

LUCKACS' STATEMENT

The signers of this appeal turn to the American public with the conviction that they express a deep apprehension, which is alive in thousands of European intellectuals, concerning the matter of Angela Davis. The Dreyfus Affair in Europe, the tragic fate of Sacco and Vanzetti in America, have proven to every rational person that if prejudices against the accused are systematically and demagogically spread and encouraged it is possible to take a man's freedom and even to allow him to be murdered while formally obeying all the rules of judicial procedure.

Everything indicates that just such a psychological campaign is already being waged in preparation for Angela Davis' judicial murder. Two kinds of prejudice are being mobilized against her. The first and most important is racial hatred, which aims at terrorizing a group of people fighting for their freedom through the attack on a particular ~~in~~ victim. The second kind of prejudice is directed against left-winged militants. One does not have to agree with the ideas of Angela Davis in order to respect her for living her cause and sacrificing herself for it, or to see through the nature and aims of a demagoguery that threatens her freedom. The signers of this appeal are united in their anxiety that an assault is being prepared, within the formal, irreproachable workings of the judicial system, against an innocent human being, and through her, a collective assault against millions of people.

We therefore turn to the representatives of the most diverse ideologies and views for whom, however, democracy and justice--in whatever way they may interpret these terms--are no empty phrases, so that through the force of opposing public opinion injustice, which is now being perpetrated, will be impeded and Angela Davis will again be given her freedom.