

Since the arrival of Sechaba in 1967 as the official organ of the organisation, one has witnessed the improvements that have been taking place, both in the contents and in the style of the magazine. Unfortunately still to many of the articles appear to sound like appeals to the committed and many especially the earlier issues did not make interesting reading. However over the months and as experience in the international field has increased one noticed the improvements. It serves as a valuable source of information to many of us that address meetings. Recently there has been a tendency to do some feature articles such as "Foreign Investments in S.A." and these have not only been very informative but it has made Sechaba more interesting. One hopes that the Editorial Board will continue in this way. I feel that Sechaba will have to start doing some analytical articles, we could for instance, do a thorough article on the Fraud of the Bantustans, here I do not mean a simple quoting of facts and a few comments, but a very researched piece of work.

We should also think of doing a similar article on Education, Group Areas, Sports, the armed struggle.

UB will also have to consider having articles - very analytical ones on the various other issues eg Vietnam, Greece, Black Power etc. This however has the danger of antagonising some people & affect our solidarity work. As for the names mentioned I doubt that any complications will arise, however in the March issue we had two articles on Zionism, it exposed the dangers and effects of Zionism, ~~and~~ however one wonders whether it was politically correct, i.e., when one looks at it merely in terms of international Solidarity work.

DISTRIBUTION.

It is regrettable that our production of such a valuable magazine for such a small price has not had a wider circulation. What one will have to analyse the way in which Sechaba subscriptions has increased and if so in what fields. One will have to consider whether our methods of gaining more subscribers has been the correct ones. It is regrettable that our circulation amongst the YCL's is so low, we must take the initiative and ensure that this is increased. It might involve one of our people having a discussion with the YCL after which it might even be necessary for us to go out on circulation drives. This applies to the other groups as well. I don't think that it is adequate for one individual to be given the mandate to do this., it will have to be a centrally directed thing with reports-frequently. I feel that none of the organisations involved are taking as much as they should. We should stress that we are not asking for favours, but that our magazine is a bargain for a shilling and if initiative is taken there should be no problem in selling some. South Africa is the bastion of Imperialism in Southern Africa, she is committed in one form or other. Our Magazine is not only the mouthpiece of the liberatory movement in Southern Africa, but has and will always continue given full and adequate coverage to the other organisations-Frelimo, MPLA, Zapu, Swapo and Paig-

This aspect must be stressed.

2. Have we contacted the various progressive bookshops in this country to stock Sechaba. If not we must immediately undertake to do this. Firstly a list of all possible bookshops should be obtained and then these must be approached, personally where possible. Have we contacted the various immigrant S.A.'s organisations as well as the various Black Power elements. U.K.

The amount of S.A.'s receiving Sechaba in this country is minimal, we should immediately undertake to see that a copy, with a covering note if possible, is sent to as many S.A.'s as we can unearth. These need not necessarily be political. This of course means that we will have to have some sort of list of S.A.'s, if such a list does not exist then it is essential that one is compiled at the earliest convenience. This will be of use for other things as well. Discuss this with others they might have more suggestions.

ZAMBIA.

From discussions held with certain people, one gets the impression that there are many professional people etc. (S.A.'s) living and working in Zambia. Apparently these people are yearning for some information on the struggle etc. and we should consider finding some means of getting the Sechaba to them. As there is the question of fear etc. we should try and send it to the people individually, our Zambian offices might be of assistance here. One wonders why Mayibuye and Spotlight had not been distributed.

CANADA.

Many South Africans, especially the professional ones and the business ones have now settled in Canada. We are fortunate that there are people who we know were involved in the struggle at home and who have always been congressites. These people should be contacted to form some sort of organisation etc. which will be able to propagate our struggle and to distribute our literature. Many of these people do not intend returning home in the near future so they could be helpful. However even here our people should be advised to take the strictest security precautions. I am confident that a letter from the organisation, initially to establish contact will be most welcome. In fact later it might even be possible to get them or some Canadian or American organisation to sponsor a speaking tour for one of our members. Hamid Buns a very business book stall and should be approached to sell Sechaba. Our people are involved in universities and schools and will therefore be able to play an important role in International Solidarity work.

INDIA & PAKISTAN & CAIRO.

There are hundreds of students in both these areas from S.A. The Indian office should be advised to make strenuous attempts to contact them. Recently we heard of the fact that at least 5 students-S.A.'s- were found to be spies. The fact that the govt. is so active there is important. We should devise some means of gaining the confidence of the youth AND ensuring their participation in the right organisation. There are reports that the PAC tend to be active in this area. The actual degree of their support has not yet been determined. Why have these people not received "Sechabas", I am willing to concede that many of them are scared and that they are unwilling to come into the open, this is not required, we could mail the Sechabas individually.

CONCLUSION.

Not only is Over magazine a good one and worth every penny, but it is the mouthpiece of the Liberatory movement. It is an important channel of our solidarity work and all efforts must be made to increase its circulation. WE SHOULD NOT WAIT FOR OTHERS, BUT ON ALL OCCASSIONS SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO GET IT TO MORE PEOPLE. In some areas we depend on one or two known, well ^{people} or not well, to handle the

handle the distribution of S^uchaba in the particular area. This is of course the most economical means, however one should consider whether this person is in contact with all the groups etc. His interests and contacts might be limited. We should therefore always try and build more contacts and outlets. It is regrettable that our people in the Scandinavian countries do not receive the magazine, and more important is the fact that we have not tried to get them to help selling the magazine.

In all areas what becomes clear is the necessity for some sort of structure informal if need be, it could even work under the banner of A.A., These people do not have to be involved in high powered policy decisions etc and their prime function would be to do international solidarity work.

In Britain, since the opening of the ANC office its image has been projected and today it has become a known factor in many circles. However even here where we must admit we are the most active, there are thousands of interested people that are ignorant of the ANC. It is true that the meetings on the ANC platform has increased, but there is still scope for tremendous improvement and we should ensure that many more meetings are organised by us. There are ~~hundreds~~ ^{many} of activists who for various reasons have fallen by the way side, addressing of meetings is one important way of involving them. Once our image is projected we are than of course able to sell more of our magazines

These people could also be contacted on a personal basis and encouraged to sell or atleast publicise the magazine in their areas and amongst their friends.

I have referred to the fact that none of the organisations, i.e., ranging from the C.P., the YCL, the Y.L., the I.S. etc, take as much as Sechabas as they possibly can. Here one must critically analyse our past methods of getting the magazine to the sections. It appears that in most cases we tend to work through a single ind. or for instance the London-Branch- Com. of the Ycl., one must realise that the L.C. are involved in various other issues campaigns etc., and moreover they too might be having certain organisational problems, it is therefore our task and duty to find means of getting to the various branches individually. Here I envisage some discussion with important and well informed YCL and party personal who could inform us of the more active branches and give us more direct contact - acts. This of course refers to the other orgs. as well. It has been my experience that there are many Party and YCL members who have never heard of Sechaba. I feel that if we leave the distribution of our magazine only to the Central Committees of the various orgs. we will not be able to reach many "interested" people.

The office must establish some machinery, not only in name, but to keep a tag on all the major political meetings and demos that are taking place, this will enable us to instruct some of our personnel to sell Sechaba on these occasions. It is regrettable that on Sunday the 4th of May, when there were atleast 3 major demos. (May day march, Greek demo. and Spanish demo) not a single Sechaba was on sale. This has occurred on many occasions. Even if we sell only a few issues on these occasions it is significant in that all the time we are publicising the magazine and thereby our organisation. More important on these occasions it helps identify us with the various other courses- causes.

We should make efforts to contact other organisations, especially those that have not been contacted previously, here I am referring to various overseas student orgs. etc., for e.g. there are many Pakistani student orgs., have we contact with one if any.

We should compare the AA lists of members with our subscribers and if we find discrepancies, i.e. if we find that a lot of AA subscribers, do not subscribe with us, we should consider means of getting this list and contacting these people by sending them a complimentary copy with a note.

To publicise the magazine we should consider making some posters, ~~mererever~~ as well as other forms of advertisement, this could take the form of simple notices in various magazines, or more important still we could contact various progressive and sympathetic organisations and get them to run some sort of article on the magazine as such.

What is clear is that if ever we want the circulation of the ~~mag~~ magazine to increase and if we want others to become interested in it, the initiative will always have to be taken by the office. I don't think that it is correct to say that if one is committed to ^{the} struggle, one will see to it that certain things are done, and one will go out of one's way to do certain things, while it is true that some people do this, on the whole we will not achieve much if we wait for such initiatives. Initiatives by individuals should merely supplement what the office is doing. There is no doubt that the office will have to play the leading role.