STOP THE APARTHEID RUGBY TOUR
0/o United Methodist Office for the UN * 11th Floor 777 U.N. Plaza
New York, N.Y. * (212) 682-3633

NEWS RELEASE

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ROCHESTER RUGBY GAME CANCELLED

The S.A.R.T. (Stop the Apartheid Rugby Tour) Coalition was told today by Bill Haffner, Treasurer of the ERU (Eastern Rugby Union) that the planned September 26th Rochester game of the apartheid Springbok rugby team has been cancelled and will be moved to a secret location in an unidentified northeastern city.

The Coalition regards this move by the ERU as another victory for the American people. The ERU was forced to cancel the match because of the pressure mounted by the SART forces in Rochester. The game had earlier been moved to Rochester after the forced cancellation of the New York City match because of SART pressure in that city. Immediately upon the announcement of the move, local anti-apartheid forces formed a Rochester SART chapter and began to coordinate opposition to the game.

"The ERU is looking more and more ridiculous every minute. They're treating this as if it is a guerilla action, moving from city to city and secret site to secret site," said SART National Chairperson Judge William Booth.

As the reason for this latest move, Haffner cited "the threat of violence from protesters." We resent being accused of planning for violence. It is the racist South Africa regime that practices violence on a daily basis. Apartheid is based on and maintained by violence.

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As South Africa's national rugby team, the Springboks are ambassadors of this violence. It is precisely because the Springboks symbolize that violence that we are protesting their presence. "From the start, we said we would create a national anti-apartheid movement. As the ERU moves from town to town we are building that movement," said SART organizer Richard Lapchick.

This victory only intensifies our determination to fight the racist tour wherever it takes place. We intend to remain vigilant. "Wherever they play, we will find them. Wherever we find them, we will protest," said Albany SART spokesperson Michael Dollard.