

THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES . . .



The Washington Office on Africa

SOUTHERN AFRICA WILL BE FREE!

The liberation struggle in Southern Africa has made great strides toward freedom in the last ten years. Mozambique, Angola, and Zimbabwe have all freed themselves from the bondage of white minority and colonial rule. Now only Namibia and South Africa remain to free themselves from the brutal control of **apartheid**.

The Reagan Administration has taken great steps to ally itself with the white minority regime in Pretoria. It has provided economic and political support to a regime that has been rejected the world over for its gross violations of human rights.

The administration's support for Pretoria and its insensitivity to the plight of the poor in this country are two parts of the same policy. It is a policy many Americans are struggling against in an effort to promote human rights, justice, and freedom for all.

We invite you to join that struggle.



Apartheid: Issue of the 80s

The Washington Office on Africa is working to end US governmental and corporate support for *apartheid*, the legalized system of racism which governs every aspect of life for the 26 million Black South Africans. The white minority in South Africa—only 16 percent of the total population—exercises brutal control over the Black majority. Whites control 87 percent of the land, including all cities, viable farm land, and areas rich with mineral resources. Black South Africans are forced to live in "bantustans," arid pockets of land scattered throughout the country. They are also legally denied the right to vote, the right to live together as families, the right to earn a living, the right to decent education—indeed, the very right to exist as human beings.

The South African government extends this brutal control to the 90 percent Black population in Namibia as well, militarily occupying that country in direct violation of international law. Despite this total denial of the human rights of the majority in South Africa and Namibia, the US government continues to provide economic and political support to the white minority regime. US corporations provide crucial materials and technology to maintain apartheid.

The Washington Office on Africa: In the Forefront of Change

The Washington Office on Africa was established in 1972 to lobby for an end to US support for minority rule in Southern Africa. At that time, almost the entire region of Southern Africa was under white control. Since then, Mozambique, Angola, and Zimbabwe have gained their independence. The Washington Office on Africa has been instrumental in bringing about these important changes.

We have achieved successes because:

- **We are experienced and effective.** Over the years our staff has developed a clear and sophisticated understanding of Southern Africa and US policy toward that region.
- **We provide leadership.** By working actively to stimulate and inform churches, labor unions, peace groups and organizations within the Black community, we are helping to create the broad coalition of forces necessary to change policy.
- **We lobby for change.** By maintaining good working relationships with Congress, government officials, African diplomats and the press, we increase the effectiveness of our lobbying efforts.



- **We provide educational materials.** We publish widely respected resources which have an established reputation for accuracy, timeliness, and cogent analysis.

You Can Make a Difference!

The Washington Office on Africa has been able to mobilize concerned legislators and citizens on the state and national level to pass bills which decrease US economic and political support for apartheid. The following achievements would not have been possible without the widespread citizen demand for majority rule mobilized during these campaigns. These achievements are:

- Repealing the Byrd Amendment in 1977, making the US compliant with international trade sanctions against the white minority regime in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), and maintaining those sanctions until Zimbabwe's independence in 1980.
- Passing the Clark Amendment in 1976 stopping US covert operations in Angola and retaining that law against presidential efforts to resume covert assistance to guerrilla groups in Angola.
- Passing the Evans Amendment in 1978 effectively cutting US Export-Import Bank credits to South Africa.
- Passing legislation placing conditions on future US support for International Monetary Fund loans to South Africa.
- Passing legislation in the House of Representatives to stop exports to the South African military and police; prohibit new corporate investment in South Africa; stop commercial bank loans to the South African government and stop Kruggerrand imports.
- Preventing shipments of crucial nuclear materials and technology to South Africa.
- Passing a comprehensive divestment bill in the District of Columbia and promoting divestment campaigns throughout the country.

Make your voice heard! If you want to work for a progressive US policy toward Southern Africa please join us! Now is the time for action!

By becoming a member of our network you will receive the *Washington Notes on Africa*, our in-depth quarterly publication on US policy, action alerts, and other tools for local organizing. **We need your financial support if our work is to continue. We need your political support if we are going to bring about change.**

Won't you join us today?

"It is imperative that the world is told of the harsh realities of the South African way of life for the majority of its inhabitants who are victims of the most vicious system since Nazism. The Washington Office on Africa is performing a sterling job, indeed an indispensable job in this vital aspect of the struggle for total liberation of all South Africa I call on all lovers of justice, freedom and peace to support the Washington Office on Africa unreservedly in working for change in South Africa nonviolently. — **Bishop Desmond Tutu, Chairman, South African Council of Churches**

"The UAW has . . . tried to respond to the needs of African labor; to lobby for a sane, just and consistent US foreign policy towards Africa; and to support majority rule and human rights in Africa. To these ends we have found the Washington Office on Africa to be an indispensable resource. Through their hands-on experience and daily commitment we have been able to more closely reach our goal." — **International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America**

"This organization provides Washington with a thoughtful and informed voice about Africa. Whether the issue is opposing cuts in aid to Zimbabwe, encouraging stronger sanctions against apartheid, or seeking relief for African refugees, you can count upon the Washington Office on Africa to be there working for more progressive policies by Congress and the President." — **Representative Julian Dixon, Chairman, Congressional Black Caucus**

"The Washington Office on Africa performs an invaluable service for the churches and the American public by providing accurate and timely information about Africa-related issues. Its work on Southern Africa is to be especially commended. We urge continued support for the Washington Office on Africa as it seeks to continue to provide this valuable service." — **Bishop Philip Cousin, President, National Council of Churches**

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- Lutheran Church in America, Division for Missions in North America
- Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Program Agency
- Progressive National Baptist Convention, Home Mission Board
- Society for African Missions (S.M.A. Fathers)
- Society of Missionaries of Africa
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- United Church of Christ, Board for World Ministries, and Office for Church in Society
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YES, I want to join the growing national anti-apartheid movement! Enclosed is my \$10 for a year's subscription to *Washington Notes on Africa* and other publications of the Washington Office on Africa.

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The Washington Office on Africa
110 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002