

# The Struggle Continues

On November 7, 1986 the BOR finance committee passed a motion to recommend to the full board that the UH divest all investments in South Africa related businesses. This is a great victory for the reborn student movement on the UH campus. This long and hard fought struggle served to make two things very clear. First, the supreme arrogance of the BOR showed itself very clearly in their handling of the entire situation, and especially at the nov. 7 hearing. Secondly, it brought to the fore strategies of direct action as a potent force in instituting change.

The first proposal for divestment was made to the BOR over a year and a half ago by UHPA. There was no response. Since then, many calls for divestment were made to the BOR/UH administration by ASUH, the Students for Azania, the Faculty Senate, UHPA, the UH NAACP, the Coalition for Divestment, etc. Simone's response to all of this was a policy opposing divestment. With all appeals for reason rejected, direct action was taken by the coalition. Shanties were built on Bachman Lawn. Student activist Antonio Rosa fasted for 25 days. Rallies were held calling for divestment and educating people on the oppression of the Azanians (black South Africans). Marches through campus, culminating in a militant candle-light march to President Simone's house on Oct. 31st involving about 200 marchers.

With the possible student takeover of Bachman Hall hanging over their heads the regents decided that they had better divest and fast. The Nov. 7th hearing on divestment turned into a face-saving fiasco. There was no hearing. The sign-up list of speakers was completely disregarded. The regents refused to hear any of the testimony which had been painstakingly prepared after weeks of research by the student groups and the U.H. Task Force. Instead 5 speakers of their choosing including Lynn Oakley - A WHITE RACIST AGAINST DIVESTMENT were allowed to speak while an Azanian, a native of South Africa was not allowed to speak. Lynn Oakley, a white tourist to South Africa claimed to speak for the Zulu tribe while the Azanian who was denied speech was a Zulu himself. The racism and arrogance of the BOR is evident. They did not divest because of any new-found respect for the Azanian people's struggle for national liberation, they divested out of fear of the direct action of the student movement.

Anyway what kind of divestment did they recommend? There was no mention of WHEN this divestment should take place!! The people should be vigilant because the regents cannot be trusted. The State of California is divesting \$3.1 billion in three years. That comes to a rate of roughly \$90 million a month - i.e. \$3 million a day. In light of this, we feel that the BOR can easily divest \$3.3 million in one month. Therefore, we give the BOR until Christmas Day 1986 to totally divest. Not only does this give the regents a time table in which to work, it also provides them with an opportunity to crank out a last minute good deed so Santa might drop them some new Cadillacs. Also, this is our gift to the struggle of the Azanian people.

We must also be aware that several large corporations, such as IBM, Coke, GM, etc., have staged bogus pull outs from South Africa. These corporations continue to support the South African government, and supply them with tanks, computers, etc. which are crucial to the functioning of apartheid. Such companies should not be allowed to escape divestment. Only total divestment from all South Africa linked companies is acceptable.

This is only the beginning of the struggle. The Azanian people are still not free. Let us not forget the \$130 million of the State Pension Fund which continues to support apartheid in South Africa! END ALL U.S. COMPLICITY IN APARTHEID.

AMANDLA NGAWETHU  
(POWER TO THE PEOPLE)

STUDENTS FOR AZANIA