
In Re: United States versus William D. Haywood et al. [April 23, 1921]

by Louis Loebel

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Report Made at:

Instructions from Edw. J. Brennan, Div. Sup.

Date When Made:

April 23, 1921

Period for Which Made:

4/22 & 4/23

Report Made by:

Louis Loebel

Title and Character of Case:

In Re: UNITED STATES versus
WILLIAM D. HAYWOOD ET AL.

Facts Developed:

At Chicago.

Agent accompanied by Agent [Edwin C.] **Shanahan** of this office proceeded to IWW Headquarters at 1001 W Madison St. and interviewed **John Martin**, Secretary Treasurer of the IWW General Defense Committee. The purpose of the interview was to ascertain just how much information the officials of the IWW Headquarters had relative to **Haywood's** alleged disappearance and as to their attitude of obeying the order of Court issued by Circuit Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, Chicago, Ill., commanding the 47 defendants in the above mentioned case, who are now out on bonds, to surrender themselves to the Warden of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, or to the United States Marshal at Chicago, on or before the 25th day of April, 1921.

Martin stated that the officials of the IWW Headquarters had first heard of Haywood's alleged

sailing to Russia through the afternoon papers on April 21; that to his knowledge, **Haywood's** disappearance was not known by them, and that he did not receive any credentials from the IWW to represent that organization at the coming congress of the Red Trade Union International [1st: July 3-19, 1921], at Moscow; that immediately after the receipt of the Order of the Court, **Martin** had sent night letters to the defendants living outside of Chicago, with the following text:

April 10, 1921.

Court of Appeals has entered order to effect that all defendants in Chicago case out on bond must surrender at United States Marshal's office before Monday, April twenty-fifth otherwise bonds will be forfeited. If short of funds to act accordingly notify me immediately.

John Martin.

Martin stated further that 21 defendants had already wired in reply that they will surrender in due time, some of them at Chicago, others at Leavenworth, and those who have no funds to defray transportation expenses will report at the nearest US Marshal. **Martin** stated that this arrangement was made between US Attorney **Cline** and **Otto Christensen**, Attorney for the IWW. Relative to the defendants living in Chicago, **Martin** stated that 7 out of 8 had been communicated with and that they promised to surrender to the US Marshal at Chicago on the morning of April 25, 1921; that **Charles Rothfisher**, 56 East Grand Ave., was reported to be out of the city, and that his whereabouts were unknown. Agents later interviewed **John Martel**, secretary of the Hungarian Central Or-

ganization Committee, of which **Rothfisher** is a member, and were informed that to his knowledge, **Rothfisher** had left the city 4 or 5 days ago for Washington, to get certain Congressmen interested in securing pardon for him and that he had heard nothing from **Rothfisher** since then. **Martin** also stated that the whereabouts of three defendants, namely, **Vladimir Lossieff**, **Herbert McCutcheon**, and **Grover H. Ferny**, were unknown and that he wired to their last places of residence, at Valparaiso, Ind., and Phoenix, Ariz., respectively, expecting to reach them in that way. **Martin** finally stated that he would be greatly surprised if anyone would fail to surrender, as it was generally understood among the defendants that each and every one will obey the order without fail in order not to lessen their chances for a General Amnesty, which they expected in the near future.

Martin was again interviewed this morning and Agents learned that **James Rowan** and **John Baldazzi** had wired from Missoula, Mont., and New York, respectively, that they will report in Chicago on the morning of April 25th.

Agent Loebl in company of Agent [**Charles L. Harris**] of this office were directed by Division Superintendent **Edward J. Brennan**, to call upon the Federated Press, for the purpose of ascertaining the source and the scope of their information relative to the many and various reports published in the daily papers concerning the disappearance of **Haywood**. Agents accordingly proceeded to the offices of the Federated Press, at 511 North Peoria Street, and interviewed **E.J. Costello**, Managing Editor, who is personally known to Agent Loebl. Mr. **Costello** stated that late in the evening of April 20 [1921], he received a telegram from **Harry Godfrey**, 31 Union Square, New York City, who is the New York correspondent of the Federated Press, stating that **Haywood** sailed from New York on March 31st on the SS *Oscar II* for Stockholm, bound via Riga for Moscow, Russia, etc. Mr. **Costello** immediately communicated this news by telephone to **Otto Christensen**, IWW attorney, who very probably notified US Attorney **Cline** on the morning of April 21st; on that day. Mr. **Costello** dispatched the news to the 21 newspapers in the country which are subscribers for the Federated Press Service and also to the *Chicago Socialist*, *The New Majority*, and to two foreign language newspapers, all of them being published

in the city; however, these papers did not bring the story in this week's issues as the news reached them after the papers were already printed.

Mr. **Costello** stated further that the story was first printed in the Daily Mail Service Sheet of the Federated Press for Friday, April 22, 1921, (see marked sheet Exhibit No. 1) and was followed by a second dispatch received from their New York correspondent, and printed in the Daily Mail Service Sheet for Saturday, April 23 (See marked sheet Exhibit No. 2); that Mr. **Costello** had cabled to their correspondent at Christiana, Sweden, and at Berlin, Germany, on April 21 as follows:

Can you reach William Haywood American IWW either Riga or Moscow say Supreme Court orders him back Leavenworth ask when he will return and cable us New York.

Reply has been since received from Christiana to the effect that the cable had been forwarded for Haywood to Moscow where he probably can be located. Mr. **Costello** expects reply from one of their correspondents in Europe within the next days, and promised to notify Agent as soon as he will receive a reply either from one of the Federated Press correspondents or from **Haywood** himself.

Investigation Continued.

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The Federated Press

General Offices — 511 North Peoria Street, Chicago.

Daily Mail Service Sheet

Chicago, Friday, April 22, 1921

No. 352—1

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(By the Federated Press)

CHICAGO.— William D. Haywood, formerly Secretary-Treasurer of the IWW, and one of the leaders of that organization since its inception, has arrived in Moscow. He sailed from New York on March 31st [1921] on the *Oscar II* of the Scandinavian-American Life for Stockholm, bound for the Russian capital as one of the seven delegates to the Moscow Trade Union

International, which opens July 1st.

The exclusive news of Haywood's arrival in Russia reached The Federated Press following the announcement that he and several dozen other defendants in the IWW cases are expected to appear before Judge [Kenesaw Mountain] Landis in the United States District Court next Monday [April 25, 1921] for their return to the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth. The Supreme Court, several days ago, refused to entertain a petition for a writ of certiorari in this case.

Haywood, who is under sentence of 20 years in Leavenworth, is declared in a statement sent out from New York to have gone to Russia only upon the insistence of his co-workers.

The *Oscar II*, which carried the delegation, reached Stockholm on April 12th, and the delegation landed at Riga 4 days later, from which point they made the trip on to Moscow.

The statement issued from New York reads as follows:

For 30 years Haywood has fought as no other person in America has fought for the workers of this land. He has lain in many a prison. He bears upon his body the wounds which speak for his personal courage in hand to hand conflict with the Colorado State troops in the days of Cripple Creek. Barehanded he fought with these thugs of the western mine owners who clubbed him with rifles until he fell, only to rise again to battle until beaten into insensibility. Unable to buy him or break his spirit these mine owners conspired to wreck the Western Federation of Miners and take Haywood's life on the scaffold. For 2 years he laid in a cell in murderer's row at the Idaho State Penitentiary. In every city and town the American workers heard of the "frame-up" against him and rose in his defense. They saved his life — and he then pledged the life they saved to work for the emancipation of the workers of the world. He has grown old and ill in keeping of the faith. Year after year in strike after strike the name of Haywood has brought inspiration to the workers and fear to the bosses.

In September 1918, after a year in the Chicago jail, Haywood was sent to Leavenworth under sentence of 20 years under the Espionage Act, but was released on bail about a year later.

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The Federated Press

General Offices — 511 North Peoria Street, Chicago.

Daily Mail Service Sheet

Chicago, Saturday, April 23, 1921

No. 353—1

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NEW YORK.— William D. Haywood, former IWW leader, who has just reached Moscow, has joined the Communist Party and has definitely severed all connection with the IWW, according to information obtained here today from his friends. Haywood definitely aligned himself with the Communist Party about the first of the year.

It is stated that this fact accounts for his presence in Russia. He went to Moscow, not as a representative of the IWW, but as a Communist labor delegate. He is said to have declared before his departure that he expected to spend the remainder of this life in the Communist cause.

—ejc [E.J. Costello]—

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Edited by Tim Davenport.

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