
Letter No. 4a to Abram Jakira and the Central Executive Committee of the CPA from Ludwig Katterfeld in Moscow, Oct. 22, 1922.

Document in the Comintern Archive, RGASPI, f. 515, op. 1, d. 93, l. 68.

Oct. 22, 1922.

#4a

Dear Comsec [Jakira] and Cec:—

The glad tidings regarding the *wedding* [reunification of the regular CPA with the Central Caucus-CPA Opposition] came to me in your letter direct to my Hotel. Congratulations. May your tribe increase rapidly.

Have also received your *letters* dated Sept. 17 and 19, three copies of each, so all three addresses seem to be all right. On enclosed sheet in Code Quebec are three more addresses for letters. They should never be sent special delivery and should never be registered, and should have inside envelope with my name on it.

The *telegrams* sent by me early in September [from New York to Moscow] did not arrive here, and I have received no telegrams from you. So that cable address is no good. Use the last address on the enclosed sheet for cables. But send cable only when absolutely necessary. There is a great kick here because of large amounts spent on cables. Tell this also to the B [Friends of Soviet Russia] Sec. [Alfred Wagenknecht].

Please send me at least a dozen *new addresses* for packages, as there will be miles of resolutions and theses growing out of the Congress [Comintern 4th World Congress: Nov. 5-Dec. 5, 1922]

to be shipped to you.

The little *financial matter* to which I was to attend is not yet settled. Was told that nothing would be forthcoming until I showed just how we had blowed in what we had had. So I depicted in writing our spendthrift career, with as much detail as my poor memory could furnish. I hope to get results, but please hurry along a copy of our financial *statement*.

Have heard that [American Rep to RILU George] Andreychine has written a report attacking the heads of the *Agrarian* party [Harold & Clarissa “Cris” Ware] very severely. Do not know the merits of it, but both sides will soon be here, and then I’ll report the facts. In the meantime, should you hear either charges or countercharges, please suspend all judgment until you hear from me. Don’t quarrel over it there.

So far Sach [Rose Pastor Stokes], Davis [=???], and the 3 from X [TUEL] have arrived. No word of the others. The mother of the Agrarian [Ella Reeve Bloor] is also here, but without any mandate from anybody as far as I know. Cook [Jim Cannon] was still here when I came, said he had had no word to come back [to the US], put the question of remaining up to the Board [ECCI], and of course they said he should now remain for the big reunion [World Congress of the CI]. Personally I am very glad he is not going home at once, as in his present frame of mind he would

merely muddle things up. He doesn't seem to have learned much yet, but I hope that he will before he goes.[†] It is a very good thing that in my mandate it was specified that I should take office [as CI Rep from the CPA] immediately. Whenever one representative is sent to replace another the exact time should be specified if possible.

I want to congratulate Miller [Jakira] on the efficient way that he is getting the news to me. Please keep it up. Send copies of everything that is sent to the Districts. Cook [Cannon] and Lansing [Arne Swabeck] said they had received NOTHING since Lansing [Swabeck] came and that they had made NO reports. From now on you will hear from me at least once a week. Please do likewise.

Please have someone go out to see my family personally once in a while, and of course be sure that they are supplied with paydays.

Yours for C [Communism],

J. Carr [Ludwig Katterfeld].

[†]- A reference to the tenuous factional truce that had been brokered in America in the summer of 1922 by the 8 member "Disarmament Commission," working with the 3 delegates from Moscow (Genrik Valetski, Boris Reinstein, John Pepper). This painstakingly negotiated agreement between the "Anti-Liquidation" faction of Jakira, Amter, and Katterfeld and the "Independent" faction of Bedacht, Ruthenberg, and Lovestone, had been ratified unanimously by the ill-fated August 1922 Bridgman Convention of the CPA, which had deposed the "Independents" from the helm of the party apparatus and elected Jakira and a majority of "Anti-Liquidationists" to the CEC. Cannon, an inveterate factionalist, was a staunch adherent of the rapid legalization of party activity and a withering of the underground apparatus, an arch-"Independent"; Katterfeld is thus happy that Cannon did not receive his instructions to return to the United States, where he would have rapidly muddled the factional waters. He hopes that Cannon's views will come around.

Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport.

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