

PRIVATE [36] World Council of Churches
17 Route de Malagnon,
Geneva, Switzerland
20. 5. 62

Dear Mr Moore,

This is just a note to let you know that I have now reached Geneva and have taken up my appointment with the World Council of Churches. The World Council is a fairly big organisation divided into various sections each specially concerned with the witness and service of the Church in a particular field. The Division in which I work is concerned with getting the Churches to work together in their ministry to people in need in different parts of the country without regard to race, creed or colour. These needs may arise because of natural disasters or political or military upheavals. The concern of the Division is without appointment blame or seeking scapegoats or entanglement into political controversies,

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to help to put the victims of such disasters on their feet again. With all the changes that are taking place in Africa, you can well imagine that there is a great call for the work of this Division in Africa, and it is my responsibility to look after the work in that area.

There is a lot of interest in South Africa over here, but most people are puzzled by the trend of events in that country. In terms of the world of 1962 they simply cannot understand why we are pursuing such shortsighted policies. Things such as the Kuper trial, the Sabotage Bill, and the handling of the Transkei developments and the defence expenditure just don't make sense to them. To try to explain these matters to them in terms of South African conditions just leaves them cold. All they say is "you will pay a terrible price for all this one day, and that day is not too far off."

I wonder if you could do me the favour of sending me a copy of the Sabotage Bill as well as a copy of the Policy Motion of the Minister of Defence in the Senate and if possible the Senate Proceedings on that motion. By the way has our Government got any definite policy on the question of Disarmament and Nuclear Tests. Any information you can send me on these matters will be deeply appreciated.

Geneva is a lovely city and the weather just now is perfect. With best wishes for a successful session,
Yours sincerely
J.K. Matthews

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Mr R. A. Moore, M.P.,
House of Assembly,
Cape Town,
Republic of South Africa

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Erster Falz

Premier pli

Prima piega

Absender — Expéditeur
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