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Mr Alan Paton,
23 Lynton Road,
KLOOF, Natal.

HOFMEYR

Dear Alan,

I am not sure if I have confirmed with you before whether your book has been examined by a lawyer to ensure that there are no instances of defamation or anything of that kind. As you know from your contract, the responsibility for anything of this kind rests on the author, and I should like to be quite certain that all is well.

As I go through the manuscript I am trying to look out for any doubtful references, but I am no kind of expert on legal quibbles and would much prefer someone like Judge Blackwell, who has written NEWSPAPER LAW, or Donald Molteno, to check. We certainly do not want to play into the government's hands by enabling them to squash the book on legal grounds.

But you may well have looked over all this already. It is in any case something worth making sure about.

Yours sincerely,
David
D.H. PHILIP
Editorial Manager