

STOP NORTHWESTERN'S SOUTH AFRICAN INVESTMENT

The Coalition to Stop NU Investments in South Africa demands an open meeting with all or some of the NU Board of Trustees. Several members of the Trustees have already thoroughly aired their views in the press. At this point, we see no need for a hush-hush, behind closed doors meeting. We reject this proposal from the Board as a ploy to divert attention from the real issues. There is substantial and growing interest and support for our position: almost 800 people have signed petitions, an open letter from Black faculty, staff, and administrators, a Daily Northwestern editorial, and at least one trustee has spoken out in favor of "immediate and prudent divestiture." We think the University community is a place for open dialogue and therefore call for AN OPEN MEETING.

Northwestern University's Board of Trustees has demonstrated only its own selfish interests in serving the rich by deciding to retain its stock and bonds in corporations and banks which operate in South Africa. These operations support the apartheid system which causes the oppression and exploitation of the South African peoples, and denies basic human rights to the South African majority. This decision reflects the profit-over-people interests of a few imperialists on the Board of Trustees and not the people of this university--students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends--who have a right to speak out and decide on this crucial issue.

The Oregon Board of Higher Education and the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents have recently voted to sell their stock in South Africa-related corporations. We insist that NU join this growing movement in support of the people of South Africa by ending its ties with companies which help to maintain apartheid and minority rule in South Africa.

Coalition Demands:

Sell the Stock

U.S. Out of South Africa

NU Out of S. Africa

Support the S. African People

Sponsored by

Coalition to Stop N.U. Investments in South Africa
AFRICAN LIBERATION SUPPORT COMMITTEE
BLACK CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES AFRICAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION
ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT • FOR MEMBERS ONLY
AFRICAN LIBERATION FUND • FACULTY • STAFF • STUDENTS

- ** 1. N.U. has some 75 million dollars invested in more than 40 corporations and banks which operate in South Africa, not the 65 million in 20 corporations as N.U. listed.
- ** 2. Our demand that N.U. move toward divesture is not in violation. Ohio University, Smith College, Oregon Board of Higher Education, University of Wisconsin Board of Regents to name a few are school that have already decided to sell the South African stock. Students, faculty, staff on other major campuses have taken up the fight for university divesture.
- ** 3. Many of the members that sit on N.U. Board of Trustees also serve as director, board members and chief executives of corporations operating in South Africa. Trustees Gaylord Freeman, Thomas Ayers, Richard Thomas, A. D. Swift and Robert Nevin also sit on the Board of 1st National Bank of Chicago. This bank recently (1976) joined other banks in lending 110 million dollars to the South African government. 1st National also continues to sell the South Africa Kruggerand. Trustees Karl Bays and Foster McGaw sit on the Board at American Hospital Supply. A.H.S. has a manufacturing plant in South Africa.
- ** 4. Other corporations and banks operating in South Africa in which N.U. owns stocks and which in turn have representatives on the N.U. Board of Trustees to oversee the University's financial policy are: Abbott Lab; I.B.M.; Motorola; General Electric; G.M. Acceptance; G. D. Searle; and several others. Speaking at Northwestern University's Center for African Studies Seretse Choabi said "the white racist system (in South Africa) survives because it is propped up by the multinational corporations . . . Our problem is General Motors, the Ford Foundation and I.B.M." (Seretse Choabi, a native of South Africa was imprisoned there for three and was exiled in 1967.)
- ** 5. "Progressive" American corporate practice in South Africa is a farce. American corporations operating in South Africa must obey the racist and repressive status quo enforced by the South African government. The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs reports that the performance of U.S. firms in South Africa is "abysmal." In short, they are all partners in apartheid or conversely apartheid is practiced and applied on their behalf and to their advantage." (Time for Azania)

It is clear to us that the decision to retain the stocks and bonds are made in the corporate board rooms of imperialist corporations and not by the N.U. community. Furthermore these decisions are not made in the interest of the South African people; rather they are to line the pockets of a few already rich imperialists who are determined to exploit and maim the spirit of the South African peoples.

So far the Board of Trustees has refused to grant an all-campus meeting. We must tear down this veil of modern day piracy which allies the N.U. community with the racist and repressive South African government.

SELL THE STOCK -- Force an Open Meeting - Pledge Your Support by Signing
Our Petition.