16 July 1981
for immediate release

ACCESS CALLS ON GOVERNORS OF NEW YORK STATE AND ILLINOIS TO BAN USE OF FACILITIES IN THEIR STATES TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN SPRINGBOK RUGBY TEAM

ACCESS announced today that it had called the Governors of the State of New York and the State of Illinois to ban the use of all facilities in their States to the South African rugby team scheduled to compete there in September.

Richard E. Lapchick, ACCESS's National Chairperson, said that communications were sent yesterday to Governor Hugh Carey of New York and Governor James Thompson of Illinois. Lapchick warned that, "The South Africans will use this tour for propaganda purposes in the United States to soften the cruel face of apartheid. The team is to include four members of the South African Defence Force and two South African policemen." Lapchick speculated that this was a direct attempt to ease the way for broadened military relations with South Africa. "Seeing military men on the sports field will distort what the real job of these men means. Last weekend they invaded the independent African nation of Angola. Yesterday and everyday they oppress the African people of South Africa. They may be sportsmen in New York and Illinois, but back home they are international criminals uphold the crime of apartheid."

Lapchick predicted that there would be a potential damage to race relations in New York and Illinois if the black people of those states were forced to accept the representatives of the apartheid regime on American sports fields.

ACCESS organized an early morning demonstration today to protest the arrival of the Springboks at JFK Airport in New York on their way to New Zealand for their controversial tour there. About 30 protesters gathered on short notice at 6AM to let the South Africans know that they are not welcome in America. It was a symbolic statement to the Springboks signalling that major demonstrations will take place if they are allowed to return.

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for further information, call 962-1210
ACCESS has joined a coalition of many groups to form the Coalition Against the Apartheid Rugby Tour. The Convenors of the Coalition are:

B. Adeyemi - National Black United Front
M. Young - National Black Independent Political Party
R. Lapchick - ACCESS

The first action is to organize a demonstration to protest the Tour and the Administration's granting of visas to the Springboks.

**MOBILISE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, August 25th

**TIME:** 12 noon

**PLACE:** Federal Plaza, New York City

APARtheid Sport - NO Sport AT ALL

Opposition to tour growing daily