

Cam/238/248/4

ANC CANADIAN MISSION - 1980 ANNUAL REPORT

SUPPORT GROUPS

1. A. Canadians Concerned about Southern Africa (National) - very close links with ANC. Takes direction from ANC.

To it are affiliated the following:

Toronto CCSA
Ottawa CCSA
Regina CCSA
Free Southern Africa Committee (Edmonton, Alberta)
Anti-Apartheid Movement of Manitoba
Quebec Committee against Racism

- B. Not affiliates to CCSA:

Toronto Committee for the Liberation of Southern Africa (TCLSAC)
Manitoba Anti-Apartheid Coalition (MAAC)
Southern Africa Action Coalition (SAAC)
(Chairman is a South African, Zayed Gamiet, former member of Unity Movement and opposed to ANC)

Note: Group A totally and fully support ANC and SWAPO without conditions or reservation and take directive from ANC.

Group B supports ANC on a "critical" and "non-exclusive" basis.

2. ANC Chief Rep. was invited to the General Meeting of CCSA (National) and its affiliates.
3. In September, the Chief Rep. did a two hour educational for TCLSAC members.

ANC CANADIAN MISSION - 1980 ANNUAL REPORT

ANTI-APARTHEID ACTIONS

1. The City of Toronto Planning Board at its meeting of February 25 adopted a resolution condemning Apartheid. A further resolution requested City Council to transfer its funds from Canadian banks which provide loans to South Africa.

2. No loans to South Africa

The Toronto-Dominion Bank announced that it would provide no new loans to South Africa. This was announced by its Chairman, Richard Thomson. (Globe and Mail, April 25, 1980).

3. Protest Against DeBeers

"The Story of Diamonds" was being presented in Edmonton, Alberta by DeBeers to promote the sale of diamonds in Canada. The Free Southern Africa Committee (FSAC) challenged this by organizing a "guerilla theatre" with a skit and leaflet distribution to emphasize life under apartheid. The protest received much publicity in the press. (See article in this report under Media).

4. Manitoba

On May 22, the Anti-Apartheid Movement of Manitoba held a demonstration outside the Manitoba Legislative Building calling for the removal of South African liquor from all government liquor stores. A petition signed by individuals and a number of organizations in Manitoba were presented to the Manitoba Government.

The ANC Unit in Winnipeg was actively involved in organizing the campaign and protest.

5. The Southern Africa Action Coalition in British Columbia succeeded in obtaining the endorsement of a number of trade unions and churches in their province-wide campaign against the B.C. Government for the removal of South African wines and liquor from government controlled outlets.

ANC CANADIAN MISSION - ANNUAL REPORT 1980

EMBASSIES

July 1980

The Commonwealth Embassies hold once a month luncheon meetings in Ottawa. At the suggestion of the Lesotho High Commissioner, Joe Mollo, (now Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance), the African High Commissions decided to invite the ANC to speak. They provided transport and accommodation costs. This was the first time that a guest speaker had been invited.

The Chief Rep. addressed the luncheon. He spoke about the wave of unrest amongst the students, workers and the people as a whole. The response was good but required follow-up.

Since then, the Chief Rep. has made regular visits to African and Socialist countries' embassies. A number of these embassies, also NGO's and trade unions based in Ottawa strongly recommend that the main ANC office in Canada be moved to Ottawa, it being the capital.

Another means of maintaining contact with the embassies is the distribution of SECHABA and the ANC News Report published by our mission. These are sent to the embassies regularly without charge, so is our annual calendar.

ANC CANADIAN MISSION - 1980 ANNUAL REPORT

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL PARTIES

1. In March 1980 the Chief Rep. met with officials of the Dept. of External Affairs to discuss:
 - a) Moratorium placed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) on matching grants for ANC projects. (Was told that the issue would be reviewed).
 - b) Possibility of meeting between an ANC delegation led by Comrade President Tambo and the Prime Minister. (Was told government may consider and requested possible dates).
 - c) Relations between ANC and Canadian Government. (Canada does not officially recognize the ANC but is willing to have consultations with the ANC from time to time).
2. In May, 1980 the Chief Rep. and Comrade Florence Mophosho met with several officials from the Department of External Affairs as well as representatives from CIDA. Comrade Florence was given a warm welcome. She spoke about the current unrest in the country amongst students and workers; the role of the ANC in the struggle; the need for assistance to ANC projects. She emphasized the needs for the creche in Tanzania and appealed to CIDA to rescind its decision of rejecting matching funds for the creche raised by the Congress of Canadian Women. Robert McAllister, head of the Africa Desk, assured Comrade Florence that they would re-examine and reconsider the project. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by External Affairs to Comrade Florence for meeting with them.
3. Pauline Jewitt, Chief Critic on Foreign Affairs for the New Democratic Party (Social Democrat) had a meeting with Comrade Florence and the Chief Rep. Arising out of discussions held at this meeting, Pauline Jewitt agreed to regularly raise South African issues in the House of Commons, and to do whatever else she could to assist the South African struggle.
4. The Canadian Minister for External Affairs, Mark MacGuigan, in an address to the United Nations General Assembly strongly denounced apartheid and called the so-called changes a "bluff". (See enclosed copy of his speech).