

# The Anti-Springbok-5 Defense Committee

c/o Material Aid Campaign for ZANU(PF)  
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November 15, 1981

Dear

We are writing to you to express our sentiments concerning the case of the Anti-Springbok-5, five anti-imperialists who were beaten, arrested and held without bail on September 26, 1981 at a militant demonstration against South Africa at Kennedy Airport.

This demonstration was not an isolated action but is part of a world wide struggle in support of the right of African people to control their land and against apartheid and white settler colonialism. In New Zealand, thousands of people participated in a successful effort to stop the tour. The JFK demonstration culminated weeks of protest around the U.S. The all white rugby office was bombed in Evansville, Indiana in an unclaimed action. Actions against the Springboks also took place in Chicago, Wisconsin and Washington D.C. Over 2000 people demonstrated against the game in Albany on September 22. That morning the Black Liberation Army claimed responsibility for blowing up the offices of the Eastern Rugby Union. The communique which followed the action said: "this is but one small effort in the protracted war against South Africa. DO NOT PLAY SPORTS ON BLACK PEOPLE'S GRAVES."

The attack by the police on the demonstration and the continuing attacks by the courts and legal system make it clear to anyone who stands in solidarity with the liberation of Namibia and Azania from imperial and white supremacy can expect the full wrath of the U.S. government. Two moves by the courts stand out in particular: the demand that all of the names of persons contributing to the \$50,000 bail be given in court and the order by Judges Malones and Boyers to Judge Dubin to not sign the writ of Habeas Corpus. The Writ is a fundamental constitutional right and has been suspended only three times in history: 1. During the civil war, 2. During the imprisonment of Japanese-Americans during World War II, and 3. During the Detroit rebellion in the late 1960's. At a time when South Africa has been universally condemned the Anti-Springbok-5 case further serves to expose the position of the u.s. as a nation totally committed to the continuing genocide of African people. In light of this we recognize that it is the responsibility of progressive people the world over to take a stand against the u.s. government and in support of African liberation.

Therefore, in solidarity with the African liberation struggle and in support of the right of people in the U.S. to build an anti-imperialist movement in solidarity with these struggles we demand that the charges against the Anti-Springbok-5 be dropped.

Yours Truly,