With the stepped up repression in South Africa and Namibia, it becomes even more urgent that we support those resisting and actively confronting the racist government. The South African government has exposed its paranoia and true fascism as well as its vulnerability with the latest series of bannings and detentions of hundreds of South Africans and Namibians, the closure of the two major Black newspapers, and outlawing the 18 leading black protest organizations. No longer can U.S. forces hide behind the facade the white minority government has tried to maintain: "freedom of the press", "freedom of peaceful opposition to the government", and intentions to work for progressive change. IT IS NOW that we must increase our pressure on U.S. banks, corporations and the government to cease unconditionally with their support of this blatantly fascist government.

Stop Banking on Apartheid is well along the way to increasing such pressure and achieving our aims (see enclosed article from the Oakland Tribune). We will be having a meeting this Wednesday, November 2 at 7 pm to publicize what we've done and discuss our ongoing strategy and work.

Also present will be Tim Smith of the New York based Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility. Tim and ICCR have also been working nationally on the campaign to oppose bank loans to South Africa, particularly with churches and unions. Tim will join with us in our discussions and will share information about the work they've been doing to end U.S. support of apartheid.

The agenda won't be too full because we want to have time for creative discussion on how best to pressure the banks to meet our "demands" as well as how to publicize the issues we're raising: loans to South Africa, redlining, deficient employment practices, and use of pension and retirement funds to support corporate involvement in South Africa.

Come help carry on the struggle--it looks to be a good "non-meeting" meeting (complete with refreshments). It will be at 870 Market, Room 676 in San Francisco (right next to the Powell Street BART station or at 5th and Market). Hope to see you there!

A luta continua,

*Miloanne*

Miloanne Hecathorn for $top Banking on Apartheid

Enc: Oakland Tribune article on bank campaign