

THOZAMILE BOTHA TOUR

Thozamile Botha, leader of the strike at the Ford Motor Co. in Port Elizabeth from November 1979 to March 1980 and leader of the Port Elizabeth Civic Organization (PEBCO) successfully completed a three-week tour of Canada. Thozamile was in North America as a result of an invitation by the United Nations to address the UN Special Ceremony to mark International Solidarity with South African Political Prisoners held at the United Nations on October 10.

Vancouver: Thozamile met with the executive and later with members of the Vancouver and District Labour Council. Meetings were also held with the B.C. representative of OXFAM-Canada, with the Southern Africa Action Coalition and with the Fishermen's Union. A well attended public meeting was held at the Ironworkers Hall. The Public Meeting was chaired by a representative of the B.C. Federation of Labour.

Edmonton: Meeting with the Executive Committee of the Edmonton and District Labour Council. Live radio interview with CBC radio. A meeting with the Bishop of Edmonton, the Right Reverend E. Kent Clarke. A meeting with the members of the Free Southern Africa Committee and a public meeting on the campus of the University of Alberta.

Saskatoon: Luncheon meeting with officials of the Public Service Alliance of Canada. A noon-hour press conference. Meeting with the Saskatoon Solidarity Committee and a public meeting at the Saskatoon Public Library.

Regina: Press Conference. Meeting with Regina CCSA and a well attended public meeting.

Winnipeg: Thozamile was introduced to the convention of the Manitoba Federation of Labour. Meeting with the Anti-Apartheid Committee of Manitoba (AAM). Press conference. Addressed students during lunch hour at the University of Winnipeg. Interview with CBC TV. Public meeting at the University of Winnipeg. A meeting with the officials of the Manitoba Federation of Labour. Public meeting at the University of Manitoba. Addressed students and staff of the University of Manitoba, sponsored by the African Students' Association.

Ottawa: Meeting with the Dept. of External Affairs, Press Conference. Meeting with the executive members of the Canadian Labour Congress. Dinner with representatives of Trade Unions and with the Ottawa CCSA. Public meeting at the University of Ottawa. Meeting with non-governmental agencies: Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC), CUSO, Oxfam-Canada, World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and International Defence and Aid for Southern Africa (IDAFSA). Luncheon meeting with Federal caucus of the New Democratic Party (NDP). Radio interview with CBC.

Toronto: Addressed the Ontario Federation of Labour Convention. Press interview at the OFL Convention. Meeting with the Task Force on the Churches and Corporate Responsibility. Meeting with the Area Secretary for Africa of the Anglican Church of Canada, Rev. Murray McInnes, Associate Secretary for Africa of the United Church of Canada, the Rev. James Kirkwood

and Tad Mitsui of the Canadian Council of Churches. Meeting with officials of the United Auto Workers and a visit to the plant of the Ford Motor Company in Oakville. Public meeting at the University of Toronto, sponsored by the Students Administrative Council. Meeting with Canadians Concerned about Southern Africa (CCSA). Meeting with Toronto Committee for the Liberation of Southern Africa (TCLSA). Meeting with members of the ANC in Toronto. Public meeting in Kitchener at the University of Waterloo sponsored by the Global Community Centre.

Summary: An estimated \$2,000 was raised during the tour for the SACTU Emergency Fund for black workers inside South Africa. Thozamile was well received by everyone he met and was given assurances of sympathy and support for the just and legitimate struggle being waged by the people of South Africa.