

213 Diamond Exchange Building,
De Villiers Street,
JOHANNESBURG.
6th November, 1964.

B. Sackon, Esq.,
Sackon & Birken,
Namaqua House,
Burg Street,
CAPE TOWN

My dear Barney,

I am enclosing a letter received from Bob Sobulow on November 3. As you will see from reading it, he is in an agitated state of mind. From my knowledge of him and after receiving letters regularly from him for the past few years, it is my impression that there has been a deterioration in him during the past few months. He seems to be brooding a great deal, and tends to become easily upset.

I am sending his most recent letter to you as I am sure that his request for an application to court will be of interest to you. Also, I think the matter can be more conveniently handled in Cape Town than up here. Do you think that anything can be done to assist him? If you think legal action is desirable, would Defence and Aid in Cape Town be willing to foot the bill? If D & A cannot do it, please let me know and I shall see about raising the cash elsewhere.

Frankly, I am surprised at the delays which Bob is experiencing in receiving his letters. The prison authorities have always done everything possible to ensure his comfort and their present actions just do not add up. The authorities will, of course, have read Bob's letter to me, and they will also see the letter which I have written in reply (copy enclosed herewith). This might overcome the difficulty he is having about his letters.

On the other hand, it might be a good idea to go to court for the "definition of rights" which Bob refers to. Perhaps even the whole basis of his detention could be challenged in court? I recall my last discussion with you about this when you said that you would have to see the detention order which was served on Bob. If you propose legal action, then I assume - correctly? - that you would be able to demand access to Bob. I have written to Bob, as you will see, to try and clarify this.

/also...

Also, I have discussed the matter with Ernie Wentzel. He is drawing up an opinion and will send this to you as soon as possible.

I shall probably be going away next week for about three weeks. But if you write your name on the back of the envelope when you reply, my secretary will forward your letter to me.

As you have probably heard, Astrid and I are now divorced. I have a flat in Hillbrow and if you ever come to Johannesburg, I shall be delighted if you will come and stay with me.

My best wishes to Ephie.

Sincerely,

BENJAMIN POHLEND

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