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Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies

Title

Front Matter

Permalink

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Journal

Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies, 6(2)

ISSN

0041-5715

Author

n/a, n/a

Publication Date

1976

DOI

10.5070/F762017462

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UFAHAMU

AFRICAN ACTIVIST ASSOCIATION
AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

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Editorial Board:

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Gloria Waite

Ifeanyi N.C. Aniebo (Circulation)

Rhonda Jones

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Drawings in ink, pen & brush by Obiora Udechukwu

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REPORT FROM THE AFRICAN ACTIVISTS ASSOCIATION

The main thrust of the AAA this past year was pressuring Congressmen from the Los Angeles area to oppose military assistance to Angola, and to oppose the threatened change in policy that would allow South Africa to receive Export-Import Bank loans, after being barred from this for the past 12 years. On Angola, we visited many of the Congressmen during the holidays and joined a local united front in staging demonstrations. Our actions on the Export-Import Bank loan policy took the form of pickets and leafletting at the Los Angeles-based Fluor Corporation, which has been spearheading the effort for changing this policy; teach-ins at several churches and colleges in the area, using the film "Last Grave at Dimbaza"; and asking the audiences to sign a petition, copies of which were then sent to the IA Congressmen and Diggs.

We also held discussions on Angola and Southern Africa, with African students leading these. Literature on South Africa was made available, and an information sheet on Zimbabwe was prepared and distributed. A position paper on US foreign policy toward Africa was prepared and presented to the Southern California Democratic Party platform, at its request.

A bi-quarterly newsletter kept students informed of our programs. We had a successful and enjoyable Benefit Dance for the Henry B. Chipembere family. Three out-of-town speakers were sponsored this year: Kwame Salter spoke on the relation of the Black student struggle in the 1960s to the struggle for African liberation, Yosef Ben-Joehannan gave a lecture on ancient African history, and Lami Janjha discussed the teaching and life of Kwame Nkrumah. An exhibit of some of the African art pieces kept in the UCLA museum was prepared and discussed by an African student, and several films were shown. We made several tapes for a local radio station, but due to technical problems these were never aired.

Over 30 students contributed to the work above, but we should have done much more than this. Meanwhile, the courageous students of South Africa are not only denied a decent education because of "Bantu" education, but are also denied basic human liberty as they are regularly banned and jailed for opposing *apartheid*.