1967 saw a fusion between educational and informational efforts and specific action projects mobilizing people to support particular issues. The Committee played a more active role in Washington and the results of its efforts were felt in Africa.

PROGRAM AND PROJECTS

The seventh Anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre was commemorated on March 20 by a demonstration at the South African consulate and a meeting at St. Mark's Methodist Church in New York City. Speakers included: His Excellency Marof Achkar, Ambassador to the United Nations from the Republic of Guinea and Chairman of the U.N.'s Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid; William Booth, New York City Commissioner on Human Rights; Dennis Brutus, South African Chairman of the World Campaign for the Release of South African Political Prisoners; the Rev. Kenneth Carstens, South African clergyman with the National Council of Churches; Floyd McKissick, Director of CORE, and George Houser of ACOA. Percy Sutton, President of the Borough of Manhattan, chaired the meeting.

U.S. ECONOMIC DISENGAGEMENT FROM SOUTH AFRICA. ACOA's policy of ending economic support for South Africa focused on extending the BANK CAMPAIGN to withdraw funds from U.S. banks involved in apartheid, and a stockholders' emphasis. The most striking result of the campaign was the September announcement by the Methodist Board of Missions that it would withdraw a $10 million investment portfolio from First National City Bank of New York if that bank decided to renew its portion of the $40 million U.S. consortium loan to South Africa. It is estimated that more than $22 million in funds has been withdrawn by depositors. The Committee also organized protests at various STOCKHOLDERS' MEETINGS of companies functioning in South Africa; these included Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, Chase Manhattan Bank, and General Motors Corporation. On March 15, James Farmer, ACOA Board Member and former Director of CORE, attended the Morgan Guaranty annual meeting and submitted a statement protesting its loans to South Africa. Later that month, four stockholders presented similar views at the Chase Manhattan meeting. The bank's President acknowledged growing pressure on the South African question when he defended the bank's African policy in his speech to the stockholders. At the same time, a large demonstration was held at 1 Chase Manhattan Plaza. In May, concerned groups in Detroit mounted a picket-line in front of the General Motors' meeting, while stockholders attending the meeting brought up the question of GM's growing involvement in South Africa.

1968 OLYMPICS. In May, a letter was circulated by Jackie Robinson and signed by more than 30 athletes and other notables calling on the U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE to take a firm stand against the readmission of South Africa into the Olympics.
THE TERRORISM ACT. In August an important political trial began in South Africa: the unlawful prosecution of 37 South West Africans under the newest of South Africa’s repressive laws, the Terrorism Act. ACOA published considerable material on the Act and the trial, and was instrumental in organizing more than 200 lawyers to protest the prosecution in a public statement.

SOUTH WEST AFRICA PROJECT. George Houser coordinated the attempt of five Americans to fly into South West Africa without visas from the South African government on December 6, following five months of careful preparation. Members of this group were Samuel F. Ashelman, Jr., Economic Consultant for the International Cooperative Development Association; John L. S. Holloman, M.D., a New York City physician, past Chairman of the Medical Committee for Human Rights and past President of the National Medical Association; George M. Houser; Flemmie P. Kittrell, Chairman of the Department of Home Economics, Howard University, Washington, D.C.; and Lyle Tatum, Executive Secretary, Farmers and World Affairs. The purpose of the trip was to explore projects which could be supported by non-governmental organizations for the development of South West Africa, and to test South Africa’s continued defiance of the United Nations’ resolutions terminating her mandate over South West Africa and establishing the U.N. as administrator of the territory until it becomes independent. A full report of the trip, which forced a confrontation with South Africa when the group’s planes were not allowed to land, is available on request.

ON THE WASHINGTON SCENE. The American Committee expanded and consolidated its Washington activities during the first half of the year. It provided continuing education for Congressmen, focused on several major legislative efforts, and constantly related these government issues to a wider public.

☐ A seminar on southern Africa was held by Richard Thomas for legislative assistants and junior State Department staff.

☐ Southern African liberation movement leaders and others with specific knowledge about southern Africa were brought to the Hill by ACOA in order to provide government policy makers with more direct southern African contacts.

A national effort was made to mobilize groups and individuals to lobby on southern Africa issues through letter-writing campaigns and visits to Congressmen. Several notable victories included:

☐ In February ACOA worked with Congressional leaders to forestall shore leave in South Africa for men aboard the aircraft carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt. Thirty-eight Congressmen protested the landing of the carrier whose integrated crew would have been subjected to the apartheid regulations of South Africa.

☐ In July, Congressmen were mobilized to support a
Resolution on Rhodesia which backed the United States’ sanctions policy and affirmed the principle of No Independence Before Majority Rule (NIMBAR). The bipartisan resolution was signed by 60 Congressmen, three times more than pro-Smith (white Rhodesia) resolutions had secured.

UNITED NATIONS. ACOA continued to work on major issues affecting Africa. Background material was supplied to delegations, particularly those working on South West Africa, Rhodesia, and South African questions.

AFRICA DEFENSE AND AID FUND

This Fund was established in 1958 to support special projects related to Africans and to developments in Africa. In 1967, almost $20,000 was expended through the Fund, about $7,000 more than in 1966, as follows: (figures are rounded off), legal defense (cases in southern Africa) — $7,500; assistance to African petitioners and aid to liberation movements — $7,000; assistance to refugees and to political prisoners and their dependents — $3,500; emergency needs of students and Africans in the United States — $1,500.

ACOA’s Defense and Aid Fund is affiliated with the International D & A Fund, whose President is Canon L. John Collins of St. Paul’s Cathedral, London. George Houser serves as one of the Vice Presidents.

D & A PROJECTS. A special project of the Defense and Aid Fund in 1967 was a tour by Dennis Brutus, South African poet, teacher, and sportsman. Mr. Brutus spent six weeks traveling throughout the United States and into Canada, speaking to more than 30 university, church, student, and civic groups about South Africa. As Chairman of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee, Mr. Brutus spoke with authority about apartheid in sports. He described from his own experience as a political prisoner on Robben Island the reality of repression and prison life in South Africa. Mr. Brutus appeared before both the U.N. Special Committee on Apartheid and the U.S. Congress House of Representatives Sub-Committee on Africa to report on the conditions and treatment of political prisoners.

A December HUMAN RIGHTS DAY DANCE was held as a benefit for ADAF. Coordinated by Miss Maya Angelou, the successful dance was attended by more than 300.

The Africa Defense and Aid Fund gives direct assistance to those who are engaged in the struggle for freedom, and to those who are suffering as a result of their participation in the struggle.

In May and June, George Houser made his twelfth visit to Africa. Most of his time was spent in Zambia, Tanzania, and the Congo, where he was in touch with various liberation movements.

Mr. Hope Stevens, Vice President of ACOA, and lawyer, attended the important U.N. Seminar on Apartheid, Racial Discrimination, and Colonialism held in Kitwe, Zambia, in August.
The FACT SHEETS series was continued with publication of one on Rhodesia and one on South West Africa. Periodic memos were issued on the nature and implications of South Africa's 1967 Terrorism Act and the South West Africa issue at the U.N. A new series called PRIORITY ACTION SHEET was introduced to stimulate our constituency to act on a specific issue relating to U.S. policy toward southern Africa. Two action sheets were printed, one on the need for a U.S. grant to the U.N. Trust Fund for South Africa, and a second calling for an end to the U.S. subsidy of South African sugar under the quota system. Three issues of the Southern African Bulletin were distributed free to more than 3,000 people.

ACOA and the New Jersey regional office of the United Auto Workers jointly sponsored a spring seminar at Rutgers University. Speakers included Ambassador Burudi Nabwera of Kenya, the Rev. Wendell Foster, and George Houser.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCE

Income from members and friends and special gifts increased significantly, as nearly 4,000 new supporters contributed to ACOA's work this year. Growing American concern about southern Africa's political strife, and the greater role the Committee assumed both in Washington and in Africa, prompted more financial support.

Preliminary, unaudited figures for 1967 are shown below:

### 1967 — EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Administration</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
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1967 — INCOME

MEMBERSHIP (ACOA and D & A)
Contributions — Mailings .................................................. $108,091.54
Special ................................................................. 45,029.46
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP .................................................................. $153,121.00

EDUCATION and INFORMATION
Literature and Books ................................................................. 2,356.00
TOTAL EDUCATION AND INFORMATION ....................................... 2,356.00

PROGRAM
Travel and Honoraria ................................................................. 1,445.85
S.W.A. Project ........................................................................... 7,000.00
Southern Africa Bulletin .............................................................. 685.50
Other (Bank Campaign, Film, Benefits) ........................................ 2,828.99
Visiting Speakers (D & A) ............................................................ 4,421.34
Human Rights Day Event ............................................................ 4,741.60
TOTAL PROGRAM ...................................................................... 21,123.28

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
Meetings .................................................................................. 342.60
Interest Income .......................................................................... 366.57
List Rental .................................................................................. 1,000.00
TOTAL GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ................................... 1,709.17
TOTAL INCOME ....................................................................... $178,309.45

ADMINISTRATION

ACOA has moved its offices to 164 Madison Avenue (at 33d Street), where more space is available at less cost.

George M. Houser completed his twelfth year as Executive Director of the Committee. Janet MacLaughlin, as Executive Associate, began her second year on the staff. Ben Peterson continued as Director of Membership and Finance. Wendell Foster, Associate Director for the last two years, left the organization in mid-year. Mary-Louise Hooper, Director of the South Africa Program, took a leave of absence for a much needed rest.

ACOA officers remained: Peter Weiss, President; Elizabeth Landis and Hope Stevens, Vice Presidents; Frederick Schwarz, Treasurer; and Farrell Jones, Secretary.

IN CONCLUSION

In 1967 it became clear that the struggle for liberation in southern Africa would be long and hard. The regime of Ian Smith in Rhodesia seemed to be withstanding sanctions. South Africa was, at least for the moment, challenging U.N. action in terminating its mandate over South West Africa. The increasingly violent struggle in the Portuguese territories was expanding, but not as yet threatening an end to Lisbon's domination. The U.S. was following a policy of "reluctant concern."

These circumstances make all the more essential the work of ACOA in helping to quicken the conscience of Americans so that greater effort in supporting the struggle for freedom in southern Africa may result. The Vietnam war almost obliterates other issues on the world scene. But our task is to avoid other Vietnams which, in the case of southern Africa, may take on a purely racial character.

AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON AFRICA
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