March 8, 1979

Dear Friends,

The Champaign-Urbana Coalition Against Apartheid requests your organization to lend its support to the nationwide campaign against American corporate and governmental complicity with racist white minority regimes in southern Africa. One of the most important developments in this struggle occurred last fall when thousands of student and community activists attending conferences in the Northeast, Midwest, and Southeast regions called a National Week of Actions from April 4 to April 11. These actions are intended to help educate the American people on how United States diplomatic, cultural, economic, political, and military ties to South Africa help to perpetuate the apartheid system and to organize support for the Black people of South Africa who are fighting for freedom.

As part of this nationwide drive, the C-U Coalition Against Apartheid is planning a series of activities during the week of April 4-11. These activities will begin on April 4 with a program commemorating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King (on the eleventh anniversary of his assassination) and examining the relationship between racism in America and South Africa. Other activities include seminars, films, speakers from African liberation movements, a national campus armband day, fundraising for liberation groups, a candlelight march, and a rally.

Your organization can help support this struggle in several ways:

(1) endorse the National Week of actions;
(2) publicize the activities among your membership;
(3) organize other activities in conjunction with the National Week of Actions;
(4) collect material aid and donations for African liberation organizations; and
(5) use the Coalition Against Apartheid as a resource for films, literature about apartheid, and speakers.

We encourage you to bring us your ideas on ways to build opposition to apartheid and aid the peoples of southern Africa. We will be glad to hear any proposals or answer any questions you have. For further information contact:

Steve Nadel 384-2145       Andrew English 332-2022
Dawn Manire 344-1706       Alice or Bill Kessler 359-7254

In struggle,

Dawn Manire
C-U Coalition Against Apartheid