
Letter to the Executive Committee of the Communist International in Moscow from Alfred Wagenknecht, Executive Secretary of the United Communist Party in New York, January 12, 1921.

Transcription of document seized in the April 29, 1921 raid of UCP headquarters in New York.
Dept. of Justice/Bureau of Investigation Files, NARA collection M-1085, reel 941.

January 12, 1921.

Executive Committee,
Communist International.

Comrades:—

Comrades Morgan [Alexander Bilan] and Flynn [Edward Lindgren], delegates to the 2nd Congress [Moscow: July 19-Aug. 7, 1920], desire to make the following report to your committee:

After the party situation was reported upon, it was decided that the Small Bureau should take charge of the matter of financial support for each country. This Small Bureau consisting of Comrades [Mikhail] Kobetsky, [Kristap] Beika, [Nikolai] Bukharin, [Endre] Rudiansky, and [Alfred] Rosmer, demanded that the delegates from each country submit in writing a statement of their country's needs. The delegates representing the United Communist Party of America held a session and drew up the following statement:

For General organization work	\$ 25,000.
For Defense	\$ 25,000.
For publishing specific literature	\$ 25,000.
For establishing printing plant	\$ 25,000.
For daily paper	\$100,000.
For IWW defense	\$ 10,000.
TOTAL	\$210,000.

The decision of the Small Bureau upon this request was to grant the above mentioned sums with the exception of the \$25,000 for a printing plant and to cut the appropri-

ation for a daily from \$100,000 to \$25,000. This made a total appropriation for the UCP of \$110,000.

Whereas the party was in urgent need of money, it was decided to ask the Small Bureau for an immediate appropriation of \$25,000. This was agreed to and this sum was given to the delegates of the UCP, Morgan [Bilan] and Flynn [Lindgren], then about to depart, in gold. But just before their departure this sum was taken away from them by the Committee of 3 which was appointed to take charge of the departing delegates. Comrades [A.E.] Abramovich, Meierovich, and Beika were the three comrades who took the responsibility for this \$25,000 given us, and after taking it from us, gave it to Comrade Matsen of Norway, guaranteeing us that he would take this sum from Moscow to Norway, from which country we could then have it sent to the United States.

Due to the careless handling of this \$25,000 by Comrade Matsen it was confiscated by the Norwegian authorities. Comrade Morgan [Bilan] learned of this 2 weeks after it was lost, when he arrived in Murmansk. From here he notified Moscow that he renounces all responsibility for the loss of the money, it having been taken out of the hands of Morgan [Bilan] and Flynn [Lindgren] and placed into the hands of Comrade Matsen for transportation.

The above is written by Comrades Morgan [Bilan] and Flynn [Lindgren] so that no blame will rest upon them for the loss of this appropriation.

Fraternally,

Executive Secretary.
[Alfred Wagenknecht.]

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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