Paul Robeson was an African-American singer and actor who became involved with the Civil Rights Movement. He became politically involved in response to the Spanish Civil War, fascism, and social injustices. His advocacy of anti-imperialism, affiliation with communism, and his criticism of the US government caused him to be blacklisted during McCarthyism. Ill health forced him into retirement from his career. He remained an advocate of the unpopular political stances he took until his death.
Dear Mrs. Jagan,

How kind you to write and to send us such a heartwarming message. We hope to be successful.

If so, we would like to come to be able to visit you in British Guiana as I long desired to do.

Congratulations upon your magnificent struggle and contribution to Freedom for all. All my best to your Vaibhav husband and to the magnificent colleagues and to theerves.

And I am seeing you very soon.

Sincerely,
Paul Pickman
Janet Jagan with Eslander Robeson, wife of Paul Robeson
Dear Janet:

It was very good seeing you in London lately, and to see you looking well and to know that you and Cheddi are continuing with the good fight.

Over the holidays Paul and I read our accumulation of THUNDERs, and enjoyed them very much. As they come in the mail, if we don't have time to read them at once, we save them, and read them during a clam spell. I was particularly glad to have Cheddi's full text of the address to the UN. We found it statesmanlike, informative, very forceful and dignified. Congratulations. We also read the scripts of yours, and his, and Benn's pre-election broadcasts, and found them very interesting and they gave us a good idea of the conditions and problems, and also of the accomplishments thus far, which are very fine indeed. A proud record for the PPP. Again, congratulations.

Oddly enough, I found something, in the Jan. 4th issue, which I've been looking for a long time: in the column signed by 'Watcher': A mention, in print, about Max Yergan's and George Schuyler's disgraceful activities. Also, your editorial comment on the current West Indian Federation problems was very helpful.

Paul is back in the Nursing Home for a short stay. He spent 10 days home at the flat for Christmas, and enjoyed it very much. But it is very hard here to avoid callers and telephone calls and everlasting requests to do this and do that, so he is back there for a bit of rest and quiet until the demand dies down again. He continues to improve, but slowly, and they assure us that he will be well and completely recovered soon now, IF he Takes it easy. So. Be warned, both of you. You have lots to do, and are doing well on your way, so don't over-do!

Love from us both. Selinda & Edith
P.S. Tell Cheddi there are two especially brilliant bits in his U.N. address before the 4th Committee which are just gems, and nail the situation right down where it belongs, better than has ever been done before:

I. "Some people are obsessed with the fear of intervention by external Powers in the affairs of the American Republics. But they ignore the three European countries which still subject people in this hemisphere to the degrading status of colonials...." This is one of those terrific and obvious facts which has never been so neatly and briefly focussed before. As we say in our journalistic slang: "It's for the quotes".

2. "We are victims of imperialism and the cold war like the Callagos Government of Venezuela, the Mossadegh Government of Iran, and the Arbenz Government of Guatemala which were overthrown by force in 1948, 1951 and 1954 respectively. The usual campaign of slander and witch-hunt were unleashed against us...."

3. And this is really classic in its simplicity and forcefulness and right on the button for our times: "As regards defence, we do not think it is sound or prudent to fritter a large part of our limited financial resources in defence in these days of mass weapons of destruction like nuclear bombs and inter-continental missiles. We do
3.

We do not believe that the arms race is the way to international peace and security. We look to friendship with all countries and our membership in the United Nations to offer us the collective security required to protect our national sovereignty,...."

It might seem to you a bit silly for me to quote bits of your own speeches back to you, but when they hit one squarely between the eyes as exactly right, so that we keep on using them, it is only fair to tell you so.

Greetings greetings to you both, to the children, and to your people. I hope all goes well, and above all, BE WELL.

Sincerely,