

Condemns "imperialistic policies"

UN rep touts anti-apartheid action



Fred Dube

Photo by Erich Boekelheide

By CAROLYN RAMSAY
Of the Emerald

Eugeneans should join the fight against apartheid, a South African activist said Monday.

Saying he distinguishes between a government's policy and its peoples' sentiment, Fred Dube of the African National Congress said he hopes Americans will help oppose the South African government despite "the imperialistic policies of the U.S. government."

Dube, the deputy United Nations representative of the ANC, said western democracies are his group's enemies in its struggle to end minority rule in South Africa.

Dube said he wonders if the United States' definition of freedom is the same as his own. Other U.S.-supported governments force their citizens into terrorism — especially El Salvador and Israel, he claimed.

Dube defended Palestine Liberation Organization terrorism against Israel, saying that group has no alternative.

"If you kick me out of my house, what am I supposed to do? Get down on my knees and pray to you?"

Dube's organization, formed in 1912, is one of the oldest Third World liberation movements. The ANC has watched from bondage while most of its southern African neighbors have fought their way to independence, Dube said.

Although South African blacks are allowed few freedoms, Dube said his group has organized many successful protests. Some blacks have abstained from potatoes ever since the ANC potato boycott during the late 1950s, he said.

Dube said his group also maintains a guerrilla army to combat the "illegitimate, fascist, military regime."

South African peoples are undergoing a political resurgence, Dube said. After an eight-year period of political difficulty within South Africa, the ANC has been gaining strength.

"It is not rare to hear in South Africa, 'In five years South Africa will be free.'"

To attain this freedom, the organization needs more support from the masses of the world, as well as support from western democracies in the United Nations, Dube said.

Anti-apartheid movements in western Europe are strong, Dube said. The objective of these movements is to reveal the inequities perpetuated by governments that support South Africa, he said.

Dube, who spent four years in prison in South Africa, is currently a psychology professor at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Dube's appearance was sponsored by People for Southern African Freedom, the African People's Solidarity Committee and the Black Student Union.

'Fun run' supports MDA

The Muscular Dystrophy Association is hoping Eugene's love affair with running will help raise money needed to fight crippling neuromuscular diseases.

A "fun run" from Portland to Eugene along Interstate 5 will be held May 16 to raise donations for the association. Sponsored by the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, runners will start at 10 a.m. near the Portland Lake Oswego exit on I-5 and will end at the fraternity's house at 1090 Alder St. in Eugene.

Fraternity members are asking for pledges on a per mile basis, with all money raised going to the MDA. Last year the run raised more than \$600 for the cause.

On the same day, a "Las Vegas night" with authentic gambling equipment will be held to raise money for MDA.

The games will be open from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity house, 1000 Alder St. An auction will follow the event.

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