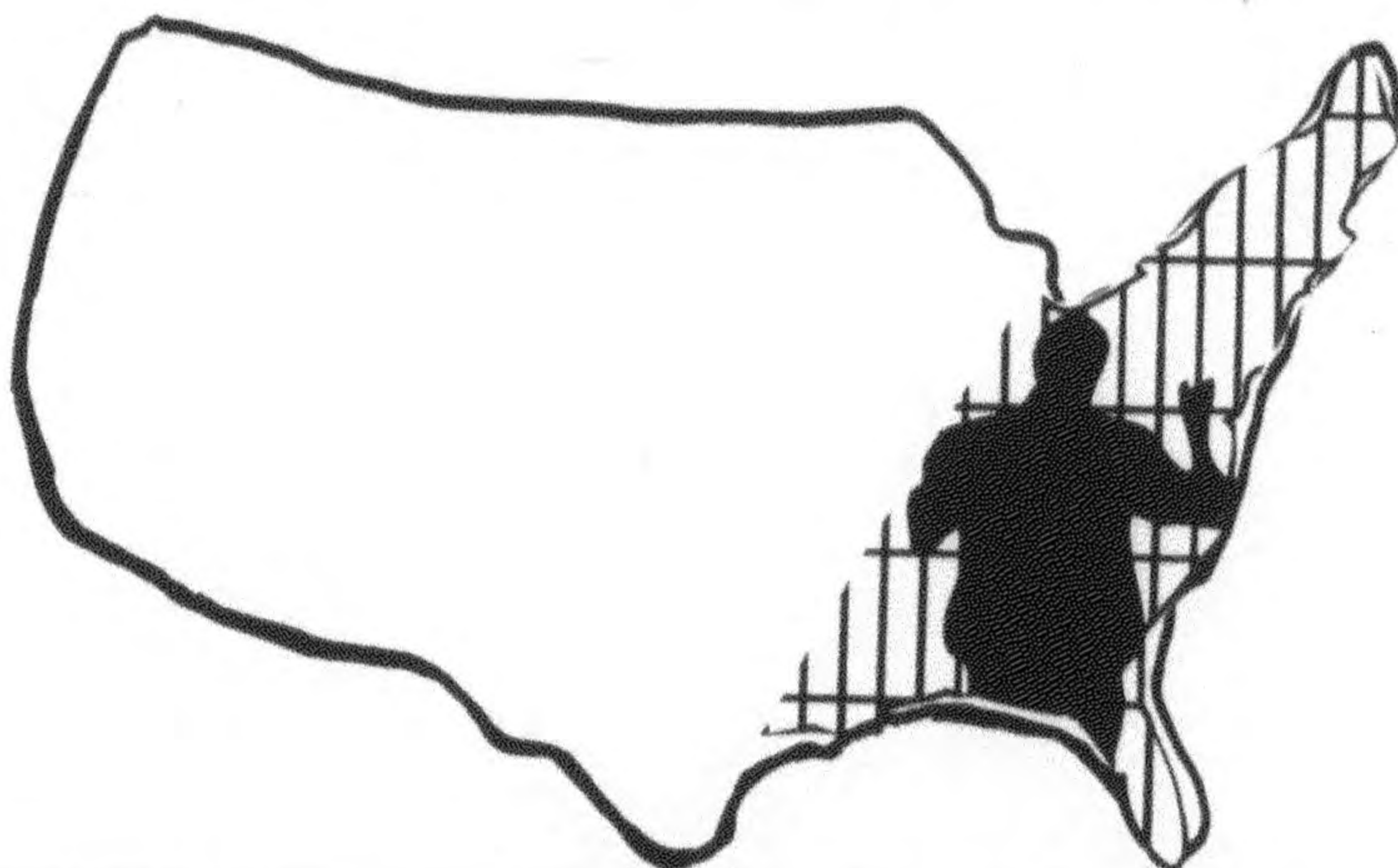
Green said her newly formed Center for Law and Justice Inc. will serve as a clearinghouse for complaints against the police. Green said she and an attorney on her staff will help people file complaints and accompany them when they are

questioned by the police. She urged people with complaints against the police to call her at 427-8361.

No one from the Police Department attended the meeting. The moderator, Merton Simpson, said they were not invited, but "they knew about it." Police Chief John Dale has an unlisted phone number and could not be reached for comment Monday night.

A few people at the meeting said peaceful protest was not enough. "It's been a long time since there's been a riot here," said one speaker. "When we start tearing up (stuff) we'll get better taken care of."

But several speakers said violence was self-destructive. "In the long run, what will it accomplish?" asked Edmonds.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED IN ISSUES OF POLICE ABUSE AND RACIST VIOLENCE, CD-CAAR IS WORKING WITH THE CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE. CALL MERTON SIMPSON IN CARE OF ALICE GREEN, (518) 427-8361.

THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO END U.S. INTERVENTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS ORGANIZING SEVERAL EVENTS IN RESPONSE TO THE U.S. ACTIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. ON JANUARY 19TH AND ON JANUARY 26TH NATIONAL MARCHES ARE BEING HELD IN WASHINGTON TO CALL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND FOR THE U.S. TO BRING THE TROOPS HOME. BUSES ARE BEING SENT FROM ALBANY. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE BUSES CALL THE SOCIAL JUSTICE CENTER, 434-4037. FOR INFORMATION ON FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE, CALL DAVID AT 482-7448.

Education News...

The election of Barbara Allen as President of the Albany Board of Education is one of the most hopeful things to happen to the public school system in Albany since there's been public schools! As the first African American Board president, Barbara, a community activist and member of CD-CAAR, promises to make her main concern the education of all of the children. **Congratulations Barbara!**

Education '91 - Tapping Every Talent: Expanding Achievement Opportunities for All Students, a community based conference designed to promote a long-term, broad-based effort to enrich, diversity, and strengthen education in Albany, is planned for Saturday, February 2, 1991 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Philip Livingston Middle School, 315 Northern Boulevard, Albany. The conference is being sponsored by the Albany Citizens for Education, the Albany City School District, the NAACP-Albany branch, and the Albany Urban League. CD-CAAR is one of the many endorsers of the event. The basic fee is \$6.00 which may be reduced for anyone to whom it presents a hardship. On-site child care will be available free of charge. Reservations must be made by January 22nd by calling telephone #447-5877. If you are interested in the changes taking place in the Albany Public Schools, if you want to see that these changes meet the needs of all students, plan to attend this important conference.

Martin Luther King Revolutionary or Dream Merchant?

Dera Michelson



Over the years, CD-CARR members have expressed concern and frustration over the way the true meaning of Dr. Martin Luther King's life has been manipulated by the mass media, politicians and professional "dream organizers and merchants."

Each January celebration we are left with the image of a great man who went to a mountain top to have a dream. Our children (Black and white) are led to believe that he died so that they could hold hands.

This sanitized view of Dr. King is a discredit to all that he lived and died for. This version of the struggle numbs us and enables us to create a perspective on King's life which is more comfortable, more easy to digest and which fails to disturb or significantly challenge us.

Remembering the real King and learning the lessons of that time in history means that we remember the Martin Luther King who:

1. denounced the U.S. government as the "greatest purveyor of violence in the world" and spoke of America as a "malignant society."

2. called for a "radical redistribution of wealth and power in America" as a way of providing food, shelter, medical care, jobs, education and hope for all of its' people.

3. described the flaws of American society as "systemic rather than superficial flaws."

4. linked wealth and power to race and class oppression.

5. In discussing the war in Viet Nam commented that "the western arrogance of feeling that it has everything to teach others and nothing to learn from them is not just..." and "...a nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death."

We believe that if Martin Luther King were alive today he would be outraged at a Bush administration which shows total disregard for domestic issues of housing, drugs, AIDS, homelessness, health care and hate crimes. We believe that instead of walking hand in hand with the Governor of New York State he would be organizing protests at the Capitol in support of the thousands of workers who will be laid off in the upcoming months. He would make us face reality; the Bush veto of national civil rights legislation is a declaration of war on people of color in this country. He would organize us to protest against this country's preparation to engage Blacks, Latinos and white working class youth in a devastating and senseless war for profit and control in the Middle East. We believe unequivocally that Martin Luther King would be organizing to get U.S. troops out of the Persian Gulf.

We hope that all CD-CARR members and friends will be able to join us at our January 24, 1991 monthly meeting which will include a community discussion of the real meaning of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King and it's relevance for our work today. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Albany Public Library (main branch on Washington Avenue). We urge everyone to be on time since we have to be out of the library by 9:00 p.m. sharp.

On December 16, 1991, in Johannesburg, South Africa, the African National Congress ended its first national conference inside South Africa. It announced that 1991 will be "a year of mass action" to press the government into fulfilling its commitments to release all political prisoners and allow the return of exiles. The ANC also said it would push Pretoria into accepting an elected constituent assembly to draft a new constitution and allow the formation of an interim government with Black participation. The ANC position on continued sanctions was also clarified. We reprint for you below the proposals from the December 16th conference and the document on sanctions which came out of that conference



We, the African National Congress dedicate ourselves to making the year 1991 a year of mass action for the transfer of power to the people through following programme of action.

We propose:

1. The launching of a campaign to culminate on Solomon Mahlangu Day (6 April) for the release of our prisoners, (including those on death row) the return of our exiles, the cessation of political trials and the detention of our people.
2. The launching of mass action around the opening of parliament to highlight our demands for an interim government and constituent assembly and to demand the abolition of the tricameral and bantustan systems. This to be followed by a mass door-to-door signature campaign to popularise and mobilise our people around the objectives of an interim government and constituent assembly.
3.
 - 3.1 The convening of workshops with our allies to develop a joint programme of action against violence in our country.
 - 3.2 The NEC set up a National Defence Committee to take charge of the speedy implementation of self-defence units in our structures.
 - 3.3 That our structures be encouraged to actively participate in the campaigns of our allies in our communities and in our factories. To this effect, we propose the setting up of local alliance structures.
4. The convening of a patriotic conference on Sharpville Day, 21 March, to mobilise all anti-apartheid forces against this regime.
5. That we consolidate our organisation by synchronising our mass recruitment campaigns with our campaigns of mass action, by improving the communication efficiency and effectivity of our structures, by deepening democratic practices and by correcting rural-urban imbalances.
6. That conference reaffirms its policy on affirmative action for women and directs all structures of the ANC to implement it, and calls on the Women's League to spearhead this process.
7. That the Land Commission of the ANC be given a specific mandate to consult widely on drawing up a programme of action to rally and mobilise our people for the return of the land to its rightful owners.
8. Conference resolves to embark on a campaign for the reorientation of the community and students towards a culture of learning, and therefore undertakes to campaign for mass education, a common education system for all, and a demand that the regime provides adequate resources for education.

Document on Sanctions

Cognizant of the necessity to counteract the growing perception that DeKlerk and his government should be rewarded for recent reforms,
 aware that the basic institutions of apartheid are still firmly in place,
 that the South African government continues to use violence and police repression to suppress legitimate political and civic actions,
 alarmed over the orchestrated violence against defenceless citizens, especially in African residential areas, in which elements of the SA security establishment are deeply implicated,
 noting that many of the obstacles to genuine negotiations such as the Internal Security Act and others, remain in the statute books and are still vigorously enforced.
 We resolve that the existing sanctions package be maintained.
 As such as the ANC appeals to the EC, U.S Congress, EFTA and other international bodies to postpone any consideration of the issue of sanctions against apartheid SA until the ANC and all other democratic formations inside our country including Trade Unions and Religious bodies initiate discussion with them on the issues.

15/12/90 1200 hours

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

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Organization
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Albany, NY

Vera Michelson
13 Pennsylvania Ave.
Albany, NY 12206

**Important meeting date
Thursday, January 24, 1991
Albany Public Library, 7-9 p.m.**

The main topic of discussion at our regular monthly meeting in January will be "If Martin Luther King were alive today, he'd be organizing." We urge you to attend this important meeting where we will be discussing the real meaning of the King legacy and the importance it has for the struggle against racism and injustice today.

Note the announcement of a community forum below:

Forum set on filing brutality charges

ALBANY -- Two civil rights organizations will stage an informational session Monday on how people can file complaints of police harassment or brutality.

"Stop Police Abuse: Do the Right Thing," organized by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism and the Center for Law and Justice Inc., will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Arbor Hill Community Center.

Speakers will advise those who attend how to file complaints in cases in which they believe they were abused by police officers. For further information, call 427-8361.

This forum was held on January 7th. In addition to our discussion of Martin Luther King, at our meeting on the 24th we will hold a follow up discussion on the outcome of this forum.

Albany, N.Y.
THE TIMES UNION
Saturday, Jan. 5, 1991

Update Inside

For Immediate Release.
For further information contact: Anne Pope

NAACP STATEMENT TO THE PRESS REGARDING KKK DEMONSTRATION

When the NAACP was established in 1909, the multiracial and ethnic founders pledged to fight racism and hatred in all its many forms. Over the decades, successive generations of Americans have upheld this pledge. We have battled discrimination against people of color on a multitude of fronts; in housing, in education, in employment, in the voting booths, in the courts, in the media and, most importantly, in the hearts and minds of individuals. We have made great strides in all these arenas; the national celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, a man who dedicated his life to peace and racial unity is a shining testament to that fact. However, it is clear that the war against racial hatred is far from being won-- particularly in the hearts and minds of men. There is no better illustration of the horrible truth than the continued presence of the Ku Klux Klan.

That the KKK should exist is a sad commentary on the society in which we live; indeed we must wonder what environment could breed such irrational and virulent hatred. That the Invisible Empire of the KKK should choose to march in Albany this weekend,

even as we prepare to honor Dr. King, is an affront to all lovers of peace and humanity. While the Constitution gives this misguided, pathetic and dangerous organization the right to demonstrate, we have the right and responsibility to show the community that THERE IS NO PLACE IN ALBANY FOR THE MADNESS OF THE KKK. The Albany Branch of the NAACP is committed to promoting understanding, equality and unity amongst all society--regardless of race, religion ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation. We are committed to the eradication of the ignorance and despair that breeds the loathing of other people simply because they are different. Finally, we are committed to countering the violence of the KKK with non-violence and the hatred of the KKK with love.

PRESS RELEASE..... JANUARY 18, 1991

PLANS FOR JANUARY 20, 1991 ANTI-KLAN PROTEST

RALLY DETAILED AT PRESS CONFERENCE

The Albany Branch of the NAACP and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism today announced details of a peaceful, nonviolent, counter-demonstration to protest the Ku Klux Klan presence in Albany. Approximately 30 organizations have joined in the protest plans.

This demonstration, which will be held Sunday, January 20 at 2 p.m. - the same time as the recently announced KKK rally, will show that the Ku Klux Klan is not welcome in Albany.

The counter-rally will be held on the east Capitol lawn and will include organized singing, chants and speakers. Representatives from a variety of community organizations will

-MORE-

address the rally. Rally organizers will have their own marshalls and will cooperate with the Capitol Police to ensure the safety of all participants.

The presense of the Klan on the steps of our Capitol Building is evidence that racism, white supremacy, anti-Semitism and homophobia and the resulting violence is a continuing threat in our midst.

The counter-demonstration will unify and include those who oppose the Klan and all other hate groups who attack African-Americans, Latinos, Asians, Jews, Roman Catholics, Women, Lesbians, Gays, Immigrants and non-English speakers.

The counter-demonstration will unify and include those who remember and respect Martin Luther King and his message of justice, peace and human dignity.

The counter-demonstration will unify and include those who are proud to celebrate the birthday of Dr. King as an official state and federal holiday.

As Dr. King once said: "Where evil men plot, good men [and women] must plan. When evil men burn and bomb, good men [and women] must build and bind. When evil men shout ugly words of hatred, good men [and women] must commit themselves to the glories of love. Where evil men would seek to perpetrate an unjust status quo, good men [and women] must seek to bring into being a real order of justice."

#

PROTEST SPONSORS

Albany Branch NAACP by Anne Pope, President

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism by Vera Michelson, Co-chair

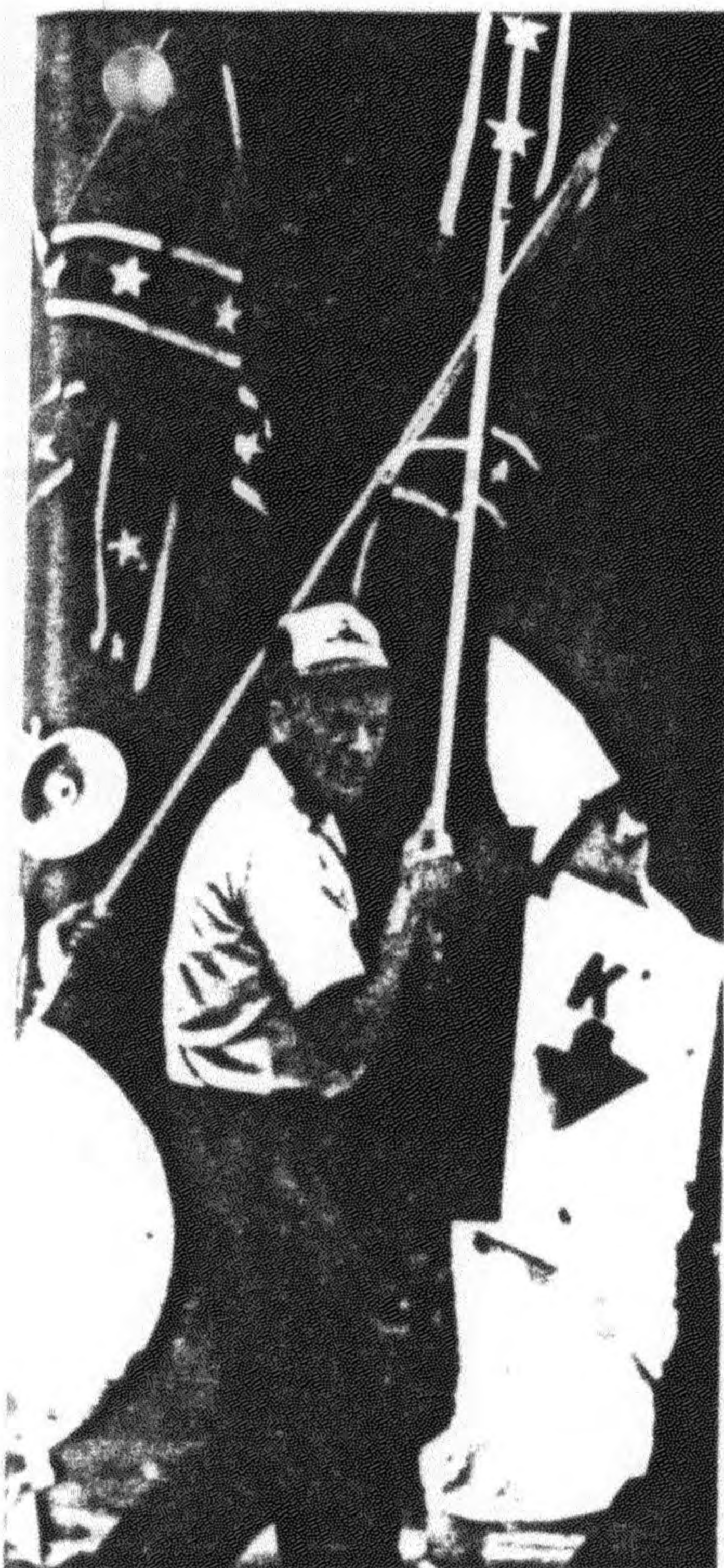
See attached list of endorsing organizations

NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS:

The following phone numbers are NOT for publication or distribution:

Anne Pope 463-5463

Vera Michelson 463-0562, 370-7366



ACLU defends Klan cop

By Don Feder

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is back on the job, protecting America from rampant civil liberties abuses.

The latest beneficiary of its vigilance is Thomas Herman. The town of Newfields, New Hampshire, violated Mr. Herman's First Amendment right to freedom of association when it fired him from the police force, says the ACLU's Granite State affiliate—and all over such a trivial thing: Herman's membership in the Ku Klux Klan.

Once again the First Amendment fetishists are letting their fixation blind them to reality, in this case the reality of police work. If Klan members are allowed to infest police departments, how can a black, a Jew, a Hispanic, or an Oriental have any confidence in the operations of the same?

There are a half-dozen Klan groups in the country. Herman's—The Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan—is the largest and most violent, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Its m.o. includes assaulting civil rights marchers, desecrating synagogues, and intimidating Vietnamese. Its rallies attract neo-Nazis, skinheads, and other slimy creatures.

This isn't the first time the civil liberties watchdogs have rushed to the Klan's defense. In the mid-'70s, when a group of Marine Klansmen were transferred from the San Diego base after an outbreak of racial violence, the ACLU sued for violation of due process. When the Klan was denied a permit to hold a rally at a school playground in Mississippi, the ACLU interceded in its behalf.

Last year, when the Klan sought to participate in North Carolina's adopt-a-highway program, which would have required the state to erect a billboard with the Klan logo on a stretch of road through a predomi-

nantly black neighborhood, the ACLU once again rode to its rescue.

Just doin' our job, the ACLU would say, defending the rights of unpopular minorities, thereby protecting those of every American. Ah, but the group is selective about its clientele. Aiding right-wing lunatics is no threat to the establishment's agenda. Legitimate conservatives are another matter. It wanted to send little Walter

Polovchak back to Leonid Brezhnev's enchanted kingdom. It refused to represent the Dartmouth Review, a conservative college newspaper, against administrative harassment. It's fine to use RICO (the Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organizations Act) against Operation Rescue, say the Constitution's self-selected champions.

What the group has never understood is that the Constitution does not posit absolute rights. Throughout our history, constitutionally protected freedoms have been circumscribed in various ways. Not allowing a member of an organization which, in the name

of racial superiority, regularly violates the law to serve as a law enforcement official is among the most reasonable restraints, one absolutely necessary to the preservation of public order.

"The Constitution isn't a suicide pact," said U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson. It doesn't mean neo-Nazi swine must be granted a permit to march through a town of Holocaust survivors, which Gary Wills called the equivalent of making "an obscene phone call to an entire neighborhood instead of a single house." It doesn't mean that virulent racists, whose associates make Saddam Hussein look like Jimmy Stewart, must be given guns and empowered to enforce a community's laws.

If the ACLU has its way, the next time you're stopped by a New Hampshire cop you could be invited to a cross burning. ■

Distributed by Heritage Features Syndicate



Can police officers who belong to the Klan be expected to uphold the rights of all citizens?

right to free speech and assembly. If protesters gathered, they gave more validity and publicity to the Klan's racist attitudes. If the crowd got unruly, the KKK would cite that as proof that whites are under siege in this country.

Just as many blacks are convinced there is a white conspiracy to destroy the race, Klansmen have their own conspiracy theory that they are being denied success by blacks, Jews, Catholics—anyone not like them.

The truth is, this country does a poor job of helping the poor, no matter what color. Many whites who are susceptible to the conspiracy theory are unskilled workers in small towns eling from mill and factory closings.

None of this excuses the not-so-historic legacy of Klan violence. As a young reporter, I traveled the South to document Klan activities. I was convinced that this was an example of the worst of America taking charge.

"Just as many blacks are convinced there is a white conspiracy to destroy the race, Klansmen have their own conspiracy theory that they are being denied success by blacks, Jews, Catholics—anyone not like them."

Now I see it as the last vestiges of overt racism.

I have stood among the robed and heard rhetoric insisting that blacks had three-fifths of the brain power of whites and were born to be servants—and this from people who were no more than servants themselves.

Is it worth fighting with people who need to believe such things to give their own lives meaning and self-respect? Some stand is needed, but the fighting and spewing of hatred appears counterproductive.

In college I was one of hundreds of black students who chanted for hours to prevent Klansman David Duke from speaking on the University of North Carolina campus. We felt we had taken a stand for ourselves, our ancestors, and the generations to come. However, Duke used such confrontations to fine tune his message into pro-white rather than anti-black. He has used that experience to get a Louisiana state legislature seat and to run a credible congressional campaign.

The Communist Workers Party vandalized a Klan community center in China Grove, N.C., burned the American flag, and organized armed patrols nearby. They dared the Klan to attack. At a "Death to the Klan" rally the next week in Greensboro, N.C., some Klansmen called their bluff, killing five of



Klansmen, like L.A. gang members, show off their "colors"

them.

Instead of confronting, we should ignore these groups. By turning our backs, we dismiss them as unworthy of our attention. If a ragtag group of Klansmen had marched without protest it would have barely made the evening news.

Ignoring the rallies is not the same as ignoring the Klan's legacy of violence or its victims. That is why, during the protests, I was just blocks away at the Museum of American History with my niece and nephew. We spent a lot of time in exhibits that chronicled black migration from the South to urban areas and the history of black education in the South.

The children knew that at a rally nearby someone was saying they were less than human. But they were looking at a history of extraordinary achievement despite the odds and feeling proud.

I could think of no better protest. ■

Distributed by Heritage Features Syndicate

KKK riot in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 27, 1982



COVER STORY II



KKK stirs controversy by displaying the Confederate flag

How to hurt the Klan: Ignore it

Although the KKK was once a powerful symbol of racism in America, the Klan of the '90s is hardly more than a fringe group. By ignoring its desperate attempts to get publicity, Americans have a good chance to keep it that way.

By Vanessa Gallman

It must be tough to be a Klansman in these times. Michael Jackson is the top entertainer, Michael Jordan the pinnacle of athletic prowess, and Bill Cosby the ideal father. King Wilder is governor of Virginia, Jesse Jackson dared to run for president twice, and General Colin Powell is heading the nation's military. And all the while people are mixing

racies and faiths as if it did not matter.

Now these self-appointed KKK guardians of the rights of the poor and white cannot even go to the nation's capital and have a peace rally.

While about 40 of them stood preaching to one another on the Capitol steps last summer, more than 3,000 protesters waited, many with obvious violent intent. When the police decided to cancel the Klan march,

some in the crowd turned on them and on innocent bystanders.

The protesters wanted to show the world that they abhorred the Klan's legacy of violence and hate—so they were violent and hateful.

In the process, they helped the Klan in what has become a well-used strategy to gain sympathy and members.

Klan rallies stopped generating fear a long time ago, mainly because the rallies seldom drew more than a handful. So the rallies have been staged to generate conflict. If a town denied them a permit, they could demand their

New Dimensions: *The Psychology Behind The News*, DECEMBER 1990

Instructions for Peacekeepers

General

Concentrate your attention on crowd movement. Refrain from chanting or carrying signs so that you are free from distractions

- Prevent lagging by asking demonstrators to keep moving.
- Stay on the side closest to the street and remind demonstrators to stay on the sidewalk. Remember that street protests require a permit.

Be well-informed. Know the demonstration schedule and route.

- March begins at 4:00 p.m. West-side steps of Capitol Building.
- March to Leo O'Brien Federal Building (Route on back). Then march around Federal Building several times.
- Begin rally at 5:15 on Federal Building steps.
- Commence with 6:00 p.m. meeting at church across from Federal Building.

Be prepared to identify rally organizers (wearing white hats with orange bands) and press spokespersons (wearing white pins).

If police are nearby try to maintain contact by informing them of your intentions. Do not ask permission.

Above all try to be cheerful, helpful and calm. Your job is to assist demonstrators, not police them.

Trouble shooting

HECKLING

Moving Peacekeepers: Keep the marchers moving around the heckler without engaging in arguments.

Runners: Smile and engage hecklers in conversation. Try to discuss things politely. Never argue.

SCUFFLES

Stay calm. Don't run. Do not interpose.

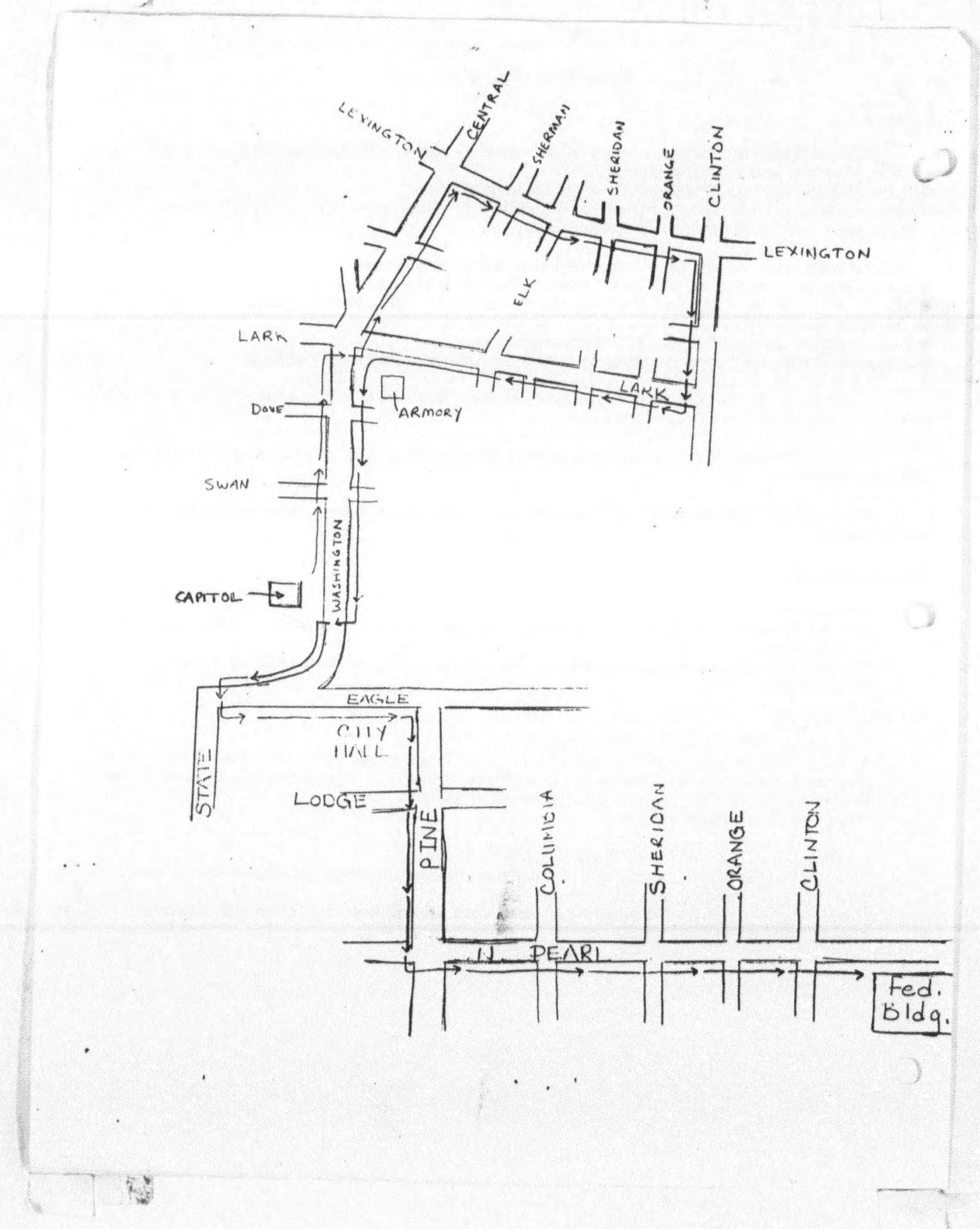
Moving Peacekeepers: Keep the marchers going by standing between the scufflers and marchers with your back towards the scufflers. Urge marchers to continue on without joining in the scuffle. Let the fight fizzle out if possible.

Runners: Find police officer.

DISRUPTIONS WITHIN THE DEMONSTRATION

Moving Peacekeepers: Do not allow disrupters to distract demonstrators. Encourage the crowd to keep moving singing and chanting.

Runners: Talk calmly with disrupters, use good arguments why the demonstration should have a peaceful tone.



CONVERSATION WITH LENNY ZESKIND OF THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRATIC
RENEWAL (Friday, January 18, 1991)

The New York State leader of the Klan is William Hoff who lives in Queens. (He is the "grand dragon.")

There are three to four dozen registered KKK members in the state of New York. There are some members in New York City and there are members in the Schuylerville area.

Lenny estimated that there would be about two dozen in attendance based upon his knowledge of Klan activity here (and the permit they've requested is indeed for twenty-five).

They might be bringing people here from Quebec City or from Sherbrooke in Canada.

A couple of people from Pennsylvania might come although they are also having a rally in Westchester, Pennsylvania this weekend.

***Lenny would like to get good black and white photographs of the Klan group for his work.

After Sunday we should look for Klan activity in the area high schools because that is often their tactic following an appearance. They will distribute Klan literature in the schools.

Lenny did not think that racists not affiliated with the Klan would be a problem for us. He stated that there was much more neo-Nazi activity in upstate NY than Klan activity and that their tendency is to be very private and clandestine.

Joe Blow racist probably will not see this as an opportunity to act out since there will be too many police around. For example, if someone threw something at the Klan members these unaffiliated thugs would see the Klan as stupid for putting themselves in that position.

He strongly suggests that we not do anything that will make the Klan look like martyrs.

Jeff Jones from Metroland has been in contact with Lenny this week.

Lenny says it depends upon the situation whether an anti-Klan demonstration is a good idea or not. There are two things he advises to strategically counteract. 1) Don't make the Klan look like martyrs by our actions. 2) Often an anti-Klan demonstration doesn't give us a chance to state clearly what we stand for. The media can portray both the Klan and the counter-demonstrators as equally crazy groups.

CONVERSATION WITH VICKIE RE: PEACEKEEPING/MARSHALLING
JANUARY 18, 1991

Good idea to to have peace keepers get to the site early.

The three people with walkie-talkies should arrive about an hour early.

We should check out the site today (Saturday.)

If the Xmas tree is still up, we should check that out on Saturday and Sunday since it is a potential hiding place.

Will the capital definitely be sealed off on Sunday? (There is a high level of police security in the capital because of Cuomo's office being there.)

Check out the steps carefully. There is room for people to hide up in the building.

At least one person should have binoculars to keep a constant eye on the capital.

She expressed concern about the bridge area for parking.

If there's a group of people who want to directly confront the Klan, we should do our best to stop them. But if they persist we cannot be responsible for what happens to them and we should let them know that they will be on their own. We will also let them know that they will be endangering us.

Peace keepers should surround our entire group at all times. They should be located at spaced intervals around the perimeter of the rally.

There should be at least one person who stays up front near the podium with a walkie talkie at all times.

The other two people with walkie talkies can be "runners" who go back and forth among us.

If any disturbance happens, the person at the podium (with the microphone) should be the person they get to in order to get information and instructions out.

The police should be a wall between us and the KKK.

Peace keepers should try to handle things first, but if the situation gets out of hand they should not hesitate to go to the police.

If a disturbance or loud explosion is heard, people at the rally should be instructed to get down on the ground. People would be instructed to remain calm and not to run away.

Vickie agreed with the idea of a small hand-out for each person at the rally listing the ground rules and security measures we arrive at.

Peace keepers should not lead chants because it distracts them from their primary job.

Peace keepers should always put themselves between the disrupters and the rally participants.

Vickie did not think the walk to Israel was a good idea at all.

Peace keepers should stay until the crowd is completely dispersed. People should be encouraged to leave the capital grounds promptly after the rally and not linger afterwards.

People should be urged to leave with at least one other person and to not leave the site alone.

**STOP
THE
WAR!**

**Regional Rally
to Demand a
Cease-fire Now!**

BRING THE TROOPS HOME!

On February 21, 1965 Malcolm X was assassinated. His senseless murder was mourned internationally -- not only as the loss of a great leader -- but because he was in the process of completing a Human Rights Agenda for the United Nations that would have freed all oppressed people and minimized the potential for conflicts like the current Gulf War.

NATIONAL DAY OF OUTRAGE

****THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1991****

Join the hundreds of thousands of students, activists, organizations, friends and relatives of troops in the Gulf to begin to finish Malcolm X's work by demanding an immediate cease-fire to the Persian Gulf War.

BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY:

Fight against racism and poverty in the U.S.
\$\$ for jobs, education, housing, health care
and the fight against AIDS, not for war!

*I believe there will be a clash between
those who want freedom, justice and equality
for everyone and those who want to continue
the system of exploitation.*

--Malcolm X



MARCH & RALLY

2 March Routes Converge & Encircle the Capitol East Side 5:00-6:00pm

Assembly Points

1. Naval Recruiting Center (Main & Wash. Ave.) 2. SUNYA Page Hall (135 Western)
**Vigil starting at noon; march at 4:00pm **Assemble at 3:00pm

RALLY & EDUCATION

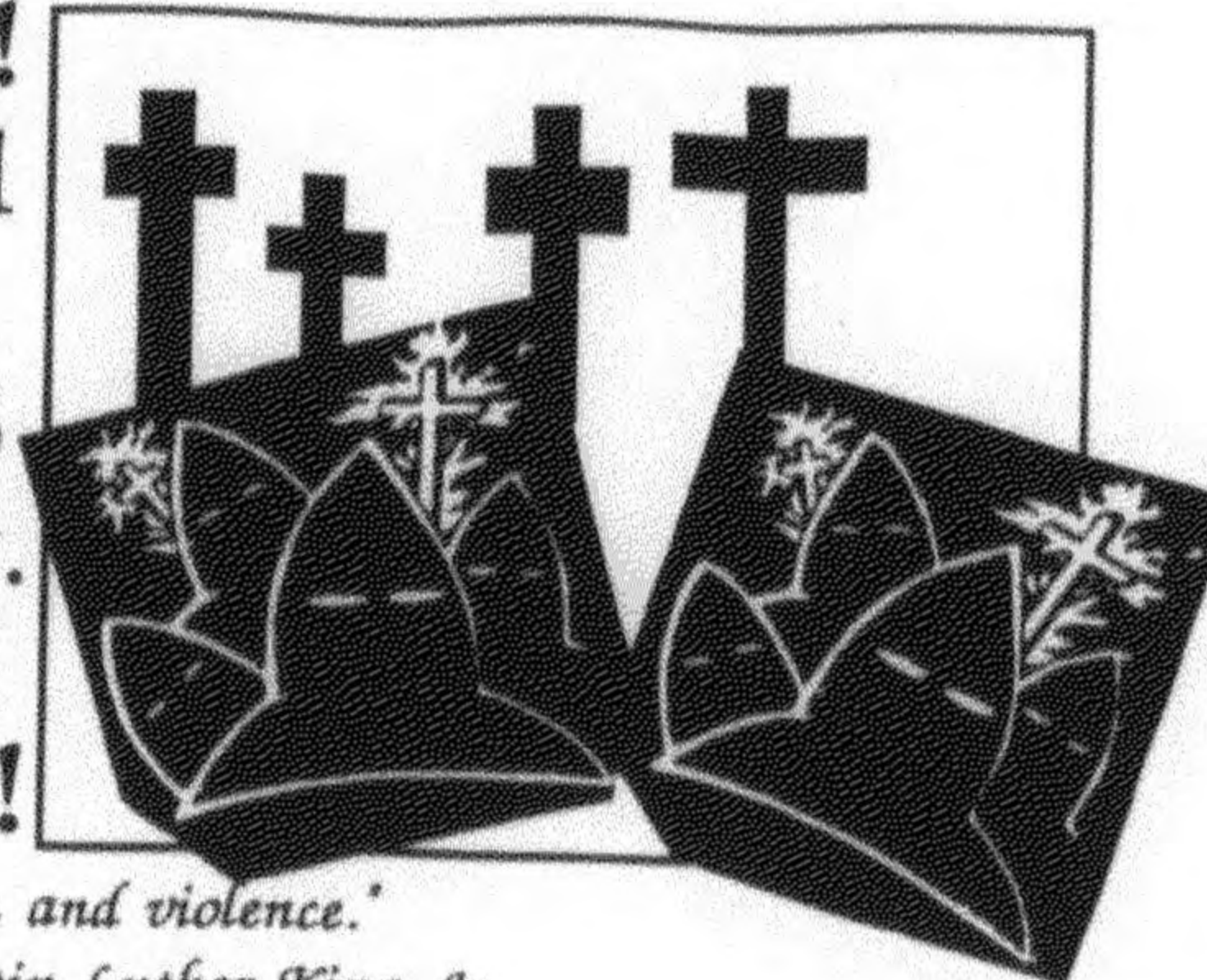
Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Madison & Eagle Sts. 6:00pm

*Program will include speeches, music and uncensored video tapes from the Gulf.

Emergency Committee to End US Intervention in the Middle East
33 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12210
518-434-4037

A project of the Social Justice Center. This event has not been cleared by any government.

RACISM IS KILLING US!
On Sunday, January 20, 1991
the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) is
planning to rally at the NYS
Capitol in downtown Albany.
In this time of cut-backs, we say:
FIGHT BACK! NO KKK!



'The triple threat to society is poverty, racism, and violence.'

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Despite this warning over 25 years ago we must continue to organize against the onslaught of injustice in the United States. In 1991 we face:

- *Disproportionate numbers of minority unemployment & homelessness;
- *Poverty rates among Americans that parallel only the Depression and,
- *Increasing incidents of police brutality and bias-related violence.

UNITE AND FIGHT AGAINST THE KKK!
STOP RACIST VIOLENCE IN ALL OF ITS FORMS!

'The problem of the 20th century is the problem of the color line.'

W.E.B. DuBois

In New York State we are all at risk. The following is a sample of organized, white supremacist groups in our midst.*

*Buffalo-Rochester Aryan Skins (BRASH), Rochester, NY

*SS Action (Neo-Nazis), Corning, NY

*National White Resistance, Lawrence, NY

*Empire Knights of the KKK, Astoria (Queens), NY

*(Source: The Southern Poverty Law Center, Decade Review, December 1989).

FIGHT BACK! NO KKK!

'I'm so sick and tired of being sick and tired.'

Fannie Lou Hamer

TOWN MEETING

Saturday, January 19, 1991 7:00pm
Grace and Holy Innocents Church
498 Clinton Avenue (Clinton & Robin Street)
Albany, NY 12206

For info. call Erika (518) 427-8361 Wed. 1/16/91, 11-4pm. "Citizens United to Stop the Violence!"

CHANTS

- 1) NO KLAN ACTIVITY
IN OUR COMMUNITY! (Repeat)
- 2) HATE-FREE ZONE!
HATE-FREE ZONE!
- 3) ALBANY IS A HATE-FREE ZONE,
KKK LEAVE US ALONE!
- 4) PUSH BACK THE RACIST ATTACK,
PUSH PUSH BACK THE RACIST ATTACK!
- 5) HEY HEY! HO HO!
RACISM HAS GOT TO GO!

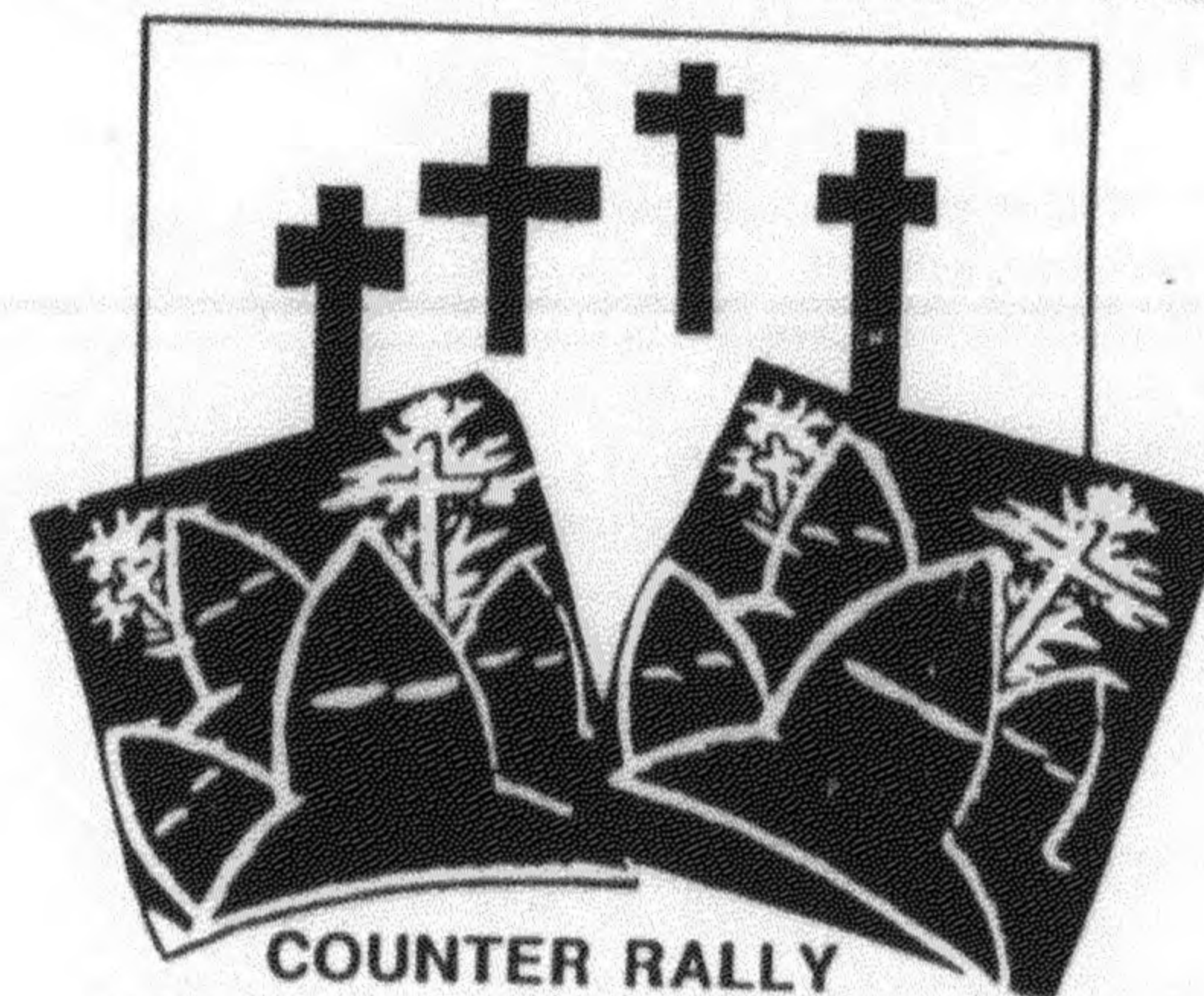
(SUBSTITUTE: SEXISM, HOMOPHOBIA, ANTI-SEMITISM, VIOLENCE, HATRED, GAY-BASHING)

- 6) WHO'S GOING TO STOP THE KLAN?
WE'RE GOING TO STOP THE KLAN!

SONGS

- 1) Oh freedom, Oh freedom, Oh freedom over me!
Well before I'll be a slave, I'll be buried in my grave!
And go home, to my lord and be free!
- 2) We who believe in freedom shall not rest!
We who believe in freedom shall not rest!
We who believe in freedom shall not rest until it comes!
- 3) I said deep deep, I said deep deep
I said deep down in my heart, I know the people will
be free, deep down in my heart.
(Substitute: the children, the world, etc.)
- 4) Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around, turn me around,
turn me around; Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around,
gonna keep on talking, keep on walking,
marching into freedom land!
- 5) Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom,
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom,
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom,
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah!

UNITE AND ORGANIZE AGAINST THE KKK!



COUNTER RALLY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 1991
2:00 - 3:00p.m.

'The triple threat to society is poverty, racism and violence.'
--Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sponsored by: NAACP Albany Branch*Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism*Nat'l Lawyers Guild Albany*Arbor Hill Community Center*Albany, Saratoga and Russell Sage NOW*Center for Law and Justice Inc.*US/Puerto Rico Solidarity Network*Pledge of Resistance*Blacks in Government*AFSME Council 66*AFSME Local 1961*NAACP Schenectady*Urban League*Latino Action Coalition*Artists for New Politics*Albany Peace & Energy Council*Capital District Committee for Palestinian Rights*Wilborn Temple*Fellowship of Reconciliation (Troy)*Black Social Workers Albany*St. John's Church of God in Christ*Bethel Baptist Church*Rev. William Roland*Women's Building*SUNY Albany*SEIU Local 2000*Capital District Black Women's Health Project*SASU*NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence*Peace&Justice*Juntas Asia El Progreso*Empire State Pride Agenda*Capital District Solidarity Committee*Capital District Greens*Emergency Committee to End U.S. Intervention in the Middle East*Holding Our Own: A Fund for Women*Feminist Action Network*Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press*Catholic Charities* New Jewish Agenda*Albany YWCA*Many, many more....*

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We are a diverse group of individuals and organizations that have gathered together peacefully to show the KKK that they are not welcome in our community.

Our agenda is to unite and coalesce on January 20, 1991 in a peaceful counter demonstration against an organized KKK rally at the NYS Capitol.

FROM THE ORGANIZERS OF TODAY'S EVENT

In an effort to insure our mutual safety in the presence of a violent organization, the group will adhere to the guidance and direction of the Peacekeepers - Marshalls who are wearing red arm bands.

At the close of the program, please disperse promptly in groups of two or three, and assist those who are older or who are in the company of small children.

THANK YOU!

**UNITE AND ORGANIZE AGAINST THE KKK!
COUNTER RALLY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 1991
2:00 - 3:00p.m.**

*'The triple threat to society is poverty, racism and violence.'
-Martin Luther King, Jr.*

PROGRAM

Gathering and Picketing!
(2:00-2:15pm)

Greetings
(2:20-2:30pm)

Anne Pope, NAACP, Albany Branch
Vera Michaelson, Capital District Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism

Speakers
(2:30-2:40pm)

Freedom Songs/Chants
(2:40-2:50pm)

Speakers
(2:50-3:00pm)

Closing Comments and Announcements

Anne Pope, NAACP, Albany Branch
Vera Michaelson, Capital District Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism

Attention: Editors

January 17, 1991

**PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD FRIDAY, JANUARY 18
TO ANNOUNCE PLANS FOR ANTI-KLAN PROTEST**

The Albany Branch NAACP and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism, have scheduled a press conference for Friday, January 18, 1991 at 11:00 a.m. at the offices of the Urban League, corner of Livingston Ave. and Ten Broeck, Albany, to announce the details of a peaceful protest against the Ku Klux Klan.

Ann Pope, President of the Albany Branch NAACP and Vera Michelson, co-chair of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism will be joined by other groups and individuals at the press conference.

NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS:

The following phone numbers are NOT for publication or distribution:

Anne Pope 463-5463

Vera Michelson 463-0562, 370-7366

Klan plans rally against King holiday

By Robert Borsellino

State editor

ALBANY — An organization describing itself as "the Invisible Empire of the Ku Klux Klan" has been given a permit to hold a rally Sunday on the Capitol steps to oppose Monday's observance of the Rev. Martin Luther King's birthday.

The permit application, signed by Wade Crowley and showing a post office box in Clifton Park, says the group expects to attract about 25 people in a rally lasting one hour starting at 2 p.m.

Law enforcement authorities say Wade Crowley and his brother Wayne were involved in a September Klan rally in Schuylerville.

Wayne was there holding a Confederate flag, while Wade was wearing a sign emblazoned with a swastika.

The two men — both from the Round Lake area — have criminal records, according to police.

Neither man could be reached Monday night.

Thomas Tubbs, a spokesman for the state Office of General Services, said the Capital Police received the permit application last week, and, after review by General Services Commissioner John Hudacs, it was issued.

"These people have every right of free expression," Tubbs said. "So long as they maintain appropriate decorum we have no choice but to grant them the permit."

Tubbs said that because of the sensitive nature of the matter, the application was reviewed by Hudacs.

"He has to judge whether the stated purpose is

These people have every right of free expression. So long as they maintain appropriate decorum we have no choice but to grant them the permit

— Thomas Tubbs,
spokesman for Office of General Services

appropriate," Tubbs said. "Our intelligence suggests there shouldn't be a problem."

He would not discuss what security measures the state will take, but said they will be sufficient.

Thomas Cooper, executive director of the state's King Institute for Non-Violence, told the Associated Press that he planned to attend the Klan rally and encourage non-violence.

"Dr. King was one of the strongest defenders of civil rights and human rights," Cooper said. "I think he would be the first to say that these people have the right to express their point of view and philosophy as long as they don't hurt anybody."

In September about 20 Klan members marched in Schuylerville after a religious painting was ordered removed from the local high school.

That was followed by an anti-Klan march led by the Rev. Al Sharpton.

1/15/91

Hostile crowd breaks up Klan bid to hold rally in Albany

By CHRIS McKENNA
Post Correspondent

ALBANY — A handful of Ku Klux Klan members attempted to rally on the steps of the state Capitol yesterday, but before they could don their white robes, they were chased away by hundreds of egg- and snowball-tossing protesters.

The planned Klan rally was to

protest today's official state holiday in honor of slain civil-rights leader Martin Luther King.

"JFK was assassinated and there's no holiday for him. We want a holiday for whites," said William Dodge, a self-described Klan leader from Bristol, Conn., before the angry crowd chased him down the street.

"Go home, rednecks," the crowd shouted. No arrests were

made.

Other counterprotesters taunted spectators they said "looked like KKK" as rumors circulated that other Klan members were milling among the crowd of about 2,000.

Dozens of cops attempted to separate protesters and KKK members, who arrived one-by-one hours after the planned 2 p.m. start of the rally.

"I'm a peaceful man. I am a God-loving man. I am a member of the Invisible Empire of the Ku Klux Klan," declared Ron Demers, as he was led through the jeering crowd by police.

The planned rally was the second Klan gathering in the area.

Police said there was no sign of Wayne Crowley, the local man who organized yesterday's KKK rally.



Dorothea Brace asks crowd of approximately 100 people to disperse and go home quietly after a brief skirmish with police. The Capitol

officers with clubs and helmets were called in as reinforcements after the incident. The crowd broke up shortly afterward.

SID BROWN Gazette Photographer

Group seeks ouster of school board member

By JOHN NOETZEL
Gazette Reporter

WATERVLIET — A Watervliet group is continuing its fight to remove a member from the city school district's Board of Education. Vic Gamma, president of the Watervliet Citizens Action Associa-

tion, says there is a conflict of interest with Hayes holding the board seat and serving as the city's seal of weights and measures. Hayes has been on the board for 20 years and has held his \$4,500-a-year city job since 1978.

"To me, it's a matter of principle," Gamma said. "He's up there making

decisions only an opinion and not binding. Hayes has refused to step down. He has, however, said he will not run for re-election when his term expires in March."

The 100-member tax-revolt group sought the ruling after Hayes angered the group with remarks he made at a school budget hearing last

month. The call was made after the association sent a letter explaining Hayes' refusal to resign and the Board of Education's unwillingness to make him resign.

"It's not right," Gamma said. "They're just stalling until his term expires. But we know we're right and



Sid Brown Gazette Photographer

Ron Demers, a self-proclaimed Ku Klux Klan member who appeared at yesterday's rally, says he does not hate other races, but he believes the races should not be mixed.

Sole Klansman has few words for his beliefs

By JOHN MORAN
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — The sole admitted member of the Ku Klux Klan demonstrating at the Capitol yesterday said he simply believes there should be no Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Ron Demers expressed his feelings from behind a fence pressed by hundreds of people, black and white, shouting at him to get out of Albany — and worse. They had gathered as part of a counter-demonstration to the Klan.

With 13 Capitol police officers

scattered up the driveway leading into the Capitol, Demers paused for a few moments to answer questions from the press.

"It's just my belief that he shouldn't have a holiday," said Demers, of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday being celebrated as a national holiday.

Demers had been granted a permit for the demonstration.

He wouldn't elaborate on why he was against the King holiday.

Demers said he joined the Klan less

See KLANSMAN, Page B10

Klansman fails to garner supporters

Continued from Page B1

than two years ago because he was "tired of seeing what goes on."

When asked by a young black man with a tape recorder what he meant, he answered, "I believe white should be with white and black should be with black."

After the man asked him if he was against mixed marriages, Demers said, "I'm for the separation of races. I have no hate towards you," he told the man with the recorder.

Demers wouldn't say what part of New York State he was from, but said his Klan chapter there had 20 members.

The chapter was not from the Capit-

tal District, he said. He came to the rally expecting to see other Klansmen, and said he didn't know why they didn't show.

According to Demers, an Army veteran, most of the Klan are working-class people. There are no political officials or police officers in his Klan group, Demers said.

After police escorted Demers away from the heckling, pressing crowd, Lamont Wilson, a black Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute student who was listening was asked for his reaction.

"I'm just trying to understand why people feel the need to feel superior," he said.

NEW YORK

Albany

Rally honors Dr. King, repels the Klan

By Helen Scott

Some 1,500 people from Albany and surrounding communities roundly rebuffed a handful of Ku Klux Klan members at the state Capitol here Jan. 20, preventing a Klan rally against the observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

About 30 area organizations joined together in less than a week's time "to say no to everything the Klan stands for," rally speaker Vera Michelson, co-chair of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, told the World.

"The Klan is the ultimate sign of racism," speaker Anne

Pope told the World. "We wanted to make people aware that racism is pervasive in the society, that racism is on the rise." Pope, who is president of the Albany Branch of the NAACP, noted that the organization has been getting hate mail from the Klan. "This brought it home and made it real to people."

The Coalition and the Albany NAACP initiated the protest, their press statement said, to unify "those who oppose the Klan and all other hate groups who attack African-Americans, Latinos, Asians, Jews, Roman Catholics, women, lesbians, gays, immigrants and non-English speakers" and to

commemorate the life of Dr. King during the official state and federal King birthday holiday.

Rally speaker John Punicello, a staff member of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, told the World that for him, the anti-Klan fight recalls the signs, "I am a man" that were carried by the Memphis sanitation workers with whom King marched.

During the rally, Paul Greenberg of New Jewish Agenda followed Jewish custom and blew a shofar, a traditional Jewish horn, to warn against the danger of the Klan.

In the course of organizing against the Klan, there were pro-

posals against holding any action and others for action away from the Klan rally site. In the end, most sponsors of the on-site demonstration also endorsed a nearby prayer vigil held by the state Martin Luther King Commission.

Michelson said the on-site demonstration was essential to enable the community to repel open Klan activity. She credited a similar on-site protest last year in the small town of Schuylerville with successfully routing a Klan march there.

Demonstration participants came from as far north and south as Schuylerville and Kingston. Many rural residents and their children were concerned, Michelson said, that their communities could become a recruiting ground for the Klan because of deep poverty among rural whites.

The next step is to build a campaign to win state legislation against bias crimes and to enforce the Anti-Genocide Law, said the protest organizers, who rejected the confrontation tactics used by some small groups during the non-violent action.

Organizational endorsers included the National Lawyers Guild, Albany chapter; Arbor Hill Community Center; National Organization for Women chapters from Saratoga, Albany and Russell Sage; Blacks in Government; Council 66 and Local 1961 of AFSCME; Service Employees Local 200-D; the Capital District Solidarity Committee; Schenectady Branch NAACP; Wilborn Temple; Bethel Baptist Church of Troy; Capital District Committee for Palestinian Rights; Capital District Greens; and Feminist Action Network.

March for peace in Albany

Over 1,000 people marched from the State Capitol in Albany to the Federal office building on Thursday, Jan. 17, to protest the beginning of U.S. military action in the Midwest. Twelve people were arrested for disorderly conduct after about three dozen anti-war marchers linked arms and briefly blocked traffic at a busy downtown intersection. Shelley Baldwin, a teacher, said, "I think the war is about oil, it's about capitalism, and I don't think it's worth human



New York City

Daily News strikers build boycott effort

By Helen Scott

dealer.

Building up a head of steam New York City Mayor David

Meanwhile, Farrell noted,

KKK

By JOHN MORAN
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — Civil rights groups will hold their own rally Sunday to counter plans by the Ku Klux Klan to protest the state Martin Luther King holiday.

"It's just very important for this community to be united and show that the Klan is not welcome," said Vera Michelson, co-chair of the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

Michelson said details between her group, the Albany branch of the NAACP and other groups that may co-sponsor the counter demonstration have yet to be worked out. She said the counter demonstration would be peaceful.

The possibility of a confrontation may be reduced because the state won't give permission to the different factions to hold their rallies next to each other, according to a state spokesman.

"[The Klansmen] are coming on a very touchy issue, our celebration of Dr. King," said Anne Pope, president of the Albany National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. "We don't sit back and not do anything."

Pope, like Michelson, said details of their response would be released at a press conference Friday.

The Klan was granted a permit by the state Office of General Services to hold a rally protesting the King holiday at East Capitol Park, said Thomas Tubbs, spokesman for the office. Tubbs said he had been contacted by the coalition and offered them a permit for West Capitol Park for the same time.

"Our policy is two demonstrating organizations, no matter the purpose of the demonstrations, can't occupy the same space," Tubbs said yesterday.

He also said the parks on both sides of the Capitol building are public land and no one can be prevented from entering them.

Tubbs also said he believes this is the first time the Klan has ever planned to demonstrate at the state Capitol. Tubbs wouldn't discuss the number of police that would be on hand Sunday. He only said, "We monitor all demonstrations to be sure people exhibit the kind of behavior that's acceptable."

Sandra Klela, state regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai B'Rith, said her organization wouldn't participate in the counter rally.

"We're very much against [the Klan appearance]," she said. "But we don't get involved in counter demonstrations because we feel counter demonstrations add to the stature of the Klan."

She said the league's World of Difference campaign may address the issue sometime in the future. The World of Difference is an ongoing program to promote cultural diversity and fight prejudice.

"We want to get people together to strategize for the long range," said Deborah Muhammad, a human relations specialist for the Crisis Prevention Unit of the State Division of Human Rights. Muhammad noted that there recently has been public activity by the Klan in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. Last Sept. 25 hooded Klansmen marched in Schuylerville in Saratoga County.



Monique Roberts rests her head on the shoulder of her grandmother Peggy Newton last night at the Cathedral of All Saints in Albany where about 500 persons gathered for a memorial to Martin Luther King. Yesterday market of the civil rights hero.

500 fill Albany cathedral for King memorial service

By JOHN MORAN
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — With some speakers noting the irony of remembering an American known for non-violence on the eve of a possible U.S. war, approximately 500 filled the Cathedral of All Saints last night for a memorial service to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

To a murmur of amens from the crowd, Episcopal Bishop the Rev. David Ball, the host bishop for the service, gave the prayer for peace and justice.

"We pray on the birthday of your servant Martin. . . We thank you for his vision, his courage, his example. We especially pray that there be peace in the Middle East. Peace, not war, in the Middle East," Ball said.

"On this crucial evening, we pray together for peace as we celebrate the birthday of a man, who when face to face with bigotry and hatred, chose non-violence," Roman Catholic Bishop of the Albany Diocese Howard Hubbard told the gathering.

King, probably America's most well-known civil rights leader, would have turned 62 yesterday. He was assassinated in 1968.

Rev. Allen Stanley, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church in Troy, said those who oppose a holiday for King's birthday are mistaken.

"On this crucial evening, we pray together for peace as we celebrate the birthday of a man, who when face to face with bigotry and hatred, chose non-violence."

Rev. Howard Hubbard
Bishop of Albany Catholic Diocese

"We don't want to honor him as a saint. We want to recognize him as a dreamer who contributed to this nation as Washington and Lincoln did," said Stanley, the keynote speaker for the service.

Stanley is also president of the Empire Baptist Missionary Convention and vice president of the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc.

He quoted from the President's Medallion of Freedom, posthumously given to King in 1977.

"King was the conscience of his generation. He gazed down on the great wall of segregation and saw that the power of love could bring it down. He helped us overcome our ignorance of one another," Stanley said.

Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III also delivered remarks to the crowd, say-

ing it was everyone's responsibility to be a caretaker of King's legacy. He said the city's Youth Center, a first class, started a fund that will help the 19 enter the workforce. He said youths become "men and women" may make a meaningful contribution to our city.

He also tried to clear up the confusion over the city's dispute with a labor union over granting King a holiday.

At the time the city union wanted King's birthday as a 12th paid holiday. The city said the union could have a day if it combined Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays into one.

Eventually a compromise was reached and the union birthday with the city's day plus an additional day.

Last night Whalen announced he had written the police officers unions, which are currently involved in negotiations.

"I propose today that we include Martin Luther King in the holidays and leave to the negotiating process whether it is a private number of holidays," Whalen said. He also quoted his letter as saying

1/26/91

...the right to "freely speak, write and

Demonstration planned to counter Ku Klux Klan rally

By Robert Borsellino

State editor

ALBANY — Several Capital District organizations are planning an anti-Klan demonstration for Sunday to counter a Ku Klux Klan rally scheduled for the Capitol steps.

The groups — including the Albany chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism — say plans are still in the works and an announcement is scheduled for Friday.

The Klan plans to hold a one-hour rally, starting at 2 p.m. Sunday, to protest Monday's observance of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

Thomas Tubbs, a spokesman for the state Office of General Services, said the rally will be held at the same time as the Klan, but probably won't be at the same location.

"We intend to use the location already allowed for use by the other organization," said Tubbs.

But he went on to say Capitol Park is public land and if both groups "maintain and exhibit

appropriate behavior" there should be no problem.

Wayne Crowley of Round Lake, an organizer of the Klan rally, said Tuesday that he would not discuss his plans, but will speak to any reporters who show up Sunday.

Crowley's application for a state permit to use Capitol Park indicated that he expects 25 people to participate.

Counterdemonstrators said they expect to attract anywhere from 100 to 500 people.

—Mike Goudreau

KLAN STAND

AFTER 26 ROBED KU KLUX KLAN members marched in Schuylerville last September, William H. Hoff, New York State Grand Dragon of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, said his group "would be back." This Sunday, Hoff's prediction is scheduled to come true. State officials have confirmed that a representative of the Invisible Empire applied for, and received, permission for 25 Klan members to protest the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on the Capitol steps Sunday.

In an interview after the Schuylerville march, Hoff said that in recent years, the Klan had been keeping a low profile. But following Schuylerville, New York's first public march of robed Klansmen in 60 years, Hoff was feeling expansive. "Now we've become strong," Hoff bragged.

Anne Pope, president of the Albany branch of the NAACP, said it was important for the community to come together and defend King's memory. "When the Klan comes to the area," she said, "it's incumbent on us to respond to their presence. But it's also important to me that it be done nonviolently, in the spirit of Dr. King."

Next Monday is the official King holiday and an annual march in his memory, which draws top state and local officials, is planned in Albany that day. But the announcement of the Klan protest forced local activists to consider how to respond beyond the official march. In an effort to learn from the experiences of other communities, they turned to such national anti-Klan groups as the Atlanta-based Center for Democratic Renewal.

"The King holiday has been a Klan rallying point for the past six or seven years," said the center's research director, Leonard Zeskind. For years, the center has monitored the growth of the Klan and other hardcore right-wing white-supremacist groups. "This year we are seeing more Klan rallies on King's birthday weekend than we've had in recent years," he said.

"You shouldn't play into the Klan's hands," Zeskind advised. "It's not so much the issue of violence, but if you do things that tend to make the Klan into martyrs, or look picked on, you shift the debate away from racism and violence and onto some sort of First Amendment rights question."

Recent Klan marches elsewhere in the country have been met with a variety of responses. In Cincinnati, three days before Christmas, some 800 people rallied to protest six robed Klansmen. At one point, activists threw rocks, metallic objects and a can of fruit. At the end of the half-hour rally, police escorted the Klansmen to waiting cars. But seven anti-Klan protestors were arrested during fights with the police, who were protecting the robed racists.

"In North Carolina, there have been some very disciplined anti-Klan protests," Zeskind said. "But it doesn't make sense to

have the police protect the Klan. I think it distorts the public discussion."

According to Zeskind, there are some 26 different Klan groups around the country. Pulaski, Tenn., where the Klan was founded more than a century ago, has become the site of an anti-King Day march that attracts not only Klansmen, but Nazi-oriented skinheads as well. About 250 white supremacists participated in the annual march last Saturday.

The organized white-supremacist movement has grown slightly in recent years, Zeskind said, but its influence "has grown considerably." He cited in particular, former Klan leader David Duke's successful bid for a seat in the Louisiana State Legislature. "That shows the growing sophistication of white-supremacist groups," he said.

After a series of meetings this past week, local anti-racist activists have settled on several approaches. A town meeting to discuss the Klan has been called for 7 PM Saturday at Grace and Holy Innocents Church on Clinton Avenue in Albany. "We want the Klan to realize that they are not welcome here," said Victoria Santos, a SUNYA student who is one of the event's organizers. She said invitations have gone out to local elected officials and community groups to attend. "We want to inform the community about what other groups have done when the Klan has come," Santos said.

In addition, the Albany NAACP and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism have called for a nonviolent counterprotest at the Capitol Sunday at the same time as the Klan march.

"Hopefully, people will come together," said the NAACP's Pope. "We hope that they will take some time to reflect on Dr. King's dream, his birthday and the life that he lived."

—Jeff Jones

Klan won't be alone

2 groups opposing KKK also plan rallies

By Patrick Kurp

Staff writer

ALBANY — When members of the Ku Klux Klan hold their rally in front of the Capitol on Sunday afternoon, they can expect to be greeted by at least two anti-Klan reception committees.

One, an inter-denominational prayer vigil, will meet on the other side of Washington Avenue in Academy Park, across from City Hall.

Scheduled to take part in the vigil, from 1:45 to 2:30 p.m., are Roman Catholic Bishop Howard Hubbard, Episcopal Bishop David Bell and Rabbi Martin Silverstein, president of the United Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York.

"In order for this to be positive, rather than give the Klan any more publicity than they're already getting, we'll hold it across the street. We don't want them to benefit," said Elaine Drooz

Friedman, representing Silverstein's organization.

The New York State Martin Luther King Jr. Committee has sanctioned the prayer vigil.

An organization identifying itself as "the Invisible Empire of the Ku Klux Klan" has been given a permit to hold a one-hour rally on the Capitol steps beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday to protest state observance of the King birthday on Monday.

Sunday's other anti-Klan event, billed as a "counter rally," is sponsored by the Albany branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism and about 30 other organizations. It is scheduled for 2 p.m. in front of the Capitol, the same place as the Klan rally.

"Our intent is peaceful and non-violent. Any

group or any individual who comes with anything else in mind is not welcome," said Anne Pope, president of the Albany branch of the NAACP.

The Klan's permit application, signed by Wade Crowley and showing a post office box in Clifton Park, says the group expects to attract about 25 people.

"The purpose of this rally," Michelson said, "is to let people know that the Klan hates just about everybody. We want the community to be united against the Klan."

Of related interest, the State University at Albany is holding a "Speak-out" against the Klan at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Performing Arts Center at the SUNYA uptown campus.

The public is invited to attend the meeting, where faculty, staff and students will voice their opinions on hate groups.

1/19/91



Klan gets bum's rush

Planned Albany rally drew protesters, but few admitted Klansmen

By Jay Jochnowitz

Staff writer

ALBANY — The so-called Invisible Empire of the Ku Klux Klan canceled a planned demonstration at the state Capitol Sunday, but a handful of Klansmen and suspect Klansmen found themselves heckled, struck by eggs, spat at and pelted with snowballs by a huge crowd of counterdemonstrators.

Police, who also endured a show of snowballs, brought out riot gear one point and arrested one person who was demonstrating against the racist organization.

Organizers of the counterprotest were pleased with the size of the crowd — estimated by police at 700 people, but set by some other accounts at more than 1,000 — at its apparent success in scaring off the Klan.

William Hoff, imperial wizard of the Klan in New York, claimed in a telephone interview from his home in Queens that the demonstration was canceled because of a lack of organization, but some members apparently did not get the message. One police source, who asked not to be identified, said about a dozen Klansmen were at the Capitol Sunday afternoon in street clothes.

Vera Michelson, co-chairwoman of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, one of more than 40 groups sponsoring the counterdemonstration, said the eruption of violence was disappointing but understandable.

"Anything that resulted that was not peaceful happened outside of the intent," said Michelson. "The Klan inflames this kind of hostility."

Sunday's activity was sparked by news that the Klan had obtained a permit for a 2 p.m. demonstration at the Capitol to voice opposition to

NOT HERE — A huge crowd, above, at Capitol Park in Albany Sunday made it clear it did not welcome an announced Ku Klux Klan rally. Larry Hotham of Connecticut, below left, gave a stiff-armed salute and left when confronted by the crowd. Michelle Davis, below right, made clear her feelings. And Capital Police in riot gear, lower photo, kept the crowd back near the state education Building entrance.



Times Union photos by Jack Madigan

KLAN

Continued from B-1

to watch the protest and said he had no feelings for or against the Klan, the confrontation turned into a shouting match. Some of the roughly two dozen "peace marshals," volunteers on the anti-Klan side who were there to keep order, asked the crowd to step back and were jeered by a few of the more vocal demonstrators, who taunted the Phibbses with names and challenges.

"I just came down to see what they look like," said Jim Phibbs, who had brought his large Rottweiler, Princess, with him. There were a number of demonstrators with dogs in the crowd, including one man with two pit bulls.

The scene grew considerably more tense as a middle-aged man wearing an Army jacket with a small Klan symbol on it and the word "Klan" stitched over one pocket was spotted with a group of four other young people on the northern edge of Capitol Park.

The man, who identified himself as Ron Demers and said he was a member of the Invisible Empire of the Ku Klux Klan from out of town, was immediately surrounded by the media and then by hundreds of the demonstrators.

Demers, like other Klansmen, carried a brown paper bag, and when questioned by reporters refused to say whether his Klan robe was inside.

Demers said he opposed the King holiday.

"I don't think the man should be made a hero," he said. He also said he supports "separation of the races."

Demers' comments drew increasingly angry responses from the crowd, and Capital Police officers escorted him behind a barricade. As he continued to speak with reporters, someone threw an egg at him that struck a police officer on the head. Another person rushed up and spat.

"He knows he's going to provoke this," said the spitter, who identified himself as Tim Michaels.

As Demers paced behind the barricade, demonstrators began throwing snowballs, hitting police. Capital Police donned helmets with face shields. Several demonstrators gathered a short distance away and burned an American flag. John Alexander, 17, of Guildertland, who acknowledged setting the fire, said it was intended as a statement against the Klan.

"If you live by the fire, you'll die by the fire," he said.

A young man with a clean-shaven head was hemmed in by a thick crowd on the north side of the Capitol. Clad in a brown shirt and black tie under a leather jacket, he was visibly shaking as he insisted that he was not with the Klan and did not espouse Nazi beliefs. "I was just passing through," he said.

In the most violent confrontation of the day, much of the crowd poured across Washington Avenue to chase another man with a shaven head and what appeared to be a Klan insignia on his denim jacket. As he was pelted on the head with dozens of snowballs, he shouted out that he was not a Klansman and, made obscene gestures toward the crowd.

The man dove into a parked car on North Hawk Street, which also took a hail of snowballs. It was surrounded, and a female driver, in tears, asked police to get the man out. He was taken into a police car and escorted away, as protesters shouted, "Cops and the Klan go hand in hand."

Moments later, police scuffled with five or six demonstrators in what mostly was a shoving match, although police later said one officer was hit in the face. Additional helmeted Capital Police joined Albany police with riot clubs drawn and, assisted by three mounted officers, pushed the crowd back as they arrested one youth.

Deputy Chief William Murray said the youth was found to be a juvenile, and police decided to release him to his parents.

Murray said most of the crowd was peaceful, and blamed the problems on a core group of about a dozen people who "right from the beginning weren't listening." He also blamed the Klan, saying the disruption of the protest was its "desired effect."

Staff writer Paul Webster contributed to this report.

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Anti-Klan rally turns violent

Klan sympathizers pelted by snowballs

By JOHN MORAN
Gazette Reporter

1/21/91

Shouts of anger and prayers at anti-Klan rally, Page B3

ALBANY — An anti-Ku Klux Klan demonstration at the state Capitol nearly turned into a riot yesterday after demonstrators began pelting Klan sympathizers with snowballs.

Before the melee was over, police and anti-Klan demonstrators were battling each other and demonstrators were accusing the police of striking black protesters with clubs.

The incident followed a peaceful demonstration by about 1,500 people who were there to protest a Klan rally. That rally never took place as only one person showed up who admitted to being a member of the white supremacist group.

The Klan rally had been called to protest the state celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday with a holiday.

Following the anti-Klan rally, hundreds of demonstrators on Washington Avenue surrounded a group of suspected Klan sympathizers and pelted them with snowballs.

The crowd then focused on another suspected Klan sympathizer, who was showered with snowballs and insults.

Next, a scuffle broke out on the sidewalk in front of the Hawk Street entrance of the State Education Building.

Suddenly, the crowd surged onto the sidewalk as the struggle grew larger. Police on horseback drew their clubs to control their horses as police on foot and demonstrators scrambled about.

The confused scene calmed down somewhat in a few seconds, and the crowd and police found themselves in a standoff.

Several people immediately shouted that the police had hit some young black men with clubs, as about a dozen police with their backs to the building faced the crowd of about 100.

A dozen Capitol police wearing riot helmets and holding batons marched over from the Capitol and took up a position between the crowd and the police already on the scene.

After some shouting, including people in the crowd pleading for non-violence, Dorothea Brace, who was part of the demonstration, walked between the police and the gathering and asked everyone to go home. Soon the incident ended as the crowd dispersed.

Two people, Odell Winfield and Kathy Manley, who were separately interviewed, said they saw a police officer on foot hit a young black man with a nightstick.

"I saw the police hit one of the young kids," Winfield said. "The crowd pulled the police off them." Manley told a similar story as did a young man, James, who would only give his first name. It wasn't possible to determine whether they were all talking about the same incident.

After the crowd left the scene, Assistant Police Chief William Murray said he didn't see any officers hit anyone.

"They always say that. I was in the middle of it all and I didn't see anybody," Murray said. "A couple of mounted officers did take their batons out from the sheaths, but nobody got hit."

The demonstration that preceded the fracas was called by the Albany NAACP and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism to protest the Klan's rally.

The NAACP and the coalition organized a peaceful demonstration to be held about 20 yards from the Capitol steps where the Klan members were supposed to show up.

The two organizations calling the counter-demonstration, which was co-sponsored by at least 37 other organizations, had 30 to 40 peace-keeping marshals designated to help calm the crowd, said Merton Simpson, co-chairman of the coalition.

Emotions were high in part because of recent accusations of police brutality, particularly the apparent suicide death of Corey Sheldon, a 21-year-old black man who died while in the city lockup.

Across Washington Avenue, another event was held to protest the Klan's appearance. A prayer vigil attended by Harry Belafonte and Albany Catholic Bishop Howard Hubbard was held in Academy Park.

The Klan rally was scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. By then about 1,000 people had gathered and tension was growing.

When Ron Demers arrived, the only person who publicly admitted being a member of the Klan, he was identified by the crowd by Klan insignia he wore.

Demers, who said he was from another part of the state, was escorted by police behind a metal fence blocking off a driveway into the Capitol. While Demers was taunted by the crowd and a few eggs were thrown at him, he was not harmed.

About 30 yards away toward Eagle Street, the rally was officially ending as Anne Pope, Albany NAACP chapter president, addressed the crowd.

"The Albany NAACP goes on record today declaring that groups like the KKK place our community in grave danger. The sickness they breed of bias-related violence and blatant racism must be defeated," she told the gathering.

"For decades, African-Americans, Jews, Asians, Latinos, Islamics, gays and lesbians have been on the KKK's hit lists. Our community cannot risk the influence of racist violence. Your presence here today sends a message to the Klan that we, as a community, are united."

Progress toward a dream

By E. J. Conzola Jr.
Staff writer

TROY — Martin Luther King Jr. a dream of a peaceful and egalitarian society remains just that a dream, speakers at a march and worship service honoring the slain civil rights leader said Sunday.

But the actions of the racially diverse crowd that attended the events in downtown Troy showed that at least some progress has been made toward making that dream reality.

About 125 people marched from the bandstand in Riverfront Park to Bethel Baptist Church Sunday as part of the observance of what would have been King's 62nd birthday Jan. 15. The crowd — roughly half black and half white — sang "We Shall Overcome," the song that has become synonymous with King and the demonstrations he led or inspired in the 1960s, as they marched the four blocks to the church.

Many of the marchers held hands as they walked. Others held pastel-colored balloons imprinted with the words "Martin Luther King, Remember the Dream."

Only a handful of people were on the streets as the marchers passed.

Prior to the march, several speakers praised King's efforts to end racial discrimination and his strong belief in non-violence to accomplish his goals in the face of often-violent opposition. However, several speakers expressed sadness that more than two decades after King's death, injustices he fought continue to exist.

"We all know that dream has not fully come true," said Sally Catlin of the Rensselaer County Human Rights Committee. "We have a great deal of work to realize it."

The sentiment that King's dream remains unrealized was repeated during a multid denominational worship service following the march. Racism, sexism, age discrimination, child abuse and neglect, phobic responses to alternative lifestyles, poverty and homelessness seem to be as bad, if not worse, now than they were when King led his supporters into the streets, said the Rev. J. Esther Rowe, associate minister at Bethel Baptist Church.

"How short we felt on the yardstick of progress," Rowe said.

Speakers both before and at the service cited what Troy Mayor Martin Mahar described as "the dreadful war" in the Middle East as an example of America's failure to live up to King's dream.



TENSE — A Klan opponent, in cap beside police officer on horse, argues Sunday with an officer on foot in Capitol Park. Below suspected of being a Klansman, with shaved head in middle, is surrounded by the anti-Klan crowd. The man fled unharmed.



Times Union photos by Jim



Robert
Borsellino

State Capitol

'Empire'
sure was

invisible 1/21/94

There can be no such thing as a peaceful Ku Klux Klan rally.

The Klan was born of violence.

It is, by its very nature, a violent organization.

So when violence was the grand finale of Sunday's non-existent Klan demonstration, no one could have been surprised.

What was surprising was that anyone calling himself a Klansman would show his face at a time when people of color — fellow Americans — were putting their lives on the line in the Middle East.

There was something surreal about the entire day.

A crowd started gathering in Capitol Park shortly after 1 p.m. Sunday, waiting for the Klansmen to show up.

The atmosphere was almost festive.

Some of the faces were familiar — Donna DiMaria, David Aube, Alice Green, all Albany residents for whom social activism is a way of life.

But there were hundreds of others — politicians, business people, teachers, state workers, media types, students — who came out because they just couldn't believe that in the capital of New York state during the stretch run of the 20th century there was going to be a Ku Klux Klan rally.

Things started out quietly enough.

Two o'clock came, and there was not a Klansman in sight.

A couple of tough-looking hombres who identified themselves as the Phibbs brothers from Albany had the misfortune of attracting the media for a short spell.

Cameras clicked, and the microphones and notebooks came out. The two Phibbses said they thought Klan members had every right to rally and voice their opinions.

But, in the end, these guys were not the real thing.

One scruffy guy with Connecticut plates on his tired Buick caught the cops' — and then the crowd's — attention, but he wasn't the real thing either.

"Look, I just came down here to see what's goin' on. OK?" he kept saying.

If he was a Klansman, he did his white sheet a disservice by not owning up to it.

Eventually, the crowd got bored with him, too.

There were a couple of other false alarms as the pack of activists, journalists and the curious made their way from one defiant, militant white man to the next.

None admitted to being even remotely connected with the Invisible Empire of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

By 2:30, the anti-Klan crowd had gathered full force in another part of the park and had its counter-rally.

But the racists, by not showing themselves, had succeeded in giving the activists nothing to counter.

Shortly after 3, there emerged a middle-aged, heavyset man with a small Confederate flag stitched to the breast pocket of his Army fatigue jacket.

His ample gut hung out over a white sweatshirt that featured an eagle and the saying: "No slack for Iraq."

He said his name was Ron Demers, he was from outside the Albany area and, yes, in fact, he was a member of the Klan.

Police ushered Demers behind a metal barricade and several hundred protesters pressed up against the other side — some cursing him, some spitting, but most just staring at the sad man in the funny shirt.

He carried a brown paper bag and refused to say what was in it.

"I got no hate towards you," Demers told an African-American reporter who covered the rally for the *Amsterdam News*.

"I just believe that you can't mix the races. You gotta keep 'em both separate."

The crowd got louder and the potential for violence increased.

Then someone started throwing eggs at Demers and hit a plain-clothes cop.

Soon after Demers was ushered away, more scuffling broke out across from the park, in front of the state Education Building.

A protester was pushed, punches were thrown, a cop was jumped.

It got ugly real fast.

Anti-Klan protesters deliver their message

Demonstrators use various techniques

By JOHN MORAN
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — There were three modes of protesting the Ku Klux Klan's presence at the Capitol yesterday: shout at them, occasionally punctuating words with snowballs; protest peacefully in East Capitol Park within view of where they were supposed to be, but far enough away to avoid confrontation; attend a prayer vigil across the street in Academy Park.

The vigil, which drew about 400 people compared to the 1,500 that attended the counter-demonstration, was intended to send the Klan the same message: They are not welcome in Albany. Martin Luther King's message of non-violent change was often evoked at the vigil, which took place simultaneously with the other events.

"I think Martin Luther King was the apostle of non-violence par excellence, and a way to counter the Klan was to gather in the spirit of non-violence," said Albany Diocese Catholic Bishop Howard Hubbard, who participated in the service. "We wanted an opportunity to have a peaceful response. I really do not believe there is strong feeling for their goals [in the Albany area]," Hubbard said of the Klan's effort to recruit here.

Prayers were also offered by Albany Episcopal Bishop David Ball, Rabbi Martin Silverman of Congregation Beth Emeth and the Rev. Rob-

ert Dixon of the Mount Calvary Baptist Church. Singer Harry Belafonte, the honorary chairman of the state Martin Luther King Holiday Commission, also attended and helped sing the closing verses of "We Shall Overcome," despite having a sore throat.

While some people preferred either the demonstration or the prayer vigil, the two events' organizers endorsed each other. Virgil Hodges, deputy commissioner for the state Labor Department, organized the vigil and encouraged people to attend the counter-demonstration in addition to vigil. The two organizers of the demonstration, the Albany National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, also endorsed the vigil.

Anne Pope, president of the NAACP, delivered remarks to both gatherings. "We are committed to building a strong brotherhood and a strong sisterhood among all peoples," Pope said at the prayer gathering. "However, we believe that brotherhood and sisterhood cannot be simple words and symbols, they must be coupled with deeds and actions."

At the Capitol, only one admitted member of the Klan showed up, although some in the crowd were suspected of being in the organization or sympathetic to it.

MONDAY
JANUARY 21, 1991

LOCAL INEW



A mounted officer struggles to control his horse as anti-Klan demonstrators scuffled with police.

SID BROWN Gazette Photographer

RY 21, 1991

Demonstrators Foil Plans For a Ku Klux Klan Rally

By KEVIN SACK

Special to The New York Times

ALBANY, Jan. 20 — Ku Klux Klan members who gathered today outside the state Capitol to protest the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday were pelted with snowballs and epithets by an angry mass of more than 1,000 counter-demonstrators.

The demonstration turned briefly into a melee when the Albany police, some on horseback, tried to restrain an anti-Klan protester who was approaching one of the Klansmen. Several dozen protesters rushed the line of officers to rescue their colleague and, with batons raised and horses swirling, the officers sent the panicked protesters running wildly away.

What the counter-demonstrators had intended as a declaration against racism was quickly transformed into a confrontation with authority, as the protesters chanted "Cops and Klan go hand in hand."

No arrests or injuries were reported.

For the first hour of the rally, the Klan had lived up to its billing as the Invisible Empire.

Singing and Speaking

Wayne Crowley of Round Lake, N. Y., had received a state permit to use the Capitol steps for a 25-person Klan rally that would begin at 2 P.M. But for almost an hour there was no sign of the Klan, and the 1,500 counter-demonstrators had sole use of the Capitol grounds for singing, speaking and chanting.

At that point, a lone Klansman, Ron Demers, arrived and was quickly escorted behind a police barricade beside the Capitol steps. The counter-demonstrators converged on the other side of the barricade, tossing eggs and snowballs at Mr. Demers.

Wearing a camouflage jacket that had the words Ku Klux Klan and a Klan

Protesters outnumber the racists by more than a thousand.

emblem on it, Mr. Demers said he had come to meet several associates.

"I personally don't believe Martin Luther King's birthday should be a national holiday," said Mr. Demers, who refused to say where he lived. "I believe black should be black and white should be white, separation of the races."

'What a Joke'

Then a group of about a dozen Klan members from Connecticut arrived. Like Mr. Demers, they expressed disappointment that Mr. Crowley and his contingent had not materialized.

"No one from New York showed up? What a joke," said William E. Dodge of Bristol, who identified himself as the state leader of the Connecticut Klan. Mr. Dodge said his members had brought their white robes and hoods with them, but chose not to wear them.

As the Connecticut Klansmen tried to drive away, they were chased by the crowd and bombarded with snowballs.

Although several of the anti-Klan demonstrators conceded that their peaceful protest had been marred, they said that their numbers had discouraged a larger Klan showing.

"These ain't the Klan's kind of odds," said David Macks of Albany. "It's daylight, they're outnumbered, and they have no ropes and no guns."



Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

In the fall of 1981, the South African Springbok rugby team came to Albany. Prior to their arrival, a coalition of many groups and individuals came together to protest their appearance in what was a violation of the international cultural/sports boycott called by the United Nations against apartheid South Africa. The Coalition continues and has been active in the work against racism and apartheid since that time.

A CHRONOLOGY OF MAJOR COALITION EVENTS - 1981 TO THE PRESENT

- 1981
- September 22 - Major demonstration against the Springbok rugby team in Albany
 - Vera Michelson arrested along with out of town anti-apartheid activists John Spearman, Mike Young and Aaron Estes
 - Gil Scott Heron gives benefit concerts in Albany to raise money for defense funds
 - December 21 - Charges dropped against Michelson and Estes
- 1982
- County court jury acquitted John Spearman and John Young of felony weapons charge
 - Protest at Watervliet Arsenal where weapons were being manufactured for sale to South Africa in violation of United Nations' and United States' embargoes
 - Coalition participated in anti-klan demonstrations in Southern Vermont
 - Anti-klan program held in Albany featuring Renee DuBois
 - First cultural boycott demonstration - against Chick Corea at Troy Music Hall
 - Fundraiser at Gibbey's*
 - "One Year Later" anniversary program held at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
 - Coalition organized buses to participate in anti-klan demonstration in Washington, D.C.
 - Lawsuit filed on behalf of the Coalition, Michelson and Estes against the Albany City Police and the F.B.I. challenging the raid and arrests
- 83
- Picket line at Caldors protesting the sale of South African baby bonnets
 - Fundraiser - showing of movie "The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith"
 - Numerous cultural boycott demonstrations including a major walk-out at the Saratoga Kool Jazz Festival against Ray Charles
 - Co-sponsored New Paltz Conference on New York State divestment

- Testimony given at United Nations to the Special Political Committee of the General Assembly
- Co-sponsored with the NAACP a conference - "Racism: A National Policy"
- Fundraiser at Otis'
- Coalition lawyers defeat motion to dismiss lawsuit
- 1984
 - Jesse Davis murdered - Coalition joined protest and joined in demands for an Albany Police Review Board
 - David Ndaba of the African National Congress in Albany speaking at a public forum at Wilborn Temple
 - Numerous cultural boycott events. Statement obtained by the Coalition and Unity in Action from the Temptations vowing that they will not return to South Africa until apartheid is ended
 - Testimony given to the Banking Committee of the New York State Assembly on the need for divestment
 - Testimony given at the United Nations to the Special Political Committee of the General Assembly
 - Artis Lee of the Friends in Albany speaking at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church
 - Coalition participated in a conference on nuclear arms entitled "Reducing the Risk" sponsored by the Capital District Peace Power Network
- 1985
 - Murphy Morobe, leading spokesperson of the United Democratic Front, in Albany to speak - at a clergy breakfast, labor reception and an open forum at Wilborn Temple
 - SUNY students force SUNY divestment
 - Picket line against Ray Charles at the Palace Theater in Albany
 - Major walkback against Chick Corea at the Kool Jazz Festival in Saratoga. Statement by Corea that he will not return to South Africa until there is an end to apartheid obtained by the Coalition
 - Film on Malcolm X co-sponsored with the Malcolm X Study Network
 - Neo Mnumzana, chief representative of the ANC Observer Mission to the United Nations, and Hinyangerwa Asheeke of SWAPO to Albany to speak at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church
 - Free South Africa demonstration in Albany - 10 community leaders arrested at the protest which was co-sponsored by the NAACP
- 1986
 - January conference in Albany to establish a network of anti-apartheid forces to work in the N. Y. State divestment campaign
 - Picket line against New Regan, state comptroller, opposed to divestment, in front of the Alfred E. Smith building
 - State-wide lobby day for divestment and demonstration in front of the Legislative Office Building in Albany
 - Overnight shantytown set up on Capitol grounds to demand N.Y. state divestment
 - Student Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism established at SUNYA

- Movie on Nelson and Winnie Mandela co-sponsored with Unity in Action at the Metropolitan New Testament Baptist Church
- Sharpeville commemoration entitled "From Sharpeville, South Africa to Albany, U.S.A. held at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
- Community Police Relations Board established as a result of demands made in the Jesse Davis case. Coalition holds seat on this board
- Coalition participated, and will continue to do so, in the Niebuhr Institute at Siena College
- Coalition sponsored bus trip to Philadelphia Demonstration Against Racism
- Coalition sponsored buses to June 14 Anti-Apartheid March in New York City
- Two different federal court judges ruled that Coalition lawyers would not be given information about the identity and activities of a secret police informant who provided the F.B.I. with information during the 1981 anti-apartheid organizing. Federal rules prevent an appeal of this ruling prior to the trial
- "Victory is Certain" program to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Coalition

yet to come... Fall of 1986

The Coalition, as a co-sponsor of the following events, urges your attendance:

- September 26 at Page Hall - Maishe Maponya, a South African poet, will read from his works and hold a question and answer period. This evening is being sponsored by the Writer's Institute of SUNY
 - October 11 - The Pledge of Resistance - organized demonstration against U.S. government policy in Nicaragua, South Africa and Namibia. Make links, boycott South Africa not Nicaragua. Protest policy positions of N.Y. Sen. D'Amato
- This Fall also is the time when we will intensify our demands for State divestment. Join with anti-apartheid activists from around the state to demand that New York State divest all South African and Namibian related investments and to convince the Legislature to end all state buying of goods or services from any company doing business in South Africa or Namibia

ongoing work of the Coalition...

- a speaker's bureau which is available to speak at churches, forums, schools and community events, and on t.v. and radio shows
- a monthly newsletter
- tabling at community events and affairs
- regular monthly meetings

for more information, write: Box 3002, Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12203
or call: (518) 436-0562

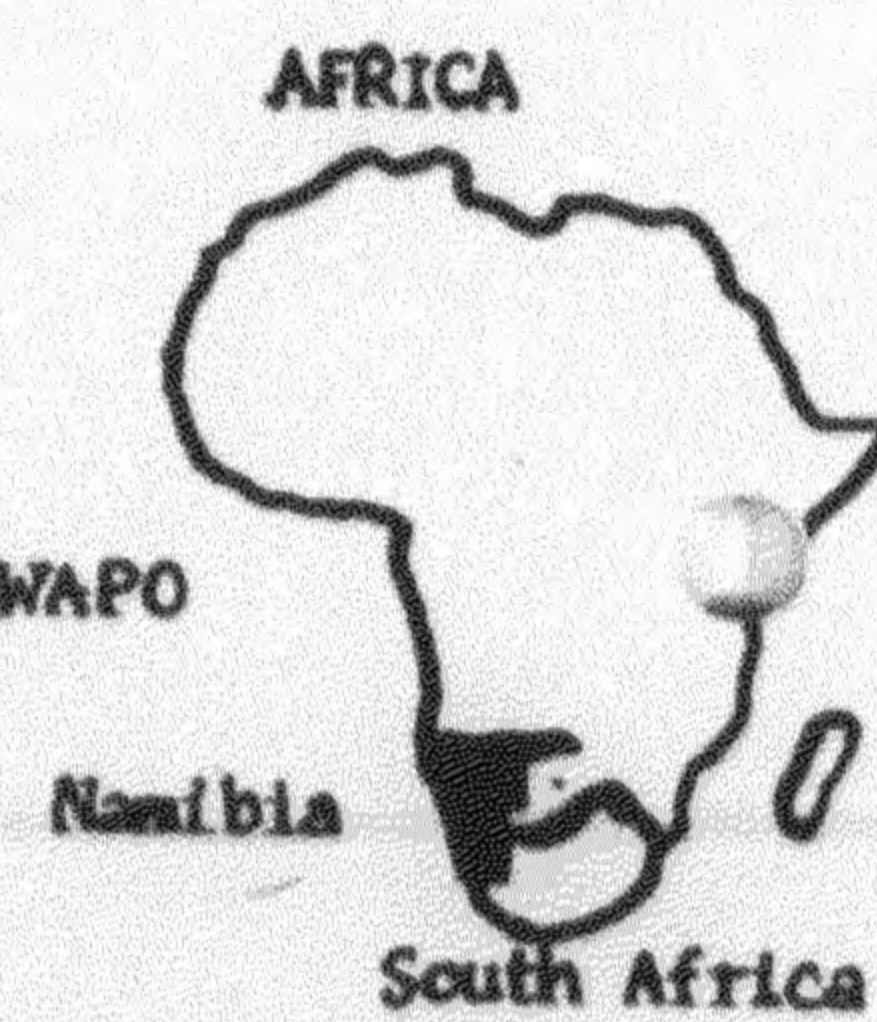
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Merton Simpson (Co-Chairperson)
Fred Kakumba
Eileen Kawola
Mark Mishler
Sipho Seepe
Anita Thayer
Roli Varma
Joe Walker (honorary member)
Japhet Zwana
Jacqui Ambrosini (student representative)

The Member Groups

NAACP
Capital District Association of Black Social Workers
Capital District Labor Religion Coalition
Student Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, SUNYA
Student Association of the State University
Student Association of SUNY, Albany
National Lawyers Guild
Universal Being
Malcolm X Study Network
Blacks in Government
Albany County Central Federation of Labor
Mount Calvary Baptist Church
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Democratic Socialists of America
NYPIRG
Socialist Workers Party
Black Woman's Association
Central America Solidarity Alliance (CASA)
Urban League
A. Philip Randolph Institute
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EDITORIALS

1/22/90

Standing up to the Klan

Although the Ku Klux Klan had planned to demonstrate their opposition to this state's observance of Martin Luther King's birthday, it was opponents of racism who clearly had the last word at the state Capitol Sunday.

To their credit, nobody contested the racist organization's right to rally and speak — as distasteful as most people find their views. Even the intemperate Al Sharpton supported that right. Instead, the NAACP and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism did an admirable job of mobilizing a massive counter-demonstration. The result: No Klan rally, only a handful of Klansmen not eager to be spotted and an anti-Klan rally of an estimated 1,500, as well as a simultaneous prayer vigil of 400.

This was absolutely the right way to undermine the credibility of the hooded fringe group, whose campaign of racist hostility and violence has brought fear and death to generations of African-Americans. By force of numbers and prayers, the anti-Klan protesters scored the decisive victory, showing the Klan how unwelcome and outnumbered it was.

Attendance at the rally reflected a broad cross-section of the population rather than merely known political activists. Unfortunately, the peaceable spirit of protest was marred, after the

rally, by a touch of violence against Klan members and suspected supporters, as well as a few skirmishes between police and protesters. That wasn't the goal of the organizers and cannot be condoned, although it isn't hard to see how it happened.

The increased visibility of members of the so-called Invisible Empire in this area — as exemplified by a cross-burning in Gansevoort and a Klan march in Schuylerville — has been unsettling to many. Most African-Americans have grown up to terrifying stories of Klan lynchings, lootings and hangings. But it's not often that anyone comes face to face with a Klan member, and in the climate of heightened tension Sunday, all the years of loathing, fear and frustration found a vehicle of expression for a few people. There were no real weapons — just a handful of eggs and snowballs.

It would have been better, of course, if they had chosen words to argue their case. It would also have been better for the Klan to have done so all these years; but rational debate is incompatible with the Klan's campaigns of intimidation and violence. So if the Klan now wants to lobby for causes by the rules, it's going to have to overcome its reputation for thuggery — and learn to endure a little heckling in the process.

Invisible Klan, ^{T.U.} ^{1/24/91} visible hate

The whole idea was an offense to decency. The Ku Klux Klan had obtained a permit to demonstrate at the Capitol Sunday to protest the state's observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Other demonstrations were formed to counter that message of hate.

As it turned out, only one man identified himself as a member of the Klan's "Invisible Empire," and he was pelted with an egg, spittle and snowballs by a group of counter demonstrators. A Guilderland youth was arrested after he told police he had burned an American flag as a statement against the Klan.

The tense feelings were understandable, and not only because of the Klan's sense of timing and place. In recent weeks, the Klan has staged a march in Schuylerville, and an interracial couple was harassed in Gansevoort. Both incidents stirred fears of spreading violence.

To their credit, most counter demonstrators respected the Klan's right to demonstrate, despite the scattered clashes that marred an otherwise peaceful assembly. A prayer vigil attended by 400 was conducted without incident.

While the Klan claims its demonstration fizzled because of lack of organization, that in no way minimizes its visible agenda: It exists to carry on a long, ugly history of violence targeted at African Americans and others.

That's why it was so important for Albany to show, in convincing numbers, how abhorrent the Klan presence is. That was also a reason for organizers to keep the counter demonstration from adapting the same intimidating tactics of the Klan, no matter how well intentioned the demonstrators were.

For the most part, organizers succeeded. As for the few exceptions, Vera Michelson, co-chairwoman of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, places matters in proper perspective: "Anything that resulted that was not peaceful happened outside of the intent. The Klan inflames this kind of hostility."

Fortunately for Albany, those flames were subsumed in a strong counter message — hate isn't welcome here.



Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism
Box 3002, Pine Hills Station; Albany, New York 12203
A Project of the Social Justice Center

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Struggle,

Our Sincere and deep thanks to you for the support you have given to the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism since our beginnings in 1981. As you know, the struggle against apartheid and racism goes on. It has been your generosity in time, money and other resources which has made it possible for the coalition to continue the work. **But the struggle in this country is to go forward. If there is to be a real movement for change, it will take the determination, dedication and long term commitment of many people. Your help is crucial.**

We are a coalition of several community organizations and individuals. We are currently involved in many projects including:

- ☞ an educational campaign around the issues of police and racist violence in New York State
- ☞ membership on the Albany Community Relations Board
- ☞ educational forums and study groups on apartheid, Namibia, South Africa and the Frontline States of Southern Africa
- ☞ membership in the Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network - a network of anti-apartheid organizations in a twelve state region
- ☞ solidarity work for the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa and the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia
- ☞ a legislative campaign for sanctions against South Africa and for U.S. diplomatic recognition of the legitimate government of Angola and an end to U.S.A. aid for UNITA
- ☞ support for the Mass Democratic Movement in South Africa
- ☞ an ongoing commitment to strengthen and expand the movement in this country
- ☞ a monthly newsletter mailed to approximately 1,000 people and organizations

As a recipient of the monthly newsletter, you are aware that there have never been dues to be a member of the coalition. Until now, money we have raised to do the work has come from fundraisers, mail appeals and other donations. **However, we are now asking you to renew your commitment to the struggle by accepting the enclosed membership card and paying a yearly membership fee of \$5.00. Of course, any larger contribution will be gratefully accepted since the needs of the anti-racist, anti-apartheid movement are great.** The receipt of your dues will insure continued mailing of the newsletter and announcements of coalition events. (We have no paid staff so all funds go directly to organizing efforts, education, printing and postage.)

Thank you for your continued support.

In solidarity,

Vera Michelson, Merton Simpson

Vera Michelson, Merton Simpson
Co-chairpersons



**Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism
Box 3002, Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12203**

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RICHARDSON'S MOM SPEAKS OUT — PG. 3

NEW YORK
Amsterdam News

Vol. 82 No. 4 Saturday, January 26, 1991
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The new Black view

60* Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx
Staten Island, Queens
75* Outside N.Y.C.



BLACK MOTHER — holds a protest sign that seems to speak for thousands like her across the nation. (Lem Peterson Photo)

Are there KKK members in New York Assembly? Grand Wizard says yes

By **PAUL C. WEBSTER**
Special to the AmNews

Less than two hours after 1,500 chanting protestors caused the Ku Klux Klan to abort their planned rally on the steps of the State Capitol in Albany Sunday, the New York leader of the white supremacist group told the *AmNews* that there is at least one Klan member in the New York State Legislature.

"We search and find men and women who are capable of holding political positions and (run) them in local elections," said William Hoff, Grand Imperial Wizard of the New York State Knights of the Invisible Empire.

The 55-year-old Queens machinist said the Klan has at least one member "in the Assembly,"

but stopped short of stating the exact number of legislators who are in the hate group and where their districts are located.

"I can't answer that," Hoff said. "If I do that, you'll be able to identify them."

When contacted by the *AmNews* for verification of Hoff's assertion, Assembly Speaker

Melvin Miller said through a press aide, Steven Greenberg, that he knows absolutely nothing

about the matter. In fact, the Speaker said he would be shocked to learn that this is true.

However, Miller did not say what he would do if indeed he found the revelation to be correct.

Before the march, Assemblyman Albert Vann, Chairman of the State Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, said "the Caucus is vehemently opposed to the actions and hate spread by the Klan," and that the hate group's appearance on the eve of King's birthday is a "clear sign that racism is alive in America."

On Sunday, Governor Mario M. Cuomo, who was in New York City, issued a statement to reporters saying New Yorkers should "give the lie" to the Klan

(Continued on Page 46)

Editorial
GULF: Whose War Is It? - Part 2

WCBS' SUNDAY EDITION DIDN'T HELP

EDITOR'S NOTE: In this week's edition, we were scheduled to run an editorial, **THE POWER OF A WHITE RACIST PRESS**, that questioned the media assault on David Dinkins. This editorial is being preempted due to the war in the Persian Gulf and because our readers have found it virtually impossible to be heard in the daily press if their views are not consistent with those who, according to the polls, reflect majority opinion.

Charles Rangel, Stephen Solarz, Ed Koch and Brian Williams appeared on WCBS's *Sunday Edition* on January 20th. Rangel, though outnumbered by "hawks," (on purpose it seemed) including Al D'Amato, in a separate segment, found himself arguing with a group of people who really seemed to care less about what happens to America and Americans at war in the Persian Gulf.

Their view was simple, simplistic and dangerous: "T out," as Al D'Amato said, "an international criminal who has used poison gas against his own people...has committed atrocities too numerous to name." There was no acknowledging, so that one

(Continued on Page 12)

Over 50,000 march in D.C.
People of color were majority — Pg. 46



SUPPORT THE TROOPS NOT THE WAR—Demanding peace, not war in the Persian Gulf, Americans gathered from across the nation to stage a peaceful demonstration and rally against U.S. intervention. This group paraded a puppet of George Bush, his hands dripping with blood, spilled, they said, for oil. (Photo by Lem Peterson)

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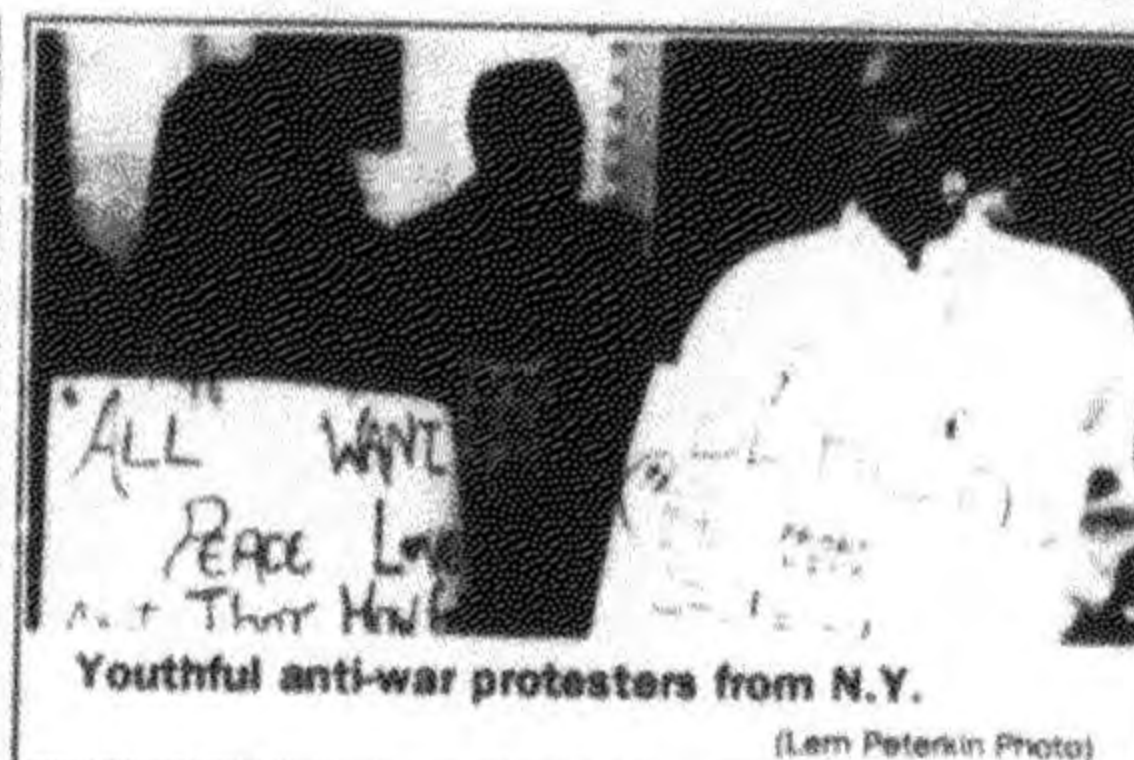
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Youthful anti-war protesters from N.Y.
 (Lem Petersen Photo)

KKK members in NY assembly?

(Continued from Page 1)

because of the ignorance they spread. Hoff's statements came during a telephone interview from his home after the *AmNews* contacted him regarding the short-lived demonstration by a handful of Klansmen from New York and Connecticut. "King... was a front for communist organizations," said Hoff who joined the organization in 1952 while he was in the U.S. Navy. "(King) was an adulterer. I can't see why we should give a man of that caliber any recognition."

Sunday's demonstration was just another sign of increased Klan activity in the Empire State in recent months. In July, Hoff led 26 Klansmen during a rally in Schuylerville, located 60 minutes north of Albany. At the time, Hoff told reporters that the hate group is

growing in popularity.

"We're trying to do the right thing for white people whose rights are being denied," said Hoff who was imprisoned during the 70's in connection with Klan-related violence. "We've become second-class citizens. Our purpose is to defend the rights of white people."

For the most part, the counter-demonstration organized by the Albany chapter of the NAACP and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism went without incident. At one point, intimidated Klansmen had to be ushered away by police as demonstrators bombarded them with snowballs and shook their vehicles. The Albany and Capitol Police reported no arrests.

Over 50,000 march in D.C. People of color were majority

By NORMA HARRIS
Special to the AmNews

As U.S. pilots and their allies obeyed orders and dropped bombs on Iraq and Kuwait and Gallup polls paraded figures suggesting 80 percent of Americans support 'Operation Desert Storm', more than 50,000 anti-war activists marched in Washington January 19th to demand an end to the bombing and a return to the negotiating table.

Worldwide, dozens of simultaneous demonstrations were held in Australia, Britain, Germany, Algeria, Moscow, Sudan, Tunisia and other countries. Half the world, it seemed, turned out to cast their votes for peace.

Armed with banners and placards designed to push the value of human life rather than the cost of a barrel of oil, the protesters gathered in Washington's Lafayette Park just opposite the White House. More than half the assembled were people of color. There they listened intently to peace messages passionately delivered by speakers including Rev. Jesse Jackson, and former attorney general and peace activist Ramsey Clarke.

Later, they would march in endless procession through the streets of Washington chanting, "Stop the war...stop the bombing."

As police helicopters hovered overhead, Rev. Jesse Jackson, said: "We are moving further towards world chaos rather than world peace. We must appeal to stop the bombing and start the talking."

Critical of President Bush and the United Nations' January 15 deadline for war, Jackson said:

"President Bush might have drawn a line in the sand for aggression against Iraq but he did not confirm a date for the liberation of South Africa, or the liberation of Central America so this idea of confirming a date for bombs has no precedent and it does not make any sense."

Ramsay Clarke, founder of the Coalition to Stop US Intervention which organized the march, demanded an immediate ceasefire. Recalling a now famous speech given by Dr. Martin Luther King one year before his assassination, Clarke quoting King said: "The greatest purveyor of violence on earth is my own Government."

Noting that the US has spent billions of dollars on war and lost millions of lives to it, Clarke said, "We have an imperialist president in George Bush. He is a man

who has worked hard for this war. But we must demand that he and his allies bring everybody home immediately. That is real support for our troops. Let's not teach our young people to kill with technology."

Continuing, Clarke noted that America is still spending billions of dollars on high-tech weapons while millions of children die of hunger and neglect. Questioning why US troops were sent to the Gulf, he concluded it was for "America's fight for wealth."

In a speech punctuated with literary references, Clarke remembered the Black poet Langston Hughes. He said: "Hughes wrote, 'Oh yes, I say it plain, America was never America to me and yet I swear this oath, America shall be'."

Peace activist Dick Gregory, half way through his 59th day of fasting in protest against the war, said he was attending the march "because the real movement that is going to challenge the world is not the army but people who are talking about peace."

"America is living in darkness and we have got to shed light on it," he said.

Remembering Vietnam and its casualties, Gregory noted: "If war is so good why have 150,000 Vietnam Veterans committed suicide. War has thrown people into darkness, and given rise to battered wives, abused children, drug abuse and homelessness. What else can we expect when our veterans from the Gulf come home?"

Assembled in a solid block within the crowd were African Americans—the majority of them members of the African-American Coalition to Stop US Intervention. A contingent of about 700 traveled to the capital from New York aboard 11 buses chartered by the Coalition. Thousands more came from other cities and states to lead the march through the streets of Washington.

Boarding at 6am, with banners which read, "Bush our children are at war...where are yours?", the New York contingent included people of all ages. Makalani Stallworth, a song lyricist from Brooklyn who is in his mid-twenties, said he thought it was important protest.

"This is a history making day and I want to be on the right side of history. I have seven cousins, of my generation, all of them in the army in the Gulf and I want them home safely," he said.

A • G • N • D • A

... meetings, lectures, rallies and political events

THURSDAY, JAN. 24

March: Candlelight Walk and Talks in Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Begins at 6 PM at Murray Dining Hall, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs. Following the march at 6:30 PM, a program will be held featuring talks on Dr. King as well as contemporary African American and multicultural issues. 554-6000, ext. 2635.

Rally For Lesbian and Gay Rights. Albany City Hall, Eagle Street, Albany. 7 PM. Supporters of Alderman Keith St. John's amendments to the city's current citizens' bill of rights—amendments that would give lesbians and gays greater protection against discrimination—will gather before attending the 8 PM Common Council meeting, where the amendments are scheduled to be brought to a vote.

FRIDAY, JAN. 25

Demonstration: See entry under Saturday, Jan. 26.

SATURDAY, JAN. 26

Conference: New York State Green Conference. First Baptist Church, 82 Third St., Troy. 8:30 AM-5 PM. A day-long conference featuring progress reports from Greens from across the state, presentation of the Green mission statement and organizing strategies, discussions on legislative issues and more. \$6 includes lunch. To register contact the Capital District Greens at 283-6512.

Demonstration: March for Peace in the Middle East. Washington, D.C. Bus to Washington leaves Draper Hall, Washington and Robin Streets, Albany at 11:30 PM.

Friday, Jan. 25, following a brief rally at 11 PM. Tickets: \$30; mail checks made out to Emergency Committee to Social Justice Center, 33 Central Ave., Albany, 12210; include your name and phone number. Scholarships will be available; donations for scholarships would be greatly appreciated. For reservations and information: 434-4037.

Demonstration: Support Our Troops. New York State Capitol Steps, State and Eagle streets, Albany. Noon. Participants are asked to bring flags, ribbons, banners and friends.

Memorial Service: 19th Annual Darryl Memorial. Albany High School, 91 Quail St., Albany. Begins at 7:30 PM with a mass celebrated to commemorate the deaths of 14 civil rights marchers who were killed by British troops in Derry, Ireland, on Jan. 30, 1972. Following the service, there will be a speaker from Ireland and music by Celtic Echo. \$10 donation to benefit the dependents of Irish political prisoners. Lark Franciscan, 233-1308.

Public Meeting: Campaign for Action Regarding Energy. 7 PM. All Barre. Mass. 1-4 PM. The first meeting of the Environmental Defense Council's campaign to be "The Year of Energy Awareness." The group is a coalition of 19 grass-roots citizens groups from New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Maine. Robert Donna, 413-499-9668.

MONDAY, JAN. 28

Panel Discussion: The Gulf Crisis and Your Life. College Center, 303 Cabaret Room, Union College, Schenectady. 7 PM. The group of panelists and respondents includes members of the area's religious and academic communities, and veterans.

TUESDAY, JAN. 29

Benefit Dinner: Save the Pine Bush. First Unitarian Church of Albany, 405 Washington Ave., Albany. 8 PM. Guest speaker Carol Reschke of the Natural Heritage Foundation will speak about the boundaries of the Pine Bush. Dinner features all the vegetarian lasagne you can eat, garden salad, garlic bread and homemade pie. \$7 adults, \$5 students, \$2 children. For reservations: Reschke, 452-0961, or Lynne Jackson, 434-1854.

Lecture: Traditionalism and Spirituality on a Twentieth Century Reservation. Campus Center Main Lounge, College of Saint Rose, 420 Western Ave., Albany. 8 PM. The speaker will be Tom Porter, Bear Clan Chief of the Mohawk National Council of Chiefs at the troubled Akwesasne (St. Regis) Indian Reservation. Reception follows. Free. 452-5353.

Volunteer Training: Albany County Rape Crisis Center. Albany County Office Building, 112 State St., Albany. 8 PM. Volunteers interested in staffing the 24-hour emergency hotline are invited to attend the first of nine 2 1/2-hour evening training sessions. Volunteers must be 18 years old and have access to a private phone. For more information and applications call 447-7100, weekdays 9 AM-4 PM.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

Special Event: Drop-in Gathering of Military Family and Friends. Pumpkin Patch Childcare Center, 10 New Karner Road (Karner Plaza, Route 15B), Ballston Spa, Albany. 7 PM. Intended to provide emotional support during the Middle East Crisis. Refreshments will be served. Gatherings take place every Wednesday until further notice. 452-0884, days 783-5781, evenings.

CALL FOR DONATIONS

Bedding for the homeless is being collected at 240 Albany County realtors' offices. Clean blankets, comforters, quilts and sleeping bags are sought. For further information call the Albany County Board of Realtors at 489-5476.

Financial Assistance for Anti-Apartheid Work is needed. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to the Mandela Freedom Fund, 789 Fifth Ave., Suite 800, New York, NY 10017. Support local anti-apartheid work, send \$10 to the Capital District Coalition Against Racism and Apartheid, PO Box 3602, Albany, NY 12203.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Joseph's House, a shelter for the homeless in Troy, is seeking new volunteers. Training sessions are held monthly. For more information call volunteer coordinator Steven Roe at 272-2544.

NEWSFRONT

THE INVISIBLE KLAN

THE FAILURE OF THE ORGANIZERS of Sunday's Ku Klux Klan rally at the state Capitol to show up was claimed as a victory by opponents of the white racist group. But because some Klansmen from the area did come, the confusion in the Klan's ranks is likely to lead to more internal troubles for the fractured organization that is trying to use the Martin Luther King Jr. national holiday as a rallying point to recruit members.

According to reports, the permit for the Capitol rally was requested by Wayne Crowley of Round Lake. Crowley reportedly had participated in an unannounced Klan march in Schuylerville last September. But he was nowhere to be seen Sunday. Neither was William Hoff, the Queens-based Grand Dragon of the New York Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Hoff said that the protest was canceled due to a lack of organization. That news didn't go over too well with a group of Klansmen who had come from Connecticut. "What a joke," said William E. Dodge of Bristol, Conn., when informed that the rally's organizers weren't there. Dodge told *The New York Times* that he was a Klan leader in his state.

Several groups of young whites seemed to be there to join or support the Klan rally. One, who identified himself as Larry Hotham of Connecticut, opened his jacket so a reporter could read his T-shirt, which had a white-supremacist symbol and the words "Racial purity is America's security." At one point, Hotham stood in the middle of Washington Avenue and gave a Nazi-style salute. He was among a group that eventually sped away in a car after being pelted by a barrage of snowballs and eggs.

Although the Klan, due to the Schuylerville march and several other recent protests, has recently become more visible in upstate New York, longtime Klan-watchers say that their relative influence in the white-supremacist movement has been shrinking. Leonard Zeskind, of the Atlanta-based Center for Democratic Renewal, said in an interview last week that skinheads and Nazi-oriented hate groups are attracting most of the new recruits. These more violence-prone organizations, like the Arvan Nation and the Order, emphasize stockpiling weapons and combine intense anti-Semitism with their anti-black sentiments.

Klan groups, of which Zeskind said there are at least 26, make up about one-quarter of the organized white-supremacist movement. The Invisible Empire, which called the Sunday rally, was recently shaken by the defection of the grand dragons of both California and Ohio.

Simply by announcing their intention to hold a rally on the Capitol steps, the Klan set in motion a predictable series of events. With tension already high over the Middle East war, area civil-rights leaders anticipated a large turnout of anti-Klan protesters. The fear was that the plans for a nonviolent counter-demonstration would be thwarted by individual confrontations with the Klan, or with the police who would be assigned to protect them.

And that is very nearly what happened. More than a thousand people came Sunday to oppose the Klan. Some attended an Academy Park prayer vigil organized by the New York State Martin Luther King Jr. Commission that was addressed by Harry Belafonte, Bishop Howard J. Hubbard and Rabbi Martin Silverman, among others.



No Klan do: Anti-Ku Klux Klan marchers dominated the scene Sunday.

Most attended the counter-demonstration called by a coalition of some 30 groups organized by the Albany Branch NAACP and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. That protest took place at the base of the East Capitol steps where the Klan had a permit for their 2 PM rally.

But the day ended around 4 PM with a standoff—after the Klan had left—between a crowd of about 40, mostly black, young people, many of them from the Arbor Hill area, and a combined force of about 30 riot police from the Capital and Albany police departments. Exactly as the counter-demonstration's organizers had feared, these young peoples' anger had shifted from the Klan to the cops. Some of them, who had resisted requests all afternoon to join the organized counter-demonstration, shouted that the police were no better than the Klan.

Although their outbursts were spontaneous, the issues they cited were familiar. These included the fact that all the police facing them were white, and the recent, apparent suicide of Corey Sheldon, a young black Albany man, in the Albany County jail.

For a few tense moments, it appeared that the day might end with a major fight. By then, few, if any, of the counter-demonstration's organizers remained on the scene. Finally, Dorothea Brace, who had been one of the day's most vocal taunters of the Klan, stepped between the police and the young people. "The Klan is gone, the protest is over," she said. "It's time to go home."

—Jeff Jones

RECESS AND RESIST

"THIS DUDE SHOULD BE SHOT!" yelled Troy High School sophomore Andy Sano as Erik Larsen, ignoring the criticism, spoke to a small group of students nearby.

"Pussy!" screamed another student. "Communist!" a group of students shouted.

It all would have gone much more smoothly last week had the Troy school district—specifically Superintendent Mario Scalzi—allowed Larsen, perhaps the most widely known conscientious objector in the nation, to make Troy High a stop on his

national speaking tour. But Scalzi would not allow it and some Troy students, led by 17-year-old senior Will McDowell, staged a walkout last Thursday to hear Larsen make an impromptu speech outside a nearby RPI building.

About 200 students, including a small group from nearby Troy Middle School, walked out at about 9:40 AM and the demonstration soon became hard to manage, bordering on out-of-control. Traffic was hampered as the huge group marched down the middle of Burdett Avenue from the high school to the RPI Chapel and Cultural Center. A Troy Police patrol car and another unmarked car appeared at the scene but did not take action.

A majority of the students believed that Larsen should have been allowed to speak at the school and simply wanted to hear what he had to say. (Some, undoubtedly, left mainly to get out of class.) But a group of about 30 counter-demonstrators—some of them wearing military jackets with slogans like "Death Before Dishonor"—attempted to turn the event into an indictment of Larsen's conscientious objection.

"He's got a right to say whatever he has to say," said Scott McGillivray, one of the counter-demonstrators, "but he's totally wrong."

"He was born in America," Sano complained, "but he doesn't want to fight." McGillivray argued that Larsen had "no authority" to speak at the high school but he seemed unaware of the connection between Larsen's speech and military recruiters' regular visits to the school.

"Recruiters often lie to students," said Larsen, the U.S. Marine who was the first to refuse service in the Persian Gulf, shortly before the walkout. "I'm outraged that schools are not interested in teaching peace."

Under pressure from McDowell and Seth Cohen, an earth-science teacher at the school, Scalzi and Executive Principal Armand Reo had agreed on Wednesday to allow Larsen to speak Thursday but only after school, when a speech would have conflicted with another engagement at Bethlehem High School. With assistance from the Troy branch of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, an international pacifist group, McDowell and others planned the walkout Wednesday night.

Larsen was frequently interrupted by counter-demonstrators and other noisy students during his short talk, but most of the crowd quieted when he began describing



cling keeps from landfill

waste to be turned into compost and reused.

Residential waste comprises about one-third of the 87,000 tons of trash that goes into the landfill each year. Commercial and industrial wastes make up the other two-thirds.

During voluntary recycling, about 3 percent of the waste normally going into the landfill was diverted. That figure rose to 13 percent after mandatory recycling began Sept. 10.

With recycling and the leaf and brush program, town officials say 18 percent of residential trash was diverted from the landfill last year.

fers 80 classes

covering Your Irish Heritage, dog obedience, Ellis Island and More Ports of Entry to Your Past, night-club dancing, The Promisable Woman, the stenciled quilt, conversational Japanese, yoga, Color Yourself Dynamic, defensive driving, Fresh Start, spinal health, Would You Like to See My Etching.

In addition, senior citizen services will be available. High school juniors and seniors can enroll in preparatory courses for the American College Tests and or the Scholastic Aptitude Tests.

lly given vodka

disturbance at 157 Main St. and noticed the odor of alcohol on the child's breath. The boy's blood alcohol level was tested to determine if he had drunk the liquor. Police said St. John became abusive to police during her arrest.

She is scheduled to reappear in court Feb. 15.

saved from fire

wood stove before going to bed shortly before 1 a.m., said Sheriff James Campbell. A short time later, passing deputies Adam Meyers and Brian Rucinski saw Wagner's chimney blazing and went into her home on Route 443.

is protection

charged with cataloging existing historic areas and with suggesting to a Town Board additional sites that should be preserved.

Designation of a parcel as historic would mean the owner would not be permitted to make any alterations to any structure, including exterior reconstruction, demolition, or changes in appearance, without first getting permission from the Historic Preservation Commission.

The hearing will be held at Town Hall at 8:30 p.m.

itholding overturned

give back \$200,000

The ruling could force the city to return nearly \$200,000 that it began taking last summer in payroll deductions of \$70 to \$100.

Crotty said the city can appeal Harris' Jan. 22 decision to the Appellate Division of state Supreme Court.

PERB administrative law judge Denise Washington last year termed the payroll deductions an unfair labor practice, saying the city took

Joyce makes changes in Democratic positions

By BRIAN NEARING
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — County Democratic Chairman Harold Joyce wants the former majority leader in the county Legislature to return to the job.



Joyce

Joyce, who became chairman in November, also replaced himself as chairman of the Legislature's Civic Center and Finance committees.

named chairmen to four new committees within the Democratic Party and selected a former city ward leader as the party's first vice chairman.

"It's time that we make some changes," said Joyce, who said he is supporting longtime party stalwart Richard Meyers to return as majority leader. Meyers, a 55-year-old lawyer, was majority leader for 10 years under then-Mayor Erastus Corning until 1984, when Joyce took the position.

"People may say that I'm spreading the authority around and that's wrong. Well, it remains to be seen."

said Joyce. "It's time others took their share of the load... I want a broader base for decision making."

Joyce said he expects Meyers will be accepted by the Legislature's 38 Democratic members when they meet Feb. 11. Joyce is also recommending Glenside legislator Robert Haines to head the Civic Center Committee and longtime Albany 11th Ward legislator Paul O'Brien to head the Finance Committee.

Meyers, who has been in the Legislature for 18 years, said he agreed to accept the majority leader's job after Joyce approached him. Asked if he saw any changes in his leadership style compared to Joyce's, Meyer responded: "If it ain't broke, you don't fix it."

He also called Haines and O'Brien the "leading candidates" to fill Joyce's committee chairmanships.

One of the most pressing issues facing the county is the fate of the airport. It has been more than three years since County Executive James J. Coyne Jr. proposed that the airport be redeveloped through a sale to the Capital District Transportation Authority.

Since then, several suitors for the airport have surfaced, and plans have evolved from a sale to a lease to a management agreement.

"I'd like to see something happen to the airport," said Meyers. "But it's premature at this point to talk about it because we don't know who is going to do it."

The Mass Transit Committee, which is responsible for recommending what should be done, will meet at 4 p.m. today.

Joyce also appointed the chairmen of four new committees that he said will strengthen the party. Those appointments include Arbor Hill ward leader Rodney Littles to head a committee on minority involvement; County Attorney William Conboy as chairman of a law committee responsible for reviewing judicial appointments and handling party legal affairs; Elections Commissioner Raymond Kinley as chairman of a finance committee to raise money for the party; and city 13th Ward leader and Mass Transit Committee Chairman Frank Comisso to lead a committee responsible for coordinating campaigns.

Joyce also selected Ruben Gersowitz as the party's first vice chairman. Gersowitz, treasurer for Friends of Tom Whalen, the Albany mayor's fund-raising instrument, resigned last May as the city's 14th ward leader due to poor health.

DeMaria arrest described

Activist defends herself in trial
January 24, 1991
By KATE GURNETT
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — Donna DeMaria ignored police orders to stay back and tried to push her way through to the girlfriend of a handcuffed psychiatric patient, making a volatile situation worse, three police officers testified yesterday.

Michael Lord, a 30-year-old outpatient at the Capital District Psychiatric Center, was threatening suicide at his 3 Myrtle Ave. basement apartment at about 9:15 p.m. July 16 when police were called, Officer Anthony J. Salerno testified.

As he answered the call, Salerno said he was concerned because "in the past I've taken weapons away from Michael and he's known to carry a razor blade under his dental plate."

Both Lord and his live-in girlfriend, Christina Smith, were drunk and highly agitated when police arrived, Salerno said. As three workers from the Albany County Mobile Crisis Unit tried to calm Lord, he suddenly seized two bricks and yelled, "Go ahead, shoot me, shoot me," Salerno said.

Salerno and Officer Derek Coleman grabbed Lord and "the whole pile [of people] sort of fell to the ground," he said. Meanwhile, Smith jumped on Salerno's back before police could separate Salerno and Lord, handcuff them and make them lie face down on the sidewalk to wait for separate ambulances.

In the next few minutes, Lord and Smith calmed down, but "things began to change when [DeMaria] came on the scene" and "persisted and tried to talk to one of the psychiatric patients," Assistant District Attorney James Clark argued in his opening statement yesterday.

DeMaria, who is defending herself in the City Court trial, was arrested by Salerno and charged with obstruction and resisting arrest.

DeMaria knew Lord and Smith through her work with the Homeless Action Committee, she told the six-member jury yesterday. She was on the telephone with Smith when she heard a knock on her friends' door followed by "screaming and yelling," DeMaria said.

Riding her bicycle to Myrtle Avenue, DeMaria "walked around police, telling [Smith] to be cool and keep calm. The only thing I could be guilty of is disobeying the orders of a police officer. That's not a crime," she said.

Three police officers testified that Lord and Smith called out "Donna, Donna" and began to struggle when she arrived.

"Isn't it possible that [Smith] became more agitated because she couldn't talk to me?" DeMaria said. Earlier yesterday, Judge E. David Duncan ruled that prosecutors could not cross-examine DeMaria about a misdemeanor conviction and seven guilty pleas to violations because they were "mostly involving civil disobedience." However, Duncan said he will be able to consider them in choosing a sentence, should she be convicted.

Last week, a plea bargain to reduce DeMaria's charges to two traffic violations of disobeying a police officer fell through.

DeMaria questioned District Attorney Sol Greenberg's "aggressive pursuit" of her case at a time when he claims his staff is too "consumed with murders and drug-dealing cases" to investigate an alleged county public works corruption case.

"That's none of her business," Greenberg responded. "We have prosecutorial discretion to prosecute any case we want. We will determine our own priorities."

Menands mayor to retire

Says 16 years were 'plenty long enough' to guide village

By KAREN ROACH
Gazette Reporter

MENANDS — It was a desire to preserve open space for his children that first lured Thomas Gibbs into village politics some 20 years ago.

Now, it's a wish to spend more time with his wife, his seven children and six grandchildren that's driving the 56-year-old mayor from office.

"I think almost anybody would conclude that 16 years is plenty long enough," said Gibbs, who has been part-time mayor of this village since 1974.

A retired employee with the state Office of Employee Relations, Gibbs' decision to leave office was made public earlier this month, when a Citizens Party caucus selected Deputy Mayor John Weidman Jr. as its candidate for mayor in the March election.

Gibbs, a 30-year resident of Menands, says leaving office is purely his own decision. "There are not any problems that are driving me out. Things are in pretty good shape."

Many would agree that despite the changes happening in and around this village of about 4,500, a small-town sense of community has remained intact.

"We have tried to retain a sense of community, which is more characteristic of rural communities," Gibbs said. "People have a real sense of unity here."

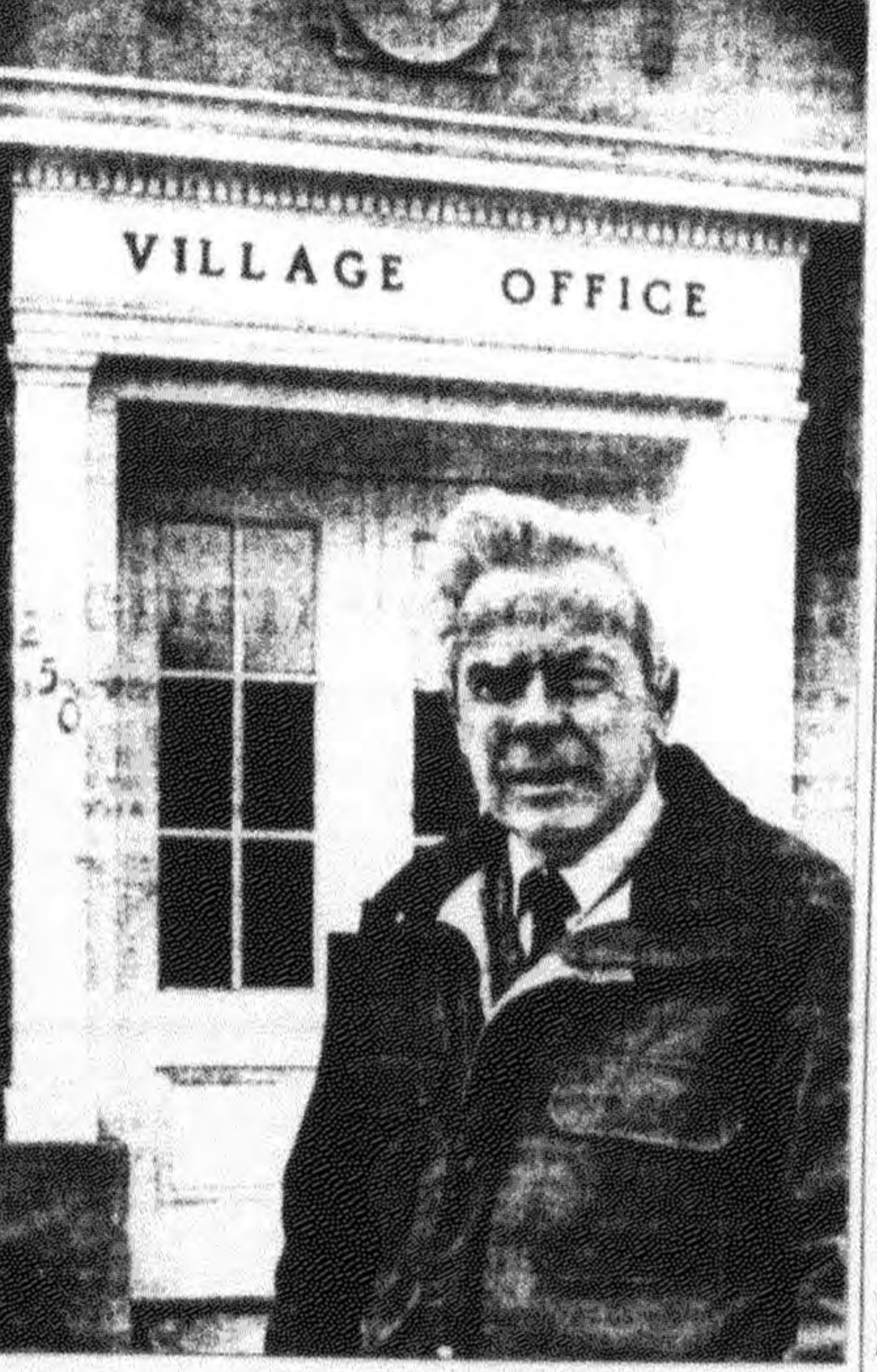
The mayor is perhaps most proud of his efforts in preserving open space, which is what drew him into public service two decades ago.

"We were new to the neighborhood and had small children. There was a lot of development getting off the ground at that time and my wife and I became concerned with the availability of play area for the kids."

Members of the village board suggested he run for an open trustee seat. He won the seat, and three years later, the incumbent mayor decided to step down.

"The other members of the village board just didn't want to be mayor," Gibbs said. "They didn't want the hassle that comes with it. I was pleased to do it. I'm glad I did it, and now I'm also glad that I'm finished."

With his last days as mayor upon him, Gibbs says he's happy to say that the village now has several parks and a 60-acre preserve.



JIM CASSIN Gazette Photographer

Menands Mayor Thomas Gibbs won't be standing in front of the Village Hall so often after he retires this spring.

Weidman, 48, said if he's elected, he hopes to continue the kind of leadership Gibbs provided, and also hopes to take some initiative.

He supports a noise ordinance, now under consideration, which is being requested by residents who live near the Carvo recycling plant on Broadway.

Gibbs hopes he's successful. "The thing that I'd like to see is just the continuation of the nice, small-town atmosphere we have."

NEW YORK

Albany
Rally honors Dr. King, repels the Klan

By Helen Scott

Some 1,500 people from Albany and surrounding communities roundly rebuffed a handful of Ku Klux Klan members at the state Capitol here Jan. 20, preventing a Klan rally against the observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

About 30 area organizations joined together in less than a week's time "to say no to everything the Klan stands for," rally speaker Vera Michelson, co-chair of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, told the World.

"The Klan is the ultimate sign of racism," speaker Anne

Pope told the World. "We want to make people aware that racism is pervasive in the society, that racism is on the rise." Pope, who is president of the Albany Branch of the NAACP, noted that the organization has been getting hate mail from the Klan. "This brought it home and made it real to people."

The Coalition and the Albany NAACP initiated the protest, their press statement said, to unify "those who oppose the Klan and all other hate groups who attack African-Americans, Latinos, Asians, Jews, Roman Catholics, women, lesbians, gays, immigrants and non-English speakers" and to

commemorate the life of Dr. King during the official state and federal King birthday holiday.

Rally speaker John Punicello, a staff member of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, told the World that for him, the anti-Klan fight recalls the signs, "I am a man" that were carried by the Memphis sanitation workers with whom King marched.

During the rally, Paul Greenberg of New Jewish Agenda followed Jewish custom and blew a shofar, a traditional Jewish horn, to warn against the danger of the Klan.

In the course of organizing against the Klan, there were pro-

posals against holding any action and others for action away from the Klan rally site. In the end, most sponsors of the on-site demonstration also endorsed a nearby prayer vigil held by the state Martin Luther King Commission.

Michelson said the on-site demonstration was essential to enable the community to repel open Klan activity. She credited a similar on-site protest last year in the small town of Schuylerville with successfully routing a Klan march there.

Demonstration participants came from as far north and south as Schuylerville and Kingston. Many rural residents and their children were concerned, Michelson said, that their communities could become a recruiting ground for the Klan because of deep poverty among rural whites.

The next step is to build a campaign to win state legislation against bias crimes and to enforce the Anti-Genocide Law, said the protest organizers, who rejected the confrontation tactics used by some small groups during the non-violent action.

Organizational endorsers included the National Lawyers Guild, Albany chapter; Arbor Hill Community Center; National Organization for Women chapters from Saratoga, Albany and Russell Sage; Blacks in Government; Council 66 and Local 1961 of AFSCME; Service Employees Local 200-D; the Capital District Solidarity Committee; Schoenectady Branch NAACP; Wilborn Temple; Bethel Baptist Church of Troy; Capital District Committee for Palestinian Rights; Capital District Greens; and Feminist Action Network.

March for peace in Albany

Over 1,000 people marched from the State Capitol in Albany to the Federal office building on Thursday, Jan. 17, to protest the beginning of U.S. military action in the Mideast. Twelve people were arrested for disorderly conduct after about three dozen anti-war marchers linked arms and briefly blocked traffic at a busy downtown intersection. Shelley Baldwin, a teacher, said, "I think the war is about oil, it's about capitalism, and I don't think it's worth human



New York City
Daily News strikers build boycott effort

By Helen Scott

dealer. Meanwhile, Farrell noted, Building up a head of steam New York City Mayor David

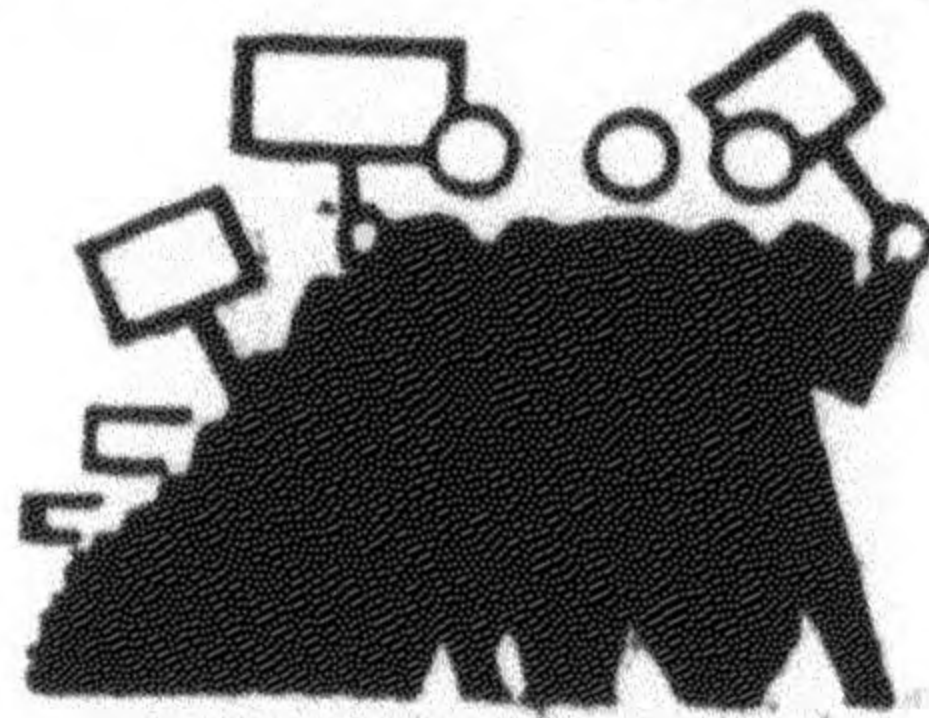
Appalling behavior

To the Editor:

2/4/91

I am writing in reference to the Jan. 20 counter rally opposing the gathering of the KKK at the state Capitol. On deciding to attend such an activity which was purely out of curiosity, I found myself totally appalled by the behavior of some of the opposing groups and their leaders that were in attendance.

Enroute to the gathering with a sense of pride and open mindedness my only goal was to observe the two opposing groups in a peaceful discussion about their differ-



ences of opinion. With no preference or support to either faction nor any visible, verbal or physical gestures which would lead anyone to believe otherwise, my attendance that day was only that of a peaceful neutral bystander and nothing more. After an estimated 25 minutes into the demonstration, in which I was standing quiet and motionless observing the other individuals protesting, I was abruptly and unjustly pinpointed in the crowd and accused of being one of the KKK. Also may I point out that there were no visible Klan members that I observed at the demonstration at this time.

I would also like to state that I have never belonged to a white supremacist or any other racist group nor have I ever suggested such a group or have I had any communication or contact with any such individuals or date. So much to my dismay I was in fact the individual who was now being surrounded by counter demonstrators accusing me of racist acts.

In my opinion what went on was disgraceful and uncalled for.

JEFFREY ROBERTS
Troy

Klan Rally Discouraged

2/91 Scene

By Gayle Campbell

On Sunday, January 20, 1991, the day before Martin Luther King's Memorial Holiday, The Invisible Empire of the Ku Klux Klan were scheduled to march on the steps of the State Capitol Building, but very few self-proclaimed Klansmen came forward.

At 2:00 pm, the scheduled rally for the KKK, only a small number of hate-mongers, such as racist skin-heads and swastika bearing neo-Nazis, were visibly accountable. Yet the people dressed in the garb equated with Klansmen, the robe of white sheets, never materialized.

A counter demonstration was held, which boasted attendance of up to 700 protesters. Among the demonstrators groups such as the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, the Albany Branch NAACP, the Center for Law and Justice, the Urban League, Latino Action Coalition, various SUNY organizations, numerous churches within the Capital District, and many more protested the presence of the KKK in the Albany area.

The speakers of the event denounced racism in all forms. Among the many speakers was performer Harry Belafonte, chairman of the New York State Martin Luther King Jr. Commission. He spoke out against the Klan's existence as well as the war in the Persian Gulf. NAACP President Anne Pope noted on the increased racial attacks in the Albany area and compared the growing hatred as "a sore that is spreading". Other speakers included Frank Pogue, SUNY Vice-Chancellor, Vera Michaelson, Co-chairperson CDCAAR, Barbara Smith, author, and many more.

With the hate inducing rhetoric of the KKK, the inevitability of violence eventually erupted. One man, claiming to be the Grand Wizard of the Klan, incited anger and disorder in the initially peaceful protest. After expousing derogatory racial remarks, the proclaimed Grand Wizard became a target of angry snowball hurlers. The man was pummeled several times by snowballs before police on horseback attempted to subdue the crowd. The police then became the targets of the angry crowd. Those officers on horseback rode to the scene of the perpetrators and attempted to disperse the crowd.

By 3:30 it was apparent that the "White Knights" of the Klan were not going to show up. As the Grand Wizard man was

being escorted by the police away from the protesters, he shouted more insulting and racially offensive remarks. The once dwindling crowd rushed over to the man and began threatening him. He was ushered into a car, and the angered protesters proceeded to surround the car and taunt him. As the police attempted to protect him, some angry protesters began to chant "Cops and the Klan go hand-in-hand!" The snowballs continued to be thrown at the police and several men who were also under police protection claiming to be skin-heads. At once the crowd attempted to "jump" the racist agitators and the mounted policemen tried to control the people. Still being bombarded with hardpacked snowballs, and in danger of being thrown from the excited horses, several policemen removed their billy clubs from their holsters and began swinging at people in the frenzied crowd. No injuries were reported and one arrest was made.

Soon more riot police arrived and attempted to maintain order. The air was heavy with tension as the protesters continued shouting anti-police chants. Eventually one of the demonstrators encouraged most of the frustrated onlookers to disperse. A Native of South Africa, Theresa Williams felt no sense of accomplishment after the rally was over. "The Klan attracts more attention than they should. That is partly the media's fault. Positive ideas and helpful measures never receive this much support or publicity." Although unimpressed by the outcome of the rally, she was pleased with the number of participants. SUNY Albany student Mark Morris was also pleased by the turnout of people. Yet he stated "Albany does not have a large amount of Black awareness. As Blacks, we need to come forward in groups like today to discourage racist groups. They shouldn't be able to think that they can simply come into the community and perpetuate their racist propaganda. We can't and shouldn't tolerate it. Albany is very racist as well as political. In this country, racism and politics go hand-in-hand." Morris was surprised at the peaceful-turned-threatening nature of the crowd. In regards to the Ku Klux Klan, Morris stated "It's ironic that when they ran into the State Capitol Building [to dodge the snowballs and threats from the crowd] they were allowed refuge there. That holds very strong racial overtones."

Spoke to
Bill Aiken



PO BOX 11426
MEMPHIS, TN 38111-0426
901-452-6997

NO Demo
got print newspaper
no T.V.

2/26/91

Rita just
went to
observe it

Mr. Shiran,

In reference to our conversation
on today, I'm sending you a copy of
the flyer advertising this horrible man.
The program is scheduled for 2/28/91.
I wanted to get any background info I
could on this man. He is trying to
destroy any progress that the ANC is
achieving. Any other info I receive
will be sent to your office. He really
should be stopped!

Also, I found out that the
John Birch Society is sponsoring this
man's visit to Memphis, TN. The meeting
is at the Board of Education because one of
the Society members is on the school
board. I also have a problem with them
having a mtg. like this at our school board
auditorium. I will try to get something
in our local newspaper after he



PO BOX 11428
MEMPHIS, TN 38111-0428
901-452-6997

speaks, because I don't want to
draw any further attention to him.
If you are able to find out
anything — please let me know.

The struggle continues,
Rita Harris Harris
South Africa Task Force
Coordinator



MAYOR TAMSANQA LINDA

Mr. Linda serves as the Council President of 74 black township councils consisting of some fourteen million citizens in South Africa. He is the former mayor of Ibhayi (Port Elizabeth) township where he was elected by 400,000 black voters. Mr. Linda was forced to resign as mayor by threats on his family. His home and his business were destroyed by firebombs, for which credit was taken by Mandela's ANC.

15184327325:# 8
"Nelson Mandela does not speak for my people in Africa"

TAMSANQA LINDA



"Apartheid 'hero,' Nelson Mandela could not win an election in South Africa. We know him well because his African National Congress has murdered and terrorized blacks who refuse to support the communist-run ANC. Mandela calls for violence, sanctions, and disorder ... all tactics directed against the legitimate black government."



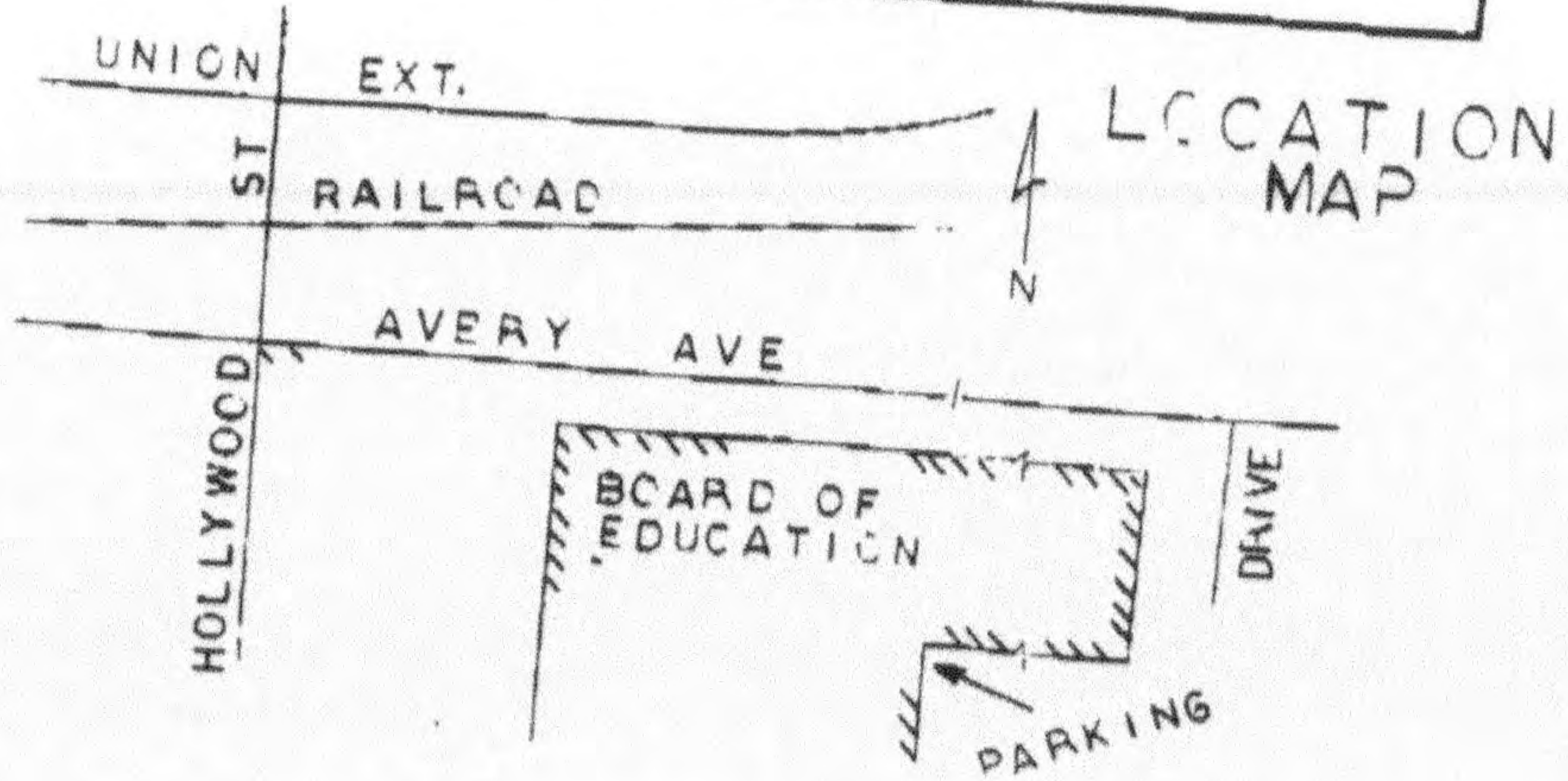
Tamsanqa Linda addresses a news conference in the San Francisco area where local newsmen learned they had been misled by the national media.

THE REAL CRISIS IS NOT APARTHEID, IT IS THE COMMUNIST SUBVERSION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

HEAR TAMSANQA LINDA

PLACE: Memphis Board of Education
DATE: February 28
TIME: 7 P.M.

NO ADMISSION CHARGE



AMERICANS DECEIVED!

Only four weeks after addressing a joint meeting of the United States Congress, Nelson Mandela praises the South African Communist Party (SACP), relaunched as a legal organisation on July 29, 1990 at a rally in a soccer stadium, Soweto, South Africa.

With him are his controversial wife Winnie Mandela who is on record as having openly advocated the "necklace" (i.e. the burning alive of Blacks opposed to Marxist rule in South Africa) and the General Secretary of the South Africa Communist Party, Comrade Joe Slovo.



On August 6, 1990, Nelson Mandela met the South African government for talks about the future of the country. The four people in Mandela's negotiating team were all members of the South African Communist Party.

**CAN YOU AFFORD
NOT TO HELP SOUTH AFRICA IN ITS FIGHT
AGAINST MARXIST DECEIT?**

Support us: UNITED CHRISTIAN ACTION
P.O. Box 35 737
Menlo Park
0102 Republic of South Africa

MAT 16:3

VOL 9 NO 4 1990

SIGNPOSTS

A DIGEST OF RESEARCHED INFORMATION FOR CONCERNED CHRISTIANS

MANDELA'S BIG AMERICAN SHOCK

A Black South African telling Americans that the African National Congress did not represent all South African Blacks was the last thing that Nelson Mandela, the ANC's deputy president, expected to encounter on his recent visit to the United States!

Tamsanqa Linda threw a big spanner into Mandela's heavily financed, high profile tour with his outspoken criticism. "The ANC is nothing more than a front for the Communist Party in South Africa," he said. "Nelson Mandela is as much a hardline Communist as Fidel Castro. And if the United States gives the ANC money, it will be promoting violence in South Africa."

Moreover, Mr Linda is not a Zulu, so he could not be dismissed as a puppet of Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi. He is a Xhosa, just like Mandela! It is also not possible to label him as a government stooge.

"It is beyond belief," the former mayor of Ibhayi told his American audiences in 10 cities, "that the criminal, Mandela, could be viewed in America as some sort of hero. He is not a hero in my country. He is a militant Communist who pours gasoline on the embers of apartheid. We are frankly astonished that Mandela, who calls for violence, terrorism and sanctions, being treated like a legitimate foreign dignitary. He is a criminal and should have been kept in jail. It was a mistake for State President De Klerk to release him."

Mr Linda, who works for the United Conciliation Party promoting negotiations with the De Klerk government and the free enterprise system, is committed to reform. But he insists changes should take place within the framework of the law. "It is not apartheid that ravages our country. Continued trade sanctions have destroyed the jobs of millions of Blacks. For change to come in South Africa, it must be based on a strong economy. We must be able to provide jobs."

"Mandela is not a friend of African Blacks, but has terrorised them to silence their opposition to his violence," he told a Philadelphia radio talk show. "The ANC and UDF are against everyone in the local authorities in South Africa and they oppose me because I've always been an outspoken critic of violence." The ANC has used violence and intimidation to prevent rival Black political groups from negotiating with the government. He charged that Mandela would simply

replace the apartheid system with a repressive Communist one.

Hailed by the *Washington Times* as Mandela's "negative advance man", Mr Linda not only had harsh words for Mandela. He accused American President George Bush of "glorifying an unrepentant terrorist and his wife, Winnie, who calls for violence." He urged Mr Bush to warn the American people of the true character of the ANC and of its association with the SA Communist Party.

A SUCCESSFUL TOUR

"Congratulations on having completed a successful media tour in the United States in the sole interest of freedom and truth," said Mr Linda's sponsor, Don Fotheringham of the American Opinion Speakers Bureau. "You have done everything we have asked and you have conducted yourself well before the American people. You have laboured tirelessly, many long hours, while maintaining high spirits and a pleasant disposition. All our coordinators have found it a pleasure to work with you. When representatives of the media treated you with rudeness, you returned kindness. In facing ignorance, you have been very patient. Confronted with error, you have sharply reproved and corrected your detractors."

"Your mission has been very effective. Your radio and television audiences consisted of millions of Americans who now have a far clearer view of the peril facing our friends in South Africa. Many now see through the blanket of obfuscation and realise that they have been deceived by our own government, with the aid of an accommodating mass media..."

"The war for your country."



Tamsanqa Linda addressing Washington's National Press Club

Zwide and Walmer, which make up Ibhayi, Mr Linda was President of the Eastern Province Councils Association which consisted of 74 town councils. In that position, he controlled a budget of R35 million and had 220 primary and 105 secondary schools under his jurisdiction.

The local town councils were the prime target of the ANC-inspired revolutionary violence which swept through South Africa from 1984 to 1986. Between September 1984 and May 1985, 197 councillors, including 22 mayors, were forced to resign. The homes or businesses of 124 councillors were burnt or destroyed. The Eastern Cape was particularly hard hit. A number of the councillors were murdered, some in the most horrific fashion.

Mr Tamsanqa Kinikini, a colleague and friend of Mr Linda and also a successful businessman, refused to resign on March 15, 1985 with the other 15 KwaNobuhle councillors. On March 23, he was dragged from his burning funeral parlour by a revolutionary mob and hacked to death. Shortly before his 16-year-old son, Selunko, and two nephews tried to escape. They were caught by the crazed mob, brutally murdered, their bodies burned and parts of their flesh eaten. Mr Kinikini's last act was to shoot his 12-year-old son, Kwala, to save him from a similar fate!

Mr Linda's wife, Pamela, a nurse at the Livingston Hospital, Port

Elizabeth, was told by other nurses not to use the lift because some people wanted to see her dead. She had to resign. Their sons were intimidated and threatened with death at school.

Despite his tremendous financial losses and the great physical danger he and his family constantly face, Mr Linda continues to speak out courageously against the ANC and its determination to impose itself on the people through violence. After being forced out as mayor, he co-founded the United Conciliation Party. He is also an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Africa.

His present position is not an easy one. Because he is known as an outspoken critic of the ANC, trade unions sympathetic to the ANC ensure that no-one will employ him. Nor is there any possibility of re-starting his own business. Radicals would wait until it is well stocked and would burn it down again.

But he has a steady stream of secret visitors who seek his advice. They share his dislike of the ANC, its policies and its methods, but lack his courage and boldness. From his contacts with people he knows that the ANC has the support of only about 20 percent of the Black population. Moreover their main support is found among the youth who are easily influenced and have no experience of life. The older people reject them, but they fear them too much to speak out against them.

MANDELA'S BLUNDERS

Despite great euphoria on his 6-week tour of Europe and North America, Nelson Mandela, the deputy president of the ANC, made a number of blunders which counted heavily against him.

During his visit to Libya, Mandela embraced Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, America's pet hate figure, and said, "In our situation, as in other countries, an armed struggle is one of the most effective ways of fighting for political change in our country. Your readiness to provide us with the facilities for forming an army of liberation indicated your commitment to the fight for peace and human rights in the world. We consider ourselves comrades in arms" (*Los Angeles Times* 19/5/90).

Mandela also described Yasser Arafat as "a comrade in arms", and said it would be "a grave mistake" to change his view of Arafat "on the basis of the interests of the Jewish community" (*Washington Post* 21/6/90).

"We identify with the PLO because, just like ourselves, they are fighting for the right of self-determination... To think that, because Arafat is conducting a struggle against Israel that we must therefore condemn him, we can't do that. It is just not possible" (*Los Angeles Times* 23/6/90).

Speaking about Castro's Cuba, he said, "There's one thing where that country stands out head and shoulders above the rest... that is in its love for

human rights and liberty" (*Daily Telegraph* 3/7/90).

(For anyone interested in learning about "human rights and liberty" in Cuba, SIGNPOSTS recommends Armando Valladares' book *Against All Hope*, the account of his 22 years in Castro's prisons!)

"One of the mistakes the Western world makes", Mandela said during an American television interview, "is to think that their enemies should be our enemies. Yasser Arafat, Colonel Gaddafi and Fidel Castro support our struggle to the hilt. There is no reason whatsoever why we should have any hesitation hailing

their commitment to human rights. We identify with the PLO because, just like ourselves, they are fighting for the right of self-determination" (*The Times* 23/6/90).

"The progress we have made in our struggle is owed largely to Angola, and we hope that one day we will be as free as you," he said in Luanda on May 10, 1990.

Mandela was asked about three Puerto Ricans who were seated in the VIP row

THE HEAVY HAND OF CENSORSHIP!



Winnie Mandela silences her husband at a press conference in London on July 4.

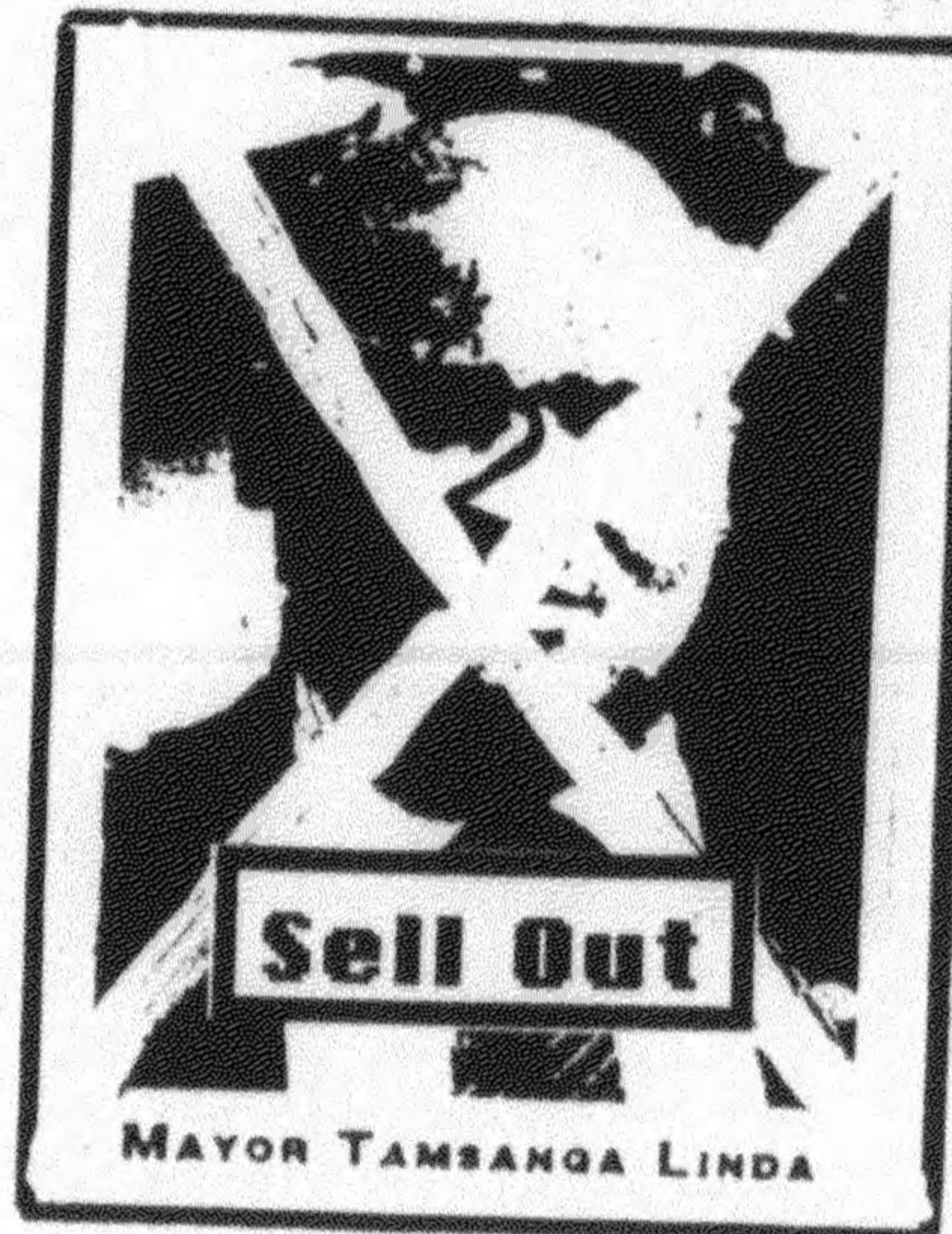
Picket Against Apartheid Collaborators

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Same Game — Different Names

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The mass democratic movement of the local level has opposed this Apartheid structure for many years through widespread boycotts and rent strikes. The people have exposed these local officials for what they are
Collaborators of Apartheid.

Once again the John Birch Society — by bringing the speaker to the Marriott — feeds on racism and promotes hatred through intentional distortion and slander of the struggle against apartheid.

Protest Apartheid Support a Free and Democratic Society in South Africa

Date: Monday, March 25, 1991

Time: 7:15 PM

Place: In Front of the Marriott Hotel
189 Wolf Road
(Exit 4 I-87 Northway, Colonie)

❖ VIVA MANDELA ❖

❖ VIVA ANC ❖

Picket/Demonstration Sponsored by Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

March 1991

NEXT GENERAL CD-CARR MEETING

THURS. MARCH 28, 1991 at 7:00 p.m.

Albany Public Library

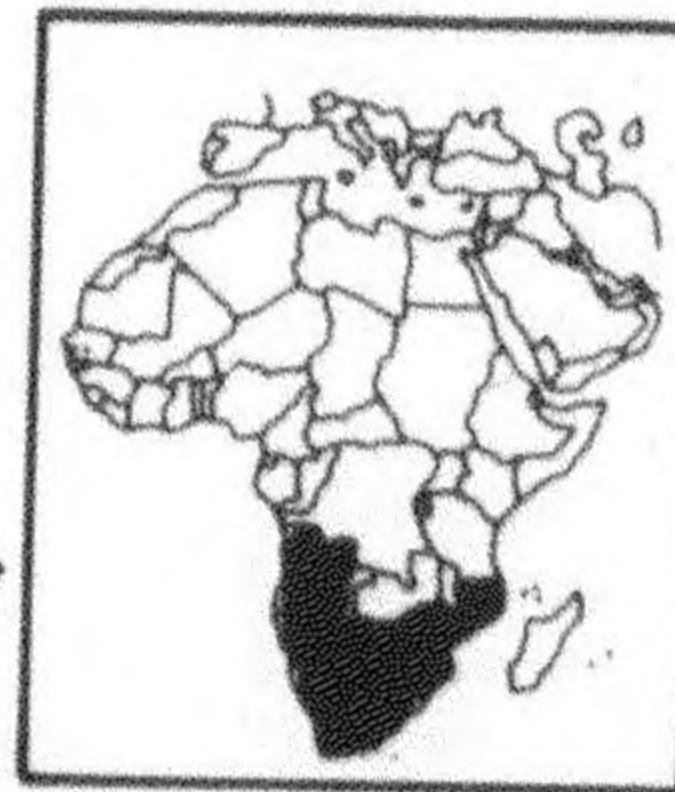
Washington Avenue, Albany, New York

Agenda:

**WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA WHILE BUSH
HAS BEEN BOMBING IN THE GULF?**

An update on Southern Africa

**Also: A discussion on the impact of the
war on domestic issues**



and

Information on two upcoming events:

***Capital District Community Conference on
Crime and Criminal Justice - "Education,
Mobilization, and Change" May 18, 1991
(see inside for more information)***

and

***Ten Year Anniversary of CD-CARR - plans
for community celebration in Sept., 1991
(if you would like to be part of the planning committee
for this event, call Pat Trowers Johnson at 463-4486)***

The article below was written in August, 1990, several months before the Gulf War began. The points it makes, however, are still valid and point up the gross hypocrisy of U.S. foreign policy.

How Many Mozambicans Equal One Kuwaiti?

For decades now, conservative leaders in the United States, Britain, West Germany and elsewhere have sternly lectured the anti-apartheid movement against the use of economic sanctions.

With monotonous regularity we have been told that "sanctions don't work", or alternatively that "sanctions will only hurt black South Africans and the neighboring states."

But in early August, we witnessed U.S. President George Bush and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher leading the call for sanctions, not against South Africa, of course, but against Iraq, because of its invasion of Kuwait.

Nobody says that sanctions "won't work" against Saddam Hussein. Nobody says that sanctions "will only harm the people of Kuwait, or the interests of Jordan and Saudi Arabia."

Of course, the occupation of Kuwait is a clear breach of international law. But it is far from the first crime committed by the Iraqi regime. The voices now stridently demanding respect for Kuwaiti sovereignty were strangely silent when Saddam Hussein was killing Iraqi communists, or butchering the Kurdish minority in Iraq.

Sanctions were in place against Iraq within a week of the attack on Kuwait. South Africa began open military attacks against its neighbors in 1975, the date of its first major push into Angola—but it was only in the late 1980's that most Western governments began to take hesitant steps towards economic sanctions against Pretoria.

So when an oil-rich Arab state is attacked by a powerful neighbor it takes a week for the international community to punish the aggressor, and declare a near-total blockade. But when impoverished African nations are attacked by a similarly powerful neighbor it takes over a decade for far from comprehensive sanctions to be imposed grudgingly,

and under great popular pressure, by that country's trading partners.

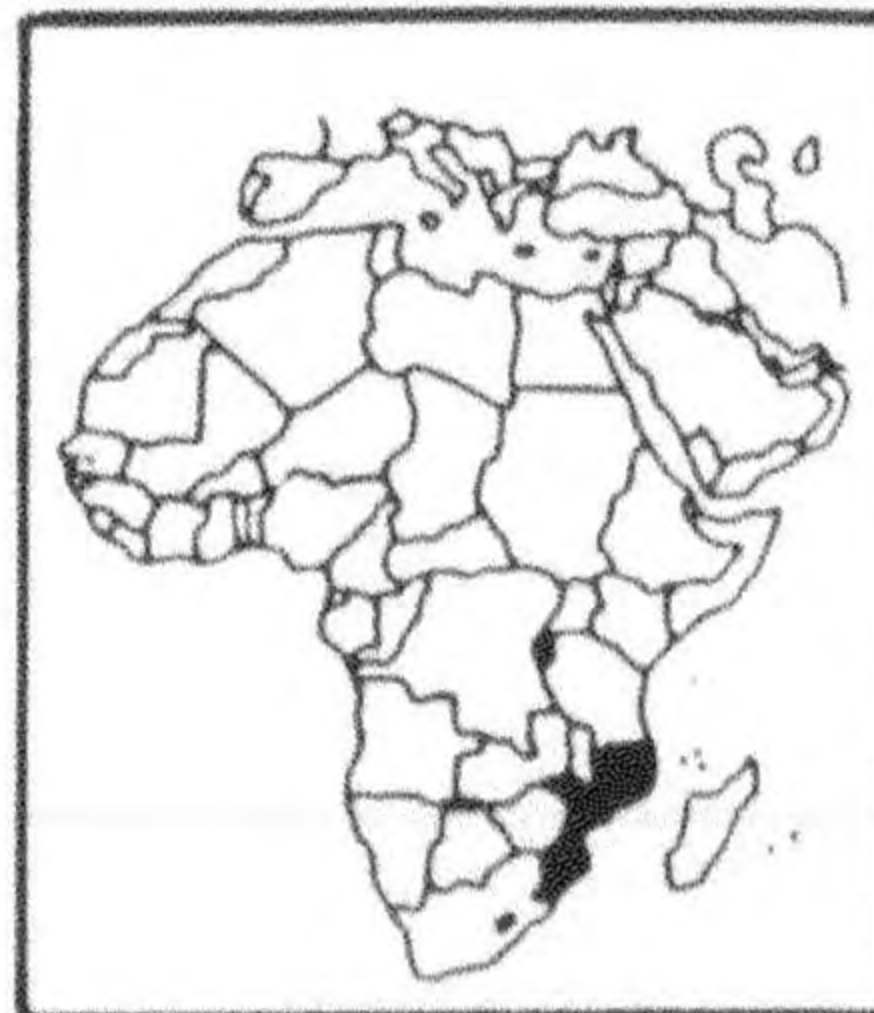
Are Kuwaiti lives more precious than Mozambican ones? Is there something special about the sovereignty of Kuwait that makes it more valuable than the sovereignty of Angola?

Perhaps several hundred innocent Kuwaitis have been killed in the Iraqi invasion. The United Nations estimates are that between 1980 and 1988 there were 900,000 war-related deaths in Mozambique, and 500,000 in Angola. The majority of these were children under the age of five. By now, those figures will be considerably higher, of course.

If the western world had reacted to South African aggression with the same admirable speed that it now shows towards Iraqi aggression, then most of those 1.4 million people would still be alive. Furthermore the Mozambican economy would not have been destroyed, the country would not be obliged to live on international charity, and the government might never have had to embark upon an IMF and World Bank sponsored structural adjustment program. But then maybe that was the whole idea...

And had the West reacted promptly to South Africa's aggression against the Frontline States, and imposed a serious embargo, it might also, ironically enough, have helped the Kuwaiti people. For the most sophisticated artillery the Iraqi army possesses is of South African manufacture. That is the G5 mobile cannon, produced by the apartheid state-owned arms company Armscor, and which Iraq has been buying from South Africa every year since 1981.

excerpt from Mozambiquefile, August 1990



Approximately 200 Americans died in the war in the Gulf War. An estimated 100,000 Iraqi soldiers were killed and 20,000 civilians died.

We Mourn the Unnecessary Loss of Life

The war is over and we "won." In this country we are mourning the loss of life of our service people. They were men and women, mostly young. They were loved ones, mothers, fathers. The news media has carried countless stories about the devastating effect their losses will have on the families and friends of these Americans who died in the Gulf.

We have heard nothing, however, of the loss of the Iraqis, people who also have spouses, parents, and children. The Iraqis are human beings. Their soldiers are as much victims of their government's policies as ours are of our government. Mass graves are being dug with no identification of the bodies. We have once again dehumanized another group of people in the world.

The roots of this war lie in the foreign policy of the U.S. government which has consistently viewed the lives and cultures of people and nations of color as having less value than that of white people. People of color, poor people and working people were the ones to die in large numbers. The U.S. spent a billion dollars a day to wage war while our communities at home lack adequate employment, housing, health care and education. There is money for massive arms and military "solutions" to world problems but no money for domestic problems.

The cost of this war was not cheap: lives lost, a possible renewal of U.S. Soviet hostilities, hostility in the Arab world, increased anti-Arab sentiment in the U.S., environmental destruction in the Gulf region and globally, and the bastardization of the U.N. by not continuing on the course of finding a peaceful solution through sanctions or negotiations.

There is no support for the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait or for Saddam Hussein. But everytime a country invades another country, we do not intercede. Everytime a country commits atrocities, we do not send in troops. We even give mild sanctions time (years, as is the case with South Africa) to work. This war was not about getting Iraq out of Kuwait. It was about establishing the U.S. as the dominant power in the Middle East. There are already stories about Kuwaiti repression beginning and there is talk the U.S. will help to enforce martial law in that country which was far from democratic long before Iraq invaded. This war was not about some ideas of democracy.

And in a democracy we have the right and the responsibility to speak out against our government's actions. The war is over. There is no cause for celebration... only an increased awareness that we must continue to work against the violent and racist tendencies that are so basic to the United States.

Los Angeles Incident of Police Brutality National and Local Implications

by Mark Mishler

People across the country were shocked recently to see a home-made video-tape on the national news showing a small group of Los Angeles police officers viciously beating an African-American man in custody as a larger group of officers watched. Most readers of this newsletter know that incidents of police brutality occur frequently in cities throughout this country, including in the Capital District. This video is significant, therefore, not because it showed us something we didn't know, but because it documents the existence and acceptance within police departments of widespread abuse of authority by police officers.

The officers who beat Rodney King on March 3rd were not just bad "apples." If that were all they represented this incident would be a horrible example of police brutality, but would not have national significance.

These officers could not have acted in the way they did unless they felt absolutely sure that there would be no repercussions to them. In other words, these officers (who beat someone up in public) must have been positive that the other officers present would do nothing, that their superiors would not initiate an investigation despite the serious injuries received by Mr. King, that nothing would ever come of an internal affairs investigation were Mr. King to file a complaint and that Mr. King would be unable to successfully pursue any other legal recourse. The only thing the officers did not count on was that a citizen would be nearby filming the entire incident.

This incident caught on video-tape raises many questions about the inability of police departments to prevent brutality by officers through internal mechanisms. How many other Rodney Kings are there in Los Angeles and elsewhere who were not so fortunate to have a responsible citizen video-tape a police beating? How routine an incident must this have been for these officers if they acted with such impunity? And, how can we expect police departments on their own to prevent lawlessness by officers when the "blue wall" of silence prevents effective internal controls?

We have many "Rodney Kings" in Albany (and throughout the Capital District) who do not have video-tapes to prove what happened to them at the hands of racist and brutal cops. This demonstrates again the necessity of establishing an independent civilian review board with investigatory powers. Mayor Whalen, as an example, should be able to figure out that it would be better for Albany in the long run if effective controls and accountability were instituted in the police department before someone happens to catch on video-tape one of the savage incidents of police brutality for which Albany is known. There should be a review board now!



A community conference "Education, Mobilization and Change"

The Center for Law and Justice, Inc., along with a number of community groups and organizations, will sponsor the Capital District Community Conference on Crime and Criminal Justice entitled "Education, Mobilization, and Change." This important conference will be held on Saturday May 18, 1991 (save the date) at the Empire State Plaza. Its focus will be on the devastating impact of crime and the criminal justice system on a number of disenfranchised communities including African American, Latino, Youth and Women. The following workshops are planned: the criminal justice process, juvenile justice, how to complaining about police, reports on the disproportionate incarceration of African Americans and Latinos and the impact on their communities, and women in the criminal justice system. There will be an afternoon session, "Reclaiming a Lost Generation," on setting an agenda to mobilize communities to work for change in criminal justice policy and practice. It is anticipated that about 400-500 community residents and criminal justice professionals will attend.

In addition to asking for your attendance, the Center also needs volunteer assistance in many areas that are necessary for a successful conference (writing, media work, flyer distribution, childcare, registration, refreshments, typing, etc.) Co-sponsorships are also being sought. Contact Barbara Silver of Legatha Thompson at the Center for Law and Justice, Inc. at (518) 427-8361 for more information.



Help For Police Abuse Victims

POLICE ABUSE COUNSELING AVAILABLE AT THE URBAN LEAGUE

Police abuse counseling and assistance with filing police abuse complaints are now available at the Urban League office, 93 Livingston Avenue in Albany every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Individuals may call the League at

463-3121 or the Center for Law and Justice at 427-8361.

Deborah Williams-Muhammad, specialist with the Region IV Crisis Prevention Unit of the New York State Division of Human Rights and Reverend Hank Johnson representing the Center for Law and Justice will be available to provide assistance.

How To File A Police Abuse Complaint Against The Albany Police

THE SCENE MARCH 1991

Police Abuse Includes:

- verbal racial/ethnic slurs and derogatory comments
- physical shoving, kicking, beating, or any physical contact that is not necessary in order for the officer to do his or her job
- psychological intimidation—threats of harm or violence, threats of trumped-up charges

If you are a victim of police abuse or witness abuse, obtain the following information:

Name of officer(s); a badge and car numbers; date, time, and place; race, sex, height, weight, hair, complexion & eye color of officer(s); name, phone & address of witness(es), and names of victim(s). (Information taken from the Capital

District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.)

Formal complaint forms are available from the Center for Law and Justice, the Urban League, City Hall, and the police department.

Someone from the Center or any person you choose may assist you with completing and filing a complaint form and may accompany you to an interview with representatives of the Police Department. Completed forms must be filed with the Department's Internal Affairs Unit (Morton Avenue and Broad Street), which is responsible for completing an investigation of the complaint and forwarding a recommendation to the Police Chief. The Chief's determination will be sent to you, the complainant, in a letter.

Some C.D. CAAR Business..

Membership - In January we sent a membership letter. Your response has been excellent. **If you are one of those who forgot to send your dues, however, there is still time.** When we receive your dues, we will send you one of our highly desired membership cards. This will also guarantee that you will continue to receive the monthly newsletter. Your continuing commitment to the struggle against apartheid and racism is vitally important. **Don't wait any longer...send your dues today.** Yearly dues are only \$5.00 (more is great!) Membership form -back page.

Social Justice Center Bowlathon - On March 9th the Social Justice Center of Albany held the annual fundraising bowlathon. Thanks to **Peter Balint**, CD-CAAR representative to the S.J.C., for raising money and organizing three teams to take part in this event.

Congratulations - **Vicki Smith**, a long time member of the Steering Committee of CD-CAAR who served as our representative to the Community Police Relations Board, has resigned from the Steering Committee. While we are very sorry to lose you Vicki, we congratulate you on your appointment to the national steering committee of a newly formed organization, Sisters in Struggle. **Pat Trowers Johnson**, also a member of the CD-CAAR Steering Committee, has announced that she will return to T.V. Channel 10 as a reporter in mid-March. We congratulate you and look forward to your insightful and intelligent news reporting.

Members Out Speaking, Speaking Out

Merton Simpson, CD-CAAR Co-Chair took part in Peace Week at the Junior College of Albany where he spoke on the racist implications of the Gulf War. **Mabel Leon**, member of CD-CAAR Steering Committee, took part in a Schenectady forum on race relations which was co-sponsored by Emmanuel Baptist Church and Refreshing Springs Church. The panel discussed issues of racism, integration and future actions. For information about follow up plans, call Wendy Sambro, 374-4114 or Christine Parsons Tucker, 432-8650.

Note: In last month's newsletter we announced that **Angela Davis** would be speaking in Albany on March 7th. The organizers of the event were forced to cancel the program. We hope they will be able to reschedule sometime soon.

Picket Against Apartheid Collaborators

Chief
Buthelezi

Mayor Nelson
Botile

Bishop Isaac
Mokoena



Reverend Elijah
Maswanganyi

Same Game — Different Names

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Place: In Front of the Marriott Hotel
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(Exit 4 I-87 Northway, Colonie)

❖ VIVA MANDELA ❖

❖ VIVA ANC ❖

Picket/Demonstration Sponsored by Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

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

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Organization
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Address Correction Requested

Two important dates:
Demonstration Against South African Collaborator
on March 25, 1991 - See flyer inside!
Next Monthly Meeting - March 28, 1990

There is still time to send your membership dues
Tear off and mail (Please print clearly)

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
A Project of the Social Justice Center of Albany
Box 3002 Pine Hills Station, Albany, New York 12203

Enclosed is \$ _____ Yearly dues are \$5.00 More is great!

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

African National Congress critic to tell of alleged terrorism

COLONIE — Alleged terrorist activities by Nelson Mandela's African National Congress will be outlined Monday during a Capital District appearance by Tamsanqua Linda, former mayor of Ibhayi township in South Africa.

Linda's program will begin at 8 p.m. in the Marriott Hotel, 189 Wolf Road, sponsored by the

Capital District chapters of the John Birch Society and the American Opinion Education Committee.

According to information provided by area Birch Society spokesman Adrian P. Villa, Linda serves as council president of 74 black township councils representing about 14 million citizens in

South Africa. Because of threats to his family he was forced to resign as mayor. Linda's home and business were destroyed by firebombs, allegedly thrown by Mandela supporters.

Tickets at the door are \$7; advance tickets are \$4 and may be purchased by calling 877-3322.

3/25 3/24/91

B-4 THE TIMES UNION Albany, N.Y., Tuesday, March 26, 1991

ALBANY COUNTY

South African sponsored by Birch Society gives warning

□ Says Mandela would found Marxist state.

By Tim Beidel

Staff writer

COLONIE — If Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress come to power, they will establish a Marxist government that will become a new oppressor of the country's blacks, a South African sympathetic to the white government charged Monday.

Tamsanqua Linda, who said he had resigned as mayor of Port Elizabeth township after his family was threatened, said relations between whites and blacks are improving, and the government of President Frederik W. de Klerk is committed to allowing blacks into the decision-making

process.

Linda's appearance at the Marriott was part of an American speaking tour sponsored by the ultraconservative John Birch Society. He was met by about 35 protesters from the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, who chanted, "Mr. Nobody, Go Home." The demonstrators carried signs protesting the South African government's racist policies.

"He's just one of among many puppets that the apartheid structure produces," said Merton Simpson, a co-chairman of the coalition, who had not heard of Linda prior to the announcement of his speech. "But

there are many more like him."

Inside, Linda alternately claimed ignorance of the Birch Society's philosophy and embraced it. Before his speech, he said he did not know what the society stood for and he would speak for any group that sponsored him.

In front of his audience, however, Linda declared that he was not embarrassed by the group's sponsorship and that he had read its principles and agreed with them.

He departed from his prepared remarks, he said, because the presence of "barking dogs" — the protesters outside — inspired him. About 250 people, each paying \$4 or \$7, attended the speech. The overwhelmingly white, predominantly male crowd, dressed in everything

from suits and ties to lumberjack shirts, interrupted Linda with applause several times.

"The struggle is no more apartheid," Linda said, but is between the free-enterprise system and the Marxist ideology he said the African National Congress embraces.

Linda said the ANC, supported by the policies of President Bush and the U.S. State Department, is using violence to intimidate South African blacks and does not have their authentic support.

Linda called for lifting the economic sanctions against South Africa and criticized Bush for not telling the American people about Mandela's "true character" during his widely hailed tour of the United States.

Linda said he did not object to the ANC's participating in the political process but added that a constitutional structure must be established with multiparty representation before full democracy is possible.

"Let every political view be allowed to exist in South Africa, without the violence," he said.

Prior to his speech, Linda said the mechanisms to protect the rights of all voters must be put in place to avoid the one-party and military governments that many African nations have.

"That's what you Americans don't understand," he said. "I'm only one black South African. If I am in Johannesburg, I don't know at times what my black brother is saying because of different languages. Ev-



Tamsanqua Linda met by protest in Colonie

everybody must be accorded a place in our new South Africa

S. African township leader lashes out at Nelson Mandela in Colonie speech

By JOHN NOETZEL
Gazette Reporter

3/24/91

COLONIE — Nelson Mandela is not a hero and uses terrorism to silence opposition to his African National Congress, the president of 74 black South African townships said yesterday.

Speaking at the Marriott Hotel last night before more than 200 members of the John Birch Society, Tamsanqa Linda, co-president of the United Christian Conciliation Party, said Americans are being misled by propaganda that portrays Mandela as a friend to African blacks.

According to Linda, Mandela is a militant communist who attempts to divide the people along racial lines.

"I don't care for a leader who wants his hands full of blood before he goes to the negotiations table," said Linda, a former mayor of Port Elizabeth township, South Africa. "Communists are killing and torturing my people. Apartheid is not the problem in South Africa," Linda said.

"It's very curious he [Linda] has all this time to tour the United States when his own country is having so many problems."

Merton Simpson
Mandela supporter

Linda, who completed a 23-state U.S. tour last fall, returned in February under John Birch Society sponsorship. He will make 50 stops before mid-April, telling Americans they should have an open agenda and support other organizations trying to bring freedom to South African blacks.

Yesterday's appearance in the Capital District brought immediate opposition. About two dozen sign-toting members of the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism picketed outside the hotel, chanting, "Who is he?"

"We're here to set the record straight," said coalition co-chairman Merton Simpson, a Mandela supporter. "If he's so popular, why isn't

he in South Africa organizing the people? It's very curious he has all this time to tour the United States when his own country is having so many problems."

Linda, at a press briefing before his address, downplayed the protest as criticism from people "who aren't even South African."

Linda said that because of terrorism from the Mandela-led African National Congress, he was forced to resign as mayor when threats were made against his family. His home and business were destroyed by fire-bombs, he said.

When he left home this time, he said he hid his children to protect them.

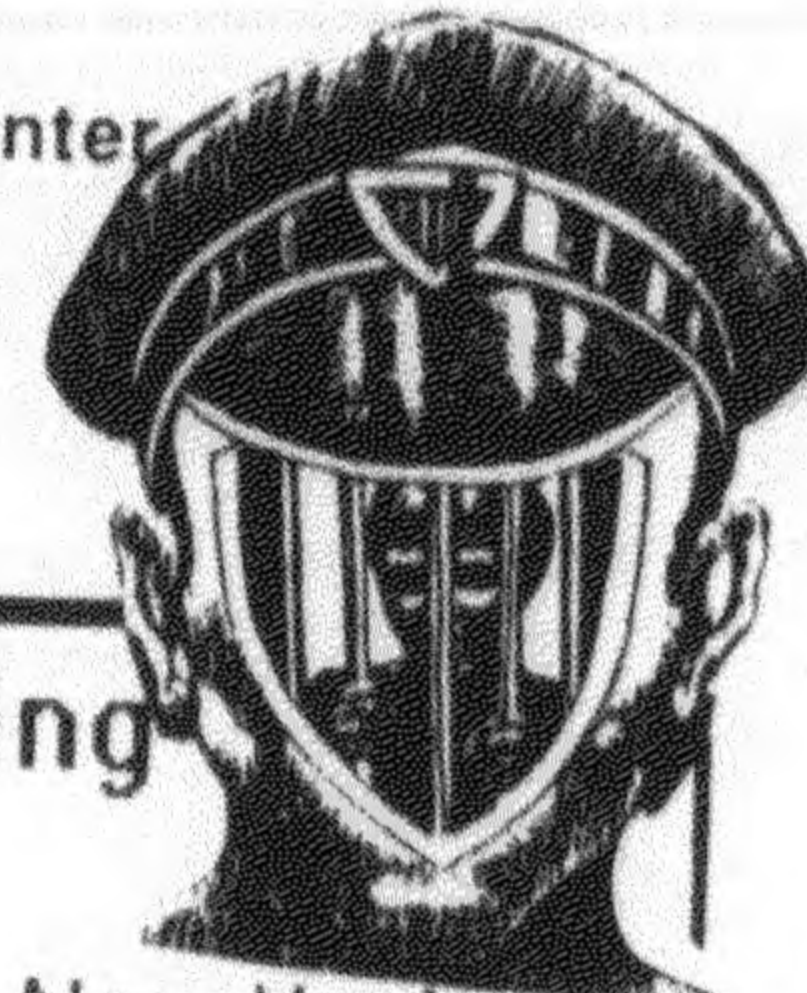


Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

April 1991 Newsletter



Next General CD-CAAR Meeting

Thursday, April 25, 1991 - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Albany Public Library, Washington Ave., Albany, New York

How many Rodney Kings are there in Albany?

(Rodney King was the man brutally beaten by Los Angeles police)

Video: Interview with local victims of police abuse

Discussion: Police brutality issues locally...

Responses to police brutality in other communities...

The need for a civilian review board...

Report: Upcoming community conference (May 18, 1991) on crime
and the criminal justice system (see flyer inside)

10 Year Anniversary Committee - Do you remember September 1981? If you remember and would like to get involved planning a ten year celebration, **we need your help**. If you haven't been involved for a long time this is the perfect time to get involved again. If you don't remember September 1981, if you've never been involved, this is the perfect time to get involved for the first time. In other words, we need you to work on planning our 10th anniversary celebration. Committee report and future planning at the April meeting. If you can't make the meeting but want to work on this historic event, call Pat Trowers-Johnson, 463-4486.

ADM: DATELINE NAMIBIA
WINTER 1990-1991

AMERICA LAGS IN AID TO NAMIBIA

The international community has begun marshalling resources to help Namibians confront the poverty, underdevelopment and racial injustice that is the endowment of apartheid colonialism.

Namibian President Sam Nujoma flew to New York in June to meet with possible financial donors. Namibian officials arrived with detailed proposals for \$810 million in assistance over the first three years of independence.

Partnership

The resulting pledges, some \$360 million in grants and loans, were welcomed by Namibian Foreign Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab as a "good first step." But Eastern Europe, Central America and the Persian Gulf are putting heavy demands on Western treasuries, and the chances of finding additional money for Namibia appear slim.

Additional assistance is coming from Christian and secular non-governmental

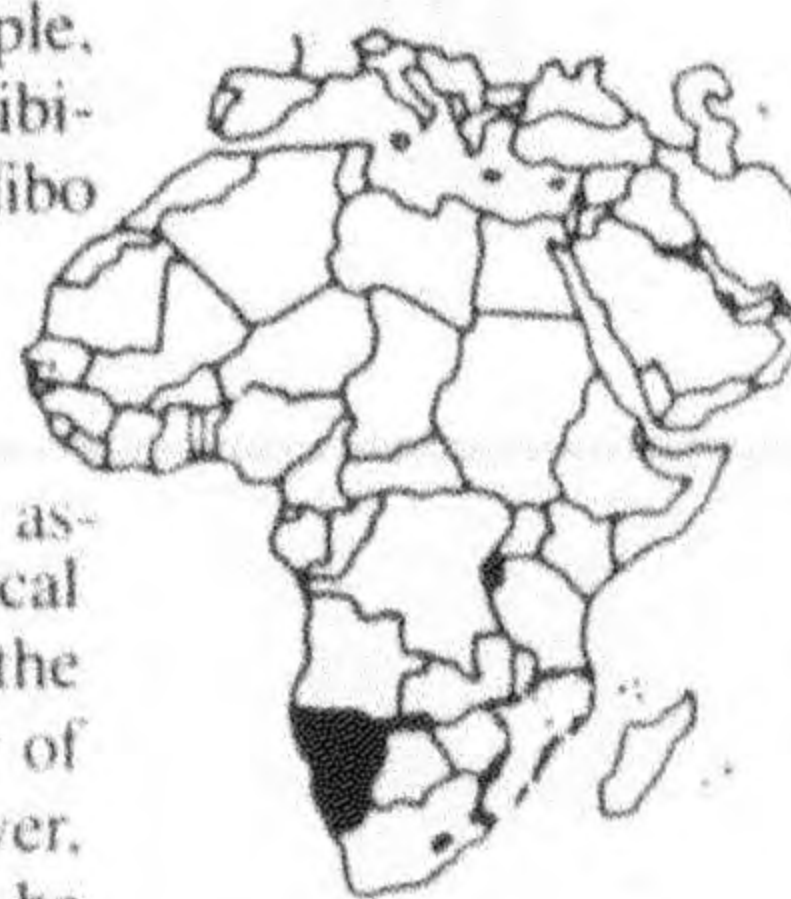
organizations in Europe and North America.

American Episcopalians, for example, are providing funds to Anglican Namibians for the reconstruction of the Odibo education and health care center.

U.S. Role

Many United States citizens have assumed that their government, a vocal champion of democracy around the world, would be a leading provider of assistance to Namibia. Sadly, however, the world's newest nation appears to be at the bottom of Washington's priorities.

For this critical first year of Namibian independence, the Bush administration had originally budgeted just \$500,000. Concerned Congressional leaders eventually increased Namibia's funding to \$10 million. But even this amount is scheduled to drop to just \$7.8 million in 1991. — **A BILLION A DAY IN THE GULF**



WRITE:
THE SENATE
WASHINGTON, DC. 20510
THE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, DC. 20515

South African Ties

Compounding Namibia's economic difficulties is its continuing financial and political entanglement with the former colonial ruler, South Africa. A year after independence the country still relies on South Africa for most imports, technical services and expertise, and even its currency. At independence, for example, all of Namibia's banks were headquartered in South Africa, and South African companies still own a great deal of Namibia's natural resources and land.

Moreover, the South African government is demanding that Namibia repay over \$280 million in loans raised by the colonial authorities during the illegal occupation — in effect demanding that the oppressed defray the cost of their own oppression.

It is worth considering the views of Howard Wolpe, the head of the Africa Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives, who said of American aid to Namibia:

"For us not to encourage the reform process there as well as throughout Africa — and see it through," Rep. Wolpe noted, "leads to the perception that we have a racial double standard."



Homeless Namibians at a government squatter camp outside the capital city of Windhoek. The government provides land and toilets. The people must build their own homes.

THE TIMES UNION Albany, N.Y., Wednesday, March 27, 1991

Lawyers seek federal probe of alleged Albany police brutality

□ Cite four cases as indicating a pattern of abuse by law enforcement officers in the city.

By Catherine Clabby

Staff writer

ALBANY — Two local attorneys who represent clients with pending federal suits alleging police brutality in Albany want the U.S. Justice Department to investigate what they maintain is a pattern of police misconduct here.

Attorneys Terence Kindlon and Mark Mishler are seeking probes in light of Attorney General Richard Thornburgh's recent order that a national review of police brutality cases be undertaken. Thornburgh's order followed the national uproar that accompanied reports on the brutal police beating March 3 of a black motorist filmed by an unseen observer in Los Angeles.

Albany Police Chief John Dale on Tuesday said the attorneys have every right to write whomever they wish, but repeated his oft-stated view that his department has adequate means to investigate such complaints internally.

"I have the utmost confidence in the internal affairs unit," he said. The chief and Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III have conceded that the perception of police brutality exists here, particularly among the city's black community, but insist that it is unfounded.

In two letters addressed to several federal officials, including an attorney assigned to the Justice Department in Washington, Kindlon and Mishler note four cases they have filed in federal court that allege police brutality. Three plaintiffs in the cases are black; one is white.

"We feel that these cases are terribly important and that it's our responsibility to put them immediately in front of the attorney general," he said.

They single out two present officers and one retired officer named in three of the cases in one letter, saying, "We believe that there is a pattern of brutality by certain police officers that rises to a level of being a violation of the federal civil rights law."

The cases cited in the letters include the following:

● Robert Butler of Albany is suing the city for \$7.3 million, contending that he was riding a bicycle in September 1989 in Arbor Hill when he was cut off by an unmarked police car and knocked to the ground. He alleges that he was beaten by several officers on the street, in a car and at Division 2 headquarters.

● James Lunday of Albany is suing for \$7.13 million and alleges that Kenneth Sutton and other officers in May 1989 kicked and beat him and subjected him to "vile, obscene and racist language" after Lunday refused to identify himself to undercover officers while waiting for his girlfriend outside a city restaurant.

● Daniel Amlaw, a former city resident, is suing for \$7.13 million. He contends that in October 1989 he was assaulted and falsely arrested after he expressed impatience with officers frisking a woman at the downtown bus station with whom he planned to share a cab.

● McKinley Branch Jr., an Albany man who was suspected of dealing drugs to a 14-year-old, is seeking \$4 million in damages and contends that he was driving on North Swan Street in November 1989 when he was pulled over by three police officers in an unmarked vehicle. He claims that an officer struck him on the head with a flashlight and stomped on his back, and that he was assaulted at the Division 2 headquarters.

Despite repeated phone calls Tuesday to the civil rights division of the Justice Department, a spokesman could not be reached to explain whether the cases could qualify for federal scrutiny as part of the review.

Even Fred LeBrun agrees...

(excerpt from column in Albany Times Union, April 4, 1991)

Kindlon's right about prosecutor

The time is ripe, one might even say over-ripe.

For years and years, as long as I've been in this town, stories have bubbled up like an endless sulphuric spring concerning elements in the Albany Police Department being insensitive to the black community. Not everyone in the department, of course, but then "insensitivity" is putting a happy face on those whose names have cropped up again and again involving straight-out violation of civil rights and bare-knuckles physical abuse.

In the streets, in the bus station. Defendants showing up the next day in court looking much the worse for wear. Black defendants. A pattern emerges, or at the very least, the perception of a pattern, and that perception has reached such a level of general acceptance that Albany County District Attorney Sol Greenburg really has no choice.

He should do what defense attorney Terence Kindlon calls for, and ask the governor for a special prosecutor to clear the air. For his office's sake, a nervous city's, and especially for the credibility and morale of the Albany Police Department.

The need for thorough, impartial scrutiny hinges on specific charges against four officers concerning James F. Lunday, a black man who allegedly was beaten while in custody two years ago. He was charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and assault, which has become depressingly consistent as a police response — note the deplorable Los Angeles brutality case. All charges were dismissed in city court, and now the city and certain officers are the object of a \$7.1 million lawsuit.

But the civil suit is not the point; those happen all the time. There is the considerable matter of criminal activity here, and then of lying about it and others wearing a badge swearing to those lies. The idea that such behavior could go on without official reprimand, without the severest accountability, goes to the heart of making sure there are those watching the watchers. •••

Help For Police Abuse Victims

POLICE ABUSE COUNSELING AVAILABLE AT THE URBAN LEAGUE

Police abuse counseling and assistance with filing police abuse complaints are now available at the Urban League office, 93 Livingston Avenue in Albany every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Individuals may call the League at

463-3121 or the Center for Law and Justice at 427-8361.

Deborah Williams-Muhammad, specialist with the Region IV Crisis Prevention Unit of the New York State Division of Human Rights and Reverend Hank Johnson representing the Center for Law and Justice will be available to provide assistance.

South Africa

A talk to hear:

'Taking Apartheid Apart'

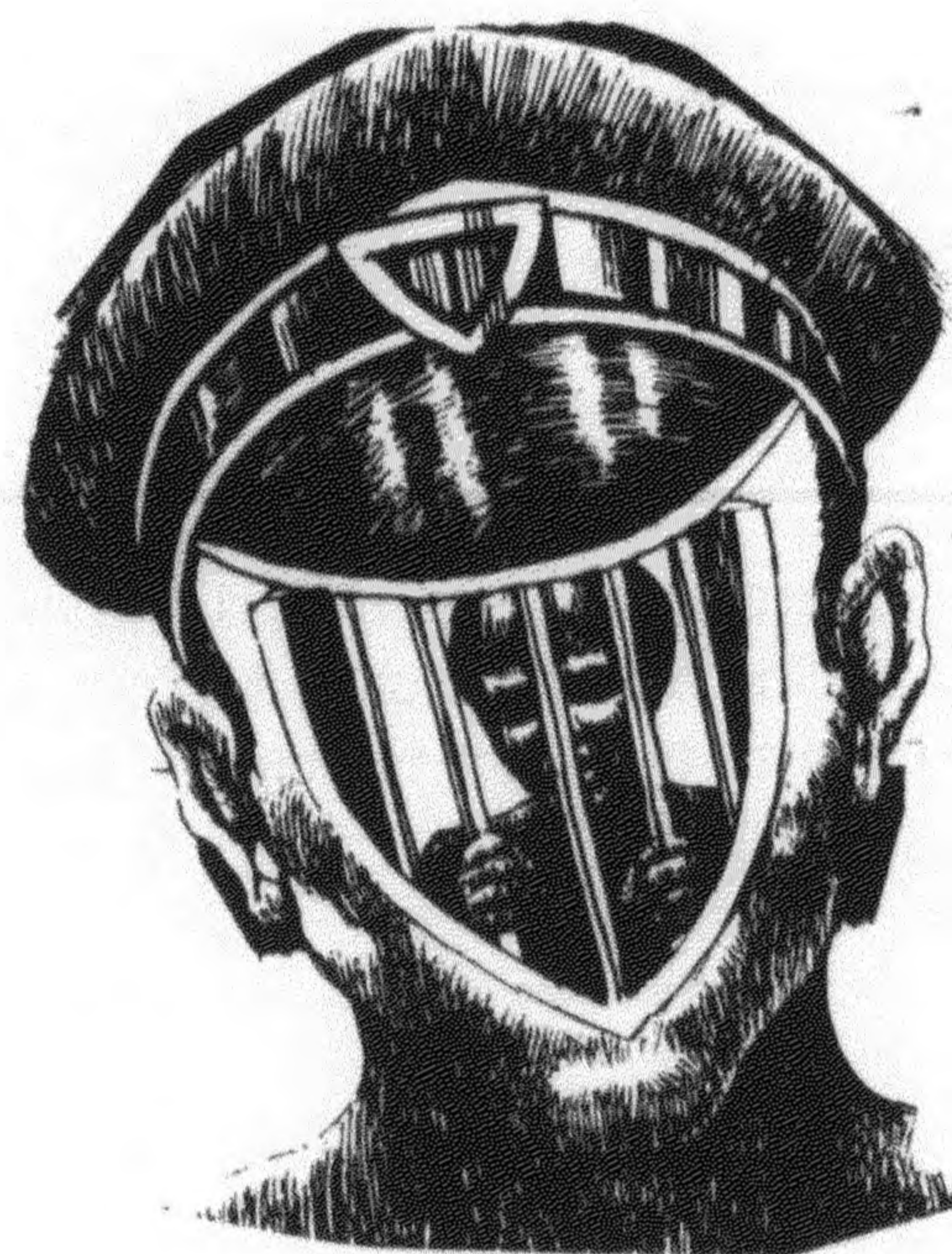
Chris Hani, member of the A.N.C. National Executive and the South African Communist party will be speaking in various locations in the U.S. on a tour sponsored by the People's Weekly World. This leader in the struggle to bring down apartheid will discuss the situation in South Africa today. The closest locations where he will appear are as follows:
New York City, April 30, 7:30 Symphony Space, Broadway and 95th St. \$10.00
Boston, May 2, 7:30 Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St. \$3.00
New Haven, May 5, 4:00 p.m. Immanuel Baptist Church, 1324 Chapel St. \$ 20.00 (including South African buffet.)
For more information, call (212) 807-0170.

A talk we protested:

On Tuesday, March 25, members of CD-CAAR demonstrated in protest against Tamsanqa Linda, former mayor of Port Elizabeth township in South Africa and apartheid collaborator. His tour was sponsored by the ultraconservative John Birch society. Linda claimed he didn't know what the Birch society stood for and went on to call for the lifting of sanctions against the white regime. Merton Simpson, co-chair of CD-CAAR, told the press, "He's just one of many puppets that the apartheid structure produces."

A move we object to:

The International Olympic Committee is rushing to admit South Africa into the Olympic games in time for some participation in the 1992 games. Several IOC members are planning to meet with F.W. DeKlerk about the lifting of the ban. South Africa has been banished from the Olympics for more than twenty years in keeping with the United Nations call for a sports boycott of the apartheid regime. The anti-apartheid movement, both in South African and internationally has always contended that there can be no normal sports in an abnormal society. Until apartheid is abolished that continues to be the case.



**Police Abuse
in Los Angeles
not an isolated
incident.....
Business as usual
in Albany**

Several years ago, when Jesse Davis, a psychiatric patient, was shot to death by Albany Police who were called to quell a disturbance, there was a public outcry for the creation of a police civilian review board. After months of demonstrations, the city agreed to a community police relations board with very limited powers. Now that board, disbanded and later reinstated by the mayor, is nothing but a community police public relations ploy. Racial harassment by the police remains a reality in the city. **A police civilian review board is needed now more than ever.**

Currently there are four lawsuits pending against the Albany City police for abuse, brutality and racial harassment. The two attorneys representing the complainants have asked the U.S. Justice Department to investigate a pattern of police misconduct in the city. Over the years there has been a recurring list of police names whenever allegations of police abuse arise. There is a widespread mistrust and fear in the African American community of the Albany police. **A federal examination of police abuse cases is long overdue.**

In one of the four lawsuits against the Albany police for brutality, a call has been made for a special prosecutor. In this case the possibility for impartial judgment by the D.A.'s office is in more question than usual. In one of the cases, that of James Lunday, the Albany District Attorney's office unsuccessfully prosecuted a case against Lunday. Now that same office is investigating the charges of police brutality being brought by Lunday. **Governor Cuomo must call for special prosecutor in this case if justice is to be served.**

A Pizza?

The response to our membership drive has been terrific. Over 100 people have sent in their dues. We couldn't continue the work without your continuing support. Many thanks.

But we would like to remind those who have not yet sent their dues that time is running out. Upon receipt of your dues, you will be sent a much coveted membership card and you will continue to receive the newsletter. The dues are only \$5.00 for a whole year. A movie, Chinese take-out, two packs of cigarettes in a machine, one small grocery bag of junk food, a pizza, and on and on - all cost more. And the five dollars you give to CD-CAAR goes directly to organizing anti-apartheid and anti-racist work including the printing and mailing of this newsletter. This could be the best five dollars you spend this year. Enough said. Membership form below:

Tear off and mail (Please print clearly)

**Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
A Project of the Social Justice Center of Albany
Box 3002 Pine Hills Station, Albany, New York 12203**

Enclosed is \$ _____ Yearly dues are \$5.00 More is great!

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**Capital District Community
Conference
on Crime and Criminal Justice**

presented by
Center for Law and Justice, Inc.

**Saturday, May 18, 1991 - 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 pm.
Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, New York**

**"Education,
Mobilization,
and Change"**



The Center for Law and Justice, Inc. is a non profit, tax exempt, community - based organization that works closely with other community organizations and groups to reduce the devastating impact of crime and criminal justice policy on disenfranchised communities, particularly the poor, Blacks, Latinos, youth and women. These communities are more likely to be victimized and treated unfairly throughout the criminal justice system. The criminal justice system's response to crime in those communities is not working; its focus on the arrest, prosecution and incarceration of people of color only intensifies the problems faced by these communities.

The Center believes that it is time for the people of these communities to recognize the peril - and to mobilize against crime and against inequities in the criminal justice system that exacerbate the impact of crime.

(over for more details about the conference)

**Capital District Community Conference
on Crime and Criminal Justice
"Education, Mobilization and Change"**

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Will you need day care? Yes___ No___ Number of children ___ Ages _____

Will you need transportation? Yes___ No___

Are you interested in becoming a member? Yes___ No___

Workshop choices: Rank in order of preference (list is on back)

A___ B___ C___ D___ E___

Registration must be received by May 10, 1991

There is no charge for this conference. However, a donation of \$5.00 a person would be appreciated. Donations are tax deductible.

Return this form to: Center for Law and Justice, Inc.

Pine West Plaza, Building 2

Washington Avenue Extension

Albany, New York 12205

(Telephone (518) 427-8361)

**Capital District Community Conference
on Crime and Criminal Justice
"Education, Mobilization and Change"**

Center for Law and Justice, Inc.
Pine West Plaza Building 2
Washington Avenue Extension
Albany, New York 12205 (518) 427-8361

Conference Schedule and Program

8:30 - 9:00 Registration

Session I

9:00 - 10:15 Welcome - Merton Simpson, Co-Chair

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Keynote - Elombe Brath, Chairman

Patrice Lumumba Coalition, N.Y.C.

10:30 - 12:00

Community Forum and Speakout

"Bias in the Criminal Justice System"

Coordinated by Deborah Muhammad

New York State Division of Human Rights

Lunch - Live Music - Cultural Displays and Sales

Session II

1:30 - 3:30 Educational Workshops

A. "The Criminal Justice System at Work"

B. "Our Children and Justice-The Forgotten Issue"

C. "How to Complain and Be Heard"

D. "The Color of Our Prisons"

E. "Women in the Criminal Justice System"

Session III

3:45 - 5:00 Summary and Agenda Setting

**"Reclaiming our Lost Generation - Setting a
Community Agenda"**

Brief Description of Workshops:

Workshop A: The Criminal Justice System at Work

The fictionalized story of a young African American male apprehended for possession of a felony amount of drugs will be presented. Representatives from the police, prosecution, legal defense, the courts, the prison system and parole will describe how their agencies would respond.

Workshop B: Our Children and Justice-The Forgotten Issue

Panelists will discuss how the Family Court mandate of acting "in the best interests of the child" can be reconciled with the requirements of justice, particularly for children of color and the poor. Two recent proposals for changes in the juvenile justice system will be examined: the prosecution of more juvenile crimes in adult criminal court, and the development of community care to replace residential placements.

Workshop C: How to Complain and Be Heard

Experienced advocates for victims and the accused will reveal how to bring complaints about the police and lawyers.

Workshop D: The Color of Our Prisons

Well over three-quarters of New York State prisoners are African American or Latino. This workshop will focus on the impact of incarceration on their communities and implications for future generations.

Workshop E: Women in the Criminal Justice System

Three topical issues will be discussed: the prosecution of women who use drugs during pregnancy; clemency for battered women who are incarcerated for killing their batterer; the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence and the treatment of female victims, particularly rape victims and battered lesbians.

The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, a project of the Social Justice Center of Albany, is one of the co-sponsors of this conference. We strongly encourage all our members to take part in this opportunity to discuss the impact of crime and the criminal justice system on disenfranchised communities and to join in this effort to empower community people to develop an agenda for change.

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

Non-Profit
Organization
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Albany, NY

Vera Michelson
13 Pennsylvania Ave.
Albany, NY 12206

Important meeting date
Thursday, April 25, 1991
Albany Public Library, 7-9p.m.

**Capital District Community
Conference
on Crime and Criminal Justice**

presented by
Center for Law and Justice, Inc.

Saturday, May 18, 1991 - 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 pm.
Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, New York

For complete details
on this conference,
see flyer inside.

**"Education,
Mobilization,
and Change"**



RON DANIELS



Executive Director, Nat'l. Rainbow Coalition 1987
Deputy Director, Jesse Jackson 1988 Campaign
Former Chair, Natl. Black Independent Pol. Party
Prospective 1992 Independent Presidential Candidate

"ALL GUNS, NO BUTTER"

War, Racism & Economic Crisis
SAT., JUNE 8, 6.30 P.M.

Reception - Program - Discussion

WILBORN TEMPLE

Jay & S. Swan Streets, Albany

Presented by the Emergency Committee to End US Intervention in the Middle East
Co-Sponsors: Albany Branch NAACP; Albany Friends Meeting; Blacks in Gov't.,
Albany Chapter; The Brothers; Capital Dist. Coalition Against Apartheid and
Racism; Capital Dist. Committee for Palestinian Rights; Center for Law and
Justice; Hon. Arthur O. Eve; Feminist Action Network; Malcolm X Study Network;
Solidarity Committee of the Capital Dist.; US Puerto Rico Solidarity Network;
Urban League of the Albany Area. FOR INFORMATION, CALL 434-4037

FREE ADMISSION REFRESHMENTS CHILD CARE

This program funded in part by a grant from Resist, 1 Summer St., Somerville, MA 02143



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

May 1991 Newsletter

Next General CD-CARR Meeting

Thursday, May 23, 1991 at 7:00 p.m.

Albany Public Library

Washington Avenue, Albany, New York

Agenda:

Call for Civilian Control Board of the Police

Follow-up from the Capital District Community
Conference on Crime and Criminal Justice

Update on Southern Africa Now

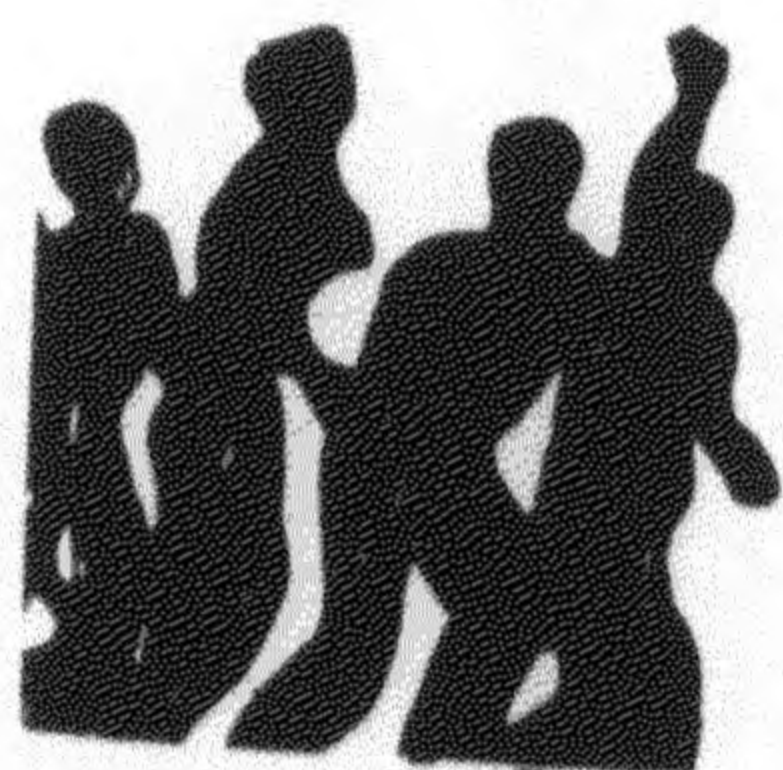
what is happening inside South Africa and
the Angola peace prospects.

The Last Poets are coming...

(In September, 1991, CD-CARR will celebrate
its Ten Year Anniversary. We have already
booked The Last Poets to be part of the event.

At this meeting there will be a **video** of The Last
Poets - to help us get the word out into the
community about their coming in September! - also,
see a sample of their work in this newsletter)

FORWARD



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STRUGGLE

Blessed are those who courted death,
who offered their lives to give,
who dared to rebel rather than serve,
to die so that we might live.

Blessed are those who took up arms
and dared to face our foes:
Nat Turner, Vesey, Gariel, Chinque
to mention a few names we know.

Blessed are the memories of those
who were there at the Harper's Ferry Raid.
Strong were their hearts, noble their cause,
and great was the price they paid.

Blessed are the voices of those
who stood up and cried out, "Let us be free!"
Douglas and Garvey and Sojourner Truth,
Dubois and Drew Ali.

Blessed are the giants that we have loved
and lost to the bullet's sting:
like Malcolm and Medgar and the Panthers who fell
and Martin Luther King.

And blessed are the bodies of those who were hung
from the limbs of a sycamore tree.
Who found end to their hope at the end of a rope
'cause they dared to attempt to be free.

Blessed are the spirits of those who have died
in the prisons all over this land,
who committed one sin, they stood up like men
and got iced for just being a man.

Blessed you all who will join with us now
in this struggle of life and death
so that freedom and peace will be more than a word
to the offspring that we have left.



THE LAST POETS

Will violence torpedo Pretoria talks?

—GUARDIAN—MAY 1, 1991

By SOUTHSCAN

JOHANNESBURG—The South African peace process is not likely to be derailed, despite the hysteria that has greeted the African National Congress' threat to break off negotiations unless political violence ends.

Events in the next few weeks will determine whether things are going to get a lot worse before they get better. But there is little doubt that President F.W. de Klerk will ultimately meet the ANC's key demand for an end to violence. Dazed but otherwise unharmed, the talks will then resume.

In essence, the ANC has demanded no more than that de Klerk act decisively to end the worst political violence in South African history and, with the ANC and other parties, ensure that it cannot resume. The ANC has issued an open letter to de Klerk that lists seven actions the liberation movement believes can most rapidly achieve this goal. Included among these demands are the dismissal of Defense Minister Magnus Malan and Law and Order Minister Arian Vlok and of police and military officers responsible for hit squads; the disbanding and disarming of hit squads; the establishment of an independent commission to investigate activities of the security forces; and the suspension of police and military personnel identified as responsible for the March 1990 massacre at Sebokeng and the March 1991 massacre at Daveyton.

ON THE PEACE TRACK

The ANC is not likely in the short term to have its demands met for the sacking of Vlok and Malan, but observers here feel this should not divert attention from the key issue. ANC leader Nelson Mandela said in mid-April that "if the government shows a reasonable response to our reasonable demands, we on our side will not be found wanting."

And despite the tough talk from de Klerk, his ministers and Inkatha's Gatsha Buthelezi, with a European tour looming and black confidence in the efficacy of negotiations plummeting, the president will have to deliver.

And there is no doubt that de Klerk can do so. While his 80,000-member police force has not been directly responsible for the violence, it has by inaction or partisan intervention frequently fueled the conflict. De Klerk, or elements in his government—for tactical reasons the ANC speaks of "third forces"—have in addition encouraged Inkatha, providing weaponry and refusing to act against Buthelezi supporters openly carrying and using lethal weapons.

With some justification the ANC sees itself as the target of a sustained military campaign. Those of the 3,000-plus victims of violence since the ANC's legalization last year who have not been ANC members or supporters, have in the main been residents of communities demonstrating significant ANC support.

The liberation movement's efforts to establish itself organizationally have been seriously hampered by the violence. This dangerous climate renders the ANC unable to transform the massive pool of political sympathy that greeted the movement upon its legalization in February 1990 into organized, signed-up support.

In Natal the ANC has been forced to launch some new branches in secret or risk mass slaughter by Inkatha supporters, despite Buthelezi's routine public endorsement of political tolerance. In key industrial areas around Johannesburg, trade unions are seeing their membership slip slowly away as the threat of attack by Inkatha makes it impossible to hold meetings. ■■■



Excerpted
from Guardian
article.

The future of
the negotiations
is in jeopardy.
Come to May
CO-CAAR
meeting for
S. Africa update.

Racism Kills: The Tragic Death of Raymond Stallings

by Alice Green, Ph.D
Center for Law and Justice, Inc.

Troubled by Raymond Stallings death, The Center for Law and Justice issued a press statement on April 12, 1991. That statement read in part:

Although we are not privy to any official information surrounding the unfortunate death of Mr. Raymond Stallings and do not wish to accuse or indict the police officers involved, we believe it appropriate to comment on the preliminary information we do have. We do so believing that such comment can help our community understand the impact of the criminal justice system on persons of color in our community and our country.

It is significant that Mr. Stallings, was under suspicion long before he entered his car. This confirms the claim by many African Americans that they are monitored closely when in suburban white communities. Oftentimes such observations are prompted by widely held stereotypes that Blacks are innately criminal and hence worthy of heightened suspicion. Such monitoring also grows out of the belief that Blacks do not belong in such communities.

Furthermore, it must be understood that African Americans, males in particular, are often fearful of contacts with law enforcement officials due to a collective historical experience of abuse. That fear has been exacerbated by the national viewing of the video showing the disgraceful beating of Rodney King in Los Angeles.

We are left to believe that Raymond Stallings was a victim of racial stereotyping and may have been frightened to death by those who symbolize oppression and control to many in our community and country.

Followed, chased, and tackled by police, Raymond Stallings of Albany died of a heart attack at the age of 30, leaving behind five lovely children.

According to Bethlehem police, Mr. Stallings was spotted during the noon hour on April 11, 1991 leaving the Grand Union in Elmsere. Detective Wilson, sitting in an unmarked car, noticed that Stallings "appeared nervous and ill-at-ease"; so he followed him into Albany. Wilson ran a check on the car and discovered that the license plate and car did not match. Continuing to follow Stallings into Albany, Detective Wilson contacted Albany City and County police who joined in the "chase" with flashing red lights. Near Route 787 and Broadway, Mr. Stallings fled on foot with police from the three departments in pursuit.

Media reports over the next 24-hours were used to justify police response to Mr. Stallings. It was suggested that he was driving a stolen car, was chased by police at high speed, did not pay for the groceries he carried from the store, and had a felony criminal record.

According to his family and widow, Vivian Stallings, something quite different happened. Raymond Stallings, ex-marine and correctional officer, went to the Grand Union after cashing his paycheck to purchase groceries for his wife's birthday celebration (A clerk remembers scanning his groceries that day). He left the store and got into his sister's car which he had borrowed from her a week ago. The car had never been reported stolen. Raymond drove into Albany at speeds as low as 25 to 30 mph (This is consistent with police reports). He panicked when he realized that a large number of police were pursuing him. Mrs. Stallings declares that "I believe that my husband was frightened to death. He gave the police no cause to follow him in the first place."

Update: Since the above press release was issued, Vivian Stallings called for an FBI investigation of the the death of her husband. The FBI has taken the first step in what could become a civil rights investigation. At present, the case is in the "inquiry" stage, according to William Imfeld, assistant special agent in charge of the FBI Albany district.

Two steps forward...

April's newsletter contained information about the police brutality case of James Lunday. Lunday has brought charges that two white police officers in Albany beat him and goaded him with racial slurs after he was mistaken for a drug suspect in May of 1989. His lawsuit charges that the police conspired to cover up the incident by bringing trumped up charges of disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and second-degree assault. All of the charges were dismissed in Albany City Court after the D.A.'s office took no action in six months. Terence L. Kindlon, Lunday's lawyer, demanded a special prosecutor in the case. On Thursday, April 18, Albany Country Judge Thomas W. Keegan, acting at the request of the Albany Country District Attorney, appointed **Richard A. Kohn, a lawyer and former Albany City Court judge to be special prosecutor in the case.** The FBI has already begun an investigation in the Lunday case.



In August, 1990, **Stephen and Tina Marie Adams**, an interracial couple in Gansevoort, a small community north of Albany, were subjected to racial slurs and taunts and had crosses burned on their lawn. All five men who were brought up on charges in the case have been found guilty and sentenced to time in jail. On April 12, The federal judge, Thomas J. McAvoy, sentenced the last of the defendants to 48 months in a federal penitentiary. Other defendants had received terms ranging from six months to 46 months. **The judge said he wanted to send a strong message that racial injustice will not be tolerated.** The case, prosecuted by U.S. Attorney Henry M. Greenberg and George A. Yanthis, marks the first time that authorities have pursued criminal sanctions in a civil rights matter. Greenberg had urged strict sentences, saying there is no place in our society for crimes of racial bias.

Some CD-CAAR Business...

Don't pass up an historic opportunity!

What historic opportunity? You still have time to be a member of CD-CAAR in this, **the year of the tenth anniversary.** When you look back over things you wish you had done, don't let this be one of them. Join today, there is still time. Fill in the membership form below and put in the mail - you will receive a much sought after membership card and the satisfaction of knowing that this time you have **done the right thing!**

Make checks payable to:

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Please send five dollars (or more!)

Receipt of your dues will insure continued receipt of this newsletter and we will also send you a '91 membership card.

**Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
Box 3002 Pine Hills Station, Albany, New York 12203**

Enclosed is \$ _____

Yearly membership dues are \$5.00. MORE IS BETTER!!

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

RON DANIELS

President, Institute for Community Organization

Deputy Director, Jesse Jackson '88 Campaign

1992 Independent Presidential Candidate



RECEPTION FOLLOWED BY PROGRAM:

"ALL GUNS, NO BUTTER"

War, Racism & Economic Crisis
SAT., JUNE 8, 6.30 P.M.

WILBORN TEMPLE

Jay & S. Swan Streets, Albany

Sponsored by: Emergency Committee to End US Intervention in the Middle East;
The Brothers; Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

FREE ADMISSION REFRESHMENTS CHILD CARE

FOR INFORMATION, CALL 434-4037

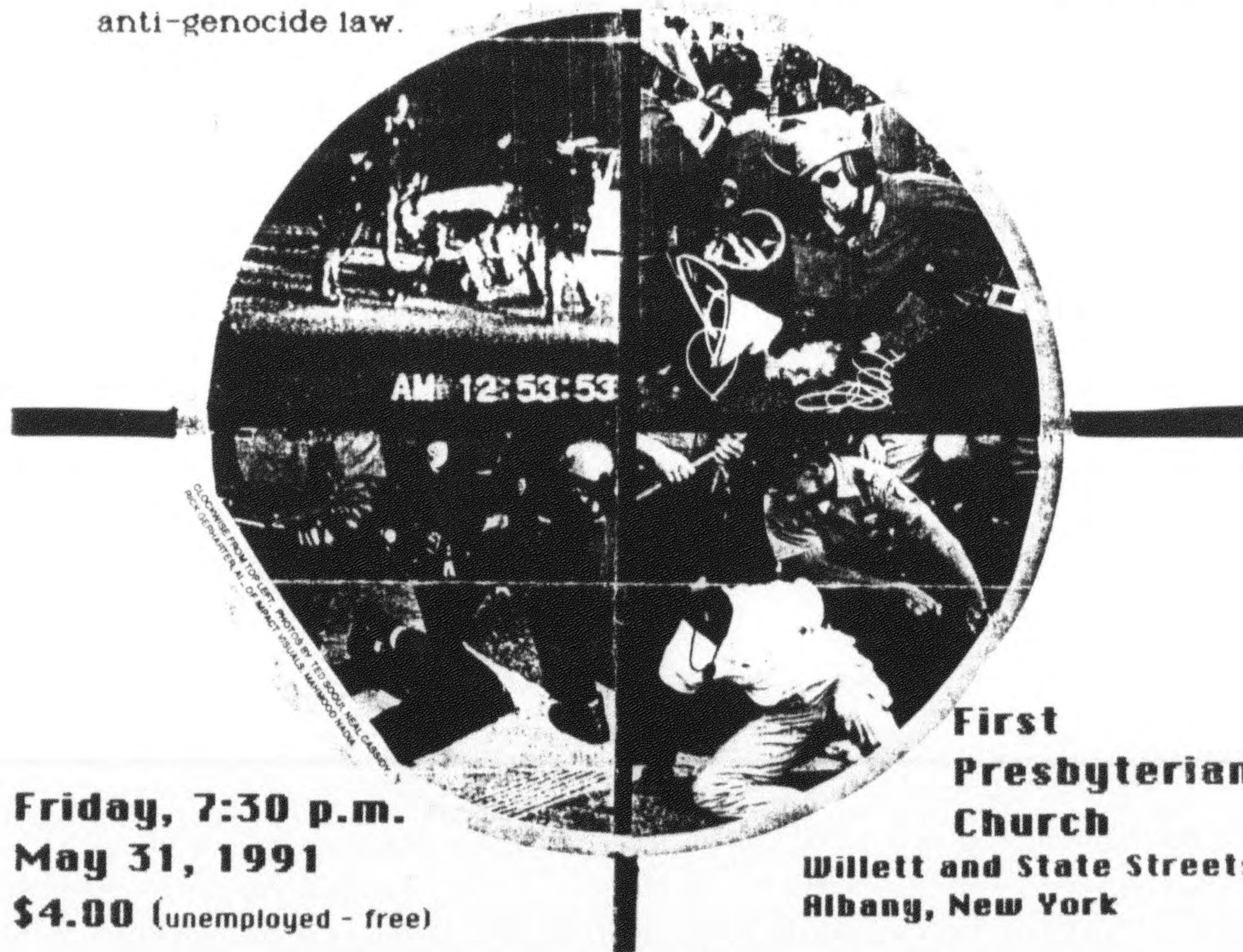
HOW MANY VIDEOTAPES WILL IT TAKE?

- Q. Is there a solution
to racist violence?
A. Civilian control of
the police and
enforcement of
the new federal
anti-genocide law.

A talk by:

Charlene Mitchell

Exec. Dir., National Alliance Against
Racist and Political Repression,
Board member, Communist Party, U.S.A.



**Friday, 7:30 p.m.
May 31, 1991
\$4.00 (unemployed - free)**

**First
Presbyterian
Church
Willett and State Street:
Albany, New York**

Sponsored by: the Capital District Friends of the People's Weekly World, P.O.
Box 6811, Fort Orange Station, Albany, N.Y. 12206 and the Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism, (a project of the Social Justice Center of Albany)
Box 2003, Pine Hills Station, Albany, N.Y. 12203

labor donated

7/91

South Africa record on apartheid is far from reassuring

To the Editor:

On June 11 a *Times Union* editorial called for positive gestures to be extended to South Africa President F.W. de Klerk because his commitment to reform in South Africa is "clear and convincing."

While it is true that the government is removing significant legal barriers and restrictions, the stench of apartheid — poor education, health care, housing and general substandard living conditions for blacks — remains intact. Nothing short of a new constitution and one person one vote can change that.

As de Klerk desperately tries to gain credibility abroad, the African National Congress (ANC) and all other apartheid organizations are blaming de Klerk for failing to create conditions conducive to negotiations.

The government has not lived up to its part of the agreement made with the ANC. The April 30 deadline for release of more than 2,000 political prisoners and return

40,000 of exiles has passed. Many of the small number of exiles who have returned have been subject to harassment and detention by the South African Security Forces.

In addition, the de Klerk government, hoping to deal with a weakened ANC, has done nothing to stop the unprecedented level of violence in the country. In fact the police have been seen assisting Inkatha members in their violent attacks on the ANC and others.

Despite pleas from the ANC, de Klerk's government has allowed Inkatha thugs to roam the townships freely, carrying traditional weapons and terrorizing the people. It is now well known that security officers, the police and others are assisting in the planning and execution of these attacks. No Inkatha member has ever been brought to trial for these horrific assaults.

The de Klerk government recently confirmed the existence of police and

army death squads suspected of murdering hundreds of religious, community and trade union activists. In September of last year President de Klerk promoted the founder of the death squads, General Lieberberg, to the position of Army Chief of Staff.

The struggle for freedom in South Africa is at its most difficult juncture. The international community must be responsible in its analysis of what is really happening in South Africa. Leaping to lift sanctions before there is irreversible real change only guarantees business as usual in South Africa. Apartheid cannot be reformed. It must be destroyed and replaced by a new government as outlined in a new constitution. Until then we must keep the pressure on.

VERA MICHELSON
Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism
Albany

Rights in danger



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12203

A Project of the Social Justice Center

October 1991 Newsletter

**We dedicate this newsletter to Miles Davis who died on
October 2, 1991. You will be missed.**

CD-CARR is sponsoring a public program** on November 1, 1991:



Mozambique
On the Front Line
in the Struggle
Against Apartheid



With **Hipolito Patricio**, Mozambique Ambassador to the U. S.
(schedule permitting)
and
Prexy Nesbitt, Senior Consultant for the Mozambique
Government

** This program will take the place of our regular monthly meeting for October.
For details see flyer included in this newsletter. We urge your
attendance at this very important and informative public forum.

Please note that because of scheduling difficulties and Thanksgiving we will
not have our November meeting at the Albany Public Library.
We are planning instead an expanded meeting of the steering committee to
include activists who are interested in planning the CD CAAR agenda for 1992.
If you would like to be part of this meeting, call 436-0562 for further details.
(Our next regular monthly meeting will take place at the A.P. Library on the
4th Thursday in January at 7:00 p.m.)



Times Union photo by Luanne M. Ferris

A DECADE — Vera Michelson and Merton Simpson, co-chairs of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, say the work of the group is not finished.

Decade of activism 9/17/91

Coalition notes origin in opposition to apartheid rugby

By Jay Jochnowitz
Staff writer

ALBANY — Ten years ago Sunday, on the morning of a rugby match that drew thousands of apartheid protesters to Blecker Stadium, police converged on what they suspected was a den of armed communists.

Authorities didn't come away from Vera Michelson's apartment empty-handed. They reported finding eight firecrackers, a device used to load guns, ammunition and a small amount of marijuana, which Michelson said was mostly seeds.

It was hardly enough to turn a demonstration into a riot. But it was

enough to make arrests, and Michelson and several friends would miss one of the biggest Albany demonstrations of the decade. Minor charges against Michelson and another person were later dropped and Albany would pay \$47,000 in 1988 to settle a civil suit.

Two New York City men were cleared of felony weapons charges involving the speedloading device and ammunition and a gun police said was found in a car on the State University at Albany campus.

On Sunday, relaxing in her Arbor Hill home, Michelson was talking about a party.

The musical event will mark the

10th anniversary of the protest of the game between the Springboks of South Africa and the Schenectady-based Eastern Rugby Union, and with it the founding of what is now known as the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

No arrests are expected.

The Saturday night concert starts at 7 at the State University at Albany's Page Hall and includes "The Last Poets," a 1960s group whose chanting with a social message has been dubbed the forerunner of rap. The money will go toward computers and other office equip-

See APARTHEID 3

APARTHEID

Continued from B-1

ment for a new branch office of the African National Congress in a place called Inanda-Newtown.

In 10 years, the coalition's image has come a long way from the days when, as the group alleged in court papers, Michelson and others were awakened in the dead of night with shotguns at their heads. The coalition has sponsored dozens of forums, while its members have garnered community awards from such groups as the YMCA. In the eyes of city officials, the group is as respectable as an activist organization gets in Albany.

"Obviously the goals that they set are admirable," said Vincent J. McArdle Jr., the city's chief attorney. "Any right-thinking person would be with them on that."

The anti-apartheid movement nationally has seen much momentum, particularly in the years since Congress adopted the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act in 1986 authorizing sanctions against the white-minority government. Michelson rattles off a string of statistics pointing toward success — 28 states, 25 counties, and 91 cities including Schenectady passing local legislation condemning apartheid; \$20 billion in U.S. investments canceled; 125 U.S. corporations out of South Africa.

Despite recent actions in South Africa to dismantle the foundations of apartheid, the group's work continues, as its leaders, like activists around the world, await real reforms of a system that concentrates power and wealth in the white South African minority. "The people who are considered activists are not relaxed," said Merton Simpson, who co-chairs the coalition with Michelson. Paraphrasing Malcolm X, Simpson said, "If someone sticks a knife in your back that's nine inches and then pulls out five, that's not progress."

Apartheid has been only half the group's work; early on, founders decided that they would also tackle the domestic issue of police brutality and misconduct, which they see as local, institutionalized racism. The reaction is somewhat more mixed. Police Chief John Dale said that except for a certain "tunnel vision" he considers part of being an advocacy organization, "I didn't see the group as a problem at all."

Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III, on the other hand, has denied the group's charges of "a pattern of abuse" of minorities by police, while McArdle said the idea of departmental racism under a black police chief is "nuts."

Particularly irritating to City Hall has been one of the group's most visible members, Mark Mishler. The local attorney brought several police abuse cases while he sat on the city's Police-Community Relations Board, a situation that drew criticism of conflict of interest. Mishler, who moved to Albany one month before the Springboks game, shrugged off the criticism.

"Regardless of the sincerity of my interest and concern," he said, "I didn't think up the problem of police abuse and racism."

The coalition, whose dues-paying members number 100, has drawn both kudos and brickbats along the way. Members were booed and taunted to "go home, get a job," during a 1987 protest that briefly interrupted a match involving a white South African tennis player during the OTB-Nabisco Grand Prix Tournament in Schenectady. Fans of singer Ray Charles chided members distributing fliers at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center in 1989 in protest of the entertainer's refusal to disclaim a 1980 performance in South Africa.

"We're proud of a history of agitation," said Michelson.

The last decade, which the group is setting down in written chronology to mark the anniversary, is also dotted with protests of a host of other entities, from department stores selling South African products to a January rally planned by the Ku Klux Klan, which drew only a few Klansmen who tried to blend into a crowd of counterdemonstrators estimated at more than 1,000.

Much of the coalition's concern now, Michelson and Simpson said, is that the United States and other nations are moving too quickly to end sanctions and accept the South African government's initial steps. As they see it, their responsibility is pointing out where real progress isn't being made.

"In this country, people expect everything to happen overnight, and this is going to be over the long haul," said Michelson.



On Saturday evening, September 21, 1991 the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism celebrated ten years of grassroots activism in the Capital District. The program *"Taking Apartheid Apart"* was held at Page Hall in Albany and was attended by a crowd of over 400 people.



The program was highlighted by the appearance of:
The Last Poets - Abiodun Oyewole and Felipe Luciano,
The African Connection - Ade Knowles and Druis Knowles, and
Oaziz - Azaam Hameed, Ron Mayfield, and Ray Harper.

Our sincere thanks to these artists and all the performers who helped to make the evening a great success.

Funds raised from the program will go to benefit the continuing work of CD CAAR and to a newly formed branch of the ANC in South Africa. (See opposite page for details)



There are countless other people to be thanked for the success of the program: the CD CAAR steering committee which includes Merton Simpson, Vera Michelson, Anita Thayer, James Bouldin, Mike Riddick, Eileen Kawola, Deborah Maxell, Mabel Leon, Roli Varma, and Mark Mishler. In addition to the steering committee, the Ten Year Anniversary Committee consisted of: Vijay Macwan, Dick Melita, Marc Morris, Dorothy Tristman, Naomi Jaffe, Carolyn Williams, Mark Anduze, Gustavo Santos and Carl Swidorski. Special thanks to: CSEA, PEF, Connie LaPorta, Dan Auerbach and our wonderful mistress of ceremonies, Pat Trowers-Johnson.

Thanks also to all those who advertised in the journal or who supported it as a benefactor or a patron. Two names were inadvertently left off one advertisement. Schenectady Friends of the Coalition should have included Min and Ed Shapiro. Our apologies.

CAPITAL DISTRICT COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID & RACISM

10 YEARS

A Chronology of Major Events 1981 - 1991

Times Union file photos



Sept. 22, 1981

In the fall of 1981, the South African Springbok rugby team came to Albany. Prior to their arrival, a coalition of many groups and individuals came together to protest their appearance in what was a violation of the international sports boycott called by the United Nations against apartheid in South Africa. The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism was born and, as this chronology shows, has continued since that time to be a vital force in the struggle against apartheid in Southern Africa and racism in the United States.

A CHRONOLOGY OF MAJOR COALITION EVENTS
1981 TO THE PRESENT

- 1981**
- Major demonstration against the Springbok rugby team in Albany.
 - Vera Michelson arrested along with visiting anti-apartheid activists John Spearman, Mike Young and Aaron Estes.
 - Gil Scott Heron gives benefit concerts in Albany to raise funds for defense.
 - December 21 - Charges dropped against Michelson and Estes.
- 1982**
- County court jury acquits Spearman and Young.
 - Protest at Watervliet Arsenal where weapons were manufactured for sale to South Africa in violation of United Nations & United States embargoes.
 - Participation in anti-Klan demonstrations in Southern Vermont.
 - Anti-Klan program held in Albany featuring Renee DuBois.
 - First demonstration against Chick Corea at Troy Music Hall for breaking UN supported cultural boycott.
 - *One Year Later* anniversary program at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church.
 - Organized buses to Washington, DC for anti-Klan demonstration.
 - Lawsuit filed on behalf of Coalition, Michelson and Estes against Albany City Police and F.B.I. challenging the "rugby" raid and arrests.
- 1983**
- Picketed Caldors protesting sale of South African baby bonnets.
 - Showing of *The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith* fund-raiser.
 - Numerous demonstrations including a major walkout at the Saratoga Kool Jazz Festival against Ray Charles for breaking UN boycott.
 - Co-sponsored New Paltz Conference on New York State Divestment.
 - Testimony presented at the United Nations to the Special Political Committee of the General Assembly.
 - Sponsored buses to *20 Year Anniversary March* in Washington, DC.
 - Co-sponsored with Albany NAACP a conference *Racism: A National Policy*.
 - Fundraiser at Otis'.
 - Coalition lawyers defeat motion to set aside "rugby" lawsuit.
- 1984**
- Jesse Davis murdered - Coalition joins protest and demands for an Albany Police Review Board.
 - David Ndaba of the African National Congress speaks at Coalition sponsored forum at Wilborn Temple.
 - Numerous cultural boycott events. Statement obtained by Coalition and Unity in Action from the Temptations vowing never to return to South Africa until apartheid is ended.
 - Testimony presented to Banking Committee of New York State Assembly on need for divestment.
- 1985**
- Testimony given at the United Nations to the Special Political Committee of the General Assembly.
 - Artie Lee of the American Friends Service Committee speaks at Coalition co-sponsored forum at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church.
 - Participate in conference on nuclear arms *Reducing the Risk* sponsored by Capital District Peace Power Network.
 - Murphy Morobe, leading spokesperson of the United Democratic Front of South Africa, speaks in Albany at a clergy breakfast, labor reception and open forum at Wilborn Temple.
 - SUNY students force SUNY divestment.
 - Picket line against Ray Charles at the Albany Palace Theater protests his adamant refusal to respect the cultural boycott.
 - Successful "walkback" protest at the Chick Corea performance at Kool Jazz Festival in Saratoga.
 - Film on Malcolm X co-sponsored with Malcolm X Study Network.
 - Neo Mnumzana, Chief Representative of the ANC Observer Mission to the United Nations, and Hinyagerwa Asheekwe of SWAPO speak at Coalition forum at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church.
 - Free South Africa demonstration in Albany co-sponsored with Albany NAACP - 10 community leaders arrested.
- 1986**
- January conference in Albany to establish a network of anti-apartheid forces to work in the N.Y. State Divestment Campaign.
 - Picket line at Alfred E. Smith building against Ned Regan, State Comptroller for opposition to divestment.
 - State-wide Lobby Day for Divestment and demonstration at Legislative Office Building in Albany.
 - Overnight shantytown set up on State Capitol grounds to demand New York State divestment.
 - Student Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism established at State University of New York at Albany.
 - Nelson & Winnie Mandela movie at Metropolitan Baptist Church co-sponsored with Unity in Action.
 - Sharpville commemoration *From Sharpville, South Africa, to Albany, USA* held at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church.
 - Community Police Relations Board established as a result of actions on Jesse Davis case. Coalition holds seat.
 - Coalition becomes participant in Niebuhr Institute at Siena College.
 - Bus trips to demonstration against racism in Philadelphia and anti-apartheid march in New York City.
 - Federal courts deny information to Coalition lawyers about identity or activities of secret police informant working for the FBI during organizing activities in 1981.
 - *Victory is Certain* program commemorates fifth anniversary of Coalition.
 - Pro-Apartheid speaker sponsored by John Birch Society is picketed.
 - Coalition plays leading role in organizing New York State Coalition for Divestment.
- 1987**
- *Community Forum on Racism & Violence: Albany-Howard Beach-South Africa* held at the Arbor Hill Community Center.
 - Weekend speaking tour by two women anti-apartheid fighters sponsored by broad array of women's and activist groups.
 - *Apartheid is No Game* protest of the OTB Tennis Tournament co-sponsored with Schenectady Branch NAACP.
 - *Ray Charles Sold Out to Apartheid* picket line at the Palace Theatre.
 - Vera Michelson attends international conference at Arusha, Tanzania as part of 14 member US delegation.

- 1988 • Coalition joins the annual Martin Luther King March under the banner "Don't Let the Dream Become a Nightmare"
- Stop Racist Violence Coalition forum held at the Wilbom Temple.
 - Coalition organizes *Soweto Day* at the Arbor Hill Community Center.
 - Sechaba, the African National Congress singers, perform at the Black Arts Festival. Fundraiser/party afterwards celebrates and honors Nelson Mandela's 70th birthday.
 - Leafletting and placard protests OTB Tennis Tournament in Schenectady.
 - City of Albany settles Springbok rugby lawsuit.
- 1989 • Panel discussion *Crisis in Southern Africa* held at Macedonia Baptist Church.
- Coalition leads *OTB - You Can't Hide* picketing of OTB Teletheater protesting their continuing invitation to South African tennis players to join tournament defying UN boycott.
 - *Party with a Purpose* at Holiday held to raise funds for "Dollars for Democracy in Namibia" campaign. Funds used to purchase computers for SWAPO in Namibia's pre-independence elections.
 - Channel 17 agrees to air *South Africa Now*.
 - Coalition holds *Stop Police Abuse* forum.
- 1990 • Rev. Allan D. Boesak, founding member of the United Democratic Front of South Africa visits Albany.
- Public Employees Federation and Coalition host breakfast for community and labor leaders.
 - *Have You Met Batman?* Rally against police abuse at City Hall.
 - NELSON MANDELLA RELEASED! The world celebrates.
 - National campaign *Vote to End Apartheid* launched. Coalition joins efforts to gather symbolic ballots for freedom in South Africa.
 - Namibia gains independence!
 - Coalition Co-Chairs Vera Michelson and Mert Simpson attend activist meeting in New York City and meet Nelson Mandela.
 - Coalition sponsors bus to Mandela reception at Yankee Stadium *Mandela Released - But Not Freed*.
 - Coalition and Assemblyman Roger Green host reception for the ANC with authors William Kennedy and Ossie Davis.
 - The Center for Law and Justice opens under the leadership of Dr. Alice Green.
 - Vera Michelson and Les Davis attend international conference of anti-apartheid activists in Stockholm, Sweden to progress the international sports boycott against South Africa.
- 1991 • Coalition participates in the Martin Luther King Day March under the banner "If Martin Luther King Were Alive today, He'd Be Organizing".
- *Stop Police Abuse* Coalition forum and evening picket of Mayor Whalen's house on a very cold and windy night.
 - Albany Branch NAACP and Coalition join forces to sponsor Anti-Klan Demonstration — only a few Klansmen appear.
 - Coalition participates in community criminal justice conference *Education, Mobilization and Change*.

"The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism has provided a forum for the voices of many oppressed people in our country and all over the world. It gives me great pleasure and honor to be associated with such committed and concerned individuals who seek to empower people with the human dignity and respect that all people are entitled to and deserve. As Frederick Douglass so widely stated 'If there's no struggle, there's no progress.' The Coalition must continue the struggle as long as necessary. Best wishes for continued success."

Barbara Allen, President
Albany City School Board



The Struggle to Eliminate Apartheid in South Africa Continues

In March 1991, the African National Congress opened a new branch in Inanda Newtown, a township of Durban, located in the Southern Natal Region of South Africa. This fast growing ANC branch is in need of financial assistance for office supplies, equipment and general operating expenses. Your assistance will enable them to mobilize the people against a repressive regime that is trying to hold on to power as long as possible.

In commemoration of our ten year anniversary and our continued solidarity with the ANC we pledge to support the work of the Inanda Newtown ANC branch by raising funds for a computer and general office supplies. *Please Help!* Your contribution will allow the ANC to continue the struggle for a free and democratic South Africa.

If you were unable to attend the event but would like to contribute, mail your donation marked "For ANC-Inanda" to:
CD CAAR
P.O. Box 3002
Pine Hills Station
Albany, N.Y. 12203

**Messages of Support and Solidarity
Received on the Occasion of our 10th Anniversary**
(Every message we received was one of encouragement. We wish we had room to print them all but space constraints permit us to just reprint a few.)

**Message of Solidarity on the Tenth Anniversary
Celebration of the Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism**

On the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of CD CAAR, the Government and People of the Republic of Namibia wish to congratulate the Coalition on this important anniversary.

Together, we have traveled on that long and thorny road destined for freedom and independence. Today, we have achieved our cherished objective and a free and independent Namibia has become a reality. Indeed, CD CAAR's vigorous campaign for Namibia's independence has been indispensable.

As we commemorate this important day, we urge all those who stand for freedom to continue the struggle against apartheid in South Africa until its logical conclusion. We call on all the anti-apartheid forces to continue to support the Government and People of Namibia in their second phase of the struggle for economic well being. Until Walvis Bay and the Offshore Islands are reintegrated into Namibian territorial integrity, the struggle for economic independence in Namibia will continue. We look to the day when apartheid will be an anachronism in Southern Africa.

Selma Ashipala
Counsellor/Chargé D'Affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the Republic of
Namibia to the United Nations

"If every town had an organization with the Capital District Coalition's commitment to the abolition of racism and injustice, we would all be much closer to the world we want to see — Happy Birthday!"

Connie Hogarth, Director
Westchester People's
Action Coalition

"Congratulations to the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism for a decade of relentless struggle in opposition to a neo-nazi racist regime in South Africa as well as a continuing Afro-phobic and growing neo-fascist order in the U.S."

Elombe Brath
Patricia Lumumba Coalition

"I applaud and honor the work of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, especially its consistency over the past ten years. Nothing is needed more in South Africa than friends and solidarity activists who are long distant runners and not sprinters. I also feel very humbled by CD CAAR's ability to work both on the home front and abroad and at the same time maintain a clear perspective — same struggle—same fight."

Prexy Nesbitt
Senior Consultant for the
Mozambique Government

"We salute the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism in its successful fight to isolate apartheid sport, impose sanctions and oppose racism. You have been a model for U.S. grassroots action and an inspiration to us all."

Jennifer Davis, Executive Director
American Committee on Africa

Dear Friends:

The ANC is very happy to join you in celebrating your tenth anniversary. CD CAAR has earned a special place in our hearts as an invaluable contingent in the international struggle for the creation of a non-racial, non-sexist, democratic South Africa.

During the decade of your existence, through your tireless efforts, you have insured that the plight and struggle of the people of South Africa reached many households in the United States. Your ceaseless campaigns against apartheid contributed immensely to the promulgation of the sanctions legislation and thereby helped in isolating the apartheid regime. As a result of the efforts of the international community, of which you are an integral part, and the heroic struggle of the people of South Africa, the apartheid regime has been forced to give into some of the demands of the democratic forces.

While the pillars of apartheid have gone, apartheid is firmly in place. The people of South Africa are determined to transform the country into a democratic society. Your continued support can only help speed up the process. We salute the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. We look forward to working with you in the future in the pursuit of our common objectives.

Victory is certain — AMANDLA

Tebogo Mafole
Chief Representative of the
African National Congress
Observer Mission to the United Nations

"CD CAAR should be commended and congratulated for their ten years of dedicated commitment in the struggle to eliminate apartheid and racism. The Coalition's ability to lead, heighten awareness and change attitudes is a legacy that will live forever in the Capital District."

Joe Allen, President
Schenectady Branch, NAACP

"The Coalition has been a consistent voice in speaking out against oppression in South Africa. I am proud to be a founding member. Keep the pressure on! Change will come"

Anne Pope, President
Albany Branch, NAACP

"The Coalition has done an outstanding job—one of the few organizations in upstate New York that has consistently taken a stand against police brutality at home and apartheid in South Africa."

Reginald Knox, Publisher
The Scene

"One of the most significant contributions of the Coalition has been its ability to unite people of diverse backgrounds in friendship and struggle—we are family. Congratulations on your ten years of activism."

Dr. Alice Green
Center For Law and Justice

"Congratulations on ten years of very successful and committed service to the Albany area. I can recall when CD CAAR was founded ten years ago. I have not regretted being a part of the founding of the Coalition and am pleased to continue to support the vibrant activities of the group. I would like to underscore your untiring energy and I congratulate both Vera Michelson and Merton Simpson, the leaders, for their devotion to the Coalition."

Dr. Frank Pogue, Vice Chancellor
Student Affairs and Special Programs
SUNY Central Administration

"CD CAAR has taken the lead in linking the struggle against racism in the United States and Apartheid in South Africa. Educators Against Racism and Apartheid salute your efforts. Congratulations on your ten years of struggle."

Paula Bower, Co-Chair
Educators Against Racism
and Apartheid

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

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**Save the date!!!
November 1, 1991**

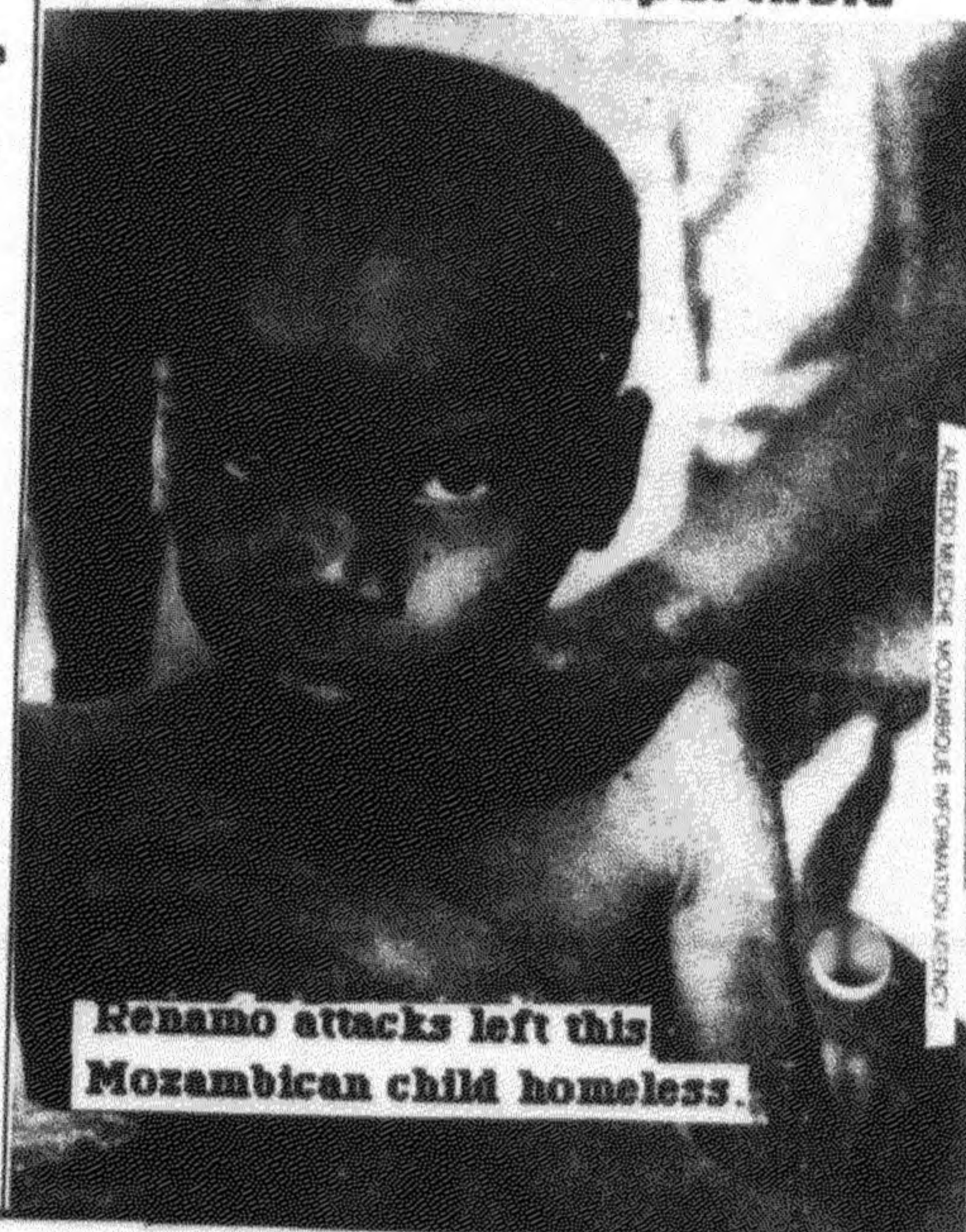
(see flyer inside for details)

**CD CAAR Program: Mozambique - On the front line in the
Struggle Against Apartheid**

South Africa's defense of apartheid requires that her neighbor Mozambique remain weak and vulnerable. Since 1980, this has mainly been accomplished by South Africa's support and control of the Mozambique National Resistance (RENAMO). RENAMO's campaign of terror and destabilization includes:

- demolishing schools and clinics
- burning and disrupting food supplies
- conducting raids for food and valuables--including murdering civilians who refuse to cooperate
- "recruiting" children through abduction and terror--an estimated 200,000 children have already been abducted

Although RENAMO/South Africa's campaign of terror is aimed at destroying the people, institutions, and economic resources of Mozambique, Mozambicans continue to build and rebuild their country. To succeed in freeing themselves from South Africa's stranglehold, they need international assistance.



ENTERTAINMENT

Music

BEAT of the POETS

A reunion concert brings veterans of the Last Poets and the Midnight Band, whose seminal early '70s music fused poetry, politics and African rhythms

By Jeff Jones



Historical connection: Drums and Ade Knowles.

The rhythm is the melody in African music," says Ade Knowles, former lead percussionist for the Midnight Band. "When you are creating harmonies, and trying to blend, you are listening to the tones coming from the drums. In effect, the rhythms are singing. The poet, then, who is in tune with that, begins to sing the rhythm."

Most of his musical career, Knowles has worked with poets—in particular Gil-Scott Heron and Abiodun Oyewole—who sing the rhythms and harmonize with the drums.

Knowles and Oyewole are among a group of performers gathering Saturday evening at Page Hall for a concert to benefit the African National Congress and to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. The two men are old friends—Knowles left the Midnight Band in 1975 and hooked up with Oyewole for the next two years. This Saturday marks one of the very few times since then that the two have performed together.

"Most of the poets I've worked with always sang," Knowles continues, adding that the role of the drum is respected in the stylized traditions of African music because "it was the first form of communication."

"If the poet is not in tune with what the drums are about, then it might not come together," Knowles says. "Poets [of the late '60s and early '70s] had a real affinity for the drum. They really thrived off of the rhythm."

Fifteen years ago, Gil-Scott Heron and the Midnight Band, including Knowles, Bryan Jackson, Victor Brown and Danny Bowens, traveled the county, performing on college campuses, in small clubs like Cleveland's Smiling Dog and at Carnegie

Hall. Tunes like "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised," "H2O Gate Blues" and "Winter in America" fused jazz, poetry and the rhythms of Africa. It's not hard to find the origins of rap music in Heron's work, or in that of the Last Poets.

Sometimes contemporary rappers draw directly on the work of these music veterans. Lines from two Last Poets tunes, for instance, were borrowed without credit by rappers Brand Nubian on their album *One for All*.

Sometimes Knowles gets annoyed with today's rappers. "They think poetry began with them," he says. "They write a few rhymes, say something funky, add a backbeat—that's not going to last."

Ade is short for Adenola, which means "this crown has honor" in the Yoruba language spoken by people in western Nigeria. The name was given to Knowles by his first mentor, the late Nana Gus Dinizulu, founder of the oldest African-American dance company in the United States. Knowles' area fans know him from his local band, the Afro-Eurasian Connection, which features horn player Bill Benson and composer-percussionist Drusis Knowles. (Ade and Drusis are separating after seven years of marriage, but their musical collaboration will continue, Ade says.)

Students at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, however, may know him as Eddie Knowles, RPI's dean of students.

Joining Oyewole at center stage for Saturday's benefit concert will be Felipe Luciano, another veteran of the Last Poets. Drusis and Ade Knowles, playing as the African Connection, will accompany them.

"Abiodun has always been one of my favorite poets," says Ade. "His message is positive. His rhythm swings."

Luciano joined the poets in the early '70s, when he was also active with the Young

Lords, a New York City-based Puerto Rican activist group. "I've always admired Felipe's energy and what he brought to the poets in terms of the Latino experience," Knowles says. "He had that Latin rhythm in the way he did his poems. I could hear that in his poems."

Last year, Oyewole, Luciano and other members of the Last Poets performed a series of benefit reunion concerts in Detroit, Saturday evening's lineup, however, will be a first.

The members of the Midnight Band met as students at Lincoln University in Oxford, Pa. The school, the oldest black college in the United States, produced such noted graduates as Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, author Langston Hughes and Ghanaian president Kwame Nkrumah.

The school had only a thousand students, but they came from 43 states and 35 countries. "We're talking about a mini-U.N. here," Knowles recalls. "That was a multicultural experience."

Like other black performers of the '60s, Knowles found music to be an extension of politics. In 1963, as a member of the Congress of Racial Equality, he helped organize a public school boycott that saw some 100,000 people march across the Brooklyn Bridge.

Knowles grew up on 117th Street, around the corner from the mosque where Malcolm X used to preach. "I had a fair amount of contact with him," Knowles recalls. The activists in CORE used to argue politics with the Muslims. But Knowles remembers Malcolm X as having a broader vision than most of his followers. "There was something about him that set him apart," Knowles says. It was the power of Harlem that drew

LAND'S CARE

By Rich Kreiner

Art for the Land: A Benefit Exhibition for the Columbia Land Conservancy
Five Points Gallery, East Chatham, through Oct. 6

LAND TRUSTS ARE A RELATIVELY recent phenomenon on the ecological landscape, organizations that are intricately linked to grass-roots issues and grass-roots sustenance. These trusts, often operating in a persistent, unobtrusive, grass-roots way, utilize a variety of means to conserve lands and preserve land-linked ways of life. The Columbia Land Trust, nominally centered in Chatham, has the distinction of being the fastest-growing land trust in New York state, having set aside some 3,000 acres of wildlife habitat and working farmland.

This most life-giving nature show, "Art for the Land," will help to establish the conservancy's land acquisition fund, a reserve to purchase, often at prohibitively short notice, besieged properties. Two prime examples of such areas are 500 acres of woods and wetlands on the banks of the Hudson that face huge development and a 200-acre operating dairy farm on the brink of foreclosure.

If one takes the narrowest possible view of art's purposes, none of this, of course, has any relevance to a critique of the exhibit. In fact, the show's intent may be to cast sobering suspicions: Many of us have become all too aware of just what the road to extinction is for a creature just what the road to extinction is for a creature.

What immediately sets apart "Art for the Land," however, is the stellar roster of the 36 artists who, sympathetic to the conservancy's goals, and who, through their art, have

POETS 13

Oyewole to New York from Buena Vista College at Drake University, in Des Moines, Iowa where he studied journalism and poetry. But he left school. "Harlem... was the place to be at the time," he has said.

Throughout their history, although their makeup changed, the Last Poets tried to always have three poets and a conga drummer. "The triangle is the pyramid," Oyewole has said.

In 1970, Oyewole left the poets and helped found a commune in Raleigh, N. C. based on Yoruba philosophy. But when the commune suffered financially, Oyewole and a friend robbed the Raleigh chapter of the Ku Klux Klan of \$8,000. He served three years of a 12- to 20-year sentence for armed robbery. Since then he has returned to New York, where he has taught school.

For Knowles, reuniting with Oyewole is "something special."

And, he says, he has always supported the goals of the anti-apartheid coalition, which was formed a decade ago in opposition to an area visit by the South African Springboks rugby team. He named his 20-year-old son Themba Nkubileko, which means "Faith (hope) Freedom."

Knowles told his son that one day he would visit a free South Africa. "I told him," he says, "that he would find that his name is very common when he got there."

The Last Poets and the African Connection, with Oaxiz opening, will perform Saturday at Page Hall, 135 Western Ave., Albany. The show begins at 7 P.M.; tickets are \$13 in advance at Music Shack and the Social Justice Center in Albany; \$15 at the door; \$12 for students.



A DECADE — Vera Michelson and Merton Simpson, co-chairs of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, say the work of the group is not finished.

Times Union photo by Luanne M. Ferris

Decade of activism

9/17/91

Coalition notes origin in opposition to apartheid rugby

By Jay Jochowitz

Staff writer

ALBANY — Ten years ago Sunday, on the morning of a rugby match that drew thousands of apartheid protesters to Blecker Stadium, police converged on what they suspected was a den of armed communists.

Authorities didn't come away from Vera Michelson's apartment empty-handed. They reported finding eight firecrackers, a device used to load guns, ammunition and a small amount of marijuana, which Michelson said was mostly seeds.

It was hardly enough to turn a demonstration into a riot. But it was

enough to make arrests, and Michelson and several friends would miss one of the biggest Albany demonstrations of the decade. Minor charges against Michelson and another person were later dropped and Albany would pay \$47,000 in 1988 to settle a civil suit.

Two New York City men were cleared of felony weapons charges involving the speedloading device and ammunition and a gun police said was found in a car on the State University at Albany campus.

On Sunday, relaxing in her Arbor Hill home, Michelson was talking about a party.

The musical event will mark the

10th anniversary of the protest of the game between the Springboks of South Africa and the Schenectady-based Eastern Rugby Union, and with it the founding of what is now known as the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

No arrests are expected.

The Saturday night concert starts at 7 at the State University at Albany's Page Hall and includes "The Last Poets," a 1960s group whose chanting with a social message has been dubbed the forerunner of rap. The money will go toward computers and other office equip-

See APARTHEID / B-3

APARTHEID

Continued from B-1

ment for a new branch office of the African National Congress in a place called Inanda-Newtown.

In 10 years, the coalition's image has come a long way from the days when, as the group alleged in court papers, Michelson and others were awakened in the dead of night with shotguns at their heads. The coalition has sponsored dozens of forums, while its members have garnered community awards from such groups as the YMCA. In the eyes of city officials, the group is as respectable as an activist organization gets in Albany.

"Obviously the goals that they seek are admirable," said Vincent J. McArdle Jr., the city's chief attorney. "Any right-thinking person would be with them on that."

The anti-apartheid movement nationally has seen much momentum, particularly in the years since Congress adopted the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act in 1986 authorizing sanctions against the white-minority government. Michelson rattles off a string of statistics pointing toward success — 28 states, 25 counties, and 91 cities including Schenectady passing local legislation condemning apartheid, \$20 billion in U.S. investments canceled, 125 U.S. corporations out of South Africa.

Despite recent actions in South Africa to dismantle the foundations of apartheid, the group's work continues, as its leaders, like activists around the world, await real reforms of a system that concentrates power and wealth in the white South African minority. "The people who are considered activists are not relaxed," said Merton Simpson, who co-chairs the coalition with Michelson. Paraphrasing Malcolm X, Simpson said, "If someone sticks a knife in your back that's nine inches and then pulls out five, that's not progress."

Apartheid has been only half the group's work; early on, founders decided that they would also tackle the domestic issue of police brutality and misconduct, which they see as local, institutionalized racism. The reaction is somewhat more mixed. Police Chief John Dale said that except for a certain "tunnel vision" he considers part of being an advocacy organization, "I didn't see the group as a problem at all."

Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III, on the other hand, has denied the group's charges of "a pattern of abuse" of minorities by police, while McArdle said the idea of departmental racism under a black police chief is "nonsensical."

Particularly irritating to City Hall has been one of the group's most visible members, Mark Mishler. The local attorney brought several police abuse cases while he sat on the city's Police-Community Relations Board, a situation that drew criticism of conflict of interest. Mishler, who moved to Albany one month before the Springboks game, shrugged off the criticism.

"Regardless of the sincerity of my interest and concern," he said, "I didn't think up the problem of police abuse and racism."

The coalition, whose dues-paying members number 100, has drawn both kudos and brickbats along the way. Members were booed and taunted to "go home, get a job," during a 1987 protest that briefly interrupted a match involving a white South African tennis player during the OTB-Nabisco Grand Prix Tournament in Schenectady. Fans of singer Ray Charles chided members distributing fliers at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center in 1989 in protest of the entertainer's refusal to disclaim a 1980 performance in South Africa.

"We're proud of a history of agitation," said Michelson.

The last decade, which the group is setting down in written chronology to mark the anniversary, is also dotted with protests of a host of other entities, from department stores selling South African products to a January rally planned by the Ku Klux Klan, which drew only a few Klansmen who tried to blend into a crowd of counterdemonstrators estimated at more than 1,000.

Much of the coalition's concern now, Michelson and Simpson said, is that the United States and other nations are moving too quickly to end sanctions and accept the South African government's initial steps. As they see it, their responsibility is pointing out where real progress isn't being made.

"In this country, people expect everything to happen overnight, and this is going to be over the long haul," said Michelson.



PROTESTS — Protesters, above, appear outside the Albany County Airport on Sept. 21, 1981, while marchers opposed to a South African rugby match in Albany, right, walk from the state Capitol to Bleecker Stadium on Sept. 22, 1981.

Anti-racism group says fight isn't over

By JOHN MORAN 9/18/91
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — For the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, a lot can happen in 10 years. And a lot can remain the same.

The group was formed in 1981 to protest the appearance of a South African rugby team here at Bleecker Stadium, and thousands turned out in the rain on that Sept. 22 in a vocal demonstration.

This Saturday, the coalition will celebrate its 10 years of activism with a benefit concert at Page Hall featuring The Last Poets, a reunited vocal group said to have been a forerunner of rap music.

Although the coalition sees progress being made in South Africa with the lifting of certain apartheid laws, members say they don't believe their work is nearly over.

"Unfortunately, we will probably be in business for a long time," said Merton Simpson, co-chairman of the coalition. "We'll probably see one-person one-vote [for blacks in South Africa] in our lifetimes, but my son could be coming out of college at that time," Simpson said of his 7-year-old.

Vera Michelson, the coalition's other co-chairman, said this is a dangerous time for the movement because many people believe apartheid, a system of government-enforced discrimination against blacks in South Africa, is quickly coming apart because of some visible changes such as the freeing of African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela.

"[Americans] want instant gratification. We want to believe it's over, and things are far from over. Conditions are really worse," Michelson said.

As an example, she said the law that prevented blacks from owning land has been repealed, but most blacks are far from being able to

afford to buy land, and there is no government mechanism to help them.

Simpson characterized the recent reforms enacted by South African President Frederik de Klerk as "prudent business theory to keep the 'cor-

poration' solvent as long as possible." He said blacks in America don't have true equality after more than 100 years of legal equality on paper, so there is no reason to believe things

will come quicker in South Africa.

Over the years, the coalition has been known for its visible pickets and boycotts of entertainers who performed in South Africa against the United Nation's cultural boycott. Michelson said the need to protest such entertainers now is greatly reduced because the vast majority of performers abide by the boycott.

The group has also been a frequent critic of Albany police, charging the department with a pattern of abusing minorities.

The coalition sued the city after police burst into Michelson's apartment in the middle of the night, hours before the scheduled demonstration in 1981. Michelson and Aaron Estis, now a Maryland resident, were arrested by police that day for possession of a small amount of marijuana, some firecrackers, and a "speed loader" for a handgun, according to police reports at the time.

All charges against the two were dropped, but they filed a suit claiming the search warrant was based on false allegations of arms in the apartment. In 1988 the city agreed to pay Michelson and Estis \$47,000 to drop their multimillion-dollar suit.

Michelson and the coalition then gave \$1,500 of her \$12,000 award to the South West African Peoples Organization, which at the time was fighting for the independence of Namibia. Namibia became independent of South Africa last year.

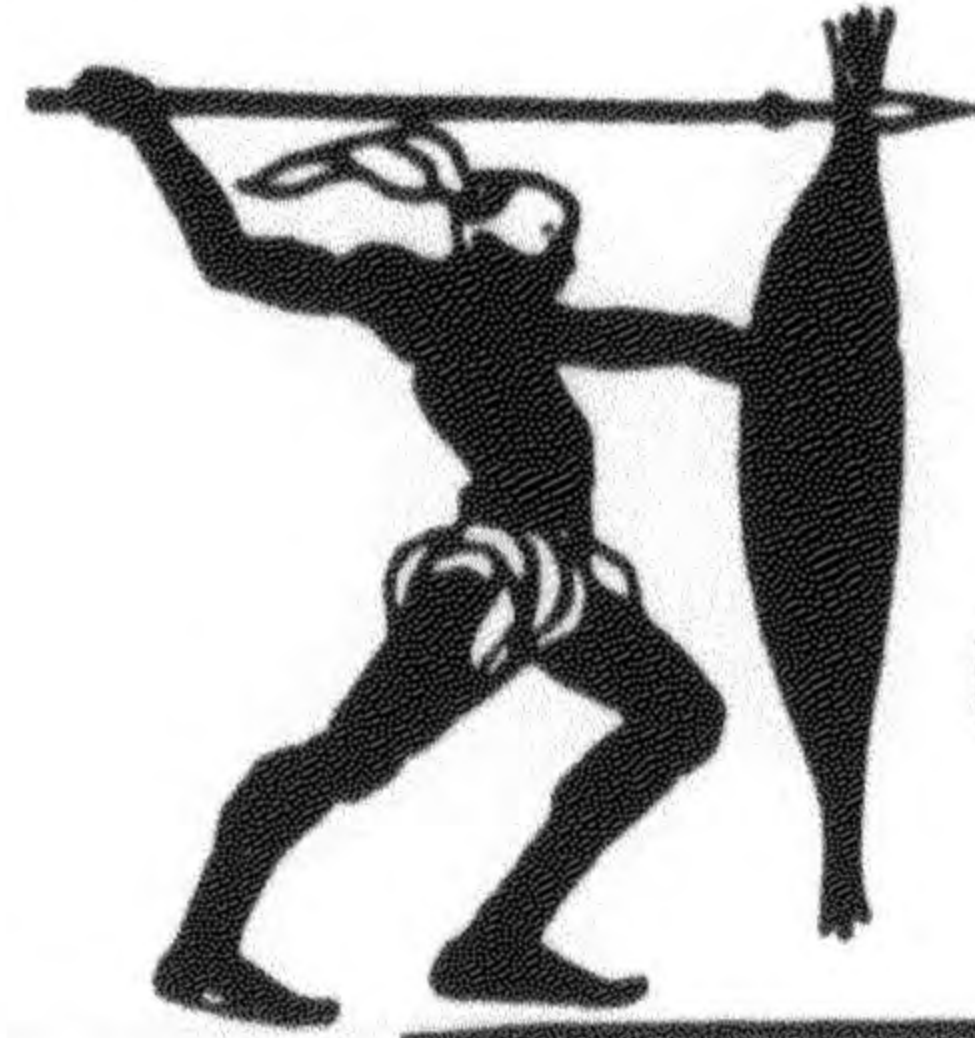
Police Chief John Dale said he agrees with the group's work toward ending apartheid "as do millions of other people around the world." Dale declined to comment on the coalition's criticism of his department other than to say, "We've agreed on some things, and we've disagreed on others."

Some of the proceeds from Saturday's concert will go toward opening a new branch office of the African National Congress in Inanda Newtown, South Africa.



MARC SCHULTZ Gazette Photographer
Merton Simpson and Vera Michelson, co-chairmen of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, talk about the past and future of the group.

TAKING APARTHEID APART



THE STRUGGLE TO ELIMINATE APARTHEID
IN SOUTH AFRICA AND RACISM AT HOME CONTINUES

CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF ACTIVISM AT THE
10TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
CAPITAL DISTRICT COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM

Featuring:



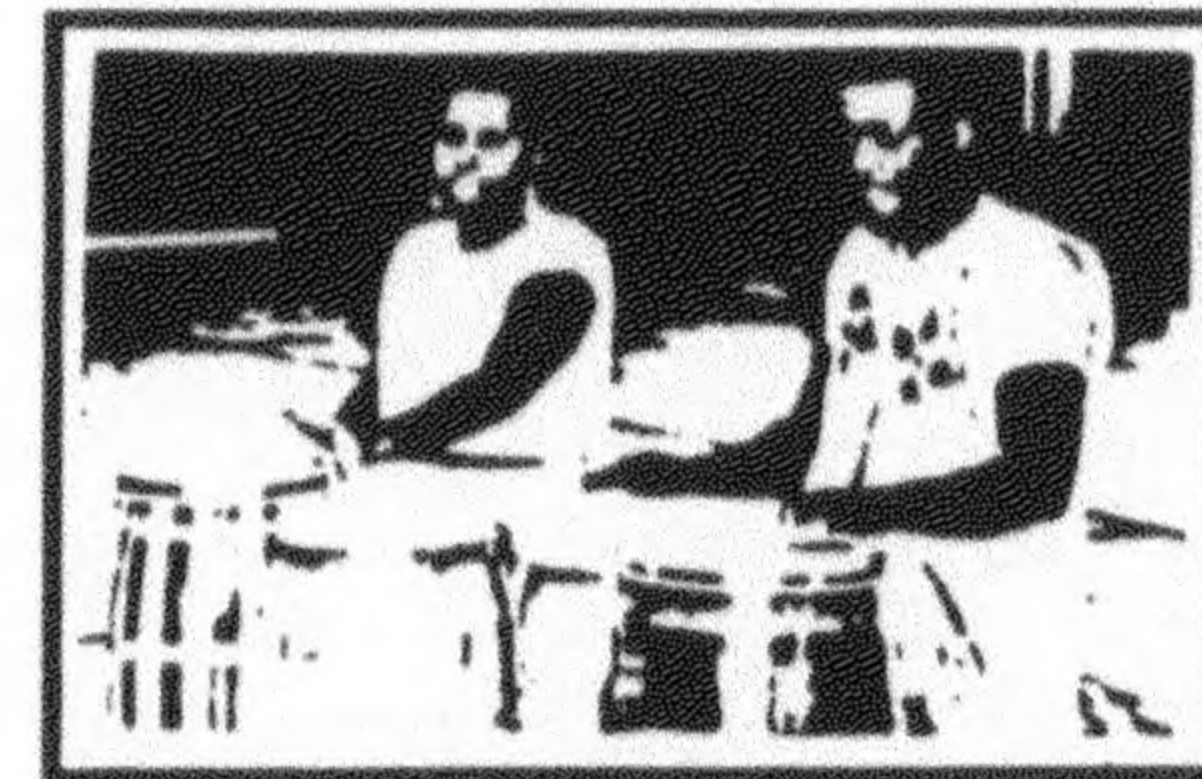
Felipe Luciano, Abiodun Oyewole

THE LAST POETS:

Reunited after 10 years
THE ORIGINAL RAPPERS...
BRINGING A MESSAGE OF FREEDOM
IN THE AFRICAN ORAL TRADITION.
Influencing such young artists as Brand Nubian

Accompanied by

THE AFRICAN CONNECTION



Druis Knowles, Ade Knowles

And



Orlando Marin

ORLANDO MARIN:
Salsa Music in the
Tradition of Eddie Palmieri,
Johnny Pacheco, Joe Cuba,
Tito Puente & Machito

Saturday, September 21, 1991

7:00 pm

Page Hall, State University at Albany
Downtown Campus... 135 Western Avenue

Tickets available at...

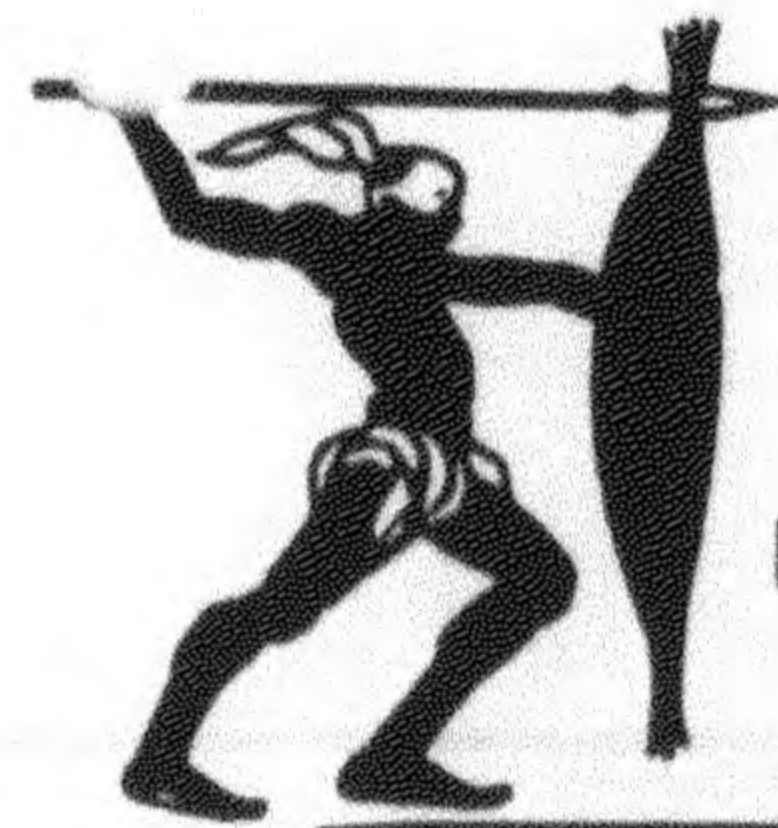
Music Shack, 65 Central Ave. 436-4581 and
Social Justice Center, 33 Central Avenue, 434-4037

\$13 Advance \$15 Door \$12 Student

Doors open at 6:00 pm

Sponsored by : **The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism (CDCAAR)**
The Student Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism (SUNYA)
Proceeds to Benefit the CDCAAR and the African National Congress

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THE LAST POETS:
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THE LAST POETS

Abiodun Oyewole was a key member of the Original Last Poets, the dynamic poetic ensemble which was formed on May 19, 1968 in Mount Morris Park, Harlem, New York. Abiodun is recognized as a major figure in the promotion of Black consciousness and culture through song, poetry, rap, drama and education. The fact that Abiodun is one of the fathers of rap is attested to by knowledge that lines delivered by Dune on the 1971 album THE LAST POETS such as "When the Revolution Comes" and "Time is Running Out" are sampled on the 1990 cut "Concerto in X Minor" taken from Brand Nubian's successful rap album ONE FOR ALL.



Felipe Luciano joined the Last Poets replacing David Nelson. Felipe added an important African Latino element to the Poets through his popular poems like "Jibaro" and "Rifle Prayer." Felipe was formerly a member of the "Young Lords" (a Latino group similar to the Black Panthers). Felipe later hosted the Essence Magazine television show with editor Susan Taylor; he also hosted a popular Latin music show entitled "Latin Roots" on the then jazz radio station WRVR, in NYC. Felipe has done a great deal in clarifying the relationship between African and Latino heritage.

THE AFRICAN CONNECTION

Ade Knowles was the former lead percussionist with Gil-Scott Heron and the Midnight Band. Ade has performed on a host of smash albums including the Gil-Scott recordings: First Minute of a New Day and From South Africa to South Carolina. Ade, a master percussionist, has performed with the late internationally renowned Nana Gus Dinizulu. Ade is a member of the "African Connection" and of the Capital District's own musical group the "Afro-Eurasian Connection"

Druis Knowles a noted cultural worker, has distinguished herself in song, drama, dance, and percussion. A highly respected vocalist Druis is a member of the "African Connection" and of the "Afro-Eurasian Connection."

ORLANDO MARIN

Orlando Marin a popular salsa band leader and percussionist who got his start with Charlie Palmieri and later formed a band with Eddie Palmieri, personifies the appeal of urban Latino music as well as the jazz Latin connection. Orlando and his band members have played with the likes of the Palmieri brothers, Joe Cuba, Johnny Pacheco, Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker.

CENTER FOR LAW & JUSTICE, INC.

Pine West Plaza Building 2
Washington Avenue Extension
Albany, New York 12205
(518) 427-8361

ALICE GREEN, Ph.D.

*488 Bldg Bldg
Catherine
2nd Fl*

PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Thursday, June 20, 1991

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Alice P. Green, Ph.D - Merton Simpson - Vera Michelson
427-8361 - W 457-5183 436-0562

GROUPS CALL FOR THE RESIGNATION OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY SOL GREENBERG

For years, Albany communities of color, have watched closely as the Albany County District Attorney has publicly and aggressively taken on the role of defender of police misconduct directed against them. His most recent attack on Special Prosecutor, Richard A. Kohn and Mathia Sidoti, a key witness to the Lunday assault is unconscionable and leaves no doubt that he has abandoned his official responsibility to protect all of the citizens of this county from criminal abuse. As a result, people of color, in particular, are left exposed and vulnerable to increased abuse at the hands of our police. Through his actions and repeated comments, he has communicated the message that police are free to brutalize people of color with impunity.

Since it is quite evident that communities of color cannot be guaranteed equal protection of the law in Albany County, The Center for Law and Justice and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism call for Mr. Sol Greenberg to submit his resignation as District Attorney immediately.

The tendency for prosecutors to favor the police is to be expected given the reliance prosecutors must place on the police. Their symbiotic relationship fosters and perpetuates a natural prosecutorial bias in favor of police. However, Sol Greenberg has gone beyond this point and taken on a role that places people of color in serious jeopardy.

As we look back, we recall that after the shooting death of Jesse Davis, he was reluctant to present the case to the Grand Jury, but did eventually bow to public pressure. However, three years ago, in the case of Greg Baity, a young Black man whose illegal beating by police was eventually substantiated by the Police Department itself, the guilty officers were never prosecuted.

The District Attorney has repeatedly and publicly expressed his bias in favor of police accused of misconduct or racial bias. Early last month, he was quoted in the "Times Union" as saying that 'He was sick and tired of people making police officers scapegoats all the time. We're going to have a jungle society if it keeps up'. Those of us familiar with the District Attorney's views on race continue to be bothered by the terminology he chose to use.

The history of his actions and his current words and actions make it extremely clear that District Attorney Sol Greenberg's personal biases do not only interfere with but have completely replaced his ability and responsibility to be a neutral protector of rights of all citizens. This professional incapacity can only be rectified by his immediate resignation.

Alice Green

Alice P. Green, Ph.D
Executive Director

Merton Simpson

Merton Simpson
Vera Michelson,
Co-Chairs
Capital District
Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism

7/91

South Africa record on apartheid is far from reassuring

To the Editor:

On June 11 a *Times Union* editorial called for positive gestures to be extended to South Africa President F.W. de Klerk because his commitment to reform in South Africa is "clear and convincing."

While it is true that the government is removing significant legal barriers and restrictions, the stench of apartheid — poor education, health care, housing and general substandard living conditions for blacks — remains intact. Nothing short of a new constitution and one person one vote can change that.

As de Klerk desperately tries to gain credibility abroad, the African National Congress (ANC) and all other apartheid organization are blaming de Klerk for failing to create conditions conducive to negotiations.

The government has not lived up to its part of the agreement made with the ANC. The April 30 deadline for release of more than 2,000 political prisoners and return

40,000 of exiles has passed. Many of the small number of exiles who have returned have been subject to harassment and detention by the South African Security Forces.

In addition, the de Klerk government, hoping to deal with a weakened ANC, has done nothing to stop the unprecedented level of violence in the country. In fact the police have been seen assisting Inkatha members in their violent attacks on the ANC and others.

Despite pleas from the ANC, de Klerk's government has allowed Inkatha thugs to roam the townships freely, carrying traditional weapons and terrorizing the people. It is now well known that security officers, the police and others are assisting in the planning and execution of these attacks. No Inkatha member has ever been brought to trial for these horrific assaults.

The de Klerk government recently confirmed the existence of police and

army death squads suspected of murdering hundreds of religious, community and trade union activists. In September of last year President de Klerk promoted the founder of the death squads, General Lieberberg, to the position of Army Chief of Staff.

The struggle for freedom in South Africa is at its most difficult juncture. The international community must be responsible in its analysis of what is really happening in South Africa. Leaping to lift sanctions before there is irreversible real change only guarantees business as usual in South Africa. Apartheid cannot be reformed. It must be destroyed and replaced by a new government as outlined in a new constitution. Until then we must keep the pressure on.

VERA MICHELSON
Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism
Albany

Rights in de...



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202
A Project of the Social Justice Center

PRESS ADVISORY

Contact Person: Eileen Kawola
(518) 438-0309

Event: Press Conference

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Date: Friday, November 1, 1991

Place: SUNYA Performing Arts Center
Second Floor Recital Hall
SUNYA, Washington Ave.
Albany, N.Y.
(building across from library)

Event: Public Forum

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Date: Friday, November 1, 1991

Place: Union Missionary Baptist Church
1 Morton Avenue
Albany, New York
(2 blocks west of S. Pearl St.)

Ambassador to the United States from the Republic of Mozambique, Hipolito Patricio, and Senior Consultant to the Mozambique government, Prexy Nesbitt, will hold a press conference to discuss the effects of the war on the children of Mozambique. They will explain some of the measures being taken by the government to help rehabilitate children who have been terrorized and kidnapped by the rebel force, Renamo.

The officials will also discuss the ways in which the South African-backed Renamo has destabilized the country in order to impede social and economic progress.

Immediately following the press conference there will be a reception at the SUNYA Recital Hall sponsored by Sigma Phi Rho Fraternity, Inc. and co-sponsored by the Africana Studies Department at SUNYA, Campus Life, BABGO, ASUBA, African Students Association, Multi Cultural Awareness Program at SUNYA and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

The Ambassador and Mr. Nesbitt will also be available to speak to the press at the evening event: Mozambique: On the Front Line in the Struggle Against Apartheid.

The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism (CDCAAR)



Africa

Mozambique gained independence in 1975 after more than 400 years of Portuguese rule. Since then, Mozambique has been ravaged by the South African-backed terrorism of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), also known as Renamo. Renamo forces target civilians, schools, hospitals, ports, bridges, railroads, rural infrastructure, agriculture, and food convoys, with the objective of destabilizing economic and social development in Mozambique. South Africa engineers Renamo terrorism to prevent the countries in Southern Africa (the frontline states) from threatening the apartheid regime.



Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

In Mozambique, the Atrocities Just Don't Stop

7/30/88 N.Y.T.

By Matilda R. Cuomo

FOR many Americans, Mozambique remains an abstraction. Children and families in that southern African country are suffering from unthinkable violence and death, largely without international awareness.

This suffering reflects a dimension of apartheid that extends beyond South Africa's borders. As reports of mass atrocities and fleeing refugees filter out of Mozambique, experts on the region are blaming a South Africa-backed guerrilla organization called Renamo for the tragedy.

Their attacks are part of a vicious campaign by South Africa to weaken its neighbors. The State Department conservatively estimates that 100,000 civilians have been murdered in the past two years, and that more than one million more have been driven into refugee camps outside Mozam-

Matilda R. Cuomo is co-chairman of the New York State Citizens Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect.

One boy was forced to choose between shooting his parents or being shot.

bique as a result of Renamo violence.

While attending a Unicef symposium in Zimbabwe in March, I was invited by Mrs. Graca Machel, wife of the late President of Mozambique, Samora Machel, to visit Mozambique with Unicef's special representative, Harry Belafonte, to observe what was happening, especially to the children. Today, four months later, the terror continues.

The tragedy recalls Khmer Rouge massacres in Cambodia, the Holo-

caust and the Armenian genocide.

Warfare and homelessness have become a way of life in Mozambique. There is no vaccine to protect the children against the bullets and machetes of the anti-Government Renamo forces.

As a result of the war, the infant and child mortality rates are among the world's highest. One in three children dies before the age of 5.

Our first stop was Lhangene Center, a former Roman Catholic school for priests, that had become a home for traumatized and orphaned children. One 12-year-old boy, in a near catatonic state, described the terror he felt when his village was raided. The guerrillas handed him a machine gun and told him he would have to learn to use it. To test his will, they told him he would have to shoot his parents or face being shot. He obeyed the orders and killed them. Initiated, he became the guerrillas' prisoner until escaping.

Another traumatized boy told how his father, a member of the village militia, was murdered during a pre-dawn raid. The guerrillas wanted information on other militia members that the boy could not provide. So they mutilated him, chopping off one fin-

ger at a time, pausing each time to extract information. When they ran out of fingers on one hand, they cut off an ear.

The United Nations Children's Fund reports that 250,000 children have been physically maimed, psychologically scarred or orphaned by Renamo's violence.

A tragedy that echoes Cambodia and Armenia.

Many do not know the whereabouts of their parents, and never will. Many saw them murdered. Many were saved by parents who sacrificed themselves as decoys during deadly raids so that their sons and daughters could flee. Many were trained to kill, forced to fire on friends and relatives

and can never return to their villages.

The next morning, we visited Morumbala, a camp for 30,000 refugees. In sweltering heat, men and women gathered to tell about guerrilla plundering of their villages — raping women, mutilating and killing savagely, destroying schools and health clinics, stealing crops, tin off roofs and personal belongings.

Ten thousand children in the camp had no books, paper or pencils and only five teachers. Elsewhere in the country, rebel attacks have left 500,000 children without schools.

In a hospital in Quelimane, the air was hot and stagnant. The sheets were dirty. There was little medicine. Among the men and women, there were many wounded children. Children in wheelchairs, paralyzed by bullets. Children with missing limbs, the victims of machetes. Children bearing the weight of crude, wooden prostheses. Listless children, in their mothers' arms, suffering from malnutrition.

The killing and maiming must be stopped. If we continue to turn our backs on innocent children and families, we will be silent witnesses to yet another instance of incomprehensible slaughter.

source: New York Times
July 30, 1988



Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism
Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202
A Project of the Social Justice Center

The atrocities continue...

source: Mozambique Support Network Newsletter
Spring/Summer, 1991

Rebels Behead Many in Nampula

Maputo, Mozambique

In July, Mozambican armed bandits rampaged through a small northern town and outlying villages, beheading many, said survivors of the massacre. "The shelves of shops were emptied and the severed heads were put there on display," said one witness quoted by the Maputo daily "Noticias."

People who fled Lalaua in northern Nampula province after the June 29 takeover by Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) rebels described horrifying scenes after reaching safety in the town of Ribaua, 40 miles away.

(continued page 5)

(Rebels Behead Many cont'd from page 1)

One survivor said the stench of death in Lalaua had become so overpowering that Renamo had abandoned the town center and set up camp on the outskirts of town.

The rebels had raided three nearby villages, burning down more than 2,000 peasant homes, "Noticias" said.

The figure of 1,000 dead was first reported. Officials in Mozambique say this resulted from the panic state of those fleeing, and reporting, the massacre. The 1,000 death figure included the casualties in these villages as well as residents of Lalaua town, the report said. There was no independent confirmation of the number of dead.

Government relief agency officials said 4,000 refugees had arrived at Ribaua by the weekend and were urgently in need of food, clothing, blankets and medicine. Renamo, fighting since 1975 to topple the government, has been accused of dozens of massacres in the past and was compared in a 1988 report by the US State Department to Cambodia's brutal Khmer Rouge.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON: His Excellency Hipolito **PATRICIO**
Republic of Mozambique

PRESENT POSITION: Ambassador to the United States
(1991 - present)

PAST POSITIONS: Deputy Minister of the Interior and Member of the
Cabinet
(1986 - 1990)

Elected Member of the Assembly of the Republic of
Mozambique
(1986)

Ambassador to the Soviet Union and the People's
Republic of Mongolia
(1980 - 1986)

Ambassador and Director of Socialist Countries
Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(1980)

Head of the Division of Socialist Countries and Asia
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(1979)

Head of the Bureau of Studies, Information and
Planning of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(1978 - 1979)

Joins Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(1977)

In his capacity at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Ambassador Patricio represented his country at several
summits of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance
and attended summits of the Organization of African
Unity, Non-Aligned Movement, as well as several key
sessions of the United Nations.

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H.E. Hipolito PATRICIO
Biographical Data (continued)

PERSONAL DATA:

Born: 3 September 1954

Marital Status: Married with 1 son

Academic Training: B.A. in Law
Eduardo Mondlane University
Maputo, Mozambique
(1975 - 1977)

MAILING ADDRESS:

Embassy of the Republic of Mozambique
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 570
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: 1-(202) 293-7146
FAX: 1-(202) 835-0245



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12203

A Project of the Social Justice Center

**ANNOUNCEMENT / CALENDAR
AMBASSADOR TO SPEAK**

The Southern African county of MOZAMBIQUE will be the topic of a public forum entitled "On the Front Line In the Struggle Against Apartheid" to be held Friday, November 1, 1991 at 7 p.m. at the Union Missionary Baptist Church, 1 Morton Avenue, Albany. Hon. Hipolito Patricio, Mozambique Ambassador to the U.S. and Prexy Nesbitt, Senior Consultant to the Mozambique Government will speak. The public event is sponsored by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism.

Editors: For confirmation or further information, call
Anita Thayer at 462-6753 or 462-2542
(Phone numbers not for publication)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

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

October 24, 1991

Dear Friend,

On Friday, November 1, we are honored to host the visit of the Hipolito Patricio, Ambassador from Mozambique and Prexy Nesbitt Senior Consultant to the Mozambique Government (see attached flier).

On Saturday evening, November 2, we invite you to participate in a very special evening with Prexy Nesbitt (see attached Bio.) and Paula Bower from Educators Against Apartheid *and Racism.*

As you can see from the attached biographical sketch, Prexy's involvement in support work for Southern Africa is extensive and very impressive.

Educators Against Apartheid and Racism, based in New York City is a dynamic group of teacher/activists who are committed to teaching young people about apartheid in South Africa and racism in the United States. Paula has developed a wonderful curriculum on South Africa (funded by the U.N.) and the teachers' group is currently working on a curriculum on racism.

We are inviting a select number of teachers, students, health workers, youth workers, ministers and activists to join Prexy and Paula for a pot luck dinner and dynamic conversations at the home of Mark Mishler and Rene Harrenton, 58 South Manning Blvd., Albany (438-2845) on Saturday evening, November 2, at 6 pm.

Please RSVP to Gayle Byrnes (674-5505) by October 30. Space is limited.

Sincerely,

Vera
Vera Michelson
Co-chair

Merton
Merton Simpson
Co-chair

Deb M.
Deborah Maxwell
Mozambique
Events Coord.

P.S. No children please

MOZAMBIQUE

■ SOLIDARITY ■ OFFICE

343 S. Dearborn, Suite 314
Chicago, IL 60604
312/660-8671

Message Center
312/922-3286

PREXY NESBITT A BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Prexy Nesbitt is the senior consultant in the United States for the government of the People's Republic of Mozambique. He was previously associate director of the American Committee on Africa, a board member of TransAfrica, and chair of the state-wide Coalition for Illinois Divestment from South Africa (CIDS). During 1986-87 he worked as an aid to the late Harold Washington, Mayor of Chicago. He has also worked throughout the United States as a union organizer.

Mr. Nesbitt was born and raised on Chicago's west side where he attended the Warren Avenue Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), a church which pioneered integrating inner-city church services in the 1950s and served as the base for Dr. Martin Luther King's civil rights work in the 1960s. Mr. Nesbitt worked with Dr. King and his staff in 1966. From 1979 to 1983, he served as program and research secretary for the World Council of Churches' Program to Combat Racism, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Nesbitt went to Antioch College in Ohio and Columbia University in the 1960s. While at Antioch, he initiated the movement to have Antioch divest from South Africa's apartheid system. Since his undergraduate years, Mr. Nesbitt has continued to organize anti-apartheid activities throughout the United States and Europe. Since 1965, Mr. Nesbitt has been to Africa thirty-five times, his most recent trip being to Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, in April 1990. He has worked, traveled, and studied throughout East and Southern Africa. He has written and edited numerous books and articles, including most recently Apartheid In Our Livingrooms: U.S. Foreign Policy and South Africa. He is presently working on a book about U.S. involvement in Southern Africa. In 1988 he was given the King/Mandela award by the Washington Office on Africa and the Swords and Plowshares award by the Clergy and Laity Concerned Organization. On the 25th of September 1989 the Mozambique Government awarded him "the Order of Friendship and Peace, 2nd Degree", one of that country's highest honors. Mr. Nesbitt is on the Advisory Board of the Boston-based Fund for a Free South Africa and he is also a part-time lecturer in Third World Literature and Racism/Anti-Racism at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Prexy Nesbitt
343 South Dearborn
Suite 314
Chicago, IL 60604
312/922-3915
312/922-3286

June 1, 1990

Rights center honors 5 women

By IAN CLEMENTS 11/25/91
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — Five women received Peace and Justice Awards as the Social Justice Center celebrated its 10th anniversary Sunday night.

The center, at 33 Central Ave., is an umbrella organization of 20 peace and social justice groups.

"Honoring the Leadership of Women of Color for Social Change" was the theme of this year's dinner at the Arbor Hill Community Center on North Lark Street. About 300 people sat down to a Caribbean banquet of stew, red beans, fried plantains, cocoa bread and ginger beer.

Minority women may not have been appropriately recognized in the past for their contributions to society, said Bob Cohen, a member of the Social Justice Center's governing body. The awards, he said, are "a way of saying this is a group that's always been in the forefront of social change in our community."

The award winners are: Barbara Allen, president of the Albany School Board; Esther Rodriguez Irwin, a member of Centro Civico Hispanoamericano and an organizer of Hispanic nurses; Barbara Smith, publisher of "Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press," the only press in the nation focused on publishing the writings of "women of color," according to the center.

Also honored were: Vickie Smith, president of Holding Our Own: A Fund for Women and a member of the Feminist Action Network; and Patricia-Trowers Johnson, member

The awards are "a way of saying this is a group that's always been in the forefront of social change in our community."

Bob Cohen
Social Justice Center

of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, and a reporter for WTEN Channel 10 in Albany.

"All of us have an obligation to serve," said Allen. She also paraphrased Martin Luther King Jr., saying "anybody can be great because anybody can serve."

Four other women were honored with certificates of Outstanding Community Service: Yvonne Abunaw, Esperanza Malave Cintron, Pamela Swanigan and Lois Willis.

Looking to the future, Cohen said the center will try to reach out to more working-class people, women and minorities.

Cohen said the center also will try to work more with other organizations, such as the Arbor Hill Community Center, and to provide training to member organizations in gaining news media attention.

The center offers equipment and office space to such groups as Committee for a New Korea Policy, Save the Pine Bush, ACT UP Albany, Committee for Palestinian Rights, and New Jewish Agenda.