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1977
Prisoners of
Conscience Year

ms/an/SAE1/Lesotho.

Mrs P. Naidoo
PO Box 619
Maseru
Lesotho

15 August 1977

Dear Phyllis,

I received information from Miss Reddy of your office to the effect that you could now be contacted at the above address. She did not tell me the circumstances of your move to Lesotho but I think that I can probably guess the reasons.

I should be most grateful to know whether there is any way in which you feel we can be of assistance to you, and if there is any further information you can provide concerning the Pietermaritzburg trialists and all those connected with them.

I should very much like to hear from you and be re-assured that you are alright and in good health. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Noue

pp: Malcolm Smart
Research Department

22/8/77

P.O. BOX 619, Maseru, LESOTHO. 22nd August, 1977.

Dear Malcolm,

Thank you for your letter dated the 15th August, 1977, per kind favour of Angela Nouné.

The terrible heartache of being here is best left untold, except that with my leaving, my children were sent to London by their father. So in one fell swoop I lost my children (3), My home, my friends and my country.

My brother and Basil Chocklingum have taken over my office. My brother is best reached at his office in Stanger. (Paul David of David & Company, P.O. Box 339, Stanger, Natal.) Please remind him when he replies not to address the envelope Amnesty International, but just in your name. Correspondence this way may have longer life. I will also tell him about this.

Amnesty branches all over the world have adopted the families of the Pietermaritzburg men. But I want you to help Mrs Agnes Ndebele. Her husband was so sure of his release it was pathetic. They have 5 children. 11 years to 2yrs. She has never worked except as a housewife. But she sought work leaving her baby locked till her first baby got back from school at 3pm. When I heard this I stopped her immediately. She does not enjoy charity, but needs help. I've promised her R50.00 per month, and have managed to send this to her. I do not know the needs of my children at the moment, and may have to choose. I wonder if you will get a family to adopt her. Can be done through my brother at first. Perhaps if we get her to open a saving account.. You can send it direct to the account. I find this to be a good way. It certainly saves much bookkeeping for Attorneys.

On the strength of your promise of assistance, my old firm ~~were~~ had outlaid monies to the detained & families. Whatever is due to the firm, we will be happy to wipe off.

I wish to bring to your attention the detained I left in Durban, just before I left. Russel Maphanga +15/7; Shadrack Maphumulo +20/7 & Leonard Mdingi. The first two have spent 10 years at R. Island. While Leonard is an old diehard ANC member. Such assistance as you might manage can be dealt with by Paul. William Khanyile the only man acquitted in our PMB trial is being cared for by Nancy Cowley. A little help now & again won't hurt him.

I am not enjoying good health here. My kidney misbehaves from time to time. Health facilities here leave much to be desired. So besides my children I may have to come your way. If I do, I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

PHYLLIS NAIDOO