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FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Evening Standard

PAGE 2—EVENING STANDARD

ROBESON TOLD, 'GIVE UP PASSPORT'

'Trip abroad would not be in interests of U.S.A.'

NEW YORK, Friday.—The American State Department have asked Paul Robeson, American-born negro singer and Left Wing leader, to surrender his passport, the New York Times said to-day.

Immigration service officers and G-men had been ordered to stop Robeson if he tried to leave the United States.

Any trip abroad that Robeson would make would not be in the interest of the United States, a spokesman for the State Department was quoted as saying.

The demand for the passport was made a week ago, but up to last night no reply had been received from Robeson.

Efforts would be made to obtain the passport, which has been marked "null and void" on the State Department records.

It was learned that Robeson's political activities had much to do with the revocation of the passport. In a recent speech he demanded "hands off Korea."—Reuter.

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ROBESON'S P.P.
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Council on African Affairs
23 West 27th St.
New York 10, New York



AIR LETTER

**VIA AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**

Mr. J. B. Crowther, Chairman
British Peace Committee
1a Park Crescent
GT Portland St.
London W1, England

100-KV121030
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COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS
23 W. 26th Street
New York 10, New York

June 27, 1950

Mr. J. G. Crowther, Chairman
British Peace Committee
1a Park Crescent
GT Portland St.
London W1, England

Dear Mr. Crowther:

Paul Robeson has asked me to let you know of his extreme regret at being unable to come to Great Britain for your Conference and peace demonstration July 22 and 23. It is impossible for him to leave the country this early.

He does hope that he will be able to come to Europe the latter part of August for about ten days and, of course, to return again the latter part of October for the World Peace Congress in Rome.

I have today written to Mr. D'Arboussier of the World Peace Committee in Paris suggesting that that office try to work out, in cooperation with the various countries, the best disposition of his time should he be able to make the trip the latter part of August. He has received invitations from so many countries and if he only has ten days it will be hard for him to make any decision here as to where to go and how long to remain. He has asked that I extend his warmest best wishes for a very successful demonstration on the 23rd.

Sincerely yours,

Louise T. Patterson
Louise T. Patterson

LTP:mpm

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Copy for: G. T. D. Patterson, Esq.,
British Embassy,
Washington.

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29 June, 1950.

From 31 May to 2 June, 1950, as you are aware, there was a meeting in London of the Bureau of the World Peace Congress (W.P.C.). This was first announced on 15 May in the "Daily Worker", which on 24 May reported that Paul ROBINSON would attend. He would arrive in the United Kingdom in time to take part in the mass peace demonstration which had been planned by the British Peace Committee (B.P.C.) for 1 June, to be held in Lincoln's Inn Fields.

On 29 May, 1950 ROBINSON arrived by air from New York. He was travelling on U.S. passport No. 58303 issued at Washington at 8 May, 1947. He gave his address in the United Kingdom as the Eastern Hotel and said that he would be here for a few days only to attend the peace rally organized by the B.P.C.; he expected to be back in Boston, U.S.A., by Saturday evening, 3 June.

ROBINSON, we have learned from a source we believe to be reliable, took a prominent part in the discussions of the W.P.C. Bureau. He mercilessly assailed ROUSE and the Yugoslav press representative when they questioned the expulsion of Yugoslavia from the W.P.C. ROBINSON sang songs and made a short speech at the Lincoln's Inn Peace Rally, which, as you know, was attended by more than 5000 persons. A fair proportion of the crowd had doubtless come to hear him sing; certainly his speech contained no new line of argument. ROBINSON stayed at the Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, London W.C.1. He left by air for New York on 2 June, 1950.

From a very delicate source it has been learnt that the Dutch Peace Committee tried to persuade ROBINSON to go to Holland on 6 June to attend a peace demonstration. Other efforts were also unsuccessfully made by a London group of Africans to detain him.

A source close to ROBINSON has told us that he has become theoretically a pure communist, thinking no longer of the negro question in a nationalistic way, but merely considering it as a lever with which to manipulate the feelings of colonial peoples in favour of world communism. He criticises Henry WALLACE privately for maintaining that the United States Government does not want war; he is sure that it does, and at the first opportunity. Fears of falling foul of the United States authorities on charges of un-American activities are not strong in his mind. Rather he is apprehensive of assassination by some gangster.

You may also be interested in a report carried by the "Sunday Times" of Pretoria, South Africa in its issue dated 4 June, 1950. This journal then announced ROBINSON's intention of making a tour of Africa under the auspices of a new committee entitled the AFRICA FOR AFRICANS COMMITTEE. This is presumably the AFRICAN AID COMMITTEE or its parent the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS. We have nothing to support this report, which is probably a piece of adventurous journalism.

P.T.O

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CHIEF
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