

\$TOP BANKING ON APARTHEID (begun in 10/76)- GENERAL ACTIVITIES

From 77-81 distributed monthly newsletter intensively throughout CA and to selected individuals and organizations in every state.

Shared information, activities and types of divestment materials with European organizations; did 2 intensive 7-week speaking tours in Europe in 1984/5

Trained 45+ interns in divestment activism who went on to work in US and Europe

Conducted research on bank loans and corporate activities in SA; distributed throughout California.

Targeted Bank of America in 1979; On one day in 1979, leafletted 750 BofA branches (2/3 of total branches); follow-up conducted for next 5 years until ceased loans.

Also focused on 9 other CA Banks making loans to SA; always linked to local role in redlining, etc. By 1986 all CA banks ceased making loans to SA.

Distributed Citizen's Initiative Manual, "Our Town Out of South Africa: A Key to Gaining Community Control Over Your City's Public Funds" throughout USA (based on experiences gained in passing CA's first Banking Ordinance in Berkeley in 1979)

MUNICIPAL & STATE ORDINANCES

Greater Bay Area cities, counties, etc. passing South Africa divestment Ordinances (Berkeley's 1979 bank loan ordinance first served as a model; Oakland's 1985 comprehensive Ordinance including purchasing then served as a model in the U.S.)

Berkeley, Cotati, San Jose, Los Angeles, Richmond, Santa Cruz, Stockton, Fresno, San Francisco, East Palo Alto, Santa Barbara, Palo Alto, Emeryville, Davis, Sacramento (plus California League of Cities adopted supportive divestment resolution and agreed to distribute information about divestment actions cities could take).

Sonoma County, Contra Costa County, Alameda County, Santa Clara County,

East Bay Municipal Utility District, Bay Area Rapid Transit District, Alameda County Transit District, Port of Oakland, Oakland Unified School District, Peralta Community College District

State of California: Divestment Ordinance covers all pension funds, as well as University of California system and State College system (when this passed, covered \$11 billion in funds and doubled amount of dollars committed to divestment within US). Also passed Voter Initiative in 1988 which mandates that all corporate stock sales taking place within CA must contain information about the company's South Africa activities (this bill was initiated by citizens in Contra Costa County).

City of Berkeley declared month of 9/85 as "Divestment Month" and urged local merchants to boycott South African products.

RELIGIOUS

All 17 member denominations of the Northern California Ecumenical Council adopted divestment resolutions. Bishops also signed statements supporting full divestment for State of California.

Churches and synagogues consistently held Days of Concern, Memorial Days, received South African (including ANC) and Namibian (including SWAPO) speakers. Many churches in Bay Area officially became Anti-Apartheid Churches. Others used South African struggle as a means of introducing liberation theology. Many others posted the Freedom Charter and officially supported the ANC.

Councils of Churches within Northern California likewise adopted divestment resolutions and received South African speakers.

Several Council of Churches conducted material aid drives for South African communities.

WITNESS for South Africa, based in Oakland, provided the organizing and informational link for churches and Church Councils throughout northern and central California.

TRADE UNION

5 of 8 county Trade Union Councils adopted resolutions supporting divestment.

In Bay Area, most member locals of the AFL-CIO adopted divestment resolutions and spurred activities within their nationals.

Bay Area locals successfully challenged national AFL-CIO policy with respect to South Africa (changed from training selected South African unions, to supporting independent black trade unions. Also supported divestment actions by member unions.)

Several trade union conferences concerning South Africa were hosted by Bay Area locals (beginning in 1975).

Many locals supported Southern Africa educational activities within the local.

International Longshoremen's Union consistently provided leadership by refusing to offload South African cargo in Port of San Francisco and Oakland; spurred activities throughout port cities)

Locals consistently interfaced with broad array of community groups in anti-apartheid activities.

SPECIFIC TYPES OF ANTI-APARTHEID ACTIVITIES

Oakland hosted major celebration of Mozambique's independence, attended by US Ambassador (kind of remember it being Samora Machel but seems rather implausible)

Zimbabwe Medical Aid Drive in support of ZANU (74?) which involved all sectors of the Bay Area in money, clothing and medical donations.

Numerous conferences have been held since early 70s which involved many different constituencies.

Fund raisers for ANC and SWAPO consistently held by different organizations and communities back to late 60s.

Consistent interlinking of different liberation struggles (Chile, Nicaragua, Phillipines) so that South Africa was often raised at rallies and pickets sponsored by Latin America, Central America and Asia focus groups

Art Against Apartheid long history in Bay Area.

Musicians also formed alliances over years (Musicians Against Apartheid, Reggae Against Apartheid!, Asian-American Artists Against Apartheid, etc.)

Organized protests around racist South African focus movies (The Gods Must Be Crazy, etc.)

Numerous South African and Namibian speakers have been itinerated to a wide variety of communities.

School Districts supported bringing speakers and adopted special South Africa curriculum units opposing apartheid. Also adopted resolutions refusing to receive South African educators.

High School students throughout greater Bay Area sponsored Anti-Apartheid Weeks, got speakers onto campus, held protest activities, etc.

Same with community and state colleges, not to mention UC system (usually spearheaded by UC-Berkeley).

Initiated "Free South Africa/Promote Peace in the World Stamp" distributed throughout US

Held numerous special focus demonstrations (International Women's Day and South African Women's Day, etc.)

Tourism promotion by South Africa routinely targeted by activities and protest activities arranged (usually after one protest, other cities cancelled the arranged promotional activities).

Lobbied California and National Democratic Parties to include divestment support in their platforms.

Lobbied local Republican parties to oppose apartheid and the South African government.

Instrumental in supporting numerous workers within companies which protested their company's activities in South Africa or sale of South African products.

SPECIFIC ANTI-APARTHEID ACTIVITIES continued

Conducted Africa Peace Tour throughout northern and central California from 4/10-28/1988 (focused on high schools, community organizations of color, workers organizations, press, religious groups in all of the following cities: Davis, Sacramento, Stockton, Modesto, Merced, Fresno, Salinas, San Jose, Oakland, Richmond, Concord, Vallejo, Santa Rosa, Garberville, Eureka, Arcata, Hoopa Indian Reservation, Redding, Chico, Oroville, San Francisco and Gilroy). Excellent reception.