PROPOSAL FOR CHICAGO WITHDRAWAL DAY CAMPAIGN

1. Purposes:

(1) to do targeted outreach to specific institutional investors (esp. community organizations, labor unions, churches not previously reached) and constituencies to get them to join the BLC and participate in a Withdrawal Day

(2) to develop a multi-racial campaign, as far as possible, around the banks and their impact in South Africa and in low-income minority communities in Chicago

(3) to develop a concrete analysis of the links between international lending (to So.Africa, Chile) and red-lining and other banking practices in Chgo and to develop ongoing, mutually supportive links with groups active on any of these issues

(4) to garner support from public figures (aldermanic, legislative) for the BLC and withdrawal day.

2. Proposed Campaign:

Nov. A. Formation of initial planning group: Shd target community activist groups, Chile and So. Africa groups (non-sectarian), unions, church groups active on the issue, and esp. black groups.

Nov. B. Invitation to join Withdrawal Day Campaign should then be issued to broader array of groups, with general principles of unity and guidelines for working together spelled out.

late Nov. C. Formation of working committees: From groups recruited, shd form working committees to focus on:

- Outreach (to encourage groups to withdraw accounts; would work with housing/student/labor/community/church groups/parents grps)

- Research: to gather data about mortgage/loan lending policies of banks in Chicago, to make concrete the links between its international and domestic/local activities

- Media: responsible for issuing all releases of the campaign, developing ongoing media exposure (e.g. radio/tv interviews) and posters & leaflets (all grps shd agree to not issue separate publicity on the Day)

Other concerns re Campaign structure: Would be an ad hoc working group drawn together to work on this project/event; it is not an ongoing coalition (after Withdrawal Day & depending on working relations established, the issue of more ongoing/permanent relations can be worked out). Groups retain separate identities but,
if working on this campaign, agree to do all work under/through aegis of Withdrawal Day Campaign (all member/participating groups will be listed on literature going out)

A simple basis of unity for the working group should be drawn up. Cd recruit student interns to work on this?

Dec-Jan D. Beginning of build-up activities to Withdrawal Day:
- get student/church groups to participate in regularly scheduled leaflettings/pickets/"slippings" (of mock deposit/withdrawal slips) at banks
- media strategy for getting visibility put into action
- perhaps some public educationals on mortgage/loan practices of Chgo banks/their international lending practices

Feb. E. Begin planning for specific events on Withdrawal Day:
Such activities could include:
- press conference for announcing institutional withdrawals
- guerrilla theatre
- Media blitz before
- actions at all Continental/1st National outlets of some kind
- VISA/Acct card burnings in front of banks
- petty harrassment (have students/kids go in to change pennies)

Mar-Apr. F. Withdrawal Day: Either March 21 (Sharpeville Day) or another appropriate date (shareholders meetings of banks?)

G. Evaluation: Meeting of participating groups/individuals to evaluate campaign as a whole, impact of Withdrawal Day, if there is a basis for future joint work and what that basis is.

Unresolved issues:
Do we want membership in this Campaign to be by group? or by individuals? (with group endorsements of the Campaign)?

What guidelines shd be used for all participating groups/individuals? Can independent publicity be done?

What simple basis of unity of such a campaign shd be developed? (e.g. Opposition to Bank Loans to So.Africa and Chile Opposition to red-lining re mortgages and loans in low-income and minority Chicago communities)