

P.O. Fort Hare, CR 113
Alice, C.P.
Union of South Africa
8-9-59.

Mr Harold R. Isaacs,
14 N-217,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Center for International Studies,
50 Memorial Drive,
Cambridge 39, Mass., U.S.A.

Dear H.R.,

Thank you for your letter of August 26, in which you enclosed a draft 'curruculum vitae'. In the main it did include reference to all the 'lurid' facts of my career, but I am sending you an amended one which you may find a little fuller as far as details are concerned. I have also done an abbreviated one of the whole family, so as to give you a picture of us all. You will observe that one of my sons, John Knox has just left for the U.K. to enter the Medical School of Birmingham University. I had a battle royal with the authorities about a passport for him. They had in the first instance refused to grant him a passport but I just went on pegging away at it until they finally agreed to give it to him. Our next job was to get him away before they changed their minds as they did in the case of one Hans Beukes from South-West Africa whose passport was taken away from him just as he was about to leave. Anyway John Knox has left now and we hope he will reach England safely about September 18. In the meantime Hans Beukes has left the country without a passport and has landed safely in England! That will larn' them a lesson.

In the meantime as far as Fort Hare is concerned the situation is that the Government has announced its intention to take over on January 1, 1960, has appointed a new Principal and has nominated a new Governing Council to take over on the fixed date. We have not yet been informed what their plans are about the Staff. It has become known that they will not have our present Principal, Professor Burrows, a well known South African economist, who has done quite well here since he arrived, and that they will not have our Professor of Law, Advocate Leslie Blackwell, Q.C., a retired judge of the Supreme Court of South Africa. As far as the rest of us are concerned, they have not yet given any indication as to what they propose to do. In the meantime of course members of Staff are looking for jobs elsewhere, and as they get they resign. My own idea is that I do not propose to resign and make things easy for the Nats. They must dismiss if they do not want me to stay. I am naturally also on the lookout for any suitable alternative that may turn up. I have already been sounded indirectly by one S.A. white University, but I do not know if anything will come of that. I am also been sounded as far as service in the Bechuanaland Protectorate is concerned. But I would naturally prefer to go on with the kind of work which I have been doing. Your idea of a spell in the U.S. sounds very good, but of course the hurdle there will be the passport. With all the interest in African Studies which is developing in America it ought to be possible for me to find something useful to do. By the end of this month-September-we shall know more or less definitely what the Government proposes to do about Staff. They are required to give one three months' notice if they intend to dispense with one's services. I shall keep you informed about developments.

I am afraid that is as far as I can carry the matter now. What is happening about the MSS?

With kindest regards to the family,

Yours sincerely,