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Friday 13th November, 1998.

My dear Elmer and Gisela,

I recall that Friday when you called late at the hotel to keep an earlier appointment. Thank you so much.

When Rebecca Dyck visited Cuba in 1982 she told me she had found you to help her. She sent me lovely photos of Sha. They enjoyed the beach together and she was pregnant. There were lovely photos of Tom. Sadly that marriage is on the rocks.

I think how moving meeting Dr Mirabel Sha's professor was. He and my son were very good friends. He took Sha by car to Havana when Sha was returning to Africa. At least that was 10 hours driving. Its like the distance between Durban and Harare. You worry about your child in exile. Politically we knew Cuba, but I worried when he married twice. He must have needed affection. Mirabel convinced me he loved my son. It seems that I went to Cuba to find that out.

I also learnt that he was fond of you. Luisa told me of how he wanted to see you. Thank you Elmer and Gisella for giving my son a home in Cuba.

I hope your work as Prison Chaplin goes well. I sent you a copy of my book on the death penalty. In it there is a discussion on prison chaplains. But I am sure Cuba's laws are different from our past racist laws.

How do you feed your prison population when conditions are difficult for ordinary citizens. I did not get a chance to talk to anyone about that. In Zimbabwe, the prison planted food and kept cows for milk. They had an excellent diet and the state did not exhaust its coffers in taking care of its criminal population.

If ever you are in South Africa you will be welcome here for as long as I am alive. Please come.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Naidoo