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LETTER FROM UNITED STATES STATE DEPARTMENT

My dear Mr. Robeson:

Reference is made to the application for a passport which you executed at the passport agency in New York City on July 29, 1953. Reference is also made to your application dated January 30, 1953 and the Department's letter to you dated February 11, 1953.

It would appear, upon the basis of information which the Department has received from various sources, that the issue of a passport to you is precluded under the provisions of sub-sections (a) and (b) of Section 51.135 of the Passport Regulations. In this connection it has been alleged that (a) you are a Communist, and (b) you have manifested a consistent and prolonged adherence to the Communist Party line on a variety of issues through shifts and changes of that line. You may, if you so desire, appeal your case in the manner set forth in Section 51.137 of the Passport Regulations. You should submit, as a part of your appeal, an oath of affirmation of the nature outlined in Section 51.142 of the Regulations. It would also be pertinent for you to submit, in connection with the appeal, evidence of any deviation on your part from the Communist Party line.

Sincerely yours,

R.B. Shipley,
Director, Passport Office