

Supporting African Democracy and Freedom

Special Collections is the home for MSU's new African Activist Archive, a project of the African Studies Center. Dedicated to preserving the history of activism in support of African struggles against colonialism and apartheid, the archive will preserve organizational records, personal papers, photographs, oral histories, and ephemera such as posters and buttons.

From the 1960s through the 1980s, hundreds of organizations and individuals around the world mounted protests of apartheid and advocated economic sanctions against South Africa. In East Lansing, the Southern Africa Liberation Committee lobbied the East Lansing City Council, the MSU Board of Trustees, the MSU Foundation, and the Michigan Legislature for divestiture of holdings from companies operating in South Africa. The Patricia L. Beeman SALC Collection, housed in Special Collections, details the activities of this organization.

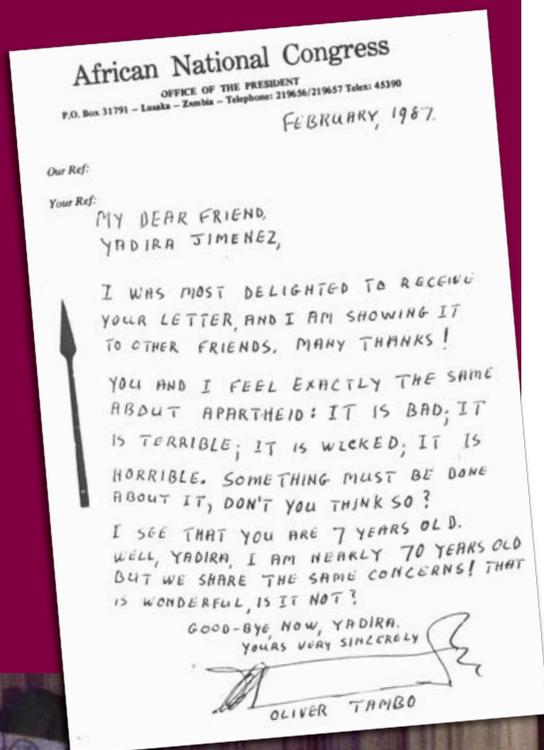
With the establishment of the African Activist Archive, MSU Special Collections has received the records of several other organizations, including:

- the American Coordinating Committee for Equality in Sport and Society
 - the Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa
 - Educators Against Racism and Apartheid
 - the Seattle Coalition Against Apartheid
- as well as the personal papers of Mary Louise Hooper, an American Quaker who served in the 1950s as personal secretary to Albert Luthuli, President of the African National Congress and winner of the 1960 Nobel Peace Prize.

The African Activist Archive Project website (www.africanactivist.msu.edu) provides a directory listing archives in depository institutions in the U.S. and abroad and an expanding collection of multimedia materials documenting the African solidarity movement, including buttons, posters, photos, written (and soon video) remembrances.

For more information or to help with the project contact: David Wiley (wiley@msu.edu) or Project Director Richard Knight, (rknight1@juno.com). To enquire about recently received library collections contact: Peter Limb (limb@msu.edu) 517-432-6123 ext. 239.

— Peter Limb, Africana Bibliographer



Top: a letter from African National Congress president Oliver Tambo to a young correspondent.

Bottom: children in a New York City public school perform a play about apartheid in the early 1990s.

Both from the Educators Against Racism and Apartheid Archive.