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METROLAND

THE NEWS AND ARTS WEEKLY OF THE CAPITAL REGION



BRITAIN ORIGINAL FORCE FORGET

Are Albany's blacks too often
victims of the strong arm of the law?
By Rekha Basu • Page 8

Predictions, predictions, predictions: Quaglieri, Leon, Goudreau • Newsfront: magnet schools
Special pull-out section: Kids' Calendar • Ten-year itches: reflections on pop music in the '80s

On Nov. 16, officers from the Albany Police Department were having some fun roasting their retiring boss. At a party in his honor, the officers were reading mock letters of congratulations to outgoing Police Chief John Reed. One of those letters bore the name of the Rev. Al Sharpton.

"Considered taking the Greyhound bus to the celebration, but then thought better of it," said the "letter." "I probably wouldn't have gotten out of the station."

Two weeks later, at an Arbor Hill community forum on racism and police brutality, nobody was laughing as attorney Terence Kindlon told the mostly black audience about his investigation last spring into undercover police behavior at Albany's Greyhound bus terminal. For the 14 days that police were under surveillance, they were found to be stopping and searching (in most cases strip-searching) every black and Hispanic man getting off a bus, while ignoring most whites.

When the laughter had subsided after the Sharpton-like retirement party, another faked letter of congratulations was read. This one supposedly came from Terence Kindlon.

Perhaps no example of alleged police harassment or brutality could better illustrate the schism between the city's police force and the African-American community than the fact that to what police is good fodder for a party, one is regarded by most blacks as a state of siege against them. A few have actually likened the polarity to South African apartheid.

For about a year now, the streets of Arbor Hill have been a sort of battlefield in a war its residents say there is no hope of winning. Its soldiers are the police force and its ostensible goal is the eradication of drugs. But its casualties—if the toll be measured in physical and mental scars, loss of self-esteem and alienation—are the city's young black males.

Numerous reports to attorneys and civil liberties activists allege illegal stops or searches without warrants or probable cause against random black and Hispanic men in their communities or upon entering the bus terminal. A growing number allege arrests on trumped-up charges followed by beatings, humiliation, threats of torture and actual torture.

Since many of the complainants do not file charges with the Police Department, these stories have been randomly collected. What seems clear, judging from word-of-mouth reports in the black community, is that those cases that have been reported barely scratch the surface. For many of those alleging victimization, there is simply too much at stake to be identified or to bring charges.

There is little question that illegal drug use and sales are rampant in the Capital Region as elsewhere around the country or that some of these police efforts do turn up drugs.

"If you search every person that walks down the street, you're going to find drugs," says attorney Dennis Schlenker, "but the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution says you have an expectation of privacy."

"They'll search 20 people; they'll find one person with something," notes Kindlon, who has represented numerous clients alleging police abuse. But the searches are so unconstitutional, Kindlon claims, that the district attorney knows they wouldn't hold up in court and ends up offering plea bargains. And a good many of the stops result only in minor charges like disorderly conduct or resisting arrest—slapped on, according to attorneys, to justify the arrests, searches or use of force.

BLUE vs. BLACK

Is Albany's African-American community bearing the brunt of the cops' war on drugs?

By Rekha Basu

James Lunday, 34, is a client of Kindlon's. Educated and well-built, he exudes an aura of self-confidence. But ask him about the events of May 13 and he falls apart. His eyes fill with tears and his voice quivers.

"I'm a nervous wreck really," he confesses.

A 16-year employee of Albany Medical Center, Lunday had no police record until last spring. Since then, his life has been consumed by the circumstances surrounding his arrest and alleged abuse by police. He is currently suing the Police Department in federal and state courts, charging, among other things, false arrest, false imprisonment, malicious prosecution, assault and battery.

As Lunday and his family describe it, on the night before Mother's Day, Lunday, his girlfriend and their 3-year-old son had gone to Big John's in the South End for take-out food. While his girlfriend was ordering, Lunday and the child waited on the sidewalk outside the restaurant.

An unmarked station wagon pulled up alongside them on the wrong side of the road, Lunday says, and the driver leaned out and demanded to know his name and to see identification.

When the driver refused to identify himself, Lunday says he cursed at the man, who suddenly flipped out a police badge.

"They were out of the car and on me so quick, the next thing I knew I was face down on the hood of the car," he says.

Lunday says he was handcuffed, thrown into the police car and punched all the way to the station by two police officers, one of whom was the original driver of the car and whom Lunday identified as detective Kenneth Sutton. At the precinct, he says he was kicked up the stairs into a detectives' office, where three detectives, including Sutton, continued to hit, smack, prod and punch him, calling him "nigger," "black bastard" and "jungle bunny."

"Then Sutton threw me down in a chair in front of a file cabinet and he took my head and kept ramming it against the file cabinet," Lunday says. "They took me into a big interrogation room. I was hit so much I lost control of my bowels and bladder."

He says the officers then used that to humiliate him, joking that he needed a diaper and about how he smelled.

Next, Lunday says, while police filled out arrest forms, they forced him to sit at a table with each of his hands hooked to a chain on either table leg, forcing his neck to rest on the table. Later he was strip-searched.

Locked up overnight, he was charged in court the next morning with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and second-degree assault on a police officer.

His mother, Thelma DePremis, calls it one Mother's Day she'll never forget. When she went to see her son in court, she says, he was black and blue, with dried blood in his ear, crying and barely able to walk. It took three people to get him into the car for the ride to the hospital. He was confined to bed and missed three days of work.

Lunday has been offered various plea bargains and turned them down. He wants the case tried and the truth brought out.

Police Department spokesman Sgt. Robert Wolfgang did not respond to a call seeking comment on Lunday's case and others, but he earlier told METROLAND that if a complaint was brought, it was investigated by the department's Internal Affairs unit and could not be commented on. And if a complaint wasn't brought, said Wolfgang, he wouldn't have any way of knowing about the incident.

Through its Internal Affairs unit, the Police Department is charged with the unlikely job of policing itself, a conflict that may be reflected in the results of most of its investigations.



James Lunday (right) with his family. "I'm a nervous wreck."

In 1988, the unit received 22 civilian complaints of all kinds against police officers. Of those, only one was sustained. The rest were either "unfounded," "exonerated" or "not sustained," and a couple were withdrawn. Of the 37 complaints filed in 1987, only three were sustained.

As of November 1989, only one complaint had been sustained, and that was for neglect of duty.

With that kind of track record, it's not surprising that a majority of people don't even bother to file complaints.

A number of activists, including attorney Mark Mishler, who has represented many of these clients, say that retaliation and the fact that they might be guilty of drug-related offenses prevent many victims from speaking out.

In fact, several people who reported incidents of police abuse against themselves or relatives to METROLAND did admit that the sale of drugs was involved.

Since most of the alleged incidents take place in police headquarters, where the only witnesses are other officers, these cases are also very hard to prove.

"They lie," says Kindlon, referring to the officers. "They make stuff up. They say what they need to say."

Two people who have declined to pursue charges against the police are a pair of Arbor Hill brothers named Donald and James Cancer, both of whom are in jail on drug charges. Both claim to have been assaulted by police—a claim that even shows up on their medical forms at Albany Medical Center's emergency room, where police escorted them for treatment.

Asked why they didn't file a complaint, a sister, Sally Cancer, sighs. "We said, 'What good was it gonna do?' Nothing was gonna be done about it."

The Cancer brothers were arrested June 8 as the two were coming out of Stewart's at Northern Boulevard and Livingston Avenue. At the time of the arrest, Donald, 18, was out on his own recognizance awaiting court action on a May 13 arrest on charges of cocaine sale and James, 25, had a probation violation.

Donald alleges that both were beaten at the Division Two precinct and that, while trying to get Donald to sign a confession, a policeman he referred to as Officer Tanccheck smacked his face so many times that his lower lip split open. He says his wrist was sprained from another officer pulling a chair out from under him, causing him to fall back on his hands.

Later, Donald claims, the officers got him on the floor on his back and one slipped a large plastic garbage bag over his head, holding it around his neck for several minutes. He says several other officers looked on.

Cancer says police told him the bag was a "truth bag" that would make him talk. "I was kicking my feet," he said in an interview at the jail. "I couldn't move 'cause I was in handcuffs. My lip was starting to bleed."

Cancer, who said he was charged with the sale of cocaine, claims he still wakes up "scared to death" by the incident.

Meanwhile, according to Donald and Sally, their brother James was getting a separate work-up by an officer who allegedly stomped on his legs and ankle and separated his thumb and forefinger.

The brothers were taken to the hospital the next day after a lawyer intervened at the request of their sister.

Under the Supreme Court ruling in *Terry vs. Ohio*, an officer is required to have reasonable cause to suspect that someone is trafficking in

CHIEF OF THE FUTURE

THE ARTWORK ON THE WALLS OF THE LARGE wood-paneled office isn't his, nor are the floor plants. He's still fishing through boxes for his papers, and hasn't quite gotten used to having the phone answered for him—for the first time in 31 years on the force.

Apparently uncomfortable behind the newly inherited desk, he joins the interviewer on the other side.

With only a month on the job as Albany police chief, setting into the physical space is the least of the challenges facing John A. Dale, who inherits the awesome task of restoring the community's faith in the department—a job made no less difficult because he is black.

He is personable, accessible and reputed to be a man of integrity. So it seems no coincidence that none of the activists and observers critical of the department's alleged war on minorities has a bad word to say about the 55-year-old Dale.

While not conceding that there is any basis for the allegations against his force, he doesn't deny that there might be individual racist officers.

"Of course, certainly, definitely," he replies quickly. "There have been cases of racism among officers, but it's not an institutionalized policy."

It's an important distinction, and one that can easily get lost in the mass of allegations and recriminations.

Absent Mark Mishler's charge about the department's failure to discipline police officers found guilty in civil suits, Dale says the department often isn't aware of the incidents until years later, when the lawsuits are settled because the complainants don't file charges with the department. The police officer's contract requires that any disciplinary charges against officers be commenced within one year of the incident.

"Obviously police have certain rights," he adds. "I have to be able to prove that the officers are committing crimes the same as with anybody else. And when we have been able to do that, we've taken action."

But Dale also gives his reasons why in each of the cases cited by Mishler, disciplinary charges wouldn't have been appropriate.

However, on Mishler's contention that former chief John Reed was sending out a cautionary message to the Internal Affairs unit, Dale insists, "That's not the message that I want to go to the Internal Affairs unit. Under no conditions will I tolerate police brutality. Racism is something that I will not tolerate and I will do whatever I can to see to it that [such] an atmosphere does not exist in the Police Department."

He continues to stress the importance of people filing complaints to document the incidents.

"Even if we can't prove it," he notes, "[I] know for a fact that there's a problem, there's a pattern developing, I can bring an officer in and say, 'Five of the last six arrests are disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Why? Is there something that you're doing wrong?' And if it continues, and you can show a pattern, then you can file charges."

Asked what measures he has taken so far to convey his perspective to his force, Dale refers to meetings he's held with his commanding officers, including those recently promoted, and some that many people have been aware of his feelings during his five-year tenure as deputy chief.

In Dale's opinion, the drug problem, and crack in particular, has been the major scourge of the 1980s. Although he believes there is more drug use and sales in other parts of the city, where, he says, it's traded privately in offices and homes, Dale says the crack vendors who deal from street corners and car windows tend to be concentrated in black neighborhoods. The trade has also given rise to waves of violence in those areas, he says.

"Now the dealers themselves make it easy because they're on the corners. They're easier to catch," he observes. "And in the last one and a half years, the community itself has become quite involved, and we get people complaining constantly about [the drugs]."

Asked about the use of race-based profiles, Dale replies, "I'm sure that there are a number of cases of stereotyping, but I hope that our narcotics officers are educated and trained enough not to use those as a basis for stopping people."

He says his narcotics officers have assured him that they were looking at other factors in the Greyhound stops. There is apparently no department-sanctioned drug-dealer profile, and according to Dale, it is often behavior,



Chief Dale: "If you can show a pattern, then you can file charges."

rather than physical attributes, that arouses police suspicion.

Dale says he is disturbed by the fact that last year 52 percent to 53 percent of his department's arrests were of young blacks, and that most of those were linked to drugs. He also concedes that only 21 of the department's 318 officers are minority—not nearly enough, he maintains, but still a fourfold increase over three or four years ago.

Dale says he expects and wants the community to have "a lot of input" into the police department.

"We have been invested with a power that comes from the people and a mandate . . . that we are not to violate their rights, that we are to abide by the Constitution," he says.

Whatever he realistically can or can't do, one comes away from talking to John Dale with the feeling that his heart is in the right place. As to the rest, only time will tell.

—R.B.

drugs in order to stop and search him on the street. However, some courts have permitted the use of "profiles" to apprehend drug traffickers.

Generally speaking, a profile consists of a set of characteristics—appearance, behavior, etc.—that police believe to be associated with people dealing in drugs.

In Albany, civil libertarians like Kintell and Alice Green, legislative director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, charge that those profiles are based almost exclusively on race.

Schlenker, who says he has represented many such defendants and has been approached by many more with similar stories, says the profile is often based on the mores and norms of white, middle-class officers.

"It deals with race, the nature of the person's motor vehicle, types of clothing and hats that white officers might not wear," he contends. "If a young black man is behind the wheel of a very flashy car that they don't feel fits his socioeconomic status [Both late-model cars and old, beat-up cars are suspect, he notes.] A lot of it has to do with color, unfortunately."

The whole idea of a profile, Schlenker says, "almost compels a racial approach. It places a police officer in a very difficult situation. You look at people who are different from you."

"Unfortunately," adds Schlenker, who's been practicing law for 20 years in Albany, "what I think is happening is the zeal with which we're trying to win this unwinnable war is conveying the impression that the end justifies the means—and it does not. Now we are making war on individuals, and those individuals happen to be largely black and Hispanic."

"I've had people whacked on the head with the butt end of a pistol, heads slammed against car doors, car doors slammed on people, people hit with billy

clubs." Schlenker says virtually every drug arrest includes such psychological brutality as threats of violence against other family members, as well as asset forfeiture, which destroys people economically.

Ironically, he muses, black community residents are getting it from both sides—on the one hand upset by the spread of drugs, on the other terrorized by a largely white police force.

"What's particularly troubling," says Mishler, "is that the lawlessness of the police helps to create an atmosphere where lawlessness is encouraged and allowed, and it's a question of who has the brute strength."

Like most Arbor Hill residents, Yvette Norwood does believe Arbor Hill has a drug problem. But Norwood says the drugs originate in white suburbs. "They [the police] should be going out to Colonie, where it's really coming from," she says. "They're just messin' with blacks in Arbor Hill. Yes, they [kids] are wrong for selling it but [the cops] have no business just picking on us."

Norwood speaks from the experience of her nephew, 17-year-old Harold Cowan Jr. who was arrested Dec. 13 at around 9 PM while coming out of his Arbor Hill home.

When Cowan saw a bunch of police cars outside, according to his aunt, he knew there would be trouble because police were seeking to charge him with a drug sale earlier that evening. Instinctively, he started running, but seeing that he was surrounded, he stopped.

According to Norwood, who learned about the incident later, an officer hit Cowan over the head with a flashlight, causing him to fall down, and then proceeded to pound him repeatedly on the head and in the face in the presence of witnesses.

Norwood saw her nephew in court the next day.

"His eyes and his nose were all swollen," she recalls. "He had two gashes in his face."

Norwood is filing a complaint with the Police Department's Internal Affairs unit Cowan, meanwhile, is in jail.

Among other incidents reported to METROLAND by alleged police abuse victims—all young black men—or their representatives:

- A man charged with minor drug possession over the summer claims the police put a gun to his head and threatened to kill him during an interrogation.

- A man claims he was put in ankle restraints and beaten mercilessly by four officers after he was disruptive in court.

- A man who was pursued and caught after attempting to flee out a back window when police came to his home claims he was beaten so hard his nose was broken.

- A man's mother claims he was picked up by police, choked and spat on after she had appealed to police for help because some peers were trying to get him to sell drugs.

- A man's mother claims he was pulled over by police—who pointed a gun at him and searched his car—after he inadvertently ran a red light. (Eventually the police apologized, saying they had mistaken him for a drug suspect.)

Many others who don't allege outright brutality or assault by police charge that they've been stopped without cause, harassed and sometimes framed. A number of them, while maintaining their innocence, have accepted plea bargains to lesser charges because of the difficulty of proving their cases.

"There's probably a hundred people who've taken these kinds of deals," says Mishler.

Although Albany police from Division Two in particular have been the focus of most complaints surrounding communities also have been touched by the specter of police harassment.

In Troy, 32-year-old Cornelius Moore claims that on the evening of April 9 he was on Ninth Street with friends outside his mother's house fixing her car when a police car pulled up. An officer jumped out and demanded identification.

Moore, who works as a corrections officer at Greene Correctional Facility, says he asked the officer why he needed it, but the officer would give no reason.

"It got to a thing where it was this officer just wanting to show his authority," recalls Moore, who says eventually the officer threatened to ticket him and have him towed for being parked too far from the curb. The officer wouldn't back off until Moore showed him his license.

Moore went to file a complaint with the Troy Police Department the next day, but says the desk officer refused to give him a complaint form. After he was similarly unsuccessful on two subsequent visits, he called the New York Civil Liberties Union.

With the help of that agency, Moore was able to get and file a complaint form, supplying the names of witnesses. But nine months later, and after several follow-up phone calls, he is still awaiting a response.

"We had noticed that they were harassing blacks on the street and people were just accepting it and we knew it would happen to us eventually," says Moore. "But there's nothing you can do because they won't let you file complaints."

Another Troy case that recently resulted in a \$2,500 settlement from the city involves Bernard Murray, a 30-year-old black electrical engineer. Murray was home from New Hampshire visiting his



Michler: "a pattern of abuse of African-Americans"



Green: "a user to keep black people in jail"



Payne: "They [the police] lie. They make stuff up."

BLUE VS. BLACK 49

family in October 1988 and was sitting in an expensive-looking car with his brother and friends when two police officers pulled up. The officers reportedly harassed Murray, then arrested and jailed him overnight, charging him with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Murray, who was represented by Michler, was tried and acquitted in Troy Police Court. He then filed a notice of claim with the city corporation counsel charging the officers with civil-rights violations on the basis of his race.

Michler observes that the sight of a well-dressed black man in a nice car obviously made the officer assume drugs. "Nothing else could enter this cop's mind," he says.

In November, METROLAND reported on a case involving 30-year-old Robert Butler, who filed a complaint with the Albany Community Police Relations Board. Butler alleged that on the night of Sept. 23, he was beaten with a baseball bat by Sutton and injured so badly that he had to be transported by ambulance from Division Two to Albany Medical Center. Forced to miss three weeks of work, Butler said the incident began when a couple of plainclothes officers in an unmarked car intercepted him on his bicycle in Arbor Hill.

Butler was charged with resisting arrest and assaulting a police officer, for which he was recently indicted by a grand jury. Earlier he turned down an offer of probation in exchange for entering a guilty plea.

In November, Butler was interviewed by the Police Department's Internal Affairs unit on his allegations. According to Green, who accompanied him but was not allowed in the unit appeared to have put him through a grueling interrogation.

The Capital District Coalition against Apartheid and Racism, which sponsored the recent Arbor Hill forum, has a standing Committee on Racist Violence and Police Abuse. Coalition co-chair Vera Michelson stresses that while the committee opposes police abuse, it doesn't support drug trafficking.

"What we're saying is, police should not stop making drug arrests; they should stop police abuse," Michelson says. "We recognize police are called upon to do a dangerous job. We want the problem dealt with by using the proper methods and procedures."

Michelson alleges a "conspiracy of silence" in the Police Department involving the mayor, police officials and "certain members of the police force that see this kind of stuff and don't say anything."

She also suggests that while police excesses are often written off as necessary tactics in the war on drugs, much of the police abuse against blacks has nothing to do with fighting drugs.

In June 1988, for example, the city awarded \$12,500 to a homeless black man who had filed a complaint with the Internal Affairs unit. The man, Gregory Baily, alleged he was harassed by police, kicked, injured and then jailed for six months in an incident involving the use of a portable toilet in a city park.

According to Michler, the city of Albany and not just individual police officers—has "allowed a pattern of abuse of African-Americans to exist without doing anything to stop it."

As evidence, Michler points to the fact that in four recent cases where officers were found guilty in civil court actions, they weren't disciplined by the department. And Michler refers to remarks made by retiring Chief Reid about another officer, James Turley, who was arrested and charged with assaulting a black female in October 1988 but was not indicted by a grand jury. Michler quotes Reid as saying that what Turley was subjected to was one of the worst things to happen during his tenure as chief.

"What kind of message does that send to Internal Affairs?" asks Michler. "I think the message is, 'You better not even charge one of our officers again.'"

In October, Michler filed a lawsuit against the city on behalf of Ronald Grier, a black man in his early 30s, who claims police assaulted him after an Arbor Hill fracas by jumping on his chest and breaking his rib.

The officers in the Grier case were exonerated by the Internal Affairs unit on the grounds that the conduct occurred but was lawful and proper.

In the course of discovery, Michler hopes to learn how many cases of police wrongdoing the city has settled with monetary awards. Such information is not now available, even to the Community-Police Relations Board.

Formed in May 1986 in the wake of the 1984 police shooting death of Jessie Davis—a mentally disturbed black man—in his Arbor Hill home, the Community-Police Relations Board

followed two previous civilian committees seeking greater checks on police behavior.

But the board has been wracked with problems and criticism almost from the start, mostly stemming from its lack of autonomy or clout.

Although the board receives copies of complaints to the Police Department's Internal Affairs unit, its members aren't privy to the names of the parties involved and have no independent power to investigate.

In fact, besides being kept informed of how many new charges have been filed and old ones have been sustained or dismissed, the board is kept in the dark about everything, including what action was taken when a complaint was sustained. Also, the board cannot challenge the outcome of any case.

"If it is sustained, by the time it gets to discussion, they won't discuss it," says three-year board member Vickie Smith, representing the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. "They tell us it's been closed for six months. We can't talk about who the cops are even though the community knows their names. We have to request [Internal Affairs] presence every month. They're under no obligation."

Recently, community activists have been calling for the board to be disbanded and replaced by an autonomous, independent civilian review board with power to investigate, subpoena witnesses and make determinations on wrongdoing.

"We're a really inactive board, and that really speaks to the structure," says Smith, noting that many members of the board are on the city payroll and are therefore subject to political pressures. And the mayor has final say over who sits on it.

William Payne is a former Albany cop who is black. Currently a private investigator, Payne served on the force from 1961 to 1969, when he left to join the district attorney's office as a detective. At the Police Department, he worked in the precursor to the current narcotics division, which also handled internal affairs.

Although Payne says racism was always a problem on the force, he believes it's been exacerbated in the past eight years by Reaganism and the drug epidemic, leading to "an abuse of authority."

"What has happened is there's a younger generation of police officers and they have misinterpreted a lot of things from the older generation," he says. "They have taken it

to extremes. They think it's all about bust, bust and fill the prisons."

Blacks tend to be picked on more, according to Payne, because police "can get away with it. Minors don't have enough money to hire good attorneys. Often they enter into a quick plea bargain just to be done with it."

Payne says a black innocent bystander caught up in a sweep may see no option but to take a guilty plea. "Then he's got a record and he's finished."

He doesn't fault the mayor or police chiefs, saying they're powerless when officers conspire to cover up harassment or abuse—for example, by not entering arrest details in the blotter.

"You need evidence and proof," Payne says. "Key people have a way of covering up. Police alter records, he cheats."

According to Payne, the ultimate culprit is the district attorney's office, because its attorneys are willing to look the other way even when they know police officers are lying.

"They [the assistant DAs] are so anxious to go along with police officers and indict someone that they'll lie," he contends. "The DA's office is the real problem, because if they did their homework, they wouldn't have this type of corruption in the Police Department. They would require a thorough investigation."

"They're only prosecuting the people that the people in power want them to prosecute," he adds.

Given the police department's questionable ability to investigate itself and the district attorney's apparent lack of interest in prosecuting police officers, some advocates have looked to state and federal agencies for relief. The state attorney general's office maintains that such oversight is not in its jurisdiction.

Several complaints against the Albany Police Department have been made to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but when asked if the bureau's Albany office was investigating, FBI spokesman Michael O'Brien said he would look into it and then failed to return repeated phone calls.

There is a sense of gathering momentum in the black community that the so-called drug arrests are merely a smokescreen for a purely racist agenda.

"The most recent method used to control black people and keep the incarceration rate high is drugs," said Green at the Arbor Hill forum. "We're engaged in a drug war but I believe it's a way to keep black people in jail."



**The Martin Luther King, Jr.
and Coretta Scott King
Lecture Series
at Siena College**

January 15 & 16, 1990



Reverend Dr. Allan A. Boesak

**The Martin Luther King, Jr.
and
Coretta Scott King
Lecture Series
on
Race and Nonviolent Social Change**

In cooperation with representatives of many Capital Region community and religious organizations, Siena College has established the Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King Lecture Series on Race and Nonviolent Social Change. The Series is funded through the proceeds of an endowment at Siena. The January 16 address by the Reverend Dr. Allan A. Boesak is the third annual lecture in the Series.

Dr. Boesak, a minister of the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in South Africa, has been in the forefront of the struggle against apartheid. A distinguished preacher and biblical theologian, he is increasingly recognized as a political as well as a religious leader among the forces resisting South Africa's white supremacist policies and practices.

He is one of the major leaders who have inspired activists at Siena College and in the Capital Region, such as Siena's Student Anti-Apartheid Group and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. In response to questions raised by students at Siena, the College Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of its appointed ad hoc committee in 1986 to divest from companies doing business in South Africa.

Since 1982 Dr. Boesak has been president of the Geneva-based World Alliance of Reformed Churches, and he is a member National Executive of the South African Council of Churches. As a co-founder of the multiracial United Democratic Front, he has taken a militant but nonviolent stand in support of full human rights for all South Africans.

His theological studies included work in seminaries in South Africa, the Netherlands and the United States. He received his Doctor of Theology degree from the Theological Academy of Kampen in the Netherlands. His published works include *Coming out of the Wilderness*, *Farewell to Innocence*, *The Finger of God*, *Black and Reformed*, *Walking on Thorns* and *Comfort and Protest*.

Dr. Boesak has eight honorary degrees and numerous awards from organizations in several countries. In the United States his awards have included the Martin Luther King Award granted by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Robert F. Kennedy Award and the Thomas Merton Award.

The reception honoring Dr. Boesak benefits the King Lecture Series. Fund raising for the endowment of the Series continues.

Decisions about lecturers, topics, locations and administration of the Series are made by an advisory board composed of representatives of Siena College and the community.

**RECEPTION
IN HONOR OF
REVEREND DR. ALLAN A. BOESAK**

Siena College
Jerome Dawson Library
January 15, 1990
5 p.m.

INTRODUCTION.....Dr. W. Merle Longwood
Professor of Religious Studies, Siena College
Chair, Advisory Board, King Lecture Series

WELCOME.....Rev. William E. McConville, O.F.M.
President
Siena College

GREETINGS.....Rev. Dr. Allan A. Boesak
President, World Alliance of Reformed Churches

MUSIC.....John Charles Cook

PRINT AND ORIGINAL ART EXHIBITION.....Presented by Ron Cook
of Harlem Street Gallery International, Ltd.

The King Lecture Series gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their gifts supporting this reception and lecture.

Rev. David A. Giles
Faye F. Harvey
The Most Reverend Howard J. Hubbard, D.D.
Rev. & Mrs. Robert C. Lamar
Manufacturers Hanover
New York State Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission
New York Telephone Company
Thomas D. O'Connor
Rose & Kierman, Inc.
Siena College Friary

**BREAKFAST
IN HONOR OF
REV. ALLAN A. BOESAK**

Public Employees Federation Headquarters
January 16, 1990
8:00 A.M.

INVOCATION
*Rev. Allen A. Stanley, President
Empire Baptist Missionary
Convention of NY, Inc.*

WELCOME
*Rand Condell, President
NYS Public Employees Federation*

INTRODUCTION
OF DAIS
*Merle Longwood, Chair
Advisory Board, King Lecture Series*

**** BREAKFAST SERVED ****

INTRODUCTION
OF SPEAKER
Rand Condell

SPEAKER
*Rev. Allan A. Boesak, President
World Alliance of Reformed Churches*

CONCLUDING
REMARKS
*Rand Condell
Al Vann, Chair, Black & Puerto Rican
Legislative Caucus
Vera Michaelson, Co-Chair, Capital
District Coalition Against Apartheid and
Racism
Rev. William McConville, O.F.M.
President, Siena College*

The King Lecture Series gratefully acknowledges the Public
Employees Federation for sponsoring this breakfast

THE THIRD ANNUAL LECTURE

Siena College
Alumni Recreation Center
January 16, 1990
10 a.m.

MASTER & MISTRESS
OF CEREMONIES.....Dr. W. Merle Longwood
Professor of Religious Studies,
Siena College
Chair, Advisory Board,
King Lecture Series
Ethel B. David
Director, Academic Opportunity Program and
Administrator, STEP/C-STEP, Union College
Vice Chair, Advisory Board,
King Lecture Series

A SONG OF INSPIRATION.....Gospel Ensemble
Union College
Tyrone Foster, Director

INVOCATION.....Rabbi Julie Wolkoff
President, Capital District Board of Rabbis
Rabbi, Congregation Berith Sholom
Troy, N.Y.

WELCOME.....Rev. William E. McConville, O.F.M.
President
Siena College

INTRODUCTION.....Anne Pope
Deputy Director for Administration and
Community Relations, New York
African American Institute
President, National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People -
Albany Branch

ADDRESS.....Rev. Dr. Allan A. Boesak
President, World Alliance of
Reformed Churches
"King's Legacy: The Defiance Campaign
in South Africa Today"

AFRICAN NATIONAL ANTHEM.....Led by members of the
Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and
Racism

NKOSI SIKELIAFRIKA

Nkosi sikeleliAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo
Yizwa imithandazo yethu
Nkosi sikelela
Thina lusapho lwayo

Woza moya
Woza moya
Woza moya oyingewele
Nkosi sikelela
Thina lusapho lwayo

Morena boloka setshaba sa etsho
O fedise dintwa le matshoenyehó

O se boloke
O se boloke
Setshaba sa etsho
Setshaba sa Afrika

O se boloke Morena
O se boloke setshaba
Setshaba sa etsho
Setshaba sa Africa

Makube njalo
makube njalo
Kude kube ngunaphakade
Kude Kube ngunaphakade

Language: Xhosa and Sotho

BENEDICTIONRev. Allen A. Stanley
Pastor, Bethel Baptist Church,
Troy, N.Y.

LORD BLESS AFRICA

Lord give your blessings to Africa
Let her glory rise above
Hear our pleas and hear our prayers
Lord bless
Her sons and daughters

Come spirit
Come spirit
Come spirit, holy spirit
Lord bless
Her sons and daughters

Lord save our nation
Rid it of wars and troubles

Save it
Save it
Our nation
Our nation of Africa

Save it Lord
Save our nation
Our nation
Our nation of Africa

So let it be
So let it be
Until eternity
Until eternity

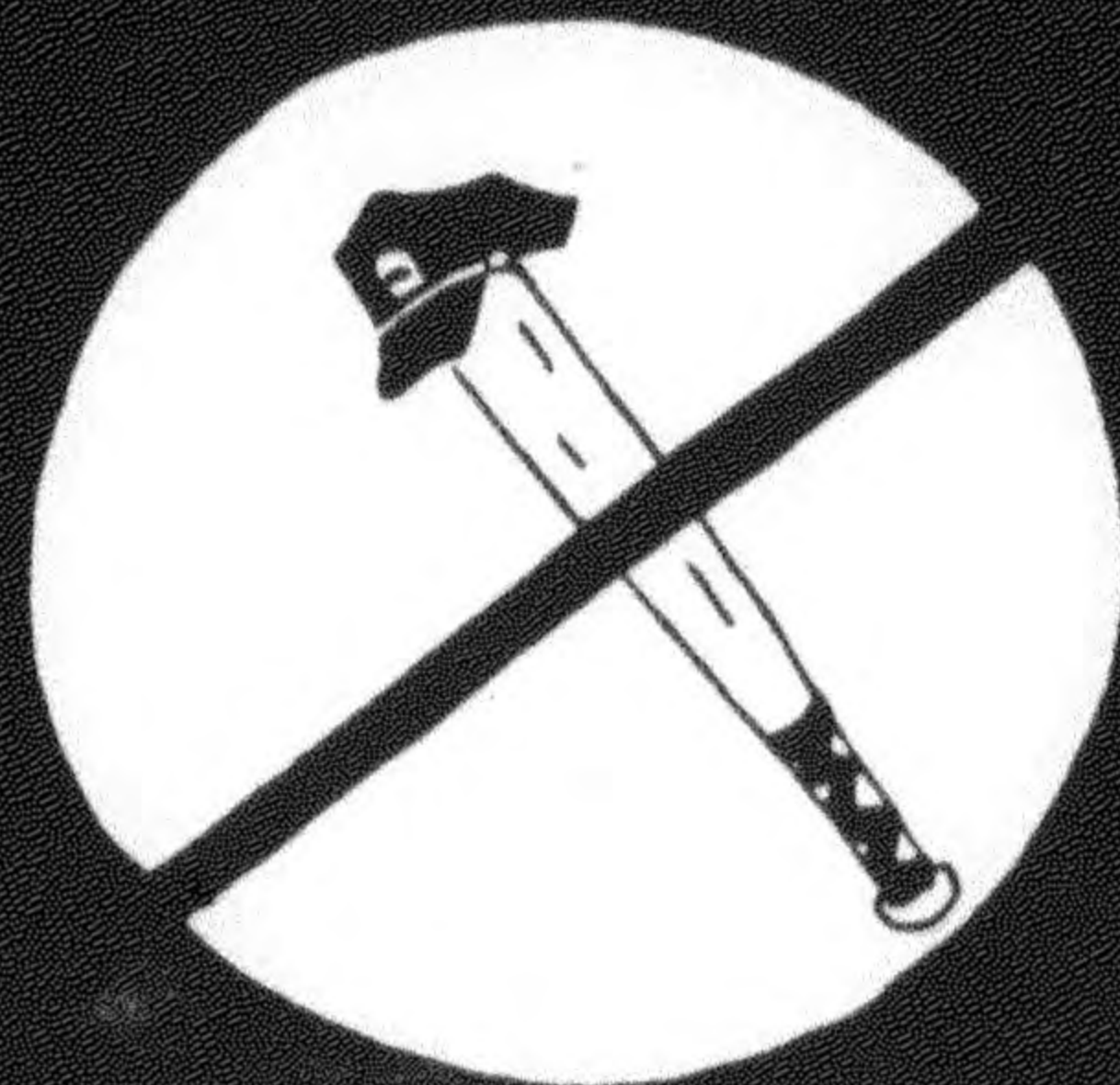
BENEFACTORS OF THE ENDOWMENT

Sidney and Beatrice Albert
Harry Belafonte
Capital Newspapers
Fritz and Elsa deBeer
Carroll Devitt
Rev. David A. Giles
The Golub Foundation of Albany
Neil and Jane Golub
Irving and Elaine Kirsch
Dorothy Ann and William Kite
Edward Marcelle
Ann Marcelle
New York State Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission
Ann G. Older
Dorann Zimicki

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RALLY
AGAINST POLICE ABUSE
AND BRUTALITY



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1990

AT 1:00 PM

ALBANY CITY HALL

CAPITAL DISTRICT COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM

P.O. BOX 3002-PINE HILLS STATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12203

434-4037

Have You Met Albany's own
BATMAN
??????????

A member of the Albany Police Department has allegedly been using a baseball bat to intimidate members of our community. We must stand together and oppose these racist attacks to preserve the safety of our homes and our persons.



STOP BATMAN BEFORE HE "STRIKES AGAIN"
JOIN THE CAPITAL DISTRICT COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID & RACISM'S

RALLY

AGAINST

POLICE ABUSE

Monday Feb. 19 1:00 pm

Albany City Hall

(corner of Washington & Eagle)

For more information Contact Merton Simpson 434-4037

If the continuing pattern of police abuse is to be stopped, the citizens of Albany must demand that the city take immediate steps to stop police violence. The alleged wrongdoing by the Albany Police Department's "Batman" is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the larger issue of routine abuse and use of undue physical force by Albany police, including kicking, shoving, verbal taunting and racial slurs. Among the incidents of alleged abuse of African-Americans by Albany police officers that have been reported recently in "Metroland" and the "Times Union" are the following:

In September, 1989, a man alleged that he was beaten by an officer with a baseball bat and injured so badly that he had to be transported by ambulance from the police station to Albany Medical Center;

In October 1988, a man alleged that he was assaulted by police officers, including one who jumped on his chest and broke his rib. The officers in this case were exonerated by the internal affairs unit of the police department on the grounds that the conduct "occurred but was lawful and proper" The criminal charges against this man were dismissed. He has filed a lawsuit against the city;

In May, 1989, a man was arrested by detectives and alleges that he was severely beaten and kicked by officers and taunted with racial slurs. The criminal charges against this man were later dismissed. He has filed a lawsuit against the city;

In August, 1989, a man alleges that he was put in ankle and wrist restraints in the police station and beaten by four officers after he had appeared in court;

In June 1988, the city awarded \$12,500 to a homeless man who had filed a complaint with the Internal Affairs Unit, for allegedly being harassed, kicked, and injured by police. He was tailed for six months in an incident involving the use of a portable toilet on a city street;

We believe there is a conspiracy of silence involving the Mayor and the Police Department. Certain members of the Police Department see abusive conduct by other officers and don't say anything. While police abuse is sometimes written off as "necessary tactics" in the "war on drugs", this is not an acceptable explanation. Also, many alleged incidents of police abuse against African-Americans has nothing to do with drugs.

The city of Albany--and not just individual police officers--have allowed a pattern of abuse of African-Americans and others to exist without doing anything to stop it. In four recent cases, for example police officers were found liable in federal court for violating civil rights, yet none were disciplined by the police department. The city has simply avoided and ignored this issue.

The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism calls on Albany residents to report incidents of police abuse and to join with our efforts to stop police abuse in our community.

THE COALITION MAKES THE FOLLOWING DEMANDS:

- ☞ Members of the Albany Police Department (APD) must immediately stop the practice of using excessive physical force and abusive treatment of Albany residents;
- ☞ The APD must conduct an investigation into the allegations of excessive force used by the police officer the community refers to as "Batman", and proper disciplinary action must be taken if wrongdoing is discovered;
- ☞ An independent civilian review board must be established immediately to hear complaints of police misconduct;
- ☞ The Mayor, the Police Department, and the District Attorney's Office must immediately condemn the use of racial or ethnic "profiles" in police actions and investigations;
- ☞ The community must be permitted significant involvement in the development and implementation of a real plan to combat drugs;
- ☞ Medical treatment and substance-abuse treatment should be made available to anyone who requests it;
- ☞ Minorities and women must be sought out in order to have a more representative police force.

IN ADDITION THE COALITION DEMANDS OF OURSELVES AND OUR COMMUNITY:

- ☞ We must take responsibility for setting the proper example for our children and monitoring their behavior in relation to preventing and treating substance abuse;
- ☞ We must work in cooperation with law enforcement authorities to eradicate drugs from the community and build working relations between the police and the community.

For more information Contact:

**The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid & Racism (CDCAAR)
Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station; Albany, New York 12203**

NEWSFRONT

COPS AND RUBBER STAMPS

JUST AS COMPLAINTS OF ALBANY police abuse and racism are reaching a crescendo, a proposal by Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III to reorganize the civilian board overseeing the police department would, critics say, remove even the limited clout it has had.

The Community-Police Relations Board was formed in 1986 in response to community outrage over the police shooting of Jessie Davis recently members of the so-called special-interest organizations represented on the board (including the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, the NAACP, the Capital District Lesbian and Gay Center and Centro-Civico Hispano-Americano) have complained that the board was stacked with people representing the city, making it too much of a rubber stamp for the city and police department. They've been calling for an expansion of the board's powers to enable it to investigate allegations of police abuse, issue findings and take steps to correct it.

However, at the mayor's urging, the three board members representing the city's Human Rights Commission plan to introduce a proposal at a meeting next week that would cut the number of members from 15 to 11, eliminate the nine members representing special-interest organizations and replace them with six people who represent different geographic parts of the city. The reorganization would leave on the board the three human-rights commissioners and two members of the Albany Police Department.

The meeting was postponed from this past Monday because of the snowstorm. Vickie Smith, a board member representing the Coalition against Apartheid and Racism, said the plan to replace the interest groups with geographic representatives "really dilutes any strength that the board might have."

Noting that allegations of police abuse come mainly from the black communities in Arbor Hill and the South End, and don't necessarily affect people in Pine Hills, Smith said, "I think the impact would be more people on the board who don't understand police abuse. I think it's avoidance on the part of the mayor to not deal with the issue at hand, and that is

police abuse and police brutality. They wanted really a public-relations arm, and that is not a role for this group."

In a letter to board members dated Nov. 30, 1989, but for some reason not sent out until last week, Whalen wrote, "I have never had the feeling that the board has lived up to its potential . . . in forging good relationships with the police department and in assisting the city in resolving community disputes and community problems . . ."

The mayor proposed bringing in people from different parts of the city "that have a regular interaction with the police department and police personnel."

Whalen could not be reached for comment. Rabbi Martin Silverman, a board member representing the Human Rights Commission, said the commission voted on the mayor's proposal at its meeting last week.

"The discussion went that if we have the organizational representatives, each one comes with their own ax to grind . . . If it's geographic, there's more of a unified interest," Silverman said, adding that there had been some controversy on that issue.

Asked if it wouldn't effectively remove any clout the board has, Silverman said, "I don't think it would reduce the clout of the board. They [critics] are correct in saying it does not have any clout at this point. But that's in the nature of how it was set up."

However, despite all the negative publicity it's gotten, Silverman said he thought the board has had some effect on the police department in that "some members are a little more careful than they would have been in terms of not being unnecessarily violent."

Keith St. John, a city alderman who represents the Capital District Lesbian and Gay Center on the board, said he hoped the board would also be looking at other proposals for reorganization besides the mayor's. St. John said he has an alternative one but he'll wait until the next meeting to reveal it.

—Rekha Basu

UNFAVORABLY DISPOSABLE

AS AMERICA'S SOLID WASTE problems mount, the packaging habits of American manufacturers have become both



Dumping on disposables: NYPIRG's Judith Enck.

judicious and dangerous. Last week, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) asked consumers to consider this question: Do we really need products like panty hose to come in plastic eggs or cameras to be thrown away after one use?

In a report released last Thursday, New York state's largest environmental and consumer group criticized products that are unnecessarily disposable or needlessly over-packaged. NYPIRG also published a consumer guide on packaging waste and launched a call-in campaign to put pressure on companies that contribute to the problem.

"Most packaging is just marketing," said Judith Enck, senior environmental associate at NYPIRG. "The people who really lose are the consumers. It's an environmentally bad consumer choice."

According to the NYPIRG guide, titled "Plagued by Packaging," containers and packaging account for roughly one-third of the nation's 160 million-ton-per-year garbage output. NYPIRG targeted products like the Kodak "Fling" disposable camera, disposable microwave cooking trays and plastic diapers for consumer pressure.

Enck also pointed out that so-called "degradable" plastics—a term bandied about by manufacturers in recent years to combat recycling advocates—are "nothing more than a consumer hoax, bordering on

consumer fraud." Enck explained that most degradable plastics only break down into smaller plastics. She added that products are truly recyclable only when they can be plugged into the municipal recycling program, and that many degradable materials can't be.

"People need to be able to put it out on the curb," she said.

METROLAND contacted the consumer hotlines of several of the companies whose products appear in the NYPIRG guide. A representative of Eastman Kodak, which produces the Kodak "Fling," said the disposable camera possesses the same bulk as a roll of Kodak 126 film. To develop the "Fling" film, the representative said, a consumer must bring it to a developer who follows state codes in disposing of the camera. The representative said the camera's plastic is recyclable.

A representative of Quaker Oats, which produces the Aunt Jemima Pancake Express—a plastic bottle of pancake batter that makes only six pancakes—said the product's container is recyclable. The representative said, however, that not all communities have the ability to recycle plastic materials.

"More important than recycling is reduction," said Enck. "Common sense tells us that the less waste there is, the fewer disposal problems there will be."

—Mike Goudreau

AGENDA

lectures, meetings, rallies and other political events.

SATURDAY, FEB. 3

Conference: *Magnificent Women: Men and Women Working in the Future*. Arbor Hill Community Center, Albany, 9 AM-5 PM and 6-8 PM. Sponsored by the Critical Black Community Committee.

SUNDAY, FEB. 4

Television: *Matters of Conscience*, Channel 13, 3 PM. Community meeting to discuss the important issues of the 1990s. Program hosted by Neel J. Ghoshal, Ed Dague and Chris Kaganony.

MONDAY, FEB. 5

Lecture: *My Black Mother and Sisters: On Beginning a Cultural Biography*.

Dr. Bernice Bell Audreya (Box 200), New Orleans, La. 70116, 9 PM. The speaker will be Beverly Johnson Brown, an African-American feminist and director of the Division of Community Life at the Museum of American History at Washington, D.C.'s Smithsonian Institute. Free, 783-2431.

TUESDAY, FEB. 6

Forum: *New York State Legislative Forum: A Legislative Overview*. Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., Albany, 10 AM. Mel Miller, speaker of the New York State Assembly, will give the presentation. 449-3380.

CALL FOR DONATIONS

The Hunger Organizing Project has just moved into the Social Justice Center at 33

Central Ave., Albany. The organization needs standing shelves, a word processor, small tables and some small cabinets. If you can donate any of these items call the HOP office at 438-7176.

UPCOMING

Meeting: Feb. 9—*Volunteers Meeting for the 1990 Readings Against the Road of the World*. Social Justice Center, 33 Central Ave., Albany, 7 PM. For further information on volunteering or performing, write PeaceWorks, 66 Oakwood St., Albany 12208; or call 438-6314.

Please note: The deadline for entries in the Agenda calendar is Monday at 5 PM.

SMOKESCREEN

WHEN BIOMED SERVICES, INC. proposed a regional medical-waste incinerator for the Schenectady County town of Delanson recently, the town's planning board and a citizens group did some checking on the company. They were uncomfortable with what they found.

BioMed had billed itself as an Alexandria, Va., company when it approached Delanson (population 550) about building a regional incinerator there to help solve the medical-waste problem faced by Capital Region hospitals. But the town planning board called directory assistance in Alexandria, asked for BioMed, and was told there was no listing under that name.

The town had been discussing the proposal with BioMed president Lloyd Lipman, who is based in Florida. The planning board was later told that BioMed,

EDITORIAL

PULLING FOR
MAGNETS

CHANGE IS COMING TO ALBANY'S public schools. And that's good. The three reform candidates who won last fall's school-board vote were elected with a mandate to lead an energized community that is no longer willing to tolerate second-rate schools. Their electoral victory, coupled with an apparent new willingness to listen by the board's three veteran members and one other newcomer, gives the new board members both an opportunity and a responsibility.

Their first real test is the issue of magnet schools. A proposal to start two such schools is currently before the board.

Magnet schools have been around for at least 15 years. They were conceived to accomplish two objectives: integrate urban schools and become centers—models—for innovative education. For the concept to work, the two must go hand-in-hand.

The Capital Region, following the national trend, has inner-city school districts disproportionately black and Hispanic, ringed with suburban districts. Until recently, the nation turned its back on these urban schools, producing what New York State Education Commissioner Thomas Sobol describes as parallel systems of education: one that works, and one that doesn't.

To stem the white exodus from the city schools, promote school integration and quality education, some districts adopted the magnet-school strategy. By creating pockets of educational excellence and creativity, those who otherwise might have left, stayed. The state made integration a prerequisite for eligibility for funding assistance.

Sometimes the strategy backfired. Some magnets attracted a district's best teachers and had access to greater resources, undercutting efforts to upgrade all of a city's schools. At worst, magnets became elite semi-private schools operating within a school district. In truth, magnets are merely a partial alternative to a system that should provide excellent schools for all its children.

Nevertheless, magnets have often worked, providing an environment where highly motivated, creative teachers have the opportunity and support to tap children's natural desire to learn, free of the artificial pressures of tracking, testing and bureaucratic interference. Successful magnets become models for all the schools in a district.

Albany could have started magnet schools years ago, but it didn't. Only when the parent-initiated reform movement showed growing political power did school officials act. The school board set up committees to review the system, including one to propose a magnet-school strategy. That committee presented its report to the board Tuesday evening and a vote on the plan is due next week.

In spite of some legitimate criticisms of the Magnet School Planning Committee's work, their proposal is the nucleus of a good plan. The school board should approve the magnet-school concept, thank the planning committee for its hard work, and then set about overcoming the remaining problems so that Albany's first two magnet schools can open in September. ■

PAYING FOR
PRISONERS

NEW YORK'S DEPARTMENT OF Correctional Services has grown faster than any other state agency under Gov. Mario M. Cuomo. This year, the department's proposed operating and capital budget is nearly \$2.75 billion. That includes more than \$1 billion in reappropriations carried over from last year. Such growth confirms that this is not an area where the governor has looked for help to close the state's growing budget gap.

"The governor has to take responsibility," says Robert Gangi, executive director of the Correctional Association of New York, "but the prison expansion in the state has been supported by the political and legislative leadership of both parties."

There is no question that New York has rapidly expanded its prison capacity, outstripping by thousands of inmates prison-population estimates that were considered exaggerated just a few years ago. Since 1983, the state has opened more than 25,000 new prison spaces. In the coming year, Cuomo is proposing funds for over 5,300 more spaces, with a similar increase planned for the following year.

Gangi believes that the state's criminal-justice system is on the wrong track, following "wrongheaded" policies. "Experience should be telling the political leaders that prison expansion doesn't work either to relieve overcrowding or to reduce

CAPITOL INTENSIVE

crime," Gangi said, adding that it costs "an extraordinary amount of money that could be better spent on other useful and more important programs."

Along with others who advocate reforming the state's criminal-justice policies, Gangi points to several measures that have passed the Legislature in the past two decades as major contributors to prison overcrowding. These include the Rockefeller Drug Law, the Second Felony Offender Law and mandatory-sentencing guidelines. These were passed in the heat of election campaigns when tough-on-crime stances seemed popular. But on sober reflection, they have failed to achieve their objectives while creating other problems throughout the system.

For example, while New York's Chief Judge Sol Wachtler pushes the governor for more money to beef up a court system flooded with drug cases, the governor's budget, according to Gangi, "guts" spending on programs designed as alternatives to incarceration. These have the advantage of working to rehabilitate criminals while saving the state money. It costs New York about \$30,000 a year to keep an inmate in state prison.

With the governor asking for more than 5,000 new prison beds this year, Gangi points to the law that mandates jail for second-time felony offenders. Last year, he said, more than 5,000 people who committed nonviolent second felonies were sent to jail.

Gangi supports a number of jail alternatives, including intensive supervision probation. This plan would place those currently subject to mandatory

sentencing under intense probation could include randomly checked curfew, required jobs or community service. "It's more expensive than regular probation," Gangi concedes, "but less expensive than prison." But the programs have to be there, and judges have to have the discretion to use them.

Last year, when the Legislature and the governor negotiated the Omnibus Crime Control Law, the Assembly agreed to go along with increased prison construction in exchange for increased funding for alternatives to incarceration programs. Instead of carrying forward its commitment, the alternatives budget was reduced in the governor's spending plan. Now, says Gangi, it will be necessary to fight for these funds to be reinstated. "Now, we will be satisfied just to get back to where we were last year," he complained.

"I'm not suggesting that people who commit murder, rape or armed robbery and who live by the principle of 'might makes right' should go free," Gangi said. "But that's not the lion's share of people in prison."

"I think the evidence shows that mandatory sentencing laws have not worked to accomplish any useful purpose. But it's having some very undesirable results. It's leading to a breakdown in our criminal justice system. Courts are jammed to the breaking point. And crime is getting worse, draining money and resources away from other government programs that could be more effective in responding to crime."

—Jeff Jones

LETTERS

THE SUBSTANCE
OF ABUSE

To the Editor:

I became angry and upset when reading your article titled "Blue vs. Black" [Jan. 4-10]. I want to thank *METROLAND* for highlighting such a painful and critical issue in our community. Upon reading the personal experiences of several African-American men who have been brutally beaten by police officers, I felt very disturbed, and disappointed. In my opinion, the violence, hatred and racism that reportedly exists within the cited police departments is a disgrace to all area citizens. As an African-American, I know that racism is probably here to stay, but to have a whole system that supports it, hides it and gets away with it cannot be condoned! I don't have any solutions to offer to such an ingrained institutional racism, but I sincerely hope that Police Chief Dale, the various community groups mentioned and the brave lawyers cited in the article can begin to stop this problem.

What is always missing from the sensationalized "War on Drugs" are what I see as two "victim" groups: the economically disadvantaged people who see selling drugs as access to money, and the addicted population in our society. Often there is overlap between these two groups.

It is easy to see why disenfranchised, disadvantaged people would, out of desperation, turn to the sale of drugs to obtain an income. Also, if the use of drugs

is the only source of pleasure in one's life, due to living in the bleak surroundings of an economically deprived environment, one could easily begin selling drugs to support one's own addiction. There continues to be perpetration of a "blaming the victim" mentality in our society.

Until the roots of addiction in our materialistic, "quick-fix" society are addressed, and until self-esteem, pride, education, good jobs and access to money and power within our society is equal for all, the problems shall remain. However, I cannot state strongly enough that police brutality *cannot* be tolerated as a strategy to impact the drug problem.

A positive note is that a range of good drug-treatment programs and self-help recovery programs do exist here in the Capital Region, and can be utilized to have a positive impact on those who want to eliminate their drug addictions.

Roslyn Jefferson-Rhynhart
Director, Equinox Substance Abuse
Counseling Center
Albany

NO MEANS NO

To the Editor:

A few words to Ms. Delaney [Heroin & Heretics, Jan. 25-31]...

For thousands of years, we have been taught that women are merely possessions, that men can do whatever they want, whenever they want. Men have been taught to accept this, as well as women. The blame belongs to the people who made

up the rules, and to those people who still choose to believe them.

We are finally learning that those ancient rules are wrong. Not matter how "considerate" or "polite" your son may seem to you, he is still guilty of rape. He chose to believe the old lies about men and women, the lies that you, and other members of society, taught him. He was wrong. Unfortunately, he was not the first to make that mistake, and he won't be the last.

When a woman says no to sex, she means no. She does not deserve to be raped. The number of men she chose to have sex with in the past has no bearing on that "no." Her previous sexual activity is none of her date's business, and it is certainly not his mother's business.

The rules have changed, Ms. Delaney; women have rights now. They have always been entitled to them, and now, they are exercising them. We've worked hard to get where we are. It's about time *everyone* learned some new rules.

Mary L. Wade
Albany

CORRECTION

Credits for photos that ran with the story "Rights of Way" [Jan. 18-24] were inadvertently left off. All three photos were taken by Martin Benjamin.

Also in that issue, the Forum photo of anti-apartheid leader the Rev. Dr. Allan A. Boesak was taken by Jim Lucaszewski, not Gigi Cohen as identified.

Martin Luther King remembered

Actions demand equality, apartheid sanctions

By Helen Scott

Ringed calls for U.S. sanctions against the South African government and for housing equality in Yonkers mingled with celebrations of victories won as New Yorkers across the state held hundreds of tributes this week for the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Rev. Allan Boesak of South Africa spoke in Albany Monday and Tuesday at a community interreligious service, a labor breakfast and the Siena College King birthday lecture. He said the people of South Africa will take care of the Pretoria regime, but that people here must end U.S. financial and military support to apartheid. Boesak asked why the Bush administration had intervened in Panamanian elections but still supports South African President de Klerk, when only 6 percent of South Africans voted for him.

Boesak described the defiance campaign in South Africa as the use of King's legacy of non-violence against official government repression and illegality, and detailed the superficiality of reforms that do nothing to change apartheid. Welcoming the prospect that African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela may soon be released, Boesak demanded the release of all political prisoners and said Mandela will not be able even to address the ANC while it is banned.

Vera Michelson, co-chairperson of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, said the coalition will work for U.S. sanctions as part of a national campaign being built.

Martin Luther King 3rd spoke to a capacity crowd Sunday morning in Yonkers where he sharply criticized city officials for resisting a Federal desegregation order by opposing

low-income housing. King said the actions are a "shame and disgrace" 22 years after the Fair Housing Act was passed. With Mayor Henry Spallone as an audience, King said it is contradictory for fair housing opponents to honor his father "and not try to live out what Martin King was about." King asked if city officials would rather "go down in history for doing what was expedient" or "for doing what was right."

In Buffalo, 200 people picketed the Goldome Bank for being the only bank open on King's birthday despite community protests. State Senator Anthony Masiello, Buffalo Common Council President George Arthur and Councilmember Clifford Bell joined the picketline along with members of the NAACP, Buffalo Federation of Teachers, Operation PUSH, and Southern Christian Leadership Conference, among others.

Bell said the bank's actions are "the epitome of disrespect," and State NAACP representative Frank Mestah said business leaders must learn that sometimes social issues outweigh financial considerations.

The Syracuse NAACP led some 40 people in picketing Goldome, which also stayed open there. Chapter president Van Robinson noted that this was the first time in two decades that there was only one protest in Syracuse, this time to enforce the holiday that people had fought to win. Meanwhile, Onondaga County Executive Nicholas Pirro, where Syracuse is located, proclaimed King's birthday an official county holiday and the county legislature set up a permanent committee to coordinate King tributes in future years.

Last year at 1989 King birthday events in New York City, speakers urged David Dinkins to



Hetty Pasco (l) talking with N.Y. State Senator Anthony Masiello (c) and Buffalo City Councilman at Large Clifford Bell (r) as they protest in front of Goldome Bank's main office in Buffalo, over the bank's decision to remain open on Martin Luther King Day.

run for mayor, building on Rev. Jesse Jackson's win of the city in the 1988 Presidential Primary. This year, Mayor Dinkins was enthusiastically greeted by capacity crowds at many religious tributes to King. Dinkins had opened a week of religious observances by proclaiming "Good Neighbor Week" at the request of Baptist, Catholic, Jewish, Moslem, Episcopalian, Greek Orthodox, Buddhist, Lutheran and other religious leaders attempting to counter heightened racial and ethnic tensions resulting from the divisive mayoral campaign conducted by Republican Rudolph Giuliani last fall.

On Monday Dinkins and Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger greeted marchers led to City Hall by the Rev. Herbert Daughtry and Assemblymember Roger Green, who said this would be their last King day march from Brooklyn after a decade of protesting the policies

of former Mayor Ed Koch. Homeless parents and children from the Brooklyn Arms Hotel had led last year's march to protest being forcibly removed to substandard housing during their eventually successful fight for decent permanent housing.

Later at City Hall Park, a small rally organized by the New York City Civil Rights Coalition cheered the music of Emmaus, The Group — homeless men and women singing out for housing, jobs and a just society.

Elizabeth Holtzman, the first woman elected New York City Comptroller, told the rally the election victories of Dinkins and Virginia Governor Douglas Wilder show "we can be drum majors for freedom now." She said, "We have no justice while the number of African-Americans living in poverty is more than three times the number for whites," but pledged, "We will see justice in our lifetime."



Participants in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day march in Albany Monday.

**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism**

Box 3002, Pine Hills Station, Albany, N.Y. 12203

February 7, 1990

Dear Friend:

We of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism invite you join an international campaign to continue and intensify economic sanctions against South Africa. Reception committees worldwide will celebrate Nelson Mandela's release from prison while stepping up the call for sanctions.

Following De Klerk's state of the nation speech on February 2, 1990, George Bush and Margaret Thatcher responded by suggesting that sanctions should be re-evaluated. In contrast, also following De Klerk's speech, Thabo Mbeki, Director of International Affairs for the ANC called for sanctions to be intensified. In a statement released following the speech, the UDF said, in part, that:

"...the sanctions campaign must be maintained and intensified. To lift sanctions now would be to run the risk of aborting the progress to democracy. If anything, the speech that De Klerk has made shows that all the pressures we have been calling for and all the demands for sanctions were pointed in the right direction. This is no time to relent on this issue."

We must listen to the voice of the majority of South Africans, not Bush and Thatcher, in deciding when to lift sanctions. The South African government has only made any changes precisely because South Africa has lost \$32 billion through direct and indirect sanctions over the last 5 years.

When Nelson Mandela is released, and as an initial step in a campaign for intensified sanctions, we will attempt to hold a press conference using the enclosed press release. To use your name on this press release will aid the campaign immensely. In addition, if you or your organization feel committed to joining us in the coming months please indicate this on the tear off sheet.

Thanks,

For the Coalition

PLEASE RETURN IMMEDIATELY TO THE COALITION, c/o Deborah Maxwell,
19 Snowden Avenue, Schenectady, New York 12304

Name _____ Phone _____

Organization _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please call about continued work on the sanctions campaign _____

PRESS STATEMENT
ON THE RELEASE OF NELSON MANDELA

We, members of the Mandela Reception Committee, join in celebrations around the world which commemorate the release of African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela after 28 years in South Africa's apartheid prisons. Mandela has maintained his integrity and dignity throughout these long and difficult years. He has been an inspiration to anti-apartheid forces everywhere.

While we are jubilant about Mandela's release, we want to make it very clear that the struggle is far from over. The apartheid system remains intact. Over 1300 political prisoners remain in jail, 200 of these on death row. Several hundred individuals remain restricted. Troops remain in the townships. The State of Emergency instituted in 1985 and only partially lifted, is still being used by President F.W. deKlerk to detain people without trial, break up meetings, rallies and marches and censor the press. Peaceful anti-apartheid demonstrations still bring police violence. All of the basic laws which constitute the apartheid system of white minority controlled government, racism and repression, remain in full effect.

Mandela's release has not come about because apartheid has had a change of heart. The release is a result of the uncompromising struggle being waged inside South Africa and in the international community.

The campaign to isolate the apartheid regime is beginning to reap success. International economic sanctions levied against South Africa are taking their toll and South African President deKlerk is desperately trying to ward off any more sanctions.

The Bush administration will attempt to use the Mandela release as an excuse to lift existing sanctions against South African. Virtually all anti-apartheid forces inside South Africa continue to call for increased sanctions.

We, therefore, join hundreds of Mandela Reception Committees in the United States and around the world, in launching an intensified campaign for comprehensive sanctions against South Africa. We call on all capital district residents to join us in showing support for the people of South Africa by pressuring our legislators to move for full and comprehensive sanctions against the apartheid regime.

2/3/90
THE DAILY GAZETTE

Area Foes Of Apartheid React Coolly

ALBANY — Reacting to yesterday's action by South Africa to end the ban on the outlawed African National Congress, Vera Michelson, co-chairman of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, called it "a step in the right direction, but it's not the end of apartheid. It's the beginning of a process that can lead to negotiations. But there are very very specific conditions that the people are demanding be met before negotiations take place, and we're not near that point."

Among those conditions, she said, are the release of all political prisoners, the lifting of restrictions and bans on all people and organizations, a complete end to the state of emergency including a total lifting of press restrictions, withdrawal of all troops from the townships as well as several others.

She added: "Once the people decide that the conditions have been met and they can sit down and talk, they will say that. They don't need President Bush or Margaret Thatcher saying that. The apologists for apartheid are so quick to give the impression that we have reached the end of apartheid."

Michelson was critical of Bush's talk of lifting sanctions against South Africa. "This is a good example of arrogance in our foreign policy. President Bush is not the one to decide when sanctions will be lifted," she said. "When the African National Congress says it's time to lift sanctions, then we lift sanctions. But President Bush does not make decisions for people inside South Africa. And clearly . . . all of the anti-apartheid forces inside the country have called for continued pressure and sanctions at this time."

She said that in the Capital District, her organization is in the process of designing a campaign, to be launched soon, to renew the efforts for sanctions.

She also said, repeating a theme of the Rev. Allan Boesak during his recent visit to the area, "It's important to understand that the United States, Britain, the Western powers and Japan have been financing apartheid. People in the country [South Africa] say repeatedly we can fight Pretoria, but we cannot fight all those powers."

And she criticized Bush for "trying to act like he's part of the process; he's part of the problem, as have been other U.S. administrations."

Nathi Ngcobo, a South African studying at the State University of New York at Albany who is a friend of Michelson's, said, "I'm really excited" about the news. But he said, "I want to point out that [President F.W.] de Klerk must not be credited for these actions. He has not done us a favor. In the first place, the release of Mandela was long overdue. So whilst we are happy, we are not in any way thankful to de Klerk. It is the struggles of the peoples inside South Africa and international solidarity that has made us reach this point."



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station January 1990
Albany, NY 12203

A Project of the Social Justice Center

**Next general meeting of the Coalition: Thursday,
January 25, 1990**

Location: Albany Public Library, Main Branch, Washington Ave.
Albany, New York (location has been changed to the
library because it is centrally located and provides
easy access.)

Time: 7:00 p.m. - meeting will start promptly at 7 - (the
starting time has been changed to 7 because we must
be out of the library at 9:00 sharp.)

Agenda for the January meeting:

**New campaign in support of the demands from the
Mass Democratic Movement in South Africa**

**Video clips from "South Africa Now" on recent events
in and affecting South Africa***

**Update on work of Police Abuse Subcommittee of the
Coalition - follow up from December Forum**



*(Note that "South Africa Now" is aired locally on Sundays at 2:00 p.m.
on PBS Cable Channel 45)



Michael Ackerman/Metroland

Green: "a war to keep black people in jail."

In early December 1989, the Coalition sponsored a forum at the Arbor Hill Community Center to examine the connections and the conditions of racism and police brutality in Albany. The forum was attended by over 100 people and out of the forum came many suggestions for ways to combat police abuse in Albany's African American community. Among the presenters at the forum were Albany attorney Terence Kindlon who has represented numerous clients alleging police abuse, and Alice Green, Legislative Director of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

"Brutalizing the Community to Save It, Or Fighting the Drug War in Albany"

by Merton Simpson

As Rekha Basu so insightfully points out in her Metroland article (Jan. 4-10, 1990), Albany's African American community is bearing the brunt of the "cops" war on drugs. The Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism is calling on people who were victims of police abuse or who know victims to contact the Police Abuse Subcommittee of the Coalition.

The drug war is a legitimate issue but what in fact is occurring is a war against people who are Black. The focus of the war is on young Black males many of whom have no history of drug use.

The only way this scourge will be stopped is for individuals to stand up and be counted if they are the victims of abuse. We are not underestimating the difficulty and the repercussions for standing up but the problem will not go away if the community does not make a stand.

If you have information you want to share or want to get involved in this campaign against police abuse, call 434-4037 or write the CDCAAR, Box 3002, Pine Hills Station, Albany, New York 12203.

Announcements of Interest

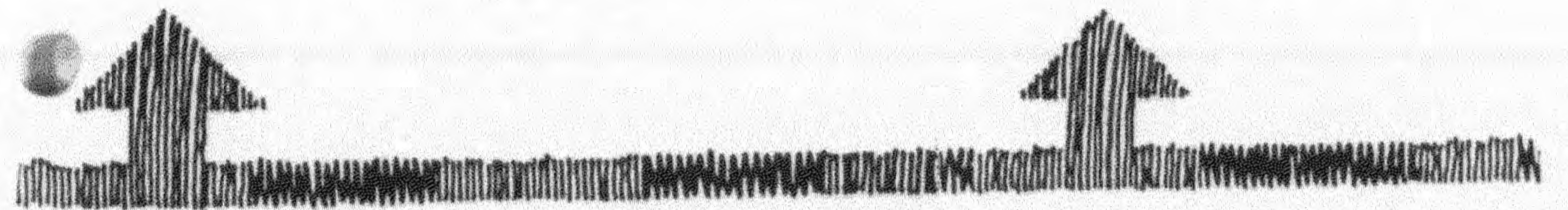
Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network - The next meeting of the Network is tentatively scheduled for March 10, 1990 at Rutgers University in New Jersey. This is an important planning meeting. Save the date. For more information about the meeting, call 432-4623.

African National Congress - On November 9, 1989 the ANC office in Washington, D.C. was officially opened by Mr. Thabo Mbeki, Director of International Affairs of the ANC. The ANC Washington office is headed by Ms. Lindiwe Mabuza and constitutes the representation to the United States of America while the New York office will henceforth deal primarily with the United Nations. On matters pertaining to solidarity and other related activities, inquiries should be addressed to:

Chief Representative
African National Congress
P.O. Box 15575
Washington DC 20003
Telephone Number: 202-543-9433

Look for "Mapantsula" - at the Spectrum theater in Albany at the end of February. This is the story of the slow transformation of a fast talking South African gangster. Behind his story can be seen the everyday crippling effects of apartheid with scenes of poverty, squalor and inequality in the Black township, Soweto. The film receives critical acclaim at the 1988 New York Film Festival.

The Critical Black Issues Conference Committee - invites you to participate in the 1990 CBI "Magnificent Tomorrows: Men and Women Moving to the Future" on Saturday, February 3, 1990 at the Arbor Hill Community Center.

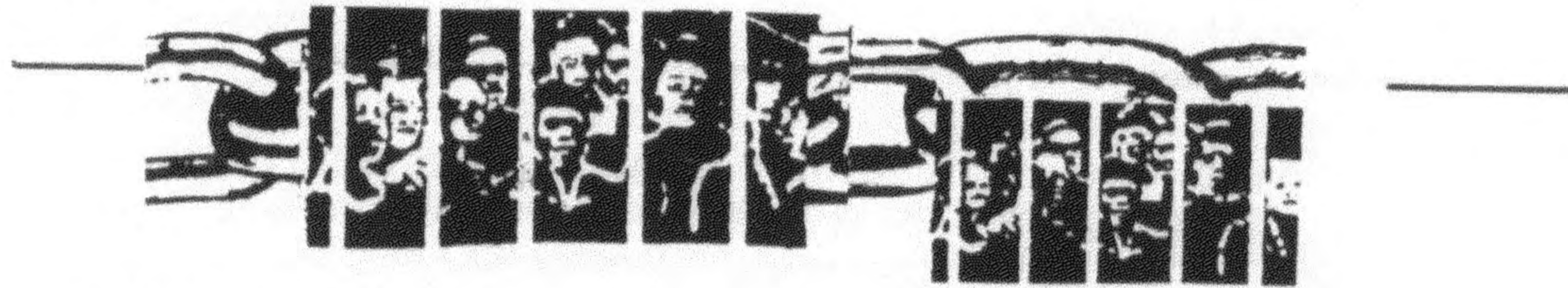


Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism
Project of the Social Justice Center
33 Central Avenue
Albany, New York 12210

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 509
Albany, N.Y.

Vera Michelson
13 Pennsylvania Ave.
Albany, NY 12206

Next Coalition Meeting:
Thursday, Jan. 25, 1990
7:00 p.m. Albany Public Library



"If the struggle against racism and apartheid 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."

These were words used to appeal to you for help in a membership letter which was sent at the very end of 1989. In that letter we asked you to accept a membership card and to pay a yearly membership fee of \$5.00 (more, of course, gratefully accepted). The receipt of these dues will guarantee continued mailing of this newsletter. (We have no paid staff so all funds go directly to organizing efforts, education, printing and postage.) If you lost the letter and card, upon receipt of your \$5.00 we will forward one to you.

The response to this appeal has been great but the needs of the movement are pressing and constant. We need your help.

Thanks to all who have already responded so generously.

Make checks payable to: Capital District Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism

Send to: CDCAAR, Box 3002, Fine Hills Station, Albany, N.Y. 12203

NORTHEAST SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLIDARITY NETWORK
P.O. Box 1322
New Haven, CT 06505

FREEDOM RISING!

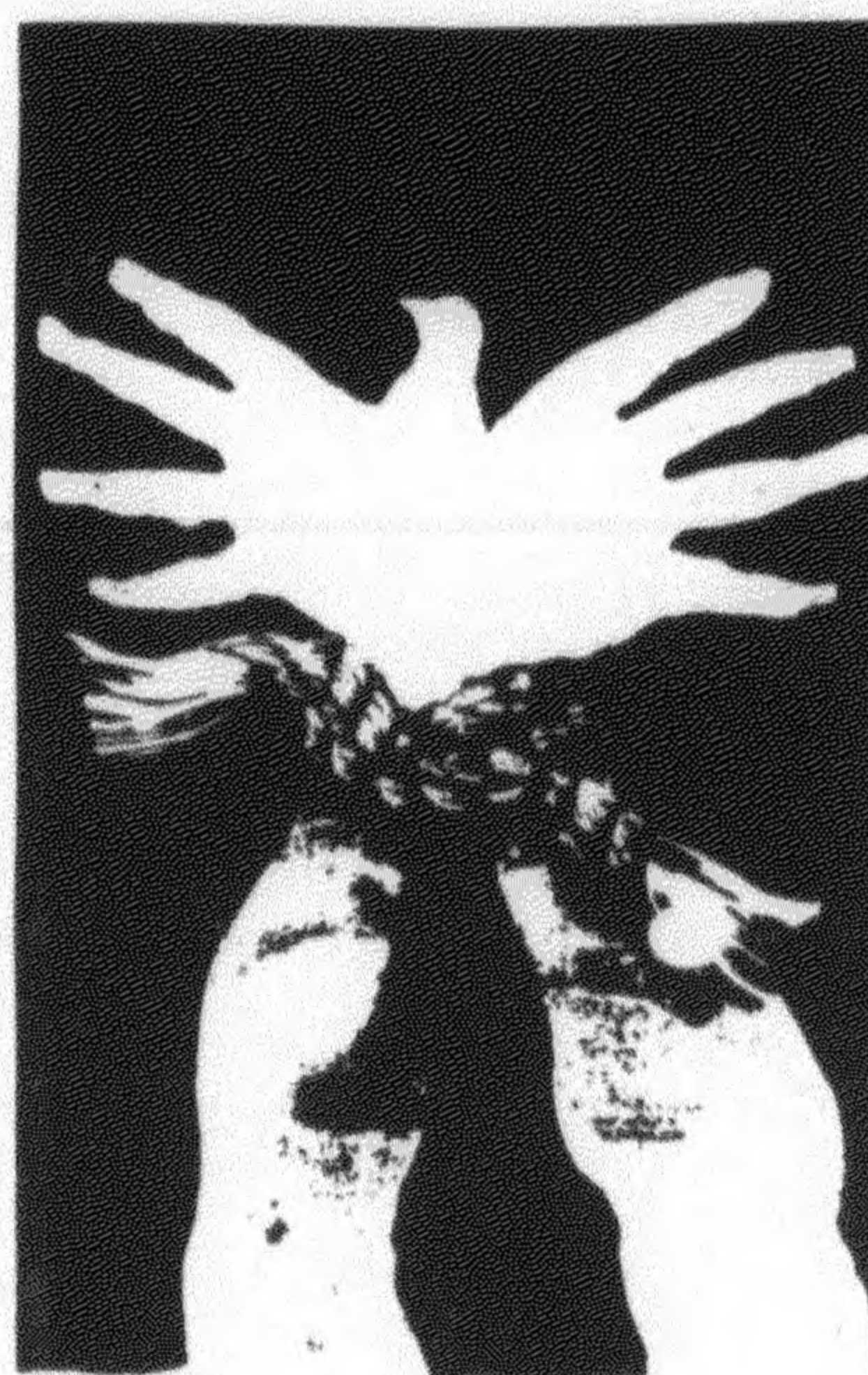
SOUTHERN AFRICA:
STRATEGIES FOR THE 90'S

A CONFERENCE FOR ACTIVISTS
SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1990
DISTRICT 65, U.A.W., NEW YORK CITY

SPEAKERS * WORKSHOPS * MUSIC

NORTHEAST SOUTHERN AFRICA
SOLIDARITY NETWORK

The **Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network (NESASN)** brings together anti-apartheid activists in the trade union movement, the peace and religious community, students, educators, and cultural workers to consolidate their efforts in organizing more effective mass support for the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, the South West Africa Peoples' Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia, and the Front Line States (Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Zambia). The Network includes organizations from twelve states in the northeast, from Maine to Washington, DC, and welcomes participation in the Freedom Rising Conference by all who support our developing program to meet the challenges of the new decade.



"As we enter this decade, it is only logical that friends in the United States should redouble their efforts in support of the struggle for the total decolonization of Namibia, the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa and for an end to the campaign of aggression and destabilization in Southern Africa by the apartheid regime. Such support will go a long way to assist in realising our long cherished goal of Freedom, Justice, and Peace. For these reasons, SWAPO wholeheartedly supports the convening of a Regional Conference by the Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network."

Hinyangerua Asheeke, Representative, South West Africa Peoples' Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia.

"The release of Nelson Mandela and the other ANC leaders is bound to have a profound impact on the course of the freedom struggle in South Africa, as well as being an occasion to celebrate for all who have campaigned for their release. The current situation imposes tremendous challenges to the movement in this country to intensify pressure on the South African government until apartheid has been abolished. The Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network, as an organized structure within the solidarity movement, can only serve to render our collective effort more efficient and strengthen our fighting capacity. The ANC encourages your full participation and support of the Network conference."

Lindiwe Mabuza, Chief Representative of African National Congress (ANC) to the United States.

FREEDOM RISING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: STRATEGIES FOR THE 90'S

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1990
DISTRICT 65 U.A.W.

(Registration - video screenings 8:30-9:30 a.m.)

- 1989 - YEAR OF BEGINNING,
1990 - YEAR OF BUILDING
A Network Report

• **FREEDOM RISING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: CELEBRATING REAL VICTORIES, UNMASKING COSMETIC CHANGE**

A panel discussion with:
LINDIWE MABUZA, Chief Representative of African National Congress(ANC) to the United States.

HINYANGERUA ASHEEKE, Representative, South West Africa Peoples' Organization(SWAPO) of Namibia to the United Nations.

His Excellency MANUEL PEDRO PACAVIRA, Ambassador, Angola Mission to the United Nations.

His Excellency PEDRO COMISSARIO ALFONSO, * Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Peoples' Republic of Mozambique to the United Nations.

*invited

• **SANCTIONS IN A CHANGING CONTEXT - SETTING THE MOVEMENT AGENDA**

AUBREY McCUTCHEON, III Executive Director, Washington Office on Africa

(Brown Bag Lunch - Video Screenings - Constituency meetings.)

- **STRATEGIES FOR THE 90's Network Proposals: Sanctions, Namibia, Shell Boycott**

- **SANCTIONS UNTIL DEMOCRACY - MEETING THE CHALLENGE... Workshops**

8:00 PM
JAM FOR JUSTICE & INDEPENDENCE
* Show of traditional South African women's fashion *
Sechaba Singers * Poetry followed by...
Music * Food * Dancing

Directions to District 65, U.A.W., 13 Astor Place. By car: Astor Place is a block-long, two way street in Greenwich Village running east to west between Broadway and Lafayette Street. It is 5 blocks south of 14th Street and 6 blocks north of Bleeker Street. There is an indoor parking lot on Broadway, just south of Astor Place and an outdoor parking lot on Astor Place across Lafayette Street. By subway: Astor Place stop on the Lexington Avenue subway. 8th Street stop on the #RR Broadway subways.

Endorsing organizations: American Committee on Africa; Baltimore Anti-apartheid Coalition; Boston Mobilization for Survival; Call to Conscience, Philadelphia; Capital District Coalition against Apartheid and Racism; Civil Service Employees Association; Delaware Committee against Racism and Apartheid; Educators against Racism and Apartheid; District 65 U.A.W.; Educators against Racism & Apartheid; Friends of ANC, SWAPO, and Front Line States; Immobilize Apartheid Coalition; Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility; Maine Project on Southern Africa; Martin Luther King Anti-Apartheid Coalition (Philadelphia); Mozambique Support Network of New England; National Lawyers Guild; New Haven Free South Africa Coalition; New Jersey Anti-Apartheid Mobilization Coalition; New York Labor Committee against Apartheid; Philadelphia Friends of SOMAFCO; Rhode Island Divest; Rochester Committee for Justice in Southern Africa; Shell Boycott Education Project; South Africa Women's Day Committee; Southern Africa Action Group, Wesleyan University; Southern Africa Committee for Riverside Church; Student Association of the State University of New York (SASU); Vermont Coalition on Southern Africa; Westchester Peoples' Action Coalition (WESPAC); Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF- Northeast Region); Women for Racial and Economic Equality.

**Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network (NESASN)
P.O. Box 1322
New Haven, CT 06505
(203) 776-1970**

Enclosing 1990 NESASN Membership
\$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$150 _____
Make checks payable to NESASN. Clip off and mail to: NESASN, P.O. Box 1322, New Haven, CT 06505
Note: Limited housing may be available. Please call for further information: (203) 776-1970

Conference Package (before March 8)		On site Registration	\$20
Registration fee	\$10	Limited income	\$12
Lunch (vegetarian?)	\$ 5	Lunch	\$5
Evening program	\$ 5	Evening Program	\$10
Total enclosed	\$ _____	(without Conference Registration)	

Registration Form: **FREEDOM RISING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: STRATEGIES FOR THE 90'S**

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____
Organization _____ Address _____



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

March 1990

A Project of the Social Justice Center

**Next general meeting of the Coalition: Thursday, Mar. 22,
1990 at 7:00 p.m.**

Location: Albany Public Library - Main Branch, Washington Ave.
Albany, New York (Note: meeting will start promptly
at 7 because we must be out of the library at 9 sharp.)

Agenda for the March Meeting:

Recognition of Namibian Independence Day, Mar. 21st,
1990 with a video update and a short presentation on
what's happening in Namibia now.

Report from Coalition Police Abuse Committee - results
of meeting with Police Chief Dale. What next?

Report from the Mandela Reception Committee including
"Sanctions Worked - Sanctions Now!"



Note that "South Africa Now" is aired locally on Sundays at 2:00 pm on PBS
Cable Channel 47.

Please note that a special membership letter was sent out requesting
a \$5.00 membership fee for 1990. Thanks to all who generously re-
sponded to this appeal. If you have not yet responded, your help is
needed. Make checks payable to: Capital District Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism and mail to Box 3002, Pine Hills Station, Albany,
New York 12203.

Albany police policy changes

By Jay Jochowitz THE TIMES UNION

Staff writer Albany, N.Y., Tuesday, Feb. 27, 1990

ALBANY - In two policy changes hailed by minority leaders and activists, Police Chief John Dale on Monday agreed to allow advocates to accompany people filing misconduct charges against police officers and to restrict his department's photographic surveillance of public demonstrations.

The changes resulted from a two-hour meeting between Dale and several leaders and activists in the

minority community. Both sides emerged optimistic the session was a step toward better relations.

"I enjoy this type of meeting," said Dale, contrasting the gathering with the public — and often tense — sessions of the city's Community-Police Relations Board on which police, minorities and various other community representatives sit.

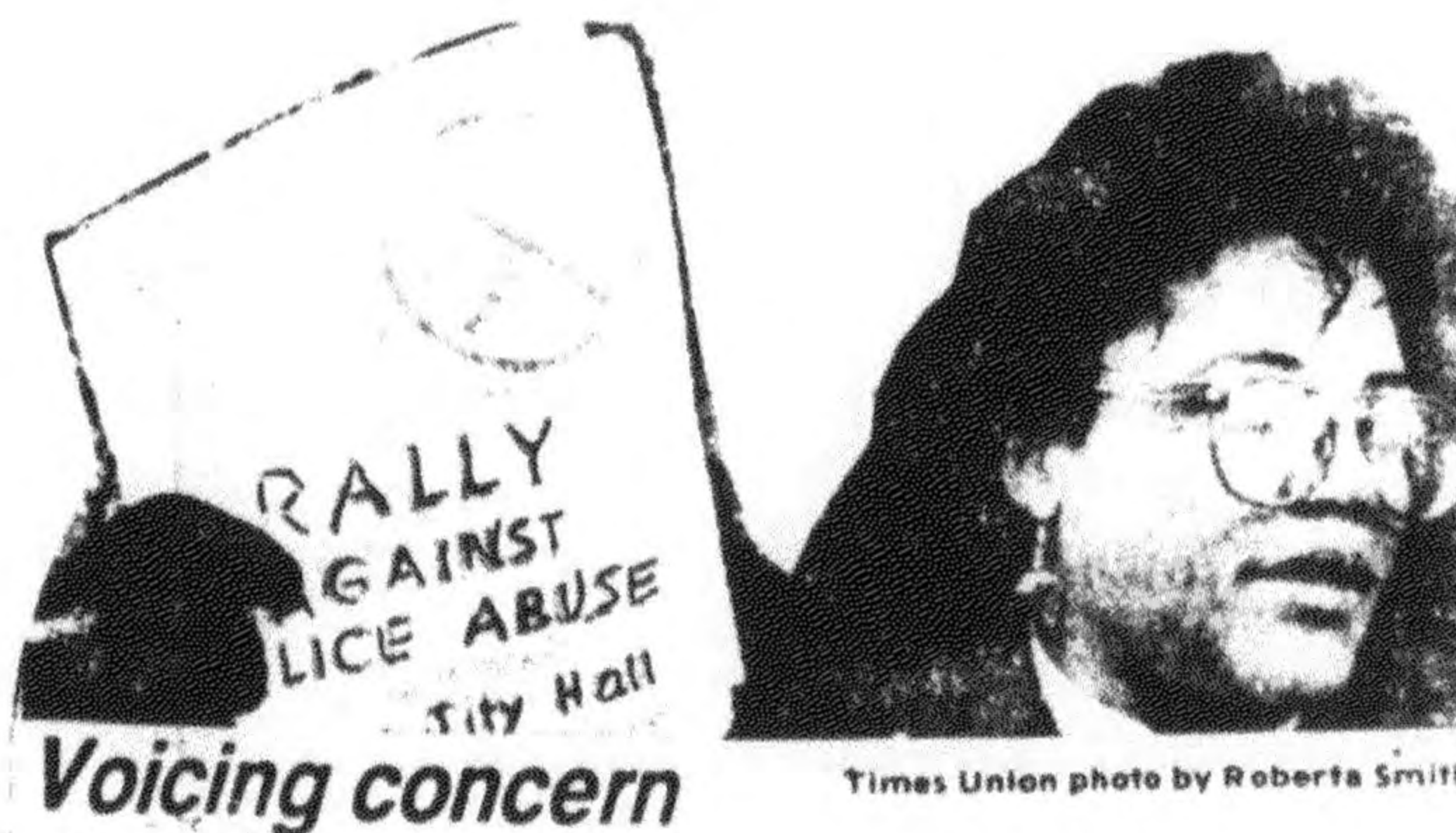
"They're a lot less formal. I have the opportunity to say what I want to say, and the citizens have a chance to voice their concern. I think it was more or less setting the groundwork for others," Dale said.

Albany County Legislator James Bouldin, whose 3rd District includes the predominantly black Arbor Hill neighborhood, also emerged cautiously upbeat. "I'm hopeful," said Bouldin, who was invited by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism to sit in on the session. "It was a first step."

Dale addressed one perceived problem with his department's internal-affairs investigations by agreeing to allow people making complaints against officers to be accompanied by someone else. The presence of a third party, he and others said, was aimed at providing support for people who would otherwise be afraid to report a complaint.

"It was very intimidating," Bouldin said of the previous procedure that barred third parties from being present while people were interviewed by internal-affairs detectives. "Some people came out of there kind of bewildered, intimidated, and that's not going to help the case."

Alice Green, head of the legislative office of the New York Civil Liberties Union and a vocal critic of the department's approach to brutality and misconduct cases, also expressed



Voicing concern

Vickie Smith of the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

decision, predicting that it would result in more complaints.

"Certainly it will encourage people to file complaints if they know someone can be with them at that critical time," she said.

Dale will also restrict police photographing of public demonstrations, stating that officers will be permitted to conduct such surveillance at gatherings only on his approval. Former Chief John Reid maintained that the department needed photos for surveillance and training purposes, and the decisions were made by detectives and commanders.

Activists and attorneys have argued for several years that the practice raises constitutional questions and threatens to have a chilling effect on public expression. The debate resurfaced last week when plainclothes police showed up to get snapshots of demonstrators at City Hall protesting allegations of police brutality. Most in Monday's meeting were among the crowd.

Demonstrators openly questioned why police needed to covertly photograph the peaceful demonstration, and Dale said Monday that "at that particular demonstration I don't feel it was warranted." He said the participants were well-known to police and posed no threat.

While activists have argued for a civilian review board empowered to investigate misconduct cases and recommend discipline, Dale remained firm on his and Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III's position that it is strictly a Police Department function.

To get involved in the Police Abuse Committee of the Coalition, call 434 4037. Your help is crucial!

What are "sanctions"?

Sanctions are actions taken by governments or individuals to express their disapproval of, punish or modify the behavior of another country. The term most often refers to economic measures by governments that impose penalties on other states. When words alone seem too little and war too drastic a response, economic sanctions are one of the few remaining actions governments can take.

Sanctions can range from weak, symbolic penalties to full economic warfare. Proponents of strong sanctions against South Africa usually seek *mandatory comprehensive economic sanctions*. These would include trade embargoes that cut off imports and exports, as well as bans on financial relationships such as bank loans or direct corporate investment. Formal sanctions against South Africa, in effect, complement at the federal level what state and local activists have long worked for with the divestment movement.

Internationally, the United Nations Security Council can enforce *mandatory* sanctions that are considered legally binding on member countries.



The Mandela Reception Committee of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism is joining the call for a strong sanctions campaign. FILL OUT AND SEND THE BALLOT BELOW. For more ballots for your organization or to join the Mandela Reception Committee call 432-4623.

- VOTE for Democracy
- VOTE for Sanctions

BALLOT

DEMOCRACY

YES, every South African deserves full democracy — the right to vote. I vote yes to the call for one person, one vote in a unified, nonracial South Africa.

NO, I don't believe that democracy is the answer for South Africa. I vote no to democracy.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

SANCTIONS

YES, true democracy will come to South Africa only when the government is under real pressure. That is why I vote for comprehensive mandatory sanctions immediately.

NO, we don't need to pressure the white minority government. I vote no to sanctions against apartheid.

The Africa Fund will mail your ballot for democracy to the people of South Africa to register your support for their demands. The ballot for sanctions will be delivered to Congress to aid the push for comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.

I've enclosed my contribution to support the campaign.

RETURN TO: VOTE DEMOCRACY CAMPAIGN, The Africa Fund, 198 Broadway, New York, NY 10038

5.

Sanctions are Working

The international campaign to isolate apartheid South Africa has had a devastating effect on the white minority regime. Sanctions have been the strongest outside pressure and have been one of the factors which has forced the Pretoria government to free Mandela and to unban the A.N.C. Randall Robinson, executive director of TransAfrica, said "Until sanctions were imposed four years ago, we saw no change in apartheid since it was codified in 1948."

Now is the time for the international community to intensify the pressure for comprehensive sanctions.

Since the imposition of sanctions South Africa has lost \$6 billion in international trade and \$11 billion in investments. South African economic growth declined from a 6 percent annual growth rate in the 1960s to 3 percent in the 1970s and 2 percent in the 1980s. Herman Cohen, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs was quoted in the New York Times on the impact of sanctions: "Sanctions have had a substantial impact on persuading white South Africans of the need for a negotiated settlement."

Now is the time for the international community to intensify the pressure for comprehensive sanctions.

Lindiwe Mabuza, Chief Representative in the U.S.A. of the African National Congress has stressed the need for continued sanctions. "No country should, because of the release of Nelson Mandela and the unbanning of the ANC, think that apartheid is over. The reason for applying sanctions is apartheid. Apartheid still remains intact. Until we have in South Africa the possibility of a non-racial, democratic society and we have a new constitutional order, we think the rest of the world has a responsibility to maintain the pressure."

Now is the time for the international community to intensify the pressure for comprehensive sanctions.

On the day of his release from 27 years in apartheid jails, Nelson Mandela called on "the international community to continue the campaign to isolate the apartheid regime. To lift sanctions now would be to run the risk of aborting the process of complete eradication of apartheid."

21. a comprehensive sanctions bill, has been introduced in the House by Rep. Ronald Dellums (D-Calif.), chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, and in the Senate by Sens. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass), Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) and Paul Simon (D-Ill.).

ARCHBISHOP TUTU'S VISIT TO PALESTINE

by David Aube of the Capital District Committee for Palestinian Rights

On a visit this past January to Occupied Palestine, I had the opportunity to speak with the Anglican Bishop of the Middle East, Samir Kafity concerning the visit of South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu's visit to Palestine. Bishop Kafity, who invited Tutu, stated he came on a pilgrimage to visit the holy land over Christmas. During the trip, Bishop Tutu prayed for genuine peace between Palestinians and Israelis.

Archbishop Tutu came under attack from the press and Israeli apologists when he made two Christian calls for peace. 1. He stated "if we support as Christians the security of Israel we must support the establishment of a Palestinian state." 2. After a visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust museum, the Archbishop responded to the question, "What do you tell the Israelis after what you have seen?" Tutu said that he deplored the Holocaust and "as a Christian I ask them to forgive not to forget. We have to forgive, start a new chapter, be forward looking." The statement was a basic Christian call for forgiveness.

The Archbishop was attacked because he supported Palestinian rights and the avenue of attack was his Christian call for forgiveness. Yet when these same Christian beliefs are applied to the situation in South Africa by the Archbishop, they do not invoke similar criticism or campaigns to discredit him.

NOTE: THE CAPITAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS WILL HOLD A PALESTINIAN DINNER ON FRI. MARCH 23RD AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, 283 CENTRAL AVE. ALBANY. FOR TICKETS CALL 434-4037.

OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE CAPITAL DISTRICT:

"SOUTH AFRICA: THE CORDONED HEART" PHOTO EXHIBIT AT THE STATE MUSEUM. SEE THIRD PAGE OF NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS.

ANGELA DAVIS TO SPEAK AT SUNY, ALBANY CAMPUS. TENTATIVE DATE SET FOR LATE APRIL. CHECK WITH SUNY FOR MORE DETAILS.

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO COMMEMORATION AND MARCH TO END THE U.S. WAR IN CENTRAL AMERICA - MARCH ON WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1990. LOCAL CONTACT: PLEDGE OF RESISTANCE AND CISPES. CALL FOR TICKETS OR INFORMATION, 434-4037.

ALSO NOTE: PEACE OFFERINGS, THE CAPITAL DISTRICT'S ALTERNATIVE STORE LOCATED IN THE SOCIAL JUSTICE CENTER, 33 CENTRAL AVENUE, ALBANY, OFFERS A WIDE SELECTION OF GIFT ITEMS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. OPEN MON THROUGH SAT., 12-6.



"South Africa: The Cordoned Heart"

The tragedy of apartheid and the ravages of a divided society are captured in the works of 20 South African photographers on exhibit in *South Africa: The Cordoned Heart* at the New York State Museum in Albany from March 31 to May 1, 1990. The above photo is from a book of the same name.

The exhibit takes the viewer on a journey into the heart of the apartheid state: sprawling squatter camps of South Africa's segregated cities, the overcrowded and impoverished Black rural areas, the homes of the old and the unemployed, the migrant compounds where workers live far from their families in heavily policed and isolated hostels, the mass protest meetings of workers and students, and the inevitable funerals. The brutality and poverty and horror of apartheid are painfully evident but the photographers also capture the dignity and pride of a people who have been long oppressed by the white minority regime.

This important exhibit will be accompanied by five nights of movies which are also strong statements about apartheid and its impact on the lives of South Africans. The movies will be shown on Friday evenings and will include the recently released film *Mapantsula*, which depicts life in a township. A reception and a panel discussion are also planned.

We urge you to see this exhibit and these films - for more information about the film schedule, call the museum at 474-5577.



Mandela release celebrated

Students at the State University of New York at Albany celebrate the release of Nelson Mandela during a special rally at the campus last week. Mandela, the leader of the African National Congress, was freed by the South African government after spending nearly 30 years in prison. Mandela has led the fight against apartheid.

Gazette photo by Nacom Romero

African National Congress Unbanned

On February 2, 1990, South African President F.W. deKlerk announced the unbanning of the African National Congress, the South African Communist Party and other organizations. This is an important first step and the release of Nelson Mandela on February 11th was another important step but it is essential to note that the cornerstones of apartheid remain intact and that the conditions for negotiations as established by the people of South Africa and by the Harare Declaration have not yet been met.

The people of South Africa had "de facto" unbanned the ANC before deKlerk's announcement. In other words, the government was only recognizing a reality that in many ways already existed. The people of South Africa forced F.W. deKlerk to take these actions and for them it is a great victory.

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

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Vera Michelson

13 Pennsylvania Ave.
Albany, NY 12206

Next general meeting: Mar. 22,
Albany Public Library



Africa It Is Ours!

Sunday Morning at 9:15 Eastern Standard Time, Feb., 11, 1990, Victor Verster Prison, Paarl, South Africa ---
Nelson Mandela, the 71 year old symbol of Black South Africa's resistance to apartheid, walked out of prison tall and erect, holding his wife's hand, surrounded by chants of "Viva Mandela." A few hours later in Capetown he spoke to a half a million jubilant supporters: "WE HAVE WAITED TOO LONG FOR OUR FREEDOM. WE CAN NO LONGER WAIT. NOW IS THE TIME TO INTENSIFY THE STRUGGLE ON ALL FRONTS."

Mandela is not a free man. He is not even a citizen in the country of his birth. But the pressure from within South Africa and from the international community have served notice on the apartheid regime and its backers that freedom will not wait.

FORUM ON POLITICAL PRISONERS



SUNDAY FEB. 18 - 2 P.M.
TEMPEL BETHEL
153 JAY STREET ALBANY N.Y.
BETWEEN SWAN & DOVE STREETS ALBANY 434-4056

SPONSORED BY--- THE FREEDOM FOR HERMAN FERGUSON COMMITTEE

CO-SPONSORED BY--

CAPITAL DISTRICT COLATION AGAINST APARTHEID & RACISM
MALCOLM X STUDY NETWORK

SPEAKERS--

FATHER LAWRENCE LUCAS, PASTOR, CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION
AUTHOR OF: BLACK PRIEST WHITE CHURCH

MERTON SIMPSON: CO-CHAIRMAN CAPITAL DISTRICT COLATION
AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM

JABARI PENDA: MALCOLM X STUDY NETWORK

IYALUUA FERGUSON: ACTIVIST & WIFE OF POLITICAL PRISONER
HERMAN FERGUSON

MODERATOR

SUNNY CARSON: COMMUNITY ACTIVIST



Albany Upstate Chapter of Blacks in Government

P.O. Box 2140 Empire State Plaza Station, Albany, N.Y. 12220-2140

J. Raymond Wright
President

Mary Berrings
Vice President

Treasurer

Jeannine Dominique
Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Parliamentarian

**Donna Perry and
Merton Simpson**
Members-at-Large

**James Bouldin and
Colwyn Allen**
Alternate Regional Delegates

Dear Member:

It's been along time since we've had a full meeting of the group. Many of you have been working effectively independently and others have been working in small groups. Unfortunately some of you feel the organization has died or fallen into a deep sleep ---nothing could be further from the truth. The organization is very much alive, just not as noisy. But it's time to make some noise and take care of some family business. We usually reserve this time of the year for our serious economical throw-down, to raise some operating cash, become reacquainted, reaffirm our goals and make new friends. This year should not be different but it might be difficult ---- TIME HAS ALMOST RUN OUT, BUT THERE'S STILL SOME LEFT. It will require a great deal of effort from all of us to make it work. First we have to elect officers for 1990, then we have to set an agenda, commit ourselves to the work and GET BUSY!

Our membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 28th at the Washington Avenue Albany Public Library at 6 P.M.

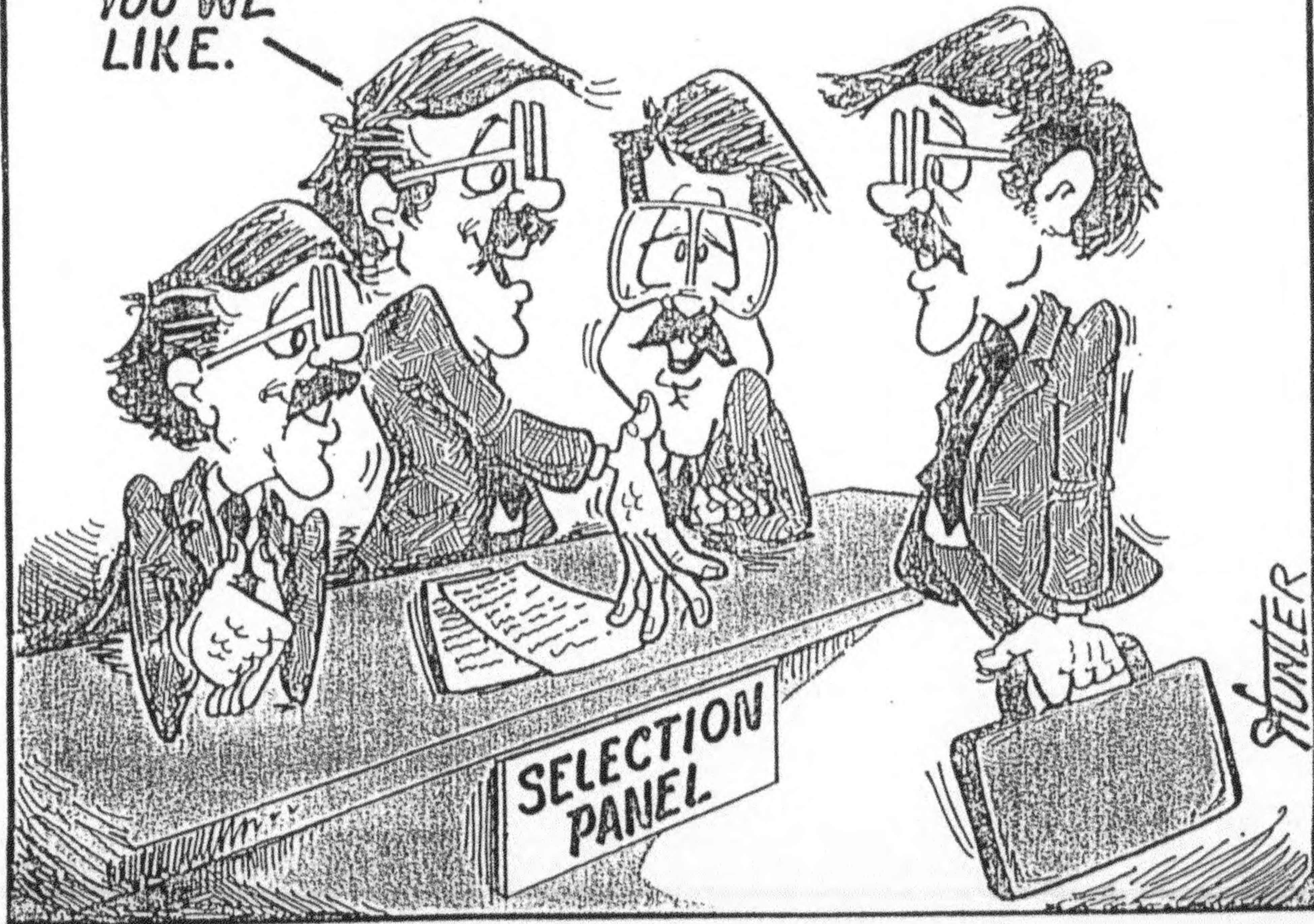
AGENDA:

- o Nominations of Officers
- o Throw-down Fund Raiser Plans
- o BIG Sponsorship of a NY City Theater Trip for School 20 Kids
- o BIG Sponsorship of Street Academy Reunion
- o Mandella and South Africa - What you should know and its impact on the world.

Recent events in South Africa have focused new attention on the issues, organizations, the Government and Nelson Mandella. It's assumed that most people have a reasonable handle on the basic facts. Most of what we know is brought to us by the press, which is often censored or has a point of view that has limited input from the people. This months meeting will define the terms you often hear and give you some greater, probably more accurate, views from the South African perspective. Our guests will be Nathi Ngcobo and Shobahna Ghopal. You may not recognize their names but you have seen their faces and heard their voices on TV and Radio speaking out on South African issues and adding a grass roots perspective to their scholarly presentations. This will be a very informative program and will be open to the public.

Help Build the Network - - - - - JOIN BIG

CHARLIE? THERE'S
SOMETHING ABOUT
YOU WE
LIKE.



REGION

Tuesday, February 20, 1990

Troy, N.Y.

Albany protest



Ronald Greer, who says he was beaten by Albany Police after a racial incident, speaks during a protest of alleged police brutality in Albany. At left, in glasses, is Vickie Smith of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, who is also a member of the City of Albany's Police-Community Relations Board. Between Greer and Smith is Dr. Alice Green of the American Civil Liberties Union. The protest, held at Albany City Hall, was organized by the Coalition. Coalition representatives will meet next week with Albany Police Chief John Dale. (Record photo by Luanne M. Ferris)

State union gave to political campaign

By TERRY O'BRIEN
Record Capitol Reporter

ALBANY — The state's largest white-collar public employee union shelled out nearly \$90,000 in contributions in 1989 to the campaign committees of state legislators.

The 59,000-member Public Employees Federation is expected to significantly increase political action committee spending this year as lawmakers gear up for their reelection campaigns. The union made \$10,400 in PAC contributions in January, according to a union listing of its PAC spending.

PEF leaders earlier this month approved a \$17.4 million union budget for 1990-91 that represents a 20 percent increase over the previous year. Much of that increased spending will go toward public relations activities and increased lobbying of the State Legislature, union officials say.

Last year's largest single cam-

paign contribution, \$10,750, went to the Republican New York Senate Campaign Committee GOP, which controls the Senate, is expected to get a fight this year from Democrats who need just four seats to turn the Republican majority. PEF also contributed \$5,000 to the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee, just in case.

Other large contributions went to the Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee (\$7,000) and the Republican Assembly Campaign Committee (\$6,250).

Locally, State Sen. Joseph P. Bruno, R-Brunswick, and Sen. H. Farley, R-Niskayuna, were the legislators who received the highest contributions to date from PEF in 1989, each \$1,000 apiece.

Other local lawmakers with PEF contributions in 1989 were Assemblyman Neil Kelleher, Troy (\$500); Assemblyman Tedisco, R-Schenectady

New superintendent

Man Rescues Brother From Lake Accident

By LEE COLEMAN
Gazette Reporter
SARATOGA SPRINGS — A city man jumped back into the bitterly cold waters of Saratoga Lake late yesterday afternoon to rescue his younger brother after the snowmobile they were riding hit open water and sank off the west shore of the lake.

"The older brother really saved him," said Jack Baker of Wilton, one of two men who helped pull Richard Winslow, 23, and his brother, William Winslow, 12, out of the lake shortly after 5 p.m. yesterday. The Winslows both live at 31 York Ave.

Baker, an employee of the Wilton Town Highway Department, said he was ice fishing on the lake when he saw the 1987 Yamaha snowmobile heading south down the lake.

"They were moving and heading right for that open area near the Kayaderosseras Creek empties into the lake in Saratoga Springs.

Baker saw them go down in the open water. He said the ice near the edge of the open water was "nice and thick," allowing the older Winslow to swim to the edge easily and get up onto the ice.

However, he looked back and noticed that his brother Billy, was having some trouble. He went back into the water to make sure his brother didn't go under.

"I flagged down a snowmobile and he brought in the little guy on the snowmobile," said Baker.

The snowmobile operator brought the younger Winslow to the Lakeside Market, located across the lake on Route 9N, and market employee Mary Cedillo gave him hot cocoa.

The older Winslow was taken to a camp on the lake so he could warm up while rescue personnel were called. Both Winslows were then taken to Saratoga Hospital by the Malta Ambulance Corps. They were treated for minor cases of hypothermia and released.

Just over a year ago, a local man lost his life when the all-terrain vehicle he and a Connecticut man were riding on the lake hit an open area and sank off the east shore near the Northview Boat Livery on Route 9P. The accident occurred on Jan. 24, 1989.

George Pravda, owner of the Lakeside Market where the younger Winslow was taken, said it's not unusual for a snowmobile or truck to fall through the ice or go down in open areas of the lake during the winter. Pravda's son, Tom, was on the lake and helped bring at least one of the victims to shore.

"They just don't realize until they are in it," Pravda said of vehicles that eventually hit open water. State police recently warned people about driving vehicles on the lake's ice.

Pravda said it was especially dangerous in the area where the Kayaderosseras empties into the lake. "You have to know the lake," Pravda said.

He confirmed that the older Winslow jumped back into the water to help his younger brother. He said Baker and Robert Paskiewicz, of Route 9P, Saratoga Lake, used rope and a life jacket to pull the two drenched Winslows from the open portion of the lake.

Zurlo said the investigation is continuing.

Latham Teen 'Serious' After ATV Accident

COLONIE — A Latham teen-ager was in serious condition at the Albany Medical Center Hospital yesterday after the all-terrain vehicle he was driving plunged down an embankment along Forts Ferry Road on Sunday evening, police said.

Christopher M. Dodge, 18, of Brookwood Drive, was in the intensive care unit last night being treated for head, chest and facial injuries he suffered in the accident, according to



CALL FOR JUSTICE — Alice Green, left, a leader of Albany's black community, gestures toward Ronald Greer, who is suing the city, claiming he was the victim of police brutality. They and Greer's attorney, Mark Mishler, were part of a rally in front of City Hall yesterday called to protest alleged police abuse of minorities. (Gazette Photo — Sid Brown)

Independent Police Review Board Needed in Albany, Say Protesters

By LINDA BARNAS
Gazette Reporter
ALBANY — Demonstrators at a City Hall rally yesterday called for creation of an independent police review board to combat what they said is repeated police abuse of black and Hispanic men.

"Anybody who practices criminal law in the city of Albany knows that their clients are beaten up and brutalized by members of the Albany Police Department," said lawyer Mark Mishler.

Some of the protesters at the sparsely attended rally, organized by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, described their own or their relatives' alleged mistreatment at the hands of police.

Ronald Greer, a client of Mishler who is suing the city, said he was arrested and injured after he questioned officers arresting some of his friends. When he persisted in asking why only blacks were being arrested, he was seized and beaten, he said, with one officer jumping on his chest and breaking his rib.

The criminal charges against Greer were dismissed, although the district attorney's office is seeking to reinstate them, Mishler said. An investigation by the department's internal affairs unit, which handles complaints of misconduct, found that the police action was justified.

Marjorie Sims, the mother of 23-year-old McKinley Branch, said her son was arrested and beaten by police who stopped him for no reason as he was driving her Mercedes on Swan Street.

Dick Gregory Tells SCCC Audience That He's Happy to Be an Agitator

By JEFF WILKIN
Gazette Reporter

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Demonstrators protest alleged brutality by Albany police

Coalition to meet with police chief next week

By Jay Jochowitz

Staff writer

ALBANY — Demonstrators gathered on the steps of City Hall Monday to protest alleged police brutality and announce a meeting with Chief John Dale next week.

The meeting between Dale and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism is considered to be the first time in recent memory that an activist group has arranged a face-to-face talk with an Albany police chief on such an issue. Dale is expected to be confronted with demands that the department end the alleged use of excessive force and racial profiles in targeting drug suspects.

The coalition said it will further press Dale to support an independent civilian review board which would have the power to investigate allegations of police brutality and misconduct and make recommendations on disciplinary action.

"We should be able to hold the police accountable for what they do," said coalition representative Vickie Smith, who also serves on the city's Police-Community Relations Board. About three-dozen people attended the rally.

The coalition also is expected to ask Dale to investigate one narcotics detective who has been dubbed "Batman" for his alleged use of a baseball bat during interrogations. The officer, identified as Kenneth Sutton of the department's Special Investigations Unit by Albany defense attorney Terrence Kindon, apparently earned the name from a complaint filed last year.

Sutton, Kindon said, was cited in an Internal Affairs complaint made by Robert Butler, a man stopped for questioning last September. Butler maintained in the complaint that Sutton hit him with a bat and he required medical attention.

Butler was later charged with striking police officers.

Police spokesman Sgt. Robert Wolfgang was unfamiliar with the allegations. "I don't know anyone who has been referred to as (Batman) nor do I know of anyone who's involved in that type of activity," he said.

Wolfgang also disputed the coalition's claim that the department cannot investigate its own. "It's our contention that we do thoroughly investigate any complaints that are brought to us and take appropriate action if any misconduct is uncovered," said Wolfgang.

At the rally, Smith and others repeated assertions that police, particularly in the department's detective and Special Investigations Unit, systematically have been targeting and abusing minorities.

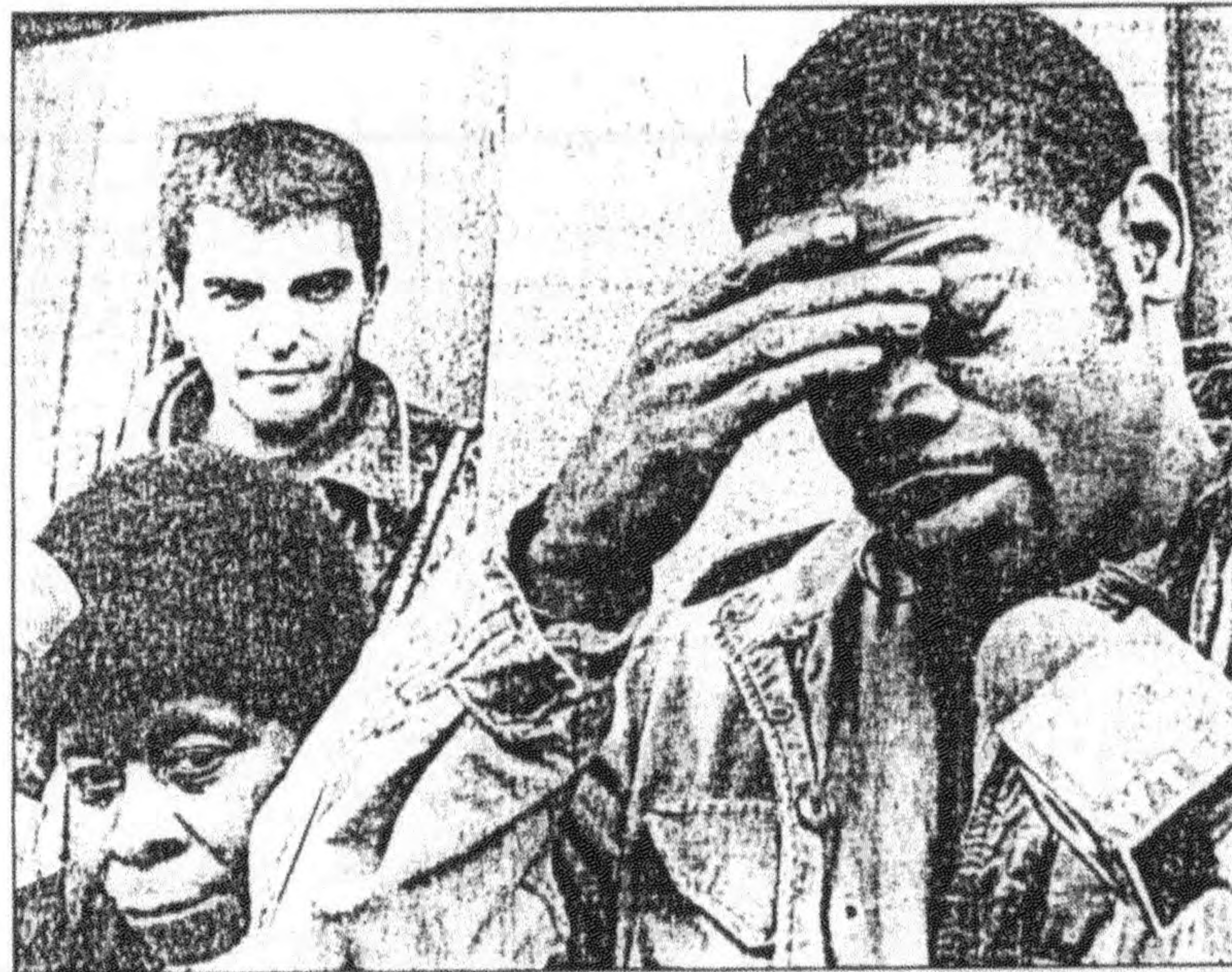
Alice Green, head of the Albany office of the New York Civil Liberties Union, accused police of treating blacks "as animals" and cited routine searches and arrests of blacks and Hispanics at the Greyhound bus terminal downtown. "The sad thing is that the community has not become outraged," she said.

Several people gave accounts of incidents of abuse, among them Marjorie Simms, the mother of a black man who said her son was beaten during an arrest on drug charges that would later be dropped.

Simms' son, McKinley Branch Jr., 23, was arrested Nov. 10 on North Swan Street on drug charges after he allegedly gave a quantity of cocaine to a 14-year-old earlier in the day. Branch also allegedly flailed at narcotics officers and was charged with resisting arrest and obstruction of governmental administration.

But the charges were later reduced to a non-criminal count of disorderly conduct, said Branch's attorney, Mark Mishler.

Police acknowledged Branch sustained a lump on top of his head during his apprehension, stating in their arrest report they used a "reasonable amount of force" to take him into custody. Mishler said Branch has filed a notice of claim signaling his intent to sue the city.



BEATINGS ALLEGED — Ronald Greir, at right, speaks Monday in front of about 36 people assembled in front of Albany City Hall. Greir claimed to have been beaten by an Albany police officer.

Colonie gets fewer recyclables than expected

By Vincent Jackson

Staff writer

COLONIE — Town residents are participating in a five-month-old voluntary recycling program at less than expected levels.

Officials anticipated that after each month of operation, 1 percent of residential waste in the town would be diverted from the town landfill for recycling.

Joseph Stockbridge, the town's environmental services director, said that for the first three months of the program, there was an increase every month in people bringing their recyclable newspaper, glass, plastics, cardboard, and metals to collection stations.

By December, 3 percent of the residential trash was being kept out of the landfill, which handled 250 to 270 tons of material. Since then, the growth in the program has been flat.

"The rate of increase has not been there in December or January," Stockbridge said. He said

either it has not been conveyed effectively enough that the voluntary program has started, or there's a lack of understanding how it works.

The voluntary recycling program started last Sept. 17 and was preceded by TV commercials featuring Colonie Town Supervisor Fred Field and a mass mailing to every household.

"Part of the difficulty is that people need to bring these things to a location," said Gerald Magnes, the Shaker Ridge-Vly Road Neighborhood Association president. "It takes a special effort, at least that's my observation."

Magnes said the yard waste program gets better cooperation from residents because they do not have to leave their homes to participate.

The voluntary recycling program works on the principle that residents will bring their recyclable material to a drop-off location that has specific times for collection.

"At our last board meeting, we did express confusion about what items are recycled and

which are not," said Sonia Jonas, the Newtonville Neighborhood Association vice president. "There needs to be more of an educational program in the town for the voluntary recycling program."

Stockbridge said there are plans to have an education campaign about recycling in the schools within the town.

There have also been discussions to increase awareness through placing something on town bills or envelopes that are mailed to residents.

The mailing that will be sent out next month about the town yard waste program may include information about the voluntary recycling program, according to Stockbridge.

Town officials have undertaken the voluntary recycling effort to keep residential waste from filling up the town landfill.

A mandatory program is scheduled to start in July, and more residents are expected to make use of it because the recyclables will be picked up at curbside.

Driver listed serious after accident

COLONIE — An 18-year-old Latham man was listed in serious condition in Albany Medical Center Hospital Monday after the all-terrain vehicle he was driving on Forts Ferry Road went out of control and ran down an embankment, authorities said.

Christopher M. Dodge of 36 Brookwood Drive was being treated in the intensive-care unit after the Sunday night accident that also left a passenger on the ATV, Cory Van Bergen, with minor injuries. Van Bergen, 16, also of Latham, was not hospitalized, police said.

Neither Dodge nor Van Bergen was wearing helmets when the westbound vehicle failed to negotiate a turn near 214 Forts Ferry Road.

Colonie police said the investigation by Sgt. Joseph P. Fitzsimmons and Investigator D.A. Mesick is continuing.

A room of one's own



compliance.

A strong incentive, of course. But even then only three of the five members of the Board were in favor of creating the district. The supervisor wanted the proposed district's views before casting his vote.

So last week there were two days of straw votes, and the surprising result is that the affected citizenry is more socially conscious than the Town Board. The vote was 104 to 42 for the creation of the district, which means those voting in favor were asking for an increase in their own taxes of \$200 to \$300 a year.

This is no small consideration, and it is money that is behind the entire foot-dragging sewer system problem in Warrensburg. One incredibly conservative Town Board after another has made a full-time hobby of avoiding the letter and spirit of the law by pledging not to spend a nickel it wasn't forced to. State agencies charged with enforcing the politically unpopular environmental laws have let them get away with it, often because the message from their own top officials was mixed, or worse.

Ultimately, sewage has remained sewage, and the law the law. The foot dragging has not done the town any favors at all, because what is now a \$4.7 million project, with state and federal aid down around 40 percent to 50 percent, was a fraction of that 10 years ago — with aid close to 90 percent.

So, Warrensburg has some catching up to do, as the town is well aware. The sewer district is only a part of it, because the same fiscal head-in-the-sand policy is coming home to roost in two other significant areas: schools and the town landfill.

The state Education Department has put the school district on notice for physical plant violations. As a result, the district, which is somewhat bigger than the town of Warrensburg, faces a \$4 million bond vote. Last year, district voters turned down a \$6.5 million proposal.

And, the town landfill — already higher than a telephone pole — faces \$1.5 million closure costs, probably within a year.

To say yes to new taxes at the moment is indeed a brave thing to do. So, as I say, two cheers for Warrensburg. We'll withhold the third cheer pending completion of the project, since Warrensburg has shown there can be many a slip 'twixt straw vote and sewer system. They've been on the right track before and wandered off.

Now, we can focus attention on Luzerne, where raw sewage still is piped into the Hudson, and Stillwater below that, which has a broken-down primary treatment system that might as well not exist.

the emotional scars of those who served there.

Parson labeled the trip a "psychological tour of duty."

"Many groups have returned but for reasons other than ours," he said. "Our reason to go back ... was to overcome the trauma of the war."

The participants were carefully "screened to make sure they could tolerate the kind of stress that is produced by going back to those old battlefields," he said.

See RETURN / B-5

By Jack Medigan

RELIVING THE PAST — Erwin R. Parson at work in his Guilderland home, above, and, at right, alighting from a helicopter at a Vietnam War battle site.



2 seek to ease burden of other nurse veterans

By Michael Lopez

Staff writer

ALBANY — Judi Scott and Shirley M. Wilson found out by chance that each had served in the Vietnam War.

A stray, now-forgotten remark, something only a military nurse would know, got the two Russell Sage graduate students talking about their wartime service.

It was a relief to talk about the memories, such a relief, in fact, that Scott and Wilson decided to find other Vietnam-era nurses and help them "put some of those ghosts to rest."

Scott said.

Their support group — the first in the Capital District for Vietnam-era nurses — is meant to help the women overcome the shame, guilt and other problems, such as depression, they may feel as a result of their service in the war.

The group will meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Vet Center and Readjustment Counseling Services at 875 Central Ave. If the first meeting fails to draw people, Wilson said she and Scott will keep trying to reach veteran nurses and schedule alternative meeting dates.

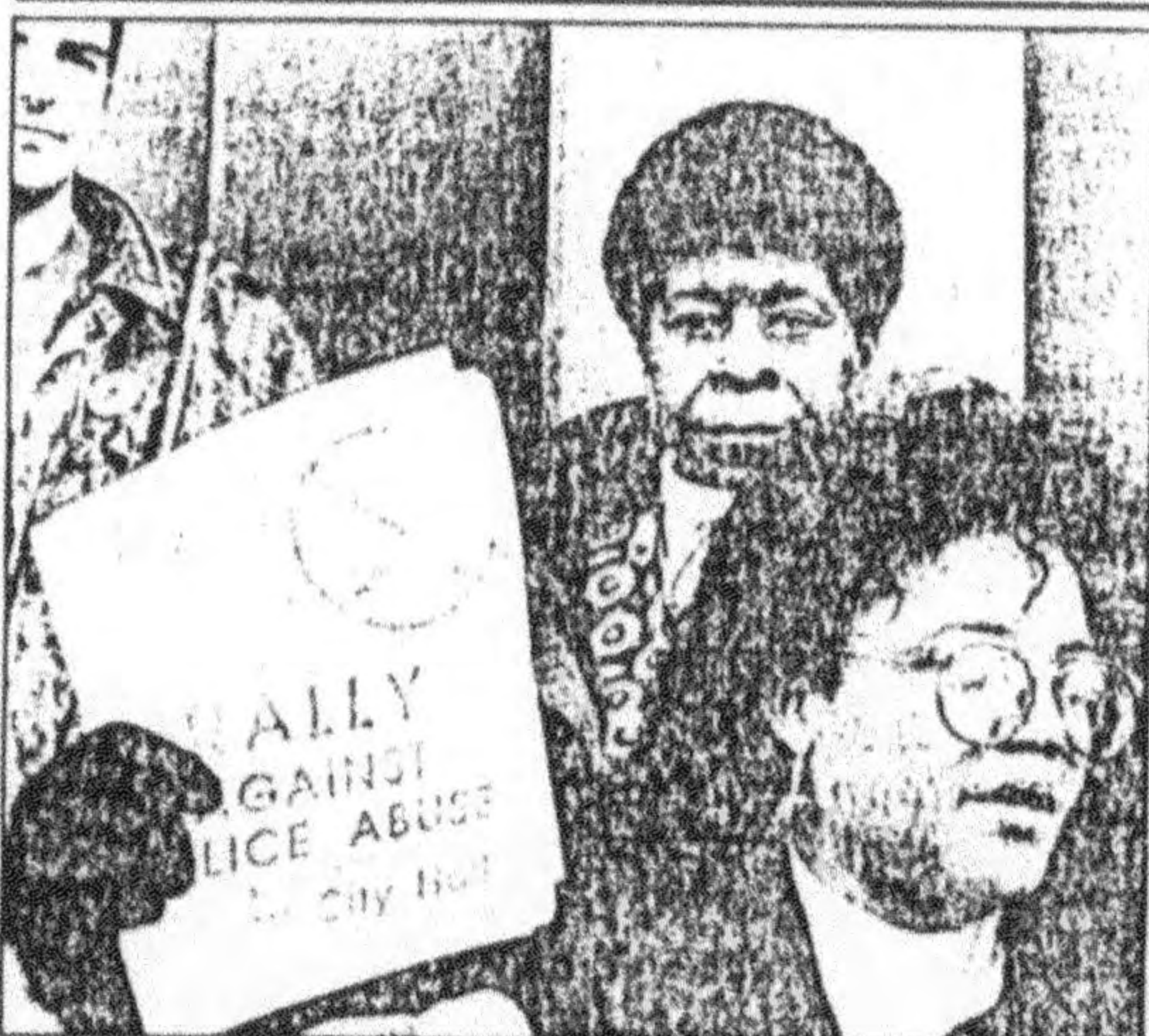
It's difficult to say how many nurses who

served in the war live and work in the Capital District, said Cate Regan, a readjustment and counseling therapist.

Many female vets — because of negative stereotypes that labeled them as "man-crazy," for instance — are unwilling to admit that they served in an unpopular war.

The support group may help them cope with survivor guilt, depression or post-traumatic stress disorder. Years later, the women might still be haunted by sexual harassment they were exposed to in the military, Regan said.

See NURSES / B-5



Voicing concern

Times Union photo by Roberta Smith

Vickie Smith of the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism talks Monday about alleged police brutality before a crowd of about 36 people on the steps of Albany City Hall. Behind her is Alice Green of the New York Civil Liberties Union. Story on B-3.

Court order prohibits publicizing documents

Queensbury Town Hall dispute

By John Caher

Staff writer

The Warren County town of Queensbury and two firms involved in the design and construction of its expanded Town Hall are embroiled in a bitter lawsuit that could involve millions of dollars in public funds.

Because of a court order, which forbids litigants from sharing documents with anyone not involved in the lawsuit or countersuit, attorneys say they are afraid to discuss the case publicly.

The case involves Saratoga Associates, a Saratoga Springs architectural firm that had been hired to design the new Queensbury Center and an addition to the adjacent town office building. Saratoga Associates and the town squabbled over the design and another firm, Rist-Frost Associates of Glens Falls, was hired to finish the job.

In December 1988, Saratoga Associates sued the town, the Town Board and Adirondaek Construction

Co., the contractor for the new town facilities. Saratoga Associates is seeking \$41,680.29, which it claims it is owed for its work. It also seeks \$1 million in general damages, alleging that the town "intentionally, maliciously and without reasonable justification interfered with the contract."

Nearly a year later, the town countersued Saratoga Associates, blaming the architectural firm for alleged design problems. Around the same time, town Supervisor Stephen J. Borgos proposed building a whole new government complex.

The issues in the lawsuit are pending in a state Supreme Court action before Justice John G. Dier of Glens Falls. But a side issue has landed the matter before an appellate court.

During a conference on Jan. 24, Dier agreed to prohibit disclosure of case-related documents to anyone not involved in the litigation. His order states, "Said documents and

See COURT / B-5

policy has worked, McGrath said the city has not received any more fine money than it has always been entitled to under the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

The amount of fine money collected by the city has doubled, but so, too, have the number of traffic tickets issued by police officers, McGrath said.

What has happened is that the city no longer imposes a surcharge against speeders, a policy that cost the state at least \$100,000 last year, according to estimates provided by McGrath.

Of the approximately 11,000 tickets issued by Troy police officers last year, between 60 percent and 70 percent were for speeding, according to McGrath. That means McGrath waived the \$17 surcharge more than 6,000 times.

McGrath said he stopped imposing the fine because it only applies to violations of the Vehicle and Traffic Law. There is no such requirement for tickets written under local traffic laws, he added.

"My interpretation of the law is it doesn't apply," he said. "I'm not going to read into the statute."

McGrath said he did receive a copy of a memo from the state comptroller's office last year advising municipalities to impose the surcharge. But nothing short of an amendment to the law will make him change his mind, he said.

Mary de Bourbon, a spokeswoman for the state Office of Court Administration, said she was not familiar with the issue. The office collects fines and surcharges from municipal courts.

Established in 1982 as an economic sanction against people convicted of felonies and misdemeanors, the surcharge program was expanded a year later to include traffic law violators. Seen as a way of increasing state revenues, the program has not lived up to its potential, according to a state comptroller's audit.

Approximately \$13 million in traffic surcharges was not collected by the state, according to the audit, which examined the program between 1985 and 1987. The comptroller's office blamed the problem on the failure of motorists to answer summonses and the failure of arresting officers to appear in court.

INSIDE LOCAL

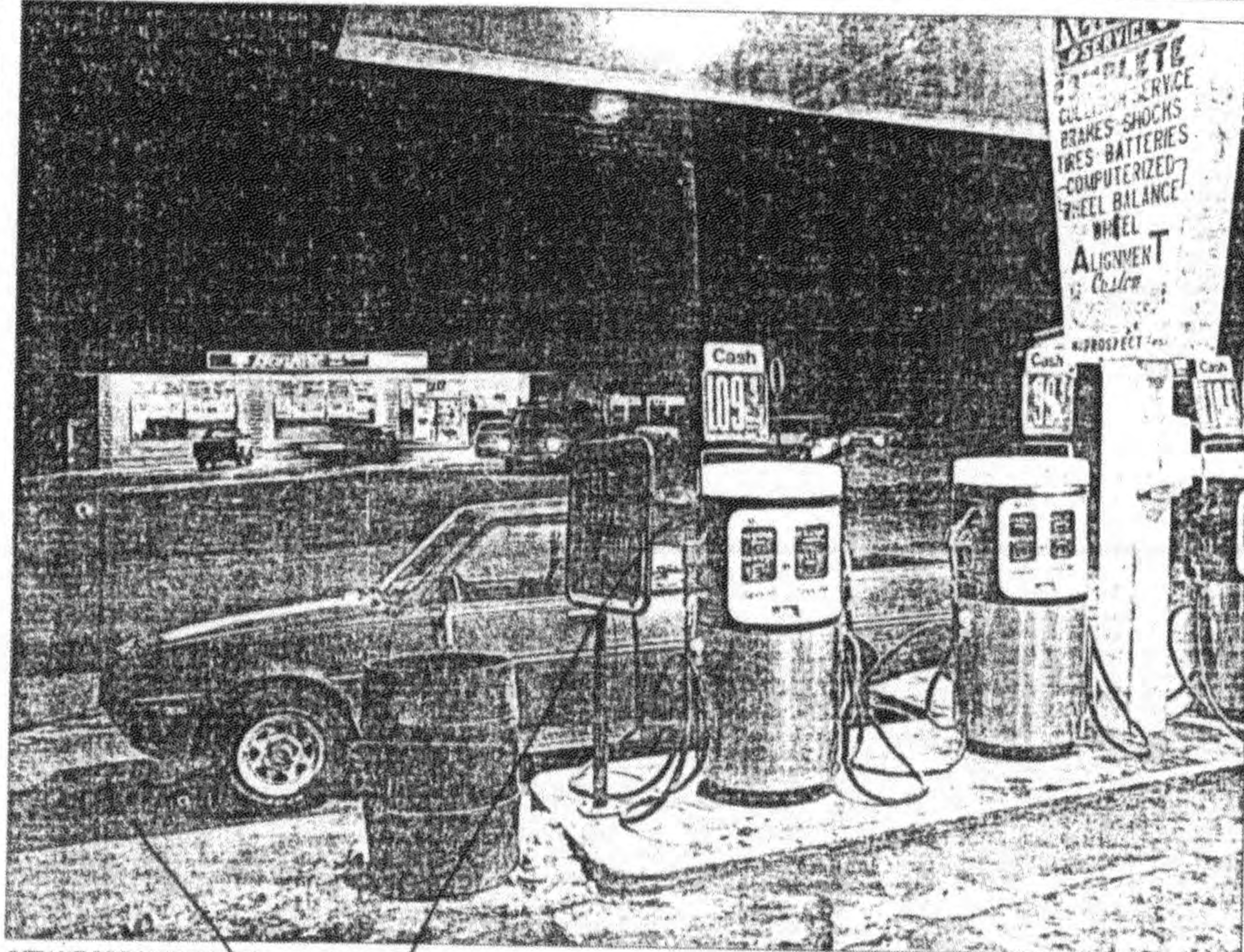
State	6
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OCTANE OPPOSITION — The owner of the Bonfare convenient store, in background, is seeking permission to put a gasoline pump with six nozzles in the front parking lot of the store in Altamont. Ketchum's Service Station currently operates gasoline pumps at the corner where Route 156, Prospect Terrace and Helderberg Avenue join with Main Street and Altamont Boulevard. — (Gazette Photo — Sid Brown)

Too Many Gas Pumps at Altamont Crossroads?

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By KATE GURNETT, Gazette Reporter. ALTAMONT — Plans for a gasoline pump in the village have run into opposition from residents who say traffic is bad enough at the five-way intersection at the heart of the village, where the pump would be located. James C. Mercer, president of the Bonfare chain, is seeking permission to put a gasoline pump with six nozzles in the front parking lot of the convenience store at the corner of Main Street and Altamont Boulevard. Mercer needs a permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

N.J. Woman Dies in Crash On Route 85

NEW SCOTLAND — A New Jersey woman died in a one-car accident yesterday after sliding on icy pavement on Route 85 and crashing into a tree, said deputies at the Albany County Sheriff's Department. Jeannette C. Jancola, 21, of Englishtown was eastbound on Route 85 at about 3:30 p.m. when her 1987 pickup truck hit a patch of ice, said deputies. Deputy Charles Rudolph and Sgt. Thomas Russo helped free Jancola from the truck. She was taken to Albany Medical Center Hospital, where she was pronounced dead at 4:46 p.m. The New Salem Fire Department, Slingerland Rescue Squad and fire paramedics from Guiderland responded.

District Gets \$80,000 For At-Risk Students

By KATE GURNETT, Gazette Reporter. GUILDERLAND — The school district has gotten an \$80,000 grant to help students who are doing poorly. Last year, the number of high school dropouts in the district rose slightly, to 31 from 24 the year before. Fewer chose alternative high school equivalency programs last

of the convenient store's parking lot. Years earlier, a hay truck lost control and filled the parking lot of what was then Crup's Market with hay, he said. In response to a request by the residents, the Zoning Board of Appeals

2-Family Home Ruined In Fire in Watervliet

WATERVLIET — A malfunctioning clothes dryer apparently sparked a fire that took firefighters four hours to get under control and destroyed a two-family home at 712 19th St. on Saturday afternoon. Fire Capt. Daniel Spratt said the 12:30 p.m. blaze left three adults and two children without a place to live. He also said firefighters had probed with the fire because it spread to a hard-to-reach attic area. He said the clothes dryer was at the rear of the second-floor apartment of Gail Slagalski and her two daughters. The building is owned by James LeCuyer and his wife, who live on the first floor and were in Florida at the time. Slagalski is the LeCuyers' daughter.

COMMUNITY NOTES

Dutch Settlers Set Meeting Tomorrow. ALBANY — The Dutch Settlers Society will hold its next meeting at 8 p.m. tomorrow at the First Church of Albany, North Pearl Street and Clinton Square. A board meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Dr. Robert S. Alexander will speak on "Albany and the Leisler Rebellion of 1690."

Senior Citizens Center and the village Youth Council will sponsor a drug and alcohol awareness day on Saturday, March 3, from 1 to 4 p.m. The event will be held at Village Hall, 2 Thunder Road. Information on drugs and alcohol will be supplied, as well as pizza, soda, coffee and other refreshments, all for free. Representatives from the town Police Department, the Hospitality House drug-treatment program, and other youth-oriented organizations will attend the event.

Humane Society To Meet Tomorrow. COLONIE — The Capital District Humane Association Inc. will hold its monthly meeting 7:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Colonie Community Center, 1633 Central Ave.

Home Maintenance

Political Prisoners In U.S. Too, Activists Say

By KATE GURNETT, Gazette Reporter. ALBANY — While President Bush is issuing dinner invitations — most recently to former South African political prisoner Nelson Mandela — the family and friends of Herman B. Ferguson would like the country to know about another elderly black man they say is in being held in prison because of his political activities. Ferguson, a 69-year-old former assistant principal and black activist from Jamaica, Queens, was jailed last year when he returned to the United States to clear his name after a 19-year exile in Guyana, South America. Supporters say he was one of many activists targeted unjustly in the 1960s by COINTELPRO — the FBI program set up to infiltrate civil rights and Afro-American activist groups. Ferguson was arrested in 1967 and sentenced to 3 1/2 to seven years in prison along with Arthur Harris for conspiring to kill moderate civil rights leaders Roy Wilkins and Whitney Young. Harris remains in exile. "To me it was astounding that they could come up with such charges," said Ferguson's wife, Iyaluwa Ferguson, who spoke at a forum on political prisoners yesterday at the Temple Beth El in Albany.

Sponsored by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism and the Freedom for Herman Ferguson Committee, the forum was set up to expose the plight of political prisoners in the United States.

Activists such as Ferguson, a militant and member of the Revolutionary Action Movement, who once chained himself to a crane to protest the use of non-local white labor to build apartment complexes in black neighborhoods, often suffer physical and mental torture or are given longer prison sentences than other convicts, said Joan Gibbs, a lawyer with the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York City. More than 100 Afro-American, Indian and women's rights activists are in jail in the United States, she said. Awareness of political imprisonment is "extra important now," said Gibbs, "because greater world attention is being focused on political prisoners. These men and women challenge the image that the U.S. is a truly humane and democratic society."

COINTELPRO was "a program that involved gross violations of civil and human rights and was discredited by Congressional investigation," a letter written on behalf of Ferguson by U.S. Rep. Charles B. Rangel states. Ferguson's cause is also supported by Assemblymen Roger Green and Al Vann and state senators David Patterson and Andrew Jenkins.

A clemency request to Gov. Mario M. Cuomo for Ferguson last year was not fulfilled, Mrs. Ferguson said supporters will apply again in April. "We were living in a time of great hysteria... [when] Black Panther party members were gunned down in their beds. Herman did not feel he was going to come out of jail alive," Mrs. Ferguson said, explaining her husband's flight to Guyana in 1970.

Since his return and incarceration in April 1989, Ferguson said, her husband has been moved 18 times from one prison to another. "That in itself is harassment."

"People hypocritically applaud the release of Nelson Mandela and they're not talking about the situation that exists here. Therefore [it's] even worse than South Africa, because in addition to doing what they are, we're damn liars," said the Rev. Lawrence Lucas, author of "Black Priest White Church," and pastor of the Resurrection Church of Harlem.



Pedersen started work today. He will move into a house he bought in Luther Forest in Malta with his wife, Nancy, and their three children, Erik, Jessica and Whitney.

"I wanted to be a part of the community as fast as possible," he said.

Pedersen comes to *The Record* from the *Binghamton Press and Sun-Bulletin*, where he had worked since September 1988.

Before that he owned a weekly paper in Colorado Springs.

Pedersen has a degree in journalism from the University of Colorado and more than 12 years' experience in advertising, marketing and public relations.

He said Troy offers new challenges and opportunities. "*The Record* is in the midst of some exciting new changes that will better serve our readers and advertisers. We are committed to



Greg Pedersen

making this newspaper the best it can be."

Pedersen vowed that *The Record* advertising department will take the initiative and make the extra effort necessary to attract and better serve its customers.

size of the 1988 war chest of his predecessor, Samuel S. Stratton.

Federal Election Commission records show McNulty, who plans to run again next fall, started 1989 with \$21,000 in his treasury. The Green Island Democrat raised almost \$97,000 during the year, but spent approximately \$51,000 on travel, fund-raising and other campaign-related expenses.

More than half — \$58,000 — of the 1989 funds McNulty raised came from special-interest groups.

Defense contractors contributed at least \$12,000 of that money — perhaps because McNulty sits on the powerful House Armed Services Committee, which helps shape the defense budget.

A little more than a third — \$35,800 — of McNulty's 1989 funds came from private donors.

Stratton was expected to run for re-election, but he suddenly changed his mind, and local Democrats backed McNulty.

During his first year in office, McNulty spent his campaign funds in a way that Stratton did not — at least not in 1988.

A former state assemblyman, McNulty gave \$4,340 of his own campaign funds to other New York Democrats running for office on the state, county or municipal level.



McNulty

cratic Committee, and one chairman of McNulty's campaign.

"It's a political committee for the support of Albany County candidates, candidates of the Democratic party who are running for different local offices," McNulty said.

But many local Democrats gave to McNulty as well, so that in some cases the mutual political goodwill partly cancels out.

For example, the Rensselaer County Democrats gave McNulty a total of \$1,000 in 1989, but McNulty's campaign gave the \$305, leaving him with a net gain of \$695.

The Schenectady County Democrats received \$300 from the co-

BRIEFLY

Monday

Siena student killed in accident

NEW SALEM — A 21-year-old Siena College student was killed yesterday when her pickup truck slid on a patch of ice and smashed into a tree on Route 85.

Jeanette C. Jancola of Englishtown, N.J., was pronounced dead at Albany Medical Center a little more than an hour after she lost control of her truck and hit the tree about 3:30 p.m., according to the Albany County Sheriff's Department.

Deputy Charles Rudolph and Sgt. Thomas Russo used the Jaws of Life to free Jancola, who was alone in the truck.

She was wearing a seat belt.

An autopsy was to be performed today to determine the cause of death.

Group wants release of 'political prisoners'

ALBANY — A local group is calling for the release of what it says are more than 100 political prisoners incarcerated in United States prisons.

At a press conference yesterday, Merton Simpson, co-chairman of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, said his group simply wants the release of these "wrongly incarcerated" men and women.

In particular, the coalition wants the release of Herman B. Ferguson, who is serving a sentence in a New York State prison for conspiracy to murder a black activist.

Ferguson's wife, Iyalua Ferguson, talked of her husband's plight and urged the public to exert political pressure on the Cuomo administration to grant her husband clemency.

"These people are being imprisoned because of their opposition to

inappropriate or immoral stances their government takes," said Simpson.

The coalition said the 100 prisoners have lobbied for Native American sovereignty, black liberation and Puerto Rican independence. They also work against racism, women's oppression and nuclear weapons.

Driver 'serious' after ATV crash

LATHAM — An 18-year-old Brookwood Drive man is in serious condition at Albany Medical Center this morning after his all-terrain vehicle tumbled down a small embankment last night, the Colonie Police reported.

Christopher M. Dodge of 36 Brookwood Drive was hospitalized after he was thrown from his four-wheel ATV when it plunged over the embankment near 214 Forts Ferry Road at 9:42 p.m. Dodge lost control of the ATV after failing to negotiate a turn, police said.

Cory VanBergen, a passenger, sustained minor injuries. He was treated at Albany Medical Center and released, hospital officials said this morning.

Neither man was wearing a helmet. Charges might be lodged following an investigation, police said.

Fire destroys summer home

WATERFORD — A summer home owned by a Cohoes man was destroyed by fire late Saturday, town police said.

The blaze broke out at about 11 p.m. at 75 Hudson River Road in the Kelt's Grove section. Police said the owner, Michael Green, of 23 Eagle St., was not at the home when fire broke out.

No injuries were reported. The cause is under investigation by the police and the Waterford Village Fire Department.

Firefighters were called back to the scene at about 4 a.m. Sunday when some of the rubble rekindled.

Troy man faces DWI charge

TROY — A Lansingburgh man faced driving while intoxicated charges at his Police Court appearance today.

Theodore "Bootsy" Williams Jr., 28, of

Troy Record 2-19-90

NEWSTIP? Call our City Desk, 272-2000

NEWSFRONT

LENS COP

A TWO-YEAR-OLD CONTROVERSY was reignited Monday when an Albany Police detective was spotted taking surveillance photographs during a demonstration sponsored by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

More than 45 coalition members and their supporters were protesting on the City Hall steps, calling for an end to what the groups says is excessive police force. According to coalition spokesman Merton Simpson, the group wants to encourage more people who feel they have been victimized by police brutality or verbal racial abuse to step forward and report the incidents.

But while the demonstration was in progress, with the media's attention focused on the speakers, a *METROLAND* reporter observed Albany Police Detective Alden Manion taking photographs of the gathering. Manion was seated in a black 1990 Jeep Cherokee leased from a Latham car-rental company. While holding a police radio in his left hand, Manion raised a camera from the car seat to the dashboard, then quickly pulled it back down to the seat when he saw someone walking past the vehicle.

Manion has been known to follow and observe area political activists. Last Friday, he was seen monitoring a vigil in Albany's Townsend Park sponsored by the Homeless Action Committee. In 1988, local activist Donna DeMaria, who had been followed on numerous occasions by Manion, asked the Police-Community Relations Board to help clarify the Police Department's surveillance policy. The board was informed by then-chief John F. Reid that photographs and video-camera surveillance were considered appropriate law-enforcement activities in some circumstances.

John Dale, the department's new chief, confirmed Tuesday that a similar policy was currently in effect. "Oh yes, we have filmed demonstrations," Dale said Tuesday. "This is something we do and will probably do in the future if we feel that we should."

Dale confirmed that Manion had been assigned to cover the Monday

demonstration by Sgt. Thomas Fargione, head of the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and that his picture-taking had been approved. But the chief assured that since no criminal activity had taken place at the rally, "the film would not be developed."

The SIU includes the department's narcotics and vice squads, and, according to Dale, has the responsibility for keeping tabs on political demonstrations. Fargione's narcotics squad has been responsible for many of the controversial drug raids in the city's black community and has been criticized for using a race profile to stop, and sometimes search, black and Latin males passing through the Greyhound bus terminal.

"If the police department believes in all honesty that they have a right to do this, why didn't Manion just stand up there and take the pictures?" asked Anita Thayer, another attorney who was present at the protest. "I cannot understand any legitimate law-enforcement reason for taking surreptitious photographs."

Dale did not explain Manion's behavior with the camera, other than to say that Fargione had approved the photo surveillance. "It has a chilling effect on the exercise of First Amendment rights if people believe that every time they participate in a demonstration there will be an undercover police officer taking their photograph," complained Mark Mishler, an attorney who once represented the coalition on the Police-Community Relations Board.

Michael Ratner, a volunteer staff attorney with the New York City-based Center for Constitutional Rights, agreed with Mishler. Photographing protesters "arguably violates the First Amendment right to demonstrate," he said. Ratner was one of several lawyers involved in a lawsuit against the New York City Police Department's so-called "Red Squad" in the 1970s. "It smacks of what they had done for years in New York City to intimidate political demonstrators," Ratner commented. "It's something we would go completely nuts about in New York City."

"We've given it a lot of thought," Dale said when asked about the constitutional issue. "When the problem came up several years ago, we got legal opinions on that. If we felt it was illegal, we wouldn't be doing it. It's a precautionary measure."

Dale added that the department has a "responsibility" as a law-enforcement agency to "ensure the safety and well-being of the demonstrators and the citizens in general." While Dale acknowledged that no illegal activities have been anticipated at Monday's demonstration, he said there was always the concern of violence between groups of counter-demonstrators and that surveillance photographs had been "helpful" during previous violent incidents. The chief said he was not aware of the New York City case.

Meanwhile, Vicki Smith, the coalition's representative on the board, announced at the rally that chief Dale had agreed to meet with members of the group Monday to discuss the criticisms of police behavior.

—Jeff Jones

OVERSTEPPING AUTHORITY

THE CITY OF ALBANY IS BILLING its proposed ANSWERS Wasteshed Authority as part of the solution to the solid-waste crisis in the Capital Region. But several citizen and public-interest groups say the establishment of such an authority would give Albany officials free rein to spend millions of dollars on unwanted landfills and garbage incinerators.

The authority would comprise representatives from Albany and 14 other local communities that depend on Albany's ANSWERS program for solid-waste disposal. Governing bodies from all of those communities have passed resolutions approving the authority, which would have the power to spend up to \$200 million on any solid waste project and to condemn property—presumably for the purpose of building an incinerator or landfill—in any of the member communities. A bill to approve the Albany Wasteshed Authority died in the Senate last year but is once again being considered in both houses of the Legislature.

Although Albany officials say the authority's board would represent the interest of all communities involved, it appears that Albany's Democratic Party machine would own a considerable slice of

the decision-making pie. Five members of the 17-member board would be appointed by Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III and an additional four would be chosen by the Albany County Legislature's majority leader (at present, Democrat Harold Joyce). Also, the chairperson of the authority would be chosen only by the five members appointed by Whalen.

"I think," said Judith Enck of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPiRG), "that some elected officials [who approved the authority] aren't aware of how dangerous this could be in the future."

Enck pointed to the authority's power to condemn property and spend enormous amounts of money on solid-waste projects—with virtually no citizen input.

"These kinds of authorities are being created across the state," she said. "And most every one which has been set up has used its power to build garbage incinerators."

One such authority is the Western Fingerlakes Solid Waste Management Authority. Ontario County, a member of the authority, has been trying to withdraw since February 1988 for various reasons, including the authority's preoccupation with incinerators rather than recycling and the use of composts. Ontario County has a lawsuit pending against the authority.

According to Bill Bruce, director of Albany's city planning office, 14 solid-waste agencies such as the ANSWERS authority have been approved throughout New York state thus far.

"Authorities just make sense," said Bruce, "as an agency that can manage waste on whatever you define as a regional basis."

Bruce added that any landfill or incinerator the authority might choose to build would have to meet state Department of Environmental Conservation guidelines. "You can't put a landfill or incinerator anywhere you want," he said.

When asked about the Albany Democratic Party machine's apparent majority standing in the authority, Vincent McArdle, counsel for the City of Albany, said, "I forget the exact mix. I don't think it's a majority." When informed that Mayor Whalen and the majority leader of the Albany County Legislature would appoint nine of the board's 17 members, McArdle said he thought the board would have more than 17 members.

"We've been working closely with representatives from all the communities," said Bruce. "They participated in the early drafts. We ended up with a proposal everybody is in agreement on."

Enck said that there are strong indications that the authority would use its power to build a waste incinerator or landfill in the town of Bethlehem. She said that American Ref-Fuel, the company attempting to build its own garbage incinerator in Bethlehem, opposes the bill in the Legislature. Bethlehem Work on Waste, although almost certainly for different reasons than American Ref-Fuel, opposes the authority along with NYPiRG and the Environmental Planning Lobby. Enck pointed out that Bethlehem would have only one representative in the authority.

Bruce said that no specific sites have been identified for solid-waste projects yet. He said the construction of another garbage incinerator to go along with Albany's ANSWERS plant is "always a possibility, but I wouldn't see it [being done by] the ANSWERS wasteshed."

—Mike Goudrea

AGENDA

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

THURSDAY, FEB. 22

Meeting: Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., Albany. 7 PM. Topics to be discussed at the regular monthly meeting include efforts to end police abuse, the formation of a Nelson Mandela reception/sanctions committee and the planning of a party to celebrate Mandela's release. 432-4622.

SUNDAY, FEB. 25

Panel Discussion: Racial Relations in Schenectady. Schenectady County Public Library, corner of Clinton and Liberty streets, Schenectady. 3 PM. Members the black, Hispanic and Jewish communities will be featured on the panel. 382-3500.

MONDAY, FEB. 26

Lecture: Women and the Law. William K. Sanford Town Library, 629 Albany-Shaker

Road, Loudonville. 7 PM. Louise Byer Miller, adjunct professor of political science at SUNYA, will discuss women's issues, including women's historical treatment under the law, with special emphasis on the Supreme Court's interpretation of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. 458-9274.

March: For Environmental Protection. Steps of the Capitol Building, Albany. 1 PM. Students from more than 12 New York state colleges are expected to participate in this march to demand that state representatives vote in favor of environmental protection in all legislative decisions.

TUESDAY, FEB. 27

Video/Discussion: Bridge to Freedom. Campus Center Faculty Lounge, College of Saint Rose, 420 Western Ave., Albany. 7-9 PM. The "Eyes on the Prize" video-discussion series on the civil-rights movement in America continues. 454-5102.

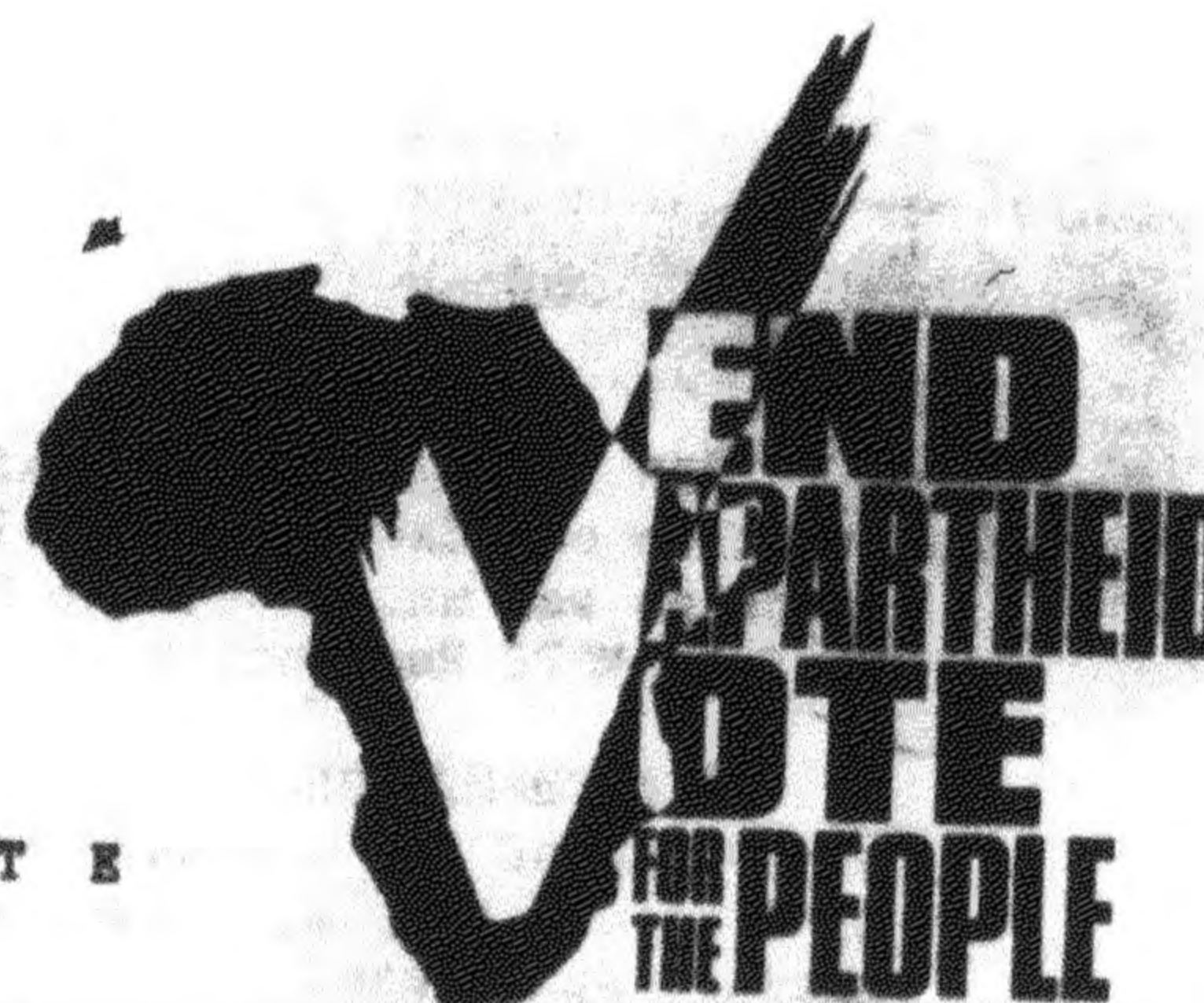
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

Lecture: United States, Europe and Japan: Global Economy in Transition? Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., Albany. Noon. The speaker will be Gregory Nowell, assistant professor of political science at the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy. Question and answer period to follow. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea provided. Free. 473-1326.

Meeting: RESULTS. The Women's Building, 79 Central Ave., Albany. 7:30 PM. The regular monthly meeting of this grassroots lobbying organization dealing with hunger and poverty issues.

Please note: The deadline for entries in the Agenda calendar is Monday at 5 PM.

END APARTHEID:
Vote For The People



C A M P A I G N U P D A T E

March, 1990

The first three months of the END APARTHEID: Vote For The People Campaign have produced a great range of activities, with ballots being cast in increasing numbers across the country.

Chicago, Albany, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Denver, Seattle, Detroit, Washington D.C., Pittsburgh, Miami, Houston, Boston, New York, Tucson, Kalamazoo, Champaign-Urbana, and San Jose are among the cities where activists are organizing voting events.

In addition to grassroots actions, a growing number of state and city governments have been adopting the Nelson Mandela VOTE Resolution which is being heavily distributed by activists involved in the Vote Campaign. The Resolutions welcome Mandela's release, highlight the persisting existence of apartheid, and call upon the U.S. Congress to pass full comprehensive sanctions against South Africa and keep them in place until full democracy is established in that country.

Following are highlights of campaign activities in local areas.

City of the Month:

*****ALBANY-- The Capitol District Coalition Against Racism launched the campaign in January at a public meeting that featured the Mayor and Rev. Allan Boesak of South Africa. Since then the campaign has expanded to include ballot boxes in local stores, the involvement of church and other local groups in regular Vote events, and hundreds of ballots arriving at The Africa Fund each month. *****

*IN NEW YORK CITY-- the City Council passed the Nelson Mandela VOTE Resolution.

*IN SEATTLE-- the City Council became the first in the country to pass the Nelson Mandela VOTE Resolution on February 13, 1990.

*IN CHICAGO-- trade unionists with the Chicago Labor Committee Against Apartheid have pledged to collect thousands of votes FOR DEMOCRACY and SANCTIONS.

*IN DETROIT-- human rights activists with the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights, in conjunction with the United Auto Workers are holding votes weekly.

*IN THE NORTH EAST-- the North East Southern Africa Solidarity Network has agreed to take up the campaign as a priority.

*IN DENVER-- the campaign was launched on February 25 at an event to commemorate the release of Nelson Mandela. Once the campaign was underway, the Denver City Council passed the Nelson Mandela VOTE Resolution, and the governor issued a Proclamation.

*IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA-- Votes are being cast at every screening of the Southern African Film Festival on the University of Illinois campus, organized by the Champaign-Urbana Coalition Against Apartheid.

*IN LOS ANGELES-- the City Council passed the Nelson Mandela VOTE Resolution. Students at the nearby Claremont Colleges are holding Vote events on their campuses. Especially active are the Students for South African Awareness at Pomona College.

*IN OAKLAND-- the National Congress of SANE/FREEZE adopted the Vote Campaign as a nation-wide project.

***RESOLUTIONS HAVE BEEN PASSED IN THESE CITIES:**

San Jose
Washington D.C.
Denver
Aurora
New York
Seattle
Kalamazoo
Portage
Los Angeles
San Francisco
Dallas
Detroit
and
The State of Tennessee

The Africa Fund wants to know what you have planned for the VOTE FOR THE PEOPLE CAMPAIGN in your area. Please send us details to appear in future campaign updates.

Vote for the People Campaign
The Africa Fund
198 Broadway
New York, NY 10038
(212) 962-1210

The End Apartheid: Vote for the People Campaign is based in the continuing lack of democracy in South Africa and supports the South African people's demand for one person, one vote. Participants in the campaign have the opportunity to vote for both democracy in South Africa and continued sanctions by the United States.

4/18/90



Reviled, Respected, Detective Retires

By KATE GURNETT
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — Detective Kenneth W. Sutton, whose dedication and talent for narcotics investigations have earned him both respect and notoriety in a 20-year career with the city police force, is retiring this week.

Nicknamed "Batman" by civil rights activists for allegedly using a baseball bat during interrogations, the 44-year-old Sutton says his retirement is not related to the charges.

"I haven't stepped over my boundaries," Sutton said. "What they're claiming is assault. It's completely against what I believe in."

Detective Sgt. Thomas Fargione, who heads the city's narcotics unit, said such allegations did not diminish Sutton's ability to do his job.

"Certainly it hurt him to be accused of things out of hand, non-substantive allegations," Fargione said. "It's something we all accept as part of the job. People are allowed to make outrageous claims, [not back them up] and move on. So in that sense, it bothered him. That's one of the reasons these charges are levied. It's been that way since I've been in narcotics. It's the old red herring and it works very effectively."

"I'm not worried about any of it. It will all come out," Sutton said. "Years ago I was on the front pages three out of seven days for complaints that were never founded. But that goes with the territory."

In January, Sutton was named along with three other narcotics detectives in a \$7.13 million lawsuit against the city and the Albany Police Department. In the suit, 34-year-old James F. Lunday claims he was falsely arrested and severely beaten by the four plainclothes officers during a weekend city-wide narcotics crackdown last May.

The three other detectives are referred to as "John Doe," "Richard Doe," and "Jane Doe," pending a confirmation of their identity by the city, said Lunday's lawyer, Terence L. Kindlon. The suit is in federal court.

"My impression of Ken Sutton is that he thinks he's on a mission from God and that since he's on the mission, he can do whatever he wants, and if some pesky little impediment gets in the way he can quote Dirty Harry to himself, chuckle, and step right over it," Kindlon said.

Twenty years ago Sutton was a rookie from Ravena walking a beat on Northern Boulevard, after working two years with the Penn Central Railroad patrol. Back then, Sutton said, although he wasn't "a city person," he got to know all the bar owners and all the people, and he loved being on the street.

"My philosophy on life and the job is that your name is the main thing. Years ago there was respect back and forth. You could talk back and forth. I've had convicts call me from prison because they knew I was honest. Kids today have no respect for life."

Now when he's on the street, Sutton says, his name elicits a different response. He can hear people calling out, "That's Sutton, that's Sutton." "But they don't know me," he said.

"I just wanted to show people that there's a problem," Sutton said. "It all got completely lost. I don't even want to go on a raid anymore. My heart goes with all of the guys and always will. I just don't have the heart for it anymore. And as bad as it is I don't have any answers for it."

"The problem is so enormous and it affects every single one of us. There's not enough room in the prisons, and we don't have the money. They don't realize how much money's involved. How can you fight something nickel and dime that's [worth] a million dollars?"

"I felt the people in Arbor Hill deserved a lot more than what they got and I still do. I've seen black guys with a small packet of cocaine get 8 years. I've seen middle class white kids with four ounces of coke get a slap on the wrist. But they're taking it out on the wrong person. It's not for the policeman on the streets to reason why, it's for him to do his job."

"We're at war, but we're not at war. All we're doing is talking out of the corners of [our] mouths. That's what is the most disgusting thing to the guys on the street."

In 1972, Sutton became a narcotics detective, dealing mostly with the heroin trade. He was a certified instructor for the Municipal Police Training Council and a guest speaker on narcotics identification. More recently, he was a sworn federal agent and group leader with the Capital District Regional Drug Enforcement Task Force.

"He believed in being on top of the most modern techniques he could learn. And within the boundaries of the law, he always felt that the only thing that could hold us back would be the limits of our imagination," said Fargione, who was Sutton's junior partner for many years.

Sutton's conviction rate was "well into the 90 percent range," Fargione said. "You don't train and replace someone like that overnight. Someone with his drive, and expertise and his ability to teach is not something that's readily replaced. He was an extremely dedicated narcotics detective. He set a standard of excellence."

"Over the years I've been singled out because of the job that I was doing," Sutton said. "What happens when you start to get a high percentage of conviction rates and you win your cases [is] the only way they can run you into the ground is to try to run your credibility down."

Last fall, Robert Butler of Albany complained to the department's internal affairs unit that Sutton had hit him with a baseball bat during questioning. An investigation found there was not enough evidence to prove or disprove Butler's allegations, said Alice Green of the New York Civil Liberties Union. Butler has filed notice of a law suit in state Supreme Court.

The charge is "patently absurd," said Fargione. "He's properly aggressive, controlled aggressive. That's what we strive for and Ken has taught that to many of us. I've been around Ken Sutton for the last 15 years. I've spent more time with him than his family. I have never observed him to go beyond what would be considered good professional police work."

"I think he's as honest as the day is long," said Kindlon, the lawyer. "That's not the problem here. He just doesn't act with sufficient restraint."

"I enforce the laws of the state of New York," Sutton said. "I don't go out and do my own thing. I don't consider myself aggressive, but I never



—(Gazette Photo) —
DETECTIVE DEPARTS — Kenneth Sutton leaves the Albany Police Department this week after a career that has earned respect from fellow officers and criticism from some civil rights workers who say he is prone to violence.

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"I enforce the laws of the state of New York," Sutton said. "I don't go out and do my own thing. I don't consider myself aggressive, but I never

would tolerate someone being aggressive to me. I would take control of the situation. That's just the basics of being a police officer."

Although he felt he was the best when it came to narcotics, Sutton said, he now feels that it's time to move on. Initially, he plans to work as a security guard when he retires.

"You know when it's time to go. The lawsuits — you can't change those people's minds. I'm tired of the allegations and the death threats to my family and me. I have a young son and daughter that are growing up and I want to spend time with my wife. I just want to relax for the rest of my life."

"I thought about going to clown school and just helping the world for awhile," Sutton added. "I don't think there's enough laughter in the world."

Les Anger Mentally Ill

By the state's new anti-smoking Psychiatric Center said want could be considered a

cigarette sales at the center may smoke drew criticism. No smoking at all will be

patients will be severely re-which they will be allowed of Advocacy for AMI Action, the National Alliance for the

re addicted to nicotine will ting the stress already ing illnesses," he said.

umer Drop-In Center and a ot to sell cigarettes in the atients to simply leave the

in anti-smoking zealotry not ed the law, which went into

rug Charges

s and an Albany man arrest- with cocaine possession ning.

on Street, was picked up at d and Livingston Avenue by is Dolar

f Linc venue; Chenier 17, of Del...ont Avenue; and

gh of an ounce of cocaine. if possession of a controlled

t to Albany County Jail on were released on \$500 bail

ed in Albany

w Albany County League of ent state and federal laws as well as the legal and

at St. Paul's Episcopal id at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow at 7stern Ave., Guelderland.

es \$1,000 Trees

the eve, so to speak, of Earth hich will be Sunday.

y, he said, has a "long history for its environment." Parks idemy and adjacent Lafae an indication of the city's ment to green space, the ded. "Planting of trees goes ray to ensure the beauty of he told Marcalus. "We'll to plant as long as you pro- he checks."

plus said the Elmwood Park,

Council Gets Draft of 'Citizens Bill of Rights'



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

**Next general meeting of the Coalition:
Thursday, April 26, 1990 at 7:00 p.m.**

Location: Albany Public Library Main Branch, Washington Ave.
Albany, New York (Note: meetings start promptly at
7p.m. because we must be out of the Library at 9 sharp.)

**Come to this very important
Spring Planning Meeting**
Your help is needed in the struggle
against apartheid and racism

NOTE that "South Africa Now" is aired locally on Sundays at 2 p.m.
on PBS Cable Channel 45. This program consistently offers in-
depth reporting of the current situation in Southern Africa.



Last Call:

In January we sent out a special membership letter requesting that you send your \$5.00 yearly membership fee for 1990. The response has been great. However, if you have not yet responded and you want to remain on our mailing list, be sure to mail your membership check NOW!

Make checks payable to:

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
Box 3002-Pine Hills Station, Albany, New York 12203.

**You Can Help
Cast Your Ballot Today**

VOTE for Democracy VOTE for Sanctions

Enclosed in this mailing is a full page flyer asking for you to vote for sanctions against the government of South Africa. The Coalition has joined a national campaign demanding that the U.S. Congress maintain and intensify sanctions until apartheid is eliminated. On the day of his release from 27 years in apartheid prisons, *Nelson Mandela called on "the international community to continue the campaign to isolate the apartheid regime. To lift sanctions now would be to run the risk of aborting the process of complete eradication of apartheid."*

We ask you to fill out the enclosed ballot and mail to the address indicated. This is one important thing you can do to help insure that real democracy comes to South Africa. encourage you to copy the flyer and encourage others to vote. If you would like to become more involved in the sanctions campaign, your help is urgently needed and welcome. The Coalition has established a Reception Committee - there are hundreds of such committees nationally and internationally. To work with this committee, call 432-4623.



**You Can Help
Cast Your Ballot Today**

VOTE for Democracy VOTE for Sanctions

Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
And Racism

BALLOT

DEMOCRACY

SANCTIONS

- YES**, every South African deserves full democracy—the right to vote. I vote yes for one person, one vote in a unified, nonracial South Africa.
- NO**, I don't believe that democracy is the answer for South Africa. I vote no to democracy.

- YES**, democracy will come to South Africa only when the government is under real pressure. That is why I vote for comprehensive mandatory sanctions now.
- NO**, I don't want to pressure the white minority government to end apartheid. I vote no to sanctions against apartheid.

Signature _____ City _____

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

The Africa Fund will mail your ballot on democracy to the people of South Africa to register your support for their demands. The ballot on sanctions will be delivered to Congress to aid the push for comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.

RETURN TO: VOTE DEMOCRACY CAMPAIGN, The Africa Fund, 198 Broadway, New York, NY 10038

I've enclosed my contribution to support the campaign.

South Africa: The Cordoned Heart, a photo exhibit showing the effects of apartheid in South Africa is on display until April 30th at the State Museum in Albany. An opening night reception, cosponsored by the Coalition, was held on April 6th. Thanks to Election District 10 of NYSUT and PEF Local 165 at O.D.Heck for your generous contribution to this reception. On Friday April 27th there will be a panel discussion to close the film series which is being held in conjunction with the exhibit. The panel discussion will follow the 7:00 p.m. movie showing of the film "South Africa Belongs to Us."

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

Non-Profit
Organization
**US POSTAGE
PAID**
PERMIT NO. 509
Albany, NY

Vera Michelson
13 Pennsylvania Ave.
Albany, NY 12206

Very important Spring planning meeting
April 27, 1990 at 7 p.m., Albany Library

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Talks between the African National Congress and the South African government of F.W. deKlerk, originally scheduled for April 11, were cancelled by the ANC after South African police fired on anti-apartheid demonstrators in the southern Transvaal township of Sebokeng on March 26th. At least 11 people were killed in the violence and more than 400 were wounded in shots fired by the police. Nelson Mandela said the talks were suspended because of "the massacre of innocent and defenseless people in Sebokeng."

The ANC conditions for negotiations include that the Government declare an unconditional amnesty for exiles and political prisoners, lift the state of emergency and end political trials.

The Albany Community Police Relations Board. Congratulations to Mayor Whalen for your continuing interest in the issue of police abuse in Albany. The Relations Board which was never given investigative powers and was therefore rendered ineffective has now been rendered defunct by your proposal to take away membership from groups committed to the issue of police abuse.

Albany's YWCA to honor women

ALBANY — The YWCA of Albany honors nine area women, including a nun who teaches at a jail and the founder of the Albany Teen Pageant, at the annual Tribute to Women Friday at Chancellor's Hall, State Education Building.

The honorees are:

● Sarah Blacher Cohen, a professor of English at the State University at Albany, where her specialty is Jewish American literature, drama and humor. The author of five books, three plays and 25 scholarly articles, Cohen was awarded a Fulbright professorship to Yugoslavia in 1981 and received SUNYA's President's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1984.

● Anabel S. Puelis, a veteran volunteer for 60 years, having worked with Camp Thatcher, the Neighborhood House, Family and Children's Services Child Guidance Center, Camp Opportunities, the Arbor Hill Community Center and Trinity Institute. In 1948, she became the first black woman elected to the YWCA's board of directors and in 1970, the first black and the first woman elected to the Albany YMCA board.

● Nancy Burke, an educator since 1960, mainly in inner-city schools. Her "whole language" system of teaching reading and writing, for those without home resources, is being introduced in Albany's public schools. At age 45 Burke joined the Peace Corps, teaching theory and techniques to teachers in Paraguay.

● Milagros Baez O'Toole, deputy

director of facilities operations for the state Office of General Services, overseeing nine OGS operations with more than 2,300 employees throughout the state. Active in the Hispanic community, in 1989 she was honored by Gov. Mario Cuomo with the creation of the Milagros Baez O'Toole Award for Distinguished State Government Service and Career Advancement.

● Sister Jeanne Pierre Mitnacht. In 1976 she resigned from the College of Saint Rose, where she had been a professor and chairwoman of the English department, to volunteer as a teacher at the Albany County Jail. She is now director of the jail's school. She is still a student, having learned Spanish in her 70s to teach it as a second language.

● Anita Thayer, a founding partner of the law firm of Walter, Thayer, Long and Mishler who is active in civil rights causes. She has worked with the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, the Albany Citizens for Excellence in Education, Kenwood Child Development Center and Citizens of Albany Responsible Education (CARE).

● Mildred Church Dandridge, founder of the Center for Women's Education at Russell Sage College. She has presented workshops and counseling sessions aimed at helping women establish goals, develop confidence, change lifestyles and careers, and take responsibility for their lives.

● Rekha Basu, an editorial writer for *The Daily Gazette* and a former



Mitnacht



Basu



Thayer



McKnight



Dandridge



Puelis



O'Toole



Cohen



Burke

reporter for Capital Newspapers and *Metroland*. Writing on issues concerning women and the Third World, she has received several awards from anti-defamation organizations as well as the New York State Society of Newspaper Editors.

● Lucille M. McKnight, president of the Albany Teen Pageant, which she founded in 1948. She is past president of the Creighton Storey Homes Neighborhood Association, chairwoman of the Albany County Coop-

erative Extension Urban Advisory Council and coordinator of Albany's South End spring clean-up committee.

The winners were chosen by a YWCA selections committee after having been nominated by members of the public.

Almeda C. Dake, mayor of Saratoga Springs, will be the keynote speaker at the awards ceremony.

Albany's Black Power Used Against Unions, Machine—

'Brothers' Fought for Equality in White-Dominated City

4/27/90

ALBANY — They were all male, all black, and all angry. They were The Brothers, Albany's own piece of the 1960s civil rights movement.

Like Leon Van Dyke, an ex-professional boxer, janitor and convicted burglar. Or Andrew Gill, a 25-year-old graduate of a state college in Oneonta. Or Clarence Newton, an Army veteran who wanted to be a radio disc jockey.

In the late 1940s, The Brothers rose up out of the frustrations in the city's poor and predominantly black neighborhood of Arbor Hill. For the next several years, they personified a cause then called "black power." And then, almost as suddenly as they appeared, The Brothers faded.

Two decades later finds former Brothers scattered in a variety of places and jobs. Time has dimmed recollections of who exactly did what when, but the pride they had during their time together still remains.

Tonight, dozens of former Brothers from Albany and across the country are to gather in the Trinity United Methodist Church on Lancaster and Willett streets for a reunion dinner.

For about three years or so, from 1967 to 1970, they made noise on issues such as jobs, voting rights, health care and housing, won some battles and lost others. They helped make the word Negro passé, replacing it with black.

People are always coming to Van Dyke, now 57 and an affirmative action officer for the state Education Department, to say "Remember me? I was in The Brothers, man."

That always makes him smile, because the group has more alumni than it ever had members.

"It's like the number of people who say they were in the group," said Van Dyke, a high school graduate who after The Brothers went on to get a master's degree in education. "If someone tells me they were in the group, it's impossible for me to say that they weren't. ... Half our members never paid dues."

At the peak, there were probably about 100 "card-carrying" Brothers, with a hard-core group of about 25 who attended all meetings, said Newton, who got a divinity degree after The Brothers broke up. He is pastor of a small church on Robin Street.

"It gave me a place to enlist with honor," said Gill, an aide to state Assemblyman Arthur Eve, a Buffalo Democrat. "The Brothers' months were not messy. ... They were not apologetically seeking their rights."

If any single issue spawned The Brothers, it was jobs. In the early 1960s, blacks were still routinely — and obviously — discriminated against in employment.

"Albany today is quite a different animal than it was in the 1960s," said Joseph Cohen, 67, who was the president of the local chapter of the NAACP until 1968. "There was one black bank clerk in the city, one black postal employee. ... I remember we gave an award to Frank [?]"

department store for hiring the first black sales girl.

Van Dyke was picketing construction sites and the former union hall on Third Street in 1965 because "blacks weren't getting good union jobs, only the brute work, the wheelbarrow work." Van Dyke had come to Albany from his native Philadelphia and was having trouble finding work.

With him, he said, were several other young black men, including Newton's younger brother, Clarence; Robert Gene Dobbs; and William Gibson, who is now the owner of an Arbor Hill nightspot. A local newspaper did a story about the men and suddenly the picket line began to grow to include other blacks, some whites, even a Unitarian minister, said Van Dyke.

"The Brothers kind of evolved from the people on First Street," he said. In keeping with the civil rights tenor of the times, they decided to form an organization. "A number of names were considered, like The Preachers and The Deacons," said Van Dyke. "But we decided on The Brothers, 'cause that's what we felt like."

Demonstrations got bigger, with up to 200 people picketing job sites around the Empire State Plaza, which was just beginning to be built in the corner of the city. People started paying dues to The Brothers.

"The construction picketing kind of mushroomed into other social areas," said Gordon Van Ness, 50, who at the time was working in the sales department of a local frozen food company. He now works as an affirmative action officer for the state Health Department.

"We got a storefront on North Pearl Street as a headquarters. ... The rent was \$50 a month," said Van Ness. Young black men could be found there at all hours of the day and night, talking about issues and deciding what action ought to be taken. A newspaper, called "The Liberator," was started.

An air of militancy cloaked The Brothers, one that they cultivated. Gill recalled that his job for the group was "defense. ... we had professional fighters. ... people who knew about jail. ... that if you didn't fight for your ass, you would literally have to give your ass up."

Gill said the group had to let people know that its members weren't afraid. "Otherwise you're opening yourself to people who don't have any courage. ... When you say you're not going to fight, everything that's normally under a rock comes out after you."

With white fear of black power rising, the relationship between the city police and The Brothers became adversarial. Nearly everyone in the group's inner circle was arrested at one time or another during its history. Several times, the windows on the storefront were shot out. "We didn't know if it was some crackpot," said Van Ness. Meanwhile, police cars would park across the street and "watch us for hours on end."

John Dale became the city's first black police chief last year. He was a

young detective sergeant in the late 60's. We didn't have to watch the Brothers. We did just



BROTHERS THEN — Some of the Brothers, Albany's black power group of the 1960s, went to a free jazzmobile concert in 1968 to see the Horace Silver Quintet, and while there, asked a young man with a camera to take their picture. When this story was being prepared, none

of the Brothers could provide a photo from their heyday. But the photo was taken by John Marc (Gazette Photo) — John Marc who took their picture, now with the Daily Gazette, remembers. From left, Sonny Flowers, Robert Gene Dobbs and the late M. Thomas Horace Silver in the rear.

department store for hiring the first black sales girl.

a young detective sergeant in the late 60's. We didn't have to watch the Brothers. We did just

1400E Park Place

walk into their headquarters... they never locked their doors to us."

He said the militant stance adopted by the group never translated into violence. "They were just a bunch of young black men who wanted jobs. I don't know of any violence that they participated in as a group. They weren't the kind of organization that went around rioting."

But the relationship between the two groups was strained at best. Dale recalled a meeting between police and The Brothers during which one member, Robert Gene Dobbs, said to a white officer: "You've kicked so many black people that your feet are black."

Harassment took other forms as well, said Harry Hamilton, who was president of the local chapter of the NAACP from 1964 to 1978. He is now an official at the state University of New York at Albany.

"We worked with The Brothers on a number of things. We had different approaches... They were local and brand new, so they could approach matters any way they wanted," Hamilton said. "The cops were very afraid of The Brothers, who did not fear the police... They would even picket [former Mayor Erastus] Corning's home in Glenmont."

"Whenever a Brother was arrested, the judge would order a mental exam... After all, their behavior was so different from previous Albany behavior." All were found to be in their right minds, so the tactic became a "rallying cry," Hamilton said. "They started saying they were the sanest organization in town."

In 1967, The Brothers decided to take on the city's powerful Democratic organization. They protested against the secret practice of paying \$5 for a vote and would follow around party bagmen in the poor neighborhoods, said Newton. "We told people: Don't sell your soul for \$5," Van Dyke said. "That was a lot of money back then... It could buy groceries for a week."

A Brother named Peter Jones agreed to testify before a special county grand jury that he had accepted \$5 for his vote, also agreeing to do so without legal immunity from prosecution, thus leaving himself open for prosecution for the illegal act of vote selling.

As part of the campaign against the \$5 vote, people had to be convinced their votes were truly secret. "The Democrats had convinced people that someone on the outside of the voting booth could tell how a person voted," said Hamilton. The NAACP and The Brothers were able to get a voting machine, which they took into the neighborhoods. "We offered a \$50 prize during demonstrations of the machine for anyone who could determine from the outside how a person voted," said Hamilton. No one could do it.

The Brothers, although they would not let whites and women join the group, got help from both groups. A young lawyer and former FBI agent, George Harder, was one of the first people to challenge the Democratic Party in a primary and was enlisted to help The Brothers do the same in 1967.

"They didn't know the first thing about petitioning," said Harder. He also went door-to-door with four candidates that were being fielded by the group. "Older blacks were the party faithful, even though the machine had never offered jobs or patronage... These guys were like a pariah,...



BROTHERS NOW — Three Brothers of old get together last night at the Arbor Hill Community Center in advance of the Brothers reunion tonight at Trinity United Methodist Church. Gordon Van Ness, left, was the architect of the reunion. Ron Daniels is center, with Leon Van Dyke, perhaps the best known of the group.

Harder said. "Some people were party loyalists, others wanted the \$5, some had fear of losing the little that they had... Others thought they were too aggressive, too militant, which they weren't."

The black churches were not supportive of The Brothers, said Newton. "They were very rejective... said we were starting trouble," he said. "They preached against us from the pulpit."

Newton said that hostility was orchestrated by Corning. "He would tell the pastor: 'Talk with your congregations and tell them not to talk to The Brothers.'"

By the time the dust cleared, The Brothers had been crushed at the polls by more than 4-1.

But the group did have its success stories. One was the creation of city trash pickup, said Van Dyke. Up to that point, private haulers peddled their services throughout city neighborhoods. "Poor people couldn't afford it... trash was piling up in vacant lots and the like," he said.

"We put out a flyer for people to put all their trash out on the street one Tuesday... It stayed there for about a week... Then trucks came and took it away. City pickup soon was done in all neighborhoods."

Vera Michelson was a young student at Russell Sage College in Troy when she became involved with The Brothers. "There were very dynamic, very involved with issues," she said.

One issue arose when Joseph Leone, then the city's urban renewal director, was to be honored by an Arbor Hill neighborhood group. Leone also happened to be the absentee landlord of some especially run-down apartments in that neighborhood, said Michelson.

"People were horrified," she recalled. "In order to dramatize the situation, we had people collect a lot of roaches and put them in jars." The night of the awards ceremony, at the moment Leone was being handed his award, people "darted forward and opened the jars and all these roaches started crawling around," Michelson said. "The roaches conquered the day."

Cockroaches can still be found in Arbor Hill apartment houses, but another thing now there that wasn't during the 1960s got its start with The Brothers — the Whitney M. Young Health Center.

The center can be traced back to a clinic that the group opened in its North Pearl Street storefront. That clinic closed after several months under pressure from the state and the city, but a seed had been planted. That seed later became the North Side Advisory Board, which helped arrange the federal funding used to create Whitney Young Brothers.

The end of the 1960s also marked the decline of The Brothers. They lost their headquarters when they couldn't pay the rent. Their newspaper folded. The members got older, got married, had children, held regular jobs that demanded most of their time.

Some people were sick of being arrested, said Van Dyke. The resources of The Brothers couldn't support the large amounts of bail often set on members who were arrested.

In 1977, one of the foremost Brothers, Samuel McDowell, died of gunshot wounds along with his girlfriend in her Sand Lake home. An official investigation ruled that McDowell shot himself after stabbing

the woman, but that scenario is still disputed by some.

Newton said that McDowell was incapable of such an act. "There was a cover-up in his death," he said.

And, some progress was made. "Blacks are taking over city halls... Only 20 years ago, that would have been unthinkable," Van Dyke said. "Even George Wallace has changed his style."

Today, while conditions in Arbor Hill may be better in some ways, things are unchanged in others. No young angry men are organized to address it, something lamented by The Brothers.

"Young people today don't know how to get organized," said Newton, who added harsh words for the Five Percenters, a black Muslim sect that has attracted some adherents in Arbor Hill. "They encourage jail as a way to manhood... They don't respect women, they don't respect private property. They only respect themselves, and they don't really even respect that."

Without black leaders such as Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. to emulate, black youth today are looking up to the drug dealer as the symbol of success. "Twenty-five years ago, J. Edgar Hoover said Martin Luther King was the most dangerous man in America," said Gill. That spot is now filled by the drug dealers who "walk around with a 9mm [pistol]... and are hooked into the basic drives of young men."

The role of The Brothers is "a piece of local history that can easily be lost... It's not written down anywhere," said Van Dyke. "Young kids don't realize that their uncles, fathers and grandfathers tried to do the right thing."

— (Gazette Photo — Jim Cassin)



**The Martin Luther King, Jr.
and Coretta Scott King
Lecture Series
at Siena College**

January 15 & 16, 1990



Reverend Dr. Allan A. Boesak

**The Martin Luther King, Jr.
and
Coretta Scott King
Lecture Series
on
Race and Nonviolent Social Change**

In cooperation with representatives of many Capital Region community and religious organizations, Siena College has established the Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King Lecture Series on Race and Nonviolent Social Change. The Series is funded through the proceeds of an endowment at Siena. The January 16 address by the Reverend Dr. Allan A. Boesak is the third annual lecture in the Series.

Dr. Boesak, a minister of the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in South Africa, has been in the forefront of the struggle against apartheid. A distinguished preacher and biblical theologian, he is increasingly recognized as a political as well as a religious leader among the forces resisting South Africa's white supremacist policies and practices.

He is one of the major leaders who have inspired activists at Siena College and in the Capital Region, such as Siena's Student Anti-Apartheid Group and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. In response to questions raised by students at Siena, the College Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of its appointed ad hoc committee in 1986 to divest from companies doing business in South Africa.

Since 1982 Dr. Boesak has been president of the Geneva-based World Alliance of Reformed Churches, and he is a member National Executive of the South African Council of Churches. As a co-founder of the multiracial United Democratic Front, he has taken a militant but nonviolent stand in support of full human rights for all South Africans.

His theological studies included work in seminaries in South Africa, the Netherlands and the United States. He received his Doctor of Theology degree from the Theological Academy of Kampen in the Netherlands. His published works include *Coming out of the Wilderness*, *Farewell to Innocence*, *The Finger of God*, *Black and Reformed*, *Walking on Thorns* and *Comfort and Protest*.

Dr. Boesak has eight honorary degrees and numerous awards from organizations in several countries. In the United States his awards have included the Martin Luther King Award granted by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Robert F. Kennedy Award and the Thomas Merton Award.

The reception honoring Dr. Boesak benefits the King Lecture Series. Fund raising for the endowment of the Series continues.

Decisions about lecturers, topics, locations and administration of the Series are made by an advisory board composed of representatives of Siena College and the community.

**RECEPTION
IN HONOR OF
REVEREND DR. ALLAN A. BOESAK**

Siena College
Jerome Dawson Library
January 15, 1990
5 p.m.

INTRODUCTION.....Dr. W. Merle Longwood
Professor of Religious Studies, Siena College
Chair, Advisory Board, King Lecture Series

WELCOME.....Rev. William E. McConville, O.F.M.
President
Siena College

GREETINGS.....Rev. Dr. Allan A. Boesak
President, World Alliance of Reformed Churches

MUSIC.....John Charles Cook

PRINT AND ORIGINAL ART EXHIBITION.....Presented by Ron Cook
of Harlem Street Gallery International, Ltd.

The King Lecture Series gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their gifts supporting this reception and lecture.

Rev. David A. Giles
Faye F. Harvey
The Most Reverend Howard J. Hubbard, D.D.
Rev. & Mrs. Robert C. Lamar
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THE THIRD ANNUAL LECTURE

Siena College
Alumni Recreation Center
January 16, 1990
10 a.m.

MASTER & MISTRESS
OF CEREMONIES.....Dr. W. Merle Longwood
Professor of Religious Studies,
Siena College
Chair, Advisory Board,
King Lecture Series

Ethel B. David
Director, Academic Opportunity Program and
Administrator, STEP/C-STEP, Union College
Vice Chair, Advisory Board,
King Lecture Series

A SONG OF INSPIRATION.....Gospel Ensemble
Union College
Tyrone Foster, Director

INVOCATION.....Rabbi Julie Wolkoff
President, Capital District Board of Rabbis
Rabbi, Congregation Berith Sholom
Troy, N. Y.

WELCOME.....Rev. William E. McConville, O.F.M.
President
Siena College

INTRODUCTION.....Anne Pope
Deputy Director for Administration and
Community Relations, New York
African American Institute
President, National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People -
Albany Branch

ADDRESS.....Rev. Dr. Allan A. Boesak
President, World Alliance of
Reformed Churches
"King's Legacy: The Defiance Campaign
in South Africa Today"

AFRICAN NATIONAL ANTHEM.....Led by members of the
Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and
Racism

NKOSI SIKELELIAFRIKA

Nkosi sikeleliAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo
Yizwa imithandazo yethu
Nkosi sikelela
Thina lusapho lwayo

Woza moya
Woza moya
Woza moya oyingewele
Nkosi sikelela
Thina lusapho lwayo

Morena boloka setshaba sa etsho
O fedise dintwa le matshoenyeho

O se boloke
O se boloke
Setshaba sa etsho
Setshaba sa Afrika

O se boloke Morena
O se boloke setshaba
Setshaba sa etsho
Setshaba sa Afrika

Makube njalo
makube njalo
Kude kube ngunaphakade
Kude Kube ngunaphakade

Language: Xhosa and Sotho

BENEDICTIONRev. Allen A. Stanley
Pastor, Bethel Baptist Church,
Troy, N.Y.

LORD BLESS AFRICA

Lord give your blessings to Africa
Let her glory rise above
Hear our pleas and hear our prayers
Lord bless
Her sons and daughters

Come spirit
Come spirit
Come spirit, holy spirit
Lord bless
Her sons and daughters

Lord save our nation
Rid it of wars and troubles

Save it
Save it
Our nation
Our nation of Africa

Save it Lord
Save our nation
Our nation
Our nation of Africa

So let it be
So let it be
Until eternity
Until eternity

BENEFACTORS OF THE ENDOWMENT

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6/14/90 - T. Wilson

attracted the...

2 local activists to meet Mandela

By Jay Jochnowitz

Staff writer

ALBANY — Two activists from the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism will be among 100 leaders from around the country expected to meet in New York later this month with African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela.

Mandela, 71, the deputy president of the ANC who was released from jail in South Africa this year after 27 years in prison, is expected to address the invitation-only gathering June 22 in New York City.

The all-day event, said Vera Michelson, co-chairwoman of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, is aimed at drawing anti-apartheid leaders from around the nation to plan strategies for lobbying the U.S. government to maintain economic sanctions against South Africa.

Anti-apartheid activists are also organizing a bus trip to New York City that day in connection with Mandela's arrival there. Mandela, who has been meeting with Western European leaders, is also scheduled to stop in

Boston, Atlanta, Detroit, Los Angeles, Oakland and in Washington, D.C., on June 25 to visit the White House.

Michelson, invited to the gathering with the coalition's co-chair, Merton Simpson, said: "The excitement is just tremendous. Clearly his presence in the U.S. is just going to be an outpouring."

Anti-apartheid forces want the government to maintain sanctions, she said, until "the time there is one person, one vote," in the country where whites are a minority but retain power. "The time to lift sanctions is when there's a free South Africa."

Also expected to address the conference in New York is Walter Sisulu, another ANC leader who was released shortly before Mandela after 26 years in jail, Michelson said.

Workshops and policy briefings are slated throughout the day with the ANC delegation touring with Mandela. Among the groups coordinating the event, she said, are the American Committee on Africa, the American Friends Service Committee, the Washington Office on Africa and Trans-Africa.



Nelson Mandela

... to address NYC gathering



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

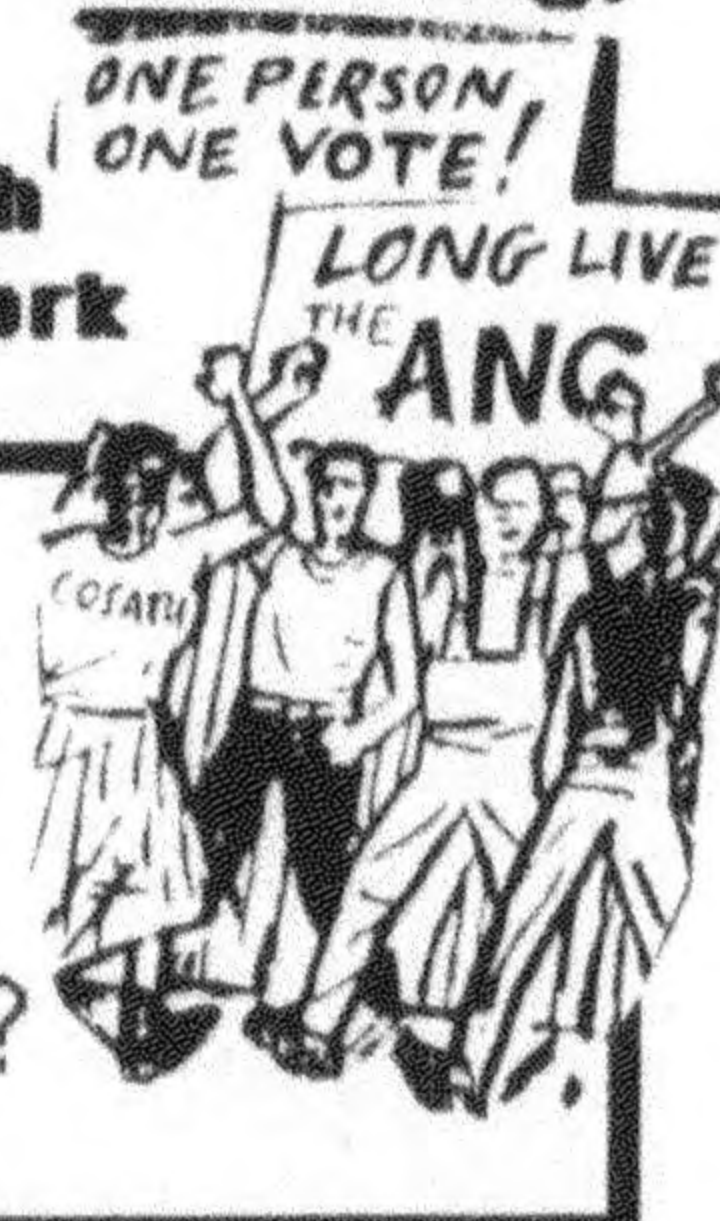
A Project of the Social Justice Center

MAY 1990 NEWSLETTER

Next general meeting of the Coalition: Thursday,

May 24, 1990 at 7:00 P.M.

**Albany Public Library, Main Branch
Washington Avenue, Albany, New York**



Assessment of Spring work

May Meeting

What do we do this summer?

LET'S BE FRIENDS... FROM A CO-CHAIR, VERA MICHELSON

*You see us in the streets, you tell us "keep up the good work." You shake hands with one of our many organizers and say "how can I help?" When you see us representing CDCAAR at forums, meetings, marches and rallies you are simply amazed at how we can keep going all the time (nine years to be exact). When Mandela was released you told people how you were proud to be part of an organization (CDCAAR) that had contributed so much to the struggle against apartheid in Southern Africa and racism at home. **YOU SAY ALL OF THESE THINGS BUT YOU DON'T SEND US YOUR \$5.00 MEMBERSHIP SO THAT YOU CAN KEEP GETTING THIS NEWSLETTER.** Don't fret. This problem is so easy to resolve. Just send a \$5.00 check (or more) to CDCAAR, P.O. Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station, Albany, N.Y. 12203 and we can be friends again.*

The preceding message does not apply to our many friends who have already paid their membership fee.



OF INTEREST TO EDUCATORS

WATCH SOUTH
AFRICA NOW
ON TV!

COMMISSIONER SOBOL CALLS FOR CURRICULUM CHANGE

A salute to Thomas Sobol, New York State Commissioner of Education, for his plan to draft broad revisions in the state's public school curriculum to give much greater recognition to the contribution of people of different ethnic, cultural and linguistic groups. This proposed "curriculum of inclusion" is an important step in making New York State public schools the schools of all the children.

APARTHEID IS WRONG: A CURRICULUM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

This curriculum by Paula Rogovin Bower offers educators a comprehensive curriculum on South Africa with extensive plans for teaching of the evils of apartheid in all disciplines. It can be adapted to all age levels and is even a useful educational tool for anti-apartheid activists because of the substantive material included.

You can order *Apartheid is Wrong: A Curriculum for Young People* by sending \$15.00 and \$3.00 for postage and handling to: Educators Against Apartheid, 164-04 Goethals Avenue, Jamaica, N.Y. 11432.

Back in the Studio - Congratulations to Art Mitchell, veteran radio announcer who recently returned to the studio after many years. Early birds can catch Art on Sunday mornings on 59 AM WROW from 6:45 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. The show is called **News, Views, Interviews and Gospel Music**. By the way, all community announcements should be sent to Art at WROW, 34 Northern Boulevard, Albany, New York 12204. Deadlines are Tuesday before the Sunday show. Good luck Art -we support you 100%

NELSON
MANDELA
IS
FREE 
BUT HE
CANNOT
VOTE

Congratulations to Anita Thayer on your recognition from the Albany YWCA as a "Woman of the Year."

THE COALITION WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CONGRATULATE REKA BASU, A JOURNALIST WHOSE WRITINGS IN METROLAND AND NOW IN THE GAZETTE PROVIDE THE CAPITAL DISTRICT WITH PROGRESSIVE IN-DEPTH REPORTING AND ANALYSIS.

There are many members of the Coalition who work tirelessly year after year and remain consistently committed to the struggle against injustice in this country and apartheid in South Africa. Anita Thayer, a practicing attorney with the law firm of Walter, Thayer, Long and Mishler, and a member of the National Lawyers Guild, is one of those individuals whose behind the scenes work is essential to the Coalition. Congratulations, Anita, on this well-deserved community recognition. Characteristically, Anita took the occasion of the award to make a strong political statement which we reprint here:

"I am honored that I was nominated for this award by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. I'm proud of my association with the Coalition.

One of the things that I have learned from association with the many people who are involved in the Coalition is that every occasion is an occasion to deal with the problems of racism in this country and to educate people about the evils of apartheid in South Africa.

As some of you know or have learned tonight, the YWCA organization has a position on the question of racism. Its "One Imperative" is a declaration by the Y that it will "thrust its collective power toward the elimination of racism wherever it exists and by whatever means necessary." This is an incredibly powerful slogan and is a huge and important challenge to all of us who are gathered here together tonight under the umbrella of the YWCA to celebrate our unity and diversity.

The elimination of racism in the United States is a major responsibility for us all...but what does this responsibility really mean? What can be done?

Thirty-six years after Brown v. Board of Education, we still have de facto segregated schools, even right here in Albany. All our public schools, with the exception of the one public high school, are predominantly either white or black.

Voting participation in the U.S. is far from universal. We have the lowest percentage of adults voting in our elections of any Western democracy. Our local democratic party is only recently beginning to feel the winds of perestroika.

Our children, black, white and brown, do not have teachers of color. They learn quickly that equal opportunity looks great on paper and in the cute little boxed inserts of their social studies textbooks. But our children rarely see equal opportunity in action...

The pervasiveness of racism is not a problem that can be resolved or eliminated solely by self-examination, sensitivity sessions, guilt, or good intentions. The tested and surest path of reversing racist conditioning and eliminating racism is to actually work on the specific problems of our day. Day by day, side by side with people of all colors as equal partners in struggle.

Only with a united, hands-on effort against bias, prejudice, and institutional racism can we become a truly democratic society.

Before I conclude, I also want to add that we are citizens of the world and we have world citizenship responsibilities.

On behalf of the Coalition, I would like to give each of you here today an opportunity to participate in a national campaign of the anti-apartheid movement to support democracy in South Africa and to lobby for comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa. The South African government refuses to address the core demand of the South African people for "one person, one vote." Nelson Mandela is out of jail but still not free. The anti-apartheid movement, through its "VOTE" campaign, gives the people of this country an opportunity to vote for democracy in South Africa and to support economic sanctions against South Africa. These ballots for democracy, will be sent to the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa to show our support for their struggle and the ballots for sanctions will go to the U.S. Congress. I urge you to take this opportunity to stand in struggle with the people of South Africa.



NOTE: THE "VOTE" CAMPAIGN WHICH ANITA REFERRED TO IN HER SPEECH HAS BEEN A COALITION EFFORT SINCE THE TIME OF NELSON MANDELA'S RELEASE FROM PRISON. IT IS PART OF A NATIONAL EFFORT TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN SANCTIONS AGAINST THE APARTHEID REGIME. FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS WE HAVE PUBLISHED THESE SANCTIONS BALLOTS IN THIS NEWSLETTER. BECAUSE THIS CAMPAIGN FOR SANCTIONS IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT ONE WE HAVE INCLUDED THE BALLOT AGAIN IN THIS MONTHS NEWSLETTER. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO FILL OUT THE BALLOT AND MAIL.



NOTE: The American Committee on Africa (ACOA) which organized the VOTE campaign reports that ballots from the Coalition are flooding their New York Office. Let's keep the ballots coming. If you have already sent one, pass it on to a friend, copy and distribute

**You Can Help
Cast Your Ballot Today**

VOTE for Democracy **VOTE for Sanctions**

Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
And Racism

BALLOT

DEMOCRACY

YES, every South African deserves full democracy—the right to vote. I vote yes for one person, one vote in a unified, nonracial South Africa.

NO, I don't believe that democracy is the answer for South Africa. I vote no to democracy.

Signature _____ City _____

The Africa Fund will mail your ballot on democracy to the people of South Africa to register your support for their demands. The ballot on sanctions will be delivered to Congress to aid the push for comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.

I've enclosed my contribution to support the campaign

SANCTIONS

YES, democracy will come to South Africa only when the government is under real pressure. That is why I vote for comprehensive mandatory sanctions now.

NO, I don't want to pressure the white minority government to end apartheid. I vote no to sanctions against apartheid.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

RETURN TO: VOTE DEMOCRACY CAMPAIGN, The Africa Fund, 198 Broadway, New York, NY 10038

The **National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression** has been struggling for the past seventeen years against racist and political repression. At the April membership meeting of the Coalition, Mark Mishler, a member of the Coalition steering committee, proposed that the Coalition join this Alliance as a way to strengthen and broaden the work of the Coalition against police and racist violence. The membership unanimously agreed and Mark will represent the Coalition at the 10th National Conference of the Alliance in Chicago during the latter part of May.

The Alliance is a multiracial, multinational coalition with varying political persuasions united by a common struggle to end racist and political repression.

There is a national emergency of hate-related violence. Racist, anti-Semitic, homophobic and other hate-motivated attacks deny millions of Americans their basic human rights. This national emergency not only threatens the direct victims, but the society as a whole.

"It has taken over 40 years, but the U.S. Congress has finally passed an anti-genocide law. This landmark legislation, coming as part of the ratification of the United Nations Convention to Prevent Genocide, makes it a crime to attempt to destroy a national, ethnic, racial or religious group. Significantly the act includes incitement as a crime. Stiff penalties include both fines and prison sentences. Resolute and aggressive federal enforcement of this legislation can be the key to turning back the tide of hate-motivated violence...We know from too much experience that this and other statutes are not worth the paper they are written on unless a mass movement can unleash them as weapons in our arsenal. Building that movement will be the business of this conference."

Two years ago the Coalition joined the Northeast Southern Africa Solidary Network. This affiliation with other anti-apartheid groups from several Northeast states has served to strengthen the work we are able to do in the struggle for democracy in Southern Africa. Affiliation with the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression will provide us with the strength of a network working against racism and racist violence in this country.

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

Non-Profit
Organization
**US POSTAGE
PAID**
PERMIT NO. 509
Albany, NY

**NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MAY 24, 1990 at 7:00 p.m.**

EYE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA NOW is a weekly
television news magazine.

Produced by Globalvision as a non-profit
project in association with The Africa Fund.

The program features news, footage,
analysis, background reports and cultural
segments not seen elsewhere on develop-
ments in the region of Southern Africa.

South Africa Now is seen nationally on
The International Television Network.

**SOUTH
AFRICA
NOW.**

*Never-before-seen footage and expert reporting
break the government-imposed silence.*

**REMEMBER TO WATCH "SOUTH AFRICA NOW" WHICH IS
TELEVISIONED IN THE CAPITAL DISTRICT AREA AT 2:00 P.M.
ON SUNDAYS - PBS CABLE CHANNEL 45.**

NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE APARTHEID REGIME

It is essential before any negotiations can take place that the necessary climate for negotiations be created. The following conditions have been adopted by the African National Congress (ANC), the people of South Africa, and the Organization of African Unity in Zimbabwe on August 21, 1989.

The present regime should, at the very least:

- *release all political prisoners and detainees unconditionally and refrain from imposing any restrictions on them;*
- *lift the bans and restrictions on all persons and organizations;*
- *remove all troops from the townships;*
- *end the state of emergency and repeal all legislation, such as and including the Internal Security Act, designed to restrict political activity;*
- *end press censorship; and,*
- *cease all political trials and political executions.*



These measures are necessary to produce the conditions in which free political discussion can take place - an essential condition to ensure that the people themselves participate in the process of re-making their country. These measures listed above should precede negotiations.

produced by the 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

June 1990 Newsletter

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING OF THE COALITION:
THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1990 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**Albany Public Library, Main Branch
Washington Avenue, Albany, New York**

Summer Planning Meeting

OTB Tennis Boycott

Black Arts Festival - Coalition Table*

Assessment of Committee Work:

Sanctions Police Abuse



Note that no regular meetings are planned for July and August - however, Coalition work will continue and this meeting will set up the plans for that work.

*The Black Arts Festival is scheduled for Sunday, July 22, 1990 at the Empire State Plaza. If you can work the Coalition table, please call 436-0562 to arrange hours.



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Namibia
To The United Nations**

801 Second Avenue, Room 1401, New York, N.Y. 10017
Telephone: (212) 557-2450, Telex: 237249, Fax: (212) 986-9736

CIRCULAR.

Dear Friends,

I have the distinct honor to inform you that, since the independence of Namibia on March 21, 1990, and particularly following the admission of my country to the membership of the United Nations on April 23, 1990, this office has changed status.

Its official designation is : The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Namibia to the United Nations.

It is our wish to continue having cordial relations with all of you who have assisted us in the struggle for the liberation of our country, and to strengthen ties during this face of national reconstruction and development.

Yours sincerely,

Asheeke

Hinyangerwa P. Asheeke
Ambassador
Charge d'Affaires.

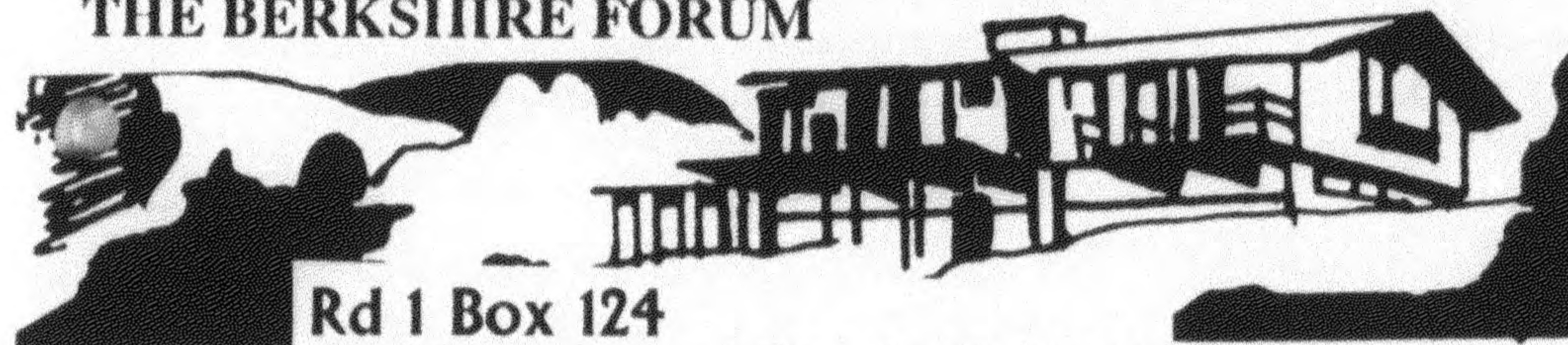


Announcements

**The Martin Luther King Jr. Institute for Nonviolence
Rebuilding New York - "Nonviolence at Work"**

2nd Annual Summer Workshop on Nonviolence
August 12-16, 1990, Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y.
For more information, call the Institute M-F 9AM-5PM at (518) 426-2300.

THE BERKSHIRE FORUM



Rd 1 Box 124
Stephentown, NY 12168-9723
(518) 733-6013

June
22-24

Communist Parties at the Crossroads

The widespread reports of the death of the Communist Parties, North and South, East and West, are greatly exaggerated. And yet, recent events have certainly challenged their historic mandate as vanguards of emancipation. What is to be done? A provocative exchange of views with **Gil Green**, member of the Central Committee of the U.S. Communist Party; **Deirdre Griswold**, editor of "Workers' World"; **Joseph Kaye**, writer and long-time progressive activist; **Sandra Levinson**, executive director of the Center for Cuban Studies; **Bruce Richard**, labor activist; **Merton Simpson**, co-chair, Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

July
27-29

South Africa: The Continuing Struggle

When Nelson Mandela was released from prison, the struggle for the liberation of South Africa entered a decisive phase. **Nomazizi Sokudela**, chairperson of the African National Congress' Regional Political Committee in the U.S. and a member of the ANC Women's Section, is a dedicated, resilient fighter who will explain the current situation in South Africa and the significance of negotiations. **Vera Michelson**, co-chair of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, will discuss tactics and strategies in organizing movement work.

WE CAN FREE JOHNNY IMANI HARRIS

Demand Clemency or Immediate Parole



In January 1990 the state of Alabama chose to continue its racist vendetta against Harris, denying him parole. Last September, Alabama courts overturned Harris' conviction in the 1974 death of a prison guard. After nearly two decades in prison, 14 years on death row, it is time to end this travesty of justice.

BIRMINGHAM FRAME-UP

In 1970 the Harris family moved onto a previously all-white block in Birmingham, Alabama. There was a neighborhood petition campaign demanding the family move, acid thrown on their car, a cross burned on their lawn. Threats from the Ku Klux Klan were followed by visits by men claiming to be local police.

Five months after moving into his new home, on August 11, 1970, in this atmosphere of racist violence and terror, 19-year-old Johnny Imani Harris was arrested without a warrant while on his way to work. He was placed in a line-up where his photograph was handed around to insure that he would be the man identified. The next day Harris was charged with four robberies in the amounts of \$11, \$67, \$90 and \$205, and with the alleged rape of a white woman. Each of these charges in 1970 carried a maximum penalty of death.

There followed a travesty of the rights to counsel and due process. One of Harris' court-appointed lawyers never visited him before the trial. No pre-trial motions challenging Harris' warrantless arrest or the warrantless search of his home were filed. None of Harris' attorneys examined the medical report on the alleged rape victim, which stated there was no evidence of rape. None of the five people providing Harris with an unimpeachable alibi for the time of the alleged rape was called as a witness.

A few minutes before the trial began, Harris' attorneys, both counseled him to plead guilty. One had not subpoenaed any defense witnesses and was totally unprepared to defend his client. The other felt the court would take the white woman's word over Harris' regarding the rape and that Harris would get the death sentence if he didn't plead guilty. And the attorney "didn't intend to buck the system." Faced with this situation, fearing for his life, Harris pleaded guilty. He received five consecutive life sentences and was sent to Atmore Prison to serve out his time.

CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT

The horrors which awaited him were indescribable. Little had changed since the days when the Scottsboro defendants were imprisoned there. Federal Judge Frank M. Johnson later found Atmore Prison to be unfit for human habitation and in violation of Constitutional protections against cruel and unusual punishment.

Harris, along with other prisoners, joined Inmates for Action (IFA) to try to improve conditions. Prison officials answered their protests with beatings and brutality.

In January, 1974, 64 prisoners who had protested—including Harris—were confined in a "hole" built for 32. There were no toilets or beds. Guards lied to the prisoners, saying they had just beaten an IFA member to death. Believing they would be next, the prisoners seized two guards as hostages and made one demand—that members of the press, legislature, and clergy be brought to Atmore to see conditions.

Warden Marion B. Harding ordered the guards to attack the prisoners and break up the protest. A guard, Officer Barrow, and a prison leader, George Dobbins, were killed. According to eyewitnesses, the Warden repeatedly stabbed Dobbins in the face after having him shot by a guard.

SENTENCED TO DEATH

Harris was brought to trial by a politically ambitious Alabama Attorney General, Bill Baxley, using an 1859 slaveholder law carrying a mandatory death sentence. No evidence was presented that Harris had killed the guard. Baxley maintained Harris was guilty of murder if he had been part of the protest. During the trial Baxley stated that the warden "should have set up a machine gun, given the prisoners two minutes to come out, and then cut them all down."

The jury was all white and all male. Harris was convicted and sentenced to death.

If you would like to get involved working on the issue of police abuse, join the CARR subcommittee, Mark Mishler, 518-462-6753.

NEW TRIAL WON

In 1978 Jesse David Jett, a white former prisoner at Atmore, came forward with eyewitness testimony that Harris had not killed the guard. He had not said anything before due to threats by the prison guards. Harris' attorney won a new trial in 1983, but Jett suddenly refused to testify. Once again an all-white jury convicted Harris and sentenced him to death.

THE CASE TODAY

The ruling overturning Harris' conviction resulted from effective legal work and the 15 years of struggle led by the NAARPR. The court said, "the appropriate relief is the dismissal of the indictment rather than merely granting a new trial."

In 1987, a U.S. Supreme Court decision in another case led to the overturning of Harris' death sentence. And on March 10, 1989, over the vindictive opposition of the state's prosecutor, the Alabama Supreme Court ruled Harris could not be resentenced to death.

The case had been on appeal to the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals. But an effective appeal had been made impossible by the fact that key sections of the transcripts dealing with the discriminatory jury selection process were missing. Harris' current attorneys raised a number of issues, including the highly prejudicial statements made by the state's prosecutor, the racially discriminatory composition of the indicting Grand Jury, and the lack of evidence linking Harris to the crime.

NOT AN ISOLATED INCIDENT

Of the over 2210 people on death row across the country, almost half are people of color. Over 42% are Black, even though Black people make up only 12% of the U.S. population. In Alabama 62% of those on death row are Black. Of the over 2210 nationally, not one is rich.

WE CAN FIGHT BACK AND WIN

The National Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression (NAARPR) has spearheaded the building of a national and international movement to save Johnny Imani Harris' life and free him from prison. We have marched, rallied, vigiled, petitioned, passed out leaflets, and written letters. Support has come from elected officials such as Detroit Mayor Coleman Young, Congressmen John Conyers, William Clay, and Walter Fauntroy, Chicago Alderman Jesus Garcia, Detroit Councilmembers Maryann Mahaffey and Mel Ravitz, and Alabama State Senators Hank Sanders and Earl Hilliard. They have been joined by the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; the Board of Church & Society of the United Methodist Church; singer Carmen McRae; writer Alice Walker; Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) President Dr. Joseph Lowrey; Daniel Berrigan; Abdeen Jabarra, President, American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee; Chicago activist Lupe Lozano; Dr. Jonathan House, President, Committee of Interns and Residents, New York, and many, many others.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Johnny Imani Harris should begin the new decade outside any prison walls. With struggle and organization we can free him and begin to heal the terrible wounds inflicted 20 years ago. Let Alabama's governor and parole board feel the renewed pressure of a national and international campaign to free Brother Harris. It's time!

- Move your church, organization, union, etc., to demand that there be no more delays. Demand Harris' sentence be commuted to time served, or at very least immediate parole granted.

- Write Gov. Guy Hunt (11 South Union St., Montgomery, AL 36130) and separate letters to each member of the parole board: Mr. Joel Barfoot, Rev. John Nettles, and Mr. Jack Shows (Alabama Board of Pardons & Paroles, 777 South Lawrence St., Montgomery, AL 36130.)

**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism
A project of the Social Justice Center**

DEATHS AND COVER-UPS AT NEW YORK STATE PRISONS

Prisoner Support Network

For the second time in ten months, a young African American prisoner in the New York State prison system has died after being "subdued" by guards. James Charles, 30, of Queens, died at Attica on May 24th, 1990. Ronald Smith, 33, from the Bronx, died at Clinton on July 20, 1989. In both cases, the official Department of Corrections version is that the prisoner, following an "altercation" with guards, was restrained with no undue force, developed unrelated respiratory problems shortly afterward, collapsed and died. In both cases, inmates say they saw savage beatings. Hundreds of inmates at both prisons risked (and incurred) severe reprisals to try to get out the message that they believe Smith and Charles were beaten to death by guards.

On July 23, 1989, six hundred prisoners at Clinton boycotted the mess hall in order to make known that they believed Ronald Smith had been beaten to death.

Smith's autopsy was performed by the State Police Medical Examiner, Michael Baden. Dr. Baden's autopsy report notes, without comment, "abrasions, contusions, and lacerations" -- scrapes, bruises, and cuts -- all over Smith's body, including the head and testes. Dr. Baden concludes that the cause of Smith's death was cardiac arrhythmia caused by coronary arteriosclerosis and toxic levels of the antidepressant medication amitriptyline. In other words, he had a heart attack caused by hardening of the arteries and medical drug overdose.

Prisoner Support Network obtained the informal opinions of five medical specialists who were asked to read Dr. Baden's report. They expressed the following views: (1) that cardiac arrhythmia cannot be diagnosed in an autopsy, but only by electrocardiogram while it is happening; (2) that the amount of coronary artery narrowing -- to 60% in one artery -- reported by Dr. Baden is almost never enough to cause death; (3) that high amitriptyline levels are consistent with therapeutic use, and that the levels reported were probably not fatal. That is, Ronald Smith probably did not die the way the autopsy report says he died.

The Corrections Officers' own account of the death says that Smith, gasping and collapsing, was taken to the Mental Observation Unit instead of the infirmary and allowed to lie, handcuffed, face down in his vomit for six minutes. Medical attention arrived after he was dead.

The report on Ronald Smith's death by the Commission of Correction, the state agency which is supposed to monitor state prisons, is an insult to the people of New York. Its two short pages simply repeat the conclusions of Dr. Baden's autopsy report and emphasize Smith's history of mental disorder and assaultiveness. Why did the Commission not investigate, or not report on, witnesses' claims to have observed Smith being beaten, the evidence of traumatic injury in the autopsy report, and the delay in obtaining medical attention? Instead, the report says, "Post mortem exam did not reveal traumatic injury that caused or contributed to the death of the deceased," creating the false impression that no traumatic injury was found. Injuries were found, but were not considered important by the State Police Medical Examiner.

The death of Ronald Smith takes on fresh significance with the death of James Charles. James Charles became involved in an altercation with corrections officers in A-yard at Attica in the late evening of May 24th. Over two hundred inmates were in the yard at the time, and many of them saw 20-30 guards restrain Charles, cuff his hands behind his back, and beat him to the ground. The guards then dragged Charles into the corridor of A-block, where they continued to beat him while prisoners watched through the window. Less than two hours later, James Charles was dead. Department of Corrections spokesperson Amy Colodny announced that preliminary autopsy results "failed to disclose" a cause of death, but there is "no indication of any trauma or injury that would have contributed to his death." (Buffalo News 5/26/90)

On the night of May 26th, 700 prisoners gathered in all four of Attica's yards to protest the death of James Charles. 459 of them either stayed out or were locked out in the yards overnight. Most have now received punitive transfers and disciplinary proceedings for their attempt to be heard. Although the prisoners in the yard on the night of May 26th were chanting, "No more murders, no more beatings: James Charles!" the Department of Corrections announced, and the media repeated, that they had no idea what caused the protest.

Individuals and groups concerned with these and other incidents of human rights violations in New York State's prisons are urged to write or telephone the following people requesting independent investigations and assurances of safety for inmate witnesses:

Governor Mario Cuomo
Attn: John Poklemba
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12223
(518) 474-3334

Commissioner Thomas Coughlin
NYS Dept of Correctional Svcs
State Campus, Building #2
Albany, NY 12226
(518) 457-8182

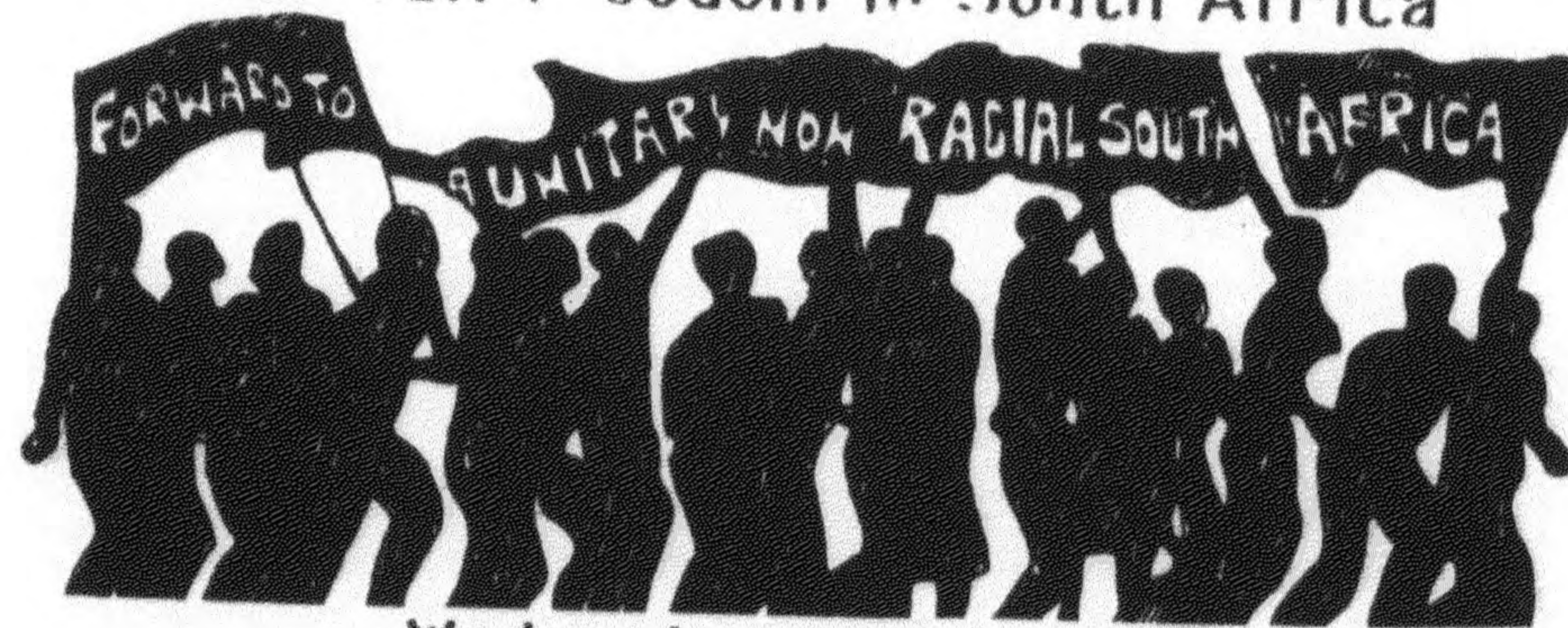
Correction Committee
Daniel Feldman, Chair
N.Y.S. Assembly
Albany, NY 12248
(518) 455-5214

For further information, please contact Naomi Jaffe, Prisoner Support Network, 137 Oakwood Ave. Troy NY 12180, (518) 272-0501.

**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism
A project of the Social Justice Center**

Please post

On the occasion of Nelson Mandela's visit to the
United States
the Capital District Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism
requests the honor of your presence at a
reception for a representative of
the African National Congress
and the launching of a renewed sanctions
campaign
for full freedom in South Africa



Wednesday, June 27, 1990

5:00 p.m.

Legislative Office Building, Reception Room 711A
State Street, Albany, New York

also co-sponsored by New York State Assemblyman Roger L. Green
*For further information, call the Mandela Reception Committee
telephone (518) 432-4623*

Project of the Social Justice Center



For several months the CDCAAR has been planning a reception in honor of the release of Nelson Mandela. In keeping with his demand for continued sanctions against the white minority regime until apartheid is ended and there is one man, one vote in South Africa, this reception will also be a renewed and urgent call for sanctions.

Several celebrities and politicians have pledged their support and will be in attendance. Resolutions are being prepared for introduction in local government bodies.

We need to make this the strongest call for sanctions ever. The South African regime is calling for sanctions to be ended. The Bush administration is talking about lifting sanctions to encourage "reforms."

Nelson Mandela, and the people of South Africa are calling for sanctions to continue and be intensified.

Take a stand for real democracy in South Africa. Your attendance at this reception and your support of sanctions will be a real "welcome" for Nelson Mandela.

6/14/90 - T. Union

fracted the

2 local activists to meet Mandela

By Jay Jochnowitz

Staff writer

ALBANY — Two activists from the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism will be among 100 leaders from around the country expected to meet in New York later this month with African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela.

Mandela, 71, the deputy president of the ANC who was released from jail in South Africa this year after 27 years in prison, is expected to address the invitation-only gathering June 22 in New York City.

The all-day event, said Vera Michelson, co-chairwoman of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, is aimed at drawing anti-apartheid leaders from around the nation to plan strategies for lobbying the U.S. government to maintain economic sanctions against South Africa.

Anti-apartheid activists are also organizing a bus trip to New York City that day in connection with Mandela's arrival there. Mandela, who has been meeting with Western European leaders, is also scheduled to stop in

Boston, Atlanta, Detroit, Los Angeles, Oakland and in Washington, D.C., on June 25 to visit the White House.

Michelson, invited to the gathering with the coalition's co-chair, Merton Simpson, said: "The excitement is just tremendous. Clearly his presence in the U.S. is just going to be an outpouring."

Anti-apartheid forces want the government to maintain sanctions, she said, until "the time there is one person, one vote," in the country where whites are a minority but retain power. "The time to lift sanctions is when there's a free South Africa."

Also expected to address the conference in New York is Walter Sisulu, another ANC leader who was released shortly before Mandela after 26 years in jail, Michelson said.

Workshops and policy briefings are slated throughout the day with the ANC delegation touring with Mandela. Among the groups coordinating the event, she said, are the American Committee on Africa, the American Friends Service Committee, the Washington Office on Africa and Trans-Africa.



Nelson Mandela

... to address NYC gathering

BERKSHIRE FORUM

Rd 1 Box 124
Stephentown, NY 12168-9723
(518) 733-6013

**BERKSHIRE FORUM
WEEKEND WORKSHOPS**

**SUMMER
1990**

BERKSHIRE FORUM

Rd 1 Box 124
Stephentown, NY 12168-9723
(518) 733-6013

SUMMER
1990

BERKSHIRE FORUM
WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

"In an Era of Widespread Delusion, the Berkshire Forum is More Necessary Than Ever..."

Charging capitalists and their academic minions with ideology-induced blindness, Marx proved to them that "the present society is no solid crystal, but an organism capable of (fundamental) change, and is constantly changing." The depressing irony in these days of "triumphant capitalism" is that many of the American Left are ignoring Marx and have come to share the triumphalists' delusion that this society is a solid, unchangeable crystal.

Such blindness is useful to the defenders of economic, racial and sexual oppression, but to progressive forces, it is fatal. By way of "therapy," all discussions at the Berkshire Forum illumine the truth that, indeed, "the present society is no solid crystal," superficial appearances to the contrary notwithstanding. Here, progressives, in their analyses and reasoned projections, demonstrate not only that "present society is...an organism capable of change," but that — for the sake of a human future — it must change fundamentally. In short, the Berkshire Forum cures delusion and strengthens resolve.

Come, join us to discuss and plan these necessary changes.



BERKSHIRE FORUM SUMMER SCHEDULE 1990

JULY

June 29-
July 1

**Leonard Weinglass, Edith Tiger, Robert Meeropol,
Patricia Levasseur, Muhammad Kenyatta and
Mary Kenyatta**

"Human Rights' U.S. Style:
Illusion vs. Reality"

6-8

Irene S. Woods

"Unified Germany: Opportunity or Menace?"

13-15

Doug Henwood

"Copy Cat Capitalists: Market Socialism?"

20-22

Arnoldo Ramos

"El Salvador Vencerá!"

27-29

Nomazizi Sokudela and Vera Michelson

"South Africa: The Continuing Struggle"

AUG

3-5

Katherine Yih

"Marxist Environmentalism"

10-12

Larry Birns

"Cuba under Siege"

17-19

Dr. Milton Terris

"Public Health and Social Justice"

24-26

Sean Gervasi

"Germany: Kohl's Economic Anschluss"

31-

LABOR DAY WEEKEND SPECIAL PROGRAM!

Sept. 3

Details will be announced in the Fall Brochure.

Workshop participants may make arrangements in advance to extend their Forum weekends for an extra day of reading or study before or after scheduled Forum events. The Forum holds weekend workshops from May through November. The Fall '90 schedule will be out later this summer.

BERKSHIRE FORUM

WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

SUMMER 1990

Do you blanch as you watch Reaction disguised as "democracy" reconquer the world for capitalism and imperialism? Do you flinch when you hear "freedom" celebrated as a codeword for consumerism, rugged individualism and the blessings of "free enterprise"?

If you do, come to the Berkshire Forum for a weekend workshop, where -- with the help of highly qualified discussion leaders -- you'll regain your confidence in the possibility of participatory societies "in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all."

In a comfortable, modern lodge, in superb surroundings, you'll be meeting others, like yourself, who are as eager to speak as to listen, and who long to escape -- even if only for a weekend -- from the dullness and oppressiveness of a homogenized, conservative political culture.

Facilities at the Forum which accommodate some 20 resident workshop participants, include:

- A spacious conference room with a dramatic hearth and a long sundeck facing the



mountains • A recreation lounge for cocktails, coffee breaks, cracker-barreling, card playing, chess, reading, electioneering and dalliance • Set-ups and ice, always available (although the Forum cannot supply liquor) • Cheerful bedrooms, most for double

occupancy, with modern bathrooms for every two bedrooms and private baths for two of the rooms • An attractive dining area with mountain views where deservedly acclaimed Forum meals include home-baked bread and produce from local farms • A recreation annex, its walls covered with political posters from all over the world, for ping-pong, study and an occasional movie • A fine all-weather tennis court three minutes from the lodge • A spring-fed swimming pond • A good stereo system, TV, a video tape player and a wide-ranging library •

Here's the typical sequence of weekend events:

- The workshop begins with Friday dinner at 7
- Opening discussion session at 9
- Saturday morning discussion session at 10
- Saturday afternoon free for trips to historic New England sites, for summer theater matinees, for tennis, for swimming (in season), for hiking, reading or lolling.
- Saturday evening session at 8:30. Frequently this session is highlighted by the screening of an appropriate videotape.
- Sunday session at 10 a.m.
- The weekend workshop ends officially with Sunday lunch at 12:30 but the Forum is yours for the afternoon.

Sue Mitchell, the Forum's operations manager, along with Kim Mitchell and Linda Sweener, join me in warm greetings and the hope that we'll see you soon.

Incidentally, all donations to the Berkshire Forum, a not-for-profit educational institution, are tax-deductible.

Sybil Wong, Executive Director

BERKSHIRE FORUM

WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

SUMMER 1990

JULY

June 29-
July 1

"Human Rights" U.S. Style: Illusion vs. Reality

A critical consideration of the myth of universal rights in this country and our government's hypocritical use of those words as a slogan of world conquest. Join us along with participants **Leonard Weinglass**, **Edith Tiger**, **Robert Meeropol**, **Patricia Levasseur**, **Muhammad Kenyatta**, and **Mary Kenyatta**. This special workshop is sponsored by Betty and Herman Liveright.

July
6-8

Unified Germany: Opportunity or Menace?

A native Berliner, **Irene S. Woods**, lived under Nazi rule for six years and has lived ever since with the fact and memory of genocide. Currently she helps develop Holocaust educational materials and works with the post-Holocaust generation. Woods will raise and discuss the poignant, troubling question whether a unified Germany could become a renewed threat to world peace. This weekend workshop is sponsored by Boston Friends of the Forum. However, public participation is welcome.

July
13-15

Copy Cat Capitalists: Market Socialism?

The editor of the *Left Business Observer*, **Doug Henwood** has since 1986 provided a surprisingly witty and cogent analysis of the deterioration of the capitalist system, from union-busting to junk bonds, increasing poverty to mega-mergers. Given the financial crisis of the West, Henwood takes on the puzzling changes in the USSR and Eastern Europe: is this "Market Stalinism", as Soviet conservatives (Marxists) fear?

July
20-22

El Salvador Vencera!

The war in El Salvador rages on and the Bush Administration delivers millions of dollars into the blood-drenched hands of the Christiani regime. **Arnoldo Ramos**, spokesperson and U.S. press liaison for the FMLN-FDR. El Salvador, is a powerful speaker and representative of the courageous people of this war torn nation. His task here is to elucidate FMLN-FDR perspectives and to promote solidarity between our people.

July
27-29

South Africa: The Continuing Struggle

When Nelson Mandela was released from prison, the struggle for the liberation of South Africa entered a decisive phase. **Nomazizi**

Sokudela, chairperson of the African National Congress' Regional Political Committee in the U.S. and a member of the ANC Women's Section, is a dedicated, resilient fighter who will explain the current situation in South Africa and the significance of negotiations. **Vera Michelson**, co-chair of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, will discuss tactics and strategies in organizing movement work.

August
10-12

Cuba under Siege

As the United States attempts to roll back the tide of revolution in the Caribbean Basin, the Cuban people are striving to maintain socialism. **Larry Birns**, Director of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs in Washington, D.C., is a friend of the Cuban Revolution, a frequent visitor to the island which for 31 years has been a beacon of hope to Latin American people. Birns will discuss tele-aggression, the economic embargo and the future of Cuba in the light of Perestroika policies towards the Third World.

AUGUST

August
3-5

Marxist Environmentalism

When *The New York Times* announces on the front page that "the environment has reached the forefront of American politics," when Congressional spokesmen for corporate polluters appear on the hustings in the shining armor of ecological St. Georges, it is high time for the Left to demystify the mystifiers. No one is more qualified to do that than **Katherine Yih**, a progressive biologist who for years worked on development strategies and the regeneration of rainforests in Nicaragua, and is currently writing on the politics and international implications of environmentalism.

August
17-19

Public Health and Social Justice

So, you think that better public health is primarily a matter of more effective medical therapies? No way, says **Dr. Milton Terris**. One of the most eminent public health authorities in the United States and Canada, Terris has outraged the medical profession for years by demonstrating that good public health depends less critically on medication than on social justice, that it is less a function of the standard of medical practice than of the standard of living. Dr. Terris balances sharp criticism with bold proposals for a progressive national health program.

August
24-26

Germany: Kohl's Economic Anschluss

Sean Gervasi, an American economist teaching in Paris and a sparkling speaker, recently returned from a fact-finding tour in West and East Germany. He will analyze the real reasons for Kohl's *Anschluss* and the harsh terms imposed on East Germany. A re-unification of the two Germanys, consummated in an atmosphere of near-hysterical nationalism, promises dangerous instability. Is the U.S. pressing rapid re-unification in order to undermine the Common Market of 1992?

August 31-
Sept. 3

Labor Day Weekend Special Program!

Details will be announced in the Fall Brochure.

RATES

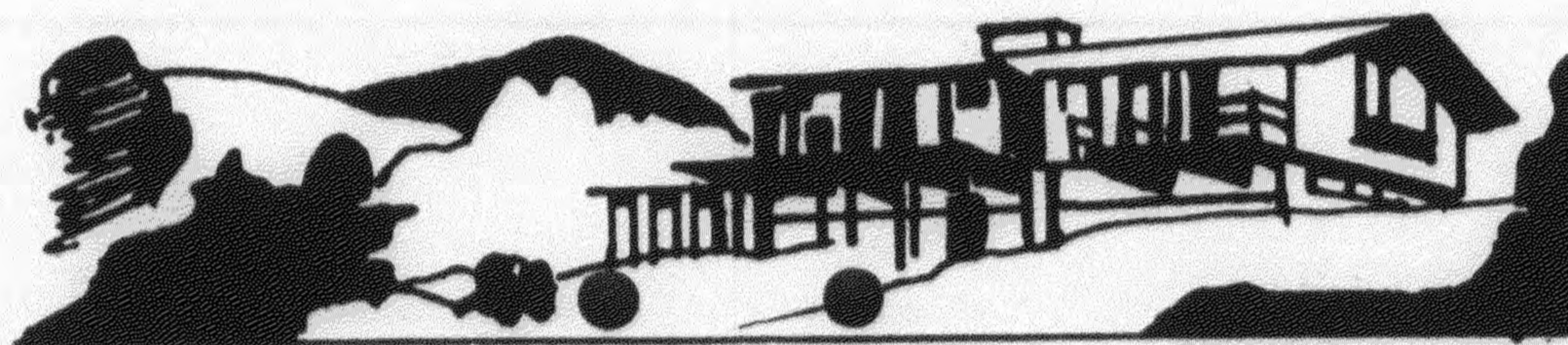
Regular weekend workshops begin with Friday dinner and end after Sunday lunch; each extra day costs half the price of the weekend fee.
One person double occupancy \$150
One person single occupancy \$250
The rates can be adjusted in accordance with income level.
Two rooms with private baths are available if reserved in advance. Please enclose a deposit of \$50 per person with reservation. The deposit is refundable up to two weeks before a workshop; after that it will be applied against a later reservation. We will meet trains, buses and planes for a charge of \$15 per person.
Child care will be provided upon request.

SCHOLARSHIPS

If you need financial aid to attend a workshop, please do not hesitate to apply to the Alexander I. Crosby Scholarship Fund. Write or call the Forum.

RENTING THE FORUM

Arrangements can be made for individuals and groups to use the Berkshire Forum when workshops have not been scheduled or during weekdays. Groups will enjoy exclusive occupancy of the lodge. Call or write for details.



MATTER

"WHAT DO YOU THINK THE JUDGE would've said," asked Kevin Grygiel of the Finger Lakes community of Caroga Lake, a spokesman for Citizens for a Better Tomorrow. "If he saw 900 pages of stuff dumped on his desk showing people in the hospital, wildlife poisoning?"

On Monday night, the DuFlo Chemical Spray Company, based in New Bremen in Lewis County, was scheduled to begin aerial pesticide spraying on the town of Wilton in Saratoga County. State Attorney General Robert Abrams, on behalf of the Adirondack Park Agency, had attempted to halt spraying in 13 Adirondack Park towns and several outside the park by filing a lawsuit. But, last week, a Supreme Court judge dismissed the suit after hearing oral arguments, and Wilton was the first town to begin spraying after the decision.

Nancy Connell, a spokeswoman for the attorney general, said the office did everything it could in seeking a halt to the spraying, adding that there may be an appeal. But Grygiel, who said he and five other members of the North Elba-based Citizens for a Better Tomorrow compiled some 900 pages documenting the ill health effects of aerial spraying in the park, claimed the attorney general's office did not present an effective case.

The state agency had argued that an environmental impact statement on the pesticides Dibrom-14, Scourge and malathion, prepared by the Adirondack Park town of Webb on behalf of 19 other towns, including Wilton, did not fully address possible alternatives to the pesticides. (Pesticide activists consider BTL, a bacterial method that kills mosquito larvae, to be a more benign alternative.)

Grygiel faulted attorney Kathleen Morrison for not referring to his group's documentation during the proceedings. The 900 pages, according to Grygiel, included official medical documents—such as a copy of a blood test taken at a Lake Placid hospital showing Dibrom-14 in the bloodstream of two young children—and other anecdotal evidence.

"It was sitting right next to her and she didn't refer to it at all," he said. "I just found it incredible."

Grygiel said that, when he questioned Morrison about the documentation after the hearing, she simply said, "I forgot." Morrison declined to discuss the case, deferring to spokeswoman Connell, who said that Grygiel's information had nothing to do with the lawsuit.

"The legal issue in this case was not whether pesticides are harmful or not," said Connell. "The question was whether the [environmental impact statement] was done correctly. I'm not going to get into an argument over whether this was the most effective way to present the case. That's our business. We were in it to win. There's just no way we can be responding to all this second-guessing."

Connell added that some of the information in the 900 pages of material was included in the court record.

Richard Hoffman, an attorney for the Adirondack Park Agency, said that Grygiel's report was "not the type of information that could be introduced in a court of law." He added that the APA is discussing the possibility of an appeal.

Grygiel claimed that his information was germane to the case because it was left out of the environmental impact statement that

from DuFlo were discussing the possible health threats of mosquitoes and black flies at the hearing—and saying that there was no documentation of a health threat posed by the pesticides against people.

"These are things that came from hospitals," said Grygiel. "They were directly attributed to the spraying."

In Wilton, citizens apparently are largely in favor of spraying. At a public hearing on June 7, an overwhelming majority wanted spraying. Many said they were prisoners in their own homes. But Carol Green, the Wilton Town Board member in charge of pesticide spraying, admitted that most of the calls she receives on the issue are from those who object to spraying. According to Green, the town initiated a program where those who don't want to be sprayed are provided with large markers so that the plane will avoid their property. She also said that the town warns those who want to avoid the chemicals—many of whom are asthmatic or chemically sensitive—before spraying begins.

"I had one woman who's pregnant and decided she just didn't want to be around," Green said. "One person who has a trout stream swears the reason his fish die is because of spraying."

Green said that she will soon begin looking into the use of BTL next year.

Ward Stone, the state Department of Environmental Conservation's wildlife pathologist, has warned that chemicals such as Scourge are dangerous to various wildlife. State law forbids the spraying of such chemicals over Adirondack Park lakes and ponds.

Jeffrey DuFlo, president of the DuFlo spraying firm, said that the chemicals they use are extremely diluted, adding that "we're just a company that buys state-approved chemicals and applies them in a state-approved manner."

The failure, so far, of the attorney general to halt spraying in the Adirondacks exemplifies the type of frustration felt by pesticide activists in trying to cut down on widespread use of what they deem to be dangerous chemicals. The EPA pesticide-registration process is in serious need of an overhaul. Jim Sevinsky of the Attorney General's environmental protection bureau said the agency's hands are often tied because chemicals are registered and legal. "We're trying," he said, "to find whatever legal hooks we can."

—Mike Goudreau

FULL NELSON

ENERGIZED BY AFRICAN NATIONAL Congress leader Nelson Mandela's recent eight-city U.S. visit, local anti-apartheid activists are enjoying a renewed sense of purpose, but caution against backing off on sanctions now in place against the South African apartheid regime.

"The impact of Mandela's tour is that it's brought ordinary people into the struggle in a visible way," said Vera Michelson, co-chair of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. "But we're actually in a very dangerous period. There's euphoria now, but when the dust settles there may be some thinking that things are improving enough to loosen the sanctions against South Africa."

Michelson stressed that if anything, now is the time for increased sanctions against

the ever-weakening grip of the South African apartheid regime. The role of the coalition in this period, she said, is to intensify fund-raising efforts for the ANC, in order to help the organization achieve the most prized right of all: One person, one vote in South Africa.

"The time to lift the sanctions is when Mandela and the ANC lift them," Michelson said. "How can the [anti-apartheid] movement here or the Congress decide when the progress [toward democratization] in South Africa is irreversible?"

The Capital District coalition has been lauded for its anti-apartheid efforts, beginning with its 1981 protest of the Springbok Rugby Tour. "At the time," Michelson said, "we wanted to make Nelson Mandela as much of a household name as Lech Walesa. And now, look at what's happened! It's nice to say we played a part."

The coalition's efforts were recognized by national ANC organizers when Michelson and coalition co-chair Merton Simpson were two of roughly 100 anti-apartheid activists invited to a meeting in New York City during Mandela's visit. After a full day of workshops and strategy sessions, Mandela arrived and gave a 30-minute pep talk to the gathered organizers. "At around 5:15, everyone started looking at their watches," Michelson recalled. "Then there was this great cheer outside, and we knew our leader was coming."

Following Mandela's visit to New York, the coalition, along with the New York State Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus, sponsored a reception for the ANC at the Legislative Office Building. Along with speakers from the caucus and the coalition, the June 27 event featured longtime activist and actor Ossie Davis, as well as ANC Representative Victor Mashabela.

Davis, who recently played "The Mayor" in Spike Lee's *Do the Right Thing*, was the consummate storyteller, weaving stories of his involvement with the South African struggle for freedom with calls for increased sanctions, and illustrating the power of the economic boycott through the example of the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott of the mid-'50s.

Mashabela extended thanks for the support extended to the ANC by New Yorkers. "The violence in South Africa has had much impact," he said. "You watched it on TV, you read about it and it affected you."

Additionally, four members of the Albany Common Council were acknowledged for their efforts in the anti-apartheid movement. A resolution, sponsored by council members Sara Logan, James Scalzo, Keith St. John and Sharon Ward will eventually be presented before the full council. "Generally," said St. John, "[the resolution] will welcome Mandela, recognize the struggle of the people of southern Africa, support that struggle and call on Congress to do the same and not lift the sanctions."

—Thomas Gogola

ASH NOT

LAST MONTH, BIOMED SERVICES Inc. of Florida unveiled an extensive plan for a medical-waste incinerator on South Pearl Street near downtown Albany. But if the findings of a 40-page draft report by Mayor Thomas M. Whalen III's Advisory Committee on Hospital Waste are any guide,



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

June 21, 1990
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Naomi Jaffe, 272-0501

OSSIE DAVIS TO GREET MANDELA ENVOY AT ALBANY RECEPTION

Actor Ossie Davis will be a keynote speaker at an Albany reception to honor a member of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress visiting delegation, and to call for increased economic sanctions against the government of South Africa. The event, hosted by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism and the New York State Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus, will be held on Wednesday, June 27th at 5:00 p.m. in Room 711A of the Legislative Office Building on State and South Swan Streets, and is open to the public.

The African National Congress representative will be greeted by Assemblyman Albert Vann, Chairman of the Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus, and other community leaders and anti-apartheid activists.

In conjunction with Mandela's current U.S. tour, the reception will launch a renewed campaign to intensify economic sanctions against the government of South Africa. Mandela has made the call for continued international pressures against the white minority regime a central theme of his tour. Mandela's representative in Albany will be presented by the anti-apartheid coalition with signed ballots pledging U.S. supporters' commitment to the sanctions campaign.

According to Vera Michelson, co-chairperson of the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, "Mandela's release is a tremendous victory, but he spent 27 years in prison for a goal which is still far from won: a democratic, unified, nonracial South Africa. It would be a tragedy if the international community pulled back now. We are campaigning for sanctions to be increased rather than removed."



ALBANY
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

Capital Voice

June 1990

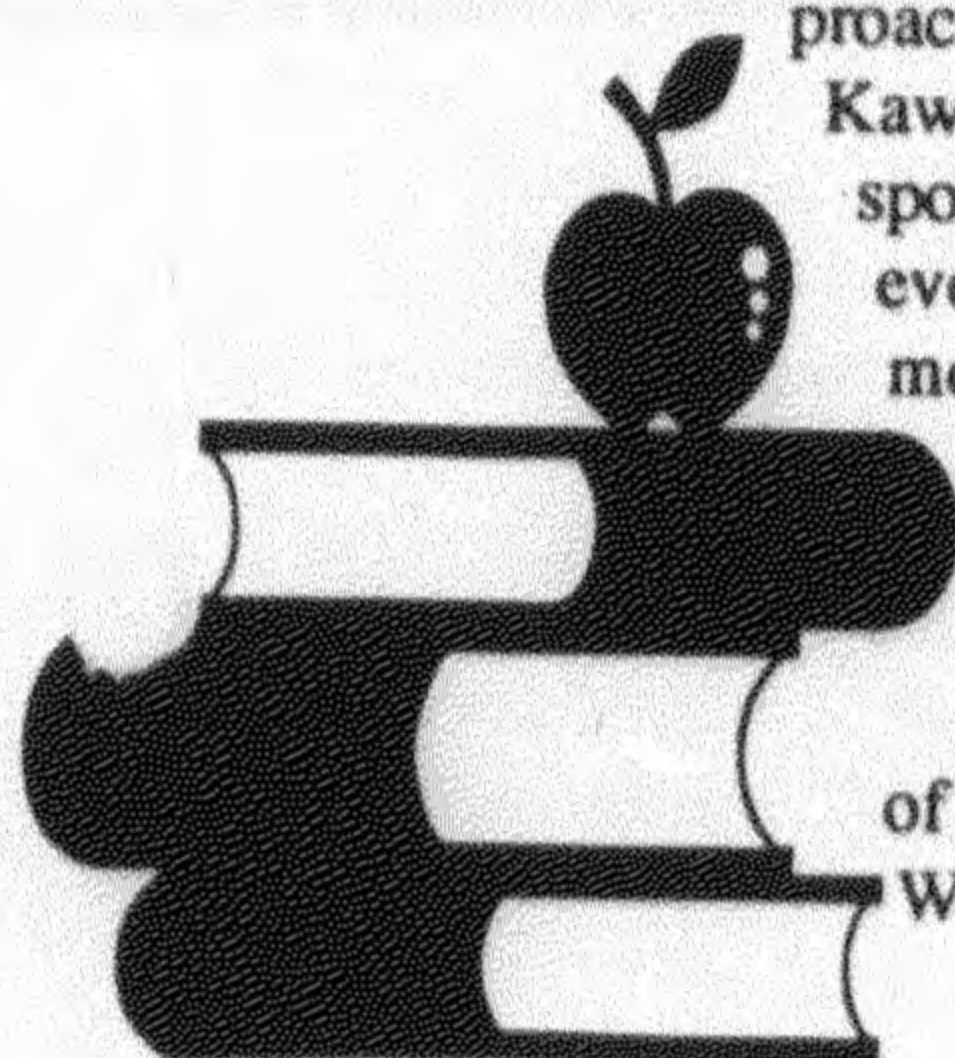
Eileen Kawola

Unsung Hero of Street Academy Reunion

Eileen Kawola, social studies teacher at The Street Academy, stands seemingly unaffected by the barrage of compliments given her by former students, colleagues and various representatives from state government at the school's reunion. As organizer of the event, held at *On The Shelf*, Kawola is mostly cited as being "caring, unselfish and giving." A teacher with the district for 15 years, Kawola is quick to tell you she's seen a lot in that time, and thoroughly enjoys being at the Street Academy.

"One hears the success stories and if you take the time to listen, you realize anyone can overcome difficulties..."

The reunion was held in conjunction with Albany Upstate Chapter of Blacks In Government, under the supervision of James Wright. Wright was ap-



proached by Kawola to help sponsor the event, which met with great enthusiasm by the Organization of State Workers.

"Eileen is truly an unsung hero," said Wright. "She follows up on students all the time, especially after they leave."

A fact substantiated by Georgette Tillman, a 1979 graduate who's a supervisor with a cleaning agency. After graduating, Tillman left the area, living in Los Angeles for two and one half years before relocating back in Albany. "Eileen's like a mentor to me, she kept in contact with me the whole time I lived in L.A."

Nearly 100 students, state and school officials attended the event. Said Ward DeWitt, board member, "Coming to an event such as this, one hears the success stories and if you take the time to listen, you realize anyone can overcome diffi-

culties. It just takes a degree of patience and understanding."

Successes are due in part to the students' determination and abilities, but also to the time and energy expended by the school's teachers and administrators. Students credit the entire staff's dedication, as well as the efforts by Lillian Tillman-Dewitt, principal, and former principal and board member Harriet Gibbons, in getting students to stay in school.

"It's most gratifying this exists," said Patrick Amodeo, school board president. "There's more closeness between these individuals - students and faculty. It gets to me to see how these kids have grown into adults."

Optical Careers Focus Of New A.L.C. Program

Albany's Adult Learning Center is offering a new 14-week optical careers course in its continuing education program. Designed to prepare students for careers as fashion eyewear consultants, contact lens or optical laboratory assistants.

Unique to the center, the courses emphasize the financial and professional opportunities available in the eyewear industry, according to John Tracy, director. Tuition is free to eligible applicants and state educational grants are available from V.E.S.I.D. Rehabilitation, Job Training Partnership Agency and the federal Trade Reimbursement Act.

"Participants should be functioning at a tenth grade level in reading and

mathematics, though a high school diploma is not necessary," says Tracy.

Students will learn basic optics and prescription analysis and interpretation, lens concepts, occupational vision needs, interpretation of frame/lens selection, laboratory fabrication and job seeking skills.

The course is full time, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with instruction by technically trained professionals. In addition, the center provides academic support, job preparation workshops, three week work experience, placement assistance and day care. For more information, contact Camille Shoudy, recruiter or George Gides, head guidance counselor at 462-7292.

Captain America Goes To War Against Drugs

Captain America has a new assignment, fighting the evil tyranny of drug and alcohol abuse among youngsters in Albany. The comic book character, created by Marvel Entertainment Group, publishers of the comic, has been involved with the New York State Association of Life Underwriters to produce a series of comics designed to warn youngsters on the hazards of drug and alcohol abuse.

The N.Y.S. Association of Life

Faculty Art Works On Display

Two Albany High School art teachers' works will be exhibited at the Ninth Annual Stuyvesant Invitational Arts Festival, June 9 and 10. Susan Schmader and Roberta Wallack submitted slides of their work to a jury for consideration for this year's event, which is sponsored by the plaza's Merchant's Association.

Seventy-five regional artists were invited to display their art after participating in a juried competition. Schmader and Wallack will be among painters, sculptors, printmakers, photographers and mixed media artists. In addition, 40 craftsmen from the area are invited to display and sell their crafts. Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded in both fine arts and crafts categories.

Entertainment for the two day event will be performed by the Berkshire Ballet, Guilderland Ballet and Empire State Youth Orchestra Jazz Ensemble to name a few.

Underwriters, in conjunction with its 32 local associations and 15 member companies of the Life Insurance Council of New York, presented the Albany school district with 3,600 copies of the comic titled *Captain America Goes to War Against Drugs*, to Dr. Bruce Venter, assistant superintendent of business affairs at a recent press conference. The book is also produced in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and has been approved by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, Office for Substance Abuse of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the American Council for Drug Education.

Marvel Entertainment has been involved with many public service projects, often printing "special issues" for children on such topics as physical and mental child abuse and cancer. Material is geared primarily toward students in grades 2 - 6. The books will be distributed through the Health and Physical Education Department.

Accolades To Giffen Staff

Several staff members at Giffen Elementary have recently been honored by professional organizations for their contributions to the school district and community.

Mrs. Leonna West, fourth grade teacher, received the Lewis Romano - Child Care Worker of the Year Award from Parson's Child and Development Center. West has been a part time employee of the center for nine years.

The award was established in honor of Lewis Romano, a former member of Parson's staff.

Donald "Ducky" Ray, fourth grade teacher, was inducted into the City of Albany Diocesan High School Sports Hall of Fame. Selections for the nomination were made from over 500 applications.

Mrs. Ann Emery, public crossing guard, received the American Legion Outstanding Crossing Guard Award, and was honored at a special reception at the school.

In Brief...

- Forty Albany High School seniors participated in a job fair at Hudson Valley Community College, under the direction of Beverly Jermanok, Jackie Bayle, guidance counselors, Curtis King, Albany coordinator of School and Business Alliance and Linda Rauche, job placement coordinator. Students received three to five interviews each with many individuals hired at the fair.

- New York City Mayor Dinkins received special visitors recently, when School 20 sixth graders paid a visit. The school trip was sponsored by the Albany Upstate Chapter of Blacks In Government with the assistance of the School and Business Alliance. The trip also included visits to the World Trade Center, South Street Theater, featuring a history of New York City and Radio City Music Hall.

- The Occupational Center paid tribute to its students at the third annual awards dinner. Savings bonds worth \$100 were donated by area businesses to students demonstrating exemplary talents in each area of study. Keynote speakers for the event were Lou Emerick, principal, Emanuel Abrookin, secretary, board of education, Joseph Mahar, director of occupational education, Mrs. Angelina Rivers, school nurse teacher, Paul Moyer, instructor, culinary program and James Lewis, vice president of the advisory board.

Science Teachers Sought

In a recent *Times Union* article, The College of St. Rose was awarded a \$40,000 federal grant to fund its two-week summer workshop for high school science teachers.

According to the article, 52 science teachers from around the state will be accepted into the program, designed to help them teach Regents Earth science classes.

For more information, write to John McGrath, a Saint Rose chemistry professor and chairman of the college's division of natural science, at the school, 432 Western Ave., Albany, N.Y., 12203.

The same -
Aug 90



Keep the Pressure On Apartheid

"Apartheid has not been defeated. Keep the Pressure On. Support the African National Congress (ANC)!"

This was the message at a June reception held at the Legislative Office Building welcoming a representative of the A.N.C., Victor Mashabela, to the Capital District. Actor Ossie Davis and writer William Kennedy featured in the program which drew over 150 Capital District residents and New York State Legislators, was sponsored by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism (CDCAAR) and the Black and Puerto Rican Legislature Caucus.

While Nelson Mandela was being jubilantly received by millions of people in the United States, the local event was held to coincide with the Mandela U.S. Tour and to respond to Mandela's call for maintaining sanctions against the racist South African Government. A "Vote for Sanctions Campaign" was launched and over \$500.00 was raised for the A.N.C. The vote campaign is a national effort to persuade congress to maintain sanctions until "The progress towards democracy is irreversible."

The audience responded enthusiastically to Ossie Davis as he wove a humorous yet poignant tale of his connection to the Antiapartheid movement and the need to carry on the effort to defeat apartheid. Davis also evoked a warm response when he praised the intelligence and the capability of the African National Congress to lead the struggle for freedom in South Africa.

On the Occasion of Nelson Mandela's Visit to the United States

*The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism and
The New York State Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus*

*Request the Honor of Your Presence
at a Reception for the Representative of the
African National Congress of South Africa
and the Launching of a Renewed Sanctions Campaign
for Full Freedom in South Africa*

*Wednesday, June 27th, 1990 at 5:00 p.m.
Legislative Office Building, Room 711A
State and South Swan Streets, Albany, New York
RSVP 432-4623*

July 19 metro land 1990

BLACK MARK

THE EMPIRE STATE BLACK ARTS Festival, after a one-year hiatus, will once again be held on the Empire State Plaza in Albany this weekend. Planners expect 50,000 people from around the region to attend this year's two-day event.

Unfortunately, two of the corporate sponsors of the event—XEROX and IBM—are companies that do business with South Africa. This despite the fact that the festival's planning board passed a resolution forbidding the acceptance of contributions from such corporations, according to Andrew Gill, chairman of the festival's membership committee.

"There are a lot of people planning this thing who are neophytes with regard to South African investments," said Gill. "We knew in our hearts that we didn't want to do business with anybody doing business with South Africa. We just weren't provided with the proper data."

According to Richard Knight of the American Committee on Africa, XEROX has a joint venture in the United Kingdom with Rank, a British company. Through Rank, XEROX distributes its products in South Africa, as does IBM, according to Knight. IBM has donated a \$100 banner to the event, and XEROX has also contributed to past festivals, according to Andre Dawkins, executive director of the Governor's Office of Black Affairs, a co-sponsor of the event. Neither Dawkins nor Gill knew what XEROX's contribution was to this year's event.

"Last year there were six planners with a lot of social consciousness, but no festival," said Gill. "This year there are more planners—not all of them as socially conscious—but we have a festival."

—Thomas Gogola

The View From Here

By Carl Strock



NELSON MANDELA'S visit to this country is shaping up as a unique event. It's not that a private citizen is being received as a head of state; it has gone well beyond that.

Nelson Mandela has achieved in life the kind of standing that Martin Luther King, for example, had to die to achieve. It's the standing not of an ordinary human being with strengths and weaknesses but of an almost divine figure, a figure who can hardly be pictured without a heavenly glow behind his head, of the kind you see in gift-shop portraits of the Kennedys.

It began the day Mandela walked out of prison — tall, erect, gray-headed and dignified. It just caught the world's imagination. The man who had spent 27 years in prison for a cause that almost all of us believe in and who came out with his dignity intact.

It helps that he opposes something that almost all the world agrees is the apotheosis of evil. If he had emerged from 27 years in prison, with his dignity still intact, for opposing Egyptian jingoism or Singaporean puritanism or something similarly obscure, that would be different. But to suffer for opposing apartheid — well, everything just fell into place, and we are now witnessing an approximation of the Second Coming, with no disrespect intended toward any religion.

There are little anomalies, of course, like his embrace of the South African Communist Party and of Yasser Arafat and his insistence on nationalizing industry (as if he had missed the last 27 years of Third World history).

And there is his wife, Winnie, who, you may recall, has endorsed the practice of "necklacing" opponents (that is, putting gasoline-soaked tires around their necks and setting the tires on fire) and one of whose bodyguards was recently convicted of torturing a 14-year-old boy to death.

But no matter. Nelson Mandela endured 27 years of prison for the sake of racial equality, and he holds his gray head high, so we cannot do otherwise than honor him. President Bush will receive him, of course, along with every politician who can possibly squeeze onto the stage or into the photographs.

In New York City, Mandela will share a stage with three Puerto Rican nationalists who 36 years ago distinguished themselves by shooting up the House of Representatives, wounding five Congressmen with a barrage of bullets from Lugers and automatic pistols. The three were pardoned after spending 25 years in prison, so they know what it's like to pass a quarter of a century behind bars for the sake of the freedom of their people, and they will be there, even though Mayor David Dinkins said he didn't think it was a good idea.

He didn't come right out and urge the New York Welcome Committee to withdraw the invitation, but he did say it wasn't a good idea to dilute "the wonder which is Nelson Mandela" with this other issue of Puerto Rican independence and the old shooting up of the House of Representatives, which he deplored.

I WOULD LOVE to be at Yankee Stadium tomorrow night for the big concert and Mandela rally there, but I already have tickets for the Ray Charles concert at the Starlight Theater in Latham, which I bought before I knew what Mandela's schedule would be, so I will be at the Starlight instead.

Still, there is something to savor in that, since Ray Charles has long been a bogeyman of the anti-apartheid movement in this country on account of a visit he made to South Africa in the early 1980s, a visit for which he has refused to apologize. He went there, brought the joy of his music to integrated audiences, and came back unrepentant, and the anti-apartheid campaigners have never forgiven him.

I always relished the spectacle of white middle-class liberals in this country picketing Ray Charles, a blind, black man from Georgia, in the interest of achieving racial justice in South Africa, and would have gone to his concerts at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center just for that, even if I didn't love him and his music.

This time, alas, there will be no pickets, since the local anti-apartheid campaigners will be in New York welcoming Mandela. Vera Michelson, co-chairman of the Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, says, "We're not letting him off the hook. It's just a question of our ability to handle 19 things at once."

Anyway, I will miss Nelson Mandela at Yankee Stadium in order to hear Ray Charles at the Starlight but will try to make up for it in advance by attending the ticker-tape parade welcoming Mandela today, and I hope that is sufficient.

A G E N D A

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

THURSDAY, AUG. 23

Social Event: Celebration to Honor the 1989 Winner of the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Leadership for the Sustainable Use of Resources. Campus Center Assembly Hall, SUNYA, 1400 Washington Ave., Albany, 10:45 AM-1 PM. The prize is a \$100,000 award given annually to honor a distinguished Albian who has exhibited "exceptional leadership in striving for the national, regional and continent-wide levels." The recipient of the prize will be announced live via global satellite at 11 AM. The Honorable Michael R. McNulty, United States Congressman, 23rd District and member of the House Select Committee on Hunger, will speak after the announcement.

FRIDAY, AUG. 24

Forum: Germany's East's Economic Ascent. Berkshire Forum, Stephentown, 8 PM. The discussion leader will be Sean Garvey, an American economist who teaches in Paris and who recently completed a fact-finding tour in West and East Germany. Continues Saturday at 10 AM and 8:30 PM and Sunday at 10 AM. Public participation welcome. \$3 for individual sessions, \$12 for five sessions. \$25 for annual membership. Dinner reservations accepted. Seating capacity limited, please make phone reservations in advance. 733-8013.

SATURDAY, AUG. 25

Social Event: Homeless 1990. West Capitol Park, State and Swan streets, Albany, Noon-8 PM. The Homeless Action Committee sponsors this event for community members to speak out against homelessness and hear first-hand accounts from homeless people. Also featured will be music, poetry readings, literature and free food. Volunteers are needed. 434-4037.

Television: BROADCAST: New York, WNYT, Channel 13, 6:30 PM. New York's television news magazine examines the health-care crisis and its effects on New York's state health-care providers and health-care institutions.

SUNDAY, AUG. 26

Social Event: Capital District Women's Political Caucus Afternoon Tea Party. Abroad the Dutch Apple II. Boat departs from Albany's State Dock at 2 PM. A celebration of the 70th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote with refreshments, door prizes, entertainment and "terminal fun." \$25 adults, \$10 children ages 5-12, free for children under 5. Proceeds benefit CDWPC Political Action Committee. Reservations due by Aug. 24. Call Margie, 263-4116.

MONDAY, AUG. 27

Meeting: ACT-UP, Friends Meeting House, 727 Madison Ave., Albany, 7 PM. The weekly meeting of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power.

Rally: To Legalize Hemp, Capitol Park East on the New York State Capitol steps, State Street, Albany, 4:30-7:30 PM. A convoluted rally for peace, freedom, justice and social responsibility featuring music and speakers. For more information call the Hemp Legalization Committee at 786-9617 or 436-7098.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Rape Crisis Program for Rensselaer County is seeking people interested in working as hotline volunteers. The next training cycle starts Oct. 1. For information or to schedule an interview call 271-3445.

Take Back the Night Rally & March Against Sexual Violence seeks volunteers to assist in many different capacities for this annual event that will take place Sept. 14 at 7:10 PM. For information call Shantih at the Albany County Rape Crisis Center, 447-7100.

UPCOMING

Forum: Aug. 31-Sept. 2—The Working Class and Social Transformation. Berkshire Forum, Stephentown, 8:30 PM. A social Labor Day weekend workshop with discussion leaders David Kott and Stanley Aronowitz; two social theorists and long-time activists. Continues Saturday at 10 AM and 8:30 PM and Sunday at 10 AM. Public participation welcome. For reservations, information on fees and optional meal reservations call 733-8013.

Bus Trip: Sept. 6—To Robert Maapplethorpe Exhibit in Boston. Buses will leave at 7:30 AM from Albany College of Pharmacy, New Scotland Ave., Albany. Our Brothers Keeper Foundation sponsors this trip to view the photography that sparked much of the current controversy over the National Endowment of the Arts. \$35 includes continental breakfast and films on luxury bus and admission to exhibit. Make reservations by Sept. 5 by mailing checks to Our Brothers Keeper Foundation, PO Box 1872, Albany, N.Y. 12201 or by calling Tim Garity at 363-6399, John Falcone at 272-3045 or Scott Edwards at 488-3967.

Conference: Sept. 8—Update Green Conference, First Baptist Church, 82 Third St., Troy, 8 AM-4 PM. The conference will feature workshops on the 1990 Environmental Bond Act; an overview of Green history; ecotourism; statewide environmental issues; electoral politics; how to organize a Green chapter; and a Green economic program. Open to public; social justice groups are encouraged to table. \$8 suggested registration fee includes lunch. Call or write Mark Dunlap, 263-8813, 961 1 Box 1024, Poststown, N.Y. 12140.

Greenfest/Discussion: Sept. 12—Legal Implications of Sexual Harassment in the Work Place. Troy Public Library, 100 Second St., Troy, 7:45 AM. The program will be presented by Jill Heagy, an attorney with Law & LaForester. It is part of the Business Breakfast Series sponsored by the Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce and PIP Printing. Call library to register, 274-7071.

Please note: The deadline for entries in the Agenda calendar is Monday at 5 PM.

NEWSFRONT

UNWARRANTED

LOCAL ACTIVIST DONNA DeMARIA said that several times in the past week or so it has occurred to her that helping the area's disenfranchised has caused her only trouble. However, DeMaria said, she quickly dismissed such thoughts.

"This is not going to stop me from working at all," she vowed.

Last week, DeMaria was arrested by the Albany Police Department on felony charges of first-degree coercion and aggravated harassment. It was the second time in less than a month that DeMaria had been arrested, and the ironic connection between the two arrests was this: On July 16, DeMaria attempted to help a suicidal man and eventually was arrested for allegedly interfering with police on the scene at the time. When DeMaria was arrested last Tuesday by two Albany police detectives at the Social Justice Center, it was the result of a complaint filed by the very man she had tried to help.

DeMaria was ordered held in Albany County Jail on \$10,000 bail by Albany City Court Judge Larry Rosen. (Her bail was posted and she spent about 24 hours behind bars.) The arrest and subsequent bail assignment have prompted DeMaria and other community activists to charge that the police and the court are attempting to stifle critics of the local law-enforcement system. On Tuesday, some 40 demonstrators—including many prominent community activists—gathered in front of Albany Police Court to express outrage and disbelief at the arrest.

"We have to view what's happened here," said local civil-rights attorney Mark Mishler, "as a breakdown of our legal system."

The complaint against DeMaria was filed by Michael Lord, who along with his girlfriend, Christina Smith, had claimed that the police were physically abusive on July 16 in responding to Lord's suicide threats at the couple's Myrtle Avenue apartment. During that incident, DeMaria, an acquaintance of the couple, was arrested and charged with obstructing governmental administration and resisting arrest. She alleged that, during the arrest, an officer kicked her.

In his complaint against DeMaria, Lord claimed that she threatened him over the phone, saying she would "get someone to beat [him] up" if he didn't testify on her behalf.

DeMaria said that she never asked Lord to testify at her trial, mainly because he was too intoxicated on July 16 to be of any help. She added that Lord turned against her when she confronted him about his own physical abuse of Smith, which DeMaria said she had witnessed.

"I'm going to have you arrested," DeMaria said Lord told her, "and if that doesn't work, I'm going to have 25 bikers come over and take care of you."

Activists at the demonstration Tuesday were enraged at how little evidence Rosen had—apparently, a single complaint without a shred of corroboration—in issuing the arrest warrant. DeMaria and others also blamed the police, saying that Lord's mental-health history—a history they said the police were aware of after responding to several mental-health crises at Lord's apartment—should have prompted police to verify the complaint.

"I do think that someone's history should have some bearing on [a case like this]," said DeMaria, who will appear in court Sept. 10 for opening motions on her first set

of charges and a preliminary hearing on the felony accusations. "The police seem to be using him to get to me."

"We're not in a position to label someone based on their mental capability," said Lt. Robert Wolfgang, a police spokesman.

"That's not our business. Michael Lord is a citizen who wished to make a complaint."

"I would imagine," said Mishler, "that the police department was not hesitant to act if they thought they had a way to get Donna DeMaria in jail."

DeMaria claimed that when she went to the Police Department's internal-affairs division with her abuse charges stemming from the July 16 incident, the officers she talked to were angry about the "bad press" they had received because of her complaints.

Wolfgang denied that the department is harassing DeMaria and pointed out that it was the court that issued the charges and arrest warrant, although the police did perform an investigation.

"We are following the judge's direction," he said.

Mishler was incredulous at the decisions of Rosen, who has seen DeMaria in his court many times answering to activism-related charges. Mishler pointed to a section of state criminal-procedure law that says if the defendant can be relied upon to show up for a court date, the judge may issue a summons and may not issue an arrest warrant.

"Judge Rosen," said Mishler, "who knows Donna and has dealt with her as a citizen activist before, knows that if she was given [a summons] she would show up."

DeMaria, who has been an especially sharp thorn in the police's side for some years now, said she believes the department is ultimately to blame.

"Had it been against any other person," she said, "they probably would've taken the complaint and thrown it in the garbage."

—Mike Goudreau



A walk to the forest: Paul Coleman.

must be included in the process of determining the fate of the rain forest. The tribes and their shamans—spiritual leaders—know the forest better than any multinational corporation could ever hope to

"These people have a 30,000-year history with the forest," Coleman said. "It's time we began recognizing that." The problem is that the indigenous people have become an expendable commodity—a roadblock to progress, in the eyes of the industrialized world. "The shamans are killed if they leave the forest," said Coleman. The cruel irony is that they and their culture are being killed by staying in the forest, as well.

By Tuesday morning, Coleman was on the road again, walking south on Route 96, along the railroad tracks to New York City. "I'll be in New York City for Labor Day," he said, "then on to Washington, D.C., for International Rain Forest Week."

"Everyone knows what's going on in the rain forest but no one knows what to do about it," he said. "That's why I'm walking through the States."

—Tom Gogo

FOREST RANGER

WHEN PAUL COLEMAN WALKS, people listen.

Coleman is on a walking journey that began on July 26 in Kingston, Ont., and will end when he reaches the Amazon rain forest in time for a United Nations Conference there scheduled for July 1992. A cherubic native of Manchester, England, Coleman has been traveling the world since the age of 15, spending much of the last 10 years in Canada, organizing and educating people about the destruction of the Amazon rain forest.

Coleman arrived in Albany last Saturday night, after a stop in Amsterdam, and by Monday afternoon he had been interviewed by the *Times Union*, the *Daily Gazette*, and WCDB (SUNYA's radio station). Coleman also gave a slide show at Artists for a New Politics, a meeting space on Madison Avenue in Albany, about a recent trip to the rain forest, and told some of his fairy tales at Pierce Hall Day Care Center.

In Canada, Coleman formed the Children's Action Network and Development Agency, a group dedicated to "encouraging kids to come forward with their ideas on the environment," he said. While telling his tales at Pierce Hall, he said later, "one of the kids asked me if trees could talk." His answer: "I don't know, maybe I'm deaf!"

The United States is the main contributor to the destruction of the rain forest, and any change must involve a new consciousness regarding the native population of the region. One of Coleman's goals is to further the idea that the indigenous Amazonians

SUB MISSION

THE BATTLE OVER THE installation of a new, extremely powerful nuclear reactor model at a Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory facility in West Milton intensified last Thursday, as national and local environmental groups filed a joint suit in a Washington, D.C., federal court to block the reactor.

"The people of the Albany area," said Dan Reicher, an attorney for the Washington-based Natural Resources Defense Council, "are entitled to know the risks of this project."

The Albany-based Knolls Action Project joined the council in filing the suit, which attacks a U.S. Department of Energy decision not to perform an environmental impact statement on the installation of the Advanced Fleet Reactor at the Knolls Kesselring Site in West Milton. (General Electric runs both the Knolls main facility located in Niskayuna, and Kesselring for the DOE.) The Advanced Fleet Reactor would be a prototype for the reactors that will power the Navy's Seawolf submarine.

"Why the government is reluctant to do this kind of analysis," Reicher said, "I don't know."

DOE spokesman Phil Garon declined to comment on the reactor or the suit, citing the fact that the matter is under litigation. He did, however, release a letter that the DOE wrote to New York state officials informing them of the new reactor, which said that an "environmental assessment" would be performed. An assessment is

Businessman continued.

"Another crime-related fact, how, also has an abundant harvest of statistics. As the Savings and Loan debacle, the biggest swindle ever perpetrated on the American taxpayers, unravels, it is crystal clear that the predominant criminal is a white male."

"And of course," Owens add-

ed, in the manipulation and stealing of millions of dollars 'minorities need not apply' has been the unwritten rule."

The speculative and economically unproductive Sunbelt deals have reaped for the financial community "enormous profits from the U.S. Treasury" with the failures of the Savings and Loans banks whose depos-

its were guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., wrote.

New York taxpayers have suffered because: "the high-powered hustlers refused to invest in legitimate enterprises in this state or throughout the Northeast;" they put their money to illegal purposes that brought them "rake-offs" while

the blame," he told Rohatyn.

Urging Rohatyn to "utilize your prestige, influence and leadership position to promote ways for the banks and your financial community to take steps to redirect some of their resources into the rebuilding of New York City," Rep. Owens

(Continued on Page 34)

Quarback lesson

Sandsport International, Inc. will sponsor a teaching clinic on the "Fundamentals of Quarterbacking" for children, 10-18, on Saturday, Aug. 11 at Roy Wilkins Park, 119 Ave. on Merrick Blvd., in St. Albans, Queens from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, contact Shawn Norris at (718) 528-9711.

They will wed

Denise M. Baynes will marry Craig B. Cassel on Sept. 1 at St. Gabriel's Catholic Church in Queens. Denise, a native of New York City, received a BA from Smith College in 1986 and a MBA from the University of Texas at Austin in 1988. She presently works for IBM in Houston, Texas. Craig, a native of Houston, Texas, received a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1987. He currently works for Fermenta ASC in Houston, Texas.

Trade confab

The Caribbean-American Trade Connection will host its second annual socio-economic conference in Kingston and Montego Bay, Jamaica, W.I., from Oct. 31 - Nov. 7.

If you are interested in participating in CATC, or would like more information, contact Ms. A. Ortiz in New York at (718) 282-2957 or 284-4453.

Prison system's big business Upstate, more Blacks jailed

By YUSEF A-SALAAM
Special to the AmNews

Albany, N.Y. - When one thinks of upstate New York, one envisions majestic mountains stretching toward blue skies and puffs of cotton-like clouds. Or oceans of grass everywhere with trees dressed in gowns of every green hue imaginable. Private homes with manicured lawns; a sure refuge from turbulent Manhattan.

Under the veil of such a vision exists the face of a brutal and shocking reality: Although African-Americans and other non-whites are a minute minority in Albany (23,130 - 1980 Census), they are arrested, convicted, and imprisoned at an alarming rate compared to that of Caucasians who are the overwhelming majority (285,909, 1980 Census). Albany activist, Dr. Alice Green, stated in a recent interview, "In 1950, most of the people from the Albany area in jails and prisons were white." She noted that during the 60s and 70s the dominant

color complexion of those arrested, convicted, and imprisoned were Black and brown; during the 80s, Africans and other non-whites felt the bite of the policeman's handcuffs more so than at any other time.

On Oct. 25, the New York State Coalition for Criminal Justice sent a memo to Dr. Green, who is legislative head of the New York City Civil Liberties Union in Albany. It reported that in 1987, non-whites were 8 percent of the Albany population but counted for 22 percent of the people arrested; non-whites also were 52 percent of the inmates in Albany County jail. On July 10, a survey revealed that 10 percent of the young African male population (16 - 35 years old) in Albany County were in jail.

The arrest, conviction, and imprisonment of Africans in Albany County and the whole of New York State mirrors that of enslaved Africans in racist South Africa. In 1984, the South African slavocracy had a

Black incarceration rate of 504 per 100,000. In 1985, New York State had a rate of 776 Blacks imprisoned per 100,000, over one and a half the rate of South Africa.

Africans in New York State are imprisoned at 10 times the rate Caucasians in the state are imprisoned.

Caucasians in Albany and surrounding upstate counties are not only arrested less frequently than the minority population but are given probation more often when they are found guilty of crimes: Non-whites are usually given jail time and prison terms. "The whites are given probation or relegated to alcoholic and other drug-treatment programs," Dr. Green related.

The New York State Coalition for Criminal Justice Center for Justice Education issued a report that cited these facts: As of January 1, 1990, 76 percent of convicted Caucasians in the capital district received felony probation while Blacks received

21 percent; 51 Caucasians were imprisoned and 218 were on probation for drug-related offenses. 111 Blacks were in prison with 189 on probation for the same type of offenses. Ironically, as the Times Union, an Albany daily, noted, "Most of the illicit drugs in the region...are consumed by whites." The editorial stressed that in white neighborhoods, "drugs are usually traded more secretly behind closed doors." It urged Albany police to broaden its drug-related arrests to include white drug pushers and users.

Dr. Green emphasized that the criminal justice system is big business. "Last year, a white-controlled system spent nearly \$60 billion and employed a largely white workforce of 2 million people.

"In 20 years, the prison industry has grown by an astounding 500 percent. The state's prisons now hold 53,000 prisoners, of whom 48,000 are

(Continued on Page 34)

N.Y. Amsterdam News 8-11-90

ons of federal campaign financing laws following 1972 residential campaign. **Disposition:** Charges dropped after months of investigation and prolonged negative media coverage.

Name/Office: William L. Clay, S. Representative, Missouri. **Experiences:** From 1974 to 1977, subjected to a succession of incidents involving unwarranted charges by the media based on erroneous information sometimes resulting from and other times leading to investigations by federal agencies, including the FBI, IRS, Drug Enforcement Administration, and U.S. Attorney's Office. Allegations involved drug trafficking, consorting with hoodlums, payroll padding, failure to report campaign contributions, misuse of government funds, and income tax irregularities. **Disposition:** Clay collected a series of letters from the Justice Department exonerating him of any wrongdoing.

Name/Office: Joel Patterson, former Mayor, Benton Harbor, Michigan. **Experiences:** Fifteen-month federal investigation, rigged in part by awarding of city contracts to Blacks and appointing of Black employees, leading to indictments on various charges in 1981. **Disposition:** Defeated in reelection bid in the midst of widespread media speculation about the investigation. Charges subsequently dropped for lack of evidence.

Name/Office: Samuel Gardner, former Recorder's Judge, Detroit, Michigan. **Experiences:** Media allegation led to investigations by the IRS, county grand jury, and judicial tenure commission. **Disposition:** No charges brought. Resigned.

Name/Office: Curtis Miller, former Mayor, Alorton, Illinois. **Experiences:** Investigated by U.S. Attorney under Hobbs Act and indicted on two charges of racketeering. **Disposition:** Acquitted of all charges in 1980.

Name/Office: Theodore McFarlin, Sheriff, Williamsburg, S.C. **Experiences:** Indicted in early 1980s for misconduct and obstruction of justice related to operation of the county jail. **Disposition:** Two trials resulted in hung juries. Charges dropped.

overturned on appeal in 1982.

Name/Office: Eristus Sams, former Mayor, Prairie View, Texas. **Experiences:** Financial misconduct alleged in 1982. **Disposition:** Case dropped.

Name/Office: Coleman Young, Mayor, Detroit, Michigan. **Experiences:** Biased news coverage following 1973 election; opposition to affirmative action policies, especially in police department; repeated federal investigations of city projects, including 1983 grand jury investigation of city contracts initiated by organized crime strike force of Justice Department and leading to indictment of one city official; Young characterized press coverage of investigations as "trial by media;" county grand jury investigation resulting in misdemeanor indictments of two former city officials. **Disposition:** No charges filed against the Mayor who remains in office. Negative impact on city image and on Black-white relations.

Name/Office: Kenneth Gibson, former Mayor, Newark, New Jersey. **Experiences:** Federal grand jury investigation in 1979-80 accompanied by prominent news stories based on rumors and leaks from the U.S. Justice Department. Indicted in 1982 on 146 counts of conspiracy, misuse of funds and misconduct in office. **Disposition:** Acquitted of all charges. Won fourth term as mayor. Subsequently ran for lieutenant governor and lost.

Name/Office: Eddie Carthan, former Mayor, Tchula, Mississippi. **Experiences:** Beginning in 1979, attempted bribes, threats, rumors, restricting of powers as Mayor, intimidation of supporters; in 1981 charged with fraud, assault, armed robbery, conspiracy and capital murder. **Disposition:** Acquitted of murder charge; conspiracy and robbery charges dropped; convicted of assault and fraud; sentenced to three years on each charge; sentences subsequently suspended; required to resign from office due to felony convictions on fabricated charges.

Name/Office: Charles Evers, former Mayor, Fayette, Mississippi. **Experiences:** Death threats, shots fired into his home, private businesses

edly delayed or denied; negative and inaccurate news coverage.

Name/office: Clarence Lightner, former Mayor, Raleigh, North Carolina. **Experiences:** During campaign for reelection in 1975, family members were subjected to police harassment which then became the basis of inflammatory news stories. **Disposition:** Defeated in reelection bid.

Name/office: William J. Chenault, former Vice Mayor, Cincinnati, Ohio. **Experiences:** Charged with embezzlement and theft in mid 1970s. **Disposition:** Charges dropped after pleading guilty to four mis-

ever brought. **Name/Office:** James Hopkins II, former Circuit Court Clerk, Macon County, Alabama. **Experiences:** After election of 1970, denied the usual resources to run the office and forced to close it; cited for contempt when he failed to obey a court order to reopen. Target of rumormongering character assassination, allegations of being a "trouble maker." Constituents threatened with job losses; votes bought by the opposition. **Disposition:** Spent six hours in jail before being released. Defeated in his reelection bid.

(To Be Continued)

Prison system big biz

(Continued from Page 4)

Black and Latino. The truth is that this shameful business has become dependent upon an ever-increasing incarceration of Blacks and Latinos."

In a historical overview, Dr. Green said that during the Holocaust of Enslavement in the USA, enslaved Africans were rarely imprisoned because they were considered property. After the Civil War, large numbers were quickly jailed and soon they became 33 percent of the population in prison camps in five years. Vagrancy, labor, and other laws were quickly passed to allow for massive African imprisonment, which in turn, resulted in their lease as laborers to whites for less than slave wages.

"Since the Civil War, the criminal justice system has seen the disproportionate incarceration of Black males. Because Caucasian males have historically viewed Black males as an economic, political, and social threat to their dominance, they have systematically used the penal system as a weapon of control and destruction."

Dr. Green singled out the 13th Amendment to the USA Constitution as the license that's being used to control Africans by way of incarceration. The Amendment provides that "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, shall exist within the United States."

Dr. Green advocates that African-American leaders in Albany and other areas in New York State organize themselves and come together with state prisoners to create effective approaches to fight against crime and those in the criminal justice who are using the system for the re-enslavement of African people.

Cong. Owens tells Rohatyn

(Continued from Page 4)

proposed:

That Rohatyn lead in "exposing the big lie that investing in New York housing and business is more risky and will pay smaller dividends than investment in the Sunbelt." Thus banks should join pension funds in building or rehabilitating moderate and middle income housing "on a large scale."

"Stop jet-setting New York money to the Sunbelt in pursuit of dishonest payment using brokered deposits," and rather invest in lower-yield but sure and clean returns.

"I hope you will join us in calling on the banks to annually commit one percent of their assets to the rebuilding of poverty areas of the City," Owens told Rohatyn.

Also he should call for prosecution of the Sunbelt thieves and he himself withdraw his call for a five percent tax surcharge, the Brooklyn Congressman urged the influential investment banker.



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

September 1990 Newsletter

**○ NEXT GENERAL MEETING OF CDCAAR
THURS. SEPT. 27, 1990 AT 7:00 P.M.
ALBANY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Washington Avenue, Albany, New York**

**Fall Planning Meeting
Summer Work Assessment
South Africa Update**



IE Enclosed in this newsletter you will find an article on what is really happening in Natal. Your understanding of this issue is very important since the U.S. press is generally portraying the violence as tribal or "black on black" in an attempt to cover up the reality of the collaboration between the DeKlerk government and Chief Buthelezi of the KwaZulu "homeland."

JUSTICE...AND INJUSTICE ON THE LOCAL SCENE

Center for Law and Justice Formed

Dr. Alice Green, long-time leader in the struggle against police misconduct and racism, has opened the Center for Law and Justice, Inc. The Center has as its chief goal to diminish the undue governmental reliance on imprisonment as a means of social control of people of color and the poor. The Coalition greets the opening of the Center for Law and Justice with enthusiasm and with best wishes for its success. The Police Abuse/Racist Violence Committee of the Coalition will work closely with Dr. Green and the Center and will do everything possible to help the Center achieve its goals. Volunteers are needed in the areas of administrative assistance, police abuse complaint intake, computer programming, data entry, research, court monitoring and in the area of anti-death penalty work. For information, contact the Center at 427-4361 or Merton Simpson, chair, CDCAAR's Police Abuse/Racist Violence Committee

Stop Police Harassment of Activists

On August 14, 1990, Donna DeMaria was arrested, charged with a felony and is now out on \$10,000 bail. Donna has been a leading Albany activist for many years and for the past two years has been an advocate of the homeless in Albany. She has a history of disagreement with policies and activities of the Albany Police Department, including her consistent challenging of their treatment of the homeless.

A brief background on this most recent harassment of Donna: A man named Michael Lord told the police that Donna had threatened over the phone to have him "beaten up if he didn't testify against the police in an upcoming trial." Donna had been supporting his girlfriend, Christina Smith, in trying to stop his continual beating of her. As soon as Donna brought up the abuse to Michael, he turned against her, twisting the truth and blaming Donna for situations she had nothing to do with. In July, Donna had been arrested for coming to the aid of the couple when Michael was suicidal, and the police arrived and started manhandling them. She should never have been arrested either time. She never threatened Michael, nor did she ever ask him to testify for her.

The police and Judge Larry Rosen, Albany Police Court, arrested and charged Donna with no evidence other than the statement of a disturbed man with a history of instability and violence. There was no support from other witnesses or corroboration of his story.

As of this writing, the case is scheduled to go before the grand jury. To stay updated on the case, call the Social Justice Center, 434-4037. Meetings and demonstrations in support of Donna are being arranged. You can also help by attending Donna's court appearances and by writing letters to the editors of the local newspapers and to Judge Larry Rosen, Police Court, Morton Ave. and Broad Street, Albany, N.Y. 12202. We need to unite and offer support for Donna, as well as for any individual who has the courage to challenge the abuses of the police and the judicial system.



Thanks...

Michael Bellard - whose contribution of computerized mailing labels each month makes the mailing a possibility.

Roli Varma - whose careful and conscientious attention to detail as the Treasurer of CDCAAR is invaluable.

Celia-Bess Cotton - who used her wonderful artistic talents to create a new Coalition banner - too slick to duplicate here. We also thank her mother who we understand helped in the venture. The first unfurling took place at the Welcome Nelson Mandela event at Yankee Stadium - a suitable coming out!

NEW PUBLICATIONS

SOUNDS OF THE DRUM

SOUNDS OF THE DRUM IS AN ANTHOLOGY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN POETRY FROM CAPITAL DISTRICT POETS, PUBLISHED BY THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WRITERS COLLECTIVE, A CONSORTIUM OF CAPITAL DISTRICT AFRICAN AMERICAN WRITERS WHO ARE TRYING TO ENHANCE THE APPRECIATION OF BLACK LITERATURE IN ALBANY. THE FIRST VOLUME APPEARED IN THE SUMMER OF 1990. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT BRIAN ANSARI, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, SOUNDS OF THE DRUM, AFRICAN AMERICAN WRITERS COLLECTIVE, 65 FIRST ST., ALBANY, NEW YORK 12210.



AFRICA NEWS BRIEFS

THE WESTCHESTER COMMITTEE ON AFRICA OF THE WESTCHESTER PEOPLE'S ACTION COALITION (WESTPAC), 255 GROVE STREET, WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10601, IS NOW PUBLISHING A NEWSLETTER WHICH REPRINTS DIRECTLY QUOTED PRESS CLIPPINGS FROM ANC NEWS BRIEFINGS. THE NEWS BEING REPRINTED IS EXTREMELY INFORMATIVE FOR THOSE WORKING ON ISSUES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND IT IS NEWS NOT GENERALLY AVAILABLE IN THE U.S. PRESS.

Emergency Committee to End U.S. Intervention in the Middle East

formed locally to create a visible, broad based grass roots opposition to the current deployment of U.S. forces in the Middle East.

The organization favors multi-lateral and Middle Eastern-led non-military approaches to resolving the present crisis. One of the organizers, David Aube, said, "We'd like to see U.S. resources to fund human needs and develop safe renewable energy instead of whipping up anti-Arab racism and war hysteria as the pretext for a military buildup." The group held a rally at the Washington Ave. Armory in Albany on Sept. 10th. Regular meetings planned-your help needed. Call 434-4037.

What did we do this summer...

Although there were no regular membership meetings in July and August, the work of the Coalition continued unabated. On June the 21st Coalition sent a bus (organized with great efficiency by Mike Riddick) to New York City for the Mandela rally at Yankee Stadium. This was an almost unbelievable occasion for many who have been working in the anti-apartheid movement for years, often attending rallies where one of the most frequently heard chants was "Free Nelson Mandela." To see Mandela and hear the strength and inspiration of his message - **AMANDLA**.

The Coalition table at the Blacks Arts Festival on July 22nd was very active. Petitions to stop U.S. government funding of the UNITA bandits in Angola, led by Jonas Savimbi, and for the U.S. to grant diplomatic recognition to the legitimate government of Angola were widely circulated. (Note: the only two countries in the world that have not recognized Angola are the U.S. and South Africa - speaks for itself!) Thousands of Festival participants voted for sanctions against South Africa. The VOTE sanctions and democracy for the people of South Africa is a national campaign of the AFRICA FUND. (Note: the Vote campaign is continuing through 1990. On September 12th, a distinguished delegation of religious, civil rights, trade union and political leaders and prominent entertainers delivered thousands of ballots to Congress. In the Capital District we have been very active in the VOTE campaign. The VOTE ballot has been included in several of our mailings. We will continue the call to keep the pressure on.)

Which brings us to our biggest event of the summer months, a Reception for the ANC, where a representative of the ANC was presented with a huge VOTE sanctions ballot containing several hundred signatures. The reception was held on June 27th at the Legislative Office Building in Albany and was co-sponsored by New York State Assemblyman Roger L. Green and the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus. A very dedicated sanctions committee of CDCARR worked on this event for months. Committee members were: Mabel Leon, Deborah Maxwell, Nathi Ngcobo, Cella-Bess Cotton, Naomi Jaffe

Suzy Persutti, Nii Narty, Sandra Lamm, Deborah Williams Muhammed, Ethel David, Pat Trowers-Johnson, Ericka Wienman, Iris Berger, Michael Earhart, Haziine Eytina, Zaida Kajee, Darsha Saxena, Vera Michelson, Eileen Kawola. More details about this event in this newsletter.

On August 9th, Eileen Kawola, CDCARR Newsletter Editor attended the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women in South Africa and Namibia at the United Nations in New York. The day of solidarity is organized by the Special Committee Against Apartheid of the U.N. to call for continued international support and solidarity for the women in their just struggle for liberation in Southern Africa.

Both Coalition co-chairs took part in seminars at the Berkshire Forum in Stephentown, N.Y. From June 22 to 24, Merton Simpson participated in Communist Parties at the Crossroads and from July 27 to July 29, Vera Michelson took part in South Africa: the Continuing Struggle.

A delegation from the Albany Public School Teachers Association attended the American Federation of Teachers Convention in July in Boston. Bill Ritchie, a member of the CDCARR Steering Committee, introduced a resolution which strengthened considerably the AFT position on sanctions. The AFT resolution which was passed at the convention now means that the AFT is "vigorously supporting passage of HR 21 and S 507, the Dellums Simon Comprehensive Sanctions Bill." This bill calls for the continuation and intensification of the 1986 Anti-Apartheid Act. **DEMOCRACY BALLOT SANCTIONS**

Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism

YES, every South African deserves full democracy—the right to vote. I vote yes for one person, one vote in a unified, nonracial South Africa.

NO, I don't believe that democracy is the answer for South Africa. I vote no to democracy.

Signature _____ City _____

The Africa Fund will mail your ballot on democracy to the people of South Africa to register your support for their demands. The ballot on sanctions will be delivered to Congress to aid the push for comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.

I've enclosed my contribution to support the campaign

YES, democracy will come to South Africa only when the government is under real pressure. That is why I vote for comprehensive mandatory sanctions now.

NO, I don't want to pressure the white minority government to end apartheid. I vote no to sanctions against apartheid.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

RETURN TO: VOTE DEMOCRACY CAMPAIGN, The Africa Fund, 198 Broadway, New York, NY 10038

Merton Simpson, Ossie Davis, Vera Michelson

Sanctions Reception

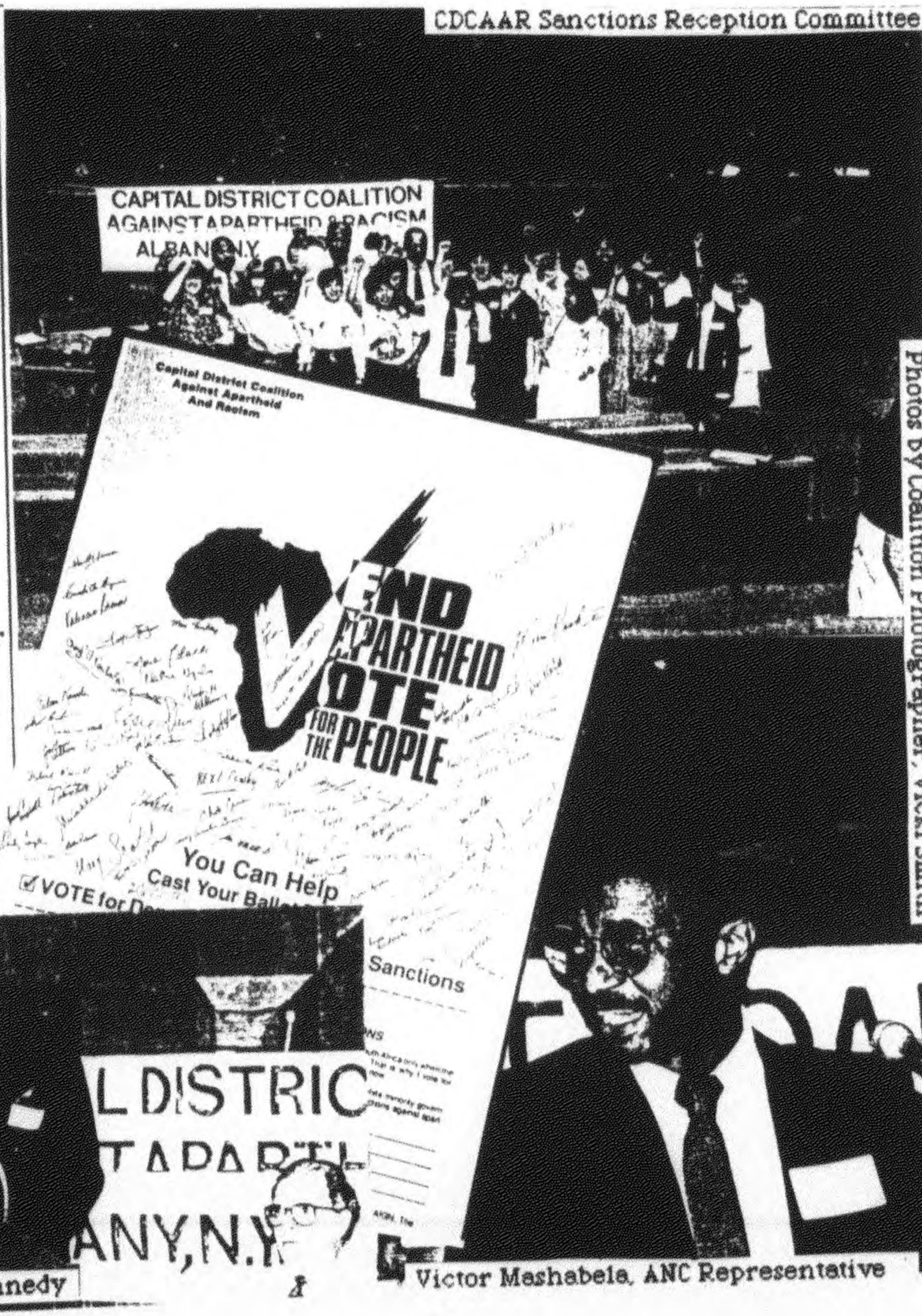
June 27, 1990

On Wednesday, June 27, 1990, the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism sponsored a reception for the African National Congress launching a renewed sanctions campaign. This was part of a national "Vote Democracy-Vote Sanctions" campaign of Africa Fund calling for continued and intensified sanctions against the South African apartheid regime. The event took place at the Legislative Office Building in Albany and was cosponsored by the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus and State Assemblyman Roger L. Green. Assemblyman Green and Assemblyman and Chair of the Caucus, Al Vann gave introductory welcomes to the audience of over 200.

The actor, Ossie Davis, gave the keynote speech. In a wonderful and inspiring way, this cultural warrior, who has spent a lifetime dedicated to the struggle for justice, called on all present to commit themselves to continue the work against apartheid in South Africa and injustice in the U.S. Pulitzer Prize winning author, William Kennedy read South African poetry. Alice Green, of the Center for Law and Justice made the connections between South African racism U.S. racism. Zaida Kajee, student and member of CDCAAR spoke of the current situation in South Africa.

Vera Michelson and Merton Simpson, co-chairs of the Coalition presented a huge sanctions ballot containing several hundred signatures to Victor Mashabela, a representative of the African National Congress. The event was hosted by Pat Trowers-Johnson of CDCAAR.

CDCAAR Sanctions Reception Committee



Photos by Coalition Photographer, Vicki Smith

Merton Simpson, Vera Michelson, Zaida Kajee, Al Vann, William Kennedy, Ossie Davis, Alice Green, Roger Green

Al Vann, William Kennedy

Victor Mashabela, ANC Representative

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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Address Correction Requested

Vera Michelson
13 Pennsylvania Ave.
Albany, NY 12206

Regular Monthly Meeting - Thurs., Sept. 27, 1990

RANDALL ROBINSON IN ALBANY - TUES., OCT. 23, 1990

ON OCTOBER 23, RANDALL ROBINSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TRANSAFRICA, A LEADING AFRICAN AMERICAN LOBBY FOR AFRICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, WILL BE AT SUNY ALBANY. HIS APPEARANCE IS PART OF A LECTURE SERIES SPONSORED BY THE NEW YORK AFRICAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE. HIS TOPIC WILL BE:

AFRICAN AMERICANS, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND SOUTHERN AFRICA: THE RISE OF AFRICAN POWER

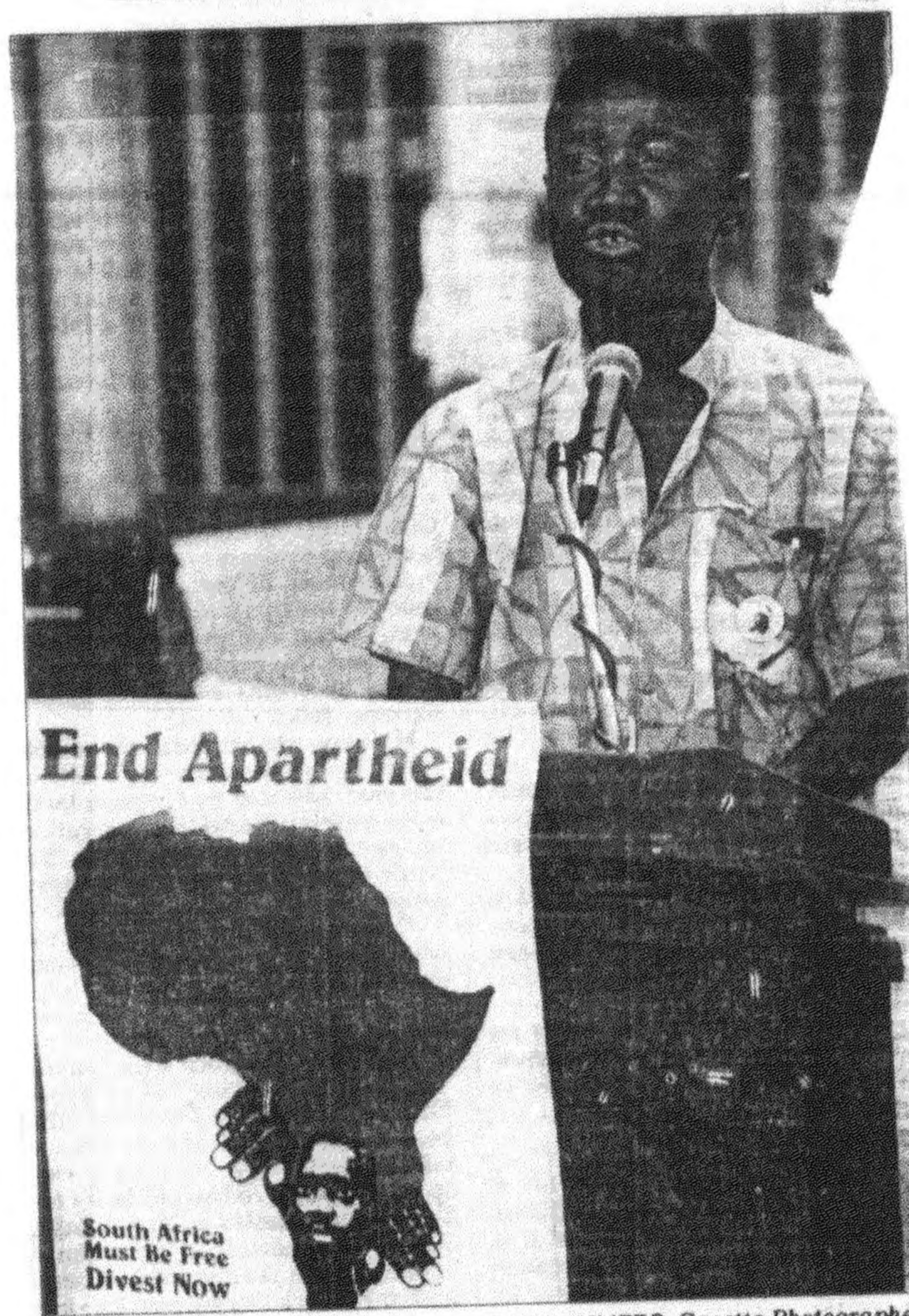
THE PROGRAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT SUNY ALBANY, ASSEMBLY HALL. THERE WILL BE A RECEPTION IN THE PATROON LOUNGE FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 6:45 P.M. AND THE LECTURE WILL BE AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL. THE PROGRAM IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. WE URGE YOUR ATTENDANCE.

OTHER COSPONSORS OF THE EVENT ARE THE DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN AND AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES AT SUNY/ALBANY, ALBANY BRANCH OF THE NAACP AND THE CAPITAL DISTRICT COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM.

BLACK CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1990, THE BLACK CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE OF THE DIOCESE OF ALBANY, NEW YORK INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE 5TH ANNUAL GOSPEL CELEBRATION AND RECEPTION. ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE EVENT WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT ST. GEDAGE'S CHURCH, THORNTON ST. AND LIVINGSTON AVE., ALBANY, 10:00 A.M. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL 518-462-9604.

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



Gazette 9/28/90

RAY SUMMERS *Gazette* Photographer

Protest

Fredu Ofori-Atta speaks out today against the visit to the United States of South African President F.W. de Klerk this week. Ofori-Atta was one of a group of African students who participated in the protest at the State University at Albany.

Albany

S. African tyranny

To the Editor:

Your editorial Sept. 28 approving the decision of President Bush to meet with South African President F.W. de Klerk, suggested metaphorically that mixing honey (moral support from the White House) with vinegar (continued sanctions) is appropriate in that it is likely to encourage further positive movement in South Africa.

The editorial looked over its shoulder in the opening paragraph noting that some find it outrageous that President Bush would welcome the representative of a regime that is "in the business of depriving blacks of their justly due rights." We strongly hold this latter position and wish to clarify it briefly.

The popular movement in this country pushing for divestment and the imposition of economic sanctions came in response to a sense of moral imperative and to calls for support from those in South Africa advocating change.

Because our government would not, we, the American people, had to take the lead over the past decade in supporting international efforts to expedite the demolition of the structures of apartheid. U.S. citizens in large numbers expressed their abhorrence of "constructive engagement" to the Congress which finally enacted punitive economic measures in 1986 over the veto of President Reagan.

It was, and continues to be, unacceptable that the United States, a nation founded on the noble ideal of justice for all, should do business with a government holding to a system in which a minority of one race subjugates and exploits in the most inhuman manner a majority of another race.

We applaud the first steps taken recently in South Africa. Mr. de Klerk is a dramatic improvement over his predecessors. The fact remains, however, that as head of state he stands as the symbol of his regime and all the horrors that continue to be perpetrated in its name.

PETER BALINT
Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism
Albany

10/9/90
T.M.

NEWSFRONT

KLAN OF ACTION

"WE PLAN TO DEFEND THE RIGHTS of white people, who are fast becoming second-class citizens," declared William Hoff, New York State Grand Dragon of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. "We offer the white Christians what the NAACP is for the blacks, and B'nai B'rith is for the Jews. If this makes us racists, so are they."

Reached by telephone at his Queens residence, Hoff was eager to talk about what he claims is the growth of his white supremacist organization.

Hoff said that since he led a march of 26 robed KKK members in Schuylerville on Sept. 29, his phone has been "ringing off the hook." Hoff would not provide names or numbers to back up his claim that the Invisible Empire is growing in New York. But historically, the Klan has tended to increase its membership during troubled economic times, when poor and working-class whites feel that their jobs are threatened.

According to Hoff—and law-enforcement sources and civil-rights activists agreed—this was probably the first time the Klan had marched in full regalia in New York state in some 60 years. Now the march, from Schuylerville High School to the town's Revolutionary War memorial and back, has garnered statewide and national publicity for this sleepy town on the west bank of the Hudson River, some 35 miles north of Albany.

Moreover, the coverage is likely to increase this weekend, when the Rev. Al Sharpton leads a planned march there, co-sponsored by his United African Movement and the New Alliance Party. Sharpton and activist attorney Alton Maddox have endorsed the full slate of New Alliance Party candidates running for statewide office in the November general election.

The Rev. Carter Adrians, pastor of the United Methodist churches in both Schuylerville and nearby Quaker Springs, was among those who organized a protest of some 500 people last June 30, when it was first rumored that the Klan was coming to march. The protest caused the Klan to cancel the march—temporarily. "There were those of us in this community who felt that we wanted to witness to the effect that we were not in favor of their policies and stood against their making use of Schuylerville as a forum for their own agenda," Adrians said.

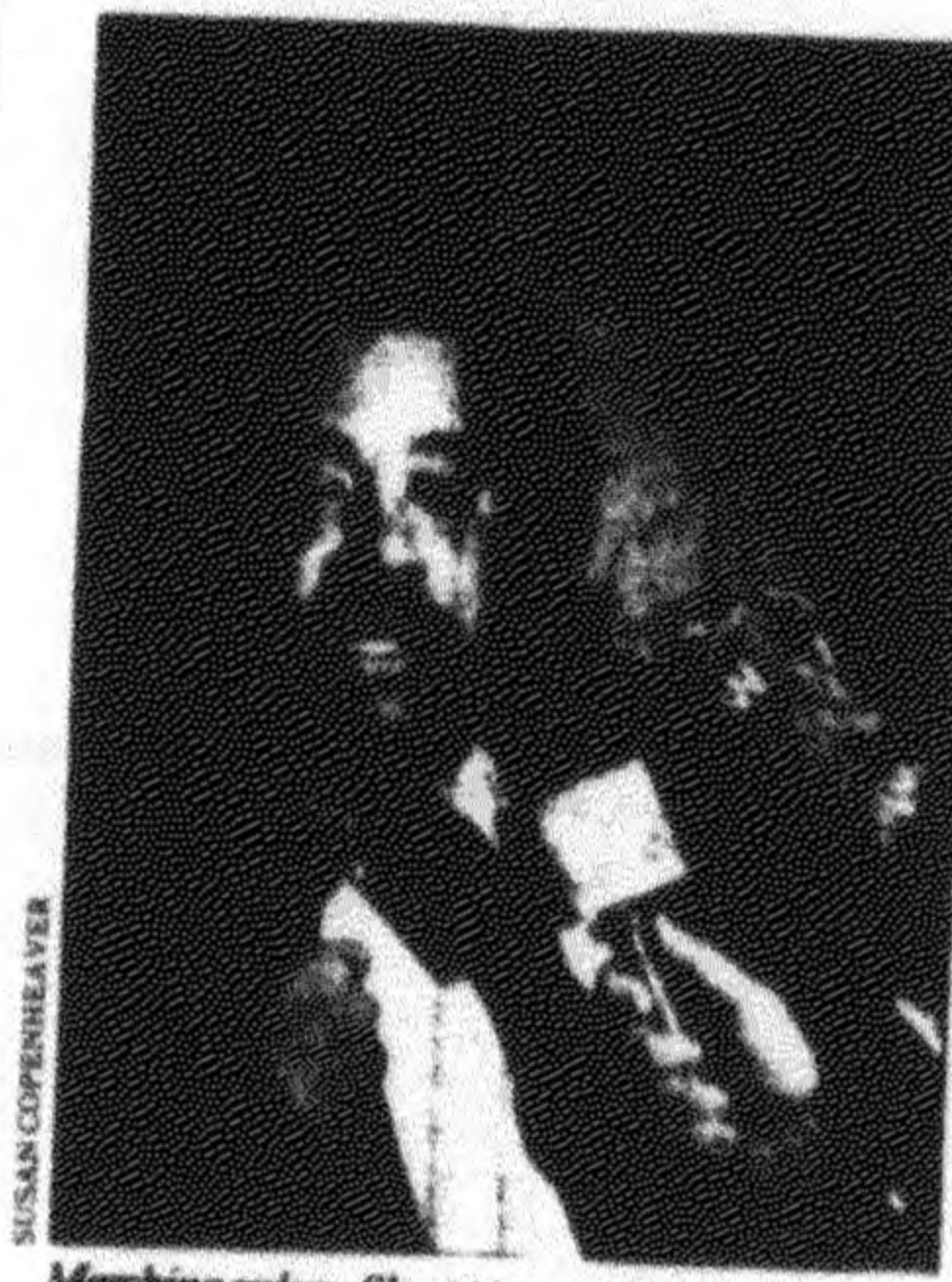
The Klan chose Schuylerville because of the controversy over the court-ordered removal of a large painting of the crucifixion from the high school. The Klan finally held a low-key march on Sept. 29 (it was a well-kept secret to avoid protestors), two days before the painting was removed.

"It was a defeat for them that they had to cancel out last time, and had to do it this time in secret," said Vera Michelson of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

But Hoff defended his group's secret march as necessary, "so that people could see us without a riot involved." And Hoff claims that the Klansmen received a warm reception. Hoff called a statement by the Saratoga County sheriff to the contrary "an outrageous lie."

Adrians, however, agrees with the sheriff. During the June 30 protest, "it was evident that the community was solidly opposed to the Klan," he said. "I think that continues to be the same today."

Adrians said he was aware of the planned Sharpton-led march and doesn't object. "I'm not in favor of the KKK or any



Marching orders: Sharpton sounds the call.

of their policies," he said, "so anyone who opposes them is really saying the same thing we did on June 30." But neither Sharpton nor any other representatives of the coalition have contacted local clergy. "We have not received any communication from him or any of his organizations asking us to join the march," Adrians said.

The idea for the march seemed to occur to Sharpton while he was in Albany last week for a court appearance in his long-delayed income-tax evasion trial (the start of the trial has now been postponed until April). He had warned that if the charges were not dismissed, he would have no choice but to move to Albany and "concentrate my ongoing social involvement" in the Capital Region.

Madelyn Chapman, a spokesperson for both the New Alliance Party and Sharpton, defended his call for the march.

"Rev. Sharpton is a civil-rights activist," she said. "That's what he does, he responds. When he finds out about something that is unjust, he responds."

Meanwhile, Hoff has said that the Klan's Schuylerville march will not be its last. "We've been organized for a number of years," he explained, "only we kept a low profile. Now we've become strong." Hoff said that the next time the Klan paraded, it would be in several places in the state at the same time.

—Jeff Jones

THE RIVER'S DREDGE

LAST WEEK, GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. announced that it had hired a private firm, Celgene Corp. of Warren, N.J., to assist in GE's efforts to neutralize polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, in the sediments of the Hudson River. Is it a sincere move toward solving the problem? Or, is it, as some environmental groups charge, simply another delay tactic being employed by the company that dumped some 500,000 pounds of PCBs in the Hudson and would foot the bill should New York state dredge the highly toxic chemicals?

"We see it, once again," said Bridget Barclay, environmental director for Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, an environmental group, "as GE just trying to delay the state and federal processes." "I can't understand," said Jack Batty, a

GE spokesman, "why [environmentalists] aren't receptive to a technology that would eliminate the problem rather than just move it from river to land."

The state Department of Environmental Conservation is carrying out a plan that would result, eventually, in the PCBs being dredged from the river and buried in a specially constructed landfill. Meanwhile, the Environmental Protection Agency is studying the site to see if federal Superfund money should be allocated for the cleanup. However, GE, which dumped the PCBs into the Hudson from the 1940s to the 1970s, opposes dredging and is attempting to develop a method in which bacteria would break the PCBs down into harmless substances without removing them from the sediment.

"The bacteria degrade the PCB chlorine molecules," said Batty, "Pac-Man-style."

Barclay and others believe that GE is more worried about its pocketbook than the Hudson River ecology. (A 40-mile stretch of the Hudson is already closed to fishing because of the PCBs.) The state could force GE to pay for the dredging project, which could cost \$200 million or more. Opponents of GE, distrustful of the company because of the massive dumping, think that the PCBs should be removed immediately.

"This is not just a promise," Batty argued, explaining that GE has spent some \$25 million on the project and expects to spend about \$50 million before it is done. "It seems that these [environmental] groups would have everybody spend lots of money and not create a permanent solution to the problem."

GE says that it has observed natural degradation of the PCBs in the river and it is working on accelerating that process by injecting bacteria into the sediments. Batty said the company has hired Celgene because "we're into the critical stage of this project" and because Celgene has particular expertise in one kind of bacteria that would be used to attack the PCBs.

"This is not the first time," Barclay said, "that GE has claimed to make a major breakthrough."

Barclay said that the timing of GE's hiring of Celgene was no accident. Sloop Clearwater and other environmental groups made presentations on the need to dredge as soon as possible at a Congressional subcommittee hearing on Oct. 1. And Barclay said that DEC's dredging plan calls for the department to begin pursuing a state permit to dredge this fall.

"The news release [on the hiring] wasn't even put out by us," countered Batty. "It was Celgene's release."

Environmentalists have found themselves on both sides of the PCB issue. Like Barclay and DEC, some favor immediate dredging before contamination spreads further into the food chain. But others, such as citizens in Washington County, where the dredged PCBs might very well be landfilled, don't want to see the problem simply move from one place to another.

GE and others have criticized dredging because it would release PCBs into the water, but Barclay argued that the injection of bacteria into the sediments could very well do the same thing.

"On the one hand," she said, "we think it's always valuable to find ways of dealing with hazardous waste. But in terms of what GE's been doing, we just really don't see it going anywhere."

—Mike Goudreau



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

October 1990 Newsletter

Next General Meeting of CDCARR

Thursday, Oct. 26, 1990 at 7:00 p.m.

Albany Public Library

Washington Avenue, Albany, N.Y.

**All interested in working in the
anti-apartheid and the anti-racist
movement,**

Welcome

The struggle continues...



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Namibia
To The United Nations**

801 Second Avenue, Room 1401, New York, N.Y. 10017

Telephone: (212) 557-2450, Telex: 237249, Fax: (212) 986-9736

Re: Relocation

**Kindly be informed that the Permanent Mission of the Republic
of Namibia to the United Nations will be moving to a new location as
of September 1, 1990. The new address is as follows:**

**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Namibia
to the United Nations
135 East 36th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016**

In last month's newsletter we announced the formation of the Center for Law & Justice, Inc. by Dr. Alice Green. Below is a more detailed description of the Center:

Center for Law & Justice, Inc.
Pine West Plaza Building 2
Washington Avenue Extension
Albany, New York 12205
(518) 427-8361

Alice Green, Ph.D.

The Center for Law & Justice

The Center for Law and Justice, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit tax exempt organization. Funding will come from public and private sources including donations and grants.

The Center is a civil rights and civil liberties organization whose primary mission is to provide advocacy and research information in an effort to shape public policy in the area of criminal justice. Furthermore, the center is concerned with promoting fairness, justice, and accountability within the system. Its chief goal is to diminish the undue governmental reliance upon imprisonment as a means of social control of people of color and the poor.

To accomplish its mission and goal, the Center will:

- *Monitor local and state activities of major criminal justice agencies, programs, and legislation and make recommendations for change.
- *Provide criminal justice advocacy to the poor and people of color.
- *Provide research information and statistics in the treatment and involvement of people of color in the criminal justice system.
- *Sponsor community symposiums, forums, and programs to educate and explore ways to empower people of color so that they can improve the quality of their own lives.

The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism has a subcommittee which works on the issues of police abuse and racist violence. We are working with the Center for Law & Justice to coordinate the anti-police abuse campaign and to combat the bias that minorities are subjected to by the Criminal Justice System.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH THE SUBCOMMITTEE, PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE.

What about the violence in South Africa?

In recent months there has been an escalation of violence in South Africa. This violence is often attributed to "tribal" differences between the Inkatha movement of Chief Gatsha Buthelezai which is made up of Zulu people and the African National Congress which counts many Xhosa people in its leadership. The mainstream U.S. media has been quick to label the violence as "tribal" or "Black on Black" struggles offering little or no analysis of what is really going on. We need to read between the lines. There are many forces, both in South Africa and in the U.S., who would like to see a lessening of the role of the ANC in the negotiations for a New South Africa. We urge you to read the following press release, issued on September 13, 1990, by the African National Congress for a clearer picture of what is really behind the violence.

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

801 Second Ave., Suite 605, N.Y., N.Y. 10017

Observer Mission to the United Nations

Since the Sebokeng massacre of 22nd July, 1990, an unprecedented wave of violence has swept across the face of the Transvaal. Despite numerous attempts to end it, undertaken by community leaders, the regional leadership of the African National Congress (ANC) and the intervention of the ANC's leaders, it has not abated and seems set to continue unchecked unless taken in hand.

During the night commencing 3rd September, a brutal pre-dawn raid was launched on the inhabitants of the hostels in Sebokeng. During the course of that incident it emerged that no less than four white persons, their faces concealed by balaclava helmets, participated in the carnage that followed.

After the residents of Sebokeng had surrounded the hostels, trapping the raiders inside, South African Defence Force (SADF) units were called in by the police. In an unprovoked attack they opened fire on the crowd, killing 11 people. In the ensuing confusion, the pre-dawn raiders, including the four whites, were taken out of the hostels and bussed out of the area, still fully armed, reportedly in police casspirs.

Among those arrested and detained by the police, after being identified by a number of residents and hostel dwellers, was one Mr. Themba Khoza, leader of the Inkatha Youth Brigade in the Transvaal. Mr. Khoza had already been named as implicated in a

number of incidents of violence in the Transvaal. Sebokeng was the first time he was caught, practically red-handed, ferrying firearms to Inkatha supporters. Various eye-witnesses saw Mr. Khoza shooting some of the victims of their attack.

On 24th August, 1990, The Weekly Mail carried a lengthy account by a "frightened hostel dweller" who had been coerced into joining Inkatha and forced to commit acts of violence against other hostel dwellers and township residents. It was clear from this report that the violence was not a spontaneous eruption but rather a well orchestrated plan, conceived by some diabolical agency with a view to spreading death and mayhem. The Weekly Mail's informant unequivocally stated that the police are involved in both organising and transporting the attackers from place to place at night.

On 26th July, 1990, three days before the official launch of the South African Communist Party (SACP), an Inkatha leader addressed meetings in Jabulani Hostels inciting the audience to launch attacks on persons displaying the insignia of the SACP. These activities and the name of the speaker were brought to the notice of the police. On the weekend of 28th July, a number of crudely forged leaflets, ostensibly issued by the ANC, were distributed in Soweto and other townships. Their intension was to create a climate of fear and apprehension among the Zulu-speaking population of the township, especially the migrant workers, by giving the impression that the ANC, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the South African Youth Congress (SAYCO) and the United Democratic Front (UDF) intended attacking them and driving them out of the hostels. These too were brought to the attention of the authorities and the media. A similar leaflet appeared in townships of the East Rand during the week of August 26th.

The mounting evidence and the avalanche of allegations of police and other security personell involvement with the vigilantes of Inkatha convinces us that we are confronting a phenomenon which has become quite familiar in the Frontline States. We witnessed it when the bandit gang of RENAMO, established, trained and provisioned by the illegal Smith regime of former Rhodesia, first went into action. It is a matter of record that since 1979 the South African government has taken over that function.

The intention of the campaign of violence is quiet clear. Its purpose is:

To incite violence among the different sections of the African population and thus distract their attention from the root causes of poverty, hunger, low wages and economic exploitation in this country.

To destroy the ANC and other democratic formations in the townships by the piecemeal murder of their personnel and supporters;

To build a psychosis of fear, insecurity and terror among the people so as to make them more amenable to a regime of martial law;

To derail the process of peaceful transition presently underway.

The fact of the matter is that while the ANC has sincerely been talking peace with the government, war has been declared on the ANC, its allies and the other democratic formations of our people.

The South African government has been called upon to put an end to this violence by every quarter of public opinion in the country. And yet:

It has failed to act against the perpetrators of the massacre of July 22nd in Sebokeng

It has failed to take action against those individuals who have deliberately stirred up the violence in the Trandvaal.

It has failed to take the appropriate steps to uncover those in its security forces, including the police, who are implicated in these acts of terror and violence.

The National Working Committee of the ANC, after lengthy deliberations, has decided to convene an emergency meeting of the National Executive Committee which will specifically focus on the violence which has now become endemic, review the prevailing situation in our country, and our strategic and tactical options in the light of the current circumstances. The National Executive Committee meeting is scheduled to commence on Tuesday, September 18th, 1990 in Johannesburg.

Issued by: The Department of Information and Publicity, P.O. Box 61884, Marshalltown 2307, Johannesburg.

**This press release reprinted and distributed by
Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism
a project of the Social Justice Center of Albany, N.Y.**



Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism Police Abuse/Racist Violence Subcommittee

I am interested in working with the Police Abuse and Racist Violence Subcommittee of the CDCAAR in conjunction with the Center for Law & Justice. I am interested in work in the following areas:

- Police Abuse complaint intake
- Administrative
- Computer Programming
- Computer Data Entry
- Research Projects
- Anti-death penalty work
- Court monitoring Rensselaer and Albany



Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please send this form to:
CDCAAR, Police Abuse/Racist Violence Committee
c/o Merton Simpson
439 Livingston Ave., Apt. #2
Albany, N.Y. 12206

If you have any messages or questions, please call Merton Simpson c/o Alice Green.
(518) 427-8361.

Update on Donna DeMaria and the Albany Police...

In last month's newsletter we reported about the trumped up charges against community activist, Donna DeMaria. Justice was served when the Albany Country Grand Jury refused to indict Donna. Community protests and letters to local newspapers showed the extent of support for Donna. Congratulations to Donna and to the community which responded to the police department's nonsense - but chilling - charges.

New York Times, Sept. 27, 1990

De Klerk Is No Hero to Me

By Randall Robinson

WASHINGTON — President Bush welcomed South Africa's President, F. W. de Klerk, to the White House yesterday, I hope I wasn't the only one asking "What's wrong with this picture?"

In extending a friendly handshake to Mr. de Klerk, Mr. Bush set an important precedent: He became the first U.S. President to meet the highest representative of a society organized on the principles of segregation and brutal racial exploitation.

Mr. de Klerk's public relations team has worked hard to portray him as a crusader for reasonable and moderate change, a patient and well-intentioned man. And the Bush Administration has at times appeared eager to accept exaggerated claims of progress and reform.

The reality is that little has changed under the de Klerk Government. In some respects, things have gotten much worse.

While Mr. de Klerk tours Washington, his nation is gripped in a spasm of violence. Over the last six weeks, more than 800 black South Africans have been killed in what the U.S. press usually describes as "factional" or "tribal" violence.

In fact, this violence is directly rooted in the apartheid system Mr. de Klerk's Government still maintains. There is also convincing and disturbing evidence that security forces under Mr. de Klerk's control have permitted, and even participated in, most of this "factional" strife.

Some of the fighting is an outgrowth of a political rivalry between elements of the African National Congress and supporters of Inkatha, the Zulu organization headed by Chief Mangosuthu Gatsha Buthelezi. But Chief Buthelezi and Inkatha have themselves been permitted to amass power, often by intimidation, with the direct collusion of Mr. de Klerk's Government. Indeed, the last six weeks of escalating violence coincide almost to the day with Chief Buthelezi's announced intention to expand his power beyond his Natal base.

Eyewitness accounts of police participation or acquiescence in Inkatha violence are far too numerous to discredit. In Natal, the police openly side with Inkatha, usually intervening well after Chief Buthelezi's thugs have attacked and retreated.

A recent report by the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists concluded that "the police are seen as both player and referee, and

Randall Robinson is executive director of TransAfrica, a foreign-policy lobbying group.

in some cases their conduct has been violent and cruel." Another report, issued in Pretoria in August by the Government-appointed Goldstone Commission, has lent further credence to reports of police collusion with Inkatha. The commission found that police sometimes failed to stop attacks that they had advance knowledge of, and that they often failed to disarm Inkatha members.

The latest revelations of a "hidden hand" or "third force" implicate security forces as well. Numerous affidavits from journalists and South

He has done little for blacks, and he tolerates the violence.

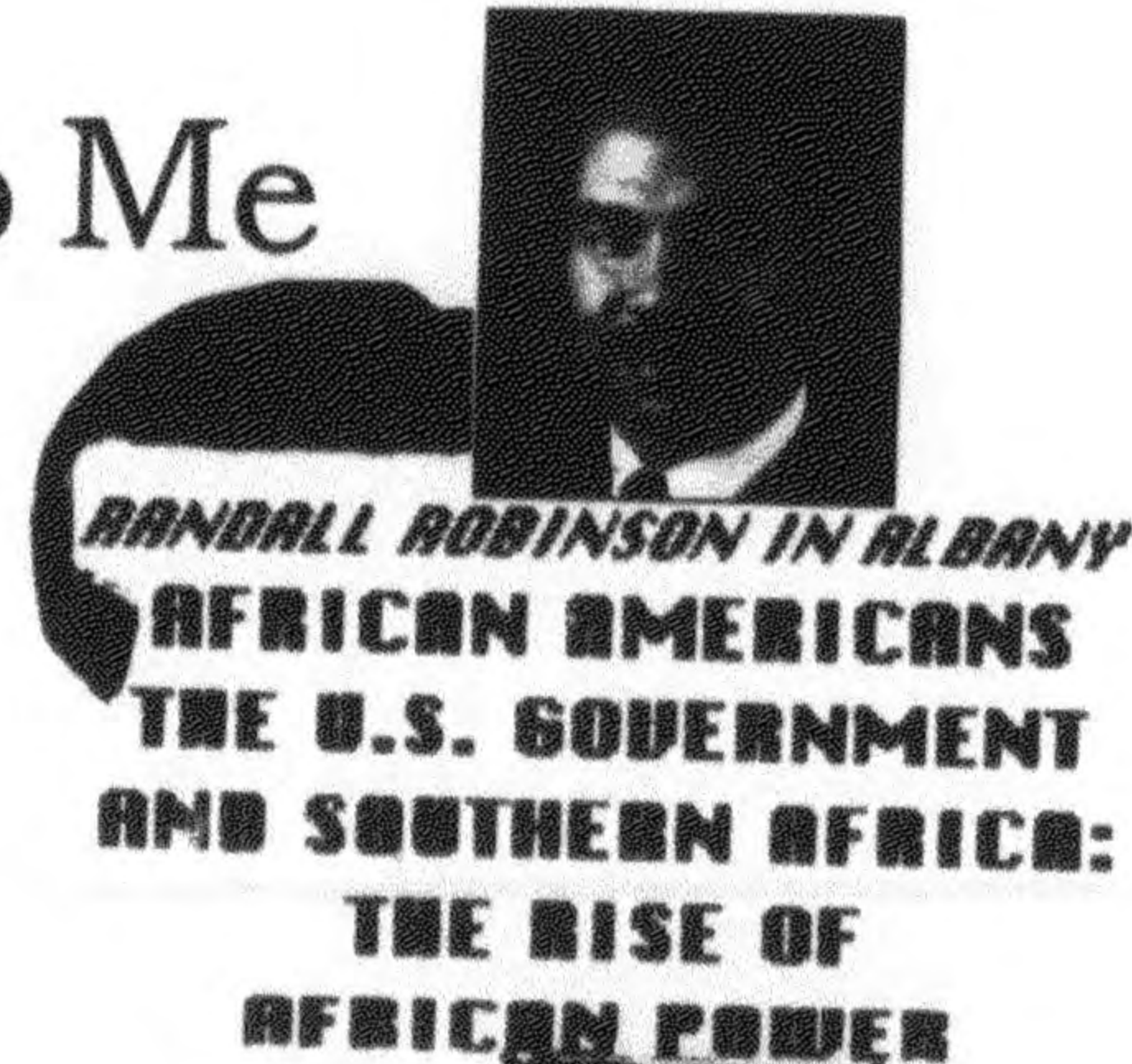
African citizens detail attacks in which white men wearing hoods, or with faces blackened with soot, have participated in the fighting. Whites have been seen shooting from minibuses and directly participating in the hacking deaths of innocent bystanders. Whites have been spotted assisting Inkatha vigilantes in attacks on townships, in brutal massacres on a moving train and in the razing of a squatter settlement.

In response, Mr. de Klerk has initiated "Operation Iron Fist," a response that calls to mind those of his predecessors: blacks' civil liberties are suspended, troops are sent to black residential areas, townships are enveloped in razor wire.

These sad and bloody scenes are the proper backdrop for the image of F. W. de Klerk in the White House. We hope that President Bush clearly expresses to Mr. de Klerk our nation's disgust at apartheid, and our insistence on its dismantlement.

Americans believe in Nelson Mandela's message of "sanctions until democracy" and in the fundamental sense of justice and fair play so manifestly offended by the de Klerk Government. These beliefs should not be swayed by the South African's much-coveted photo opportunity with President Bush.

Mr. de Klerk must seek an end to the violence sweeping his country. He must make genuine and irreversible progress toward dismantling apartheid. And he must pursue these objectives through concrete steps at home, not through smiles and handshakes in foreign capitals. □



Randall Robinson, Executive Director of TransAfrica, an African American foreign policy lobbying group for Africa and the Caribbean, will appear in Albany on October 23, 1990. He will be here to take part in a lecture series sponsored by the New York African American Institute. Co-sponsors of the event are the Department of African and African American Studies at SUNY Albany, the Albany Branch, NAACP and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism, Albany, N.Y.

There has been a change in the venue which was announced last month. The lecture will take place at Page Hall, Albany SUNY downtown campus - not at the Patroon Lounge, SUNY uptown campus. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public. We urge your attendance to hear this tireless and long-time opponent of apartheid speak on:

AFRICAN AMERICANS, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AND SOUTHERN AFRICA: THE RISE OF AFRICAN POWER

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON REEBOK



'Reebok is not in South Africa. Reebok shoes are not made in South Africa. Reebok instructed its United Kingdom distributor not to renew its distributions contract in South Africa in 1986. Reebok acquired Avia in 1987; Avia has no business relationship with any company in South Africa.' THE AFRICA FUND 1988

"Those of us who have been involved with the struggle to end apartheid have used various strategies to reach that goal. One of our most effective approaches is to highlight and reproach American corporations which are doing business in South Africa. We have been very successful in getting hundreds of corporations to withdraw from bolstering an economy based on oppression. In addition, we have been keeping the glare of public scrutiny on those still operating in South Africa.

In its incumbent, therefore that we in the anti-apartheid community salute those corporations that are actively involved in peacefully transforming South Africa into a democratic state. Yours (REEBOK) is one such corporation. Your chairmen and president, Paul Fireman and Joe LaBone respectively, have demonstrated above and beyond all expectations their commitment to human rights and a free South Africa.

Though your company has been haunted by a rumor that it is doing business in South Africa, Reebok is now the only footwear company I'm certain is not in South Africa.

Furthermore, it is one of the few corporations, if not the only one, that has embraced human rights as a corporate value.

Thus, I would like to salute Reebok and all of its employees for their dedication to human rights, a free South Africa and a responsible corporate America."

RANDALL ROBINSON, TRANSFRICA, 1989

New Available - A Unified List of United States Companies Doing Business in South Africa

This Third Edition 1990 identifies companies with ownership in South Africa as well as companies with licensing, franchising, distribution agreements and other business ties. Also included are banks with loans or financial links to South Africa. Some 700 companies are profiled. This is an indispensable resource for anyone concerned about the U.S. corporate role in South Africa. Updated through mid-1990. This directory is available through the Africa Fund, 198 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10038. The Price is \$10.00 for individuals, \$30.00 for institutions. All orders must include \$2.00 postage.

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

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Two important dates:
Randall Robinson in Albany, OCT. 23, 1990
Next CDCAAR meeting OCT. 25 1990

SOCIAL JUSTICE CENTER AWARDS DINNER NOV. 3, 1990

The Social Justice Center is the umbrella organization for several progressive organizations working on issues of peace and justice in the Capital District. CDCAAR is a member and our relationship with the SJC is a very valuable one. We encourage all our members to attend this dinner - a time to socialize with others in the activist community. The event will take place on Saturday, November 3, 1990 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at Bethlehem High School, 700 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, N.Y. Rides and childcare are available. To get your tickets, call the SJC at 434-4037 or Peter Beaint, CDCAAR representative to SJC at 438-5975.

INTIFADA YEAR THREE OCT. 24, 1990

The Capital District Committee for Palestinian Rights is sponsoring a presentation by Andrew Courtney of Westchester Peoples Action Committee - "What about Israel's Occupation?" The crisis in the Arabian peninsula has detracted attention from the Palestinians under occupation. However, life under occupation has not changed. The killings, beatings, and demolitions continue. This program is open to the public and will take place at the Albany Public Library, Wednesday, October 24, 1990 at 6:45 pm.

Albany project in danger Brothers seek help to revive referral center

By Catherine Clabby

Staff writer

ALBANY — The revival of a referral center by the Brothers, a local civil rights group active in the 1960s, is in jeopardy.

The recent death of Gordon Van Ness, the man who was shaping fund-raising and programming goals for the group's new Community Referral Center, has left his longtime friend Clarence Newton with much undone.

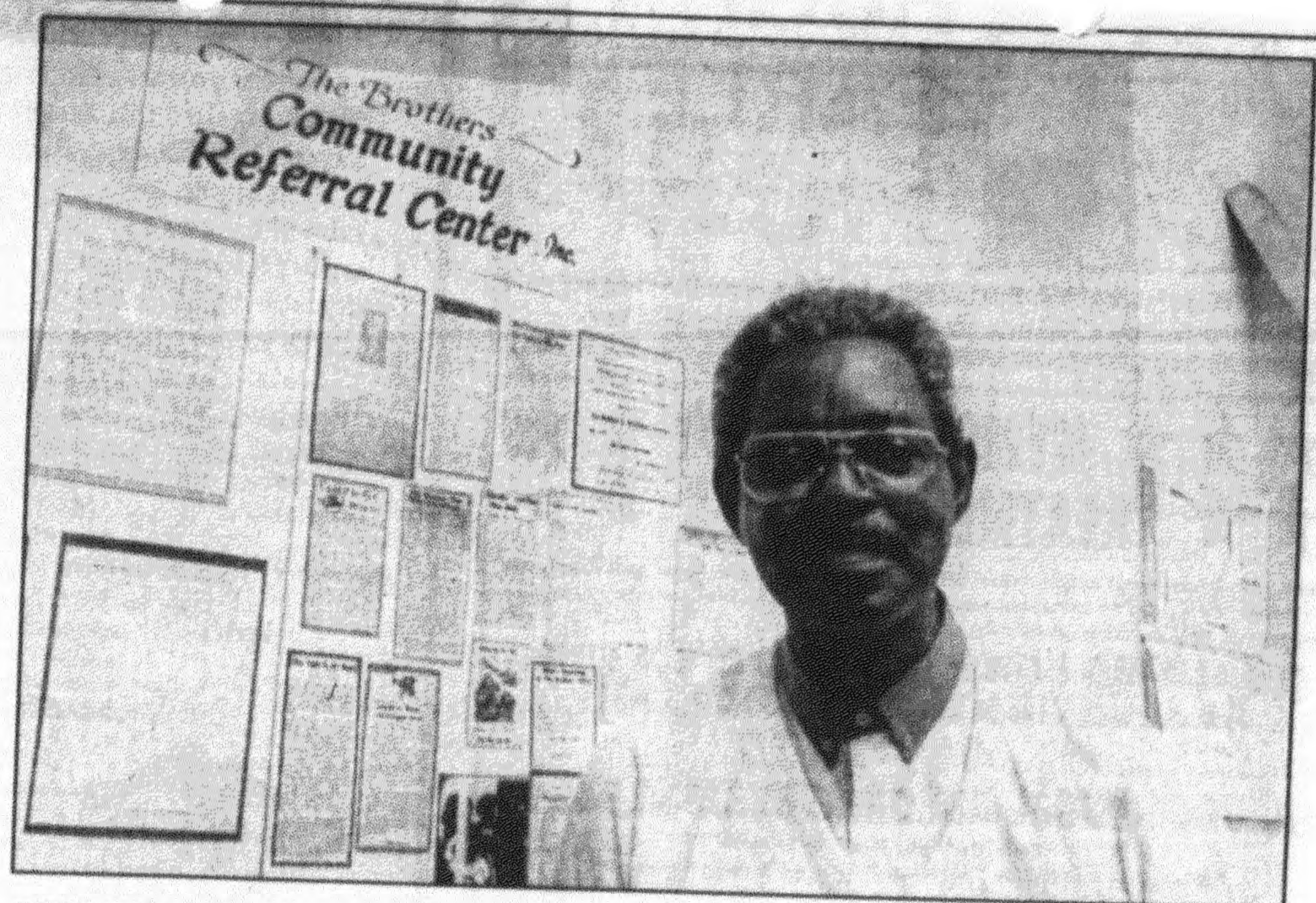
The Reverend Newton, program coordinator for the fledgling center, has yet to gain access to mail addressed to Van Ness and bank accounts he established on behalf of the organization, but knows the organization is ailing financially.

The \$350 monthly rent for October is overdue at the 225 Clinton Ave. storefront and another month's payment is due Thursday. Utility and phone bills also need to be paid.

It was Van Ness, said Newton, who pursued a fund-raising drive by writing letters to several people known to be sympathetic to the organization's efforts. And it was Van Ness, who died of a heart attack at age 50 earlier this month, who was lining up people to develop strategies for addressing local problems.

"The vision was that we would have our own building, own paid staff, a place for young people to come from jail," said Newton, sitting in an office whose walls are covered with copies of news articles detailing

See **BROTHERS** / B-4



PICKING UP THE TORCH — Clarence Newton will ask members of Albany's black community to help start the Brothers Community Referral Center at 225 Central Ave. Times Union photo by Roberta Smith

BROTHERS

Continued from B-1

the Brothers' activism in the 1960s and '70s. Attention now is focused on survival, he added.

Newton said he will pursue Van Ness' efforts to obtain \$48,000 from the city's Community Development Agency and plans to meet Thursday with officials from that organization, which in recent years has had less

money to share because of shrinking federal grants.

The Brothers were launched in Albany in an era when the push for civil rights inspired political activism all over the country. With a membership made up mostly of black men, the group protested poor housing in Arbor Hill and the South End and battled for improvements in jobs, the welfare system, education and the delivery of city services. It also operated a referral center.

The focus of the new center is to

help residents resolve problems involving landlords, utility companies, welfare programs, housing, schools, police matters or alcohol or drug abuse.

Both Van Ness and Newton were founders of the Brothers and organizers of a reunion last spring that inspired its rebirth. Newton on Monday said he was putting finishing touches on a letter he hopes to circulate within the city's black community asking for financial support

10/4/90

CD case memo to
D. Aube

David Aube's activism follows from his belief in the absolute right of indigenous peoples to determine their own fate. The struggle for liberation is worldwide. One must recognize, for example, the parallels between the plight of blacks in South Africa and Palestinians in the Occupied Territories. Rightful demands for self-determination must be met all across the globe if dreams of justice are to be realized.

David believes that the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza may be the most threatened population on earth. The Israeli government through its occupation forces is systematically brutalizing an unarmed population. The bill for this inhuman policy is being paid by the United States. Israel receives \$3.5 billion per annum, one third of all US foreign aid expenditures. As a result, Israel can carry on its subjugation of 1.8 million Palestinians without facing the financial consequences. It can ignore calls from the larger international community for a negotiated settlement, for the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. Changes will come; the Intifada -- the uprising -- is strong; Palestinian rights will be recognized. Present US policy stands directly in the way of justice and fairness. Without US funding the status quo could not be maintained. US policy must be reformulated to truly promote peace, not support occupation.

David is an active member, a leader, in the Capital District Committee for Palestinian Rights. He travelled for two weeks at the beginning of this year to Gaza as part of a delegation of US activists on a fact-finding mission. He states that he learned more in these two weeks than he could in years of reading. He urges all people to travel, to see first-hand, the state of the world and the results of US policy. One cannot do so without being moved, changed, rededicated to the struggle for justice.

He describes the Jabalya refugee camp. Sixty thousand people crowded into one half a square mile, a lake serving as the only sanitary facility, medical problems of overwhelming proportions. The Palestinians welcomed the delegation, thanked them for their solidarity, and asked that each person return to the US with the truth -- with stories, with photographs -- and with a determination to make every effort to educate the US population and change US policy.

David emphasizes that the Palestinian rights movement is not anti-Jewish. He notes that many people proud of their own Jewish identities work untiringly on behalf of the Palestinians. Many Israelis have refused duty in the Occupied Territories. Nor is it even anti-Zionist. The PLO has officially recognized UN Resolution 181 which accepts the right of Israel to exist. The struggle for Palestinian rights can best be described as anti-occupation and pro self-determination. It is a call for justice and even-handedness. A Palestinian state can and must be created alongside the State of Israel.

David Aube was born and raised on Long Island. He graduated from SUNY Plattsburg with a degree in history in 1984. After graduation he travelled in the US for two years before settling in Albany. He worked as a handyman before being employed by the Citizens Environmental Coalition beginning about two years ago.

For many years he had been thinking about and studying the problems of dispossessed indigenous peoples but had not been directly involved. In 1987 he attended a meeting of the Capital District Committee for Palestinian Rights and his activist work began. His hard work and dedication soon led him to play a leadership role in that organization. Noting the linkage with the anti-apartheid struggle, he joined and has become active in the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. In response to the threat of war in the Persian Gulf area -- a problem as David sees it inextricably intertwined with the Palestinian struggle -- he is a founding member of the newly-formed Emergency Committee to end US Intervention in the Middle East.

David is proud of his work organizing demonstrations, fund-raising for the cause, educating people, and participating fully in the network of progressive people and organizations in the Albany area. The work must continue. As David reminds us: no people are truly free while others remain oppressed.

Albany civil rights leader Gordon Van Ness mourned

By Jay Jochnowitz

Staff writer

ALBANY — An estimated 300 people, including activists, public officials, military veterans, family and friends of Gordon Van Ness, packed a small church Monday to say goodbye to one of the city's foremost civil rights leaders.

The diverse group, including such dignitaries as Gen. Lawrence Flynn, commander of the New York National Guard, and grass-roots activists such as Leon Van Dyke, a fellow founder of the Brothers civil rights group here, bid Van Ness a quiet farewell, lauding him in simple, somber terms.

"He was a very nice person and he stood his position when he knew it was right," said the Rev. Norman Macklin of the Union Missionary Baptist Church on Morton Avenue, where the service was held. "He set an example that some of us can follow ... to do right by our fellow man."

Van Ness, 50, who died Thursday of a heart attack two days before his birthday, was a founder of the Brothers, who, during the civil rights unrest of the 1960s, patrolled the streets of Arbor Hill, defusing confrontations between blacks and police.

He was a member of the Albany Human Rights Commission and president of the Albany branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Albany Urban League and the 369th Veterans Association, a black veterans group.

Employed as an affirmative-action officer for the state Health

10/23/40 Department, he helped set up programs to help blacks find jobs and housing, including the Community Referral Center on Clinton Avenue, which helps minorities deal with red tape involving police, drug abuse, welfare and schools.

"Gordon kept us ever mindful of our basic mission of serving the black community ... and to act as an advocate and agent for change," said Thurmon Myers of the Association of Black Social Workers. That group, along with the 369th Veterans Association, honored Van Ness with proclamations. Members of the veterans group from New York City attended the ceremony.


The service was a mix of the elements in Van Ness' life. Somber comments about Van Ness were interlaced with upbeat hymns that had many of those who came clapping and a few swaying in their seats. A military honor guard escorted his flag-draped coffin out of the church for burial at Evergreen Memorial Park in Colonie.

Attending were an array of Albany figures: defense attorneys Mark Mishler and Lanny Walter, active in civil rights cases; Vera Michaelson, co-chairwoman of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism; Deputy Albany County Executive Jack McEneaney; Anne Pope, president of the Albany NAACP chapter; 2nd Ward Alderman Keith St. John; former 3rd Ward Alderman Nebraska Brace; and Frank Alphonso, director of the city's Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

"I think it was a great tribute to his life," said Pope. "He was a trooper. He'll be missed."



**PARTY WITH A PURPOSE
PARTY WITH A PURPOSE**



**SOUNDS OF LATIN,
REGGAE, CALYPSO
AND HOUSE MUSIC
WITH DJ
MARIA PEREZ/SHE-BOP**

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 14
MASON HALL
120 MADISON AVE
ALBANY
10 PM UNTIL...**

REFRESHMENTS

**TICKETS 7.00
374-8709 AFTER 6**

**BENEFIT FOR THE
COALITION AGAINST
APARTHEID & RACISM**





**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

November 1990



**NEXT GENERAL CD-CAAR
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THURSDAY, NOV. 29, 1990**

7:00 P.M. ALBANY PUBLIC LIBRARY

**NOTE: MEETING IS THE 5TH THURS. INSTEAD OF THE 4TH
THURS. DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
ALSO NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN DECEMBER DUE TO
THE HOLIDAYS, NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL
BE ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1991**

Speaking of 1991, in September of 1991, CD-CAAR will celebrate its tenth year anniversary!!! We are in the beginning stages of planning for this very special event. We want to make it a meaningful and big occasion. We will be asking for your help in the near future - start formulating your ideas now.

Save Friday Night, December 14, 1990

**Inside this newsletter you will find a flyer about
the next CD-CAAR special occasion - **A Party!****



PLEASE POST

CD-CAAR Meets With US Representative Michael McNulty

Mark Mishler

Four CD-CAAR members - CoChair Merton Simpson, Mabel Leon, Zaida Kajee and Mark Mishler - met with Congressperson Mike McNulty recently to discuss issues related to Southern Africa. This was the second meeting between the Coalition and McNulty. We presented the Congressperson with recent educational material in South Africa and discussed the situation in Angola as well as Inkatha-inspired violence in South Africa. We also informed him that thousands of Capital District residents had "voted" for continued sanctions against South Africa as part of the American Committee on Africa's sanctions ballot campaign.

Representative McNulty reiterated his support for ongoing sanctions against South Africa and stated his commitment to vote for continued sanctions. He also indicated his opposition to U.S. funding of UNITA, the "contra" group causing such destruction and disruption in Angola.

The CD-CAAR delegation agreed that Congressperson McNulty is a friend and ally of the movement in solidarity with Southern Africa liberation. The Coalition will stay in touch with him and will continue to provide him with our views on issues affecting Southern Africa. Our work and presence has had an impact.

PEACE OFFERINGS

Remember to do your holiday shopping at Peace Offerings, the store which offers gifts made by non-exploited laborers from around the world. Peace Offerings is located at the Social Justice Center, 33 Central Avenue, Albany, N.Y. 434-4037.

Election Reminder

At the general membership meeting in October it was announced that there will be an election of members to the CD-CAAR Steering Committee. Mark Mishler and Merton Simpson are chairing an election committee. If you are interested in being nominated or would like more information, please call Mark at 438-2845. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the November meeting.

CD-CAAR gives support to the Emergency Committee to end U.S. intervention in the Middle East.

The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism condemns the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the even more dangerous U.S. intervention in the Middle East which followed the invasion. We support the "Principles of Unity" articulated by the Emergency Committee to End U.S. Intervention in the Middle East which was founded in August, 1990. These principles include no U.S. intervention, no war for oil, negotiated solutions, self-determination, funding of human needs and the development of alternative energy sources.

On September 10th a rally was held - "No war for oil: U.S. troops out now." The rally took place in front of the Washington Avenue Armory in Albany and drew between 150 and 200 people. It was covered in all of the local electronic and print media. Many CD-CAAR members took part. We encourage you to take part in the next rally when it is called.

It is hoped that pressure by the American people will force the administration to bring the U.S. troops home before war breaks out. There is a need to be able to respond quickly to any U.S. action that brings us

No War for Oil

Rapid Response

A rapid response network is being organized. If you send your name and phone number to Emergency Committee to End U.S. Intervention in the Middle East, 33 Central Avenue, Albany, New York 12210, the Committee will inform you quickly on actions if (or when) a shooting war begins. The rhetoric and the actions of the U.S. government make this a dangerously real option. Also note if you are able to make phone calls or want to be on a notification list for meetings of the Committee. Donations are needed and deeply appreciated. For more information you can call (518) 434-4037.

Flash - A decision was made at the last meeting of the Emergency Committee to call for a rally two days after a U.S. strike in the Middle East. It is planned for 4:30 p.m. at the Armory at Washington Avenue and Lark St. in Albany. For confirmation and details, call 458-8034.

Excerpts from Position Statements

National Mobilization for Survival

"The inexcusable Iraqi invasion violated every principle of nonintervention and self-determination. It hardly has a single defender beyond the reach of the Iraqi army and police. But the U.S. government is not defending peace or democracy in the Middle East. It is seizing on this crisis to help the oil companies, use the Pentagon's power, and justify its budget."

East Bay Women for Peace

"A United States-Iraqi conflict (notwithstanding U.S. efforts to make it multinational), puts the United States once again in the role of 'policeman of the world' and encourages anti-Americanism for years to come. ... This is the time for peace and diplomacy. ... We call on the president to move toward a political and diplomatic solution to the crisis, through the United Nations and the Arab League, to refrain from precipitous military action, and to withdraw American military forces as quickly as possible."

War Resisters League

"U.S. politicians and the U.S. media are currently attempting to dehumanize Saddam Hussein, Iraqis, and Arabs in general. Similar propaganda campaigns against Muammar Qaddafi and Ayatollah Khomeini paved the way for U.S. attacks on Libya and Iran. Projecting monster images of the Iraqi people whips the U.S. public into a frenzy and creates the conditions necessary for sustained bloodletting between our countries. It also contributes to anti-Arab racism in this country."

Marine Corps Corporal Erik Glen Larsen's Statement of Refusal to Participate in Interventionist Wars

It sickens me to hear Mr. Bush announce that 40,000 of my fellow

reservists and 80,000 of my active duty brothers and sisters are going to wage war in the Middle East to protect "our American lifestyle." Oil imports could be cut in half if a sound energy policy focusing on renewable resources and conservation was in effect.

Our oil consuming western lifestyle is destroying the earth and it is our wasteful society that has brought the world to the brink of a preventable war.

Our presence in the Middle East has destroyed any hope of any of us ever receiving a peace dividend. We are wasting more than 24 million dollars a day in Saudi Arabia while the Oakland school system is still in shambles, while homeless people still walk the streets, and while the S & L criminals are still on the loose...

Eight years ago the Reagan-Bush administration encouraged the sale of chemical weapons to Saddam Hussein. Bush said nothing at the time about human rights when Hussein used the weapons on his own people. Bush wants us to forget that he turned his eyes when innocent men, women and children were being gassed.

Now he wants the American public to turn our eyes and forget about humanity, as he prepares to use me and others in the service as fodder for his cannon. I spent three long months in boot camp to learn to view human beings as targets. It has taken me almost three years to begin to see people as individuals once again. And I'll be damned if I'm going to be a part of this militaristic feeding frenzy.

I refuse orders to activate me into the regular Marines.

I will refuse orders to ship me to Saudi Arabia to defend our polluting, exploitive lifestyle.

I will refuse to face another human being with a gas mask and my M-16 drawn.

I declare myself as a conscientious objector.

Editors note -

South Africa and the Middle East Compare the U.S. response -

It took years of pressure from the U.S. anti-apartheid movement to get the U.S. Congress to pass sanctions against South Africa, the most racist regime on earth - and that had to be done over a presidential veto.

But let the U.S. 'way of life' - oil - be threatened and not only do we push for immediate international sanctions - we send in hundreds of thousands of U.S. troops. U.S. foreign policy is a policy of shameful hypocrisy.

In memoriam - Gordon VanNess
*CD-CARR mourns the death of Gordon, a long
time civil rights activist in the Albany community.
He will be remembered for his lifetime struggle
for justice, as a member of the Brothers in the
1960 's up until this year when he was one of the
founders of the Community Referral Service.
His loss is deeply felt.*

A Case for Human Needs- One of the demands of the Emergency Committee to End U.S. Intervention in the Middle East is the the U.S. government spend more money on human needs than on war and greed needs. One of the greatest needs for millions of American s for adequate health care. The Medical Student Association of Albany Medical Center is sponsoring an evening where this need will be the topic. The speaker will be Dr. Peter Orris, Attending Physician in Occupational Medicine and General Internal Medicine at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. Dr. Orris has a long history of involvement in the U.S. labor movement.

November 30, 1990 at 7:00 p.m. at the Albany Public Library
U.S. Health Care System...How did it get so bad? What can we do about it? The case for a National Health Care System.

The event is being cosponsored by the Solidarity Committee, Physicians For Social Responsibility and the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism. If you have any questions, call Sarah Kemble at 432-5282.



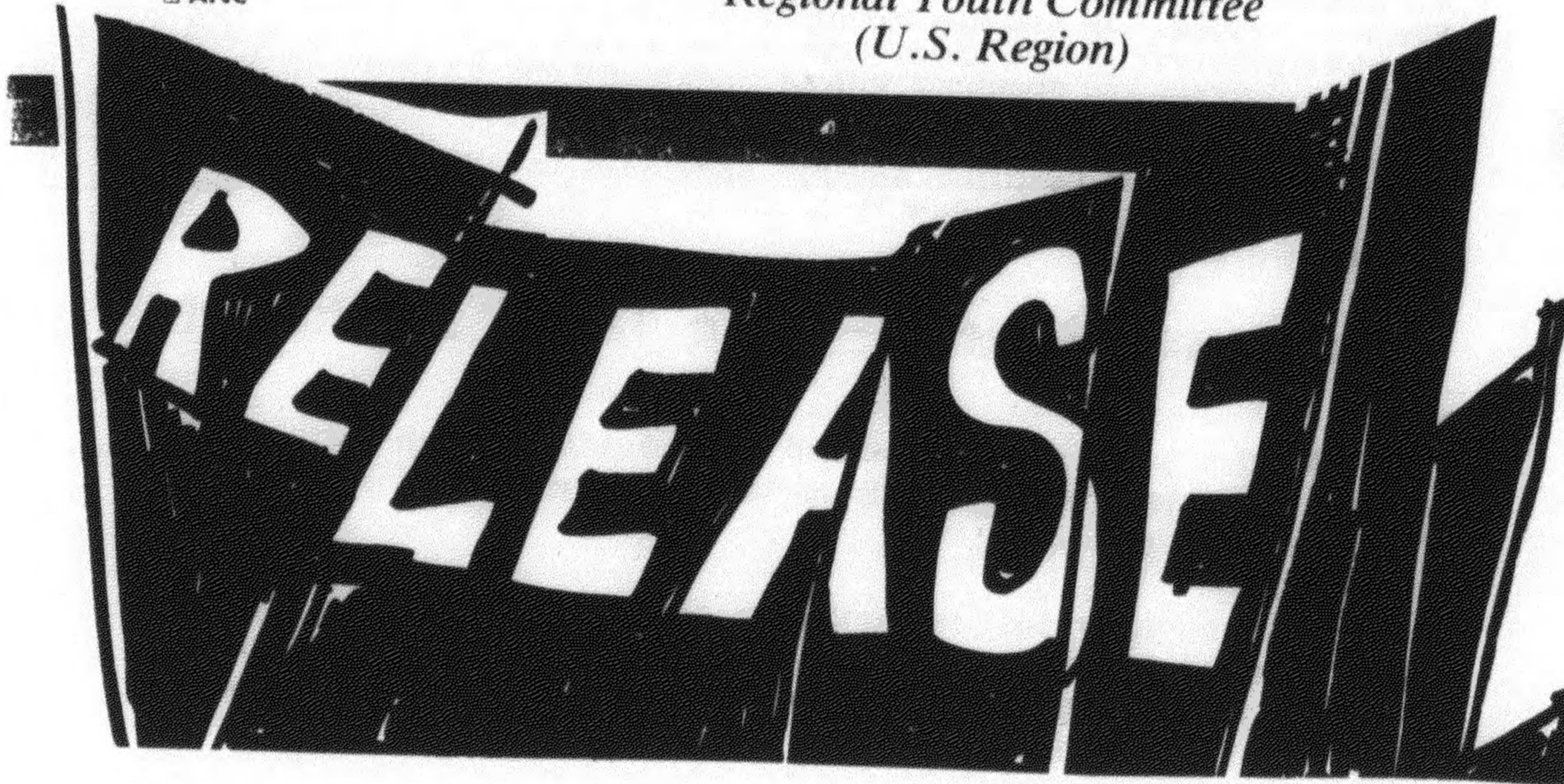
Unity Week- November 16-21

The Half Moon Cafe and Artists for a New Politics of Madison Avenue in Albany are sponsoring a Unity Week around the theme of Black and White unity as a way to build a more democratic and just society. The week includes nights of music (reggae, jazz, blues and rock), open readings and poetry and a Town Meeting on Sunday, Nov. 18th. For a complete schedule of events, call 436-0239.



AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Regional Youth Committee
(U.S. Region)



October 16, 1990

Rapulane Sidney Molekane

Rapu Molekane, 29, is the General Secretary of the South African Youth Congress (SAYCO). On September 27, 1990, he was shot three times and detained by South African authorities at his home in Soweto. He is presently being held at the Protea Police Station under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. He has not been charged, and under this law he can be held indefinitely.

Rapu began his political involvement in 1978 as a member of the Young Christian Students. He was actively involved in building the Congress of South African Students (COSAS) and participated in the founding of the United Democratic Front. He was elected president of the Soweto Youth Congress in 1984.

He is a founding member of SAYCO and was elected its first General Secretary in 1987. In April, 1990, at the first national congress of SAYCO, he was reelected General Secretary. At the time of his arrest, Rapu was helping to re-establish the recently legalized African National Congress as a mass based organization.

First detained in 1980, he was released after six months without being charged. In 1982, he was detained again and released in 1983. In 1985, together with thousands of youth throughout South Africa, he was detained under the emergency regulations and released after six months. In 1988, he was detained with other members of SAYCO until May, 1989.

He attended the Tshedimoso Lower Primary and Mapetla Tswana Secondary School. He also took courses at the Soweto College of Education. Rapu is a former member of the General Allied Workers Union. He is married and has two daughters.

In August, 1989, Rapu toured the United States as part of the Defiance Campaign. He traveled to New York, Washington D.C., Birmingham, and Los Angeles.

801 Second Ave., Suite 405, N.Y., N.Y. 10017 Tel: (212) 490-3487 Tlx: 225602 Fax: (212) 972-6499

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13 Pennsylvania Ave.
Albany, NY 12206

**Next General CD-CAAR Meeting:
Thurs. November 29, 1990**

**Also note: the event you have been waiting for
a CD-CAAR party is almost here - Fri., Dec. 14th 1990**



The Albany Branch of the NAACP will celebrate its 55th anniversary at the Annual Freedom Fund Dinner. The theme of the dinner is The African American Family: Accentuating Its Positives; Building on Its Strengths. The dinner will take place on Friday, December 14, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Convention Center of the Empire State Plaza, Albany. For more information call the Albany NAACP at 462-1823.

(This is the same evening as the Coalition fundraiser, "Party with a Purpose." Note however, that you can attend both events with no problem as the "Party" doesn't begin until 10:00 p.m. A rare chance in Albany to make a long night of it!)

Special Thanks from the editor - to Joyce Rose, who each month for the past several months has assumed the tedious, behind-the-scenes job of collating, stapling, preparing for bulk mailing and taking to the post office the CD-CAAR newsletter. Aided by **Martin Manley** and other volunteers, Joyce has taken on this task and has done a responsible, efficient and much appreciated job.



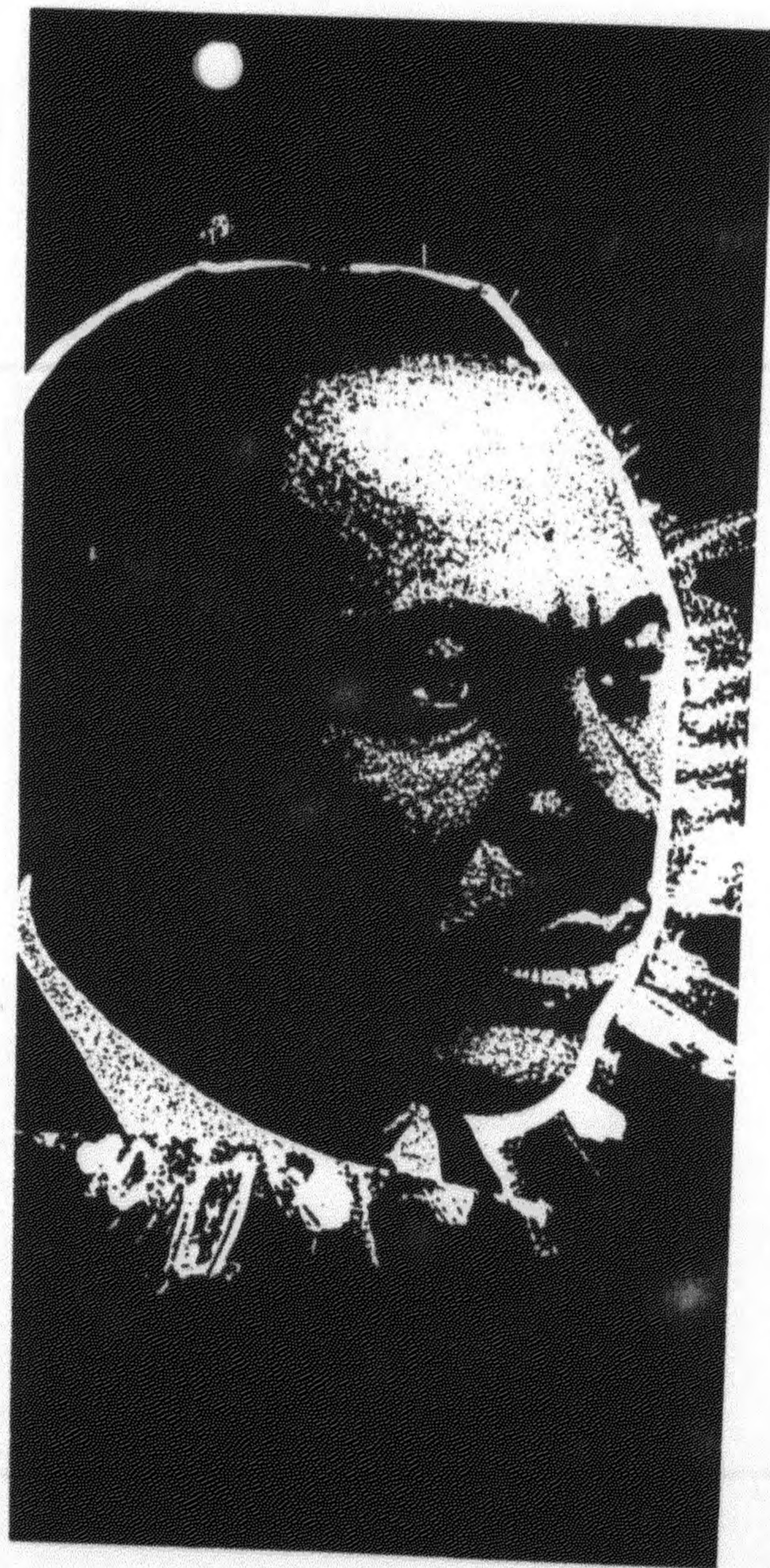
**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, NY 12203

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Party With A Purpose - Part II - is the theme of this year's holiday event being sponsored by the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

The party will take place on Friday, December 14, from 10:00 pm until?....., at the Mason Hall in Albany, 120 Madison Ave. D.J. Maria Perez will be spinning sounds of Reggae, Latin, Calypso and House Music. Tickets are just \$7.00. For more information call 374-8709 after 5:00 pm. Proceeds will go to the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.



IF MARTIN LUTHER KING WERE ALIVE TODAY, HE'D BE ORGANIZING

**for peace in the Middle East and
justice in our communities*

**against cuts in jobs, education,
housing, and health care*

**against hate crimes & police abuse*

JOIN US FOR A PEOPLE'S MARCH
AT THE NYS MARTIN LUTHER KING
CELEBRATION, MON. JAN. 21ST

9 a.m. St. Peter's Church, State & Lodge, Albany

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism; Feminist Action
Network; Emergency Committee to End U.S. Intervention in the Middle East



Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12202

A Project of the Social Justice Center

December 1990

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Struggle,

The past year has seen many changes in Southern Africa. Nelson Mandela has been released by the apartheid jailers after twenty seven years in South African prisons. His visit to the United States in June was an extraordinary and emotional event. But his visit is over and the struggle continues for a non-racial, democratic South Africa with one person one vote. Nelson Mandela is out of jail but his country is still under the control of the most racist system on earth. Four out of five citizens of South Africa still cannot vote, eighty seven percent of the land is still controlled by whites only and repression and violence fueled by the South African government continue as the daily reality.

Namibia gained its independence in 1990 but South Africa left the Namibian economy in shambles and still controls Walvis Bay, Namibia's only deep water port.

Hopes that the bitter war in Angola would end were dashed by UNITA's refusal to participate in the peace process. Continued U.S. funding of Jonas Savimbi's UNITA contras shows the hypocrisy of the Bush administration's Africa policy. The U.S. still refuses to recognize the legitimate government of Angola (the only country besides South Africa which has not granted Angola diplomatic recognition).

Mozambique is struggling to survive beyond the chaos and destruction wrought by South African supported Renamo contras.

At home, as the United States prepares to go to war in the Persian Gulf, much needed dollars are being diverted from domestic priorities. AIDS, homelessness, unemployment and drugs are problems of crisis proportions. Incidents of bias related violence are increasing. Racism is still a major part of the fabric of American life and is devastating whole communities.

If we hope to influence U.S. government policy on Southern Africa and if we hope to see a real movement for social change develop in this country, we must be prepared for a real fight against our government's policy of supporting apartheid in South Africa and racism in the U.S. As you know this very important battle means cash and commitment.

We deeply thank you for the support you have given to the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism(CD-CAAR). **1991 marks the 10th year anniversary of CD-CAAR.** We could never have continued for ten years without the commitment of so many of you. It has been your

generosity in time, money and other resources that has made it possible for CD-CAAR to continue the struggle.

CD-CAAR is a member of the Social Justice Center of Albany, the umbrella organization for many groups working on issues of justice and social change in the Albany area. CD-CAAR is also a co-convening member of the Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network, (a network of anti-apartheid organizations in a twelve state region); and a member of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression. We do solidarity work with the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa and worked with SWAPO of Namibia prior to independence.

As a recipient of the monthly newsletter of CD-CAAR, you are aware that we ask for a yearly membership fee of \$5.00. (Of course, any larger contributions are gratefully accepted.) This membership campaign is one of our most important fundraising efforts. Your dues will pay for your monthly newsletter - printing and postage. Additional funds will help us pay for other organizing expenses. Please mail your contribution in the enclosed envelope. Your 1991 membership card will be sent upon receipt of your dues.

Thank you for your continued support.

In solidarity,

Vera Michelson, Merton Simpson
Vera Michelson, Merton Simpson
Co-chairpersons

TEAR OFF AND MAIL (Please print clearly)
