

December '84 #7

CIDSA UPDATE

Coalition for Illinois' Divestment from South Africa
CIDSA P.O. BOX 578413 Chicago, Ill. 60657



"Constructive engagement is an abomination, an unmitigated disaster...Where is the anger?...For goodness sake, put your act together!"

Bishop Desmond Tutu at a December 3 benefit for the African-American Institute

"Some say that if we get out of South Africa others will invest. I want to say very respectfully that the moral turpitude of that argument is breathtaking. It's like saying, 'Hey, your wife is going to be raped and if I don't, someone else is waiting.'" —*Bishop Desmond Tutu*,

The Next CIDSA Meeting

Future Meetings February 3rd
and the 1st Sunday of every month

Sun., Jan. 6th, 6pm
UE hall
37 S. Ashland
Chicago

INFORMATION FOR A FREE SOUTH AFRICA

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Who is CIDSA?

The Coalition for Illinois' Divestment from South Africa was founded in June 1983 to push for the passage of a divestment bill in the Illinois State Legislature. Over 50 organizations and 200 concerned individuals from across the state now comprise CIDSA's growing membership.

South Africa is the only country in the world today where white supremacy is written into the constitution and laws. A white minority in South Africa benefits from the oppression of the black majority through a social and economic system known as apartheid. In this system 87% of the land is reserved for the 16% of the population which is white. Over 3.5 million blacks - Africans, Asians, and "coloreds" (people of mixed descent) - have been forcibly relocated under apartheid; over 2.5 million Africans have been resettled to remote, barren areas known as "homelands". In these "homelands" 50% of all children die before the age of five.

Is the U.S. Involved?

350 American corporations now support the South African economy through direct investments and trade. In 1980, US exports to South Africa jumped by 50% to make the US the largest trading partner of South Africa. US multinational corporations and banks have over \$14 billion shoring up the South African economy; they control 43% of South Africa's petroleum market, 23% of its motor vehicle sales, and 75% of its computer business.

Why Divest?

US investments strengthen the apartheid economy, thereby increasing the ability of the white government to preserve its power. The past twentyfive years disprove the claim that investments can be an agent for change because the government's repressive power has only increased during this time.

What is CIDSA Doing?

In September, 1984 CIDSA focused its efforts into four taskforces which would together pave the way for eventual passage of a state divestment bill and increase the public awareness of South Africa in the process: (1) The Outreach/Education Taskforce, (2) The City Action Taskforce, (3) The Steel Taskforce, and (4) The State Tour Taskforce.

These taskforces are linked together through the monthly membership meeting which contains the following components: *updated taskforce reports and strategizing sessions, *South African news updates, *news updates from the US and international anti-apartheid campaigns, *educational programs using films or speakers, *an extensive literature table. These meetings take place the first Sunday of each month, 6PM, at 37 S. Ashland, Chicago. Arrangements can be made for out of town representatives to attend.

STATE WIDE TOUR TASKFORCE



This spring CIDSa, with a little help from some friends, will complete another step towards making Illinois an apartheid-free zone. Along with the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) and the Washington Office on Africa (WOA), CIDSa will co-sponsor a state-wide anti-apartheid educational tour. Twelve experts on South Africa along with four local anti-apartheid activists will travel to all areas of Illinois including stops in Northwest, West Central, East Central and Southern Illinois. Although the primary purpose of the tour is to expand the foundations of the Illinois anti-apartheid movement outside Chicago the tour will be launched in the Second City - which will give Chicago residents a chance to hear and learn from these speakers.

The location, details and format for the tour are still being worked out and are therefore open for suggestions and input. However, the basic tour plan will begin with the tour members breaking up into 'teams'. Each team will then make educational presentations to church groups, unions, civic, political and other interested organizations. Each tour team will utilize a variety of educational films, slide shows and literature especially designed and packaged to inform some segment of the Illinois populace about the apartheid regime. Even more important, perhaps, each team will be able to suggest ways that our anti-apartheid activities can contribute to an international atmosphere conducive to fundamental change in South Africa.

At this particular point in time CIDSa would like to invite (even encourage) any interested parties (mainly) outside of Chicago to suggest location(s) or group(s) that might like to receive a presentation when the state-wide tour hits the road this spring. For further information contact Carol Thompson (312-327-0545, evenings) or write to CIDSa. Start planning now to take advantage of this opportunity this spring.

CITY DIVESTMENT BILL TASK- FORCE

The taskforce has been collecting information about the various city pension funds and banks where city funds are located. A draft of an ordinance has been prepared and meetings have been scheduled with aldermen and others who can be key to the success of the ordinance. We are compiling a list of groups, churches, other organizations and individuals who can be contacted about the ordinance. If anyone has contacts or ties with any of the above please contact Sharron Pitts at 341-1070.



SA STUDY GROUP

The first challenge awaiting the 15 people who attended the first session of the six-part study group on South Africa was to fill in a blank African map with the names of all the countries and their respective capitals. Unfortunately only the facilitator was completely successful! At that point a discussion followed which focused on the pre-colonial, slave, and colonial 'periods'. The text utilized for source material was Mai Palmberg's book 'The Struggle for Africa'.

The next session of the study group will be held Sunday, Jan. 20th, 4:30PM at 53 W. Jackson (room 1226). New-comers are always welcome! Contact CIDSa (660-8671) for the texts, which, in addition to Palmberg's book, include Richard Leonard's 'South Africa At War', and 'Mozambique: The Revolution Under Fire' by Hanlon.

IT HAS TO DO WITH OUR FREEDOM

RONALD REAGAN'S

CONSTRUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICA

When Ronald Reagan says, "I find apartheid (in South Africa) repugnant," he means the opposite. The president's logic - if we dare call it that - is simple but clear. For instance, when he says tax simplification, he actually means tax increases.

The Reagan administration's policy towards South Africa, its apartheid system and its impact on the rest of Southern Africa is officially called "constructive engagement." What is meant by this phrase was explained by the president in a November 1, 1984 New York Times rejoinder to Bishop Desmond Tutu's criticism of US policy when he pronounced that we are trying to get in there and "be of help in changing the situation."

Is the Reagan administration and its policy towards South Africa a force for change? Any serious examination of the subject shows that Ronnie Reagan's "constructive engagement" is essentially one racism embracing another. As the prestigious African magazine, *West Africa*, editorialized on Nov. 12, 1984, "It (the Reagan administration's policy) is a policy which causes Africa to be deeply apprehensive about four more years." Continuing, the magazine commented, if, as Mr. Mondale observed, "The poor in the US would now be more than ever in need," then at a time when famine in Africa is front page news, one can only extend their horizons to the rest of the world and take note: there is an awful double meaning in the Reagan catch-phrase: "You ain't seen nothing yet."

The roots of Ronald Reagan's affair with apartheid are deep. In 1965 when he was running for governor he visited then attorney general Edward Brooke in Massachusetts. While there, during a luncheon speech on the emergent African nations, he joked, "When they have a man for lunch, they really have him for lunch." While governor, Ronald Reagan hosted official South African business and government leaders publicly identifying the South African government as a long time friend. In 1976 running against then President Ford, Reagan proposed sending US occupation troops to Rhodesia in order "to prevent further bloodshed." He suggested this after seeing a St. Louis newspaper advertisement showing numerous black Rhodesians and one white Rhodesian - a small white girl with the caption "bayoneted a dozen times."

But such positions should not be surprising given a man who, in the 1940's restricted covenant leases on his and his neighbors' properties in California enjoining any non-Europeans (except for hired help) from occupying the premises, a man, who in 1967, fighting fair housing legislation, stated that he was opposed to telling people what to do with their property, saying, "This has nothing to do with discrimination. It has to do with our freedom."

Thus, the man who cut lunches of inner city school children, their libraries and medicare, housing for the elderly, busing and school integration efforts, subsidies for small farmers and who recently campaigned in various Southern cities under the race-loaded battle cry, "The South will rise again," has taken the following actions (and others) on South Africa since 1981: *Within weeks after taking office publicly identified apartheid South Africa as "one country we could not abandon - a friendly nation that has stood beside us in every war we've ever fought...";

*From 1981 to the present the Reagan administration has relaxed the UN arms embargo against South Africa through the sale of 2,500 electronic shock batons to private buyers for crowd control in South Africa, turbo jets to the South African Air Force, \$500,000 worth of nonmilitary arms and ammunition to the government, and \$28.3 million worth of "dual-use" military equipment and technology;

*Since 1981 the US has trained various members of the South African coast guard and increased the cooperation between US and South African military police and intelligence personnel (e.g., South African police participation in a 1982 police-media training program in Chicago);

*Under the tutelage of the Reagan administration, American economic collaboration with apartheid has increased dramatically: US bank loans to South Africa increased over \$200 million between June 1982 and June 1983, and the International Monetary Fund with a key US vote loaned SA \$1.1 billion. The United States business community has become South Africa's largest trading partner;

*With the green light of the Reagan administration, today US companies supply over 75% of all the computers and related hardware sold in South Africa and control over 40% of the South African oil products market (with many companies openly acknowledging that they sell oil to the South African military and police);

*Under the Reagan administration, South Africa has become the third largest recipient of US nuclear exports, regular exchanges take place between US and SA nuclear technicians, and South Africa has developed, according to one reliable source, 15-20 nuclear weapons, supposedly tactical weapons.

The Reagan administration's policies on South Africa are not merely a mirror of Ronald Reagan's personal racism. The standard American shibboleths of anti-communism, anti-Sovietism, and protecting the "free world", of containment and our God (and Monroe) - given right to protect our interests present themselves as backdrop to current US involvement with South African apartheid. Then, in addition, there is the rationale of guaranteeing our strategic mineral interests in Southern Africa (e.g., South Africa is the source of 70% of the world's gold) and that of securing the Cape Sea routes and the Indian Ocean (On this see the excellent United Nations document by George Houser "Relations Between the United States and South Africa," available from CIDSA). But a major source of the decision making by the Reagan administration on Africa - related questions is situated in Ronnie Reagan's famous question posed when early in his administration he was being briefed by his advisers on the complex and evolving situation in Southern Africa. Waking up, after being lulled to sleep by all the poly-syllabic names like Bopu-photswana and acronyms like OAU, he is reported to have said, "O.K., cut all the crap, just tell me which side are the whites on?"

U.S. POLICY IN SOUTH AFRICA: NO WHERE DO WE MENTION FREEDOM



Chester Crocker:

Extract from May 1981 memorandum from Chester Crocker (Ass't. Secy. State for Africa) to then Secretary of State Alexander Haig outlining the US strategy for cooperating with South Africa.

"...Namibia complicates our relations with our European allies and with black Africa, and the interests of South Africa with those states as well. We cannot allow the South Africans to be disingenuous with us over Namibia. Contrary to what Botha will argue, UN involvement will be necessary to gain international acceptance for a Namibia settlement.

Conversely, if the South Africans cooperate: to achieve an internationally acceptable settlement, this will greatly facilitate efforts to deal effectively with the Soviet threat. We need to convey our seriousness about this strategic choice. A relationship initiated on a cooperative basis could move forward toward a future in which South Africa returns to a place within the regional framework of Western security interests. The South Africans will be anxious to explore the details of such future relationship. We cannot be excessive in what we suggest to them, e.g., any implication that we can return to 1945 is unrealistic given firm international commitments such as the arms embargo. We can, however, work to end South Africa's polecat status in the world and seek to restore its place as legitimate and important regional actor with whom we can cooperate pragmatically. You will also need to respond with an artful combination of gestures and hints. The gestures would include, as described in the attached papers, small but concrete steps such as the normalization of our military attache relationship."

(from *South Africa at War* by Richard Leonard, Lawrence Hill, 1983)

Reagan's Hatchet Man in South Africa

DIVESTMENT UPDATES:

UCC DIVESTS

In its 175th annual meeting the United Church of Christ Board of Directors adopted a stringent set of guidelines to monitor the performance of corporations in South Africa. The action creates a selective and phased divestment policy which could result in the disposal of millions of dollars worth of investments in companies which do not change their policies in South Africa. Other Protestant and Catholic groups are considering adopting the UCC guidelines.

U of I VOTES TO STUDY DIVESTMENT!!

"I move that the Board of Trustees instruct the administration to study ways to substitute our present investments that are now involved in businesses in South Africa with other types of investments that are not so involved."

Trustee Albert Logan, D-Chicago

The local anti-apartheid movement has won a small but significant victory in our decade-long struggle to persuade the University of Illinois to divest its financial holdings in companies doing business in South Africa. On Nov. 14, the Board of Trustees voted 8-1 to study the financial and social consequences of divestment. The vote came after a two hour long discussion and debate with presentations by student trustee Paul Pittman, Jody Nowicki of Student Government Association, Professors Ben Magura, Emmanuel Kamgnia, and Charles Stewart of the Champaign-Urbana Coalition Against Apartheid (CUCAA), Bernadette Dia of the African Students' Association, and Steve Apotheke of the Coalition for Illinois' Divestment From South Africa. The testimony for divestment was well-received by the trustees. Board member Ralph Hahn said the presentation was one of the best he heard. Trustee Albert Logan made the motion for the divestment study. Logan's support was an unexpected surprise and represents the first show of active interest in the divestment issue from a member of the Board after years of indifference and intransigence. The lone dissenting vote came from Board President William Forsythe.

The University currently holds about \$4 million, 15% of its total holdings, in stocks in companies doing business with South Africa. These holdings are divided among 11 of the 350 U.S. companies in South Africa. In 1979 the trustees adopted their current policy of investing only in companies that are Sullivan Principles signatories but has failed to aggressively adhere to these principles which are widely acknowledged to be an ineffective strategy against apartheid.

Local interest in the divestment issue has been unprecedented with Student Trustee Paul Pittman, SGA President Dave Edquist, and numerous campus groups joining CUCAA in calling for an end to the U. of I.'s investments in racism and repression in South Africa. The Trustees will very possibly complete the financial study quickly and vote on the question of divestment at their January 17 or February 21 meeting. **YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED TO ORGANIZE SUPPORT!!** For info contact CUCAA, 284 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St., Urbana, IL 61801.

CIDSA PHONES 924-9475 660-8671

Please return to: **CIDSA** Coalition for Illinois' Divestment from South Africa
P.O. Box 578413 Chicago, IL 60657

312/660-8671
312/924-9475

NAME _____
ORGANIZATION _____
ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ / _____
(home) (office)

Enclosed

Organizational member donation \$15 _____
Individual member donation \$10 _____
Additional Contribution _____

____ I would like more information.
Please contact me.



A National Size
Water-based Ink
Process

FREE SOUTH AFRICA MOVEMENT COMES TO CHICAGO



AMERICANS ARRESTED PROTESTING APARTHEID: On Nov. 21st Walter Fauntroy - DC delegate to congress, Mary Frances Berry - a member of the US Civil Rights Commission, and Randall Robinson - director of TransAfrica, were arrested after staging a sit-in at the South African embassy to demand the release of black leaders and to protest the US policy of "constructive engagement". Since then numerous other leading figures have been arrested for similar embassy sit-ins. These include Ill. congressman Charlie Hayes, Rev. Joseph Lowery - head of the Southern Christian Leadership Council, Congressman Ron Dellum, Congressman John Conyers, Evonne King - daughter of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., Marc Stepp - Vice President of UAW, and Al Davis - UAW Director of Civil Rights. The list of those arrested is growing daily! Similar actions have also begun to take place at other SA consulates in NY, Houston and Los Angeles.



Here in Chicago the consulate demonstrations began on Thursday, Dec. 6th. Over 250 people attended vowing to return until Reagan's so-called constructive engagement policies are thrown out. Arrested at the consulate were federal Representative Gus Savage, State Senator Richard Newhouse and Jacqueline Jackson. More demonstrations/activities are being planned. For further information call the CIDSA number below.

CIDSA 924-9475

2nd District



RICHARD H. NEWHOUSE, JR. (D)
Senator - District 13
Chicago



GUS SAVAGE (D)
Chicago

CORPORATE COMMUNITY PREPARES A DIVESTMENT COUNTER ATTACK

(In the interests of understanding the origins and significance of corporate support for South Africa, CDSA UPDATE is reprinting excerpts from a recent article (South Africa Divestment Drive Has U.S. Firms Worried) by Michael Isikoff. The original article appeared in the December 2nd issue of the Washington Post. This article clearly demonstrated that the anti-apartheid movement will encounter a much more solidified opposition from the corporate community in the future).

William Broderick of the Ford Motor Co. has spent much of the past year flying to state capitals and testifying on a subject that makes most corporate executives cringe. His mission: to defend the role of U.S. corporations in the legally segregated state of South Africa.

"It's not exactly a motherhood issue," says Broderick, acknowledging that few corporations want to be publicly identified with his activities....

As director of Ford's international operations, Broderick has served as the corporate general in a high-stakes battle over South Africa that is heating up in dozens of statehouses and city council chambers and creating new headaches for the approximately 300 U.S. corporations that have operations in that nation.

So far, 11 cities and five state governments - Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan and Nebraska - have passed some form of divestment laws, which generally require that pension or other government funds be withdrawn from some or all of the U.S. companies that do business in South Africa....

"It's clear the whole campaign is growing all over the place," says Jennifer Davis, executive director of the New York-based American Committee on Africa.

"We're getting calls coming in from all over - from Texas, from Vermont - asking for copies of bills and information."

An even greater number of cities will probably pass divestment laws in 1985, Davis adds, joining New York, Philadelphia, Boston and the District of Columbia in the ranks of municipal governments that are unloading stocks and bonds in the targeted companies.....

Last week, the U.S. corporate community in South Africa was jolted by a report in a South African newspaper that Ford was selling off its auto plants there to Amcar, the automobile division of a South African-owned Anglo-American conglomerate. The story was swiftly denied at company headquarters in Dearborn, Mich., but a Ford spokesman said that the company, which has been laying off workers at the plants, was engaged in talks of "mutual interest" with Amcar with an eye toward "rationalizing" its operations.

Meanwhile, state and city governments that have joined the divestment movement have been busy selling off their stock in Ford and other big U.S. companies in an effort to implement their divestment laws.....

The trustees of the D.C. pension system recently reported that, within the four-month period between April 30 and Sept. 30, they had sold off \$34.9 million of the \$46.9 million in corporate assets affected by the city's new law - with no measurable impact on the solvency of the city pension system.....

As a result, U.S. corporations have decided to fight back. An unnamed committee of about 25 major U.S. companies, including Ford, General Motors, Mobil and others, has been organized to oppose divestment proposals at the state level.

Another closely related group - called the Corporate Committee for Change in South Africa - was recently formed by about a dozen U.S. corporations to lobby against divestment proposals before cities and other local governments.

"We're organizing to fight this on every level we can," said one corporate executive involved in these efforts.....

One of the problems in this new corporate lobbying effort, however, is that the companies are so reluctant to be seen as standing up for apartheid that few want to be publicly associated with the campaign, its organizers said. Piscitelli and Marzullo, for example, both refused to name

the members of the corporate committee.....

At least one reason for the skittishness is that the companies fear their own efforts will become confused in the public mind with separate ant divestment lobbying activities that are financed by the South African government. The South Africans currently have two politically well-connected Washington law firms - the firm of Sears, Hare, Kelley and Ward and the firm of Smathers, Symington and Herlong - that receive annual retainers of \$500,000 and \$300,000, respectively, to represent their interests in the United States, including monitoring the status of divestment legislation, according to foreign agent registration records on file with the Justice Department.

In addition, the South African consulate in the United States has spent thousands of dollars financing the trips to South Africa by state legislators in key battleground states. At least 18 lawmakers in Nebraska, Maryland, Illinois, Wisconsin and Nevada have thus far been on such trips.....

Some 25 U.S. companies - including such major firms as International Business Machines Corp., U.S. Steel Corp., General Electric Co., Union Carbide Corp. and Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. - have investments exceeding \$20 million apiece in South Africa. Mobil Corp., with more than 3,300 employees in South Africa, owns or supplies about 1,300 service stations that hold an estimated 20 percent of the retail gasoline market, according to the company's figures.

A few companies have controversial contracts with the South African government. For example, General Motors, which has more than 4,300 workers, supplies cars and trucks to the government and police. Control Data Corp., with more than 300 employees, sells computers and computer parts to a variety of government agencies, including some that critics say are used in the maintenance of internal security.....

Divestment advocates say their campaign is gaining momentum, drawing strength from public reaction to South Africa's current crackdown on dissidents and from protests at the South African Embassy in Washington, led by U.S. congressmen and civil rights leaders.....

SOUTH AFRICA UPDATES

Internal Resistance

The waves of major resistance, repression, resistance have been unceasing in South Africa since August. Following the successful election boycott in August and the widespread demonstrations and unrest in townships during September and October, November has seen the largest labor strike ever to be waged by South African blacks. On Nov. 5 and 6, while Americans were doing their thing this side, 90% of the South African workforce in the major industrial area stayed away in protest of apartheid policies - demanding removal of police and army units from townships, the release of political prisoners and lower rents.

The seriousness of such involvement is revealed in the fact that 6000 striking workers from the Sasol oil-from-coal plant were fired and bussed off to homelands. 24 persons were killed, bringing the total since September to at least 160. On Nov. 7 the Detainees' Parents Support Committee released a report that at least 1000 persons have been detained and 2000 arrested in the past 2 months. Detainees include United Democratic Front (UDF) election boycott organizers, labor leaders from the Federation of SA Trade Unions (FOSATU), student leaders from the Congress of SA Students (COSAS), Sharpeville and Ratanda Civic Association members. Three white anti-apartheid organizers were arrested as well. On Nov. 15 police arrested 2300 more people in Sebokeng Township in a raid of hostels where migrant laborers lived. Sebokeng was the site of a raid by police and 7000 troops on Oct. 23 in which 18,000 homes were searched and over 350 people arrested.

Rev. Alan Boesak, founding member of the UDF, spoke on the significance of today's resistance in a Nov. 29th interview.

"One must not simply say we are seeing a repeat of Soweto. In 1976 the unrest was concentrated mostly in Soweto. Now it's on a very broad scale... Secondly, in 1976, unrest was concentrated mostly around the students. Now, it encompasses a whole community, with trade unions, adult people involved in this. Thirdly, the main issue then was education. Now you have a whole plethora of issues all directly linked to the main cause - the people's resistance to oppression and injustice. If you look at what is happening, the scale is actually much larger, the feelings much deeper."

American Anti-Apartheid Movement

NAACP condemns US: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People condemned the US for abstaining from the Oct 23. UN vote to condemn South Africa for its recent wave of arrests and detentions. Executive Director Benjamin Hooks stated, "The United States abstention from the vote, under the transparent guise of excesses of language in the resolution tells the international community that our democratic nation succumbs to expediency and an accommodationist partnership with South Africa to the detriment of the rights of humaneness and decency to the majority citizens of South Africa."

CIDSA STEEL TASK-FORCE

The steel taskforce has been working on strategies for prohibiting the use of South African steel by the State of Illinois. Research is being done on the legal precedents and creative ideas are being developed for dealing with this. Positive contacts have been made with members of the steel workers' union and we are in the process of setting up a joint committee.

Counter-demonstrations are being planned for the dedication ceremony for the State of Illinois Building in which South African steel was used.

We are a growing taskforce and are always interested in the addition and contribution of new members. For further information contact Ora Schub, 538-0733.

(CIDSA UPDATE here reprints two documents which eloquently testify to the market penetration which South African goods have achieved in the US. As we watch midwestern steel plants close by the dozens the situations described in these articles provide a well-intentioned reminder that the struggle against apartheid is not separate from the struggle for full employment, etc., in Illinois.

THE U.S. STEEL INDUSTRY and SOUTH AFRICA

Reprinted from a pamphlet produced by the Washington Office on Africa Educational Fund ** 110 Maryland Avenue, N.E. ** Kevin Danaher, Jean Sinbad, Kenneth Zinn, Jacqueline M. Wilson, Melissa Pullins ** Washington, D.C. ** (202) 546-7961

The American steel industry is suffering its worst recession in decades. Between 1974 and 1982 production and employment in the steel industry declined by fifty percent. In 1982, the steel industry lost over \$3.5 billion, and in 1983 the top seven steel producers reported losses of \$2.7 billion. Tens of thousands of steelworkers have been thrown out of work as plants across the country are shut down, many permanently.

Imports of foreign steel have grown to control over one-fifth of the U.S. market. Although most of this foreign steel is from Europe and Japan, a growing percentage is from low-wage countries in the Third World such as Brazil and South Africa. In January 1984, Third World steel accounted for 10.1 percent of the U.S. market.

SOUTH AFRICAN STEEL

Many American companies have by-passed U.S. produced steel to purchase apartheid steel from South Africa. Since 1975 U.S. imports of South African steel have increased 5,000 percent. South African steel is steadily expanding its share of the U.S. markets.

ITS COMPETITIVE EDGE

The main reason why South African steel can compete with U.S. produced steel is South Africa's labor control system known as apartheid. The pass laws, bantustans, police repression and other aspects of apartheid are designed to keep tight control over the black workforce. This allows the government and corporations to hold down the cost of black labor. The international competitiveness of South African steel is based on the systematic denial of democratic rights to the black majority.

Most South African steel is produced by the Iron and Steel Corporation (ISCOR), a government owned company. ISCOR is a vital part of the South African economy and the government has provided it with numerous subsidies: cheap raw materials, low-wage black labor, financing, transportation, tax breaks, and import barriers to keep foreign competition out of the South African market.

Because iron and steel are crucial to the white minority's military domination of Southern Africa, the government has expanded ISCOR to where it is now far too large for the South African economy. ISCOR is undercutting its competitors in the world market by selling at a loss. In 1983, ISCOR lost roughly \$200 million on its export sales.

AID FROM U.S. CORPORATIONS

American corporations and banks have been providing assistance to ISCOR for many years. Companies such as U.S. Steel, ARMCO, Phelps Dodge, Allegheny Ludlum, and Standard Pressed Steel Co., have pumped billions of dollars worth of capital and technology into South Africa. Among the U.S. banks that have loaned hundreds of millions of dollars to ISCOR are Chase Manhattan, Citicorp, Continental Illinois, Kidder Peabody, First Boston, Merrill Lynch, Smith Barney, and Morgan Guarantee Trust.

After decades of helping ISCOR and other foreign steel producers, these banks and corporations now want American workers to bear the burden of the crisis in the U.S. steel industry. These corporations are unpatriotic as they do not care about the communities they gut, only about their global profits. American corporate leaders are "rationalizing" the U.S. steel industry by closing plants, throwing workers onto unemployment lines, and demanding that remaining workers take cuts in pay and benefits.

PAID BY U.S. WORKERS

Last year steelworkers agreed to wage cuts totaling some \$3 billion. Yet, corporate and government leaders want the workers to take further cuts. And if the government raises import barriers against cheap foreign steel, all Americans will be hit with higher prices on autos, appliances and other products made with steel.

The oppressed black workers of South Africa and American workers are fighting a common enemy. Many of the U.S. firms profiting from apartheid are also guilty of racism here at home. For example, in 1982 the federal government fined U.S. Steel nearly \$3 million for not promoting over 500 workers because they were black.

TIME FOR ACTION

By working to force these companies out of South Africa we can assist the struggle for democracy in South Africa, while strengthening the U.S. economy at the same time. Capital being invested in countries that do not allow one-man one-vote, like South Africa, could be put to better use rebuilding our cities and industry.

Campaigns to impose economic sanctions on South Africa and divest American pension funds from companies profiting from apartheid not only benefit the black majority of South Africa, they can also help American workers by giving us greater control over our economy and keeping capital and jobs from running away overseas. Join the struggle today for justice in South Africa and here at home.

(The following is a communication CIDSa received from Tom DuBois of the Midwest Center for Labor Research/4012 Elm, East Chicago, Ind. 46312).

South Africa Imports on the Rise

Imports of iron and steel products from the Republic of South Africa rose a dramatic 43% in 1982, and are continuing to rise this year. Figures from the American Iron and Steel Institute indicate that South African imports are running nearly 5% ahead of 1982's place.

South Africa is the number one supplier of ferromanganese, an important alloy used in steel-making. They provided in 1982 almost exactly half of the total imported to the U.S. South Africa is also the top supplier of ferrosilicon providing 35% of the total.

Over-all South Africa rose to the top ten importers of iron and steel products to the U.S. - ranking ninth. With the agreement now signed with the European countries, and Japan practicing "voluntary restraints", South Africa's ranking will move up.

South Africa's growing role as an importer is based not only on the "ferro-alloys" mentioned above, but also on steel products that compete directly with products made in this country, and at U.S. Steel's Chicago South Works plant in particular. In 1982 South Africa shipped 118,366 tons of structural shapes (some of which were used in the construction of the new State of Illinois building), 133,716 tons of plates, and 116,594 tons of ingots, blooms, billets, and slabs. The South Works mill, now closed by U.S. Steel, was a primary producer of these products.

CIDSa EDUCATION/OUTREACH TASKFORCE

Recently the Education taskforce met at the home of Judi Kolokoff.

Present at that meeting were Lucille Teichert, Mark Sullivan, Judith Kolokoff, Alan Bouffard, Joan Frye, Carol Priestly, Libby Rubenstein and Jenny Traschen.

At an earlier meeting held at the home of Joan and Tommie Frye, some members had agreed to do follow-up on possible pro-CIDSa contact groups and individuals. Accordingly, during a reporting period, Joan stated that she had completed a compilation of black student organizations on Chicago area colleges and universities. Mark reported that he was in the process of compiling a list of teachers on the Substitutes United for Better Schools (SUBS) mailing list. Mark is also compiling a list of grade school and high school contacts. Alan explored the possibility of a CIDSa person doing a presentation at Cook County Hospital at one of the Social Medicine Series Seminars. These one hour seminars attract between 50 and 75 health care professionals. Alan emphasized that the speaker should preferably be a South African health care professional. A strong speaker with a strong health emphasis is also preferred. Dates are currently open in January, February or March. Mark volunteered to call representatives of the ANC for the names of possible South African doctors.

The group decided to concentrate on working in those districts (Illinois legislature) which had voted against HB569 last spring. Specifically, the group will be working on the near northwest side in districts 9 and 11 and on the near southwest side in districts 21 and 22.

It was decided that individuals in our group explore individual as well as organizational contacts in these areas who would be willing to work with us. Results of any successful inquiries are to be reported at the next meeting. We plan to concentrate on the unions, community groups and churches in these areas.

Regarding literature to be used with outreach, Joan Frye is to compile a list of literature. Mark will also send out letters requesting free literature and information from other organizations like TransAfrica.

For further information, contact Harriett Parker at 684-3999.

NEW CIDSa OUTREACH PAMPHLET

Who is CIDSa?

Why South Africa?

Is The US Involved

Does US Investment Help Blacks?

Why Divest?

What is CIDSa Doing?

What Can You Do?

CIDSa Endorsers

CIDSa Membership Form

Copies of the new CIDSa outreach pamphlet are now available; request copies and distribute! CIDSa PO BOX 568413, Chicago, IL 60657

CALENDAR

Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) Fund Raiser: "The Good Fight" (the film), Biograph Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln, Thursday, Jan. 10, 7PM. \$20 including reception with Studs Terkel and veterans of the Abraham Lincoln brigade.

The Grinding of Apartheid

/Review by Orlando Redekopp



There is an old adage, "Though the wheels of God grind slowly, they grind sure". Relocations: The Churches' Report on Forced Removals describes not only how surely the wheels of apartheid grind, but also how harshly: almost three and a half million people torn from their homes and communities and dumped into South Africa's concentration chambers, mystically called "developing states", with over one and a half million people soon threatened with the same experience. Published jointly by the South African Council of Churches and the South African Catholic Bishops' Conference early this year, this short booklet is a marked improvement over the South African Council of Churches' previous report, *Black Uprootal from 'White' South Africa* (1980).

Beginning with three case studies of uprooted communities - the Mfengu of the Eastern Cape (400 families), Driefontein in the south eastern Transvaal (over 5000 people), Onverwacht (200,000 people) - the report gives three basic forces which create this modern holocaust: economic, political and ideological. The chapter on the history of dispossession links these forces to the early struggle for land, and the development of an industrialized economy and its need for cheap and controlled labor. The strategy of the massive project has in part depended on the willingness of certain Bantustan "leaders" to work within the system, so that they become the local enforcers of the total scheme. Where this strategy has failed, brute force has secured the regime's plans, despite the repeated and costly resistance of many Africans. The booklet ends with some theological considerations and a call for resistance and solidarity.

The strength of the booklet lies in its willingness to analyze apartheid with tools that reach beyond the usual 'church' categories. The analysis does not, however, call for the radical transformation of the structure of the country, something that might be found in Latin American liberation theology. Part of the reason, I would presume, are the draconian South African laws and the intended audience, white South Africans and the international community.

A succinct primer on the fundamentally flawed nature of apartheid, and useful for discussion groups, copies of the booklets are available from SYNPASES, 1821 W. Cullerton, Chicago 60608, for \$2.00 each.

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