

70 C.N.R. House,
22 Cross Street,
D U R B A N

REGISTERED AIR MAIL

19th December, 1973

My dear Nersen,

You ask - How have things been with you? The answer in short - if there be a short answer is "catastrophic"

I am so happy at hearing from you that my own news will have to wait.

I am sending you a bank draft for SEVENTY FIVE (75) dollars to buy your New Year dinner on me. Have a good booze up and paint the town red.

Your letter of the 17th November, 1973 reached me on the 15th December, 1973 - True everything moves at ox-waggon pace in these parts, but this delay was due to the inefficiency of the Davids.

Darling we lost Dade on the 29th December, 1972 after being ill for three years. It was a release for him - but for me an awful loss - Ma has had a trip to London and is rested from the experience.

Sahdhan is 13 in April, 1974 and in Std. 7 - doing decidedly well - is extremely dogmatic about his views, dangerously so. Your letter thrilled him no end. He says he's coming over to join you. He's an avid reader - but a lazy sod if there ever was one. However mealtimes is an exception. No person shows such alacrity over a plate of grub as he does - shows for it too.

Sha is 12 in July, 1974 - He is myopic like his dad. Wears heavy lens - He's second in his form (Std IV next year) beaten by a female - the latter he takes badly, but he does naught to improve his position. He is a serious body. His patience at chess jigsaws is nerve wracking in the extreme. He can sit for two hours at a stretch to play a single move or put in a piece. He tends to be asthmatic - more psychological than pathological - poor devil - loves swimming Like his brother he tackles his chow with exuberance that has yet to be matched.

Sukhthi our baby sister is 8 in May. She is Lucifer incarnate - She wears topless dresses and cannot wait to wear bras. At the moment she is preoccupied with her Xmas party. She is a 'pop dancer' - Is that the 'with it' expression. Her twist movements are some what worrying - she is going to have a mighty developing muscular right leg and a not so developed left. I think you'll have to advise here.

I'm/.....

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I'm listening to Louis Armstrong. He is my Maestro. I don't dig the present day music - but my ears are rocked with it by the terrible three. What are your tastes in music?

Many books are banned here - read Soledad Brothers and tell me about it carefully.

The current phase here is an imported American version of "Black is Beautiful" politics. While I don't dig this line of endeavour, I nevertheless regard it as a move in the right direction - which has to be channelised into the greatest good for the greatest number.

I am ~~still~~ house-arrested, 7 p.m. - 6 a.m. - but 'free' during the day - I am an Attorney now - probably the only one in the world that cannot enter court premises. However I manage to live a full life - You do the same my son.

May I end with this quotation and may I say when you find the author that I agree heartily with him. "Well I don't care how long I live; Over this I have no control, but I do care about what kind of life I live, and I can control this. I may not live but for another five minutes, but it will be five minutes definitely on my terms"

ALL MY LOVE.

PHYLLIS