

Central Africa.
7th May, 1973.

Mr. Charles Clark,
Managing Director,
Hutchinson Publishing Group Limited,
3 Fitzroy Square,
London W1P 6JD,
ENGLAND.

Dear Mr. Clark,

Thank you very much for your letter of the
16th of April.

Yes, I agree with you. It is better to
wait until the rough typescript is ready, before
you come here to have a look at the manuscript. In
fact, this suits me better. It saves the necessity
for undue rashness.

There is one point, however, that I would
like to mention to you, on which I would like you
to express a frank and honest opinion. Mrs. Penn
wrote to say that you said the book should be all
in one volume, not two or three. If all what I
have written were to be put in one volume, it would
make too lengthy a story, and too voluminous a book.
This is why I thought of splitting my story into
two parts, thus making two volumes.

As I have told Mrs. Penn, the first part
of the story which is from birth to the time I came
out of Gwelo Prison, Southern Rhodesia, was in fact,
all completed in the Prison itself, all in handwriting.
It is that part of it which is being typed now,
since it was, in fact, completed before April 1, 1960,
the day I came out of prison.

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The second part of my story starts from the time I left Gwelo Prison to the present; in particular, to the time when we will move from Zomba to Lilongwe, our new Capital which is being built. This part of it is two-thirds completed in handwriting.

My idea was to publish the first volume within the next eighteen months or so. The second volume, a year or two after that.

Mrs. Penn also mentioned that you would like me to include my views on the current international situation and do a little of crystal gazing. I am not so sure about that, but I will think about it.

In short, then, I accept your suggestion, namely, that you should not come here until the rough typescript is ready.

Yours sincerely,

Central Africa.
2nd April, 1973.

Mr. Charles Clark,
Managing Director,
Hutchinson Publishing Group Limited,
3, Fitzroy Square,
London, W1P 6JD,
ENGLAND.

Dear Mr. Clark,

Mrs. Penn has written to me to the effect that your firm is interested in publishing my biography, and that you are prepared to fly to Blantyre to look at the manuscript in the row. I accept your firm's offer to publish the biography.

You will be welcome in Malawi to look at the manuscript in the row, that is, in my own handwriting as I wrote it in Gwelo Prison in 1959/1960. As Mrs. Penn may or might have told you, the manuscript is now being typed into rough draft. I cannot say when the rough typed draft will be completed or be ready. But the handwritten is already completed, because I wrote it all in Gwelo. It is only corrections here and there now, and additions where I had left out important points here and there, that are being done. You are quite welcome to look at this handwritten one as I wrote it in Gwelo.

... For your fare from London to Blantyre and back to London, I am enclosing a cheque for £594-00 sterling (Five hundred and ninety-four pounds) on Barclays Bank, London.

The most convenient way to come here is by the BOAC VC10. BOAC flies to Blantyre from Heathrow Airport twice a week, on Mondays and Thursdays evening, arriving here on Tuesdays and Fridays morning. Either our High Commissioner in London or Mrs. Penn will give you any additional information you may want on the flight from London to Blantyre.

Yours sincerely,

Enclosure