

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO DEFEND DR. W.E.B. DU BOIS
AND ASSOCIATES IN THE PEACE INFORMATION CENTER

16-18 West 29th Street

Room 311

New York 1, N. Y.

April 16, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Spitzer
41 West 83 St.
New York City

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Spitzer,

25-19-94
Few events in recent months have shocked thinking people as deeply as the indictment of Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois and his associates of the Peace Information Center for failure to register as "foreign agents", because of their work for peace.

Daring to indict Dr. Du Bois and to actually finger print and handcuff this world famous figure, is moreover a calculated insult to the Negro people.

On April 27, 1951 the attorneys for Dr. Du Bois and his associates go into court to argue for the dismissal of the case and a trial date has tentatively been set for May 14, before Judge Holtzoff, the same Judge who presided in the case of William Patterson.

With court appearances initially only a few days away, a highly dangerous situation exists. There simply is not money to pay for accumulated legal expenses and otherwise guarantee an adequate legal defense. A Defense Committee has been set up with Elmer Benson and myself acting as Co-Chairmen.

Knowing of your deep concern with the struggle for peace and Negro rights, I am writing to you, in this serious crisis, hoping that you will be able to make a substantial contribution in the next few days or so which will help guarantee satisfactory legal defense for Dr. Du Bois and his associates, when the court proceedings actually get under way. We must guarantee \$3,000 within the next few days and I can only think of appealing to you and others who understand this question fully. I hope you'll be able to make your contribution as large as possible.

Please make ^{your} all checks payable to Shirley Graham, who is acting as Treasurer, ~~of the Committee.~~

Sincerely yours,

PAUL ROBESON

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