



July 24, 1990

Ms. Peggy O'Brien-Murphy
Office of the Mayor
12th Floor, Municipal Building
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Ms. O'Brien-Murphy:

I request your assistance in coordinating two brief ceremonies where Mayor Norm Rice could be photographed, and press invited, in order to publicize more fully the "Vote for Democracy" campaign sponsored by The Africa Fund and endorsed by the African National Congress and all the other national anti-apartheid organizations based in the United States. I am also concerned that Mayor Rice has not received any local media coverage for his important work in furthering this campaign across the nation. The Africa Fund's Mike Fleshman, who heads this project, told me that Mayor Rice's initiative had spawned a lot of local anti-apartheid organizing all over the United States.

Seattle's Mayor Rice took the leadership in introducing a resolution which was formally adopted by the National Conference of Mayors at their recent annual meeting. The resolution, adopted by the City of Seattle in February, calls upon Congress and the President to keep up the sanctions pressure against apartheid South Africa until full democracy, based on a new constitution ensuring one person, one vote, becomes a reality. The resolution additionally encourages active participation in the "Vote for Democracy" campaign as a tangible way to keep the pressure on the apartheid regime, in accordance with the specific request of Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress.

Blackbird Books, at 3130 East Madison, owned by Joseph Antoine-Zimbabwe, has been participating in the "Vote for Democracy" campaign and has ballots and a ballot box. Mr. Antoine-Zimbabwe's book store is an important addition to the community, specializing in a wide variety of African and African-American history and literature. It is important that people in Seattle know of this location so that they can cast their ballots soon. The Africa Fund is hoping to send the ballots to key members of Congress by September 12, 1990.

4759 15th Avenue N.E.
Seattle, Washington
98105-4404

206 • 525 • 1213

The Rev. Dr. William B. Cate
President-Director

Ms. Peggy O'Brien-Murphy
July 24, 1990
Page Two

Tower Video, which is participating in the "Vote for Democracy" campaign at its stores nationwide, also has ballot boxes and ballots at its store located at 500 Mercer Street (near the Seattle Center) and in Bellevue at 10635 NE 8th.

I have spoken to Mr. Antoine-Zimbabwe and to Mr. Mark Lowery, Manager of the Tower Video store at 500 Mercer, and both gentlemen welcome additional publicity for the campaign. I also spoke to Charles Rolland, who suggested that my suggestion for the Mayor to publicize the campaign and receive some favorable publicity here at home for his important work should be coordinated by you. What I envision is that the Mayor could be scheduled to be photographed (with press) at both locations some time preferably before Labor Day.

Mr. Antoine-Zimbabwe of Blackbird Books can be reached at 325-3793. Mr. Lowery can be reached at 283-9442. I can be reached either at work (285-3610) or at home (281-7664).

Your assistance is very much appreciated. This issue is a very important one; our Mayor needs to be encouraged for his work in this area. I enclose an enlarged copy of a press release dated June 21, 1990, which I released to local media. Unfortunately, it did not spark local stories about the "Vote for Democracy" campaign and Mayor Rice's participation in it. I also enclose a copy of a press statement released today announcing the Blackbird Books and Tower Video locations for the "Vote for Democracy" ballots.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated positive response. Please call me if you have questions or wish Mr. Antoine-Zimbabwe and Mr. Lowery to call you.

Sincerely,



Marjorie Prince, Chair
Task Force on Southern Africa

cc: Enclosure
Dr. William B. Cate (with encls.)
Mr. Charles Rolland (with encls.)
Mr. Joseph Antoine-Zimbabwe (with encls.)
Mr. Mark Lowery (with encls.)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 24, 1990

Blackbird Books, located at 3130 East Madison and owned and operated by Joseph Antoine-Zimbabwe, is actively participating in The Africa Fund's "Vote for Democracy in South Africa" campaign. This campaign is endorsed by the African National Congress and all the national anti-apartheid organizations based in the United States. The "Vote for Democracy" campaign was spearheaded by Mayor Norm Rice when he took the leadership in introducing an anti-apartheid resolution which was formally adopted by the National Conference of Mayors at their recent annual meeting. Now lots of cities are participating in the "Vote for Democracy in South Africa" campaign.

We here in Seattle can do our part to do what Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress have asked us to do -- keep the pressure on the apartheid regime by letting our U.S. Congress know how we feel -- by voting in the "Vote for Democracy" campaign. Blackbird Books, which has a wide variety of African and African-American history and literature, has the ballots and a ballot box. It is important that people in Seattle know of Blackbird Books and its participation in this important anti-apartheid issue. The Africa Fund wishes to return ballots to the U.S. Congress by September 12, 1990.

Tower Video, which is participating in the "Vote for Democracy" campaign at its stores nationwide, also has ballot boxes and ballots at its store located at 500 Mercer Street (near the Seattle Center) and in Bellevue at 10635 N.E. 8th.

For further information please contact Mr. Joseph Antoine-Zimbabwe of Blackbird Books at 325-3793 and Mr. Mark Lowery at Tower Video at 283-9442.

Thank you.

Submitted by
Marjorie Prince, Chair
Task Force on Southern Africa
281-7664 (home)
285-3610 (work)

4759 15th Avenue N.E.
Seattle, Washington
98105-4404

206-525-1213

The Rev. Dr. William B. Cate
President-Director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 21, 1990

The Task Force on Southern Africa of the Church Council of Greater Seattle applauds Seattle Mayor Norm Rice for sponsoring a resolution which was formally adopted by the United States Conference of Mayors at their recent annual meeting in Chicago. The resolution, adopted by the City of Seattle in February of this year, calls upon Congress and the President to keep up the sanctions pressure against South Africa until full democracy, based on a new constitution ensuring one person, one vote, becomes a reality. Mayor Rice's resolution also supports the "Vote for Democracy" campaign of The Africa Fund, which is collecting ballots from the American people favoring full democracy in South Africa and for continuing sanctions until that has been achieved. The Task Force on Southern Africa is working actively to collect ballots and return them quickly to The Africa Fund so that U.S. policymakers will know the full extent of U.S. voters' support for their brothers and sisters in South Africa who still, despite the recent changes in South Africa, have no vote. Our Task Force thanks Mayor Rice for his leadership on this important human rights issue and pledges to walk along with Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress on the last mile to freedom.

For more information, please contact:
Task Force on Southern Africa
Marjorie Prince, Chair