

Date sent: **Tue, 4 Feb 1997 20:42:49 -0700**  
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From: **jradsford@swcp.com (Jeff Radford)**  
Subject: **plans for trip**

Hi again! I'm starting to get excited about the trip in April! Thanks for all the assurances in your last e-mail. I really look forward to spending some time with you, Fran, kids and other friends there. I had been delaying responding to your last message until I was more certain about where I would be when. As I may have said last time, I'm hoping to do some interviewing of Janet Mondlane in Maputo for a biography about her life in Mozambique's war of liberation and subsequent circumstances. I was hoping she would have replied to my e-mail to her by now, so that I would know when she might be available for a meeting and discussions about the biography. At this point, it seems like it might be best to fly straight on into Maputo to get that part of the trip out of the way first, rather than have to go there in the middle of the visit to RSA. Naturally, I wouldn't want the time in Maputo to interfere with Splashy Fen. Anyway, I need to learn what date would be best for Janet Mondlane to see me before I can decide whether to try to go there first, or head to Joburg-Durban first.

I've thought some about what arrangements you might be able to make for me in advance. The main thing I want to do is ABSORB what is going on and what has gone on. I guess that means I hope to talk to as many South Africans as I can. I'd like to talk to Byers Naude, or others at the Institute on Race Relations, if it still exists, and to people working on the Truth and Reconciliation Committee. And getting to know Roger, of course, would be very valuable. Also, perhaps you would be able to arrange for me to stay a day or two with a Black family in Joburg or elsewhere. That may be a tough request.

I'm hoping that Roger, Mike Dickman, Colin Shamley, Paul Klingman, Edi, Mac, Richie, Theo, and others will be at the concert, but I realize that might not happen. I'd be perfectly content to sleep in a tent there, as well as helping set up equipment, etc. I expect to bring a tent for that purpose. I know the concert is May 1-4, but you mentioned being there for a week. I assume that include set-up and take-down. Can you tell me what the dates will be for those 7 days? ... just in case it makes a difference in trying to schedule the trip to Maputo. Also: what's the best (?) way to get between Maputo and Durban? My first time in RSA, I took the train from Lourenco Marquez to Joburg (that's when I met Richie Morris... he and Zita were in the next compartment, and that led me to the folk-night club scene where I met you and the other musicians.) But it looks like a much longer trip from Maputo to Durban since I assume it would go to Joburg first. I'd prefer to go overland rather than fly just to get more look at the countryside.



I've got a few "story ideas" that I may try to work on while there; some would be for newspaper and magazines here and some, maybe, for South African readers (I've been thinking about a comparison between the apartheid environment I grew up in in Louisiana during the 1940s-50s and RSA today, and may try to get back to my old hometown there, Tallulah, before or after my trip to southern Africa.) But when I think about doing articles, I tend to come back to the idea that the may thing I want to do while in RSA is comprehend and absorb conditions and insights. I've always been fascinated by change, social change, and I'm sure that South Africa is WHERE IT's AT right now, for good and for bad.

Well, so much for now... Hopefully I'll get some word from Janet Mondlane soon so I can firm up plans. Latest schedule has me arriving in Durban (or Maputo) April 17 and departing Joburg May 12.

Love to all (I can't wait!!!) == Jeff