



Zimbahwe 9.5.88 (Harane) Does Man + Dad, hours and before Angola. We we all O. 4 - subject to MOTHUS BERNSTEIN the usual beautomag OLD HOUSE FARM + frustration. Sale DORSTONE you in Jene, HERE FORD HR3 GBL love ENGLAND La. Nelson Mandela, Hon Doctor of Laws University of Zimbabwe - June 1986 (Photo: Alexander Joe)

Deai Man & Dard,

Say we've all O.K. Things are gaing faily well - although I've got nothing really spectacular so far. It's bean a mistake was having Tran - for his involvement, potitical under tending to margical eye.

best is seeing the UNICEF Do toody. He's got same good stuft but booseally got same good stuft but booseally doesn't enjoy ping here withich of do. I'm the too hat the way her ingressed in the places we see less that and while is was alsowhere.

is warse elsewhere.

I'm Seeing allie teis afternaren

he is apparently doing O.K. Pourt

Marcelio Send Lowe.

the 15th - 9 in going to teen 45 in anglich. Can you write to my Nich, he in very very unhappy so his girl priend left him for his loss friend! I miss everyone, but not England.

Tan'

Dearest Toni,

As it is your birhiday today, and you too far awaytto hear my greetings to you, I thought perhaps you would like instead to hear a birth-day reminiscence.

Forty-five years! It doesn't seem possible. As impossible as it must seem to uyou it's even more so to me. I was ignorant, naive, self-confident, quite sure that I would give birth easily in a matter-of-fact way - no problem. I can't remember where I was when labour started, but can recall that I took my case and phoned Rusty's office (he was working for the Communist Party at that time) and as he wasn't there left a message to tell him that I had gone to the nursing home. I felt very much in control and satisfied with such a casual, no panic approach. In fact, you were reluctant to enter the world, and I was in the nursing home for two days, with labour pains starting, swelling, tailing off; several times I was taken into the labour werd and then taken out again while another woman who had come in after me went in and had her baby. So I was pretty well exnausted by the time you were actually born.

It was a pretty dowdy nursing home (subsequently closed) and I was in a ward with a couple of other women. I remember one of them because she had a son of about 8, her only other child, who was bitterly, burningly jealous of the new baby sister. After he had visited with his father she told me that he had asked if it had cost money for her to be in the nursing home. When she said Yes, he then said she must put aside exactly the same amount of money to spend on him. It didnt occur to her to say she had already spent that money on him at his birth.

When I was mobile (they kept you in bed longer in those days) I decided to go into the nursery to look at all the babies with a totally impartial eye, as though you were not mine, and judge which was the nicest baby. There was simply no doubt. The others were bald or wrinkled or crumpled up or all three. There was only one beautiful little girl with lovely plentiful dark hair and smooth plump cheeks, neither scarlet nor yellow - and that was you. I knew you were the most lovely, desirable and desired baby ever born.

You came out of that crumby pursing home with a mouth infection - thrush, and had to have your mouth and lips painted purple with potassium permanganate or something like that. I intended to breast-feed you and as it was the 'natural' thing to do, I had no doubts that it was also natural and easy. Well, it wasnt. In the first place my doctor (a short, pushy little jewish woman - you had to be pushy if you were a woman to become a doctor) did not give me any information about feeding or breast care. I have a fair skin and small nipples. In no time my nipples were painfully cracked and sore. In addition, I just didnt have a good supply of milk. I've read over and over again throughout the years that any mother who wishes can breast-feed her children. I so wished, but I simply did not have enough milk for any of you past the first couple of weeks. I used to carry around jugs full of water and rink the whoe day long under the mistaken impression that the more fluid I took in through my mouth the more milk would flow from my breasts. I've seen other mothers with tight, leaking breasts, blouses stained with milk. Well, it never happened to me. And there were inducements - no instructions to supplement, which I soon started doing, which in turn made the milk supply dry up faster. I also developed an abscess on one breast, and my doctor told me to cotinue feeding, and I used to yell with pain when you first started sucking on that breast. (I daresay giving rise to psychological problems today)

However, thos tale of woe didnt stop you from being a good, relaxed baby who quite soon began to sleep through the night and thereafter, once asleep, slept very well. Getting to sleep when you were a little older was another problem. You slept in a cot on the verhandah - our bedroom, because we had a one-roomed flat in Midhill gardens (the verandah had sliding windows that could close it in). Rusty used to go out there and sit with you while I went to make supper. Night after night I would go out to find Rusty lying fast asleep, and you still crawling upo and down your cot

I used to sew like mad in those days - I always really hated sewing, but had this image of myself as the capable wife and mother who did all the things expected of her. To make it more interesting I would embroider dresses for you - I remember one of a thin chiffony material in yellow with lovely colours embroideredall round the skirt. And smocking. Anything difficult and tedious and ornamental.

I wanted you to be a tall, slim, elegant ballet dancer. I dont kmnw why I was so keen on having a ballet-dancer daughter. Frustrated artistic ambitions, I suppose. I think you did go to dancing classes, but I also think it soon became clear to me that you were not going to be a ballet dancer.

I dont remember exactly when it was that Rusty joined up, and when he went to Italy, but we have all those lovely photos of you as a baby and toddler taken to send to him. The ophotographer was a German, Luce he called himself, his name was Prager. Some years ago, touring in France, we met up with him and his wife, now living, I think, in a place near Previs. They wanted us to stay, but Rusty, as usual, didnt want to. He was a good child photographer.

At some time in our lives, tension arose between us - I suppose it was at adolescence, a tension that existed long after you had passed that stage. Lots of books these days deal with the relationship between mothers and daughters, and seem to suggest that it can never be an easy one. I dont see why. But I did become scared of you, of your sharpness, you became prickly, difficult to touch. I kept many things to myself - things I wanted to speak to you about and somehow did not dare. I knew when you sat in your room pretending to do homework, that you had a book you were reading on your lap udnerneath your school book. And knew some evenings when you climbed out through the front room window to meet a lover-boy in the back garden, and worried like hell about you having sex, about which I was still incredibly inhibited and stupid. And what difference it would have made if I had behaved differently - I dont know. But now we are getting too far away from that birth-day. Top late for me to regret all the mistakes. I can only say, for the things that we did wrong, Rusty and I, forgive us. We had so much happiness from having you, and today feel pride for what you have and are accomplishing. We admire your strength and your many abilities. We love you deeply, still feel so close, despite all the barriers of growing up and breaking away and leading one's own life - so clase and so rewarded by that birth, fortyfive years ago.

Dear Hant Dad,

I hope Mayinler is

is there expire the problems.

You have ensured

that I think of your cet least ance a day, because yourve left enough dan in our house to least a year, and everythine I open the comploand it is there is althought has claimed insquare there is a feel and quite a less.

wice trip to america. Bumped with Pann + Marcelino at some veception and had drive with them. The bost beit was when I was baving.

Buitish arrivarys hand over boothed my flight

so put me on to Concorde wistend! 3 to hours from New York to honder! Nothing week also has changed. Wich seems to have found Somewhere to live at last. I'm still smiggling jeis comment film. They we coquaed to tee research many and my reservelies in going out theil in May. If they give int the go ahand and if I can find the root of the funding then we should shoot it in Conquest a Suptember. Quite a las of 'if's' especially as it gets harder to reise manay. anyway if all the ies wate out teen maybe 9 could come to Mazimba for a few days on my way have cet the end!

8) September. It's a good

idea, but there are still a RA Sp ils.

Tive eveloped details of a house we've gary to look at in Wales. It's very Near Chio + Judy's, and Judy has been to see it, and reclean it's perfect for used and prition and to au done up without running ut and has a lovely garden. If we got a good price for our then it wouldn't be too much. also it has very lovely bams wiel are used for conversion and so you could sell your place, convert a ben e teen it would be great. Our bam would mades a perfect studio cutting room.

anguer we we gain

to labe at it on the May weekend, when we go to

Hay. I se also goud an some mail - if any of the fundar' quet in touch 9. Il deal with team. That's way 9 opened it.

I know it was your birthday last week, wan, last I didn't know how to reach you - so happy birthday. It's nice next week - I ll be 46!

In sure Keith winters to you - he went to Crete least week to see Julie e he seems to have lots of work. I want also has more or less enough work with July-teen well see.

lesse my computer (bourically as a world processor) 9+ is much sessier than 9 thought

Even you could learn it. So if we buy this house a constant or beaut, we should buy another wood processor batween us.

teis letter.

Tell us calcult
blaginds, e if yourse
had any time in Das.
Do you know there is a
nice maket in morogoro, and
if Dad is young into Dahawa
everyday, then your should
less the opportunity to
supplement your funit trees
and spices there - its cheep.

May 1st I stated this ages capo, but didn't get would be finding anyway, we've been down have at Crosop, with Make to I leeth. Sat 8) sumy + windy,

but it so lovely at this teme of years.

we went to bothed at the house a howe decided to make an after for it, as it is very lovely in good cardition, est lovely view. The only droubock is it's a bit festler into Wales + downih have tee amenties of Hay. Custe Have in now on the makes for £150,000 (toffers in excess of) - So we'll see.

Lots of doubts.

Stephanie phoned us last vight, so we know a bit of your news. I did my to say they had devere concernation of the I thought it unlabely that yourd get your oun' house. g know see fint few weeks are the word, but you will adjust (if you want to) The best thing is just to arganise things your own way as make as possible a tust just on with things. There are

(stis of people there So your Should maybe interview as they've bear in the various bound attends to manager etc — old people as well as the hids. Basially it's only a year, e it may be more succenfortable, but surely more qualifying their movedering in Dorstone.

about you a keeps asking me Deat I think.

Got jour letter. The rain is comeging — its basically bean reining all down East + Souther africa since James Johannesburg only hard 4 days of sur this summer — floods in Malani + Zambian, iets the quantouse effect I suppose, Sowy to hear alout all

the problems - the thing is it's aprice e it's Tangariane it's (a) Much Source Seuse of evoquery - which your house to get exact to , to a certain extent or yourld go MAD and (b) ids underdevelopment - your ve in the third world vous, it not as a rich colonisar. Just think- inf your multiply all the problems t functions by 1001. You could pretend your ve in could pretend

everybody,

Tan:

Deas Man + Dard,

flact its Strange + primitive to write latters by hand - well 9. ve always written parsaral letters by hand + anyway my typewiter is at the Office, where 9 don't have time to write has business letters.

Dad, I land a lawly letter from you teat council to have been posted in Californies! appeared in Californies! all the striff your told me, about the mover from hundre e all teat. Also, I am both delighted and Saddened to hear their accorded director of Manghey's is now overall director of Manghiles.

collection of Pertis in Maputo, and here because a very dear for finance. Maputo will not los presence. I their your chould make an effort to got to know him (9) know how sower it is not to spend time some some coming to you the sound for the form of the wind for dies. He is a wardefully unformed person and incredibly knowledgeable about the magnety was a wardenty.

Her been collecting claster for caper - find out Seat heir doing with it. He is also excellent positivally a quill quie your a lot of support for your wale. also he is a most wondeful stamp tabler a absolutely hilamous. Have, your HUST interview his for your book - ask him to tall your about the job he had as a social socher in the Garbala in Glescow. also - your know his wife, hadier, She's Donish to you maker.

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also 9.m gled to hear

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Starty _ 9 feel for need to compaign young hand to get someone to sout out the paper works. Suggest face bypers the people without powers t noon the chief very cayour releatlessly. Force then to do it. this land my have coop ist each & tee have from Rob as requested. You will have heard your trevelly , which at end the manyle astalo 2300 vehr, 12th land (e maybe cappear on the word No show!) We've put our house on tee stear one, but nothing seems to be hoppening - no offers for our house!

No offer real news. Iwan & Mark

ego to vietnam + Cambodian to do "year 10' with David Muro teay leave calant June 6th. I'm smapphing or with that. We had two weeks of hot, perfect sumar weather. Evangle at its most beautiful, chestutes + liles in full bloom _it bushines belleme I bearded trait Man, I know you don't like people saying 'How are you' Anthogin die erweed) whenen teel hat (claiself & stress string placed string) then alviens never , ever lauch smarght into tee business past of a conversation tea columnys etchange same fan of tetual queeting. Le you to homing offices: " Good maing converde x, home one you?" The + youth " Fine Haules. 9 th hat today "ete. Then - " hack here, about our harring." Also dank be offended by being called Ma buldy or Manne Hilder - it's a term of coell me "Centie Tomi's altro' Element

(semburary a jued) ransals sumaho com si

You must my + get to Dahawa _ 9. de voelly like to hear how it has changed & what's going on tears.

I wish I was because futter + leaves. I'm scient because fatter + Plablies e need my annual 3 menter in the

was zones to their down.

Dar - you must east at the India vestament next door to the Offic. Its regetaring t door to the book Sancorns outside Duba. Who is the everify they love a lugge help gamely buffet, for very few Schillings

four land are offer of maney from Sweden for your vessevels a are or terso offer things to follow up, I ill tell your when your come. But anyway I we thought of another plan. By the way, your ment get permission to interview some of the stadents who came out in '76, a see are now doing amazing things. This same of them have trained as pilots in Ethiopia — a actually fly the cir Ethiopia planes.

of us, In don't you just write one letter to me a team I can photocopy it I sand it to the others?

well teats enough for now,

Tour of love,

Dear Dad,

Just a quick note to say hullo, no doubt mom will tell you all the news. We haven't sold Castle House yet, but there are some people interested so I think the thing will probably go ahead. The house near Knighton is unlikely to get sold to anyone else, as the market is really bad right now and house prices keep dropping, so I think she'll have to hang on for our offer. I took mom to see it, it's really lovely, (see photos, which don't do it justice)

I'm probably(almost definately) going ahead with this Apartheid and environment film, but it is very difficult as a lot of the filming has to take place in S.A. and that means handing over the direction of a large part of it to some silly English liberal type. Also the subject is easier to write about than film, I've uncovered some very interesting stuff about S.A., which some people say is now the biggest environmental disaster on the continent - from appalling industrial pollution in the Vaal triangle, the whole Koeberg nuclear thing (remember the paper I did for the unit?), asbestos etc etc, to major, longterm and probably irredemiable decline of soil, forestry, climate and everything else in the homelands. I suggested to Alpheus that he might be interested in some of the material eventually, if, your classes ever get started you might like it too, eventually I'm doing a paper for the unit.

] don't know if the people mom spoke to hear have been able to sort out any of your problems, it's very distressing to hear about the real decline of Mazimbu, what a shame it didn't have someone like Alpheus in charge from the start. Anyway if you do stay on there, it just might be possible for me to visit for a few days at the end of filming late October, but I might not have the time or money. If you decide to go, then you should get a flight to ZImbabwe I told mom that she should first get in touch with Bridget and Garth, as they will arrange a place for you tostay and sort out places to go to at Victoria falls, Great ZImbabwe, Kariba and Hwange etc - there are very cheap sort of rondavels at all these places, which are nice, because unlike the tourist hotels, ordinary ZImbabweans, both back and white stay in these sort of camps together. But anyway you should let me knwo first so I can arrange it with them.

Well that's all, I don't know if you got my last letter, Ivan's back from Cambodia, he says it's very depressing, Nick is in Canada, Mark's just turned 24, and that's the end of the news,

lots of love,

Toni

Decrest Tom et al

after being in hosaka, a returning to London soon, although I have nothing would. Shaking to write - & De far no mail has associated since I don't know when, and this last week I can rarely find the Post-office open. This has been THE week - the 10th danwersary - and everything came to a standardle. In addition there was an educational Deminar, buth a fairly large delegation from SA - the Comings & goings from there are remarkable (these chaps - all male - stood up in The ling event on wednesday in the packed Dame, full of Students, The Community, honoured guests etc etc, to be applauded - and exposed) Throughout the such the manal organisational balls-up - indesimbable the advication Denumar due to start on Manday, with the SA delegates & people from Dan & Knoaka, not a Rengle penson from Masember had been invited - due to start at 10, at 9.30 Alphans Came to the house Cooking for Rusty to ask him to come . He - alphans - had been asked that morning - at about 9.15 - if he would attend a make the opening address! Oh well, that's only one among a hundred buch incidents. Not be had a week of occase activity, buth people to dinner several mysts - Harold Wolpe (going back to his holiday in France) Catrick van Kensburg, halfe a Toine should be coming tenight. The been in twice to Que Thereor Huddleston at the Mareford Hotel (very mice - the botal) a if you want the latest on your parents state of kealth, etc., where him. He'd amazing. He also told us about OR, who he is visiting regularly. Made, wholis a John Mikadening (haven't been him for more than 25 years) were here. Myerere made an excellent, beautifully delivered speech on the big day. Non't bother you with my comments on the rest.

Benge Baker, who I understand is prepared to mark on transcription. Rosty thinks it's possible to do this straight on to floppy discr, or whatever they are called so that I could both get a paint out a disc have it ready for editing on the great day I get myself a word-processor. I've asked her to see if the can do this, and also to avange to get from you the tapes I left in your wardrobe. If ohe does get some done perhaps you could arrange with her to and the used tapes back to me - probably when Dement is coming-otherwise I will need a never ending display of new tapes. Walked such the pends as I must take it from my smiles record of what he spends as I must take it from my smiles fund. I keep an aft of coats - I am beginning to north up some inchargam for the project as I apeat to more people is get better

at doing the interviews - Dane people opent freely a some meed constant prodding a feeding. I feel this book, by it comes off, is essentially my Kind of thing as I am disply interested in the personal lives of people, a han they arrived at wherever they are at .

Keith, I keep husking you were here with your Cameras (or even buthout, of course, his are auch marvellows ocenes, human a landscape, to take. How about thinking up some project that well kning you to Tandama? Longung to see your Delegraph a landwar cutings Vaturel - we west you many happy returns of the 14th & hope to have more news of you soon. You should have a message via Rac, & if you want to phone, perhaps Tom would send a telex first to day what day & approximate time do that I could go to Busty's office. Trances, when the proneers & painting Ochool were parading & doing there striff I sushed Dean was among them. No white children at prisent, "a only one - albie Oach o Ook Michael - at high school. He is a very personable young man who played the pranoforgan for a group at the big concent. Hope your home holdays were enjoyable next rock, I hope I'll be able to get in with my. interviews - everyone too long for the anniversary. We've had -Deptember, then going to opend a week in Dar before returning. Not like having someone else around, although the is an eldoly potterer, who makes me fell nine years younger than she is, instead of a years older, which I am. (Destenday Omeone asked: Uncle Rosty, are you over 60? and they are flather frosted at our ages - when he said he would soon be over 70. Almat everyone here is so young, that 40 is old & 60 is decrept, ancient, and 70 - well, it's just amoning to

think you can still be alive & mobile at such a great age.

Much, much love from us both

mom

Just seen the most que my love to amonging scanes ATUS)

here domestrations allows S.A. in supports 5)

12th October 1989 areas the country marched all under Att Plays.

Dear Mom & Dad,

It's taken me ages to get round to writing to you, mainly because "con't have anything to tell you. I got back to England eventualy, and the ANC excelled itself by not being there to fetch the comrades who were on my flight, I found out later that they'd "gone to the wrong terminal", I think we should retain the death sentence after liberation and

use it in cases of extreme studicity. Anyway nothing much has changed here, it's got a bit grey and drizzly but not at all cold yet. Everyone is O.K., Keith went off to Rhodes for a few days and Julie was here for a week or so before going off to Bangkok. He says his snake pictures from America are going to be in the Saturday Guardian soon. Frances, had a mole on her leg removed (at my advice), but luckily it turned out that it's all O.K., and she's fine. Ivan has some lovely pictures of Sean and Kieran that he took in the summer, I've been nagging him to do a print to send to you, but he hasn't got round to it yet. Pat has given up going to Rae, as he reckons he's cured, and his new offices are taking up too much time. His business seems to be going quite well, apparently he's had some orders, and is waiting to hear about a big one. I think he & Yvonne are going to separate, but it all seems quite amicable, and he's staying at home for the time being, as I understand it there is no one else. Mark is on a film in France and Italy for 3 weeks, he went to Apricale with some friends for a few days beforehand, and said it was lovely. Nick has gone bback to college. I just heard from ; Keith that there is woodworm in the window frames at Apricale, and one is quite eaten away, so we need to know how to go about getting someone to make a new frame and treat the others, if you can help please do so as soon as possible.

My film is going along in South Africa, they've shot some stunning stuff, but it all looks as if it's going to be very BBCish and not at all the way I would have done it. They had the camera stolen by a group of thugs in Alexandra township, but the comrades got it back in 24 hours, at least some people are well organised!

We still have no concrete news about the house, the eople who are supposedly buting ours, say they still want to but have to sell something first. I'm not sure what this something is, but if it's another house, then I think we've had it, as you probably know, the pound is in crises and the mortgage rates are now up to 16% or something unbelievable, so trying to sell houses is a bit of a joke. We haven't been down to Hay, but are going to try and go this weekend. Anyway if the euphoria inthe ANC office today (at the news of Sisulu

and the others imminent release_) is anything to go by.

then we shouldn't be bothering with houses in England because we'll all be "going home soon".

Dad, I don't know if the miners idea is so good anymore, now that they've taken away the right to strike in the USSR-what do you think? How was your trip to Lusaka, did you get anything sorted out? I sent a telex to Reg (on the advice of Wolfie) saying that it was appalling that you didn't have your things yet and that I urged him to get the TG to intervene. Wolfie said he did everything that he could, and felt that if you hadn't got your stuff now, then the only thing to do was get the TG to deal with it directly. I've sent you this article about Birmingham city centre, what do you think, they both seem flawed to me.

Mom I told Betty Baker that I had your tapes, and I"m giving th4em to Freda to give to her, but she is very slow and seems a bit vague, so I gave some to Pat because he said his receptionist might be able to do them, but I forgot to ask; him about them the last time I saw him. The thing is I've got someone who can do them (but not onto disc), but she charges £9 per hour (she"s very quick). Either way, you will have to check the tapes against the transcripts before you re use them, because there are always jsome words that the typist can't hear or understand. I always keep all mine until the end of the film, because it is important to hear the intonation and the way something is said, and I don't think you should wipe yours until you decide which interviews or bits you are going to use.

I don't really have anything else to say, it was very nice coming to see you, Mazimbu is nice (despite problems), but I really son't like Tanzania very much. You must look after your health, and not be stupid, that applies to you dad, there is no mileage in being a martyr.

Didth get teis finished. Is a sent some

Strift from the Grandia t Independent on

the release of Sisular etc. your books

got quoted in the independent

we (me + I very) come down

at the manant - all the autumn

colorus are out a everything got

quite green again from the resin. One

docrait ready notice the seasons

to chear after handow pilter

some land + Jan, they send their

love etc. Must go + pot this row - love

13.11.89

Dear Mom & Dad,

Hopefully you will get your cameras, transcripts, tapes etc with this, I think you may have to reimburse Wilf for the excess baggage, and I hope it gets to you 0.K.

I got a letter from you mom, dated 31st Oct. first letter since I visited you. You seem to have only one letter from me, prsumably the one I sent the expensive way. I had written previously and enclosed some newspaper clippings etc. Beryl Baker says she has also written to you twice, and Brian Bunting says he's written to Dad twice with no reply, and seems to want some kind of communication from him, he keeps saying tell your father i'm trying to get in touch withhim.

Very glad you got your things at last, what happened to the washing machine, presumably it's still there, have you reported it missing. Various people ring me up and ask about you, Vera, Patsy, Freda. Anyway, it sounds like you've settled down at last and got over your culture shock.

Haven't really got any news from here, it remains quite warm, I mean not cold enough for scarves and gloves etc, and we've only had the heating on a couple of weeks and half the time it's too hot with it on. We went to Hay a couple of weeks ago, it poured with rain the whole weekend, and the whole area looks more back to normal now, roads and hills streaming with water.

We had the ANC bazaar at the end of Oct, it had the biggest amount of rubbish to sell, but seemed to make a lot of money. Afterwards , in the event evening we had a celebration for the release of the Rivonia people, and it turned out to be probably the best evening the ANC has ever held, They had chiken curry for £1.50 and they had Hugh Masekela, and Joins Gwanga and Julian Bahudla playing and everyone danced and just milled about, they also had some speeces and they were all really short and $good(a\ miaracle!)$ The spelling problems are 'nt me the typewriter has something wrong I think.

Apart from that, nothing much, the clocks went back so it's pitch dark all the time, I've had Tim Leach and various other people staying, Keith's gone to India etc etc. We're trying to decide to go away for Xmas, but it is hard to get on flights to anywhere at that time, and most warm places are too ecxpensive, and Europe has no snow, so we haven't actually decided yet.

Ivan bought another car, as his sort of ran out of steam, and in January we're both out of work so we'll have no money again.

You know ther's a women's conference called Malibongwe, organised by the Dutch in Amsterdam, 6th-20th Jan. Maybe you should try and get them to send you there, as there are going to be 50 women from inside S.A. and they're hoping one might be Albertina, so it would be good for interviews. If you can't get the ANC to send you as a delegate, maybe you could get Dutch Anti Apartheid tosponsor you. Anyway, don't mess around writing letters, use the telex and the telephone.

Keith's phoned us from India, he seems to be having quite a nice time, but he's not really one for taking advantage of such trips, I must say.

Well as you can see I really don't have any news. I also don't have any ideas for films that I might want to do, so for the time being I'm not actually working on anything new, but will wait a few months and hope that the muse returns or something.

on from

Next week I'm going to the very last meeting in Brussels (as I've now resigned from that Committee) and then to Rome for a few days to a very minor film festival (the people who had the festival in Sardinia a couple of years ago). I don't really want to go at all, but they're very nice people and kept asking me. Chain of Tears is also showing at Leipzig in the following week, at the festival there. I can't go to that as well, so Mike is going instead. It's really an interesting time to be going to the GDR. The film will be up against very strong competition, as Barry Feinberg has had his Huddleston film accepted, and there judgements are made on a very political basis.

We've been watching the TV news from Germany all weekend. It is really quite incredible, seeing the wall come down and people's real pleasure in it, and the effect on those ghastly old dinasaurs who were in charge there. Things are changing so fast, and I know that there are all sorts of right wing and CIA elements at work in Eastern Europe, but there is also a very genuine desire for real c hanges by the people, and they're not going to be fobbed off with repression anymore. The interesting things that the ordinary East Germans have been saying on TV like 'It was very nice going to have a look, and I'll probably go again, but of course I don't want toleave my home and family etc' and apparently most of them are not at all keen on reunification.

The apartheid and environment film is coming along, it's got some quite interesting stuff in it, but not the way I would have done it, so I just supervise it and take my pay.

I thought of getting you a Xmas cake and stuff from M&S, but couldn't think how to get it to you, as I don't like to ask Wilf to take anything else, and posting it would be a waste of time, so it will have to be the thought that counts.

Well that's it, I've dredged up every single bit of news,

lots of love,

Tai

Dad- It you can't get an with your classes, your'd batter get an with foed memoirs

Dearest Toni.

By now you will know (when Rusty telexes you) that Wilf arrived with all the stuff. In addition, he had not taken the packets out of the plastic carrier bag in which they were transported, so that when he arrived he found your letter re vodka and chocolate. Ah well, as you said about Christmas, it's the thought that counts, and I am tucking away the five pound note (no pound sign on this typewriter) and intend that it should be used for the pumpose for which it was intended.

Now about what you sent: I had received one letter from Beryl, and the first account, which I paid because the bank sent me a cheque book for that a/c. I will also pay the second one.

BUT - I wanted NEW tapes, not the old ones. There's no point in sending me the old ones back, as I explained in the letter of 31st Oct, I agreed the old ones should be retained, but th I'm not going to check them at this stage, and would nather you kept them than that I cart them around. Secondly, you need not send the transcripts either, as my time is taken up with doing new interviews and housework and similar important matters. They are very heavy, and if you can store them the time will come within the foreseeable future when I will relieve you of all this clobber. I am going to need some new tapes fairly scon, so wonder if you can ask Wolfie who is coming out, if anyone, and if they are going to Lusaka it's still possible for me to get them, provided they're not just dumped on anyone's desk and left there.

To revert to non-receipt of letters. You can tell Brian that Rusty has not received any letters from him, although I did receive the letter he sent to me about an article I wrote, and I replied, and hope he received it. Disastrous is that the letter Rusty sent over a month ago to Wilf explaining among other things why he couldn't stay here for more than two or three days never arrived, and now we are stuck with Wilf & Einlys, his friend, and will have to put them both up in that one room, and will have to find some way of getting in and out of town to buy supplies, as we can't expect Mazimbu to feed them for the next 10 days, which is what they are staying because they can't change their other arrangements. It's going to be a trying time. Other letters also seem not to have arrived, but some do. You never can tell.

Re washing machine, Rusty says he is going to leave it until he gets back to England, because he hasht any documents to show he has paid for it, etc. Re this Malibongwe conference, I would like to get there especially as I would have the chance be meet SA women now in other countries, but they are sending six women from East Africa and have already chosen them. I don't quite know how to work myself in. I can't telex Dutch AA and phoning from here is too difficult. I am writing to Fons to see if he can assist (although what will happen to poor R during that period if I go?)

Rusty says he is trying to draft a rough idea of a film treatment. What happened to the bag lady? There was a delightful article by Alan Bennett in the London Review of Books about a bag lady that parked herself in his garden for a few years, really good.

My friend Edith writes from Berlin (GDR):

I saw a film with Toni's name on it called *The Other Bomb'. Whille watching it I didn't know who was responsible for it, and I Don't watch TV idly - it was interesting. Please tell her I admired the way it was done. There was a German woman in it named Imrard Gottrup, the siort of person I would like to know, although her husband worked for the Wezis on the atom bomb, she learned a lot, but not about bombs.

Well, like you, I've reached the end of trivia to tell you, except that it's rained at last and mercifully is cooler, although the local wisdom is that December is the hottest month

Don't know if I mentioned I interviewed Alpheus - the best interview so far, although (not finished yet) and wish he would write his own story, it's a wonderful book in itself, and he's so articulate. I feel really sorry that he is here, where he is wasted and cannot fundamentally change anything, the stumbling block being authority from Lusaka that makes any radical change here impossible.

Our love to you all

Dear Mom & Dad,

In the last 2 weeks I've received 4 letters from you, 3 of them in the last week. The first was dated 31st Oct & was was to Frances & Keith, then one datedNov 17th, then $\underline{\text{OCt }15\text{th}^{\frac{1}{2}}}$ and then yesterday dated Nov 17th – so that's how the post is.

Last week I was in Brussels and then Rome for a few days. Rome was very nice, much warmer than here, and such wonderful food. I tried to get a friend to phone Vittorio for me about the woodworm or termites in the window frames of the house and couldn't get him, so it will just have to rot until next year. I was on a sort of discussion panel with Peter Manning from SWAPO, the chief rep in Italy, a young man from the newly formed Film & Allied Workers Orgainside S.A. and Barry Feinberg - he was quite friendly but is such I also had dinner with Jose Luis Cabaco who used to be minister of information in Mozambique and is still something or other in that area, I knew him from before. Since I've been back the weather has been very freezing, below zero at night and heavy frosts, but quite sunny. Last weekend we went up to Cumbria to my friend Margie's wedding, she married this guy called Nick who does consultancies on wind and solar technologies in the FL States. He goes out there for a few months and sets up co operatives and teaches them the technology and then leaves once they can run it. He is also involved in a co op that has bought an incredibly huge old house in the north Penines and they've all renovated it and made it very comfortable and it is a sort of study centre, they run short courses on various things there and hire it out for conferences and seminars. So they had the whole place at their dispopsal for the wedding including the very good Scots chef, and all the guests spent the weekend there in great comfort - a slight division between the English guests who didn't mix that well and the South African / Zimbabwean contingent who were very noisy. and Nick came with us, and then we dropped Nick back at NOttingham on the way back - he's got guite a nice flat there and it is kept in quite a civilised manner.

Nothing else really, the environment film is coming on, it has to be finished in January for broadcast on 4th Feb. It will be O.K. & I suppose guite interesting, but not at all the film I would have made. Ivan finsihes with Poirrot at Xmas, and then nothing so far for next year. It has finally been decided to spend Xmas in Hay, as going on holiday is too expensive at that time of year. I've ordered a turkey from Jan & Paul, and Keith will join us.

Now on to some of the things in your letters. First of all, you write and say you are leaving, but don't say when, so we have no idea of what is going on. I understand why dad wants to leave, but after that there doesn't seem to be any plan. So I need to know when you are leaving, where you are going etc. You asked for Tim's phone number in Harare, I will give it to you, but I did tell both of you when I was at Mazimbu, that if you want to go to Zimbabwe, you must let me know well in advance so that I can contact

Bridget & Garth, as they will try and arrange a house for you to stay in and also will organise and advise about trips and where to stay etc. I don't quite know why you want Tim's number, although I'm sure he'll be pleased to see you, I don't think that his is the appropriate place for you tostay. The best thing is if you telex me as soon as possible about your plans, so that I can get hold of Garth and also Eve Hall who has a house and may have room for you. Also Pamela and Marcelino will organise a flat for you in Maputo if you want to go there for a few days, it's quite cheap to get there from Harare, and is such a beautiful city, you can go on the Tuesday plane and return on Saturday, or stay until the following Tuesday (No real point in staying there longer), but you must let me know what's going on, no use arriving without giving people some notice.

And talking about telex's, Dad never sent me a telex to say that the camera's and stuff had arrived, do you have my correct telex number? Mom it's very frustrating that every letter I get from you there is other a rouest for something or a sort of long complaint that I haven't done things correctly. I know that it is difficult living there, I know exactly what it is like, both there and in much worse places, but as you are only there for a short time, I think you will just have to accept it now and wait till you get back. You can't imagine how difficult it is to do all these things. For example you & camera; I get a call from Freda that the camera has arrived what shall she do with it. I arrange for her tobring it home and ask Keith to fetch it. He won't, so after days I go round there one night after work and fetch it. Telex you(which costs money incidentally), then I have to mag Keith to come and take it to be mended, then it lies here for weeks waiting for some way to get it back to you. But it's not only the camera. As some of your letters only get here after months, I'm not always sure of what you want regarding your tapes and transcripts, and you have changed your mind as well. So I do what I think is best, I thought you ought to look through your transof pts to see how you were interviewing and what needed improving etc, and when you get them you just tell me I shouldn"t have done it. Furthermore I have longand complicated arrangements with Beryl to get them etc. Your letter of 31st Oct did not arrive until after I had sent the tapes back, if you are desparate then you will just have to check some of the old ones and re use them. I will ask Keith-(10) to send you some new tapes, and hope you don't leave before they arrive. Actually I thought you'd be pleased to get your interviews and have a look at them. I'll get a slide and ask Keith to put it in with the tapes, because if I put it in a letter, then it probably won't get through.

Barry Las

Now the other thing, is your complaint about not being told what's going on. I cannot go on carrying the responsibility for all your children. The way things are, I worry about them far more than I do about \(\psi \) own boys. It is a terrible responsibility to feel that I have to carry all their problems etc while you are away. It may not be explicit on your part, but it certainly comes across from you, that I have been put in charge again, just like when you & dad used to go to jail, only this time with the added worry about how you & dad are going to cope in Africa, with hard living conditions and culture shock etc, at your advanced age. Because neither

I've remouted gaper!

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of you have ever really experienced the realities of Africa - South Africa does not count in this context. I really think that as all your children are quite old now they should not have to be my problem, but that's not how it is. If you are worried about them you always ask me what's going on, or to help them or talk to them or something. I can't seem to express this properly, but carrying that kind of burden on your behalf (and mom although you may not realise it, you do give it to me), just is too difficult. I have enough of my own worries about my family, work, business, films etc, and this just ends up by making me depressed and unable to operate at all. So ask them, and tell them what you want form them, and ask me about me, but that's it.

For the record: Francie"s operation. All that happened while I was away in Africa. I spoke to Keith on the phone and we decided that there was not point in saying anything until the result of the biopsy was known (a matter of a fewdays). I understood that Francie was writing to you herself, in the meantime I spent all the time worrying desperately about what to do and trying to keep it to myself until the result was known. If she hasn't told you then this is the story. In the summer I noticed a rather messy mole on her leg and told her to see the Dr., which whe did after some time. A biopsy was performed, it was found to be malignant and the premoved some of the surrounding tissue and found that it was all clear, it hadn't spread anywhere and that was the end of that. As for Patrick, well I'm not prepared to handle that any more either. You asked me to look after him when he was in some sort of crises, I arranged for him to start therapy with Rae, and at the time that I came to Mazimbu he seemed to be doing very well, I spent a lot of time with him, as he was staying in London a couple of nights a week. Some time after I got back, he walked out of his therapy for very childish reasons. In fact he is behaving like a very demanding adolescent at the moment. In the meantime you wrote all sorts of phic letters to Rae (who as a therapist cannot tak about her patients, even if they are relatives), who then phones me to ask me to try and calm you down and reassure you etc. Anyway he left his therapy, but still continues to come to London most weeks. He has told Yvonne he is leaving her, but remains living at home, which is very hard on her, he refuses to discuss it because he says ther e is nothing to sort out. He is completely obsessed by his business, and when I've talked to him, about maybe thinking of other alternatives etc, tells me he is only interested in making money and nothing else in life matters. He only measures himself by material goods (eg fast car, big house etc etc) and only money can make him happy. He has succeeded in making me very unhappy, and his whole family, and I have been advised and had to decide to disengage from it all. He can come and stay here, and all that, but I can't take on his problems, and actually neither can

The guy is over 40 and will only do what he wants to do, and I can't go on being unhappy about all this.

As for Keith, well he came back from India the other day, and sounded very cheerful, but has asked me not to tell him about anyone's problems because he doesn't want to know, so he is not going to take on any responsibility. I don't know whether your money has come from Anthony SHciel, better telex ; them or something. I'm confused about paying Beryl, becuase I thought Pat was to pay her and now you say you have. Better decide who is handling your ;jFinances him or you and then clarify it with him.

Basically, what I'm saying is don't ask me for information about your other children, ask them.

Dad, thank you very much for the outline for the mining film. I must say it is very scripted and thought out, far more so than is required for a documentary, don't need to start putting camera angles etc into an outline. is missing though is a little bit of background about each of the strikes and countries and working conditions. you have the time to give me one or two paragraphs of background on each situation, then I will put the idea in for funding I htink there needs to be a tiny bit about the history behind each coal mining country, the reasons for the states etc.

Nothing seems to have happened about the bag rady film, they seem to have lost interest in it. I have decided that after January, when this film is finished, I'm going to take some time off. I have no ideas for things that I want to do , and don't particularly want to go straight on to another film at the moment. I would rather not do anything for a while, I'm too tired to just work for the sake of it, and will wait until I have a really good idea that I want to do, or maybe dad's mining film will come up.

I'm sending this the expensive way so that it will reach you so that you can let me know about your travel plans. By the way, why do you have to stay at the guest house in Lusaka, there should be enough money for this book to enable you to stay in a hotel.

266075 PRODC-G My telex:

Tim Leach, 5 Wycombe Ave, Mt Pleasant, Harare Phone: 37333 You can telex him at work onHarare 24251 Phone at work 725565 If you need dollars out there, ask him and I will pay him back.

David Martin & Phyllis Johnson, 3 Jedburgh Rd, Borrowdale, Harare Phone882340. I know Dad hates him. But actually they would be delighted to see you and help you and have a very beautiful house up in the Vumba Mountains near Mutare, which they would be more than willing to lend you, and a house in Maputo

that you might be able to use (and a car there) (maybe useful for PHyllis Naidoo,42 Lanark Rd Harare phone 733389

Simon Bright & Ingrid. 42 East Rd, Avondale, Harare phone 733416. They're friends of mine and Simon is very generous

and may be helpful, phone them anyway. Bridget & Garth Phone 303175(this is supposed to be a secret

and they may have moved on from there, but I don't think so, but be careful where you phone them from, ie a neutral place) They are your most important contact for Zimbabwe.

But I should my + contact teen for your.

Eve

Rica should be there, but I don't have an address, I also

don't have Eve Hall's address, but Pamela does.
Pam & marcelino dos Santos.Rue C, 30 Sommerschield, Maputo,
phone 491751(home) or 491081 only in emergency.
If you need other contacts in Maputo then ask me.
I also have some contacts for Kenya and Angola if you are
going to them

Oh yes, Rob Trrell phoned about some books you want, do you want them sent or are you leaving or what.

Oh yes, I spoke to Rae a couple of weeks ago, and she said she had very high blood pressure, and had to go into hospital for them to try and control it, and might have to give up work, so I think you had better write to her.

That's about it, I have to go to Sainsbury's and do the shopping, which I haven't done for two weeks, and all we have in the house is one soggy lettuce. You might think it's great to be able to go out in the freexing cold and drive in the unbelievable London traffic to struggle to find parking and wheel a trolley around through all the idiots and buy anything you fancy and then carry it up the stairs and put it away and cook it - but once you have to do it again you won't like it.

That's it for now, please let me know your travel plans etc. We'll be in Hay from about the 22nd Dec until after New Year, and I probably won't go to my office before the 9th or 10th Jan.

Lot's of love,

Dear Toni.

Yesterday we received your letter of 1st December, sent Express. and were appreciative of your news. I am asking a Finnish woman who is returning via Frankfurt to post letters for me there, and don't want to give her a big bunch, so sending them all to Frances and asking her to send them on. Tickley promised to take letters for us, but left without coming here, and a day before we thought he was leaving.

About our plans. We wanted to leave here at the end of December. but I doubt whether this will be possible. We have to see our things in Dar before leaving, and make arrangements to get them through customs and shipped. Whenever we want to make plans, the person in charge is always away and no one else can give authorisation for money, transport, etc. Nobody responds to R's letters to Lusaka, no one has commented on his resignation, they just carry on as though nothing has changed (as it ham't) Our original intention was to go to Lusaka and stay for a while until I hadddone interviews, then to go on to Zimbabwe. But again, we may have to reverse the process. I tried to get to the Malibongwe conference, but was unsuccessful, could still go paying my own way, but then that would make my status doubtful and I don't want to be on the outside of the ANC. But at the same time, a number of women I want to interview in Lusaka will be in Amsterdam during January. My own feeling is that we will still be here at the beginning of January, and probably by the time we get to Lusaka the Malibongwe conference will be nearly over. Is it possible to inform Bridget add Garth on the basis of such vague plans? As soon as they are definite, we will telex you, but I don't think they will solidify very soon.

Rusty did telex you about the camera I will get him to check your number. I'm sorry I burden you with things to do, and will try to avoid it from now on, but must tell you that I am writing around to various people and places about leaving here, and asking them to forward stuff to your address, all you have to do is let it pile up (even Weekly Guardians, we'll read them some time) although you may want to open any letters, but leave them if you don't. I had to give your address as when we get to wherever we are going, we will phone you and let you know wherewe are. I do not understand how I have implicitly conveyed to you the necessity to bear the responsibility for your siblings, I thought we had cleared that matter up, and I don't recall complaining about not being told what's going on since you were here; if you've read a whine of that type into my letters, I can assure you it really wasnt there, and I don't regard you as 'in charge' in any sense of the word. As for Patrick, I did not think we had mentioned hi9m to you since the beginning of his trauma, when a letter he sent us did disturb us very much, and that's when we wrote to Rae, or rather wrote a letter to Patrick and sent it through Rae, but all that was a considerable time ago. Please don't carry these angers and resentments on for extended periods, although it is better for you to blow off and let me know how you feel because otherwise I have no clue as to what messages (hidden) I am conveying to you.

And why waste worry about how two old people are coping with hard living and culture shock? I thought I was coping extremely well and had adjusted once the misery of the housing problem had been solved. Did you find me strained and burdened when you were here? I feel myself very comfortable in this community and have been busy and occupied. It is Rusty was has been mouldering away, but that's not culture shock it's his personality and growing deafness plus Reg DSptember, ANC Lusaka and general depression about the failure of the whole scheme to materialise after months and months of thinking and working at it. And the ever-deteriorating general situation in Mazimbu — one can't help

getting depressed by it when people keep coming to us, every day, with sad or horrific stories, and we watch Alpheus burdened with ever-increasing insoluble problems of other peoples' making. So many young people come and talk to Rusky about their problems, and he is helpless to do anything for them apart from listening. Anyway, neither the two of us nor your siblings are your problem and if you think this is so you are burdening yourself uneccesarily. (Can't spell that word.)

However, re tapes: I changed my mind about using the used tapes because you yourself advised me not to, and I saw the logic of that. I have written to Beryl, all I want is that you keep the tapes until I return. Also, I think you did not give Beryl the tapes I left on the top shelf of your wardrobe when I was in London, as I don't see them listed in the ones she transcribed. I hope to get new tapes at airports or failing that in Zambia or Zimbabwe.

I see a new magazine, Africa South, advertised. Have you seen it? If it is interesting, keep a copy for me. I have written to Turrell about various things, only telling him that he will have to find out where we are through you. No other way appears open to me.

I have written to Frances about our recent social activities, so maybe she will send on that part of her letter to you.

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Treas 49

Dear Mom & Dad,

I'm not sure if this will reach you, but am taking the opportunity to send this with Tania Abramses, who is going to Harare via Lusaka. Hope you get it.

How do you like Zimbabwe? Weird country isn't it? A bit like stepping into a time warp - Jo'burg vintage 1950, but with some equality for Afrcans. Also I bet you anything that it is raining and pouring and freezing there. It alwys is in February. Best go up to Victoria Falls and Kariba quickly, it's warmer up there.

As you no doubt know, Bridget is here for a month, so Garth is left holding the babies, so I don't know how much he'll be able to help you. Pam phoned from Maputo the other day, and is hoping you'll go there, phone her to fix accommadation. Also don't forget David Martin ahs beautiful, underused house in the Vumba mountains near Mutare, which they will lend you.

The news from here is basically nothing. It hasn't been very cold this winter, but we had a big hurricane the other day and everything blew down. It was very bad in the west, so I don't know if your house is O.K. but I presume it is as I haven't heard otherwise. It is boringly grey and dark and miserable, and February is always the worst.

Ivan has some work for later on this year, he's doing a documentary in the next few weeks for Mike Rossiter and then he's doing Lorna Doone in Scotland for TV or something, not too sure. I'm taking some time off now and don't intend to do anything for the next few months, which will probably mean for the next year, as it takes a long time to get things going when I start again. I do not wish to be asked what I'm going to do, as the idea is that I'm going to be doing nothing.

Mark doesn't have much work at the moment, just the few odd days here and there, but hopefully it will pick up later in the year. Nick is in London for 3 weeks, on a work placement that he has to do for his course. Got him a placement with IDAF, so I hope it works out 0.K. Keith has just been to Cyprus on a holiday brochure, and that is all I have to say. Basically nothing much goes on. I have a pile of mail for you, what on earth do you think you're going to do with all the weekly Guardians so many months out of date - you'll never read them, because, as you may remember, we have very thick daily and weekend papers here that take forever to read.

Read in the Independent the other day that all the ANC exiles are going to be "flocking back later on this year." That gave me a bit ofā ffight, because I'm not sure that after 25 years I actually want to flock back, and I'm certainly not ready for it yet. What on earth would i do there? and in anycase Ivan wants to live in Durban, which I would never do! You can see the problems really, and what about my children, they won't want to flock there. Are you going to? A visit yes, a holday home in the Cape yes, but actually live there? Someone told me the other day that Beata and Alan Lipman were there.

Colin Sweet was trying to get hold of you, I gave him your numbers in Lusaka. The papers here are full of nothing but Eastern Europe, events in the USSR are very depressing I think, all those nationalities.

I don't really have anything else to say, I'm sure you'll find when you get back that nothing much has changed in a year. It's just your first shop in a big supermarket that will get to you. Please give us soem

some notice of when you expect to arrive back.

los of Cove

Dear Man + Dad,

a very quick letter - howeit teine to write averything. Have found it very learny just to slip bank with this place - once I stopped body for the past. It has changed - so have severywhere also, but its also the same. I

her has a lovely fleet is was very helpful see we amered. Saw Walter who us so vice. Two discussed all sorts by they's when in a grant fell your that everyone wants to see you both a understand their you may aly went to want. t illed not turale alos esperare Can't understand will you howen't Come yet ever for a short want. ALL Doors would be open for Your - and despite all sets of things int us a fas cun trem Mayule or hesale.

Ronne + will be seeing his I various oftens am my getien to The cet the end of Form's share plans for my fusere tam gon't to discuss it at as a high resolute. Bread asposition to consider the money mad his still have a vilvary about it. To want thing is teat people live belief Juliu- and + atts p now pren of anywhere I've ever been - and ith not test they for but medless, wotest murders. an in the west in sale - a unchanged lovely. Drove to Colour as Boxing day through the Tree Dute. Good voids a claus lovely nature, please to stop Great were shes with thinder clouds. Staged over in Benjart west, with I remember as a God farsahen dorp - e fame to sound all houses to really quite lovely: 50,50 boardiel - e tee une sook a deter tero Ceres + the provintarios voned Hex River Quite wenderel.

Cape Town - or rester the periode is were beautiful them your can possibly remember. I go tulplet Boregunt in burows all the time. Bear to Chipen, Cape Pant, Campe Bay, Chapmais peals. Did a tour of growth Contoferities, land tea at Kusterbash well my + get up the mountain before we leave. However the queries + crevels are extraordin (holiday Season & lots 5) S. A. A for 3 theys. to a Jay chut on a lovely declared development on the faverhore + burged into allie, Pallo Tarden + Cisina. a confetely mixed place - all black t whites & storved together many + easily. People - black, whites Lappily & easily. everyne - so pstite + helpful.
There are lots of things wrong have a tel paverty & visely we really dait have to see it!) and

most of the writer care cross,
morey mad, mindless idiots - but
it is changing t it is exenting
- and bouseably it - home.
We have C.T. on the

300 t are gaing down the farder Voute e will reach Dulian around 12th Jan. So that's it. Too much to do t see _ 9 would to go everywhere I see everything t rever stop. Dail miss England at all _

only the bonys.

Jive told everyone there you'll be have in 1992 very soon, althor I have send I think you'll only come for a wint. People don't mind if you don't wout to reterm for good, his they all look forward to being you soon Evelyon a had direct with Eve t Tang. Most offers with Eve t Tang. Most offers when I get back for ill see the when I get I get back to Jub as the end of Jan.

So Start planing your die

5.

to see people - e places. It is de country teak hus everything. Cyrecet fruit t very in C. T. e biltary. hipe v. experies here. Herere to Boop now -

love,

Man - you'd love the smells in this country - I the colours is the beautiful plants + trees + velot. Wolfie cays your I never stop drawn t painting have. Really 9. I rated to a S. African team anything also in the world, and carry back really helps to turdo all the terms in England e int doesn't mother. A gray at the Home Coffeirs office black a bloody officians and to me, "27 years away is not so much, look at mandela he weer in misan all text terms to come out represhed!" I suppose uts hume - but he took planning in making a meal of finger punting he chines In (and (9 in reapplying for citizentip) any soul your flight som - after april ets the weather is not very good even how - not as I remember it - you'll bear bound closes Did your get the book int?

November 4th or 5th 92

Dearest Toni.

It was good to talk to you the other morning. I felt you had disappeared into the Mozambiquan bush . . .At least when you return and visit us we will have emptied some of the great piles of cardboard boxes into which the whole of our Dorstone life disappeared, emerging in bits and pieces into this little house with small rooms and no spaces. Rusty worked like made packing everything up, the movers came on Monday 2nd at 8, we arrived in Kidlington about 3, Pat and Yvonne arrived at the same time, and helped us get the essentials unpacked. They are coming again on Saturday to spend the weekend here, which will be a great help to us. It's hell, moving, and we took loads and loads of stuff to Oxfam and to the dump near Clyron, but still arrived with masses of rubbish.

Rubbish, yes, perhaps. Loads and loads of books; no bookcases. Kitchen equipment - casseroles, saucepans, kitchen tools; but no place to put them. The kitchen is a narrow little galley, with literally no place to pub anything, not a single drawer, a few cupboards so high that even Rusty cant reach into them. Of course, all this is going to be changed we have the drawings for the new, extended kitchen, etc, etc, but we will have to live for quite a long time within the limitations. There is so much to do - I must nag Rusty to get some of it done by others, as it will be years before he can make all the changes necessary. The painting, the colours! One room has a dark orange ceiling with a dim dark red light in the middle, white walls with pale blue skirting, a carpet in a sort of shitty yellow-brown with circles. The bathroom is best - 'avocado' suite, lime green shower curtains, brown striped wallpaper, orange splashy patterneed floor, ochre yellow painted doors and skirtings and yellow-striped wallpaper on the ceiling. I know, I know, it can all be changed. But meanwhile . . .

So the house needs a magician with a wand. But so far it is warm (no central heating - big old-fashioned storage heaters) well insulated, set in the corner of a quiet, quiet street - wonderful at night, no cars or noise. Everything outside at the back is beautiful, with all the trees shedding their bright leaves, red apples still crowning some of them, the canal at the bottom, white swans passing sometimes, and early in the morning when I looked out, lots and lots of birds. I was quiet apper rehensive about leaving Old House Farm, the quiet at night, the owl, all the birds all day. But this is a good compromise between life in the country, so far from everything, and life close to a city's amenities. All we have ventured out to see so far is to go to the local village, visit the Health Centre to make arrangements to register (bit place with many doctors); have a haircut and go to Sainsbury's. I'm glad we have moved and that we're within easy reach of London and nearer to all of you.

We are going to London tomorrow to get some things at IKEA. Mainly book cases, although we need other essentials - no table, for instance, left that big table at Dorstone, it would only fit into the garden here. Things like lights, carpets, will have to wait a while. Rusty will start first on the kitchen, it's a priority. xxwexx Well, he has something to do at last - plenty.

We've had a lovely time watching the US elections. In the end I became totally won over to Clinton. At first I wanted him to win because I couldn't stand Bush, but at the end I wanted him to win because I think he's good - within the framework of American society he has made good statements on Abortion, gays, race, all sorts of things. He came over on TV stronger and stronger as the campaign went on, developed a kind of self-assurance, and looked dishy as well. Bush was so pathetic I cant

think how stupid people are to support him, vote for him. His whole campaign was disgusting, all he talked about was the question of trust, you can't trust him, there's this character thing, and I have the vision thing for America, and Clinton and Gore are a couple of Bozos, and Gore is the ozone freak, and so on and on. Policy? Never mentioned. We watched the three debates with Bush, Clinton and that monstrous little clown of a billionaire, Ross Perot. Fascinating stuff.

Well, you'll soon be back. What are you doing for Shcristmas? Staying at home and boycotting the family? One thing for sure, we can't accommodate people here, not yet. But if you decide tapboycott us all, we can always go to Frances.

Anyway, we look forward to seeing you.

Much love

Dearest Toni

Don't know whether this will reach you, but I'm writing two fdays after receiving your letter, so hope it finds you somewhere.

It was really good to hear from you, and that you are enjoying the work despite Stephan, who sounds really heavy - despite all your forebodings about who you would be landed with, I think you could not have imagined anyone so hopeless and difficult. How much longer do you have together, I wonder, I have lost track of time. I'm happy that you are enjoying the work, and somehow knew you would be good at it, because truly you are a wonderful organiser.

We are both OK, meandering along. I've been occupied for quite a while with proofs of the book, not only proof-reading, but checking on names, spellings, explanations and so on, and trying to make adjustments in the setting, which was really ridiculous; that is, the type and pages are generally OK, but as the intervfeew run on, one after the other, with just a double space in between, the typesetters (where it happened to fall that way) have set a new interview literally starting with one line at the bottom of a page, which looks ridiulous. To remedy this without going into great expense and wasting time, I've had to go through all these places taking a couplenes out of one interview and adding a few to another so that they don't start at the very bottom of the page. However, geneally I'm so pleased now that it is all going ahead, and publication date is 3 February, so I should get copies (with luck) before Christmas, that I'm prepared to do anything necessary to speed it up. I'm also trying to prepare a list of people to whom Cape will send a circular, so When (if) we see you, perhaps you can suggest some names of people you know who might want to read the book.

Rusty is gradually, slowly, working on all the things that need to be worked on putting up curtain rails, finishing off the conservatory insulation, both outside and in, and vesterday he started painting the conservatory, which is already making a pleasant difference, and when that's finished, he will begin on the floor. The thing is that we are perfectly comfortable as things are, with a finished and functioning kitchen, living room, and the conservatory, so that the awful carpet, mess and siorder in the rest of the living space doesnt really worry us. And when downstairs is all done, there's the horrible bathroom, so I think Rusty has work that will take him the rest of his life, or at least the next few years. He keeps complaining about how he hasnt got the energy he used to have. He also does spells in the garden, works like mad the whole morning, then complains about loss of energy. I have done quite a lot of gardening. Rusty makes everything orderly. He can't bear overgrown beds, chops down un-needed bushes and even trees, so at present tverything looks really neat - except that most of the beds are empty. We've bought a few bushes, but they are small, and this is ardead season for flowers. I've planted lots and lots of bulbs, because I love them, so it will be more than just bluebells in Spring.

The weather has been quite warm, only for the past 2 weeks just a heavy dark grey lowering depressing blanket of cloud. It gets dark so early, it never really seems to get properly light. Despite that, it's a most beautiful time of the year, and it won't last, the trees are shedding their leaves, we are knee-deep in leaves and bird-pecked apples (tons and tons of cooking apples) but the trees are flaming and gorgeous. On Sunday we are going to Hereford because Jane (Nick Sherwood's Jane) is having an exhibition there. We will go to our friends the Merriams and stay with them Sunday night - they are just outside Dorstone, our old stamping ground. I am so looking forward to it

because of the drive there in the blazing Autumn countryside

I suppose you know Ronnie will be here soon to promote his book - Eleanor too, I believe. We will go to London to see him, either to the book promotion or some party or other, although the ANC seems to have wiped us off their records despite many letters and phone calls, because we hear nothing at all from them - Rusty even spoke to Mendi, but nothing happens, so to find out I have to phone Tam Baker.

So what else have I been doing, besides garening, going to Sainsbury's to save money (every item labelled 'You Save 20p!) preparing meals, writing letters, an article or two, and reading? (At last, at least a bit more reading than I ever managed, and lots of good books around)? Well, I spent about two weeks secretly writing a poem — I saw a poetry competition, and when I read what poets are writing these days it makes me want to do better than that. So I've entered for this competition, don't expect to win first prize, but there are a number of lesser (money) prizes. Haven't told anyone, not even Rusty, so that if nothing comes of it, no one need know. I think it's rather a good poem. I also go to Oxford sometimes and potter around the Ashmolean of a couple of galleries and the bookshops. We also went to an AAM meeting — there's a persistent active elderly woman secretary who toadies me, so I went & made R come, despite my resolution never to go to such meetings an more.

Spencer stayed with us one light last week (installation for the Thames Valley Police) and bumped his head on all our overhead lights. He really has a weight problem - or is it an appetitie problem) Four slices of my bread before dinner. But he was most agreeable, and somehow not as simple as he sometimes seems. Although with Wusty's hearing problems and the way Spencer speaks, conversation became difficult (for Rusty, that is.)

All the news, from everywhere, is simply horrible. Ireland has been devastating and the endless speculation, interviews & other nonsense on the news drives one mad. Bosnia slips to the last pages, but is still there, with graphic stories that you don't want to read because you know how awful it is. British politics are just in the sink - rail privatisation, quiet corruption everywhere, NMS getting worse & worse, a totally incompetent O but wrecking - government & a totally ineffectual & rightwing opposition. And at present, horrific details about the little Bulger boy, two 11-year-olds on trial somehow what they did does not make sense, however much you try to reason ittout. But we go on listening to the radio & watching the TV news. Incidentally, almost nothing from SA, we're really out of touch. This morning, on Women's Hour, they had an item about how they are now dealing with rape (it was from Cape Town) in SA, and it bears out, in another sphere, what you wrote about the visible change in the police.

I suppose you keep in touch with phone calls between you and Ivan. He phoned the other day about stuffing a chicken - he was cooking for Nick & Mark - and told me they are both vegetarians; I couldn't believe it. Ivan says they're sort of meat-eating vegetarians.

,uch love from both of us.

luon

24th October 1993.

Dear mom & dad,

Here I am more or less at the end of the world - next stop Antartica, and I feel quite isolated. East London where I'm based is a real slow, backward town that is really set in the early 1950's. There are advantages and disadvantages to being in this border region - the chief one as far as I'm concerned is that it is not Natal and therefore I do not have to try and deal with the Inkata element.

This morning (Sunday) I got up at 6 am as usual and jogged along the beach front for about 25 minutes (or 3.5km). and then stopped off to pick up the Sunday papers. Honestly the press here is so appalling the quality of journalism and writing so poor that if it wasn't for the Weekly Mail & Guardian I think I'd go crazy. I'm now sitting in the sun in my room, gazing at the sea wishing I could spend the day on the beach instead of monitoring an ANC rally in a nearby township. How I long for a whole day off. But I'm starting at the end and it's hard to know where the beginning is.

This is the set up. We,me & my Swiss partner(more on him later) are living in self catering 'apartments' near the beach. Our office is in King Williams Town - about 50 km from here and our area extends up to Aliwal North in the north and includes the whole so called Border/Ciskei region. It means a lot driving around, but is really a relatively quiet area without the problems of the Rand or Natal. The main thing here is that one get so involved in the minutae of local events, problems and issues that one hardly knows what is going on in the rest of the country let alone the rest of the world. The local paper has not had one story concerning the events in Natal and only minor pieces about the Tvl area. And that's the trouble with this place - people are insular in the extreme and know nothing about anything.

Now let me tell you about Stephan, the guy I have been paired with, as this will explain a lot of the frustrations I am having. He is Swiss. A race not known for their sense of humour or lightness of heart. He has never been out of Europe before, although he works for some sort of solidarity group and has 'right on' ideas about S.A. He is totally culture shocked by what he feels is the third world - boy I'd really like to see him in Angola! And utterly and completely unable to cope.

He doesn't drive as he's never driven on the left hand side before and only drives rarely in Switzerland. The one time that I let him drive he sat bolt upright and proceeded along at 60km per hour and it took us over an hour to get back from East London from King Williams Town. So I do all the driving and as we often have to do a lot of mileage in a day this is tiring.

He also doesn't do anything else. He has yet to make a phone call - I do all the phoning, appointment making, following up on things etc. When I ask him if he will phone someone he just looks at me as if I'm mad and doesn't do it. He is incapable of even finding me a telephone number from the book and has never been known to hurry even in a dire emergency. He just sort of shambles along in a daze in his thick maroon socks and brown birkenstock sandals. He also doesn't speak to anyone. I do force him to introduce himself now, but apart from that he never asks or answers any questions, or chats to people, but just sits looking like a dead trout. So I am the one who deals with every appointment from the chief of police to the chairman of PAC to the youth with guns on the street etc etc. He has no powers of observation and always seems surprised that I know how to find things, and has the slowest reaction times I've ever seen. He is completely unaware of when a situation is dangerous or tricky and is inunable to make even a simple decision.

I have managed to stop him from wearing his money pouch on little straps around his neck - clearly visible under his shirt for every Tsotsi in the region to see. And I have suggested that he buys himself a pair of sunglasses so that he deosn't walk around with his whole face screwed up. But I have not yet been able to tackle the sandals and socks or infrequent bathing problem.

For some reason my room has become the sort of base, mainly because I set up my computer and printer and put up maps and a schedule and compiled a phone list etc. The problem is that he has no idea about personal privacy or space and is ALWAYS here unless I tell him quite rudely that I'm going to bed. Doesn't even get out when Ivan phones me . We also cook in here, although I am opting out of that as I can't bear meat meals every night. His main contribution is insisting on writing up the daily report which I dictate to him and he then renders into German/English and makes as dry and boring as possible.

The strain of doing so little has begun to tell on him and this weekend he has retired to his room with the flu, emerging only for meals and to hang around me feeling sorry for himself. This has meant that I have had to go to all appointments etc on my own and given me even less time off.

He's sitting opposite me right now, trying to get my sympathy, but I have none left and want him to bugger off to his own room - I don't want his lugubrious presence or his flu.

Well that's Stephan - a man of 44 who could be 104. I have been extremely patient so far, but am nearing the end of my tether with the liability of trying to mediate with PAC and ANC feuds with him around.

Fortunately, the UN & EC monitors based here are extremely nice and unlike in other regions we co operate and share information etc. One of the UN guys is very experienced and has been in Angola, Namibia etc. Last night they took me out for a drink and I felt like a human being for a little while. Two of them have already suggested that I apply to become a UN monitor which I will as soon as I can disover where to get forms from.

The work is interesting, very tiring and quite frustrating. For example one gets called to a village where there is some problem with high school students (many of them in their 20's) bringing guns to school. It looks on the surface like a PAC provocation, but as one digs deeper it gets more and more muddied and complicated and difficult to understand. The more you know the less you know here, although most of it has it's roots in the old apartheid system. And don't discount a '3rd force'. Anyway one has to talk to all the players from the local police commander and town clerk to ANC, PAC, Cosas, Paso, (who tend to be armed & insolent) ANC Youth League, etc etc and trying to find a way to get them all talking on neutral ground. Just our presence sometimes achieves this - although one never really deals with the underlying causes.

Or there are days when one just goes from appointment to meeting. The best bits are monitoring ANC marches. It is all very easy going round here (so far) and the toi toi & singing are wonderful as are the marchers teasing the police with chants of 'Kill the farmer, kill the boer - farmer, farmer. Boer, Boer.' They only do it to annoy because they know it teases! Another favourite is 'Chisa chisa mellow yellow'. Meaning burn the mellow yellow (police vehicles here are yellow) Very hard not to join in the toi toi and sing the MK songs!

What has been most interesting to me is the real and visible change in the police, especially at the top levels. They are committed to doing more community policing, and taking a less provocative way of dealing with demonstrations etc and it shows in the attitude of the people toward them. And they work very well with us monitors. Which is not to say that there aren't still big problems, most especially with the hated, heavily armed and violent ISU(Instability Unit).

Anyway that's how it goes. Every day starts at 6 and ends with cooking and writing reports and me forcing the Swiss out of my room at 9ish so that I can read and go to bed. It is very, very exhausting and I do wonder a bit about how much value us monitors are. Although we are greetly warmly by everyone everywhere. I also hate having to go to church on Sunday - even to hear the lovely singing in the township churches, but it is part of the deal and the churches are very important in voter education. Today the ANC rally has got me out of going to church, but then it is a kind of church service of its own.

Because this region is so quiet - really it is an ANC stronghold and they have got it more or less sown up - I have decided to try and spend some time trying to look at what is going on in the field of voter education. Lot's of talk, little action. It seems the ANC is the only group who is actively carrying it out on a big scale, although there is some good training material around. Will try and get onto the white farms in the northern part of our region and talk to farmers and maybe with some luck, farm workers. Have already set this in motion, altho' not sure how succuessful we'll be. Also taking a trip to Transkei this coming week to look at setting up a monitoring office there, as so far there are no monitors in Transkei.

Truth is that I really enjoy this work and find that I am quite good at it.

You can write to me c/o BCC, Eastern Cape Region, P.O.Box 966, King Williams Town 5600. I'm not sure how long post takes here. I won't have time to write again. I don't have time for anything.

its not too old!

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