The Africa Fund Research program was developed in response to growing American awareness of the issues of racism and colonialism in southern Africa. As I reported last year the development of that consciousness in both black and white communities has created an urgent need for a wide range of accurate, issue oriented information.

The tremendously increased number of calls made on us in 1973 reflect both: the very real growth of feeling on the issue, especially but not exclusively among black Americans, and our own increasing reputation for quick and useful responsiveness. The Africa Fund is not an action organization, but we are sensitive to the critical role that adequate and relevant information can play in providing a springboard for action-oriented organizations.

A quick review of some of our specific activities in 1973 will give a clearer idea of the strengths and problems of our work at the moment.

Southern Africa Perspectives

Once again we produced several brief publications on what we consider important issues or trends relating to southern Africa. For the first time we were able to print some of these in a convenient four-side format, instead of in the much less attractive mimeographed form. They have been given a Series Title - Southern Africa Perspectives - and have met with a very enthusiastic response. Titles of the first four Perspectives are:

Southern Africa: The U.S. Record at the U.N.  
Voices for Disengagement  
A New Face for Apartheid  
Prosperity: "For Whites Only"

The Paradox of Economic Growth in South Africa
"A New Face for Apartheid" has been seen as particularly important in countering the South African government's propaganda to persuade the world that its Bantustans and Bantustan leaders will provide fundamental changes in the status of South Africa's black population.

A detailed study of Angolan coffee, almost 46% of which now comes to the U.S. and of its importance to the Portuguese colonial economy, is now being readied for publication in the series.

In addition we have helped to put out a number of 'occasional' pieces, including an analysis called "Massacre in Mozambique" which Congressman Diggs read in its entirety into the Congressional Record, and a review of current U.S. Portuguese relations - the record of our testimony on this to the Congressional Subcommittee on Africa.

**Bulletins**

We continue to monitor more than 50 African and European journals and newspapers. This has enabled us to issue short reports, both public (i.e. widely circulated) and private (i.e. directed to a few individuals - e.g. a number of Congressmen, doctors and lawyers) on many important issues, matters which are not covered at all in the U.S. press. Thus we reported to lawyers on the arrest of several churchmen who had protested Portuguese brutalities in Mozambique, and wrote a report on U.S. corporate involvement in oil exploration throughout southern Africa for some Church groups. We have kept a continuous flow of information to many interested groups on Gulf Oil activities in Angola, and on events inside Rhodesia, as well as on the continued U.S. violation of U.N. sanctions of Rhodesia. This has helped diverse groups, including the International Longshoremen's Association, the American Friends Service Committee, churches and students and community groups focus their attention most effectively on the issue.

**Congressional Testimony**

We were asked several times in 1973 to help prepare testimony by ACOA staff and Board members to Congressional Committees. Testimony submitted included an analysis of U.S. policy towards Portugal, with special focus on the continued refusal of the U.S. to recognize the legitimacy of the liberation movements and its concomitant support for Portugal including violations of the arms embargo, renewed Azores Agreement negotiations, etc. Testimony was also submitted on the effects of sanctions on the Rhodesian economy and on questions of human rights.
The Role of U.S. Corporations in South Africa

We have continued work on the role of U.S. corporations in southern Africa, maintaining the most complete files available on this. We have spent considerable time briefing various concerned groups, including churchmen, lawyers, corporate executives, institutional investors and others on the realities of U.S. corporate functioning in southern Africa. Early in 1973 we prepared a detailed examination and refutation of the various arguments advanced in favor of U.S. corporations remaining in southern Africa as reformers of that vicious society. This was to have been published by a church group - it was finally only distributed to a limited audience. If time is available for updating we may publish this as a pamphlet.

Conferences and Speaking Engagements

Expanded interest in southern Africa has meant tremendous expansion in the number of seminars, Conferences and meetings we are asked to participate in. It is often difficult to know how to allocate very limited person-power - and the decision to write or speak has to be carefully and continually balanced.

Meetings, seminars and conferences I spoke to in 1973 included; the Annual Conference of the Canadian African Studies Association, and the U.S. African Studies Association, a Counter-Conference organized by Canadian groups at the time of the Commonwealth Conference, several east coast University seminars, church groups, and legislative groups.

Files and Personal Responses

Apart from providing information through published materials, we now have extensive files on the whole of southern Africa which have been increasingly used this year, by students and academics and also by many groups from New York and some from much further afield. We have also spent considerable time responding to the specific questions of a wide range of influential people, including several Senators, Congressmen, and Missions to the United Nations.

Apart from their usefulness to the outside world, the research files and the work done by the research staff provides a vital back-up function for much of the work done by all the ACOA staff.

Staff

In September, Molly Hazen joined our staff on a full time basis to work on research and writing. This made an enormous difference to our ability to respond to the various demands being made on us.
We now have a staff of three: two researchers, and Lynn Goodwin who works part time and is responsible for all the work that goes into maintaining our files and also the layout and production of all our publications. This seems a good place to thank Molly and Lynn publically for being such great people to work with.

The Future

We need to do more of everything. I hope to bring the Perspectives out once a month later in the year - but that means not only more staff time on writing and production but also on distribution. I hope to strengthen the way in which slightly 'specialized' news is fed to particular groups which can generate increased awareness and response. For instance black and white lawyers groups should be kept informed of the constant violations of human rights common in all of southern Africa, of trials of political prisoners, of protests by lawyers in southern Africa and Portugal. This in turn might develop a broader base for real legal assistance to those being prosecuted. Medical groups might well respond to particularly focused reports on brutal health conditions in South Africa and the tremendous efforts of the liberation movements to create health services for their people, under desperately difficult circumstances. U.S. trade unions need to be made aware of the position of black workers in South Africa and of the role played by U.S. corporations in collaborating with racial and economic exploitation there. The O.A.U. and African missions to the U.S. have drawn on our resources in the past and we need to increase our flow of information to them, to strengthen the basis on which they can communicate with the U.S. administration in regards to its policies in southern Africa.

We also plan to produce a full scale pamphlet on U.S. policy towards southern Africa that George Houser has written, a pamphlet on Guinea-Bissau and one on the liberation movements.

Several pieces written recently have been accepted by magazines and newspapers. This is an important way we hope to broaden the audience we reach in the coming year.