

24th August 1984

Shelley Power  
INPRA  
P.O.Box 162  
Kingston upon Thames  
KT2 7JW

Dear Shelley,

Sobukwe Letters

Here is the script. I am glad that we agree in principle about the way it might be improved.

If I may summarize my thoughts -

- (1) Many of the letters are not interesting enough to merit publication.
- (2) There is too much 'small talk' in them that could usefully be omitted.
- (3) One way to treat them might be to group them under broad themes and thus to show the development and changes that take place in Sobukwe's thoughts during his incarceration.
- (4) You quite rightly point out the importance of the 'small talk' that shows how different his treatment was from that of others of the political prisoners - Nelson Mandela, for example. Mandela though, according to the South African Government, is, I believe, a convicted criminal, not just a political prisoner.
- (5) Linking commentaries might provide an acceptable way of presenting the material.
- (6) Length is important, I think, but too long a book - unless it was to be a definitive biography - would defeat its purpose. The price would be too high.

All the time one comes back to the feeling and belief that a good book on Sobukwe is needed, that his example and his judgement are especially needed now.

Yours sincerely,

Rex Collings

Enc.

***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 DETAILS:***

*Document ID:- A2618-Be2-16*

*Document Title:- Letter (copy) to the Secretary for Statistics, Pretoria*

*Author:- Rex Collings, Paddington London*

*Document Date:- 24 August 1984*