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Free South Africa's Children

A SYMPOSIUM ON CHILDREN IN DETENTION

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SOUTHERN AFRICA PROJECT

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July 13, 1987

President O.R. Tambo
African National Congress
P.O. Box 31791
Lusaka
Zambia

Dear President Tambo:

We believe that our Symposium on Children
in South Africa was an important event.

in Detention

The Symposium took place on June 25th and 26th. We brought 15 South Africans to Washington to testify about their own experiences, including doctors, lawyers, human rights activists, parents and children who had been detained and tortured.

The Symposium was a moving documentation of the plight of children in South Africa. I think that few people who attended the symposium will forget Sylvia Jele's tearful description of how the security police tortured her son or the picture Patrick Makhoba painted of his panic the day the police surrounded his school and detained him and six of his classmates.

We feel confident that the Symposium functioned to

increase public knowledge in the United States of South Africa's war against its children. Four to five hundred people representing a wide diversity of organizations attended throughout the day. Over 15 members of Congress and the Senate participated as panelists. And the widespread media coverage of the Symposium informed a larger audience. We have already planned follow-up activities with the many groups that were represented in the audience at the Symposium.

In a few months, the edited transcript of the proceedings will be published in the Human Rights Quarterly, a national journal produced by the Urban Morgan Institute for Human Rights of the University of Cincinnati College of Law. You will receive a copy shortly after publication.

Best wishes.

Director

Southern Africa Project