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23 Lynton Road,  
KLOOF,  
Natal.



28th September, 1965.

Dear Aelred,

So far as it is possible to see into the future, so much I hope to be at the Council meeting on March 1, and I would be prepared to talk to the Seminary on Christian Responsibility in South Africa today.

I was very glad to receive your remarks about HOFMEYR. The book has aroused almost every kind of reaction (if we exclude the Nats who have ignored it completely). Young Zigler who is attached to the British Embassy in Pretoria, started off not knowing much about Hofmeyr and ended up by disliking him intensely if I remember correctly. I think if one has any sense of wonder about human life and character, and any real understanding of human motives, it is impossible to dislike anyone except those whose fundamental values differ so much from one's own, as for example, Hitler.

You say you learnt a great deal about me as well as about HOFFIE. I shall ask you to explain this when I see you as it is a bit much to expect you to put it down on paper. Janie Malherbe who disliked Hofmeyr very much has certainly not come to like him through the book, but I think has come to understand him more sympathetically. She says Hofmeyr was a cripple, and although I would not have used that word myself, it certainly seems to throw a shaft of light on the subject.

I had a letter from Trevor who has last seen the study of him which I wrote in THIRTEEN FOR CHRIST. He writes - 'It is certainly humiliating, but somehow pleasing, thing to see ourselves as others see us'. He also writes, "How much you saw when I wasn't looking!" He expresses his intolerance in regard to ecumenical ideas, and adds - "I hope I have learnt a little of wisdom since then". He tells me of a service in the Catholic Church at a place whose name I can't read, where he and the R.C. Bishop preached and took full part.

My wife and I send you our warm regards and we hope to see you in March if not sooner.

Yours ever,