

2 Lindsley Drive
Larchmont, N.Y. 10538

Oct. 19, 1967

Dear Hilda,

I'm terribly sorry to have to report that we have decided not to do an American edition of the book. As you know, I was for it and I think I more or less took it for granted that my colleagues (who outnumber me 2-to-1 on the Press's policy board) would agree with me. On this I was wrong.

The reason has nothing to do with your being a "self-confessed Communist." Nor is it because Leo and Harry Braverman didn't like the book; they found it as absorbing as I did. The problem is, as you thought possible, one of salability, but in a rather special sense. MR Press has had uniformly bad luck with books which might be described as journalistic. And the reason seems to be that the demand for them, which may be potentially very substantial at the time of publication, doesn't last very long and doesn't include a high ~~exp~~ proportion of libraries and other institutional buyers. We are not - at least not yet - in a position to tap that kind of demand on a satisfactory scale. We do not have a sales force to cover the bookstore field; we do rely heavily on library sales; and we have to count on the demand's lasting for 3 or 4 or more years. Harry and Leo thought that for these reasons your book would in all probability involve us in a financial loss which, unfortunately we have to avoid like the plague for obvious reasons. I'm not so sure, but I certainly wasn't in a position to prove them wrong.

We enjoyed the dinner at your house so much and often speak of you and Rusty. I do hope there'll be a chance to get together again in the not-too-distant future. In the meantime, Zirel joins in sending warmest regards to you all.

Yours ever,


Paul M. Sweezy

MONTHLY REVIEW

116 West 14th St.

New York, N.Y. 10011



13¢ AIR MAIL



Mrs. Hilda Bernstein
43, Frognal
London N.W. 3
England

AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

FIRST FOLD

SECOND FOLD

INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS
381 Park Avenue South
New York, N. Y. 10016

January 23, 1968

Mrs. Hilda Bernstein
43 Frognal
London, N.W.3, England

Dear Mrs. Bernstein:

We have had to come to the conclusion, regretfully, that we could not manage the publication of your book, THE WORLD THAT WAS OURS.

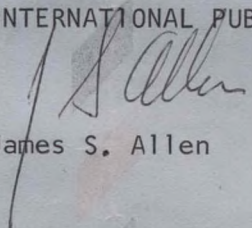
The people that we ordinarily reach with books of general interest would not react positively to any real extent to a book about South Africa by a white author especially when it deals with the freedom movement there. On the other hand, to reach a general audience, a kind of promotion is required that only a bigger publisher could undertake.

I do think your book should be published here and that you should try for a publisher who could do it justice.

In any case, thanks for letting me see it.

Sincerely yours,

INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS


James S. Allen

JSA:cc

International Publishers
381 Park Ave. South
New York, N. Y. 10016
U.S.A.



FOLD SIDES
MOISTEN FLAP



Mrs. Hilda Bernstein
43 Frogal
London, N.W.3, ENGLAND

AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

FIRST FOLD

SECOND FOLD

DO NOT USE TAPE OR STI

NO ENCLOSURES

Wilton, N.H. 03086

August 11, 1969

Hilda Bernstein
5 Rothwell St.
London N.W. 1
England

Dear Hilda,

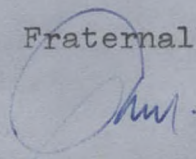
It was very good to hear from you.

As I think I told you, or at least clearly indicated, I was in favor of our publishing your book when it came out but was overruled by my colleagues' (probably sounder) judgment of its potential in this country.

We will certainly be glad to reconsider when we have an editorial meeting after my return to New York early in September. In the meantime, it might help us to decide if we had (1) a record of the sales of the British edition, and (2) copies of reviews which have been published in the U.K. or elsewhere. My own feeling is that if we did decide to take the book at this time, a fairly long essay - probably as a new introduction rather than postscript - placing it in the perspective of the subsequent (and future) struggle in S. Africa would be most desirable. And perhaps a new title directly indicating the ~~xxx~~ S. African subject matter.

Zirel and I are going to be in Rome for a sociological conference around the middle of September and hope to be able to include a visit to London. If we succeed, we'll certainly get in touch. It would be good to see you and Rusty again.

Fraternally,



Paul M. Sweezy

* Send these items to N.Y. if you can get hold of them.

Send to
MR Press 148 St.
116 West
New York,
NY
10011

P.M. Sweezy

Wilton, N.H. 03086



Hilda Bernstein
5 Rothwell St.
London N.W. 1
England

FIRST FOLD

AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

SECOND FOLD

MARGRIT DE SABLONIERE

The Coward

MEPPEL, 13-12-68
Zuideinde 90 - Tel. (05220) 3895

Dear Hilda, it is NO. You will have heard so from Mrs Leresche to who they have written. They did not take the trouble to let me know. When I called them a fortnight ago they said it was not yet decided. They say it is too big, too many pages.....They said so before- that it might be too big(?) and then I asked them urgently with a special letter than to decide immediately on NO. But they kept me on a string. They told me they had asked Mrs Leresche if they were allowed to send the reading copy to me. If so I can send it straight on to Bruna Utrecht. You will understand how angry I am. This publisher was my own publisher and left. I sent him a nice letter now but that does not help for your book. I DO GO ON. If only they can send the book to me. More later I am so sorry

Marg

5 Rothwell St,
London, N.W.1.,
England.

19/8/69

Dear Paul,

Here are photostats of some of the reviews. There were others in magazines and trade union journals, but they were a nuisance to put in the photostat machine, and in any case the important ones are there - the Observer, Sunday Times, New Statesman, New Society. A precis has been published in 'Foreign Literature', I have a Japanese edition and Hungarian edition (of 10,000 copies) on the presses, also German translation that is going to both Germanys, and a Czech translation now being made.

Heinemanns tell me British sales are approximately 1,500, from an original print order of 2,400. I think this is pretty feeble, but they say it isn't so bad. They did no promotion whatsoever of the book, other than one small ad. in the New Statesman, and a few hundred postcards that were sent mainly to friends of mine.

I agree about a fairly long essay needed to bring the picture up to date. The book would then say, in effect, a military struggle is being waged in Southern Africa against white supremacy. The freedom movement is entirely committed to armed struggle, and believes there is today no alternative. But why? And this book supplies the answer, the background, tracing the failure of non-violent methods, the smashing of legal struggle, the breaking of the widespread underground organisations, the culminating point of which was the Rivonia trial, and the way in which armed struggle was forced on us, became inevitable. I am awfully keen to get it done in the USA, and as you are probably aware this is not because of personal rewards - (what one gets in money for this type of books is what we call 'peanuts') but because people don't know about our struggle - lots and lots of books have appeared in the past few years about prisoners, being in jail, suffering, etc, but not one yet to tell what happened to make us decide on armed struggle. And of course this is by no means the most satisfactory vehicle BUT it's the only one as yet, therefore I hope it will be used until the better, definitive book appears.

Basil Davidson has just published an excellent book on Portuguese Guinea, and one on Mozambique by the murdered Mondlane came out at the same time (both cheap, Penguin specials).

I hope very much you will come to London in September, and if you want to be put up for a couple of nights, we would love to have you.

Best wishes



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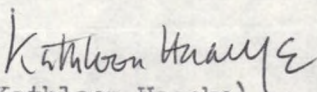
24th January, 1968

Dear Mrs. Bernstein,

Thank you for your letter of 11th January, which I am sorry not to have been able to answer earlier. Unfortunately, even now I have to send you a disappointing reply, as there are no plans at the moment for a repeat of the Schools programme on Human Rights, and there is no news of publication at present. I am afraid, too, that we are not able to let you have a script.

I much regret that on this occasion I have to be so unhelpful.

Yours sincerely,


(Kathleen Haacke)

Head of Programme Correspondence Section

Mrs. H. Bernstein,
43, Frognal,
N.W.3.

MLR



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01/CT/S/BHA

15th February 1968

Miss E. Wright,
William Heinemann Ltd.,
15-16 Queen Street,
W.1.

Dear Miss Wright,

We should like to make available to our Education Officers for purposes of demonstration in training colleges, the recording of the Schools programme "Human Rights" broadcast on 10th January, which contained an excerpt under two minutes in length from "The World that was Ours" by Hilda Bernstein. I hope you can authorise this for our usual demonstration fee of 10s. 6d. and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

B Alexander

Copyright Department

wtps

01/CT/S/BHA

43 Frogna1,

N.W.3.

19/2/68

Dear B.H. Alexander,

Heinemann's have sent me on your letter concerning the 'Human Rights' broadcast. I thought I had mentioned - but perhaps did not - when sending back the original contract for broadcasting, that I hold all radio and TV rights on the book. Therefore, on such matters, you can write to me direct.

You have my permission to use the 'Human Rights' broadcast containing an excerpt from my book, "The World that was Ours", as you wish.

I heard the second broadcast that made up the 'Human Rights' programme, and thought it very good - interesting and stimulating. Unfortunately I could not listen to the first part. If you ever have to write to me again about anything, could you tell me what was the extract from the book used ~~in~~ in the programme? This is simply curiosity, and of no great importance.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs) Hilda Bernstein



BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

PO BOX 1AA BROADCASTING HOUSE LONDON W1

TELEPHONE 01-580 4468 TELEGRAMS BROADCASTS LONDON TELEX

CABLES BROADCASTS LONDON-W1 TELEX 22182

01/CT/S/BHA

15th March 1968

Mrs. Hilda Bernstein,
43 Frognal,
N.W.3.

Dear Mrs. Bernstein,

Many thanks for your letter of 19th February regarding demonstration use of the "Human Rights" programme. I am very sorry that everything seems to have gone wrong as regards our previous dealings with you, since it appears from our index card that we paid the broadcasting fee to Heinemann - evidently in error; but when I asked our filing department for the correspondence in order to check up, it transpired that it had been mislaid! Please accept our apologies for this chapter of accidents. I have asked Heinemann (whose Accounts Department did not realise that a mistake had been made) to forward to you the fee of £2.6.0. which we paid to them. I have authorised payment of the demonstration fee to you, and I expect you will have received a cheque by now.

The extract from your book was about Peter and began "A curious little episode took place in Pretoria", ending "All this, just for stating publicly that in his opinion apartheid could not be justified on religious grounds".

Yours sincerely,

B G Alexander

Copyright Department

wtps

P

Perspectives

PUBLICATION OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

5, Möllwaldplatz

A-1040 VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Tel. 65 42 04

14/9/67

Vienna, 30th August 1967

Mrs. Hilda Bernstein,
43 Frognal,
LONDON, N.W.3,
England.

Dear Hilda,

I arrived back from holiday to find both your letters and the article on Lutuli. Thank you very much. We like it very much and want to publish it as it stands with one of the photos. We shall return these as soon as possible.

On Monday the post also brought your book, for which many thanks and we shall of course review it (though not in the October number which is almost ready for press). I started reading in the tram going home and haven't put it down since - in every free moment and into the night. This morning, seeing I had reached the last few pages, my husband said: "Well, thank goodness you've nearly finished it. Perhaps I shall be able to get a word in now!" So, as you can see, it certainly caught my imagination and I think it is very good indeed. You manage to combine the personal impression with the general political situation very well. And the build-up of tension is also captured on both fronts. My only regret as I finished was that the time has not come for the second volume!

I feel now that I must go back to Ruth First. You may remember my telling you I did not think she had succeeded in her book, as the personal detail seemed to me then to have obliterated the more general. I want to see now whether I was right. But in any case, I think your book is first-rate writing and should be a great success. Congratulations!

Hope the boat trip went well and was in fact something of a holiday and not too much organising and sheer hard work. Our holiday was sunny and very pleasant - Yugoslavia and southern Austria.

All the best,

Mary.

P.S. Have you considered writing a collection of sketches about some of the people involved in South Africa? You must have a host of material and impressions. Don't stop writing now!

P.P.S. In your article you spell the Chief "Lutuli", but in your book "Luthuli". Which do you want us to use? Is either one more correct than the other?



Perspectives

ORGANE DU CONSEIL MONDIAL DE LA PAIX

5, Möllwaldplatz

A-1040 VIENNE — AUTRICHE

Téléphone 65 42 04

Vienna, 26 September 1967

Mrs. Hilda Bernstein,
43 Frognal,
London N.W.3.

Dear Hilda,

Thanks for your letter. Just to let you know about two things.

Firstly, you will be receiving £11 for your article and photo. Unfortunately one cannot send so much in any one month, so we are sending you the first £7 this week and the rest will come in October.

Secondly, regarding your book. Walter Diehl asks you to get your publishers to send him a copy at once to his address in Germany (D 6689 Merchweiler/Saar, Allenfeldring 7) as he will shortly be meeting the head of the Stimme Verlag, Frankfurt, and could see if they were interested. As for Austria, should the Frankfurt one not bite, there is the Socialist publishing house here (EUROPAVERLAG, Wien 3., Rennweg 1), who have published a number of progressive books and might well be interested. They have a sister organisation in Germany, so this would reach both markets. It might be worth sending them a copy simultaenously. Finally, Tomas Bacskai asks you to get your publishers to send him one too, as he believes their main publishing house in Hungary might take it. The only reason they might not, is that they recently brought out Ruth First's book and the market on such a subject is limited. Anyway, try these out as first attempts.

I haven't seen any reviews yet - have there been any? I stand by my first opinion, so you don't need to "sulk" inwardly or otherwise. Re James Bond - well at least he sold well!! Actually I believe your book would make a very good film. I have re-read Ruth First and still feel it isn't a patch on yours, all honour to her courage and integrity notwithstanding.

Every good wish,

may

SEVEN SEAS BOOKS

A Collection of Works by Writers in the English Language



SEVEN SEAS PUBLISHERS · BERLIN W 8 · GLINKASTRASSE 13-15

May 21st, 1969

Mrs. Hilda Bernstein,
43 Fregnal,
London. N.W.3.

Dear Mrs. Bernstein,

It was lovely meeting you and talking to you, even if it was such a short time. I am sorry that it was not possible for us to get together and discuss some of the problems of Seven Seas Books. As you know we have, in the past, brought out a number of works by South African authors. One of the original aims of Seven Seas Books was to publish authors who were black-listed in their own country. This applied to the McCarthy era in the United States, and I do not need to tell you that it still holds good for South African authors. If you know of any South African authors who are looking for a publisher, please put them on to us.

As I told you I wrote to Sybille about a project in which we have been interested for some time and which has never been realised. It is an anthology on apartheid - a book which would do for the Antiapartheid movement what our book HARLEM, U.S.A. did for the U.S. civil rights and black freedom movement. In other words a book which would contain

articles
short stories
poems
essays
speeches
photographs
paintings
sculpture

All by South African writers, artists, etc.

I would very much appreciate it if you could give this some thought. Perhaps you could talk it over with people there who might be able to help.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,
SEVEN SEAS BOOKS
Seven Seas Publishers

Kay Pankey
Kay Pankey
Chief Editor

KP/rd

TELEPHONE: BERLIN 225851 · CABLE ADDRESS: SEVENSEASBERLIN

Verlag Neues Leben · 108 Berlin · Behrenstr. 40/41

Einschreiben

Herrn
Hermann-Otto Lauterbach

1502 Potsdam-Babelsberg
Blumenweg 22

Ihre Zeichen	Ihre Nachricht vom	Fernruf-Durchwahl 203 2737	Unsere Zeichen Mey/Hg	108 Berlin, den 22.4.75
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Betreff: Sehr geehrter Herr Lauterbach,

darf ich Sie wieder mal mit einem Manuskript "überfallen" (ich hatte schon mit Ihrer Frau darüber gesprochen)? Es handelt sich um "The Saboteurs" von Hilda Bernstein, zu dem ich Sie um ein Gutachten bitten möchte. Von der Autorin ist in der DDR schon mal ein Titel mit Südafrika-Thematik erschienen. Diese vorliegende Geschichte ist noch nicht veröffentlicht, sie existiert vorerst nur als Manuskript. Ich habe schon ziemlich widersprüchliche Gutachten zu dieser Geschichte erhalten, und mir liegt deshalb sehr viel an Ihrem Urteil, da Sie den Manuskripten doch immer sehr auf den Grund gehen.

Wir haben vor kurzem allerdings einen Südafrika-Roman einer anderen Autorin veröffentlicht, würden aber einen weiteren Titel dieser Thematik bringen, wenn er - abgesehen von politisch akzeptabler Information - handlungsbetont und spannend ist und vor allem jüngere Leser interessiert. Könnten Sie das Gutachten bis 30. Mai 1975 schreiben? Hoffentlich ist Ihnen dieser Termin recht.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen
VERLAG NEUES LEBEN

gez.
Lotte Meyer

F. d. R. Hennig,

§ 44 Halpe Bure "the council"
lort den "Hunan Highb. Council"
auf > Er unterschreit fult do!
> mit de Ballu ylu!

Emilove Debratter Disch + Deryie
ohne haibsch. - cradle Horn
Pappete on the -bray!

§ 62 Von ih in Ostru sein

§ 64 Sabotege - Kungyue

Symbol of fastheid

There are no unwarant people

§ 70 Scolorne - Welbete
a vanian geord

§ 96 Statulid Gh - Exchel

§ 98 !!

§ 202 Geiffel de Keyberie!

5 Rothwell Street,
London, N.W.1. 8YH.

Sat 23 Sep 72

Dear John,

I received your manuscript on the book shortly before going to the GDR (East Germany to you) with Rusty for two weeks, so read it greedily, was satisfied, and put it on one side. This morning the manuscript arrived (thanks, did Ursula like it?) so out came your letter and I feel I must try and reply, if only in gratitude for the trouble you have taken.

First, I am satisfied now that you and Hugh have both generally approved the book, each with some reservations and criticisms of course. I need this bolstering, because of the difficulties of publication. (It's been with the fifth publisher for more than a month, which means either that their reader has been on holiday or else that they are seriously considering it). It's silly to want this reassurance, but I need it. I particularly needed it from you chaps, for the inside experience (in all senses of 'inside though how you would have told me you thought it was really no good at all, if that is what you had thought, I do not know.

The trouble with your letter is that you raise some very complicated problems. They are problems that arise from your assessment of the book, but then they remain as problems, book or no book. For example (I quote you) 'And when they have sold out - had they really? If you love someone and they do that do you stop loving them? Do you love people for what they are or for what you want them to be?' This needs a whole book written about it. I wrote in the first book 'We had to come to terms with betrayal.' And tried then to explain the need for justification to oneself. But your question: Yes, I stopped loving, not because the person 'let me down' in the sense of what I wanted him to be, but because what you do changes what you are (I got that from Bettelheim 'The Informed Heart', this came from the horror of the Nazi death camps, those that behaved well became better people, those who crumbled...etc) and this I truly believe. This business of loving someone for what you hope them to be: it's also a question of what you, the loving one, is, and you change too. It's too complicated to write about it, we must discuss it. I loved Jeff Rudin (cliche but true) as though he were my son - in many ways I compared my own elder son unfavourably with Jeff. When he became a state witness I came to accept that this was not the Jeff I had loved (too difficult here to argue about whether he ever was, etc) for what he did had changed what he was, and went on changing him. What I experienced changed what I was, too, and continues to work like never-dying yeast. Those permanent qualities of love, loyalty, courage, purpose, are not permanent, the ingredients are always in you but circumstances stamp out some, build others. We never stop changing, and if we do, we might as well lie down and die.

Some of the points you raise - e.g., why only Xhosa names - are simply due to crass ignorance on my part, the haphazard choosing of a remembered name without any other thought. You did your

one-up-manship on the Africans, another friend did it on the Indians. I had simply jumbled up Hindu and Moslem names, given an obvious Hindu a Moslem uncle, or vice versa - this was corrected before you got the book. Not important to most readers, but necessary to correct from point of view of authenticity.

The general remarks you make at the beginning: what weaknesses there are in the direction of the book, as a novel, are inherent in me, arising from my own confusions. This I know. Not only in writing, but in painting, the problem of 'problems' is not only insoluble to me, but pulls me first over one way, then the other. I did not set out to write a book about SA and its problems. I wanted to write a good story about people and what happens to them under pressure and to try to find out why (I didn't, of course). Unfortunately for my own ambitions as a novelist, my life's conditioning began to obtrude. In the end, it had to be 'politically right', in the sense that it would not be destructive or harmful to our deepest wishes for SA, and in the end, I think I know, anything I create will be conditioned by such needs. So that someone with my background and experiences can never aspire to pure writing or painting - but I don't believe there is such a thing! On a simpler level, the painting for instance. I made a couple of pictures that really pleased me, simply scenery in a general and decorative sense. I wanted to make more. Meanwhile I keep thinking of Uganda and those Asians and the deadlines and what might happen to them (or else its Vietnam, or Biafra or Bangla Desh or simply the lives of people in big cities) and I MUST draw it, I must express it. Oh, to live in the late bourgeois world, surrounded by its values and its critics and all that entails, and to belong to something totally different! Trying to conform - yes in many senses, in writing and in painting (I keep trying to get more abstract because it's more 'modern', keep revolting and go back to neo-figurative!) because one wants recognition, trying to satisfy the fashions, the attitudes of the one while not believing in them . . .

Anyway, one can go on like this for days.

Meanwhile, I do really appreciate the trouble you took, and all the minor corrections of spelling, and so on, which are really rather important. And thank you also, for not thinking (or at least not conveying the idea that you thought) it was all a waste of time. Thanks for saying it's good. I do know it's not great, and I'm prepared to accept what I have achieved on that basis (not modesty, simply honesty) and want one day to strive after what I have not been able to achieve.

Greetings to all the family!

27 April 1988

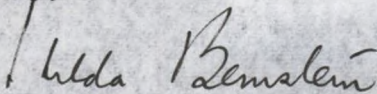
Dear Robert Molteno,

I hope you will find time to read this book, for which I am seeking a publisher.

Although, as you will see, it was published in 1967, I believe it has much relevance today, not only for the description of the trial of Nelson Mandela and others. I still today receive enquiries and requests for copies from both Britain and the USA. But it has been out of print for a long time, which is why I am asking you to return this copy to me if you do not wish to publish the book; I have only two copies left.

It has never been published in paper-back.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hilda Bernstein". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Hilda Bernstein

28/7/88

Dear John,

I always tend towards off-beat theories, so accept further evidence for Arthur Koestler in the fact that I received your 'June' letter just half an hour after having phoned Robert about TWTWO. (I spoke to him because I had forgotten he told me that you were handling the book.)

I see that your enthusiasm has to be balanced against Zed's finances - I do not feel optimistic about the outcome.

It's a bit difficult to press one's own merits (though I do succeed in overcoming a natural reluctance from time to time) - or the merits of the book. I have had nothing but raving enthusiasm from everyone who has spoken to me about it - presumably the negative ones keep silence. Over the years I get constant requests from people all over Britain and in the USA for copies of the book. I am convinced that it is very relevant for today. I would like to make some cuts, other alterations if possible. I have already written a prologue that would bring the book into the present. I do understand the necessity that your co-op has to balance its merits against the substantial factual - perhaps more 'heavy' or weighty - material that has now become an industry of its own (at the library of the Swedish Institute they complained bitterly about the lack of shelf room for books about South Africa). But perhaps that is in its favour - from time to time you must balance the objective against the subjective. The personal story has immense appeal.

The book had an unfortunate history at Heinemanns connected with upheavals and changes in managerial and editorial staff; which accounts for the unappetising presentation - the anonymous cover, etc. The only concession they made to me was to reduce some of the curly, romantic old-world twiddles on the title. I hold all rights on the book.

As for having by-passed the Mandela 25th anniversary - I can assure you from inside information that the Mandela bandwagon is not only going to continue to roll, but will increase in momentum, and there is no doubt that we will find enough relevant anniversaries to give the book's issue topicality.

All right, I will wait until September.

Best wishes

Hilda Bernstein



ZED BOOKS

57 Caledonian Road · London N1 9BU · Tel: 01-837 4014/0384

24 June 1988

Ms Hilda Bernstein
Old House Farm
Dorstone
Hereford
HR3 6BL

Dear Hilda Bernstein

This is just a short note to confirm that Robert Molteno has passed on to me your copy of THE WORLD THAT WAS OURS. The question of its republication is being seriously considered by the Zed Co-op at the present time, but we are not yet close to a decision.

I must say I was thrilled to have the chance to make a case on behalf of the book. I myself read the book about 15 years ago when I was living in Swaziland and was loaned a copy by the late Vernon Berrange. I can recall being incredibly moved and gripped by the book and 'devouring' it in a single session. I never actually saw another copy of the book in circulation and have always wanted to possess it myself. I must say, however, that the only negative feeling I had about the book at the time I read it was in regard to the title. I felt then (and still do) that, without a sub-title, it is a singularly uninformative title in that it actually tells one nothing about the contents of the book and thus fails to fulfil a vital marketing function, namely of catching the reader's attention and persuading him/her to open the book or at least to read the back cover blurb. Thus, my thoughts on any re-issue of the book would have also to carry a sub-title attached to the main title. However, that is a matter for the future. At the present time, we have the problem of trying to decide whether we can fit this particular book into our publishing programme. As you know, Zed is a small operation, publishing only about 40 books per year, covering a range over the whole Third World. This means that we can publish no more than about 12 to 15 books on Africa each year and, of those, only a few can deal with Southern Africa. At the present time, we have a number of Southern African manuscripts in the pipeline and, as you well know, the bookshops are groaning under the weight of South African material. This makes it difficult for me to persuade my colleagues that we should reissue a book already some 20 years old. It would have been easier had this book been given to us a year or two ago, where its publication could have been timed to coincide with present events marking the 25th anniversary of the sentences.

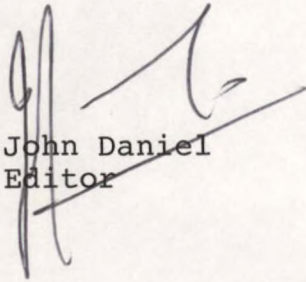
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However, please be assured that I will do whatever I can. As I said earlier, it is a book that I would like to see in circulation again and I will make every effort on its behalf. I am assuming that there is no problem with regard to the copyright.

I will be in touch again as soon as I can.

Yours sincerely,



John Daniel
Editor

PS. To my horror, I have just discovered that this letter dictated in June was not sent to you. I apologise profusely.

The situation now is that the co-op will decide in September on your book - you will have a definite decision then.



ZED BOOKS

57 Caledonian Road · London N1 9BU · Tel: 01-837 4014/0384

25 October 1988

Hilda Bernstein
Old House Farm
Dorstone
Herefordshire
HR3 6BL

Dear Hilda

I hope that you had a good and safe trip to wherever it was that you were going. The Sexwale manuscript arrived safely and I passed it on to a colleague who is our woman's and culture editor and she is evaluating it. A superficial glance suggested that it was a most promising project. Hopefully, we will decide we can do it.

However, the main reason for this letter is to convey to you the disappointing news that we have decided we cannot offer you a contract for the reprint of your book. I battled hard and long but there were too many difficulties to overcome. What really finally sank the project was the realisation that we could not ensure we could have the book out by next June, which everyone agreed was crucial for a successful relaunch of it. The reason for that is that, due to our financial difficulties, we have had to cut back drastically on our production programme this year and so numerous titles have slipped down our list and it is really quite impossible to insert a new title and pre-empt these others, upon which a good deal of money has already been spent in the course of production. In fact, it became clear that we would not be able to bring out the book until 1990 and, in these circumstances, I concluded that it was best for you to pursue the option with Rob Turrell. I have spoken to Rob and he assured me that he wants to do the book, has agreed with you that he is doing it, and that he can have it out in time for the 25th anniversary in June. I have offered to talk to him about ways in which Zed could assist this operation but he seems to feel confident that he can not only produce the book but adequately market it.

I feel really embarrassed about this and deeply regretful. I really wanted to see the book added to our list but, as I said to you many times on the phone, we are a democratic co-op and it is virtually impossible for an editor to pursue a pet project to its conclusion without the backing of the co-op and I just did not have that backing for a reissue of an old title. Even though I made the point that it would have some fresh material, and a new look about it, my colleagues still felt that we needed to develop a more coherent policy with regard to reprints and that it was not wise to embark on a one-off venture.

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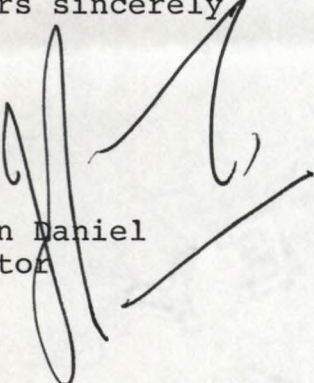
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I do hope that Rob will be able to bring to an end the unfortunate history of this book. I, for my part, will keep in touch with him and if there is any way I/we can give him help, it will be forthcoming.

With regrets and best wishes.

Yours sincerely

John Daniel
Editor



PS. Hope the book got back to you safely/
mailed last week

Pathfinder Distribution Ltd

47 The Cut, London SE1 8LL

Tel: 071 261 1354

Fax: 071 928 7970

To Hilda Bernstein.

14.9.93.

Dear Hilda Bernstein,

Please find enclosed advance information about the forthcoming Pathfinder book "Nelson Mandela Speaks: Forging a Democratic, Nonracial South Africa" which is scheduled for publication on 1st November.

Pathfinder will be making a special effort to promote this book. Its publication comes during the most critical period of the fight to finally end apartheid. As the election date of April 27th 1994 draws nearer we anticipate this publication will contribute to understanding and aiding the struggle for a democratic South Africa.

The book will contain 38 speeches and interviews by Nelson Mandela, beginning with his address to a mass rally in Cape Town when he was released from prison on 11th February 1990, and ending with his speech to the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People in the United States on 10th July 1993.

Readers of the book will see from speeches made in Britain, Jamaica, Cuba, Sweden and the United States, the international significance of the changes taking place in South Africa. Many of the speeches have not been published in full before, for example his address to members of the British Parliament on 5th May this year. Through this book readers can gain a thorough insight into what it is involved in overturning the apartheid system. In these speeches Mandela explains the course being pursued by the ANC to press ahead with the elections and combat the violence; the challenges a new government in South Africa will face in having secured political power; how to use this power to begin to implement the demands of the Freedom Charter and the place of the unions, women and young people in the freedom fight.

In addition the book will include 32 pages containing some 60 photographs.

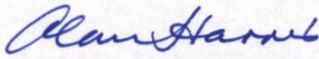
Pathfinder is also the publisher of "How Far We Slaves Have Come" by Fidel Castro and Nelson Mandela and "The Struggle Is My Life" by Nelson Mandela.

As someone who is a well known opponent of apartheid, we are asking for your collaboration in getting the book as widely known as possible. Specifically you can help by:

1. Sending us a brief statement endorsing the book. (We would send you an advance copy to facilitate this).
2. Writing a review for any newspaper or magazine which publishes your articles.

We will telephone you in the next few days to discuss this.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Harris.
for Pathfinder.

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