

## C O N F I D E N T I A L

Minutes: Southern Africa Committee, NSCF, November 19, 1965

The committee met in the eighth floor conference room of the I.C.C. Miss Jenny Frost, who is a student in the Ecumenical Fellows Program at Union Theological Seminary and is from Rhodesia, was a special guest of the committee. Dave Robinson chaired the meeting.

### I. Announcements:

- 1.) There will be a luncheon at the Methodist office of the CCUN (777 U.N. Plaza) for Eduardo Mondlane at 1:00 p.m., November 22nd, 1965.
- 2.) There will be a NCC group meeting with Easil Brown of the South African Christian Council also on November 22nd. Ken will be attending this meeting.
- 3.) There has been discussion among various groups on the possibility of a teach-in concerning Rhodesia. On Saturday, November 20th, at 2:00 p.m. people from SNCC and SDS will meet with all those who are interested at the Overseas Student Association (OASIS) office of New York University. Morley Nkosi of South Africa is very interested in this project and will be present.
- 4.) The Bucknell African Conference sponsored by the Bucknell University Christian Association has as its theme: "Southern Africa--Minority Rule: Challenge to the United States". The conference will be held at the university in Lewisburg, Penna. December 3-5th, 1965. There is no registration fee for Africans and \$5.00 for non-Africans. The speakers for the conference are Dr. Leslie Rubin, Dr. Absolom Vilakazi, Dr. Richard Stevens, Dr. John Marcum, Dr. William A. Hance, Dr. Henry B. Clark, II, and Miss Dorothy Schindler.

### II. Reports:

- 1.) Janet reported that she is presently preparing a mailing to be sent to the constituency. She reported on its present content and asked for suggestions.
- 2.) Mary reported on the Southern Africa Travel and Study Seminar which is being held by the UCCF on behalf of NSCF. The seminar is being administrated by the Office of Student World Relations of COEMAR, i.e. Margaret Flory's office. Last spring the committee agreed to have a consultative committee for the planning of this seminar. Mary reported that the airline has suggested the following places as possible stops on the seminar without additional cost: New York, Amsterdam, Tunis, Accra, Lagos, Duola, Leopoldville, Luanda, Johannesburg, Salisbury, Lusaka, Blantyre, Dar-es-Salaam, Nairobi, Cairo, and back to New York. The cost of the transportation would be approximately \$1150 per person. Someone asked what the basis would be for selection of stops on the seminar? Also it was asked whether scholarships would be available for people from the civil rights movement? It was suggested that Pratheia Hall of the New York SNCC office (TE 9-1313) should be contacted for planning committee member suggestions. Charles said he would be willing to work on the consultative committee. It was suggested that Janet would also be a good person to have on this committee. There will be a more extensive report on the seminar at a

later date.

### III. Response to Bill's Prospectus:

The bulk of the meeting was spent in responding to Bill's prospectus on where the committee should go from here. Bill said that although we had stated a long term goal of a March emphasis we needed to determine our more immediate plans. Ken asked what we were doing about Rhodesia. Their questions lead to a long discussion which was finally summarized into three area-tasks by Dave:

1.) Information and Dissemination: We need to gain immediate and reliable information concerning the Rhodesian crisis. Ken and Jenny suggested various sources for information: e.g. The British Daily News, The London Observer, The Economist, The London Times, The New York Times. We should issue a daily news report for various bulletin boards, offices, and organizations. The news report will be done by a committee member until we can gain funds from mission boards for an emergency part time person in the office. Then hopefully the consultative council connected with the ACOA will assume this task.

Rich stressed the need for circulation of information within the committee, and stressed the importance of reading on the part of committee members.

2.) Local Action: Local action is necessary both in response to the Rhodesian crisis and because it maintains the life and passion of the committee. It was decided that we would actively co-operate in the developments for the Rhodesian teach-in. There will also be a petition at the teach-in.

Charlie said that we also needed to get statements released by Dr. Spike, Dr. Espy, Gay Wilmore, Chester Marcus, John Reuling, etc. concerning Rhodesia. That we need to pound on their doors. Ken said that we needed to write letters to editors. It was suggested that we need to encourage Dr. Hunter to get NCC action on Rhodesia immediately.

Ken said that we ought to write the President, Senators, and Congressmen using Ambassador Goldberg's statement at the U.N. of November 12th. He also suggested that we should write to the U.S. companies involved in the oil pipe-line through Mozambique.

3.) National Constituency: It was decided that we need to stimulate national action through various groups throughout the country. Various people said that there needed to be a combining of information and passion. Therefore it was decided that the best way to do this was to itinerate people to spend time with potential and existing groups. Dick Vorhees said he could work on campus itineration. Charlie said that SNCC was very much concerned about Southern Africa, and that we should itinerate with SNCC groups in mind. Dave said that we should broaden the CWM mandate to the travel associates to include specific emphasis on Southern Africa. There are two people who may be travel associates for CWM in the near future; Nathan Opoku from Ghana, and Lovett Elanga from Cameroun. Bill said that Henry Bucher, who is the field program secretary of CWM, was already doing this as he traveled. It was suggested that we find out whether Dave Wiley, who recently spent two years in Rhodesia, would be able to travel after the first of the year. It was also suggested that Nathan Shamuyarrira would be an excellent person to travel with him. Murray MacInnes of the NCC (Tucker's Office) said he could help us with contacts; particularly with articulate Africans in the area who could speak

with those whom we itinerate. Charlie said that we should also attempt to have people traveling in the summer as then the civil rights movement is most active. He stressed the importance of action beyond information dissemination.

Jenny Frost was asked to speak during the meeting. She said that there wasn't too much she could say until she understood the committee more fully. She did say that although there seemed to be considerable concern about Southern Africa in the United States, there was an urgent need for these concern groups to be efficiently related for action.

The committee will have breakfast with Jenny Frost this Wednesday morning, November 24th at 8:00 a.m. sharp at the Inter-Church Center cafeteria. She requests that people come with questions as she would not be giving a speech. At 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday there will be a brief meeting to handle urgent business.

Since next Friday is part of the Thanksgiving holiday, the next stated meeting of the committee will be on Friday, December 3rd at 12:30 in the eighth floor conference room.

#### Glossary of Acrostics

ICC-- Inter-Church Center  
 CCUN-- Church Center at the United Nations (777 U.N. Plaza)  
 NCC-- National Council of Churches of Christ  
 SNCC-- Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee  
 SDS-- Students For A Democratic Society  
 UCCF-- United Campus Christian Fellowship  
 NSCF-- National Student Christian Federation  
 CWM-- Commission on World Mission of the NSCF  
 ACOA-- American Committee on Africa  
 COEMAR-- The Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations of  
 the United Presbyterian Church in the United States  
 of America