

P.O.Box 402,  
Maseru,  
Lesotho.  
9th September 1980.

Dear Alan,

I have & thank you for your letter Of the 1st Sptember which reached me yesterday.

I am distressed at the way Jordan has treated you. It recalls to mind a lawyer of present day repute who treated you in like manner in the mid sixties. He too laid store to some political acumen.

Canon John Osmer, who is very dear to me, & who lost his hand in the parcel bomb, comes to me with similar problems from time to time. It will appear that christian principles have little or no relevance to much of Southern Africa.

"Thou shall not steal" what does it mean when the state machinery creates criminals.

Thou shall not kill " in a society where about 150 legal executions take place every year - what an example for a people degraded by long years of cruel oppression.

And what of 'Adultery' in a society that legally entrenches migrant labour policies. And oh God how acutely you see the ravages of that problem here. In S.A. you can live away from it if you choose, but not here. Yes we create problems and require impossible solutions. We are a schizophrenic people. A country that should be a mental institution. At home I defended a man - 26yrs - who had killed for R30.00 and shared the spoils with an accomplice. He was employed at a laundry for R8.00 per week. No - I have no explanations for all this.

But despite, the quality of life inflicted on us there are some very wonderful people around us. Dont despair Alan. We shall win yet and cr create a society where true human dignity is the order of the day in our country.

I do not intend to repeat my letter to the Sunday Tribune. I knew that they would not publish it, and I shall spare you trying.

Keep well both you & Anne. How are Jonathan & David? I look forward to seeing you next year or sooner if freedom comes.

On the night Caetano drank a toast to the Portuguese Empire of 700 yrs standing, the morrow found him out of power.

Hope springs eternal.

Sincerely,

Phyllis.