Supported by staff and committees of AFSC regional offices and some Friends Meetings, some 40 college-age volunteers are at work during the summer of 1978 in at least eleven cities across the United States to carry out education and action projects on the issues of Southern Africa and U.S. responsibilities. The theme: "U.S. - Apartheid: Break the Links".

This second issue of the Southern Africa Summer Newsletter is drawn from reports written in the second and third weeks of July.

ACTIVITIES

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  David Zarembka of the Pittsburgh Friends Meeting and SAS support committee reflects on the background to his Meeting's participation in Southern Africa Summer: "Since Pittsburgh is the only city in which an SAS project is wholly sponsored by a Friends Meeting and overseen by a committee composed of ten members of the Meeting, it may be helpful to give some details of the effort to date. First it should be noted that two of our committee's members are from Kenya and two others spent considerable time in Zimbabwe and Kenya. Nevertheless when Lou Schneider's letter about SAS was brought up in Business Meeting of the Pittsburgh Friends Meeting, there was not much interest in such a project: some said there were better things to spend our time on, South Africa was too far away, the Meeting was over-committed, what did the AFSC know about Southern Africa anyway, how could a college student convey the correct pacifist Quaker position, what about the violence already occurring, where would the money come from, and so on.

'To make a long story short...there were many consultations with members of the Meeting, a special Business Meeting convened, and careful plans drawn up which answered objections raised by members of the Meeting. In Carla Watson, the committee found an appropriate volunteer. The point here is that all these careful consultations have changed the whole climate of the Friends Meeting vis-a-vis Southern African issues. People who had only the vaguest ideas about South Africa are reading all kinds of books on the subject; the South African problem has arisen very movingly in Meeting for Worship a number of times. People state openly that South Africa is an ugly situation.
from which some Friends would rather hide, but cannot. The showing of "Last Grave at Dimbaza" naturally was received with a sympathetic response; Members want to show the film again in the fall for Quakers who were away at the summer showing, and two Members have requested that "Last Grave." be shown to their study groups in the suburbs.

"A quickly arranged Flea Market generated $317 for the summer project. The result is that the Meeting will more than likely continue its Southern Africa Summer project, in one form or another, after the summer ends."

SAS worker Carla Watson reports: "I began the summer by going around to other groups to learn what type of activities were happening in Pittsburgh around Southern Africa. Our committee then divided up tasks to work on. A chapter of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility has been working on Mellon Bank and Pittsburgh National Bank. Dave Zarembka has been in communication with PNB which is the less responsive of the two. We are planning to continue a dialogue while alerting the general public of the situation.

"I have been working with members of other groups (mainly the African Liberation Support Committee) to establish the Zimbabwe Emergency Medical Committee. I have organized a mailing list, and drafted a fact sheet and cover letter to be sent out. We are trying to establish an office from which we can work. To date we are using my house and phone.

"We made a collection at a recent lecture/concert of Gil Scott Heron. We raised $150.

"Right now we are (I am) designing a bulletin to be sent out with the medical committee information and looking for places to show "Last Grave..." I have the film for the summer."

Mobile, Alabama SAS Support person Brenda Joyner reports: The Southern Africa Summer Project is off and moving! We have three workers doing Southern Africa work in Mobile, Alabama. All are women, between the ages of 19 and 21. I was in Mobile two weeks ago and was very pleased with the quality of our workers and the excitement which they bring to the summer's work. All three are college students: two at Bishop State Junior College and one at a local Christian College. We also have a Southern Africa Advisory Committee of 5 local people, four of whom have very long histories of active community organizing in the Black community. Two members of that Committee have good working knowledge of Southern Africa issues and developments. One member of that Committee is particularly interested in doing work with white citizens of Mobile, probably through the church.

"My stay in Mobile included: (1) an orientation for the summer workers on AFSC's approach to Southern Africa, a history of the struggle for self-determination, and some current issues in the Southern Africa crisis; (2) a visit with the Assistant to the Pres. and some Social Science faculty at Bishop State College to help facilitate Southern Africa programs on the campus; (3) meeting with the Advisory Committee, the summer workers, Chairperson of the local PE Committee, Roslyn Snyder to do long range planning for the summer program. The target groups for the summer include: the Ministerial Alliance, Black Action Coalition, White & Black Church groups, High Schools and Colleges.

"During the time I was in Mobile, the workers carried out an excellent program with two groups at a local high school. One of the strengths of our program there is the conscious choice on the part of the staff and workers to make Southern Africa real for Mobile citizens by drawing parallels with the problems and concerns which already exist in their community. This approach to Southern Africa is widely recognized as highly important, but is not very developed in most of AFSC's work on this issue."
Chicago, Illinois  
SAS Support person Marcy Morgan reports that the Chicago project, involving 20 SAS volunteers, has taken as its objectives: (1) to educate the Chicago community concerning the situation in Southern Africa and what they can do to help; (2) to develop materials and slide show on Southern Africa: (a) "students of Chicago - students of Soweto;" (b) "From Chicago to South Africa" (community focus) (c) "The press role in South Africa;" (3) to assist community activists on skills for South Africa and community issues: (a) how to write leaflets, (b) leafletting the community, (c) how to write press releases.

"During the first three weeks of July the internal educational process for 20 young volunteers has included speakers addressing the following issues: University investments and South Africa; Church groups and South Africa; History of the Liberation Movements in Southern Africa. The volunteers were expected to study the major chapters in Torment to Triumph in Southern Africa, sections 2 and 4 of the SAS Organizer's Notebook, to attend bi-weekly meetings to hear special speakers, and to be able to handle such questions as, 'What are the political causes of the oppression in Southern Africa?', 'What is the Krugerrand and why is it important?' and 'Why end U.S. involvement in Southern Africa?'

"To point to the specific we have managed to organize a committee that is very concerned about the liberation struggle in Southern Africa and is ready to devote some time and energy. I feel that our committee is composed of several articulate individuals from a wide range of occupations who have agreed whole heartedly that oppressive racism should be eliminated in Southern Africa.

"Our long range goal is to help build a serious, consistent and broad movement of people in the Baltimore area around Southern Africa Liberation. We believe that while doing so we must explicitly show the connections between the struggles for employment, inadequate housing, good education and medical care in the U.S.A. and the struggle in Southern Africa. In keeping with the spirit of the Southern Africa Summer Program we have adopted the slogan - Break the Links U.S.-Apartheid.

"We have made speaking engagements and slide show presentations our top priority. These focus on the current levels of U.S. involvement (Economic, Political, Military) in Southern Africa with special emphasis on how it helps to support the racist Southern African minority regimes. Also, every chance we get we try to show how U.S. involvement there affects the lives of people here in America (red line issues, runaway shops etc.).
"The number one project of the committee members is to set up speaking engagements with concerned groups. So far we have had two successful engagements at the Friends Meetings at Stony Run and Homewood. I personally had the pleasure of entertaining with both slide shows a group of Morgan University students at a crab feast. We received promises for future engagements. Our committee also have engagements set on July 17 and 24 at Antioch College and I am in the process of setting an engagement at Towson State Univ.

"Along with speaking engagements we also mailed letters to churches and other groups expressing what the AFSC Southern Africa Summer Program entails. Response had been limited in this area, but we are not discouraged.

"Our pet project is centered around the Krugerrand coin. Presently we are engaged in a campaign that hopefully will lead to city council legislation action banning the sale of this coin in Baltimore City. We have managed to gain support from various African Liberation movements along with The Ministerial Alliance, the Afro-American (Fred Hines, Staff Editor) and general people we have met along the campaign trail.

"Our Southern Africa Summer Committee has already purchased a booth at this year's Afro-American Festival (Afram). In keeping with the spirit of this year's Afram theme (Black Youth) we will primarily distribute literature concerning the plight of Southern African children. Our overall objective is to inform the public about the total liberation struggle in Southern Africa. Last year it was estimated that 200,000 people attended this festival, therefore you can see why we have labelled this one of the big events.

"We are still in the planning stage of our African Women's Day celebration, and we have received some commitments from local groups to join in and try to launch a large city-wide celebration."

San Francisco, California SAS worker Karen Johnson reports: "Our major goal this summer has been the initiation of individual and organizational contacts in local Third World communities. Specifically, we have been concentrating outreach efforts in Oakland, a primarily black city near San Francisco. Tentative contacts with Japanese and Chicano groups in San Francisco and San Jose have also been initiated and presentations made.

"Our greatest success has been gaining access to local churches through individual ministers and clerical associations. So far over thirty churches have been reached. Presentations are either being planned or have been made. We have also reached black professional organizations, such as lawyers guilds and democratic clubs. Furthermore, we have initiated talks of solidarity with the local NAACP branch, ILWU, Oakland Board of Supervisors, and citizen activist organizations. Unfortunately, we have had difficulty in reaching 'community' or 'street' leaders due to the overwhelming ramifications of the Jarvis-Gann Tax Initiative. In fact many of our outreach attempts, even to black churches, have been frustrated to varying degrees by understandable local preoccupation with the effect of massive state budget cuts.

"The concurrent goal to outreach in our region has been encouraging divestment, especially through removal of funds from banks lending to South Africa. Our major target has been the Bank of America, which has over $200 million currently in loans to apartheid forces. To this end our AFSC region has formulated Stop Banking on Apartheid, a coalition of anti-apartheid organizations and is working with KOPANO, which consists of local Black South Africans. Local campus and pro-liberation support groups have also allied for the anti-Bank of America campaign. On June 16, we leafletted over sixty branches of Bank of America, passing out 20,000 leaflets to customers entering or leaving bank premises, urging customer removal of funds in protest of bank policy. Further leafletting campaigns are planned as money allows. Response has been generally very positive. Over 90% of all Bank of America customers accepted leaflets - none were thrown away to our knowledge. We could see people reading in line. Also people have and still
are withdrawing accounts. Several black churches plan to do so in the near future.

"Future activities include; continuation of Third World community outreach, continuation of public education and information presentations, and special activities for August 9th. Activities for South African Women's Day are two-fold: a mass (fingers-crossed) picket of the South African Consulate and a political/cultural program that following Saturday, featuring music, dance, audio-visual presentations and political speakers. Specifics of the program are still evolving as we are sharing responsibility with the Third World Women's Alliance of which one of our Peace Education staff is a member."

**Portland, Oregon**  Along with a number of clippings from Portland newspapers, SAS worker Fungai Kumbula sent in this report of activities:

(1) Attended the NAACP convention, where we met and talked with people from all across the country about Southern Africa. Some very useful exchanges, including one with NAACP director Benjamin Hooks about sanctions against South Africa. (2) I interviewed South African editor Donald Woods, and had him address the question of the South African ambassador's visit to Portland. (3) We attended a conference of conservative pacifists, where our workshop on Southern Africa attracted one of the biggest audiences of the entire conference. We showed the slideshow 'Freedom Rising' and answered questions for two hours afterwards. Elizabeth (Buff Groff) did an excellent job. (4) Talked to a group of progressive community people at the Black Educational Center, showing them 'Last Grave at Dimbaza,' and getting requests to show more films and slideshows. (5) I was asked to speak at the demonstration against the South African ambassador's visit. It was a spirited demonstration. (6) Wrote letters to the press, and worked like a horse! (7) Took part in a radio talk show. The Portland SAS team is working closely with a citywide group, Portland Citizens Against Racism."

**Dayton, Ohio**  SAS workers Mary Wade, John Young & Sue Mason report: "Our SAS program started out with a lot of work and seemingly little payoff, in other words, laying the groundwork. About 160 letters announcing the program and asking for speaking engagements and contact. This was followed up by phone calls. The response was not an overwhelming rush on the office but we persevered and as a result are now reaping some rewards of our labor. We showed 'Last Grave', or 'There is no Crisis' to Operation Sisters United, Wright State University (2 classes), National Assn of Black Social Workers and local Quakers. We have done three radio programs including Backpage, a hour long program of call-ins from the community. It was a success. On Tuesday night we will be-taping a TV program, 'Black Press Forum,' similar to Meet The Press. This Saturday we will participate in the Annual Conference of the Ohio Black Political Assembly. A state senator, two members of two different Ohio School Boards as well as city leaders and peoples from all over the state of Ohio will be in attendance. We are a major part of that program,(2 hours).

"We consider our biggest success to be just the last four weeks of leafletting and talking to hundreds of people face to face on the Ex-Im issue. We also sent a hundred signatures on a petition to the Washington Office on Africa, and have more.

"We are in the process of planning a 12-hour vigil in the courthouse square for Tuesday 25 July. We will have the President of the NAACP (Dayton), working on a commissioner, have a minister and I, Mary Wade will speak. Music, leafletting, the showing of 'Last Grave' (videotaped) and silent vigil will be the order of the day. We are excited about it.

"We are also working on a research paper on what companies in the Dayton area are doing what in SA, what stores are selling the Krugerrand and whatever info we can get pertaining to the banks in this area. Incidentally, we discovered last week that the city has a resolution against selling the Krugerrand, as of April 6, 1977."
Kalamazoo, Michigan Sally Wallace writes: "Our SAS objectives are still basically the same: trying to inform. This can be difficult, mainly because we’re dealing with people with varying degrees of knowledge on the issue. So we are trying to vary the information in order to reach every level of sophistication. To those at point zero, we introduce the subject by showing 'Last Grave...' and using fact sheets. For those who have a moderate amount of information, we are directing them to discussion sessions and/or to events at Kalamazoo College.

"We have shown 'Last Grave...' a few times to church people and community leaders. Response has been positive but man, it's tough to move people -- especially suburbanites -- to action. We've also arranged to show the film after three masses at St. Thomas Church on the weekend of July 15th. There is also to be a showing at the local United Auto Workers on the 13th. We operated a booth at the Kalamazoo Ethnic Festival, where response again was positive. We leafletted about SAS events and provided general information about South Africa. On a petition asking for municipal selectivity in purchasing and contracts (to avoid firms with South African interests) we collected about 100 signatures!

"We've found that church people -- especially from poorer churches with few political connections, or student churches -- are the best to talk to. Even if a church is more 'politically concerned' (i.e., the president of Upjohn Pharmaceuticals attends) they are still willing to work on the clothing drive or give financial support to the project.

"We've located a great resource person in Kalamazoo: Gavin Gardi, a white South African exile. His mother was a social worker, imprisoned for 'terrorism' and later killed (Gavin believes) by the security police. At age 15 Gavin started working for NUSAS and living illegally with a Zulu family. He was with them in fact when they were 're-settled' by the authorities. He was arrested several times for his participation with a black theatre group, The Phoenix Players, in Soweto. When he was 18 (1972) he was told to leave or be jailed for good for terrorism. He has since worked for the International Defense and Aid Fund and the United Nations. He's working with us, speaking and leading discussions. First-person narratives are very effective. He has some good ideas about our SAS work too.

"We are plugging into events connected with the African Studies branch of Kalamazoo College on the weekend of the 13th and 14th of July. There will be presentations by a representative of the South Africa Foundation and Ben Magabane. On the following weekend, Tim Smith and Prexy Nesbitt will be speaking on multinational in South Africa. A general Motors representative will also be there to defend G.M.'s presence in South Africa."

**Suggestions, Do's and Don't's**

From Kalamazoo: "Present a unified front! By this I mean, reach agreements on issues and actions with your collaborators before you speak. For example, one night Gavin and I were giving a presentation and he and I got to arguing about pressure on corporations. Gavin thinks we simply are wasting our energy: the corporations won't listen because we don't have the dough. I disagree. I think corporations are vulnerable to public pressure....We may have lost some valuable support because we didn't get it together. So Gavin and I have compromised: He'll talk about assistance to refugees, & I'll talk about divestiture."

From Portland: "Do your homework and do it well. Never be caught off guard. You have to be on top of everything. Sound authoritative, like you know what you are talking about inside out. Have all the answers. Do not alienate anybody if you can help it. Work with other groups that have the same objectives. Draw parallels between the U.S. and South Africa."
From San Francisco: "Remember to explore delegation of activities through alliances when possible. And above all: REMEMBER to stress the ties between domestic conditions and injustices and those in South Africa. By working in Third World communities, I have found this especially important and relevant in building conceptual bridges."

From Pittsburgh: "I don't think that Pittsburgh Friends Meeting is all that much different from many Quaker Meetings. Consequently I would feel that efforts pointed in the direction of Quaker Meetings could be fruitful areas for SAS volunteers. With the help of one or two members inside a Meeting, it is possible to arouse the Quakers to concern (and hopefully action). In the case of Pittsburgh, when the Meeting decided to bring to bear its funds, but much more importantly its expertise in doing a job well and correctly, a strong foundation has been laid."

From Western Massachusetts: Frances Crowe reports: "Yesterday I showed the film, 'There is No Crisis' to the Director and staff at the YWCA in Springfield. There is a very moving interview in that film with a South African woman, black, who is the director of the black YWCA in that country. The day after her interview for the film she was jailed; as far as I know she is still incarcerated. This film gives AFSC important leverage into the 'Y's' of this country.

'I'd like to know immediately what the name of this woman is and what her status is at this time. Has AFSC been alerting Y's to the plight of this woman. I know that I can make some links with local Y's if I had more information on her. Perhaps too she can be featured on the August 9 South African Women's Day."

From Chicago: "DO - Reach out to all groups who want to know about Southern Africa;
DO - Investigate who (interests, possible questions) you are going to talk to before you go. DON'T ever underestimate your audience's concerns. DON'T yield to those who insist that those from South Africa know more about the situation than we do. That is raising 'where you live' over facts about where you live. Having never been to South Africa does not mean that you can't speak authoritatively on the subject and having come from or visited there does not mean that you fully realized where you'd been."
U.S. plays covert role in Southern Africa

To the Record editor:

Throughout this country and the rest of the world where human rights and freedom are cherished, there is an ongoing campaign to end all U.S. and other foreign governmental and corporate assistance to the apartheid regime in South Africa. While various forms of oppression are practiced in many parts of the world, only in South Africa is apartheid (pronounced apart-hate) — the total separation of races, "sacred" under law.

In South Africa, non-whites who comprise 83 percent of the population are denied their most fundamental human and political rights. By forcibly removing the black majority to 13 percent of the country's most arid and unproductive lands, the government has rendered the people of South Africa as aliens in their own land of their birth and their forebears. Black male workers are forced to work in the grueling mines and factories for 70 hours a week at the below poverty wages while the government uproots their families and removes them into reservations hundreds of miles away. This is done because, as a prominent South African government minister explains, "the women and children (of the black laborers) are superfluous appendages."

One third of the black children die before they are one year old, half the children are dead before they reach the age of five. The rest linger on, suffering from massive malnutrition, hunger, despair and anger. By contrast, the white minority enjoys a higher standard of living then any place in Europe. Their luxury and prosperity is of course dependent on the blood, toil and anguish of the blacks — the slaves in South Africa.

The U.S. government, through its Export-Import Bank, has been guaranteeing loans to corporations doing business in and with South Africa. Corporations receiving such assistance include the agencies of the South African government, even though the Executive Order in 1964 expressly forbade direct loans to the government of South Africa. The record of the corporations is very clear. By generating superfluous appendages, the U.S. government is helping to sustain the apartheid regime.

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