

23 Lynton Road,
Kloof,
Natal.

PC/11/1312/157

February 27th. 1968

The Bishop of Masasi,
Mtwara Region,
Tanzania.

My dear Trevor,

I wrote to you only a few days ago saying that I found C.S. Lewis' book a very cold one, but I am trying to get the other one that you mentioned.

Now I am very sorry to disappoint you about John Collins, and even more sorry to disappoint Diana. If John were being recommended for some other kind of prize, as a helper of the oppressed or something of that kind, I would certainly recommend him, but I cannot easily forget his speech in New York in which he claimed that money was being sent to the Defence & Aid Fund so that the guerillas could continue their operations. In the first place this was a most foolish thing to say; it put several of us in danger, Ruth Hayman had to leave the country and so did John Blundell, and a very important job was brought to an end.

I don't cherish any hard feelings about this, but I quite frankly cannot recommend a man for a peace prize who encourages guerilla fighting. This is not altogether John's fault; it just so happens that the world is passing through a stage when it is extremely hard to reconcile the ideal of liberation, if necessary by force, and the ideal of peace. I am myself a follower of Ghandi in this respect, and this makes it impossible for me to recommend John's name. The whole episode is very distressing to me because I am very fond of them both and Diana, I think, is a remarkable woman. I wrote expressing the hope that this would not disrupt our friendship, now restored, but I cannot tell you more until I hear from Diana.

I have, however, had a brilliant idea about the Geoffrey Clayton book, but it is too early to say if it will come to anything. Arthur Bxall is leaving Zambia very soon; I don't think he has much money, and I suggested that he should work for me for a while to collect the English material for the first couple of chapters of the book. All I want Arthur to do is to collect every possible piece of material, and I also want him to gather all the impressions he can. I only wish that he were a better observer of human nature, however one cannot have everything.

I also had an offer made to me the other day by Alec Churcher who was for a time Honorary Commissioner of Toc H in South Africa, and if Arthur Blaxall fails then I will ask Churcher to do it. In a way I am sorry I did not meet Churcher first because I think he has a much deeper understanding of human nature, as well as a keener imagination, than dear old Arthur.

I hope to report more progress in due course.

Yours ever affectionately.