



TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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Ballou Hall

5 November 1987

Benjamin Fogrond
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Dear Benjie:

I think that your recollection of my recollection of my visit with Bob in Kimberley is fairly close to the truth. I met him in January 1972. I was going to Kimberley in order to look at the De Beers mine and archives, with the doors opened up by Harry Oppenheimer.

You, whom I had met only a few weeks before, talked about Bob and I asked to be given an introduction to him from you. You probably also rang him. I did my business with De Beers (and also with Dick Liversidge of the Kimberley Museum) and then, as Bob and I arranged, he met me at the Savoy. I was staying there and had invited him to lunch or dinner. He could not do the latter because of the curfew. And I may have had a luncheon at De Beers, or with Liversidge. Anyway, he came to tea at the Savoy, which we had in my room or at least in a private room of some kind because, although the management was happy to serve Bob and me tea, they did not want to make a big display of the occasion. Nor did he, as I remember.

It was the first time Bob had ever been in the Savoy. I remember that fact distinctly. We had a long tea and a good discussion about the P.A.C., Robben Island, the struggle, and current problems (I wish I had a better memory now), and, after two hours(?), I drove him to the back of the compound. And at 6:30 p.m. exactly - the time of the curfew - he slipped under the back fence and I waved goodbye. It was a spectacular moment in my contact with South Africa. (If Joanna's archives are good, she may have a letter from me about meeting him. I'll ask.)

I trust that Sue's number and address have arrived.

With very warm wishes to you three. And we expect to see Amanda.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'RIR', written in a cursive style.

RIR/pfg

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