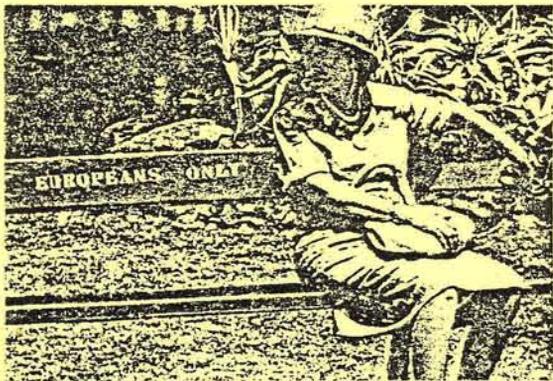


UNDERSTANDING APARTHEID



history.

Since 1652 when they first entered South Africa, whites have enforced racial separation on those who were living there. Largely because of superior weapons, Europeans won the continual wars against the indigenous African population. Both European groups, the Dutch and the British, practiced racial domination. In 1948, the Nationalist party dominated by the Afrikaners (Dutch descendants) were elected to power on a platform of white supremacy called apartheid. The party moved quickly to institutionalize repressive methods to maintain total white control.

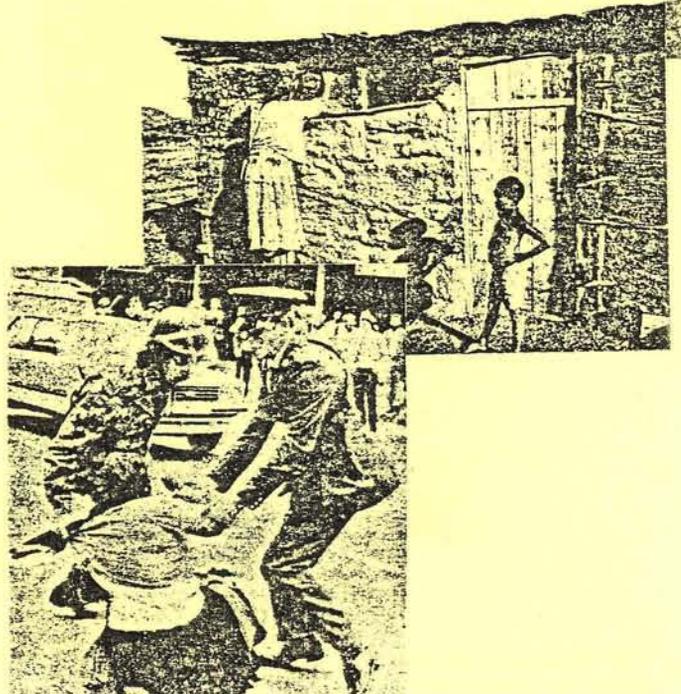
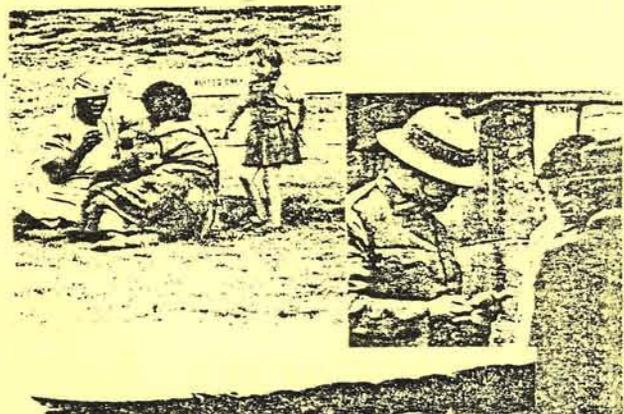
definition.

Apartheid (pronounced apart-hate) is a word meaning 'apart' or 'separateness.' It is the system of government in the Republic of South Africa. Under this system of apartheid, all persons in South Africa are classified by the color of their skin into the following races: white (persons of European descent); Blacks (persons of African descent); Coloreds (persons of racially mixed descent); and Asians (mostly of Indian descent). Although whites constitute only 17% of the population, under the system of apartheid, they control every aspect of life for the other races. The different racial groups are forced to live apart with the freedom of Blacks, Coloreds and Asians sharply restricted by this legally institutionalized system of racism.

| Population Statistics | | |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|
| African | 20,862,510 | 73% |
| White | 4,500,000 | 15% |
| Colored | 2,600,000 | 9% |
| Asian | 821,000 | 3% |

apartheid in action.

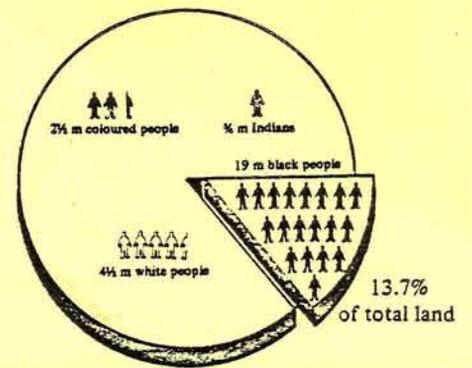
Under apartheid, the rights of all people in South Africa are determined according to the racial groups into which they are classified. Skin color determines where people are allowed to live, what work they may do, what type of education they can receive, what political rights, if any, they will have, whom they may marry -- in short, the total extent of their freedom of action and movement. The races live in separate districts and travel in different buses and trains. They attend different schools, churches, restaurants, theatres, beaches, clubs, and sports events. They walk through separate doorways and use separate telephone booths and bathrooms. They go to separate hospitals and are buried in different graveyards. All the facilities for whites in South Africa are superior, all those for Blacks are inferior. The differences in standards of living are enormous: More than 90% of white households have refrigerators while less than 2% of Black families have one. Only one African family out of 1000 has the basic communications tool, the telephone, while virtually all of the white families have the luxury of a swimming pool.



land.

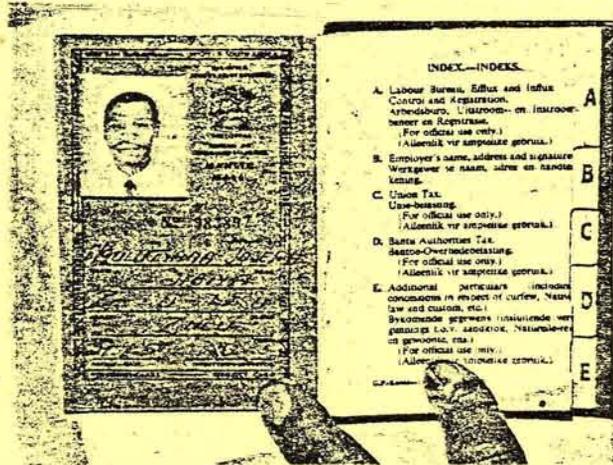
The most fertile land (87% of the country) is set aside for the white minority. Less than 13% of the worst land is left for the Black majority. No Black is entitled to acquire freehold title to land anywhere in South Africa. The areas designated for Africans have been divided into ten fragmented areas called "Bantustans" or "homelands". The South African government forcibly removes the Black population from the "white urban areas" to these rural, desolate dumping grounds. The homes of those who resist removal are bulldozed or burned. Of the ten designated Bantustans, the apartheid government has declared "independence" for four of them. Apartheid's grand design is to declare all the Bantustans "independent", thus stripping Blacks of all rights to citizenship in their own land! For this reason, no other nation in the world has recognized the independence of these areas.

South Africa: The allocation of land



pass laws.

Under the Bantu Act of 1952, every Black South African over 16 years of age must carry at all times a "passbook" enabling whites to more effectively control their whereabouts. The book contains a racial identity cards, fingerprints, photograph, employment records, tax receipts, and travel permits. A Black person must produce this passbook upon demand, and will be jailed and fined for failure to have one. Breaking the pass laws constitutes one-third of all "crimes" committed in South Africa. More than 13 million Africans have been convicted of pass law offences since the Nationalist Party came to power in 1948.



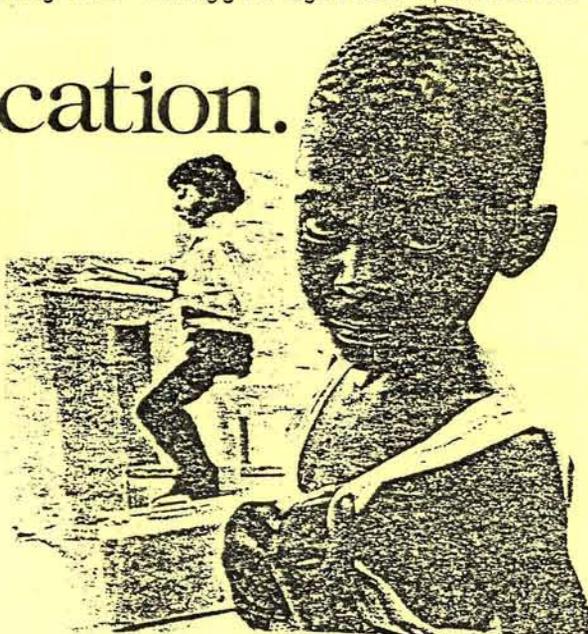
Africans, Coloreds and Asians are excluded from many of the more highly paid skilled occupations, and various laws reserve the better jobs for whites. The majority of Blacks not working in the mines, work in the factories, farms and homes in the "white areas", hundreds of miles away from the reserves where their wives and children are forced to live. Generally, they are considered foreign migratory workers and must live in specific locations set aside for them in these white areas. Africans provide a cheap labor force for the South African economy. It is difficult for African workers to defend their rights. Although African trade unions do exist presently, they were illegal until 1979. Police harassment, prosecution, and bannings, are still directed against union, church and political leaders who are increasing the struggle against apartheid.

employment.

(Rand) - Average Earnings - 1981

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| White | 11,232.00 |
| Asian | 4,934.00 |
| Colored | 3,714.00 |
| African | 2,738.00 |

education.



The races are educated separately and differently to prepare them for their pre-determined place in society. The government spends ten times more for the education of white children than for the education of Africans. School is free for white pupils, but Africans pay for their education. White and Colored students receive free textbooks in all grades. African pupils in secondary and high school must pay for their books. Black parents, unlike white parents, are required to pay school fees. The student-teacher ratio is 20 to 1 for whites, 47 to 1 for Africans. South African school books teach Africans that they occupy an inferior position in society. White children are taught that Europeans are superior and that Africans are "primitive and barbaric."

SOUTHERN AFRICA RESOURCE PROJECT

P.O. BOX 8423
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
(213) 822-8610

WASHINGTON
OFFICE
ON AFRICA
EDUCATIONAL FUND



REPRESSION in south africa

Since the Nationalist Party came to power in 1948, the white minority of five million have passed harsh repressive laws to help it maintain control over the 20 million Africans. Hundreds of laws have been passed by the South African Parliament to strengthen and maintain the legally institutionalized system of apartheid. Some of these laws include:

***the Group Areas Act of 1950 - requires that the Black population (84% of South Africa's total population) be assigned to separate areas and territories (13% of the land).

***Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act of 1949 - makes marriage between persons of different races a criminal act.

***various provincial and municipal ordinances that require total segregation with respect to transportation and separate facilities in places of employment, education, entertainment, etc.

***Suppression of Communism Act of 1950 - links anyone opposing apartheid to having communist objectives.

***Terrorism Act of 1967 - establishes the crime of "terrorism" so loosely defined as to give the Government virtually a free hand to prosecute anyone it so wishes.

***Native Act of 1952 - requires persons to possess and carry passbooks containing identification information such as fingerprints, photos, employment records, etc.



imprisonment.

Arrest for violation of these laws has given South Africa the highest prison population in the world. Forty percent of the African prison population consists of people who have violated the pass and influx control laws, thus committing offenses for which only Africans are punished. Conditions in South African prisons have deteriorated and a special United Nations investigation in 1972 found that, "food, sanitary conditions, clothing, bedding, and accommodations in South African prisons fall short, lamentably, of all international and civilized standards." Political prisoners in South Africa have especially been targeted for repression. Victims have testified of extreme torture inflicted by South African police and prison officials.



Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, prison yard, Robben Island 1966

"The economic boycott of South Africa will entail undoubted hardship for Africans. We do not doubt that. But if it is a method which shortens the day of bloodshed, the suffering to us will be a price we are willing to pay. In any case, we suffer already, our children are often undernourished, and on a small scale (so far) we die at the whim of a policeman."

The late Chief Albert J. Luthuli, Nobel Peace Prize winner and President-General of the African National Congress

In addition to imprisonment, there are other forms of repression frequently used by the white South Africans:

banning.

Whenever South Africa wishes to restrict an individual or an organization's freedom of movement, association and speech, it imposes a banning order. Under this policy the South African government can ban persons whom it wishes to silence and restrict. These people are banned because the government cannot prove that they have broken any of the "laws" listed above. Not only is a banned person restricted in movement, he or she can neither be published or quoted, and can meet with only one person at a time. Generally, those who are banned are restricted to a particular area or placed under house arrest. Since 1961, over 1400 people have been banned in South Africa. Activists such as Winnie Mandela, opponent of the regime and wife of political prisoner Nelson Mandela, and Beyers Naude of the Dutch Reformed Church remain banned. They are prohibited from seeking employment and attending church or any other group activity.

detention and torture.

Detention without trial is a reality in South Africa and persons can be held incommunicado indefinitely. South Africa's security forces have extensive powers to hold people without trial and to withhold information about detainees from their families or the public.

Torture of the detainees in South Africa is carried out by the Security Police. Although police and government spokespersons have repeatedly denied allegations of torture and assault, sworn affidavits from 87 people detail severe torture. The types of torture attested to include: tying weights to the testicles of the detainees, non-stop interrogation for several days and nights, forcing detainees to stand for long periods on bricks, driving nails through male genitals, holding loaded guns to detainees heads and constant threats of death.

Death in Detention is another devastating form of repression in South Africa. Many political detainees have died in security police custody and others have required hospital treatment. Since 1963, 59 people are known to have died in detention. Inquests have verified that cruel imposition of torture has driven some to suicide, in other cases, although South Africa has not acknowledged responsibility detainees have been murdered by state officials. Steven Biko, Black Consciousness Movement leader, was beaten to death by police who were interrogating him in 1977. Trade union and church leaders have also fallen victim to such repressive tactics of the South African government.

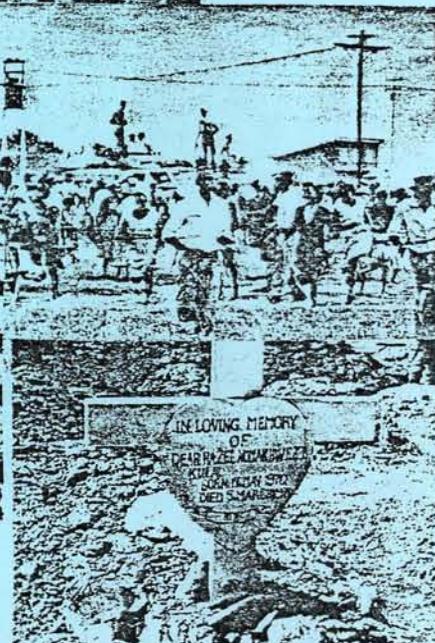
rebellion.

On March 21, 1960, a peaceful protest demonstration against carrying passbooks took place at Sharpeville, a township near Johannesburg. Police armed with machine-guns and rifles fired into the crowd. A total of 69 persons were murdered and 180 wounded, including many women and children who were shot in the back as they ran from the gunfire of the police.

On June 16, 1976 schoolchildren in the Black township of Soweto demonstrated peacefully against the government's decision to introduce Afrikaans (the language of the racist Afrikaners) as a medium of instruction in their schools. Police fired into the crowds. About 60% of the Black school children were killed, wounded or arrested.



Protestors burn passbooks, 1960



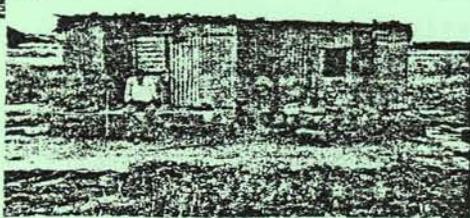
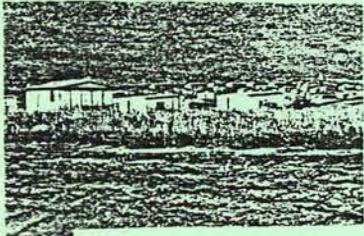
SOUTHERN AFRICA RESOURCE PROJECT

P.O. BOX 5420
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
(213) 822-8610



104

APARTHEID'S GRAND DESIGN: bantustans



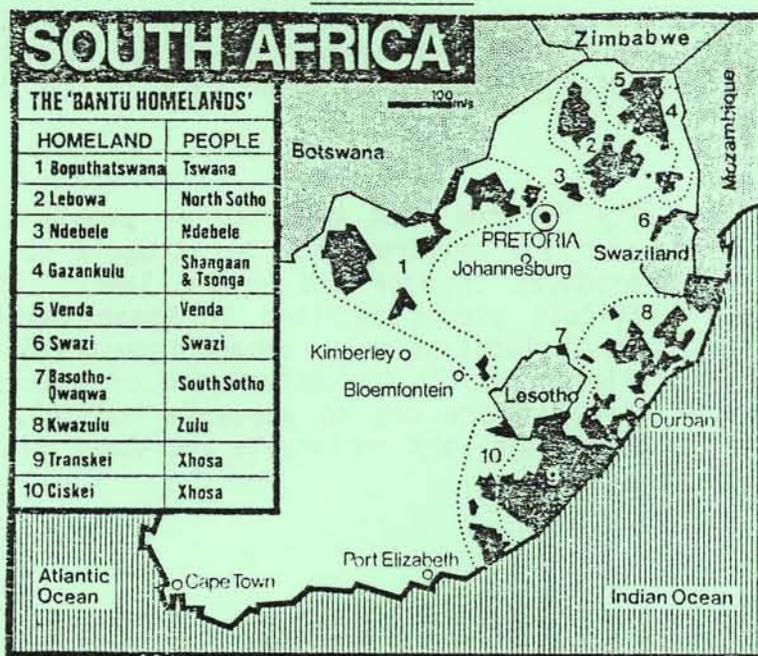
If our policy is to be taken to its logical conclusion, as far as Black people are concerned, there will be not one Black man with South African citizenship.

--Dr. C. T. Mulder, Minister of Plural Relations and Development, February, 1978

Bophutatswana is to us what concentration camps and ovens were to the Jews.

--The Rev. Sipo Mzimela, South African exile serving as rector of an Episcopal Church outside of Atlantic city

South Africa's policy is to preserve white power and control through maintaining a legalized system of racism known as apartheid. A central feature of this system is the inequitable carving up of the country into what white South Africans term as ten independent states for Black people. These ten states, considered by South Africa to be the homelands of specific Black ethnic groups, comprise a mere 13% of the most desolate and forgotten waste lands. It is on these wastelands that the racist South African government intends to force 73% of the country's population to live. The remaining 87% of the land, which is the most fertile and mineral rich, is to be reserved for whites, Asians, and Coloreds. South Africa's strategy is to establish "independent" Black states, force Blacks to re-locate into those states, and thus, strip them of South African citizenship and force them to become citizens of the "homeland states" or bantustans.



how it works.

The South African government allows the homeland "governments" to have control of health, education, pensions, and local bureaucracies. By doing so, the South African government is able to greatly reduce its financial responsibilities to its citizens in those areas. However, it is the South African regime that controls the defense, monetary system, economy and foreign policy of the "independent states". Blacks have only an advisory role in these most important of governmental policy-making areas. The "leadership" of the Bantustans are hand picked by the white South African government.

Over 3.5 million Blacks have been forcibly removed from their chosen places of residence from 1960-1980. By the end of 1982, four of the homelands which the South African government unilaterally formed had been granted "independence" by the apartheid regime. Those four are: Transkei, Bophutatswana, Venda, and Ciskei. None of these "homelands" have been recognized as independent states internationally. South Africa is the only country that recognizes

them. The homelands are pockets of economic and political instability and have been described as economic disaster areas. Sun City in Bophutatswana is an example of South African exploitation of the "homelands". Sun City, the result of foreign capital, is a huge entertainment, sports, and casino complex where many U.S. entertainers such as Stephanie Mills, Millie Jackson, Liza Minnelli, and Frank Sinatra have performed. The South African government spends millions to recruit such entertainers to help it legitimize its policy of stripping Blacks of their citizenship. While whites are entertained and eat lavishly at Sun City, Blacks in Bophutatswana are starving.

IMPACT ON FAMILIES

Another great tragedy of forced resettlement is that it not only means the loss of jobs or the prospect of getting one, but also, it directly undermines African communal traditions and leads to the break-up of families. Blacks that are considered "non-essential" and "superfluous" to the white society are resettled in the "homelands" while those who are considered productive are allowed to remain in the "white areas" in prison-like single sex dormitories on the outskirts of the urban areas.

IMPACT ON WORKERS

Even if, as in some cases, the entire family is re-settled onto a "homeland", the conditions in the "homelands" are so squalid and jobs so scarce, that the men must return the "white areas" to find work in order to survive. These men are often away from their families for many months at a time. Most return home only two times a year. The Grand Design has created a migratory system of cheap African labor in which the predominately male laborers must work and live in the "white areas" away from their families. The system is designed as a form of labor control to ensure a steady flow of Black labor from the rural areas to urban areas. The workers have little or no rights and are completely subjected to the white bosses. Legislation affecting migrant workers passed by South Africa in 1983 will not significantly alleviate these problems. The workers usually live in cramped, disease-ridden hostels near their workplaces, using their meagre salaries to support both themselves and their far-off families in the impoverished "homelands".

IMPACT ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Many women and children have ignored the stringent pass laws and influx control regulations prohibiting them from joining their husbands and fathers in the "white areas" and have settled in large squatter camps on the edges of the urban centers. In most cases the government's response has been swift and brutal. Squatter settlements have been teargassed and bulldozed to the ground and many inhabitants arrested, fined, and dumped back in the desolate "homelands."

The daily economic reality for the vast majority of people left living in the bantustans (mainly women and children) is the struggle to survive on the meagre corn and millet produced on poor and eroded land. It is the women who must farm these difficult pieces of land in these vastly overcrowded areas. The bantustan area includes no major urban, industrial, or commercial center. Half of the children in the bantustans die of malnutrition before they reach the age of five. There are no adequate housing, education, or health facilities. The conditions, are deplorable and women bear the brunt.

definitions.

- Bantu - White South Africa's term for Black people.
- Homeland/
Bantustan - South Africa's official term for those portions of South Africa which the government has designated for occupation by Blacks.
- migrant
workers - Workers who must migrate to urban cities from rural bantustans to find employment. Separated from their families by great distances, many travel home as seldom as once a year.
- forced
removals - The forcible removal of people from their homes to a bantustan. The South African government terms this activity: relocation or resettlement.

SOUTHERN AFRICA RESOURCE PROJECT
P.O. BOX 5420
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
(213) 822-8610

MAJOR CURRENT ISSUES in southern africa

The **issues** involved in Southern Africa are rather complex and deliberate attempts are made to misinform American citizens about the present situation. Below are some of the more frequent questions relating to the region.

Q: Advertisements in U.S. papers show pictures of Africans and whites working together and speak of a changing South Africa. How true is this?

A: The move to legalize African trade unions, give Africans political rights in the bantustans, and limited political rights to Coloreds and Asians are all meant to change the image of apartheid, while at the same time strengthening the racist structure to enable whites to maintain control. Although some "petty apartheid" allowing Africans and whites to share some international hotels and park benches, has ended, the fundamental character of apartheid has not changed. For example, the government still spends nearly ten times as much per year on a white child's education than an African child's in its racially separate school systems. With such substantive inequities remaining, the advertised South African "concessions" are more propaganda than fact. Blacks still have no political rights and are being stripped of their citizenship through their removal to the desolate and barren bantustans. The recently acclaimed constitutional "reforms" make no provision for representation for Africans (73% of South Africa's population). The "reforms" do establish limited political rights for Coloreds and Asians by establishing separate legislature chambers where they will have no political power to change any of the apartheid laws.

Q: What are the issues involved in getting the South Africans to agree to a Namibian settlement and end their illegal occupation in accordance with U.N. resolution 435?

A: In 1971, the International Court of Justice ruled that South African occupation of Namibia was illegal. In 1976, the United Nations passed Resolution 435, calling for free and fair elections and a ceasefire in Namibia. The South Africans have delayed implementation of Resolution 435 insisting on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. The legitimate government of Angola invited the Cuban troops into their sovereign country in order to protect its borders from continual South African invasions. The Reagan Administration has also linked the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a condition for a Namibian settlement. This demand has now stalemated the negotiations. In the meantime, the South Africans are continuing their militarization of Northern Namibia where they have 100,000 troops and are continuing their exploitation of the rich mineral deposits within Namibia.

Q: What is the Reagan Administration's policy of constructive engagement in South Africa? Is it a viable policy?

A: Constructive engagement argues that quiet diplomacy with South African officials is the best catalyst for change in that country. The Reagan Administration's willingness to openly embrace South Africa and its refusal to condemn its policies has only increased destabilization attacks against the frontline states and continued intransigence on the Namibian negotiations. Constructive engagement has been condemned by African leaders, U.S. allies, congressional leaders, (both democratic and republican) and human rights activists around the world. Despite relaxed U.S. export controls allowing the sale of 2500 electric shock batons, nuclear materials and technology, computers and aircraft to Pretoria, massive human rights violations, an escalation of torture and deaths in detention, and increased repression against church and union leaders continue.

Q:

What is the implication of the conflict for the overall economic development of the region?

A:

South Africa's war in the region has served to undermine the Southern Africa Development Coordinating Committee (SADCC), which was established in 1980 to coordinate regional development to lessen South Africa's economic stranglehold over the region. The South Africans are arming and encouraging attacks against the frontline states by rebel groups. In Mozambique it is the MNR (Mozambique National Resistance) and in Angola it is UNITA (in Portuguese: National Union for Total Independence in Angola). Both groups launch attacks against vital economic targets which weaken the country's economic infrastructure.

The second major impediment to SADCC's development efforts has been the drought affecting much of Southern Africa for the past two years. The drought is at its worst in Southern Africa, now facing its third successive year of bad harvests and where, in some areas, the rains have not fallen adequately since 1976. South Africa has sought to take advantage of this situation in the following ways:

**Lesotho, which normally expects to import over 40% of its food, almost entirely from South Africa, has been facing intensified border controls, imposed by Pretoria on the pretext of clamping down on the African National Congress guerillas. These have led to food shortages and petrol rationing in Maseru.

**South Africa's surrogate forces in Mozambique, the MNR, have made a particular point of attacking transport links and distribution networks as well as various productive enterprises.

**Natural climatic problems have been exacerbated by South African armed action and economic sabotage, aimed at forcing member states to divert a large part of their human, financial and material resources to defense spending.

Q:

What is the possibility of the war in Southern Africa emerging into a major conflict employing nuclear weapons?

A:

The widening conflict in the region threatens to do just that. Mozambique might be forced to request Cuban troops to help against attacks from South Africa, as the Angolans have done. An increase in the conventional war could possibly erupt into a nuclear conflict. It is widely believed that South Africa has nuclear capacity which the U.S. has helped it develop for the last 20 years. U.S. corporations in particular have provided South Africa with the technology, equipment, materials and scientific training needed to create the nuclear bomb. They have constructed or provided technology/equipment/material for South Africa's Koeberg nuclear power plants and for its Valindaba uranium enrichment plant. The U.S. government has also helped train 88 South African nuclear scientists and technicians.

In 1976, the president of the South African Atomic Energy Board stated, "We can ascribe our degree of advancement today in large measure to the training and assistance so willingly provided by the United States."

Q:

What is South Africa's role in the on-going war in the Southern African region?

A:

Since the Reagan Administration assumed office and vetoed U.N. Security Council Resolutions condemning South Africa for its invasion of neighboring Black countries, the South Africans have intensified their attacks against those countries in the following ways:

**air raid on Mozambique in May, 1983 -- six people killed, 30 wounded

**invasion of Lesotho in December, 1982 -- 42 Basotho and South African refugees killed

**attacks into Angola continue intensifying over the last three years -since 1976, over 10,000 killed and over 1 billion dollars of damage has been done

SOUTHERN AFRICA RESOURCE PROJECT

P.O. BOX 814
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
(213) 822-8610

WASHINGTON
OFFICE
ON AFRICA
EDUCATIONAL FUND

