

# SOUTHERN AFRICA COMMITTEE

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637 W. 125th St. NYC 10027

## NAMIBIA STRIKE (2/27)

Latest reports from Namibia say that the massive 3 month strike of the Ovambo workers has not ended, despite a so-called "settlement" reached between the illegal South African government and the government's raid tribal chiefs. The South African army is still in occupation of the territory, and eye witness reports from Ovambo land claim that the jails cannot hold all those arrested. Twelve strikers are now formally on trial in Windhoek. As many as 70 Africans have been reported killed and secretly buried in Ovambo. (For more news and action suggestions see Feb. 72 issue of Southern Africa Magazine.)

In a related action, shareholders' motions have been filed with Newmont Mining (300 Park Ave. NYC 10022) and American Metal Climax (1270 Sixth Ave. NYC) which each own 29% of Tsumeb mines in Namibia. A campaign to focus attention on these companies will ensue. The resolutions call on Newmont and Amax to

- 1) disclose information about operations in Namibia
- 2) negotiate immediately with the United Nations (thereby refusing to recognize the illegal S.A. occupiers), and
- 3) place the companies' profits in "escrow" in the meantime.

(For information, write: Episcopal Churchmen for South Africa -ECSA-  
14 W. 11 New York City 10011)

(continued on next page)

SOUTHERN AFRICAN COMMITTEE (cont.)

ACTIVITY NOTES -

Newmont Demonstration & Namibia Support Group

A number of SAC members have devoted large amounts of their energies in support of the Namibian strikers. Statements of support have been solicited and received from members of the Congressional Black Caucus, church leaders and others. On February 4, a group of forty persons gathered outside the headquarters of Newmont Mining Corp., on Park Ave. to demonstrate solidarity with the strikers, and to announce the stockholders campaign. Sneakers included Ken Williams and Caroline Hunter from Polaroid Revolutionary Workers Movement (PRM), Al Hubbard, from Vietnam Vets Against the War, and Ben Guiriab of SWAPO (South West African People's Organization). The group carried its demands and hundreds of petitions to Newmont officials. This past week Newmont has announced a unilateral raise at Tsumeb for African workers of 23% (so what)!

Chanting "Rhodesia: No!; Zimbabwe: Yes!" and "Smith is a Murderer", SAC members participated in a spirited demonstration organized by Zimbabweans outside the British Mission to the U.N. a few days after the announcement of the Anglo-Rhodesian Settlement Pact. Attempts by a Zimbabwean delegation to gain a hearing with the British proved unsuccessful.

Corporate Campaign

Stockholders motions (see Jan-Feb. MAAIC Newsletter) have been filed, and are pending with General Motors, Gulf Oil, IBM, and Goodyear Rubber Corporations concerning their investments in southern Africa. Research studies on these and other companies doing business in S.A. can now be ordered. (Write Corporate Information Center (CIC), 475 Riverside Dr., Rm. 846, N.Y.C. 10027). The CIC is preparing corporate briefs (including information on the company in general as well as specifics on its Southern African involvement) on the following companies: Gulf Oil Corporation, ITT, IBM and General Electric. SAC is carrying comprehensive packets of background information on U.S. corporate involvement in southern Africa for use in constituency education. More information on the contents of the packet will be sent to MAAIC members. Packets are \$1.50 a piece, items may be ordered separately, and in bulk.

Washington Conference

SAC is among 15 other organizational co-sponsors of a major national conference to be held in Washington, March 24 & 25: "The U.S. and Southern Africa". The conference will be informational (sneakers and lit) and action (workshops) oriented. The focus will be on two subjects: U.S. corporate involvement and the liberation movements. Hopes are that Amilcar Cabral of PAIGC will attend -- for sure Sietze Bosgra of the Angola Comité in Holland and Abdul Minty of the AWI will be there. For more details: Harry Annlewite, United Church of Christ, 110 Maryland Ave. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002. Other sponsors include the African Heritage Studies Association, IFCO, IIAH International Affairs Dept., Clergy and Laity Concerned, ACOA, and a number of church groups.