

Dominican Republic in the 1960's; Chile and Angola in the 1970's; Nicaragua throughout the 1980's, and so many others far too numerous to mention here today. Librarians in the United States have a responsibility to provide access to and dissemination of any materials that pertain to such disgusting activities. If U.S. Secretary of State James Baker states that the United States will provide "electoral and political advice" to South Africa by way of the National Endowment for Democracy, it is a librarian's duty to provide information pertaining to the history and activities of that structure. If a librarian had information on activities that may be happening in the Caprivi Strip right now, it is their job to make such information available.

In closing, I ask that member states, especially those from the Non-Aligned Movement, encourage the development of a New Information Order in the new South Africa. Those in your countries who have actively participated in democratising your information and communications sectors should establish and maintain relations with relevant bodies of the liberation movement. Your national library structures should establish relations with the new library structure in South Africa that I have described above.

The people of South Africa are working day and night to achieve their liberation. But the adversaries of liberation are also working around the clock. It is crucial that we each act, in our professional capacities, to fully support the liberation movement of the African National Congress in stopping the seeds of destabilization from taking root. Data, documentation, information and knowledge - these are the tools with which we can expose such criminal activities. I might also mention that the Special Political Committee performs a great service in providing non-diplomatic personnel with a forum. The victories we have scored in the field of librarianship are in large part due to the opportunity you gave us last year. We hope to return next year to report more accomplishments. Thank you.

LIWO's Guiding Principles

LIWO recognizes:

- the inalienable right of every person to participate in the free and equal exchange of information;
- the right of library and information workers to collect, store and distribute information freely and without interference;
- that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression and that this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers;

- that library and information services in South Africa have been distorted by *apartheid* in such a way that the information needs of the majority are not being satisfied;

LIWO accordingly believes that the free flow of information is essential to the development of a free, non-racial, non-sexist, united and democratic South Africa.

In accordance with that belief, LIWO commits itself in policy and practice to:

- the selection, presentation and distribution of information to all, without prejudice, and to resisting any attempt to interfere with that objective;
- developing information services in response to community needs;
- promoting research into library and information services, which research will have as its purpose the planning of future services as an indispensable part of the wider educative process;
- developing the education and training of library and information workers in such a way that it identifies the social context within which libraries and information services operate, addresses user and community needs, and mobilizes expertise in all related fields;
- promoting more democratic procedures and practice in the work place;
- the elimination of all discrimination on any arbitrary criteria;
- initiating and developing communication between LIWO members and information workers in other countries, and particularly in neighbouring African countries.

LIWO RESOLUTION ON THE ACADEMIC AND CULTURAL BOYCOTT

This organisation, recognizing that

1. the objective of the boycott strategy is the isolation of the South African government and state structures from the international community, in order to indicate international abhorrence and rejection of *apartheid*, and to deprive *apartheid* structures of the benefits of international contact and communication;

2. the *apartheid* state has been instrumental in using information as a tool in its propaganda campaigns in an attempt to assert its legitimacy both locally and internationally, and state censorship strategies have been used to inhibit the free flow of information useful to those involved in the struggle to abolish *apartheid*;

3. the international boycott strategy has been modified after consultation with appropriate structures representative of the majority of South Africans, in order that the anti-*apartheid* work of individuals and organisations within South Africa may not be hindered by a total boycott strategy;

And believing that

1. the boycott strategy represents one of the last non-violent mechanisms which can be used to pressurise and destabilise the South African state in order to bring about fundamental change in South Africa's unjust political dispensation;

2. a selective boycott strategy with respect to the free flow of information is essential in order to ensure the survival of anti-*apartheid* information agencies and the provision of material support and intellectual input from the international information community, whilst at the same time ensuring the isolation of information agencies which contribute to the means whereby the South African state retains power, whether in terms of propaganda campaigns or military supremacy;

Calls for

1. respectful, serious and sensitive discussion of the boycott issue within the ranks of this organisation, conducted in consultation with representative anti-*apartheid* organisations, with a view toward the publication of a document encompassing the views of the organisation's membership on the academic and cultural boycott, to be circulated nationally and internationally;

2. immediate contact and communication with organisations of library and information workers abroad to participate in the academic and cultural boycott debate, in order that the views be made known internationally, and that we may embark upon constructive interaction with such organisations with a view toward seeking their assistance in developing anti-*apartheid* information structures.

LIWO Resolution on Censorship and Freedom of Information

This organization, recognizing that

a) South African governments have over the centuries deliberately erected a massive censorship apparatus in order to inhibit the voice of the oppressed and the demands of democrats;

b) the censorship apparatus comprises a number of interlocking parts: *apartheid* and its educational system; security legislation; states of emergency; statutory suppression of information; publications legislation; and diverse means of informal repression;

c) censorship and self-censorship have become an integral part of South African life and this development has been aided and abetted, wittingly and unwittingly, by librarians and information workers;

And believing that

a) the abolition of censorship and entrenchment of the principle of the right to know are essential to the participative democracy to which we aspire;

b) it is the professional duty of all library and information workers to defend with the utmost vigour freedom of information for all;

Calls for

a) the implementation of an educational programme designed to persuade library and information workers to refuse to implement any part of censorship legislation and support them in the struggle against repression;

b) critical reviews of library collections and resource centres to correct imbalances which have led to biased views of South African history and society;

c) close monitoring by the new association of all forms of censorship, and communication to progressive librarians in other countries of ongoing abuse of civil rights in this regard;

d) discussions with the liberation movement, and other progressive bodies, with a view to the formulation of a freedom of information policy in a democratic South Africa.

**DOCUMENTS: MIDDLE EAST
PLG PRESS RELEASE ON GULF CRISIS, 9/90**

The Organizing Committee of the Progressive Librarians Guild has issued the following statement at the request of members attending a PLG meeting on September 22, 1990:

We oppose U.S. military intervention in the Middle East.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, while in violation of international law, does not in any way justify the massive mobilization and deployment of the terrible machinery of war being orchestrated by the U.S. and its supporters. The crocodile tears being shed for the Kuwaitis (and in particular for the regime of the ruling family) cannot disguise the interventionists' utter contempt for the Arab masses whose rights and lives will be trampled in the bloody dirt and whose calls for justice in the region will be drowned out by the insane clamor of war.

Even before a shot has been fired thousands are suffering the dislocations and privations created by actions preparatory to an armed conflict. Hundreds of thousands will die, soldiers and civilians, in the event of war. And what is this war actually about? Make no mistake about it - people will be fighting and dying not for noble principles but in defense of big oil profits and a profoundly warped sense of Western "strategic interests".

As socially responsible professionals in the field of librarianship, we demand that the troops be brought home now, that immediate consideration be given to a negotiated settlement of the conflict and that our national resources be re-directed from policing the world to fighting against the