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From Daily Worker. 11.8.50.

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WEST AFRICAN STUDENTS BACK ROBESON

Daily Worker Reporter

THE West African Students' Union in London last night passed a resolution protesting at the U.S. Government's action in withdrawing the passport of Paul Robeson.

Condemning this "flagrant denial of civil liberties," the students said it was a "negation of the pretensions of Western democracy as advertised by the United States and an insult to Negroes everywhere."

"We call upon progressive people in the United States and all over the world to intervene to have Mr. Robeson's freedom of movement restored."

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16/174
BRITISH EMBASSY
WASHINGTON

PF.143

To: Director-General

Subject: Paul ROBESON

We are informed that the State Department has asked Paul ROBESON to surrender his passport. He has refused to hand it over and Immigration and Customs officials have been ordered to prevent ROBESON from embarking should he attempt to leave the United States. The reason given by the authorities here is that any trip abroad that ROBESON might make "would not be in the interests of the United States".



August 4, 1950

G.T.D. Patterson

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ROBESON MAY SEE ACHESON

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PAUL ROBESON has asked Secretary of State Dean Acheson for a conference to explain why his passport has been cancelled.

Mr. Robeson's attorney, Mr. Nathan Witt, of New York, said yesterday that the request for a conference was sent because he and Mr. Robeson had received no response to a letter drafted on August 1 asking for an explanation.

The Council on African affairs, of which Mr. Robeson is chairman, in a statement said that the move "reflects the administration's fear of Paul Robeson's world-wide prestige as a champion of the oppressed and enemy of Fascism and imperialism."

Mr. C. B. Baldwin, secretary of the Progressive Party, commented: "There is obviously no legal basis for the State Department action."

"Paul Robeson, son of a slave, one of America's greatest men, cannot be silenced. His voice today is more eloquent than ever before."—
Reuter.

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FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

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Daily Telegraph

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Robeson

**PAUL ROBESON
TRAVEL BAN**

CALL FOR PASSPORT

From Our Own Correspondent
NEW YORK, Friday.

American Customs and immigration officials and agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation have been ordered to stop Paul Robeson, the Negro singer, if he attempts to leave the United States.

Mr. Robeson was formally asked a week ago to give up his passport, but so far he has not acceded to the request. His passport was declared null and void because it was considered that any trip abroad which he might make "would not be in the interests of the United States."

He is not available at his home at Enfield, Connecticut. Representatives of the State Department are searching for him to ask him to give up his passport.

An official spokesman said to-day that Mr. Robeson's speeches abroad had not represented "a prevalent American view." It was also stated that after visiting Moscow Mr. Robeson had made speeches praising Russia and disparaging the policy of the United States Government.

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