

26th June, 1980. Freedom Day.

My dear Krish & Reg,

Today the news of Helen Joseph's burning orders at 75 years was a terrible blow to me. As you know she is very dear to me & has been so even before the Freedom Charter. But a telephone call from Reg, which has given me always a great lift previously brought greater sorrow into my life than there has been for a long time. There was my sister, in the truest sense of the word, telling me that I was keeping something from her. I did not want to tell her about Krish's trip to Maseru, that I knew more than I had told her. Everytime I was asked about the aforesaid trip I kept repeating that she should ask you Krish. I don't think it was fair for me to do this. Also she was going to a quack about her heart. Anyway I told this story. Gladys, Rhonda & I were returning from a trip to Kolynama in a little beetle, I was sitting at the back when we stopped at Victoria Hotel at the robot. I turned around to see my brothers VW NT----. Funny if Urs were here she would be home? Is she arriving? I looked up to see a man with dark glasses & then I saw it was you & next to you was someone small whose sex I was not sure of. I was sure that you were going to follow us home to the arrival centre. But you turned up the road and seemed headed to Rhonda's house. Had you seen us? I was not sure.

Sometime on Sunday morning you went to Rhonda to get her to bring you here to us. I was sure that you & Reg had been here but obviously I was wrong. You seemed to be well turned out, but then you told me you were at some security conference with locals at the holiday Inn. There was no reason to doubt you. You left without having a meal to get back to conference. You said you would leave early from the holiday Inn. Reg has been under great pressure about this trip, she had checked your passport & found that you had lied about the time you came to Maseru, and the fact that the trip had cost you R450.00 etc. Oh my God. What you have been to me would be difficult to translate into words or paper. You were always my friend, and will always be. Whatever happens between you & my sister will not affect that. I want that to be very clear.

When you & Reg quarrelled at Herebank & you packed up in that green hat & came to Scala, AJ & I went with you & we just laughed it off. Then when Reg was bleeding to death, you phoned me as you were without transport. Des & I came & fetched my bleeding sister. How we all carried her back was beyond me, but we did & my car bore the tale of that blood story.

Then when my whole family were at me about the divorce & MD, you were my pillar of strength & AJ & Jean. I can never tell you the strength you gave to me in those busy & terrifying times. I was and still am very grateful to you for that.

During the divorce I stayed with you. Never left court until it was all over. Stayed with me after I had lost my sons. Gave me a home when I did not have one to rub together. Never made any adverse remarks or criticisms of my affair with Basil. Never judged me. Just gave me your love & affection. I thank you for that.

The numerous times you have been here & the balm you have been I shall treasure always. Come what may for as long as there is life in this body of mine & my heart will be always open to you.

I am ill equipped to lecture you two. Whatever you decide. That decision must be made by yourselves taking into full account the whole circumstances of your lives. Your children should not come into your whole debate. It has to be a decision of you two. Truth & honesty must be the hallmark of any decision you make.

My pain can never equal yours. Take care you two, for you are very dear to me. Your well being is mine. I live by it. Take care, take good care. You are my sister & brother in everything you do.

All my love

*Handwritten signature*