

REMEMBER SOWETO

On 16 June 1976 the South African police opened fire on a peaceful demonstration at Soweto. Over 300 unarmed schoolchildren were killed and during the ensuing months hundreds more have died. Many of these children hadn't even been born at the time of Sharpeville when Vorster's police opened fire on another unarmed peaceful protest.

What has the world done to stop this butchery in the sixteen years since Sharpeville?

Following Sharpeville, civilised opinion throughout the world called for an end to the supply of arms to South Africa. But South Africa's traditional allies, the Western powers, have continued to provide it with the arms, military 'know-how' and technology which has enabled its defence forces to become the most powerful and aggressive in the entire African continent. It is these forces which

- maintain the racist apartheid state
- illegally occupy Namibia (South West Africa)
- sustain the illegal regime in Rhodesia
- attack Zambia and other African States

1977.

WHERE DOES BRITAIN STAND?

The present Government is publicly committed to the principle of an arms embargo — but in practice South Africa has obtained a wide range of British military equipment including tank engines and advanced communications systems. The embargo is full of loopholes: indeed for some categories of military equipment under the regulations which control exports, South Africa enjoys preferential treatment.

CAN THE UNITED NATIONS DO ANYTHING?

Yes — but Britain, the United States and France have twice blocked moves for effective UN action. Implementation of existing UN Security Council resolutions is voluntary. Not just Britain but France and other Western powers have effectively ignored them. This is why there is an urgent need for a mandatory arms embargo binding on all UN member states.

IS IT URGENT?

Yes — indiscriminate and widespread murder of blacks has become the order of the day throughout Southern Africa. Vorster is more and more imitating the policies of his wartime hero — Adolf Hitler.

Undeterred, the people of Southern Africa are resisting white minority rule with renewed determination and courage. Their struggles demand the support of all who believe in justice and freedom. The very least we can do is stop Britain arming the apartheid regime.

Act now to stop Britain being an accomplice of apartheid —

- Sign this petition—and ask others to do so
- Raise the issue in your political party, trade union, church, etc
- Write to your MP asking for his/her support
- Do everything possible to put pressure on the British Government to implement a strict embargo and support a UN mandatory arms embargo.



No Arms for Apartheid