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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Room 2003F

J. F. K. Federal Building
Government Center

Boston, MA 02203

February 1, 1982

Mr. Alvin Drischler
Acting Assistant for
Congressional Affairs
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20520

RE: DENNIS BRUTUS
A17 351 223

I am writing again to add my support to the application for political asylum filed with your office by Dennis Brutus.

Dennis Brutus is a distinguished poet, academic and activist who was exiled from South Africa for his outspoken and steadfast opposition to racism and oppression. Professor Brutus has developed a national and international reputation as an authority on African literature and culture. He is admired and respected for both his achievements in his profession and his commitment to the pursuit of human rights.

Professor Brutus' literary works have been widely published. His works and activities opposing the apartheid movement in South Africa have also been documented and are easily available. Professor Brutus is a highly profiled spokesman on the anti-apartheid movement. I trust that sufficient documentation can be made available to you to support this concern.

I have been informed that the South African Secret Police have hunted Professor Brutus across several continents because of his well known opposition to the system of apartheid practiced by the South African government. I personally have been interested in South Africa for many years. I have followed closely the political and economic development of this country, and I have concluded that the Nationalist Party government is not proceeding toward significant reform of apartheid. With this in mind, I feel that Professor Brutus would be in great danger if he is to be deported to the region of South Africa. Historically, his actions have shown blatant opposition to this government and have placed him in serious physical hardship. I am convinced of Professor Brutus' claim to be granted asylum in the United States. Facts supporting his claim are overwhelming. I hope therefore that you

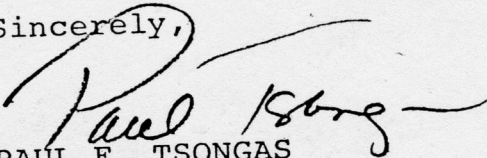
February 1, 1982

Mr. Alvin Drischler

will carefully review all of the documentation accompanying Dennis Brutus' application. I also hope that you will beel free to contact me if you feel that I or my staff can respond to any questions that might arise in reviewing this matter.

Finally, I would greatly appreciate your assistance in keeping me informed of the status of this application. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,


PAUL E. TSONGAS
United States Senator

PET:aep

CC: H. Nasif Mahmoud, Esquire
Mahmoud & Associates
53 W. Jackson, Ste. 1264
Chicago, Illinois 60504