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we are leaders in humanitarian causes as much as in agriculture and engineering."

The organization has collected more than 600 signatures on petitions seeking the divestiture of University holdings with South African-related corporations. But although the group has had a chance to speak with Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen, a meeting with the Board of Regents has not been forthcoming.

In a letter to Hansen, the regents refused to see the group or put divestment on their agenda because, "...the subject matter is public policy matter and not policy that would be appropriately addressed by The Texas A&M Board of Regents..."

Despite this, Muraya says the University of Texas Board of Regents has met with supporters of divestment in Austin. Even though U.T.'s situation has been complicated by the larger amounts of money they have invested in South Africa, Muraya says the U.T. regents have promised to investigate the possibility of divestment.

"That this is not 'public policy' or 'within the purview of the Board' is something I find hard to believe," he says. "All the other schools that have divested have had it come before their Board of Regents."

Muraya says that thus far, the organization has been unable to get a response to the issue, much less a promise of action, (or inaction, for that matter).

"What we are basically looking for is an opportunity to be heard, to get a yes or no answer," he says.

Divestment among universities has not been uncommon lately, Muraya says. Eighty-one universities have divested so far, six since last fall.

"It's almost directly proportional to the human rights violations, which I find encouraging," he says.

These human rights violations, as reported by the United Nations, include the South African state policy of apartheid (meaning "separate development") itself, which denies blacks the right to vote, the right to move freely from place to place and the right to assemble freely outside the black "homelands" or "bantustans."

Anderson says the most flagrant abuses—the deaths of

1,400 blacks so far this year, have encouraged more people to join the protest.

"The murders are doing it," he says. "It's just sheer moral outrage about a bunch of white racist butchers."

Anderson says the white minority controls 83 percent of the land and virtually all the sources of production in the country. The black homelands, ostensibly formed to allow blacks some measure of independence and self-rule, lack the mineral wealth which is the backbone of the South African economy.

"If you are black," he says, "you are practically a non-person. If Americans lived in conditions like that, they'd be rioting in the streets."

Muraya, a native of Kenya, says black South African's have been remarkably non-violent given the barbarous conditions under which they live. He says their generally non-violent approach is responsible for the support they've received from around the world. It also belies the misconception that if the whites shared power with

Achieving peaceful change is the goal of the anti-apartheid movement here and across the country.

"Right now if two countries have a disagreement," he says, "one of them drops a bomb. That results in killing and nobody wins. This is a peaceful, new sort of economic pressure to bring about change."

To increase awareness of divestment as a mechanism of social change, Students Against Apartheid will stage a protest march, beginning at 4:30 p.m. today at the College Station City Hall. The national Divestment Day march, timed to coincide with the anniversary of Martin Luther King's death, will continue down Texas Avenue to University Drive, University to Houston Street and finally to Rudder Tower for a rally.

The rally will be nothing if not peaceful, due to the moderate nature of the movement here, Anderson says.

"The organization here is very moderate, extremely moderate," he says. "They are not radicals who are going to

tus quo," he says, "you get the feeling it's like going against the government. It's like disobeying orders."

Orders about what the group can and can't do during their Friday march seem to confirm this, he says.

Bob Wiatt, chief of the University Police Department, says he issued the group a parade permit on the conditions that they lower their placards and signs and walk silently upon entering the campus area.

Muraya says that at first, the police weren't even going to allow the group to march on campus.

"It's a very surprising thing because I thought that was a very fundamental right," he says. "It seems to me he's afraid it might trigger a counter-reaction from the surrounding dormitories and pedestrians. But if there is someone against us, they can form an organization and engage us in debate. Those are the appropriate channels."

Anderson says the group will comply with the conditions of the permit, but has contacted the Civil Liberties Union to see if their rights have been violated.

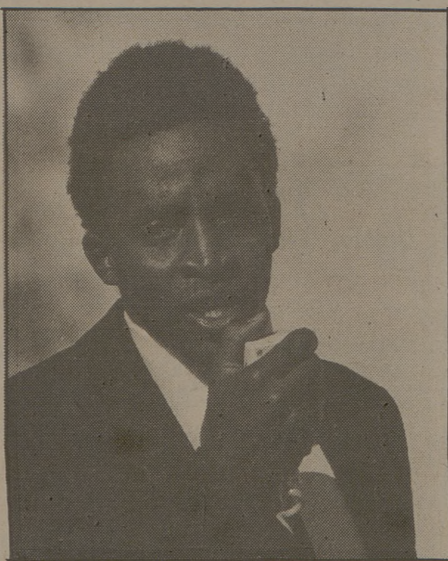
"Well, there was this guy running around with a big cross screaming and he didn't get arrested," he says. "Then there's the people in the brown shirts who run around with their guns in the air and their flags and they don't get arrested. I don't know why anyone should be afraid of free speech on a University campus."

Purdue agrees.

"They (the Corps) can run around shouting things about death and violence," he says. "All we're asking for is peace and change and we can't shout. We can't say a thing."

Purdue says he joined for a chance to speak out while he still could. As a computer science major, he says he may one day work for a corporation like I.B.M., which does business in South Africa.

"My cause is more racism than apartheid," he says. "Apartheid, to me, is just a symptom of racism. The reason I joined is that in a few years a lot of the things I'm doing now might very well go against the policies of the companies I might be working for, and I won't be able to do this."



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*Norman Muraya,
president of Students
Against Apartheid*

blacks, a tribal bloodbath would result.

"If they say that," Muraya says, "I always say they should look at Kenya. When I was growing up, it was the same situation only not quite as bad. Blacks were sub-citizens."

Muraya says blacks were considered inferior and incapable of operating more technologically advanced equipment. Another misconception, one also held of South Africa, was the belief that if blacks ran the country, tribal infighting would cripple the nation. But Kenya is thriving, he says, showing transition can come through peace.

storm the Systems Building and stage a sit-in on the steps."

Nonetheless, the organization still hopes to draw plenty of attention to their cause. Purdue says they are hoping for, but not expecting, a huge turnout.

"I would like to say, yes, it will be overwhelming," he says "but I don't think that will be the case. At any rate, we will have said something, we will have tried."

Purdue says he thinks students here generally don't care what happens in South Africa because it doesn't directly affect them.

"Also sometimes around here if you are going against the sta-