

# STRUGGLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICA SUPPORT PROJECT

FALL ISSUE

NOVEMBER 1983

## APARTHEID REGIME'S TERRORISM INCREASES; AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS MEETS THE CHALLENGE



**ANC Representative Dumi Matabane**

The South African government's terrorist attacks on the majority Black population in that country, as well as on neighboring African nations that support the fight against apartheid, have mounted in recent months.

This stepped-up terrorism has forced the liberation group, the African National Congress, or ANC, to increase its guerrilla activities, particularly in South Africa's urban areas.

"We have been forced to resort to violence," says Dumi Matabane, ANC's Washington representative, "since apartheid itself has survived through the use of violence against our people.

"We realized that we had to use revolutionary violence to liberate our people."

Matabane notes that much of the Western press tries to characterize ANC's armed struggle as "terrorism," especially in the U.S.

"The news media in these countries are controlled by the status quo, which looks at us as a threat to their interests in South Africa.

"They do not care that we live under the violent oppression of the fascist regime in South Africa.

"For many years, our organization did not resort to violence until there was no other way."

Matabane says the Reagan Administration's friendly approach to South Africa, called "constructive engagement" is indicative of racism.

"When Black people stand up to fight for their rights, (the Reagan Administration)

says we are surrogates of Moscow. This implies that we African people are not able to take matters into our hands and fight for our freedom."

A by-product of the apartheid regime's growing terrorism is an increasing number of Black South African refugees, primarily women and children, who have fled to "front line" African states near South Africa.

The ANC has been able to aid the refugees through the support of many African states, friendly European countries, and Scandinavian nations like Sweden.

"These countries have sacrificed whatever they have to give educational scholarships to our youths, necessary materials, and moral support," says Matabane.

"Church groups and various international organizations have also been helpful."

He emphasized the long-standing role of Black U.S. organizations in the solidarity movement for the ANC and the anti-apartheid struggle.

However, Matabane says the current economic crisis Black people in the U.S. face has limited the amount of money they can contribute towards the liberation effort.

(continued on page 4)

## DIVESTMENT BILL HEADS FOR CONGRESS, UNCERTAINTY

On October 4th, the D.C. City Council enacted bill 5-18, which will prohibit the investment of public funds in financial institutions with business ties to South Africa. The bill introduced by Councilman John Ray last March, also provides for the gradual withdrawal of funds presently deposited in institutions with ties to that nation.

The amount of money at stake is over \$70 million, making this issue one of pivotal importance to the community, local business leaders and the apartheid regime of South Africa.

The bill has enjoyed the support of Mayor Marion Barry and has been well

(continued on page 2)

## CANGAMBA



Waves of South African airforce jets dropped napalm and phosphorus bombs on the Angolan village of Cangamba on August 14th 1983. The attack came days after the Angolan army, known as the Peoples' Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, or FAPLA, has defeated more than 3,000 South African troops, mercenaries, and puppet UNITA forces on the ground.

The bombs left nothing in the place where the village had once been, but in spite of that, South Africa used helicopters to bring in UNITA forces to "occupy" the land, and take credit for the victory. FAPLA members had attempted a total evacuation of the area after winning the 11 day battle from the ground, but all those who had not yet moved were killed by the South African air attack.

(continued on page 3)

## BLACKS FOR REAGAN — BLACKS FOR BOTHA?

The racist government of South Africa and Prime Minister Botha have stepped up their U.S. publicity campaign with the goal of legitimizing puppet "homeland" states. A major part of this campaign calls for the use of well paid American agents to promote these homelands through the media, in business circles and at the highest levels of government. Here in Washington, D.C., J.A. Parker, head of Blacks for Reagan and a former director of Young Americans for Freedom, has emerged as a major figure in this new drive. The Parker-Reagan-Botha union has become one of convenience, mutual interest and shared ideals.

(continued on page 2)

## DIVESTMENT BILL

(continued)

received by the general public. However, the bill had, at one time, faced an uncertain future. Some members of the Council expressed reservations about the bill, and a local firefighters' association had gone on record as being opposed to its enactment.

These problems proved to be minor as the greatest concern for those supporting the bill was the combined lobbying power of the city's banking establishment and the South African government. With the unanimous passage of the bill by the City Council, these fears have been forgotten, as attention is focused on Capitol Hill, where all District legislation must face review.

The first D.C. divestment bill was proposed in 1968, but never gained the support needed for passage. It is also thought that the bill had little chance of surviving a Congressional review at that time.

Since then, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Michigan have passed divestment bills. Also, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Berkeley, California have taken local action and enacted divestment legislation.

The Districts' inability to achieve total home rule has severely limited its freedom to act decisively on this issue, as did these other states and cities.

Many residents of the District see this as ironic. As the nation's capitol and a predominantly Black city, action on this bill would send a clear signal to the world that our citizens identify with, and support, the struggle of Black South Africans for self-determination.

As 5-18 heads for th Hill, many activists on the divestment issue feel that the real battle has just begun. The present legislature has not shown a strong commitment to weakening the ties between South Africa and the U.S. It is also thought that generally, most Congressmembers lack a comprehensive knowledge of affairs and issues surrounding South Africa.

It is expected that D.C. Delegate Walter Fauntroy will serve as an advocate of the bill, as will the entire Congressional Black Caucus. Considerable support may also be expected from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and a block of liberal white lawmakers. However, some doubt the ability of fauntroy to wield considerable influence, since he is one of the non-voting representatives in Congress, once again raising the issue of District home rule.

Fauntroy's status takes on added importance when the opposition of conservative legislators as Virginia's Stan Parris and Connecticut's Stewart McKinney is considered. Both serve on the House Committee on the District of

Columbia; both have vowed to kill the divestment measure.

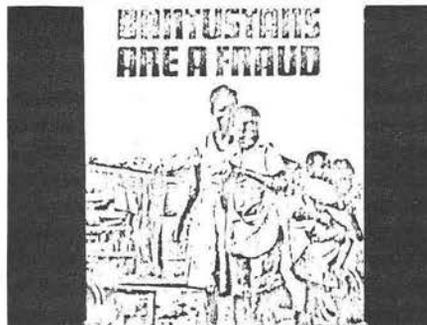
Although only two previous laws submitted by the District have failed to receive Congressional ratification, bills concerning stringent sanctions against South Africa have always faced difficulties due to the strong South Africa lobby.

The current hope is that the mood of Congress is changing, and that election year politics will lead to a positive reception for this and other measures aimed at curtailing business and commercial ties with South Africa.

The most important factor, according to the D.C. Divest Coalition, appears to be the amount of popular support that can be mobilized for the bill, both here in Washington, D.C. and around the nation. The Southern Africa Support Project (SASP) is urging everyone to contact the Coalition at P.O. Box 50103, Washington, D.C. 20004, and volunteer your time and resources, to assure the ratification of Bill 5-18.

You are also urged to write to Congressman Walter Fauntroy and express your support for the fight against dollars for apartheid.

## BLACKS FOR REAGAN (continued)



### South Africa's Homeland Gambit

The so-called homelands of South Africa (alternately referred to as bantustans, reserves or homelands) are part of its plan to divide Black inhabitants of that country by forcing different ethnic groups on to designated reserves. These ten reserve areas are located on some of the most desolate and unviable land in the whole of South Africa. The lynchpin of the government's strategy will be to retain control over the economic lives of these outposts since it will be practically impossible for any of them to survive without direct South African government support. With handpicked "leaders" for each of the homelands, South Africa hopes to present them as legitimate, independent states internationally. However, outside of the apartheid state of South Africa no other nation recognizes these bogus republics.

### Enter—Jay Parker and Associates

This quest for recognition has meant that South Africa must accelerate its forced

relocations of Black South Africans, taxing the resource poor reserves. J.A. Parker has served as a front man for the South Africa's homeland play since 1977, when he began representing the Transkei.

In 1981 he added the tiny homeland of Venda to his list of clients, collecting over \$100,000 to date to dress up its image here in the U.S. In his capacity as a representatives of this puppet state, Parker has maintained contacts with public officials such as Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, and ACTION director Thomas Parker. Not surprisingly, he also met with South African representatives, no doubt to keep them posted of his progress and activities.

### The Politics of Shame

According to Reagan's policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa, it is more useful to gently coax that country towards reform, than to take a more decisive and forceful approach. Notwithstanding, many organizations and nations have chosen to isolate South Africa culturally, socially, economically and politically. In view of the weight of opinion against South Africa has motivated Parker to take part in this exercise of deception?

It is evident that Parker identifies closely with Reagan, republicans and conservatism. He has served as head of Republican clubs and on at least four Reagan administration special program committees. His other pursuits include an impressive array of business and public oriented organizations, many of which have ties to the Black community. Without a doubt, his attractiveness for Reagan was linked to these important community and business ties as well as his conservative politics.

South Africa and its tottering homelands, have also found in Parker, a well connected businessman with ties to the administration. Ironically, they also have an influential Black person who will directly support the survival of the apartheid system of South Africa. This is crucial because, in order for the policy of apartheid to succeed, the homelands must be recognized in the U.S. and in other countries.

### Tragic Failures

Parker is perhaps aware that the rising spirit of resistance, which has gripped South Africa even more dramatically in the last several years, has spread to the homelands. The targets of this resistance, are the nominal Black leaders of these settlements and their fiefdoms. With the shaky future of these areas threatened even more from inside, the question is how much longer will Parkers' paycheck continue to arrive. With little progress made to date in polishing the image of

## ★ NEWS SHORTS ★

### **AFL-CIO Eyes South Africa**

The U.S. labor federation, the AFL-CIO, has recently shown great interest in South African trade union activity. In September 1982, it awarded its Meany award to Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, head of the KwaZulu bantustan. However, those familiar with Buthelezi's collaboration in the past with South Africa, and the labor federation's partnership with the CIA, fear that this is a new attempt to promote a "third force" in South Africa. The U.S. State Department plans to funnel \$875,000 through the AFL-CIO.

### **Tambo Declares**

#### **'Our Bases are in South Africa'**

Oliver Tambo, president of the Black South African liberation group, the African National Congress, recently said that the bases from which the ANC launches its guerrilla actions "are inside South Africa." This statement was made in rebuttal to claims from the South African government that the ANC is waging war from bases in neighboring Frontline" states.

### **Portugal Aids Puppet Insurgents**

Reports from Lisbon indicate that, through aid and encouragement, the

Portuguese government and various political parties are sustaining puppet rebel movements against former Portuguese colonies. These outlaw groups include the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), the Angolan National Convergence (CNA), and other South African-backed bandits.

### **Frontline States Ban Biased Reporters**

Information ministers of the Frontline States (FLS) meeting in Kadoma, Zimbabwe, issued a declaration which will prohibit activities of journalists based in South Africa, or those who file reports in that racist state.

Freedom of the press does not mean a license to lie; the action is a step toward counteracting the flow of deliberate misinformation that reaches the West through these South Africa-based correspondents. The ban affects 93 journalists from 53 press organizations.

### **South Africa Quickens Pace of Namibia's Rape**

World attention was recently drawn to the following information on Namibia: under the administration of South Africa,

Namibia's budget amounts to only 2.7% of South Africa's, and its economy is held hostage to the imbalance of trade forced on it by that nation. In 1982, the only growth sector was the government due to the South African obsession with establishing separate administrations for each ethnic group. Analysts say that by the time Namibia is independent, it will have one of the largest debt burdens of the world's nations.

### **FACTS/FIGURES**



#### **In 1982:**

- \*There were 338 strikes by Black workers in South Africa. These are the highest reported figures in 10 years and indicate that South Africans are continuing to struggle.
- \*Over 100,000 families were forcibly moved under the oppressive Group Areas Act.
- \*Over 40,000 persons in Johannesburg alone were arrested under the pass laws.
- \*It is estimated that U.S. investment in South Africa totalled \$14.6 billion dollars. Since Ronald Reagan became President and expanded relations with South Africa, new investments have amounted to \$8 billion.

### **CANGAMBA** (continued)

Unfortunately, the bombing of Cangamba is not an isolated incident. The villages of Kiteve and Mulundo were also hit with napalm bombs in the August raids, and South African soldiers have occupied Ngica (40 kilometers from the Namibia border) ever since South Africa invaded Angola in August of 1981. SWAPO (the Southwest Africa Peoples' Organization) has reported the massing of South African troops (10,000) on the Namibia side of the border, waiting for fresh attacks on Angola.

The Peoples' Republic government knows that South Africa hopes to "tease" Angola into crossing the border, thus internationalizing the conflict. South African forces have repeatedly tried to force Cuban troops, stationed in Angola at the Angolan government's request, to move beyond defensive position so that they can claim once again to be "fighting Communists."

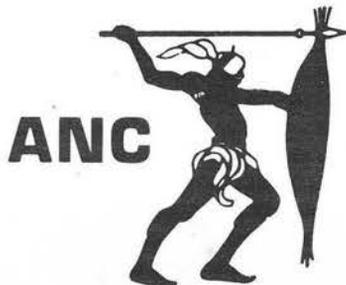
News of the bombing went unreported in most U.S. media sources, with the Washington Post only covering the story in its October 3rd and 4th editions. Even then, the story reflected only the South African version of the story, and credited UNITA forces with the military victory.

This is not surprising, given the media's historic role in the CIA effort to build support for forces other than the government of Angola—the United States still refuses to recognize the 8 year old government which replaced Portuguese colonial rule.

Of course, South Africa has denied its role in the Cangamba attack, instead admitting only to supportive reconnaissance flights for their puppet UNITA forces. The CIA has also denied its current support of UNITA, although a recent issue of Newsweek magazine listed Angola as one of many sites for global CIA operations.

Weapons taken by FAPLA after South Africa, mercenary and UNITA forces fled, however, proved a clear indication of which parties are supporting destabilizing efforts. The ammunition and war equipment were marked "NATO" (European and U.S. alliance), and "Republic of South Africa."

## **Umkhonto we Sizwe**



**Spear of the Nation**



### **BE A PART OF THE STRUGGLE**

Send Your Tax Deductible  
Contributions to  
**SASP**  
P.O. Box 50103  
Washington, D.C. 20004

### **CANADIAN DJ'S URGE CULTURAL BOYCOTT SUPPORT**

Two Toronto area DJ's, Norman "Otis" Richmond of CKLN and Milton Blake of CKAR/CKQT in Oshawa have released a statement saying that they will not air the records of entertainers who have performed in South Africa.

The two are encouraging other Toronto area DJ's to follow suit.

They are also circulating a list, compiled by the Black Music Association of America, of the 150 or so performers, both Black and white, who have broken the cultural boycott of South Africa by performing in Sun City, South Africa's Las Vegas-style resort, located in the "homeland" of Bophuthatswana.

Milton Blake, quoted in "Fuse," an alternative magazine published in Toronto, says not only is it important for him to contribute to the boycott effort as an individual and a broadcaster, but to make people more aware that "apartheid...is a serious problem for humanity in the 20th century."

## APARTHEID TERRORISM

(continued)

"In the 60's they were able to part with a dollar for a donation, but today such material support is more difficult to get.

"Still, we know we have (Black America's) moral support, that the spirit of solidarity will always be there, because they know we are fighting the same enemy that oppresses them."

The fact that South African attacks on the front line states supporting the ANC have grown comes as no surprise, says Matabane. "We expected that, and these countries will have to strengthen their defenses until we are able to bring the apartheid regime down."

The regime has even increased economic pressure on the front line states. A recent example is Lesotho, which was forced into expelling South African refugees it was protecting.

Matabane says this economic pressure has extended to some other African nations supporting the ANC, which are not even located near South Africa.

The South African government insists that refugees exiled in the front line states and other friendly African nations are really ANC "terrorists" operating guerrilla bases in those countries.

"They think that we have to rely on hiding in neighboring countries, that we run into South Africa from these countries, fight,

and run out. What they don't realize is that the struggle of the African National Congress is not going to be waged from the neighboring African states; it is being waged right inside South Africa.

"They can terrorize and disrupt those countries, but it's not going to stop the ANC from continuing its task of liberating the people."

Matabane added that South Africa's increased terror tactics are directly related to the U.S. corporate support for the apartheid regime.

"American corporations are reaping profits from the exploitation of our people, and that makes apartheid strong. Because of the regime's economic might, propped up by American corporate monies, South Africa does what it wants to do."

Matabane doesn't anticipate any immediate change in the Reagan Administration's friendly relations with South Africa. During a recent House subcommittee on Africa hearing, Matabane said he heard State Department representatives put forth the official U.S. line in support of the South Africa regime.

"They do not know that no one can stop a people ready to sacrifice their lives for freedom and independence," asserts Matabane. "Nothing is going to stop our people from liberating ourselves."

## BLACKS FOR REAGAN (continued)

South Africa or the homelands, how will Botha and Venda view throwing more money at the problem of recognition?

Time is indeed running out on the dual failures of apartheid and constructive

engagement. Parker and the homelands are emerging as the most tragic symbols of those failures, while in South Africa these "Botha-ville homelands" stand as stark monuments to the inhumanity of apartheid.



## WHAT IS SASP?

SASP is the Southern Africa Support Project — a community-based activist force whose primary functions are organizing, educating and informing the community about the struggles of our people in Southern Africa. Since its inception in 1978, SASP's collective efforts, along with those of the Washington, D.C. community, have raised over \$95,000, to purchase medical and educational supplies for our people fighting for liberation and socialist reconstruction in Southern Africa.

Although we've been able to accomplish so much in so short a period, victory in Southern Africa can be hastened if your energies are added to SASP'S. Call (202) 332-2009 for more information.

Find out how YOU can be part of the struggle!

## IMPORTANT UPDATE:

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### South Africa Will Seek

#### Legal Challenge to Divestment

The Africa News Service reports that the government of South Africa is preparing to enter legal challenges to existing and proposed legislation, which prohibit contact with South Africa business. This effort will be spearheaded by the South Africa Foundation, which is sponsored by business interests in the U.S., South Africa and Europe.

The aim of the challenge is to have divestment laws declared unconstitutional or to discourage their introduction and enactment by the threat of costly, extended litigation.

This effort is sure to utilize the service of numerous agents that the South African government employs in the U.S. at a cost of over several million dollars each year. Signs of the buildup before the beginning of the campaign can be seen in the increase of such agents hired by the racist Pretoria regime during the last six months.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO?

- 1) Pass this newsletter on to your family, friends, co-workers—let SASP know if more copies are needed, or if you'd like more info.
- 2) Ask your church, organization, and/or social club to include slides or a film on Southern Africa in a regularly scheduled meeting. Or, sponsor a program on Southern Africa.
- 3) Call the offices of newspapers, TV, and radio stations when you notice that only the viewpoint of South Africa is being presented.
- 4) When listening to your elected representatives speak, ask them about their position on South Africa and the role of the United States in the Southern Africa region.

# A LUTA CONTINUA!!!

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