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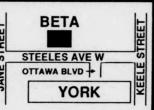
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opinion

"The pressure

must be

sustained"

Mandela's release not an apartheid cure

The following was submitted by York's African Students' Association and Friends.

"Sanctions have been effective in assisting South Africans struggling against apartheid and for democracy. However, there is concern that the cosmetic reforms of the de Klerk government will discourage international support for sanctions and further political pressure."

("Sanctions Barometer," Newswatch, December 31, 1989)

The call from within South Africa for pressure is clear in this statement made by African National Congress (ANC) spokesperson Walter Sisulu: "The pressure must be sustained. There must be no chance for the government to retreat and reorganize its strategy of delay."

The strategies, imposed by de Klerk as stumbling blocks towards building a new constitution for the people of South Africa, are:

- de Klerk's vision of powersharing in which whites would be guaranteed protection from black domination versus the ANC's insistence on black majority rule.
- a five-year timetable for talks, after which blacks would have full political rights, or at least be engaged in the process of gaining such rights. (Maclean's, February 12, 1990)

The problem is that this may not be soon enough for the militant division of the ANC, who are young, impatient and may take to arms to speed up the process. The implementation of sanctions still remains the only peaceful method for applying successful pressure on the South African regime to transform its staggering unjust laws.

The cost of sanctions are taking a significant toll on the South African government and the economy is in crisis. These are specific reasons why de Klerk is fostering changes demanded by the UN, Commonwealth and Canadian disinvestors.

Frank Chikane, the general secretary of South African Council of Churches, said, "What they (the South African government) have to do is to change the laws, to clear up security. Only then will we call for a hold on sanctions... they have to repeal the Land Act, the Classification Act and other pillars of apartheid, such as the Group Areas Act. Then they have to enter into negotiations. Only then we will say to the world, stop sanctions."

York's African Students' Association invites you to take an active part in dismantling apartheid by filling out the accompanying petition to Varity corporation who, at present is investing in South Africa.

Dear Mr. Rice:

South Africa's system of apartheid offends the humanitarian and religious principle of the innate dignity of all people.

SOUTH

AFRICA

I support the efforts of the member churches of the Taskforce on the Churches and Corporate Responsibility to work towards the dismantling of the apartheid system.

Your company's involvement in the South African economy lends support to an oppressive regime; by providing diesel engine technology to a strategic industry supplying the military, it is indirectly assisting in the repression of the population.

I therefore call upon your Company to withdraw its investment from South Africa.

Please reply at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Signature		
Name		
(Printed)		
Address		
Organization(s)		

You may send your petition to:
The African Students Association
and Friends
York University
216 Founders College
4700 Keele Street
North York, Ont.,
M3J 1P3

or bring yourself and your petition to a symposium to be conducted by the African Students Association and Friends on February 26 at noon in room 320 Bethune College. The symposium will address the recent development in South Africa in honour of February as the internationally acclaimed Black History Month. We are pleased to announce guest lecturers will be York social science professor John Saul and the distinguished Peter Mahlangu, who is president of the Toronto-based ANC.

During the course of the symposium, Saul will discuss the South African government's policy of apartheid from an economic point of view. Saul will answer the question: what are the advantages of the apartheid system for the white population on both domestic and international levels? Mahlangu will discuss the reality of the release of Nelson Mandela as the beginning of a long process towards dismantling apartheid. He will examine the structures of apartheid that de Klerk has yet to nullify. He will also address the following issues:

- the role the ANC plays in dismantling apartheid.
- the role Mandela is executing in negotiations for a new constitution.
- the implications of the blackon-black issue.
- on-black issue.
 the division of ideologies within the ANC as well as the reasons for the gulf established between the various black political groups.