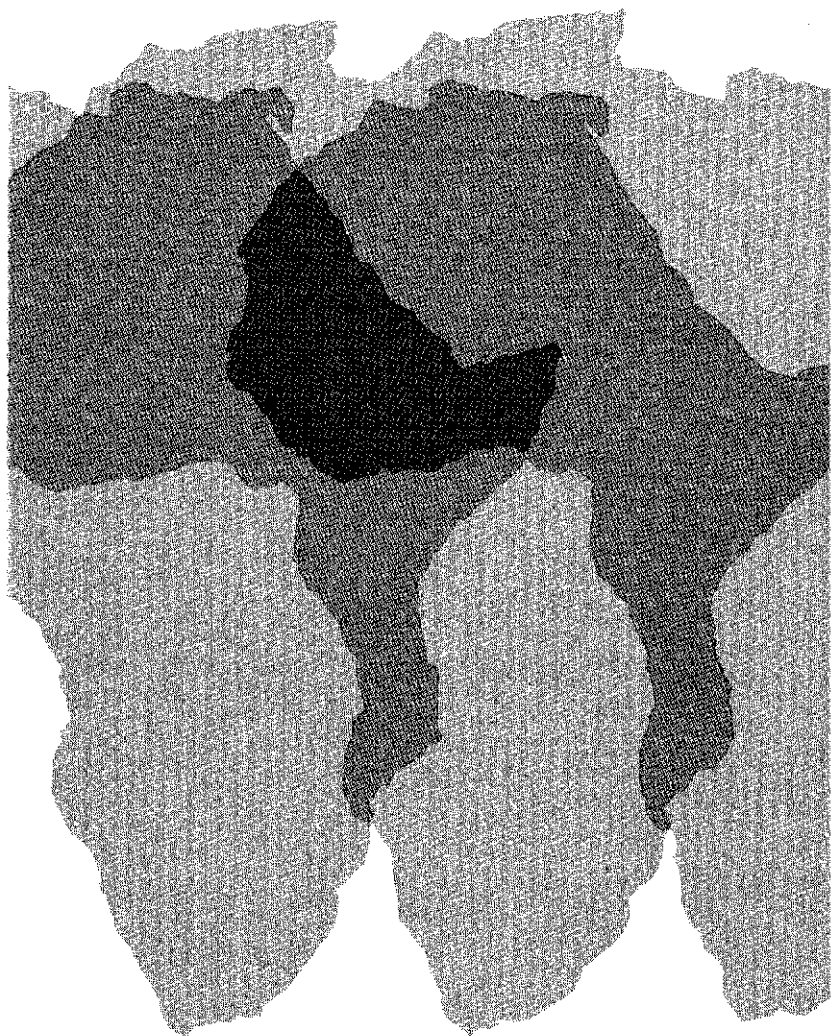


1965 report

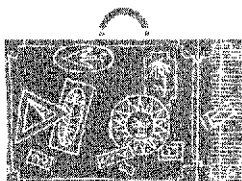
January 1, 1965 through
December 31, 1965



American Committee on Africa

211 EAST 43 STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

1965 was a year of new departures for the American Committee on Africa. The tempo of our work continued to increase, particularly our work to aid South African victims of apartheid. And staff was very significantly strengthened in September with the addition of Wendell Foster in the new position of Associate Director. This report follows the divisions used in our budget and elsewhere to describe our major lines of activity: (1) Program and Projects; (2) Public Information and Education; (3) Membership and Finance; and (4) Administration and General.



program & projects

The American Committee on Africa (ACOA), acting as Secretariat for the Consultative Council on South Africa, organized a national conference on "The South African Crisis and American Action." Sponsored by 38 national organizations, the Conference commemorated the Sharpeville Massacre by convening in Washington on March 21st. Both in numbers and in spirit, the Conference exceeded all expectations. The resulting widening interest in South Africa made expansion of the Consultative Council's activities necessary in order to meet the challenge. ACOA, founder of the Council, bears a vital responsibility to make expansion possible.

Just before the Conference, ACOA participated in a mass demonstration, predominantly of students, to protest loans to South Africa by the Chase Manhattan Bank. On June 26th, traditional Freedom Day for South Africans, two successful, simultaneous demonstrations were sponsored by the Committee. At Rockefeller Center, picketers protested the South African Tourist Office, which brings instant apartheid and racial distinction between American tourists to the heart of America's most "liberal" metropolis. The other demonstration was a Women's silent Mourning Vigil at the South African Consulate, which received considerable publicity on TV.

The Second ACOA Tour to Independent Africa left New York July 27 for a 32-day trip to Senegal, Guinea, Ghana, Nigeria, the Congo, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Cairo and Algiers. Capitalizing on the experience of the year before, Tour Leader Wendell Foster arranged many meetings and seminars, and several American Embassies gave vital help. By December, the Tour for 1966 was announced.

Dr. Gilchrist's volunteer service with **Emergency Relief to Angola (ERA)** continued, under mounting difficulties, until June. Internal troubles within the various Angolan refugee groups—plus the cloudy political atmosphere in the Congo itself—then made it imperative for Dr. Gilchrist and his family to return to Canada. The ERA program thus became inactive, but we hope difficulties will be cleared away and a new aid program developed for Angolans in need.

Africa Defense and Aid Fund: Early in the year, the inflow of contributions was slow. During those months, however, the Mini Fund launched in 1964 for the children of three labor leaders executed by the South African Government brought in an additional \$1,000. Altogether, \$1,600 was sent to Port Elizabeth for these large families left fatherless.

By early summer, a concerted campaign was under way to aid the victims of South African apartheid. An appeal by A. Philip Randolph was followed by one by Harry Belafonte, and by year-end over 200,000 letters had been mailed. A group of prominent men also signed an appeal which was printed in several magazines. Because the response to these appeals was much more generous than a year earlier, we were able to send sums of \$1,000 or more repeatedly, with the Fund pledged to send at least \$1,000 a month as long as possible.

In addition, Mrs. Mary-Louise Hooper planned and carried out a fund-raising Rally on Human Rights Day, December 10th. Dr. Martin Luther King insured the success of the venture by delivering his first major address on South Africa. To bring the international significance of apartheid home to Americans, H. E. Achkar Marof, Guinea Ambassador and head of the U.N. Committee on Apartheid, appeared in person and spoke forcefully. Leon Bibb served as chairman. Miriam Makeba and Pete Seeger sang. And Robert Resha, a South African political exile, made an impassioned plea for support of Defense and Aid. At the meeting, our Africa Defense and Aid Fund presented a check for \$2,500. This was in addition to the \$7,000 net raised by the Rally—for a grand total of \$9,500, all of which had been sent to South Africa before February 1, 1966. Almost 2,000 people attended the Rally, and hundreds of others sent in support.

Other parts of Africa were not forgotten. An ambulance was provided for Mozambique refugees in Tanzania. A special appeal brought in a gift of \$1,500 sent to South Africa for education of political prisoners. And \$3,500 went to Zambia for a 12-passenger Land Rover to aid transport of refugees from Southern Africa. By year-end it appeared that an increased flow of refugees from Rhodesia would swell the stream to and through Zambia. To put Defense and Aid Fund operations in dollars:

**AFRICA DEFENSE AND AID AND EMERGENCY RELIEF TO ANGOLA
(ADAF-ERA)**

Income	\$63,845.30*
Expenses—	
To Africa and Africans	\$30,863.08*
To Public Information and Mailing	17,116.32
For Administration and General	12,900.22
	\$60,879.62

*Does not include ERA drugs and Mozambique ambulance as these contributions did not pass through our books.

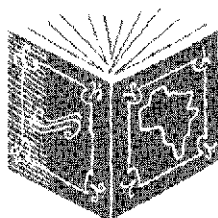
Unlike the operating account, ADAF-ERA ended the year with no substantial debt and \$7,438.59 on hand for 1966.

1965 was the most successful in many years for the Africa Defense and Aid Fund. Income increased by \$25,000, and grants to Africa and Africans more than doubled those of 1964.

During the year, ACOA continued to work with African petitioners to the United Nations and students in the U.S. from Africa. A number of speaking engagements were arranged. Among those we worked with most closely are: Jacob Kuhangua and the Rev. Marcus Kooper of South West Africa; Edouardo Mondlane of Mozambique; and Kotsho Dube and Nathan Shamuyarira of Southern Rhodesia.

When the Ian Smith Government of Rhodesia declared independence of Britain in the attempt to perpetuate white-minority control, ACOA cooperated with African students in organizing a picket line at the United Nations. In spite of the haste with which it was done, several hundred participated.

Thereafter, Associate Director Wendell Foster—with the use of 10,000 leaflets and a sound truck—organized an outdoor rally at 125th Street and Seventh Avenue. Both Mr. Dube and Mr. Shamuyarira spoke, and so did Miss Judy Todd, daughter of a former prime minister of Rhodesia. Among the Americans who appeared and spoke were: Mrs. Anna A. Hedgeman of the National Council of Churches; the Rev. Eugene Adair of Mt. Morris Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Eugene Hicks of St. Marks Methodist; and Attorney Eugene Sharpe of the NAACP. Mrs. Elmer Brooks appeared for the Manhattan Borough President's Office.



public information & education

South Africa Bulletin: Begun in October of 1964, the BULLETIN was issued three times in 1965. In addition to the 1,600 individuals it reaches, bulk orders bring the circulation to at least 8,000 copies per issue. Regular contributors to the American Committee may receive the BULLETIN by requesting it from Mrs. Hooper at the ACOA office.

Africa Today: Among the articles of particular interest printed in the ACOA's magazine in 1965 are:

Tom Mboya on political re-alignments; Harold Strachan's story of life in a South Africa jail; "The Littlest Revolution," the inside story of the coup that failed in Malawi; George Shepherd's realistic appraisal of Tanzanian developments, "Rosy but not Red"; and more installments in Martin Tucker's series, "The African Novel."

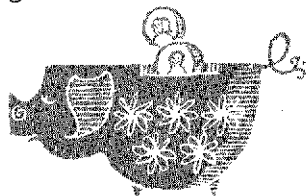
AFRICA TODAY's circulation declined, but not seriously. For the first time in several years, income from the magazine also dropped.

Summer Research Project:

For two months in the summer, four students (three at

the graduate level) worked full time on research on the involvement of American capital in the economy of racist South Africa. The resulting papers will be published shortly as a special double issue of AFRICA TODAY.

Racism in South Africa, a 48-page pamphlet of the speeches of H. E. M. Achkar Marof, Chairman of the Special UN Committee on Apartheid, was published and enjoyed a good circulation.



membership & finance

Early in the year, membership declined slightly. But, with the concerted work for South African Aid, the trend was reversed, and an overall growth of about 5% appeared assured by the end of 1965.

The financial experience of ACOA was good. Expanding activities and staff, however, meant higher costs, and expenses were not so stringently controlled as in 1964. Because of the great emphasis on funds for South Africa, which go into our growing Africa Defense and Aid Fund, our operating funds were often low, and at Thanksgiving some staff members had to wait for payroll checks. Preliminary, unaudited figures for 1965 follow the budget categories in the budget submitted early in the year:

1965 INCOME

Detail Heads (below)	Program	Educa-tion	Member-ship	Adminis-tration	TOTALS
Contributions & Memberships			\$80,766.55		\$ 80,766.55
Contributions from ADAF-ERA in lieu of sharing rent, salaries, and overhead	\$12,900.22				12,900.22
AFRICA TODAY		\$10,988.29			10,988.29
Literature & Books		792.63			792.63
Honoraria & Help on Travel	1,046.79				1,046.79
Tour to Africa, net over out-of-pocket expenses	6,801.85				6,801.85
South Africa Research Project	202.45	505.00			707.45
Miscellaneous			150.00	\$245.22	395.22
TOTALS	\$20,951.31	\$12,285.92	\$80,916.55	\$245.22	\$114,399.00

1965 EXPENSES

Detail Heads (below)	Program	Education	Membership	Adminis-tration	TOTALS
Personnel	\$29,566.98	\$14,922.58	\$10,930.51	\$ 7,820.73	\$ 63,230.80
Mailings	503.68	105.31	10,702.96		11,311.95
AFRICA TODAY		7,502.05			7,502.05
Literature; Books		1,818.26			1,818.26
South Africa Research		601.75			601.75
Tour to Africa (1966)	441.61				441.61
Travel	836.38				836.38
Printing	1,695.81	233.12	190.25		2,119.18
Meetings; Events	992.06			102.70	1,094.76
Rent and Light	1,668.00	1,668.00	1,668.00	556.08	5,560.08
Tel. & Tel.	1,305.61	728.02	488.59	339.07	2,861.29
Stationery; Supplies	307.38	183.93	275.00	1,940.23	2,706.54
Postage	670.60	565.54	833.80	256.96	2,326.90
List Maintenance			520.47		520.47
Equipment; Service				1,602.66	1,602.66
Miscellaneous	256.90	2.08	31.53	606.29	896.80
TOTALS	\$38,235.01	\$28,330.64	\$25,641.11	\$13,224.72	\$105,431.48

ACOA income increased significantly from two sources: (1) overhead payments by Africa Defense and Aid (up \$3,000); and (2) an increase of more than \$2,000 in the net on the Africa Tour, always an extremely uncertain financial item. (Net on Tour is figured without taking into account overhead and staff time; if this were included, net would drop by three to four thousand dollars.) These increases were more than offset by lower income from publications and by the fact that no income was realized from public events in 1965 as the one large public meeting was to benefit South Africa, and the funds went to Africa Defense and Aid. Nevertheless, in spite of a drop of almost \$4,000 in operating income and an increase of more than \$5,000 in operating expenses, we ended the year technically solvent, the first time in the history of the American Committee that we have been in this state at the end of a calendar year.



administration

Staff was greatly strengthened by the addition of Wendell Foster as Associate Director in September. Otherwise, executive staff remained the same: George M. Houser, Executive Director; James R. Robinson, Assistant Director; Mary-Louise Hooper, Director of South Africa Program. Collin Gonze served through the year as Publications Director and editor of AFRICA TODAY, but will be leaving the staff soon for another position.

Among the changes on the Executive Board were: Hugh Smythe took a leave of absence from the Board on his appointment as U.S. Ambassador to Syria; Frank Montero rejoined on leaving the U.S. Mission to the U.N.; and Professor Richard Stevens, director of the African Center of Lincoln University, accepted his first term on the Executive Board. Representative Donald M. Fraser, of Minnesota, was added to the National Committee.

in conclusion

During 1965, the focus of ACOA became sharper. Our primary task emerges as all possible assistance to those struggling for justice in Southern Africa: South and South West Africa; Angola and Mozambique; and now, vitally important, Rhodesia. This assistance must be double-aimed—at changes in attitude and policy in this country, and at direct assistance to those suffering in Africa for a better future. As 1966 opens, our organization, while still far from adequate to the task, has a more challenging program and a prospect for growing service.