

CHURCH COUNCIL OF GREATER SEATTLE
4759 15th Avenue Northeast
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 525-1213
November 20, 1987

Selma Waldman
4717 32nd South
Seattle, WA 98118

Dear Ms. Waldman,

Though news of current conflicts in South Africa is being suppressed, the situation is not improving. Indeed, the conservative victory in the recent South African elections may indicate even more repression of the black majority in the future.

In Angola and Mozambique, the situation is deteriorating even more rapidly. Over 100,000 people face starvation in Mozambique because of the South African financed RENAMO "Contras". Luanda, the capitol of Angola is becoming known as the world's capital of amputees. This is because so many blacks have stepped on land mines planted by U.S. and South African supported UNITA.

To gain a first hand acquaintance with the suffering of people in Southern Africa, the Church Council of Greater Seattle is helping to organize a fact finding tour of South Africa and of several of the neighboring states.

The purpose of such a tour is:

- 1) to learn directly of South Africa's policies and their impact on the lives of people in South Africa and the Frontline States.
- 2) to establish ongoing relationships between people, congregations, unions, and student groups so that greater communication can take place in the future with respect to speakers, travelers, visiting professors, and church leaders.
- 3) to prepare leaders from the Pacific Northwest to take leadership roles in the future struggles against apartheid within the United States.

The Church Council's Task Force on Southern Africa invites you to consider going to South Africa and/or the Frontline States in the Spring of 1988. The trip will be for a minimum of 13 days but can extend as long as you wish.

Though many on the trip will be going to South Africa, some are being urged to go to Zimbabwe, Zambia, Angola, and Mozambique. Travel in the latter two, though difficult, is not impossible.

Cost for a round trip to South Africa is \$1402. Food and lodging can be had for \$40.00 per day. Allowing for \$500 in country travel and expenses, a 13 day trip can be made for \$2500. An extended visit, including travel to the Frontline States would, of course, be more.

Some people may travel on their own resources or be able to do so sponsored by their employer. Others may be able to raise that amount from fund raising projects. The Church Council Task Force will also seek to raise some funds for those who have few other resources. Most of those invited will need to provide the majority of their own fare.

If you are interested in the trip, please write to us, giving us your name, address and possible sponsoring organizations. (It is not necessary to know if you will have the money at this time.) After we have determined whether there is interest in the trip, we will schedule a preliminary meeting for those who are interested in going.

If you know of others who might be interested and able to go, please send along their names and, if possible, their addresses. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Schmidt

Rev. Dr. Robert Schmidt, Chair
Southern Africa Task Force
Church Council of Greater
Seattle