

THE CIVIL SERVICE  
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, INC.

Local 1000, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO  
33 ELK STREET, BOX 125, CAPITOL STATION, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12224 (518) 434-0191



WILLIAM L. MCGOWAN, PRESIDENT

January 10, 1985

Hon. P.T.C. DuPlessis  
Minister of Manpower Utilization  
Laboria Building  
Paul Kruger Street  
Pretoria, South Africa

Dear Sir:

In solidarity with our South African brothers and sisters, the Civil Service Employees Association expresses outrage at the arrest and detention of trade unionists Rita Ndzanga, Amos Masondo, Xolani Nduna, Zanemvula Maphela and Moses Nkosi.

Our Board of Directors at a 19 November 1984 session approved a resolution formally expressing our outrage and also demanding that the persecution of all South African trade unionists be immediately halted.

We, the largest public employee union in New York State, also demand that Ndzanga, Madondo, Nduna, Maphela and Nkosi be immediately released. The absence of criminal charges against them is an affront to civilized society.

Sincerely,

*William L. McGowan*  
WILLIAM L. MCGOWAN

WLM:am

cc: Black Municipal Workers Union  
of South Africa

South African Municipal & Allied  
Workers Union

NEW YORK STATE'S LARGEST PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNION

THE CIVIL SERVICE  
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, INC.

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33 ELK STREET, BOX 125, CAPITOL STATION, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12224 (518) 434-0191



WILLIAM L. MCGOWAN, PRESIDENT

January 10, 1985

Hon. Louis LeGrange  
Minister of Law and Order  
Union Buildings  
Pretoria, South Africa

Dear Sir:

In solidarity with our South African brothers and sisters, the Civil Service Employees Association expresses outrage at the arrest and detention of trade unionists Rita Ndzanga, Amos Masondo, Xolani Nduna, Zanemvula Maphela and Moses Nkosi.

Our Board of Directors at a 19 November 1984 session approved a resolution formally expressing our outrage and also demanding that the persecution of all South African trade unionists be immediately halted.

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South African Municipal & Allied  
Workers Union

NEW YORK STATE'S LARGEST PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNION

South Africa

WHEREAS:

Despite the condemnation of most of the world community the government of South Africa continues its savage and racist attacks on its own citizens in that country; and,

WHEREAS:

In the most recent two-month period the South African army and police forces have mounted armed invasions of Black townships, searching and raiding homes and meeting places, arresting thousands of people and killing or maiming hundreds more; and,

WHEREAS:

South African Black trade unions have sought peacefully to protest their grievances and to call to the attention of the South African government the horrors of apartheid by conducting a two-day stay-away; and,

WHEREAS:

In typical fashion the South African government has arrested at least 13 labor leaders who were involved in legitimate efforts to protest their working and living conditions in that racist state; and,

WHEREAS:

These labor leaders are being held under a law that could lead to a charge of treason and that offers no explanation for their detention and indeed does not even offer a trial; and,

WHEREAS:

Of the hundreds of political prisoners detained under this law in South Africa at least 64 have died while in prison, with little or no explanation of the circumstances of their deaths.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the International Executive Board reaffirms the declaration of the 26th International Convention expressing "AFSCME's absolute opposition to the racist apartheid policies of the government of South Africa"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That AFSCME calls upon the government of South Africa to release the labor leaders being held on secret or unannounced charges for activities that in any free society would be their duty and responsibility to perform on behalf of their members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That AFSCME calls upon the government of the United States to exhibit unequivocal condemnation of South Africa for the oppression of its people and its attempt to destroy the Black trade union movement, which may be the only hope for a peaceful transition in that country; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the International Executive Board calls on AFSCME locals and councils to participate wherever possible in public expressions of the outrage and horror our society feels towards the racist policies and actions of the South African government, such as demonstrations at South African consulates and embassy locations; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED:

That AFSCME endorses the AFL-CIO call for a united labor demonstration against apartheid policies and AFSCME strongly supports AFL-CIO efforts to win freedom for South African trade unionists.

# TRANSFRICA

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE HONORABLE  
RICHARD GORDON HATCHER  
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REV. JEREMIAH WRIGHT

RANDALL ROBINSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 22, 1985

Ms. Vera Michelson  
434 Livingston Avenue  
Albany, NY 12206

Dear Ms. Michelson:

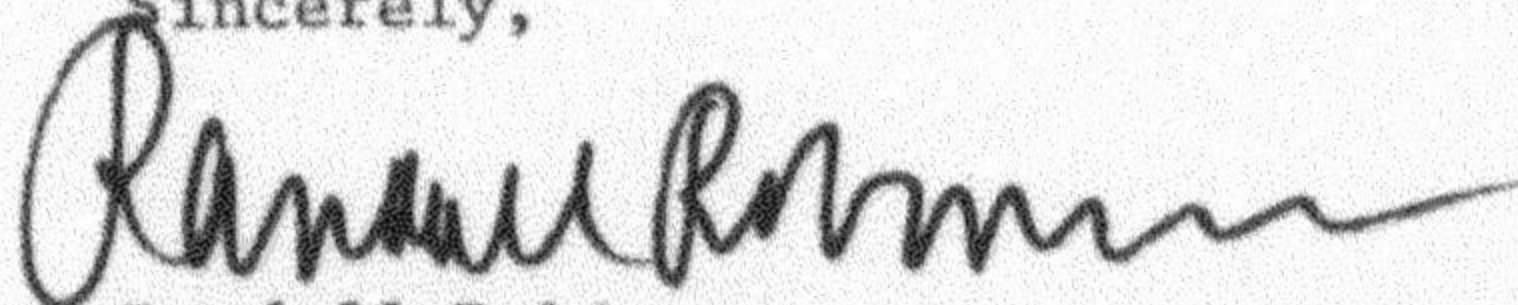
Congratulations on the excellent organizing work you have been doing. Its impact is being felt here and around the country.

We met with Senator Kennedy to discuss the legislation that will be introduced in the near future. We made great progress in reaching agreement on how the legislation should be introduced.

We will keep you informed. Enclosed is a press clipping on the Kennedy meeting. Keep up the good work.

Warm regards.

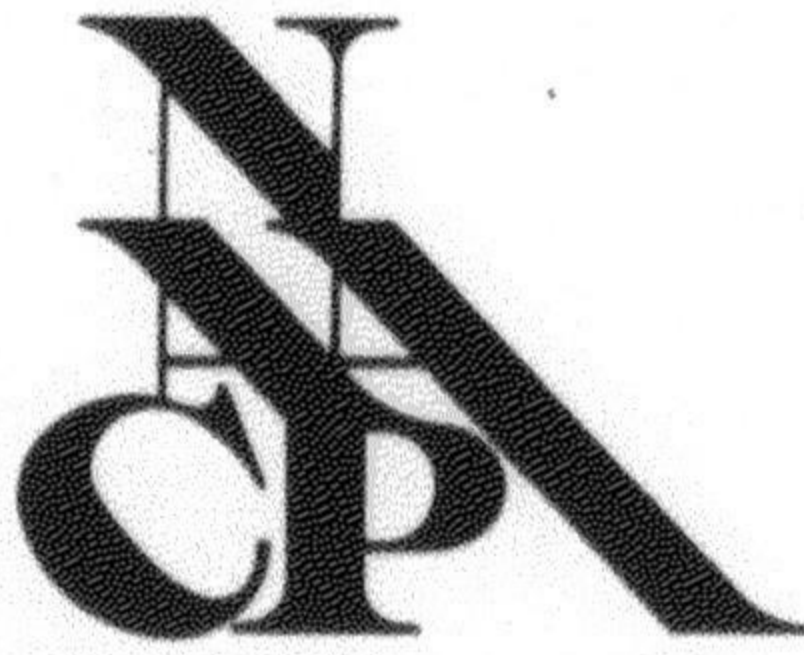
Sincerely,



Randall Robinson  
Executive Director

RR/ds

Enclosure



*pass around at Coalitions meeting*

ALBANY BRANCH

93 LIVINGSTON AVENUE • ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207 • (518) 462-1823

President — E. J. Josey  
1st Vice President — Lillie McLaughlin  
2nd Vice President — Anne Pope  
Recording Secretary — Jeanette Dworkin  
Treasurer — Harry L. Hamilton

Dear Friend,

As you know, on Thanksgiving Eve, Mary Berry, member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission; Randall Robinson, Executive Director of Transafrica; and Walter Fauntroy, District of Columbia Congressman, were arrested at the South African Embassy in Washington, D.C. These acts of civil disobedience led the way to the founding of the Free South Africa movement and sparked additional protests and arrests at South African consulates and missions across the country. The civil disobedience acts underscore the contempt which most Americans have for the complicity of the U.S. government with the South African apartheid regime.

The demands of the movement have included:

1. the release of the South African Freedom Fighters leaders of the recent wave of protests in South Africa who are being held without charges;
2. the release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners.  
(Randall Robinson has stated that Nelson Mandela's name must become as familiar as Lech Walesa--Mandela is a leader of the banned African National Congress who has been incarcerated on Robbins Island for over 20 years;)
3. an end to the disgraceful U.S. policy of "constructive engagement."

The second phase of the movement has begun targetting other symbols of U.S. collaboration with racist South Africa--U.S. government facilities, banks and corporations investing in apartheid and coin dealers and banks that sell Krugerrands.

The number of people who have engaged in non-violent civil disobedience grows daily. An impressive list of people--prominent clergy, legislators, civil rights and union activists--have been arrested. The list includes: N.Y. Assemblymen Al Vann and Roger Green; Jewel Jackson McCabe, National President of the Coalition of 100 Black Women; Thomas Donohue, Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL/CIO; Leon Lynch, International Vice-president of United Steel Workers of America; Charles Perlick, President of the Newspaper Guild; Former E.E.O. Commission Chair Eleanor Norton Holmes; S.C.L.C. President Charles Hayes; Michigan Congressman John Conyers; William Simons, President of the Washington Teachers Union; Former Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton; Rev. Calvin Butts, Associate Minister of Abyssinian Baptist Church; Rev. William Sloane Coffin, Senior Minister of Riverside Church; Representative Don Edwards of California; Representative George Crockett of Michigan; Leonard Ball, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; Rev. Herbert Daughtry, Chair, Black United Front;

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

Yolanda King; Theodore Mann, President of the American Jewish Congress; Henry Siegman, Executive Director of the American Jewish Congress; Theodore Bikel; Rosa Parks; Mayor Richard Hatcher, Gary, Indiana; Gerald McEntree, President of AFSCME; Harriet Michel, Executive Director of N.Y.C. Urban League; Osborn Elliot, former Editor-in-Chief of Newsweek Magazine; Bishop Paul Moore, New York Episcopal Diocese.

As a result of this outcry, 35 conservative Republican Members of Congress delivered a stiff letter to the South African Ambassador warning of sanctions unless changes are made.

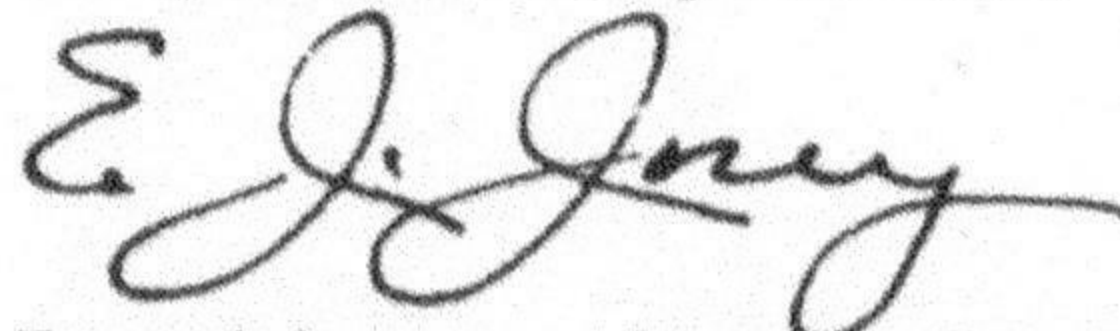
At this time we feel that it is important that Albany, N.Y. (known for its strong anti-apartheid stance during the 1981 tour of the South African Springbok Rugby team) join other cities in these national protests and acts of civil disobedience. The Free African Movement is aware of our concern and welcomes our support in the struggle.

We are inviting you, along with others listed below, to express your solidarity with the national movement by allowing yourself to be arrested in Albany on Thursday, January 17th. If you are uncomfortable about being arrested, we hope you will join us on the support picket line. But please remember that it is very important in the community that prominent persons offer themselves to be arrested to dramatize our outrage with the Reagan policy of supporting apartheid.

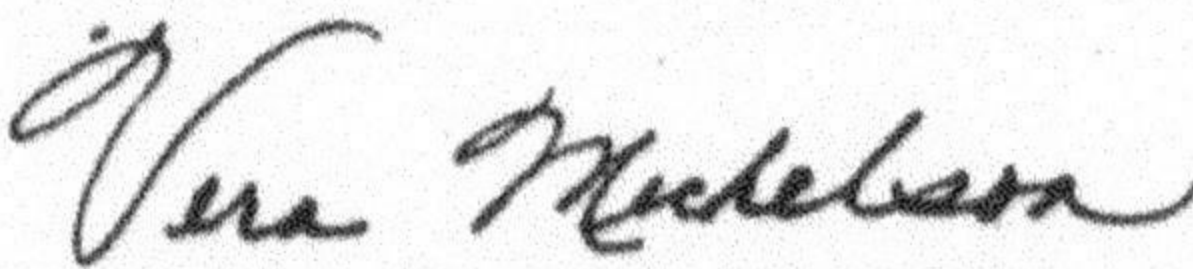
The details of our proposed action and support demonstration will be discussed, with attorneys present, at a meeting in the Conference Room of the Urban League on Monday, January 7th at 4 P.M.

One of us will be calling you soon to ascertain if you are willing to participate in this important activity. If you have questions, please feel free to call 436-0562.

In peace and justice,



President, Albany Branch NAACP



President, Capital District  
Coalition Against Racism & Apartheid

cc: Rev. Robert Dixon, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church  
Rev. Albert Porteous, Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Chancellor Clifton Wharton, State University of New York  
Dr. Frank Pogue, Vice-president for Student Affairs, SUNYA  
Hon. Sandra Rose Temple, County Legislator  
Hon. Nebraska Brace, City Councilman  
Bishop Howard Hubbard, Roman Catholic Diocese  
Bishop David Ball, Episcopal Diocese  
William Kennedy, author  
William McGowan, President CSEA  
Martha Lewis, President Albany Coalition of 100 Black Women  
Elizabeth Hoke, President PEF  
Hon. Nancy Burton, City Councilwoman



**Capital Area Council of Churches, Inc.**

901 MADISON AVENUE, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12208 • Telephone 489-8441



March 1, 1985

Dear Dr. Wittner,

The Board of Directors of the Council of Churches at its February meeting, requested that I write you to thank you for the witness you made recently for justice and humanity. We support you in the courageous stand you took demonstrating against apartheid.

I am sure that the consciousness of many has been raised, and while some feathers were inevitably ruffled, many admire and are strengthened by the prophetic message you conveyed through your action.

God bless you in your continuing work for justice, peace, and equality.

Sincerely,

*Joyce S. Giles*  
Rev. Joyce S. Giles  
Executive Director

JSG/sldw

# TRANSFRICA

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE HONORABLE  
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DR. CALVIN SINNETTE  
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THE HONORABLE PERCY SUTTON  
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REV. WYATT TEE WALKER  
DR. RONALD WALTERS  
THE HONORABLE MAXINE WATERS  
ROBERT WHITE  
REV. JEREMIAH WRIGHT

RANDALL ROBINSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 11, 1985

Ms. Vera Michelson  
434 Livingston Avenue  
Albany, NY 12206

Dear Ms. Michelson:

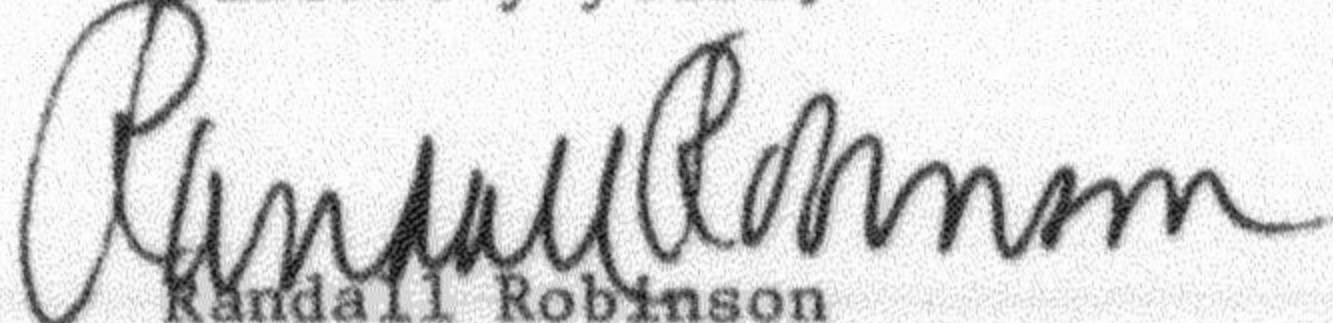
Now in our fifth month of protest, the Free South Africa Movement applauds recently introduced national legislation which can enhance the chances for a freer South Africa. Reintroductions of Title III, prohibiting new American investment, bank loans, krugerrands, and expanding nuclear non-proliferation laws to affect South Africa have now been made. We also expect two disinvestment introductions which actually address the withdrawal of American operations from South Africa.

In order to prepare a cohesive and effective legislative strategy in support of these introductions, we are calling a meeting of all F.S.A.M. local organizers together with national anti-apartheid organizations, in Washington. The meeting date is March 30, from 9:30AM to 4:30PM at the New Bethel Baptist Church, 9th and S streets, NW. As you will see from the enclosed agenda, the first part of the meeting provides an opportunity for the National Steering Committee and the local organizers to discuss policy and to review the past sixteen weeks of action. After lunch, several national anti-apartheid organizations will join us in a working meeting on legislative strategy.

Please plan to be represented at this vital meeting. Contact David Scott or Cecelie Counts at TransAfrica to confirm your attendance.

Congratulations on you coalition's outstanding work.

Sincerely yours,



Randall Robinson  
Executive Director  
Co-Chair, Free South Africa Movement Steering Committee

RR/ds

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS—ADRESSE POSTALE: UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. 10017  
CABLE ADDRESS—ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE: UNATIONS NEWYORK

REFERENCE.

*D.K. Review put 4/21/85*  
20 March 1985

Dear Sir/Madam,

As of 1 July 1985, the United Nations Radio Service will produce and distribute all its taped programmes which are sent to radio stations around the world on cassettes. Only in very special circumstances will the UN Radio Service use open reels for this production after 1 July 1985.

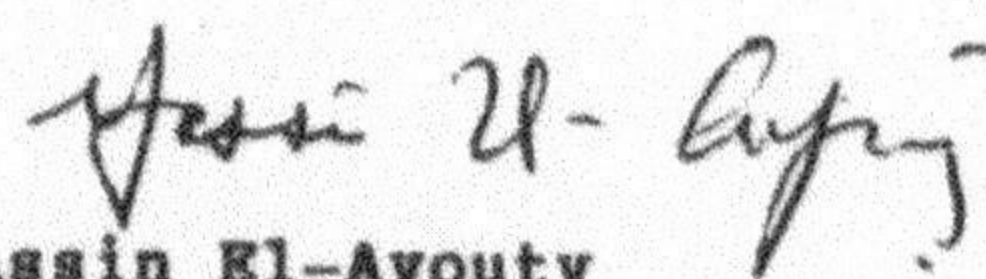
We hope that this change from open reels to cassettes will still enable you to make maximum use of our output which is intended to provide your listeners with information on the United Nations and its activities in various fields.

If this change from open reels to cassettes causes particular problems to your organization with regard to usage, we shall appreciate your advising us of such problems.

For your information, from 1 July 1985 broadcasting organizations will not be required to return the cassettes they receive from us.

Looking forward to maximum co-operation with you, I remain, with kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,



Yassin El-Ayouty  
Acting Chief  
Radio Service

Radio and Visual Services Division  
Department of Public Information



## Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

April 23, 1985

Senator Warren Adneron  
Rm 330 - Legislative Building  
Capitol Building  
Albany, New York 12247

*Adneron  
noted  
5/1/85*

Dear Senator Anderson:

I am writing to you in support of the divestment bills which have been introduced in the Assembly and the Senate: specifically Bills 250 A, A 1468 - S. 970, A. 1431 - S. 971.

No one questions the obscene nature of the apartheid government in South Africa. No one is debating whether apartheid is right or wrong.

The question is what is the nature of our government's relationship to apartheid: One need only to witness the recent demonstrations and other expressions of anti-apartheid activity in this country to understand that there is a growing sentiment in this country not to support economically or otherwise, the South African government.

We urge you to use your leadership to make 1985 the year that New York State goes on record against apartheid in a meaningful and comprehensive way.

Vera Michelson  
Chair of the Coalition



## Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

April 23, 1985

Honorable Arthur Kremer  
Chairman of the Assembly Ways and  
Means Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Capitol Building  
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Mr. Kremer:

I am writing to you in support of the divestment bills which have been introduced in the Assembly and the Senate: specifically Bills 250 A, A 1468 - S. 970, A. 1431 - S. 971.

No one questions the obscene nature of the apartheid government in South Africa. No one is debating whether apartheid is right or wrong.

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Chair of the Coalition



# Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

April 28, 1985

Mr. Abdennour Abrous  
Chief of Branch  
Centre against Apartheid  
Room 2775 A  
United Nations  
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Abrous:

This letter is in response to your letter of 11 February 1985 concerning a directory of North American non-governmental organizations engaged in action against apartheid. We appreciate this offer to be included in such a directory. We feel such a directory will be very helpful to ngo's in our efforts to carry on in the struggle against apartheid.

Enclosed you will find a brief summary of particulars about the work of the Capital District Coalition against Apartheid and Racism, a brochure about our organization and a copy of our most recent newsletter. If any other information or clarification is needed, please feel free to contact me in care of the above address.

Sincerely,

Eileen Kawola  
Steering Committee

Capital District Coalition against Apartheid and Racism  
Albany, New York

Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism  
Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, New York 12203  
(518) 436-0562  
Chair: Vera Michelson

The Capital District Coalition against Apartheid and Racism was formed in 1981 to protest the appearance in Albany, New York of the South African rugby team. Since that time, the coalition which is made up of several community, religious, civil rights and labor groups and concerned individuals, has continued anti-apartheid work. Coalition activities include the following:

1. cultural boycott demonstrations against entertainers who have performed in South Africa.
2. boycotts of stores which sell goods made in South Africa.
3. divestment work in the New York State legislature and in the city of Albany.
4. sponsorship and participation in educational forums in the community to bring South Africa's racist policies to the attention of the public.
5. the publication of a monthly newsletter with information about South Africa.
6. maintenance of a liason with the United Nations Centre against Apartheid. *The African National Congress and Suazo.*



# Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

April 23, 1985

5/1/85

Black Enterprise  
130 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10011

To the Editor:

Your April article by Frank Dexter Brown entitled, Amandla - The Rallying Cry Against Apartheid, was one of the clearest and most helpful analyses of the U.S. Anti-apartheid Movement that we have seen to date.

One cannot read this article without getting a clear understanding of the importance of the role Americans can play in the struggle against apartheid.

We hope that there will be more articles of this type and would suggest a piece on the cultural boycott of entertainers who have performed in South Africa.

Amandla,

Vera Michelson  
Chair  
Capital District Coalition  
Against Apartheid and Racism,  
Albany, NY.





# Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

April , 1985

Assemblyman Roger Green  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 441  
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Roger,

Just a brief note to thank you for your lobbying efforts on March 19. Many of our members participated in the actual lobbying and thought it was quite worthwhile.

We were also pleased that you were able to make to Wilborn Temple on March 25 to hear Mafason Marobi of the UDF speak. At this time he is in Europe and we will be watching his return to South Africa with great concern. As you are probably aware, the treason trials for the 16 UDF leaders who were arrested in March are scheduled to begin on May 20.

I have attached a copy of the New York divestment letter which we have sent to almost 500 people. We are also distributing this model letter at various community meetings.

In addition, you will find enclosed, several other items which you may find interesting or useful.

If there is anything else we can do to assist you in the divestment effort, please let me know.

Towards victory,

Vera Michelson  
Chair

*Roger - please let me know when you set up a meeting with PE F and call we have done a lot of good work with them. Also anything else we can do. Let me know. Also I put an announcement regarding Lobby Day # in the local community paper Southern Scene*



## Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

April 23, 1985

Senator Howard Nolan  
Legislative Office Building  
Capitol Building  
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Senator Nolan:

I am writing to you in support of the divestment bills which have been introduced in the Assembly and the Senate: specifically Bills 250 A, A 1468 - S. 970, A. 1431 - S. 971.

No one questions the obscene nature of the apartheid government in South Africa. No one is debating whether apartheid is right or wrong.

The question is what is the nature of our government's relationship to apartheid: One need only to witness the recent demonstrations and other expressions of anti-apartheid activity in this country to understand that there is a growing sentiment in this country not to support economically or otherwise, the South African government.

We urge you to use your leadership to make 1985 the year that New York State goes on record against apartheid in a meaningful and comprehensive way.

*Vera Michelson*

Vera Michelson  
Chair of the Coalition



## Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203  
518-436-0562

July 19, 1985

Mr. George Wein  
Festival Productions  
311 W. 74th St.  
New York, N.Y. 10023

Dear Mr. Wein,

By way of introduction, the Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism is an anti-apartheid organization based in Albany, New York. Primary in our work is the cultural boycott of entertainers who have performed in apartheid South Africa in violation of several United Nations' resolutions calling for total isolation of that racist regime. The demand for the cultural boycott was initiated by those who are most directly affected by apartheid-the South African Black majority- through their representatives, the African National Congress. As you probably know, this demand was also endorsed by the Organization of African Unity.

Enclosed you will find fliers which we have used as part of major protests we have staged at two Kool Jazz Festivals in Saratoga, N.Y. The first protest was against Ray Charles (summer '83) and just recently, Chick Corea (June 29, '85). At both of these events we passed out the fliers and black armbands (worn in solidarity with the victims of apartheid). We talked to folks about this cultural collaboration at the gates and inside as they were seated in the amphitheater and on the lawn. When Ray Charles came on stage approximately 350 people left their seats in protest. Last month about 300 people left their seats and hundreds more simply did not even go to their seats when Chick started performing.

It has become clear to us that jazz audiences really do understand the immorality of cultural collaboration with Neo Nazi South Africa.

It is heartening to note that the cultural boycott campaign is having such a tremendous impact. In 1981, over 50 American artists performed in South Africa. In 1982 the number of boycott violators had dwindled to 22. In 1983 fewer than ten artists appeared in South Africa and in 1984 it was even less.

In addition, we, (activists all over the country and the African National Congress Mission to the United Nations) have been

successful in obtaining statements from a number of violators who now pledge not to return to South Africa until apartheid has been abolished. Among them are: George Benson, Lou Donaldson, Stanly Turrentine, Paul Anka, Tina Turner, James Moody, the Temptations and now Chick Corea. ( You should know that Albany, N.Y. Knickerbocker News jazz columnist, Georgia Urban was instrumental in our negotiations with Chick. His pledge not to return to South Africa came four days after our protest in Saratoga.) These entertainers will not be targeted for any further protests internationally unless they break their pledge.

It is our understanding that you stand in the ranks of those who see the necessity of isolating apartheid South Africa having cancelled plans for a festival in Bophuthatswana (Sun City, S.A.) At this point we feel that it might be advantageous to impliment the cultural boycott at another level and this is where we were hoping you could lend your support.

If you look at the attached list you will see that there are a few artists who you might, at one time or another, consider booking for upcoming concerts or festivals.

I would like to propose a meeting with you where we could discuss some ways in which you might assist in the antiapartheid struggle. I would also suggest that the meeting include Elombe Brath, a prominent figure in the cultural boycott campaign and a member of Unity In Action, and a representative of the African National Congress. The meeting could take place in New York City at your convenience, perhaps before your 1986 events are finalized.

We look forward to your response.

Towards a free South Africa,

Vera Michelson  
Chairperson  
Capital District Coalition  
Against Apartheid and Racism  
Albany, N.Y.

CC:  
Neo Mnumzana-Chief Representative, ANC  
Elombe Brath  
Georgia Urban



Capital District Coalition  
Against Apartheid  
and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

*revised type format*

September 28, 1985

Brian Alden  
Palace Theatre  
Clinton and North Pearl Streets  
Albany, New York 12210

Dear Brian:

I have enclosed a flyer for your attention and Chick Corea's recent statement. Of course, this would not be necessary if Ray would only make the appropriate statement. I hope after reading this flyer, you will see that Ray's responses as to why his trip was justified are totally irrelevant.

We are also hopeful that after you review the list that you will decide not to showcase any of the entertainers on it unless their name is asteriked. Most of us love jazz, blues, etc. and were pleased that this type of music was being brought to Albany. Bottom line- we'd rather go in and enjoy the concerts than be outside on a picket line. However, given the nature of repression in South Africa- we also know that we must persevere.

Towards a free South Africa,

*Vera Michelson*

Vera Michelson  
Chairperson..

VM/lw



# Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

October 28, 1985

Dear Pastor and Friend:

Over the summer we have seen the repression in Southern Africa intensify. We have seen mourners shot down, young children taken by the busload through the detention process, South African police forcing children into school at gunpoint, blood spilling everywhere!

Before the state of emergency was imposed on July 21, 500 people were killed in ten months. Since then, 250 more have died. Thousands have been arrested and the Parent Support Detainee Committee has reported on the torture that is going on inside of South Africa's prisons.

Non-violent protest has been met with brutal response and almost the entire leadership of the United Democratic Front (UDF), the largest legal coalition working for peaceful change, languishes behind bars. One of the UDF founders, Reverend Allen Boesak was charged with subversion for attempting to organize a march on Pollsmoor prison where African National Congress (ANC) leader, Nelson Mandela, is serving a life sentence. Boesak is now under banning orders until his trial. Recently, Benjamin Moloise, ANC member, was hanged despite international appeals for clemency. The state of emergency has become a state of siege.

But there is hope. There is hope because Blacks in Southern Africa continue to resist. The boycotts of white merchants, schools, work sites continue, despite all odds. There is hope because international pressure for sanctions against South Africa has grown. The divestment campaign is mounting- the Rand is in trouble. There is hope because the Release Mandela campaign has received worldwide attention. And finally, there is hope because inside Southern Africa and from unimaginable corners of the world, it is becoming clear that the African National Congress, banned by the government in the 60's, represents the true aspirations of the Black majority. There is no turning back.



## Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism

Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station  
Albany, NY 12203

We are most fortunate to be able to sponsor a forum on November 13 on the current crisis in Southern Africa. Our distinguished speakers will be Neo Mnumzana, Chief Representative of the African National Congress, Observer mission to the United Nations and Hinuangerwa Asheeke Deputy Representative of SWAPO, Observer Mission to the United Nations (SWAPO is the national liberation movement of Namibia, illegally occupied by South Africa.)

We hope you will see this as an important opportunity for you and your members to come and hear the real truth about what is going on.

We would appreciate it if you could announce this event at your November 3 and 10 services. If you would like more flyers to distribute, please leave a message in my phone recorder 436-0562. Of course, if you can include this announcement in your church bulletin, it would also be helpful.

We anticipate a good turnout, so please ask people to come on time. Thank you in advance, as usual.

Towards a free South Africa,

*Vera Michelson*

Vera Michelson  
Chairperson

May 29th Divestment Day N.Y. STATE

LOGISTICAL ASSESSMENT

- I. The date, May 29 was a poor choice due to the holiday on May 27. The holiday weekend minimized the amount of work that could be done just preceding the event.
2. Fliers for the event were only available approx. 2 wks before, not leaving enough time to get the broadest distribution possible. The second batch of fliers was produced a few days later than expected, cutting into precious organizing time. One day when people in Albany were expected to pick up fliers from Roger Green's office, they found the office closed. A note was left on the door to go to Arthur Eve's office but this arrangement was made spontaneously between myself and Andy Gill, an aide in Eve's office, when we realized that the office was closed.
3. For the Albany area, the amount of planning time did also not allow for a comprehensive publicity campaign. The local organizing effort became "hit or miss". The NAACP mailing list should have been used. The local media should have been used in announcing the event. We need 4 wks to be able to put the local church network in motion to produce the best results. I have no sense of efforts that were made upstate beyond the Capitol District. I do know however, that I spoke with one of our upstate contacts who had been at a planning meeting on Apr. 24. He was not informed that the date of the event had been changed from the 28th to the 29th of May. I was speaking to him approx. 2 weeks after the date change.
4. The involvement of CSEA and PEF was stressed. It was agreed that these contacts should be made through the legislature. I mentioned several times that we have worked with both unions on several levels including a Free South Africa action at the Federal Bldg in Albany and that we could be helpful with this if we were kept posted. I still do not know if contact was made.

4B. Any rally held at the Capitol shd be done at noon -  
guaranteed some worker outside lunch crowd.



2)

4. The letter which was sent out to local clergy, mailing list of Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and the telephone calls made by members of the Coalition, Blacks In Government and aides in Eves office seemed to bring out the local people. <sup>(Some)</sup> As stated before, we were working under unfavorable time constraints. There was good clergy representation.

5. The event itself gave the appearance of disorganization. Buses arrived late from New York, with a smaller number of people than expected.

6. It had been agreed that comprehensive instructions be given on how to lobby. This did not happen. I was not informed that I was going to lead a lobbying group until that day, on the steps of the Capital.

8. There had been no formal discussion previously of on that day as to what the major lobbying points would be in terms of discussion. There was no advance information on the attitudes or positions of the Senators we were going to lobby. There was no advance discussions with group leaders. Finks bill was not in print until the end of the day. Most did not know that a bill was going to be printed that day. As we lobbied it became clear that many in our group did not know about the Sullivan principles. We had several spontaneous "classes" in the L.O.B. hallways. WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT EVERYONE WHO LOBBYS DOES NOT HAVE TO BE ABLE TO ARTICULATE THE ISSUES, IF WE ARE A MOVEMENT WE SHOULD TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY IN EDUCATING THE PEOPLE. This education cannot easily be done in an open rally where there is continuous distraction. These issues are fairly complicated. We should have caucused somewhere before we set off to lobby.

9. Information packages were still arriving as we were dispersing and there did not seem to be enough packages.

10. Because every thing was running late, Our lobbying group was late by at least 1/2 hour for every morning session. We only actually met with 2 senators. The rest were aides. This may not be unusual, I don't know.

II. At the end of the day a number of awards were given and a number of speeches were made. This took more than an hour.

This time could have been effectively utilized if we had met in a room somewhere and reviewed the day. Many people wanted to discuss what issues had been raised in their meetings.., how many met with actual senators, what respnses did we get, what seemed to be the major points of disscussion and since the legislature will be in session until July...where do we go from here? And since it looks like th Gov. and Fink will cut a deal around the Sullivan Principles....what are we going to do about it??? ACOA brought a flier ~~fre~~ signed by Father Shaunessy focussing on a letter writing campaign. This shoud have been formally distributed, discussed and promoted.

I2. Senator Frank Barbaro has been noticeably absent from this effort? Why? He is key?.....'.