Corrections in *Long Walk to Freedom*

From the edition: Published by Abacus (1995)

**PART ONE**

**Chapter One**

p5

It is Kaiser Matanzima not Kalzer

p7

Paragraph 2: It says that when he was “not more than a newborn child” his father had the dispute with the magistrate. We now know this happened in 1926.

Since the publication of *Long Walk to Freedom* in 1994, archival evidence has emerged showing that his father indeed did appear before the magistrate and this was in 1926.

p8

It says Mandela and his mother moved to Qunu “because of our straitened circumstances”. Mandela himself said they went to Qunu when he was a baby but not because of the dispute but because his mother set up her homestead there.

**Chapter Two**

p14

AmaMfengu arrived ‘in’ the eastern Cape not ‘on’ the Eastern Cape

**Chapter Three**

First line: When I was 12 (not when I was nine) – in relation to his father’s death. See archival evidence from Mandela himself

p19

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925*
It is not ‘acting regent’ – regent implies acting king—so it should either be ‘acting king’ or ‘regent’

Kwedini should be lower case, it is not a name – it just means ‘boy’

p28

Change nomaMpondo to Nomampondo

Chapter Four

p33

Delete ‘an’ in ‘We were looked after by an amakhankatha’ (the ‘ama’ prefix denotes plural) and in any case they would have been looked after by more than one ikhankatha

Chapter Five

p36

Close space in house- master to make it house-master

PART TWO

Chapter Nine

p81

It is Lazer Sidelsky and not Lazar. Mandela consistently misspelled his first name.

Part Three

Chapter 12

p120

Writing about moving to Orlando East in 1946 and thereafter Orlando West it says: ‘That year our first son Madiba Thembekile was born’. He was born on 23 February 1945.

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
It is not correct that in 1947 Mandela applied to the Bantu Welfare Trust for a loan of £250 and was given £150. Archival records show that on 30 December 1946 he applied for a loan of £250 and in January 1947 it was granted. On 28 May 1947 he asked for an additional £150 but on 3 June 1947 that application was turned down. He applied again on 3 Sept 1947 and on 10 September 1947 he was granted £102 pounds.

Chapter 14

It says a decision was taken in April 1952 in relation to the Defiance Campaign and then on page 143 it says Mandela he took his drivers’ licence “a few weeks before” but he said he got his licence on 28 December 1951.

PART FOUR

Chapter 16

First page: It says Mandela completed his articles with Sidelsky Witkin & Eidelman in 1951 yet earlier in the book it says 1947. We have a copy of an affidavit from Sidelsky confirming that Madiba started his articles with him on 8 March 1943 (the articles were registered by the Law Society on the 29 March 1943) and ended on 28 March 1946.

He did not (only) leave Wits after failing his exams several times, in 1952 he was asked to leave if he did not pay an outstanding debt to the university.

Chapter 19

The name ‘Strijdom’ is twice misspelled as ‘Stijdorn’

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Chapter 21

First page: Makaziwe was born on 1 May 1954 so in early September 1955 she would have been 15 months, not two years old

p209

The name is Dorothy Masuka NOT Dorothy Masuku

p214

Sabata was not KD Matanzima’s blood brother. They were cousins

PART FIVE

Chapter 23

p234

Change Yath’ Badl’ ezinya to Yath’ Badl’ ezinye

And

Delete the space between Ngu and Shaka to read ‘NguShaka’

Chapter 25

p246

Change ‘Isangoma’ to ‘iSangoma’ [capital S because it is a nickname]

Chapter 26

p249

Winnie Mandela was 5th of 11 children not the sixth of 11 children

p252

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Constance Mbekeni is NOT Madiba’s sister. She is a cousin.

Chapter 28

First page: There were pass law protests in 1957 but Winnie Mandela’s involvement was in 1958

p258

It says that Winnie Mandela was pregnant at the time. She only became pregnant in 1958. This would have been in 1958.

The named protest at the Central pass office was in October 1958.

Chapter 29

p262

Our information is that by August 1958 there were 91 accused then, not 92.

Chapter 33

p281

There were officially about 180 people injured at Sharpeville not 400.

Chapter 36

First page: Change ‘detainment’ to ‘detention’

p292

It says that from 26 April 1960 when the Treason Trialists dismissed their defence, it took ‘five months’ until the end of the State of Emergency. The State of Emergency ended on 30 August, which would make it four months.

p296

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Before noting Mandela’s testimony in the Treason Trial, which started on 3 August, it says the defence has returned. It only returned after the end of the State of Emergency.

Chapter 37

p302

There should be no space between ‘u’ and ‘Zindzile’. It should be ‘uZindzile’

PART SIX

Chapter 43

First page and p329: Wolfie Kodesh’ flat was in Yeoville not in Berea

Chapter 48

p363

Mandela said that when he was in Ethiopia for the second time in 1962, he received a telegram asking him to come home because: “they wanted to continue the struggle inside the country” not because ‘the armed struggle was escalating’

PART SEVEN

Chapter 51

First page: Mandela wore a jackal skin kaross at his 1962 trial, not a leopard skin

p385

The Magistrate in Mandela’s 1962 trial was Mr Van Heldsingen not Von Heerden

p386

*In a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
The correct quotation from Mandela’s *Black Man in a White Man’s Court* speech in his 1962 trial follows:

Why is it that in this courtroom I face a white magistrate, am confronted by a white prosecutor, and escorted into the dock by a white orderly? Can anyone honestly and seriously suggest that in this type of atmosphere the scales of justice are evenly balanced? Why is it that no African in the history of this country has ever had the honour of being tried by his own kith and kin, by his own flesh and blood? I will tell Your Worship why: the real purpose of this rigid colour bar is to ensure that the justice dispensed by the courts should conform to the policy of the country, however much that policy might be in conflict with the norms of justice accepted in judiciaries throughout the civilised world... I hate race discrimination most intensely and in all its manifestations. I have fought it all during my life; I fight it now, and will do so until the end of my days. Even although I now happen to be tried by one whose opinion I hold in high esteem, I detest most violently the set-up that surrounds me here. It makes me feel that I am a black man in a white man’s court. This should not be.

p387

The following is the correct quotation from the portion in *Long Walk to Freedom* of Mandela’s cross-examination of a witness Mr Barnard, the Private Secretary of Prime Minister HF Verwoerd:

NM: Did you place this letter before your prime minister?
WITNESS: Yes.
NM: On what date? Can you remember?
WITNESS: It is difficult to remember, but I gather from the date specified on the date stamp, the Prime Minister’s Office date stamp
NM: That is 24 April. Now was any reply given to this letter by the Prime Minister? Did he reply to this letter?
WITNESS: He did not reply to the writer.
NM: He did not reply to the letter. Now, will you agree that this letter raises matters of vital concern to the vast majority of the citizens of this country?
WITNESS: I do not agree.
NM: You don’t agree? You don’t agree that the question of human rights, of civil liberties, is a matter of vital importance to the African people?
WITNESS: Yes, that is so, indeed.
NM: Are these things mentioned here?
WITNESS: Yes, I think so.
NM: They are mentioned. You agree that this letter deals with matters of vital importance to the African people in this country? You have

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
already agreed that this letter raises questions like the rights of freedom, civil liberties and so on?
WITNESS: Yes, the letter raises it.
NM: Important questions to any citizen?
WITNESS: Yes
NM: Now, you know of course that Africans don’t enjoy the rights demanded in this letter? They are denied those rights of government?
WITNESS: Some rights.
NM: No African is a member of Parliament?
WITNESS: That is right.
NM: No African can be a member of the Provincial Council, of the Municipal Councils?

p388

WITNESS: Yes.
NM: Africans have no vote in this country?
WITNESS: They have got no vote as far as Parliament is concerned.
NM: Yes, that is what I am talking about. I am talking about Parliament and other government bodies of the country, the Provincial councils, the Municipal Councils. They have no vote?
WITNESS: That is right.
NM: Would you agree with me that in any civilized country in the world it would be scandalous for a Prime Minister to fail to reply to a letter raising vital issues affecting the majority of the citizens of that country. Would you agree with that?
WITNESS: I don’t agree with that.
NM: You don’t agree that it would be irregular for a Prime Minister to ignore a letter raising vital issues affecting the vast majority of citizens of that country?
WITNESS: This letter has not been ignored by the Prime Minister.
NM: Just answer the question. Do you regard it as proper for a Prime Minister not to respond to pleas made in regard to vital issues by the vast majority of the citizens of the country? You say that is not wrong?
WITNESS: The Prime Minister did respond to the letter.
NM: Mr Barnard, I don’t want to be rude to you. Will you confine yourself to answering my questions? The question I am putting to you is, do you agree that it is most improper on the part of a Prime Minister not to reply to a communication raising vital issues affecting the vast majority of the country?

p390

Mandela did not make a plea in mitigation of sentence – as he was not asking the court for leniency. He used the opportunity of ‘evidence
in mitigation of sentence’ to made a ‘closing address’. This was also his second speech from the dock.

Chapter 54

First & 2nd pages: Spelling is Makana not Makanna

p405 and p406

Change all instances of ‘Haas’ to ‘Hak’

p414

It is our information that Winnie Mandela was banned in 1962 not in 1961

Dennis Goldberg spells his first name Denis

The summonsing of Mandela to the prison office – where he found Sisulu, Kathrada, Mbeki, Mlangeni, Hepple, Mhlabo, Motsoaledi, Goldberg, Bernstein and Kantor -- could not have been ‘a day or two later’ (in July 1963) because all the others were under 90 days detention and served most of it, until October 1963

p415

Ahmed Kathrada jumped out of the window with Walter Sisulu at Rivonia

Chapter 55

p418

Correct spelling is Mayibuye iAfrika

p423

Dennis Goldberg spells his first name Denis

p426

Dennis Goldberg spells his first name Denis

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Chapter 56

First page: Our records say the state’s case ended on 2 March 1962 not 29 Feb. The defence case began on 20 April with Mandela’s speech from the dock which makes it correct to say, as it does that they had ‘little over a month’ to prepare.

p432

Correct quotation from the portions of his Prepared to Die speech follows. The ellipses […] indicate where the publisher chose to omit certain material

I am the First Accused.

I hold a Bachelor’s Degree in Arts and practised as an attorney in Johannesburg for a number of years in partnership with Mr. Oliver Tambo, a co-conspirator in this case. I am a convicted prisoner serving five years for leaving the country without a permit and for inciting people to go on strike at the end of May 1961.

I admit immediately that I was one of the persons who helped to form Umkhonto we Sizwe, and that I played a prominent role in its affairs until I was arrested in August 1962 ...

At the outset, I want to say that the suggestion made by the state in its opening that the struggle in South Africa is under the influence of foreigners or communists is wholly incorrect. I have done whatever I did, both as an individual and as a leader of my people, because of my experience in South Africa and my own proudly felt African background, and not because of what any outsider might have said.

In my youth in the Transkei I listened to the elders of my tribe telling stories of the old days. Amongst the tales they related to me were those of wars fought by our ancestors in defence of the fatherland. The names of Dingane and Bambatha, Hintsa and Makana, Szungathi and Dalasile, Moshoeshoe and Sekhukhune, were praised as the pride and the glory of the entire African nation. I hoped then that life might offer me the opportunity to serve my people and make my own humble contribution to their freedom struggle. This is what has motivated me in all that I have done in relation to the charges made against me in this case.

*In a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Having said this, I must deal immediately and at some length with the question of sabotage. Some of the things so far told to the Court are true and some are untrue. I do not however, deny that I planned sabotage. I did not plan it in a spirit of recklessness, nor because I have any love for violence. I planned it as a result of a calm and sober assessment of the political situation that had arisen after many years of tyranny, exploitation, and oppression of my people by the whites.

[p433]

We of the ANC had always stood for a non-racial democracy, and we shrank from any action which might drive the races further apart than they already were. But the hard facts were that fifty years of non-violence had brought the African people nothing but more and more repressive legislation, and fewer and fewer rights.

It may not be easy for this Court to understand, but it is a fact that for a long time the people had been talking of violence – of the day when they would fight the white man and win back their country, and we, the leaders of the ANC, had nevertheless always prevailed upon them to avoid violence and to pursue peaceful methods. When some of us discussed this in June of 1961, it could not be denied that our policy to achieve a non-racial state by non-violence had achieved nothing, and that our followers were beginning to lose confidence in this policy and were developing disturbing ideas of terrorism ...

As a result of this decision, Umkhonto was formed in 1961, November 1961. When we took this decision, and subsequently formulated our plans, the ANC heritage of non-violence and racial harmony was very much with us. We felt that the country was drifting towards a civil war in which blacks and whites would fight each other. [We viewed] the situation with alarm. Civil war would mean the destruction of what the ANC stood for; with civil war, racial peace would be more difficult than ever to achieve. We already had examples in South African history of the results of war. It has taken more than fifty years for the scars of the South African War to disappear. How much longer would it take to eradicate the scars of inter-racial civil war, which could not be fought without a great loss of life on both sides?

[p434]

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Experience convinced us that rebellion would offer the Government limitless opportunities for the indiscriminate slaughter of our people. But it was precisely because the soil of South Africa is already drenched with the blood of innocent Africans that we felt it our duty to make preparations as a long-term undertaking to use force in order to defend ourselves against force. If war became inevitable, we wanted to be ready when the time came, and for the fight to be conducted on terms most favourable to our people. The fight which held out the best prospects for us and the least risk of life to both sides was guerrilla warfare. We decided, therefore, in our preparations for the future, to make provision for the possibility of guerrilla warfare.

All whites undergo compulsory military training, but no such training is given to Africans. It was in our view essential to build up a nucleus of trained men who would be able to provide the leadership which would be required if guerrilla warfare started. We had to prepare for such a situation before it became too late to make proper preparations.

[p435]

The ideological creed of the ANC is, and always has been, the creed of African Nationalism. It is not the concept of African Nationalism expressed in the cry, 'Drive the White man into the sea'. The African Nationalism for which the ANC stands is the concept of freedom and fulfilment for the African people in their own land. The most important political document ever adopted by the ANC is the Freedom Charter. It is by no means a blueprint for a socialist state …

The ANC has never at any period of its history advocated a revolutionary change in the economic structure of the country, nor has it, to the best of my recollection, ever condemned capitalist society …

The ANC, unlike the Communist Party, admitted Africans only as members. Its chief goal was, and is, for the African people to win unity and full political rights. The Communist Party’s main aim, on the other hand, was to remove the capitalists and to replace them with a working-class government. The Communist Party sought to emphasise class distinctions whilst the ANC seeks to harmonise them …

It is true that there has often been close co-operation between the ANC and the Communist Party. But co-operation is merely proof of a common goal – in this case the removal of white supremacy – and is not proof of a complete community of interests. My Lord the history of the world is full of similar examples. Perhaps the most striking illustration is to be found in the co-operation between Great Britain, the United States of America, and the Soviet Union in the fight against Hitler.

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Nobody but Hitler would have dared to suggest that such co-operation turned Churchill or Roosevelt into communists or communist tools, or that Britain and America were working to bring about a communist world …

It is perhaps difficult for white South Africans, with an ingrained prejudice against communism, to understand why experienced African politicians so readily accept communists as their friends. But to us the reason is obvious. Theoretical differences, amongst those fighting against oppression, is a luxury which cannot be afforded. What is more, for many decades communists were the only political group in South Africa who were prepared to treat Africans as human beings and as their equals; who were prepared to eat with us; talk with us, live with us, and work with us. They were the only political group which was prepared to work with the Africans for the attainment of political rights and a stake in society. Because of this, there are many Africans who today tend to equate freedom with communism.

From my reading of Marxist literature and from conversations with Marxists, I have gained the impression that communists regard the parliamentary system of the work – of the West as undemocratic and reactionary. But, on the contrary, I am an admirer of such a system.

The Magna Carta, the Petition of Rights, the Bill of Rights are documents which are held in veneration by democrats throughout the world.

I have great respect for British political institutions, and for the country’s system of justice. I regard the British Parliament as the most democratic institution in the world, and the independence and impartiality of its judiciary never fail to arouse my admiration.

The American Congress, that country’s doctrine of separation of powers, as well as the independence of its judiciary, arouse in me similar sentiments.

The lack of human dignity experienced by Africans is the direct result of the policy of white supremacy. White supremacy implies black inferiority. Legislation designed to preserve white supremacy entrenches this notion. Menial tasks in South Africa are invariably performed by Africans. When anything has to be carried or cleaned

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
the white man will look around for an African to do it for him, whether the African is employed by him or not ...

Poverty and the breakdown of family life have secondary effects. Children wander about the streets of the townships because they have no schools to go to, or no money to enable them to go to school, or no parents at home to see that they go to school, because both parents, if there be two, have to work to keep the family alive. This leads to a breakdown in moral standards, to an alarming rise in illegitimacy, and to growing violence which erupts not only politically, but everywhere ...

We want a just share in the whole of South Africa; we want security and a stake in society.

Above all, My Lord, we want equal political rights, because without them our disabilities will be permanent. I know this sounds revolutionary to the whites in this country, because the majority of voters will be Africans. This makes the white man fear democracy ...

This then is what the ANC is fighting for. Our struggle is a truly national one. It is a struggle of the African people, inspired by our own suffering and our own experience. It is a struggle for the right to live.

During my lifetime I have dedicated my life to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons will live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal for which I hope to live for and to see realised. But, My Lord, if it needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.

p428

I had read for over four hours. In fact the recording of his speech is 176 minutes long, including interruptions. In fact it is closer to three hours or slightly under three hours.

Chapter 58

p447 & 448

Correct quotation of the portion of the Rivonia Trial sentencing follows:

I have heard a great deal during the course of this case about the grievances of the non-European population. The accused have told, *in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
me and their counsel have told me, that the accused, who were all leaders of the non-European population have been motivated entirely by a desire to ameliorate these grievances. I am by no means convinced that the motives of the accused were as altruistic as they wish the court to believe. People who organise a revolution usually plan to take over the government and personal ambition cannot be excluded as a motive.

The function of this Court, as is the function of a Court in any other country, is to enforce law and order and to enforce the laws of the State within which it functions. The crime of which the accused have been convicted, that is the main crime, the crime of conspiracy, is in essence one of high treason. The state has decided not to charge the crime in this form. Bearing this in mind, and giving the matter very serious consideration I have decided not to impose the supreme penalty which in a case like this would usually be the proper penalty for the crime, but consistent with my duty that is the only leniency which I can show. The sentence in the case of all the accused will be one of life imprisonment.

p448

Dennis Goldberg spells his first name Denis

‘dashing outside to tell the crowd the sentence’ NOT ‘verdict’ that was the day before

p449

Dennis Goldberg spells his first name Denis

Part Eight

Chapter 59

When the Rivonia group arrived on Robben Island on 13 June 1964, Mandela was 45. He turned 46 on 18 July that year.

p459

Mandela was not on Robben Island in 1962. He was there from 27 May 1963 until 12 June 1963 and again from 13 June 1964 to 31 March 1982.

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Chapter 60

p467

They had no hot water on Robben Island for the first ten years

p468

People studying university were allowed to study till 11 pm

Chapter 62

p470 and p471

The journalists who visited Robben Island represented the British Daily Express syndication service, not the Daily Telegraph. The reporter was called John Rydon and the photographer was Cloete Breytenbach.

Chapter 63

p475

The correct spelling is Karoo not Karroo

Chapter 64

First page: Mandela was not on the Island for the first time in 1962, it was 1963

Chapter 65

p493

Change ‘ballie’ to ‘balie’

Chapter 68

p518

Ahead of Helen Suzman’s visit to Robben Island Madiba was moved from Cell no. 4 to cell no. 18. This moving him for the visit is true but we are not sure of the cell numbers

*In a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Chapter 69

p522

It’s Justice Mpanza NOT Panza

p523

Last paragraph: ‘In 1962, on my first stay on the Island’ this is not correct, it was 1963

Chapter 70

p530

Change ‘seventeen months after her arrest’ to ‘sixteen months’. Winnie Mandela was arrested on 12 May 1969 and released on 14 September 1970

Change ‘three months after I heard’ to ‘two months’. Mandela heard about Winnie Mandela’s arrest in May and his son’s death in July making it two months

p531

Thembi was killed in a car accident in Cape Town, not in the Transkei

Thembi was aged 24 when he was killed, not 25. He was born on 23 February 1945 and died on 13 July 1969

Part Nine

Chapter 71

p537

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Spelling is Hennie Ferrus not Ferris

p538

Change ‘Ingabelungu’ to Ngabelungu

p540

Correct spelling is Quphu not Qhipu

Chapter 72

p544

It’s not ‘your mother is a moer’ it is ‘your mother’s moer

Chapter 76

p558

It is not correct that at the time the book was written South African law ‘does not guarantee a defendant the right to legal representation’. It would be better as ‘did not’ because it has been a write in the last 20 years.

Chapter 77

p559

Winnie Mandela was charged with violating her banning orders in 1973, not in 1974. And her sentenced was reduced to 12 months. It was after her appeal in 1974 that her sentence was reduced to six months

p560

Zindzi Mandela was two-years-old when she last saw her father not three. She was born on 23 December 1960 and he was arrested on 5 August 1962.

Chapter 78

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Mac Maharaj had maps from the Bureau of Statistics and economic data in a file and the pages of the transcribed manuscript were concealed in the cover of the file that held them, rather than “inside the binding of a number of notebooks he used for his study”.

The punishment for the discovery of the buried pieces of the manuscript was that they had their study privileges removed. The book says it was four years. It says four years but Laloo Chiba said in an interview around 20 years ago that Mandela lost his studies for two years. That makes sense because he was still studying in 1977 and began again in 1980.

It was General Roux, not General Rue.

Chapter 79

Mandela wrote in a letter to prison authorities while still on Robben Island that Jimmy Kruger had visited him in December 1974 not 1976.

Chapter 80

First page: Hector Pieterson was aged 12 when he was killed on 16 June 1976. He was born on 19 August 1963.

Chapter 83

The correct quotation from Mandela’s letter to Winnie Mandela follows:

The night of 24 February, I dreamt of arriving at No. 8115, finding the house full of youth dancing away a mixture of jive and infiba. I caught all of them by surprise as I walked in unexpectedly. Some greeted me warmly, whilst others simply melted away shyly. I found the bedroom equally full with members of the family and close friends. You were
relaxing in bed, with Kgatho [my son Makgatho], looking young and sleeping against the opposite wall. Perhaps in that dream I was recalling the two weeks in December 1956 when he was six and when I left Makhulu [Evelyn’s mother] alone in the house. At that time he was living with his mother in OE [Orlando East] but a few days before I came back he joined Omhulu and slept in my bed for a couple of days. He was missing me very much and using the bed must have relieved the feeling of longing a bit.

[And]

These days I spend some time thinking of you both as Dadewethu [Sister], Mum, pal and mentor. What you perhaps don’t know is how I often think and actually picture in my mind all that makes you up physically and spiritually ... the loving remarks which come daily and the blind eye you’ve always turned against those numerous shortcomings that would have frustrated another woman... I even remember a day when you were bulging with Zindzi, struggling to cut your nails. I now recall this with a sense of shame. I could have done it for you. Whether or not I was conscious of it, my attitude was: I’ve done my duty, a second brat is on the way, the difficulties you are now facing as a result of your physical condition are all yours.
P592-3: I wish I could drive you on a long, long journey just as I did on 12/6/58, with the one difference that this time I’d prefer us to be alone. I’ve been away from you for so long that the very first thing I would like to do on my return would be to take you away from that suffocating atmosphere, drive you along carefully, so that you could have the opportunity of breathing fresh and clean air, seeing the beauty spots of South Africa, its green grass and trees, colourful wild flowers, sparkling streams, animals grazing in the open veld and be able to talk to the simple people we meet along the road. Our first stop would be to the place where Ma Radebe and CK [Winnie’s mother and father] sleep. I hope they lie next to each other. Then I would be able to pay my respects to those who have made it possible for me to be as happy and free as I am now. Perhaps the stories I’ve so much wanted to tell you all these years would begin there. The atmosphere should probably sharpen your ears and restrain me to concentrate on those aspects which are tasty, edifying and constructive. Thereafter, we would adjourn and resume next to Mphakanyiswa and Nosekeni [my parents] where the environment would be similar. I believe we would then be fresh and solid as we drive back to No. 8115.

p598

If this was 1978 he had been in jail for nearly seventeen years not eighteen

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Chapter 85

He had a procedure under anaesthetic to his heel in the summer of 1978 not 1979

Chapter 86

p607

Mandela was informed in December 1981 that Winnie Mandela had a car accident not in March 1982

p608

Talking about moving from Robben Island to Pollsmoor Prison, Mandela had by then been on the Island for just under 18 years not ‘just over 18 years’. He arrived on the Island on 13 June 1964 and left on 31 March 1982

Part Ten

Chapter 87

p614

He did not wear a straw hat in the garden but a cardboard hat made by a fellow Robben Island prisoner Jeff Masemola

p615-6: In relation to the first time he held his wife. This relates to his first official contact visit, there was an unofficial one before.

Chapter 88

p621

It is better to say he had ‘several offers of release’, rather than ‘six’.

He wrote a letter rejecting the release offer to President PW Botha not to Foreign Minister Pik Botha

*In a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
The correct quotation in the message from Mandela read out by Zindzi Mandela is 'Oliver Tambo is much more than a brother to me' – rather than 'more than a brother'.

**Chapter 90**

p630

The SADF attacks on ANC bases in Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe was on 19 March 1986 not in May

p631

The state of emergency was first proclaimed on 21 July 1985 in 36 magisterial districts. The countrywide emergency was proclaimed on 12 June 1986

Our records show Mandela met with General Willemse at Volks Hospital on 17 Nov 1985 not June 1986

**Chapter 91**

First page: It is said that it was the first time in 22 years that he was left unguarded. It should be 24 years as the last time was shortly before his arrest on 5 August 1962 and he is writing about 1986

The last published picture of him was taken in 1964 in prison and not 1962. It was published by newspapers abroad

**Chapter 94**

P646

Madiba was transferred to Constantiaberg MediClinic on 31 Aug 1988 in December

**Chapter 95**

*In a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925*
First page: Both Mandela’s calendar and official records show that he was transferred from the hospital to Victor Verster Prison on 7 December 1988 not on 9 December

Chapter 96

First page: Says he was visited by his Pollsmoor colleagues in January 1989 but his desk calendar says July

p654

The memorandum to PW Botha is correctly quoted as follows:

Two political issues will have to be addressed at such a meeting; firstly, the demand for majority rule in a unitary state; secondly, the concern of white South Africa over this demand, as well as the insistence of whites on structural guarantees that majority rule will not mean domination of the white minority by blacks. The most crucial task which will face the government and the ANC will be to reconcile these two positions.

Chapter 98

First page: Says Govan Mbeki was released ‘at the end of 1987’ – but he was released on 5 November 1987

p622

He saw FW de Klerk on 13 December 1989 not on 12 December

Chapter 99

p667

It says that at his second meeting with De Klerk on 9 February 1990 he was told he would be released ‘the following day’, which would have been 10 February 1990. In De Klerk’s original plan Mandela was to be transferred to Johannesburg on 10 February and then released from there – possibly on 11 February. However, Mandela told De Klerk he wanted a week so that his family and comrades could prepare and that he wanted to walk from the gates of Victor Verster Prison. The

*In a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
week was not granted but he was told that he would be allowed to walk from the gates of Victor Verster on the Sunday, not ‘the following day’.

De Klerk only informed the foreign media on 10 February that Mandela would be released on the following day. So it is not correct to say that he had already informed them that the release would be the next day. During his press conference on 10 Feb he told the foreign media that Madiba had been informed on 9 February that he would be released on 11 February.

Part Eleven

Chapter 100

He spent the last 14 months of his imprisonment at Victor Verster (7 December 1988 to 11 February 1990), not the ‘last two years’.

Official documentation shows that Mandela was fingerprinted and signed out of the prison at 4.22 pm not ‘shortly before four’?

It is not correct to say that he had not been able to raise his fist for 27 years.

It would be better to say he had not been able to do so ‘in freedom’

He did not go to the house of Dullah Omar, he went to the house of activist Saleem Mowzer who presently works in the office of Minister Ebrahim Patel.

To correctly quote from his first speech of freedom insert ellipses between ‘situation in the country’ and ‘I wish to stress’ as words have been omitted.

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Chapter 101

p681

His second night of freedom was spent in the house of Sally Cohen in North Riding, Johannesburg

p682

To correctly quote his first speech in Soweto delete ‘the’ and replace with ‘our’ to read: ‘I must make it clear that the level of crime in our township is unhealthy and must be eliminated as a matter of urgency’.

Chapter 102

First page

He was moved from his Rivonia colleagues in Pollsmoor in November 1985 not in 1984

Chapter 103

p697

When he says ‘this was not my first trip to the continental mainland’. This implies that he was in Europe before but he was only in the United Kingdom before he was imprisoned

p699

The place he mentions in Canada is not Goose Bay. It has since been pointed by someone in Canada involved in Mandela’s trip that the place is called Iqaluit

Chapter 106

p704

*In a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
The Zonkizizwe massacre was 6 April 1992 – not November

Chapter 107
p711

Winnie Mandela’s formal trial began in 1991 not 1992

Chapter 109
p718

To correctly quote his statement of 13 April 1992, see the following:

During the two decades I spent on Robben Island she was an indispensable pillar of support and comfort to myself personally. . . . Comrade Nomzamo accepted the onerous burden of raising our children on her own... She endured the persecutions heaped upon her by the Government with exemplary fortitude and never wavered from her commitment to the struggle for freedom.

p719

To further correctly quote the statement:

Circumstances beyond our control however dictated that it should be otherwise

Chapter 110:

p727

Joe Slovo’s ‘Sunset Clause’ was adopted by the ANC’s National Working Committee on 18 November 1992 not the NEC. The NEC adopted it, after revising it, on 25 November 1992.

Chapter 112

p733

*In a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
It says Mandela was the third South African to win the Nobel Peace Prize after World War 2 but there were no winners before that time. Probably better just to say the 3rd South African.

Chapter 113

p740

It says ‘ten days before the vote’ he had a TV debate with De Klerk. That would make it 17 April 1994? The debate was on 15 April.

Chapter 114

p743

2nd last paragraph it is KwaZulu-Natal not KwaZulu/Natal

p744

To correctly quote the portions used of Mandela’s election victory speech on 2 May 1994 at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, see the following:

This is one of the most important moments in the life of our country. I stand before you filled with deep pride and joy — pride in the ordinary, humble people of this country. You have shown such a calm, patient determination to reclaim this country as your own, and now the joy that we can loudly proclaim from the rooftops — Free at last!

I am your servant ... It is not the individuals that matter; it is the collective ...

I stand therefore before you humbled by your courage, with a heart full of love for all of you. I regard it as the highest honour to lead the ANC at this moment in our history, and that we have been chosen to lead our country into the new century. I pledge to use all my strength and ability to live up to your expectations of me as well as the ANC ... this is the time to heal the old wounds and to build a new South Africa.

Chapter 115

First page:

*in a previous version of this document this was erroneously typed as 1925
Mandela was elected as President by a special sitting of Parliament on 9 May 1994, the day before his inauguration in Pretoria

p746 & p747

To correctly quote the portions used of Mandela’s inauguration speech see the following:

Today, all of us do, by our presence here . . . confer glory and hope to newborn liberty. Out of the experience of an extraordinary human disaster that lasted too long, must be born a society of which all humanity will be proud.

... We, who were outlaws not so long ago, have today been given the rare privilege to be host to the nations of the world on our own soil. We thank all our distinguished international guests for having come to take possession with the people of our country of what is, after all, a common victory for justice, for peace, for human dignity . . .

We have, at last, achieved our political emancipation. We pledge ourselves to liberate all our people from the continuing bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other discrimination... Never, never, and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another . . . The sun shall never set on so glorious a human achievement.

Let freedom reign. God bless Africa!

Ends

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