

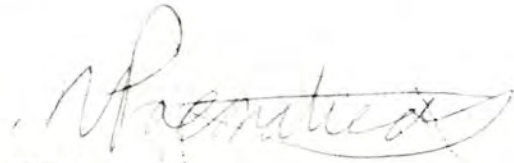
Generally I do not support violence however this seems to be one of the main ways in bringing down the Apartheid Regime. I also believe that there are other ways in supporting the struggle and if all these things work together we will reach our goal which is the liberation of South Africa.

When my University results arrived I realized that the position I was in and I decided to take action. There are quite a few things I can do. Firstly I could go to jail and make a protest in that way. However in all honesty I do not feel strong enough to stand up to imprisonment. Secondly it might be possible for me to go to the army and not to carry a gun however I feel that the fact that one wears a uniform identifies one with the SADF and all that it stands for.

My alternative was to leave the country. I arrived in Lesotho on 31/12/1980. I chose Lesotho because (1) There was a shortage of time (2) I have little financial support from my parents and (3) I wanted to remain in Southern Africa.

My position in Lesotho is very precarious. There is a great difficulty in getting a work permit. My passport expires on 30 October 1981 and if it is not renewed (which will probably be the case) I will have to declare myself a refugee in this country. This is not the best thing to do and therefore I find myself in a very difficult position. In view of this I wish to go to Europe so that I can get some employment and to continue my studies through the Open University Programme. However I do not have the finance to get over there and will probably have to remain here.

These are the facts about myself. I do not regret the course I have taken and I hope that wherever I go I will be able to be of some use to the liberation struggle for South Africa.


NICHOLAS PNEUMATICOS.

MASERU 8/1/81

I was born in Fish Hoek in the Cape. I am the youngest of four children. My brother who is 31 is a civil engineer; my sister, who is a speech therapist, is 24; and I have another sister who is 25.

My parents are both South African citizens. However, my father is from a Greek background and my mother is Italian and British background.

My father has run two shoe shops for the past three years. My mother helps him in the business. Neither my father nor mother have any post matric education.

On the whole my family supports me but they do not support my decision. They are not prepared to support me financially. Most of the members of my family seem to think that I have acted with total disregard for their feelings. I believe that I have acted according to my beliefs and that comes before family and friends.

Nicholas Pneumaticatos

8/1/81