

SEATTLE COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID

- **Close the South African Consulate**
- **Break the U.S. engagement with South Africa**
- **Ban the sale of the Kruggerand**
- **Free all political prisoners**
- **End apartheid**

The Seattle Coalition Against Apartheid, formed in December, 1984 is part of the nationwide effort to oppose the racist apartheid government of South Africa; to pressure federal, state and local government and U.S. corporations and institutions to stop their support of apartheid; and to show solidarity with the struggle for liberation and self determination of the oppressed majority in South Africa. The Coalition has been holding weekly pickets targeting the closure of the South African Consulate in Seattle, in conjunction with efforts to do the same in other cities in the U.S. where consulates are located. Thus far, the Pittsburg, Boston, and Portland, Oregon consulates have closed as the result of pressure from the anti-apartheid movement.

TRANS AFRICA MOBILIZES

Thoroughly fed up with the Reagan administration's permissive policy toward South Africa, Trans-Africa, a Black American lobby for Africa and the Carribean, has spearheaded the "Free South Africa" movement. Its goals are to close the South African Embassy in Washington D.C. and all of the 14 Consulates in this country, and to build opposition to Reagan's policy of constructive engagement.

Demonstrations have occurred on a daily basis at the embassy in Washington, D.C., with civil rights leaders, members of the Black Congressional Caucus, national labor leaders, and grass roots activists getting arrested. Nationwide, people are picketing and engaging in civil disobedience.

THE STRUGGLE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Since August, Black South Africans have been engaged in a massive and militant upsurge of protest against the racist government. The outcry today is a continuation of the historical struggle waged against white settlers dating back to the arrival of the first European explorers.

The unleashing of the new protests, mass strikes, boycotts and riots was initially a response to the phoney elections of last August. Recent parliamentary changes creating two new chambers, one for Asians and one for "Coloureds", both subject to veto power by the white parliament or prime minister, provided no representation for the nation's 23 million Black majority. A boycott of the elections called by the United Democratic Front, was a great success, with only 18% of eligible Asian and "Coloured" voters going to the polls. Blacks still do not have the right to vote.

The government response to the increase in militancy was to intensify harassment and arrests. In response to a massive strike in the Transvaal, staged by Black workers last November, police killed 23 strikers and arrested 13 trade union leaders. Since then well over 1,000 activists have been arrested.

U.S. POLICY SUPPORTS APARTHEID

For the last four years the Reagan administration has, in keeping with its domestic racist policies and international support for oppressive dictatorships, softened official criticism of apartheid stating that through dialog and

...tion, the U.S. can be a constructive force in South Africa. As Bishop Desmond Tutu stated, constructive engagement has "... in fact worsened the situation of Blacks in South Africa."

ANTI-APARTHEID EFFORT IN SEATTLE

Seattle has a long history as part of the anti-apartheid movement. Campaigns calling for divestment have been waged at the University of Washington and against SeaFirst Bank. Boycotts of stores selling the South African gold coin, the Kruggerand, and other products have been used as means to voice opposition to the racist rule of the apartheid system.

The weekly pickets in Seattle have resulted in over fifty arrests and have mobilized widespread support for the anti-apartheid effort. These pickets will continue until the Consulate is closed!



CURRENT ACTIONS AGAINST APARTHEID IN SEATTLE:

- Pickets and civil disobedience every Sunday at 1:00 p.m.;
- City Council Finance Committee recommendation to divest city funds, awaiting action by the full City Council in February;
- County Council considering divestment proposal that failed to pass on previous consideration;
- Senator Fleming and Rep. Wineberry are preparing legislation for the current session calling for divestment of state funds;
- Educational events on March 21, Sharpeville Massacre 25th anniversary, June 16, Soweto Day, August 9, South African Women's Day, September 12, anniversary of murder of Steven Biko.

COME TO COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING TO SUPPORT DIVESTMENT PROPOSAL

- Monday, January 21 - 9:30 a.m.
- Room 402 - King County Courthouse
- 3rd and James

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL

GERALD LENOIR AT 324-0500 or
RANDY CARTER AT 632-0500

SEATTLE COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID

PRINCIPLES OF UNITY

1. We condemn the system of apartheid and white minority rule in South Africa. South Africa is one of the most racist and undemocratic countries in the world. We support the struggle of the Black majority and of the so-called coloured and Asian racial groups in South Africa in their struggle to dismantle completely the system of apartheid in order to achieve their freedom.
2. We oppose the policy of constructive engagement being pursued by the U.S. government. We also oppose U.S. corporate investment, bank loans, and trade with South Africa. We support a full economic, political, diplomatic, military, and cultural boycott of South Africa until the system of apartheid is completely dismantled.
3. We oppose South Africa's illegal occupation of the sovereign nation of Namibia. We support United Nations resolution #435 which calls upon South Africa to withdraw from Namibia. We further oppose South Africa military and economic attacks on neighboring frontline states, particularly Angola, Mozambique, and Botswana.
4. We support all other efforts in the City of Seattle and State of Washington to oppose apartheid consistent with the above points of unity and following the principles of non-violence.