

37.  
2, Amen Court, London, E.C. 4.

9th July 1957

Dear Alan,

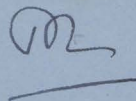
A wee little note, first to thank you for your letter of some time ago which I ought to have answered before this. You will be pleased to know that the Christian Action Fund is now rapidly approaching a gross figure of £20,000, of which not less than £18,000 will be net, perhaps more. I am now setting out to get another £20,000 as Ambrose Reeves tells me we shall need £150,000 before this wretched business is over.

I feel much too much like an onlooker over here and regret that I cannot be with you all to share in your sufferings and struggles. I only hope the little bit we can do from outside, in addition to giving material help, may be of some use to you all in what must be a tremendous need for moral and spiritual aid. I can assure you that we this end are inspired and tremendously encouraged by the example of patience, courage and non-violence in face of vicious provocation afforded by those who have been arrested, and also those, like yourself, among the white people who are doing so much in this perilous situation.

Yes, indeed, I am sure it has been a very sad loss for you all that Geoffrey Capetown should go from you just at this time.

Best wishes. Do please come and see us soon.

Yours ever,



P.S. Diana is terribly upset because somebody (and we can't trace who) has taken our copy of Cry The Beloved Country, in which you had written so friendly a message. So next time you are here I hope you will very kindly write for her in another copy!

Dr. Alan Paton.

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME



Dr. Alan Paton,  
Lynton Road,  
KLOOF,  
Natal,  
South Africa.

First fold here

Second fold here

Sender's name and address:

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY  
ENCLOSURE. IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED  
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.



Lynton Road,  
KLOOF,  
Natal, South Africa.

4th September, 1957.

Dear John,

Sorry to have delayed in replying to your letter of July 9.

I suppose you know that the Treason Trials Defence Fund has now been granted official recognition under the Social Welfare Act. This is quite an extraordinary development. While it is not likely to result in a tremendous increase in income, it is certainly going to make a difference, and it does take away from our minds the gnawing anxiety that we might be prevented from receiving money from overseas.

It was certainly a very sad blow for us to lose Geoffrey Capetown. I happened to be in Capetown at the time of his funeral, and a very deep impression was caused both by his letter to the Prime Minister and by the publication of his Will, in which he asked to be buried in a place where no segregation prevailed.

I don't know when you will see me again. The Government has just refused to give Patrick Duncan a passport, and they might easily do the same to me. But if I do come you will assuredly see me at Amen Court, that is, if I can find anybody to direct me to that elusive place.

Best wishes to you both.

Yours ever,

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