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29 May 1991

Peter Mahlangu  
ANC Chief Representative in Canada  
Box 302, Adelaide Postal Station  
Toronto, Ontario M5C 2J4

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter of 21 May collectively addressed to comrades at the CDAS. I want to express my solidarity for the effective work that you have done as the Chief Representative in Canada. Please do get in touch with me when and if you come to Montreal with Victor Moche. After my disturbing visit to your country, I believe more than ever that important critical support should be given to the ANC to strengthen and improve their difficult organisational work.

This letter also is an opportunity to tell you just a little about my trip to South Africa after we met on the plane from Nairobi to Jo'burg. The Conference on Women and Gender in Southern Africa at the University of Natal was useful for me to see just how rigidly the structured inequalities of apartheid persist in the academic institutions. About 80% of the 300 participants at the Conference were white; I hardly knew that I was in an African country!

After the conference, I visited many of the townships around Durban and Pietermaritzburg, in particular Richmond township which had had attacks just three days earlier. In Jo'burg, among other things, I visited the ANC Women's League and went on a memorable trip to Soweto with Albertina Sisulu. I also spent some time in Alex. All of the experiences have been useful since my return for guest lecturing, publishing articles and even giving some radio interviews. See the enclosed article published in LaPresse. Southern Africa Reports is publishing an English version of this article in their next issue. What appears to be of interest are my "eye-witness" reports. More on all of this when you come to Montreal.

With best wishes to you in your new assignment,  
and in continued solidarity,

Rosalind Boyd  
Senior Research Fellow