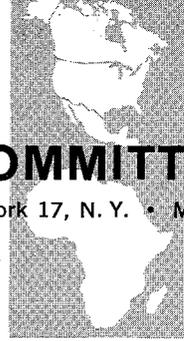


1962



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801 Second Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 6-7263 • Cable AMCOMMAF

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Dear Friend:

Whenever a violent conflict erupts, and the peace of the world is endangered, we ask ourselves what we might have done to prevent it. Characteristically, we are too late.

Can we, for once, act on time? Can we take preventive action against racist injustice in South Africa before the experts are proved right that the most violent racial clash the world has ever seen is about to break out?

There is a chance if we Americans, and the other peoples of the world, act NOW. We need you and the groups to which you belong to urge the United States to give its strong support to a program to quarantine South African apartheid before it is too late. Toward this end, I enclose:

- (1) APPEAL FOR ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID. Initiated by Albert J. Lutuli of South Africa and Martin Luther King of the USA, the APPEAL has been endorsed by more than 130 leaders from every continent.
- (2) Suggestions for Action. Note that our campaign, if it is to be successful, must be on-going. Nevertheless, we should work quickly toward a first climax on December 10th, Human Rights Day. Because it is a day observed around the globe, our action on that day is multiplied by what happens elsewhere.

Whether you act through your church or community group, through your labor union or your student organization, it is what you do that counts. It is what your groups do that can inform fellow Americans about the imperative that our Government, on its own and through the United Nations, act to quarantine South Africa before it is too late.

Sincerely yours,

George M. Houser

GMH:dk

Enclosures

**OBSERVE  
HUMAN RIGHTS DAY  
DECEMBER 10  
by answering this  
APPEAL  
for  
ACTION  
AGAINST  
APARTHEID**

**SOUTH AFRICA CAN BE SAVED**

**BY THE CONSCIENCE OF THE WORLD**

**TRANSLATED INTO  
PRINCIPLED  
ACTION**

# APARTHEID

## means:

*that the average African expects  
to live till he is 36 years old  
(the average white till he is 70)*



*that 65 per cent of Africans  
cannot read or write  
(literacy is universal among whites)*



*that one third of Africans entering  
hospitals suffer from malnutrition  
(South Africa is a  
food-exporting nation)*



*that one African baby in three  
dies before he is a year old  
(infant mortality for white  
South Africans is lower than  
in the United States)*



*that non-whites may not  
work, live, or travel where  
they please... much less  
vote or have any say  
whatsoever in the  
mass of legisla-  
tion which con-  
cerns them.*

## **IN SHORT:**

APARTHEID  
MEANS THE  
POLITICAL, SOCIAL  
AND ECONOMIC  
DOMINATION OF  
NEARLY 12 MILLION  
NON-WHITES BY  
3 MILLION  
WHITES.



**I**N 1957, an unprecedented Declaration of Conscience was issued by more than 100 leaders from every continent. That Declaration was an appeal to South Africa to bring its policies into line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations.



The Declaration was a good start in mobilizing world sentiment to back those in South Africa who acted for equality. The non-whites took heart in learning that they were not alone. And many white supremacists learned for the first time how isolated they were.

## **MEASURES OF DESPERATION**

Subsequent to the Declaration, the South African Government took the following measures:

- ★ *BANNED* the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress, the principal protest organizations, and jailed their leaders;
- ★ *COERCED* the press into strict pro-government censorship and made it almost impossible for new, anti-apartheid publications to exist;
- ★ *ESTABLISHED* an arms industry... more than tripled the military budget... distributed small arms to the white population... enlarged the army... created an extensive white civilian militia;
- ★ *ACTIVATED* total physical race separation by establishing the first "*Bantustan*" in the Transkei—with the aid of emergency police regulations;
- ★ *LEGALLY DEFINED* protest against apartheid as an act of "sabotage"—an offense ultimately punishable by death;
- ★ *PERPETUATED* its control through terrorism and violence:
  - Human Rights Day (December 10), 1959, 12 South West Africans killed at Windhoek and 40 wounded as they fled police...
  - March 21, 1960, 72 Africans killed and 186 wounded at Sharpeville by police...
  - Before and during the two-year "emergency" in the Transkei, 15 Africans killed by police, thousands arrested and imprisoned without trial.

## **THE CHOICE:**

The deepening tensions can lead to two possible alternatives:

### *Solution 1*

Intensified persecution may lead to violence and armed rebellion once it is clear that peaceful adjustments are no longer possible. As the persecution has been inflicted by one racial group upon all other racial groups, large-scale violence would take the form of a racial war. This "solution" may be workable. But mass racial extermination will destroy the potential for interracial unity in South Africa and elsewhere.

Therefore, we ask for your *action* to make the following possible:

### *Solution 2*

"Nothing which we have suffered at the hands of the government has turned us from our chosen path of disciplined resistance," said Chief Albert J. Lutuli at Oslo. So there exists another alternative—and the only solution which represents sanity—transition to a society based upon equality for all without regard to color.

Any solution founded on justice is unattainable until the Government of South Africa is forced by pressures, both internal and external, to come to terms with the demands of the non-white majority.

The Apartheid Republic is a reality today *only because* the peoples and governments of the World have been unwilling to place her in quarantine.

## WE CAN ACT

In spite of South Africa's draconian racial laws, resistance remains strong. Boycotts, strikes and demonstrations continue. The famous Treason Trials, in which the Government attempted to convict leaders of all races of "treason" are a measure of the fear at the heart of the Government. Yet the 4-year trial ended in acquittal for *all* defendants.

The courage and determination of opposition forces in South Africa must be supported by us if they are to grow in effectiveness. Let us then: *Translate the Conscience of the World into PRINCIPLED ACTION.*

South Africa is a trading nation. Her economy is based as much on apartheid as on export. Her gold, her diamonds, her wool, her fruits and fish are largely sent overseas. Her ships come and go to the harbors of the world. Her diplomats are received with all the pomp and respect accorded to our best friends.

Let us recognize that each  
of us, of whatever race,  
from whatever nation,  
*makes apartheid*  
*possible* as long  
as we fail to  
take action  
against  
it.

*"Only  
the intervention of  
the outside world can save  
us from starvation, chaos and  
death,"* wrote Alan Paton  
shortly after the Sharpeville inci-  
dent. That is why Albert Lutuli,  
Oliver Tambo and other African  
leaders have urged: ★ Individuals  
to boycott South African prod-  
ucts. ★ Governments to take  
diplomatic and economic  
sanctions against  
S. Africa.

We therefore ask  
all men of good will to take

# ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID

in the following manner:

- ★ Hold meetings and demonstrations on December 10, Human Rights Day
- ★ Urge your church, union, lodge, or club to observe this day as one of protest
- ★ Urge your government to support economic sanctions
- ★ Write to your Mission to the United Nations urging adoption of a resolution calling for international isolation of South Africa
- ★ Don't buy South Africa's products
- ★ Don't trade or invest in South Africa
- ★ Translate public opinion into public action by explaining facts to all peoples, to groups to which you belong, and to countries of which you are citizens until AN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL QUARANTINE OF APARTHEID IS ESTABLISHED

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*clip and return to*

**AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON AFRICA**  
801 Second Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.

- Yes, you can count me as a signer of the Appeal for Action Against Apartheid.
- To aid the campaign, I enclose: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the Appeal for use among my friends.

*(Note: It takes time for delivery. On large quantities, payment to cover packing and shipping is appreciated.)*

(MR.) (MRS.) (MISS) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

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Martin Luther King  
United States

Albert J. Lutuli  
South Africa

