



AL2424 - The Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee (JODAC) Collection

Call Number: AL2424
Title: The Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee (JODAC) Collection
SubTitle:
Creator: Inventory prepared by Kgomoitso Nomi Jolobe and Razia Saleh
Origination:
Inclusive Dates: 1983 - 1990
Bulk Dates:
Extent: 1.0 linear metres (10 archival boxes); 7 photographs; sound recordings
Language: English
Acquisition: Accession Number: 93-002
Access Restrictions: This collection is open for research
Use Restrictions: Copyright restrictions may apply. See SAHA copyright statement for Use Restrictions.
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Abstract: The Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee (JODAC) was formed as an affiliate of the United Democratic Front (UDF) in 1983, and provided an opportunity for whites to join the struggle against apartheid. When the UDF was restricted, JODAC managed to maintain itself as an organisation, and continued to be a link with forums such as the End Conscription Campaign (ECC) and Five Freedoms Forum (FFF). JODAC disbanded in 1990.

Introduction

The Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee (JODAC) was formed after the launch of the United Democratic Front (UDF) in 1983 as an organisation for the people of Johannesburg who wanted to be part of the UDF. JODAC, as a UDF affiliate, took the responsibility for furthering the principle of non-racialism by providing opportunities for whites to join in the struggle against apartheid.

JODAC played a major role in UDF's 'call to Whites' campaign in 1986. At the time when the democratic organisations were hard hit by the State of Emergency, and forced to play a less public role, JODAC managed to maintain itself as an organisation and continued to be a voice and a link with the rest of the Democratic Movement in broader forums such as the ECC and Five Freedoms Forums.

When the UDF was restricted, JODAC as an organisation was not. It continued to build the Democratic Movement, introduced it to the people of Johannesburg, hosted regular political forums, organised debates around issues of the day, and provided news and views on what was happening in the extra-parliamentary terrain.

JODAC had committees such as an Anti-Militarisation Group, which linked with other organisations concerned with the issue. The Cultural Forum concerned itself with the idea of building a progressive culture. It had close relations with similar cultural groups from COSATU and Soweto and with progressive organisations in various cultural disciplines. JODAC also played a bigger role in the co-ordination of similar organisation nationally through the National Co-ordinating Committee. This was a co-ordinating committee of white organisations affiliated or sympathetic to the UDF. It co-ordinated activities and relations of organisations such as the Durban Democratic Association, Pietermaritzburg Democratic Association, East London Action Forum, Cape Democrats and Port Elizabeth Action Committee.

After the unbanning of the liberation movements in 1990, JODAC disbanded. Since most JODAC members were both members and supporters of the African National Congress (ANC), they then joined the legally constituted ANC.

Notes on the Collection

The collection includes minutes, reports, conference papers and audio recordings, photographs and other organisational material. Of particular interest are documents on the organisation of white activists in the Democratic Movement.



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Classification

- A: CONSTITUTION AND STRUCTURE
- B: MINUTES AND REPORTS
- C: INTERNAL REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS
- D: CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS
- E: CORRESPONDENCE
- F: CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS
- G: SUB-COMMITTEES
- H: DISCUSSION PAPERS
- I: SMEAR DOCUMENTS
- J: PRESS STATEMENTS
- K: PRESS CUTTINGS
- L: PHOTOS
- M: FINANCE
- N: PUBLICATIONS
- O: OTHER ORGANISATIONS
- P: MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS
- Q: AUDIO-CASSETTES

Inventory

- A: Constitution and Structure
 - A1: Constitution and Structure 1983, 1985
[1983, 1985]
- B: MINUTES AND REPORTS
 - B1: Annual general meetings. 1984, 1985, 1989
[1984, 1985, 1989]
Minutes, reports and programmes
 - B2: General Meetings. Minutes, reports and notes 1984, 1985, 1990
[1984, 1985, 1990]
 - B3: Executive Committee meetings. 1984 - 1990
[1984 - 1990]
Minutes, reports, notes both typed and hand-written. Includes some minutes from Activist Forum (AF) meetings
 - B4: National Coordinating Committee. 1988 - 1990
[1988 - 1990]
Hand-written notes of meetings, reports, corresp, discussions, etc
 - B5: Miscellaneous notes and minutes of Jodac meeting with other organisation, mainly from the Mass democratic organisations. 1989 ? 1990
[1989]
 - B6: Branches and sub-groups. Reports and minutes. 1985, 1990
[1985, 1990]
- C: INTERNAL REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS
 - C1: Internal investigation on alleged spy activity within Jodac. 1987
[1987]
 - C2: Internal Evaluations 1987
[1987]
- D: CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS



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See Q for audio-cassettes on on Jodac Conference on 'The Structure and Politics of the State in a Post-Apartheid SA'

- D1: Negotiations. 1989 - 1990
[1989 - 1990]
Notes, seminar questions and policy papers by MDM and ANC. Incl photocopy of Broederbond document on negotiations (english version); pamphlets by Azapo and Apdusa
- D2: Militarisation. 1985 - 1989
[1985 - 1989]
Seminar papers, incl 'Classrooms of war - the militarisation of White schooling in SA' by Gavin Evans; 'Anti-militarisation movement in SA: Past, Present, Future', anon, n.d. and discussion paper by the Alternative Service Working group file
- D3: Municipal Elections. 1988
[1988]
Discussion papers; Incl Jodac booklet 'A Guide to the October Municipal Elections'
- D4: United Democratic Front. 1986
[1986]
Reading for the Jodac discussion on the UDF and 'Commission on UDF', hw
- D5: Democratic Party. c1988, 1989
[c1988, 1989]
Discussion papers on the democratic movements approach to the DP.
- D6: Organising the white community. 1988 - 1989
[1988 - 1989]
Various papers and report looking at the role of white democrats. Incl paper by Raymond Suttner and Tom Waspe; notes and statement on the by the democratic movement on the whites only election.
- D7: Jodac workshops and conferences. 1985 - 1989
[1985 - 1989]
Discussion papers, minutes and notes. Incl transcript of Jodac telephone link up with ANC's Zola Skweyiya in Lusaka during a conference (see Q tape 5 for recording of this)
- D8: Miscellaneous documents. c1980s
[c1980s]
Incl discussion paper on the Kennedy visit; Progressive organisation on Afrikaans campuses; US Multinationals in Southern Africa; and speech by J Groen 'MS [Morice Smithers] leader of white opposition to Apartheid, 18/10/84; The Criminalisation of political activities in SA
- E: Correspondence. 1984 - 1990
[1984 - 1990]
- E1: Letters between Jodac membership and the public
- E2: An abusive response to Jodac's open letter
- E3: Correspondence on disbanding of Jodac
- E4: Letters between jodac and other organisations and individuals
- F: CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS
- F1: Letter to PW Botha from Rosemary Hunter re: petition by white JHB high school students supporting the demands of coloured students during the school boycotts 1980
[1980]
- F2: Programme of Action. 1984 - 1989
[1984 - 1989]
Incl document on MDM Defiance Campaign, 1989
- F3: Guide for Housemeetings 1985 - 1989
[1985 - 1989]



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Report on housemeetings, 'Call to Whites' Information Sheet; copies of 'Jodac Diary: Internal Newsletter' and 'Event Sheet'

- F4: Curricula vitae (CV) of Tony Karon, Don Pinnock, Mark Phillips and Chris Langeveld motivating to be part of the study tour to the Soviet Union, 1989

[1989]

G: SUB-COMMITTEES

- G1: Women's Group. 1985-1987

[1985-1987]

Incl report on the activities of the women's group; exec committee report and report on surveys conducted by the group amongst Jodac and ECC members

- G2: Media Group. 1984-1989

[1984-1989]

Incl Minutes, Correspondence, Reports and draft articles and ideas for media

- G3: David Webster Funeral Committee. 1984-1989

[1984-1989]

Incl Statement on the brutal killing of DW; Notes of committee meetings; Booklets 'Nusas pays tribute to DW' and 'Suppressing Apartheid's Opponents'; Message from the South African exiled community in Harare

- G4: Freedom Charter Committee. 1984 -1986

[1984 -1986]

Various documents on the Freedom Charter. Incl speech by Raymond Suttner; the political implications of the FC campaign for Jodac; the FC and the Churches; the FC and the Liberal community and How the FC can be taken up with white women

- G5: Education Committee. c1985

[c1985]

Incl documents on 'EduAction'

H: DISCUSSION PAPERS

- H1: Repression. 1983, 1990

[1983, 1990]

Incl doc by the Independent Board of Enquiry into Informal Repression on the Harms Commission and the Civil Cooperation Bureau (CCB); 'Ruling with the Whip', summary of the report on violation of Human Rights in the Ciskei by Fink Haysom

- H2: Doc entitled 'Another Treason Trial at Delmas', report on Obed Jabu Masina, Frans TingTing Masango, Neo Griffith Potsane and Joseph Makhuru, all charged for high treason, c1990

[c1990]

- H3: Namibian independence. 1989

[1989]

Incl SWAPO election manifesto; Namibia National Front - Programme and Policy; Invitation to the Market Theatre and text of 'The rainy season - Namibia in November' - photographic exhibition

- H4: Papers. c1980s

[c1980s]

Incl Development Studies Group Information Publication 'CONTROL', 1979; 'Philosophy and class struggle in SA' by Dialego; 'Another kind of war - strategies for transition in the era of negotiation' by Mark Phillips and Colin Coleman; 'Political involvement of white progressives in the 1930's and 1940's' research proposal by Colin Purkey and Leslie Witz; CALS/ICT seminar paper 'Illegitimacy and disobedience'

- H5: Jodac Education Package. c1987

[c1987]



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Incl doc on National Democratic Struggle; Current Issues; Historical Issues and copies of the UDF Declaration, the Freedom Charter and the ECC Declaration

- H6: Angola: The war and the prospects for peace, documents and articles. 1988
[1988]
- I: Smear and disinformation documents c1980s
[c1980s]
- J: PRESS STATEMENTS
- J1: Statements. 1986 - 1990
[1986 - 1990]
Incl statements on The JHB Centenary; Olivia Forsyth and Joy Harden; Killing of David Webster; The Convention Alliance; The Elections (1988)
- J2: Statements and messages of support by various organisations. 1984 - 1990
[1984 - 1990]
Incl TIC statement on the launch of a DP branch in Laudium; 'DP must not divert itself from fighting the Nats' by Cas Saloojee; Response to an article entitled 'Group campaigns for democracy'; ANC NEC statement, February 1990; UDF press release; draft statement on the municipal elections by UDF affiliates; UDF message to all South Africans on the Whites only election; Messages of support from Fedtraw, NUSAS, Joyco and UDF
- K: PRESS CUTTINGS
- K1: Press cuttings. 1980 - 1990
[1980 - 1990]
Photocopies of various press articles on stay-aways, school boycotts, Crossroads and Uitenhage. Includes JODAC adverts
- K2: Press cuttings on the Group Areas Act 1987
[1987]
- L: Photos of Jodac 'Call to Whites' public meeting - original. Photos of Barbara Hogan, Popo Molefe, Mike Roussos, Walter Sisulu, Rosemary Hunter and Dave Everatt c1988
[c1988]
- M: Finance. 1985, 1988, 1989
[1985, 1988, 1989]
Incl proposals and funding motivations, statements, reports to funders and notes from Jodac, National Coordinating Committee and Cape Democrats
- N: PUBLICATIONS
- N1: Pamphlets. 1983 - 1990
[1983 - 1990]
Various Jodac pamphlets advertising campaigns and events. Incl general leaflet 'What is Jodac?' and a booklet on the 'Koornhof Bills'
- N2: Jodac News - Jodac Newsletter. 1983 - 1990
[1983 - 1990]
Incl a few draft articles
- N3: Various articles and statements on computer disks. Incl what seems a speech by Murphy Morobe on the UDF; articles on Actstop and Aids. Some files on the 4 5.25' disks have been converted to WP5.1 onto a 3.5' disk, c1980s
[c1980s]
- O: OTHER ORGANISATIONS
See also AL2457 for documents of these organisations
- O1: Grahamstown Democratic Action Committee (GRADAC). 1989 - 1990



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[1989 - 1990]

Incl Quarterly report; Executive report; Commission report on the activities of the organisation; and Budget (1989)

O2: Durban Democratic Association (DDA). 1989

[1989]

Incl 'An overview of the DDA'; Report and programme; Paper on the DDA - ANC call to Whites campaign; Paper on The Question of the White Working Class - the Durban experience; and copies of pamphlets and DDA News

O3: Port Elizabeth Action Committee (PEAC). 1989

[1989]

Incl Background report on its formation; Report on PE White areas Organisation; Report on repression and detentions in PE/E Cape; Proposal and various documents on the 'Campaign for a Friendly City; 'Free the beaches' campaign; PEAC News and various pamphlets and stickers

O4: Pietermaritzburg Democratic Association 1987 - 1989

[1987 - 1989]

(PDA). Incl reports on the organisation and a copy of PDA News

O5: East London Action Forum (ELAF). 1989 - 1990

[1989 - 1990]

Incl Constitution; ELAF report to National Committee; Documents on 'One City Campaign'; Paper on 'EL City Futures' conference; Paper 'White affiliates position on the DP and elections'; and various press cuttings

O6: Cape Democrats. 1988 - 1989

[1988 - 1989]

Incl Constitution, paper 'What is Cape Democrats?'; Report on the Inaugural conference; Draft position paper 'Greater CT: Open City Initiative'; paper 'motivation for funding for launch of Cape Democrats'; copies of 'Bulletin Briefs'; and pamphlets and stickers. Also incl photocopies of press cuttings especially on the launch of Cape Democrats

O7: End Conscription Campaign (ECC). 1985, 1989

[1985, 1989]

Incl ECC JHB Structures; Correspondence; Minutes of ECC Workshop Discussion, JHB, 1985; Jodac/ECC evaluation report; Report on the International Conscientious Objector Day - May 15; Paper on 'Alternative National Service campaign'; and various pamphlets and newsletters

O8: Concerned Citizens and the Committee of Concerned Women. c1989

[c1989]

Incl Manifesto for Peace and Justice; material relating to the Peace Ribbon campaign. Petition supporting Dr Wendy Orr (unsigned)

O9: Vaal Support Group. 1980's

[1980]

Incl Origins, Detainees detail form; Report, Check list; Report on the Vaal Information Service

P: Misc documents. c1980s

[c1980s]

Incl various doc on conscientious objection; booklet by Billy Paddock 'Why I object to service in the SADF'; Booklet on Mozambique 'Who are the armed bandits?'; Apdusa views. Earthlife Africa; Herschel project report No.s 2&3, EDA; booklet 'Ruling the Townships: Housing; services, influx control and local govt.', LRC

Q: AUDIO-CASSETTES - JODAC Conference: The Structure and politics of the State in a Post-Apartheid South Africa' 19 March 1989

[19 March 1989]

Q1: Tape 1 9.30 - 11.15 (90 minutes)

Session One: State, Politics and Democracy

Chair: Ian Moll



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Paper read on behalf of Jodac Working Group by Karl van Holdt

Andrew Boraine sums up

Discussion

Q2: Tape 2 11.30 - 13.19 (90 minutes)

Session Two: The Role of Mass Media in a Popular Democracy

Chair: Joanne Collinge

Speakers: Glenn Moss; Elsabe Wessels

Discussion

Q3: Tape 3 13.19 -15.40 (90 minutes)

Session Two: Discussion continues

Session Three: Trade Unions and the Economy

Chair: Eddie Webster

Speakers: Alec Erwin

Discussion

Q4: Tape 4 15.40 - 17.40

Session Three: Discussion continues

Session Four: Building a Single National Identity: The Challenges and difficulties

Chair: David Webster

Speakers: Gerhard Mare; Wilhelm Liebenberg

Discussion

Q5: Tape 5 17.40 - 19.15

Session Four: Discussion continues

Session Five: Telephonic link to Lusaka with the ANC Constitutional Department on ANC Constitutional Proposals

Chair: Norman Manoim

Speaker: Zola Skweyiya