v s Stern action

against

JOHANNESBURG â\200\224

The South African government yesterday continued

its roundup of anti-apart-

heid leaders and warned of  $a\200\234$ stern action $a\200\235$  against an illegal march called for

Wednesday to protest im-

prisonment of black activist Nelson R. Mandela, The man who called for the march, the Rev. Allan Boesak, surfaced after dropping from sight Friday andp told reporters at his home near Cape Town that he had disappeared briefly  $\hat{a}$ 200\234to spend time with my family. $\hat{a}$ \200\235) Police said 27 antiapartheid leaders were among 75 people arrested in the 24-hour period ending last night. Among the 27 were Dr. Farouk Meer, acting president of the United Democratic Front, and the Rev. Syd Lockett, national director of the Anglican Churchâ\200\231s Board of Social Responsibility. Boesak, president of the World Council of Reformed Churches and a supporter of the UDF $\hat{a}\200\224$ the largest and most influen-

tial radical anti-apartheid

oup in the countryâ\200\224said

e had â\200\234no doubtâ\200\235 the detentions resulted from the announcement of the march. He pledged the demonstration would go ahead at Pollsmoor Prison outside Cape Town, where Mandela has been held for 21 years on a conviction of plotting sabotage.

\* A rare interview with  $a\200\230$ Nelson

Mandela; Page 51 in Views.

ernment is incapable of handling peaceful protest,  $\hat{a}$ 200\235 Boesak said.

In a statement, Law and

Order Minister Louis le

Grange warned the public

not to join the march.  $a\200\234$ No illegal gathering will

be allowed and-the police

 $\hat{a}$ 200\230will take stern action in

this regard,  $\hat{a}$ \200\235 le Grange said: .

 $a\200\230$ In Washington, the  $a\200\230$ 

State Department, faced with mounting criticism of

its â\200\234constructive engage-

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ionâ\200\231 planned S. Africa march

mentâ\200\235 policy toward South Africa, plans to send a squad of employees across the country to defend it, officials said yesterday. Frank Wisner, deputy assistant secretary for African affairs, said the effort is designed to  $a\200\234$ correct misimpressions of what we are trying to doâ\200\235 to ease tensions in South Africa.  $a\200\234$ There $a\200\231$ s been a growing demand for information about southern Africa and South Africa, and our policy toward the region. That

. interest has grown with re-

cent events there,  $\hat{a} \geq 200 \geq 35$  Wisner said. 5

The Reagan administraâ\200\230tion has refused to abandon constructive engagement, or quiet diplomacy, despite public and congressional pressure.

Wisner said the cam-

\_ paign to promote construc-

tive engagement was â\200\234in its most preliminary stages.â\200\235 Still undecided, he said, is whether the State Department will set up a formal office for the public relations drive or merely

 $\hat{a}\200\234$ set aside $\hat{a}\200\235$  employees to

 $\hat{a}$ 200\230make.the speeches.