

AM-CANADA-APARTHEID; EGT; 0669

BUDGET

WITH VARIOUS

BY PAUL MOONEY

OTTAWA (CP) - THE SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY STRUCK BACK TUESDAY AT CANADIANS CALLING FOR MORE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST THEIR COUNTRY; RELEASING A POLL WHICH INDICATES CANADIANS OPPOSE SUCH MEASURES IF THEY HURT THE BLACK MAJORITY.

THE EMBASSY, WHICH HAS HAD THE POLL SINCE MAY, ONLY RELEASED IT AS COMMONWEALTH FOREIGN MINISTERS MET IN CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA, TO CONSIDER FURTHER SANCTIONS. CANADIAN CHURCHES AND OTHER ANTI-APARTHEID GROUPS HAVE RECENTLY URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT TOUGHER ECONOMIC MEASURES AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, WHERE FIVE MILLION WHITES DOMINATE 26 MILLION BLACKS ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY.

THE \$60,000-POLL, CONDUCTED BY GOLDFARB CONSULTANTS OF TORONTO, INDICATED THAT 61 PER CENT OF CANADIANS SUPPORT SANCTIONS IN PRINCIPLE. BUT ASKED IF THEY WOULD SUPPORT SANCTIONS OR TRADE RESTRICTIONS "IF THEY RESULTED IN HARDSHIP FOR BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS," ONLY 37 PER CENT OF THOSE SURVEYED SAID YES. FIFTY-TWO PER CENT WERE OPPOSED.

THE SURVEY OF 1,005 CANADIANS IS CONSIDERED ACCURATE TO WITHIN 3.2 PER CENT 19 TIMES OUT OF 20.

AMBASSADOR HENDRIK DE KLERK SAID MAJORITY CANADIAN OPINION IS IN TUNE WITH BLACK SOUTH AFRICA - THAT THERE IS "ABUNDANT EVIDENCE THAT BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS DO NOT WANT SANCTIONS."

"BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS ARE THE LOSERS - THEY'RE THE ONES WHO SUFFER MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE UNDER SANCTIONS," HE TOLD REPORTERS.

BUT JABU DUBE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS, SAID THE EMBASSY INTERPRETED THE SANCTIONS ISSUE IN "LIGHT OF ITS OWN RACIST PHILOSOPHY." THE ANC, OUTLAWED IN SOUTH AFRICA, IS A LEADING ANTI-APARTHEID GROUP.

#### WHY SUFFERING

"IF THEY'RE SUDDENLY SO CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE SUFFERING AMONG BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS, WHY IS THERE SO MUCH SUFFERING, MISERY AND OPPRESSION AMONG THE BLACK MAJORITY?" DUBE ASKED IN AN TELEPHONE INTERVIEW FROM HIS TORONTO OFFICE.

"THIRTY PER CENT TO 50 PER CENT OF BLACKS ARE UNEMPLOYED BECAUSE THEY DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO AN EDUCATION THAT WILL TAKE THEM BEYOND THE LEVEL OF UNSKILLED LABOR. IT'S THE SKILLED WHITES WHO SUFFER UNDER SANCTIONS - SOUTH AFRICA HAS A DEVELOPED ECONOMY THAT DEPENDS ON HIGH TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE. THAT'S WHAT THE EMBASSY DOESN'T WANT TO TELL YOU."

DUBE SAID MOST BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS WOULD GLADLY SUFFER UNDER EFFECTIVE SANCTIONS FOR A SHORT TIME BECAUSE THEY WOULD BRING THE APARTHEID REGIME DOWN.

THE SURVEY ALSO FOUND THAT:

-OVER HALF OF THOSE SURVEYED (54 PER CENT) SAID THEY ARE NOT VERY WELL INFORMED; OR ARE POORLY INFORMED ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA AND CANADA'S RELATIONS WITH IT.

-84 PER CENT WERE NOT AWARE THAT F.W. KLERK HAS BEEN ELECTED LEADER OF SOUTH AFRICA'S RULING NATIONAL PARTY.

-74 PER CENT OF THOSE SURVEYED SAID APARTHEID IS THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO MIND WHEN THEY THINK OF SOUTH AFRICA.

-71 PER CENT BELIEVE THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IS NOT VERY COMMITTED OR NOT AT ALL COMMITTED TO ENDING APARTHEID.

1/2

(205)