



No. 8

BOYCOTT SHELL

B · U · L · L · E · T · I · N

Week of Action Set for Nov. 7-14

Shell boycott coalitions throughout the world have set the week of November 7 through 14 as a time for coordinated activities.

In the U.S., local groups are urged to organize the following types of actions:

■ **Leafletting at Shell stations** to inform consumers about the boycott.

■ **Phoning Shell Oil Co.'s toll-free number, 1-800-331-3703**, at company expense to urge officials to let the parent company, Royal Dutch/Shell, know that Americans won't buy

Shell products until all subsidiaries withdraw from South Africa.

■ **Pressuring city, county, and state governments** to cut off contracts with Shell or discontinue the use of Shell credit cards for government business.

Actions to pressure state and local officials might include hearings, demonstrations, lobby days, petition campaigns, or lunch-time rallies.

In recent months, local governments in the U.S. and other countries have

begun to cut off ties with Shell. They range from Pike County, KY and East Palo Alto, CA, to Oslo, Norway, and three more cities and two counties in Denmark.

In addition, a group of Danish housing companies decided to stop buying about \$25 million per year in Shell heating oil and gasoline because of the boycott.

If you need materials or advice for local actions, contact the Shell Boycott Campaign at the address or phone shown on the coupon on page 4.

Boycott Featured In New TV Show

A new, nationally distributed television documentary, "The American Connection," focuses on the Shell boycott.

Up to five million viewers will learn about the views of defenders and critics of the role of Royal Dutch/Shell and other multinational corporations in propping up the apartheid system in South Africa.

The program is available free to any television station and is expected to receive most air time on cable, public, and independent stations.

"The American Connection" was independently produced by the American Labor Education Center, with partial funding from the Communications Workers of America (CWA) and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

The program features:

• Boycott activity in Birmingham, Alabama, including interviews with working people who support the boycott and a demonstration at a Shell station.

• Rarely seen footage of South African police violence, smuggled out of that country despite government censorship restrictions.

• An interview with a representative of the largest union in South Africa, the National Union of Mineworkers.

• A panel discussion featuring Bill Lucy, AFSCME secretary-treasurer and a leader of the Free South Africa Movement, and Gretchen Eick of the United Church of Christ.

3 Ways You Can Help

You can help educate the public and members of organizations you belong to about the Shell boycott, apartheid, and the need to help workers in other countries to win basic rights.

1. Show the new documentary, "The American Connection," at meetings in your community, at

fairs, in local schools, and to other local audiences.

The program is available in both a 10-minute version and the full 27-minute version that includes the panel discussion.

Use the coupon on page 4 to order either version.

2. Contact local TV stations, especially cable, public, and independent stations, and encourage them to broadcast "The American Connection." Let them know that they can broadcast the program without charge.

While they might have heard about the program through other publicity materials, they are *far* more likely to air it if they know groups in the community are interested.

As an extra incentive, your organization could offer to help publicize the broadcast. In the past, stations have been more enthusiastic about airing programs when they knew that organizations were going to publicize the

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show through mailings, distribution of leaflets at work sites, newspaper or radio ads, etc.

3. Show "Stop Apartheid, Boycott Shell," another 9-minute show available as slide/tape or video.

This show features James Motlatsi, president of South Africa's National Union of Mineworkers; Coretta Scott King; union leaders Richard Trumka and Owen Bieber; Free South Africa Movement leaders Randall Robinson and Rep. Walter Fauntroy; and Eleanor Smeal of the National Organization for Women.

As indicated on the coupon on page 4, this show is now available at a reduced purchase price. Rental is no longer available.

CBS Evening News Features Protests On Shell's Role

A CBS Evening News report called Shell "the anti-apartheid movement's number one target—the symbol of its campaign to force foreign companies out of the country because South Africa needs companies like Shell."

In an interview on the program, Randall Robinson of the Free South Africa Movement said that "oil is a munition of war, and South Africa has no oil." Shell is especially important to South Africa



LEAFLETING: Boycotters in San Mateo, CA, inform consumers.

Boycott Ad Trumps Shell's

When Shell ran an ad (left) in a Johannesburg newspaper trying to create an image as a "moderate" employer, the international boycott campaign responded with its own ad.

WEEKLY MAIL May 8 to May 14, 1987

Shell
supports
freedom of
association.



Working to make a difference now.

WEEKLY MAIL August 21 to August 27, 1987

If Shell supports
freedom of association,
then why does it
supply fuel
to a government that
detains trade unionists
and denies them
basic human rights?



The Shell Boycott Education Project
900 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005 USA
(202) 842-7330

because it provides petroleum products the apartheid system needs, he said.

Asked by CBS to comment on company claims that it provides housing and other services to black workers, Robinson commented, "Suppose the plantation masters fed the slave . . . that does not justify slavery."

The program, which aired July 11, concluded by noting that "Shell continues to plead its case for staying, with politically provocative ads in anti-apartheid newspapers. The question is, 'Will all of this be enough? Or will Shell too travel the road out of South Africa?'"

Shell Clashes With South African Workers

Royal Dutch/Shell tells international audiences that its role in fueling apartheid should be excused because it supposedly treats its South African employees well.

Yet Shell continues to clash with workers who demand improvements in their slave-labor pay rates.

▶ At the Rietspruit coal mine co-owned by Shell, black workers had to

strike in August when management refused to provide more than a minimal pay increase.

According to a union spokesman, police assaulted the workers with rubber bullets and arrested 14 of them, who then were fired. The strikers eventually went back to work without the increase they sought.

A local leader of the National Union of Mineworkers said black Rietspruit miners make about \$200 per month.

▶ At the Sappref oil refineries, also co-owned by Shell, black workers won a pay increase after being forced to take a strike vote and threaten to picket Shell's offices throughout South Africa.

Pat Horn, a spokesperson for the Chemical Workers Industrial Union, said, "It's all very well for Shell and British Petroleum to invest in expensive advertising campaigns promoting their 'concern' for the people of South Africa, but we believe they should put their own house in order."

These recent incidents call into question Shell's claim that its policies have improved since 1985, when 86 Rietspruit miners were fired in a dispute which arose when they attempted to hold a memorial service for a worker killed in a mine accident.

A company spokesman at the time labeled the fired miners "hard core trade unionist" and said, "We're glad to see the last of them."

From 'The American Connection' . . .

"Our companies, factories, were being closed down. And then we discovered they were going to countries like South Africa and down in South America. And people were working for little or nothing. We call that slave labor. And for that reason we want to put a stop to it."

—Vera Brown, school teacher
Birmingham, Alabama

"Daily, six-year olds have been killed . . . Kids are afraid to go to school because they are afraid of the army . . ."

"Shell will tell the world they went to South Africa out of goodwill because they wanted to provide jobs and so on. But what we are experiencing is a different thing . . ."

—Hazy Sibanyoni
National Union of Mineworkers
South Africa



TV SHOW: The new program, "The American Connection," includes interviews with Shell boycott supporters in Birmingham, AL, as they leaflet motorists passing the 16th Street Baptist Church. (Details on front page. To order, use coupon below.)

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. \$40 each. No rentals.	
	"The American Connection": A TV documentary on Americans and South Africa that features the boycott. ½-inch VHS format. <input type="checkbox"/> # ____ 10-minute version. <input type="checkbox"/> # ____ 27-minute version. \$40 each. No rentals.	
	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 _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Organization _____

Phone _____

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**

AFSCME

1625 L Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036



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U.S. Postage

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