

FRIDAY OCTOBER 10, 1986 NATIONAL PROTEST DAY FOR SOUTH AFRICAN DIVESTMENT AND SANCTIONS

In Solidarity With South African and Namibian Political Prisoners

- While the **Apartheid Regime** has gunned down over 2000 Black South Africans, the U.S. anti-apartheid movement has forced divestments affecting \$8 billion at 60 schools, 14 states and 40 cities since 1984. Yet 300 U.S. companies remain in South Africa and the Reagan Administration blocks effective sanctions against the white minority regime.

- With South Africa in the midst of Civil War, we must intensify pressure against U.S. investment in South Africa.

- Following dramatic shantytown protests and arrests at UC/Berkeley and UCLA this spring, the **University of California** Regents agreed to fully divest \$3.1 billion linked to South Africa.

- This victory illustrates the effectiveness of strong student action (including civil disobedience) and the possibility of further breakthroughs.



Protests at UC/Berkeley in Spring 1986

Friday October 10 — a day for locally organized protest nationwide — will be a key time for such escalated protest against U.S. ties to South Africa.

Proposed Actions for Campus and Community Groups on October 10 include:

- 1) To augment the impact of **campus** divestment protests, students would construct **shanty structure(s)** in conjunction with other tactics (blockades, sit-ins, rallies). The proliferation of **shanty construction** on a single day will help dramatize the desperate situation in South Africa and increase the pressure for divestment.
- 2) **Community-based groups**, and where possible students, would organize a variety of actions—including blockades, sit-ins, occupations, pickets—at the offices of **U.S. corporations** involved in South Africa—particularly major investors such as IBM, Ford, Citibank, GM, Mobil, and Shell.
- 3) To highlight the plight of **political prisoners**, protesters on that day would wear placards and sashes with the **names** of South African and Namibian political prisoners. Throughout the day **black armbands** would also be distributed indicating support for sanctions and solidarity with political prisoners.
- 4) In addition, at **1pm Eastern Standard Time** (noon/midwestern, 11am/mountain, 10am/pacific) groups would observe a **minute of silence** to further indicate solidarity and to highlight the coordinated character of the day's protests.

TO ENDORSE THE OCTOBER 10 NATIONAL PROTEST DAY AND FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

**American Committee on Africa: 198 Broadway (Rm 402) NYC 10038
212-962-1210**

The call for a nationwide October 10 Protest Day was endorsed at a **National Student Anti-Apartheid Strategy Session** attended by 150 activists from 50 campuses, and is being supported by the anti-apartheid "**Call to Conscience**" emergency response network.