



American Committee On Africa

198 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10038 / (212) 962-1210 / Cable AMCOMMAF

September 1986

Dear Friends,

With the crisis intensifying in southern Africa we must escalate our efforts to cut U.S. ties to apartheid. **The October 10, 1986 National Protest Day for Divestment and Sanctions** represents an important opportunity to step up the nationwide pressure.

The day coincides with the marking of the International Day in Solidarity with Southern African Political Prisoners, and has already been endorsed by a national student strategy session involving 50 campuses, the anti-apartheid "Call to Conscience" emergency response network (encompassing many community anti-apartheid organizations), U.S. Student Association, Mobilization for Survival, War Resisters League, and Fellowship of Reconciliation. On October 10 local protests will be organized nationwide, and in Europe there will be actions against U.S. aid to UNITA--the contras of Angola.

We urge your organization to support this broad-based effort by:

- 1) **Endorsing the October 10 Protest Day.** Distribute the enclosed flyer and information on political prisoners throughout your network.
- 2) **Organize protests in your local area** against institutions with investment tied to South Africa or at the offices of U.S. corporations involved.
- 3) **Inform the American Committee on Africa** of your planned activities.

Even while building the October 10th mobilization, it is vital for your organization to be involved in the **immediate battle for effective Congressional sanctions**. We are now entering the most critical phase:

On August 15 the Senate passed a set of sanctions that are far from adequate. The bill **does** include trade restrictions affecting imports of South African coal, steel, textiles, and agricultural products. **However, unlike the Dellums bill passed in the House, it does not mandate withdrawal of U.S. investment from South Africa.** Even the ban on new U.S. investment has **loopholes** allowing reinvestment of profits.

This month a House/Senate Conference Committee will try to reconcile the differences between the House (full disinvestment) and Senate bills.

Immediately call and write your Representatives and Senators to urge the House/Senate Conference Committee to accept the sanctions passed by the House--full disinvestment in 180 days and a virtual trade embargo:

Congressional Switchboard (for all): 202-224-3121

Addresses: U.S. Senate, Wash DC 20515 & US House of Reps Wash 20510

Please notify us soon of your **plans for October 10th:** 212-962-1210

In Solidarity and Friendship,

Joshua Nessen

Joshua Nessen
October 10th Coordinator