

P.O. Box 144,
Petrus Steyn. C.F.S.
South Africa.
8/9/61.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

I am writing this short letter to you with a wild hope that it will reach you. I know that you are somewhere in the wilderness of the West Indies, but I do not know your address. It is only through the kindness of Messrs Faber and Faber that it will reach you.

The name, Peter Abrahams, became known to me in 1956, while I was doing my Junior Certificate at Kroonstad Bantu High School.....A great thunderstorm was beating out loudly outside.....The wind was howling with a mournful voice and the windows were whistling a wistful tune when I began to know it.....This night I could not study my text-books... I was browsing through "Drum" Magazine when it suddenly gripped my attention: Tell Freedom! Wow, what's that, I asked myself, are we coming to get freedom? No, I was wrong. It was your autobiography. As it was the concluding chapter, I had to write to Drum Publications in Johannesburg to send me down the previous copies in which it appeared. So, I followed one of the gripping and interesting stories which was to ~~wxxx~~ work wonders later in me.

Then followed 1957. I had passed my J.C. and was in Matric One. What a year! My eyes were beginning to open. New horizons were beginning to unfold in front of me. There was no more parrot-work, but reasoning and thinking....And yet I could feel it: That gnawing 'something' which burned in me with the impetuosity and impatience of a deluge. Yes, it was a momentary revelation which the wise call inspiration..... Then "Wild Conquest" fell into my hands. I rattled over it like mad. Ough, its simple style impressed me. I read it day and night because I knew it was by my idol.

After nicely putting it away, that 'something' was working in me. It was now surging up and down my spine with a chilling coldness that made me shed tears. I wanted to say something about it. I made mention of it to my friends but they said I was just a sentimentalist who is suffering from self-pity. Well, I forgot their curt remark and started taking it out into paper....Then in October, same year, it happened that I should receive a letter from the city: Johannesburg. I ripped the envelope open with shivering and trembling hands. There it was: "Your story, Ghost car, has been accepted and will be published in the next issue of Zonk." - Ecstatic happiness overwhelmed me and I silently thanked God for having put your books in front of me - for without them I couldn't have embarked upon this hard-hitting road that is full of stumbling-blocks.

The following year I wrote another short story: "On the Brink of Death" which won me a Parker Pen Award and spurred me to write more. I then wrote more minor stories which were accepted by "Our Africa", a magazine which deals with christian teaching.....But it wasn't all down-hill. There were many rejections than acceptances.

Let me not bore you, Mr. Abrahams, with my lengthy letter. But you'll see what I am driving at. I am not hammering too much on my one-stringed ego-violin..... In 1960 I was offered a job as a clerk with the Department of African Affairs.....But the urge to write was more. So, in 1961 I left the job and went over to Johannesburg to join the editorial staff of "The World" newspaper (formerly The Bantu World). When I came there, misfortune was just dogging my steps...There's a terrible monster over here called Influx Control. By this control, an African from a rural town cannot enter into a city and work there without the necessary permit.. I was sent back to apply for the necessary permit. The answer came: Permission was not granted. So, the Dutch folks had achieved their aim of keeping me, of restricting me to my small home-town. Instead of losing courage, it appears I have gained very much from their "setback". I have now completed about
(MORE).

fifteen short stories. In these stories I have tried by all means to depict African life in South Africa just as it is. I hope to forward the manuscript very soon to Messrs Faber and Faber.....

Mr. Abrahams, I can be very pleased if you could let me know whether the paper for which you are the Editor publishes short stories or not. I would like to send some over to you with a view of publication because over here there is no market at all.

One other thing, I would like to get over to England and study journalism, but lack of funds ~~xxxxxx~~ makes it just a dream in the twilight world between wakefulness and sleep. But God will help me and one day, even if it may take me ten years, I will reach England.....One thing sure, if I had the means, I would have long left this country of iniquity, racial discrimination and oppression. One feels it even in sleep, even in dreams for that matter. Whenever I think of it, my eyes well with tears, but I cannot do it otherwise. I've got to face it.

I have been trying to get your "PEALING THUNDER" but unfortunately it is banned over here. One day I will be able to get an opportunity of reading it.....

Mr. Abrahams, let me cut my letter short for I am sure your desk is piled with news copies which you have to run over.

Warm greetings from me and my family,

Yours sincerely,

Abbey Maine
Abbey Maine.

P.S. I am 22 years of age and unmarried.

Subject: Identity crisis

Date: Tue, 10 Mar 1998 10:38:52 -0500

From: Petar Abrahams <covaba@tqi.com>

To: president@anc.org.za

Dear President Mandela: My eldest daughter who works and lives in Milan, Italy recently contacted S.A. embassy officials there to determine her status as the daughter of Peter Abrahams, South African, born in Vrededorp, Johannesburg on March 19, 1919. They said she was entitled to citizenship as a person of South African descent. Then they checked and found no proof of registration of the birth of Peter Abrahams, no record of his existence. So she could not be accepted full stop. Her attempts to convince them by referring them to my autobiography TELL FREEDOM fell on deaf ears and she was turned away with "hostility and suspicion". I turn to you as one of the few remaining South Africans of my generation who know personally that I am real and exist and was born in South Africa, to affirm that fact. I would hate to think that my descendants will be forever denied the right to South African citizenship by descent because there is no paper proof of my existence. I suspect there must be others in the same predicament. Will you please use your good offices to help get past this piece of the old bureaucracy, so that any of my descendants can, if they choose to, become part of the 'New South Africa'?

Warmest regards.

Petar Abrahams.

E-mail: Covaba@cwjamaica.com

13th July, 1961.

Mr. Louis Martin,
Vice Chairman,
The National Democratic Committee,
1730 K. Street N.W.,
Washington D.C.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Martin,

As I promise you I spoke to John Hendrik Clarke in New York about the idea of a sort of brains trust of Africa. Clarke was very interesting and I gave him your address and so I expect you would have heard from him by now. Please let me know of developments on this score. I think you will by now also have received a letter from one William Chambers who is in process of producing a play base on my novel of the African revolution "A Wreath for UDOMO." I suggested he write you because Chambers tells me that Mrs. Innes-Brown of the American National Theatre and Academy has been greatly interested in this adaptation and has brought it to the attention of Mr. Joseph E. Slater, Deputy Assistance Secretary of State for International Education and Cultural Affairs and also of course because I think Bill Branch has made a magnificent adaptation of a book which has much to tell Americans about the current African revolution. In any event you will know

what best to do and I shall leave the matter to your judgment.

I am very sorry that the Frank Reeves thing did not work out. The wasps are by no means beaten. Will you please let me have that revised list of appointments of the brothers.

It was very good to meet you.

Yours sincerely,

PA/ul.

Peter Abrahams.

ST. KATHARINE'S HOUSE,
WANTAGE.

Tel: Wantage 95

Berkes

June 24th:

Dear Mr Segal,

Do you remember our meeting in Finsbury Park? I am writing to you as I expect Mr. Segal is busy again after his strenuous week's holiday.

I wrote to Father Huddleston to tell him about the meeting with Aaron & Biddy as I knew how interested he would be.

Actually I expect Father Raynes would know their father better than F. Huddleston.

I always think there is some reason in these so-called 'chance' meetings. I dreamed a dream of having Biddy at one of our schools! Sister Dorothy Raphael, (whom Mr. Abrahams would know as Dorothy Maid) is head of our school at Abingdon. She was thrilled at my account of the meeting. She worked out at

Sophiatoun before she became
a Sister & built 'Ekutuleni'
the Mission House where our
Sister live & was instrumental
in building the Church of Christ
the King.

If you happen see Mr.
Abraham will you give him
greetings from her.

Yrs sincerely

+ Margaret ESTIV.

4, Bowfield Place

Edinburgh, 11

Scotland

14th August

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

I hope you don't mind
me writing to you, as I know
you are a very busy man.

Your publisher's, Faber & Faber Ltd.,
have very kindly offered to send
my letter on to you.

Well, to get on with my
letter. I have just finished reading
your book "Till Freedom." I
am very interested in Africa and
the Africans. After reading
your book and several others

I have come to the conclusion that the white man is not working in unison with the coloured man. The bit in your book about the coloured boy not being able to hit back at ^{the} white boy is just terrible, after all it was white boys who started the fight with you.

Even although I am white I have a great admiration for your people. I don't know whether the Africans want to be educated by the white man or not, can you tell me? I'm afraid my parents do not think the same way as I do about

relationship between coloured
and white people. I think that's
why I took an interest in Africa,
because I heard so much about
the trouble in the Belgium Congo.
When I asked my mother she just
told me she couldn't explain, so
I decided to find out for myself.
So now that I've started, it's
just too interesting to drop.

Well Mr. Abrahams I will have
to close now. One day I hope the
coloured people and the white
people can work to-gether as children
of God. Please excuse my grammar
but I'm no authress. I would

Just like to let you know.
that you have given a teen-
age girl a new and wonderful
interest.

Good Health to you
and your family.

I am yours respectfully
Miss Marion McDonald

2nd phase return

80, Darfield Road,
London, S. E. 4,
England.

Jan. 26, 1958.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

I suppose you have been wondering why you have not received a dispatch from me since June of last year. The reason for my long period of silence is that I was away in Liberia and Sierra Leone. I returned to this country a few days ago, and I shall continue to send my reports as usual.

Mr. Edwards

By the way, if I am not mistaken, I think P. O. is still owing me for three dispatches; and I shall be most grateful if you will let me have your cheque in reply.

The weather is rather cold over here at the moment. Snow has been falling since last week. I wish I were home enjoying the warm sunshine.

Best of wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Roghe Garkane.
Roghe Garkane.

Peter Abrahams, Esq.,
Editor, "Public Opinion",
P. O. Box 115,
Kingston, Jamaica,
The West Indies.

*Owed for
Jan. 1958. £11.10.00.*

*Mr. Abrahams,
We have sent this payment a day
on 28/2/58*



Peter Abrahams, Esq.,

Editor, "Public Opinion",

P. O. Box 115,

Kingston, Jamaica,

The West Indies.

Second fold here

Sender's name and address: Roy Mc Farlane,

80, Darfield Road,

London, S. E. 4,

England.

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE ; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

Mr. Peter Abrahams,
Coyaba,
Red Hills P.O.
30th June, 1958.

Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture & Lands,
Hope Gardens.

Dear Sir,

I would like to enter a tender in the sum of £50 for the 1952 Land Rover which you advertise in the columns of the Daily Gleaner and which is now at the Experimental Farm at Hope.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Abrahams.

PA/ss

200-05 100th Avenue
Hollis, L.I., N.Y.
July 15, 1960

Dear Peter -

I really had decided that I would not write to you again, for it has finally dawned on me that you are either a terrible correspondent or a terrible friend. And I may be presumptuous in calling you a friend. . . But, then, three things have happened that compel me to write to you: First, I want to thank you for the article in Holiday and for mentioning my name. I think you did a good job, too - and not because you spoke of me. The second thing is, I finally got hold of THE PATH OF THUNDER and I read it and I loved it. And then I read it again. I let Gertrude McBrown borrow it, and she read it, and we had a two hour conversation about it. The third thing is, I just got hold of WILD CONQUEST and I read it at one sitting. And I have only good things to say about it.

Man, you can write. You throw the King's English around with a poetic ease that I love. I really think you have made a remarkable contribution to literature, Peter. And I am proud that I know you.

The news here is interesting: Helen and I bought a house out here on Long Island. It is lovely. Baldwin wrote an article on Harlem for Esquire - a good article, and he mentioned something about Riverton being a slum - and the Negro papers jumped on him, hand and feet, editorially and otherwise. Mayfield wrote an article about the numbers for the Nation. John O. Killens made a play out of a section of his novel, Youngblood, and it's optioned for Broadway. And I am pleased to repeat what you already know. It looks like "Udomo" is going to Broadway, and I'm happy for you and Bill Branch. I like that script, novel and play.

As for me, I'm on my bread-and-butter job, handling a weekly radio program, writing it, producing it, and cursing because I'm not doing more serious work. That terrible play you have, STAR OF THE MORNING, has gone through its 29th rewrite and it's been changed considerably. Now, it, too, has been optioned for Broadway and Cab Calloway has agreed to appear in it. So we shall see what we shall see.

A letter from Nadine tells terrible truths about your beloved country - truths that you already know. But, it won't be like this always. She and Reinhold are well, under the circumstances.

Our love to you and your Daphne and children. The beautiful Helen is still beautiful. We speak of you often and wish you could visit again.

Peter, we send all of you our very best wishes and our every prayer.

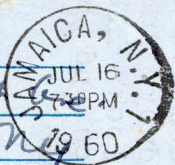
Loften

P. P. I went to New Jersey the other night and saw Jim Morton. He wants to be remembered to you. He is doing great work out there at his church.

L. Mitchell

200-05 1001

Hollis, L.I., N.Y.



Mr. Peter Abraham
"Coyata" Red Hill P.O.,
St. Andrews, Jamaica
West Indies

AIR LETTER • AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

c/o. P.O.Box 25,
TUKUYU.
Tanganyika.
E.Africa.

4th May, 1960.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

How are you.

I cant understand how I can explain you, to let you know how glad I am here in Tanganyika to obtain your address, after a long time of search for same from all newspapers of South Africa.

Here in Tanganyika things are going on alright, the only thing we are fighting at present is only our freedom to govern ourselves.

I am very glad to inform you that, I am at present enjoying your "tell freedom" which is your autobiography. Surely this is a very touching one. By now am at "cape town" when you went there for work. I am very sorry of the "Burning Meat" at the market, and I appreciate your life at "the Bantu Social Centre".

Although I told you that I am enjoying your autobiography, but

as you may know that I am reading this from a newspaper published here weekly and if it happens to miss one weeks issue, the whole sweet story is confused. In this case will you please do your best to let me a complete copy of this book of "TELL FREEDOM" so that I may enjoy it more nicely than I do now.

Also will you please let me have the following books, please take it from me that I am ready to pay any amount of money for them:-

(a) The Souls of black folk.
the book you enjoyed at the Bantu Social Centre.

(b) I speak of Africa.
the book you had been given at the secondary school.

Moreover I am glad to inform you that I am a young african boy of 22 years, interested very much in politics and for the freedom of people in the world, in this case will you please let me have any political papers or pamphlets published in Jamaica, or else where, which you can make in touch with them and I shall be very glad to pay for them at any rate.

I presume that there in Jamaica, you are running your own journalism work. if this is true, may I have any papers you publish or any outstanding book of its own merit which you wrote, for which I am ready to pay for same.

Mr. Peter I am very glad to write this letter to you, and strongly hope that one day I shall see you personally

before we approach death, as I am very anxious to meet with such people in the world.

Your autobiography is as mine, my father died when I was seven, I received my education in difficulties, and I had to leave school to find work to look after my mother, but although at present I am working as a Typist, but I try to keep money for my mother as I strongly believe that one day I shall leave her and I shall see the part if not all, of the world and meet people as my Peter Abrahams.

I have a lot to write to you, but let me hear from you first.

Cordially Yours. .

SIMON MKONGEWA.



AEROGRAMME



Mr. PETER ABRAHAMS

COYABA,

RED HILLS,

P.O. ST.ANDREW,

JAMAICA

Second fold here

Sender's name and address:

AN AEROGRAMME MAY ONLY BE
SENT AT THE AEROGRAMME
POSTAGE RATES IF IT CONTAINS
NO ENCLOSURE

Mrs. Enrico Molnar
339 W. Laurel Street
Compton,³ California

Letters

April 3 '56

10-copy - Publishers
N.Y.

Dear Sirs:

I liked Mine Boy^{*} - by Peter
Abrahams. - although it was terrible too, -
and primitive, tho perhaps that is the
way life is in Africa.

Does Mr Abrahams live in Africa?
I would like to have his autograph; if it
is possible, I would send him a maga-
zine in return for it.

Sincerely yours,

Georgeine E.

Molnar

^{*} I had the paper edition

art writing theatre music
seminars

chemchemi

african creative centre

P. O. BOX 30471
607 CHURCH HOUSE
GOVERNMENT ROAD
NAIROBI
KENYA

TELEPHONE 28201

REF.

Use personal address: P. O. Box 7993,
NAIROBI,
Kenya.

9 Nov 1965

Dear Bek,

Don't think me irresponsible for keeping
quiet so long since your letter arrived. Thanks for it.

I immediately phoned on the Institute, I saw
the small little Berger - the son - about that tape.
They said they were going to send it to you
as soon as Berger should have returned from Germany.
This morning, remembering I owe you a letter, I
phoned them about the tape. Little Berger had just
returned this morning (pleasant coincidence!)
They were going to stick a rough twig into his
arse & maintain it there till he sent you the
tape (that's an African equivalent to lighting a
fire under someone!)

Looking forward to reading your next novel.
I admire your energy & productivity - which I
can never attain. When Holiday comes out, will
you remember me in your legacy - I'm itching to
see & what you have to say about the black

& the white bastards of this country.

Me, still waiting. Someone in the university - someone who ought to know, says there is a conscious attempt for my detractors to drag that press feud into the college & influence the appointments committee against taking me. How small can you get. Just now I'm thoroughly fed-up of the place & just want to go to an obscure country not in the news & bury myself there. But what country is not in the news if Fiji can journey to London for a constitutional conference. News has come that Noni Jakavu is stuck in London some where because the husband has decided to dispossess her house, funds etc. A friend of ours, whose father tells us this, is actually living in her daughter's flat because she can't pay the rent. Warmest regards to the home Rebecca says Bon appetit on her recipe. guard & yourself.

← First fold here →

Yours ever Zola

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AÉROGRAMME



Peter Abrahams

"COYABA"

Red Hills P.O.

ST ANDREW

JAMAICA

West Indies

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

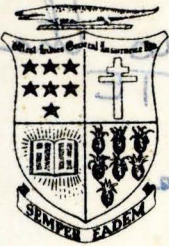
E. MPHAHLELE

P.O. Box 7993.

NAIROBI,

Kenya.

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE ; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.



WEST INDIES GENERAL INSURANCE LIMITED

AGENTS AND ATTORNEYS FOR

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

55A DUKE STREET,

KINGSTON.

JAMAICA. B. W. I.

OUR REF.

YOUR REF.

Welbeck Hotel

The WORLD is
Crying for
investment
Capital

YET-
the above!

Dear Peter

I am sitting by the window gazing at the grey clouds presiding over London. What the verdict will be is not yet clear to me - snow, hail, fog?

Well old boy - here are the FACTS.

I HAVE GOT to grab it by the balls. In other words my friends in America assure me that the money is available in \$ U.S. However it may be possible to get blocked sterling. In fact I have been privately assured that it can be done. In this matter I have learnt very heavily on the friendship of my friends in America.

NOW, I have received a letter signed by the Financial Secretary - saying in effect. We cant give you any credentials really, however if you raise any interest in people's minds, you should advise the Ministry so that the negotiations may be continued. * This is SHITTERY. I feel to forget the whole damn thing. Such INEPTITUDE is hard to conceive. Well



PETER. I have carefully considered your view is that if Crab comes AND if I get the PRIVATE

assurances I feel I am entitled to the money will be ready by DEC. 31.

Frustrating like hell isn't it. I have not even asked SWITZERLAND yet. Write me and give me some advice and "gen" as I am a bit puzzled by the attitude of the BIG FROGS in our little Jamaican pool.

I tell you this Peter, if I am satisfied with Frances' climate I am shaking the dust off my feet + go there to live. I cannot abide PETTINESS + STUPIDITY!

Well boy Merry Christmas to you Daphne + the kids Eddie I did not see Langston Hughes.

He is a clot but I guess when I am returning home I may see him.

Reply to

Go Frank Morell Esq. English + American Ins. Co. Ltd. 17/18 Billiter St. London E.C. 3

17th Sept. 1959.

Mr. Carol Morin,
The English Shop,
King Street,
Kingston.

Dear Mr. Morin,

Miss Brunet tells me that she has been in touch with you and that you have agreed to change the sizes of the shirts she bought from you. I return them herewith and should be very grateful if you would replace them with 15" neck sizes.

Yours sincerely,


Peter Abrahams

PA:ehk

March 9th, 1959

Mr. Murphy
Imperial Optical (WI) Ltd.,
Upstairs Canadian Bank of Commerce
Harbour Street
KINGSTON

Dear Mr. Murphy:

You will recall that I saw you on Saturday and ordered a pair of glasses. You will also recall that we chose a certain size rim for the lenses. This was a rim slightly smaller than the one I am now using.

This is to request that you give me the same size rim as my old glasses; in other words a size bigger than the one now on order.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Abrahams".

Peter Abrahams

Ekon M. Yomo Akrong-Nabi
The Adjisam's News Agency
P.O. Box 1458 Accra,
Sept. 13 '55

Hello! T here,

P eter Abrahams are you dead or alive? What has caused such an embarrassing silence on your part for so long? ~~What~~ have happened to all our plans? Well, there are so many questions I want to know and hear about all at once that I have to stop somewhere before exhausting ^{you} out of replying.

You have to let me hear the time the paper I were to be the Gold Coast (the New Ghana) Editor, makes its debut. If plans are not yet finalised, then arrange for any other papers to be represented here by your own Nabi. (The African and Colonial World for instance) When are you leaving for your West Indian data-collecting tour? When you go ~~there~~ do meet some of the publishers there and tell of my readiness to give them reports from here as their representative. As you know, Peter, it is very important that only true and accurate reports of happenings ~~from~~ here reach the outside world; so you will understand my anxiety to undertake such a work in the interest of our dear Resurgent Africa!

Peter, there are lots of things and information I will like to ~~write~~ ^{write} you about, but I am not sure whether you are in England or gone already to the West Indies, so I will wait until I have heard from your end, before putting all on paper. Since beginning of this year I edited the 'Ghana Nationalist' a daily owned by Barrister E.O. Obetsebi-Lamp tey, Popularly called 'Liberty' Lamp tey. He so much worried me to write on his paper that I was forced to leave the Agency for all this long period. Now I am back again with Adjisam in the running of the Agency. I vacated the Editorial chair on the first of this month. I will send you all copies of that paper under my editorship if you are interested.

As I have said I will stay here - the time-being, not knowing whether you are still in London or have travelled. So long then till,

A word from you reaches

Yours Faithfully,

- Nabi

Regards from Jimmy, Sammy and all.

BY AIR MAIL

AÉROGRAMME

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS EN-
CLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



Mr. Peter Abrahams.

*37, Jessel Drive,
Loughton, Essex.
England.*

Second fold here

Sender's name and address:-

YONO AKRONE-NEOL
Box 1428, Accra
Gold Coast (The New Ghana)

To open cut here

To open cut here

14th July, 1958.

Mr. H. A. Nation,
c/o Vassell's Hardware,
136 E Orange St.,
KINGSTON.

Dear Mr. Nation,

This is to confirm my order for you to build for me a set of fixtures which are:

- (1) Three sets of panellings for pillars you have the measurements.
- (2) Three shelves extending from the three pillars according to the diagram.
- (3) Two benches to fit into the walls under the windows between the three sets of panelling.

It is understood that I will pay you the sum of £40 on completion of the job to my satisfaction. It is further understood that you will use Mahogany Wood for the benches and the shelves and Ply Wood for the tops. It is further understood that this will be seasoned material of the best quality. Without being under any obligation to do so I will at my discretion make such advance as shall seem reasonable to me if you need it and the stage of the work suggests that I should make.

On my part I bind myself to settle with you in full as soon as the job is satisfactorily completed. On your part you undertook to deliver the job in not more than two weeks' time. We agree that this letter constitutes a binding contract on both sides and the person who breaks it shall render himself libel.

Yours sincerely,

H. A. Nation
agreed to this
contract

Peter Abrahams

H. A. Nation
14/7/58

4th January 1963

Mr. Peter Abrahams:

I look forward to seeing you next Wednesday
(January 9) at the Social Welfare Centre (near Irvine Hall
and the Nunnery) at 9.30 a.m.

Personal regards....

Sincerely,

Rex

Rex Nettleford
Staff Tutor in Political Education.

RN/dh

March 3, 1960
New Delhi;

Dear Peter & Co.

Try no. two!

Are you there?
Did you all get the Christmas
message from
us all from India.
It was sent to
the West INDIAN Economist
Harbour Street.

Two things prompt me
to write (against my
principals) (maybe 2 1/2)
1st

Congratulation on the
production of "The play from
the book of the same name"
of A W for O at Narayana
Theatre — naturally
directed by Reuben Silver
with W. B. a safe distance
away.

2nd.

you know India is one
hell of a big place 400 mil
people etc — Socialism with
democracy; with ^{1st} ^{2nd} ^{3rd}
5 year plans. Naturally
there is an economist or
two here — naturally
(tel per tel firs) etc — there
is AN ECONOMIST here
This one is called "The

E A S T E R N

E C O N O M I S T

it is edited by a

first rate guy by the

Name of Shri (= Mr.) E.P.W. da Costa

who did not know that there
was a West Indian Economist

He knows now — and

wants to exchange

issues with you all.

His address is

The Eastern Economist 52 Jangpeth, New
Delhi.

2nd 1/2

Also I met an old school
mate of yours from South
Africa — the half post
I've lost his name.

Well — How the hell are
you?

How is the house on the Hill
and the road up to it.
I still miss Jamaica very
much.

We are still living in
an Hotel but
will move into an
Apartment by March
20th or so. The
kids are well and
Victoria Major is very
excited about INDIA she may
go blind just looking at it.
The contrasts are tremendous.

Yours in the Faith

Tam Noone

106 Morningside Drive
New York 27, New York
September 10, 1960

Mr. Peter Abrahams
Coyaba House
Red Hills
St. Andrew, Jamaica

Dear Peter:

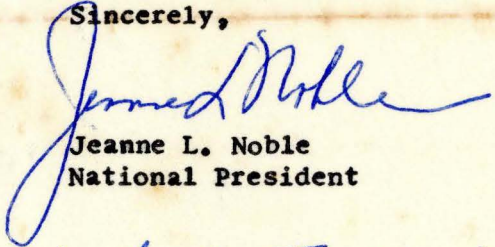
Thoughts of our conversation still linger since my return from your beautiful island. As a matter of fact, I keep hearing your comments related to the question: "Am I my brother's keeper?" I think you are quite right concerning the United States' responsibility in world affairs. I may just end up voting for Kennedy.

I so enjoyed meeting you and your wonderful family. The brief time I spent on your magnificent hill was a highlight in my Jamaican trip. Nothing else quite measured up to this experience. Thank you very much for having me as your guest.

I feel very guilty about bring Noni's plastic bag with me. Tell her that I have plans to get her a series of plastic bags before long!

Please call me or send me a note in advance concerning your next trip to the United States. I shall be most happy to look forward to another visit with you and your family.

Sincerely,


Jeanne L. Noble
National President

P

P.S. As a matter of fact I saw some Rainbow Colored plastic bag!
I saw Governor the other night. We went to see Hampton's play *Tambores to Clay*.
Cute, it was! Whatever got into Hampton's head - a lot of gospel singing.
The songs were good - but the lines + plot + rubble!

Golden City Post

16 MAIN STREET

TELEGRAMS: "DRUMBEATS"

JOHANNESBURG

P.O. Box 2115

TELEPHONE Nos. 22-0771/4

October 31, 1956

Dear Peter,

I was preparing to go off on long leave when your letter came about Bill Worthy. And as you know I am now News Editor of GOLDEN CITY POST, Jim's new weekly tabloid, which takes some producing and keeps me lagging behind with my correspondence. I hope by now that Bill has told you about his troubles while he was in South Africa. They wouldn't grant him a visa; so we only got as far as chatting over the telephone when he landed at the airport and he was whisked away to Pretoria before I was able to meet him in person. They held him there until the next plane arrived to take him to Rhodesia, from where he saw his last way out of the country. The cable advising me of his coming from the Belgian Congo reached me 20 minutes after he'd arrived. Which made things even worse.

I don't suppose you know that I had a bad nervous breakdown eight weeks after we started POST last year. So this time I am taking no chances. I am on six months holiday as from the beginning of October. I am combining this holiday with preparing a manuscript for Knopf's, in the States, which they had asked me to do nearly two years ago. I have written to them to find out if their plans still stand and hope they'll accept the manuscript. Pity you are so far away to help me prepare the damn thing. It's a sort of an autobiography. All the same I'll look forward to your telling me what makes a selling autobiography. Remember I am a novice in this book writing game, but quite keen to adopt myself to its technique from now on. I like working for Jim, as you know, but I feel it's time I started thinking in terms of my future independence. While at that, I may say here that if any overseas paper wants anything from the Union and the Rhodesias, I am on tap for the next five months or longer, if the experiment succeeds.

In case you've not already heard of it our dear friend and colleague, Herbert Dhlomo, died of heart failure last Tuesday. He was buried on Sunday, October 28. I was out of town when it happened, so I was unable to attend the funeral. So should you wish to contact the family, R.R.R. Dhlomo's address is C/O "Ilanga," 138, Umnjeni Road, Durban.

Do write me a long letter and tell me what your U.S.-Caribbean journey plans are all about. I have stuck in the mud long enough; no wonder I am anxious about wider horizons.

Best of wishes to you and your family, in which Florence joins me.

Sincerely yours



Peter Abrahams, Esq.
37 Jessel Drive,
Loughton, Essex, England.

My home address is: 8566, Orlando West
Johannesburg.

4K AVION

AIR MAIL

AÉROGRAMME
LUGBRIEF
AIR LETTER



Mr Peter Abrahams,

Press Club

37 Jessel Drive

101 Water Lane

Loughton, Essex.

Kingston

ENGLAND.

Jamaica

B.W.I

G.P.-S.

AS ENIGIETS INGESLUIT WORD. SAL HIERDIE
BRIEF PER GEWONE POS GESTUUR WORD

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED. THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

NAAM EN ADRES VAN AFSENDER
SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

Henry Nxumalo

176, Main Street

Johannesburg, So. AFRICA.

TWEDE VOU - SECOND FOLD



Jacob Obaseki,
P. O. Box 64,
Benin-City.
Nigeria.

6th December, 1956.

Mr. Petēr Abrāhams,
c/o. The "Observer,"
22 Tudor Str.,
LONDON, E.C.4.

Dear Sir,

I was happy to get your address at last, from Drums of South Africa.

I first read of you from last year's July issue of the Drums and ever since, I have been chased up and down by your imagination.

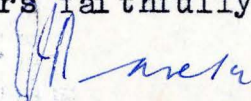
It is my life's ambition, to make friends with you, to be guided by you to reach my ambition, i.e. to be a great writer. At the moment, I work as a Cashier, under a local Sawmill, and there is hardly sufficient time for me to study.

I wonder if you could help me, and make available to me your great knowledge.

Your early reply would be appreciated.

I am,

Yours faithfully,



24th January, 1961.

The General Editor,
Oxford University Press,
Amen House,
Warwick Square,
London E.C.4,
ENGLAND.

Dear Sir,

Under separate cover I am today sending you a manuscript by Mr. Mortimer Bartholomew Burgess. From the biographical note attached to the manuscript you will see that Mr. Burgess is not a young man; you will also see that he is a man learned in Theology.

Mr. Burgess came to me sometime toward the middle of last year and asked me whether I, as someone who has published several books, could help to bring his manuscript to the attention of a publisher. Later, he expressed his strong desire that the Oxford University Press be approached.

As you may know I am a simple novelist and theology is far out of my reach, so I am in no position to express any view on Mr. Burgess' manuscript. I do feel however, that it would be a wonderful gesture to a very fine and most intellectually stimulating old gentleman if you would be good enough to read his manuscript and let him have your reaction to it.

Yours sincerely,


PETER ABRAHAMS.

6th March, 1962.

Mr. Charles H. Perkins,
Messrs Sinclair & Perkins,
Solicitors,
55A. Duke Street,
Kingston.

Dear Sir,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your cheque in the sum of Eleven Pounds, Sixteen Shillings, and Threepence (£11. 16. 3.), in settlement of my case against Peter Cooper, and to thank you for both the cheque and the extremely competent and helpful manner in which you handled the affair.

Yours sincerely,

PA

Peter Abrahams

PA/mpb

SINCLAIR & PERKINS
SOLICITORS

WALTER FORBES SINCLAIR
CHAS. H. GRAHAM PERKINS
TELEPHONES 4258 & 4278

55a Duke Street,
Kingston,
Jamaica, W.I.

1st March, 1962.

Mr. Peter Abrahams,
164, Harbour Street,
Kingston.

Dear Sir,

Re: You vs Peter Cooper

We have today received the proceeds of the Judgment awarded herein and we have much pleasure in forwarding our cheque in the sum of £11. 16. 3 in settlement.

Please be good enough to acknowledge receipt in due course.

Yours faithfully,

SINCLAIR & PERKINS,

per: Chas H Graham Per Lm

CHGP/jm

SINCLAIR & PERKINS
SOLICITORS

WALTER FORBES SINCLAIR
CHAS. H. GRAHAM PERKINS
TELEPHONES 4258 & 4278

55a Duke Street,
Kingston,
Jamaica, W.I.

27th September, 1961.

Mr. Peter Abrahams,
164 Harbour Street,
Kingston.

Dear Sir,

Re: Your case vs Peter Cooper

Please be advised that we have commenced proceedings on your behalf against Mr. Peter Cooper in the R.M. Court Kingston, Civil Division to recover damages for negligence arising out of an accident on the 11th of August 1961.

The matter has been set down for the Return Day of the 21st November, on which day a date for trial will be fixed. We will advise you accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

SINCLAIR & PERKINS,

per:

Chas H Graham Perkins

CHGP/jm/

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

xx 4358

24th January, 1962

Mr. Charles H. Graham Perkins,
Messrs Sinclair & Perkins,
Solicitors,
55A Duke Street,
Kingston.

Dear Mr. Perkins,

Following on the case you have conducted for me on behalf of my wife, I am now informing you of the following facts:

- 1) On the evening of January 23rd, 1962 a constable George Cochran, No. 2181 served two summonses on her at our residence in Red Hills 1, charging her with careless driving, and the other with not renewing her Driver's Licence.
- 2) On the morning of January 24th, 1962, a police Constable - Jennings of the Half-Way-Tree station - No. 746, called on my wife to inspect her driving licence. I asked him to show me his authority and he showed me a minute of which I made a copy in his presence. Following is a reproduction of the minute:

Traffic Investigation Branch,
Central Police Station,
19/12/61

Sub Officer in charge, Traffic,

Kindly cause the police in the area concerned to contact Daphne Abrahams of Red Hills and inspect her driver's licence. Particulars should be noted and forwarded (A) say if same was valid on the 11th August, 1961. Licence number 81403 was noted by the constable who visited the scene of an accident involving Abrahams on 11/8/61. But a check at the tax office disclosed that licence No. 81403 was issued to one Lorrimer. Expedite please.

From the minute you will note that the constable who laid the charge of careless driving against my wife did not even make an accurate note of her Licence number, and it seems to me that if he is as unreliable on this, small but important point he might well be as unreliable on other points. Licence No. 81403 is not my wife's number, the number of her licence which she showed to constable Jennings is, 81405.

You may also recall that when I spoke to you concerning my wife's case against Peter Cooper I informed you that I saw the constable concerned less than an hour after the accident, and asked him in the presence of my wife why he had seemed reluctant to come over to investigate the accident until she crossed the street to call him over. He told me then that he himself had not really seen the accident.

On the charge of not having renewed her driver's licence, my wife was definitely at fault. The date the renewal of licence was due was, I think, the 9th August, 1961. The accident occurred on the 11th August, 1961, and so two (2) days had elapsed. This was no more than an oversight on her part, but by law she was at fault.

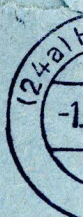
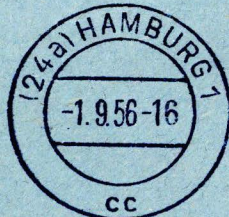
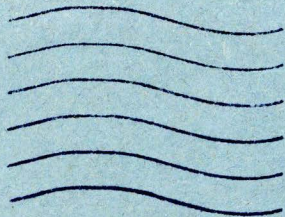
Both summonses are returnable on Monday 5th February, 1962, at 9:30 a.m. at 9 South Camp Road. Since her first case is not yet settled, you would know best what advice to give, and what action to take. In any event I should be grateful if you would see her through this second aspect of the case, because I am sure she cannot cope on her own.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Abrahams

PA/mph

BLON FIVE IN



Mr. Peter Abrahams

37, Jessel Drive

LOUGHTON /Essex

=====

England

Oct 16, 1963.

Dear Miss Pinto,

When my daughter Anne came home from school this afternoon I noticed that something was wrong and after a fair amount of pressure from her mother and myself she confessed that her back had been hurt during gym at school. It transpires that her gym mistress used her as the model to demonstrate a new way of doing the somersault and in the process the mistress pushed her head over heels in such a way that she fell heavily on her back.

I know I do not have to tell you of the danger of children sustaining permanent injury to their backs through such accidental fall. Indeed, as someone who has had some teaching experience I still remember an instance of a boy being turned into a virtual cripple for life as the result of such an accident that I personally witnessed.

I am sure you will appreciate my concern and although I have no desire to make any sort of issue out of this incident I do feel it is the sort of thing that should be brought to your notice. I would also appreciate it if Anne could be excused from gym till her back is better - and you would know best what to say to the gym mistress.

Yours sincerely

DISSENT

A QUARTERLY OF SOCIALIST OPINION 509 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

VA 6-0890

July 24, 1956

Dear Peter Abrahams:

I am happy to finally be able to send you a copy of our special issue on Africa including your interview.

I would be very pleased to know what you think of the issue and also to receive any ideas you may have about circulating the magazine. As I said before we are always ready to put names on our complimentary list should you send them to us.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

Stanley Plastrik

Stanley Plastrik

encl.

8th June, 1962.

Mr. Prendergast,
Skidde Limited,
Harbour Street,
Kingston.

Dear Mr. Prendergast,

Your chef-master was a great
success as an anniversary present.

Would you kindly let me have the
liquidiser to go with it by bearer
and oblige

Yours sincerely,

Peter Abrahams.

16, Rouděšská

Praha 2 - Vinohrady

October 3rd, 1960.

Dear Peter Abrahams,

Congratulations on and
a humble thank you for your Jamaica. I have
received it from Odel Fleming when he was in
Prague this September - and I love every word
every full stop of it. I have read it three times
already, once to get the picture of the country I
love most after my own, the second time to
enjoy you, and now I have just finished
absorbing the details, the people, the landscape.
You certainly know yourself that you wrote a
wonderful book - but I must tell you that it
gave me many happy hours of enchantment
and that it helped a lot to understand better
the things Odel Fleming has been writing me
about for 15 years, and what he told me
during his short visit.

Very sincerely yours,

Helene Pichrova

62, Woodgrange Ave.,
North Finchley,
London N.12.,
England.

6th Oct. 1960

My Dear Peter:

This morning's mail brought a letter from a very special girl friend of mine in Prague. It contained something for you, which I am enclosing.

Helena Pstrossová is an engineer and a truly wonderful girl. Met her in 1945 while in Czechoslovakia; when she helped me a great deal. I had an unforgettable three days in Czechoslovakia in September - enjoyed every moment of my stay; thanks to her.

I hope all goes well with you and yours. Saw some news about "Forum on Federation" in Newday and liked it.

Please give my love to all your end.

Looking forward to seeing you November.

With best wishes

Sincerely yrs.

Odal.