

SHAREHOLDER PROPOSAL FOR ROYAL DUTCH PETROLEUM

- Whereas the South African government has persistently blocked peaceful channels for blacks to request changes in apartheid:
- voting: Africans cannot vote in national elections.
 - negotiations: The government has refused to negotiate with moderate black leaders.
 - peaceful demonstrations: Large public meetings are forbidden and thousands of people have been arrested for participating in such meetings.
 - banning: Individual leaders are "banned" without trial and it is a crime to quote them or meet with them.
- Whereas the African National Congress has been outlawed and its leaders arrested and the government appears to be repeating this pattern with the United Democratic Front;
- Whereas the South African government has turned increasingly to violence against black opposition. The massacres at Sharpeville and Uitenhage in 1960 were only the beginning. Since then hundreds of schoolchildren have been shot and the government has forcefully removed over 3,000,000 blacks from their homes and relocated them;
- Whereas many US corporations, as Sullivan Principle signatories, and Royal Dutch Petroleum (RDP) have spent great amounts of time and money on various social programs to improve the lives of blacks inside and outside the workplace. Yet these programs all occur within the structure of apartheid, and we believe they can no longer be used to justify the presence of foreign business in South Africa unless apartheid ends;
- Whereas by July 1986 50 US corporations had already left South Africa, and scores of foreign banks had stopped lending to the South African government and the private sector;
- Whereas Bishop Desmond Tutu has called for the withdrawal of foreign investments and the Rev. Leon Sullivan has stated that if apartheid is not ended by May 31, 1987, all US companies should leave the country. The South African Council of Churches, whose offices were raided several times in June and July 1986, has asserted that disinvestment and similar economic pressures are now called for to bring about change;
- Whereas over 2,000 people had been killed as of July 1986 when the South African government declared a state of emergency, with extreme press censorship and martial law, resulting in arrests of thousands;
- Whereas we believe that RDP plays an important role in supporting the white minority government because of sales to the police and military, importing oil from overseas, and the firing of workers striking to obtain rights;
- Whereas RDP is the object of an international consumer boycott and divestment campaign by the United Mineworkers and other unions, the Free South Africa Movement and European and American churches and stands to lose sales and suffer in its public image unless it withdraws from South Africa;

Whereas for ten years churches in Britain and Holland have questioned RDP's involvement in South Africa;

Whereas the present conditions in South Africa make continued viable economic investments risky;

Resolved that shareholders request the Board to establish the following policy:

The corporation should take immediate steps to terminate all operations in South Africa and announce publicly to the South African government that it plans to leave as soon as possible.