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<th>Council on African Affairs, Inc.</th>
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<td><strong>Call Number</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Creator</strong></td>
<td>Hughes, Langston, 1902-1967</td>
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January 17, 1945

Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Ave.
New York City

Dear Mr. Hughes:

The first Brazilian Writers Congress will convene in Sao Paulo on January 26th. Among the leaders in this expression of democratic culture are Anibal Machado, President of the Brazilian Writers Association, George Amado, Gilberto Freyre, Pedro Motta Lima, and others.

Several prominent cultural leaders in this country, including Albert Einstein and Sholem Asch, are sending a message of greeting to the Congress. If you would like to join in this expression of solidarity with our cultural allies in Brazil, kindly send your message by telegram to me and it will be forwarded along with other messages by cable.

Very sincerely yours,

W. A. Hunton

[Signature]

W. A. Hunton
October 31, 1945.

Mr. Langston Hughes,
c/o Harper,
634 St. Nicholas Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Hughes:

Dr. Wulf Sachs, a prominent psychiatrist and journalist of Johannesburg, South Africa, is now visiting this country. He is the editor of a leading progressive and anti-fascist magazine, The Democrat which was founded in 1939 by the Democratic League. This journal has taken a notable and consistent stand for the extension of democracy and equal rights to the African and other non-European population of the South African Dominion and has also featured progressive thought and movements in the United States.

While here, Dr. Sachs is eager to secure the opinions of prominent American citizens with respect to the struggle against the fascist and racist elements who are responsible for the degradation of the native African. These opinions will be presented in The Democrat as evidence of the unity between Negro and other progressive leaders here and in South Africa in their common fight against racial oppression.

The Council on African Affairs heartily endorses this plan and is very happy to assist Dr. Sachs in accomplishing it. I am accordingly writing to you on behalf of Dr. Sachs to ask your cooperation.

It is his desire to arrange, if possible, for a brief interview with you either in New York, Boston or this general area, at your earliest convenience. If such an interview cannot be arranged, he would then send you a few questions bearing on the subject I have mentioned above, to be answered briefly.

I feel sure that you will appreciate the value of this project. May I ask that you correspond directly with Dr. Wulf Sachs - 20 West Cedar Street, Boston, Mass. - letting him know what arrangement is most satisfactory for you. You will be hearing further from him.

I enclose a copy of a letter concerning Dr. Sachs which will add to the information I have already given you regarding him.

Very sincerely yours,

Max Yergan.
November 8, 1945

Mr. Langston Hughes,
c/o Harper,
634 St. Nicholas Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hughes:

The Council for Pan American Democracy, the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, Inc., the National Lawyers Guild and the Council on African Affairs are jointly initiating a Conference on Puerto Rico's right to self-determination, and cordially invite you to be one of the sponsors. The Conference will take place on Saturday, December 8, 1945, at the Hotel Essex.

In his October 16th message to Congress, President Truman said:

"It is now time, in my opinion, to ascertain from the people of Puerto Rico their wishes as to the ultimate status they prefer, and, within such limits as may be determined by the Congress, to grant to them the kind of government which they desire."

The purpose of our Conference is to initiate a broad and sustained campaign of support for prompt Congressional action to implement the President's message.

Obviously, action by our government leading to Puerto Rico's liberation will have profound effect in advancing the independence struggles of Africa and the Far East, and world democracy in general.

As the time is very short, we should appreciate receiving promptly your permission to list your name as one of the co-sponsors of the Conference, who include Elmer A. Benson and C. B. Baldwin, officers of National Citizens PAC; Representative John M. Coffee; Hon. Stanley M. Isaacs; Ferdinand C. Smith; Prof. Harlow M. Shapley and others.

Very sincerely yours,

Max Yergan
Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Place
New York City

Dear Langston:

This is an S.O.S.—truly urgent!

As indicated in the circular letter of October 7
signed by Paul Robeson and myself, now that the long
disruption of its work is over, the Council is striving
to push ahead with its program but is severely handicapped
by a heavy burden of debts inherited from the past.

We want to send out New Africa, the Council’s monthly
bulletin, within the next few days and get several projects
under way. We are confident of public support once the
Council gets moving again. But we can’t move without money.

It is imperative, especially in these days, that the
Council do a full-time job of advancing the cause of
African freedom. If you agree, won’t you please respond
post haste, and as liberally as possible, so that the job
can be done?

Very sincerely yours,

W. A. HUNTON

WAHMmpm
Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Pl.
New York City

203 127 St
Mr. Langston Hughes
634 St. Nicholas Pl.
New York City

Dear Langston:

A few weeks ago I wrote asking your financial assistance in putting the Council's work into high gear. Since then you have, I hope, received and read the November issue of New Africa, issued by the Council. The contents reveal some of the important reasons why the Council must step up its work.

The second page of the enclosed financial statement indicates the minimum funds - about $1300 monthly - required for the Council to do the kind of job that's needed now. On the first page you will get a picture of the Council's present financial condition with income averaging about $500 monthly.

Will you help us climb up?

Very sincerely yours,

W. A. HUNTON
Secretary
COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Dec. 1, 1948

RECEIPTS, Oct. 1 -- Nov. 30, 1948

Bank balance (Oct. 1, 1948).................................. $122.64
General contributions:
  one.............................................. $250.00
  one.............................................. 200.00
  one.............................................. 100.00
  15 @ $10.00= $150.00
  15 @ $1.00= $15.00
Total............................................. $389.65

Contributions returned with payment for "Singing"........ 28.00
Sale of "Singing" and other literature........................ 75.64
Subscriptions, New Africa.................................... 24.00
Sale of furniture........................................ 75.00
Refund from P.O. on postcards.................................. 4.65
Total............................................. $1198.61

DISBURSEMENTS, Oct. 1 -- Nov. 30, 1948

Yorgin accounts:
  Printing........................................... $184.82
  Telephone........................................ 160.00
  Telephone deposit................................ 60.00
  Towel service..................................... 6.16
  Western Union..................................... 1.48
Total............................................... $366.66

Current expenses:
  Salary, stenographer (half-time)...................... 226.00
  Salary, Burton (on account).......................... 100.00
  Printing........................................... 182.88
  Postage............................................ 138.65
  Stationery, supplies............................... 57.35
  Machine repairs, supplies........................... 32.14
  Miscellaneous...................................... 9.66
  Refund check and postal orders........................ 11.61
  Refund of furniture sale............................ 6.00
  Refund of New Africa subscription................... 1.00
Total............................................... 728.87
Total............................................... $1064.43

BALANCE ON HAND, Dec. 1, 1948................................. $104.68

IMMEDIATE OBLIGATIONS -- past due

Salary, Burton, balance due for Oct. 1-Nov. 30 @ $50 wks.... $410.00
Advance Printing Co., installation and service (Oct. 1-Nov. 30) 364.71
Balance of $727.76 (Y account)--agreement made to pay off balance due in monthly installments........................... 140.00
Fred A. Kaim, typewriter service (Y account).................... 20.48
Genup Stationery (Y account)................................ 24.48
British Env. Service, documents (Y account)...................... 7.30

(Recommended that funds be secured for paying off these obligations at once.)

OTHER OBLIGATIONS

Salary, Burton, Jan. 16--Sept. 30, 1948 @ $220.00 a month.................. $1370.00
Advance Printing Co., balance after payment of $160.... 587.40
Harold Cameron, legal services.................................... 1000.00
Michael S. Atkins, legal services................................. 75.00
Employer's tax deduction................................... 9
Total............................................... $302.00

(Recommended that these obligations be paid off, as far as possible, by appropriation of $200.00 monthly from income, beginning Jan., 1949.)
COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS

PROPOSED OPERATIONAL EXPENSE BUDGET

based on perspective of immediate launching of membership-organization drive
and holding of 6 meetings in selected cities within period December 15 – January 31

DECEMBER, 1949

Salary, Council Secretary @ $65 a week.............. $260.00
Salary, Organization Director @ $65 a week........ 260.00
Salary, Full-time Secretary @ $50 a week.......... 200.00
Salary, Part-time secretary @ $25 a week.......... 100.00
Telephone & Telegraph.................................... 30.00
Postage ...................................................... 50.00
Stationery supplies........................................ 40.00
Printing (membership brochure, leaflets, cards)..... 200.00
 Mimeographing - New Africa, etc.................... 100.00
 Travel (organization director, speakers)............. 300.00
 Total $1,570.00

JANUARY, 1949 and subsequent months

Add: Rent........................ $130.00
Deduct: Travel...................... 200.00
Printing........................... 150.00
Postage......................... 30.00
Other items in December budget remain same.

Total $1,320.00
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 E. 127th St.
New York, N.Y.
PAUL ROBESON WELCOME HOME RALLY
Sunday, June 19, 3 p.m.
Rockland Palace, 155th St. & 8th Ave., NYC

This Card certifies that

LANGSTON HUGHES
is a Special Guest

Admission to Meeting by This Card

Seat Reserved on Platform

Secretary, Council on African Affairs
June 13, 1949

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hughes:

We would greatly appreciate a personal message from you greeting Paul Robeson on the occasion of the Welcome Home Mass Meeting being held next Sunday.

We hope you will be present with us at that time (card enclosed).

Very sincerely yours,

W. A. Hunton,
Secretary
HARLEM SPEAKS
for
PEACE and FREEDOM
at
WELCOME HOME RALLY
for
PAUL ROBESON
SUNDAY, JUNE 19 3 P.M.
Dr. W. E. B. DuBois
OTHER PROMINENT SPEAKERS
ENTERTAINMENT
AT ROCKLAND PALACE
155th Street and 8th Avenue
ADMISSION: General Admission 60c
Box Seats $2.40
Reserved Seats $1.20
Complete Box of 9 Seats $20

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE AT

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<th>BROOKLYN</th>
<th>MANHATTAN</th>
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<td>Frederick Douglass Book Center 141 West 125th Street</td>
<td>Thomas R. Jones 523 Nostrand Avenue</td>
<td>Council on African Affairs 23 West 26th Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlem Tenants Council 37 West 125th Street</td>
<td>Bronx Council of Rents &amp; Housing 910 Southern Boulevard</td>
<td>Jefferson School Book Shop 575 6th Avenue</td>
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Auspices: COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS — 23 West 26th Street, N. Y. C. MU. J-6209
August 5, 1950

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 B. 127th St.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Langston Hughes:

I have sent you, under separate cover, copies of statements issued here yesterday by Mr. Nathan Witt, counsel for Mr. Robeson, and the Council on African Affairs of which Mr. Robeson is chairman. Both statements related to the action taken by the United States State Department seeking to deprive Mr. Robeson of his passport. (Lest you may have not seen the other copies, I am enclosing duplicates.)

Because the issue raised by this unusual action on the part of our government against an American citizen goes far beyond the question of Paul Robeson's personal freedom, as important as this is, the Council on African Affairs hopes that you will give editorial comment on this vital matter through the important public medium of your newspaper column.

We shall be most happy to receive a copy of any published comment you may make. I enclose a self-addressed envelope for that purpose.

Sincerely yours,

W. A. Hunton, Secretary
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 E. 127th St.
New York, New York
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 E. 127th St.
New York, New York

Dear Langston:

The Council faces the greatest challenge of its existence.

As you know, the State Department is attempting to silence Paul Robeson by denying his right to travel. But obviously it is not only Paul Robeson they wish to silence. They want to crush the militant voice of the Negro people and of the freedom-hungry colonial people of Africa and Asia.

We are ready to meet the challenge. Legal action is planned, backed by a ground swell of mass support that can force the revocation of this high-handed undemocratic act. In September we plan a Madison Square Garden meeting which will resound around the world. It will be a mighty demonstration of the people's answer to the government's attempt to curb the voice of the man who is universally known as the champion of the oppressed.

We need funds now so that there will be no delay in getting this offensive underway. Won't you send your contribution — $25.00, we hope — to help us with this task which is so vital to the advancement of the Council's general program of colonial emancipation?

Sincerely,

[Signature]

W. A. Hunton
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 E. 127th Street
New York, New York

Dear Langston,

The enclosed is one of the newspapers published in the Gold Coast, West Africa, by Nkrumah's party which campaigns militently for self-government (S.G.) now.

I thought you would be interested in seeing how your verses are being used to spur on the African people's fight for freedom. This is by no means the only quotation of your poems that I have noted.

I know you lead a very busy life, but I trust that we can somehow, sometime spend an hour together. Meantime, remember that the Council on African Affairs needs the support and encouragement of people like you.

Sincerely,

Alpheaus

WAH: mpm
Enc.