

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12203
A project of the Social Justice Center

**August - September 1993
Newsletter**

Important CD-CAAR Fall Business Meeting Wednesday, Oct. 6, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.

**Come and hear an update of CD-CAAR activities, plans
for the coming year and
a special educational program**

(dis)

"the new world order"

**and its impact on
Africa, the Caribbean
and the Americas**

with Samori Marksman

Program Director, WBAI Radio, New York City

St. John Church of God in Christ

94 Herkimer Street, Albany, New York

(in the Pastures, 2 blocks below Madison Ave. off S. Pearl)

**Please spread the word about CD-CAAR's
first fall program**

**There is a flyer enclosed - copy it, post it,
get it around town!**

IS AFRICA OFF THE AGENDA?

WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT IT ANYWAY?

Imani Countess, of the Washington Office on Africa (WOA), has told us many times how important it is that the people in grassroots movements make their opinions known to the lawmakers in Washington. When WOA goes to lobby for just policies in Africa, their work is much easier if the legislators have heard their constituents' concerns about the issues. In this newsletter we have printed information on **Angola, Mozambique, South Africa, Haiti and Cuba**. Washington needs to know what you believe U.S. policy should be toward these countries. **Take the time to write a letter, make a phone call.** We have printed below the addresses you need.

Make your voice heard!

Write: Warren Christopher, Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street N.W.
Washington D.C. 20520

Call: The Department of State comment line and register your concern and recommendations.
(202) 647-6575

Write: House Africa Subcommittee
817 O'Neill House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senate African Affairs Subcommittee
226 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510



Angola Tragedy-where is U.S. government and media?

Have your heard that war is raging in Angola? Since the fall of 1992, 100,000 Angolans have died in the fighting which resumed when Jonas Savimbi and his UNITA forces rejected an election defeat and resumed a full scale war. The U.N. special envoy to Angola, Alouine Beye, said up to 1,000 people were dying daily from fighting and war-induced famine. Relief workers are predicting that 2 million Angolans, out of a population of about 10 million, face starvation if no peace settlement is found. (Associated Press, 8/25/93)

U.S. recognizes Angola. On May 19th of this year, the Clinton administration announced the long-delayed U.S. decision to grant diplomatic recognition to the Republic of Angola (which since independence in 1975 has been recognized by every country in the world except the U.S. and South Africa) This recognition cleared the way for U.S. involvement in addressing the humanitarian and development needs of Angola - but no rebuilding can begin until the war ends. Even UN relief planes are fired upon by UNITA forces. UNITA refused to sign a new cease-fire agreement which was endorsed by the UN, the US, Portugal, Russia and the Angolan government. Most observers believe that UNITA will talk peace only when its military prospects no longer are viable. UNITA is still receiving supplies through Zaire and South Africa.

What exactly does the U.S. recognize? Secretary of State Warren Christopher, in a May 1993 meeting with delegates from the Washington Office on Africa and the NAACP, stated that the administration wants to work with the Angolan government and to pressure UNITA to stop the war. But, it is now September and what sign is there that the U.S. has been able to put pressure on the UNITA supply lines in order to get negotiations resumed? How successful is the U.S. or the U.N. in supplying relief in the midst of this war?

And how would we know anyway? More people have been killed in Angola in five months than in the former Yugoslavia in two years! Not only are we seeing few initiatives on the part of the U.S. government toward the Angola; the war in Angola with its staggering death toll is almost never even mentioned by the U.S. media. The press and the electronic media have bombarded us with news of the horrifying war in the Balkans and almost nightly debates about what the world should do to try to stop it. We have seen the pictures and heard the stories of children killed and maimed by that war. Yes, all agree that the break up of Yugoslavia has brought tragic results. **But why the shameful silence and inaction on Angola?**

What can you do about it anyway? Again we are asking you to put pressure on the U.S. government to help stop this war. Request that the Clinton administration and the U.S. Congress: Isolate Jonas Savimbi and UNITA until there is a ceasefire and a return to negotiations. Investigate South African and Zairean intervention, supporting effective action to bar the supply of arms, fuel and other critical supplies to UNITA, including monitoring of flights and sanctions against countries, companies, individuals or groups violating the ban. Support funding for a continued and expanded U.N. presence in Angola.

Peace stalls in Mozambique *"As I write, Mozambique is "marking time," still waiting for the promising steps toward peace to become more than words on paper. Or perhaps the better metaphor is "treading water" because treading water is more dangerous. If you stop you may drown because you are in over your head. And although people determinedly move ahead trying to reconstruct their lives here, everybody knows these are still very dangerous times. The "ceasefire" - which is all we have had since October 1992 - could be broken and the terror could return."* (Ruth Minter, Missionary Correspondence Program, June 1993)

Joseph Handlon, who has written several books on Mozambique, is putting out a Mozambique Peace Process Bulletin. It is being published irregularly until the first multi-party elections in Mozambique. The following information on the peace process comes from that bulletin.

Although the cease fire continues to hold and UN troops are finally arriving, in general the peace process is stalled. "There has been little progress" in moving the two sides' forces to assembly points, and in demobilisation, although this is "crucial" to the peace accord, UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in a report to the Security Council on 3 April. Publicly, officials of ONUMOZ, the UN Operation in Mozambique, say the delays are not serious. In private, however, ONUMOZ officials talk of "paralysis," a "boycott," and "impasse," and "hitting a brick wall."

There had been general acceptance of Afonso Dhlakama's (of Renamo) repeated statements that he will not return to war but the Frelimo Party President of Mozambique, Joaquim Chissano, has accused Renamo of bringing in arms via Malawi and of resuming military training. Fears are growing that even if the fighting does not resume, the peace process could drag on for years.

UN troops have begun to arrive but both money and staff has been delayed for ONUMOZ, resulting from both internal UN and international problems. Mozambique is a low priority compared to Yugoslavia and Somalia, which means it gets pushed to the bottom of the list. This delay is seen as the single most important factor in the paralysis of the peace process because UN delays mean the parties to the accord are not under pressure to move forward.

At the time of the signing of the peace accord, Renamo and its backers pushed to have treatment equal to the government and a tight timescale calling for elections in just one year. Now the emphasis is being put on Renamo's weaknesses and need to develop from a guerilla force largely involved in destruction into a political party capable of winning an election. Most observers agree that delays tend to benefit Renamo. As one government official put it: "to some people an effective transition to democracy only takes place when the governing party loses the election. When those people say they want to learn the lessons of Angola, they mean that they want to ensure the opposition wins. But beating Frelimo will take time, so they are slowing down the process."

Update...At the end of August, Dhlakama and Chissano held an eight hour meeting at which they came to agreement on two of three critical points which were in dispute before a date for elections could be set. The issue still to be resolved concerns Renamo's claim that the Frelimo government controls much of the information that is carried in the Mozambican press. Continued talks were scheduled.

U.S. Southern African activists need to keep reminding Washington to keep up full support for the peace in Mozambique - support for the UN forces, encouragement for continuing negotiations, aid for reconstruction and resettlement of refugees, humanitarian assistance for the victims of the war. The tragedy of Angola must not be repeated in Mozambique.

Waiting for justice in the Carriibbean



Haiti

On August 27, 1993 the UN Security Council lifted an oil embargo and a freeze on Haitian assets overseas after the parliament approved a transitional government backed by ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Under a UN mediated plan approved by the army, military commander Gen. Raoul Cedras is to step down and Aristide, the country's first freely elected leader, is scheduled to return by October 30.

An Inter-American Human Rights Commission reported that 300,000 Haitians have been driven into hiding and 1,500 killed since the bloody army coup which forced Aristide out of power in 1991. The Commission reported that the army has created a climate of terror for the people of Haiti.

Again, we need to make clear to the Clinton administration and Congress that we expect the U.S. to give full support to the return to democracy in Haiti.

Cuba

(from the desk of Nesbit Crutchfield, Coordinator Bay Area Anti-Apartheid Network)
Dear Colleagues in the Anti-Apartheid Movement,

"Please reflect for a moment on these words of the ANC President Nelson Mandela, made during his speech to the people of Cuba when he visited their island in 1991:

"We have come here feeling a great debt to the people of Cuba. What other country can show a history of greater selflessness that Cuba has demonstrated in its relations with Africa? How many countries in the world benefit from the work of Cuban health workers and educators? How many are these in Africa? What country has asked for Cuba's help and been turned down?"...

...The U.S. government is attempting to starve the Cuban people into submission by tightening the criminal blockade at a time when Cuba is already staggered by the dissolution of the Soviet block, and the "storm of the century" which hit the island in mid-March leaving more than \$1 billion in damage, including major food crops wiped out and 40 thousand homes destroyed.

...It is time to challenge Washington's hostile policies toward Cuba and its inhumane blockade of the island. It's time to challenge the laws that violate our own constitutional rights as U.S. citizens to know what's going on in the world, to travel in pursuit of that knowledge and meet with Cubans both at home and on the island to learn about Cuban reality first hand..."

It is time for you to let your Congressmen and the administration know that you oppose the continuing blockade against the Cuban people. To get involved locally in work in support of Cuba, contact : Ad hoc Committee on Cuba, c/o Committees of Correspondence, P.O. Box 6811, Fort Orange Station, Albany, New York 12206.

South Africa

South Africa's first one-person, one-vote election is scheduled to be held on April 27, 1994.

What about the violence; what about voter education?

The American Committee on Africa has initiated a campaign to support free and fair elections in South Africa, "South African Democracy." In a letter this past May, ACOA's project director, Dumisani Kumalo, reminded us that the tragic death by assassination of Chris Hani, South African Communist Party leader, should be a wake-up call to those who had doubts about the threat of apartheid's violence to the democratic process. On apartheid's violence, he writes: "The pre-election control and accountability of the police and military is a very touchy subject. There is ample evidence available, including from Judge Richard Goldstone and his commission on violence, that the police and military officers have been directly involved in fomenting apartheid's violence. There is fear throughout the country that this will not change and the same forces that continue to terrorize people will be standing at the doors of the polling stations on election day."

The question of violence in South Africa comes up again and again. In this newsletter we are reprinting a column on the violence by Schenectady Gazette writer, Carl Strock, which included one conclusion that went "whatever the dynamic is." We are also reprinting a response to the Gazette by CD-CAAR Co-chair, Vera Michelson, and an article by Allister Sparks which appeared in The Washington Post on August 16, 1993, both of which help to explain just what the dynamic really is.

Another problem on the difficult road to real democracy in South Africa is the question of voter education and voter registration. Kumalo writes of the problems of 5,000,000 people living in the apartheid created homelands - no go areas. These are KwaZulu, led by Gatsha Buthelezi (see Allister Sparks piece); Bophutatswana, led by Lucas Mangope; and Ciskei, ruled by Oupa Gqozo. These are the people who continue to be denied their fundamental right to hear the views of the ANC and its allies before voting. In addition, it is possible that there will be no voter registration before the election. Instead, identity cards will be required at the polls. The ANC estimates that there are at least 5,000,000 black people who the government still has to issue with identity documents.

Special Note: The King Center in Atlanta, Georgia has been asked by a number of South African organizations to coordinate a national non-partisan voter education project to support the process of democracy in South Africa. The King Center is recruiting college and university students nationally to take part in this history making effort. Sessions will be four weeks long; participants will be actively involved in preparing and disseminating voter education materials, convening community meetings, and briefing South Africans on democratization issues. For additional information contact: Dr. Marcia Turner, South Africa Non-Partisan Voter Education Internship, 449 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30312 (404)524-1956 - FAX (404)526-8969.



South African Spoiler

by Allister Sparks

WASHINGTON POST MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 1993

It is time Chief Magosuthu Buthelezi's admirers and financial supporters in the United States wised up to the spoiling role he is playing in South Africa's difficult transition from apartheid to nonracial democracy.

For years Buthelezi has managed to project himself in the United States as the moderate alternative to the radical African National Congress, the champion of nonviolent struggle wrapped in the mantle of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., the committed democrat wedded to American-style federalism and free-market capitalism as against the ANC's alliance with Communists.

He has also been projected as "the true leader"—implying that he is the undisputed leader of South Africa's largest black tribe, and therefore a player ranking equally with Nelson Mandela and President F. W. de Klerk.

None of this is true. The latest opinion polls give Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party 3 percent support nationally and 31 percent in its stronghold province of Natal. The ANC, meanwhile, is given more than 60 percent national support and 40 percent in Natal.

But the most serious misjudgment relates to the nature of the man and the role he is playing. As South Africa enters the critical last phase of trying to agree on an interim constitution to supplant the apartheid charter and enable the country's first one-person-one-vote election to be held next April 27, Buthelezi has launched a furious campaign to try to block adoption of the constitution, stop the election and recast the negotiations.

He has withdrawn his negotiators from the multiparty talks, formed an alliance with white extremist parties demanding a secessionist Afrikaner state and threatened to launch a breakaway constitutional convention if he does not get his way—warning that this could be a first step toward civil war.

He is stomping the country in the company of a pliant Zulu king, warning that the present negotiations are

a conspiracy aimed at "obliterating the Zulu nation" and that "now more than ever the Zulu nation must stick together . . . for mere survival." It is a reckless attempt to light an ethnic fire in a highly combustible country.

Buthelezi's behavior has so alarmed the local media that several major newspapers have urged de Klerk to cut the government subsidies that keep him funded in his tribal "homeland" of KwaZulu, which was established under the apartheid system.

An Afrikaans-language newsmagazine, *Vrye Weekblad*, recently described Buthelezi as "the Jonas Savimbi of South Africa," likening him to the Angolan rebel who was supported

"It seems clear Buthelezi's main concern is to avoid an election that would reveal his essential weakness."

by the United States as the supposed democratic bulwark against communism in his country, but who refused to accept defeat in United Nations-supervised elections last year, plunging his country instead back into a civil war—while an embarrassed United States stands helplessly by.

It seems clear Buthelezi's main concern is to avoid an election that would reveal his essential weakness. He wants South Africa's final constitution to be agreed in pre-election negotiations in which Inkatha would have a veto, rather than in an elected constituent assembly where it will be reduced to a minor player.

There is also the suspicion that, while he claims to be a federalist, Buthelezi's real aim in teaming up with the Afrikaner secessionists is to achieve ethnic fragmentation so that

he can head a breakaway Zulu nation in Natal province. The suspicion is strengthened by the fact that the draft constitution now before the negotiating council is a federal one that would establish Natal as a U.S.-style state.

Elections are all-Inkatha affairs, with most candidates elected unopposed. Of the estimated 3 million people living in KwaZulu, 780,000 are registered voters. Only 12,000 actually voted in the last election in 1988.

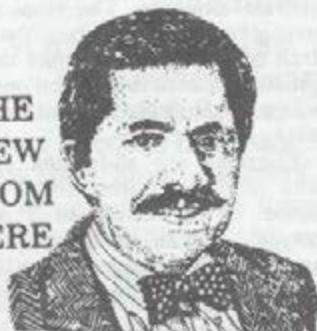
He claims to be a federalist, yet with the help of two conservative American advisers he has presented a constitutional plan for KwaZulu/Natal that appears to set the province up for secession. Stephen Ellmann, a New York Law School professor, has likened the plan to America's pre-union Articles of Confederation and warned that it would "debilitate the central government of a future South Africa."

Buthelezi's commitment to non-violence is likewise suspect. There is mounting evidence that Inkatha "warlords" are among the prime instigators of the political violence that has racked Natal for the past three years, although the ANC is clearly culpable as well in what has become a battle over turf in that divided province.

Buthelezi accuses the ANC of having a private army although it has suspended its guerrilla struggle, while he himself has an official militia in the shape of the KwaZulu Police Force, which plays a highly partisan role in the Natal violence.

But it is Buthelezi's links with the far-rightists and suspect elements of the military-security establishment that arouse most concern. In a major scandal known as Inkathagate, it was revealed two years ago that Inkatha was secretly subsidized from police funds; for years the KwaZulu Police Force was headed by a seconded officer of the National Intelligence Service; and there have been press disclosures of Inkatha members receiving guerrilla training at a secret base in Namibia.

THE
VIEW
FROM
HERE



By CARL STROCK

No protests over violence in S. Africa

I have been dismayed by the reports of violence coming out of South Africa. Zulu workers storm out of a hostel and massacre Xhosa people in the streets of some township in revenge for the Xhosas having hacked to death a Zulu peddler the day before. Number of people killed: 30.

That was last weekend. The previous weekend, 70 people were killed in similar street massacres.

I am not talking about the white rulers now; I am just talking about black people being murdered in the streets and in their homes by other black people — partisans of Inkatha attacking or being attacked by partisans of the African National Congress, or whatever the dynamic is.

It struck me I have not heard of any demonstrations in this country protesting this violence. A few years ago people of good will who were concerned for the plight of black South Africans were besieging government buildings and college campuses from one end of the country to the other.

In this area, the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism put up a shantytown outside the Capitol building in Albany and regularly mounted demonstrations.

I wondered, where are they now, and what do they think about these massacres? So I called Vera Michelson, co-chairwoman of the coalition, and asked her.

Keep in mind one profoundly ironic fact: more black South Africans are being killed now, as their country moves toward democracy, than were killed in the darkest days of apartheid. I looked it up: at Sharpeville, which was a watershed in South African history, when the police opened fire on a Pan-Africanist Congress demonstration, 69 people were killed.

At the Crossroads squatter camp, in 1985, police shot and killed 18 people.

On one day in 1986, at two different townships, the police shot and killed 30-some people.

During a rent strike in 1986, the police opened fire and killed 20 people.

On the 25th anniversary of Sharpeville, in 1985, the police shot and killed 19 funeral marchers.

Those were the bloodiest single incidents in the history of apartheid, and by the standards of today's mayhem they were small potatoes. In the first five days of last week, 130 people were killed — an average of 26 a day.

In the 3½ years since Nelson Mandela was released from prison, some 10,000 people — ordinary, everyday black people — have been hacked, stabbed, shot and burned to death in South Africa. Think of it!

Explaining it

Vera Michelson, who has spent much of her adult life campaigning for justice for black South Africans, makes of this just what I guessed she would make of it: she labels it "apartheid violence" and blames it on the government. The government could stop it and doesn't. The government surreptitiously supports the Inkatha Freedom Party and encourages attacks. "This is not tribal violence," she assured me, "not black-on-black violence, not rival groups; it's political violence."

In other words, it can be explained! "You have to look at the source of the violence," she insisted, and of course the source lies outside of the people who doing the killing.

She cannot entertain the thought, and I bet most campaigners for justice cannot entertain the thought, that black South Africans are killing each other simply because they are as cruel and murderous as other human beings. If they are killing each other, first, it is best not to pay too much attention, and second, it must be someone else's fault.

So the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism is not demonstrating in the streets, and no one else is, either. There are no sanctimonious shantytowns being built on college campuses and no sanctimonious hunger strikes being conducted in front of embassies. Among the perpetually morally indignant, all is quiet.

**SCHENECTADY COLUMNIST
CARL STROCK, WRITES OF
"BLACK ON BLACK"
VIOLENCE... OR "WHATEVER"**

VERA MICHELSON OF CD-CAAR RESPONDS TO STROCK'S LACK OF ANALYSIS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GAZETTE, August 29, 1993

Strock ignores white role in S. African violence

Carl Strock does two things in his column of Aug. 8. He presents black South Africans as murderous, cruel and self-destructive, and he portrays anti-apartheid activists as selectively sanctimonious and morally indignant.

He does this by misrepresenting the South African situation, creating the impression that black people are just going around killing each other because the thought of freedom is just too much to handle. He would also reduce the current violence to the common media descriptions such as black on black violence, tribal violence etc., ignoring any deeper analysis of what is at the root of the violence.

When it is explained to him he brushes it off, preferring his own simplistic description of the problem.

The system of apartheid declares black people as less human than whites, simply because of the color of their skin. This system has led to the destruction and dislocation of entire communities. It has justified the stealing of land and all other forms of wealth from black people. It has justified mass murder, assassinations, subversion of courts of law, of education, of health care, all in the inter-

ests of serving the white minority. By creating a massive majority population of dislocated and dispossessed people, the white benefactors have also created conditions which have led to much of the violence in South Africa.

Carl Strock does not mention that apartheid also created a small number of black people who have served apartheid's aims and who have definitely benefited from it. Among those who have gained is Inkatha Freedom Party chief, Gatsha Buthelezi. Buthelezi is using all means at his disposal to protect his ill-gotten gains.

Strock fails to mention that the apartheid government has repeatedly been forced to admit its collusion in training soldiers loyal to Buthelezi. They have financed Buthelezi's activities and participated in acts of violence intended to stir up factional fighting.

The involvement of South African security forces in township violence has been documented by several international human rights groups. Mercenaries from other countries have also been observed in Inkatha training camps in South Africa.

The deliberate use of the indigent population to create havoc at

the dawn of freedom is not new. It happened in Namibia. It happened in Angola. It happened in Mozambique and it's happening in South Africa. Parts of South Africa are being torn apart by this violence which intensifies in direct correlation to profess in negotiations. This is not happening by chance.

Mr. Strock does not see any of this; takes no responsibility for any analysis; and, with paternalistic myopia, spreads disinformation with vicious and unfounded sarcasm.

Like a leech, he feeds on the suffering and strife of the very painful South African struggle for democracy. In the process he does all of us a grave disservice.

VERA MICHELSON
Albany

The writer is co-chairperson for the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

Namibia gets back Walvis Bay...In mid-August, 1993 the South

African government decided to hand back the strategic port of Walvis Bay to Namibia. This port is the only deep-water harbor between Cape Town, South Africa and Angola. UN Security Council Resolution 432 in 1978 had declared Walvis Bay as the sole property of Namibia. But when Namibia (formerly South West Africa) gained independence from South Africa in 1989, the Pretoria government refused to relinquish its claim to Walvis Bay. Now the bay, which belongs to Namibia by nature and constitution, is finally under the legitimate control of the Namibian people.

(Report from the City Sun, 8/27/93)

This isn't Los Angeles?

Update on civil rights cases in Albany

The following two articles which outline the victory of James Lunday in his civil rights lawsuit against the City of Albany and Albany police detectives and the long time case of the death of Jesse Davis at the hands of Albany police are from the Advocate, Summer 1993, the newsletter for the Center for Law and Justice, Inc.

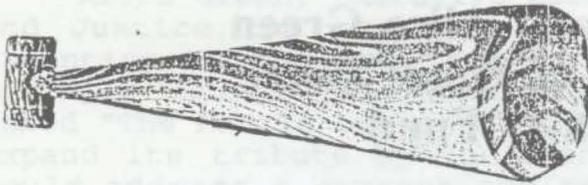
Victim of Police Brutality Wins in Court

On May 28, Black police victim, James F. Lunday of Albany was awarded \$35,000 by a federal district court jury. In a civil rights lawsuit, Mr. Lunday accused the City of Albany, three police detectives, Kenneth Sutton, John Tanchak, and Thomas Shillinger and police officer, Martha Sidoti of false arrest, using excessive force during his 1989 arrest, and malicious prosecution. However, the jury found that only Kenneth Sutton used excessive force and rejected the other claims.

During the trial, both James Lunday and ex-police officer Sidoti testified that Mr. Lunday who was simply standing on Elizabeth Street, was approached on May 13, 1989 by the four officers in an unmarked car. Detective Sutton asked Mr. Lunday to identify himself. When Mr. Lunday refused and used profanity, Sutton and Tanchak threw him against their car and arrested him. While on the way to the police station, Sutton and Tanchak beat Mr. Lunday and Sutton called him a "nigger" and "jungle bunny." Once at the station, Sutton "rammed" Mr. Lunday's head against metal lockers. Sidoti also testified that Detective Tanchak kicked Mr. Lunday.

While it is not illegal to refuse to identify oneself to the police or use profanity towards them, the jury did not accept Mr. Lunday's charge that he was illegally arrested. Also, it did not accept his claim of malicious prosecution although Sutton charged Mr. Lunday with resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, and assault, all charges that were thrown out of court.

Mr. Lunday was represented by attorney Terrence Kindlon and Martha Sidoti was represented by Mark Mishler.



Jesse Davis Trial September 16th Moved to Syracuse

(Note: Since the publication of this article, the Davis trial has been postponed from Sept. 16 to later in the fall.)

The family of Jesse Davis, who was killed by police in 1984, has made an urgent appeal to the community for help to bring the civil rights case to court. For the past year, family members and community residents have worked to raise over \$20,000 needed to pay expert witnesses and other costs associated with the case. Louise Thornton, Mr. Davis' sister and plaintiff in the case, said that "Justice demands that we have our day in court. The police officers involved will have all their expenses paid by the City, but we have no one to help us."

Recently released photographs reveal that Jesse Davis was clutching a toy truck and key case in his hands as he lay dying. Nowhere is there a knife and fork visible, raising questions about police contentions that Davis was shot when he lunged at them with a fork and knife.

Following the first verdict in the Rodney King beating case, a local community fund was established to receive and manage monies for the Davis lawsuit. Donations have been made to purchase photographs, obtain records, pay fees, and obtain the services of pathologists. Other fees and expert witness costs must be paid soon. Because the trial will be located in Syracuse, it will pose even more hardships on the plaintiff, Louise Thornton. Additional monies will be needed for housing, food, transportation, and other costs. It also means that many of those in the Albany community who have followed this case for nearly a decade will not get an opportunity to be present in the court.

All donations go directly to pay court expenses, none is used for administrative costs. **Those able and willing to contribute any amount of money are encouraged to send their donation to:** The Jesse Davis Memorial Fund, c/o The Center for Law and Justice, Inc., Pine West Plaza, Building #2, Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12205.

(See next page for details on the Jesse Davis Fund)

Merton Simpson and Alice Green Fasting in Front of Omni Hotel for Jesse Davis Fund



TERI CURRIE

HUNGRY FOR MONEY: Many of the guests who arrived at Albany's Omni Hotel Tuesday came to attend a fund-raiser for the Martin Luther King Memorial Committee and eat dinner. But to get in, they had to pass three of the area's leading civil rights activists, Merton Simpson (left), Alice Green (right) and Gail Byrnes (not pictured), who were fasting overnight in front of the building. The trio hoped to persuade the committee to donate part of the money it receives to a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by the family of Jesse Davis, who was killed by Albany police in 1984. Last week the case was transferred to Syracuse, greatly raising the expenses of the Davis family.

At the end of the first Rodney King trial in Los Angeles, a Jesse Davis fund was established to help assist in the raising of funds for the Davis lawsuit. The Center for Law and Justice has raised significant funds; the Albany NAACP has donated and raised over \$1500 and has also arranged for the services of a stenographer to help with the many pretrial depositions necessary in preparing this case. However, much more is needed.

Currently a monument to Dr. Martin Luther King is being erected in Albany's Lincoln Park and community donations are being solicited by a Memorial Committee. The monument will be a visible reminder of the contributions of Dr. King and the civil rights movement.

Alice Green, Executive Director of the Center for Law and Justice, on the eve of a vigil and fast to call attention to the need for funds, wrote: "Although we strongly endorse this (the King Memorial) effort, we have asked 'The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial' Committee to expand its tribute by including a living component that would address a current and recognized injustice in our community - something that we believe Martin Luther King would be involved in if he were here with us. It is our strong belief that the Jesse Davis lawsuit is such a cause. Therefore, we have asked the Committee to financially support the case by contributing a portion of the funds it raises to the Davis case so that Mr. Davis' family can gain full access to the courts and justice."

Both Green and Merton Simpson, Co-chair of CD-CAAR, expressed the importance of calling attention to the urgency for funds in the Davis case. On the fast, Simpson said: "I feel if Martin Luther King were here today he'd be with us." Green said: "The Davis family is poor and we believe this request is in keeping with Martin Luther King's principles that urge us to seek justice."

King memorial funds won't go for lawsuit

By JOHN MORAN
Gazette Reporter 6-23-93

ALBANY — The head of the Martin Luther King Memorial Committee said a hunger strike would not move him to expand the memorial fund-raising drive to include legal fees for a civil rights lawsuit.

The Rev. Robert Dixon said the King committee, which held a fund-raising dinner at the Omni Hotel Tuesday, was generating funds for the memorial being built in Lincoln Park and the money shouldn't be diverted to other things.

On Monday, three activists started a vigil outside the Omni to bring attention to the pending \$40 million lawsuit against five Albany police officers for the shooting death of Jesse Davis. The activists, led by Alice Green, are trying to raise money for legal fees and other expenses Davis' family is incurring in order to bring their case to trial.

Davis was shot by police after they responded to a report of a man going berserk at a Clinton Avenue apartment. Police said Davis attacked them with a knife and fork. A grand jury found it a justifiable shooting and brought no charges against police.

"I'm not against the Jesse Davis fund, but I'm not going to take money for the King memorial and dish it out to some place else," Dixon said. "We are raising money for the monument. Alice Green hasn't put a cent into it, and none of the people she's working with have put a cent into it."

Dixon said Green's request was "way off base."

When Dixon arrived at the Omni Tuesday night for the dinner he told one of the demonstrators handing out fliers on the Davis case: "You're not going to give me one of those things, are you?"

Dixon added that his church had a collection for the Davis fund that raised \$150.

Green, director of the Center for Law and Justice, said she was disappointed with Dixon's reaction.

"It shows they don't understand what is inscribed on the monument, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.' Are they just hollow words?" she said.

"We are saying Martin Luther King Jr. would not want a bust of himself. He would want to help people fight injustice," said Merton Simpson, another protester and co-chairman of the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism.

"It raises the question of whether they are using his name for their own aggrandizement," Simpson added.

Green said many people going into the dinner agreed that the fund-raising should be broadened to include the Davis legal fund.



Community Good News!

Merton Simpson Wins "Frederick Douglass Struggle for Justice" Award

Long time community activist and CD-CAAR Co-Chair Merton Simpson was awarded the "Frederick Douglass Struggle for Justice" award given by the Center for Law and Justice. The award, made at the Center's annual conference on April 24th, recognizes those in the community who follow the example of Frederick Douglass. Douglass was born into slavery and spent his life working for abolition of slavery and for racial justice. Victor Brown also was a recipient of the 1993 award.

Merton has dedicated a lifetime to working for global justice. With CD-CAAR and with the Center for Law and Justice, he has been an outspoken and consistent opponent against issues of racism in the criminal justice system. Congratulations, Merton! You truly follow Douglass' s words: "If there is no struggle, there is not progress."

Bill Ritchie elected president of Albany Public School Teachers Association

Congratulations to Bill Ritchie, CD-CAAR member and union liason person, on his June election to head up the Albany school teachers union. His overriding concern for the education of all youth has been evidenced by the commitment he has made to many progressive changes in the Albany School district. And his continuous recognition that the struggle for justice for workers is not just a local concern has translated into numerous concrete actions in the Albany union, the New York State United Teachers union and the national American Federation of Teachers. Bill has successfully introduced resolutions backing the democracy movement in South Africa and calling for peace in Mozambique at national meetings of the American Federation of Teachers. We wish you the best of luck - Amandla, Brother!

"Holding Talks by Himself"

A play in two-acts, "Holding Talks by Himself," written and directed by Katey Assem was held on Thursday, August 12, 1993 at the Capital District Psychiatric Center Auditorium. The play, featuring Greg Owens, Leonard Comithier, Barry Walston, Darryle Martin, Terry Owens and Justin Dinkins, was sponsored by the Macedonia Baptist Church Men's Group and CD-CAAR.

Proceeds from the play went to CD-CAAR to help sponsor CD-CAAR member Barry Walston as a member of a US Delegation to the ANC Youth Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa. Barry has been doing invaluable work with CD-CAAR youth projects. The conference was originally scheduled for August but has been postponed until late fall. Thanks to all who gave their support to the play and have made donations for Barry to represent us at this conference.

Good news continued...

The Community Chronicle

They're back! Former community newspaper, "South End Scene" staffers Roseanne Campbell, Shirley Freeman, Irv Landa, Paul Stewart, Eleanor Billmeyer and Clarence Parker have regrouped with Editor, Art Mitchell, and are publishing a new community newspaper, "The Community Chronicle." The paper publishes news of the community which is generally not covered in the mainstream press.

CD-CAAR urges readers to support this effort by sending news and articles, taking out ads, donating time and money, and subscribing. Art and his staff can be reached by writing or calling: Community News of the Albany District, Inc., P.O. Box 503, Albany, N.Y. 12201 (518) 459-3076.

Nubian Pathways Bookstore and Cultural Emporium Opens

Nathaniel Bracey, Neal Currier and their families have opened a new bookstore at 215 Central Avenue, Albany. Nubian Pathways specializes in books by and about Black people, Afrocentric greeting cards, audio and video tapes by top scholars, original art and jewelry and Afrocentric clothing and accessories. The store also carries used books. Hours are Monday through Saturdays - 11:00 am to 7:00 pm. Browsers always welcome!

100 Black Men Forms Group in Albany

100 Black Men of Albany, N.Y. Capital Region has been formed under the leadership of President Richard Harris. Other Officers are 2nd Vice President, Elmer Green; Secretary, Woody Fulton; Assistant Secretary, Douglas Williams; Treasurer, Azzaam Taukeed Hameed; Parliamentarian, J. Marc Hannibal, Esq. and George a. Yanhthis, Esq.

The group has organized several committees which will help "utilize the talents and skills of Black Men in the Capital Region as a force for positive change in the Black community." 100 Black Men can be reached by writing to P.O. Box 708, Albany, New York 12201

ServAlbany

Help Raise Money for the Albany Service Corps

ServAlbany is a new event that gathers citizens to celebrate community service and volunteerism through action. Set for October 23, 1993 at 7:45 am, the event will assemble thousands of friends and neighbors who will do many service tasks for the community (restore local parks and school grounds, sort and collect food at emergency distribution sights, paint walls at neighborhood centers and much more!). ServAlbany is also a fund raiser. On October 23, participants will work in teams and each of the members will have solicited sponsors to support their work, in much the same manner as a bowl-a-thon or walk-a-thon.

All funds raised from ServAlbany will be granted as training and educational scholarships to future graduates of the Albany Service Corps, a three year old city-sponsored program that involves youth in service projects throughout the city.

CD-CAAR urges your participation in this event. Albany Service Corps is definitely serving youth. **SERVE THE CORPS!** Call Paul Winkeller (434-5204) or Jose Schramm (434-5128) for applications and more information.

**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism**
a project of the Social Justice Center
33 Central Avenue
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Wednesday, October 6, 1993 - 7:00 p.m
"the new world (dis)order" (details inside)



Spike Lee

Philip Agee

Ronald Takaki

Urban Bush Women

**MYTH, MEDIA AND TEXTS:
Social Interpretation and Implication**

Fall Lecture Series at Siena College

Hold these dates!

September 28, 1993 - Spike Lee, producer, director, writer and actor
Topic: His Books and Movies (Alumni Recreation Center)

October 28, 1993 - Philip Agee, former CIA agent, now its harsh critic
Topic: The CIA and US Foreign Policy (Roger Bacon Hall, Room 202)

November 11, 1993 - Ronald Takaki, Professor of Ethnic Studies, Berkley
Topic: Multicultural American History (Roger Bacon Hall, Room 202)

December 1, 1993 - Urban Bush Women. Using movement, music, a
cappella vocalizations, and drama, UBW creates and produces a multi-disciplinary
work rooted in popular African-American cultural traditions. (Foy Campus Center)

All events are at 8:00 pm., are free and open to the public

(CD-CAAR is proud to be one of the sponsors of this series)



Cuba

Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid and Racism
Fall Membership Meeting
presents

South Africa

United States

"the new world  order"

Africa

and its impact on
Africa, the Caribbean
and the Americas

Zaire

with **Samori Marksman**

Program Director, WBAI Radio, New York City
Founding Member, Patrice Lumumba Coalition
Expert on African and Caribbean Affairs

Haiti

Somalia

Wednesday, October 6, 1993 -7:00 p.m.

St. John Church of God in Christ

94 Herkimer Street, Albany, N.Y.

(In Pastures, 2 blocks below Madison Ave. off S. Pearl)

Mozambique

Angola

free and open to the public
(for more information call 438-0309)

