

API1986-3_11_19

Vo\\LSkmfnk â\200\231:Lcâ\200\231,n/?Ã©

Blank bereid macht te delen met zwart

JOHANNESBURG (AP, Reuter) â\200\224

Gematigde zwarte en blanke deelne- .

mers aan een conferentie in Durban
hebben vrijdag een plan bekend ge-

maakt voor het oprichten van een mul- .

tiraciaal parlement in de Zuidafrikaan-
se provincie Natal. Natal zal, als de plan-
nen doorgaan, naar alle waarschijnlijk-
gen.

Het opzienbarende voorstel, â\200\230waar-
voor toestemming nodig is van het blan-
ke minderheidsbewind in Pretoria,
kwam tot stand in onderhandelingen
die acht maanden hebben geduurd. Aan
de conferentie, die aangeduid werd met
. het Zoeloe-woord Indaba (vredesverga-
dering), namen 35 groeperingen deel,
| waarvan 24 de voorstellen steunen. De
overige groepen, waaronder organisa-
ties van Afrikaners, zijn tegen of heb-
ben tij@_&gvraagd omâ\200\231de achterban te

heid dan ook een zwarte premier krij- |
raadplegen.

'In Zuid-Afrika is de uitkomst van de
conferentie met spanning tegemoet ge-
zien omdat Natal mogelijk zou kunnen
dienen als proeftuin voor machtsdeling
van nationaal niveau. ,,De mensen zijn
enorm opgewonden dat ze erin geslaagd
zijn een akkoord te bereikenâ\200\235, zei Peter
Mansfield, een blanke deelnemer. ,,Ze
weten nog niet hoe de regering zal rea-
geren, maar er heerst een gevoel dat er
geschiedenis wordt geschreven en dat
dit het begin kan zijn.van belangrijke
constitutionele veranderingen in Zuid-
Afrikaâ\200\235.

- De Zuidafrikaanse regering, die door
waarnemers bij de conferentie was ver-
tegenwoordigd, -heeft nog niet gereaa-
geerd op de plannen. Aan de Indaba
namen verder deel afgevaardigden van
de blanke provinciale regering van Na-

dat aan Natal grenst. Anti-apartheids-
groepen deden niet mee.

Het plan behelst de oprichtingen van
een Hoger- en Lagerhuis voor Natal en
Kwazulu. Het Hogerhuis moet bestaan
uit tien zwarten, tien IndiÃ©rs, tien Afri-

kaners, tien Engelstaligen en tien andere afgevaardigden. De honderd leden

- van het Lagerhuis worden gekozen op

basis van evenredige vertegenwoordiging. Het Lagerhuis kiest de premier en omdat de bevolking van Natal en Kwa-zulu (KwaNatal) voor tachtig procent zwart is, zal de eerste minister vermoedelijk ook zwart zijn.

Pretoria heeft vrijdag de noodtoestand opnieuw verscherpt. Commissarissen van de politie zijn voortaan gerechtigd , elke bijeenkomst te verbieden. Tot nu toe was een gerechtelijk bevel nodig voor een verbod van een politieke bijeenkomst. : ;

tal en leiders van het thuisland Kwazulu

Boycott in U.S.; Europe
Vexes Royal Dutch Shell

Labor, Rights Groups Seek Disinvestment

ul 296
Second in an occasional series

By Michael [sic]off

Washington Post Staff Writer

It began with a murky labor dispute at a South African coal mine: The death of a worker in a dump truck accident led to a strike by miners over their right to hold a memorial service. As tensions es-

calated, private security forces using tear gas and rubber bullets were called in and 129 workers were fired by management.

That February 1985 incident at South Africa's Rietspruit mine, half

SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES

of which was owned by Royal Dutch Shell, was the spark for what has, turned into an international boycott of Shell spearheaded by a coalition of American labor and anti-apartheid groups demanding that the company pull out of South Africa. In the United States, the campaign has produced picketing in front of Shell gas stations in more than 20 cities, demonstrations in front of Shell corporate offices and the cutting up of hundreds of Shell credit cards.

In Europe, where boycott activity has spread to seven nations, some of the consequences have been more disruptive: On two occasions

in 1985

last spring, gasoline fire bombs exploded at Shell stations in the Netherlands, and there have been reports of vandalism at a handful of

other Shell stations. On Nov. 15, |
during an international â\200\234day of ac-
tionâ\200\235 against Shell, a company ser-
vice station in Denmark had its gas
hoses cut and sugar dumped into its
gas tanks.

â\200\230The Shell boycott is one of the
more dramatic examples of the es-
calating pressures that have faced
most multinational corporations
operating in South Africa. The ex-
tent to which those pressures have
spread across the Atlantic was un-
derscored last week when Britainâ\200\231s
Barclays Bank announced it will be
leaving the country, following the
lead of such major U.S. firms as
General Motors Corp. and Interna- -
tional Business Machines Corp.

But there is another dimension to
the debate over Shell that has
prompted antiapartheid activists to
target the company. Royal Dutch :
Shell, a giant Dutch-British concern
with headquarters in London and
â\200\230The Hague, is the oil company with
the largest and most extensive in-
vestments in South Africa. As a re-
sult, they say, Shell's operations
there symbolize one of the most
sensitive issues in the debate over
South African disinvestment: the
crucial, and secretive, role that in-

See SHELL, AL17, Col. 3

Despite Ban,
South Africa

centive paymentsâ\200\235 from South Africa to have its tankers deliver oil into the country. They also note that Shell is co-manager of the major offshore oil facility outside the

port of Durban, the chief disem-

barkation point for South African oil imports.

1 .
lvâ\200\230l/%?pzi¬\201ei¬\201bgltl1 |24](L Vet Shell denies that it currently

A sophisticated network of international oil traders and shipping companies secretly directs oil tankers that pull out of Persian Gulf ports with doctored customs documents and false invoices. Transfers are made among tankers in the high seas or at special transshipment ports such as Rotterdam. In the end, the tankers regularly unload their cargo at offshore oil

- buoys outside the ports of Durban

and Saldanha Bay, furnishing South Africa with an estimated 14 million tons of oil every year.

That is the picture of the South African oil trade that emerges in interviews with businessmen, anti-apartheid activists and international oil experts. The campaign against Royal Dutch Shell has focused new attention on that trade and the role that international oil companies play mit.

For more than 30 years, South Africa has been the subject of an oil embargo proclaimed by the U.N. General Assembly and other international bodies. All of the current members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have public policies prohibiting their countryâ\200\231s crude oil from being shipped to South Africa.

Yet oil, the one key commodity South Africa lacks, has continued to flow into the country without interruption, presenting what some observers contend is a case study in the ineffectiveness of economic sanctions aimed at the Pretoria regime.

Given suitable prices, you will always find people prepared to make these sales," said John Chettle, Washington director of the South Africa Foundation, a group that represents South African business interests. "I can't remember the last time anybody spoke to me of oil as a source of concern."

Until the late 1970s, the South African oil trade was simple: Iran, under the shah, openly ignored the embargo and furnished South Africa with an estimated 95 percent of its oil supplies. The overthrow of the shah in 1979 opened up a new and more furtive era that led to passage of South African laws that forbid public disclosures about the supply, storage and sale of oil in the country;

try. 1 | Those laws in turn have provided the cover for a number of independent oil traders and middlemen who have rushed in to fill the void left by the Iranian cutoff, according to oil analysts and anti-apartheid activists. A recent study by the anti-apartheid Shipping Research Bureau in Amsterdam traced 83 oil tankers that, over a two-year period, delivered as much as 15 million tons of crude oil to South Africa, mostly from Persian Gulf states such as Saudi Arabia, Oman and the United Arab Emirates, as well as the east Asian sultanate of Brunei.

The Shell boycott has raised new questions about the involvement in this traffic of the huge Dutch-British company as well as other major oil companies. Boycott organizers note, for example, that, at least until 1981, Shell received special in-

ships oil into South Africa. And the Shipping Research Bureau, which painstakingly culls the international shipping press to trace tankers bound for South Africa, has identified a small group of independent oil traders that it says now dominates the trade.

One of these traders is Marc Rich, the fugitive financier who fled to Switzerland after his 1983 indictment in the United States on tax evasion charges. Oil tankers char-

tered by his giant trading concern, called Marc Rich & Co., delivered 2.5 million tons of oil from Brunei to South Africa between 1983 and September 1986, according to Jaap Rodenburg, research analyst and spokesman for the Shipping Research Bureau.

Another key figure in the South African oil trade is John Deuss, a wealthy former used car salesman from Holland whose TransWorld Oil Group, based in Bermuda, is considered the largest oil trading firm in the world. Between 1979 and 1983, Deuss-controlled companies shipped 97 oil cargoes amounting to an estimated 18 million tons of crude to South Africa, or one-quarter of the country's supplies during this period, according to the recent Shipping Research Bureau study.

The 43-year-old Deuss, who a few years ago bought golfer Gary Player's mansion in Johannesburg, also became a major player in the U.S. oil market last year when one of his firms, Atlantic Refining & Marketing Co., paid \$192 million for Arco's huge refinery in Philadelphia along with a distribution terminal, pipeline system and 357 service stations.

Frank Elias, a spokesman for TransWorld in New York, offered last week that other companies controlled by Deuss ship to South Africa. He declined further comment. In written comments submitted to Business Week in June, Deuss was quoted as saying that he disagrees with apartheid, but that a refusal to supply oil to South Africa is counterproductive to correcting the social problems of that country.

Michael Isikoff