

# Anti-Fascist Action

P.O. Box 273, Forest Gate, London E7 Tel: 01-928 9801 (Press), 01-555 8151 (Contacts)

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Dear Friend

Please find enclosed (i) copy of an advertisement to go into the Guardian in the first week of October (along with a covering letter) (ii) a leaflet outlining AFA's events and activities for the rest of the year (iii) a bankers order form.

As the covering letter to the advertisement explains, we are asking individuals and organisations to note the formation of AFA and support the events planned around Cable Street and Remembrance Sunday. As your organisation is affiliated to AFA, we will be putting your name down to the advertisement (this applies only to affiliated organisations). Please let us know if you do not wish your name to be included. We would also be grateful if you could approach individuals/groups you know of to get them to support the ad as well.

AFA has grown in strength over the last year with groups now established in most towns and cities. More importantly it has opposed every single fascist mobilisation - some with spectacular success - since its formation and groups have also been involved in antiracist work at a grassroots level in support of black organisations and local defence campaigns. We now need to build on this base and ensure that over the next year AFA grows as a genuine grassroots based campaigning organisation with a national profile. To this end we are writing to ask you to support the following events:

- (1) March, rally and festival to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Cable St (for details and literature please ring 01-981 6515). We are requesting AFA groups and supporters in London to support the march called by the broad based Cable Street 50th anniversary commemoration committee remembrance.
- (2) National AFA march on Sunday November 9th in memory of the victims of racism and fascism, yesterday and today. This is the first time that such a march is being organised, both to expose the hypocrisy of allowing the NF to march on the same day and to draw attention to racism and fascism today and the victims of racism and fascism in contemporary Britain.

It is vital that all groups support the national demonstration - transport is being arranged from most towns and cities. This event will also provide us with a solid base from which to go into 1987 when we are asking all AFA supporters and groups to hold antiracist events, meetings, festivals etc and concentrate on grassroots antiracist work (as well as opposing fascist marches and mobilisations) in the build-up to the general election to prevent race being used as an electoral factor by the Tories. The importance of a good turnout on Remembrance Sunday cannot be overstressed, given its political implications, the publicity it will attract for AFA and its work over 1987 (which we need crucially) and the fact that the fascists have always mobilised well on the day, getting in excess of 2,000. It should also be stressed that the victims of racist attacks today and of modern fascism are ignored in all the patriotic hysteria on the day and as such the march will be led by victims of racism and fascism today.

Please assemble 12 noon onwards in Trafalgar square. AFA also has literature available in the forms of leaflets, posters, stickers etc which can be used by local branches and individuals/organisations confronting racism and fascism in their workplace/community. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you

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require literature or other information about your nearest branch/local activity. Literature for Remembrance Sunday will be available shortly. Please also note that the NUS is backing the march and as such it would be advisable to get in touch with your local college to arrange transport on the day.

With the rapid growth of AFA, we also desperately need to employ a part-time worker and have our own independent premises. We are asking all supporters/affiliated organisations and individuals to take out a bankers order for £5 a month (or £1 a week - the price of a pint of beer!) using the enclosed form which should be sent back to AFA. The money will pay for office expenses and wages for the worker; people who take out bankers orders will be provided with detailed accounts on a monthly basis. There is no way AFA will be able to grow without us being able to employ a worker and have office space to operate from. We do not have a party machinery behind us and rely on grassroots organisations and dedicated antiracists/antifascists to help us.

Can we also remind you, as an affiliated group/individual, that AFA policy is determined at quarterly meetings to which all groups can send two delegates. Inbetween the quarterly meetings and Annual conference a secretariat of 20 is responsible for the day-to-day running and organisation. The following sub-groups of the secretariat are now functioning actively and would welcome active involvement from affiliated individuals/groups - (i) students (ii) publicity (iii) stewarding (iv) trade unions.

Please do not hesitate to ring the above number or write to the national address if you require further classification on any of the above points or need literature for Remembrance Sunday.

Yours in solidarity

AFA SECRETARIAT

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