13 Pillans Road
Rosebank
7700
9 November 1987

Dear Mr Brown

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of Saturday 7 November, I am writing to you in connection with my projected study of Liberalism in the era immediately following Sharpeville.

I am currently doing research for a Masters degree in history under Prof Colin Bundy of the UCT department of history. My thesis, broadly speaking, is concerned with the problems of political agency faced by liberals in the years after Sharpeville, and the ways in which they tried to solve those problems. It is an effort to come to some understanding of the role played by Liberals during that period of South African history, and to relate the difficulties they encountered to their specific concept of South African unity.

I herein enclose my original dissertation proposal, which should make the nature of my concerns more clear.

More specifically, I am interested in scrutinising quite closely the career of the African Resistance Movement. It is an organisation which has never received much academic attention and I believe that from such a study much may be learned about the dilemmas and choices that liberals -- and other whites committed to a non-racial democratic South Africa --- faced in the nineteen-sixties.

An understanding of the Liberal Party itself will be vital to this project. I am convinced that your help would be invaluable here because of your own involvement with this organisation and your consequent knowledge of its history, as well as of the arguments and debates that took place among South African liberals during those crucial years.

It would be of great help to me if you would spare the time to give me an interview. I hope to be in Pietermaritzburg sometime after March next year, although my arrangements are quite flexible.

I would also appreciate it very much if you would care to put me in touch with any other ex-members of the Liberal Party in the region that you know about, if that is at all possible.

Yours sincerely,

A. du Toit.

Andries du Toit