

Canada supports the opponents of racist regimes

OTTAWA (CUP) - The federal government will soon approve grants for humanitarian assistance to African groups who oppose the racist regimes in southern Africa.

The grants will be made through non-government groups like the Red Cross, World Council of Churches, and the World Univer-

sity Service.

The money will be spent either within liberated territories or in neighbouring black ruled countries such as Tanzania and Zambia where some African liberation movements have their headquarters, training and refugee camps.

Several liberation groups are likely to be involved.

In Portugal's African territories of Mozambique, Angola, and Portuguese Guinea, the liberation movements control substantial parts of the territories. The movements direct educational, commercial and administrative programs in the liberated zones.

The groups opposed to the racist government in Rhodesia do not

control territory but conduct hit and run guerrilla attacks from Zambia.

The Canadian government will ensure that the assistance will be used only for humanitarian purposes, and will establish some form of monitoring. "We want to be sure the money goes for blankets, not bullets," an external affairs official said.

The new policy was first indicated by Canada's support of a Commonwealth Conference communique issued last August and elaborated at the United Nations in December.

The Commonwealth Conference communique said: "The Heads of Governments agree in their opposition to apartheid and minority rule in southern Africa. They therefore recognize the legitimacy to the struggle to win full human rights and self determination."

The communique added the government leaders "agreed on the need to give every humanitarian assistance to all those engaged in such efforts."

Prime Minister Trudeau said "the humanitarian assistance we are prepared to give is making more explicit something that we have perhaps done implicitly

through some United Nations support... but we are not going to supply hand grenades and so on to the freedom fighter."

In 1972-1973 Canada allocated \$335,000 to the education of refugees from southern Africa and has increased its general grants to the UN High Commission for Refugees which spends a substantial part of its money in southern Africa.

Some Canadian voluntary agencies have already made direct grants to liberation organizations. Oxfam, for instance, has allocated about \$35,000 over the past three years to the Mozambique Institute in Dar es Salaam, the capital of Tanzania.

The institute is run by the Mozambique Liberation Front, and the money was used to help establish eight training centres in the liberated zones. Oxfam has also agreed to share with the Toronto Committee for the Liberation of Portuguese African Colonies the purchase costs of a truck for the same project.

A member of the Toronto Committee called the aid "marginal" and said that it did not compare with the military support Canada was giving the present regimes through NATO.

Students protect themselves against strikes

POMONA, New Jersey (CPS-CUP) - For the first time an independent student union has secured collective bargaining rights protecting its members during contract disputes between school administrations and faculty.

New Jersey state college professors, recently organized under the American Federation of Teachers, have threatened for more than a month to strike unless their salary, tenure and faculty governance demands are met.

While students at most schools have been left out of the negotiations and may lose all credit for this term's work in the event of a prolonged strike, students at Stockdale State in Pomona have protected themselves with a binding contract with

the AFT local there.

The unprecedented contract, negotiated by the Stockdale Student Union last November, not only requires that professors protect student course credit during a strike, but also that the Stockdale AFT negotiate any concessions won by their job action with the student union.

The contract stipulates 1) that students must be given credit for all work done before a strike, 2) that faculty must supply students with work booklets before a strike, and 3) that the AFT must make a major effort to negotiate overtime provisions with the state in order to help students catch up with their work after a strike.

After a strike, the Stockdale Student Union must be included in interpreting the state contract

locally.

"What we've done is made them split their contract with us," said Bill Buckman, chairperson of the student union. "I don't think they really know what they signed away, but that's the art of negotiation in a lot of ways."

Buckman stated that the state colleges there were ripe for a student union since New Jersey students pay proportionately more for higher education than students in any other state, an education which Buckman termed "lousy."

While the Stockdale Student Union has been successful in negotiating with faculty, Buckman says negotiations with administration on a number of matters is inevitable.

Graduate students join union

TORONTO (CUP) - The University of Toronto Graduate Assistants' Association (GAA) last week applied for certification as the sole bargaining agent for about 60 teaching assistants at U of T's Victoria College.

If successful, the Victoria students will be the first Canadian teaching assistants to unionize.

"Our support at Victoria was so strong that we decided to give our members there the security of legal recognition as quickly as possible," GAA president Michael O'Keefe said.

"We hope the precedents set in this case at the labor relations board will ease the certification of our larger, main campus bargaining unit," he said.

Provincial labor laws require 35 percent of the workers to be signed up and more than half at Victoria have already signed with the GAA, said O'Keefe.

The GAA has applied for a "pre-hearing vote" with the Victoria unit. If allowed by the labor board, the vote could occur in three weeks.

The ballot boxes would be sealed until after the labor relations board hearing into the application. If the board approves certification, and more than 50 percent of the Victoria teaching assistants vote in the GAA's favor, the GAA will be the official union.

Depending on which classification of workers are chosen, the number of U of T teaching assistants ranges from 1,800 to 2,400. O'Keefe said he expects the hearing to deal with this classification problem which has been the stickiest issue in the main campus organizing drive.

O'Keefe said he hopes the final push to get the certification application in for the main campus will be completed shortly.

Lang will not discuss narcs

SASKATOON (CUP) - Justice Minister Otto Lang has not answered a request from students for a meeting to discuss the actions of Saskatoon narcs.

Students claim the Saskatoon City Police narcotics squad is offering a \$100 bounty to informers and say narcs are selling dope to people and then busting them.

The request to Lang was contained in a letter sent Dec. 3 by Mel McCorrison, University of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon Campus) Student Union president. Lang, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Humboldt (which includes the university neighbourhood), has not replied.

McCorrison asked Lang to help end excessive harassment people

are experiencing at the hands of narcotics agents. Lang was also asked to explain how the federal government is involved in training Saskatoon's narcs.

Students say narcs have been using such techniques as the bugging of phones and presigned writs of assistance. In one case, they say, a narc watched a couple making love through a window, then broke down the door and arrested the couple for possession of a small amount of marijuana. The agent used a presigned writ of assistance.

The U of S (Saskatoon) student paper THE SHEAF has attacked the narcs since the beginning of January with a cartoon series 'Bust a Freak for God Squad'.

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Election to be held Mon., March 11, 1974