

# POSAF NewsLetter

## STUDENT ACTIVISM GROWING



Lewis & Clark student addresses large crowd at rally after October 12th March for Justice in South Africa, sponsored by POSAF. (See back page for campus updates.)

## POSAF

Portlanders Organized for Southern African Freedom (POSAF) is an American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) supported umbrella group for several anti-apartheid and peace groups in the Portland area. We support the struggle in Southern Africa for self-determination for peoples of color and an end to apartheid. POSAF educates Oregonians about conditions in Southern Africa, oppression of the Black majority, links between racism in the U.S. & South Africa, and U.S. economic responsibilities. POSAF activates Americans to work in solidarity with liberation movements in Southern Africa, recognizing the link between the struggle of Southern African Blacks and American Blacks for self-determination.

**POSAF meets Tuesday nights at 7:30 in the Martin Luther King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 NE 7th. Anyone interested in working with POSAF is welcome. Please call 230-9427.**

## Past Actions

- Organized protests forcing the resignation of Portland's South African honorary consul.
- Supported 1984 divestment bill in Oregon State Legislature sponsored by Margaret Carter.
- Worked to end sales and import of the Kruggerand. Local demonstrations against the coin ended with the Federal Executive Order banning import of the coins.
- Temporarily prevented unloading of South African cargo at the Port of Vancouver.

## Future Actions

- **Major Corporation Boycotts:** See articles in this newsletter for more information on the Shell and Coca Cola campaigns.
- **Phonathon:** AFSC/POSAF funding is fast running out. POSAF members are organizing a phonathon to try to raise money for Southern Africa work to continue after October 1986.
- **Call to Conscience:** Currently being established is the "Call to Conscience" whose purpose is to build an emergency response network of people who will challenge the U.S. government, its institutions and its corporations through non-violent protest actions as well as civil disobedience and demand that they cease all actions supporting injustices in South Africa.



Art Against Apartheid and IKON magazine are proud to announce their collaboration in the upcoming publication of an anthology of visual and literary art work in solidarity with the struggles of the peoples of Southern Africa. The volume will be produced as a special double issue of IKON and will include a spectrum of North American voices speaking out as well as a special section of material from South Africa. To order: request IKON #5/6 and send a check for \$6.75 plus \$.75 postage for each copy requested to Art Against Apartheid/NCBL at the above address.



## SHELL BOYCOTT

In response to requests from groups in South Africa, the World Council of Churches, Free South Africa Movement, AFL-CIO, NAACP and the United Mine Workers of America have all targeted Royal Dutch/Shell (Shell Oil's parent company) for a national boycott.

**Why Shell?** Shell has been selected for several reasons. In violation of UN resolutions, Shell supplies essential oil to the apartheid economy and to the S.A. military and police. It invests in South Africa instead of investing in job producing operations in the U.S.

South Africa's National Union of Mineworkers chose Shell because it actively engages in union-busting in South Africa. It realizes tremendous profits at the expense of Black South Africans.

South Africa does not have its own oil supplies. Without companies like Royal Dutch/Shell, apartheid could not survive.

**How Can I Help?** Locally, POSAF is working with labor unions and community groups to publicize the Shell boycott. The UMWA has prepared a 10-minute slide presentation which is available from the American Friends Service Committee. Call 230-9427 or 289-9217.

### SHELL BOYCOTT MATERIALS

Available Free:

## Shell Discredit Card



All Shell products are boycott targets until Royal Dutch/Shell withdraws from South Africa. Some examples include:

**Gasoline Products:** Piba (additive) • Shell Dieselene • Shell of the Future • Sheldyne • Silver Shell, SU 2000, Golden Shell (lubricants).

**Motor Oils:** Mysella • Aeroshell • Rimula • Rotella • Shell Super X • Fire and Ice • Shell X-100.

**Automotive Products:** Comfort Ride, Shell Radial Ride, Shell Radial II, Shellride, Super Shell Aramid, Super Shell Snowshoe (tires) • Meridyne (radios) • Sentinel (batteries, repair service) • Shell Superlife (batteries).

**Home Products:** Heritage (furniture polish) • Shell Flea Collar • Child Protector Top (safety lids) • Home Freshener (room deodorizer) • Citrus Blossom, Open Air, Wild Flower, (solid air fresheners) • Tegen (roofing).

Bumpersticker - red & yellow, \$1 each

**STOP**  
**APARTHEID**



**BOYCOTT**  
**SHELL**

## COCA COLA CAMPAIGN

The Georgia Coalition for Divestment in South Africa has initiated a "Coke Divestment Campaign" — an international campaign to get Coca-Cola Corporation to disinvest from South Africa. Coca-Cola has been chosen for several reasons:

1. Coca-Cola has substantial holdings in South Africa, estimated at over \$60 million with annual sales over \$260 million;
2. Coca-Cola has indicated an intent to sell all but 30% of its holdings to another South African firm;
3. Coca-Cola supports and contributes to many humanitarian causes in the U.S., but their involvement in South Africa helps to reinforce the system of Apartheid;
4. Coke is one of the most visible consumer products in the world, thus people from all walks of life can relate to this campaign.

The Georgia Coalition has attempted to negotiate with Coca-Cola Corporation headquarters in Atlanta about its presence in South Africa. These negotiations have met with no real success. There is growing sentiment that Coke should demonstrate its commitment to help the Black majority in South Africa gain its independence by withdrawing its assets from the country. A divestment initiative on the part of Coca-Cola could galvanize public recognition worldwide and establish a dramatic precedent for economic pressures on the government of P.W. Botha.

Students at Howard University and Tennessee State have already begun boycotts of Coca Cola on campus. Other organizations, including the National Black United Front, have endorsed a Coca Cola Boycott. Jerry Herman, AFSC National Southern Africa Program Coordinator, reports this boycott activity is fast spreading around the country.





## AID TO UNITA IS AID TO SOUTH AFRICA

The Reagan Administration has made a major move toward strengthening military ties with the South African government. It is currently providing approximately \$15 million in covert aid to UNITA, the anti-government rebels in Angola.

**Background.** Since the collapse of Portuguese colonialism and the establishment of an independent government in Angola in 1975, South Africa has been using UNITA in its war to undermine Angola's independence. The Angolan government strongly supports independence for Namibia and an end to apartheid in South Africa. It is therefore a threat to South Africa's continued illegal occupation of Namibia.

South Africa's army first invaded Angola in 1975. It was only driven back from the capital by the combined efforts of the Angolan army and Cuban troops, who came to Angola after South Africa's invasion was well underway.

In addition to its own repeated invasions, the South Africans have found a useful surrogate in UNITA, headed by Jonas Savimbi. UNITA has been armed, trained and supplied by the South African Defense Force. Now South Africa is having difficulty financing its war of destabilization against Angola. By funding UNITA, the Reagan Administration is aiding the South African government. The American money--military aid processed through South Africa--is a direct violation of the U.N. arms embargo that even the Reagan Administration claims to support.

**Action Needed.** An attempt to put the brakes on the Reagan Administration's millions to destabilize Angola has been introduced (HR 4276) by Lee

more...



## ANGOLA (Continued)

Hamilton, D-Indiana and chair of the House Select Committee on Intelligence. HR 4276 would require the President to first make a formal request for any aid, then get Congressional approval with a joint resolution. At present Reagan has authorized \$15 million out of pocket, with no authorization from Congress. Congress will vote on HR 4276 sometime in mid to late April. Contact your representatives and ask them to block aid to UNITA by voting for HR 4276. Ask your Senators to encourage similar legislation in the Senate. Call the local offices. They will relay the message. Visit your Congresspeople when they are in town. Aid to UNITA is aid to South Africa.

## ACTION ALERT: U.S. Policy on Namibia

While all Namibia is illegally occupied by South African forces, Namibians have no control over their own resources. The Namibian Natural Resources Protection Act (HR 2589) would make it illegal for U.S. corporations to extract or export any of Namibia's raw materials, in keeping with the U.N. Council for Namibia's Decree No. 1. Sponsor Colorado Rep. Patricia Schroeder is urging concerned Americans to contact their representatives and request they cosponsor HR 2589 as part of a broader campaign for genuine independence in Namibia.

## POSAF RESOURCES

**FILMS:** South Africa Belongs to Us - 35-minute, 16 mm. An intimate portrait of the lives of five typical women providing an in-depth look at the economic and emotional burden borne by Black women in South Africa. Available from AFSC-Portland.

**WRITTEN MATERIALS:** A variety of flyers, booklets and books that we have ordered from ACOA, etc.

**PETITIONS:** Available from POSAF are 1. Free Nelson Mandela, 2. Oregon Petition Campaign (urges imposition of U.S. economic sanctions and freeing all South African political prisoners), and 3. Petition to the Port of Portland to deny access to ships handling South African cargo.

**SPEAKERS:** Several speakers are available. Avel Gordly, AFSC Southern Africa Program Director, has a slide show of her trip to Southern Africa.



## CAMPUS UPDATES

Portland State University. PSU has held a number of rallies over the past months to keep alive the issue of South African and U.S. economic ties. Students from PSU, Lewis & Clark and Reed held a rally, mock funeral and march to the IBM Products Center in downtown Portland on April 4th to commemorate Martin Luther King's death and the 1000's who have died in the past year in South Africa. 12 students occupied the IBM office forcing its closure for an afternoon, and were cited for trespassing.

Lewis and Clark. The South African Action Group (SAAG) of Lewis and Clark College is working to divest the \$8 million the college has invested in the Common Fund. SAAG members have lobbied LC trustees and rallies have been held. Jan. 20th, Martin Luther King's birthday, began a 5-day fast to persuade the trustees to divest from the Common Fund. King's birthday was commemorated with a teach-in, including speakers on the links between racism in the U.S. and racism in South Africa.

Reed. Reed students of the South Africa Concerns Committee (SACC) have been working since spring of 1985 to persuade the trustees to divest the college's \$8 million South Africa related funds. In January students occupied the main administrative building for 52 hours in an attempt to draw more serious attention to the issue and to pressure the college to divest. The sit-in was ended with an agreement between SACC and administrators that SACC members could meet once a month with trustees and the Board would take another look at full divestment.

University of Oregon. The eight year old divestiture law suit of the ASUO is now being heard in the Oregon Court of Appeals. In 1977 the Oregon State Board of Higher Education voted to divest funds from firms doing substantial business in South Africa, but the Attorney General of Oregon blocked the decision. ASUO brought suit to allow divestiture to proceed. A final ruling on the case is expected early this summer.

Nationwide. Divestment from American companies doing business in South Africa has been the focus of many campuses. As of March 1986, 84 schools had taken action against S.A. investments; 41 schools had totally divested and 43 partially divested for a total of \$493 million.

## FUNDRAISING

Benefit Concert. A benefit concert given by Obo Addy and the Fallen Angel Choir was held December 10th to raise money for POSAF. \$465 was made and POSAF's familiarity in Portland was increased through publicity.

T-shirts. Using the graphic and slogan from a shirt widely worn by anti-apartheid activists in South Africa, T-shirts were printed and sold for a net of \$75. With lower production costs, POSAF hopes to make more on T-shirts in the future.

WE NEED YOUR HELP. Various fundraising plans are in the making. If you are able to help out by contributing or volunteering, cut out the coupon below and return it to:

**AFSC Southern Africa Program**  
2249 E. Burnside  
Portland, OR 97214  
503-230-9427

.....  
\_\_\_\_ YES, I would like to volunteer.  
\_\_\_\_ Put me on your mailing list.  
\_\_\_\_ YES, I can contribute. Enclosed is:  
\_\_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_ \$35 \_\_\_\_ \$50  
\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_ other

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions are tax deductible.  
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