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~~Received~~
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Robben Island Jail,
Robben Island.

28th June, 1967.

Mr Benjamin Pogrand,
P. O. Box 1138,
Johannesburg.

My dear Benjie,
I am writing this letter on the eve of your court appearance. It appears that you will be around for quite a while, after all, as I assume that whatever the outcome the case will be taken on appeal. You know my feelings on the matter.

I wrote to you on the 5th June before I received your letter. Thank you for it and the fine photo of you and Je-ming. She is a lovely little girl and I can understand your sorrow at having to leave her behind. And I think you look very fine without a beard - "excellentish" is the term I used in my letter of the 5th.

You have been misled by imaginative reporters, I am afraid.

Signal Hill is not visible from my quarters. And talking of imaginative reporters, when am I supposed to have made the application for an exit permit that the parliamentary reporter of the "Cape Argus" referred to when reporting the debates on my further detention? If I am not mistaken he attributed the question to Helen. I would have told you, of course, if I had made such an application.

Thank you for the overcoat: it is very fine indeed. When she was down here my sister-in-law had very uncomplimentary things to say about my old overcoat. It was unfashionably long she thought. I suppose I was influenced by our bearded friend from Alexandra Township.

The chair, too, has arrived and it is very comfortable. But I couldn't take it to the tree outside. It belongs in a polished lounge.

You have a lot on your mind and I shouldn't like to burden you more. But I think you should know - that the radio

Has not arrived yet nor has the stop-pail that you said Clive would be sending. And the exam papers, too, haven't arrived yet.

Veronica told me about the bursaries you have arranged for deserving youngsters. I know you wouldn't expect me to thank you for that: I am proud, nonetheless. I

She also spent some time reading through your letters to me. She has become quite inquisitive.

Well Benji, let this do for the moment. I am sorry you couldn't come to see me. It would have been quite an occasion. I can still see you stepping out of the car in 1964 when you suggested that I sit more in the sun - from which day dates my association with the tree outside!

Very best wishes old man.

Yours affectionately,
Bob

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