

Labor Movement Takes On Apartheid South Africa

"We know the Reagan Administration will do nothing to close ports to apartheid ships with his so-called policy of quiet diplomacy which makes it impossible to stop scab cargo from being unloaded, like steel which throws U.S. steelworkers out of jobs."

—Richard Groulx, Alameda County Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO) Secretary, speaking to Oakland Port Commission, Jan. 22.

"We have a united labor front on this issue, and thousands of our members in Local 70 and the Joint Council 7 (representing 80,000 Teamsters) will pursue this demand (against South African cargo) vigorously with other unions."

—Jack Sweeney, speaking for Chuck Mack, president of Teamsters Joint Council 7, Jan. 22 at the Port Commission

"South Africa is an outlaw nation . . ."

—John George, Alameda County Supervisor



A Soweto schoolboy killed by bullets of the fascist police in South Africa being carried home by his father

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The AFL-CIO has targeted the racist apartheid government of South Africa and the Reagan Administration's friendly policies toward that government.

While millions of U.S. citizens remain unemployed, the Reagan Administration continues to support the racist, anti-union South African government, both morally and financially.

The same multinational corporations that have laid off hundreds of thousands of U.S. workers (particularly in the steel, auto and mining industries), continue to expand their investments in South Africa where they gain large profits from the enslaved Black workforce of that country.

On Nov. 23 longshoreworkers in the San Francisco Bay Area refused to unload South African cargo. For eleven days the heroic action of Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union Local 10 dramatically gave the example of what every trade unionist can do to halt the apartheid government.

Trade unionists from the AFL-CIO, Teamsters and ILWU have carried on from the example of the longshoremen by daily picketing the Pacific Maritime Assoc. who's member shipping companies, Zim and Nedlloyd, are doing business with South Africa.

Under pressure from unions, community and religious groups, the Oakland and San Francisco Port Commissions have declared as their policy that trade with Apartheid South Africa is "morally repugnant". Since then, they have been forced to "look into" the possibility of closing the Ports to South African cargo and adopting an ordinance banning the Ports from doing business with contractors, banks and financial institutions that do business with South Africa.

We need to mobilize our fellow members to convince the Port Commission to take the strongest possible action.

WHAT WE CAN DO

- Wear a Red Ribbon to say *Stop Apartheid!*
- Give it to your friends on the job
- Arrange for an educational presentation about divestment, the South African Union movement, and what we can do to help - at your next union meeting.
- Call us and get involved

Bay Area Free South Africa Movement (BAFSAM) — Labor Committee

444-1615 or 532-7262

