

EDITORIAL

Did you know that many students enrolled at FSU are non-voting members of the Student Government Association (SGA)? You say to yourself, "Who Cares?" Don't stop reading this editorial until you realize that the SGA plays an important role in the functioning of your university. And that is the most important part, the SGA exists only for you--the students at FSU.

Some of the most important, but often unknown functions of the SGA deal with student involvement. Your SGA wants to make university (college) life as interesting as possible for you, it attempts to attain this goal by sponsoring social and cultural events to enhance the opportunities of growth and development for all of you.

SGA gives students a chance to get a look at the democratic process, while at the same time, it gives students a way to get involved with their school and enjoy extra activities to go along with the studying ahead of them.

In addition, your SGA is a member of the University of North Carolina Association of Student Government (UNC-ASG), and works closely with that association to promote positive change throughout the university system. Knowing all these things, a knowledgeable person like you will want to become a voting member of SGA. No matter which curriculum you are enrolled in, there is a place for you in the SGA. Elections will be held March 26 and 27. If you don't run, at least vote! Get involved, it's the best way to stay interested in school.

If at any time during the remainder of the year you have questions about SGA, or if you just want to talk, stop by the SGA office located in the Student Center. The SGA invites you to get involved.

Who Profits From Apartheid?

"Along The Color Line" | March 1985-Part Two of a Two Part Series

By Dr. Manning Marable

South Africa is not simply a police state which denies democratic rights to the overwhelming majority of its people. It is not just a racially segregated society, in which 3 million Black children suffer from malnutrition, and in which infant mortality rates per thousand live births are 13 for whites and 90 for Africans. It is not solely a place where percapita spending on education is \$1,115 for whites and \$170 for Blacks; and where doctor/patient ratios are 1:330 for whites and 1:19,000 for Africans. It represents in its totality a renegade, fascist state, a government lacking in basic human decency, a regime which views all people of color as permanently inferior. Its grotesque character and Hitlerian social system would hardly seem the place in which historically oppressed people would find any reason to cooperate, much less gain profits from.

And yet the great irony is

that the one nation which maintains the closest ties with the political enemy of apartheid, other than the U.S. and the United Kingdom, is the state of Israel. The February, 1985 issue of *Israeli Foreign Affairs* documents an extraordinarily close relationship between Tel Aviv and Pretoria. Jane Hunter, a Jewish progressive, notes that Israel's claim of \$83 million in exports to South Africa does not include "polished diamonds, Israel's top export at \$1 billion a year, which are imported from DeBeer's Central Selling Organization;" "military transactions, probably several hundred million dollars annually;" joint undertakings such as Iskoor, "a marriage of the South African Steel Corporation and Koor, a corporation owned by Israel's Histadrut that conducts much trade with South Africa." Conversely, South African firms provide 35 percent of all non-U.S. foreign investment in



Israel.


The military links between Israel and apartheid are even more striking according to Hunter. South Africa has purchased Israeli attack boats "equipped with ship-to-ship Gabriel missiles, Dabur Coastal patrol boats and Kfir jet fighters, radar stations, electronic fences, infiltration alarm systems, night vision apparatus." South Africa is instrumental in the defense posture of the Israeli state as well. Apartheid firms help Israel to improve its own modest steel industry; they are helping to bankrole "development of Israel's fighter bomber for the 1990's, the Lavi." Such extensive ties help to explain why some American Jewish leaders were reluctant to become involved in the Free South Africa Movement demonstrations this winter. But the fact that "Israelis have trained South Africans in everything from naval construction to counterinsurgency techniques" must be addressed by Americans who maintain unquestioned support for Israeli's policies, while at the same moment offer

moral condemnations of the brutalities of the apartheid regime.

Black Americans are not immune from criticism on these grounds. For nearly a decade, the Reverend Leon Sullivan has pushed the so-called "Sullivan Principles" concept, which sets racial standards for U.S. firms doing business with apartheid. In theory, the signatories of the Sullivan Principles attempt to humanize the barbarism of the system by promoting desegregated workplace facilities, mandated equal pay for jobs, and training non-whites for "supervisory, administrative, clerical and technical jobs." But according to Sullivan's own annual reports, progress along such lines is at best marginal. In the 1983 report, it was noted that white employees filled 94 percent of all new managerial posts, and that non-white workers "lost ground steadily in clerical - administrative programs over the last three years." About three fourths of all unskilled workers in firms signing the Sullivan Principles were Africans, while only 0.3 percent were white. Two

percent of all managers were Black, 97 percent were white. Clearly, the strategy of reform-from-within makes about as much sense as trying to convince Hitler passively to give up fascism.

There are also hundreds of Afro-American artists and athletes who have performed in South Africa during the past decade, obtaining huge fees to entertain white audiences. Their presence legitimates the regime, providing tactical support and comfort to the opponents of Black freedom. Just a short list of these entertainers includes: Tina Turner, Aretha Franklin, Eartha Kitt, Johnny Mathis, Stephanie Mills, Della Reese, Betty Wright, the Staple Singers, Ray Charles, and Nikki Giovanni. Throughout the U.S., Blacks have organized to boycott the performances and records of all artists - Black and white - who have profited from apartheid. The system of tyranny in South Africa is crumbling, and within the next decade will fall before the forces of democracy. What we do inside the U.S. can speed up that inevitable process.



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