What you can do to fight the Crackdown

1) Alert all the press in your area.

Call your local newspapers and tell them that this is the most serious crackdown on democratic opposition in South Africa since the response to the Soweto uprisings in June of 1976. Impress on them that the seriousness of this situation merits in depth and sustained coverage. Contact the T.V. and radio stations in your area and get them to include news on the crackdown in their programs. You can also write articles for church bulletins, union newsletters and the community press. Follow up with the press to make sure that they cover the story well.

2) Organize "Fight the Crackdown" events in your communities.

The people in your community need to know what has happened in South Africa and be encouraged to join in efforts to fight the crackdown. In addition to public forums, rallies and protests, you can have meetings with members of your city council and the mayor. Urge them to pass a resolution condemning the apartheid regime and supporting immediate adoption of the comprehensive sanctions measures contained in the Dellums/Cranston bill, HR1580/S556. You can have these meetings with members of your state legislature as well.

3) Mobilize support for strong sanctions. Support HR1580/S556

The crackdown in South Africa has now criminalized all non-violent avenues of opposition to apartheid. We must take advantage of our access to the political process - access that is denied to our brothers and sisters in South Africa - to push our Government to take meaningful economic action against the Pretoria Regime. The comprehensive economic sanctions that are called for in HR1580/S556, the Dellums/Cranston sanctions bill, will cut off the oil, high technology and foreign exchange on which the South African government depends for its survival. Anything less than comprehensive economic sanctions is a betrayal of the people of South Africa and the entire region.

February 24, 1988
JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 24 — In its crackdown today, the Government restricted the activities of 17 anti-apartheid organizations and one labor federation. Here are the names and descriptions of the groups:

- Azanian People's Organization (Azapo), Black consciousness-oriented anti-apartheid group; rival of U.D.F.
- Azanian Youth Organization, Afrikaans youth wing.
- Cape Youth Congress, U.D.F.-affiliated youth group in Cape Province.
- Congress of South African Trade Unions, Labor federation with about 800,000 members.
- Cradock Residents' Association, Black civic group in Cape Province.
- Detainees Parents Support Committee, U.D.F.-affiliated group aiding detainees' families.
- Detainees Support Committee, Provides post-detention aid for ex-detainees.
- National Education Crisis Committee, U.D.F.-affiliated coalition of parent, teacher and student groups.
- National Education Union of South Africa, National umbrella body for anti-apartheid groups in education.
- Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organization.
- Cape Town Civic Association, Community organization in Port Elizabeth in Eastern Cape province.
- Release Mandela Committee, Group seeking release of Nelson Mandela.
- Soweto Civic Association, Soweto community organization.
- Soweto Youth Congress, U.D.F.-affiliated youth group in Soweto.
- South African National Students' Congress, National umbrella body for black student organizations.
- South African Youth Congress U.D.F.-affiliated national umbrella body for non-student youth; claims membership of between 500,000 and 700,000.
- United Democratic Front, Anti-apartheid coalition of 650 organizations claiming between 2.5 and 3 million members.
- Vaal Civic Association, Civic group representing residents of black townships south of Johannesburg.
- Western Cape Civic Association, Coalition of civic associations in Western Cape Province.