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76/ R. 44990 -
88 -

Extract from Telecheck on Temple Bar 2151.

Incoming call.

1. 4. 49.

.....

John says he had a word with Dilip, and that as far as the Paul ROBESON reception was concerned, Wally was handling it from the British students end. Wally says publicity was given to it at congress and tickets were sold, he had contacted three Colleges to put the information out. S.L.F. and Joe BALL had the information. John says there were one or two places like Brighton where there were Colonial students, and they had not much contact with them, he wondered if they could send more tickets. Wally wondered if there was any one else he could send tickets to. John gives him the name of a Y.C.L. contact, Peter LARTER, Menadwyn, Arundel Road, Peacehaven.

.....

MS
25/3/5
15/1/50

Extract from "Rumanian News", No. 414, dated 31st March, 1949.

87 E

Paul Robeson Sends Message

Messages were then read from Paul Robeson, the American singer, and Howard Fast, the novelist. Mr. Robeson said: "As one of those who form part of progressive America, an America which is much more generous than is usually imagined, I deeply regret that I am not being you today." He said that much of his life had been devoted to the struggle for liberty of the coloured people in the United States and throughout the world, and that they were now in danger of losing again the few liberties they still had.

ms



LONDON 8 3/6

Joe Bent,
London District CP,
75, Fanningdon Road,
London, E.C.1.

S F 906 W

31 MARCH 1953

Message from Paul Robeson
to
Wars Memorial Meeting.

Marxism is the essence of the struggle of the peoples for freedom,
peace and a decent life.

No artist can afford to stand aside in this struggle, for art which
fails to reflect the mood of the people is barren art.

The choice confronting every artist at this hour is either to side with
the people or to kneel under to the forces of imperialist obscurantism.
There is and there can be no middle course.

In making my choice I am aware of no suppling doubt or indecision
for I know that I belong to the people.

Catalogue Reference: KV/2/1829

57 Cheshwood Street

London, S.W.1

28th March 1949

Dear Joe,
I am sending you herewith enclosed
the message from Paul Robeson to the
Mass Memorial meeting for which you asked.

It is brief but I think you will
agree that it is very much to the point.

Yours paternally,

Deonand Beuhle

15 F 906 W

Catalogue Reference:KV/2/1829

Fr. H. 44990.

87cb

Extract from Telephone Check - Temple Bar 2151.

Thursday, 31.3.49.

Dilip BOSE rings John MOSS at King Street.

.....

John asks Dilip if he has planned all the details for the Paul ROBESON reception on the 19th, because the students in London should be able to give quite a bit of assistance with tickets etc. Dilip says that John could get in touch with WALLY and get some tickets from him.

.....

MS
266/1829
2/469

B.1.1.1.1.1.
hmf
5/4

87ca

B.1.1.1.1.1. Hmf

Desmond HUCKLE, of the Communist Party, is in charge of arrangements for Paul ROBESON's Party appearances. ROBESON has said that he would place himself entirely at the disposal of the Party but because of his contract commitments he has asked the Communists not to advertise the Party's association with any of the public engagements which they might arrange for him.

30th March, 1949.

B.1.1.1.1.1. Hmf
5/4

Extract from "Summary of World Broadcasts" No.214, Part I, page 58,
dated 28th March, 1949.

Bushnell
11 ROBES
87

Robeson's Reasons for Leaving USA: 'Trybuna Ludu' had a report from London saying that Paul Robeson had had to leave America, the country of "democratic freedom" because of his democratic opinions and as a result of intrigues. All contracts for concerts this year had been called off because of his political views. He was guilty of such "crimes" as struggling for the political freedom of his country and actively supporting Wallace. After his tour in England he would visit the USSR, Rumania, Hungary and perhaps Poland. In an interview with 'Trybuna Ludu' he had spoken of African issues saying: "The continent is entirely under the rule of US and British imperialism. Africa is to be an immense springboard for the imperialists. People interested in peace ought to watch Africa. They ought to pay attention to the terrible things happening in South Africa in the diamond mines, on the Gold Coast and in the Belgian Congo. This would arouse people's consciences and make them realise the dangers threatening the cause of freedom."
rsaw 06.20, 24.3.49)

+

MS

Temple Bar 2151. (Communist Party H.Q.)

Incoming. 23.3.49.

(Michael SHAPIRO?) rings Hilda FORBES.
He then gets a woman to read something over
to her:

Dear Friend,
I have pleasure in enclosing invitations
for yourself and friends to our college(?) (colleagues?)
to meet Mr. Paul ROBESON next Thursday,
March 31st at 8 p.m. at the Mile End Baths.
Whatever views we may have on many subjects
everyone living or working in Stepney, with
the obvious marks of devastation of war still
around us, must agree with need to make every
effort to preserve peace. The presence of
Mr. Paul ROBESON is a rare pleasure indeed as
he is spending so little time in this country,
and is very heavily booked up during his last
days. He is, as you know, world famous, not
only as a singer, but as one of the foremost
fighters for peace and freedom of all races.
I am inviting people of all walks of life in
Stepney to meet him informally and hope you will
be able to be present. In view of the pressure
on accommodation, I should be glad if you would
let me know in advance if you will be able to
be present.

Woman wants about 300 copies.
Hilda says Phil will have to approve it and then
she will ~~xxx~~ let caller know.

(6.33.)
62/367/8.

EWM.

SECRET

28 MAR 1949

~~Robeson~~
Robeson
W & P

PIRATIN)

77

25 JAN 1949

Temple Bar 2151. (Communist Party Headquarters).

Incoming. 22.3.49.

CLAYTON

HAG
etc.

JKL.....?for REUBEN FALBER. He had seen PAUL ROBESON yesterday and was told that he had to get in touch with DESMOND BUCKLE. How could he do this? REUBEN said that he was not on the phone, but he came into K.S. practically every day. REUBEN would leave a message with him to phone DISTANT, whose number was MUS.3521. DISTANT said that they were anxious to run a reception for him in the W.End. They had managed to engage a hall, in which they could get about 250 of their contacts, mainly of middle class people. They proposed making quite a small charge, and the money would be given to the Party election funds. The ~~reception~~ was proposed for April 6th. which was ROBESON'S first free date. DISTANT said that his address was 48, Donnington Rd. Willesden. N.W. 10. His name is J.I.CLAYTON. He wanted DESMOND BUCKLE to either contact him personally, or write to him.

09.49.

[Handwritten signature]
19/18/13
25.3.49

B.L.S./HMG

B.L.S./HMG

86c

Paul ROBESON & The British Communists

On March 31st, 1949, Paul ROBESON is going to Stepney. He will attend two functions. One is a private reception given by Phil PIRATIN for about a hundred influential business people. Phil PIRATIN, Jack PERRY, and Paul ROBESON will be the speakers. The aim of the function is to raise £500 for the Stepney election campaign fund.

The second function will be held at the Mile End Baths. About 500 invitations will go out. Phil PIRATIN is again the "host" and Paul ROBESON is the draw. T.U. branch secretaries, shop stewards, youth and other club leaders, British Legion, church, Old People's Associations, Coloured People's Associations, street traders, and a host of others ~~are~~ being invited to send representatives. There are two aims to this function:-

1. It is considered good propaganda for the forthcoming elections, although there will not be any mention of the elections, or in fact the Party.
2. To raise money for representatives to be sent to the peace conference. Both ROBESON and PIRATIN will talk on peace, and the ultimate aim is to start a nation wide peace movement there and then,

23rd, March, 1949

Bia/8299

833/2

86b

Copy of B.2.A Source Report 3173

B.2.A. Mr. Robertson

PF.211,258

It is reported that Paul ROBESON, the singer, is an old friend of Group Captain Nick MACDONALD.

23rd March, 1949.

~~17/15~~
366/1016
24/45

Original per mi PF211258.

Sten

SECRET.

Temple Bar 2151. (Communist Party H.Q.)

Incoming. 18.3.49.

Michael (SHAPIRO) rings Maud (ROGERSON) and thanks her for getting Desmond (BUCKLE) to ring him. He wants to get hold of him again. He says they have got a date with Paul, for a small gathering on the 31st. They want Paul to give them an extra half hour of his time the same evening so that they can have an additional 'do' which is not confined to a selected kind of audience.?(not clear what he means.) The first 'do' is confined to the commercial branch. Desmond was to let him know.

Maud advises him to write or wire about it.

(4.13.)
68/7/8.

Catalogue Reference:KV/2/1829

(ROBESON)

*HMG
Bib.*

~~SECRET~~
10/BIB
25.3.49

Image Re

HMC By W.

85a

22nd March 1949.

The Communist Party have arranged for Paul ROBSON to address a meeting for 50 selected Party members from various branches on the colour question in the U.S.A. The meeting will take place on April 1st at 14 Clyde Court, W.9., at the flat of Nat(?) ROBSON.

2/8294

WARNING
REFER TO APPROPRIATE
OFFICER BEFORE USING

00 -

SECRET.

22 MAR 1949

Temple Bar 2151. (Communist Party H.Q.)

Outgoing. 17.3.49.

3 PANDORIS
w/ Democracy
free.
w/ 24/3
HPC
Sot/HUB

Ron LEVEN rings HOL: 0122 and speaks to Alice LOVEMAN.

Ron says he spoke to EN EVEGORIS yesterday on the question of Paul ROBESON, and he agreed to the proposal made by Ron, that if Paul was available tomorrow evening he would come along to the meeting in Grosvenor Square following the march and demonstration, even if it meant that 'you lost him at your place'.

Alice says that in any case they don't know what time he is going to get away.

PF ROBESON
a/4 B

Desmond BUCKLE speaks to Alice.

He is not yet certain what the programmes will be tomorrow at the concert for Paul. When he sees him tonight he will find out what time the concert is likely to finish. Alice says this has not yet been put to Paul?

Desmond

Desmond says no. He is on his way back from Sheffield. He*promised to ring Diana PYM, but he hears she is in hospital, so he must let DOGANNIS know.

Alice says (reluctantly) that politically she supposes it is more important for Paul to go to the demonstration.

Desmond says the question is whether it will fall in with his general wish not to be associated just yet with big public demonstrations.

Alice says hers is just a cultural 'do'. She tells him to put it to Paul to see which he would prefer to do, and then if he says he will come on to her social evening, She wants someone there to hurry Paul on to the Conway Hall, as they have to get out of it by 10.30. She is afraid of Paul being delayed at the end of his concert.

Desmond says he will not be there tomorrow, and he will have to get someone else to do it. She also wants the person to ring her not later than ten to say if he is coming. Diana also suggested a small supper party.

Desmond says Peter BLACKMAN has been associated with him in handling Paul's outside engagements, and he will be going to the concert tomorrow. He will tell him to see to what she wants.

Desmond says he is coming there tomorrow morning to see Phyllis ROSNER at about 10.30 or 11.0. He corrects himself and says he will be there in the afternoon at about 3.0. She says she will see him then.

(3.2.)
62/294.

EWM.

Handwritten signature
w/ 24/3
4/4

SECRET.

85b

Temple Bar 2151. (Communist Party H.Q.)

Incoming. 16.3.49.

Ike CLAYTON rings Reuben FALBER about getting hold of Paul ROBESON.

Reuben says he understands, though he only heard this rather indirectly, that when he has finished his present commercial engagement, he is going to kind of put his services at 'our' disposal.

Ike says he has been approached for a meeting in the East End in connection with the elections and Ike thinks he has agreed to do a ... end of March. He says 'we' want to do something in 'our' own way. The Commercial Branch of Stepney is approaching him.

Reuben says Ike could approach ROBESON.
(4.6.) 62/280. EWM.

4/18/49
HHG
KW
E
HUB

SON
469-3

Weyce
1313
414.

SECRET.

85 ac

Temple Bar 2151. (Communist Party H.Q.)

Incoming. 16.3.49.

ROBESON

Bill WARD(?) of Manchester District rings Maud ROGERSON.

He says they had a meeting last night..... Maud says here is the present proposed arrangement. Desmond BUCKLE is with her now. NEWBOLD(ph) has been in touch with Paul ROBESON, and so has REYNOLDS - NEWS. ROBESON has undertaken to do something in Manchester organised by the Trades Council, by REYNOLDS and by the N.I.C. He has also agreed that he will do something in Liverpool. Maud asked Desmond immediately to see whether he would do the Liverpool thing only for the N.I.C. He has agreed to take that up and thinks it will be quite possible. (Sentence very faint.)

~~##6~~
Bill / ##13

two

So the position would be that they would have/rallies, or whatever they like to have, in Lancashire, a joint one in Manchester, and one run by the International Society only, in Liverpool. Which means they would get one third of the proceeds in Manchester, and the whole of the proceeds in Liverpool.

It sounds as if Bill expresses some disappointment.

Maud says apparently ROBESON had given the undertaking already, and had been approached, not to do anything separately for these people, but they had actually approached him to do a joint rally on the grounds that they had all three been associated - they drew the New International Society in - over this TRENTON(ph) case.

Bill says that ROBESON is coming to Manchester on April 12th. The N.I.S. want to arrange a reception for him. In this they will have the co-operation of the India League, and the Indian Students Association. They will seek the support of the Trades Councils

~~##13~~
5549

P.T.O.

Cont. 16.3.49. WARD AND ROGERSON.

Trades Councils/

and other organisations but they want the N.I.S. to be well in the lead, in the reception at the railway station. They would also like to arrange a special dinner for him after the concert, and they want to know how he feels about it.

11M G
Maud turns aside and tells Desmond about it. and says they want details of ROBESON's arrival at the railway station.

She tells Bill that Desmond is seeing him (ROBESON) tomorrow and will raise all this.

Bill mentions the Kohinoor (for the dinner). He asks about the dates.

Maud says it is May the 8th for Manchester, and 9th or 10th for Liverpool.

Bill asks if he should wait for a letter from Desmond.

Maud says yes. What he should do immediately is to get together someone from the N.I.S., and SHAFFER(ph), and NEWBOLD, or someone representing REYNOLDS at any rate, in Manchester. He agrees.

She suggests that they consider having a concert in Liverpool, just as a money raising proposition, with perhaps a short speech from ROBESON. She advises him to write to Desmond giving all these points, so that he has it tomorrow for his meeting with ROBESON.

(Incoming voice is very faint.)

(2.24.)
59/399.

cut from the "Daily Worker" - 21st March, 1949.

85 ms

Robeson speaks on Malan

PAUL ROBESON, the great Negro singer, and Dr. Y. M. Dadoo, leader of the Indian Community in South Africa, will speak together in London on Friday.

With the Rev. Michael Scott they will be talking at Friends' House on the racial discrimination practised by the Malan Government in South Africa.

~~101~~
B. L.

PAUL ROBESON

~~101~~
B. L.
1949

85a

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF
THE PUBLIC RECORDS
ACT 1958. July 2004

Cutting from Challenge. 19th March 1949.

Pa PF 44940

(66)
85 =

PAUL ROBESON SPEAKS TO YOUNG BRITAIN

*Says: You Can
Help Save Peace*

WELCOME this great opportunity of speaking to the youth of Britain. At no time in our modern history could there be greater responsibility on the shoulders of world youth. I have a son of twenty-one, educated in the Soviet Union, now in America. I want him to grow up in a world devoted to peace, friendship and honest co-operation between all

nations.

Throughout the world during 19th to 27th of this month, young people will be celebrating World Youth Week. In the Soviet Union and the countries of People's Democracy, they will be rejoicing in the march forward to a new and better life.

In other countries not so fortunate, like Greece, Spain, Indonesia, Malaya, and Viet Nam, young people will be fighting with arms in their hands against the tyrants who wish to keep their countries in bondage.

Many are in jails, living in hope that the people's struggle will save them from the axe of the executioner.

In my own country, youth is to the fore, holding aloft the banner of Henry Wallace in the struggle against the dollar kings and warmongers.

The war clouds are gathering, but the people have in their hands the sunshine that can dispel them. The Peace Congress which is taking place in Paris next month and which will be attended by leading workers, intellectuals, and youth from many countries, will be a great step forward in the fight for peace.

Young people of Britain, you have a most important job. You can help to save peace. The young people of Malaya, Greece, Spain, and other oppressed countries are looking to you. The other America is looking to you.

I am confident you won't let them down.

PAUL ROBESON



MS

2/18/49