

1936 11 26 - RWL (Negrete) an Dear Comrades, 26.11.1936

2 Seiten, (Teil-) Abschrift, (Teil-) Übersetzung und Faksimile

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Barcelona, Nov. 26, 1936.

Austria.

Dear Comrades:

Landau, who is at present in Barcelona, informs me that it is the [REDACTED] group with which the Revolutionary Workers League of the U.S. is in contact. Unfortunately, we in America never did quite know with whom we were in contact in Austria.

From the enclosed material based on information received from Comrade Vitte of Greece, you will see a short report on a left wing group in Austria. One of the Comrades of said Austrian group discussed at length and on many problems with Comrade Vitte in Athens about four months ago. Vitte's impression was that the group had a genuinely revolutionary marxist orientation, but he was unable to establish contact with them afterwards. The Austrian comrade had given Vitte the following address:

[REDACTED]

I have written to this address and have told them that you would visit them. I did not give them your address, but you must look them up. Identify yourself by mentioning Comrade Oehler's name.

[...]

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## Übersetzung:

Barcelona, 26. November 1936

Österreich

Liebe Genossen,

Landau, der sich derzeit in Barcelona aufhält, teilte mir mit, dass es sich bei der Gruppe, mit der Revolutionary Workers League der U.S. in Kontakt steht, um die [REDACTED] Gruppe handelt.<sup>1</sup> Leider wussten wir in Amerika nie genau, mit wem wir in Österreich in Kontakt standen.

Dem beigefügten Material, das auf Informationen des griechischen Genossen Vitte basiert, könnt Ihr einen kurzen Bericht über eine linke Gruppe in Österreich entnehmen.<sup>2</sup> Einer der Genossen dieser österreichischen Gruppe diskutierte vor etwa vier Monaten in Athen ausführlich und über viele Probleme mit Genossen Vitte. Vittes Eindruck war, dass die Gruppe eine genuin revolutionär-marxistische Ausrichtung hatte, doch es gelang ihm anschließend nicht, den Kontakt zu ihr zu stabilisieren. Der österreichische Genosse hatte Vitte folgende Adresse gegeben:

[REDACTED]

Ich habe an diese Adresse geschrieben und ihnen mitgeteilt, dass Ihr sie besuchen würdet. Ich habe ihnen Eure Adresse nicht gegeben, Ihr müsst sie also selbst aufsuchen. Identifiziert Euch mit dem Namen des Genossen Oehler.

[...]

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<sup>1</sup> Bei der gestrichenen Bezeichnung des Gruppennamens handelt es sich um den *Kampfbund zur Befreiung der Arbeiterklasse*, gestrichen wurde der Name *Frey* für *Frey-Gruppe* (nach ihrem zentralen Genossen Josef Frey), eine immer wieder verwendete Bezeichnung für den *Kampfbund*.

<sup>2</sup> Bei der österreichischen Gruppe handelt es sich um die *Revolutionären Kommunisten Österreichs*. Der Bericht Vittes ist auf dieser Homepage abrufbar unter *Revolutionäre Kommunisten (1936-1938)*.

Barcelona, Nov. 26, 1936.

Austria.

Dear Comrades :

Landau, who is at present in Barcelona informs me that it is the [redacted] group with which the Revolutionary Workers League of the ~~U.S.~~ U.S. is in contact. Unfortunately, we in America never did quite know with whom we were in contact. in Austria.

From the enclosed material based on information received from Comrade Vitte of Greece, you will see a short report on a left wing group in Austria. One of the comrades of said Austrian group discussed at length and on many problems with Comrade Vitte in Athens about four months ago. Vitte's impression was that the group probably had a genuinely revolutionary marxist orientation, but he was unable to establish contact with them afterwards. The Austrian comrade had given Vitte the following address :

[redacted]

I have written to ~~ask~~ this address and have told them that you would visit them. I did not give them your address, but you must look them up. Identify yourself by mentioning Comrade Oehler's name.

The Revolutionary Workers League had no representative at the Brussels Congress of the IERSU antiWar movement. Through a second such congress in Barcelona within a few months, the London Bureau hopes to extend and consolidate its centrist international movement. You already know the position of the R.W.L. concerning the London Bureau. Now they are trying to form a new international on a centrist basis, taking advantage of the Spanish revolution. I should like to know your point of view as regards participation, and

suggest that you also send your opinions to Comrades in the U.S. If the consensus of opinion is in favor of participation, then we should work out jointly and in advance, ~~work~~ a plan of action and other documents for said Congress. In my opinion this Congress offers an opportunity for us to put forward our face as a distinct current organized independently, and on an international scale.

The R.W.L. had intended my going to the Anti-War Congress in Brussels, but as it turned out, I spent that period in a French prison, serving a sentence for having stowed away on the transatlantic crossing. The Barcelona Conference has different objectives than the Brussels one, so I am not certain what position the ~~R.W.L.~~ R.W.L. will adopt as regards participation. Comrades Vitte and Pliakos expect to attend in representation of their respective organizations, and I believe that to a certain degree ~~we~~ if not completely, we could work together there.

Please let me hear from you soon. If there is anything I can do for you in Spain, you have only to ask.

Comradely yours,

For the Fourth International.

*Rosalio Negrete*  
Rosalio Negrete.