Dear Friend:

When the news came that I was to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, my first reaction was surprise; my second pleasure -

surprise that, for the first time, an international group has recognized that our methods, patterned on Gandhi's, contribute to world peace;

pleasure that white men abroad have grasped our movement for what it is, a peaceful attack on a system that divides men and condemns the majority to a position of permanent inferiority.

I regard the Prize as not for me alone, nor for Africans alone, but for all men everywhere who have sacrificed for the Brotherhood of Man.

Because I believe that you are one of these, because this Prize is a recognition of you as well as me, I do not hesitate to ask you to extend your sacrifices. Won't you, during this Christmas season, give generously to help an American organization which has so often helped me? That group is The American Committee on Africa (ACOA).

The Committee has been a source of inspiration. As Alan Paton has said: "To us in South Africa, The American Committee on Africa represents the conscience of America. I do not know what we would do without it."

In our darkest days, ACOA bolstered our resolve to adhere to the ways of peace in the face of any ferocity by government. Of equal importance to us, it explained our movement for equality so clearly that thousands of Americans came to understand and sympathize with what we are doing.

That sympathy has been demonstrated by the generous responses of Americans during attacks on us here. Without outside aid, we could not, for example, have sustained the defendants during the Treason
Trials. It was through help from overseas, including thousands of dollars from the American Committee on Africa, that we were able to keep the label of "traitor" from being pinned on the leading South African opponents of apartheid.

Now, I am writing to you because the American Committee needs your support. To give that support is to share in a movement recognized by the Nobel Prize as a contribution to Peace.

I feel confident that you will make a sacrifice now, during this holiday season, to give generously to ACOA. As you write your check, please remember that Brotherhood has a price, a price which can be paid only by the sacrifice of each one of us.

Thank you,

[Signature]

A. J. Lutuli