

10/11/2/16/19



Mr. Alan Paton
P.O. Box 27 - Botha's Hill, Natal, S.A.

Dear Mr. Paton:

Dr. Max Yergan in an interview with U.S. News and World Report, claimed that communists are exercising powerful influence thru the African Congress and the Indian National Congress and their leaders. I wrote the editor opposing this view. The editor sent my letter to Yergan. He has sent back a long memorandum in which he states as follows:

"The following Indians and Africans have been cited as communists. Most of them are connected with one or the other of the two Congresses in question. The names are: G. Pamen, D. Singh, Dr. Dadoo, Mr. Naidoo, J. C. Meer, J. Bhola, N. S. Thandry, Moses Kotane and Dr. Thome. Further, the following Africans and an Indian are well known communist leaders and leaders in the African and Indian Congresses: J. Marks, President of the Transvaal Branch of the African National Congress; D. W. Bopape, secretary of the Transvaal Branch of the African National Congress; Moses M. Kotane, supporter of the Natl. African Indian Congress; and recognized thru his leadership as a leader of the Indian African community and recognized thru his leadership as the leader of the entire African community.

"Dr. Xuma, an anti-Communist, was at one time president of the African National Congress. He refused a year or so ago to stand for re-election for the presidency of that body precisely because communism has gained influence in it. Dr. Maroka was not re-elected at the last session of the African National Congress because his moderate and certainly non-communistic viewpoint did not suit the communists who are in the Congress. A more pro-Communist president was elected."

He, in support of his claim of widespread communistic activity and influence among Africans, quotes Dr. D. L. Smit in the Parliament - June 1950. See Hansard No. 20 - June 12-17, 1950; page 9090. He also quotes at length the Minister of Justice in his argument when they were trying to pass the Suppression of Communism Bill. See Hansard, pages 8909 and following.

Do you have any knowledge, and can you give me the facts on each of the above points? Time is somewhat of the essence as I hope we can get the other side of the picture published. May I hear from you by return mail?

yours cordially,

George E. Haynes
George E. Haynes

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and the fourth, Yussuf Mohammed Dadoo, president of the South African Indian Congress

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