

Struggles in Southern Africa

For 342 years, Europeans ran South Africa. Whites set up a system of **Apartheid**, or separation of the races, in 1948. Laws said certain races must live in certain zones. They banned mixed marriages and forced nonwhites to carry passbooks. They called for separate trains, beaches, and schools. Low wages and poor schools doomed blacks to poverty.

The African National Congress (ANC) had fought white domination since 1912. Their marches and strikes sparked violence. At a 1960 rally, police gunned down protestors. Laws then banned the ANC. The United States and others hoped **sanctions**, or actions against a nation by other nations, would force an end to apartheid. In 1990, F.W. de Klerk, president of South Africa, lifted the ANC ban. He freed its leader, Nelson Mandela from jail. Mandela and F.W. de Klerk planned elections for 1994. Together, all races elected Mandela president of a new democratic South Africa.

Other lands in Southern Africa also struggled for independence. For 15 years, Angola and Mozambique fought wars of independence against Portugal. After gaining independence, both countries were plagued by civil wars. From 1975 to 1992, the Cold War played a role in their struggles. Americans did not trust the socialist leaders and sided with rebels in both countries. South African troops also aided the rebels. Soviets sent Cuban troops to help Angolan leaders. In 1992, foreign troops pulled out, leaving the war-torn nations to rebuild.

Steps to End Apartheid

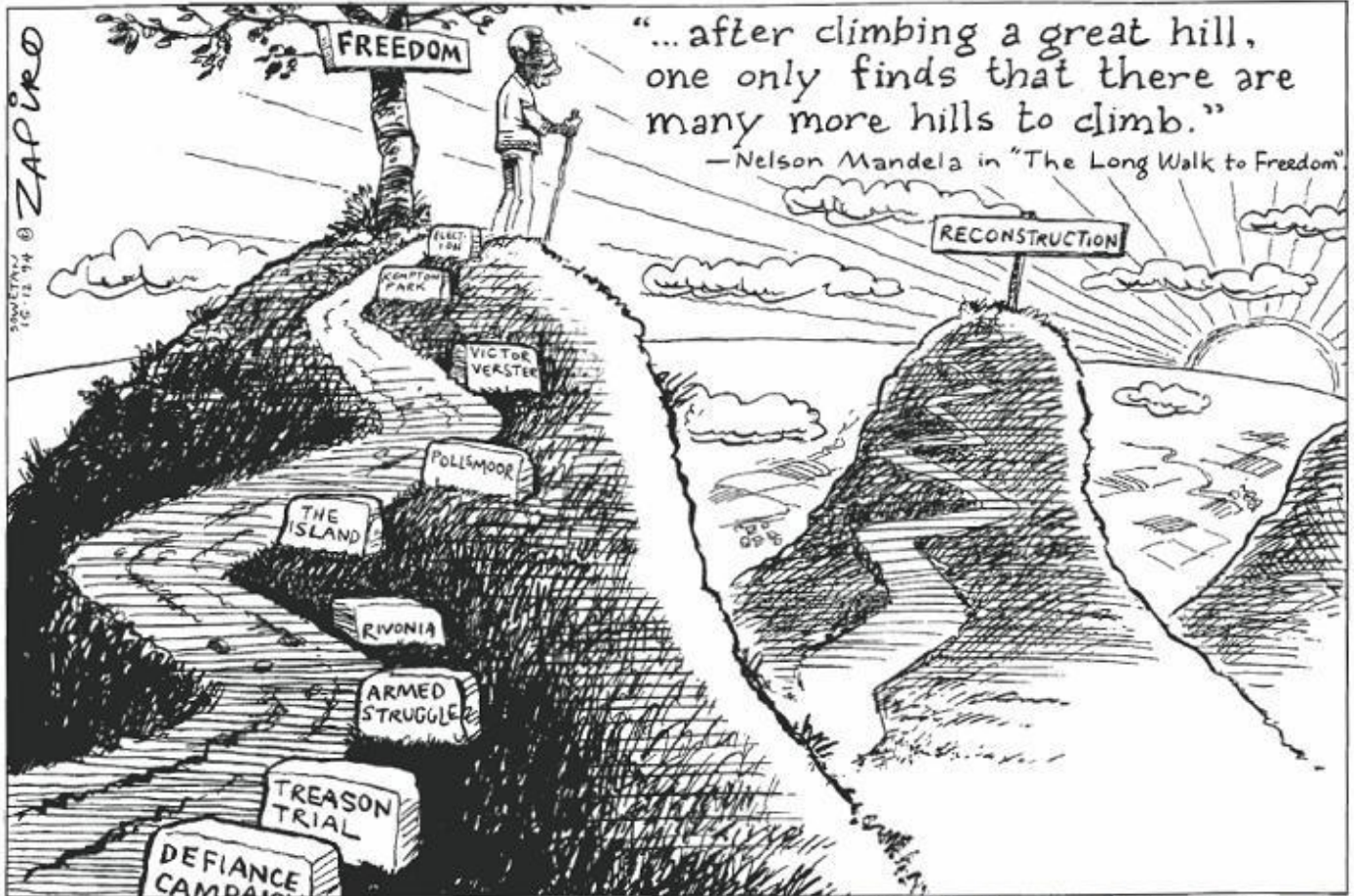
1948	Policy of Apartheid Set Up
1960	Police kill 69, wound 180 Sharpeville demonstration; Government outlaws ANC
1964	Nelson Mandela sentenced to life in prison
1980's	United States and other nations place sanctions on South Africa.
1989-1990	President de Klerk lifts ANC ban, ends apartheid, and frees Mandela
1994	Voters of all races elect Mandela President
1999	President Mbeki elected

1. How long were European imperialists in control of South Africa? _____
2. What is Apartheid?
3. What was the African National Congress and what was their goal?
4. How did the US and other nations intervene in South Africa to end Apartheid? Explain.



Discussion Questions:

- What impact did Mandela's jail time have on Africa? What other historical examples support this idea?
- What are the strengths of the Native African's when faced with "White Rule?"
- What challenges does South Africa face once Apartheid comes to an end?
- How does South Africa represent Africa as a continent?



Source: Jonathan Shapiro (Zapiro), Sowetan, 1994