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FIL. LIC. RAGNAR SVANSTRÖM Vice verkställande direktör i AB P. A. Norstedt & Söner · Stockholm 2.

May 2, 1969

Colonel Laurens van der Post  
13 Cadogan Street  
LONDON S W 3

May dear Laurens,

Ever since we met in London in February I have been wondering what happened to you when you went off the next day to South Africa to take up your libel action. I well remember that you were worried. When you have a few moments to spare, would you drop me a line about it? I should be most grateful.

The Swedish edition of THE HUNTER AND THE WHALE is to be published on August 25. This is something which I am greatly looking forward to - it is such a fine novel and I shall be happy to send you copies when they are available (at the beginning of June).

What is next on your programme?

I have just received - and read - a proof copy of Alan Paton's new book KONTAKION FOR YOU DEPARTED. It tells the story of his wife who died in 1967, of their marriage and collaboration (at his reformatory, in the Liberal Party before it was destroyed, etc.) and does it in a way which makes it one of the most beautiful books I have read for some time. I suppose that you knew her just as you know him and I envy you. This slender volume - to be published by Cape in September and, I hope, simultaneously by Norstedts - will probably do more to open the eyes of the world for what is happening in South Africa than anything Alan Paton ever wrote before.

I do hope that Ingaret and you are well. Greta and I send our love.

Yours ever,  
Ragnar

RS/IU