

THE ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT

An All-Party Protest Against Racial Discrimination

Hon. President: Mrs. Barbara Castle, M.P.

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14th November, 1962.

PRESS STATEMENT

In response to a message of support sent by the Anti-Apartheid Movement to Nelson Mandela, we have received the following reply; written in Pretoria the day before he was sentenced to five years' imprisonment:-

NELSON MANDELA,
19476/62.
6/11/1962.

THE SECRETARY,
ANTI-APARTHEID COMMITTEE,
LONDON.

DEAR SIR,

WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR THE DYNAMIC MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT SENT THROUGH THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE OF JOHANNESBURG.

IT GAVE US A LOT OF INSPIRATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT. YOUR MESSAGE, AS WELL AS MANY OTHERS WE RECEIVED FROM ABROAD, FURNISHED YET ANOTHER PROOF THAT IN THE STRUGGLE FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA, WE CAN COUNT ON THE SUPPORT OF THE CIVILISED WORLD.

IN THANKING YOU I MUST AT THE SAME TIME ASK YOU TO ACCEPT THIS NOTE AS A VERY FIRM, WARM AND HEARTY HANDSHAKE FROM US.

YOURS VERY SINCERELY,
NELSON.

It will be seen that messages of support from outside South Africa to those suffering because of their opposition to apartheid are very much appreciated.

News today of two further house arrests, bringing the total up to ten, has led the Anti-Apartheid Movement to decide to conduct a campaign of support for all political prisoners and to demand their release.

It has sent a protest in the strongest possible terms to the South African Minister of Justice, and asks other organisations and individuals to protest also.

In view of the wave of house arrests now taking place, the Anti-Apartheid Movement is prepared to put individuals or organisations in touch with those under house arrest in South Africa so they may break through the isolation imposed on them, not only by sending messages of support but by corresponding directly with them.

Rosalyn de Ainslie
Rosalyn de Ainslie
Hon. Secretary.