

Dear Ann,

Today I received the July-August issue of Africa News. In case you don't get to see this promptly, I quote the following two paragraphs from "Chairman Conrad Potlako K. Lebelo's" address to the Constitutive Conference of June 27-July 2 at an Atterha (re Sobekwe's funeral):

"Among those defiantly attending the funeral were PAC leaders who defied house arrest and banning as orders to attend the funeral, including E.T. Ngejane, Mloti Mawetla and Mlotli. Other prominent South Africans at the funeral were G.W. Piize, one time President of the ANC Youth League, Desmond Tutu, Secretary of the S.A. Council of Churches (who presided at the funeral); Mrs. Helen Suzman, Liberal Progressive Federal Party MP, and Benjamin Pogrund, night editor of the Rand Daily Mail -- the anti-apartheid English language newspaper.

"Bantustan puppets like Gataha Buthelesi who attempted to attend the funeral were kicked-out and forced to flee. This was an outstanding demonstration of the African people's rejection of apartheid divide-and-rule tactics and the Christian Science Monitor stated that Buthelesi would not "recover from the ignominy of his humiliation" at the funeral of Sobekwe."

What I always find interesting -- curious in the word -- is the respect PAC people often show to whites and what seems to be sometimes an eagerness to cite white sources as authoritative. They will still refer to Brett's small study on African attitudes. Despite anti-white sounds, they were pleased by white accolades. This was true at the NY memorial meeting when telegrams were read from Donald Woodin and other white liberals. I'm reminded even of the strange incident that I would have mentioned to you if I described my visit to PAC HQ in Dur. Ramothake, crowded, rather dingy, and when I asked Fozca Gqobos -- now in disgrace (Africa News says: "he also failed to produce a financial report, later apologizing to conference for having overslept...") -- if I might use the toilet, he made a face and asked: "number one or number two?" "Number two," I replied. He then shook his head negatively. In anguish, and I said it was OK, I could wait. Would he have shown such concern for a white black visitor? -- And in white telegrams at the memorial service, would a SABC meeting have read them?

This is just a quick note as I try to catch up on all kinds of things after having been buried in writing a chapter on US policy for the second edition of Green and O'Sullivan's southern Africa book, to be published by Indiana U. Press early next year. What plans for your next trip? -- and Ann's, I must add? -- Ben, I'm thinking of writing a short article reviewing the problem of trying to assess black attitudes in the US and, in particular, re business investment. Any advice?

The summer's almost over, and Mary and I haven't really done anything though we've sent the two younger boys to California. The musician is in the semi-finals of a piano competition and will be performing in Sept. at the Kennedy Center in Washington, I.e. 12 semi-finalists. Love to Ann.

Jon

Karis
30 Lincoln Avenue
White Plains, N.Y. 10506
U.S.A.



Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Foglund

38a Sixth Avenue

Parktown North

Johannesburg, ~~XXXXXX~~

South Africa

AEROGramme
VIA AIRMAIL
PAR AVION

② Second fold

Additional message area

PUBLISHER:

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

Location:- Johannesburg

©2010

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

DOCUMENT DETAILS:

Document ID:- A2618-Cn3-14

Document Title:- Letter to Pogrund about article in Azania News from 'Tom', New York

Document Date:- 15 August 1978