

Robben Island Govt.,
Robben Island.

4th November, 1965

Mr Benjamin Fogwood,
804, Borama,
Van der Merwe Street,
Hillbrow,
Johannesburg.

My dear Sir,

Your Mr Walters
interviewed me some time last week.
I commented as fully and as objectively
as I could on the Strachan article
which he read to me. At the end he
felt, however, that my evidence would
not materially assist the defence
and informed me that I would,
therefore, not be called as a witness
by the defence.

I am sorry he thought that way
because I was rather persuaded that
there was a lot I could substantiate.
But then, Mr Walters is an advocate
and knows best, presumably, what is

(14)

relevant and material in a Court of Law.

I want to assure you that I am quite aware of the political implications of this case. And I do not wish history ever to record that for some opportunistic reason or other, I kept mum like Oscar Rabbit, when I should have spoken, at the same time being quite reliable when I should have held my peace.

If then, at any time in the future, at any stage of this case, you should like me to testify please don't fear that your calling me as a witness will jeopardize my position. We have become so anxious to shield and spare our friends that we are virtual "collaborators"!

Thank you for your letter of 21st October, received on the 2nd November. Thanks for news about my wife. Am looking forward to the visit. Almost the time of the year I miss the children a lot.

As my letter of the 21st October indicated

(indicates)

I receive your telegrams. Apparently they do not give details for part 1 unless specifically requested. In fact the Pass List wasn't sent to me at all, but to the "appropriate overseas authorities". In South Africa it is I and a certain Minister of Natal who process part 1 of the form.

Thanks for the offer regarding tuition fees and books. I believe the fees are settled: I paid £34 at the beginning of the course. I have written to Wolsey Hall and am awaiting word from them. I'll let you know what the shakles demand.

The books have arrived safely. I have already read one and have been moved to the depths of my being by "The Representative". The least said about the "Vicar of Christ" the better. In fact I have been thinking, over the past few months, about the total absurdity of a solemn conference of over two thousand educated and responsible cardinals and bishops discussing whether or not the Jews killed God? How awfully stupid can Europe get?

(yet)

I am glad to report that Shekhafo has reverted to the status quo ante (It's not my fault if you chose science instead of the classics!). I have been paying for the fruit myself and have arranged for deliveries to be made FORNIGHTLY instead of weekly. I am getting on in years, young man, and have to regulate my caloric intake! I believe £28.00 (Twenty eight pounds) should cover a year's supply. The best would still be to send the amount to the Commanding Officer with the requisite instructions viz. that it be used solely for fruit.

I'll be glad to get the 'Mail's' reports of the case. As I said earlier the trouble arose because of an interpretation of instructions which was unfortunately restrictive. I am certain there'll be no trouble this time. The matter has been resolved even if there still are hedges and potholes!

Thanks for the bit about Jimmy the sight of her tears at my heart.

(heart). I am not going to comment on the bit about your faith except to say that I am glad you have on your own found your way back to the Holy One of Israel. I am not a racialist, Benjie, as you know very well but if I were to be any one other than who and what I am, I would choose to be a Jew. With all those solemn promises and assurances from God I would walk on air, absolutely certain that underneath are the everlasting arms.

With best wishes,

Yours Sincerely,
Bob.

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