

Central Africa.
19th February, 1973.

Mrs. Lucie Penn,
Warminghurst,
High Hurstwood,
Uckfield,
Sussex,
ENGLAND.

Dear Mrs. Penn,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 8th of February. Once again, I was very glad to hear from you.

As regards publishers, I am glad you think Heineman have expressed an interest in my draft. If you think they are genuinely interested and they have a wide distribution, they are acceptable to me. But, of course, as you are still seeing some others of the publishers, there can be no commitment at this stage.

As to sending my manuscript or Mss, tell Heineman that this cannot be done at this stage, because even the rough typing has not yet been completed. Assure them that I will not cut out anything. I will have the whole draft as I wrote it in Gwelo, typed in full.

In fact, parts of it are in two versions from the point of view of phraseology or language, though not substance. Heineman can choose what version they prefer when the manuscript is sent to them.

Alternatively, the editorial director, Mr. Cant, can come here and look at the draft as it is, and make suggestions as to what version they like, what parts they would like cut off, and what parts they would like retained. I will be glad to pay his fare to come here. Make this suggestion to Mr. Cant, and let me know what his reaction is.

Yours sincerely,