

1-28-1988

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Recommended Citation

"Investments in South Africa" Topic of Upcoming UD Lecture" (1988). *News Releases*. 4871.
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The University of Dayton

"INVESTMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA"
TOPIC OF UPCOMING UD LECTURE

News Release

DAYTON, Ohio, January 28, 1988--As part of the University of Dayton's "Catholic Tradition Today" lecture series, Brother Bernard J. Ploeger, S.M., will discuss UD's South African investment policy and the Catholic Church's views on divestment on Monday, Feb. 8.

Entitled "Investments in South Africa," the speech will take place at 8 p.m. in room 310 in the Kennedy Union. It is free and open to the public.

Ploeger, UD's vice president for administration, worked with the Board of Trustees last year to review its South African investment portfolio for compliance with the six "Sullivan Principles," a voluntary code by which companies conducting business in South Africa pledge efforts to eliminate segregation and unfair employment practices in the country. The Rev. Leon Sullivan, the author of those guidelines, will visit UD on Feb. 4 to speak on "The Dismantling of Apartheid" in an 8 p.m. speech in the Kennedy Union Ballroom.

"It's a very debatable topic," Ploeger said. "Should you completely disassociate yourself, or is there a way to have a responsible presence?"

Of the approximately 75 companies in which UD holds stock, 19 have operations in South Africa. All are large multinational firms that have either adopted the "Sullivan Principles" or similar guidelines designed to eliminate discrimination in the workplace. Ploeger said that the market value of those holdings is about \$10.5 million, which represents 15 percent of UD's investment portfolio. It is the Board of Trustees' position to sell a company's stocks when it no longer complies with non-discriminatory work policies, he said.

For more information on the lecture, call UD's Department of Religious Studies at 229-4321.