

Educators Against Apartheid

November, 1989

164-04 Goethals Avenue. Jamaica, NY 11432

Defiance!

The latest victory of the recent Defiance Campaign in South Africa was the rally held on October 29. Nearly 80,000 people from all over South Africa filled a soccer stadium in Soweto, making this the biggest African National Congress rally ever held in South Africa. Black and white, they came from churches, schools, factories, and community organizations. They wore their uniforms: miners, school children, workers from various industries. This great rally was held in defiance of the State of Emergency and the laws of the apartheid government which ban gatherings and demonstrations. The demonstrators celebrated the release of 7 ANC leaders and another political prisoner, most of whom were in jail for over 25 years.

Because the flag of the ANC is banned, people wore yellow, green and black shirts. The stadium "was awash in the colors of the ANC", according to a UPI reporter.

Walter Sisulu, one of the seven released ANC political prisoners told the participants that the ANC's conditions for participating in negotiations with the apartheid regime include release of all political prisoners, unbanning of outlawed political organizations, repeal of the state of emergency, and withdrawal of army troops and riot police from Black townships.

Sisulu said,

"If such a climate is created, the ANC is prepared to discuss the suspension of hostilities on both sides. The ANC had been forced in 1961 to adopt armed struggle after all legal avenues to change were closed. Our pleas fell on deaf ears. We stood for peace in 1912 when we were formed. We stood for peace in our long struggle of resistance. We stand for peace today. We will stand for peace tomorrow."

Tibogo Mafole, the ANC's chief representative to the United Nations said,

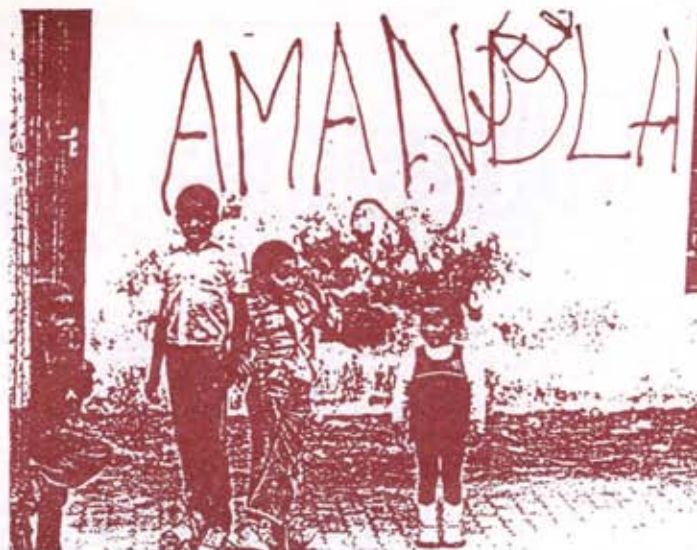
"The very fact that such a rally was held under the state of emergency shows the power of the mass defiance campaign. It cannot rule in the same old way. WORLD PRESSURE FOR SANCTIONS, COMBINED WITH THE INTERNAL STRUGGLE, COULD HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT EFFECT IN DETERMINING WHICH WAY THE APARTHEID DE KLERK GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO GO. SANCTIONS DO WORK. Otherwise the government would not be spending millions to try to head them off."

APARTHEID IS WRONG

A Curriculum for Young People

by Paula Rogovin Bower

Published by Educators Against Apartheid



Apartheid Is Wrong, A Curriculum For Young People, is a multi-disciplinary, hands-on curriculum for parents and teachers of young people from grades one through twelve. It is for teachers of all subject areas: writing, reading, debating, drama, science, math, social studies, art, physical education and home economics. While they study the issues of apartheid in South Africa and racism in the U.S., students will acquire knowledge in the various subject areas and develop their skills in research and critical thinking. The curriculum will encourage students to become involved in action projects to help end apartheid, which the United Nations calls "a crime against humanity".

Apartheid Is Wrong, A Curriculum For Young People was written by Paula Rogovin Bower, Co-Chairperson of Educators Against Apartheid (EAA) and a New York City public school teacher. Most of the math lessons were developed by Claudia Zaslavsky, Board member of EAA and author of Africa Counts, Count on Your Fingers African Style, and several other books for young people. Many educators contributed ideas for other lessons in the curriculum.

The 280 page curriculum is in a three-ring binder, so that plays and activity sheets can easily be removed and reproduced. Each section contains facts and activities. The Curriculum includes an extensive resource list, maps, student and adult bibliographies, and a glossary of terms.

Apartheid Is Wrong Curriculum Kit includes the Curriculum and Apartheid Is Wrong, a filmstrip and cassette, narrated by Ruby Dee. The Kit was funded by North Star Fund, The Peace Development Fund, and The United Nations Centre Against Apartheid.

ORDER FORM

Apartheid Is Wrong, A Curriculum for Young People. \$15.00 + \$3. each for postage and handling. Quantity _____ subtotal \$ _____

Apartheid Is Wrong, filmstrip and cassette. \$15.00 + \$ 2. each for postage and handling. Quantity _____ subtotal \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____ School or organization _____

Make check or money order payable to Educators Against Apartheid. Send to Educators Against Apartheid. 164-04 Goethals Ave. Jamaica, NY 11432

Eyewitness to Apartheid

At the October meeting of Educators Against Apartheid over 40 New York City educators engaged in a dialogue about the crisis in education in South Africa. Shelley Harwayne, Co-director of the Teachers College Writing Project, showed slides of two African schools where she worked last summer in Soweto and in Eshowe. The schools, probably show-case schools, had no electricity and had "pit" toilets! They were cold, damp, and crowded. Many of the students and teachers had runny noses. The African students were forced to pay fees (while schools for white students are free). Ms Harwayne was invited to SA by Project READ, an Afrikaaner women's organization dedicated to improving libraries or building libraries where there are none for African children and providing follow-up classroom activities.

Ms. Harwayne, a leading international authority on writing process, led a writing institute for several hundred teachers (many of whom have no more than an 8th grade education). She worked directly with primary and high school students. She was struck by the sense of urgency in the childrens' writing and the sadness in their life stories. The writing process approach, where students choose and develop their own topics and draft them using invented spelled, provided a vehicle for students to tell their stories. Previously they had been assigned topics. What a powerful tool writing process can be for young people to record their culture and history.

Lyndall Shope-Mafile, the representative of the National Youth Committee of the African National Congress to the United Nations and North America, then talked about the struggle of students and educators for improvements in the education system, while at the same time they are involved in the struggle to end apartheid. She said that anti-apartheid activists are not demanding to have the same kind of schools as white students, because these schools have a racist curriculum. Rather, the goal is for non-racial schools with a new people's curriculum.

After a lively question and answer session, people sang Nkosi Sikeli Afrika along with a cassette recorded by Ms Harwayne at the Writing Institute in SA. People left the meeting enthusiastic about involving their students in the dialogue and in the effort to end apartheid. Please contact Paula Bower if your students would like to exchange letters with students in South Africa or at the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College (SOMAFCO) in Tanzania, an ANC school for children in exile from South Africa. Call (201) 836-6644.



Namibia



At the time of publication of this newsletter, the Namibian people will be electing a new government. The election is part of Resolution 435 of the United Nations, which outlines the steps for Namibian Independence. Each step along the way the Namibian people have suffered from sabotage by the South African government.

South African Panorama, a very slick, glossy, multi-colored magazine published by the South African Bureau of Information just issued a special edition about Namibia. You will probably find this propaganda magazine in YOUR SCHOOL LIBRARY! It has been sent there, and to libraries all over the United States, free of charge. While the U.S. government does not require SA Panorama to be stamped "propaganda", materials published by the African National Congress must have such a stamp. Why????

You can use these statements from South African Panorama and other documents to help your students learn about Namibia and about the role of propaganda in perpetuating apartheid. E.A.A. also wants to encourage you to raise money for the "DOLLARS FOR NAMIBIA CAMPAIGN" (Make tax deductible checks/money orders to Progressive Education & Research Associations. Check memo: \$Dollars for Namibia Campaign. Send to : P.O. Box 1322. New Haven CT 06505)

*Compare these
views.*

South African panorama

VOLUME 34 NUMBER 7 AUGUST 1989

In close co-operation with the security forces of SWA/Namibia, the South African forces created a safe and liveable environment in which the authorities could function efficiently at all levels and civilians could live their lives as normally as possible.

The SADF's task in the region has been accomplished. It has seen the SWA Territory Force grow to a fully-fledged defence force - with able fighting battalions in which local communities were strongly represented and reliable area force units (commandos) - backed by a competent SWA police force (Swapol).

Swapol will be responsible for the maintenance of law and order during the independence process which came into effect on 1 April 1989, with Untag (United Nations Transition Assistance Group) in a monitoring capacity. In terms of agreements reached for SWA/Namibia's independence, SWA Territory Force units were demobilised and South African troops gradually withdrawn.

Namibia Newsletter

Summer 1989 Volume 12 No. 1

KOEVOET STILL ROAMING THE COUNTRYSIDE

Long accused of the harassment, torture and random killing of civilians, the soldiers known as Koevoet (crowbar, in Afrikaans) are the most hated in Namibia.

Yet, in contempt of UN Resolution 435, which calls for the confinement to base and the demobilization of the South African Defense Forces, Koevoet continues to haunt the Namibian countryside.

South Africa accomplished this simply by instructing the Koevoet soldiers to remove their badges and be incorporated into the South West Africa Police Force (SWAPOL)! Nearly half of the 6000 member "police" force now consists of Koevoet! And, indeed, the founder of Koevoet, General Hans Dreyer, has been appointed to head the entire police force in the north of Namibia!

The ranks of Koevoet are filled with black Namibians, poor and uneducated, led by white Afrikaners. Once described by a Namibian High Court Judge as a group of "mechanised killers," it has been said that their record for brutality surpasses the more infamous atrocities of Idi Amin's reign in Uganda.

Health care for all

SWA/Namibia's health services compare well with those of other developing countries. In 1987/88 the per capita expenditure on health was R110. There are about six hospital beds per 1 000 people – the third best on the continent – as well as 62 hospitals, 161 clinics and 40 fully equipped health teams that regularly visit 402 'bush clinics' to promote primary health care countrywide. More than a dozen health centres have also been opened in the past two or three years in remote rural areas. The country has 230 doctors and 4 380 qualified nurses, or one for every 286 people.

There is, therefore, no critical shortage of trained health personnel as in many third world countries, although the most highly skilled people often work in larger centres.

A system of regional hospitals, clinics and bush and mobile clinics make health services available to all Namibians. In some regions mission hospitals do valuable work. They are subsidised by the SWA/Namibian government.

Up till recently army doctors have performed valuable services in hospitals and clinics as part of their military service.

Patients at state hospitals pay according to income, so even the poorest can receive medical treatment.

Non-military aid

Wherever the neat border posts were erected – like bastions of permanence and civilisation in the inhospitable northern territory – the local communities came to respect the South African soldier as a protector, helper, ally and friend. Although security and stability were their primary concern, members of the defence force also gave non-military aid where the need was pressing – at the request of and in close co-operation with administrative and local authorities and tribal chiefs.

With their expertise in many fields, the large number of national servicemen from South Africa not only reinforced the ranks of the permanent forces in the operational area, but also supplemented the local shortage of qualified manpower. Among them were recently qualified teachers, medical doctors, veterinarians, engineers, architects, silviculturists, agriculturists, nature conservationists and technicians.

The need for services and facilities was insatiable in such a vast region where conditions range from barren semi-desert in the inaccessible northwest to a fertile tropical climate where the Caprivi strip projects eastwards. In the heartland of Ovambo with its sun-bleached sandy plains and tree savannahs, among the riverbank communities of the Kavango and among the Bushmen and Caprivians, the young servicemen performed a neighbourly service and gained valuable appropriate experience.

This is NAMIBIA

A PICTORIAL INTRODUCTION

International Defence & Aid Fund
for Southern Africa

HEALTH

Health care in Namibia is racially segregated with rudimentary or even non-existent services for the black majority.

Under the apartheid system, each bantustan authority is charged with administering its own health service, though with vastly different resources. R233.70 was spent on health for each white person in 1980/81. In contrast, health expenditure per black person ranged from R56.84 to R4.70 for different 'population groups'.¹

Most health facilities are concentrated in the urban areas. There is a general shortage of doctors, nurses and hospitals. In 1981, there were 2,261 registered nurses, 126 general practitioners, 26 specialists and 16 dentists. The average doctor/patient ratio was 1:6,600, but in the rural areas, which include all the 'homelands', it was 1:17,000.²

Poverty, malnutrition, overcrowded living conditions, an unsanitary environment all contribute to the spread of disease among black people. Many illnesses could be eliminated through proper preventive care such as immunisation campaigns and a better standard of living. Two of the biggest killers among children are gastro-enteritis and measles. The infant mortality rate among whites is 21.6 per 1,000 live births, among Coloureds 145 per 1,000, and among Africans 163 per 1,000. Life expectancy shows a similar pattern: Whites can expect to live to 68-72 years, Coloureds 52 years and Africans 42 years.³

Bubonic plague, malaria, tuberculosis and typhoid are all widespread and may reach epidemic proportions in some areas. Security legislation in force in the northern half of the country restricts health teams from carrying out immunisation programmes, while patients have stayed away from hospitals for fear of encountering the police or army on their way.⁴

“
IT'S LIKE
HOLDING
THE
KEY
TO
YOUR
OWN
JAIL
”

Women
in
Namibia

Caroline Allison

World Council of Churches, Geneva

“The atrocities of the South African army”

All I can say is that the atrocities of the South African army in this area are numerous and horrific. Those who have been known to speak out about what the army is doing every day are cruelly punished. There is nothing you can say or do in a situation like this. If you value your life you just keep quiet. Women and young girls are raped, homes burnt, crops destroyed and people in the community killed. These are common, and the people just have to bear it in silence.

There are many informers working for the security police. The operations of the military and the security police are extremely tight. People and cars are often searched at the checkpoints located all over this area. You never know when you will be taken for questioning or arrested. This is the way we have to live.

LET THE TRUTH OUT ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA



Free Video Rental

The Cry of Reason - the struggle for a non-racial society.
Biko: Breaking the Silence - the life of Steven Biko.
Spear of the Nation: History of the African National Congress
South Africa Belongs to Us - the women's struggle for survival and freedom.
Destructive Engagement - apartheid's reach into Southern Africa.
 Rental is FREE. (New York area only)
 Please send \$5. for postage & handling. Make check to EAA.

Resource Books

A WOMAN'S PLACE IS IN THE STRUGGLE - NOT BEHIND BARS.
 Published in South Africa by the Federation of Transvaal Women.
 Published in the U.S. by The Africa Fund (1988).

Banned by the apartheid government, this book is both by and about women in SA. \$3, Over 10, \$2.40 each.

THE UNIFIED LIST OF UNITED STATES COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA. By Richard Knight and Roger Walke. Up-dated through mid-1988. Published by The Africa Fund. Institutions: \$30. Individuals: \$8.

Order from American Committee on Africa. 198 Broadway. NYC, NY 10038.

Support Intro 1137

Join Manhattan Borough President David Dinkins in supporting the strengthening of INTRO 1137. End NYC's cooperation with apartheid.

LABOR DONATED

EAA wins grant!

Educators Against Apartheid was recently awarded a grant of \$1,500 from the North Star Fund. It will enable us to expand our outreach efforts.

THANK YOU!!!!

Forum:

Eyewitnesses at SOMAFCO

Hear reports of recent trips to SOMAFCO, a school for South African refugees in Tanzania.

Geraído Renique, City College Professor, Dept. of History. Member, South African Initiatives Committee.

Claudia Zaslavsky, Board of Directors. ESR and EAA, author of Count on Your Fingers African Style, and a number of other books.

Wed. Nov. 29 4:30 - 6:00 pm

City College Workshop Center

North Academic Center 4-220

Convent & 136th

Educators Against Apartheid

Bring your co-workers and students.
 *Refreshments**Resource materials*

Librarians oppose apartheid

The Social responsibilities Round Table of the Minnesota Library Association endorsed the economic sanctions bills S.507 and HR.21. The group calls on "all library workers dedicated to ending apartheid-together with their families, friends, and colleagues - to immediately urge their Representatives, Senators, professional groups, and churches to support these anti-apartheid bills."

EAA encourages you to speak to your school or community librarian. Contact: Sanford Berman. (612) 541-8570 or 925-5738

Sanctions Now!

"We, the undersigned, after extensive consultation and serious deliberation, wish to endorse the call for sanctions made by the South African Council of Churches (SACC), the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the National Council of Trade Unions (NACTU) and other mass-based organizations.

The change in leadership of the apartheid regime should not be considered as a shift in policy.

THE PILLARS OF APARTHEID REMAIN INTACT:

The Land Acts, the Group Areas Act, the Population Registration Act and the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act.

These are reinforced by a plethora of discriminatory legislation and Emergency regulations. The State of Emergency enables the State to govern by decree. Stringent censorship of the media creates a false sense of stability. Since De Klerk assumed power, more than two hundred opponents of apartheid have been detained without trial, many have been effectively house-arrested, six were hanged in Pretoria's gallows, and the restrictions placed on thirty three organizations are still in force.

We believe that racially-based elections, such as those of 6 September cannot solve the crisis in SA, because the majority of South Africans are denied the right to vote. These elections were without legitimacy....

Mr. F.W. De Klerk's talk of negotiations falls far short of the demands made by the majority of South Africans. His proposals for reform are based on the preservation of group rights and the protection of white superiority within apartheid structures...

We are convinced that the apartheid regime will never enter into genuine negotiations with legitimate leaders unless pressured to do so. Negotiation in South Africa will be the outcome of heightened pressures, and not a substitute for them. To relieve pressure at this point would be an historic and strategic mistake, a tragedy for our country.

We accordingly reiterate our call for foreign governments to campaign for comprehensive, mandatory sanctions through the United Nations, and to impose effective and comprehensive sanctions against apartheid..."

Rev. Dr. Frank Chikane (Gen. Secretary SACC), Most Rev. Desmond Tutu (Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town), Rt. Rev. Dr. Stanley Mogoba (Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of SA), Rev. Dr. Allan Boesak (President of the World Alliance of Churches), Jay Naidoo (Gen. Secretary of COSATU), Phiroshow Camay (Gen. Secretary of NACTU), Dr. Beyers Naudu (former Gen. Secretary of SACC), and Fr. Smangalis Mkhathshwa (Gen. Secretary of the Institute for Contextual Theology). 13 October, 1989

Educators Against Apartheid calls on all educators to step up the effort to pass the Dellums/Simon Bills S.507 and H.R.21 which call for complete mandatory sanctions against South Africa.

Help Us

The sound of dying children
Oh! Motherland, your children
Are dying inside South Africa.

Every day there are children dying
They are dying because
They want to live in peace
They want their Motherland
To be free.

We learn because
We want peace
If our land is free
We will have
The right to do what we want
We want houses, security and comfort!
We need education every day.

People of the world help us,
Help us!
We want our land soon.

by Sonem, a student at SOMAFCO

Educators Against Apartheid
164-04 Goethals Avenue
Jamaica, NY 11432

*Join the
struggle
to end
apartheid!*

*Free Nelson
Mandela NOW!*