

In fact I'll be proud to be counted amongst those who fought and died for this country and people.

This is probably sounding very romantic and reckless, but then it is very difficult to put down in words the simple yet profound principles of one's life. If I were to live like a 'mole', that is part of the price that must be paid. And it is a very small price compared to what others have gone through, and are still going through.

I suppose the one thing I really need to talk to you about is wanting to have another child. I've met and loved other men — and especially one now whose child I would be proud to have. But I know there is no time. I want to be able

to be with my child all the time. And now there is so much else to do. I had virtually made up my mind that I was going to have a child no matter what. And then there was the SADF raid on Lesotho in December last year, where amongst others a young white woman and her coloured husband were killed. They were shot dead in bed.

Their one-year-old daughter lay screaming next to their bodies until neighbours came to fetch her. Then I thought, God!

I don't want my baby to have to go through that. And yet the baby will have cause to be proud one day. So who knows, maybe I will be lucky enough to have a child.

I don't know if I have gone any way towards trying to explain myself. I hope some makes sense to you. In the end you'll see, it will be for the good of all. This war has to be fought to the bitter end. And it is going to be bitter. I have no illusions about that. But in the end there will be a happier life for all of us — black and white. And I quite honestly believe that this is going to happen in our lifetime, not that of our children or grandchildren.

Just know that I do love you even if you feel exasperated, betrayed or hurt.

Yours

Marion

TO NELSON MANDELA

STATEMENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH LEADERS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

NELSON ROLIHLAHLA MANDELA

On the occasion of Dr Mandela's 70th birthday, 18 July 1988. We, the undersigned, are Clergy, Church layworkers and professional theologians in South Africa.

We write to honour you on this your 70th birthday.

As Christians we acknowledge Jesus Christ as the supreme Lord, from whom all human authority derives. Under his Lordship we are called to resist all illegitimate authority, and share in the total liberation of humanity from all that denies complete human life. In South Africa this means struggling against the tyranny of apartheid, and for a country free of injustice, exploitation and discrimination.

We believe this struggle is established in history by Jesus Christ and continued by human beings imitating Christ's obedience and compassion.

We recognise this obedience and compassion in your lifetime of commitment to struggle to liberate all South Africans and in your endurance of tremendous hardship.

We regard it as a crime against humanity that you, a peace-loving man, should languish in an apartheid jail, when you ought to be enjoying the freedom of full family life with your wife, children and grandchildren.

We emphatically reject the propaganda disseminated by this illegal regime and its supporters which dismisses your organisation, the ANC, as terrorist.

We understand the motivations which led you and

other imprisoned and exiled leaders to embark on an armed struggle to enable the liberation of our people.

We regard it as a mark of your true leadership that you choose to remain in prison, rather than accept P W Botha's offer of conditional release.

We agree with you that a peace process can only be initiated by the apartheid government's rejection of the violence of apartheid and the repression with which they maintain it. As such, negotiations are only possible when the state demonstrates its intentions by:

- unconditionally releasing all political prisoners and detainees;
- unconditionally unbanning all the organisations of the people;
- allowing exiles to return without restriction;
- dismantling all apartheid structures, laws and institutions without reserve.

We will continue to pray and strive for a non-racial, democratic South Africa, and for the time when you will take your rightful and proper place amongst us as husband, father, grandfather and national leader.

We declare that your freedom and ours cannot be separated.

May God continue to bless and inspire you.

Yours in the struggle for freedom, justice and peace.
Signed by Frank Chikane, Albert Nolan, Smangaliso Mkhathshwa, Shun Govender, Desmond Tutu, and over 150 other signatories.