

I. Political Analysis, Basis, Rationale

The single most important element to the kind of campaign that we must develop is its politics. By saying this I am not saying that we must lay out a long political and abstract rap about why we think we should do something, but that we must have a clarity about what we are doing in the formative stages that will enable masses of people to easily grasp the program at later stages of its development. This means that in the strategy and tactics themselves a clear political understanding must be apparent to regular working people.

This concretely means that our targets must be clear and easily understood. Our tactics must have easily understandable relations to the situation in South Africa. We must have clear political or material goals that can be communicated so that the people involved know what they are trying to achieve. We must, from the beginning, be able to explain our program in such a way as to draw out the political lessons in a non-rhetorical, non-dogmatic way.

Finally, and most importantly, it must link up the struggles of African peoples with the day to day struggles of working people of the U. S. It must show, not through abstract sloganeering, but in the actions and targets themselves that the interests of the American working class and of the American people in general are the direct same interests as those of the African people in their struggle against the same exact corporations who are devastating both people's lives. It must show that our enemy is the same and that our fight is the same fight and surely, their victory is our victory.

For example, if we were to pick a certain company as a target, we would want to be clear from the outset about this company not only in its role in South Africa, but also in its record here in the U. S. We need to concretely show that the people are fighting imperialism, there and here. It is these links that are the key to a successful campaign from the outset.

II. Broad Base of Action

Whatever the specific proposal is, it must be clear about who it hopes to organize. While attempting to rally the forces who have been active in our various coalitions and strengthening our base among the progressive peoples' movement and the church people who have been active in the past, we must plan into our activity the kind of thrust which can bring workers and oppressed nationalities, particularly Black people, into direct participation and into open confrontation with our target.

In order to mobilize these forces, they must have something they can do in a very concrete area. Direct Action is the key to this.

Given the present historical situation, it is very important that whatever we undertake can rally center forces and forces who have never been involved such as trade unions. Again what we do is the key to this also.

III. Effective Strategic Goals

Although I have already referred to this, the goals must be clear and must be of such a nature that they will lend concrete assistance to the liberation struggle. This is not to say that we should organize material support campaigns, for sometimes they do not lend to the struggle that which we are in the best position to give: strong domestic pressure on the ruling circles of this country to keep them from total aggression. Within the goals must also be an eye towards the development of our own movement in this country. Whatever is done must also build our struggle.

IV. Plan of Action

From the outset, the targets must be well researched, the data as accurate as possible. The preparation of a campaign is as crucial as its implementation. It must take a view, not of a couple of months, but of as long as a year into the future. Will it be able to meet our needs now and will it be able to adapt itself to changing conditions? These and many more questions of this nature must be answered.

The plan itself must have a definite national kickoff action. This action must be prepared with the greatest attention to the media. Even if it had a one city beginning, it must be a project on national character. It must have a concrete direction for the day to day activity of its members over an extended period of time with high pitch points periodically and lulls that are planned into the schedule. Finally, to be really effective, it must have a definite culminating point or a re-energizing point that is seen from the beginning. poi

V. Boycotts

Boycotts are very tricky things to pull off well. The best kind involve masses of workers in action. Consumer boycotts are demanding in terms of coordination and execution. But if it is a suggestion, a couple of key points need to be made. The target must be very sensitive and indeed vulnerable, It must be located at central markets where large numbers of people can be gathered, or it must be able to be stopped in transport. Finally, it must have a clear educational connection in and of itself. South African Lobster Tail was once suggested and would be a fiasco of a boycott.

VI.

While obviously just the beginning of the kinds of areas that will need consideration, we hope that it will be useful in discussing proposals presented. Again, political judgement is the most important factor in determining success.