MEMORIAL FOR STEVE BIKO Multi-Faith Service of Commemoration and Commitment

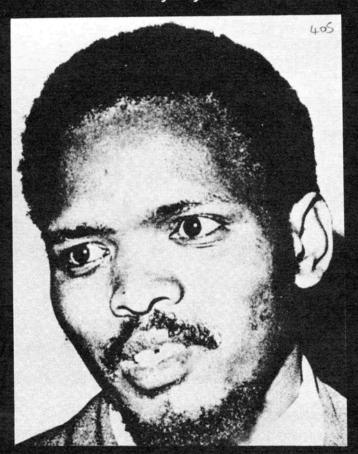
with participation of the major world religions

Notting Hill Methodist Church, 240 Lancaster Road, London W11

(nearest tube: Ladbroke Grove ⊖)

Sunday 13th September 1987, at 3pm

Address by Steve Biko's colleague and friend, Barney Pityana



On 12th September 1977, Steve Bantu Biko, the outstanding young South African leader, died in detention – murdered by the South African security police. Since detention without trial was introduced in 1963, more than 80 detainees have died at the hands of the apartheid regime's police.

REMEMBER STEVE BIKO

The cruel death in detention ten years ago of the charismatic black leader Steve Biko sent shock waves throughout South Africa and around the world. Many thousands of people had been inspired by the life and work of Biko. His death revealed both the horrific brutality of the apartheid police and the risks faced by all those detained without trial, whether in South Africa or in Namibia.

In relation to the 80 detainees who have died in detention since 1983, not a single security policeman has ever been convicted of causing the death of a detainee. The regime protects its murderers – and never more so than under

the current State of Emergency.

During the past year, some 30,000 persons have been detained without trial in South Africa. At least a third of these have been under 21 years old, and many have been only 10-12 years in age. Most of them have been beaten or flogged, and many tortured by electric shocks or near-suffocation. Brutal tortures have become routine to the methods of the Security Police, and their viciousness is matched only by that of the troops in the townships, with their random violence and killings.

Despite the formidable dangers, innumerable intrepid people in South Africa have braved the wrath of the racist regime to keep track of the plight of detainees, publicise it and expose the crimes of the authorities. Their efforts to cast light in dark corners demand our support. For all its brazen posturing, the Pretoria regime is responsive to external pressures.

■ SATIS (Southern Africa the Imprisoned Society) initiates and co-ordinates actions against all forms of political repression under apartheid including political prisoners, detentions, executions and political trials.
■ The AAM Multi-Faith Committee draws together people of all faiths in Britain in support of anti-apartheid activity.
☐ I/We would like more information and leaflets about the Memorial service for Steve Biko on Sunday September 13th.
☐ I/We would like more information about the work of SATIS.
☐ I/We would like more information about the work of the Multi-Faith Committee.
Name (please print)
Address