

Geneva, 5 April 2005

Dear Friend,

By letter dated December 22, 2004, I submitted to your comments the draft of my book titled "Moments with Madiba", indicating that the question was still open whether the ICRC would authorize its publication.

I can inform you today that – as could actually be expected – such authorization could not be granted: considering that I am still a member of the Committee itself, it was thought (probably rightly so) that my draft contained too many references to the reports on ICRC prison visits to become public now, for such publication would constitute a breach of the rule of confidentiality which the ICRC imposes itself for 40 years with regards to its dealings with governments, even if these governments have changed.

I would therefore ask you to kindly treat my draft with all due confidentiality (I put the same request to Ahmed Kathrada, to whom – as I have written you – I had also submitted my draft).

This said, having had no reaction either from you or from John Samuel to my draft (which was delivered by DHL to your Foundation on 23 December 2004), I would still greatly appreciate any comment you may have to it. Such comments would stay in the archives of the ICRC, together with my draft, and only become available to the public in 2015, namely 40 years after the report on my last visit to you on Robben Island in April 1975.

By DHL
Phone 027 11 728 1000

Mr Nelson Mandela
To the Personal Office of
Mr Nelson Mandela
The Nelson Mandela Foundation
107 Central Street
Between 16th and 17th Streets
Houghton 2041
Gauteng
Republic of South Africa

I avail myself of this opportunity to thank you again for the warmth of your welcome on the various occasions when I had the honour and the pleasure of spending some time with you and express my most sincere wishes for your lasting good health and personal happiness.

Yours as ever,

Jacques Moreillon
Member of the ICRC

cc: John Samuel