



No. 2

# BOYCOTT SHELL

## B · U · L · L · E · T · I · N

## Major Churches Make Shell A Top Anti-Apartheid Target

America's major churches have made Royal Dutch/Shell a top priority in their campaign against apartheid.

Last year, 54 church bodies joined in targeting 12 major corporations which have refused to withdraw from South Africa.

Since then, one of those companies, General Electric, has left South Africa. Royal Dutch/Shell has been added to the list of targets in GE's place.

In a letter to Royal Dutch chairman G.A. Wagner, top church leaders called Shell "one of the

world's most important corporations with operations in South Africa.

"We call upon you to make an immediate public statement that you will withdraw from South Africa," they said.

Among the churches whose top leaders signed the letter were the following:

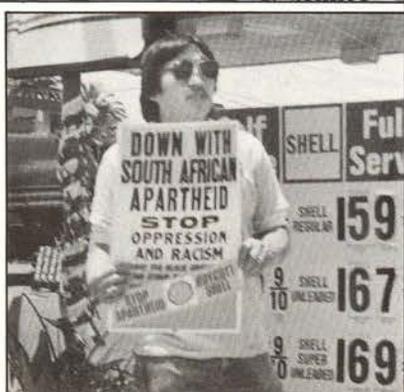
- United Church of Christ
- American Baptist Churches
- Progressive National Baptist Convention
- National Council of Churches
- United Methodist Church

- Episcopal Church
- Church of the Brethren
- American Lutheran Church
- Lutheran Church in America
- African Methodist Episcopal Zion
- International Council of Community Churches
- Reformed Church in America
- Orthodox Church in America
- Disciples of Christ

The Shell boycott has been endorsed previously by such church groups as the Unitarian Universalist Association and Clergy and Laity Concerned.



**BUILD BOYCOTT:** Leafleters from local unions and the Free South Africa Movement educate consumers at Shell stations in Los Angeles.



## L.A. County Unit Dumps Shell Investments of \$15 Million

The Los Angeles County Board of Investments has decided to pull \$15 million previously invested in Shell.

The Board oversees investment of pension funds for 70,000 county employees, most of whom are members of AFL-CIO unions.

"We made two arguments in getting the Board to drop the Shell investments," said Phil Giarizzo, general manager of Service Employees Local 660 and steering committee member of the L.A. Shell Boycott Coalition.

"First, we said it is immoral to invest in Royal Dutch/Shell or any of its subsidiaries when the company helps fuel apartheid.

"Second, we pointed out that the world-wide boycott campaign means that Shell is going to be a bad investment until it withdraws from South Africa."

# International Boycott Begins

Demonstrations in five major cities kicked off the Shell boycott in Australia, where Shell has had annual sales of more than \$4.9 billion.

A coalition of church, labor, student, and other groups held simultaneous actions in the major cities of Sydney, Perth, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Canberra.

"We intend to teach Shell a lesson," said Rev. Richard Wootton of the Uniting Church of Australia, one of the coalition partners.

"As long as Shell profits from apartheid, it is not welcome in Australia."

The Australians join active boycott coalitions in the U.S., Great Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Norway.



**SENDING A MESSAGE:** Local union delegates to the UAW's national convention in Anaheim, Calif., took time out to visit Shell's west coast offices and draw attention to the boycott.



**REFUSES TO WITHDRAW:** Despite pleas from church, labor, and other anti-apartheid groups throughout the world, top officials of Royal Dutch told stockholders they will continue Shell's operations in South Africa.

## FUEL FOR THOUGHT...

"The fuel consumption of the Republic of South Africa is increasing, and the ability of Sasol [the government-controlled coal-to-oil conversion project] to bring about production increases in its three existing factories will decrease in time. This makes South Africa more dependent on imported petroleum."

Sasol Chairman D.P.de Villiers  
*Financial Mail*, October 4, 1985

"With the latest 'emergency,' the government has attacked workers and worker organizations. Hundreds of our leaders are in detention or in hiding. Our offices are being constantly raided. The offices of some of our affiliates have been bombed. Other organizations supported by workers and youth have come under similar attack. The government is trying to silence the voice of workers. It has not listened to the cry of millions of people in South Africa. It has not listened to the cry of the whole world."

Statement by Confederation of South African Unions (COSATU), August 1986

"I would be more impressed with those who made no bones about the reason they remain in South Africa and said, honestly, 'We are concerned for our profits,' instead of the baloney that the businesses are there for our benefit. We don't want you there. Please do us a favor: get out, and come back when we have a democratic and just South Africa."

Bishop Desmond Tutu  
Nobel Peace Prize Winner  
*New York Times*, June 16, 1986

# Mayors Back Boycott

The National Conference of Black Mayors has endorsed the Shell boycott.

The mayors resolved that each city should:

- Divest city funds from Royal Dutch Petroleum and Shell Transport and Trading Co., the two co-owners of Royal Dutch/Shell.
- Withdraw any Shell credit cards issued to city employees.
- Ban purchases of Shell products by city agencies.

"The time has come for the American people to cease patronizing people that support apartheid," said Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles.

In another new endorsement, the boycott was supported by the national convention of ACORN—the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now.

# Shell Must Pay \$5.2 Million In Hazard Cover-Up Case

A jury has ordered Shell to pay \$5.2 million for trying to prevent disclosure of possible cancer hazards from pipes made from a Shell resin product.

An attorney for a council of plumbing and pipefitter unions in California had brought the possible hazards to the attention of the state Department of Housing and Community Development, which took steps to regulate use of pipe containing that type of resin.

Shell then sued the attorney, and after he successfully moved for dismissal, he sued Shell for malicious prosecution and won his case.



# Billboard Campaign Begins

A campaign to use billboards to alert motorists to the Shell boycott has begun, with Birmingham, Ala., as the first site.

Sixty-two full-size billboards have been put up throughout the Birmingham area.

After the first 20 were posted, Shell lowered its prices in an attempt to maintain business.

A survey showed that the price of Shell super unleaded, for example, fell from \$1.28 per gallon to 97 cents.

Seeing this impact, USA Outdoor billboard company donated 42 additional billboards to the campaign.

The company is co-owned by John McCombs, a former steelworker laid off by U.S. Steel five years ago.

"Steelworkers and coal miners cannot compete with slave labor from other countries," McCombs said. "By helping eliminate apartheid in South Africa, we help to better our situation here, too."



**Former Shell dealer  
Tim Janello**

# Another Dealer Switches Brands

In addition to letting Royal Dutch/Shell know that they want the company to stop fueling apartheid, many Shell dealers can support the boycott by switching brands.

Tim Janello, a dealer in Christopher, Ill., switched after the boycott caused so many customers to "quit trading with me" that the volume of his sales decreased by 20,000 gallons per month below normal levels.

"That's my bread and butter so I had to do something about it," he said.

He switched brands, and says his volume is back to normal.

# SUPPORTING THE BOYCOTT:

# WHAT YOU CAN DO

**1. Start with yourself.** Don't buy Shell products until Royal Dutch/Shell withdraws from South Africa. Display a bumper sticker to publicize the boycott.

**2. Talk to family, friends, and neighbors.** Give them the basic campaign booklet.

**3. Get local organizations involved.** Leaflets and a slide show/video are available for use at meetings.

**4. Help leaflet Shell stations.**

**5. Target local stores.** Ask them to post signs in support of the boycott.

**6. Meet with businesses and government agencies.** Ask them not to use Shell credit cards, heating oil, etc.

**7. Encourage institutions and individuals to boycott stock of Royal Dutch Petroleum and Shell Transport and Trading Co.**

**Copies of this Boycott Shell Bulletin are available at bulk rates. To order copies of this or other campaign materials, use the coupon below.**

QTY.	SHELL BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN MATERIALS	COST
	<b>Bumper sticker:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> # _____ "Stop Apartheid, Boycott Shell" <input type="checkbox"/> # _____ "Save U.S. Jobs, Stop Apartheid, Boycott Shell" 50¢ for 1-200, 15¢ for over 200.	
	<b>Buttons:</b> "Stop Apartheid, Boycott Shell" 50¢ for 1-200, 30¢ for over 200.	
	<b>Wallet-size "Discredit Card":</b> A reminder of your commitment to boycott Shell products. \$2.50/hundred.	
	<b>Basic 16-page booklet:</b> Gives the basics on apartheid, why Shell is a boycott target, and Shell's involvement in South Africa. 75¢ for 1-100, 50¢ for over 100.	
	<b>Basic leaflets:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> # _____ A leaflet to use while picketing, explaining the campaign. <input type="checkbox"/> # _____ A leaflet for particular use in labor meetings and conferences. <input type="checkbox"/> # _____ A leaflet for outreach to sympathetic general audiences. \$5/hundred.	
	<b>Campaign slide/tape show:</b> A 9-minute show featuring boycott leaders and the president of the South African National Union of Mineworkers. Also available in video format. \$100 each to buy, \$50 to rent.	
	<b>Workplace stickers:</b> "Stop Apartheid, Boycott Shell" 10¢ for 1-100, 5¢ for over 100.	
	<b>Poster-size "Discredit Card":</b> \$5 each. (Free with orders of \$250 or more.)	
	<b>Poster for stores:</b> "No Shell Products Sold Here" and why. 50¢ for 1-200, 15¢ for over 200.	
	<b>"Protect Our Jobs" brochure:</b> How the Shell campaign helps preserve coal jobs in the U.S. \$5/hundred.	
	<b>"Boycott Shell" Bulletin:</b> 40¢ for 1-50; 25¢ for over 50.	
<i>Please add 25 percent for postage and handling.</i>		

## ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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**Make checks payable to Boycott Shell Campaign and send c/o United Mine Workers of America, 900 15th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.**

**Phone: (202) 842-7350**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Due

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