



Behind the media censorship and the police cordons, South Africans — black and white — are organizing new structures of community government and education.

Last fall, with many white student leaders among the thousands in jail under the state of emergency, a "Day of Resistance" was organized by the Students' Representative Council at the University of Cape Town.

The 1000 students who attended some of the sessions imposed some of the Botha-regime-imposed state of emergency with not only protest but hundreds of ideas for long-term action.

Ebrahim Rasool, an executive of the United Democratic Front, told the crowd that like cockroaches building up a resistance to Raid, the UDF was becoming resistant to the government's attempts to resist it and was learning new ways of operating.

Botha, he said, no longer holds the key to South Africa's future — all he has is the key to Pollsmoor (prison), which he must use to free all the political prisoners.

Carla Sutherland, SRC president, spoke about her recent trip to meet the African National Congress in Zambia. She said she was taken aback by the ANC's commitment to reach a solution to South Africa's problems.

"Contrary to what we hear in the media," Sutherland said, "the ANC is not involved in wreaking

chaos; they are building something new."

"We were amazed at the extent of their understanding and knowledge of what is going on in the country. They are like a government in exile."

She then suggested students look to their own structures like Council and Senate and try to make them representative of the community.

Among the ideas discussed were a community construction project, a legal skills workshop to hold legal aid clinics in the black townships, community education, and a relief work program.

After the assembly, students burned an effigy of South African president Botha on the steps of the university. Television news coverage of the meeting was confiscated by police.

Information for this article was taken from the Varsity, the official student newspaper of the University of Cape Town, which is exchanged with the Gazette.

Domestic strife

Reprinted from the University of Cape Town

No one likes to put the dustbin out. No one likes to wash the floor. No one likes sorting other people's dirty washing. But few like to be out of a job.

For the majority of black women in South Africa, the only available employment is domestic work. Many women who have jobs as domestic workers are afraid to lose them if they ask for better conditions. They are not protected by legislation which guards, however minimally, the rights of other workers.

A typical day for a domestic will begin at six in the morning, continuing until late at night with a couple of hours break. Washing, cleaning, ironing, polishing, and cooking for others all contribute to a sense of dehumanization.

If domestic workers live in, they often have cramped quarters and it's illegal for them to live with their husbands. If they don't live in, they suffer long hours of travelling to and from the townships, often in the dark — vulnerable to sexual harassment.

Until recently, domestic

workers have been excluded from union participation. As a result, many have come together to form their own organizations. The Domestic Workers' Association in Cape Town now offers services such as literacy classes, adult education, advice and liaison with other organizations. It also provides a support network for workers who spend most of their time in isolation.

As much as possible, the DWA takes up cases where workers have been harassed by their employers. Membership, however, is small and the union is not recognized.

One domestic worker expressed her frustration: "When I first began with domestic work, I wanted to join the DWA. But if your employer finds out that you are going to the union, she will sack you because she knows she can find someone else to do your job."

Students at the University of Cape Town are organizing to help improve the conditions of domestic workers by supporting the DWA and publicizing cases of harassment of workers, some of whom are employed by their families.

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THE HALIFAX CITADEL



Students are needed to portray nineteenth-century British soldiers at the Halifax Citadel National Historic Park this summer. The program offers several summers of employment and advancement opportunities.

At 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3 there will be a briefing session for all interested applicants in room 224 of the Dalhousie SUB.

Applications and information packages are available at your Canada Employment Centre on Campus. Deadline for applications is **FEBRUARY 12, 1987**.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Citadel Society.

For more information contact the Canada Employment Centre on Campus or phone the Halifax Citadel at 426-8485 or 426-1998.