April 23, 1992

Essop Pahad, S.A. Communist Party c/o Codesa Working Group 1 P.O. Box 307 ISANDO 1500 Johannesburg S.A.

Dear friend, Essop Pahad,

We have word from the Africa Fund Office in N.Y. about your efforts to negotiate the release of political prisoners in your country and move toward a truly democratic government in the New South Africa.

We certainly hope that the 417 political prisoners who remain in S.A.'s jails will soon be released into the community.

We understand that much harassment by the government is going on. In fact that **Pretoria** is making more political prisoners even as it plays the role of reasonable negotiator. That 854 persons were arrested for political rasons and that 759 have been brought to trial and only 105 found guilty.

We at the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights in Detroit, Michigan remain in solidarity wih you, with CODESA, with the ANC in the struggle for justice. Just a few weeks ago we hosted a Mid-West conference: Abolishing Apartheid/Ending Racism. Bethuel Maseramule of NUMSA was here along with many other strong and knowledgeable South Africans.

AMANDLA!

Sister Joanette Nitz, O.P.

Canelle Mits

Chair Southern Africa Committee MCHR