

CALL TO ACTION

We call upon the Board of Trustees to come to campus on Monday evening May 8, to attend a forum on the issue of corporate withdrawal.

Why should the trustees come to campus? Because they don't have the facts. Despite the fact that they hold the final authority to

A NOTE FOR WITHDRAWAL?

The Board of Trustees has voted for a Phelps-Dodge withdrawal proxy--but this vote doesn't signal realization that corporate props for apartheid must be removed. Instead, the trustees have applied the "progressive force" argument. Board Chairperson Peter Bing said that "the Board's judgement is based in large measure on the unlikelihood that Phelps Dodge will be able to act as a progressive influence in South Africa. This inability results from Phelps Dodge's relinquishing to a South African mining company a controlling interest in its major South African operation." Such reasoning, unfortunately, will impel other U.S. firms to tighten control over their South African subsidiaries, further reducing chances for withdrawal.

President Lyman said that John Grey (Pres. of Standard Oil of Calif.) wouldn't vote on proxies directly concerning his business interests. But oddly enough, despite equally scathing CIR reports on Texaco and Phelps Dodge, the trustees voted yes on Phelps Dodge and no on Texaco (Texaco and Standard Oil jointly run a subsidiary in South Africa.). Apparently John Grey needn't raise his hand at board meetings to make his presence felt.

HASTA LA VICTORIA SIEMPRE

The time to act is now! The trustees ask us to wait yet another year, while South Africans also wait--for the chance to be free of the "progressive influence" of U.S. corporations.

reject CIR calls for withdrawal, many trustees have never read the CIR report on which they "are so dependent" (Bing). The trustees have admitted time and time again that "they simply aren't familiar enough" with the issue to adequately deal with the proxies. Now, suddenly they feel they know more than their own CIR and millions of black South Africans. In the words of President Lyman, these calls and these recommendations "are only paper."

Last March, the CIR held a public forum on the issue of U.S. corporations in South Africa. Members of the CIR later stated that the forum was one of the key factors in their decision to adopt a general recommendation supporting withdrawal. No trustees, not even Pres. Lyman, were there.

We believe that for the trustees to make sound, reasoned judgements on the issue, they must be presented with the facts, not through reports which are thrown away or ignored, but in a humane, personal, and public forum.

Why won't the trustees attend a forum where the facts will be presented? Why won't they adopt a position supporting withdrawal? Perhaps they feel that they understand the situation better than do the African National Congress, the South African Student Organization, the Pan African Congress and the black labor leaders who call for withdrawal of U.S. corporations. Perhaps they're making too much money off them.

The Stanford Community has exhausted every possible way of rationally convincing the trustees to open their eyes. Last year they would only listen to us when 294 people were arrested in Old Union. Student protests caused the removal of ROTC and chemical/biological warfare research at Stanford. Their efforts led to the establishment of the CIR and special admissions programs. We have a responsibility to act now, because inaction is de facto support.

mass rally
noon monday
may 8 white plaza stanford