

Dec 11 1962

4th October 1962

Dear Neville,

Thank you for two letters. I hope by now that you will have heard from J.D.W. I have had our London solicitors instruct him to pay the balance to the Capetown solicitors in trust for the company which as you will know is Brigit Transport Limited, and you might warn Tom that it is coming and that it is for yourselves.

Since I last wrote to you Ernie has seen fit to write to both Collins and the ICFTU without reference to me, which is stupid really in that he doesn't know the situation and I only know that he has written because I have been told by the people concerned. I don't know what he said. The money sent you by (J.D.W) is to be used at your discretion, and if you feel that you should subsidise Ernie's air fare that is a matter for you. I am trying to raise money to help here but I am not very hopeful. Collins showed no desire to assist him, mainly I assume because he doesn't want any rival fundraising done. To get back to first principles, this is what Ernie will find wherever he goes. This is not a question upon which I can make any decision because as you know my own impression is that fundraising is fraught with considerable difficulty.

I enclose copy of a letter which I have written to Peter for your interest and I note that his reactions are very similar to yours. I think that my best plan is to go across to Brussels next week and talk to the ICFTU. I will raise the question of Thomas with them very crisply and see whether they are prepared to have Ernie over, although as you know they rejected this suggestion on the last occasion. Incidentally, Peter feels that the ICFTU are not likely to hold a successful conference if it is too widely represented.

Once you have Harrison's picture I hope that you will be able to despatch it by the quickest possible route, probably best if you send it to the Brigit Transport Company, Second Floor, 12 Gayfere Street, and I will see that it is picked up and delivered to J.C.

I am glad that the extra money is acceptable to you. Can you give me any information about Mandela's arrest? N.M. says that he has inside information that the C.P. met at Matatiele and that Nelson explained that his travels had convinced him that the ANC ought to change its views on a number of issues such as Unionism and non-racialism and that it ought to become more Pan African in its outlook if it were to enjoy support from the north. According to N.M. this view was opposed by Jo Mathews and a fairly sharp division of opinion occurred with the result that someone or other at the meeting shopped Mandela. J.C. feels very strongly that the imprisonment of Mandela is a serious blow to liberation and at the same time he believes that it offers an opportunity to anyone who would secure his release by unorthodox methods to strike a blow for freedom and, provided the man was available to J.C., would assist fundraising. Apparently he put the idea to Oliver without much acceptance. Do you think this is a feasible proposition? You might like to discuss it with Albert.

Finally I note your suggestion about a secretary for Ernie for the purpose of organising a T.U. conference. I don't want to deal with the proposition in a piecemeal way but I shall certainly bear this in mind if the question of expenses comes up.

Yours, *John* Kang.