

# The American Foundation On Nonviolence

598 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022  
PLaza 9-2700

December 11, 1972

TO: Mrs. Sylvia Meagher

Dear Friend:

In the spring of 1963, in the midst of mass arrests of demonstrators in Birmingham, you advanced \$ 50.00 to our predecessor, the Gandhi Society for Human Rights Inc. Your loan combined with loans of many others enabled us to establish the Birmingham Bail Fund.

On March 23, 1967, we were able to return ten percent of your advance upon our receipt of partial returns of bail monies from the Bondsman.

There is enclosed, herewith, \$ 20.00 representing an additional 40% repayment. We regret that the remaining 50% of your advance cannot be repaid until litigation which we were compelled to initiate in Alabama has been resolved.

The initial arrests involved over 3,400 persons and the underlying legal issues behind the mass arrests took almost six years to be finally resolved in our favor by the Courts. While we expected some complications and delays, the disputes we encountered in dealing with the Bondsman were so many that it became necessary to seek the intervention of the Federal Court. We, thereupon, brought suit in the U.S. Federal District Court in Alabama for an accounting from the local bail bondsman, The Reliable Bonding Company, which in due course could lead to the release of cash deposited by the Birmingham Bail Fund.

We are hopeful that there will be a satisfactory resolution of this litigation and that you will receive final repayment of your entire loan in the not too distant future. Please accept again our thanks for your initial assistance and our appreciation of your subsequent patience. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to write.

Very truly yours,

AMERICAN FOUNDATION ON NONVIOLENCE

by 