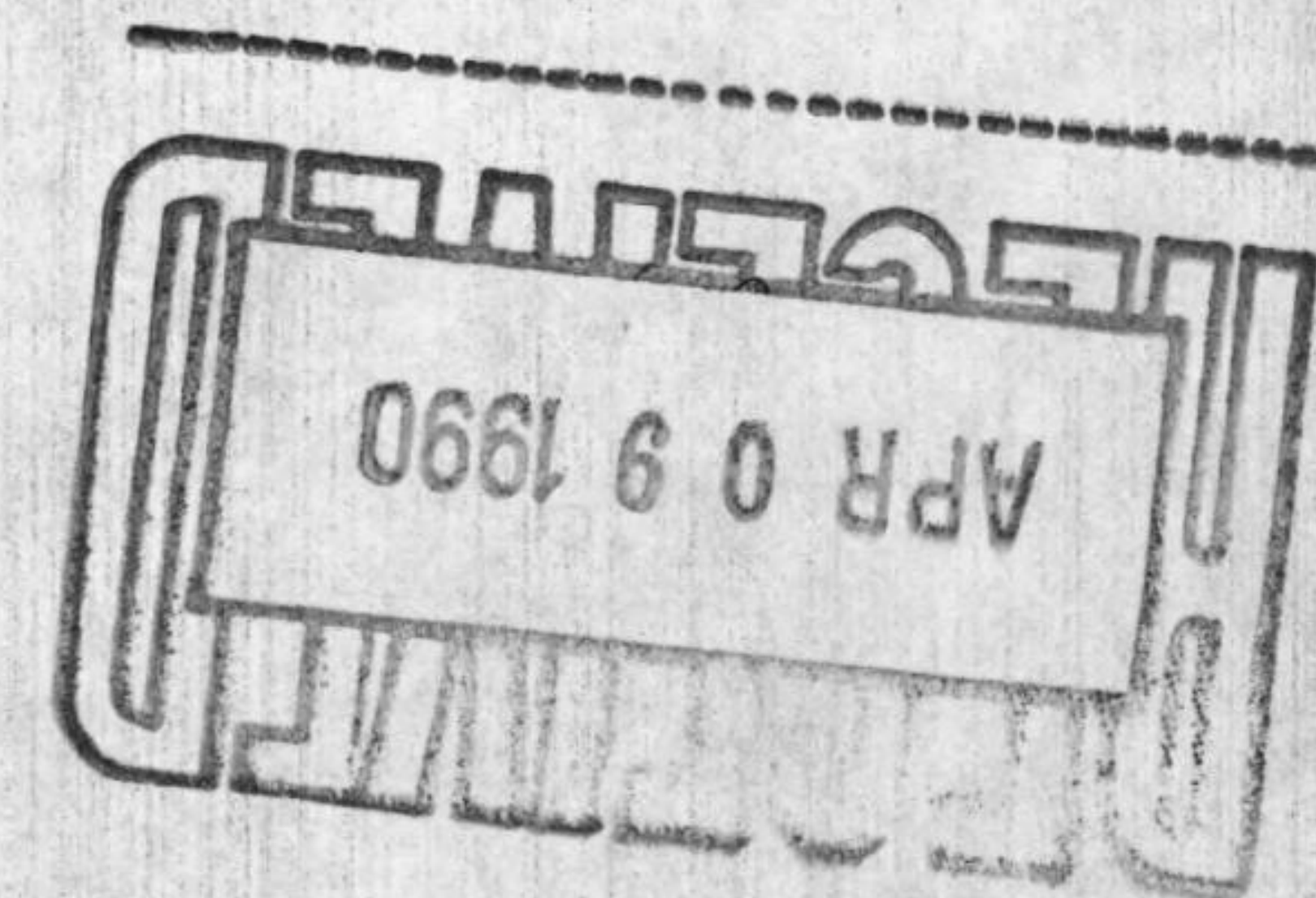


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Regional Youth Committee  
New York City  
7 April 1990

Chief Representative,  
African National Congress (SA)  
Observer Mission to the UN  
New York, NY. 10017



Dear Cde Tebogo Mafole,

**Re: Regional Youth Committee Report .**

Revolutionary greetings in this year of the People's Action for a Democratic South Africa.

It is with great pleasure that I find this opportunity to write this short letter. Since the last youth report, a lot has taken place both at home and outside here in the United States. The ANC youth in this region continues to engage itself in a variety of projects and activities in their concerted effort to give de Klerk, in this country, no '*diplomatic mhlaba*', nor breathing space.

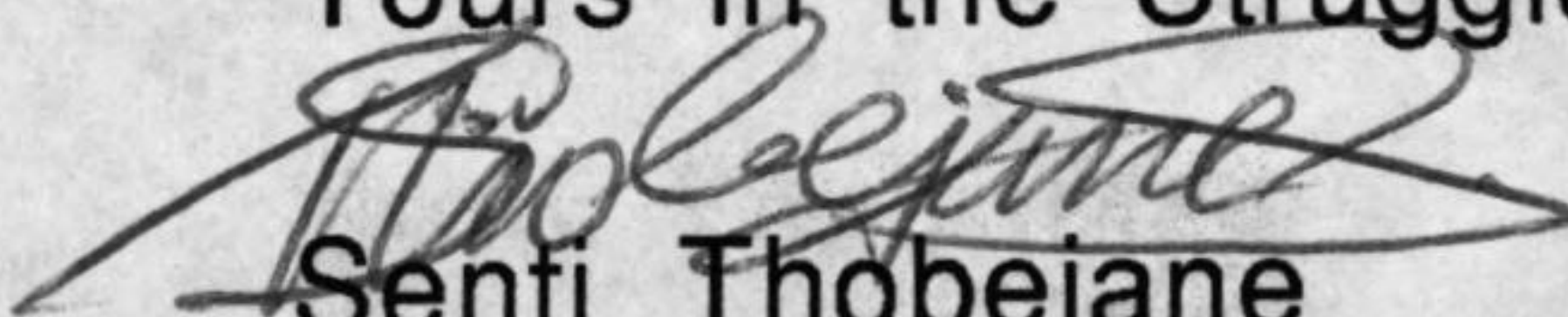
I write this letter, to report to you on the numerous activities that have been undertaken, and to inform you of the many other activities that are planned for the coming six months. I also attempt to give as objective as possible the various problems that we are facing, or might be facing in the nearest future, and do hope that this will provide you with enough material for you to be able to provide us with the highly needed guidance.

Please find enclosed, the report and the various documents that accompanies the report. I hope to be able to arrange a meeting with you to discuss some of the issues that are covered in the report, and also to get your input as pertaining to the up-coming South African student & youth conference and youth tour scheduled for August and October, respectively.

Wishing you the best of health and best of luck in your very tight schedule. Hoping to get in touch with you soon.

Thank you for your support, without which progress will be very minimal.

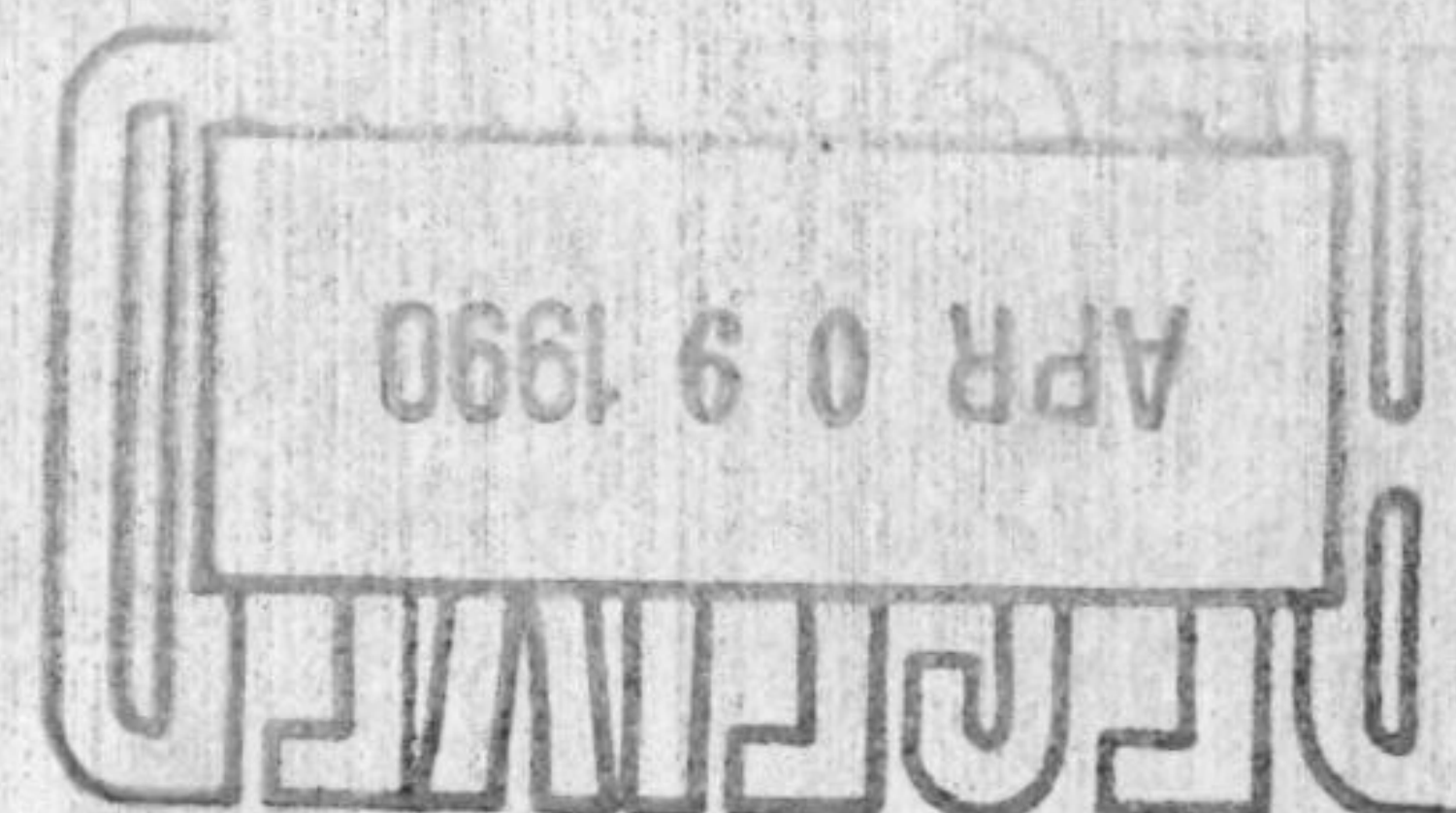
Yours in the Struggle,

  
Senti Thobejane  
Chairperson, RYC.



Regional Youth Committee  
New York City  
7 April 1990

*Copy*  
Chief Representative,  
African National Congress (SA)  
Washington, DC. 2001



Dear Cde Lindiwe Mabuza,

**Re: Regional Youth Committee Report .**

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I really hope that one of the major problems that we have been facing - i.e. the distance between the youth committee and your office - can soon be addressed and ways and means of bridging the gap could be sought. It will all be in the interest of the movement and our work in the region, especially at this crucial moment when dynamic structures and relationship between them are needed for the seizure of power.

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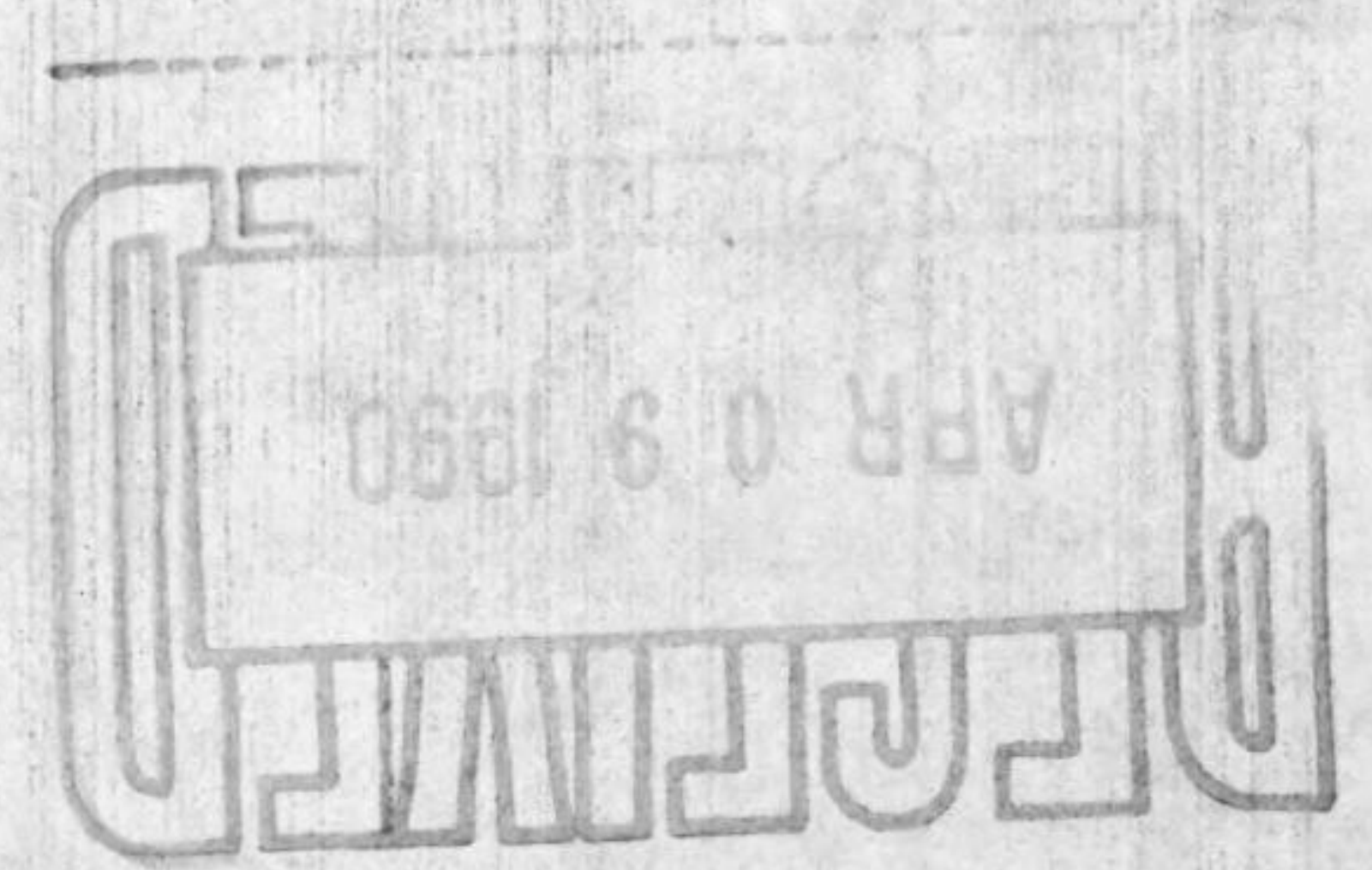
Yours in the Struggle,



Senti Thobejane  
Chairperson, RYC.



## Regional Youth Committee Report



### 1. Introduction:

This RYC report, covering the first three months of this calender year (i.e. Jan-Mar, 1990), will be a brief overview of the developments- progress and problems- of the region regarding youth activities.

### 2. Programme of Action.

The programme of action, as adopted during the regional youth conference last November, emphasized the following points:

- 1) To create more ANC youth unit wherever ANC youth and students are located.
- 2) To mobilize and organize the South African progressive students and youth in this country into local and regional structures, with the intention of forming a national youth and student body by the summer of 1990.
- 3) To raise funds for all the various structures of our movement and the MDM structures at home.
- 4) To organize pioneers into a structure and prepare them for the up coming pioneer camp in Africa.
- 5) To create dynamic links with the youth structures internally.
- 6) To continue to mobilize the international community to support our struggle at all levels.
- 7) To help in the efforts of the formation of the "Nelson Mandela International Reception Committees" everywhere possible in our communities.

### 3. Structures.

In terms of structures that we set out to establish, we have been able to encourage numerous areas, where our youth are situated, to form themselves into youth unit. The following areas established and consolidated their units:



**a) ANC youth**

Lansing (MI).  
 Kgathi Sathekge (Co-ordinator)  
 Tshepo Molayi  
 Baba Maboya  
 Vusi Shabalala  
 Nonkonzo Magubane  
 Andile Mrubata

Washington (DC)  
 Ann Ngutshana (Co-ord)  
 Khanya Makgabo (Sec)  
 Tiishang Makgabo  
 Tladi Ditshego

Other ANC youth units that are existence are:

LA (CA)  
 Sipho Cele  
 Mosala Mosegomi  
 Nkululeko  
 Hector Sekao  
 Mbuyiselo

Atlanta (GA)  
 Setlhare (Co-ordinator)  
 David Ndaba  
 Thabi Ndaba  
 Dumi Xabasha  
 Garnet Makhathini

New York City.  
 Lyndall Shope-Mafole (NYS/RYC)  
 Senti Thobejane (RYC)  
 Jeffrey Kume (RYC)  
 Wantu Zenzile (RYC)  
 Thandi Pase (RYC)  
 Jeanette Mothobi (RYC)  
 Victor Mashabela  
 Themba Ntinga  
 Desiree Pillay  
 Nozizwe Mvemve  
 Simpi Mothobi  
 Mwelil Mzizi  
 Mpule Mogodi  
 Lancaster Bottoman  
 Mojalefa Thinane  
 Letlhoye Thinane  
 Mudupi Tsotetsi  
 Zola Dube  
 Phumlane Mkhize  
 Keith Pase

**Unstructured Areas.**

CT. Prov..N. Haven Area  
 Tseke Morathi  
 Mojaki Thulo  
 Mashile  
 Kunu Matima  
 Keith Matima  
 Mabatho Matima

PA  
 Rajen Naidoo  
 Mongezi Zihle

MA  
 Mabaso  
 Dumisane

NM  
 Thandi Njobe

Iowa  
 Peter Mosea



Still to be located

Sibusiso Nkomo (MD)

Renosi (MD)

Tshepo Mokone (?? Bronx)

Thami Bolani (Ohio)

Bongi Maseko (Miami, Fl.)

Moore Zungu (MD)

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Still remaining to be done:

- 1) To establish an up-to-date register (mailing list) which will include name, location, occupation/program of studies, sponsor, year of completion, etc.
- 2) To organize and mobilize the remaining areas into structured units.
- 3) To provide regional youth with a political programme for discussion.
- 4) To create a much better mechanism of disseminating information and literature to all the comrades and supporters in the region.

**b) South African Students.**

SAISCO, which started in CA, has consolidated its structure, and over the past three months has expanded to other regions such as Albany and Chicago. Other areas formed similar structures (but not necessarily called SAISCO). These areas include Detroit (SASCO) and Austin (Steve Biko Committee), LeHigh Study Group (Bethlehem PA).

In other areas, comrades have remained active as individuals or groups that are still to be structures. Areas that need serious and immediate attention includes, Houston (TX), Philadelphia (PA), Washington(DC), New Haven region, and a great deal of the midwestern areas.



#### **4. Structural Problems and Failures.**

We have failed to reach out to a lot of our own comrades in the ANC, and the progressive youth in this country. Both the lack of funds and motivation is responsible for this failure. The developments at home, the unbanning of organizations and the release of our leaders, have been received well all over the country. We, unfortunately, have not been able to tap the enthusiasm and excitement that these developments have generated. We seriously need to find ways and means of organizing and directing this energy that our people possess at this particular moment.

#### **5. Political Report.**

Politically we have been able to continue with the mobilization of the American community. The extent to which our struggle and Mandela have been accepted by the people of the USA has been reflected in the nature and extent to which they received the unbanning of the ANC, and the release of Cde Nelson Mandela. The youth continues to mobilize our supporters into the "Nelson Mandela International Reception Committees".

A number of South Africans who do not necessarily belong to the ANC tradition have also taken keen to the developments at home and now show a forceful interest of joining the ANC and the youth section. One needs to note that SAYAA is at the moment considering disbanding as an organization and then joining the youth section.

While a lot of this shows the extent to which people have accepted the movement, in terms of political education, a lot still remain to be done. One needs to point out that while others are acting because of their political conviction, many others are taken by the euphoria and excitement that exist surrounding the release of Cde Mandela and the unbanning of the movement. We, therefore, need a strong vigorous political programme that will turn the excitement into positive political commitment.

We have not yet established the long overdue political programme for our own members in order to discuss, on a regular basis, the developments taking place at home.



## 6. Planned Projects.

### i) Youth Tour.

We are organizing a major youth tour of the USA. We hope to have six youth from MDM structures inside the country. The objective of the tour is to **raise funds**. "The Mandela-Sisulu Free South Africa Youth Tour" is scheduled to take place in October for about 3-4 weeks.

An extensive description of the tour is provided separately with this report.

### ii) Youth and Student Conference.

In meeting the objectives outline in our current 'Programme of Action', the RYC is calling a South African Student and Youth conference which is scheduled for August 1990 in East Lansing, MI. Preparation are underway, and we hope to get the first information package out by the end of April.

This conference seeks to establish a national structure that will replace all other structures and hopefully resolve the 'SAASM saga'. This broad movement will bring together SAISCO, SASCO and all other local unit together under one body whose politics will clearly be in consonant with those of the MDM and the congress tradition.

### iii) Fund-raising projects.

Other fund raising projects include the selling of T-Shirts and various insignia for the tour, Nelson Mandela and the struggle in general. We hope to flood the market with our own souvenirs and even tap into the 'T-shirt business' that is booming that we have been unable to monitor or benefit from. To this end, attempts to get manufacturers and designing companies into our side, are being made, and we foresee striking some agreements with them. The agreements may include signing contract with them to produce the goods with our designs, and then distributing to their stores for sales, with us sharing the profits thereof. Controlling or at least having a say with those making the T-shirts will enable us to control the output and thus we shall benefit from the market that at this moment we are far from entering.



#### iv) June 16th Commemorations.

Like last years, we want to make the observation of June 16th, South African Youth Day a major success with all areas organizing events and demonstrations. This year the emphasis is going to be on fund-raising for the ANC Youth League and other youth structures.

The major celebrations will be in DC, organized by the unit there. Preparations to have a fund-raising concert are underway.

#### v) Pioneer Projects

The Pioneer Projects is still in the making. We hope to be able to organize the pioneers in this region and prepare them for the camp to be held in Africa this December.

#### vi) Other Projects.

The RYC is looking into possible way of creating a "Youth Fighting Fund" into which ANC youth will be making monthly contributions of about \$10 (minimum for undergrad students) and 10% for grad and working youth from their stipends. We also intend to look into ways through which all other progressive students and South African community can contribute to some special fund. This may create a better sense of belonging, dedication, and commitment which most feel and seem to have less of.

The RYC has also been asked to send two delegates to Cuba as part of the Venceremos Brigade. Due to the fact that most of the New York youth members are at school or work we could only get one person, Cde Senti Thobejane, to go with the Brigade. While there, Cde Senti Thobejane will make contacts with the ANC youth there and exchange experiences with them.

### 7. Conclusion:

In conclusion, it is very important to note that while progress seems to be evident, there is quite a lot that needs to be done in mobilizing our own people, even the RYC itself. Being unable to have a complete RYC meeting since the initial meeting, indicates the amount of work that still remains to be done to improve a positive attitude that we still have to develop amongst ourselves. The release of Nelson Mandela and the unbanning of the movements had



slightly a negative effect on some of our people who we had thought would be charged into action.

Structural communication between NYS and RYC still leaves a great deal to be desired. Actually, it is practically unknown. Acknowledgement of our reports, and addressing the issues they raise is not done; let alone, the sending of information and reports from the NYS. This continues to be very disturbing and discouraging to the RYC and youth in general.

The lack of communication has recently resulted in Cde Tseke Morathi being called to Lusaka without the knowledge of or consultation with regional structures which he belongs. Should he be send home this will result in him dropping out of school at a stage when he is left with a few months to complete his junior degree. This is both a lack of responsibility and respect for the work that the region and its members have, and could have been avoided should Lusaka communicated through the regional structures.

Communication between the youth and the office of Chief Representative to the U.S is not pleasing at all. This lack of communication and sour relationship is deeply felt by the RYC and the Youth Unit members who are in the Capital District, who should, naturally, been closely attached to the office there. We hope that this can be addressed as soon as possible, so as to create suitable conditions for more work to be done.

Amidst all problems and lack of funds, we hope to draw inspiration from the developments at home, so as to redouble efforts and renew our dedication & commitment to our just struggle.

Our intentions are and will remain as,  
To Organize ! To Mobilize !  
To Give De Klerk NO Breathing Space ! and  
To Press Home the Attack!!!

Victory is within reach !  
Amandla! Maatla!

**Regional Youth Committee,**  
(U.S. Region.)  
30 March 1990