

March 2, 1995

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Tomorrow I'll start packing to leave for South Africa. Yet, it wouldn't seem right to do so without first thanking you who have made this trip possible.

There are two of us going, Cole Wright and myself. We are enthused about seeing a free South Africa, and will go to Durban, Cape Town, Johannesburg, Soweto and Alexandra townships, and perhaps some rural areas.

We look forward to meeting workers in various industries, as well as visiting people with whom we worked in the anti-apartheid movement and had the pleasure to get to know over the course of the years.

In South Africa there is a still much to be done. Overcoming the legacies of apartheid is a monumental job. Land rights and illiteracy are two of the most glaring problems SA faces. Yet, from this distance, there appears to be a great deal of hope inside South Africa as people embark on building a new nation.

We all share a belief that racism must be fought here and abroad. In the U.S., the problem of racism still stubbornly persists and in some ways is getting worse. Perhaps we can learn a few lessons from South Africa on how to move ahead in the U.S. At least, that is my hope.

We leave March 6 and return March 26, and look forward to giving you a full account when we return.

Thank you for your generosity, friendship and solidarity.