

ASSOCIATION FOR
CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY IN LIBERIA

April 9, 1990

Executive Board Clarence Simpson, Jr.
Alexandria, VA

Harry A. Greaves, Jr.
Ezekiel B. Pajibo
Momo K. Rogers
Amos Sawyer
Patrick L. N. Seyon
Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
Alamadee Woahlee

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Simpson

As you have probably heard, Liberia is in the midst of a war----a war of liberation spearheaded by our compatriots, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, against the barbarous, tyrannical regime of M/Sgt. Samuel Doe, self-proclaimed President of Liberia.

The war commenced on December 24, 1989 in Butuo, Nimba County and has been raging since then at varying levels of intensity. At first, Doe mistakenly took what was essentially a guerrilla action for the normal, run-of-the-mill "coup" and despatched a massive force to crush it. His troops were ambushed and totally routed, with casualties reportedly running into several hundred dead. His reaction? To send in reinforcements, with orders to shoot at anything that moved: i.e. unarmed men, women and children. The resulting mayhem has caused the disappearance of entire villages and the flight of over 150,000 Liberians into Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire.

As I write you, the NPFL has captured and is holding a large swathe of land stretching from the Ivorian border down as far as Bong County. A few weeks ago they overran a military barrack at Wadru, in Grand Gedeh County, that was being used to train new recruits for Doe's army, and immobilized the Ganta-Harper road. Lately, word has reached us that NPFL forces are descending upon Gbarnga, capital of Bong County and a mere three hours' drive from the nation's capital, Monrovia. All independent reports indicate that the NPFL advance is gaining momentum, and it seems now just a matter of time before the action reaches Monrovia, the seat of Doe's government and the probable site of the final battle---if, that is, Doe chooses to fight rather than run away in his new \$20 million Boeing 707.

Over the course of the past few years, we have been striving for the replacement of the present military dictatorship with a genuinely democratic government, grounded in the Liberian Constitution and legitimized through free and fair elections. M/Sgt. Doe's track record convinces us that that these goals cannot be achieved while he is head of the government. That view appears to be shared by the vast majority of Liberians, including the victims of the current conflict. For, all independent reports we have received from the refugee community emphasize the fact that they too feel that they will not be able to return to their peaceful lives until the brutal reign of terror of M/Sgt. Doe is over.

That is why the current initiative must not be allowed to falter or fail. The memories of the aftermath of November 12, 1985 are still fresh in many of our minds. We remember all too well the terrible price that was paid---by combatants as well as non-combatants---at the hands of Doe's murder machine. That lesson must not be repeated.

P.T.O.

P.O. Box 29005, Washington, DC 20017

So, for all of us who love Liberia---citizens as well as friends of Liberia, active participants in the struggle as well as silent supporters---it is time to redouble our efforts. There is light at the end of the tunnel, and it is beaming brightly. What we need now is to summon up our last reserves in order to hasten the exit of the M/Sgt. That is why I am making this personal appeal to you to make a generous \$20, \$50, or \$100 contribution to the cause. Checks and money orders should be made payable to "ACDL" and mailed to:

P.O.Box 3835
Merrifield, VA 22116-3835


Your donation will be treated in the strictest confidence.

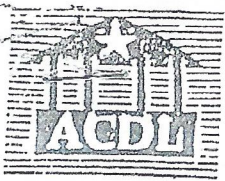
If you wish to make a separate contribution to the fund we have established for providing relief to the refugees, make your check/money order payable to "ACDL/Refugee Fund".

Our attorneys, Messrs. Lichtman, Trister, Singer & Ross, have applied for tax-exempt status for ACDL under S.301(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, which, when approved, will be retroactive to December 1988.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,


Harry A. Greaves, Jr.
TREASURER



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