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December 3, 2003

Dear Friend:

I am pleased to inform you of exciting new developments taking place at the Albert Einstein Institution. We had a highly productive year, with the completion of a major book, several important media articles, two new publications, a totally redesigned web site, and progress on translations. In addition, our Board of Directors recently added four new members and agreed to launch an aggressive development and expansion plan that includes creating a new staff position to focus on fundraising. We are confident that this will have a major positive impact on the output and reach of the Institution's activities in 2004 and beyond. In order to maintain our momentum, however, we need your continued support.

For over twenty years, the Albert Einstein Institution has advanced the worldwide study and strategic use of nonviolent action in conflicts throughout the world. Through our unique mission, we have developed and publicized nonviolent struggle as an alternative to both violence and passive submission in the face of acute conflicts. By getting information to dissidents and resistance groups that need it most, we give people the tools they need to empower themselves and fight for freedom and democracy.

Your continued support is crucial in furthering our efforts in the coming year. Some highlights from 2003 include:

- *Groundbreaking research*

The manuscript is now complete for Gene Sharp's new book, *Waging Nonviolent Struggle: Twentieth Century Practice and Twenty-first Century Potential*. This book includes collaboration by Joshua Paulson, research assistance by Hardy Merriman and Chris Miller, and chapters written by several other authors, including Dr. Mohammed Raqib and Professor Nathan Stoltzfus. Its 39 chapters contain unprecedented guidance for planning strategic nonviolent struggle. It also contains 23 historical case studies of nonviolent struggle, including a new chapter on

the struggle by Pashtun Muslims against the British in the North-West Frontier Province of India in 1930-1934. A publisher is already interested in publishing this work.

Albert Einstein Institution Board Chair Robert Helvey is also in the final stages of editing a manuscript on strategic planning for nonviolent struggle. His writing has been supported by the United States Institute of Peace.

- *Dissemination of ideas*

Gene Sharp was interviewed for major articles in the June 2003 issue of *Reason* magazine (enclosed), the spring issue of *TeenSpeak* magazine, and the summer issue of *Peace* magazine (Canada) (enclosed). His work also received mention in *Newsday*, *USA Today*, and *Peacework* magazine. Also, Gene's entry, "Nonviolent Struggle and the Media", has been published in the important *Encyclopedia of International Media and Communication*. This will be used by journalists and should lead to a greater understanding of the dynamics of nonviolent action in future media coverage.

In addition, our work has spread significantly through the worldwide web. Our newly redesigned web site (www.aeinstein.org) was launched in November. Furthermore, visits to our site are up 50% over last year, and we have had people from over 100 different countries access our site during 2003. Our work is now featured on web sites for groups from many parts of the world, including Iranians, Eritreans, Venezuelans, Zimbabweans, Cuban dissidents, Serbians, and Belarussians.

Finally, in June, Gene Sharp spoke on nonviolent action to the Iranian Studies Group at MIT. His lecture notes and some Albert Einstein Institution publications were placed on their web site as well for download.

- *Education of democratic opposition leaders*

In response to numerous requests for assistance from Venezuela, we referred opposition leaders there to Albert Einstein Institution Board Chair Robert Helvey. Under separate auspices, Helvey and assistant Chris Miller conducted a two-week workshop for Venezuelan opposition groups in April.

Robert Helvey also conducted two week-long workshops in Bethlehem and Ramallah in the West Bank in August 2003 and has consulted with democratic opposition groups from Zimbabwe.

- *New publications*

We issued two new publications in 2003; *There Are Realistic Alternatives* and *The Anti-Coup*. *There Are Realistic Alternatives* is a short, serious introduction to nonviolent struggle, its applications, and strategic thinking. *The Anti-Coup* details measures that civilians, civil society, and governments can take to prevent and block coups d'état and executive usurpations.

This year we also issued a second US printing of *From Dictatorship to Democracy* because of high demand. This and our two new publications were all placed for free download on our web site in May, and since then, each has been downloaded hundreds of times. In addition, we have also finalized a Spanish translation of *From Dictatorship to Democracy*, which is currently in its final stages of production. When complete it will also be available on our web site for download.

We are incredibly grateful that your support has enabled us to accomplish so much in this last year. Furthermore, demand for our work continues to increase, and we need your continued firm support to bring us into 2004 and beyond. We need to hire for and fund our new fundraising position in the coming year, and our Board's decision to focus on Institution expansion and development will require significant resources in order to be successful. Our two full-time support staff, Hardy Merriman and Jamila Raqib, are severely stretched with filling information requests, editing manuscripts, and the myriad of other duties that make our organization successful. In this year alone, interest in our work has been shown for places like China, Tibet, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Iran, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Zimbabwe, Togo, Venezuela and Colombia. Your support helps us respond to this interest as quickly as possible with the best resources available.

As we are on the brink of both exciting new developments and financial challenges, we ask that you give generously this year. Please consider increasing significantly your contribution if possible. As war, dictatorships, religious and ethnic violence, and genocide continue, the amount of work we have to do is enormous. Your support for our work

advancing the use of nonviolent struggle in conflicts around the world will help us meet that challenge.

Sincere wishes,

Gene Sharp
Senior Scholar

Sincere wishes,

Robert Helvey
Chair, Board of Directors