

14, FIRST AVENUE, LOWER HOUGHTON,
JOHANNESBURG,

TEL: 43-1483.

October 30th.

[1959]

My dear Z.K.,

I have read of your decision and would like to tell you how much I admire what you have done. It came as no surprise to me, as I had believed that you would act as you did. But I would like to express my feelings - and I have to look to an Italian word, "Salutè" to say what I mean - to you and your wife, because I am certain that she must have made this heavy decision with you.

I am infinitely sad that you should have been driven to do this - that you cannot depart from Fort Hare, to which you have contributed so richly, as an honoured and revered professor should leave. I am even sadder that the students have to lose you. But this is our country.... And at least you have the solace of knowing that you make this sacrifice yourself, that your stand will hearten and inspire others. You will remember, as I do, that not so long ago in another country equally distinguished professors had not even that option.

I do not know what your plans, if any, are, nor how you are placed. You must forgive me for not even knowing how old your children, apart from Joe, are nor how far they are in their education. If you could do with any help, I would appreciate it if you regarded me as sufficient of a friend to let me know. I feel assured that you will not regard my question as overstepping the mark and will know that it arises from a feeling of friendship and admiration.

With best wishes to you and Mfs. Z.K.,
Yours sincerely,

Ellen Hellmann-