

Dub Squad Returns to Eugene

Portland's popular reggae/worldbeat band "Dub Squad" returns to Eugene to perform with "Black Roses" at the WOW Hall, January 10, at 9:30 pm under the auspices of the Community Center for the Performing Arts.

A regional favorite, "Dub Squad" has shared the stage with such world class artists as Ziggy Marley, Jimmy Cliff, the Itals and Burning Spear. An all time favorite in Eugene, "Dub Squad" commands a loyal following of fans who have attended their performances at the WOW Hall and at several local clubs.

Eugene's "Balck Roses" brings to the stage their own brand of reggae music featuring the sounds which continue to draw ever increasing crowds at WOW Hall.

Show starts at 9:30 pm and doors

open at 9:00 pm. Tickets are priced at \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door and are available at EMU Main Desk, Balladeer Music, House of Records, WOW Hall box office.

Located at the corner of 8th and Lincoln, the WOW Hall features a new state of the art sound system and is open to all ages. Wheelchair accessible, the Main Hall offers seating and a Goodie Bar. Powerstation Video relays the performances from the Main Hall via closed circuit television to the four foot screen in the downstairs Beer Garden where adult refreshment is available to those with I.D.

For further information regarding tickets and/or volunteering for show security, please call CCPA at the WOW Hall, 687-2746.

CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNAL

By Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

African National Congress Advances In South Africa

In the wake of the recent initiation of a process leading to a constitutional convention in South Africa, the African National Congress under the leadership of Nelson Mandela has clearly advanced its position as the leading political force concerning the future dismantling of the apartheid regime.

The eyes of the world will be watching to see if de Klerk keeps the promises made in writing committing to the Constitutional convention process. The signing of an agreement following a recent two-day Convention between the ANC, the government of South Africa, and 15 other South African organizations formally marked the beginning of the end of 300 years of racist political and economic domination in South Africa. Historically in Africa, it has been very difficult to negotiate freedom and self-determination short of violent revolution. This is because of the refusal of the colonizers to give up the wealth-making exploitation without an armed fight.

The African National Congress should be saluted for their steadfast leadership and successful struggle thus far against the ruthless and state terrorist tactics of the apartheid regime. As the world is changing rapidly, so will South Africa change at a much more rapid pace than ever envisioned several years ago. To the credit of the ANC, a strategy to permit the broadest possible coalition of natives of South Africa to be involved as representatives and participants in the development of a new constitution is a wise and prudent move.

Ultra-right conservative forces here in the United States are still channelling money and other forms of support to "splinter groups" in south Africa in a bid to divide and conquer the coalition that the ANC has managed to build. It becomes increasingly important for the remnants of the anti-apartheid movement here to be vigilant in support of the current efforts of the ANC and others like the south African Council of Churches in their mutual efforts to speed the end of apartheid.

Of course, we stand with the African National Congress in their demand that the "interim" or "transition" government in south Africa last not more than 18 months so that a democratic government can be elected. De Klerk had the audacity to suggest that the "interim" government

last for 10 years before allowing "one person, one vote" democratic elections in South Africa. It will be interesting to view the position of the Bush Administration on this issue. Will Bush try to further justify the immorality of so-called "constructive engagement" with South Africa as de Klerk attempts to stall the dynamism of the process now unfolding as a result of the ANC's leadership?

There are many issues still to be negotiated. One of the controversial matters is the eventual truth-telling concerning South Africa's nuclear weapons production program which has been secretly developed over the last two decades with considerable help from the West, including technology from the United States. Again, when south Africa was controlled by a racist government, there was very little done by the U.S. government to prevent south Africa from becoming a potential nuclear power. Now with the good prospect of the majority African population in South Africa gaining political control with the ANC in leadership, what will be the U.S. official attitude towards that democratic government's potential nuclear capability?

For the record, we are in favor of nuclear non-proliferation agreements in the international community as currently being fostered by the United Nations. It is important though to understand the double standards of justice as certain international principles are related to African and other non-western nations.

As the African National Congress continues to make advances, we should keep our level of support for the ANC visible and strong. In fact, the positive developments in South Africa are likely to serve as a motivation for the vast majority of the more than 35 million African Americans to attempt to make further advances here inside of the United States. This is not to say that there are no more serious problems in South Africa. To the contrary, the turmoil in South Africa is far from over. We are required to understand that some real progress has in fact been made, in large measure because of the sacrifices of all of the people of south Africa and the leadership of the ANC.

Our hope is that South Africa's apartheid will be done away with very soon. We believe that a victory of the African National Congress will be a victory for all of humanity.

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