The February election in Zimbabwe will be a turning point for the people of southern Africa. The outcome will affect the whole of Africa and possibly the course of world events.

Because so much is at stake in the contest between the Patriotic Front and the reactionary Muzorewa forces, the South African government and the multinational corporations have overtly and covertly given millions of dollars to defeat the Patriotic Front and to install Muzorewa as the "elected" government. In contrast, the Patriotic Front has the support of the Zimbabwean people but little money to wage an effective fight. Everything is needed—relocate the returning refugees, communications equipment, office supplies, transportation, etc. Friends of the Patriotic Front and of the Zimbabwean people must act now.

The Committee to Support the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe was formed in January of this year. It is an ad hoc committee composed of over 30 community groups and support organizations in the greater New York area. We are planning an emergency concert to raise funds for the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe (ZANU and ZAPU). This fundraising event has the approval and endorsement of the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the African Group to the U.N., SWAPO, ANC of South Africa and the Patriotic Front (both ZANU and ZAPU).

The concert is set for Saturday, February 9th at St. John the Divine Cathedral. The National Conference of Black Lawyers will act as the Committee's financial agent; all contributions are tax-exempt. Please make check/donations payable to "NCBL/Zimbabwe Fund", 126 West 119th Street, New York, New York 10026. For ticket information call NCBL, (212) 866-3501.

This concert provides a unique opportunity to support the struggle of the Zimbabwean people for genuine majority rule, the transfer of power to the people of Namibia, and a democratic state based on universal suffrage in South Africa. We hope this emergency appeal will be met with your positive response. The Patriotic Front needs your help urgently, please give what you can now.

For the Committee,

January 26, 1980

Gerald C. Horne/Melba Smith