

Ramparts

c/o Gordon
14 Remington Street
Cambridge
20 November

Dear Bob:

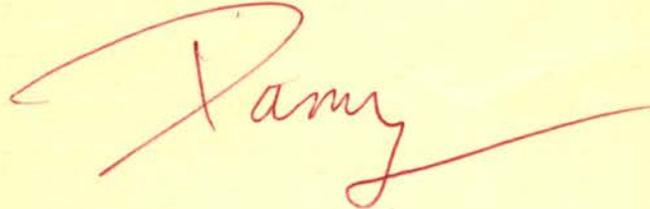
Here are a few copies of the preliminary prospectus which I worked out with the help of John Perdue, an ex SNCC worker and researcher who will be working with the project.

It would be good for you to make any and all suggestions to me about the enclosed draft. I sent one to Mary McAnally at the UCM with the suggestion that you would be calling her,

We should schedule a meeting soon in New York and try to bring a group together there. Apparently, when the National Guardian cleared out its library, it gave NACLA two boxes of clips which I think they would be prepared to let us have. Mike Locker has been very helpful and it would be good to have him come to a meeting. Why don't you give some thought to who might be invited. For example, I "recruited" a potentially useful resource---Andrea Peterson, Art Director of Atlas magazine, which gets clips from a barrellful of African publications.

Hope to hear from you soon,

Amandala



This is a preliminary announcement of the existence of:

A M A N D L A

A Movement Research and Education
Project exclusively concerned with
AFRICA

AMANDLA is the Zulu word for Power and a battlecry in the South African liberation struggle.

AMANDLA is also the name which a group of Americans Not Deluded about the Liberation of Africa have chosen for a projected Movement research and education project concerned with the full range of U.S. economic, political, and military penetration in Africa. AMANDLA proposes to apply to African problems and developments radical research and analytical approaches similar to those utilized by such groups as the North American Congress for Latin America (NACLA) in the study of North American domination in Latin America.

Why AMANDLA?

Political relevance often depends on the effective use of intelligently developed political analyses. The movement against the Vietnam war has triggered a broader, global critique of the uses to which American power is put not only in Southeast Asia but throughout the Third World. While scores of dissenting Southeast Asia experts express concern about U.S. entanglements in Laos, Thailand, and the danger of war with China, and while the Cuban Revolution and its spirit of Che along with the work of such groups as NACLA focus attention to imperialist penetration in Latin America, African events inspire little attention within the growing student movements and anti-imperialist organizations. While the black community shows increasing identification with Africa, that interest appears primarily cultural with little political content. Americans concerned about U.S. foreign policy need more information about the African struggle and the ways in which the United States is involved in suppressing and channelling it. A specialized research and education program is clearly needed, to internationalize the critique of racism and to promote greater concern and familiarity with the sophisticated machinations of America's covert and overt Empire-builders.

AMANDLA is committed to meeting these needs by an active program of research and education. We plan to:

1. Provide an empirical base for analysis of those institutions and individuals who make policy for, and benefit from, U.S. penetration in Africa;
2. Promote a politically informed consciousness within the U.S. about those individuals and institutions and the effects of their activities;
3. Promote a broader awareness about the progress of the African liberation movements and the obstacles they face.

Projected Activities

RESEARCH:

- a. Maintain and build a Data Base of clippings, articles and research notes. To do this we must subscribe to and monitor European, American and African publications.
- b. Develop a specialized reference library of directories, government reports, organizational publications, corporate newsletters, biographies, histories, etc. (At present, we expect to rely on the facilities of the specialized libraries of African Centers, Harvard Business School, etc.)
- c. Begin to organize research groups and help individuals interested in detailed research projects about the extent of U.S. involvement and influence in individual African countries and regions; covert and clandestine strategies; a survey of U.S. "counter-insurgency" thinking as it relates to Africa; institutional analysis of the Africa programs of international agencies, and the full range of U.S.-coordinated "free world" mechanisms. Individuals already associated with AMANDLA are doing detailed research about: the CIA in Africa; East Africa; the Congo (Kinshasa); Tanzania; South Africa; and South West Africa.

EDUCATION:

- a. We hope to publish, reprint, and distribute relevant articles and pamphlets about African subjects. We hope to consult with and involve the Radical Education Project of SDS, Afro-American liberation groups, and other concerned church and civic organizations in the wide dissemination of these publications.
- b. If there is interest, we hope to write, publish and distribute our own newsletter as well as occasional longer pamphlets.
- c. We hope to consult with Movement organizations about possible teach-ins, action campaigns, and internal education programs.

All of these activities will be expanded and refined as a staff is assembled and AMANDLA itself assumes a formal organizational structure and identity. We expect to work closely with such existing groups as NACLA, the American Committee on Africa, and other interested organizations.

FINANCES:

AMANDLA has not worked out its own budget yet. There are enough expenses now, in the organizational phase of this project, that we expect to need at least \$500 to begin. Among these expenses are outlays for: a) phone; b) postage and stationery; c) office equipment; d) publications and subscriptions; e) travel. Eventually, AMANDLA will probably require an office and a paid staff. Now we have the use of one room in a private house and several filing cabinets. We expect that as the group itself develops, a more detailed prospectus can be worked out and funding sources approached. We would welcome all ideas in this connection.

PEOPLE:

AMANDLA is still in a pre-natal stage. Without much of a recruiting drive, a few people are enthusiastic about the project and committed to making it happen. The primary organizer at present is Daniel Schechter, sometime-longtime movement activist. and a contributing editor of Ramparts who has been until recently in London and doing research about CIA involvement in Africa. Joining him in Cambridge, Mass., is John Perdeu, a former SNCC worker and researcher (under Jack Minnis), as well as several others, including several African students who, for obvious reasons, require anonymity. In New York, ~~Jack~~ Maurer, an experienced researcher on American capital in Southern Africa) is also committed to organizing a local research group.

^{Bob}
We are still recruiting people who think the project is relevant and have skills to contribute. AMANDLA is open to people and ideas. We are sending this preliminary statement to the following people with the hope that they will be able to participate as individuals as well as recommend new people whose talents might usefull be solicited:

1. Courtlandt Cox, Institute for Policy Studies, Washington, D.C.
2. Ivanhoe Donaldson, IPS, Washington, D.C.
3. Bob and Mary (Oppenheimer) Fitch, authors of Ghana: End of an Illusion.
4. Collin Gonze, ex-editor, Africa Today.
5. Marvin Holloway, IPS, Washington, D.C.
6. Phil Hutchings, SNCC, N.Y.C.
7. Martin Legassick, University of California at Santa Barbara.
8. Julius Lester, Guardian, N.Y.C.
9. Mary McAnally, University Christian Movement, editor of Southern Africa: A Monthly Survey of News and Opinion.
10. Janet McLoughlin, American Committee on Africa.
11. Jim Mellon, Radical Education Project, Ann Arbor.
12. Roger Murray, New Left Review, London.
13. J. Roven, Tri-Continental Information Center, London.
14. Russ Stetler, London.
15. Charles Turner, Black United Front, Roxbury, Mass.
16. Robert Van Lirop, lawyer, N.Y.C.

RESPONSES WELCOMED:

We hope that everyone will consider this announcement as a "working document" open to revision and suggestions. Please write to Dan Schechter, c/o Gordon, 14 Remington St., #302, Cambridge, Mass., 02138. (617) 868-2676.

AMANDLA NGAWETHU
(Power to the People)

Yeah

SPONSORS:

A number of people thought it important that we recruit "sponsors" in order to give AMANDLA a certain "legitimacy" which might also lead to important resources. We will list the names who have been suggested and would welcome additional suggestions and criticisms. The names are listed in no particular order.

1. Conor Cruse O'Brien
2. NACLA (we will have a close working relationship with NACLA in any event)
3. Miriam Makeba, or perhaps, Mr. and Mrs. Carmichael
4. James Foreman
5. Stanley Diamond, New School professor (expertise: Nigeria)
6. Carl Oglesby, SDS
7. Harry Magdoff, Monthly Review
8. Shirley Graham Dubois
9. Eldridge Cleaver
10. Kwame Nkrumah
11. Peter Weiss, American Committee on Africa
12. Richard Barnet, Institute for Policy Studies
13. Ruth First, South African writer
14. Ronald Segal, author of The Race War
15. Jack Minnis