A.J. Muste Memorial Institute

339 Lafayette Street, New York, N.Y. 10012 (212) 533-4335

May, 1996

Dear Friend of the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute,

We take heart from the fact that more and more people join us to work for peace everyday. But this means that the demands on our resources are also growing. Because of your generosity we've been able to keep making more grants, distributing literature and offering more assistance to our sponsored groups. However, as the need grows the Muste Institute relies on your continued and increased support.

We are getting more grant applications than ever and we have to reject too many worthy projects because we simply don't have the money. Many of these are groups you're not likely to have heard of until you read about them in *Muste Notes*. All of them are doing important work for peace and justice. The Institute has committed to increase our general grantmaking this year by at least twenty percent. To help make this possible, we are working to expand our base of supporters. This is vital to our future survival and our ability to increase our assistance to nonviolent organizations. But, of course, it takes time and money to attract new contributors.

Our International Nonviolence Training Fund has made important connections and contributions to groups in Croatia, the Philippines, Zimbabwe, Germany and Russia. This fund is showing great promise, but it is still just getting started. The original $20,000 that was contributed to start this program is almost exhausted. We need your help so we can look for new funding sources for this program. Our efforts will be focused on grants and institutional support based on our unique ability to locate and identify groups opposing violence in communities all over the world.

It has been several years since we issued new pamphlets. We're considering some good material and we truly hope that 1996 will be the year when we add at least two new titles to our list. We continue to provide several thousand pamphlets each year to schools, organizations, study groups and bookstores free or at cost. Our distribution has fallen off a little bit and we plan to devote extra effort (and expense) to promoting our literature to new audiences. The enduring messages from Martin Luther King, Jr., Barbara Deming, Emma Goldman, Paul Goodman, Henry David Thoreau and others should continue to inspire and challenge new activists joining our movement.

(over, please)

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