SOLIDARITY FOR PEACE --
THE MASSACHUSETTS SOLIDARITY COALITION

The Massachusetts Solidarity Coalition was formed in the wake of the massive Solidarity Day rally in Washington last September, to continue the work of Solidarity Day at the local level. The MSC was formed as a broad coalition to build unity in defending ourselves against the many attacks we now face on our lives and our human needs.

The issues of peace and non-intervention, including U.S. involvement in South Africa, have been made a part of the MSC's work. Like the BCLSA, the MSC sees these issues as related to problems such as racism, unemployment, and cutbacks in social services.

As its first major action, the MSC is planning a March and Rally on May 15 on the theme "In Solidarity against Reaganomics -- For Jobs, Equal Rights, Peace, and Social and Economic Justice" (see enclosed leaflet for rally details, demands, and statement by the Peace Task Force of the MSC). We urge you to attend the rally. We also invite you to join the MSC, along with BCLSA, Mass. Divest, and over 70 other organizations. MSC members in different task forces (community, labor, affirmative action, social services, women, peace, academic, student/youth, lesbian/gay, religious) are working to formulate demands and plan future actions. For more information on MSC, please call 354-0008 or 232-6333.

Among the coalition members and endorsing organizations are: Mass. Teachers Association, ACTWU (New England Joint Board), District 65-UAW (General Council), UE Local 262, SEIU Local 509, A. Phillip Randolph Institute (Boston), National Organization of Women (Boston), Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus, Mass. Childbearing Rights Alliance, Boston People's Organization, Mobilization for Survival.

MASS. DIVEST -- UPDATE

BCLSA, together with other organizations, has been working to pass a major piece of legislation on South Africa. Bill S. 984 would require the divestment of state pension funds from corporations and banks involved in South Africa, and would promote the reinvestment of those funds in jobs and home mortgages here in Massachusetts. Passage of the bill would create the largest divestment act in the U.S. and be a major step toward ending U.S. support for apartheid.

The bill is now progressing through the Senate. Approved by one committee, it now awaits action in the Senate Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Chester Atkins. The main obstacle to passage is legislative apathy rather than open opposition. The legislature closes in July this year, so we must urge speedy consideration and priority handling if the bill is to leap all
AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY 1982
In New York City

Every year, African Liberation Day is held in late May, signifying support for the struggles of the people in Africa by people in the U.S. For the past ten years, ALD has been held annually in Washington D.C., and has been attended by thousands of people from all across the country. This year ALD is being held in New York. It is endorsed by a broad coalition of liberation support groups, political organizations, and church groups. The coalition is sponsoring a rally on May 22 at the United Nations, to coincide with the U.N. International Year of Mobilization for Sanctions Against South Africa.

In Boston, a local organizing committee is planning a series of events leading up to the trip to N.Y. (see enclosed leaflet). The local group focuses on a set of local demands (such as District Representation and divestment of pension funds from South Africa), as well as the broader national demands such as upholding the democratic rights of Afro-American people and opposing the racism of the Reagan administration's foreign and domestic policies. We urge our readers to contact this local group (tel. 445-3658) and make arrangements to go to NY. on May 22 or donate funds to cover the cost of buse