

International

Wooten: Loss of influence

Jim Wooten is first vice chairman of UNC College Republicans. He said he does not support apartheid, but differs from the UNC Anti-Apartheid Support Group on how it can be abolished. He currently does not support further sanctions against South Africa.

Do you agree with the Senate's decision to impose economic sanctions on South Africa?

"South Africa is in a position where the United States helps it financially but we do not support South Africa. Without the United States, the nation could stand. While we are in the country, we are in a position to push them toward democracy, towards equality." To impose very strict sanctions or to divest would anger the current government, pushing it more toward the far right, pro-apartheid faction, while the United States would become unable to pressure them toward loosening apartheid restrictions, he said.

The moderate faction is losing power. I know they may seem far right to us, but there is a far right which supports the apartheid system — they are even upset with (President) Botha because they think he's going too fast. If the moderate force loses power, it will leave the far right and the leftist African National Congress, which has ties to the Soviet Union. It could lead to a clash, a bloody civil war.

I believe it's a waste when we could have an evolution away from apartheid instead of a bloody revolution. Other foreign countries are pulling out of the area and without us, who is going to pressure the South African government?

Some would argue that the United States has not been very effective in its current method of trying to influence change from within.

"That's just not true. Apartheid is now in the process of being dismantled. It's a slow process. For some I guess it is too slow. Apartheid has been ingrained in these white people for centuries. It can't be immediately changed. Overnight change could mean a bloody revolution and with a bloody revolution something could come in that would be worse than apartheid.

"Look at Ethiopia. It was taken over by the communists and look at the situation; they have mass starvation and unrest. Look at Zimbabwe, with its mass killings. Iran is a situation where we completely

'We are in a position to push them toward equality, toward democracy.'

withdrew and the Ayatollah came in with a worse situation than with the Shah."

But in Iran we continued to support the Shah. Some might use that example against you.

"Exactly. We didn't push for change as we should have with the Shah. That's why we need to stay in South Africa and push them along. Look what happened when we completely withdrew from Iran."

What effect do you think the sanctions will have on South Africa?

"Little. They can survive by themselves. They are a strong country economically, one of the strongest in Africa, with the possible exception of Egypt. Without us in there, the right wing could take over, say 'They (the United States) are supposed to be our friends and look what they've done; why should we listen to them?' ... it could push Botha more toward the far right. It could push us back 10 years in the fight against apartheid."

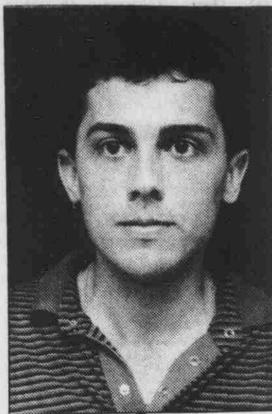
What do you think the United States' role should be in South Africa?

"I think we would be an economic and moral force. We should stay in there economically. We have leverage in there, not a whole lot, but we do have leverage.

"The companies in South Africa are a force. They treat blacks more equally than the South African government, equal pay at least."

The United States could consider sanctions to fight apartheid, but slowly and cautiously, Wooten said.

"We have done that to a certain extent. President Reagan issued the



Jim Wooten

executive order banning the sale of gold Krugerrands in the United States. I hate to call it token sanctions, but that might not be a bad idea. I think Reagan's executive order went far enough. I'm not sure the Senate sanctions were necessary."

Do you feel blacks in South Africa want sanctions?

"There are many factions. There's the African National Congress, which has said they want violence to overthrow the government. There is Bishop Tutu, who has said he also wants sanctions, but has not said he supports revolution. I think. And there is the head of the Zulu tribe, the largest in South Africa, who has said he thinks sanctions should not be imposed."

How do you think blacks will be affected by the sanctions passed last week?

"There will likely be unemployment and if not unemployment, lower wages.

"A lot of people on campus don't understand we are trying to abolish apartheid. But it can't be done that fast ... we've got hundreds of miles to go and we've only gone a few miles, but to do it fast could as I said bring in something worse than before."



Ellis: Share the Earth

Jimmy Ellis, a UNC graduate student in sociology, spoke to The Daily Tar Heel on Monday about the U.S. Congress' recent decision to impose economic sanctions against South Africa. He is originally from Capetown, South Africa, where he studied and later taught sociology at the University of the Western Cape.

"I think I have been against apartheid all my life," Ellis said. "My understanding of what the Christian gospel teaches about the notions of justice, righteousness, peace, love and sharing the earth certainly plays an important role on how I look upon apartheid."

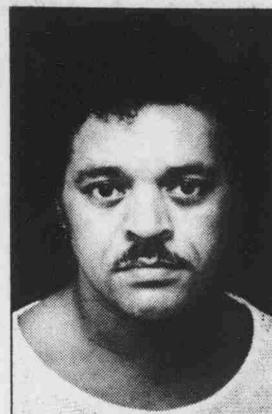
Do you agree with Congress' decision to impose economic sanctions on South Africa?

"I feel all means of pressure that are of a nonviolent nature ought to be exerted and that therefore sanctions, as they are a part of nonviolent measures, are appropriate. We have to look at them carefully, because the usual condemnation from the right-wing or conservative camp is that sanctions and everything that goes along with them will hurt the people that they intend to help."

How do you feel about that argument?

"I feel that kind of argument is tortuous logic, because it does not address the problem at hand. First of all, what does it mean to help the people in South Africa? I don't think that the South African people who are oppressed at this time [are saying], 'Listen, we want to be more economically privileged.' They are not saying 'We want to be as economically privileged as the white people here. They are saying 'We want a full share of the way in which this country operates. We want to be recognized as citizens of this country, with all the legal and other social rights and privileges ..."

"The other usual response to that [argument] is, 'Hey, black people suffer anyway, what will it be to suffer more?' I think that is a valid point, because ... how many people over the years have had to suffer this situation and are saying they don't mind that the situation gets tougher if they know that down the road there will be for them a totally different situation? But I would hasten to say that that part of the argument doesn't matter matter that much to black people. The more important part of it is that sanctions ... affect white people more [than



Jimmy Ellis

'We want a full share of the way in which this country operates.'

black people].

"When your business community in South Africa goes to the government and says, 'Please change,' it indicates that there is a sizable section of the South African community that feels the pinch of a weakened economy ... Also, when the electorate, which is responsible for putting their government in power, starts feeling that pinch more and more in their pocketbooks, in their lifestyles — they will rethink that situation when the next election comes up.

"It may be a long-term process. The alternative is always for black people to sit back and say, 'Well, let's take the crumbs for now and let's take the humiliation that goes along with it, the oppression, the exploitation.' That alternative is not an alternative that black people are happy with, when they have suffered this long."

What do you think South Africa's response to these sanctions will be?

"For now, a typical response will be to say to the world, 'If you do that [impose sanctions], we've got all these satellite nations surrounding our borders, so heavily dependent on us, on our economy, they work in our mines, in our factories ... they're going to suffer.

"The other way in which they will react is to say 'We will have to go things alone,' and in a greater sense than before ... In the Carter administration, there were also talks of sanctions and tougher policies toward South Africa. One of the things they [the South African government] did at the time was to develop a total strategy to fight what

they called the 'total onslaught.' They perceived not only communist aggression ... through Mozambique and Angola, but they perceived that total onslaught also to be this kind of pressure that comes from nations that used to be their friends. And the total strategy was really a military concept, inspired by the military. The idea was to get everybody behind the government's policy of fighting this total onslaught. They had a number of big conferences with the business community and it was given that they were unpatriotic if they did not support what the government was doing. Similarly, the Church was made to feel unpatriotic if it did not support apartheid.

"The whole society was prepared in that way. It doesn't mean that everybody accepted that. But that certainly said that there were enough politicians shrewd enough to say, 'Listen, we've got to devise strategies that may appear as if it is some unifying force.'"

What do you feel the United States' role should be in dealing with apartheid?

"The United States should make an adequate and more sensible analysis of what apartheid really is, recognize which of the groups in that society are working toward those ideals that Americans themselves subscribe to, and not just camouflage it under their present pronouncements against apartheid and support of justice.

"Because if you uphold these values, but you make a wrong analysis of what the situation is all about, it's worthless. What the policy ought to be is to distinguish who are those groups there and support those people. Support them in a way that is meaningful, that indicates that you seriously want to deal with the situation. It means that U.S. policy toward the African National Congress as a communist-inspired guerrilla or 'terrorist' organization ought to change. I know that will be hard, but certainly there is something to be said for trying to understand them, what the ANC is trying to say and do. At least allow the American public to be informed about this organization and what it is doing. But of course there are other groups [including the United Democratic Front and the National Forum Committee].

"People tend to see the thing still as a black-white struggle. The media often report on what is called 'racial violence.' I don't know why one should call it racial violence, because it always brings out the notion that there are races clashing with one another. That may be true in part, but the fact is that the government now is no longer just a white government. There are members of the other groups that have been brought into government who now have to bear the responsibility for apartheid."

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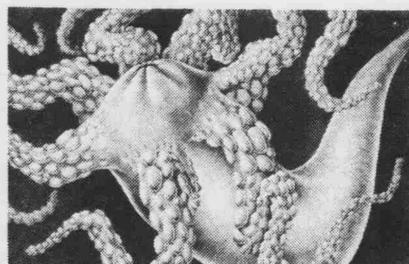
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RESEARCH REPORT FIVE



WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE HYDRA MIGHT TAKE THE STING OUT OF HEART DISEASE.

The hydra — not the nine-headed mythological serpent slain by Hercules, but a tiny freshwater cousin to the jellyfish — may come to the aid of patients suffering from congestive heart failure.

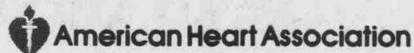
At least that's the preliminary findings by American Heart Association sponsored researcher, Dr. Georgia Lesh-Laurie. Her research has led to the uncovering of a substance found in the toxin of the Hydra's sting that will strengthen the heartbeat.

The beauty of this discovery is that the new substance could be a replacement for digitalis, the current drug administered to patients suffering from cardiovascular problems. Digitalis, made from the purple foxglove plant, increases the heart's pumping power without increasing oxygen demand. But, patients with kidney problems cannot use digitalis.

The phenomenon was first noticed in people stung by jellyfish. They noticed a sudden neurological and cardiovascular response. In her research, Dr. Lesh-Laurie found that the toxins contained a protein substance that increased heart rates and pumping power, but seemingly without the side effects of digitalis. The next step is to try to develop a drug with heart stimulating responses, in a small enough amount not to trigger the body's immune systems.

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