

PC11/7/8-12



SOUTH AFRICAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

( ESTABLISHED UNDER ACT 22 OF 1936 )

DURBAN

YOUR REF.

OUR REF.

BROADCAST HOUSE,  
120, ALIWAL STREET,  
DURBAN.

P.O. BOX 1588.

TELEGRAMS & CABLES:  
"BROADCAST"  
DURBAN.

TELEPHONE 2-3576

21st March, 1963.

Dear Mr. Paton,

Here, with apologies for the long delay, is all the information I've been able to get so far.

The Royal Family arrived on the 9th July, 1947 and stayed for 2½ years.

Accommodation seems to have been a problem. After their arrival in South Africa, the family stayed for a time at Westbrooke, the residence of Sir Patrick Duncan. However, fire completely gutted the wing of the house in which they were sleeping and the Royal party escaped into the night with only a few personal valuables.

After this adventure the family enjoyed for three months the hospitality of Field Marshal Smuts, who lent his official residence, the Cecil Rhodes House, "Grootshuur". When they left here, Prince Paul was away in Egypt. Cape Town being flooded with refugees, Princess Frederica was unable to find a home of her own and moved to a small hotel outside Cape Town. She and Princess Katherine spent an unhappy month here, their nights being spent chasing rats with broomsticks. ???

After leaving the hotel, Princess Frederica found a large pleasant house called "Clairmont" in the

countryside .....

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR.



countryside near Cape Town, and here her third child Princess Irene was born. Prince Paul came back from Egypt to be with his wife during this period. Field Marshal Smuts stood as Godfather.

Three weeks after the birth of Princess Irene, Prince Paul was called back to Egypt. Princess "Freddie" insisted on accompanying him to Cairo. With Rommel threatening Egypt she was sent back to South Africa. After her return to Cape Town she took to rock climbing!

I hope this is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrew". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Yours sincerely,".