

Randolph

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Mr. Adrian Leftwich
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ENGLAND

June 11th 1986

Dear Adrian,

1. Ernie was very negligent in regard to his cancer, but that does not mean that he would have not died if he had gone to the doctor earlier. It was cancer of the stomach, and after they had removed it (they thought successfully), it returned again and invaded almost all the organs in the lower part of his body. I am glad to say that Jonathan and I saw a good deal of him before he died.

2. No I was never banned, banished or jailed.

3. In regard to Towards the Mountain you could write to David Philip (P.O.Box 408, Claremont, 7735), but I do not think he has any copies either. He is planning to reprint the book at the same time as the second volume, which I hope will be in 1978.

Now let us get to the subject of the chapters:

4. I don't know what you mean by saying that you have got to go to that frontier to find certain things out. I think that Shakespeare found them out without having to go through that experience.

5. I cannot find any reference to Randolph as a revolutionary. I did write that he had come to believe that the government and the N.P. would be brought down only by violence and revolutionary means. I cannot see anything wrong in that.

6. Your para 2. I have altered my text to meet your criticism.

7. Your para 3. Ditto.

8. Your para 4. I have decided not to deal with the question of how much time elapsed before you decided to give evidence.

9. Lyn v d Riet. I have decided to accept your view that this instance is not "especially important", mainly for the reason that I cannot now go and check with Dot. These chapters have already taken six months, and I do not intend to spend any more time on them.

10. Chap. 26. Your para 1. I have amended the text to meet your criticisms, and given special mention to Dot.

11. Your para 2. Ditto

12. Your para 3. I am glad to be corrected here.

13. Your para 4. I have slightly amended the text.

14. Your para 5. I do not think that the letter was ever sent.

Wider Points:

1. Your para 2. You do not think this my best writing. Neither does Vigne. This does not surprise me. The chapters are painful for you both. Others for whom the chapters are not painful think they are very powerful.

2. Your para 3. I have decided to retain my opinion about Watson. I am not aware that at any point I criticised Randolph for getting out.

3. Your para 4. I have taken note of your comment about Harris and have amended accordingly.

4. Your para 5. I am first and foremost a writer, and the words of the judge to a large extent form the drama of that chapter. I am not aware that at any point I commended his moral judgements.

5. Addition in your own writing. In regard to my having "no choice", I do not want to enter a philosophical argument with you. Martin Luther said he "can do no other". I am writing the truth about my life, and in that sense I have no choice.

6. Your para 6. I accept your criticism and have removed all mention of Ruth Hayman's statement to me.

7. Your para 7. I read again the remarks about Chaskalson, whose name I have now omitted. I find that I agree with much of what he said, and will make that clear. I have omitted "Perhaps" and substituted "I think there was."

8. Your para 8. I suppose you mean to be nasty here and you succeeded. I have several times in the book made the point that I have never had to suffer for my beliefs as have many of my friends. I do not know what people will make of the comment about "eleven years of one's life". They can make of it what they like. I certainly would not expect you to understand it. You were not the President of the Liberal Party.

Thank you for your wish that I am in good health and heart. I am in good health, but it is not easy to be in good heart in these times.

I would just like to make one last point clear to you. I do not intend to amend the chapters any further. They have cost me much time and energy.

I send my best wishes to you in your life and work.

Yours

Alan