

# LET FREEDOM REIGN!



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## DIVESTMENT BILL DIES

During the 1984 legislative session, the Connecticut Anti-Apartheid Committee proposed new legislation to strengthen the provisions of the 1982 divestment law. However, after a public hearing on the bill, in which Treasurer Henry Parker spoke against the proposed changes and the Connecticut Anti-Apartheid Committee spoke in support of them, the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee allowed the bill to die in committee. The Chairpersons suggested that a study of the issue be conducted, but no substantive plans have been announced.

The Anti-Apartheid Committee's proposals were intended to clarify the "strategic products" clause of the 1982 law. After two years, no stock has been sold because of a violation of the strategic products provisions of the law. Yet, companies in Connecticut's portfolio continue to sell computers used to produce arms in South Africa, to perform military research and development or to monitor movement of South Africa's population. GM and Ford, still in the portfolio, continue to sell trucks and cars to the South African military and police.

So that there would be no mistake that the above activities are unacceptable, the definition of "strategic products" was spelled out more clearly in the proposed legislation. The bill also took the law one step further by adding petroleum to the list of strategic products. Oil is one vital raw material which South Africa does not possess. Because of its extremely strategic nature, the U.N. voted for oil sanctions against South Africa. South Africa, itself, has classified oil as a "munitions of war".



The Anti-Apartheid Committee saw the bill as a minimal step for the State of Connecticut to take to demonstrate its continued abhorrence of the racist system of apartheid.

Treasurer Henry Parker claimed, in the public hearing, that he had not yet had enough time to implement the current law and that he would need more time to study the new proposals in the bill. Yet, let us not forget that during the same two years the situation in South Africa has worsened. Over three million blacks have been forcibly moved from urban areas to bantustans, many children have died of malnutrition, and the list of injustices due to apartheid goes on. The South African government has been emboldened by

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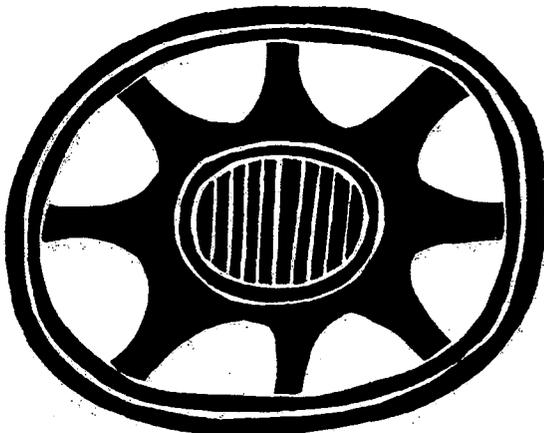
## DIVESTMENT BILL (Continued)

the Reagan Administration's policy of "constructive engagement". In South Africa, time is running out. The effectiveness of the Connecticut law will be minimal if these delays continue.

Also, in response to Parker's need for more time to study the bill, it must be noted that the question of divestment and its impact on state funds has been extensively studied. The proposals called for minor changes only. It is important to point out too that in the past two years many more states are calling for divestment action and the State of Massachusetts last year achieved a total divestment law. Connecticut must not be viewed as standing still on the issue of apartheid.

At the hearing, Parker stressed that he has been able to convince some companies to sign the Sullivan Principles and that this was a significant achievement of the bill. In our opinion, he has ignored other more major violations of the law, particularly under the strategic product clause, while devoting time and resources to convince companies to sign the Sullivan Principles. These Principles are widely recognized as a sham and a cover-up for continued U.S. involvement in South Africa. Parker has not tackled the major issue which is to pressure U.S. corporations to end their support for the apartheid system.

In South Africa, the situation becomes more desperate day by day. Connecticut must join with other states across this country to take significant action to end U.S. support of apartheid.



## MOZAMBIQUE AND SOUTH AFRICA

### SIGN NKOMATI ACCORD

On March 16th, Mozambique and South Africa signed a non-aggression pact near their common border at the Nkomati River. Each country agreed to prohibit use of its territory to organizations preparing acts of violence against the other. As a result, Mozambique detained four members of South Africa's leading liberation movement, the African National Congress (ANC) and seized some small arms. Another 250 adults and children are reportedly on the way north to Tanzania and Ethiopia. For its part, South Africa was expected to stop supplying the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), its puppet force that has caused extensive damage to Mozambique's infrastructure and economy while terrorizing the people. Swaziland and Angola have also signed agreements with South Africa. At this moment in South Africa's history, we need to evaluate the meaning of these accords in relation to the strategic and development needs of the Front Line States and the South African and Namibian liberation movements (ANC and SWAPO).

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Mozambique

Under Portuguese domination, Mozambique became one of the most underdeveloped colonies in the world. The costs of FRELIMO's ten year war of liberation were counted in lives and damage to the existing colonial economy. Since independence, floods and severe drought have taken a further heavy toll. On top of all this, South Africa has continually attacked the population centers, railroads and pipelines both directly and indirectly through the MNR. To deal with the colonial legacy, and address current development problems, Mozambique and eight other Southern African states formed the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference. The idea is to promote cooperative development and orient their economies away from South Africa. But peace is the prerequisite of development and the reality of the situation is war.



South Africa

The South African state is currently in its worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. The regime spends \$3 billion a year to fight the liberation movement at home and in Namibia and to attack and destabilize its independent neighbors. But none of these military moves is succeeding. Larger numbers of soldiers are being killed and wounded and increasing numbers of young white men are deserting or fleeing the country to escape military service. The regime needs a higher level of regional peace to try to open up new markets and try to solve its white socio-economic problems while maintaining apartheid. South Africa is advancing the concept of a "Constellation of States" based on dependency to the South Africa economy.

The West

Volumes have been written on the crucial role of the United States and West European loans and investments in key sectors of the South African economy. Pres. Reagan's "constructive engagement" policy has encouraged South Africa's intransigence while at the same time cut vital food aid to Mozambique. But many West European leaders disagree with the effectiveness of this approach. Leaders like France's Mitterand do not see south African poverty and struggle through the prism of East-

West conflict. Many see the need for a more conciliatory policy that will safeguard Western economic interests. At the same time, growing anti-apartheid movements are pressuring these governments. Using these difference and pressures, Mozambique's President Samora Machel travelled to Western Europe to lobby key leaders last fall. Machel sees the Nkomati Accord (South African/Mozambique accord) as a diplomatic success, for it will restrain South Africa and bring the peace that is so vital to maintaining the quality of life for the people of Mozambique.

The Liberation Movement

Of course, the South African movement is upset, but the ANC understands the pressures on Mozambique. ANC knows that as the struggle intensifies, new repressive measures will be taken by the apartheid regime. The response relates to the ANC's 55 acts of sabotage in 1983, a labor union movement that is growing at an unprecedented rate, and the formation of the United Democratic Front (UDF) of 600 organizations with a membership of over two million. The key point is that restricting ANC's access to Mozambique cannot derail the struggle because it is an internal struggle in South Africa itself. Meeting on April 29th at the

MOZAMBIQUE/SOUTH AFRICA ACCORD (Cont.)

Arusha summit meeting, the six Front Line State Presidents along with ANC and SWAPO reaffirmed their support for the liberation struggle. However, they also declared that the consolidation of their own states is a part of the total liberation of Africa from colonialism to racism. We can therefore see that the Nkomati Accord is only a temporary measure reflecting the distribution of forces at this particular moment in the liberation struggle.

SOWETO DAY, JUNE 16th, TO BE COMMEMORATED

On June 16, 1976, thousands of children of Soweto demonstrated their opposition to apartheid. And hundreds were killed or wounded or imprisoned. Every year, the Connecticut Anti-Apartheid Committee commemorates the courage of the South African people who stand up against the apartheid system. This year we will mark this day and will celebrate another year of anti-apartheid work. You are invited to attend:

Date: Saturday, June 16, 1984  
Time: 8:00 PM  
Place: 11 Marshall St, Hartford, Ct.  
Donation: \$5.00  
Wine and Cheese

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YES, I would like to join the CT Anti-Apartheid Committee

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Enclosed are \$3.00 regular membership dues  
\$25.00 sustainers dues

Clip and send to: CT Anti-Apartheid Comm.  
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Please Note:  
In order to simplify bookkeeping, all memberships will expire in June of the year following payment.

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