

24th June 1986

Miss Mary Benson  
The Mayflower Hotel  
61st Street and Central Park West  
New York  
New York 10023  
USA

Dear Mary

Thank you for your letter of June 11.

I do not recall Sobukwe ever speaking in personally unpleasant terms about Mandela. He certainly disagreed with Mandela and he believed that Mandela had espoused a left-wing outlook. But he did not, at least to me, speak in any harsh way.

As you say they sewed mail bags alongside each other and discussed politics. These conversations confirmed Sobukwe's belief as to where Mandela stood in that particular spectrum.

It might be wise to be a bit careful about Gail Gerhart's reporting. Because of the difficulties of recording Sobukwe, I know that she made notes AFTER meetings with him in Kimberley. I saw those notes. There were clearly inaccuracies which must have come about because of faulty recollection on her part through misunderstanding of what Sobukwe had said to her.

I am, in turn intrigued by the reference in your letter that "Sobukwe consulted Slovo re possible appeals for PAC followers". Could you let me have some information about this?

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We have moved into our house in West Hampstead and are busy getting it into shape. We look forward to seeing you there.

All good wishes,

Yours sincerely

Benjamin Pogrud

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