

African National Congress
(South Africa)

BOX 147
ST. VITAL
WINNIPEG
MANITOBA

Aug. 20/80

The Chief Rep.
ANC
Canada Mission
Toronto.

Dear Comrade:

Greetings:

Topic..... SACTU funds

Steve explained the situation to the unit. We have no objections to accept the proposal made by you...namely that the \$300.00 sent by our unit be earmarked for the Fighting Fund instead of going to the Solidarity Committee for office use. We hope that comrades E.D & G.P. are in full agreement with this arrangement.

Topic..... Finances:

1. Enclosed find personal money order in the amount of \$80.00 from Steve; same being in full payment for loan by Steve for busfare from Toronto to W'peg.
2. Your Invoice #066 dated June 4 /80 for ten T shirts taken by Steve. This was paid for in cash by Steve, as marked on your invoice. This was paid by our unit again, in error...see your invoice #261 dated July 18 /80. See also my letter to you dated July 16 /80
To correct this double payment please convert the \$50.00 to office fund.
3. There is still much concern in the Unit here as regards ANC finances and financial arrangements in general. There seems to be no reciprocity as suggested by the Wpg member to the RPC. Two examples.

18 (AAM) T-Shirts ordered by Don M (Year of the Child 1979) @ \$5.00 each. Not paid for, but written off by AAM as a 'donation' to get the books straight.

700 James Mange buttons 'donated' to Toronto Office
We are not objecting to these issues, but we would like to have a very clear understanding of the flow of ANC goods & finances. If we are to pay for all items sent to our unit then this must be clearly understood by our members here.

If we are to expect no payment for any goods sent from W'peg to the Canada Mission then our members need to know this as well. Please raise this issue at a RPC meeting so that a ruling can be made. It wouldn't matter one way or another to us because in the long run it is all ANC monies.



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Topic:

Fund-Raising: Circular Letter from CR.

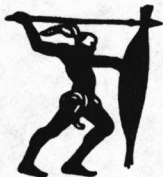
We are all in full agreement that the task of fund-raising is of paramount importance in our work. When we mooted the idea of you sending a circular letter to all South Africans we were quite prepared to follow this up. However a rather embarrassing situation has arisen here in Winnipeg. People, who have been some of most staunch supporters in all ways including the making of small monthly pledges via AAM, were concerned at receiving your circular letter addressed on a very personal level. I refer here particularly to your letter addressed to comrade Doreen P. The Unit feels that you should have consulted with us first before this letter was sent. Kindly note that the affiliates of AAM, ALL the progressive organizations in Winnipeg, pay their annual dues, help in the collection of material aid, are all busy with 'Buy-A-Brick. Just for the sake of protocol and to keep lines of communications as clear as possible we feel, you as our CR should communicate with the unit here before contacting local groups.

Topic: South Africa Women's Day: Aug. 9

The film 'Isitwalandwe' was well received by a small audience. Plans are underway, suggested by rep. from AUUC (Women's Branch) that after a good planning session the film be brought back to Winnipeg in mid-November, shown to a wide audience, with a view to raise funds for the creche at Mazimbu. Messages of solidarity were received from AAM/Peace Council/GCW/AUUC and C.P. Mary September delivered an address on the plight of women in SA.

Topic: Recruitment of ANC personnel:

The issue of Dennis and Hazel leaving was raised at the meeting. Members were aware of this possibility since mid-1978, but the consensus was the work would carry on. Methods are presently being implemented to increase the strength of AAM as the main support group.



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Topic:

ANC Conferences

There seems to be very little planning in the way in which conferences are conducted. The fault must lie somewhere and we as ANC must be critical of our end of matters. We in W'peg have had two previous experiences in which our personnel were involved. We recall the trip to Moscow in which Neville R never did reach his destination. This led to a general souring on the part of that comrade, and may in part be due to his departure from our ranks. We recall Hazel's trip to Sweden. Frantic phone calls were made to all possible people and sources until tickets were finally tracked down at some hardly known travel agency.

This past ANC Summer school must certainly have left some comrades very disappointed. We must remember we are dealing with people, people who have feelings. It is certainly not good strategy to build up the hopes of our young people by telling them that they will travel abroad as ANC representatives. When these hopes are dashed to the ground, first by cutting the delegation in half and then having one young person not going at all at the very last minute is certainly not good for morale.

I personally am aware that you are placed in a very awkward situation and that you do everything within your power to get things going from this side. But, I do not think that the fault lies in Canada. We must, in our own interest track down the weak areas and try to eliminate the weaknesses. We must not have people become disenchanted, not at this critical stage of our work.

From hindsight the fault seems to lie with the planning that takes place with the host country and with the section of ANC (in this case the Youth Secretariate) responsible for the initial planning.

For conferences where many of our personnel are involved, and who are widely dispersed in many countries it appears to be a good idea to have an ANC cadre present in the host country and well in on the planning right from the start. At least in this manner correct lines of communication can be established with the host country, the various airlines and with ANC representatives in foreign countries.

We hope that you will convey our ideas to ANC HQ when next you have the opportunity to do so.



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Topic: Travel Costs

Because of the lack of travel arrangements made for ANC delegates to the ANC summer school in Budapest, it transpired that the delegate from our unit had to make his own arrangements and pay for his airfare.

We are informed by Steve that he communicated this matter to the Youth Secretariate and that the issue will be pursued, with the eventual possibility that the money (approx \$1200:00) may be paid to ANC.

As we see it, this may never happen, therefore our unit has taken the following decision:

We have excellent credibility with our travel agency (Globe Tours) therefore on an advance (loan) of \$1200:00 from the treasurer the total amount will be paid immediately.

One stipulation was that the sum be paid in full to the treasurer before any 'donations' are made to the Canada Mission (except, of course for monies collected under the 'Buy-A-Brick' Campaign).

We hope that you are in agreement with this decision.

While we are on the subject of 'travel costs' perhaps it is worth our while to consider once again a suggestion made by the Winnipeg member of the RPC at a previous RPC meeting, namely:

- (a) that we establish a travel fund.
- (b) that each unit pay an equal amount into this fund.

This suggestion, if agreed to, will not solve our travel costs arrangements, but will certainly help to ease matters somewhat.

Topic: Membership:

At the unit meeting of Aug 19 '80 Basil Freeman was proposed for membership into ANC. We have previously sent you info on this person. Basil has worked actively in AAM since his arrival in Winnipeg and we have got to know him well. We look forward to approval of this member into our ranks.

Committed to Struggle

Dennis

Dennis September
for W'peg Unit.