

MUSICAL APARTHEID ATTACK

by Doug Wendt

SAN FRANCISCO — In May '85 the students at UC Berkeley had taken over Sproul Plaza, renaming it Steve Biko Plaza in their demonstration for divestment. Across the bay, radio station KQAK, the Quake, the only radio station in Northern California that had been playing the Special AKA's "Free Nelson Mandela" 12" heavily since its U.K. release in early '84, was about to be divested in a retro-radio format takeover that would leave San Francisco without any commercial stations playing modern music. Political songs like the Special AKA's, Paul Hardcastle's "19" and Artists United Against Apartheid's "Sun City" were about to become as rare on the air as a fogless summer day.

For a few months I had been working on

a four-hour special for my Midnight Dread radio show — heard on the Quake 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Sundays — that would highlight some of the anti-apartheid reggae songs recorded over the past several years. I had dubbed the special a "Musical Apartheid Attack" and the publicity was already out when I got word about the impending takeover at the station. The very weekend that it was to air I was warned that the new owners were in town listening to KQAK's programs in order to make their programming decisions. Should I do a four-hour onslaught of all-political songs? Hell, yes!

The program was later smuggled into South Africa and distributed by any means necessary to help inspire continued struggle. Almost immediately after its airing, more and more records on the subject

flooded the marketplace as concerns grew about the deteriorating situation in Azania (South Africa). It is certain that as soon as this sequential playlist of that radio show and the addendum of records released since then are printed, more records will be released and many people reading this will remember yet another reggae/African track that covers the subject.

Apathy and apartheid are similar looking terms. It is only recently that the world seems to have recognized the evil, but in reggae music it's always been topical to sing and chant down apartheid. *The Beat* encourages you to write and list other anti-apartheid songs inadvertently left off these lists so that we may compile yet another "Musical Apartheid Attack" addendum in the near future. A luta continua.

MIDNIGHT DREAD "MUSICAL APARTHEID ATTACK"

Playlist, program # 283, May 26, 1985

KQAK, San Francisco, CA

Zimbabwe—Bob Marley (*Survival*)
African—Peter Tosh (*Captured Live*)
Anti-Apartheid (Armageddon Dub)—Bunny Wailer (7")
Biko's Kindred Lament—Steel Pulse (*Tribute to the Martyrs*)
Tribute to Steve Biko—Tapper Zukie (*Peace in the Ghetto*)
Free Nelson Mandela—Special AKA (12")
Fire in Soweto—Sonny Okosun (12")
Blood in the Sky—Ras Midas (*Stand Up Wise Up*)
Free Up South Africa—Tyronne Taylor (7")
Guerrilla's Time (dub)—Falmat Riddim Section (7")
Apartheid—Peter Tosh (*Equal Rights*)
South African Crossfire—Mad Professor (*Dub Me Crazy Vol. 1*)
South Africa—Frankie Paul (12")
South Africa—Twinkle Brothers (*Love*)
Free Africa—Twinkle Brothers (*Love*)
Liberation for the African—Sister Carol (lp)
Majority Rule—Jimmy Riley (lp)
Illegal (Free South Africa)—Benjamin Zephaniah (*Rasta*)
Fight Life—Janet Kay (12")
Any Means Necessary—Mutabaruka (*Outcry*)
This Land is for Everyone—Abyssinians (*Arise*)
Sustain the Sustenance—Let's Make Africa Green Again—BRAFA Team (12")
Dial Africa—Rico (*The Man from Warika*)
Shango—Olatunji (*Drums of Passion*)
Bongo Man—Jimmy Cliff (*Reggae Greats*)
Train to Rhodesia—Big Youth (*Dreadlocks Dread*)
Nah Go to South Africa—Sugar Minott (*Rydin*)
Struggle in Soweto—Augustus Pablo (7")
Soweto—Carlton Livingston (lp)
Racialism—Jah Woosh (*Religious Dread*)
Willing (Rock Against Racism)—Cimarons (*Make*)
Apartheid—African Dreamland (*Kosmik Gypsy*)
USA-SA—Elouise Burrell & Trickle Down (12")
Jomo Dub—Burning Spear (7")
Majority Rule—Jimmy Cliff (*Give the People What They Want*)
Invade Angola Again—Mutabaruka (*Check It*)
Occupation—The Rastafarians (*Orthodox*)
United Nations—Viceroy's (*Brethren & Sisters*)
Africa Crisis—Jahman (*Africa*)
Blood Shout—Glenville Bryan (*Word Soun' Ave Power*)
Africa is Rising—Jah Mella (*Jah Mella*)
War—Bob Marley (*Rastaman Vibration*)
Wipe Them Out—Matumbi (*Best Of*)
Fite Dem Back—Linton Kwesi Johnson (*Forces of Victory*)

Sekelele (Lord Bless Africa)—ANC anthem (*This Land is Mine*)
South African Enlistment—Abyssinians (*Arise*)
Rise and Fall of the South African Regime—Revolutionaries (7")
Natty Dread Christmas—Iron Phoenix (7")
Christmas in Capetown—Randy Newman

MUSICAL APARTHEID ATTACK ADDENDUM

Apartheid is Wrong—Empress Akelia (12")
South Africa—Alua (*Woman Talk*)
Sun City—Artists United Against Apartheid
Soldiers for Justice—Asterisks (12")
Nuclear Soldiers—Aswad (*To The Top*)
Stop Apartheid—Jah Big (lp)
A Luta Continua—Big Youth (lp)
South Africa! South Africa!—Captain Blackburn (12")
Smash Apartheid—Boss Skank (7")
Can't Stand It—Dubby Brodie (12")
South African Reggae—Cedric Brooks (7")
Free Up South Africa—Bro Valentino (12")
Majority Rules—Jah Caretaker (7")
Stop the Trading—Raymond Cushing (7")
Azania—Dambala (lp)
In South Africa Sun City—Dan Del Santo (7")
Anti-Apartheid—Mikey Dread (*Pave the Way, parts 1 & 2*)
Run Come—I Roy (7")
South Africa Anthem—Ras Joel (7")
Trouble in Africa—Papa Levi (12")
Invasion—Macka B (*Sign of the Times*)
Dub It In A South Africa—Carl McDonald (12")
Stop Apartheid—Ras Michael (12")
Invade South Africa—Mighty Sparrow (*A Touch of Class*)
Angola—Pablo Moses (7")
Apartheid—Junior Murvin (12")
Free Up De Lan'—Mutabaruka (*Outcry*)
Nelson Mandela—Yousouf N'Dour (lp)
Wi A Come (For Nelson Mandela)—Oku Onuora (12")
Wipe Out Apartheid—Johnny Osbourne (7" & 12")
Tear Up—Potato 5 (12")
South Africa—Leroy Sibbles (*Selections*)
If You Break the Curfew—Milton Smalling (12")
Free Mandela—Thoroughbred (7")
Anti-Apartheid—Twinkle Brothers (entire lp)
Our Own Song (Amandaa Awethu)—UB40 (12")
Free South Africa—Wackies Rhythm Force (comp. lp)
Apartheid Lives Everytime a Black Team Tours Down There—Jaaguu Peko Yanguu (7")
Free South Africa—Stop De War—Benjamin Zephaniah & the Wailers (12")
Wonders—Zulu Spear (12")
It's Wrong (Apartheid)—Stevie Wonder (*In Square Circle*)

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