Resolution on National Actions

CALL FOR A NATIONAL WEEK OF ACTIONS, MARCH 18-24, 1979, TO DEMAND:
UNITED STATES OUT OF SOUTHERN AFRICA:— DIVEST NOW:
SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA:
NO TO RACISM FROM THE UNITED STATES TO SOUTH AFRICA:

WHEREAS, the United States government continues to maintain diplomatic, cultural, political, economic, and military ties with South Africa and allows corporations and others to make investments;

WHEREAS, scores of American institutions -- from banks, churches, universities, and unions -- also invest in South Africa, which helps the economy and stability of the apartheid regime;

WHEREAS, the North East Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa is discussing the need for a National Day of Action in March 21, 1979, and the Committee to Oppose Bank Loans to South Africa is already planning regional actions at banks on March 21, 1979;

WHEREAS, the United Nations has declared March 21, 1978 to March 20, 1979, and International Anti-Apartheid Year;

BE IT RESOLVED, that we stand on the following points of unity in order to act together:

1) To build the sell the stock movement in the Midwest by focusing campaigns of struggle demanding total university divestiture and ending all other university support for racist white minority rule in southern Africa; that we demand total United States withdrawal from southern Africa, including breaking all cultural, diplomatic, political, economic, and military ties with the apartheid regime — and especially that the United States cease sending military aid to the white minority racist regimes in South Africa, Namibia, and Zimbabwe;

2) To recognize the right of self-determination of the people of southern Africa and give unconditional support including political and material aid to all liberation movements fighting for that objective.

3) To recognize that the struggle against racism and national oppression in southern Africa is a contribution to the struggle against racism and national oppression in the United States and we should consciously make this link in our struggles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we set March 18-24, 1979, as a National Week of Actions to continue the education of the American people on United States involvement in southern Africa; to carry out specific actions on our campuses -- pickets, rallies, forums, teachins -- against university, corporate, church, and union investments, as well as bank loans given to South Africa; and other activities to build a movement to stay the hands of Washington from sending troops against the liberation movements;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this conference will urge all interested organizations and future conferences to give urgent consideration to planning a National Protest Action coordinating all those opposed to continued United States complicity in the oppression and exploitation of the people of southern Africa;

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution be communicated to future conferences on southern Africa taking place this fall, anti-apartheid organizations and committees, not present, and the public at large.


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* insert the phrase, 'as our contribution to building a national movement.'
Resolution on the Soweto Trials

FREE THE SOWETO 11: FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS:

WHEREAS, the racist white minority regime in South Africa exploits and victimizes Blacks for being Blacks,

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of Blacks have been arrested, beaten, and tortured for decades for opposing the apartheid segregation system,

WHEREAS, eleven Black student leaders are presently on trial before the Supreme Court in Kempton Park near Johannesburg on charges of 'sedition' and 'terrorism' (the first 'sedition' trial in South Africa since 1927 and carrying the sentence of death);

WHEREAS, the only crime of the eleven Black student leaders, all members of the now banned Soweto Students Representative Council (SSRC), and the seven prominent Black exiles named as co-conspirators (including three former presidents of SSRC and Drake Kgalushi Koka, Secretary General of the Black Allied Workers Union) was to fight the apartheid system and seek Black control of their country;

WHEREAS, the murder of Steve Biko, the threatened execution of African National Congress member, Solomon Mahlangu, and the life imprisonment of African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela, indicate the nature of the South African regime's justice;

BE IT RESOLVED, that solidarity protests be organized demanding the freedom of the eleven and all political prisoners in South Africa;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that education on the issue of repression in South Africa, the trial of the eleven, and the plight of all political prisoners be a part of the support activities as well as other activities organized by groups and organizations participating in the African solidarity movement.


10/22/78
Resolution on a Steering Committee

Resolution on the formation of a steering committee for the Midwest Region to continue the work of the Midwest Regional Conference on 'University and Corporate Involvement in South Africa'.

WHEREAS, this Midwest Conference on southern Africa represents a big step forward in building a regional and national movement in solidarity with the liberation struggles in southern Africa;

WHEREAS, we have decided on a number of important actions and activities to build our local groups and help build a national network in the African solidarity movement;

BE IT RESOLVED, that a Midwest Regional Steering Committee be established to serve as a clearing house of information between different campus groups and organizations present at the conference; and to begin to make contacts with groups and individuals not present at the conference and others we may wish to involve in this movement;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proposed coalition should:
1) Unite around the principles of standing against apartheid, for freedom in southern Africa, and against U.S. imperialism.
2) Principally base its efforts in the campus struggles against university ties with apartheid and focus on the campus divestment movement, while operating in the community whenever practical.
3) To intensify the divestment struggles and continue to organize militant campus actions and education on the issue of southern Africa.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT,
1) What is needed is a steering committee which sums up local experience, solves real problems, coordinates actions, shares resources, publishes a newsletter, and develops new committees on campuses and in the community where possible.
2) To accomplish this task the steering committee should be principally student based, but not exclusively. And that the steering will be composed of delegates from campus coalitions, local organizations, and national organizations active against apartheid. Each group shall have a single vote. The meetings shall be open to all activists with voice, but without vote. The meetings will rotate to different geographical locations. This committee will circulate the decisions of the conference, raise funds for the committee's activities, and call future meetings.
3) The new steering committee should send telegrams of support and solidarity to the conferences soon to be held in the North East, South, and West; and seek to establish working relationships with other coalitions.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that groups and individuals represented on the steering committee seek to build broader local and campus coalitions to build future actions and other activities decided by the conference, including linking up with other regional organizations to form a national network and plan national action in the African solidarity movement.


10/22/78