



No. 4

BOYCOTT SHELL

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Coordinated Protests In 10 Countries Escalate Shell Campaign

Coordinated demonstrations in ten countries on November 15 marked an escalation of the Shell boycott.

The demonstrations followed public admission by Shell officials that the boycott is having an effect and that the company might be forced to withdraw from South Africa.

Protests took place in the U.S., Great Britain and the Netherlands (where Royal Dutch/Shell is based), Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Australia, Portugal, Belgium, and Italy.

As a prelude to the demonstrations in the U.S., church and labor organizations announced the divestment of more than \$12.4 million in Royal Dutch/Shell stocks and bonds.

Among the union pension funds divesting Shell were those covering members or staff of the United Food and Commercial Workers, International Ladies Garment Workers, Pattern Makers, Newspaper Guild of Greater Philadelphia, and United Mine Workers.

Church groups divesting included the National Council of Churches, United Church of Christ Board for World Ministries, Women's and World Divisions of the United Methodist Church's General Board of Global Ministries, Sisters of Charity of New York, Sisters of Mercy, Little Sisters of the Assumption, and the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in Houston.

Many other labor and religious groups have pledged not to buy shares in Royal Dutch/Shell.

"Shell is one of the most strategic companies in South Africa," said Dr.



Arie Brouwer, general secretary of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

"American churches will expand the campaign against Shell until it withdraws from South Africa."

Mine Workers President Richard Trumka said that "we have been convincing consumers not to buy Shell products and to cut up their Shell credit cards. Now we are also urging Shell's shareholders to divest them-

selves immediately of their stock until Royal Dutch/Shell leaves South Africa.

"The shareholders are the owners of the company and are thus responsible for Shell's support of apartheid."

TOP: Dutch boycott supporters take advantage of Amsterdam's waterways to spread their message. **BELOW:** Randall Robinson (center), co-chair of the Free South Africa Movement, leads a demonstration in St. Louis.

FUEL FOR THOUGHT...

"The Shell boycott is one of the more dramatic examples of the escalating pressures that have faced most multinational corporations operating in South Africa..."

"In South Africa, Shell executives have talked recently about the international 'onslaught' facing the company... Shell officials acknowledge that the boycotters' focus on the supply of oil has placed them in an awkward position."

Washington Post, Front page story
November 29, 1986

"Giving way to public pressure, companies and countries are starting to pull out of the lucrative but shadowy oil trade with South Africa."

"In September, for example, A.S. Thor Dahl, a Norwegian shipping company once heavily engaged in transporting oil to South Africa, announced that it had severed all trading links with Pretoria."

"The Norwegian company's announcement followed similar declarations from Dutch, Swiss, and Danish shipping companies...."

New York Times
December 7, 1986

"The Brunei Government is investigating the disappearance of £500 million of oil sold by Brunei Shell, which is believed to have found its way to South Africa."

"Thirty tankers 'went missing' after loading at Brunei and giving false destinations. It is feared the embargoed oil reached South Africa through intermediaries, and that much of it was ultimately sold to Shell South Africa's refinery in Durban."

London Observer
November 2, 1986

[Note: Brunei is a small Asian country which became independent of Great Britain in 1984.]

"We probably were having more discussion and answering more questions from the news media about South Africa than anything else in the history of the company," said Dan Collins, manager of corporate information [for Bell & Howell Co.]

"At some point, people started saying, 'Hey, what are we talking about here? Why allow something that small to have such a major impact on the rest of the company?... Let's get the hell out.'"

Washington Post
November 17, 1986

"It is interesting to note that a week before General Motors withdrew from South Africa, spokesmen denied that there was a possibility of this happening. One can therefore conclude that Shell will most probably do the same."

NRC Handelsblad
A Dutch financial newspaper
October 24, 1986

"Any move by Shell to run down its operations would be a heavy psychological blow to South Africa."

Johannesburg Sunday Times
October 19, 1986

"Thomas Nkadimeng, a 39-year-old black member of the personnel department of a Shell branch office in Johannesburg, has recently been dismissed because he refused to act as a spy for the boss."

"Nkadimeng was required to sit in at right- and left-wing political gatherings in order to report back to Shell who had said and done what..."

"Nkadimeng considered this assignment unreasonable, having nothing to do with his normal personnel department work and moreover completely against his personal moral principles. He politely refused this assignment and was dismissed by John Wilson, the top manager of Shell South Africa."

Federation of Dutch Trade Unions Magazine
November 8, 1986

"...Substantial costs inside the United States—as much as a deteriorating economic and political climate in South Africa—have accelerated a phenomenon that some analysts say may be unique in the annals of U.S. business: significant U.S. corporate flight from an economically advanced and until recently profitable foreign market."

"These departures were considered unimaginable as recently as two years ago when virtually every major corporation in South Africa—led in many cases by GM and IBM—were vowing to remain on the grounds that it could be a force for 'constructive

change.' Their rallying cry was the Sullivan Principles—a voluntary code that pledged the companies to maintain desegregated facilities, pay equal wages to blacks and make significant contributions to their workers' education and housing."

"'I think we've reached a point where we're beyond the Sullivan Principles,' said William Archey, vice president for international affairs of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. 'The companies feel South Africa is a no-win situation because of the direct and indirect impacts in the U.S.... It's just a big hassle for a lot of companies.'"

Washington Post, November 17, 1986

Shareholders Challenge Shell

At least two major institutions which hold shares in Royal Dutch/Shell have announced plans to challenge the company's role in South Africa at the annual shareholders meeting scheduled for May.

The American Baptist Churches say they will promote a resolution calling on Shell to cut all ties to South Africa.

Their resolution notes that the South African Council of Churches "has asserted that disinvestment and similar economic pressures are now called for to bring about change."

The Baptists criticize Shell for providing fuel for the apartheid regime, and point out that the company "stands to lose sales and suffer in its public image unless it withdraws from South Africa."

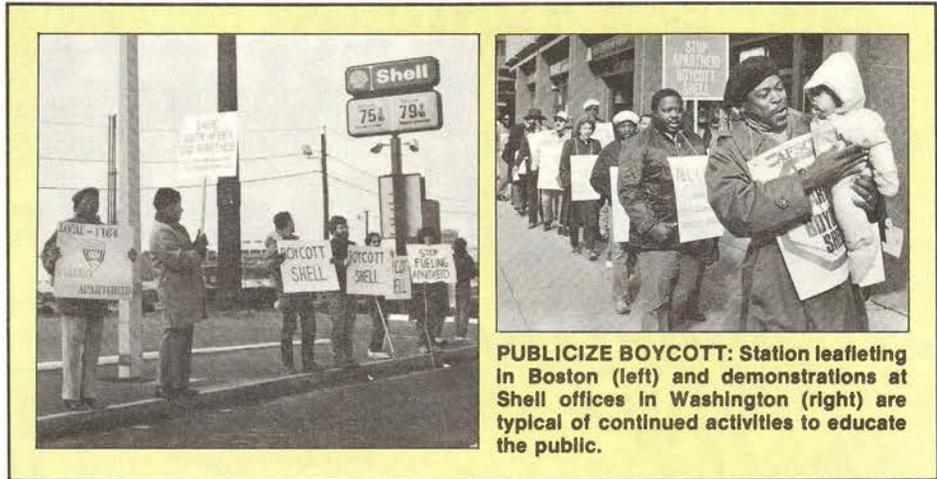
Meanwhile, the City of New York has informed Shell that it will pursue a resolution on behalf of its Teachers' Retirement System calling for an end to Shell's sale of fuel to the South African military and police.

In a letter to Royal Dutch Chairman L.C. van Wachem, New York City Comptroller Harrison Goldin said, "The provision of goods or services to the [South African] government, its agencies and enterprises constitutes support for apartheid, a morally reprehensible policy."

"At the same time, we believe that the reckless, public-be-damned attitude evidenced by companies that continue to make these sales to the Republic of South Africa makes them a poor investment."



SOLIDARITY: Owen Bleber (left), co-chair of the National Labor Boycott Shell Committee, briefs the executive board of South Africa's National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and hears their appreciation for the international campaign. Seated next to Bleber is Cyril Ramaphosa, NUM general secretary.



PUBLICIZE BOYCOTT: Station leafletting in Boston (left) and demonstrations at Shell offices in Washington (right) are typical of continued activities to educate the public.

Shell Station Owners Demand Disinvestment

The association representing Shell gas station owners in Sweden demanded that Royal Dutch/Shell withdraw from South Africa at a meeting with senior company executives November 13 in London.

The 600-member Swedish Shell Pump Owners Association held a press conference after the meeting to publicize their opposition to Shell's role in supplying fuel for apartheid.

Companies Draw Fire For Pull-Out Methods

As multinational corporations pull out of South Africa, many have drawn heavy criticism for the way they are going about it.

Although some firms have completely severed all business ties with South Africa, others have established licensing and marketing agreements that will allow them to continue to profit from the apartheid system.

Anti-apartheid groups in both the U.S. and South Africa have pledged continued campaigns until these companies announce genuine disinvestment.

In addition, unions affiliated with the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's largest black union group, have reaffirmed support for disinvestment but

blasted companies which leave without taking such steps as:

- Negotiating with workers about how the disinvestment will occur.
- Requiring new owners to guarantee jobs, pay, and benefits and to recognize the workers' unions.
- Providing severance pay or other compensation to workers for the years of profits the disinvesting company has made.

COSATU and other leading black South African organizations advocate disinvestment as a way to force the dismantling of apartheid. They have said that disinvestment is needed to deprive the apartheid system of capital, technology, and oil.

They believe there is a better chance of negotiating change within their country if the regime is not propped up by outside interests.

Since January, 1985, more than 70 U.S. firms have announced some form of disinvestment from South Africa. Among the most recent are GM, IBM, Kodak, Honeywell, Revlon, Coca-Cola, and Proctor & Gamble.

In addition, Fluor Corp. recently announced its withdrawal. The company has been a major target of anti-apartheid activists for the same reason that Shell is: it has played a major role in providing fuel for the South African government and the apartheid economy. Fluor helped build and maintain the massive Sasol plants which convert South African coal to oil.

Fluor recently lost a major construction contract on the Los Angeles Convention Center because of its South African ties.

Fluor is co-owner with Royal Dutch/Shell of A.T. Massey Coal Co. in the United States.

Are Your Tax Dollars Supporting Shell?

One way you can work with others in your community to fight apartheid is to persuade government agencies not to use Shell credit cards, gasoline, or heating oil.

You can organize a delegation to visit the mayor, county commissioners, or other officials who control purchasing decisions.

If necessary, you can mount a campaign to build public pressure to stop giving tax dollars to a company that helps fuel apartheid.

In addition, you can target businesses that use or sell Shell products. You can ask them to stop doing business with Shell, and then publicize their response.

Pre-printed signs are available that they could put in store windows announcing "No Shell Products Sold Here" and explaining why.

To order campaign materials, including a 9-minute slide show/video, leaflets, and bumper stickers, please use the coupon below.

Copies of the Boycott Shell Bulletin are available at bulk rates.

QTY.	SHELL BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN MATERIALS	COST
	Bumper sticker: <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.	
	Buttons: "Stop Apartheid, Boycott Shell" 50¢ for 1-200, 30¢ for over 200.	
	Wallet-size "Discredit Card": A reminder of your commitment to boycott Shell products. \$2.50/hundred.	
	Basic 16-page booklet: 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.	
	Basic leaflets: <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.	
	Campaign slide/tape show: 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.	
	Workplace stickers: "Stop Apartheid, Boycott Shell" 10¢ for 1-100, 5¢ for over 100.	
	Poster-size "Discredit Card": \$5 each. (Free with orders of \$250 or more.)	
	Poster for stores: "No Shell Products Sold Here" and why. 50¢ for 1-200, 15¢ for over 200.	
	"Protect Our Jobs" brochure: How the Shell campaign helps preserve coal jobs in the U.S. \$5/hundred.	
	"Boycott Shell" Bulletin: 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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City _____

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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.

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