

16 June 1960.

23/

My dear Alan,

just a note to try and clear up some problems and to tell you briefly about what's going on at this end. I'm sending a copy of this to the friend who followed me in the job in Jbg. so that she will be in the picture. To you am sending my only spare copy of a memo sent by couple of Bishops, a few lords and MP's of all 3 Parties to Commonwealth P.M's. Only two PM's were able to see deputations - Nehru and Tunku Abdul Rahman. Also on May 31 I rustled up some academics to send out enclosed statement - it went to SAPA and SA Morning Newspapers but I gather was not published in SA. Can you use either at all? The one to PM's was well reported in Jbg Star on 12 May. The academics one was well reported here in Telegraph and Guardian and on BBC. Quite a lot is going on re SWA and some of the Tories who do background work are v. interested in it and are being given lots of information, while the people meeting in Ethiopia are of course taking it up. Many people are writing to the s-g re this and re detainees so one hopes his visit will do some good. I am thinking of going to where I once came to your first night to talk and lobby a bit and maybe go on home after that but haven't decided. The former depends on my fare being paid - I've had a fare offered from the city to the coast but not yet to the city itself. We have rather lost track of some of the congress people who came here briefly and are now busy travelling. Have seen Hannah several times and she is doing some work. People are speaking, writing and broadcasting as much as possible. We worry about whether sending information and reports from here is likely to make things difficult for people there and would like advice on this. For instance I've written to several old friends, including some at the bar, and have had no replies at all - you and Pat are the only ones to answer. Now the most urgent point which is confusing us at the moment is what exactly is the position re funds for families etc. There is a lot available here only awaiting the statement of needs there and I gather there ~~is~~ isn't yet co-ordination between the various centres there, ~~set~~ e.g. we've had in my set-up urgent appeals from my home town (to which we've responded) and from Peter's town, from Libs., and wonder why these have not gone to John's set-up direct but gather that he and AR have sent quite a lot to Jbg. which it was assumed would be, as before, the central set-up, but which I gather is a bit slow in getting going. I can't discuss all this with AR at this moment as he's out of town for a bit. And is by the way doing a non-stop job around cities and also privately with exceedingly useful people along the lines you know of. However many people do feel unhappy and disappointed at the manner of the original move, while others sympathise. I hope this note isn't too obscure. It was fine to read of your visit to CT. The press here is a bit dormant at the moment as is inevitable with Chile and Japan etc. Am off to hosp. for couple of weeks but can do some writing there. Wish I could've seen your musical - hope to see T. when I come out. My set-up (am using this lordly description for ease of identification) is writing to Commonwealth PM's just to give an extra prod, and M is briefing petitioners due in the aforementioned city quite soon. Heaven knows what the friend mentioned in line 3 will make of all this.

heavy
so
decided
to send
by
printed
air
mail
separately.

X
X

as is
John

Just as a little light relief - A Passage to India is a wonderful and moving play, while The Caretaker is fascinating if depressing. The theatre is quite exciting these days and would provoke you quite a bit, artistically I mean. My love to Phoebe and Dorrie and Peter and any others, specially I.

Love P.

20th June, 1960.

Dear Pixie,

Thanks for your news. I shall let you know whether I can use the statement when it arrives.

We hope S-G's visit may help the detainees. Do you think he would see one of us? Myself, for example? and do you think you could arrange it. I do not think anyone can better judge than yourself whether sending material here is likely to make things difficult - it depends entirely on the material. GH wanted me to sign a letter which made the struggle quite simply three million whites against ten million blacks. I refused to sign it, and in any case I do not like the words, "whites and blacks very much, nor do I like the word "murder". No one should know better than you what stuff is likely to prove embarrassing.

I have written quite fully to AR about the necessity, not only for coordination here, but for coordination there. I have asked him, for example, what has happened to promised help from Sudan, Ethiopia, and Holland, etc. The Defence and Aid Fund is now set up. It certainly has been slow, and I think that if you do not like to send money to it until you have been officially advised of its existence, you should send it to the person who took over AR's responsibility, or to the person MB who was appointed at AR's request.

It is very sad that AR should have this uncertainty as to whether he did the right thing. I think he did. Things look quite calm here at the moment, but I do not think they will remain so, and I think his presence there is more important than here. You must not let him entertain doubts about it.

How did you read of my visit to CT? Now please do me a favour. Write at once to the GUARDIAN, or telephone them, and ask if they received a letter from me in regard to the cricket team, which I thought might usefully be published when a test is played in Manchester. If it has gone astray, and they want a copy, cable me.

I shall give your love to Phoebe and Peter, and any others, but who is I?

Love from us both.

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