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Jennifer Benson-Smallwood-

Sept. 15 â\200\231 1988

7506 Fremont Avenue Margate, NJ 08402

( 609) 823-5513

Z. Pallo Jordan  
African National Congress  
P.O. Box 31791  
Lusaka. Zambia

Dear Mr. Jordan,

my desire to help your organization in some manner. I fully realize how busy the President must be in these difficult times.

I already belong to Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition, which

of course is opposed to Apartied. We campaigned on his behalf in the hopes that he would become The President here and that would put him in the position to have some power to enforce\_harsh measures upon S. Africa, but now that Michael Dukakis is the nominee I will campaign for him in the belief that he too will oppose Apartied.

Also, I work for and am a director of a peace group that is

opposedttOesupponm forpthe Contras.QIuplan to stay here until I have the financial resources to leave and live in South Africa. or some~ where in the vicinity. I feel that whatever I might be able to do I would be able to do it better from within your country.

Until then, I will continue to work towards the liberation of

S. Africa and Nicaragua in the best way I know how. I feel especially obligated to end supportt for the Contras because it is my country. that is funding these murderers. and destroying any chance of that' country's right to self-determination. If Michael Dukakis wins the election that will put an end to that problem, and I can fully concentrate on your unjustnsimulation in South Africa.

There is just one favor I would ask of you, if it is at all

possible. The poem I wrote for Nelson Mandela will probably never be seen by him unless someone in your organization gives it to him. I â\200\230

doubt that anything I have sent him has been given to him. and if it 'is not too much trouble I would appreciate it very much. Of course I

do realize that you have more important things to worry about.

In Solidarity,

Billboard critic  
Nelson George

Frankie  
Where Are You?

White Rock Bands from Ireland that generate almost no black airplay are usually not discussed in this column. But U2 is not any ordinary rock band. Perhaps because they grew up in a country scarred by religious violence and oppression, U2's members have been incredibly sensitive to the struggles of Third World people. At a recent show at New York's Madison Square Garden, U2 dedicated songs to Nelson and Winnie Mandela as well as to Martin Luther King. Jr. about whom they've written two songs, including the rock standard "Pride (In The Name of Love)." whose intensity puts to shame the efforts of many black songwriters to capture the majesty of the man. In addition the quartet performed Curtis Mayfield's "People Get Ready" and Bob Marley's "Exodus" and conveyed the same spiritual-political feel as the original material. U2's music may never find a regular home on black radio (though it would be interesting if some of the material on the current "The Joshua Tree" were remixed with that in mind), but there are lessons in overt political commitment that many in black music could learn from them." So writes Nelson George, America and Billboard's best black music writer.... I guess we really miss Frankie Crocker on the radio." since Frankie was in a class by himself."

WALL STREET

JOURNAL ARTICLE  
- AN EYE OPENER

How many of you read The Wall Street Journal's Southwest Edition article in the September 23 issue entitled "Tuning Out," written by Bob Davis, that focused on the problems faced by

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## POETRY

### The Dissident

For Nelson Mandela  
If you try to break me  
You will only make me stronger,  
Then the war between us  
Will just last a little longer.

You can control the freedom of my body  
But never of my heart,  
What you do to one  
Wonâ\200\231t affect the other part.

You can lock me in a prison cell  
And deny me information,  
But that will only reaffirm  
My determination.

To resist you with my flesh and bones  
But my heart and soul will stay free,  
Because no matter what you take  
You canâ\200\231t take my soul from me.

â\200\224 J ennifer Benson-Smallwood

WYLD-FM black radio station executive, James

Hutchinson? How many of you found it hard to believe that there are many major companies that refuse to advertise on black radio stations, while there are others who feel that they should pay less for advertising on black stations than they pay for advertising on comparably-rated white stations?

How many of you have written to those mentioned in the article, like Delta Airlines, Panasonic, NW. Ayer Inc. Advertising Agency, Domino Pizza Inc. and the Esplanade Mall in New Orleans, to say that we won't buy their products or use their services until some changes are made?

How many white radio station executives are regarded as being "pushy" and "uppity" when they show persistence in the face of rejection from prospective advertisers? Why isn't Mr. Hutchinson looked upon as being a go-getter, assertive and a top-notch executive, instead of a trouble maker? Why are there separate "black" advertising budgets within some companies versus a single budget for advertising expenses? Are there similar "female," "elderly," and "yuppie" budgets within these companies?

Class Magazine, New York City

August 23, 1988

Ms Jennifer\_Beneon ~ Smallwood  
7506 Fremont Avenue,  
Margate, New Jersey 08402

Dear Ms Benson ~ Smallwood,

I have been instructed to advise you that the President has received and greatly appreciates your letter and the two enclosed poems. Owing to pressure of work and his other prior commitments, he is unfortunately unable to respond to you in person.

We are pleased to note your determination to do eome~

thing towards the liberation of South Africa. We are of the view that this could best be done by finding a role within the growing US Solidarity movement. This is a multi-pronged movement, embraeing the churches, funding bodies and lobbying groups such as Trans Africa and the Washington Office on Africa.

The President undertakes that as soon as an opportunity presents itself he shall seize it to write to you in person.

Yours sincerely

Z. Pallo Jordan  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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