

MINUTES OF JULY 19th MEETING of \$TOP BANKING ON APARTHEID

The meeting was held at the Mc Gee Avenue Baptist Church and began with a showing of "Freedom Rising", a slide show prepared in 1977 for the ITT boycott. Karen reported on the largely positive response the show has received at church and other organizations in the Oakland Black community: many people are unaware of the extent of oppression and suffering in South Africa, and this basic presentation has aroused much interest. (It was agreed later in the evening to continue having a slide show or other educational presentation at the beginning of each meeting. At the next meeting, the \$BOA slide-show will be presented.)

The need to clarify the aims and objectives of \$BOA was addressed. It was agreed that the objectives listed in the \$BOA "Statement of Agreement for Individuals and Organizations" (the endorsement sheet) would serve as an acceptable summary of \$BOA's current working goals.

It was suggested that tactics needed to be clarified. The question of whether B of A is a realistic target for \$BOA was addressed, and an article in the S.F. Chronicle (p.49 7/18/78), reporting the extent to which B of A's large yearly earnings increase is due to mortgage and consumer loans, was cited to support the assertion that a grassroots campaign against B of A can be effective.

The lack of a viable alternative to B of A for institutions and larger depositors requiring computer services was brought up. It was suggested that if Wells Fargo could be persuaded to make a statement, like Citibank's, that it would not loan to the South African government or its parastatals, that Wells Fargo could be suggested to large depositors as an alternative (although it would still not be added to the list of "clean banks" for individual depositors).

It was suggested that \$BOA adopt a two-level orientation: 1) to institutions, such as churches and labor unions, and 2) to the public at large, since these two areas require different strategies.

It was agreed that we would continue to try to work through existing community organizations.

The internal organization of \$BOA was discussed. The possibility of applying for funding for one full-time or two half-time staff people was considered, and it was generally agreed that having paid staff should not diminish volunteer involvement.

It was suggested that a more formal structure was needed in order to provide an effective framework for application of volunteer energy. Miloanne suggested an organization made up of: 1) a core group of people able to make a relatively firm time-commitment, which would function as a collective and take responsibility for \$BOA as a whole, handling day-to-day administrative tasks and making major decisions; 2) subsidiary special-interest groups made up of people interested in working in one limited area (churches, unions, etc.) and able to make less of a time-commitment (each group would have a representative in the core collective); 3) an advisory group made up of church/community/ government leaders, serving to link \$BOA with other institutions and the community at large and to help obtain funding.

Funding was discussed. Three sources of potential income were suggested: public events, such as benefits; mailings; and grants.

It was decided that Miloanne would prepare a history of \$BOA and Chris a budget for a grant proposal to be discussed at the next meeting.

It was announced that the EPI Human Rights Rally has been postponed until the end of September and \$BOA participation can be discussed at future meetings.

The July 29th meeting of Northern California anti-apartheid groups was announced: 10:00 am-2:00 pm at Glide Church, 330 Ellis, S.F. Plans for November 17th will be made.

It was agreed that \$BOA would endorse AFSC's South African Women's Day activities (to commemorate the extension of the pass laws in the 1950's to cover women) to be held August 9th and 13th.

The next newsletter was discussed; it was decided to aim for an August 1st mailing.

Plans for the November 17 Bank of America action day will be discussed in detail at the next meeting.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 7:30 pm, AT MILOANNE HECATHORN'S HOUSE, 450 30th STREET, SAN FRANCISCO. PLEASE ATTEND.