



viewpoint

CYO outlines program for Africa aid

From coast to coast this week, thousands of people are taking part in the April 4-11 National Week of Actions to support the liberation movements in southern Africa and to demand the U.S. get out of that area.

The Communist Youth Organization is helping to build these actions, and many of our chapters are mobilizing for them.

In the last few years, thousands of students have become involved in this movement. Whether through opposing university investments in corporations that do business in South Africa (divestment) or collecting clothes and other forms of material aid for the freedom

fighters, the students have made their feelings known.

In many ways the Africa support movement has been the single biggest issue to hit the college campuses since the anti-war movement. It is helping develop a new wave of anti-imperialist sentiment among the students.

The Africa support movement must continue to reach out to an ever-broader range of people. All those who oppose the U.S. role in southern Africa should be welcome.

The CYO has united with this mass movement while independently carrying out Africa support work on many different levels. Some of the main points

we stress are the following:

Imperialism is to blame for the oppression in southern Africa. U.S. involvement in Africa is due to the imperialist system itself, which is based on the domination and plunder of third world nations. U.S. corporations make superprofits from the slave labor of Azanians. Far from being isolated from capitalist economics, universities in the U.S. invest millions in these corporations to capture a share of the wealth.

Support the liberation forces who are leading the struggle. These groups have the support of their people. They have refused to accept the various compromise solutions offered by the U.S. and others which would put a few Black faces in the government while keeping the current systems basically intact.

In supporting these groups, we recognize the necessity for various forms of struggle, including armed struggle, to overthrow the racist regimes. Therefore, part of our program is to sponsor material aid drives to collect clothes, money and medical supplies. Along with this we promote the liberation groups by having their representatives in the U.S. speak at forums and rallies.

Fight imperialism from southern Africa to the U.S. It is no coincidence that the first day of the National Week of Actions is April 4, the day Martin Luther King was gunned down. Choosing this

day gives recognition to the historic link between the struggles of the people of Africa and their brothers and sisters in the U.S., the Afro-American people, who share a common enemy.

In building the African support movement, the CYO pays special attention to developing this link. At the same time we recognize that U.S. imperialism exploits working people of all nationalities in our country. We work to build the African support movement as a multinational movement composed of people from various classes.

Oppose and expose the role of the Soviet Union in southern Africa. The USSR is no longer a socialist country. Today it is an imperialist superpower which uses its past reputation as ally of the oppressed people to try to gain influence among the liberation groups. The Soviets work to cause splits among the liberation groups and support only those whom they favor.

Events in Angola, for instance, showed that the Soviet Union's real motivation in supporting the liberation struggles is to replace U.S. domination with their own.

We encourage everyone to take part in your school or community in the marches, rallies, teach-ins, boycotts, etc., taking place during the week of April 4-11 and afterwards. The African liberation struggle is our struggle.