

Dec 4 1970

Dear Comrade Lukacs:

18-16

The case of Angela Davis and her defense continues. At this stage we are fighting the effort to extradite her to California; yesterday the lower court ruled against us and we have two more appeals possible. We are of the opinion that in perhaps two weeks the locale of the battle will move to California. The central appeal must be FREE ANGELA DAVIS! The recipients of this appeal must be President Richard Nixon and Governor Ronald Reagan of California.

We will be sending you by early mail statements and elucidations on the exact nature of the Case etc. You will be receiving such material regularly from now on from me. You should understand that Comrade Davis is charged with murder under a unique California law. No one says--not even the State--that she was anywhere at the scene of the "crime" or that she personally had a part in anything that was actually done--not even the accusers say that. But they say that she was the one who allegedly bought weapons used at the scene of the "crime" and ~~and~~ that she did this with the intention that they be used for the "crime." Now, under California law--and in no other State-- this makes Angela liable to the charge of murder and if convicted to execution. Angela is of course ~~guilty~~ guilty of nothing except being a Black woman and a professor and a Marxist and a Communist--all of which is more than sufficient for Nixon and Reagan to want her dead.

It would be helpful if you, dear Comrade Lukacs, found it possible to issue AN OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON to be published in the press of the entire world in which you appeal for Angela. Also helpful would be anything that you can do to get other distinguished scholars and artists and scientists and public figures to issue such letters, either individually or as collective documents. Further, delegations (especially in Western Europe) to U.S. Embassies protesting the persecution of Angela would help; and visits by for example Mayors and members of Parliament, etc. to U.S. officials and/or government officials with pressure always aimed at Nixon and Reagan. Also, perhaps some thought can be given at this early stage to the organization of international delegations to visit California and to sit as observers at the trial--with such observers also appearing at public meetings in the United States. Meanwhile, whatever is done we should have copies here; would you then please undertake to have copies of whatever is written or published on this case sent directly to me? As I have said, under separate cover I am sending you further material today and will continue to send such material to you as soon as it becomes available. If you have any questions or any suggestions, please do let me hear of them. With best wishes to you and with communist greetings,

Fraternally

Herbert Aptheker
Herbert Aptheker

FOLD SIDES OVER AND THEN FOLD BOTTOM UP
MOISTEN FLAP WELL AND APPLY PRESSURE TO SEAL