

./HvN

Sunday 5/9/65.

Ilse my dear,

Please make allowances in this letter of mine, for apparent, but no real ingratitude, old age, poor health, over-work, generally worried, fault finding etc.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart most sincerely for your letter of the 23rd ultimo, but it does not contain all I wanted to know. I will go through line for line of your letter and will refer to the parts where I need further information.

H.B of CT informed me that you were due to make your visit on 7/8/65. In your last letter you say that you went last week and your letter is d/23rd. When did you actually see him - on what date? But in this same letter you have never said whether a) he had received our first joint letter written jointly by his me, his mother and yourself - this was sent to you shortly after my wife paid the visit in March - I believe it was in April. b) you have not mentioned whether you received my last letter to you, in which I detailed a list of questions, for you to ask him and also gave you some advice about your personal relationship in the future. (From the way my letters from down south are arriving, I think I am suspect and so have to be on my guard here).

It was heartening news to learn from you his good health and cheerfulness. I will be indebted to you for life for easing my mind on his score. Yes please do write to my wife direct - as his mother she will naturally appreciate all you have to say. In fact in a day or two I will be sending ~~x~~ on your letter to her. About his studies I cannot say very much. I am grateful for the fact that he has something to detract him from boredom. If Alan entertains certain views on anything, it is not without the matter being properly understood and investigated. Once those views are formed nothing on earth will make him change, even if it is to his own undoing - so it is quite easy to understand why he is coming unstuck in Criminology.

Now as to my visiting him. From my engagements, I see I have no confinements in October and as I see it, that would be the best month for me. There are certain objections and buts to this visit. I will enumerate them. a) I have first to get permission from the commandant of the prison. b) on his present grading another visit will not be due till November

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when he would have served 1 year. c) H.B (my wife has his last letter to me and so I have to rely on memory) in his last letter to me said that he had intended seeing the British Consul with a view to ^{and} the latter getting him upgraded. The outcome of H's efforts, still more the British Consul's I know nothing about.

My own views on this application of mine to Pretoria to visit him are - for what they are worth 1) slim, until such time as his civil action comes off, and when that is to be I do not know 2) whether he wins or loses that case) I am sure is going to influence the authorities in Pretoria. Everybody here who knows or has lived in SA say I am foolish to expect A to win it - poor boy. 3) Pretoria is so longwinded in answering letter and granting permission that I might quite easily go to the expense, trouble and sweat (for it will be hot in October). c) going to Pretoria only to find that A is not there and is in CT for his case. 4) with the outcry in the papers and to some extent denial of the allegations of ill-treatment etc etc I cannot feel that the Minister and in turn the Prison people will be all that ready and or pleased to make concessions to political prisoners - they above all other types of prisoners. So you see some of my reasons for not first yet applying for permission. Do I understand from your letter that A has expressed the wish that application be made by HB in proper legal terms for his upgrading? You must write back at once and I will instruct HB to lodge it at once. The Lord only knows the cause of the delay - What is happening between HB Counsel and the Defence for Alan's case not to have come off as yet.

Now as regards addressing your letters. On HB's instructions I have sent it to c/o solicitors Hayman & Aronsohn. Do you now consider this unsafe, and when did anybody come into the picture? Our first joint letter may have gone to a private address and my wife might have sent a letter to you also - but I am certain I have sent you my two last letters c/o the solicitors. I maintain this is a safer way than to send to any private address, and especially that of a relative of yours! You must write back at once and tell me if you still insist on my sending my letters to you at 37 Greenside Road, Greenside, Jhb.

I am very sorry Ilse my dear, but contrary to your

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expressed wishes in the last few lines, I am going to send this care of the solicitors even if it is to be the last letter I send that way. I am tired and must stop. Look after yourself, brave as you are, take no risks, and be sure to write back soon about the one or two points of this letter, that I have directly asked you for information.

So pleased to know that you will soon be having the company of your brother, and looking forward to meeting you and for any help you may be able to give me when - yes when I come down for my visit.

God bless you,

Yours affectionately,

Riles:

R. K. B.

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