

14 Charles Lane  
New York, N.Y. 10014  
March 6, 1974

TO ALL NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ORGANIZERS

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed for your information are reports by Malik Miah on the Attica Brothers defense and African Liberation Day activities.

Comradely,

*Betsy Stone*

Betsy Stone  
SWP National Office

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station  
New York, New York 10003

March 6, 1974

TO ALL ORGANIZERS

Dear Comrades,

The trial of the 61 Attica Brothers indicted by New York state for ~~their~~ role in the September 1971 Attica uprising will soon begin in Buffalo, New York. This is an important defense case and one that we want to actively support and build.

The trial dates are scheduled to be set on April 29. At the present time the state prosecution plans to try each defendant separately. Therefore, the trial is expected to last for a long period and legal costs will be quite expensive. The defense is presently demanding that the state pay for all trial costs, which they estimate will be at least \$2.6 million.

The main strategy of the defense committee is to publicize the demands raised by the Attica Brothers during 1971 to help win mass support and have all indictments dropped. The legal defense team is made up of teams of lawyers, both national and local, and law students primarily based at the University of Buffalo. The defense committee is composed of many volunteers and most of the defendants out of prison (29, with one being dead and the rest still in prison).

The defense committee has a speakers bureau that is presently preparing a brochure of available speakers. From all available information, no political tendency controls or has major influence over the defense committee. The committee seeks to win the broadest support possible for the defendants and appears to be ready to work with anyone who supports the Brothers.

Although the first trial does not begin until April 29, there has been increasing support shown for the Brothers around the country where a defendant has spoken. Recently in Michigan, the YSA organized a statewide tour for one of the Brothers. (An interview with him is in the March YS.) This was quite successful. Over 200 people attended several of the meetings with broad sponsorship obtained in most cases. The Ann Arbor YSA, for example, had eleven other organizations endorse the meeting, including Black and Arab organizations.

Money for the defense was raised on the tour and many contacts and supporters won for the case.

We think this example can be repeated in other areas. The primary role we can play in the defense is one of publicizing the case and helping to build support.

We should help to publicize the case through student government and SWP election campaigns. We can organize speaking tours for defendants, like Michigan did. We can also participate in local Attica defense committees where these exist and help build their activities.

Locals that want to organize speaking tours should first contact Malik Miah at the YSA National Office.

Finally, for general information and material on the defense committee and where solicited funds can be sent, locals should contact: Attica Brothers Legal Defense, 1370 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14290 or call (716) 884-4423.

Comradely,

*Malik Miah*

Malik Miah  
YSA National Office

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station  
New York, New York 10003

March 6, 1974

TO ALL ORGANIZERS

Dear Comrades,

The African Liberation Support Committee, organizer of African Liberation Day demonstrations for the last two years, has called for a national march on Washington, D.C., for May 25. The ALSC has also called for local actions on May 18-19 (Malcolm's birthday) as build-up demonstrations as well as other activities in solidarity with the African liberation movements. (Enclosed is a copy of a communication sent to ALSC supporters by their international chairman, Dawolu Gene Locke.)

As we've done for the past two years we want to actively support and build these demonstrations. We should continue to be aggressive in explaining the U.S. role in Africa and how to best build a movement in solidarity with the liberation struggles. Where it is possible we want to work in ad hoc committees, ALSC's or with other groups who are actively building the May 25 action. We should be conscious of building these actions through broad united front action committees -- involving Black Student Unions, African student groups, etc.

The success of the last two African Liberation Day demonstrations clearly indicates the potential for the upcoming demonstrations. The sentiment to do support work for the African liberation movements has increased over the year. Many organizations besides the ALSC have held picket lines against Gulf Oil, banks doing business with Portugal and the illegal shipment of Rhodesian chrome.

As has been the case the last two years, these demonstrations are projected as all-Black actions. This fact however should not prevent local areas from organizing activities in support of May 25 and drawing in white students on the campus around particular events -- like YSA forums on Africa. Where it is tactically feasible we can build united front picket lines with non-Black organizations around university complicity with the Portuguese and settler-state regimes.

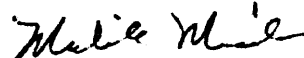
The national ALSC has not yet raised any specific

national demands. Therefore, the character of most local actions will probably be determined by its local participants. In the committees we work in we should stress demands that focus on U.S. involvement in Africa, particularly southern Africa. We should encourage these groups to emphasize in their propaganda the role of the U.S. government in the affairs of African people. This will help to explain what a united front is and how to make the committees as broad as possible.

Finally, since the development of this movement, a growing number of activists are looking for an organization with a complete program for the African revolution. We should be conscious of this fact and organize special forums on the Marxist strategy for the African revolution.

Articles on local activities should be sent to The Militant and Young Socialist. Reports and materials distributed by the local committees, or any questions comrades may have, should be mailed to Malik Miah at the YSA National Office.

Comradely,



Malik Miah  
YSA National Office

African Liberation Support Committee  
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Houston, Texas 77021  
(713) 524-8679

February 12, 1974

The following represents some of the basic decisions and positions taken by the International African Liberation Support Committee meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina on Feb. 1, 2, and 3, 1974. The full text of that meeting is now in preparation and will be available soon for all local committees.

#### I. Programs

1) African Liberation Day will again be sponsored by ALSC in 1974. Activities will be held throughout the month of May with major activities being held in local areas on the weekend of May 18-19 (Malcolm's birthday). Activities will be held in Washington, D.C. during the week of May 18-25 (including a major conference on racism and imperialism) and culminating with a major demonstration in D.C. on May 25th. This demonstration would be sponsored by ALSC, but we would seek the support of a cross-section of groups from the Black community. Local committees in close distance to D.C. are expected to mobilize persons to go to the demonstrations on May 25. Local committees further away from D.C. are expected to send small delegations to the conference and the demonstration on May 25th. Local activities can take a variety of forms; however, no local demonstrations are to take place on May 25th outside of D.C. It was agreed that the final details would be worked out and presented at the Regional Meetings. These regional meetings will take place on March 2 (contact your regional chairperson for additional information).

2) ALSC will again spearhead a major fund-raising drive for liberation movements. This drive will be called the African Liberation Fund (instead of the United African Appeal). The ALF drive will be conducted over a three-month period (March through May) and the overall goal is \$75,000. Each local committee is responsible for raising a minimum of \$2,000 during this time period. The major way suggested for fundraising is mass collection (buckets, street corners, etc.). The Fund-Raising Committee will co-ordinate the ALF drive and uniform promotional materials will be used.

3) ALSC will engage in a major recruitment drive for new members during the next five months. The immediate programs of ALSC are to serve as the basis for the recruitment. Each local committee is expected to double its present membership by the end of June. Special attention is to be given to broadening the local committees to develop a real united front character and composition.

4) Petitions collected in support of the recognition of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau are to be presented at a major news

conference in early spring of 1974. All local committees are to send all remaining petitions to the International Office in Houston by February 15th (this deadline has been extended to Feb. 28 by the International chairperson to allow for all petitions to be in). Please notify the chairperson immediately about the status of your petitions. Separate petitions will be presented to the Canadian government by ALSC.

5) ALSC expressed the need to sponsor a number of educational and protest activities during the spring of 1974. Proposals include another week of solidarity (with liberation movements struggling against white-minority governments), a major campaign against selected banks that provide finance capital to corporations and governments in Southern Africa. The times and exact details are being worked out and will be presented at the upcoming regional meetings.

6) ALSC will continue its work to repeal the Byrd Amendment. All local committees are to mobilize in preparation for the show-down in the House of Representatives in March or April. Congresspersons from your area should be contacted and urged to vote for repeal of Byrd. Local organizations should be approached to solicit their support. Additional information and handbooks are available through the International Office. The D.C. ALSC and Sister Hisani Mweusi are co-ordinating the effort. All local committees are expected to move immediately on this issue.