

Gmb (011/001/1

# African National Congress (South Africa) Student Union · FRG



[1980]

## REPORT ON ANC-YOUTH ACTIVITY IN THE FRG

### A. THE ANC-STUDENTS UNION

The ANC-SU was formed in June 1980 as an attempt to co-ordinate the youth activity in the FRG, so as to efficiently answer the revolutionary demands posed to us by the intensification of the struggle by our militant cadreship of the fighting masses at home.

An appreciable amount of work has been done by the Union, mainly on the fields of material aid, political and moral support and solidarity with our struggle. A bilateral initiative was made to strengthen working relationships with organisations like the Socialist German Workers' Youth (SDAJ), Anti-Imperialist Solidarity Committee (ASK), Young Socialists (Jusos), Marxist Students Federation (MSB Spartakus) and a few others.

Because of the still somewhat blurry line of demarcation between the union and the Bonn-Mission, most of the work done by Union members with the above-mentioned organisations, has not been in their capacity as Union members but more on assignment from Bonn. We have until now not tried very hard to change that; partly because of the massive manpower demand imposed on the Union members by the office (see also relationship with the office). The Union members are scattered and isolated in all parts of Germany, and as a result, we have been able to meet at the rate of only about once every three or four months, except for the last 12 months, where there has been an interruption for the worst. The Students Union has never functioned as it was intended and expected to. There are continuously only four to five active people, with the rest sitting on their bums. We hope to be able to remedy that, although the situation allows only soon for very cautious optimism..



### C. The Peace Movement

The Peace Movement started having a real break breakthrough in October 1981 when the BONN rally, with an estimated 300 000 people took place. The spectrum of involved people ranged from Church Organisations right up to the progressive political organisations, trade unions, students and the youth organisations.

There is a new quality that is beginning to find root in the Peace movement; that is the closer cooperation with the liberation movements. Because of the influence of the progressive circles of the peace movement, combined with our stand on the question of disarmament, people are slowly beginning to realise the role of the liberation organisations in the attainment and securing of World peace. We are, as a result, beginning to be increasingly invited to many discussions, concerts, festivals and rallies that center on the question of disarmament.

Examples taken from the whole spectrum in terms of size and political ripeness would be:

The Peace Festival in Darmstadt (May 1982) - This was for one city only, as the name suggests. It was organised as a combined effort of most youth organisations in Darmstadt. Among them were German Socialist Workers' Youth (SDAJ), MSB-Spartacus and some Church organisations. It was staged in a big pleasure garden in the centre of the town, with musical groups and information stands. There was a peace concert in the evening with an audience of about 1000. Although they had gone to the extent of inviting the liberation movements; they failed on the point of putting them in the programm.

Easter march for Peace (April 1982) - There were various regional easter marches involving altogether about 5000-10000 people. One of the main ones in Mönchengladbach was addressed by the ANC.

The Reagan-go-home rally (10. 06. 82) - The biggest success of the German Peace movement and the biggest rally ever held on the German soil was the 450 000 strong peace demonstration on the occasion of the visit of Ronald Reagan to the FRG for a NATO- Conference. The importance of the liberation movements was emphasized by their being given one of the Forums (there were all together about 4 forums). The ANC was invited and given time to address and educate a crowd of no less than 100 000.

8th Tübinger Festival for Peace (May 1982) - This was organised by a club called club Voltaire. It consists of progressive and perhaps not so progressive students in Tübingen, south Germany.