

P.S. Thank you for
your article. It
was typewritten
fair

Robben Island Govt.,
Robben Island.

14 July, 1965

My dear Benjie,

I really must thank you
most sincerely for the letter. It put me
right in the upper middle class. I wasn't
surprised, though it's what I expected
from you.

In my last letter I attempted to
persuade you to see the situation in
South Africa against an international
background. It then assumed its correct
proportions. I intend to pursue this aim
further in this letter.

I believe what strikes one in the
Western world, particularly, is the emergence
or desire for, the "strong leader", ~~who~~
of whom is not only intensely patriotic
but is ^{also} master of the domestic situation.
I have in mind President Johnson
de Gaulle, particularly, and Harold Wilson.
I am leaving out Franco and Salazar
for the moment: In Germany and Italy
the systems have not yet fully recovered from

the argumentation imposed by Nazism and
Fascism respectively.

Both Johnson and de Gaulle are
dynamic in domestic issues, but the
foreign policies of France appear to be
more and more both American stances
and posturings with no positive long term
synthesis. Johnson's foreign policy, on the
other hand, is extremely inept, particularly
in relation to the Asian and Latin American
countries.

Harold Wilson is dynamic too, in
the domestic field particularly, but the few
bivendous problems the image is blurred by
the precariousness of his majority in
Parliament, the delicacy of Britain's
economic position and the British refusal
to allow a leader-image to emerge at
a later stage. I'll deal with Britain fully

In the Communist Notes the dominant
issue is the ideological schism between
Soviet Moscow, reminiscent of the
split between the Catholics and the Protestant
Church in the history of Christianity.

The emphasis has been placed variously

on taking "racism", orthodox Communism
or downright aggressiveness.

I think even Wilson, socialist though
he is, has failed to appreciate the revolution
which taking intrinsigence reflects.

It is possible to explain it according to the last's
three stages of Communist government:

(a) Revolutionary Nationalist; (b) Administrative-
mediatory (c) Bureaucratic-Distributive and
to say taking is in the first and (perhaps)
in the final stage.

But I believe that the fundamental
factor is a re-appraisal of Western ideas.

There was a time, George, as you know,
(in fact as late as 1915) when the whole

world was possessed by European power. And
since the ideas which prevail at any

particular moment are those of the
ruling or dominant class, the ideas

that prevailed in the world were those
of Europe. All things were judged by

European standards. Even human beings were
divided into those of Europe and those not of

Europe. The nomenclature was European. On the
one side stood the "Europeans" or "White" - on

the other the "Non-European" & "Non-White".
And what is significant is that this terminology
has been used by the people of Africa & Asia
and Latin America without any feeling of
annoyance. We have described ourselves,
Benji, as the Negroids of one-third of
the human race!!

The revolution consists in this that
 $\frac{2}{3}$ of the human race are beginning to think
of themselves POSITIVELY and MUST soon
describe themselves POSITIVELY!!

China explodes her bomb and the
protestations from the West she replies "Why is
it fair for de Gaulle to qualify as a
Nuclear man and bad for China as fair
to do so? Why is it good for France European
powers to have Nuclear arsenals and bad
for ONE Asian power to have it? In other
words why should $\frac{2}{3}$ of the human race be
policed by $\frac{1}{3}$?"

Russia quarrels with China and withdraws
all her aid. West Germany quarrels with
Tanzania and withdraws her aid. China
and Tanzania compare notes and must
come to the conclusion that the "white
imperialists" have behaved like thieves.

the sentence.

But what moves me to the depths of my being, Bengie, is the love that Europe, America and the East bear for Africa: the missionary zeal with which the young people from these lands embrace any opportunity to be of service to the under developed countries. I feel it, particularly, when India and Pakistan, from their very limited resources, make available technicians for work in Africa and Latin America.

The youth of these countries have entered into the spirit of the revolution: they understand it, they share it. When they express disappointment or even disgust with certain aspects of African progress, I am grateful. You can only be disappointed by those you love and by those from whom you expect better things.

From my side, then, I am clearing from my dictionary the terms "Non-European", "non-white" and "coloured". I do not know yet how I shall refer to the groups traditionally so described, but the term will emerge. Much more coming!

My love to Jenny and to friends.

Yours sincerely,
Bob.

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- **Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand**

Location:- **Johannesburg**

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DOCUMENT DETAILS:

Document ID:- **A2618-Ba3-21**

Document Title:- **Letter to B Pogrund from Robben Island (copy of original handwritten) and typed transcript**

Author:- **Robert Sobukwe**

Document Date:- **1 July 1965**