



CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION

NORGEBY HOUSE, 83 BAKER STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telephone: WELbeck 4420

Telex: 3287 & 3288

Telegrams: Centroform London

Your reference.....

22nd April, 1958.

Our reference..... FM.1560/35

Dear Peter Abrahams,

I am awfully sorry that I was unable to meet you and your wife again after the help you gave me in organising our television film on Jamaica. I had looked forward to seeing you again but my stay was very brief and, little by little, the film presented quite a few organisational problems which seemed to take all my time to solve.

Anyway, the film is now completed and was sent to America last weekend for showing. We interviewed an interesting cross-section of people and amongst them Mr. Manley's interview was outstanding. Taking all the factors of hurry and limited preparation into consideration, I don't think the final result is unfair to Jamaica. Incidentally, the person we used as interviewer in the end was Errol Hill, whom you may know as Drama Instructor at U.C.W.I.

I would very much like to have sat and talked about books and writing with you but I'm afraid it didn't work out that way and all I can do now is look forward to returning to Jamaica some other time.

With very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

John Ingram

Peter Abrahams, Esq.,
Editor,
"Public Opinion",
2 Torrington Road,
Kingston, Jamaica.

John Ingram
Films Division.

24th April, 1962.

Mr. Francis Issa,
Motor Sales & Service Co.,
159 Harbour Street,
Kingston.

Enclosed please find the bill
for putting on the new gear for me.
I am sending this to you because
you did say that this was a matter
for which you thought the factory
should be responsible as I had gear
trouble almost from the time I got
the car.

Yours sincerely,

PA/ul.

Peter Abrahams.

1 Hans Cres.
London S.W.1.
Oct-20, 1959.

Dear Peter,

Compliments. I sincerely hope that you and your family are keeping fine. As for me, well I am pretty O.K. for now.

I had a fairly good voyage over, landing at Liverpool on Sunday Oct. 4, and completed the journey to London by train. The following day I called at the Colonial Office and a number of other places. Then on Tues. Oct. 6, we registered at the University and as you can well imagine, I have been on the "go" since then rushing madly from one thing to the other.

We were fortunate in that we caught up with the summer - It was very nice but now the winter is on and what an experience?

How is Red Hills? Just as usual I suppose. What of your swimming pool? Guess its progressing timely. Its a very good project indeed.

As Frank still in fa. I have mislaid his home address and so havnt been able to telephone his wife as promised. However, I am hoping to recover same as I would certainly like to get in touch with them.

Well, kindly give my regards to you home folk.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely
Jackie,

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AEROGRAMME

LONDON S.W.1.
9 45 AM
21 OCT
1959
B



Mr Peter Abrahams
"Cooyaba"
Red Hills P.O.
St Andrew
Jamaica W.I.

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address: Mr Jackson
1 Hans Crescent
London S.W.1.

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

doussain, le 23 janvier 18



Cher Monsieur Abraham,

Après la lecture
de votre livre, il m'est impos-
sible de ne pas vous écrire ces
quelques lignes pour vous dire
combien il m'a ému et vos
félicités d'avoir écrit ces choses.
Il faut qu'elles soient dites
et redites.

Ce problème de
relation humaine qu'il soit
racial ou social m'a toujours
profondément peiné et révolté.
Il y a trop de vilaines choses

2 /
dans le monde!! Mais...
Croyez-moi, il y en a parfois
de merveilleux aussi! C'est ce
qui nous permet d'espérer qu'un
jour les hommes comprendront
que Dieu nous a créés par amour
et pour l'amour. Qu'ils
comprendront que la "Paix"
nous ne la trouverons pas
tant qu'il y aura de la
souffrance sur terre, ce qui veut
dire que nous ne la trouverons
qu'en Dieu.

Nous sommes chrétiens
mon mari, moi et nos 3 enfants
(6, 13 et 15 ans) et faisons partie
d'un jeune mouvement catholique.
Ils sont parmi certains de leur



meunier un réel désir de
vivre intensément leur foi!
d'eux mais eux et leurs coeurs
sont ouverts à tous. Nous
essayons d'être fidèle au
Christ partout et toujours.
C'est ce qui nous permet
d'espérer !!!

Je suis déchiré en
pensant à tous ceux qui se
disent chrétiens et que le Christ
n'habite pas! lui font tout
en dédaignant les cruels problè-
mes qui les entourent! Peut-on
les appeler "Chrétiens"?

Que puis-je pour vous

4

et les vôtres ? Si vous pensez
que ma collaboration pour
l'une ou l'autre chose puisse
vous aider, dites le moi. Mais
l'habitude malheureusement
fait l'Afrique et je suis au
lit depuis près de 6 mois. Les
médecins qui me soignent
pensent que d'ici quelque
temps je pourrai recommencer
une vie à peu près normale,
avec beaucoup de ménagement.

Il y a formé le
moment ici à Louvain 2
ménages Africains (Congo Belge).
Ils sont ici depuis quelque
mois et 3 autres ménages
d'émigrés ont sans peu des maris



désirant faire des études
universitaires. Sois que ma
santé me le permettra
j'espère leur rendre visite et
les recevoir autant que
possible a notre table. J'espère
par la les aider a s'adapter
a l'Europe. Que pensez-vous
que je puisse faire pour eux?

Vous êtes mieux placé que
moi pour connaître leurs aspirations,
leurs besoins, leurs désirs.

Cher Monsieur Abraham,
nous devons espérer! Dieu nous
aime tous du même amour.

Il ne nous abandonnera
pas.

Si un jour vous
passez par Louvain notre
maison vous est ouverte.

Voilà ma
amicale sympathie.

Y. Jadot.

P.S. Excusez mon écart. Je suis
au lit.

M^{me} P. Jadot
36, rue Dagobert.
Louvain.

P&O

ORIENT
LINES

S.S. Orsova

26th Nov. 1962,

Dear Mr. A. Abrams,

I have heard a lot about you and
have read your books in Cape Town where
I was at school.

I am writing some articles on
life in South Africa but need your help.
I would appreciate your help in giving
me some advice on the few articles
I have tried to write.

Thanking you,

Yours very humbly,
Henry Jacobs.

THE EARLY DAYS OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Portuguese were the first people to discover the seaway route to the east. Vasco da Gama discovered the sea route in the year 1497. The Portuguese avoided the Cape because one of their captains, Francisco D'Almeida was killed by the Hottentots ~~at the Cape~~ ^{there.}

The Hottentots were the most advanced tribe whom the white discoverers met at the Cape. They were about 5ft in height, Brownish in colour, ~~and~~ small tufts of hair, ~~and~~ very thick set ~~and~~ ^{with} huge seats. They were a pastoral tribe ~~having~~ ^{herds} of cattle and sheep. They moved from place to place in search of good pastures for their ~~heads~~ ^{herds} of cattle & sheep.

The Portuguese stopped on the west coast and East coast of Africa on their way to India. The places where they stopped were the two colonies which they have still in their possession, ~~Angola~~, W. Africa and Mozambique, East Africa.

The only alternative for the Dutch was to stop at the Cape to prevent war between Portugal & Holland. The first Dutchman to discover the sea route to India was ~~Johan van~~ ^{Toussain de Hartman} in 1648. In 1648 a boat, the ~~Havard~~ ^{Havard}, was wrecked in Table Bay. The survivors drew up a referendum to the Dutch Indian Company to start a settlement at the Cape.

In April 1652 Dec. 1651? Jan van Riebeeck left Amsterdam with six boats and a crew of 160 men. On the 4th April 1652? they arrived in Table Bay. Jan van Riebeeck was given definite instructions: ~~1)~~ (1) to build a fort for protection (2) to keep and to serve as a hospital for the sick sailors, (3) To barter cattle & sheep with the Hottentots and keep on friendly terms with them, (4) To ~~provide~~ ^{provide} the groves a few vegetables and gather fruits to supply the passing ships.

The Dutch did not come to stay permanently

out circumstances forced them to expand later and
to make it their permanent home as they ~~claim~~
claim it to be ^{guilt} today. The Dutch ruled the
cape for 140 yrs unhindered by other nations, the
which did not expand very much, and most of them
took the Hottentot women to be their wives. That is
mostly where the large coloured population in the
cape comes from. ~~mostly~~ and the final time
when the British took over the cape for the second time
in 1803, because of the Napoleonic wars, the Dutch slowly
moved away from the cape. They had several reasons
~~why they did not want~~ ^{for not wanting} to be under ~~the~~ British rule
As they trekked away from the cape they came
into contact with the Bantu tribes in the Eastern
Province between the Fish and the Kei rivers.
The Bantu owned herds of cattle because of the ideal
conditions for cattle in the Eastern Province. When they
came into contact with the Dutch there followed bloody
wars ~~between the Black & Black~~ ^{between the Black & Black}
~~for the next 30 years~~ ^{for the next 30 years} between Black and white
the next 30 years, that
After ~~losing~~ ^{losing} several lives in these battles the
Dutch ~~turned out to be the victors~~ ^{were victorious}. They ~~would~~ ^{were prepared}
~~rather to be killed~~ ^{rather} than turn back to the Cape Colony
under British rule. This is exactly the same today.
They would rather be slain before they would
change their racial policy. They believe that they
are God's people and ~~would~~ ^{will} always be victorious,
but sad to say, several of them are doubting
this with the change of wind taking place in
Africa sad to say??
The Dutch finally settled in the Orange Free State
and the Transvaal which became Dutch Republics.
They say even today that that was their home

into which God led them out of Egypt. (The Cape under the British Rule was Egypt for the Dutch).

With the discovery of diamonds the British tried to claim Kimberley and subsequently there followed many clashes between British + Dutch. Afterwards gold was discovered and the same thing happened. The final blow was the Anglo-Boer war, where several Dutch were starved to death in concentration camps. To remind their descendants of these things several poems ~~have been~~ ^{were} written in Afrikaans and ~~some~~ students have to study them for their Senior Examination. Several and also studied at Universities.

On ~~1910~~, the 31st May 1910 the Union of South Africa was formed by the four provinces (two Dutch + two British) uniting and forming one - Union of South Africa. The Union of South Africa was belonged to the Commonwealth but was self-governed.

On the 31st May, 1961 South Africa became a Republic. It was only decided by 2 million whites because the vote of the black people was taken away in 1939 and the non-white peoples ^{lost theirs} in 1952.

South Africa Today.

The Cape South Africa has been ruled by the white people ever since the Dutch set foot on the shores of ^{Table Bay - Cape Town}. It is ~~below~~ ^{their} ~~belief~~ ^{belief} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~be~~ ^{not} ~~under~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{rule} ~~of~~ ^{that} a non-white or black person should never be in a higher position than any white man, even a poor white.

They have even gone so far as to ~~misuse~~ ^{say and} the bible, in trying ^{to} confirm what they ^{believe} ~~and say~~. They use the instance ^{in which} ~~where~~ Noah said unto his son that he would serve his brother because of

what he did unto His father. When they were challenged with a text by a godly man of God where it says in Corinthians, "For there are neither Jew nor Greek nor gentile, but all one in Christ," they did not know what to answer. They ~~do not~~ believe that any black person ~~would~~ ^{will} go to heaven. Heaven, a Dutch minister said, is only for whites. A minister had a dream once in which he was taken into heaven. "Yes," said his friend, "and who did you see?" "Oh," said the minister, "I saw Mr X, Mr A. etc etc." "Did you see any black people?" "No," said the minister, "I did not go the kitchen".

Since the Nationalists came into power in 1948 things have become worse + worse until the explosion ^{is sure to} ~~would~~ take place some day. These are some reasons:

1. The Immorality law: ~~by which~~ ^{by} No non-white ^{can} ~~can~~ marry a white S. A.

2. The Job Reservation: No non-white ^{can} ~~can~~ be employed as an apprentice in several jobs and none could be employed as secretaries.

3. The University Bill: No non-white ^{can} ~~can~~ go to the three universities that were open to all races. It is not good for a non-white to be educated.

4. The Group Areas: No non-white person can live in town or near ^{the} town or at the sea. They must be far away so that the whites ^{can} ~~would~~ have all the comfort and best and not see the ugly dirty faces of black people.

5. The Siren law: A siren goes off at 10 p.m. every night and every black man found in any town is thrown into a van and taken to jail.

In some towns where black and non-white people live ^{miles} outside the town, a curfew is at 8 pm for Blacks and at 10 pm for non-white. God forbid that I may see the day when the tide ~~is going to~~ turn in South Africa. It ~~would~~ ^{will} be 100 times worse than the Congo. People in Europe could not believe that the Africans could be so brutal ^{as they were} when the Congo gained its independence. I said that ~~that~~ ^{that} is nothing compared to what is going to take place in S.A.

It is sad to say but the outside world's eyes have been blinded or they ~~are blind and~~ would do not ^{want} ~~like~~ to see the things that are going on in several countries of Africa, and when at last they are meted with their own rod, the outside world says to ~~themselves~~ ^{itself} that ~~they~~ ^{it} did not know that ~~there~~ ^{there} were still cannibals in Africa.

There was my grievance when I heard from several Africans who were studying overseas that the missionaries (the hypocrites), have given the outside a very wrong ~~poor~~ picture about Africa. The reason why some of them do this is with the thought that several congregations which they address ~~would~~ ^{will} feel sorry for the poor Africans and give thousands of pounds so that the ~~poor~~ wretched missionary can have a few luxuries in Africa.

There are many missionaries in S.A. ~~that~~ ^{who} could never have lived so well ~~and good~~ if they had to stay in Europe and work for a living. I believe firmly that they have to go too some day with all the white slave drivers.

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top of page 5 says "God forbid
that I may see ----"

in South Africa.

Way God hasten that DAY, when the outside world
~~would~~^{will} see the second Congo, Amen.

LET THE DAY PERISH WHEN I WAS
BORN

I was one of a family of three children. His father was a white S.A and his mother a very attractive and intelligent non-white girl who worked as a private secretary in one of the big stores in Cape Town.

One day as I was sitting in Trafalgar Park I heard somebody crying nearby. I went over to another bench and saw somebody crying, and praying whilst he was crying I heard him say these words: "Why was I borne, oh why?" Let the day perish when I was borne.

I embraced him and asked him why he said these words. At first he was very reluctant ^{to say anything} but afterwards he decided to tell me his very sad story. As he was telling me his story tears filled my eyes because I have also experienced something of it.

He told me that what his name was, who his father + mother ~~were~~^{were}, and that he had a sister ^{TURN TO END} and a brother older than himself ^{still} at home.

He was sent ^t to a coloured school because he was a little sun tanned, ^{while} his sisters ^{and brother} went to a white school.

They went to a white swimming pool, a white theatre, ~~site~~ and several other white places whilst he had to go to non-white places. His own sister and brother did not have

time for him. They had more time for their white friends and were even afraid to go with him to town because their friends might see that they ~~have~~ ^{had} a coloured brother.

John's life was very miserable then and he blamed God for everything. He said that he would never believe in God and that he wanted to die ^{rather} than to live. He said that for him who was only 12 yrs old, to die would be far better.

I tried my best to encourage him and say that God would help him and that one day we ^{would} ~~shall~~ be all able and that there would be no apartheid in heaven and that he might have a higher and better position than several white boys + girls.

Before John left I prayed with him that God would help as no other person could help.

The next day when I opened the newspaper, what should I see? ~~that~~ John had committed suicide by hanging himself in his bathroom. ~~My~~ I feel down on my knees and prayed that God would forgive John for what he did. I knew that my heavenly **F**ather knew everything.

Before he went with his sister + brother to a white school, but after somebody's mother went to the principal and said that she was going to withdraw her children from the school if John, whose mother was coloured, was allowed to remain in school.

The principal, being scared that the Education Authorities might come to know about the incidents, wrote to John's mother and asked her to take John from the school.

John's mother, nor ^{wishing} to cause any further trouble for the other two children, took John out of the school and sent him to a coloured school.

Please fit last paragraph in where + is, + words then to the end.

NAUGHT FOR YOUR COMFORT.

William was born in a small place 30 miles away from Cape Town. 160 years ago. The name of the place was Strand, a little fishing village situated on a beautiful bay called False Bay.

The people of this small village were fishermen and they lived near the sea. In the early hours of the morning it was very easy for the skipper to call his crew because they lived near the sea and ~~near~~ not far from one another.

They were all religious and very soon built a church not far from the sea which is today the centre of the town. The minister, who loved the children of the fishermen, started a small school for them. They were the happiest folk in the whole world. ~~No colour hatred or any~~

As the fisherfolk grew the town grew. Several white people moved into the town. They lived amongst the coloured folk, ate with them and also slept with ^{??} them. Several married the coloured girls; their children went to the same school & worshipped god in the same church.

One day then suddenly one day the white people walked out of the church. They also moved out from the area where they lived. They had suddenly discovered overnight that God was only the white man's God and that it was not the will of God that they should eat, sleep and live together.

The white man had taken by some dirty means the properties which belonged to these fishing humble fishermen. A white council was set up in the town.

The whites started worshipping in a different place. Their children went to white schools. They built houses in an area where none of these fishermen could build. Most of the land belonged to the fisherfolk, but today they have nothing.

One day a letter was sent ^{saying} that they could not teach their children in the school in town. The poor folk were pushed 2 miles out of town and there they started building a new school. Ten years later that ^{area} was declared white and they had to move again, another 1 mile farther out of town.

Three years ago when the Group Areas Law came into force these poor folk were moved to another part of the town where I hope they ~~would~~ ^{will} be left in peace. Their church, which is one of the oldest buildings in town, was demolished a few years ago. For 3 years these folk had no place of worship. They used two classrooms of a school to worship in.

Permission ~~was~~ ^{was} not ~~to~~ granted to build a church as the Group Areas ~~was~~ ^{were} not yet fixed. Up to 1 year ago they ~~had~~ ^{had} not built a church yet. Several of their members have been lost by this, several others have lost touch with God and several others ~~do~~ ^{do} not believe in God anymore.

The beach where their children enjoyed the sunny summer ~~has~~ ^{has} been taken away from them. None of them are allowed to swim or bathe in a certain area of 3 miles which is only for whites. The poor souls have to go on the other side of town where the sea is not very ideal for swimming and the surroundings not attractive.

The fisherfolk wanted some form of recreation, so

they started building a ~~bad beautiful~~ ^{beautiful} playing field which took several years before it was complete. Now it is no more theirs. It belongs to the whites. These poor people have to go 2 miles out of town to enjoy a game of rugby or cricket. The library is closed to the children and adults who are not white. Jobs are only for whites so that these children of the coloured folk are forced to become fishermen or do ~~the~~ manual work for the white master.

UWI Libraries

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KINGSTON, JAMAICA.
WEST INDIES.

2/20

7th October, 1959

Mr. Peter Abrahams
164, Harbour Street
KINGSTON.

Dear Sir:-

We have had no response to our letter of the 29th
September, regarding your account of £ 2. 6. 6
which dates back to May.

We now ask you to be kind enough to let us have
your cheque in settlement.

Yours very truly,

JOHN CROOK LTD.

Per:

Donald Gray
DONALD GRAY
COLLECTIONS DEPT.

P.S. If you have already forwarded your cheque, please
disregard this request.

DG/er

4th June 1959.

John Crook Ltd.,
5-13 Hanover St.,
Kingston.


Attn: Mr. Hendriks

Dear Sirs:

I enclose herewith my cheque
No. 14/E64691 for the sum of £250.0.0.
(Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds) on Hire
Purchase on Austin A-40 Car.

I shall come in on Monday
morning to arrange with you for payment
of the balance.

Yours faithfully,



PETER ABRAHAMS.

PA:ehk

JOHN CROOK, LTD.

P.O. BOX NO. 21

TELEPHONE 5164

CABLE ADDRESS

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FIRESTONE TYRES & ACCESSORIES

5-13 HANOVER ST.

KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

WEST INDIES

Ref. H.P. S/11.

29th May, 1959.

Peter Abrahams Esq.,
164 Harbour Street,
Kingston.

Dear Sir:

Re: Hire-Purchase Austin A40 Car.

Just a reminder that the outstanding balance of £392- falls
due for payment on the 4th of June.

250

142

Yours very truly,

JOHN CROOK LTD.

Per:

E.S. Hendriks
E.S. HENDRIKS.

ESH:dg.

37 Messel Drive,
Loughton, Essex.
England.

August 30, 1955.

Dear Mrs. Johnson,

Receiving your letter was a wonderfully rewarding experience for which I am very grateful indeed. And thank you so much for recalling so vividly for me a glimpse of the story of the writers of colour of twenty years back. I am, as you may know, in touch with Langston and I have tried to keep pace with later developments. And I have, of course, met Dr. Du Bois on his visits to this country. I had a note from Carl Van Vechten recently, and I look forward to meeting all these friends very shortly now. Yes, please do let me have a copy of your rehearsal when it is ready.

I shall be in New York for a few hours on September 3rd when I pass through on my way to the West Indies. On the way back I shall break my journey in the U.S. and be there for a month, from about November 20th to December 20th. I have a date to speak at Fisk on December 7th and I hope to go to Washington from there. I look forward to the pleasure of meeting you and all other friends then.

You ask of my dear mother. On August 15th this year I received news from my sister that she had died of a heart attack on August 13th. It was a terrible blow for she was dear to my heart, very dear. She was 64. I had seen her just over a year before and she had seemed so very well and happy.

37 Bessal Drive,
Loughborough, Leicestershire,
England.

August 30, 1955.

Dear Mrs. Johnson,

Receiving your letter was a wonderfully rewarding experience for which I am very grateful indeed. And thank you so much for reading so vividly for me the essence of the story of the writers of colour of twenty years back. I know you may know, in touch with Langston and I have tried to keep pace with later developments. And I have, of course, met Dr. Du Bois on his visits to this country. I had a note from Carl Van Vechten recently, and I look forward to meeting all these friends very shortly now. Yes, please do let me have a copy of your letter when it is ready.

I leave here this coming Friday so if there is any message you wish to let me have it would reach me if you wrote to me at Knopf in N.Y.

I look forward to meeting you and thanking you for the joy and hope your poetry gave me as a poor boy living in doubt and misery long ago.

Very sincerely yours,

Peter Abrahams

Your ask of my dear sister that she had died of a heart attack on August 15th. It was a terrible blow for she was dear to my heart, very dear. She was 64. I had seen her just over a year before and she had seemed so very well and happy.

Georgia Douglas Johnson

Halfway House

1461 S Street, N. W.

Washington, D. C.
August 9, 1955

Dear Mr. Abrams:

I read with pleasure and great interest your book TELL FREEDOM. Rayford Logan, Professor at Howard University has reviewed it commendably.

Tell me more about your mother and sister - You interest me and they do.

Just talked with Madame Derissa, wife of our Ambassador from Ethiopia. Have suggested that she get your book at once. Also, spoke with Prof. Leo Hansberry, a Prof. at Howard University who is expert on African Affairs.

You would be interested in knowing these men, as well as Dr. Franklin Frazier who has traveled extensively over Africa and has written of it. Gene Toomer whom you quote, began his Literary Route at my home at the then so called Literary Salon which was and remains possibly the only assemblage of the kind in Washington. All the people you have read of came here on Saturday evenings remaining sometimes until six a.m., just talking, talking, talking at top pitch.

Langston was then making the fires for Carter Woodson (Historian^{an} now dead). Countee Cullen the scintillating scholar always came here when away from New York. Have just made an outline of the literary lights of that period whose names you know. Will be glad to send you a copy of this rehearsal as soon as available.

We have rich material and promising writers who, many of them only need the initiative to set down wonders of the present historical and literary day on paper.

Jean Toomer has wandered away from the colored world through two white marriages but is now back again with the writers of color. Really, I hate to die leaving the story of the writers of twenty years back untold. I knew them, each of them, as no one could have known them all.

When are you coming to Washington and New York. We will all be happy to see you.

You should know Kamala Markandaya - the author of NECTAR IN A SEIVE. I'm hopint that she will be able to come here soon.

And do you know, Cedric Dover, author of HALF*Cast. He mentions me in that. Dr. DuBoise's wife is writing the story of his life now. You must know them both in New York. Also, Harold Jackman, friend of VanVechten, author of Nigger Heaven. Also, Bruce Nugent, one of the editors of FIRE - associated with Thurman and Eric Waldround.

I would like to be able to tell you of all the ^{these} people before the tale becomes a legend. I add your name as a friend found at the end of a perfect day.

I didn't intend to write such a long letter but decided to give you a short resume of some of the writers in America.

Very sincerely,

Georgia D. Johnson
Georgia Douglas Johnson

LESLIE S. A. JONES

54 PENNARD RD.
LONDON, W12 8DS.
ENGLAND.

24.4.1984

(TELE (0) 743 4982)

Dear Peter Abrahams,

You may not remember me, but I was the young English fellow who used to sit next to you at many sessions of the Movement for Colonial Freedom when you had first come to England. After the war I left the Air Ministry and the Labour Party in Birmingham where I retained my interests in Colonial Freedom and racial harmony. A shop at the place I lived was an avid reader of yours and was glad to find that I had known you. I came down to London to take a post graduate course in 1954 and worked in Special Schools for deaf children until I retired in 1979 and served as a Labour Councillor on Hammersmith Council from 1959-78 and took part in the march from Liverpool to London in 1981. I wrote a book on the subject which has sold 1000 copies.

Cope

6000 copies

of pamphlets a Hy
socialist literature each summary of
2-4:30 p.m. (Edgware Rd. Subway), they include:

- (1) "Three Naval Voyages" by F.A. Ridley.
 - (2) "Hyde Park and Free Speech" by myself.
 - (3) "Hunger Marches and Hyde Park" by Bob Edwards, M.P.
 - (4) "William Morris and Hyde Park" by myself.
- and we have ready for publication one called
"Bombs in Hyde Park" by Lord Fenner Brockway, M.P.,
and have future plans for other series of
such pamphlets dealing with subjects in
English history and possibly historical studies
of coloured peoples.

I now have all your books in their
original dust covers except for
"Song of the City" J. Crispin, 1945 for
which I am still searching. Have only
just got your book "Jamaica" at a London
Book Fair which gives an address which
I hope will reach you. I called on
C. H. R. James the other day who has been
living in London again for some time.
I also have all the books of George Padmore,
Fenner Brockway and all his pamphlets and a
host of other good comrades of the old
days including George Orwell and Jack
I was in the "..."
year or two
do let me



March 6th, 1959

Mr. Lyle Joyce
619 Hudson Street
New York 14
NEW YORK

Dear Lyle:

At long last it looks as though we are going to be able to renew old acquaintance - that is if you are going to be in New York from about the 25th of March. I am coming up on the 22nd, to spend a few days in Washington where I am taking part in Holiday Magazine's Seminar on Africa and then I am flying up to New York to do a portrait of Harlem for Holiday's special issue on New York. I expect to be up there about the 25th or may be the 26th and to spend about a couple of weeks on my research.

I do not know yet where I am going to stay so I cannot tell you how to contact me. I shall be in touch with my Publishers and if you will check with Harold Strauss at Knopf he might be in a position to tell you where to locate me. I shall also be in touch with Langston Hughes whose name is in the book I think. But in any event if you don't locate me within a day or two of my arrival in New York I will come out looking for you.

Daphne and the kids send their love and I look forward to seeing you after what seems a lifetime. All the news when I see you.

Yours ever

PA

Peter Abrahams

PA/bid

c/o P. O. Box 22

ZOMBA, Nyasaland.

25th March 1957

Dear Mr Abrahams,

I am happy to have this opportunity of writing to you, and thus be able to talk to you again. I am now back in Central Africa, and of course, Nyasaland, our small country. Unfortunately it was impossible to see you again before leaving London and say goodbye. I had only a week to stay in London when I came to your very pleasant home. I have very happy memories of the short time I came to know you and your family in person. Like many other people in Africa, I knew about you even before seeing you, through your books. And to see you and shake hands with you and talk to you was a privilege which I had, but many others haven't had the chance to have.

So Henry Nxumalo has gone. Talking at your club one day in Soho, you remarked to me that Henry was a going man. It did not sound true then. But then you knew him well. I wonder what has become of the book for which he took a holiday to write?

Things in the Federation are not all right. There is much to be done in race relations. Here, further north, perhaps they are better than in the south. I mean Rhodesia. But only just. We were visited by the Colonial Secretary some while ago, but the result of his visit ~~has~~ ^{has} not come out yet. Usually, it is about

Constitutional changes.

Shortly after arriving in the country I met with some misfortune. I fell off a motor scooter and cut the right side of my face very badly. I stayed in hospital for one month. Except for very big scars, I am all right now. I wear a beard, though.

I am still working on my manuscript. It is such a hard job. A magazine in East Africa asked me to write them a serial, but I cannot do so without interrupting my present Ms. Meanwhile I have a job with the Information Office on the broadcasting side. Sort of Sub-Editor. I am looking forward to a time when I can have written my way to freedom like you, Mr Abrahams.

Say, how did the Negro Writers Conference go in Paris last Summer? I trust you will find time to drop me a few lines. Meanwhile I remain

Your ardent admirer & friend

Aubrey Kachingwe

My regards & respects to Mrs Abrahams and Family.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

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



Mr. Peter Abrahams,
120^A Constant Spring Rd.,
Constant Spring P.O.
JAMAICA,
Br. West Indies.

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:—

.....
.....
.....

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→ To open cut here

MAYFAIR 5462.

Savile Club,
69, Brook Street, W.1.

17th August 1952

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

I feel I must just tell you how very much I enjoyed your talk this evening. It couldn't have been more impressive. I say I enjoyed it but of course it was annihilating — I wish I could ~~be~~ be as calm and civilised as you about the things which we both hate.

Yours sincerely
Robert Kee

21st November, 1962.

Mr. Eric W. Kavanagh,
Secretary,
P.O. Box 400,
Kingston.

Dear Sir,

As you will realise by now your letter of November 12 crossed my cheque settling my account with you. The purpose of this note is simply to let you know that I do not appreciate the tone of your letter. It is officious and the type of thing one only writes to people who are difficult about paying their bills. If in the months to come you note a very marked decline in my business with Sinclair's you can blame the tone of your letter for it.

Yours etc.,



Peter Abrahams.

PA/ul.



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12th November, 1962.

Peter Abrahams Esq.,
Red Hills P.O..

Dear Sir,

We refer you to our letter of the 15th October, 1962, in connection with the outstanding debit balance of Six Pounds Seventeen Shillings & Eightpence (£6. 17. 8), on your account. We are surprised that you have not favoured us with a reply.

The above balance is over sixty (60) days old, and, as credit is extended on the basis of payment within thirty (30) days, we shall be obliged if you give this balance of Six Pounds Seventeen Shillings & Eightpence (£6. 17. 8), your kind and immediate attention.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,
SINCLAIR'S GARAGE LIMITED

Eric W. Kavanagh
ERIC W. KAVANAGH,
Secretary.

Raid

EWK:mj



VOLKSWAGEN

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27th November, 1962.

Mr. Peter Abrahams,
164-166 Harbour Street,
Kingston.

Dear Sir,

We thank you for your letter of the 21st instant. As you rightly suggested your cheque crossed with our request for payment. It is regrettable that our letter has offended you; but we would like to remind you that the greater portion of the amount of Six Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Eightpence (£6.17. 8), was over sixty (60) days old.

Yours faithfully,
SINCLAIR'S GARAGE LIMITED.

Eric W. Kavanagh
Eric W. Kavanagh,
Secretary.

EWK:pr

"Coyaba",
Red Hills P.O.
St. Andrew,
Jamaica.
West Indies.

PERSONAL

August 5, 1965.

President Jomo Kenyatta,
The President's Office,
Nairobi,
KENYA,
East Africa.

Dear Jomo,

This is just to greet you and to let you know that I plan to reach Nairobi on the morning of Tuesday August 17th. I look forward very much to seeing you and I hope you will be able to find the time.

My visit is planned for about six weeks during which time I want to visit Tanzania and Uganda but I want to spend the bulk of the time in Kenya because I think from a writing point of view my most interesting story would be to picture the contrast between the Kenya of my last visit in 1952 and Kenya today.

I leave for London on the 9th, will spend four days and will get in touch with the Kenya High Commission there to ensure my travel documents are in order, then out to Kenya. I will make contact with your office as soon as I have found a place to stay.

It will be good to see you after all these years.

Yours

Peter Abrahams

C A A E

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ADULT EDUCATION

President, SENATOR DONALD CAMERON — *Director, J. R. KIDD* — *Secretary, G. E. FLOWER*
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113 ST. GEORGE STREET
TORONTO 5 - CANADA
WA. 3-3519

March 27, 1961.

Mr. Peter Abrahams,
West Indian Economist,
164 - 166 Harbour Street,
KINGSTON, Jamaica

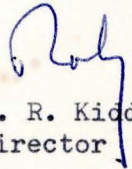
Dear Peter:

We are back in this northern land remembering with great pleasure the evening spent with you and your wife and Victor.

I am hoping before long that we can have an invitation for you to come here although I realize how difficult it may be for you to get away.

Meanwhile we will keep in touch in some fashion, ~~however.~~

Sincerely,


J. R. Kidd,
Director

JRK/fr

SIR ROBERT KIRKWOOD

TELEPHONE: 4 0 1 1
TELEGRAMS: DOOWKRIK
CABLES: DOOWKRIK, KINGSTON, JA.
CODES: BENTLEY'S SECOND PHRASE

P.O.Box 432,
2, KIRK AVENUE
KINGSTON, JAMAICA, W. I.

3rd April, 1962.

PERSONAL

Peter Abrahams Esq.,
c/o The West Indian Economist,
164 Harbour Street,
Kingston.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

My son, Francis, is shortly proceeding to Lagos, Nigeria, as part of his experience in Tate & Lyle. Francis will be a member of the Tate & Lyle sales organisation in Lagos, and will probably be there for a few years.

As Francis does not know anyone in Nigeria, I would be most grateful if you could give him introductions to friends in journalism or otherwise that you may have there, as this would be most helpful to him.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Robert Kirkwood

P. S. Many thanks for your letter of introduction to Mr. Louis Martin. He is a most charming man, and was kindness itself. I am sure that he will be most helpful to us.

26th June, 1962

Secretary,
Organising Committee,
K.S.A.C.,
Roads and Works Office,
Kingston 10.

Dear Sir,

It is with regret that I must decline your invitation in connection with the Athletic Championship at Maxfield Park on Saturday the 30th June, 1962.

My wife has just been recovering from illness and I have to stay as close as possible to her now.

Please accept my apology, and I hope ^{for} the Athletic Championship will be a success.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Abrahams.

K.S.A.C.

Roads and Works Office,
Half Way Tree,
Kingston 10.

11th June, 1962.

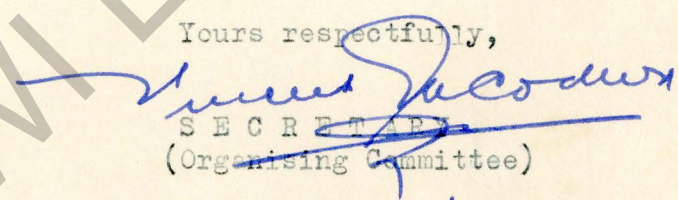
Dear Mr. Abrahams,

The staff of the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation proposes to hold an Athletic Championship between the various departments at their Sports Club at Maxfield Park, on Saturday the 30th June, 1962, commencing at 11.00 a.m.

In connection with this event, I am directed by the Managing Committee to forward this invitation for you to attend.

I am to say that it would indeed be a very happy occasion to have your presence on that day, and accordingly I would be obliged if you find it possible to accept this invitation. If however, previous commitments will not allow you to attend, please be good enough to notify me.

Yours respectfully,


~~SECRETARY~~
(Organising Committee)

Mr. P. Abrahams,
Coopers Hill,
Red Hills P.O.,
St. Andrew.

10th February, 1961

Mr. Rudolph H. Knight,
Inter-American Planning Society,
P.O. Box 1729, San Juan,
Puerto Rico.

Dear Rudolph,

This is to introduce Mr. Arthur
Lundkrist who is a Swedish writer.
He is extremely interested in^{the} Caribbean
and plans to do some writing on it.
Will you kindly do what you can for
him in terms of contacts, especially
with Puerto Rico writer.

Sorry I have been lax about
writing but life here is exceedingly
busy. I hope you have seen the
Puerto Rico story in the current issue
of "Holiday".

Yours ever,

PA/us.

Peter Abrahams.

January

31 days

2 Monday

Port Spain,
Trinidad,
1/2/61

Dear Peter,

3 Tuesday

This introduces Mr. ARTHUR
LUNDKRIST a writer from
Sweden. He's in Kingston
for a few days, & wants to
meet some writers.

4 Wednesday

I shall be home soon

Yours

Fitzroy Fraser

Mr. Rudolph H. Knight,
Inter-American Planning Society,
P.O. Box 1729, San Juan,
Puerto Rico.

UWI Libraries

3rd February 1960.

Rudolph Knight Esq.,
Interamerican Planning Society,
P.O. Box 1729,
San Juan,
Puerto Rico.

Dear Mr. Knight;

I am flying up to Puerto Rico next week to spend about two weeks doing a special article for Holiday Magazine. I do not know Puerto Rico at all, having only passed through the airport so this is a need to enlist your good offices. ^{not}

My friend Gordon Lewis is, I believe, in the United Kingdom now and so I cannot turn to him. What I should like you to do for me, if you will be so good, is to suggest a hotel and, perhaps, act as a little reception committee for the few hours between the airport and a place to stop. I will of course understand if you do not find this possible. In any event will you be good enough to cable me on receipt of this whether you can help and I will reimburse you as soon as I arrive.

This, you can imagine is dashed off in haste.

Yours sincerely,

^{PA}
Peter Abrahams.

PA:ehk

3rd Nov., 1958.

The Licensing Authority,
KINGSTON.

Dear Sir,

I should be grateful if you would license Land Rover X3401 in my name for the period up to December 30th, 1958. I enclose herewith:

- (i) License Certificate which expired on September 30th, 1958
- (ii) Transfer Form
- (iii) Copy of certificate of insurance.

I also hold the original of the certificate of fitness which is #38210. The former owner has deposited the copy of the certificate with the Licensing Authority at Spanish Town where the vehicle was formally licensed. This certificate expires on the 10th of December 1959.

I enclose herewith the sum of £3. 1/- to cover the licensing for this quarter as well as the transfer fee.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Peter Abrams.

21st March,

60.

Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Co. Ltd.,
Lascelles P.O.

Dear Sirs:

Your insured: United Dominions Corp.
(Jamaica) Limited.

Our insured : Mr. Peter Abrahams, Austin
(A40), V.4385:

We enclose herewith forms of release completed
by Mr. Peter Abrahams.

Thanking you for your prompt and courteous
attention.

Yours faithfully,

WEST INDIES GENERAL INSURANCE LIMITED.



Claims Manager.

WH:EW
Encl:

AGENCY OF
THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE
INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND)

WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

Lascelles P.O.

18th March, 1960.

West Indies General Insurance Ltd.,
164-166 Harbour Street,
Kingston.

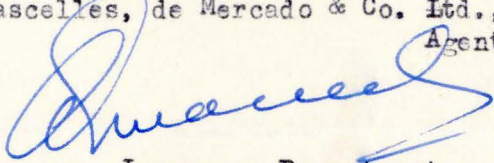
Dear Sirs;

Your Insured : Mr. Peter Abrahams, Austin A40, V4385,
Our Insured: United Dominions Corporation (Jamaica) Ltd.

With reference to the above accident we have settled John Crook's bill of £6. 16/- for repairs to Mr. Abrahams' car, and for the sake of good order we shall be obliged if you will have the enclosed Discharge and duplicate signed by Mr. Abrahams.

Please return these to us in due course.

Yours faithfully,
Lascelles, de Mercado & Co. Ltd.,
Agents.


Manager, Insurance Department.

Peter:-

For your execution

18/3. 19. 3. 60



(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND).

AGENTS:
MILHOLLAND, ASHENHEIM & STONE.

5, PORT ROYAL STREET,
KINGSTON,
JAMAICA.

P.O. Box 92.

20th July, 1962.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE:

Mr. Peter Abrahams,
Coopers Hill
MOUNT FRASER.

Dear Sir,

re: Motor Claim No. M.1593- Ja. Tel. Co. Ltd.-
Acc. 21/6/62- R6173.

Further to our letter of the 11th instant we enclose herewith vouchers for completion and return together with our cheque for £29. 7. 4 in settlement of your claim.

Yours faithfully,
MILHOLLAND, ASHENHEIM & STONE (INS) LTD.


Assistant Manager.

/LF/nr.



(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND).

AGENTS :

MILHOLLAND, ASHENHEIM & STONE.

5, PORT ROYAL STREET,

KINGSTON,

JAMAICA.

P.O. Box 92.

11th July, 1962.

Peter Abrahams Esq.,
164 Harbour Street,
KINGSTON.

Dear Sirs

Re: Claim No: M 1593
Jamaica Telephone Co. & Yoursslf.

Your bill for £29. 7. 4. sent to the Jamaica Telephone Company for repairs done to your car has been referred to us for attention.

Would you kindly advise us the name of your insurers as well as the type of policy cover you have in order to enable us to give this matter further consideration.

Yours faithfully,
MILHOLLAND ASHENHEIM & STONE (INSURANCE) LIMITED.
Agents.

Handwritten signature
Assistant Manager.

LF/vp.