FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A state-wide guide to investments in South Africa by Illinois corporations, designed to serve as a resource tool for those advocating divestment or shareholder initiatives will be published in mid-July by the Chicago Chapter of Clergy and Laity Concerned.

CALC announced the publication of "Profit & Prejudice: Illinois Corporations' Investments in South Africa", to coincide with the ninth anniversary on June 16 of the Soweto Massacre in which approximately 60 Johannesburg blacks were killed by police during a peaceful protest of a state-ordered switch from English to Afrikaans in the public schools.

June 16 has been declared an official day of prayer and mourning in South Africa by Bishop Desmond Tutu and nationwide rallies throughout South Africa are expected, Ron Freund, CALC Midwest Regional coordinator, said.

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"The book documents investments of $225 million from Illinois firms, 8% of the total investments of all U.S. firms doing business in South Africa. Additionally, Illinois firms employ approximately 10% of the 130,000 South Africans employed by U.S. enterprises," Watkins said.

The publication is funded by grants from the J. Roderick McArthur Foundation, the Crossroads Foundations, Relations Foundation, the World Council of Churches and the Special Mission Fund of the Illinois Synod, Lutheran Church of America.

CALC is an interfaith, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advocacy of civil rights, human dignity, and world peace. Members of the Board of Directors include Father George Clements, Pastor of Holy Angels Church, Rabbi Robert Marx of Congregation Hakafa on the North Shore, and Bishop Jesse R. Dewitt, United Methodist Church.

"By no logic or human strategy is it right for four million white people to hold 18 million (black people) in subjection...If justice and liberty are to mean anything for any part of the world, they must mean something for black South Africa now," Bishop DeWitt said.

In regard to South Africa's contention that economic sanctions by the U.S. government would cause catastrophic unemployment among blacks, Father Clements said,"It is not a question of employment or unemployment, it is a question of human dignity."
CALC has been instrumental in halting the commercial sale of krugerrands by Chicago area banks and is part of an ongoing peaceful demonstration in front of the South African consulate on North Michigan Avenue, Freund said.