

2 Buchan Rd., Newlands, 7700.



27th December, 1980.

Dear Peter,

Thank you and +hoebe for lovely Christmas card. + am glad Mr. P. found the list after all!

George Rodger rang me on 23rd Dec. to say he had some money from you and others and what to do. I simply could not get away from visitors and work at that stage. Further, + had written to Cromwell about a week previously, by registered mail, sending some money and asking him to be sure to contact me - sent him a postage stamp too. I proposed waiting to hear some word from him before contacting again.

To-day Maggie and George arrived literally minutes after the postman had brought a reply from Cromwell, so we arranged to go and see him this afternoon - which we duly did. *In George will write to you too. J*

We found him and his wife, Agnes, lying down resting, but they gallantly struggled up; I could see in a mirror how she had to drag him up to a sitting position because of his paralysis. It took him a long time to shuffle thro to the little sitting room. Well, we told him about money from you and others and he just wept. After quite a long discussion of the best way to handle it, he decided George should give him R20 in cash and the bal. of R150 in a cheque which Mrs. Nododile will put into his Special Savings a/c. at Barclays Bank. He has a small balance there and his wife operates it for him as he cannot get to the bank. Agnes is a very nice woman, speaks excellent English and is intelligent and obviously extremely caring about her husband. She has now given me two telephone numbers where she chars, so this will make it much easier to get regular reports about him. She is also old. *Medics decided against some op. in Nov. for Cromwell - not strong enough to stand it.*

Unfortunately, he seems to be going downhill. He now has to have a catheter for urine and came into the lounge with this apparatus projecting from his trousers - one feels such a sense of outrage at the indignity inflicted on him and other old people. I took a couple of photographs and if they come out well will be sure to send you copies, but this may take some time as I'm in the middle of a seldom-used spool.

I should tell you also that Nel Marquard is dying - it is just a matter of time now. + have been visiting her too, and so glad I did, because we had several moments together in which she did know me and we shared our affection for each other. +n the last few days she has been too confused and ill to know anyone. She had a fall some weeks ago, broke her leg, had a pin put into it, but has not been able to recover. I think she is quite ready to go, has missed Leo terribly. I am in touch with their son, Terry, and daughter, Jennifer. René de Villiers is just back from overseas. I haven't spoken to him yet. +oira Henderson has also been very good visiting Nel, who has been living at Anchusa Court, Meadowridge - a quite special place for old people. Nel always had such a wonderful sense of humour and fund of anecdotes, told in her beautiful voice.

I should write another para about David since his release from +ollsmoor, but suffice to say he is strong and well and happy with his beautiful Dorothea. Harry gave me +aton's autobiog. for Xmas and + am enjoying it. Please do me a favour and remind him to bring

down in Jan (I hear he is coming here then) or send down by postman 2 copies of that essay by our other friend. Many thanks.

Love, Dot

** Thank you for this great help for Cromwell. J.*