

\$TOP BANKING ON APARTHEID

JOIN US NOVEMBER 17 !!!

On November 17, the \$top Banking on Apartheid campaign plans to leaflet at 500 branches of the Bank of America. We will ask bank customers to withdraw their money from the Bank until it ceases making loans to South Africa.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!

WHY SOUTH AFRICA ?

In South Africa a government elected by 4.2 million whites controls the lives of 22.7 million blacks (Africans, Mixed Race, Asians and Indians). The policy of this government is total separation of the races and the complete denial of all rights to blacks. This is called APARTHEID. It means no right to vote, no freedom of speech, no equal housing, no equal wages or jobs, no equal education, and no freedom of travel for 'non-whites'. 80% live below the basic subsistence level; 3 out of 5 children will die before they reach 5 years. Dissenters to these conditions are subjected to some of the most severe and brutal forms of police and military repression in the world.

WHY BANK LOANS ?

U.S. corporations support APARTHEID by investing in South Africa. They've invested over \$1.67 billion. And U.S. banks have lent South Africa over \$3 billion--most to the government and its state-owned industries. In 1977 (when loans were less), the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations found that this investment had the net effect of "strengthening the economic and military self-sufficiency of South Africa's apartheid regime".

WHY BANK OF AMERICA ?

The Bank of America has over \$200 million in loans to South Africa--the majority to the state-owned industries. In 1977 its loans accounted for 10% of the amount South Africa had raised in the U.S.

By successfully pressuring the Bank to stop making loans to South Africa, a major impact will be felt around the world, particularly in South Africa. We'll set precedents for future campaigns as well as support other like-minded actions. We'll also be recognizing the general discrimination practiced by the Bank against women, minorities and unionists, as well as its support of nuclear power.

IS THIS ANOTHER FUTILE CAMPAIGN ?

NO!! The Bank of America is a retail bank. That means they are dependent on small depositors (which is why they have over 1100 branches in California). They are very vulnerable to direct pressure such as the leafleting being planned for November 17. The Bank of America spends millions on advertising, but it will be impossible to overcome the bad publicity their loans to South Africa are bringing. Banks compute a "hassle" factor into their decisions on all loans. Our goal is to make loans to South Africa more trouble than they're worth.

WHAT IS \$TOP BANKING ON APARTHEID ?

We are the California branch of a world-wide movement to stop bank loans to South Africa. The movement has had great success in Holland and is strong in Britain, Canada, Nigeria and the Carribean. Here in the U.S., there are active campaigns in New York, North Carolina, Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee and Philadelphia.

\$top Banking on Apartheid recognizes the role played by other California banks in supporting APARTHEID: Wells Fargo, Crocker National, Security Pacific, United California, Union, Chartered Bank of London, Sumitomo, and the French Bank. We use a variety of methods in the campaign: educational tools, radio interviews, written articles, press conferences and publicity materials. The Bank of America reacted very sharply to our last state-wide leafleting on June 16—they printed a long defense of their loans to South Africa and their 'record' in the community, as well as privately admitted "we were hurt".

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP ?

Contact \$BOA for more information: 2160 Lake Street, San Francisco 94121, (415) 752-7766, or 3470 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto 94306, (415) 494-0355.

Leaflet November 17 at your local branch (we're concentrating on 11-1 and 4-6 pm). Let us know what you or your organization can cover.

Help coordinate leafleting. We need people to take responsibility for branches and distribution of leaflets to the leafleters.

Help build for the 17th through media interviews, our slide show (23 mins.), speaking with people, etc. etc. (we have support materials you're welcome to use.)

Contribute MONEY to cover telephoning, mailing and printing costs for the 17th actions.