

# Black Christmas in South Africa!

## Winnie Mandela Arrested !



Winnie is a symbol of courage and grace.

While we prepare for Christmas here in the U.S., a time when we call for peace on earth, there is no peace in South Africa. Winnie Mandela, one of the leaders of the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa and an international symbol of courage and defiance of the racist South African regime, was arrested on Sunday, December 22. Winnie Mandela is the wife of jailed African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela, and has been in the forefront of the struggle for freedom and national liberation in South Africa for over a quarter of a century.

The arrest of Winnie Mandela comes as no surprise. The South African government has attempted to silence her powerful voice of resistance to white minority rule for 25 years, by imprisonment, harassment and bannings. As early as 1958, Winnie was banned by the government. Under her most current banning

order, Ms. Mandela cannot meet with more than one person, she cannot speak at political events, she cannot be quoted in the press, she must report to the police station once a week, and she has been exiled to a remote town in South Africa called Brandfort. Since July of this year when the South African government implemented a sweeping state of emergency, Winnie Mandela has stepped up her defiance of her banning order by participating in press conferences, by returning to her home in Soweto, and by speaking at a political rally for the first time in 25 years, where she addressed 30,000 people.

In a statement released on Saturday, Louis LeGrange, Minister of Law and Order in South Africa, announced an "easing" of Winnie's banning order. Under the terms of his declaration, LeGrange announced that Ms. Mandela would be allowed to attend social gatherings, to leave Brandfort and would not be obliged to report to the police station. However, she would not be allowed to return to her home in Soweto, would not be permitted to attend political meeting or be quoted in the press, enter "educational institutions", distribute publications or join political movements.

Winnie decided that accepting the relaxed restrictions would have given her enemies a victory and she refuse to take any action that could be interpreted as collaboration with the racist South African government. For her defiance, she was jailed. She was released early Monday morning, bruised and brutalized and vowed to return to her home in Soweto.

The easing of Winnie's restrictions, as with all of the other cosmetic changes implemented by the South African government in recent months, come in response to the growing Black resistance to apartheid in South Africa, supported by freedom loving people internationally. Over the last year and a half, Black South Africans led by the United Democratic Front (UDF) have waged a highly successful campaign of boycotts, strikes, and protests demanding full political rights. In an attempt to quell the resistance, over 5000 people have been arrested and over 1000 Blacks have been murdered by South African police and army. The easing of Ms. Mandela's banning order represents a desperate attempt to defuse the mounting anti-apartheid protest and to undercut her widespread influence within the country. But Winnie is not so easily silenced and the anti-apartheid movement is not so easily sidetracked. The resistance continues to grow stronger.

So, how is the tiny white minority of 4,000,000 able to maintain its total dominance over 25,000,000 Blacks? The South African economy and white minority rule is dependent upon the massive influx of Western capital and technology. In particular, the U.S. government and the Reagan administration, with its policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa, has served to buttress



and legitimize the apartheid regime. The Reagan administration, while verbally denouncing apartheid as "abhorrent", has adamantly refused to impose comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa, even though the Black majority of South Africa has consistently called for economic sanctions until apartheid is completely dismantled.

During this Christmas season, the Seattle Coalition Against Apartheid calls upon all peace loving people to show your good will toward the women and men and children of South Africa. Please consider what we are demanding and what you can do to show your solidarity to the Black majority.

TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WE SAY:

1. Free Winnie Mandela and Nelson Mandela and all South African political prisoners. No more bannings or jailings.
2. Lift the state of emergency.
3. Dismantle apartheid and give the Black majority full political, social, and economic rights.

TO THE OUR GOVERNMENT WE SAY:

1. Implement a total economic boycott of South Africa.
2. The City of Seattle and the State of Washington must divest themselves of stocks and bonds of corporations doing business in South Africa.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

To show your solidarity with Winnie and Nelson Mandela and the struggling Black majority of South Africa, you can do the following things:

1. Write to the White House and demand that President Reagan implement a total boycott of South Africa until apartheid is dismantled. Also, demand that he put pressure on the Botha regime to release Winnie and Nelson Mandela. Address letters to: The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20012
2. Write our U.S. Senators, Senator Slade Gorton and Senator Dan Evans and make the same demands. Address letters to: U.S. Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20012
3. Write to the City of Seattle Pension Fund Board and demand that it completely divest its portfolio of stocks and bonds in corporations doing business in South Africa. Address letters to:  
Seattle Pension Fund Board  
Municipal Building  
4th and James  
Seattle, Wa. 98104
4. Join us at our weekly Sunday picket at the home of honorary South African Consul Joseph Swing at 835 Hillside Dr. E. (4 blocks south of 39th and Madison) from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

FREE WINNIE MANDELA! FREE SOUTH AFRICA!

SEATTLE COALITION AGAINST APARTHEID



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