

CAM/CG3/0010/5

ANNUAL REPORT FROM MAPUTO REGION -1982.

STRUCTURE:

Committee comprises of eight(8) members:

1. Maud Manyosi - chairperson
2. Florence Maleka - deputy chairperson
3. Jessica Monare - secretary
4. Rachel Celile - Deputy secretary
5. Beauty Ngubane - Treasurer .

Other committee members:

6. Jane Ngubane - commissar
7. Joyce Sheba - deputy commissar
8. Peggy Khuswayo

In our first meeting the Committee recommended that comrades Jane and Joyce be our Political Commissars for the Unit. The Committee decided this in relation to the uplifting of the political standard of women in our region and a political programme was drawn up.

It was also decided that we should try and make contact with the socialist womens organisations and other progressive organisations. On the question of OMM - since we were always having contact from the time when our last committee signed an accord with them - it was a question of strengthening relations with OMM.

In due course two comrades -Jessica and Joyce - left the country for other missions and comrade Rachel, who was deputy secretary, took over the secretariat position and comrade Pricillar, who was coopted to the Committee, was elected our deputy commissar.

We have also formed other committees like:

Preparatory Committee: which comprises of comrades Jessica, Fatima, Edna and Cynthia. This committee was very active during the celebration of Aug.9. It organised venues and was in contact with OMM.

Catering Committee: Comrades Beauty, Busie, Doris, Grace Hamba organised women for cooking and also helped in the sewing and attended to our needs for that week.

Sewing Group: Comrades Isabella, Fatima's mother Helen, Peggy, Mary, Betty, Grace Rose, Busie, Cynthia, Sarah and Lucy.

All the other women were doing crocheting, knitting or sewing during their spare time.

The whole Women's Section comprises of 59 women.

Relations with Other Organisations.

OMM. - Relations with the host women's organisation is strengthened day by day. What is contributing is that we work hand in hand especially when it comes to commemorations of our days and theirs.

We have had political discussions with OMM once at the Party Building where comrade Jessica was the main speaker, the topic being June 16 Uprisings.

The second was also at the same place with the host comrades, where we discussed in general about about our women's struggle in the liberation of our country and they were briefed about Aug 9. They in turn told us about their women in the liberation of Mozambique. The third, was during the week of Solidarity with South African Women during Aug 9 celebrations. We went to Bakanoyo - a little village out of town - where comrade Rachel was the main speaker and comrade Isabella interpreted in Portuguese.

Apart from the political meetings with our hosts, they have found a place for our children in a kindergarden and the expenses are paid by the government. Also they have promised to look for a place for our Sewing Project - which is not functioning at the moment - but was operating at Jardin during Aug 9 and after.

They also donated funds for our organisation through the Women's Section.

During the celebration of Aug 9 workers of Namahasha donated 22 000 MT and gave clothing and indoor games for pioneers.

Meeting places during the week of Solidarity with SA Women were organised by OMM together with our comrades.

Christian Council: With the help of our office we were able to communicate with the Christian Council and also they have participated in all our activities during Aug 9. They donated 21 000 MT to our organisation through the Women's Section.

Socialist Women: The socialist block in our region is very active with regard to our organisational commemorations of our days. This is proved that they will remain our friends until victory is won!

Soviet Women: They participated in all the activities during Aug 9. They have donated gifts to our children at the creche when we visited our kids after the visiting of our fallen heroes in Matola at the cemetery. They have also increased copies of magazines in response to our request after we contacted them. They send us these copies every month. At the graveside they presented a message and said that they will support us in crushing Apartheid.

Bulgarian Women: During Aug 9 they spoke on behalf of their unit and of the Bulgarian people. In the first week of Jan, 1983 they donated the sum of \$ 13 700 (US) to our organisation through the Women's Section and they will also soon be sending transport. They have asked to meet us and discuss projects with them and about the possibilities of political discussions.

Vietnamese Women: They also participated in Aug 9 celebrations. Immediately after they had sent us a report of the Central Committee of the 5th Congress of the Vietnamese Women's Union and a letter of congratulations and some magazines to our unit. The report was forwarded to the Women's Secretariat and we are still keeping contact with them.

Chilean Women: We have met them and our secretary has discussed with them about political discussions and in due course we will be meeting with them. They also send us magazines.

Hungarian Women: They participated in all our activities during Aug 9. Our committee has met with them and had political discussions with them at the Hungarian Embassy in Maputo.

Comrades, we keep contact with all the socialist women's organisations in our region, not forgetting the Cuban women who were also present during Aug 9. We have written to all of them in regard to discussing with them and gaining experience they have in relation to our struggle, to learn and also to tell them about our struggle.

Activities.

Since our committee took office our first activities have been political discussions with OMM and the Hungarian Women's Committee. Preparations for AUGUST 9 was organised with the host comrades together with our comrades. And our unit, setting up a Sewing Project - under the difficult conditions they were working in - was able to produce goods and that helped us raise funds during Aug 9 celebrations amounting to 111 979 000 MT.

August 9 Week of Solidarity with South African Women.

- Aug 1 - Heroes Square and Jornada
- Aug 2 - Political Meeting
- Aug 3 - Photo Exhibition
- Aug 4 - Film Show
- Aug 5 - Display of goods
- Aug 6 - Selling of goods
- Aug 7 - Selling of goods and food
- Aug 8 - Rally which was cancelled for opening a cooperative)
- Aug 9 - Visiting of graves and creche.

(Attached to the report are detailed accounts of the activities).

Culture.

On commenting on our cultural activities, we also participate together with the Youth. Members of our unit, who are also members of the Youth are actively participating in both cultural activities.

Commissar's Role.

In our general meeting, before we start with our agenda, we have political discussions. The topics discussed already are August 9 (led by comrade Florence Maleka); the Land Deal, Bantustans, Resettlement and Analysis on News. Our political commissars often lead discussions.

Sewing Group. As mentioned above the sewing group is now preparing for March 8 - International Women's Day. Already some of our ^{committee} members have been delegated to go to Malume and ask for funds to buy material for sewing and knitting in preparation for March 8. At the moment the Sewing Group is helping in the logistics dept. but as soon as material arrives they will continue with the sewing.

Driving.

In November our TG - Comrade TT Nkobi - sent a new bus to our region for transporting the Pioneers. We have thanked the TG but are not stopping you to thank the TG for us. Again on this item we have chosen comrade Isabella to drive the Pioneers to and from school and also the kids who are attending the kindergarden. We have also asked the treasury department in our region to provide a car for some of our women to be taught driving. It has agreed and we are waiting for the car to be fixed to begin our lessons.

The RPC.

The RPC in our region is represented by each department. Jane Ngubane was elected by us to represent the Women's Section and in her absence comrade Rachel Celile must attend. The RPC has undertaken to buy water-colour paints for our Pioneers so they can continue painting and drawing.

Pioneers.

We apologise that we cannot send the report from the GDR for the Pioneers and that we only found out now that comrade Agnes did not have a copy - so please refer to your report.

Pioneer activities include i) culture; ii) dancing; iii) political discussion; iv) analysis of news; v) english classes (taught by comrade Fikile - a teacher at the International school).

Comrades Doris, Irene, Fatima and Cynthia are all Pioneer organisers. Pioneers attend on Wednesdays (during holiday time) and Sundays.

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APPENDIX ONE.

Day by Day Activity Report on Week of Solidarity with South African Women.

Aug 1. Comrade Maud Manyosi led the contingent of ANC Women, clad in their uniforms, who together with comrade Salome Moane, General Secretary of OMM at the head of an OMM delegation, laid a wreath at Heroe's Square - the resting place of all heroes and heroines of the Mozambican People who fell during the struggle for liberation. This was an honour for our women, for it was the first time in the history of our women's unit in Mozambique that we have been able to lay a joint wreath with OMM at Heroe's Square. Thereafter we proceeded to an OMM shamba called 7th April, where we did voluntary work. Side by side with Mozambican women and OMM officials we worked, we worked, we sang and danced and further cemented our unity. Short speeches were made by comrade Maud and the provincial secretary of OMM, comrade Christina Tembe, explaining the history of Aug 9 and the need for all Mozambican women to participate in the struggle against apartheid and racist domination in SA. We left the 7th April shamba physically tired and worn out but spiritually and psychologically revived and reactivated.

Aug 2. After five working hours all committee members and other members of our women's unit left with OMM officials to address women of the suburbs outside Maputo. The meeting was addressed by comrade Rachel Celile and comrade Christina Tembe. As is customary in Mozambique the meeting ended with dancing and singing. Many of us had great difficulty in holding back our tears. This meeting was a great success.

Aug 3. We held a photograph and poster exhibition depicting the plight of our people - especially women and children - in apartheid SA. This exhibition was also well attended by OMM and other officials.

Aug 4. We organised a slide and film show which was well attended including by our friends from Vietnam and Hungary. Although we had planned that OMM also show a film on the position of women in Mozambique, time did not permit us to do so. We too were unable to show all the films we had intended to and had to agree to a date in the near future for another film evening.

Aug 5. On this day we had an exhibition of clothes and items sewn, knitted and crocheted by our women. To advertise some of the items, like traditional dresses and costumes, our women who had Xhosa, Pedi, Sotho etc traditional dresses, were asked to dress up for the evening. As can be imagined our stalls were very colourful and attracted a large audience who started booking items even before the day of selling itself. On this day too, we were honoured to have the wives of all ambassadors of socialist countries in Mozambique visiting our stall.

Aug. 6. was a day of selling. Most of our traditional dresses, baby clothes, table clothes and sets were bought.

Aug 7. We continued selling our goods adding South African dishes, which were completely irresistible. In the evening we had a cultural show presenting some items together with Mozambican women.

Aug 8. On this day we had planned a massive political rally but had to call it off because our sisters in OMM felt that the numerous political meetings we already had were enough. Instead of the rally they proposed we participate in the opening of a cooperative in Matola, however due to a misunderstanding about the venue and time we failed to find the place and did not feature in the opening.

Aug. 9 This was the culmination of the week's activities. The ceremony at the cemetery turned into a political meeting. Present at the gathering was Maj Gen Hama Thai, members of the central committee of Frelimo and Governor of the Province of Maputo (recently elected Governor of Inhlabane, in one of the Provinces out of Maputo). Comrade Salone Moane, Sec Gen of Omm, all provincial secretaries of OMM, wives of all ambassadors of the socialist countries in Moz and other diplomats were present. The meeting was opened and chaired by comrade Robert Vonco (Malone) member of the NEC of the ANC and regional treasurer. Wreaths were then laid on the graves of our martyrs who were brutally massacred by agents of apartheid in Matola. Comrade Jessica Monare delivered a message on behalf of the Women's Section a representative from the Soviet Embassy on behalf of all socialist countries and comrade Hama Thai on behalf of OMM and Frelimo.

Thereafter (except for comrades Thai and Salone) we all proceeded to the creche where our children attend. Here we were taken on a brief tour of the school during which some mothers managed to catch a glimpse of their young ones at play. Comrade Maud then presented the director of the school with some toys as our contribution and an expression of our gratitude and appreciation of the work done by staff and OMM. At the same time presents were given by our socialist friends to the school to lend a ray of sunshine in the lives of our offspring. We all left the school satisfied and convinced that our children are in good hands and in the care of such committed and capable people, thanks to OMM.

The end of this week of hard work we organised a small gettogether for all ANC members. We ended the week feeling at one with our menfolk and more determined to crush the fascist monster in our country and to create a society of equality, peace and social progress.

A F R I C A N N A T I O N A L C O G R E S S (SOUTH AFRICA)
(MOZAMBIQUE REGIONAL WOMEN'S SECTION)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT JUNE 1982 TO DATE (JANUARY 1983)

Receipts

Balance B/F 1.885.00mt
" " 41.631.00mt.

Donations from the Christian Council

21.000.00mt

Donation from workers from Namacha during August, 1982

22.000.00mt

August 9th, 1982 women's sewing and food selling

111,979.00mt

TOTAL 198,495.00meticaïs
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From the Bulgaria Women's Red Cross (January '83)

13,700.00 leva (that is equivalent to US \$13,700)