
Educators Against Racism and Apartheid

June 1990

164-04 Goethals Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11432

Welcome Nelson Mandela and the ANC! Keep the pressure ON!

June 15 - 22 is Nelson Mandela week. People all over the United States will honor this great freedom fighter. Nelson Mandela will arrive in New York on June 20. He will go to Washington, D.C., Boston, Atlanta, Oakland, and other cities.

Many, many events are being planned. Artists, actors, musicians, poets, athletes, and all freedom loving people have been called on to participate.

Educators, you can play a special role in making the Mandela week of great significance to your students. High school teachers, we know classes are over June 14, so we urge you to begin preparations now and to make special arrangements for your students to meet at the public events.

The Mandela reception committee and the Mayors Office are working cooperatively with Chancellor Fernandez to encourage full participation of the school community. We hope to arrange for permission for classes to go to the parade. Please contact the Mandela reception committee (212) 304-2852 or EARA (201) 836-6644 for details.

The theme of all of the events is "Welcome Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress. Keep the pressure on!"

A major goal is to raise several million dollars for the ANC. For many years the ANC was banned by the South African regime. Now that the ANC has been unbanned, offices must be set up throughout the country. Expenses will be great. YOU ARE URGED TO RAISE \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ FOR THE ANC. Please make checks to the Nelson Mandela Freedom Fund or the ANC. Send them to the ANC, 801 2nd Avenue. NYC, NY 10017.

Here are some of the public events for Nelson Mandela Week. Some events are tentative, so please listen to the radio (WLIB or WBAI) to confirm.

June 16 SOWETO DAY. 12:00 MARCH & RALLY. 125 & Adam Clayton Powell Blvd. (212) 304-2852. (definite)

June 20. Mandela motorcade through Brooklyn. Mandela tickertape parade in Manhattan.

June 21. Rally in Harlem. Possible rally at Yankee Stadium.

Mandela Week Activities

Artists United Against Apartheid has called on all youth find creative ways to welcome Nelson Mandela to your city and to the United States. They have recommended that students prepare banners with the colors of the African National Congress flag. Students can express on the banners what Nelson Mandela means to them, what apartheid means to them, etc. The colors are black, green, and gold.

Students can:

- * Prepare posters to welcome Mandela. The slogan for Mandela week is:

Welcome Nelson Mandela and the ANC!
Keep the pressure on!
- * Have each student write a letter to Nelson Mandela, Congress, and to the City Council.
- * Write and distribute poems.
- * Conduct special "Welcome Mandela" assembly programs.
- * Prepare your school band or ensemble to march in the parade in New York City.
- * Compose songs, raps or chants for the parade.
- * Plan street theatre with short skits for the many times the parade may stop along the route.
- * Plan a march from your school to the parade or Yankee Stadium. (Or plan to go by subway together.) You may want to have two schools go together. (Make special plans to meet if exams are already over by June 20.)
- * Find ways to involve the families of your students.
- * Read about Nelson Mandela. See old EARA newsletters for bookstores or call The Africa Fund (212)962-1210.
- * Invite a speaker from the African National Congress to your school. Write: 801 2nd Ave. Room 405. New York City, NY 10017 (212) 490-490-3487.
- * Hire a bus to get to the parade or the Yankee Stadium event.
- * Have students wear black, green and gold clothes to the events.

SYMBOLS OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS



The Flag:

The colours of the ANC flag are black, green and gold. Black symbolises the people, green the fertility of the land, and gold the mineral wealth beneath the soil. These colours were adopted by the ANC in 1925.

The Wheel:

The wheel dates from the 1955 Campaign for the Congress of People which drew up and adopted the Freedom Charter. The four spokes represent the main national groups which were represented by their organisations in the Congress Alliance. The wheel rolling to freedom symbolises our goal of a united people developing in struggle, and forging a new South African nationhood.

The Fist:

The fist of our fighting people represents a unified determination born in the fight for national liberation. When people sing our national anthem, they raise their fists and then the battle-cry is echoed:

Amandla Ngawethul Matla ke a Ronal Power to the People! Mayibuyele iAfrika! Africa Must Come Back!



The Spear and the Shield:

The spear and the shield symbolise the early wars of resistance. This tradition is continued today by the ANC and especially its military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, the Spear of the Nation, which was formed in 1961, 49 years after the formation of the ANC.



Nkosi Sikelel' i Afrika Enoch Sontonga

Masi si-ke-le-ki Afr-i-ka Ma-lupha-ka-mi-ru-phande-ke-ye Tisa i-mi-thande
 ye-pe-tha Masi si-ke-le-ki Thina lu-sekhe-ke-ye Woz-moya
 Woz-moya Woz-moya Woz-moya Woz-moya D-ji
 ngwe-ke Masi si-ke-le-ki Thina lu-se-ke-ke-ye
 Ma-ru-na-bu-ke-ke-se-cha-ba-Si-ke-ke-ye lu-di-se-dintsa-luma Tse-ye-ke
 Tse-ye-ke D-se-ke-ke-ke D-se-ke-ke-ke D-se-ke-ke-ke ke-mo-ke-ke-ke
 se-ke-ke-ke se-ke-ke-ke se-ke-ke-ke se-ke-ke-ke Afr-i-ka

Translation of Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika

Lord Bless Africa
 Let its Horn be Raised
 Listen also to our Prayers
 Lord Bless, Lord Bless
 Come Spirit, Come Spirit
 Holy Spirit
 Lord Bless Us
 We, thy Children

Write 3 letters!

Every young person (adult, too) in the United States is urged to write three letters for Nelson Mandela week. Letter-writing can be done in class, at letter-writing tables set up around your school, at anti-apartheid letter-writing meetings or other events at your school. PLEASE START NOW - BEFORE EXAMS.

To Nelson Mandela

Welcome Nelson Mandela to the United States. Express your thoughts and feelings about this great freedom fighter. Tell him what you have done or plan to do to help end racism and apartheid.

Send these letters before June 20 c/o Mayor David Dinkins. Attention David Scott. City Hall. New York City, NY 10007.

To Congress

Write to your Congressperson or Senator to urge them to impose additional sanctions against South Africa and to demand that Congress maintain sanctions until apartheid is ended. Send the letters immediately to:

Senator _____
United States Senate. Washington D.C. 20510.
Congressperson _____
House of Representatives. Washington, D.C. 20515.

H.R. 21/S. 507: The Dellums/Simon Comprehensive Economic Sanctions Bill is still pending before the Congress. In the House, H.R. 21, introduced in January, 1989 has 135 cosponsors, while S. 507, introduced in March, 1989 has 16. Some of the key provisions of the bill are: mandatory disinvestment by all U.S. corporations doing business in South Africa; an end to most trade between South Africa and the United States; and a restriction forbidding federal oil or gas leases for any U.S. oil company selling goods to South Africa.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 270: This resolution was introduced by Congressman John Conyers (D-MI), on February 22, 1990. The Resolution has 41 cosponsors, including other members of the Congressional Black Caucus. It urges that the economic sanctions of the Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 not be suspended or modified until all conditions for termination within the law are met and **apartheid is ended.**

To the City Council

Write immediately to City Councilperson Gerges. New York City Council. City Hall, NY 10007 to urge the passage of INTRO 1137. Outside of NYC please work for the introduction of similar legislation.

- 1) The city not do business with companies that maintain direct or indirect ties to South Africa.
- 2) That the city not purchase from South Africa linked companies through a third party.
- 3) The city will be prohibited from doing business with banks that maintain significant ties to South Africa.
- 4) All city agencies will be covered by the bill.
- 5) The city will give priority to the corporations that negotiate with their South African unions before they withdraw from South Africa.

SA To Integrate Hospitals!

Educators Against Racism and Apartheid applauds the "integration" of South African public hospitals announced recently by F.W. De Klerk.

Why this important "reform"?

Look back into some of the old issues of this newsletter which have ANC News-briefings about the struggle to improve health care for Black South Africans. Reread the articles about the defiance campaign.

For the last several years South Africans have mobilized around the issue of health care. In fact, as part of the defiance campaign, Black people went right into hospitals for whites and demanded services.

Hospitals for Blacks are overcrowded, with 2 or 3 people sharing a bed, with patients sleeping on chairs or on the floor. Many hospitals for whites are half-empty (as are the schools).

The announcement by De Klerk was a result of intense pressure from the South African people as well as pressure from abroad through sanctions and divestment efforts.

Even when SA hospitals become integrated, South Africans will face the problems of racism and two-class health care which we face in the United States. Many U.S. hospitals are private and exclusive. Public hospitals are underfunded. Voluntary hospitals often provide 2 classes of care, for rich and poor. The struggle for one-class health care is an ongoing aspect of the effort to end racism.

Nelson Mandela

"to relax our efforts now would be a mistake which generations to come will not be able to forgive. The sight of freedom looming on the horizon should encourage us to redouble our efforts."

February, 1990

The math lesson below is from Apartheid Is Wrong: A Curriculum For Young People, available from EARA.

INTRODUCTION:

A good way to measure the health of a nation is to look at the infant mortality rates. *Infant mortality* tells the number of babies who die before the age of one year, for every 1000 live births, in any year. The table gives the official or government rates for 1986, for the categories of South Africans established by the apartheid government. In rural areas African infant mortality may be 300 or more. Another table gives the infant mortality rates in the United States for African-Americans and whites for 1986.

Infant Mortality—

A Math Lesson

South Africa	1986	United States	1986
Africans in townships	80	Blacks	18
Coloured	32	White	9
Asian	14		
White	7		
per 1,000 live births		per 1,000 births	

ACTIVITIES:

Math:

1. Draw a bar graph to show the infant mortality rate for each of the four groups in South Africa and for the two groups in the United States.

Math:

2. Compare the rates for the different groups. You may measure the bars of the graphs, or compare the numbers.

African infant mortality is _____ times white, and _____ times Asian.

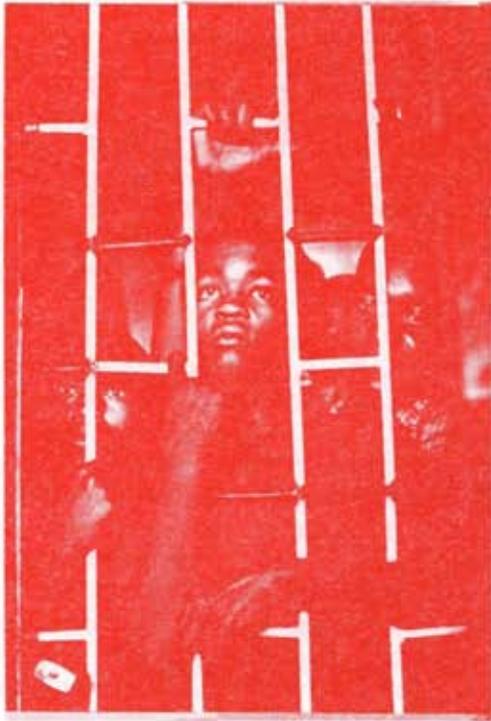
In the United States, the African-American infant mortality rate is _____ times the white rate.

Math:

3. In the bantustans about half the children die before the age of five. This is a mortality rate of _____ per thousand live births.

Math/
Critical thinking:

4. *Think about this.* What is the meaning of the difference in mortality rates among different groups in South Africa and in the United States? Look up more recent rates to find out whether they have improved.



Photographs by the late
Ernest Cole

A hospital ward
for Black children
Nelson Mandela



These photographs were taken by South African photographer Ernest Cole who died recently in New York City. Ernest Cole, the son of a tailor and a washerwoman, was born near Pretoria in 1940. He went into exile in 1966, bringing thousands of pictures to document life in South Africa. Photos from his book, House of Bondage (out of print) have been used extensively by the anti-apartheid movement. Many of the photos in Apartheid Is Wrong: Filmstrip, produced by Educators Against Apartheid, were taken by Ernest Cole. EARA salutes Ernest Cole, who gave his life to the freedom movement.

RESOURCES

No Easy Walk To Freedom. Articles, Speeches and Trial Addresses of Nelson Mandela. Heinemann. 1985

Nelson Mandela: The Man And The Movement. by Mary Benson. W.W. Norton & Company. 1986

Nelson Mandela: I Am Prepared To Die. Extracts from two trials of Mandela. International Defense And Aid Fund. 1984

Nelson Mandela - "Unbroken Spirit". Text of speech by Mandela on the day of his release. Africa Fund. 1990

Nelson Mandela Photo Exhibit. International Defense & Aid Fund. 14 poster size sheets which chronicle the life of Mandela. 1988. Available from the Africa Fund.

Nelson Mandela: Free At Last. VHS video including the Cape Town speech, interviews with other anti-apartheid leaders. South Africa Now. Available from the Africa Fund.

Nelson Mandela: Amandla. Edited by Amelia Blossom House and Cosmo Pieterse. 3 Continents Press. 1901 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington DC 20006. Poems, letters, pictures.

De Klerk And Apartheid: What Kind of Change? This excellent briefing helps clarify the changes under De Klerk. It's a must. Washington Office on Africa Educational Fund. March, 1990. 110 Maryland Ave NE, Suite 112. Washington, DC 20002. For copies of the briefing, resources, speakers call (202) 546-7961.

Check the June issues of Essence and Ebony magazines for Mandela prison letters and terrific photographs of the Mandelas.

Black Achievers In Science. Museum of Science & Industry. Chicago. 1988. This is a teachers guide. Included is a bibliography of titles about African-American scientists.

Racism Free Zone Project. Clergy And Laity Concerned. Eugene, Oregon. CALC provides workshops for schools and youth groups in Eugene to encourage students, teachers and administrators to take a direct responsibility for eliminating racism in the schools. "A ceremony is held to inaugurate the Racism Free Zone, and the declaration is incorporated into the life and curriculum of the school." The project is funded by the Peace Development Fund. Call CALC for info. (503) 485-1755

**APARTHEID
IS WRONG**

Curriculum Kit

(Curriculum and Filmstrip/Cassette)

Number of copies _____
@ \$23.00 + \$5.00 each for
postage and handling Subtotal \$ _____

Make check or money order payable to
Educators Against Apartheid. Send to:
Educators Against Apartheid
164-04 Goethals Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11432.



In New York City:
Wednesdays, 9:30pm WNYC Channel 31
Saturdays, 12:30pm WNET Channel 13
South Africa Now is broadcast in many cities around the U.S. You can ask your local station to broadcast this excellent news program. Call the Africa Fund for more information. (212) 962-1210.



**Pension Fund Fails To
Complete Divestment**

EARA is disappointed to report that the Teacher's Retirement System still has not divested \$30 million invested in corporations doing business in South Africa. Please contact United Federation of Teachers President Sandra Feldman or TRS Chairperson Dr. Carol O'Cleireacan (newly appointed by Mayor Dinkins).

Demand full divestment of the TRS NOW. Attend the TRS Board meeting to protest.

Thursday, June 21, 1990
40 Worth Street, NYC
14th Floor

Call Joseph Edelman to let him know if you will speak at this meeting. (212) 795-3124.

**BOYCOTT KELLOGG'S!
DIVEST NOW!**

The Kellogg's boycott has expanded!! The boycott committee has received letters from cities and small towns all over the U.S.

You can join the boycott. Don't buy Kellogg's cereals. Ask your school dietician to order only NON-KELLOGG's cereals from the Board of Education list for summer breakfast programs and for next school year. Call Paula Bower (201) 836-6644 for more information.

SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to answer this brief survey.

Is the Educators Against Racism And Apartheid Newsletter useful to you as an educator? Please comment.

I would like to continue to receive the newsletter. Yes _____ No _____

I would like to see more information or articles about: _____

I would like to contribute articles or resource information to the newsletter. (Please send them to EARA or call (201) 836-6644.) yes _____

Please share some of the things you did this year with your class to help end racism or apartheid.

(Continue on another page if you have lots to tell!)

____ I want to join Educators Against Racism And Apartheid. (Membership is \$10. Make checks to Educators Against Apartheid.)

____ I want to make a contribution to Educators Against Racism And Apartheid. (Contributions are urgently needed.)

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____ Telephone () _____

School _____ Grade(s) taught _____

Please return this survey to EARA. 164-04 Goethals Ave. Jamaica, NY 11432

FIGHT RACISM FROM NEW YORK TO SOUTH AFRICA

SOWETO ANNIVERSARY

**SAT. JUNE 16
MARCH & RALLY**

12:00 Assemble Harlem State Office Bldg.
125th St. & Adam Clayton Powell Blvd.

Sponsors: THE NEW YORK CITY NELSON MANDELA RECEPTION COMMITTEE (212) 304-2852 and (212) 741-0633

Educators Against Racism And Apartheid
164-04 Goethals Avenue
Jamaica, New York 11432

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