

FROM CAPITOL HILL

By A. Madison

Reagan End Runs Around Congress With A Fake Pass

"I want to speak this morning about South Africa — about what America can do to help promote peace and justice in that country so troubled and tormented by racial conflict," said President Reagan in launching his South African policy that Secretary Schultz terms "active constructive engagement."

A thorough analysis of the President's announced policy shows that it is only idle rhetoric. It has no teeth or timetable. While he talks about helping Blacks, he is really patting the Botha government on the hand, saying we are giving you more time to continue your policy.

Howard Wolpe, Chairman of the House African Affairs Committee, said "President Reagan's executive order on South Africa is an unconscionable effort to only further accommodate the repressive White minority regime by removing the stiffest sanction measures approved by the House-Senate conference."

The congressional report calls for an immediate ban on Krugerrand sales in this country. The President delays that measure by consulting with this nation's foreign trading partners. Concerning this maneuver, Representative Bill Gray said, "it is as if we were to conduct our foreign policy by a Gallup Poll. Furthermore, what does approval by GATT member nations mean? Does 50 percent support mean approval? Seventy-five percent? Ninety percent? The vagueness of this approach renders the criterion meaningless."

Mr. Reagan has taken the usual step that whenever Blacks are beginning to be heard, a committee is established to study the problem. He is establishing an Advisory Committee to report to him in 12 months on the progress in South Africa. This is to offset Congress' provision, which requires additional sanctions in 12 months if valid steps are not taken to dismantle apartheid.

Wolpe states that the President's restrictions on loans to the South African government contains a waiver which makes the measure meaningless by allowing any loans that could be interpreted as benefitting Blacks. Wolpe states that the

President has scrapped the Human Rights and Education portions of the Congressional report by its lack of enforcement provisions. The President ignored altogether the conference funding for legal aid for imprisoned Black dissidents.

Senator Kennedy, who along with Senator Weicker are floor leaders of the South Africa Anti-Apartheid Act, said "the best way and the right way for the United States to speak out in opposition to apartheid in South Africa is for Congress and the President to act together to enact our country's policy into law. The United States Senate has its own responsibility to speak out on the issue of South Africa and to state our position on apartheid. Yet the President is asking us today to abdicate that responsibility by abandoning the pending bill."

Senator Weicker stated that the President's order does not go far enough. He bowed to political pressure. There is need to defeat the President's bill in the Senate, which will send the correct signal — that the United States abhors apartheid. Congress and the President should speak in one voice in opposing apartheid.

Senator Lugar, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who voted in conference for Congress' bill, after being called by the Administration, changed and accepted the President's weak bill, which only gives the South African apartheid government more time to continue its present policy. Lugar says the important point is that the President and Congress speak with one voice. He feels that Congress' bill should be laid aside temporarily. Mr. Lugar's office said that he stated very emphatically to Secretary Shultz that he would be monitoring the President's action on Krugerrands. When asked how much time the Chairman would give the President, the reply was "a reasonable amount." Of course that is a vague, indefinite period.

Representative Mickey Leland, Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, issued a very strong statement on behalf of the

Caucus, saying "Today, President Reagan showed that he is playing games with the lives of the people of South Africa. Signing an executive order is a superficial solution — and the American public is not going to accept it. Congress has responded to the will of the American people by passing anti-apartheid measures. The American people expect the same from the President." Leland stated that the President had refused to talk with members of the Black Caucus on the volatile situation in South Africa. The Caucus has requested such a meeting. Thus far, Mr. Reagan has only been talking with White Americans about South Africa.

Mickey Leland is speaking to the United Nations on South Africa. When the vote came up in the Senate, the entire twenty members of the Congressional Black Caucus went on the Senate floor to demonstrate the resolve of Congress to see an end to the repressive policy of apartheid, and a rejection of the Reagan executive order.

Randall Robinson, Executive Director of Trans-Africa, said "we are not surprised by President Reagan's speech this morning, because we know he has always stood between the people of South Africa and their freedom."

Blacks intend to mobilize and redouble their efforts to make sure President Reagan doesn't feel that the problem is impossible to resolve. On Friday, September 27, at one o'clock, Trans-Africa and other Black organizations, civil rights groups and people of good will, will demonstrate in front of the White House and Labor Department against the Reagan South African policy and civil rights assaults. A large number of people were in town for the Black Caucus weekend. While the Caucus usually holds workshops all day on Friday, this year they terminated the workshops at noon so all could participate in the demonstration.

Attention was called to the senators who voted against the Congressional bill, with the hope they will be remembered when their re-elections come around. This should be a strong means of holding them accountable.

Phi Delta Kappa Supports School Building Project

Members attending the October 23 breakfast meeting of the Las Vegas Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, an international organization in education, unanimously voiced support for the Clark County School District's Pay-As-You-Go School Building Program. An election date for county voters on the proposal to build 14 new elementary schools over the next three years has been set for Tuesday, December 10, 1985.

"This project is vital to the future of the children and the economy of Southern

Nevada," stated Dr. Anthony Saville, currently president of the local 250-member field chapter.

"Projected enrollments will be the greatest in several years, and with many schools at our exceeding capacity this year we must take this very necessary action as soon as possible.

"We strongly urge the voters in Southern Nevada to support this special Pay-As-You-Go funding plan for the benefit of the future of Nevada," said Saville.

Phi Delta Kappa is a

graduate organization headquartered in Bloomington, Indiana, and currently has an international membership of 126,451.

The organization is dedicated to the promotion and improvement of publicly supported and universally available education. The Las Vegas chapter, a 250-member unit of PDK, has been in existence since 1963 when 41 members chartered the first field chapter in Southern Nevada, and is comprised of educators from all levels, elementary through higher education.

Dues Paid, Pontiac Dealer Shares Success

Jim Bradley knew the best way to success in a new profession was to start learning from the bottom up — and when he decided to go into the car sales business, that meant not only selling cars but

servicing and washing them as well.

While it has been a long time since Bradley had to wash cars, he credits that job and experience at all levels of the business with helping him to become a

successful Pontiac dealer.

Bradley, a black man who operates a 55-employee dealership in predominantly white Ann Arbor, Michigan west of Detroit, made his share of sacrifices to arrive where he is today.



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