

C-U Coalition Against Apartheid

**284 Illini Union
Urbana, Illinois
61801**

PRESS RELEASE
14 November 1978
for immediate release

Contact: Jim Walker
333-2980
333-7076

HEARINGS ON UNIVERSITY INVESTMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

At 10 AM, Thursday, Nov. 16, the University of Illinois Board of Trustees will be sponsoring hearings on University investments in South Africa. The hearings will be held in room 210 of the Illini Union. The Champaign - Urbana Coalition Against Apartheid, an organization seeking university divestiture of all stocks owned in corporations which do business in South Africa, and opponents of university divestiture will each be allotted 45 minutes to make their case. Don Crumme, professor, African studies department; Alan Lander, chairperson, Undergraduate Student Association; Steve Lee, representative, Coalition Against Apartheid; and the president of the African Students Organization will speak in favor of divestiture. An executive from a major corporation and a university student will speak against divestiture.

In the spring of 1977 a majority of students voting in a referendum supported divestiture, in the full, the Board of Trustees refused to divest and they adopted the present policy of voting university proxies in favor of all stockholder proposals calling for a halt to further investment in South Africa and prudent withdrawal of all current investments. Since that time the University has purchased \$700,000 worth of additional stocks in corporations involved in South Africa.

In the spring of 1978, the Champaign - Urbana Coalition Against Apartheid was formed to organize student, faculty, and community support for divestiture. The Coalition believes that divestiture is the only effective measure the University can take to oppose U. S. corporate involvement in South Africa. The Coalition has pointed to sales of military vehicles, computer parts, communications equipment, and oil by corporations such as GM, Ford, IBM, ITT, and Texaco to the South African military and police as an example of how U. S. corporations help to maintain the system of racial oppression in South Africa. Over the past year, the Coalition has organized a series of campus rallies, educational films, and lectures by leaders of the Black liberation movement in South Africa.