



NEWS BULLETIN

Canadians Concerned about Southern Africa
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WAITING FOR EMBARGO

The latest round of sanctions on South Africa, arising out of the recent Commonwealth Conference, falls far short of what is needed, or indeed, what has been called for by the Commonwealth's own appointed "agents of change".

The Eminent Persons Group (EPG) delivered its report June 7th, concluding that, "while the (S.A.) Government claims to be ready to negotiate, it is in truth not yet prepared to negotiate fundamental change, nor to countenance the creation of genuine democratic structures, nor to face the prospect of the end of white domination and white power in the foreseeable future. Its programme of reform does not end apartheid, but seeks to give it a less inhuman face."

Not only does the EPG advocate strong sanctions against South Africa, but so too do Canada's parliamentarians. The Special Joint Committee on Canada's International Relations, with representation across all parties, in its recent report called unequivocally for immediate implementation of "full economic sanctions".

These most recent selective measures by the Commonwealth still leave loopholes through which the impact of these sanctions can be evaded. The ban on air links, for example, represents only a small proportion of the traffic between South Africa and Canada. Why not ban all shipping contacts with South Africa, as this represents almost 3/4 of the economic traffic with South Africa? The ban on

agricultural products still must be defined. Will exemptions be permitted for specialty importers?

As well, the question remains whether existing contracts will be honoured. This same question applies to the ban on uranium, coal, steel and iron. The Canadian government has previously stated that it will honour contracts for the processing of Namibian uranium held by the crown corporation Eldorado Nuclear Ltd. If this is still the case, then there has been no sanction imposed here at all.

Why ban the promotion of tourism and not the promotion of South Africa's racist policies, as the South African Government did in taking out a full page ad in the Globe and Mail March 19th. No restrictions have been placed on South African "ambassador" Glenn Babb. Where is the substance in Canada's sanctions?

The heightened concern over sanctions has also obscured other aspects of Canada's relation with Southern Africa. Canada still has not recognized the UN Council for Namibia's Decree No. 1, despite acknowledging South Africa's illegal occupation of that country. Namibia is used as a staging point for South African destabilization of another sovereign state, Angola. Since 1981, Canada participated in the fraudulent activities of the five nation "Western Contact Group", purportedly seeking a settlement of the Namibian question. In this

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period, the South African government instead imposed a constitution on Namibia and consolidated its control over the region. Canada's neglect of Namibia was reaffirmed recently when it snubbed a special UN conference on Namibia in Vienna in July.

One way in which Canada can take positive action in support of change in Southern Africa, without waiting for multilateral action from other western nations, is to implement a massive programme of aid to the countries of the Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference. These countries have been the specific target of the South African military, which has sought, with some success, to destroy their ability to develop autonomous trade and transportation links with the outside world. Their

alternative is continuing dependence on South Africa for trade connections. South Africa is now taking advantage of this dependency by applying its own sanctions against Zimbabwe and Zambia, who are supporting the Commonwealth's position on South Africa. The Special Joint Committee has called for more aid to the SADCC.

No change can be effective without the development of human resources. The Canadian government should recognize the ANC and provide it with direct aid and assistance, in recognition of the wide support it enjoys amongst the South African public and for the democratic alternative it offers South Africans in the Freedom Charter. The Special Joint Committee has also specifically recommended direct contacts with the ANC.

RACISM'S NEWEST APOLOGISTS

One of the South African regime's most recent ploys has been the attempt to mitigate the appalling nature of apartheid by calling attention to "racism" in other countries. We are probably no better, but certainly no worse than the rest of the world", said Botha at the recent National Party congress.

This ploy was adopted by right-wing trustees on the Toronto Board of Education when it recently attempted to supplant the Annual High School Anti-Apartheid Conference with an "expanded" conference on "civil rights abuse" in the African continent. Happily, this threat was routed at a special meeting of the Board, but only after vigorous pressure from an aroused Toronto anti-apartheid movement.

The Globe and Mail featured an article by Glenn Babb, propounding this view of "hypocrisy" on the part of apartheid's critics and subsequent letters to the editor have picked up the refrain. We reprint two letters, also from the Globe, responding to one such assertion of "hypocrisy". Whatever the state of equality for segments of Indian society, these letters do expose the true intention of apartheid's apologists. Racism is indeed to be found in other countries, but nowhere is that racism legally and constitutionally sanctioned, as it is in South Africa. We think the point is worth repeating.

DENNIS GOLDBERG TOUR

Dennis Goldberg, a former South African political prisoner and ANC member who spent over 20 years on Robben Island with Nelson Mandela, will be touring Canada this fall. Scheduled dates are: Sept. 27 - Guelph, Ontario; Sept. 29 - Toronto; Sept. 30 - Windsor, Ontario; October 1 - Winnipeg; October 2 - Regina; October 3 - Calgary; October 5-6 - Edmonton; October 7 - Vancouver; October 8 - Victoria; October 9-13 - Ottawa; October 14 - Halifax; October 15 - Newfoundland; October 16 - Montreal.

The tour is being sponsored by International Defense and Aid Fund for South Africa (Canada). For more information on exact time and place of public meetings, contact your local anti-apartheid organization, or write to IDAFSA (Canada), 78 Daly Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 6E4.

OUR APOLOGIES

Our sincere apologies for the delay in publishing this News Bulletin. The CCSA executive is experiencing a "baby boom" at the moment and this has caused some disruption in our scheduling. We hope to be back on track with a big issue in the fall. Please stay tuned.

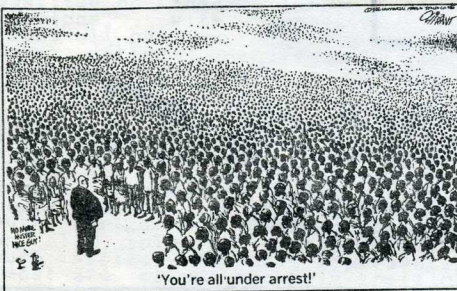
The CCSA newsletter was put together by Bruce Livesey, Guy Wright and Joanne Naiman.

CARTOONS

Some of the recent caricatures to appear about apartheid.



'You will be pleased to know, my good man, that I am discouraging the promotion of tourism to South Africa!'



CMA STAND ON APARTHEID

At its recent annual conference in Winnipeg the Canadian Medical Association passed a resolution which condemned apartheid as an "affront to human dignity", and urged the South African Medical Association to declare its opposition to apartheid and to make every effort to end the system.

However, the CMA refused to put its money where its mouth is, and it is expected that its investment fund will maintain its ownership of \$51.2 million in stocks of companies which operate in South Africa. The chairman of the company which manages the investments said "...we're not going to put the investors at risk."

It is interesting to note that the CMA also vowed at its conference to continue its fight against extra-billing, which it insists is based on questions of "freedom", not personal gain. And yet, when an issue of far more basic freedoms arises, the CMA seems to give priority to its members' financial self-interest. Moreover, on straight economic grounds, investments in South Africa can hardly be seen as a

prudent financial decision at this time.

CCSA is asking readers of the News Bulletin to write the CMA, urging them to divest themselves of stocks of companies which operate in South Africa, both for moral and sound financial reasons. Letters can be sent to: CMA, P.O. Box 8650, 1867 Alta Vista Dr., Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 0G8.

WORTH READING

BRUTAL FORCE: The Apartheid War Machine, by Gavin Cawthra.

"This book, for the first time, provides a comprehensive analysis of the apartheid war machine, its deployment in Namibia and independent Africa and its role inside South Africa, from the Sharpeville massacre of 1960 to the State of Emergency in 1985-86. It documents the militarisation of South Africa and its effect on the people of that country, and it assesses the strength of the apartheid military and nuclear force.

Published June 1986, by IDAFSA, 320 pp. illust., US\$ 13.00 (pb) \$25.00 (hb).

C.C.S.A.

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