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Robben Island Gaol,  
Robben Island.

18th September, 1968.

Mr Benjamin Pogrand,  
P. O. Box 1183,  
Johannesburg.

Hallo Benjie!

I sent you a telegram last week advising you to suspend action on the cheque-book. The Inson authorities inform me they cannot agree to such an arrangement in the circumstances. Then, I have decided to open a Post Office Savings Account, for which facilities exist. There will thus be no difficulty about withdrawals and I'll be able to inform you regularly of my financial position. I hope you approve.

Thanks for the offer about Stuttafords. Veronica and I had agreed that she would take my jacket with her so that you could have a picture of the size-jacket I wear. In the excitement, however, we forgot all about

this. It can wait, though: I am in no desperate need of a sports-jacket. I merely want to have a decent sports coat handy and, of course, to be sure what my present fit is.

I have not answered your question yet - what I think of the article by Dr. Byers Nanda. When I read it I thought it was rather academic. Perhaps if I read it today I may think differently. I shall read it again and analyze it. I can't place lay my hands on it at the moment. Veronica has been about and tidied up a bit. I must wait until untidiness is restored and then I'll get the cutting.

Lord ~~Walden~~<sup>Walden</sup> called and I enjoyed the few minutes we had together. He left me the booklet containing the address he delivered at the Wits. I enjoyed that immensely. The essential thing in life is to be committed, Benjie: success or failure are mere by-products. Of course, you will always find that the other man is committed

to evil and you to the good. I suppose intolerance, if not the essence, is at a major ingredient of commitment.

Regarding your fears of becoming cynical all I can say is I don't share them. You are gentle by nature and suffering and pain can only make you more compassionate. Only those who sulk in their tents like Achilles - to borrow an image from Lord Walston - can afford the luxury of cynicism. If you'll forgive the reference, it was Jesus Christ, carrying his cross who was the nobler and happier figure <sup>rather</sup> than Pontius Pilate who pointedly and publicly washed his hands.

Callic Stoll sent me a hot-plate and two pots, I believe I told you. The Sunday Times subscription has been renewed: I received the receipt the other day; and the fruit is still being delivered. My thanks to my friends.

Well, Benjie, enough for now.  
Love to Jennie.

Yours affectionately,  
Bob.

Registered

**R** ROBBENEILAND  
ROBBEN ISLAND  
No 2577

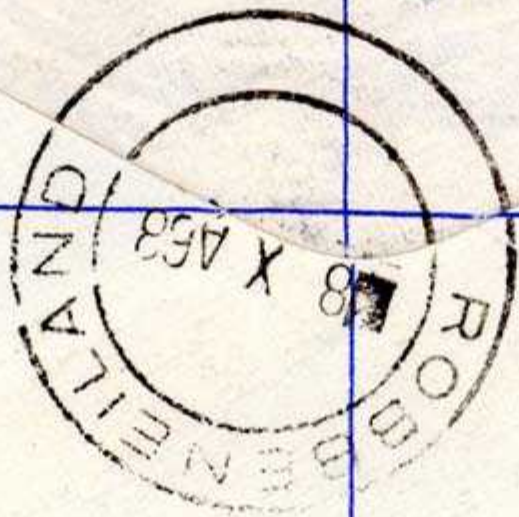
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