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COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF HOLLYWOOD  
MOTION-PICTURE INDUSTRY—PART 6

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HEARINGS  
BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
EIGHTY-SECOND CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION

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MAY 10, SEPTEMBER 10, 11, AND 12, 1951

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COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE, MAY 10, 1951

JOHN S. WOOD, Georgia

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SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 10-12, 1951

DONALD L. JACKSON, California

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# COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF HOLLYWOOD MOTION- PICTURE INDUSTRY—PART 6

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1951

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE  
ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Hollywood, Calif.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A special subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met pursuant to call at 10 a. m., in room 603, Drake Hotel, Hollywood, Calif., Hon. John S. Wood (chairman) presiding.

Committee member present: Representative John S. Wood.

Staff members present: William A. Wheeler and Courtney E. Owens, investigators.

Mr. WOOD. The subcommittee, composed of myself, is now in order. Are you ready to proceed?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. WOOD. Mr. Strawn, will you rise and be sworn, please?

You solemnly swear the evidence you give this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. STRAWN. I do.

## TESTIMONY OF ARTHUR STRAWN, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS COUNSEL, ROBERT W. KENNY AND BEN MARGOLIS

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name.

Mr. STRAWN. Arthur Strawn, S-t-r-a-w-n.

Mr. WHEELER. You are represented by counsel; is that correct?

Mr. STRAWN. Yes; I am.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you identify yourselves for the record.

Mr. KENNY. I am Robert W. Kenny, from Los Angeles.

Mr. MARGOLIS. I am Ben Margolis, also of Los Angeles.

Mr. WHEELER (addressing witness). Where do you reside?

Mr. STRAWN. 7270 Woodrow Wilson Drive.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your occupation?

Mr. STRAWN. I am a writer.

Mr. WHEELER. When and where were you born?

Mr. STRAWN. I was born in New York City, September 29, 1900.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you give us a brief résumé of your educational background.

Mr. STRAWN. You don't mind if I refer to a couple of notes that I have brought, do you?

Mr. WHEELER. That will be perfectly all right.

Mr. STRAWN. I have brought this with me in the interest of accuracy. I was graduated from high school in St. Louis in 1918. After volunteering for service in the First World War, and the war ending before I could serve, although I had been accepted, I then went on and attended Washington University of St. Louis, from which I was graduated. First, I should say, I did a year at Stanford and then I got my bachelor of arts degree from Washington University in 1925 or 1926.

Mr. WHEELER. Does that conclude your formal education?

Mr. STRAWN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your occupational background after leaving school?

Mr. STRAWN. I began writing while I was still going to college. I did newspaper work and then when I left the university I continued on with that. I worked on the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, and from there I went to New York and became, for a number of years, their New York correspondent and began to write for magazines and had books published and so on.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you been associated with the motion-picture industry?

Mr. STRAWN. Well, while I was in New York, and still while I was doing newspaper work and contributing to magazines, I did work on several pictures by an independent outfit. I also wrote plays, but I would say that my first formal connection with motion pictures was around 1935 or 1936, when I came out to Hollywood.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you a member of the Screen Writers' Guild?

Mr. STRAWN. Yes, I am.

Mr. WHEELER. What stories or scripts have you written that were made into motion pictures?

Mr. STRAWN. Do you want them all?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. STRAWN. Well, you have had, probably, more impressive lists than mine. I did the original story and joint screen play on *The Black Room* for Columbia. I did a joint screen play for *The Man Who Lived Twice*.

I also worked on a joint screen play called *Lady in Distress*. I also did added scenes for *Don't Gamble with Love*.

I did the original story *Here Comes the Girls*. I also worked on a joint screen play entitled "Road Agent." Another joint screen play entitled "The Enemy Meets Ellery Queen."

I did another joint screen play called *Eyes of the Underworld*. That brought me up to the war and I was sick, recovering from a minor operation, when the Japs hit us at Pearl Harbor, but I immediately began to correspond to see if there was any way I could get into the service. By the time I had recovered from the operation, and the Screen Writers' Guild knew of my desire to serve, I was notified that there was a representative out here from the Air Force, and I went to see him. I was interviewed by him and he thought that he could use me and could get me a commission, but he asked me if I couldn't get a commission whether I would be willing to serve in a civilian capacity.

I said that I would be willing to serve in any capacity. So he wired me later and said that there was no commission for me, but would I come on anyway. I wired back, "Name the date and I will come on," and I did.

So I went back to Wright Field and worked in a civilian capacity.

Mr. WOOD. What was the nature of your work?

Mr. STRAWN. I wrote, directed, and produced motion pictures for the war effort, and for the Air Force. Someone in Washington, going over the work in that unit, singled my work out as the most professional work and wanted to know why I wasn't commissioned and came back and said that they had better commission me before they lose me, because as a civilian I wasn't obliged to stay there, so they promptly put through a commission to keep me with the unit.

I served for several years, until I was disabled and discharged from the service.

Mr. WHEELER. What was your rank?

Mr. STRAWN. I was a captain.

Mr. WHEELER. When were you discharged?

Mr. STRAWN. I was discharged out of the Birmingham Hospital here, I believe, around August of 1944.

Mr. WHEELER. From what period of time were you a civilian employee of the Air Corps?

Mr. STRAWN. I went in around June, following Pearl Harbor, and they commissioned me about 4 months later, right after my first scripts were seen in Washington. I remained until my discharge, which was, approximately, August of 1944, I believe.

Mr. WOOD. Did you say that you were disabled while you were in the service?

Mr. STRAWN. Yes.

Mr. WOOD. What sort of disability was that?

Mr. STRAWN. I had internal injuries and was operated on. I volunteered for overseas duty in fact, I was seeking overseas duty and in the course of a routine overseas examination they discovered that I had hurt myself so they sent me to a hospital and I was operated on. There they found other things wrong and discharged me after 4 or 5 months in the hospital.

Mr. WHEELER. What has your employment been after your discharge from the Air Corps?

Mr. STRAWN. I wrote a play which was produced in New York. Let me refresh my memory for just a moment. Then I sold several original stories.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the name of the play and the names of the stories?

Mr. STRAWN. The play was called Sleep No More which was subsequently bought by Universal. That was a comedy. Then I sold some original stories. One was called Blossoms for Effie and another one called Affairs of Geraldine, and for Monogram Studios I did a rewrite on Bad Men of Tombstone and then I did an original, sold an original screen play called Hiawatha, and another one called Flight to Mars. That just about brings it up to date. Flight to Mars was completed last December, I would say; approximately that time.

Previously I had had another play produced in the East, See No Evil, and another play of mine which was called Anthony Nero. That

was twice given a full length hour and one-half production by the British Broadcasting Corp., on television, which was an unusual distinction to get a full-length play like that shown.

I have contributed articles and stories to the *New Yorker* and the *American Mercury* and the *Herald Tribune* magazine section.

I have also contributed stories to the *Screen Writer*, the *Saturday Evening Post*, and *Esquire*. Perhaps there may be more.

Mr. WHEELER. As a writer, you register all manuscripts with the Screen Writers' Guild; is that correct?

Mr. STRAWN. You mean original manuscripts?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. STRAWN. As a rule, yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What manuscripts have you registered during the year 1949?

Mr. STRAWN. I would have to check with the Screen Writers' Guild records on that. What manuscripts have I registered, you say?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes, in the year 1949.

Mr. STRAWN. I frankly don't recall at the moment. I could check their records and find out for you, if you want that.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall a manuscript entitled "Twilight Street"?

Mr. STRAWN. Yes; I recall that manuscript.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you remember registering that with the Screen Writers' Guild?

Mr. STRAWN. I very likely did.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you write this manuscript in conjunction with another author?

Mr. STRAWN. Do you mind if I consult with my counsel?

Mr. WOOD. You have a right to confer with your counsel any time you desire. You can retire from the room if you care to.

Mr. STRAWN. I think these gentlemen are trying to link me with someone else, who has been mentioned in the hearings. I find that I must refuse to answer under the fifth amendment, on the ground that my answer might tend to incriminate me.

Mr. WOOD. You have not been asked to identify any person at all. You were asked if you wrote it in connection with any other person. No one has been named as yet. Did you write it by yourself?

Mr. STRAWN. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. With whom did you write it?

Mr. STRAWN. I claim the fifth amendment on that, too.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know J. Redmond Prior?

Mr. STRAWN. Not that I recall.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know a J. R. Prior, P-r-i-o-r?

Mr. STRAWN. Wait a minute. I decline to answer that question on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. I have a document here, Mr. Chairman, which was subpoenaed from the Screen Writers' Guild. It is a registration certificate with the Screen Writers' Guild, where the writers in Hollywood register articles or scripts with the Screen Writers' Guild. It bears the registration guild No. 41938. This form was filled out on 2-25-49. It is registered in the name of Arthur Strawn and J. R. Prior. The registration fee is indicated as \$1 and the name of the manuscript is given as Twilight Street.

I would like to show this to the witness and ask him if he can identify it as a registration certificate receipt, that he registered this at the Screen Writers' Guild.

Mr. STRAWN. Again I will have to claim the same privilege in not answering the question. What was the question again?

Mr. WHEELER. I asked you if you recognize that as a receipt you received when the manuscript was registered at the Screen Writers' Guild.

Mr. STRAWN. I can only recognize this as a receipt. I had better claim the same privilege on that.

Mr. WOOD. A moment ago, Mr. Strawn, you stated in response to a question as to whether or not you did register this particular script with the Screen Writers' Guild in 1949, you stated that you could investigate the records up there and determine the answer to that question.

Now, having refreshed your recollection by being confronted with this record, do you state now that you did not register this?

Mr. STRAWN. You are making an error, I am afraid. I said that I would have to investigate. There could still be this receipt and it doesn't necessarily mean that I registered it or got the receipt.

Mr. WOOD. That is what I am trying to find out now. Will you state whether you registered that or not, after having refreshed your recollection?

Mr. STRAWN. I don't recall.

Mr. WOOD. Even after having seen this receipt?

Mr. STRAWN. I really don't recall.

Mr. WOOD. Was it ever registered?

Mr. STRAWN. Obviously it must have been.

Mr. WOOD. Did anyone else have any interest in this except yourself, in this registration?

Mr. STRAWN. Wasn't that question asked before and answered?

Mr. WHEELER. Not the same question, I don't believe.

Mr. WOOD. You were asked if you wrote it by yourself and you said you didn't and now I am asking you if anyone had any interest in it but you.

Mr. STRAWN. If someone else wrote it with me, then that person must, obviously, have an interest in registering it.

Mr. WOOD. That does not answer my question. Did anyone else have any interest in registering this except you?

Mr. STRAWN. Yes.

Mr. WOOD. Could it have been possible the other person interested in the registration of it actually did the registering, or did you do that?

Mr. STRAWN. It could have been done by the other person.

Mr. WOOD. And it could have been done by either of you; is that right?

Mr. STRAWN. Yes.

Mr. WOOD. You say you have no independent recollection of who did it; is that right?

Mr. STRAWN. My answer was that I do not recall having registered it myself.

Mr. WOOD. Do you recall anyone else having registered it?

Mr. STRAWN. No; but I assume that it was registered by someone else.

Mr. WOOD. Proceed.

Mr. WHEELER. The logical person to register this would have been J. R. Prior, he having an interest in the manuscript?

Mr. STRAWN. I will have to claim the same privilege, because I think this is an attempt to get me to incriminate myself.

Mr. WHEELER. Isn't it a fact that J. Redmond Prior is Lester Cole?

Mr. STRAWN. In view of the fact that he has been rather prominently labeled as subversive, and so on, by this committee, I will have to claim my privilege for the reasons given, because I think it is an attempt to link me up with someone who has been incriminated and I am afraid the answer to that question might tend to incriminate me.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Lester Cole?

Mr. STRAWN. I will make the same answer to that question.

Mr. WHEELER. You mentioned previously——

Mr. STRAWN. May I interrupt and say that any question which I feel is in any way an attempt to link me with any organization or any individual, that I understand to have been listed as subversive by this committee, that I do not care——

Mr. WOOD. Let me set you straight about that right now. This committee has listed no one as subversive.

Mr. STRAWN. I have seen printed lists of organizations.

Mr. WOOD. I am talking about individuals.

Mr. STRAWN. Individuals connected with those organizations or who have been subpoenaed or cited for contempt, any attempt to link me with any of those people I am going to, in that connection, claim the same privilege because I feel that it represents an attempt to incriminate me.

Mr. WHEELER. You previously stated, in your testimony, that you were the author of a story called Bad Men of Tombstone.

Mr. STRAWN. That is right; yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Was that sold directly to Monogram or do you still have a percentage of the picture?

Mr. STRAWN. I do not have any percentage of the picture.

Mr. WHEELER. In other words, you sold it outright to Monogram?

Mr. STRAWN. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Then tell us the mechanics of that.

Mr. STRAWN. Monogram had a picture with that title or some approximate title, and they wanted rewriting done on the version that they had. I was engaged to do some rewriting on this.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you do the rewriting yourself or in conjunction with another party?

Mr. STRAWN. I did it in conjunction with another party.

Mr. WHEELER. Who was the other party?

Mr. STRAWN. I will have to decline to answer that question on the grounds already stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Wasn't J. R. Prior or J. Redmond Prior also engaged on that?

Mr. STRAWN. I will make the same answer to that question.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Strawn, have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. STRAWN. I decline to answer that question on the same grounds as heretofore stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you presently a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. STRAWN. I decline to answer on the grounds that I think the answer might tend to incriminate me and therefore I stand on my privilege not to answer.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. WOOD. I have no questions.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, perhaps there is a question or two that I should ask.

You are here under subpoena, are you not?

Mr. STRAWN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce this document as Strawn exhibit No. 1 for the record.

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted as Strawn exhibit No. 1.

(The document referred to was marked as "Strawn Exhibit No. 1.")

Mr. WOOD. Is there anything further?

Mr. WHEELER. I have nothing further.

Mr. KENNY. May this witness be excused now?

Mr. WOOD. Yes; he may be excused.

(Whereupon the witness was excused.)





# COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF HOLLYWOOD MOTION- PICTURE INDUSTRY—PART 6

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1951

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Los Angeles, Calif.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A special subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met pursuant to call at 9:30 a. m. in Conference Room C, at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Los Angeles, Calif., Hon. Donald L. Jackson presiding.

Committee member present: Representative Donald L. Jackson.

Staff member present: William A. Wheeler, investigator.

Mr. JACKSON. The chairman of the Committee on Un-American Activities has appointed me as a special subcommittee to conduct this hearing.

(Whereupon the hearing continued with testimony not printed in this volume, together with the following:)

Mr. JACKSON. Will you call the next witness?

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Eugene Fleury.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Fleury, will you raise your right hand and be sworn?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give before this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. FLEURY. I do.

## TESTIMONY OF EUGENE FLEURY

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name, please?

Mr. FLEURY. Eugene Strong Fleury.

Mr. WHEELER. Where do you presently reside?

Mr. FLEURY. 4524 Coldwater Canyon, North Hollywood.

Mr. WHEELER. You are not represented by counsel?

Mr. FLEURY. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you desire to be?

Mr. FLEURY. What for?

Mr. JACKSON. I should like to make a little preliminary statement here, Mr. Fleury, and that is that you are under no compulsion to answer any of the questions directed to you. You have the protection of the fifth amendment if you wish to claim it against possible self-incrimination. However, the measure of your cooperation with

the committee in answering its questions will largely determine the future course of the committee so far as you are concerned.

I simply make that statement in order that you may be advised of your constitutional rights, the fact that you are not compelled to answer questions in the absence of counsel.

Mr. FLEURY. My intent, of course, is to be as cooperative as I possibly can. That is natural.

Mr. JACKSON. Thank you.

Mr. WHEELER. When and where were you born?

Mr. FLEURY. I was born in what is now a piece of Glendale, then called Tropico, Calif., May 29, 1913.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you relate your educational background.

Mr. FLEURY. California public schools through Sacramento High School, Sacramento Junior College for 2½ years, approximately 3 years at Chouinard Art Institute. I say "approximately" because I worked part of the time, my last semester that I was there.

Mr. WHEELER. When did you leave Chouinard Art Institute?

Mr. FLEURY. This must have been 1936, I believe. It would be 1935, 1936.

Mr. WHEELER. How are you now employed?

Mr. FLEURY. I am an instructor at Art Center School.

Mr. WHEELER. That is at 5353 West Third Street, Los Angeles, Calif.?

Mr. FLEURY. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. How have you been employed since leaving school?

Mr. FLEURY. Leaving school, my first job was an instructor in the training school of Walt Disney Studios.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you give the approximate years.

Mr. FLEURY. Well, I was at Disney's for between 4½ to 5 years. Approximately the last year of this was on production on Fantasia. At that time, why, we can call it I was canned, or there was a lay-off—it started as a lay-off and I quit. I drew about 2 months' unemployment insurance and went to Warner Bros. as a background painter. It was called Leon Schlesinger at that time. I was there until I went in the Army in April 1943.

Mr. WHEELER. When were you discharged from the Army?

Mr. FLEURY. February 1946.

Mr. WHEELER. Your rank in the Army?

Mr. FLEURY. I finally made T-5.

Mr. WHEELER. You were honorably discharged?

Mr. FLEURY. Absolutely.

Mr. WHEELER. What has your employment been since your discharge from the Army?

Mr. FLEURY. I will keep the history going. Upon my return to California, I was discharged at Fort Dix, N. J.; I did nothing for I think, a couple of months and then my wife and I went to Mexico, more to kind of knit my tattered nerves after the Army thing more than anything else. I believe we were there approximately 5 to 6 months. Now, this I am not sure of. In any case we returned during the summer and was then offered the position instructing at Art Center School and, of course, started my work there in the fall term, September of 1946, I believe it was.

Mr. WHEELER. Does that bring your employment up to date?

Mr. FLEURY. Yes. I have been with Art Center except for a year off when we went to Europe and worked on a motion picture there. Mr. Adams kind of gave us a leave of absence.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Fleury, have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, it was at the time that I suppose I had some sort of association with it, it would constitute membership. It was, I believe, called CPA then, Communist Political Association.

Mr. WHEELER. What year was it?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, this would be previous to the Army thing, so it would be—actually I believe it was 1943. These times and dates, by the way, are going to be off one side or the other, because like most artists I am dopey on them.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall how you became a member of the Communist Party, or the CPA?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, actually I don't. It seemed to be just sort of suddenly you are, that's that. I know I paid dues, of course, and that kind of thing. There was no business of proselyting me or trying to get me in. I think I wanted to be.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you have a reason for wanting to become a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, at that time; yes; I think I did have a reason. Naturally, being an artist, why, I am fundamentally concerned in not how things are but maybe how things could be. In other words, change people's outlook, change your feelings. And this seemed to be, to me, why, the one concrete, what I would call liberal approach. My interest still was fundamentally that of kind of a philosophical background to my art instead of my political background. In fact, my action then consisted mostly of conversation, and that's about all.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you remain with this group until you went in the Army?

Mr. FLEURY. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you give me the date again?

Mr. FLEURY. The exact date would be—

Mr. WHEELER. The approximate date.

Mr. FLEURY. It would be the time I went in the Army. It would be in April of 1943.

Mr. WHEELER. For what period of time were you associated with this group?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, this I can't even pin down. I would say less than a year, or approximately a year at the most.

Mr. WHEELER. That is prior to your entrance to the Army?

Mr. FLEURY. Prior to the entrance in the Army; yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you assigned to any particular group or unit?

Mr. FLEURY. No. I received what you might call no orders of any kind. It seemed to be very casual sort of conversations that at this time I couldn't distinguish between what was a meeting and between a bunch of people sitting around shooting the breeze about the problems of the day. Mostly it was directly related to our profession.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you meet with the same group of people?

Mr. FLEURY. No. It seemed to change.

Mr. WHEELER. How many people comprised this group?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, it would be like an average evening at anyone's house, varying anywhere from 5 to 15. Actually as far as a stable membership, I was never very conscious of it.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall at whose homes you met?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, one was at our home.

Mr. WHEELER. On how many occasions, do you recall?

Mr. FLEURY. Once.

Mr. WHEELER. Anybody else's home?

Mr. FLEURY. Yes, although offhand without going through practically a list of acquaintances and so forth, at that time I don't know how I could pin it down. I don't mean that to be a refusal, but it is just mushy and I would like a specific question and I will say.

Mr. JACKSON. I think the specific question is: At whose home did you meet during the course of these discussion groups, or at whose homes in addition to your own.

Mr. FLEURY. That is an awful tough kind of thing—well. There was one, Bill Pomerantz' home.

Mr. WHEELER. Bill Pomerantz is the former executive secretary of the Screen Writers' Guild?

Mr. FLEURY. I believe he eventually became that; yes. I always refer to him as a business agent.

Mr. WHEELER. Congressman Jackson advised your wife that the committee undoubtedly has a great deal of information concerning all of these individuals.

Mr. FLEURY. I realize that, sir; certainly.

Mr. WHEELER. I would be very doubtful if any additional names could be supplied by you and I thought that that may make it easier giving your testimony. We realize the circumstances you are under and would like to make it as easy as possible.

Mr. FLEURY. That is why I made my little statement that I would like you, if you could, to ask me a specific name instead of having me go over a whole bunch of things, because it boils down to this, that specifically and in so many words to my own true knowledge I don't know who was or who was not a party member when I was. I actually do not know this.

Mr. JACKSON. Let me say that there is not necessarily a connotation of membership in the Communist Party, or in the CPA attached to the names that you may mention. However, it is the duty and the obligation of this committee to determine the extent of membership and the names of those who were intimately associated with it. The yardstick of cooperation with the committee must necessarily be the extent to which any given individual is willing to cooperate with the committee. The future actions of the committee, when it reaches the city, will be largely conditioned by the attitude and the extent of cooperation extended by witnesses in the executive hearings. I merely set that forth in order that you may know that we are not concerned with prosecution or persecution but we are determined to get to the bottom of this, and that is the job that has been assigned us by the Congress of the United States.

So in that light I ask your full measure of cooperation with respect to people who may be entirely innocent in your eyes but who may even today continue in their membership in the Communist Party unknown to you and represent and constitute a continuing menace.

I say that membership in the Communist Party does not necessarily attach to those whom you may mention. We do require the information and under the authority that is vested in the committee I direct your answer to the questions which are directed by Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. FLEURY. Certainly, Congressman, under those circumstances I certainly shall.

Besides Pomerantz the other individuals, Mr. David Hilberman, at his home.

Mr. WHEELER. What is Mr. Hilberman's occupation?

Mr. FLEURY. At present I have no idea. He is no longer in this area.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall his area at that time?

Mr. FLEURY. Yes. He was in the animation business.

Mr. WHEELER. For Walt Disney?

Mr. FLEURY. I think long ago he had been; yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Was Mrs. Hilberman present?

Mr. FLEURY. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall her first name?

Mr. FLEURY. Lib, I think.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever attend a meeting at the home of Edward Biberman?

Mr. FLEURY. No, sir; never.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Edward Biberman?

Mr. FLEURY. I am acquainted with him as a teacher formerly with Art Center School.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall anybody else's home that you attended meetings at?

Mr. FLEURY. No, sir; I don't. Those are really the only two that I do recall.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who attended these meetings?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, the individuals mentioned, naturally the homes. Well, they are the stand-outs. I simply don't remember, actually in so many words.

Mr. JACKSON. How many meetings did you attend, Mr. Fleury?

Mr. FLEURY. Even that is indefinite, Mr. Jackson. I don't know. I know this, that I certainly was not a regular attendant, if you want to call it that. In fact, I was what would probably be called a very ill-disciplined member.

Mr. JACKSON. You are leaving us with the thought that out of the meetings that you did attend that you have no recollection of any names other than the two or three that you have mentioned?

Mr. FLEURY. Definitely and specifically—wait a minute. There is another one. A fellow by the name of John McGrew.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you know how Mr. McGrew was employed?

Mr. FLEURY. He was in the animation business, also.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you know where he was employed at that time?

Mr. FLEURY. I believe Warner Bros., or Leon Schlesinger Productions.

Mr. JACKSON. What was the procedure used in calling one of these meetings?

Mr. FLEURY. Oh, sometimes telephone—usually just telephone or you bumped into someone who said, "We are getting together on such and such a night."

Mr. JACKSON. This was true in the case of all the meetings which you attended?

Mr. FLEURY. All that I went to; yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Someone notified you of the meeting either in passing conversation or by a telephone call?

Mr. FLEURY. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Let's take the meeting at your home. Did you notify the people?

Mr. FLEURY. No. It was a question where would we meet next week and Bernyce and I said, "Let's meet at our house."

Mr. WHEELER. Where did you reside at that time?

Mr. FLEURY. This was at 1022 Laguna Avenue.

Mr. WHEELER. What period of time did you reside there?

Mr. FLEURY. Oh, goodness, let's see. It would be from 1940 until 1947.

Mr. WHEELER. After you were discharged from the Army did you renew your association with the Communist Party?

Mr. FLEURY. No. I saw some of these people casually but I didn't have any contact with them any longer because actually when I met them any more my interest was not the motion-picture business, I was fed up to here [indicating] with it.

Mr. JACKSON. At the meeting that was held at your home, I assume you received the guests at the door, ushered them in.

Mr. FLEURY. Well, actually, no. In fact, I was busy stirring up a piece of grog at the time.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you recall any who were present at the meeting at your home other than those you have named?

Mr. FLEURY. No, sir; I do not. That is what I am still trying to cudgel and find and make sure.

Mr. JACKSON. What Communist Party publications have you subscribed to?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, I suppose it is called now—I guess it always was—People's World, and that's all. Years and years ago—I don't know whether it was a subscription or whether I just bought it at the newsstand—I used to buy New Masses and New Republic, all at the same time.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you completely broken with the philosophy of the Communist doctrines?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, certainly. In the circumstances today.

Mr. JACKSON. The question isn't, of course, as it might sound on the surface.

Mr. FLEURY. Certainly, I know that.

Mr. JACKSON. There are a great number of people who haven't broken their association.

Mr. FLEURY. Congressman Jackson, may I make a remark here?

Mr. JACKSON. Of course.

Mr. FLEURY. This is not just greased-pig stuff on my part when I say that my fundamental attraction to the party was not as a political party at all. It was fundamentally an endeavor at that time by many of us who were for the first time artists thrown into industry to try to arrive at some sort of adjustment between our personal problems brought up as artists and the problems of these fields that we were found in. In order to resolve that, we looked anywhere and every-

where for any kind of thing that would help us out. So, there was a certain common examination among these people with respect to that particular problem, which was, I remember, the essence of all meetings, and my sole interest in them. To that degree, why, I found at that time some, what I felt were, fairly helpful and valid ideas. I don't know whether they were the ideas as such or simply the opportunity to discuss them and air them and discuss what to us was a very important problem.

MR. JACKSON. In the light of what has since transpired, do you feel that there is any field of free expression and self-determination for the artist in communism?

MR. FLEURY. No; I certainly do not. In fact, I found that, I think, one of the reasons why a very conscious and avid interest never developed on my part in following this thing through was because the basic philosophy in approaching the problem of an artist and his role in society was entirely counter to that which I was able to think or that made sense.

MR. JACKSON. What steps were ever taken by anyone with respect to your work in the discussion group which might lead you to believe that an effort was being made to influence your work, to give it, shall we say, a social message?

MR. FLEURY. Absolutely none, sir.

MR. JACKSON. There was no effort on the part of anyone?

MR. FLEURY. No, sir.

MR. JACKSON. Mrs. Fleury has stated that she had disagreements with Biberman—

MR. FLEURY. Yes; I had heard about them, too.

MR. JACKSON (continuing). Over the approach of the artist to his work. I wondered whether you held any discussion with Mr. Biberman or anyone else in which that philosophy, as it pertains to the artist and his work, was advanced.

MR. FLEURY. Yes; I think that on occasion the orthodox view, because naturally it was also prominent in the literature which—I can't even remember—Plekhanov; I don't remember who it was; he was supposed to have been the great orthodox Marxist boy on art criticism. And this to me was just simply, if you will pardon the expression, a red rag, because I didn't believe it.

MR. JACKSON. Did he address at any time a discussion group?

MR. FLEURY. Oh, no. He is dead long ago, 1890, or something like that, or right at the time of the so-called Russian Revolution.

MR. JACKSON. Pardon my abysmal ignorance on that point.

MR. FLEURY. That's all right.

MR. JACKSON. Was it the custom to invite people in to talk to the discussion groups on occasion on various phases of art?

MR. FLEURY. As I remember, no. This was all sort of a self-contained thing right within itself. We would bounce off each other as sounding boards.

MR. JACKSON. I assume that, in common with many of the American people, a great number of people, you followed the activities of this committee so far as the witnesses we have had before us are concerned?

MR. FLEURY. In a general way, yes.

MR. JACKSON. Have you at any time met any of those who have been called as witnesses before the committee?

Mr. FLEURY. To my knowledge now, no; never. In fact, many of them I never heard of before until during the history of this thing when their names have become prominent.

Mr. JACKSON. But you have not met on any occasion any of the witnesses we have had before us? John Howard Lawson?

Mr. FLEURY. No, sir; I don't believe I ever met him.

Mr. JACKSON. V. J. Jerome?

Mr. FLEURY. No, sir. I never even heard of him.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you ever meet any motion-picture people at these meetings? I am not talking about the cartoonists or those immediately concerned with animation. Were there any other fields of the motion-picture arts or the entertainment world in general represented at these meetings or was the membership strictly limited to those who were more or less and in one way or another connected with animation?

Mr. FLEURY. It was purely animation, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. It was purely animation?

Mr. FLEURY. In fact, I think that we were probably considered pretty useless and not a very—how would you call it?—solid party unit by any manner of means, and we were very carefully kept segregated.

Mr. JACKSON. What was the amount of dues you paid, and how were they paid, on a monthly basis?

Mr. FLEURY. As I remember, it was a monthly basis and it had to do with the amount of your earnings. I know ours, at least mine, were damn small.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you also pay dues for Mrs. Fleury?

Mr. FLEURY. She paid her own.

Mr. JACKSON. To whom were the dues paid?

Mr. FLEURY. I think on occasion, why, Pomerantz would pick them up, or someone. I don't know. Those major four seemed to be the ones who mainly collected them. Actually, I think that I was in arrears for most of the time that I was there. I think I only paid about twice.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you recall about the amount of your dues?

Mr. FLEURY. As I remember, mine was under \$3.

Mr. JACKSON. A month?

Mr. FLEURY. Yes. Very slight.

Mr. JACKSON. Were you asked at any time to introduce into the group any other person or persons?

Mr. FLEURY. Not in so many words; no. There was none of the business of us going out and selling. If we felt that anyone might possibly be interested, why, we were to invite them to come around. I never found anyone.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you ever given any assignments by this group?

Mr. FLEURY. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Such as a book to read on which to give a lecture at a future meeting?

Mr. FLEURY. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Francis de Erdely?

Mr. FLEURY. No, sir. Only as a name I read in the newspapers and as an artist and teacher here in town.

Mr. WHEELER. This John McGrew, is it M-c G-r-e-w?

Mr. FLEURY. Yes, sir.



Mr. WHEELER. You were at one time an instructor at the People's Educational Center; is that correct?

Mr. FLEURY. Oh, for a few weeks I went over to the life class for about 8 weeks. I think it was.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who requested that you assume this position?

Mr. FLEURY. I think it was actually the fellow who was secretary, or something, of the school, called me because he had heard somehow that I was a life teacher and the actual person that was scheduled couldn't make the thing and I was agreeable to the thing.

Mr. JACKSON. Who was the individual in charge at that time?

Mr. FLEURY. It is a name I don't remember. It would have to be—in fact, I don't even remember the dates when I did teach these things. If you can tell me the dates, why, maybe I can find out generally or think back and see if I can find out what his name was.

Mr. JACKSON. Who was in charge? That is, who was in direct charge of the People's Educational Center?

Mr. FLEURY. That is the name I can't remember, sir. It was the secretary that was in charge of the school. A young guy, and I don't remember his name.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall if this individual was Sidney Davidson?

Mr. FLEURY. I believe so.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you subscribe to the People's Daily World?

Mr. FLEURY. You mean at this time?

Mr. WHEELER. No, at the time during your membership.

Mr. FLEURY. Before the war, certainly.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall how you were solicited to subscribe for this paper?

Mr. FLEURY. Well, actually I have been buying it on the newsstand and just took a subscription because it was easier.

Mr. WHEELER. At these meetings you attended did they sell literature?

Mr. FLEURY. Oh, yes, sure; there was always something being brought around.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the nature of this literature?

Mr. FLEURY. It would be the People's World; it would be New Masses magazine—that kind of thing.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions at this time, Mr. Chairman. However, I would like to make the recommendation that either Mr. Fleury or Mrs. Fleury testify at the hearings starting September 17. At the present time my personal reaction is that perhaps Mrs. Fleury should testify.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, it is so ordered. The subpoena will be extended, and you will notify her.

Mr. WHEELER. I would like to set the date for Mrs. Fleury for Thursday, September 20, at 2 p. m.

Mr. FLEURY. Congressman, isn't there anyone else in southern California who could do this besides my wife and myself?

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Fleury, very frankly—and I am only expressing my own opinion—I am not convinced that the measure of your cooperation has been full and complete. It is inconceivable to me that one person or two people could be associated over the period of a year,

attend a number of meetings, including one in your own home, and be unable, out of that association, to remember more than the four or five individuals whom you have named.

Mr. FLEURY. Well, sir, those are the names that I can recall, and I can do no more about that. After all, this was how long ago? Nine years ago?

Mr. JACKSON. That is a matter within your own mind, obviously, over which we have no control. If you sincerely cannot remember more, of course, that is that.

Mr. WHEELER. I want to make the remark that if Mr. Fleury and Mrs. Fleury discuss this more fully in the next couple of days, and if Mr. Fleury wants to contact me or reappear before us after he has additional time to think it over, perhaps he could testify, rather than his wife, if he desires to do that. It is not our policy to call both the husband and the wife before the committee.

Mr. JACKSON. Of course, the final decision must rest in the hands of the chairman of the committee.

Mr. WHEELER. That's right.

Mr. JACKSON. This is purely a preliminary investigation. I would suggest, pending a discussion with the other members of the committee upon their arrival, that the subpoena be held open until such time as the matter can be discussed at greater length with the other members of the subcommittee.

If you will, Mr. Fleury, keep in touch with Mr. Wheeler in the event that you change your address, or in order that he may be able to contact you.

Mr. WHEELER. We will let both subpoenas remain open until a decision is made.

Mr. JACKSON. It is so ordered; the subpoenas will remain open.

If in the interim, and after fuller discussion of the matter, there is any further information which you feel you can give the committee, you can communicate with Mr. Wheeler at the Roosevelt Hotel.

Mr. FLEURY. I would like very much, instead of asking me to volunteer information, to at least have specific questions that I get a chance to answer, because actually this is so remote and so forgotten that I simply do not remember, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Fleury, the matter of the identification of people who were associated with you in this activity at that time is a matter that is within your knowledge and not necessarily within the knowledge of the committee. I say that much of the information which has already been given is information which is already in the possession of the committee. We are looking for additional information and, quite frankly, information which may not be in the possession of the committee.

Mr. FLEURY. Naturally, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. So far as the identifications are concerned, that is a matter which is entirely within your own discretion. I would hope that upon further consideration—and I realize how repugnant it is to the average person to disclose names, dates, and places; but that is the sum and substance of the things we must have if we are to carry this investigation through to a successful conclusion—again I would hope that after further discussion both of you can refresh your memories to the extent that you can contact Mr. Wheeler and give us some additional information with respect to those who were active

in the CPA at that time. In the meanwhile the subpoenas will be held open and extended awaiting the will and pleasure of the chairman of the committee.

The subcommittee will stand in recess until tomorrow morning at 9:30.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

(The following sworn statement of Anne Ray Frank was given at 2:45 p. m. to William A. Wheeler, committee investigator.)

#### STATEMENT OF ANNE RAY FRANK

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name.

Mrs. FRANK. Anne Ray Frank.

Mr. WHEELER. Where do you presently reside?

Mrs. FRANK. 245 Parkwood Drive, Los Angeles 24.

Mr. WHEELER. You are appearing before the committee under subpoena; is that correct?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Where were you born?

Mrs. FRANK. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you give us a brief résumé of your educational background.

Mrs. FRANK. Public schools in Pennsylvania and Los Angeles, and Fairfax High School was my last school.

Mr. WHEELER. What has your educational background been?

Mrs. FRANK. I went to work in 1930 for the Charles R. Hadley Co.; in 1935 I went to work for the Richfield Oil Co. I was at Hadley for 5 years, Richfield from 1935 to 1942. I worked a week for Sam Goldwyn as a secretary. In 1942 I went to work for MCA as a secretary. In 1943 I wrote for radio.

Do you want to know who I worked for in radio?

Mr. WHEELER. Please.

Mrs. FRANK. I was a contributing writer to the F. Hugh Herbert show, Meet Corliss Archer, and I did free-lance radio writing for the next year and a half.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you presently married?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. To whom are you married?

Mrs. FRANK. Melvin Frank.

Mr. WHEELER. What is Mr. Frank's occupation?

Mrs. FRANK. He is a writer.

Mr. WHEELER. When were you married to Mr. Frank?

Mrs. FRANK. January 22, 1944.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you known professionally as Anne Ray?

Mrs. FRANK. I was known professionally as Anne Ray; yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Miss Ray, have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes; I have.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall when you first joined the Communist Party?

Mrs. FRANK. The exact month I can't tell you. Somewhere in the spring of 1943.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall how you were introduced into the Communist Party?

Mrs. FRANK. Through a friend of mine, Mrs. Meta Rosenberg. I was taken to a Communist Party meeting.

Mr. WHEELER. You subsequently joined the party?

Mrs. FRANK. And I subsequently joined the party.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you assigned to any particular group or unit?

Mrs. FRANK. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you attend meetings for any period of time?

Mrs. FRANK. In 1943 there were two or three meetings that I went to in Hollywood.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall where these meetings were held?

Mrs. FRANK. Somewhere north of Franklin near Western.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall at whose home?

Mrs. FRANK. No; I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who was present at these initial meetings?

Mrs. FRANK. No, I don't, simply because these were, I was led to believe, radio people. I never saw them before and never saw them afterward. They were all strangers to me.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you first assigned to a radio group?

Mrs. FRANK. Well, I never was formally assigned to anything. There were radio writers' problems discussed here, joining the guild.

Mr. WHEELER. For what period of time did you remain with this radio writers' group?

Mrs. FRANK. I remember two or three meetings, and how long, over what period of time I really couldn't say.

Mr. WHEELER. You don't recall anyone in this first group?

Mrs. FRANK. No. They are all strangers to me.

I was working in MCA from 10 o'clock in the morning until 7 in the evening, then I was working, I was writing these radio scripts for F. Hugh Herbert. This was my first entrance into knowing anybody in radio at all. I didn't know radio workers, I didn't know anybody who was working for radio. I wasn't included in a group because this was, if I can phrase it a little bit better—I wasn't officially in radio work. My relationship with F. Hugh Herbert was one in which I assisted him in connection with his literary work.

Mr. WHEELER. You have previously testified that you attended two or three meetings comprised of people in the radio industry. Were you subsequently transferred to another group or did you attend meetings of another group at any time?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes. Three or four months after I joined the party I left for New York. While I was in New York I had no contact whatsoever with the Communist Party or any other political organization.

I returned to Hollywood in November 1943, where I resumed my radio work. The pressure of this work and my romantic involvement with the man who has since become my husband precluded my attending party meetings. In January 1944 I was married. Shortly after that I resumed attending meetings. It was then that I first told my husband about my membership in the party. Over his strenuous objections to my membership I continued the meetings. My attendance was occasional and irregular, however, amounting to no more than six or seven in all.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall where these meetings were held?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes. They were held, with the exception of perhaps one, at the home of Dalton Trumbo in Beverly Hills.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall where the other one was held?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes. The other one was held at the home of Ring Lardner, Jr., in Westwood.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the names of the individuals who attended these meetings?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes. But since at about this time the Communist Party was dissolved and became instead an organization known as the Communist Political Association, and since the meetings of the association were open and for purposes of recruiting it was impossible then, and it is impossible now, to know just which of these people were party members and which were guests. However, there did seem to be a small group who were at all the meetings that I was at. I assumed then, and I assume now, that they were at that time members of the Communist Party or Communist Political Association.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you identify these individuals?

Mrs. FRANK. Well, in addition to Mr. Trumbo and Mr. Lardner I would say this group consisted of Richard Collins, Paul Jarrico, Gordon Kahn, Harold Buchman, and Robert Rossen. I also remember being impressed with the eloquence of two guest speakers, Albert Maltz and John Howard Lawson.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you remember what Mr. Lawson and Mr. Maltz discussed?

Mrs. FRANK. No; I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you pay dues to this group?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes; I did.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall how much your dues were?

Mrs. FRANK. I was assessed on the basis of my being a housewife and my dues were 25 cents a week, whether I attended the meetings or not.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall to whom you paid the money?

Mrs. FRANK. No; because it was a different person each time. There would be a period of time when someone would be the dues chairman and then there would be another time when someone would be a dues chairman, and I don't recall.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you related to the former Mrs. Budd Schulberg, now Virginia Vepfel?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes. She is my sister.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know her as a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. FRANK. No; I didn't.

Mr. WHEELER. When you joined the Communist Party did you use a name other than the name Anne Ray?

Mrs. FRANK. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. According to the records of the committee you were registered in the Communist Party under the name of Adelaide Crumley.

Mrs. FRANK. No kidding?

Mr. WHEELER. To the best of your knowledge you have never used the name Adelaide Crumley?

Mrs. FRANK. Oh, no.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever hear it before?

Mrs. FRANK. Never.

Mr. WHEELER. Additional information developed by the committee reflects that in 1944 you were issued CP Card No. 36106. Do you recall of ever having been issued a card?

Mrs. FRANK. No, sir; I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall registering in the Communist Party?

Mrs. FRANK. No, sir; I don't. I got a card and I tore it up.

Mr. WHEELER. The card was in your real name?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. While a member of the Communist Party do you recall if any literature was distributed during the meetings?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes; it was.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall what literature?

Mrs. FRANK. People's World, New Masses.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever subscribe to the Daily People's World?

Mrs. FRANK. No; I didn't subscribe to it. I might have subscribed to it. I remember mostly buying it at newsstands but I might have subscribed to it. I want to be truthful. It is certainly possible that I subscribed to it.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you ever given an assignment by the Communist Party to make a study of any given subject and later give a lecture on it before the group?

Mrs. FRANK. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall what was generally discussed at these meetings?

Mrs. FRANK. Well, the evening went something like this: First there would be discussion of the agenda, which was ended and then there would be a discussion of current events. For instance, there would be an analysis of what was presently happening in the war, then a discussion of local problems. I remember particularly one time talking about raising money for the benefit of the Mexicans in the Sleepy Lagoon case, the Sleepy Lagoon Defense Committee. Then we would talk about the elections—this was an election year—and what we could do on a city, State, and national basis to elect candidates of the Democratic Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Why did you join the Communist Party, Miss Ray?

Mrs. FRANK. In the spring of 1943 the world was at war and I had very strong feelings about the issues involved. I was strongly anti-Hitler, anti-Mussolini, anti-Franco and pro-Roosevelt. I wanted then what I want now, a better world for the people in it. I believed in Franklin Delano Roosevelt and all he stood for. I was against racial discrimination and for social security, economic security, public health, and universal education. In those days I felt a peculiar sense of frustration at not being able to do enough to bring about this better world. I was led to believe that the Communist Party wanted the same things that I did, and in addition were doing something about it. That is why I joined.

Mr. WHEELER. Why did you leave the Communist Party?

Mrs. FRANK. My husband was violently opposed to my membership in the party. We argued constantly the first few months of our marriage. It was his point that one could be anti-Hitler and pro-Roosevelt, in fact all the things I believed in, without being a member of the Communist Party, an organization which I began to realize was inordinately concerned with the welfare of the Soviet

Union. I found that I had no answers for the questions he asked, I found no way to justify or reconcile a police state, a controlled press, one-party elections and secret police with the concepts of freedom and democracy, both of which are the main requirements for what I considered to be a decent society.

Also, I discovered that the words "democracy" and "freedom" were just words as far as the Communist Party was concerned. I found nothing democratic in the way the meetings were held. Nothing was ever voted upon by the membership, we were merely told what the line at the moment would be and that was that.

I began to find their rigidity of thinking intolerable. I found that anyone who in any way differed with whatever the party line happened to be at the moment was immediately and automatically termed either a Trotskyite, a Fascist, a reactionary, or a confused liberal.

As I understand what the structure of the party was, the way it was explained to me, was that the mass of the members were the bottom of a pyramid and as these members elected other members the pyramid got smaller and there was a guy at the top, Earl Browder. But it never worked that way as far as I was concerned. The masses didn't vote on something and then the guy at the head carried out the orders of the people the way the President of the United States does. It came from this guy at the top and trickled down and there it was, and that was that. You got the feeling that if you did vote on something it wouldn't make a lot of difference anyway.

MR. WHEELER. When did you completely sever your relationship or your membership in the Communist Party, or the Communist Political Association?

MRS. FRANK. Some time early in 1945 after I hadn't gone to meetings for months, Harold Buchman came to my house and asked me why I had stopped.

MR. WHEELER. What did you tell him?

MRS. FRANK. I told him I decided to quit the party. Mr. Buchman agreed it was my right to do so and after he left the house I never again had anything to do with the Communist Party or the Communist Political Association.

MR. WHEELER. Miss Ray, have you ever been a member of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee for the Arts, Sciences, and Professions.

MRS. FRANK. No, sir.

MR. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the American Youth for Democracy?

MRS. FRANK. No, sir.

MR. WHEELER. Were you ever a pupil or instructor at the People's Educational Center?

MRS. FRANK. I took two courses in history at the People's Educational Center.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall the instructor?

MRS. FRANK. I recall what he looks like but I don't remember his name.

MR. WHEELER. What did he look like?

MRS. FRANK. He had an English accent and he wore old-school ties and he was a very round guy, had quite a potbelly and wore peculiar vests. I don't remember his name.

MR. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee?

Mrs. FRANK. No, sir.

MR. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Hollywood Democratic Committee?

Mrs. FRANK. No, sir.

MR. WHEELER. Have you ever contributed to any of the organizations which I have named?

Mrs. FRANK. Yes. I searched my records and I found that I wrote the following checks to the organizations you named and to some of the following. The entire list in chronological order is as follows: January 17, 1944, \$10 to the Labor Herald; February 21, 1944, \$8.80, Sleepy Lagoon Defense Committee; March 4, 1944, \$8.15 to the Russian War Relief; March 6, 1944, \$2.77 to the Russian War Relief; April 7, 1944, \$10, American Youth for Democracy; June 5, 1944, \$5, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee; June 14, 1944, \$12, People's Educational Center; June 15, 1944, \$5, Hollywood Democratic Committee; and October 5, 1944, \$6, People's Educational Center. That is the list of the organizations to which I contributed and which may now be on the Attorney General's list of subversive organizations.

MR. WHEELER. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

MR. JACKSON. The witness may be excused.

(Whereupon the witness was excused.)

(The following sworn statement was then made by Eve Ettinger to William A. Wheeler, committee investigator.)

#### STATEMENT OF EVE ETTINGER

MR. WHEELER. Will you state your full name?

MISS ETTINGER. Eve Ettinger.

MR. WHEELER. Where were you born?

MISS ETTINGER. New York—Manhattan.

MR. WHEELER. Your present address?

MISS ETTINGER. 330 South Almont Drive, Los Angeles 48.

MR. WHEELER. You are here pursuant to subpoena; is that correct?

MISS ETTINGER. Yes.

MR. WHEELER. Where are you presently employed?

MISS ETTINGER. At Columbia Pictures.

MR. WHEELER. What is your position?

MISS ETTINGER. I am story editor.

MR. WHEELER. Will you relate briefly your educational background?

MISS ETTINGER. I graduated from public school and high school.

MR. WHEELER. Would you relate your employment record?

MISS ETTINGER. I have been employed by Columbia Pictures for, I think, it is 15 years.

MR. WHEELER. Where were you employed before going to work for Columbia?

MISS ETTINGER. For a short while I was at Paramount as a secretary, then I came to Columbia as a reader.

MR. WHEELER. For a period of time you were employed in New York City by these organizations?

MISS ETTINGER. By Columbia. Up until May 1945 I worked in New York.

MR. WHEELER. Did you work for Paramount in New York, also?



Miss ETTINGER. Yes. I just got out of school.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the Screen Readers' Guild in New York?

Miss ETTINGER. Yes. I think I was.

Mr. WHEELER. It was also known as the Screen Analysts' Guild, either before the Screen Readers' Guild or after?

Miss ETTINGER. I think so, Mr. Wheeler, I say I think so. I must tell you, because I was a reader for not too long a time. I never thought of it until you brought it up. I forgot that there was a Screen Readers' Guild.

Mr. WHEELER. Miss Ettinger, a witness has appeared before the committee and has given testimony to the effect that the witness knew you as a member of the Communist Party in New York. Would you like to affirm or deny that statement?

Miss ETTINGER. I was. I have also tried to tell Mr. Gang, my attorney, that I honestly can't remember, and yet I must have had a party card. I do not remember carrying one or having one.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall when you first joined the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. I have tried to straighten out the dates and discussed this with Mr. Gang in trying to straighten myself out on it. I thought it was about 1936, but it might have been 1935.

Mr. WHEELER. For what reason did you join the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. Mr. Wheeler, I will have to phrase it first for you, because I don't know whether this is what you mean. I had no—what is the word—no goal. All we were hearing around was what was going on in Europe, people being killed, people dying, and meetings being held on every single street corner in New York and advertisements of meetings being held, "We will tell you why this is going on in the world," and I listened to them and I went to them. Apparently I must have thought this is a way to learn what's going on, this is the way to find out what's happening in the world and what our role is in the world and what the roles were of not only minority groups but people who didn't want to be killed, what we could do to avoid it. I don't know whether that sounds silly now. I thought this was a place—you know, I am a great somebody who likes to sit and listen and have people talk at them. I thought this was a great place to read about the world and history and discuss it. This is what happened, we discussed.

Mr. WHEELER. How long were you a member of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. Mr. Wheeler, again I will have to say I think it was to 1940. It couldn't have been later than 1941 at the latest, and probably earlier.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you at any time renew your membership in the Communist Party in California?

Miss ETTINGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you recall who asked you to join the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. I have been trying hard to do that with Mr. Gang, and even though I said to Mr. Gang I remember the first name of this fellow well, I remember because he took me to meetings. I don't even know whether he was the instrumental thing that brought me into the party, or whether I did it.

MR. WHEELER. What was his first name?

MISS ETTINGER. Al. And I remember that very clearly. I remember what he looked like.

MR. WHEELER. Describe him.

MISS ETTINGER. A rotund, shortish fellow who apparently had done a lot of reading on his own. Whether he was a member at the time I don't know.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall his occupation?

MISS ETTINGER. I think, and this again I have told Mr. Gang, and it is conjecture on my part, I think he was a copy writer. I think he was writing advertising copy. I may be so wrong on that that I have to say, "I think."

MR. WHEELER. After you joined the party were you assigned to any particular unit or branch?

MISS ETTINGER. How I was assigned, the form it took, I am not sure of. I know that I think there were originally—I think I did go to meetings with some readers and then I don't know how it happened, whether they left the party or whether they moved out. There were changes. I cannot remember how it changed.

MR. WHEELER. How many different groups or units were you assigned to during the period of time you were in the party? Approximately how many?

MISS ETTINGER. Mr. Wheeler, may I amend that? I am not sure that the original group was only readers, I'm not sure of that. That, I can't remember. Then there was another group with people coming and going, that's all.

MR. WHEELER. Just two groups, then?

MISS ETTINGER. Yes.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall where any of these meetings were held?

MISS ETTINGER. I thought that some of the meetings were held, in good part, in the building on Fourth Avenue. Now, I think, it may not be Fourth Avenue—it's Twenty-third Street, which was a headquarters building in New York.

MR. WHEELER. What type of headquarters?

MISS ETTINGER. The party headquarters.

MR. WHEELER. How many individuals comprised the first group, approximately?

MISS ETTINGER. I don't know. Maybe four, maybe five. It's hard. I am guessing when I tell it to you.

MR. WHEELER. How about the second group?

MISS ETTINGER. I think about 10 or 12, with changes, with people coming and going. But I don't think it was larger than that. I don't think so. I have no visual memory on it, which is what disturbs me so.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall anybody who was in charge of these particular groups, either one or the other?

MISS ETTINGER. I don't think we ever had that formality. I think somebody would say, "We'll get together and sit and talk and read a book and discuss it." I have tried in these last couple of weeks to remember what of party activity was done, what party activity went on, and outside of having fights about the things that appeared in the weekly magazines and the discussions of what was going on in Europe, unless I have just forgotten I can't remember an activity. That seems silly, but I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. You were a member of the Communist Party when the Stalin-Hitler Pact was originated, were you not? That was in 1939.

Miss ETTINGER. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What was your reaction to the Stalin-Hitler Pact?

Miss ETTINGER. I thought it was just ridiculous. This is when I really started shouting. This is when I thought the whole thing was just distasteful and I couldn't understand it. I felt I had learned nothing and my purpose in going to these meetings was to learn and I felt that I had learned nothing if this is what was going on. I didn't understand it.

Mr. WHEELER. Was the necessity of the signing of the Stalin-Hitler Pact explained in any way to you?

Miss ETTINGER. No. I think I remember reading in the magazine, one of the magazines, whichever it was, whether it was the Communist-International or—what's that magazine?

Mr. WHEELER. New Masses?

Miss ETTINGER. Or in the New Masses. One of those magazines, a whole explanation of the party having made a mistake, that they had been saying that such a thing would never happen and they said, "We made a mistake, we apologize," something like that, or "We didn't understand the situation and we have been put straight." I can't even paraphrase the words. This is, you know, what I considered a real joke. Except up to then it had been a period of stress and strain, and this may be what everybody says. I don't know if everybody has this excuse, but mine is not an excuse; it's just the truth. I mean I don't know if everybody who talks to you says, "You know, I never agreed," but I didn't. I was in a constant turmoil of fighting. But it is hard when you do something you are ashamed of, you just don't put your hat on and walk away and say, "Maybe I am not so smart, how do I know all the answers?" So you wait around and listen, and you fight some more, and finally I realized that it was just silly, a silly thing and I agreed with nothing.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know George Willner in New York City?

Miss ETTINGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the names of any of the individuals who comprised these groups which you attended?

Miss ETTINGER. Mr. Wheeler, it's 15 years—it's a long time, it is hard for me to remember. It is something that was a whole unpleasant period of my life that I wanted to forget. I just wish I hadn't waited this long, but I did, and it has just left a whole blank, like questions about groups and things which I can't even remember. I did know Lee Sabinson. I have a recollection of Lee Sabinson disappearing, and I had a feeling that he was gone forever, I don't know. I have seen him in the years past, he has come to Hollywood and he has produced plays. But there was never a political discussion, never a conservation, but never. I had assumed that he was either out or gone. I know he went to Europe for a while.

Mr. WHEELER. You knew Mr. Sabinson in these groups?

Miss ETTINGER. I knew him in the beginning of the group or toward the beginning of the group, yes. I did know Nick Bela.

Mr. WHEELER. That is Nicholas Bela?

Miss ETTINGER. Nicholas Bela.

Mr. WHEELER. You knew him as a member of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. Yes. I did know Lester Fuller.

Mr. WHEELER. Lester Fuller is a writer?

Miss ETTINGER. Yes. I did not know the man as a writer. I had a feeling that Lester Fuller was all through. I had never discussed him. I had a feeling that he was as displeased as I was and then I didn't see him for many years. I met him around Hollywood and said, "Hello." Never—whether he was avoiding the subject or I was avoiding the subject, just this was a part of my past I had wiped out.

Then he was brought into the studio on a job last year by somebody else. I didn't bring him in. I didn't do anything about it. It was many years since I had been in the party. I could assume that it was many years since I hadn't seen him since he had been in the party. How could I go and say to the producer, "You can't hire this man because he is a party member," because I didn't know. I had no idea.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know Martin Berkeley as a member of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. For a short time I think I did. In thinking back about Martin, I knew him in New York when he was writing a play with a woman that I knew, whose name I know well because we bought a book of hers—there is no reference of the party—and I thought maybe I knew him because of that. I thought maybe that was the tie.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever meet John Howard Lawson in New York City?

Miss ETTINGER. Never.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall anybody else that you knew as a member of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. I recall a guy that I knew as Dave. Some people just call themselves by a first name that I didn't know. I must have been awful naive, because I thought people just knew Eve, too.

Mr. WHEELER. What was Dave's occupation, do you recall?

Miss ETTINGER. No. I didn't know the occupations of most of the group. I doubt very much, outside of the few people that I have discussed with you, that they belonged to any of the companies.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know any actors to be members of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. You mean stage actors, Hollywood actors?

Mr. WHEELER. Stage actors or screen actors.

Miss ETTINGER. No, I had nothing to do with actors so I wouldn't have come in contact with them.

Mr. WHEELER. Most of the people you knew then were readers?

Miss ETTINGER. And later on I knew agents and publishers and some writers, naturally, who came to me.

Mr. WHEELER. I am referring to people in the Communist Party group.

Miss ETTINGER. I'm sorry. No.

Mr. WHEELER. There were no actors in the Communist Party that you knew?

Miss ETTINGER. Not that I know of.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know any agent in the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. Not that I know of. You mean literary agents?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes. In New York City.

Miss ETTINGER. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know any agents that represent people who are members of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. You will have to rephrase that.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know any agents of people in New York?

Miss ETTINGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know any producers to be members of the Communist Party, while in New York City?

Miss ETTINGER. You mean stage producers?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Miss ETTINGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know any movie producers?

Miss ETTINGER. No. I didn't know any movie producers—period, except when people would come on from the East and stop in the office and say "hello." But that isn't knowing them.

Mr. WHEELER. After you left the Communist Party were you ever asked to rejoin?

Miss ETTINGER. I think they were glad to get rid of me, I really do. I was, without realizing it, very troublesome because I used to ask questions and get up and argue, and I guess I was a pain in the neck.

Mr. WHEELER. Did anybody ever ask you to rejoin?

Miss ETTINGER. Nobody ever came near me again.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with George Willner?

Miss ETTINGER. Yes. I have to be, because I am a story editor and he came up to my office, and that's how I met him.

Mr. WHEELER. Did George Willner ever suggest to you that you hire certain people?

Miss ETTINGER. Never discussed a political thing with me.

Mr. WHEELER. That wasn't the question. Listen to the question, please.

Miss ETTINGER. Well, naturally he had a list of writers that he was representing.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you think that George Willner knew that you were at one time a member of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. I have no idea. I don't know how he could know. Not from me, certainly. Now, maybe somebody may have told him, how do I know? You know, I can't imagine what information he had. I don't know.

Mr. WHEELER. Did he ever discuss with you communism or politics?

Miss ETTINGER. Never.

Mr. WHEELER. Did he ever make any reference to whether he was a member of the party?

Miss ETTINGER. Never.

Mr. WHEELER. Did he ever ask you whether you ever had been a member of the party?

Miss ETTINGER. Never.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you hire many of the writers which he represented?

Miss ETTINGER. I must have over a period of years hired writers that he represented.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you favor him in any way in regard to hiring writers?

MISS ETTINGER. Mr. Wheeler, I never favored agents. I favored writers with agents but it never came about because anybody belonged to an agency.

MR. WHEELER. Have you any statement to make about George Willner and your business relationship with him?

MISS ETTINGER. You mention George Willner and that makes me feel that I have to tell you a conversation that I had at Columbia with Mr. Kahane, who is one of our vice presidents. Mr. Kahane asked me about my relationship with George Willner.

MR. WHEELER. When?

MISS ETTINGER. During the period I had left Columbia, which was from May 1947 until the end of November 1947. This was one of the biggest shocks of my life because I had no association with George Willner. Mr. Kahane said he had gotten information from somebody who claimed that when I left Columbia it was for the purpose of going into business with George Willner, and I was going to get young writers to write scripts and I was going to sell these scripts to the studio with the writer, and presumably these writers were going to be Communists. This is, of course, ridiculous and I was amused by it at the time because I didn't realize the implications in it. But I told him the whole story, and he knew it, and I have not only the man I went into business with, but I have people in town whom I discussed relationship with this job, what I should do about it, who know about it.

I was unhappy at the time I came out here, I was sensitive, I was frightened. This was a new world to me and I came into a job in which I had to learn. I had to learn screen play writing, I had to learn how to choose writers. I came without preparation for it. Mr. Cohn called me one day and said, "Do you want to come out? Make up your mind in a day," and the next day I made up my mind. I hadn't done much script reading in New York and I certainly didn't know Hollywood writers, so I didn't know their capabilities, which meant I just had to kill myself to read every script that came in the studio and call up agents and say, "Give me scripts of these writers," so that when I was asked to name writers or suggest writers that I would be prepared. Since I am, I hate to say it, you know, high-strung, I couldn't take it in stride for a while and at the end of the second year I went to Mr. Cohn and I said, "I want to be let out of my contract." He told me he thought I was doing a foolish thing and I said, "Maybe I am, but the only way I can find out is by doing it."

Now, the reason I left is because, again I am being naive, there was a man who had worked for Columbia, he was an assistant to Mr. Cohn, and he left to join Nat Goldstone, and that is Milton Pickman. Milton had, whether well placed or not, a high regard for me. He thought I knew writers, he thought that I knew scripts. I had often talked to him about a dream of buying my own stories, hiring writers, writing scripts and selling them to studios at enormous prices, because an agent in town, Charley Feldman, would sell scripts for \$100,000 and \$150,000. And I thought, "I really know how to develop scripts, why shouldn't I do it." I had visions of being very rich.

So Milton's idea was that we would form a company, he would get part of the business, I would get part of the business, and he would

get a backer whom he knew, and whose name I don't know—you will have to get it from him if necessary—to supply the money and for which we would all share in the company. We decided that since we wanted to make the big profits that I would hire a writer and be very fair, pay him the salary he would be getting at the studio, not cut him down as independents very often try to do, get them at a cheaper price because they weren't working. I said, "I will find out what this writer's last salary at the studio was and I will pay it to him so that I have no obligation to him if I sell a script at a great deal of money and he says it is not fair." I had no obligation, he was paid his regular salary just as he would be at a studio.

It sounded good but some of my friends were very dubious about it. Milton asked me how much I thought I needed and I said, "Milton, to go along for a year to buy stories, because I don't know how much stories would cost, novels, I can work on some original ideas, but I had some things to sell the studio and I couldn't. I liked them. I felt I could produce with a writer a very workable script which would sell," I said, "to do that we have to count on the fact that maybe we won't sell a script for a year. We need \$50,000," which was going to pay me partial salary so I could live, pay the writer his salary, and naturally we were going to work at a very minimum. We were going to get writers for \$250, \$300 a week. Unless there was somebody I was so crazy about that I would be willing to give him a piece of the picture.

Since we didn't want to spend money Milton suggested that he would talk to Nat Goldstone about giving me a room that I could use. And he said to Nat, "If you let her maybe she will let you sell the scripts for her," because I didn't want to be a salesman, I didn't want to be an agent. I told Milton at the time that he must not promise this to Nat definitely, but if things worked out maybe I would let Nat sell it for me.

I got an office, I got a writer who was not a Goldstone writer. I was working on a story that we were trying to sell. We finally cut it down to \$25,000 because Milton said he couldn't get it. I said, "Milton, I will try it." Then he came to me, after giving me his own checks for the writer at \$250 a week, and he said, "I can't get the money." He even had the lawyer there, who is a lawyer and accountant, who was going to draw up an agreement. I said, "Milton, I am going to can this writer, you haven't any money and I am not going to ask him to work for nothing."

Mr. WHEELER. Who was the writer you had?

Miss ETTINGER. The writer was, I think, a fellow by the name of Bill Roberts and his agent was the Jaffe office.

Mr. WHEELER. Bill Roberts is not the same individual as Stanley Roberts?

Miss ETTINGER. No, no. William Roberts.

Mr. WHEELER. Did George Willner have anything to do with this business deal?

Miss ETTINGER. Nothing. He didn't know the writers I hired, he didn't know the story, but he was working—

Mr. WHEELER. Did you have any business contact with him?

Miss ETTINGER. None. But he knew I was working—he was working for the Nat Goldstone Agency so he knew I was in the office there. I wouldn't even let him know the stories I was working on.

Then the whole thing was no good and I even left the office. I kept the office for a week or two and stayed there because I wanted to make phone calls, I have a place to sit and worry.

Mr. WHEELER. When was this?

Miss ETTINGER. 1947.

Mr. WHEELER. You severed your relationship with Columbia for a few weeks and then you went back?

Miss ETTINGER. No. For about 6 months. Mr. Cohn called me up and said, "You made a mistake." I realized full well. Not being prepared for the big entrepreneur I thought I was going to be, he said, "You made a mistake," and I went back.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know John Weber?

Miss ETTINGER. I knew him as an agent; yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know John Weber in New York City?

Miss ETTINGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you have any dealings with John Weber?

Miss ETTINGER. He used to come up to see us occasionally. We had very infrequent business dealings, as a matter of fact, because he is a great—he was a great telephone talker and I used to complain to him because he never came up.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know John Weber as a member of the Communist Party in New York?

Miss ETTINGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you think John Weber knew at one time that you were a member of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. I have no idea. I didn't even know he came from New York.

Mr. WHEELER. Was any pressure ever exerted on you from either John Weber or George Willner in regard to hiring writers?

Miss ETTINGER. Just the normal pressure of an agent saying, "This is a good writer."

Mr. WHEELER. Have you, prior to coming here to testify, made a record of all of the writers who have been employed at Columbia Studios, either by Columbia Pictures Corp. or by independent companies releasing through Columbia?

Miss ETTINGER. The independent companies are not on that list. I can get that for you if you want it. I made it up, but since we have nothing to do with hiring them, not even suggesting them, I thought maybe that that was not—

Mr. WHEELER. You have prepared then—

Miss ETTINGER. If you want that I will get it for you.

Mr. WHEELER. That is not necessary. You have, however, gone through the records from the time you came to Columbia in 1945, up until the last date prior to giving your testimony, to check the names of all writers who have worked for Columbia Pictures Corp.?

Miss ETTINGER. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you now explain the method by which writers are engaged by Columbia Pictures Corp.?

Miss ETTINGER. Well, there are many, you know, starting points. But we will start at a point of buying a story.

We buy a story and Mr. Cohn O. K.'s it and we finally make the deal and it is assigned to a producer. Then the producer sits down with me, or with my assistant—my associate.

Mr. WHEELER. What is his name?



Miss ETTINGER. Arthur Kramer. We discuss various writers, we get their cards out, what they have done, what kind of stories, how many screen plays they have done, whether they were good pictures. And on the basis of that we pick out a list of the most suitable for that particular kind of a story. Then the producer says, "Well, let's get him and him and him in." He talks to all these people.

Mr. WHEELER. Who calls them in?

Miss ETTINGER. Either I do or Arthur, or sometimes I have my secretary make the date. It is very informal.

Mr. WHEELER. Who talks to them when they come in, you or your assistant or the producer?

Miss ETTINGER. They go to the producer. Sometimes they come down and tell me they have talked to the producer. Most of the times the producer calls me and says it was unsatisfactory, or satisfactory, or, "I like this guy and let's talk to Mr. Cohn." Then we get an O. K. If it is a project that Mr. Cohn isn't handling it is for Mr. Kahane. After they O. K. it they start to work for the producer and I practically never see them again.

Mr. WHEELER. Who makes the deal after they are O. K.'d by Mr. Cohn, Mr. Kahane, or the producer?

Miss ETTINGER. I make the deal with the agent.

Mr. WHEELER. That has to do with terms and conditions and money and so forth?

Miss ETTINGER. Yes. Usually we know writers' salaries. It's a week-to-week deal.

Mr. WHEELER. How many names are on this list that you have compiled?

Miss ETTINGER. There are over 900 names on that list.

Mr. WHEELER. With your permission I would like to review the list and just give the number of individuals who from our recollection have been identified as members of the Communist Party. Miss Etinger, I have reviewed the list of names which you have compiled, on which you state there are over 900 individuals, and I have recognized 38 as having been identified as having been members of the Communist Party.

Miss ETTINGER. Maybe about 925 or 930.

Mr. WHEELER. I want to ask you a question again. Was any pressure ever exerted on you by anyone to hire any writer by reason of Communist Party affiliations?

Miss ETTINGER. Mr. Wheeler, I can truthfully say never, or I was so dumb that I didn't recognize the signs.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall anybody else now whom you remember as a member of the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. I just can't.

Mr. WHEELER. Don't you think it is a bit unusual for a person to be a member of the Communist Party for a period of 4 years and only remember about four or five individuals?

Miss ETTINGER. It may be, but it is a long time ago. This is not something I want to remember; it is something that I wanted to forget. And people, maybe they weren't there long enough, maybe I didn't know more than first names, maybe they moved around and others came in and came out, so I never got to know anybody thoroughly. These people, even though I joined, were never people that I asso-

ciated with in any social way. I went to a meeting and I went away from a meeting and I never saw them.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you give this question further thought, and in case you remember any you will notify me.

Miss ETTINGER. I will be glad to.

Mr. WHEELER. Miss Ettinger, why did you get out of the Communist Party? Will you explain the reasons why you disaffiliated yourself with the Communist Party?

Miss ETTINGER. Because it took me all that time to make up my mind to just forget about it, because I disagreed on every point, I wasn't interested in having a separate—I am trying to remember some of the things that we studied that minority groups were going to have a choice of their own country in America, they were going to have a Negro America or Chinese America, or something else. I wasn't interested in this nonsense. I was interested in people living together.

The whole thing—this was only the beginning, the arguments, the nonsensical statements about world affairs. I disagreed with everything they thought was great for America and I disagreed with what was being done over the world. I was disgusted with the debating society because statements would appear in the magazines and newspapers and we would discuss them and I would disagree with them. I would be called names, I was a crooked thinker, I didn't think straight, I was not bright enough, I didn't understand. And this happened from the very beginning.

Finally when it came to really important world events, the happenings in Spain, the Hitler-Stalin pact, I knew that I could no longer sit there and be unhappy, I had to do something about it and I went away and never came back.

Mr. WHEELER. In other words, what made you unhappy about this Hitler-Stalin pact was the party which professed to be anti-Hitler and for minority groups made a treaty with Hitler?

Miss ETTINGER. Made a treaty with people they were supposed to be against. So I couldn't believe anything.

Mr. WHEELER. Did the explanation that the treaty was one of expediency only offend your sense of decency, if you can remember?

Miss ETTINGER. Even more than that. I believed that everything they said was a lie anyway, because it was all expediency, everything that happened and switched around from day to day was because it was right that day. So I never knew when they were right and I was right. And I decided this was not for me.

Mr. WHEELER. After you left the Communist Party were you ever asked by anyone to rejoin, either in New York or in Hollywood?

Miss ETTINGER. You mean after I was formally out?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Miss ETTINGER. Never.

Mr. WHEELER. I would like to refer back to the list of names you have compiled regarding the writers that were hired by Columbia Studios and ask you several questions regarding some of the individuals. I notice here that on October 24, 1946, Ben Barzman was hired. Do you recall the circumstances under which he was hired?

Miss ETTINGER. No. I called the producer for whom he worked at the time because it is 5 years ago. We tried to recall why this man

was hired. It may have been we looked at his record and thought maybe he could write that kind of a story. Neither of us could remember. I tried. I called him on this; I called the producer for whom these writers worked to try to refresh my memory.

Mr. WHEELER. Who was the producer?

Miss ETTINGER. Jules Schermer. He is no longer at Columbia; he is at Fox.

Mr. WHEELER. I notice Leonardo Bercovici was hired on March 6, 1950. Do you recall that?

Miss ETTINGER. Yes. A deal was made on Leonardo Bercovici between Sylvan Simon and, I think, Ray Starck.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you have anything to do with that?

Miss ETTINGER. No. Ray talked to Sylvan.

Mr. WHEELER. I notice Martin Berkeley was hired in May 1945. Do you recall the circumstances?

Miss ETTINGER. I had just arrived in Hollywood.

Mr. WHEELER. You had nothing to do with that?

Miss ETTINGER. I had nothing to do with that.

Mr. WHEELER. This list also reflects that Alvah Bessie was hired in December 1946. Do you recall the circumstances under which he was hired?

Miss ETTINGER. I discussed that with the producer Jules Schermer. We couldn't remember why he was hired, whether it was because he was fit for that job or what. I have a recollection that he may have written a book on Spain and we thought that that would fit in because this was a story about Spain. I looked up this story but I didn't look up his card. I got so mixed up that I forgot.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your attitude regarding qualified writers who presently cooperate with the committee?

Miss ETTINGER. I can answer that only by saying that writers hired by Columbia, since I suggest them, are hired purely on the basis of their talent.

Mr. WHEELER. No reflection—

Miss ETTINGER. Absolutely none.

Mr. WHEELER. No reflection will be cast upon them because of their cooperation?

Miss ETTINGER. Absolutely none. We are desperate for good writers and that is the way we hire them.

Mr. WHEELER. Lester Fuller was hired on October 11, 1949, by Columbia. Do you recall the circumstances under which he was hired?

Miss ETTINGER. 1949? I looked at that, I saw it wrong. I thought it was 1950.

Mr. WHEELER. A Day in the Life of a Detective. Do you remember about that?

Miss ETTINGER. Yes; I do remember. We had a man at the studio, who is no longer there, Erwin Gelsey. Erwin was a man who had worked on the script after the writers worked on it. He worked very close with Jerry Bresler who had A Day in the Life of a Detective. It was just a title, and no story. Jerry had gone through severe headaches because we had a writer on it for quite a while and nothing had happened or come through to satisfy Mr. Cohn. I remember this because I was upset about it, I felt it my function, and Erwin had

done it. Erwin met Lester Fuller and said that he thought he was very bright, and he talked to Jerry about the job. Jerry asked me to call his agent, who was George Willner, and have him come in. He talked to him, he liked him. He said, "I will get an O. K.," which he did, and Lester Fuller came to work.

I again say, I don't know if you want it, that I hadn't talked to Lester in 10 or 11 years. I had no idea what his party affiliations were. I occasionally passed him in Hollywood as I pass 85 percent of the people and said, "Hello." I had not discussed anything with him, he was not my friend. I couldn't go to the producer and say, "This man is a Communist." I didn't know. Just as I knew I no longer was.

MR. WHEELER. I don't believe it is necessary to go over the entire list of 38 names with you; however, I would like to ask you again if any pressure was ever exerted upon you to hire anybody because of his past or present party affiliations?

MISS ETTINGER. Mr. Wheeler, I don't think so. I don't think so. May I add something to that?

MR. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS ETTINGER. The agents in this town, and they sometimes make fun of it, know how tough I am on hiring writers, because how sure I make that he is right for the job and how sure I make that he has talent before he is hired.

MR. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Arts, Sciences and Professional Council?

MISS ETTINGER. No.

MR. WHEELER. Have you ever been affiliated with the People's Educational Center?

MISS ETTINGER. What is that? I don't know.

MR. WHEELER. Did you belong to the Motion Picture Democratic Committee?

MISS ETTINGER. I don't think so. Is that an organization out here?

MR. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS ETTINGER. No.

MR. WHEELER. Are you a member of the Arts, Sciences and Professions Council?

MISS ETTINGER. Is that an organization out here?

MR. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS ETTINGER. No.

MR. WHEELER. Have you contributed any money to any of these organizations I have mentioned?

MISS ETTINGER. No.

MR. WHEELER. Would you like to add something in addition to what you have testified to, that you have not been questioned about?

MISS ETTINGER. In concluding this testimony I would like to get into the record, in synopsis form, the reasons that I became a member of the Communist Party and why I left.

I never thought I was joining any party that was trying to overthrow the Government, or that was anti-American in any way. I thought I was joining a party which would explain the troubles of the world and be better able to understand it, and I found I was joining a debating society where people told me what to think and when I refused to think that way I was wrong and I was maligned and it

took me time to get the courage to put my hat on and go home, but finally I realized I had to and that's what I did. I haven't changed since then. I feel that it is just something I don't believe in, could never subscribe to, wouldn't give a nickel if that is what they needed to keep going.

Mr. WHEELER. From what you read of the Communist Party in the last 5 or 6 years, what is your opinion on it?

Miss ETTINGER. The last 5 years, with the war in Korea, seems to have made this not a debating society but an active adjunct of the Soviet Union in foreign policy.

(Whereupon the statement of Eve Ettinger was completed.)



# COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF HOLLYWOOD MOTION- PICTURE INDUSTRY—PART 6

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1951

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Los Angeles, Calif.*  
EXECUTIVE SESSION

A special subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met pursuant to call at 9:50 a. m., in conference room C, at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Los Angeles, Calif., Hon. Donald L. Jackson, presiding.

Committee member present: Representative Donald L. Jackson.

Staff members present: Thomas W. Beale, assistant counsel (appearance noted in transcript) and William A. Wheeler, investigator.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Wheeler, will you call the witness?

Mr. WHEELER. Robert Shayne.

Mr. JACKSON. Will you stand and be sworn, please?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. SHAYNE. I do.

## TESTIMONY OF ROBERT SHAYNE (ROBERT SHAEN DAWE)

Mr. SHAYNE. Gentlemen, I don't know why I'm here but I am prepared to give you every cooperation that I can.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you please state your full name.

Mr. SHAYNE. Robert Shayne.

Mr. WHEELER. Is that your professional name?

Mr. SHAYNE. That is my professional name.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your true name?

Mr. SHAYNE. Robert Shaen Dawe, D-a-w-e.

Mr. WHEELER. When and where were you born?

Mr. SHAYNE. I was born October the 4th, 1900, in Yonkers, N. Y.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you give us a brief résumé of your educational background.

Mr. SHAYNE. I went through high school in Washington, D. C., and 2 years of Boston University in business administration and one summer course at Chicago University.

Mr. WHEELER. What has been your employment record since leaving school?

Mr. SHAYNE. Oh, it has been quite varied.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, briefly.

Mr. SHAYNE. The last 25 years—nearly 25 years—I have been an actor.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you relate briefly what studios you have been under contract for.

Mr. SHAYNE. The only studio I have been under contract for is Warner Bros. I came out here in February of 1943 under contract to them, and that contract was terminated in July 1945. I have been a free-lance actor ever since.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you presently employed?

Mr. SHAYNE. No. Well, I am and I am not. You cut me out of a job by subpoenaing me today.

Mr. WHEELER. Who is your agent?

Mr. SHAYNE. Mr. Sam Armstrong.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Shayne, during the investigation in Hollywood, information has been developed that you were at one time a member of the Communist Party. Is that a statement of fact?

Mr. SHAYNE. One time a member?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. SHAYNE. That is a statement of fact, yes. I was a member of the Communist Party back in 1935, if you want to call it that, in New York City during the depths of the depression. I was not a member any longer, I suppose, than—oh, a few weeks or a few months. In 1936 I tore up my card and never paid dues to the organization. I don't imagine I attended more than—oh, a half a dozen meetings.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you a member of the Screen Actors' Guild?

Mr. SHAYNE. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever hold any offices in the Screen Actors' Guild?

Mr. SHAYNE. I was on the board of directors of the Screen Actors' Guild at one time.

Mr. WHEELER. What year was that? You were appointed to the board on March 4, 1945; is that right?

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, that sounds right. I am not sure.

Mr. WHEELER. Then in September 1945, you ran for office and were elected to the board for a period of 1 year?

Mr. SHAYNE. That sounds right, yes.

Mr. WHEELER. All right. The following year you didn't run. Could you tell us why?

Mr. SHAYNE. I was not nominated by the nominating committee.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, did you have any discussion with anybody in the Screen Actors' Guild that requested you not to run?

Mr. SHAYNE. Requested me not to run?

Mr. WHEELER. That's right.

Mr. SHAYNE. No. So far as I can recall, there was no request made for me not to run. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party in Hollywood?

Mr. SHAYNE. No, sir. Unqualifiedly, unequivocally, no, and I am not interested in becoming a member of the Communist Party at any time in the future.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, let's go back to 1935. Will you relate the circumstances, how you became a member.



Mr. SHAYNE. Well, it is very difficult to bring back all the circumstances of 16 years ago, Mr. Wheeler. It would be impossible for me to do so accurately. I will do so to the best of my ability.

Mr. WHEELER. To the best of your ability, yes.

Mr. SHAYNE. If you will recall the emotional excitement of 1934 and 1935 and all those years in there when we were in the midst of a terrible depression, unemployment was quite rampant, and those circumstances were not peculiar to the acting profession any more than they were to any other field of activities in the United States, and I was one of the ones who was suffering a great deal of unemployment, and there were no minimum wages, no pay for rehearsals, and no adequate protection against being fired from a part by a producer and to replace you with an actor at a lower salary if the play was a success, and there was considerable agitation among members of the Actors' Equity Association, of course, if you recall that climate for those things, and during the course of that—during that period I must have run into somebody who thought I was a ripe plum for picking and, in any event, I was given a copy by somebody of a book called *The Coming Struggle for Power* by Strachey. I forget his first name. John, or something.

Mr. JACKSON. John Strachey.

Mr. SHAYNE. John Strachey, and it made quite an impression on me, and one thing led to another, and I was invited down to the Workers' School by somebody—I don't remember whom—on Twelfth Street or Fourteenth; somewhere in that area. I went to a number of courses—rather, classes, and was, I suppose you would call it, indoctrinated. In any event, after some period of time—I suppose it was 2 or 3 months—it was suggested that I join the Party, that that was a good way to get the things that the actors were working for. So I, being fairly gullible, must have signed a card or an application, because to all intents and purposes, so far as I know, I became a member. I was given a card, but I destroyed that card some months later and, as I say, I never paid dues in the Party because I quickly became disillusioned with the secrecy of the whole procedure and the fact that I was supposed to give a fictitious, and I believe I did give a fictitious name, but that completely disillusioned me, and I have never been interested or at all active in any Communist Party activity since the spring of 1936.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who actually recruited you in the movement at that time?

Mr. SHAYNE. No, I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall any of the members of the Communist Party?

Mr. SHAYNE. No, I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. You recall no one.

Mr. SHAYNE. No, sir. That was 16 years ago.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Anti-Nazi League?

Mr. SHAYNE. No.

Mr. WHEELER. The Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions?

Mr. SHAYNE. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Hollywood Democratic Committee?

Mr. SHAYNE. No, sir.

MR. WHEELER. Hollywood Motion Picture Democratic Committee?

MR. SHAYNE. No, sir.

MR. WHEELER. Arts, Sciences, and Professions?

MR. SHAYNE. No, sir.

MR. WHEELER. People's Educational Center?

MR. SHAYNE. I went to school there once 3 or 4 years ago and took a screen-writing course, but that's all.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall who the instructor was?

MR. SHAYNE. No, sir, I don't.

MR. WHEELER. May we have a few minutes recess, Mr. Chairman?

MR. JACKSON. Yes; declare a 5-minute recess. If you [addressing witness] will hold yourself available outside the committee room, please.

(A short recess was taken.)

MR. JACKSON. Mr. Shayne, you say that at the time of the service of the subpoena you had some work which was effective and that you were out of a job as a result of the service of this subpoena?

MR. SHAYNE. That's correct.

MR. JACKSON. Where was that job?

MR. SHAYNE. I was employed at Superman Productions, television film over at the RKO-Pathé Studios. My producers told me that they asked for a postponement so that I could do the job yesterday, today, and tomorrow, but if they talked with someone it was declined.

MR. WHEELER. They didn't talk to me.

MR. SHAYNE. I might add that while you are asking me this, that I consider the way the subpoena was served upon me as not in the best of, let us say, spirit.

MR. JACKSON. We have tried serving subpoenas in the best of spirit on a number of people. The next we hear of them they are in Mexico or France, or something.

MR. SHAYNE. Well, the point I want to make is that the subpoena had my residence address on it. I could have been served out there just as easily without it being brought to such—the attention of studio employees, because the fact that a person is called before this committee, although they may be friendly or not, far too often is tantamount to being guilty of something or other, whatever that may be.

MR. JACKSON. Well, of course, the assumption or any assumptions that are left in the minds of the American people as a refusal of witnesses to testify is a logical assumption and, more often than not, correct. At least, that has been our experience in the committee. We certainly have no desire to persecute or prosecute anyone.

MR. SHAYNE. I have no employment.

MR. JACKSON. Instead of blaming the committee, I think a lot of the witnesses would be well advised to blame themselves for not looking around to see where they were going some years ago. However, that is not in line with the questioning I wanted to continue. You say that you don't know who recruited you into the party?

MR. SHAYNE. I do not remember, no.

MR. JACKSON. How many meetings did you attend during the course of time you were a member of the Communist Party?

MR. SHAYNE. I think I answered that. So far as I can recall, it must have been a half a dozen.

MR. JACKSON. Where were these meetings held, Mr. Shayne?

Mr. SHAYNE. In homes in New York City.

Mr. JACKSON. In whose homes?

Mr. SHAYNE. I don't remember.

Mr. JACKSON. You mean you left your place of residence and started out for a home, not knowing to whom that home belonged?

Mr. SHAYNE. Oh, no, naturally not, but I say I cannot remember whose home it was 16 years later.

Mr. JACKSON. Were these people with whom you were associated in the party all members of the acting profession?

Mr. SHAYNE. That I couldn't say. I don't know.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you know whether any of them were connected with the acting profession?

Mr. SHAYNE. Some of them said they were, but I didn't know them.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you ever meet John Garfield during that period of time?

Mr. SHAYNE. Not during that period of time, no.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you later meet John Garfield?

Mr. SHAYNE. I must know half of the people in Hollywood as a result of my working in pictures and in 9 years—

Mr. JACKSON. Did you meet Mr. Garfield in Hollywood?

Mr. SHAYNE. I met Mr. Garfield when he was under contract at the Warner Bros. lot when I was also there under contract.

Mr. JACKSON. Now, I believe you stated that you took a course at the People's Educational Center.

Mr. SHAYNE. That's correct.

Mr. JACKSON. You took a course in what?

Mr. SHAYNE. In screen writing.

Mr. JACKSON. In screen writing?

Mr. SHAYNE. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. How many classes did you attend in that course?

Mr. SHAYNE. I attended one term. I suppose it was a half a year or semester, whatever you call it.

Mr. JACKSON. Who gave that course?

Mr. SHAYNE. I don't remember the instructor's name.

Mr. JACKSON. You attended a half a semester?

Mr. SHAYNE. That's correct.

Mr. JACKSON. In a class in screen writing?

Mr. SHAYNE. That is correct.

Mr. JACKSON. And you have no recollection of—

Mr. SHAYNE. All I can remember is that it was a woman, but I don't remember her name.

Mr. JACKSON. Was this the same instructor over that period?

Mr. SHAYNE. I think so, yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, Mr. Shayne, that to me is an astounding statement, that a man of intelligence could attend a semester in a class in screen writing and during all that period of time not come to know the name of the instructor.

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, I don't think there is anything astounding about it, sir. It was 5 years ago, or thereabouts. I can't remember the names of everybody I meet or everybody I have come in contact with any more than you can.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Shayne, I remember the teachers who taught me in the fifth grade.

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, you have a remarkable memory for that sort of thing. I apparently don't.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, I beg to differ with you on that particular point. Did you also attend, you say, the Workers' School?

Mr. SHAYNE. In New York, yes.

Mr. JACKSON. In New York?

Mr. SHAYNE. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Not in Los Angeles?

Mr. SHAYNE. Not in Los Angeles.

Mr. JACKSON. How long did you attend the Workers' School?

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, as I said before, I don't recall the exact time, but as near as I can recall it must have been—oh, 3 or 4 months.

Mr. JACKSON. What particular studies were you pursuing in the Workers' School?

Mr. SHAYNE. It was just a general lecture course.

Mr. JACKSON. A general lecture course?

Mr. SHAYNE. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you recall the names of any of them who gave lectures during the period of time you were in attendance?

Mr. SHAYNE. No, sir, I don't.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you ever know a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. SHAYNE. Did I ever know one?

Mr. JACKSON. Did you ever know of your own knowledge a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, the people that procured me must have been, but what their names are, as I say, I don't remember. Since I have been out here in Hollywood I couldn't tell you who was a member of the Communist Party or who wasn't. I have no knowledge, because I do not—I have not discussed politics or political affiliations with anybody.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, how about the period of time you were in New York? Did you know of your own personal knowledge any individual—

Mr. SHAYNE. Not that I can recall, no, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Were you in the Armed Forces?

Mr. SHAYNE. No, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you been in the Armed Forces?

Mr. SHAYNE. I am 50 years of age.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, as I say, we have no desire to persecute anyone in the course of this investigation, and these preliminary hearings are for the purpose of setting out our agenda for the open hearings which are to start next Monday, and the extent of the cooperation given by witnesses in the preliminary hearings is largely to be the yardstick of whether or not they are to appear at the open hearings. Now, I personally feel, Mr. Shayne, that you have not been completely frank with the subcommittee.

Mr. SHAYNE. I don't see how you can say so. I have been perfectly frank. I am perfectly willing to be frank with you. I have been honest with you. I don't know how else I could be.

Mr. JACKSON. I repeat that one semester in screen writing under an instructor is, to me, a glaring inconsistency when one is unable to tell the name. The name might necessarily connote nothing. It does not necessarily say that the instructor was a Communist or hav-

ing anything to do with the Communist Party. I can appreciate the reluctance of anyone to name names, but that is, to my mind, a glaring inconsistency in your testimony. If, in the course of the next few days, you change your residence, will you please keep Mr. Wheeler informed as to where you can be reached?

Mr. SHAYNE. I don't intend to change my residence.

Mr. JACKSON. Some people do. We have just had a witness in who did intend to change, so I merely throw that in so that you will hold yourself available for the committee.

Mr. SHAYNE. If you had a list of the faculty of the People's Educational Center, it is very possible that, looking down that list, I might be able to pick out the name, but I have no such list.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you know whether the instructor who gave the course in screen writing was connected with the motion-picture industry in any capacity?

Mr. SHAYNE. She was supposed to be connected with the industry as a screen writer somewhere, but I don't know where or what studio.

Mr. JACKSON. Weren't you at all concerned about the capacity of the instructor to instruct in screen writing? Didn't it occur to you that possibly you would like to have someone who had a background in screen writing?

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, naturally, yes; but I had had no training in writing and I wasn't particularly concerned about the great skill of the instructor. I wanted to get the rudiments or elements, and this course had been recommended to me by somebody and I just accepted the recommendation.

Mr. JACKSON. How many people were there in this class, Mr. Shayne?

Mr. SHAYNE. Oh, there must have been a couple of dozen, I guess.

Mr. JACKSON. They went through the course in screen writing?

Mr. SHAYNE. I don't know how far they went. I only took one semester.

Mr. JACKSON. How long was one semester?

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, the usual period of a semester, which is a half of an academic year.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you recall the names of any who took the course at the same time you did?

Mr. SHAYNE. No, sir. I went alone. I don't know who any of the students were or what has become of them. I know nothing about them.

Mr. JACKSON. Is there any reason why the witness should not be excused for the present?

Mr. WHEELER. None at all.

Mr. JACKSON. Then you are excused, Mr. Shayne, and if you will, if you anticipate being out of the city, communicate with Mr. Wheeler. It will be very much appreciated.

Mr. SHAYNE. May I ask, Is there any compensation for appearing before this committee?

Mr. WHEELER. He is entitled to transportation to and from his residence.

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, that is only gasoline mileage but, as I said before, your subpoena has lost me employment during these 3 days, which I cannot make up.

Mr. WHEELER. In regard to that, we received no communications whatsoever from your producer requesting a postponement. I am quite sure that arrangements could have been worked out so that you could have worked this period of 3 days if we would have been contacted, because we certainly don't want anybody to lose their employment, and I was not contacted and Congressman Jackson was not contacted.

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, my producer said that he contacted someone. He didn't tell me who.

Mr. WHEELER. He certainly didn't contact the committee who has jurisdiction over these matters, because if he had we would have certainly been in communication with you or your producer.

Mr. SHAYNE. Then, may I ask you this: Am I free to accept employment next Monday?

Mr. WHEELER. You are free to accept employment any time.

Mr. SHAYNE. Well, now, suppose I am subpoenaed for these public hearings?

Mr. JACKSON. You will be notified in sufficient time. If you are subpoenaed for the public hearings, we will make every effort to set it at such a time as will not conflict with any obligations you may have in employment.

Mr. SHAYNE. Of course, being a free-lance actor, I never know when I am going to work more than a day or two in advance.

Mr. JACKSON. Will you try to let us know whether or not, if you do receive an offer of employment—it might be a good idea for him to communicate with you.

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. SHAYNE. Where can you be reached, Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. WHEELER. Hollywood Roosevelt.

Mr. SHAYNE. In this hotel?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Thank you, Mr. Shayne.

Mr. SHAYNE. Thank you.

Mr. JACKSON. Will you call the next witness, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Mendell Morton Krieger.

Mr. JACKSON. Will you stand and be sworn, please?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Dr. KRIEGER. I do.

#### TESTIMONY OF MENDELL MORTON KRIEGER <sup>1</sup>

Mr. WHEELER. Will the witness state his full name, please.

Dr. KRIEGER. Mendell Morton Krieger.

Mr. WHEELER. Where do you presently reside?

Dr. KRIEGER. 8924 Olin Street, Los Angeles 34.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you represented by counsel?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes; I am.

Mr. WHEELER. Will counsel identify himself for the record.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. Arnold. I gave my name to the reporter. It is Arnold D. Krieger.

<sup>1</sup> The testimony of this witness does not pertain to the Hollywood motion-picture industry but is printed herein since it was taken during that phase of the investigation.

Mr. WHEELER. Your address?

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. 333 South Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills.

Mr. WHEELER. Dr. Krieger, when and where were you born?

Dr. KRIEGER. Milwaukee, Wis., February 21, 1915.

Mr. WHEELER. You are a doctor by profession?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. Where are your offices located?

Dr. KRIEGER. 842 South Broadway, Los Angeles.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you briefly relate your educational background.

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes. Do you want to know where I went to school?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Dr. KRIEGER. I went to the University of Southern California, Los Angeles School of Optometry.

Mr. WHEELER. What year did you graduate?

Dr. KRIEGER. In 1942.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you been a practicing physician since that time?

Dr. KRIEGER. I am an optometrist, not a physician.

Mr. WHEELER. Optometrist?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes. I have been practicing since then.

Mr. WHEELER. Dr. Krieger, information has been developed during this investigation that you were at one time a member of the Communist Party.

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. When did you first join the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. I don't remember the exact date, sir. It was approximately April of 1943.

Mr. WHEELER. Was it just after you graduated from USC?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you ever a member of the Young Communist League?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I was not.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you briefly relate the circumstances involved when you joined the party.

Dr. KRIEGER. In what way do you mean that?

Mr. WHEELER. Well, I will phrase it differently. Do you recall who recruited you?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes; I do.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you please state the man's name or party's name.

Dr. KRIEGER. Leo Cefkin.

Mr. JACKSON. How do you spell that last name?

Dr. KRIEGER. I believe it is C-e-f-k-i-n.

Mr. WHEELER. Is Mr. Cefkin in the medical profession?

Dr. KRIEGER. No. No; he was a student at the time.

Mr. WHEELER. A student?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. At the University of Southern California?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; I believe he was going to Los Angeles City College at the time.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you seen him in recent months?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; I have not. I haven't seen him for a long time.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know what his occupation is now?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I do not.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know where he presently is?

Dr. KRIEGER. I do not. The last I heard he was in the East some place.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you assigned to any particular unit or branch of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. What branch was it, do you recall?

Dr. KRIEGER. It was the Fifty-ninth Assembly District, Sixteenth Congressional District.

Mr. WHEELER. How long were you a member of this particular branch or unit?

Dr. KRIEGER. Oh, approximately 8 or 9 months.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you subsequently transferred to another group?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I was not.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the complete time you were in the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. About 8, 9 months.

Mr. WHEELER. About 8 or 9 months?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. What type of individuals comprised this group?

Dr. KRIEGER. All professional.

Mr. WHEELER. Professional people?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. In the medical profession or in other professions?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. Just in the medical profession?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; in all professions.

Mr. WHEELER. In all professions.

Mr. JACKSON. It was a white-collar club, so to speak?

Dr. KRIEGER. I guess you would call it that, that's correct.

Mr. JACKSON. Generally speaking.

Mr. WHEELER. How many individuals were in attendance at these meetings?

Dr. KRIEGER. Offhand, it is hard for me to honestly answer you. I would judge roughly—the cell, I believe, comprised approximately 40 members, or thereabouts; maybe a little more.

Mr. WHEELER. Forty?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Where did these meetings take place, do you recall?

Dr. KRIEGER. Various houses.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the names of any of the people who owned the houses?

Dr. KRIEGER. I recall one whose house we met at a few times, and then there were a couple of others, and I very honestly cannot recall their names at the present time. They didn't strike me as anything outstanding, and I can't remember their names.

Mr. WHEELER. What is the name of the one individual you do remember?

Dr. KRIEGER. It was a physician by the name of Murray Abowitz.

Mr. WHEELER. Was his wife, Eleanor, present?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.



Mr. WHEELER. You knew both Eleanor Abowitz and Murray Abowitz as members of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. I did.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who was chairman of this cell?

Dr. KRIEGER. At one time Eleanor Abowitz was.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, do you recall who was secretary?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; I cannot honestly recall.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who was treasurer?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. Did the group have a literary director?

Dr. KRIEGER. You mean a librarian?

Mr. WHEELER. Well, a person who sold pamphlets.

Dr. KRIEGER. That was me.

Mr. WHEELER. That was you?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall to whom you paid dues?

Dr. KRIEGER. I can't recall the lady's name. It was a lady, and I can't recall her name.

Mr. WHEELER. How long were you literary director, or librarian, as you term it?

Dr. KRIEGER. I would say, offhand, about 5 months.

Mr. WHEELER. Where did you buy your literature?

Dr. KRIEGER. I believe it was called the Progressive Book Shop, over on Sixth Street.

Mr. WHEELER. Progressive?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes. It used to be over on Sixth Street. I think it was between Hill and Olive. Yes; Hill and Olive, I think.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you instructed by the party to buy your literature there?

Dr. KRIEGER. To go there and buy it; that's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. You bought literature there which you, in turn, sold to other members of the group?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. JACKSON. From whom did you receive the instructions to purchase literature there?

Dr. KRIEGER. From the—I believe it was from the—I don't recall whether it was one person, individually, or whether it was the executive committee as a whole, but I was told to go there and purchase the literature, to be brought back and sold.

Mr. JACKSON. Who constituted the executive committee at that time?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, there was Eleanor Abowitz and Murray, and, I think—I can't honestly recall any other names on the committee at the time.

Mr. JACKSON. Go ahead.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever attend any fraction meeting of the literary or librarians of different cells?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. I wonder if you would identify all the individuals whom you knew as members of the Communist Party.

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, Eleanor and Murray Abowitz and—let's see. There was a girl by the name of Katz. I believe she was the wife of the attorney, Katz. I can't recall her first name, offhand. There was another one by the name of Targo. I believe her first name was Evelyn.

Mr. JACKSON. How do you spell the last name, Doctor?

Dr. KRIEGER. I believe it was T-a-r-g-o. I am not sure.

Mr. JACKSON. Targo?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. What was her occupation?

Dr. KRIEGER. So far as I know, she was a housewife. Very frankly, I'll tell you, it has been so long ago that I honestly can't remember a lot of the names of people that were in the group.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall attending a meeting at the home of Murray Abowitz, at which Charley Katz was present?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; I do not.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Charles Katz?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; I do not know him personally.

Mr. WHEELER. You have never met Charles Katz?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; not that I know of. I may have met him under an assumed name, but I don't know him by that name.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Howard Davis?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes; that's right. He and his wife, too, were members.

Mr. WHEELER. What was Mr. Davis' wife's name?

Dr. KRIEGER. That I can't recall.

Mr. WHEELER. What was Mr. Davis' occupation?

Dr. KRIEGER. He is an optometrist.

Mr. WHEELER. He is a doctor?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's correct.

Mr. WHEELER. What other doctors did you know to be members of the Communist Party? Did you know Dr. Hy Engelberg?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; I don't know him.

Mr. JACKSON. May I interject a short statement at this point, Doctor? The subcommittee appreciates the extent of your cooperation. It is not our desire—I assume that in the interim you have completely broken with the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. I have.

Mr. JACKSON. Are you today opposed to the policies of international communism?

Dr. KRIEGER. I am.

Mr. JACKSON. Would you bear arms in the defense of this country if called upon?

Dr. KRIEGER. I would.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you consider yourself in every respect a loyal American?

Dr. KRIEGER. I certainly do.

Mr. JACKSON. It is certainly not the desire, nor the wish of the House committee, to unduly embarrass or to bring unfavorable publicity upon those who have sincerely broken with the Communist Party. However, I feel that I should say that in making up our agenda, we are going to take into consideration the extent of the cooperation afforded the committee by the witnesses we are hearing. That cooperation must largely be conditioned upon the willingness and the frankness of the witness to testify fully and completely on his associations and activities within the Communist Party, with special emphasis placed upon his associates. I say this preliminary to taking any further testimony, because I recognize, as all of us do, the natural reluctance of anyone to discuss his associates. However, again,

I say that that is the crux of this investigation, so I urge—you have been, to this point, fully cooperative, and I urge you to not withhold the names of your associates and to cooperate fully in that regard. While I cannot, of course, state the action of the subcommittee upon its arrival here in Los Angeles with respect to the open hearings, I will say again that my personal predilection is to go as easy as possible upon those who do cooperate with us at this point of the hearings. I thought I should put that statement in, not as a threat or not as a promise, but simply to make our position clear, especially with respect to those who are engaged in the professional arts and those whose livelihood may well be at stake, and so I do solicit your full cooperation at this particular period in the hearings. All right, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. May I make a statement here?

Mr. JACKSON. Yes, of course, Mr. Krieger.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. When my brother was served with this subpoena and he brought the subpoena to me, my advice to him was to disclose to this committee as much information as was available to him and to his memory. It must be remembered that he has not been a member of the Communist Party for a matter of 6 or 7 years. We appreciate that many things, particularly those that are not favorable, do not remain in our memories too vividly. We try to forget them. I think that Dr. Krieger has shown his cooperation, even prior to this hearing. I don't know whether you are cognizant of the fact that the FBI took him to Canada as a witness against—

Mr. JACKSON. I have been so informed.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. Yes. It so happens that we are a family of professional people. He, being the youngest, got the wrath of all of us when that story broke. We knew nothing of it prior to the time he went to Canada. The thing that I want in the record is that he has been advised that he is to give this committee such information as is within his memory and, I think, after the talk that I had with him, that when he says he doesn't remember, that he honestly is giving the right information.

Mr. JACKSON. I am quite willing to accept that in good faith as being a true statement. I merely put my few remarks in there because—

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. We appreciate that.

Mr. JACKSON. I wanted them to be in the record. Go ahead, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall any additional people that you knew to be members of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. As members of the party or in the particular cell that I belonged to?

Mr. WHEELER. The particular cell that you belonged to.

Dr. KRIEGER. I can't honestly remember some of the names. I can picture some of the faces. Perhaps if some of the names were recalled to me I might know.

Mr. WHEELER. How many doctors were in this group?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, that is something I can't honestly answer you, sir, because some of the people at some time—first of all, none of us were told what the other one was. It was only by association that some of us found out what each other—who we were or what we did and so, therefore, there may have been other doctors in there and I did not know that they were doctors.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall anybody else who was a member of this group?

Dr. KRIEGER. This particular cell?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I honestly don't. I can't recall any further names.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Dr. Gordon Rosenblum?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes; I know him. He was a member.

Mr. WHEELER. Dr. Rosenblum was a member of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Out of that group that I have named, you knew Dr. Gordon Rosenblum; is that right?

Dr. KRIEGER. This last group; that's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know Lillian Doran?

Dr. KRIEGER. Who?

Mr. WHEELER. Lillian Doran.

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the nature of your testimony in Canada?

Dr. KRIEGER. I testified in regard to my association with Sam Witezak.

Mr. WHEELER. What was your association with Sam Witezak?

Dr. KRIEGER. Oh, what way do you want to know that? In other words—

Mr. WHEELER. I would like a detailed account of when you met Mr. Witezak and the nature of your acquaintance with him, what transpired and the last time you saw Mr. Witezak.

Dr. KRIEGER. The last time I saw him—well, I first met him in 1938. The last time I saw him, I think, was in 1945.

Mr. WHEELER. Can you give us a complete story, without asking leading questions all the way through?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, may I interject a statement here at the present time? I will be glad to tell you what I can recall. However, may I say this, that the entire testimony and record is with the FBI. I don't know whether you have access to those files—

Mr. WHEELER. We do not have access to them.

Dr. KRIEGER. All right. I first met him in 1938 at the University of Southern California, at which time we were strictly friends. I mean, I didn't know anything about him other than that he was a student there, a foreign student, and we used to chat occasionally. We eventually became very friendly and began talking politics, and at the time I used to do a little writing and—never professionally, or anything; just for my own personal use or good, and I happened to show him a few things I wrote, in which he was interested, and he asked me how I would like to perhaps go to China as a correspondent, as a foreign correspondent for somebody there, and it rather intrigued me at the time.

Mr. JACKSON. Pardon the interruption. As a foreign correspondent for a publication?

Dr. KRIEGER. For a man in China that he at that time said he knew who had a newspaper, and so forth, and we—in other words, the Japanese aggression in China, and he would ask me about it and so on, and I was very much against it, and this man in China, who had a paper, whatever it was—he said he would be interested in my writ-

ing articles, and so on, correspondence, apparently, at least to him, was held back and forth, and finally he got a letter from this man here stating that he would like to have me come there. So time passed, and there was no further—nothing further was said, and then in 1940 I enlisted in the Air Corps—United States Air Corps as a cadet and was accepted and taken in. However, I was given a physical discharge after I was in for about a little over 2 months and then shortly after I got out, why, I was married and then Mr. Witezak approached me at that time to go to Japan instead of to China, and he had told me that everything was arranged, and so forth, and it was just a matter of his getting the money, because I had no money of my own to go and, of course, he told me it would be excellent to go on a honeymoon trip, so forth and so on. Then he began telling me what the purpose was of going there, which was to be used as, I guess what you would call a "letter drop" in Japan. However, I never divulged that information to my wife.

Eventually the money was forthcoming, and we were to go. In fact, we booked passage, got on the boat, got as far as San Francisco when we were taken off, and that is as far as we ever got, and we were taken off at that time—I believe the State Department wasn't allowing anybody to go over that had not had any prior business, and so we came back, at which time Mr. Witezak wanted me to go to South America for the same purposes, and which both my wife and I refused to do, and then he kept—we kept on friendly relations after that, because he was a very brilliant fellow and I enjoyed talking to him, and every once in awhile, of course, he would approach me with some proposition or other. However, I refused anything and everything that he had asked me to do after that, and then finally in 19—I believe it was in 1944—he came to my office one day and wanted me to set up an office whereby he could partake in it and have some space there, and so forth, to be used as a front for him, and that was all. He just mentioned it to me, and then I didn't see or hear from him for awhile, and then he approached me again and told me that I was back in the good graces, and so forth, of the powers that be in Moscow and he had received money to set up an office for me, and so forth, which I refused to do. Then I didn't see him until about the following fall when he and his wife had had a baby and had a party, and we went there and he wanted me to go with him. At the time while we were at the party, he suggested—he was leaving for New York and suggested I travel with him, go there, because there were a few higher-ups he wanted me to meet, and so forth, and I would learn a few of the whys and hows and wherefores, and I refused to go with him at that time. Then later I learned—a year later—when the Canadian thing broke, that he was leaving at that time because he had been told to get out.

MR. WHEELER. You are talking about the Canadian espionage trial, the revelation by Gouzenko?

DR. KRIEGER. Gouzenko; that's right. That, briefly, is the story.

MR. JACKSON. What acquaintances did you have in common? That is, did he ever approach you in company with anyone?

DR. KRIEGER. No. I met people at his house, but nothing was ever discussed in front of anybody. I mean, if their politics were discussed when anyone else was around he more or less would sit back and not say too much or, at school, if politics were discussed, it de-

pended on who he was talking to the way he would discuss politics. I mean, he could swing from one end to the other or go right down the middle. It didn't make any difference to him. He could talk any way that you believed. So far as any actual discussion of what he was doing when anybody else was around, that, there never was.

Mr. JACKSON. Who were the close friends of his whom you observed at his house?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, there was a man who has since died. He was a physicist, and I can't recall his name, other than Joe something or other. I don't recall what his last name is now. I would know it if I heard it.

Mr. WHEELER. Where was he employed?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, he was teaching at the time, as far as I knew, at some—I believe some small university, and then I think he got in on the—he was working up at Berkeley in the atomic project, or something, when he was killed in this airplane accident. Clarence Fetterly was a very close friend of Witezak's.

Mr. WHEELER. Who is Clarence Fetterly?

Dr. KRIEGER. He is a man who is just in the papers, just, I believe, cited for perjury, or something, in front of the grand jury.

Mr. JACKSON. Was he a member of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. That I honestly do not know.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you ever see an individual in his presence who was known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; not other than this Leo Cefkin whom I formerly mentioned to you and who I introduced to Witezak. Otherwise, these are people that I had met up there that I can—there were people that I had met who, since, I have completely forgotten. There was another man by the name of—I can't think of his name, offhand. I will try to think of it as we go along, but this one physicist, Clarence Fetterly, and this other man were the three I saw most often up there.

Mr. JACKSON. In your associations—to refer back to your associations, to the cell group of which you were a member—

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Can you identify for the committee by name any additional people who attended cell meetings with you during the period of time you were a member in the fifty-ninth assembly district cell of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I cannot, offhand. I can't recall any others, other than those that I originally mentioned or that I remembered as he read the names off. I can look it over, and if I can recall any—I will think it over and if I can recall any I will be glad to bring it to your attention.

Mr. JACKSON. Was your cell group ever addressed by party functionaries or other persons from outside the group?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes, sir. We were addressed at one time by a party functionary whose name I cannot recall. She was a woman, and she was something in the—I don't know whether she was county secretary, or something like that. I might know her name if I hear it, but I couldn't honestly say to that.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, did you meet anybody outside of your own group or cell that you knew to be members of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. Let's see. I probably did, but I can't recall their names right offhand.

Mr. WHEELER. When did you first become aware that Sam Witezak was connected with an international apparatus?

Dr. KRIEGER. He told me.

Mr. WHEELER. When did he tell you that?

Dr. KRIEGER. He told me right after I got out of the Air Corps when he wanted me to go to Japan. He told me just what he was.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you adhere to his beliefs?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, at the time I was interested in communism and the general principles of, I suppose what you would term left-wing politics.

Mr. WHEELER. This wasn't exactly communism. As I recall the Canadian case, it related to espionage.

Dr. KRIEGER. I knew nothing about the Canadian case at the time, you see, and he never asked me to do any actual espionage work. In other words, when he wanted me to go to Japan he asked me to go as a letter drop.

Mr. WHEELER. Who were you to forward the communications to; do you recall?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, it sounds very melodramatic and just like a movie, but he had given me complete instructions as to who, what, when, why when I got there, and after I was to arrive in Japan, after I was there a few days, I was to drop a post card to the Russian Embassy, and I don't recall offhand what it was to say, but I was to sign it with an "S" and they would know who it was. Then I was to wait, I think it was, another 4 or 5 days after that and go to a certain department store, up to the flower department in that department store and ask for a certain type of flower. There would be a man there who also would be interested in it, and he would come up and talk about it and ask about it, and that is how we would know, and then I was to walk out and he was to walk out and he was my contact. That is all that I knew at the time.

Mr. WHEELER. In other words, you were to receive communications from Witezak?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; I was never to contact Witezak once I left the country.

Mr. WHEELER. You used the term "mail drop." From whom were you to receive the communications?

Dr. KRIEGER. That I don't know. All I know is that he told me I was to be a letter drop and that I would get all my instructions from this particular person whom I met in Japan.

(At this point Thomas W. Beale, Sr., assistant counsel to the committee, entered the conference room.)

Mr. WHEELER. Now, how did Sam Witezak identify himself to you after you got out of the Air Corps? You say he told you who he was? I mean, exactly what did he say?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, all he told me—when he told me what he wanted me to do I asked him what he was or who he was, and he told me he was Sam Witezak but that he was working for the Communist International at the time. He never wanted any connection between him and the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall when Witezak left Los Angeles?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, it was in 1945. I believe it was in September.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you have any knowledge of the fact that he was fleeing the country, so to speak?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; none whatsoever.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, by you agreeing with Witczak in this mail-drop operation, did you realize at that time that you were also becoming a part of a conspiratorial group or becoming involved with the Communist International?

Dr. KRIEGER. I did.

Mr. WHEELER. And you were agreeable to that?

Dr. KRIEGER. I was at the time.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever receive any money from Mr. Witczak?

Dr. KRIEGER. I did.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the money for?

Dr. KRIEGER. For passage to Japan.

Mr. WHEELER. Passage to Japan?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever receive any other money?

Dr. KRIEGER. Which I, by the way, subsequently returned to him.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever act as a mail drop in the United States, or did you ever—

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. —Transmit any communications of any nature?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Did Mr. Witczak ever request any information from you while you were in the United States Air Corps?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; not while I was in the Air Corps.

Mr. WHEELER. Did he request any information from you at all?

Dr. KRIEGER. He did.

Mr. WHEELER. What type of information?

Dr. KRIEGER. He wanted—about a year afterward he wanted to know whether I would write in a detailed account for him of what transpired during my training as a cadet, and I told him at the time that it was available in the city hall, that I thought there was a recruiting depot up there and they had all the literature of what a cadet went through.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you supply him this information?

Dr. KRIEGER. I did.

Mr. WHEELER. In pamphlet form from the city hall?

Dr. KRIEGER. No. He asked me—when I told him that he asked me to please write it, myself, and write it out so that—whether he felt that I could leave out or put in or write more detail, I do not know, but I practically, as I recall, took one of those pamphlets and wrote from it what the expected training was of a cadet, plus what happened to me as a cadet, and that was all.

Mr. WHEELER. Was this in any way considered restricted or classified information?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; it was not. It was public information.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know what Mr. Witczak did with the material?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I do not.

Mr. WHEELER. What was his reaction when he received them?

Dr. KRIEGER. Nothing. He thanked me and said that he was going to report to his superiors, or whatever it was, and try and get me back in their good graces, and I told him that I didn't care to. That was all.



MR. WHEELER. Did he ever mention to you who his superiors were?

DR. KRIEGER. No; other than that he took orders directly from the Kremlin.

MR. WHEELER. Well how do you feel about this whole experience now?

DR. KRIEGER. Well, pretty rotten. You must know.

MR. WHEELER. You had no prior knowledge that Witezak was going to flee the country at all?

DR. KRIEGER. No, sir; I did not; none whatsoever.

MR. WHEELER. But you entered into this venture well knowing what you were undertaking at the time?

DR. KRIEGER. Well, I can't really say that I well knew what I was going to get into, but I had an idea.

MR. WHEELER. Did you know Mr. Witezak's wife?

DR. KRIEGER. I did, very well.

MR. WHEELER. What was her name?

DR. KRIEGER. Bunia, B-u-n-i-a.

MR. WHEELER. Was she involved in this same thing that Mr. Witezak was?

DR. KRIEGER. Well, now, that is a hard thing for me to honestly answer you. Obviously she knew what was going on. She knew what her husband was doing, and so forth, but whether she, herself, did anything, that I cannot honestly say.

MR. WHEELER. Did Mr. Witezak ever discuss with you what type of information he was interested in?

DR. KRIEGER. No, sir; he did not.

MR. WHEELER. Other than this one instance?

DR. KRIEGER. That's correct.

MR. WHEELER. Witezak was a professor at the University of Southern California?

DR. KRIEGER. I guess he eventually became an instructor there.

MR. WHEELER. When you met him he was——

DR. KRIEGER. A student.

MR. WHEELER. A student?

DR. KRIEGER. He had just started; that's right.

MR. WHEELER. Do you know anything concerning his background?

DR. KRIEGER. Well, none other than what he told me which, I have been given to understand since, was false, but——

MR. WHEELER. What did he tell you?

DR. KRIEGER. He told me he was a Canadian. He was a Pole who had gone to China, from China had gone to Canada, and he had resided in Canada and lived there with his wife and came down to this country on, I guess, what at that time was a student visa of some sort or another, and he kept renewing it in order to stay in this country. His money was gotten through an inheritance, or something.

MR. WHEELER. Did he use any other name than Witezak?

DR. KRIEGER. No; not that I know of. Not to me; he never did.

MR. WHEELER. You first became aware that he was working for the Communist International or the Comintern after you were discharged from the Army?

DR. KRIEGER. That's correct.

MR. WHEELER. How long a period after that were you in active contact with Mr. Witezak?

Dr. KRIEGER. Oh, for probably—I would judge pretty close to a year, and then after that, why, we gradually drifted apart. I would see him occasionally, and that was all.

Mr. WHEELER. Now, what type of business was he going in when he requested office space from you?

Dr. KRIEGER. Nothing. I perhaps didn't make myself clear. What it was that he wanted was to have me set up an optometric office and he would keep an office in the back of my office, back of the store, whatever you want to call it, where he would receive, I guess, or give out letters or information, whatever it was that he wanted to do. He never divulged exactly what it was going to be.

Mr. WHEELER. Where was your office at that time?

Dr. KRIEGER. I was in Hollywood; on Hollywood Boulevard.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever receive any communications from any source which later were turned over to Mr. Witzak?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I didn't.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you seen, during the intervening years, any of the people with whom you were associated in the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. You mean after I withdrew?

Mr. JACKSON. After you withdrew from the party.

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Has that been recently?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you seen some of the people recently?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes; I have.

Mr. JACKSON. Which individuals have you seen?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, Dr. Rosenblum is my wife's obstetrician and—well, literally, the last time I saw him was about a year ago when our baby was born.

Mr. JACKSON. Who else?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, Murray Abowitz, who I saw for—oh, three or four times professionally shortly after I withdrew from the party. That was all.

Mr. JACKSON. That is all?

Dr. KRIEGER. That is all.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you have any knowledge of the present whereabouts of any of the other people with whom you were associated?

Dr. KRIEGER. Other than Dr. Davis, who practices downtown. His office is on Broadway.

Mr. JACKSON. Were there any attorneys who were members of the organization which you were in?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes; there was an attorney. I can't recall his name. I can picture him in my mind, but I can't recall his name. I know that he was an attorney.

Mr. WHEELER. What is his physical description?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, I believe, as I recall, he was sort of reddish-haired. He wore an Adolphe Menjou-type mustache, and he wore pince-nez glasses on occasion, and his build was a medium build—probably about—well, around, I would imagine, 5 feet 10 or thereabouts, to the best of my knowledge. I knew he was an attorney.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you personally known—I assume that you have told, generally, the course of proceedings before this committee in Washington hearings?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you personally known or had knowledge of any of the witnesses who have appeared before the committee?

Dr. KRIEGER. I can't recall witnesses who were before the committee now. Was Dalton Trumbo in front of the committee?

Mr. JACKSON. Yes; Dalton Trumbo was in front of the committee.

Dr. KRIEGER. I have been at his home.

Mr. JACKSON. You have attended meetings there?

Dr. KRIEGER. It was at that time a Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you ever known of your own personal knowledge any member in the entertainment field, specifically motion pictures, and seen them at meetings?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the name "Maurice Bergman"?

Dr. KRIEGER. Bergman?

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. Bragin.

Dr. KRIEGER. Bragin. I think he was the attorney.

Mr. WHEELER. How do you spell his last name?

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. B-r-a-g-i-n. He is over in the Taft Building, I believe.

Dr. KRIEGER. Bragin; that's right. He has an office on Hollywood Boulevard.

(A discussion was had off the record).

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall where Mr. Bragin's office was?

Dr. KRIEGER. I knew it was on Hollywood Boulevard, and I was given to understand at the time that it was in the Taft Building.

Mr. WHEELER. Getting back to Leo Cefkin for a moment—

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER (continuing). You stated you introduced him to Mr. Witezak?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Now, do you know if Witezak also solicited help from Mr. Leo Cefkin in his operations?

Dr. KRIEGER. Through me?

Mr. WHEELER. Through you.

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the nature of that?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, he wanted to recruit—he had asked me if I knew any Koreans, and I said "No", and he wanted to know if I knew anybody that knew any. Well, I knew that Leo Cefkin probably did, and he did. He introduced me to a Korean who was to have taken my place when I was taken off the boat and was to have tried to get to Japan.

Mr. WHEELER. Now, he was to take your place. Just what was your place?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, in other words, he was to go and do what I was supposed to do.

Mr. WHEELER. Here in Los Angeles?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; in Japan.

Mr. WHEELER. Oh, in Japan?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. I see. Do you recall the Korean's name?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I do not.

Mr. WHEELER. Was it Peter Hyun?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; it was not.

Mr. JACKSON. But you met this Korean?

Dr. KRIEGER. Oh, yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Where was the meeting effected? Where did it take place?

Dr. KRIEGER. The meeting was effected on Olvera Street in the Mexican quarter there. We all had dinner together.

Mr. JACKSON. Who attended that dinner meeting?

Dr. KRIEGER. Leo Cefkin and the Korean and, I believe, his girl friend. I don't remember whether it was his wife or girl friend. And my wife and myself.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, Cefkin was then a member of this apparatus?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; not actually.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, he responded?

Dr. KRIEGER. He responded to it; that's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you heard of him lately at all?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; I have not. As I told you before, the last I heard was when he came out of service and separated from his wife and he went East, and that was all that I know.

Mr. WHEELER. What branch of service was he in?

Dr. KRIEGER. I think he was in the Infantry. I know he saw active duty in Europe.

Mr. WHEELER. What was his major at USC?

Dr. KRIEGER. It wasn't USC. I think it was City College. He was a music major, as far as I can recall.

Mr. WHEELER. A music major?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. City College. Is that Los Angeles—

Dr. KRIEGER. Los Angeles City College.

Mr. WHEELER. It used to be Los Angeles Junior College?

Dr. KRIEGER. I think it was Los Angeles Junior City College.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. Yes. It is called the Los Angeles Junior College now. It used to be known as Los Angeles City College.

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. It is the one over on Vermont near Santa Monica Boulevard.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you have any questions, Mr. Beale?

Mr. BEALE. Doctor, have there been any attempts to rerecruit you into the Communist Party since you left it?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; none whatsoever.

Mr. BEALE. None of your old contacts have approached you to rejoin?

Dr. KRIEGER. They have nothing to do with me any more.

Mr. WHEELER. What is the attitude of Dr. Rosenblum?

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, he was very nice and, in fact, at the time we pondered when my wife—because he had delivered another child, and my wife was very fond of him as a physician, and he is a very excellent one.

Mr. WHEELER. He was your doctor prior to the time you testified in Canada?

Dr. KRIEGER. Oh, yes.

Mr. WHEELER. He showed no animosity?

Dr. KRIEGER. Afterwards, you mean?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Dr. KRIEGER. None whatsoever. He was very nice.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you think he is still a member of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. Frankly, I doubt it, but I wouldn't—

Mr. WHEELER. It would seem to indicate that he was.

Dr. KRIEGER. That he what?

Mr. WHEELER. That he had severed his relations.

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Max Silver?

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes; he was the—when Leo Cefkin recruited me, he told me to go see Max Silver. I think he was the county chairman of the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Max Silver assigned you to 59 AD, northwest section of the Communist Party of Los Angeles?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right. He is the one I signed with.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know any nurses to be members of the Communist Party?

Dr. KRIEGER. Any nurses?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. KRIEGER. Not that I know, offhand.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know anybody to be a member of the Community Party that works at the county hospital?

Dr. KRIEGER. Not that I know, offhand.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know anybody to be a member of the Communist Party who worked as a dietitian for the State of California, a woman?

Dr. KRIEGER. Not that I can recall.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no more questions, Mr. Jackson.

Mr. JACKSON. Did the cell to which you belonged take a part in any manner in local political affairs?

Dr. KRIEGER. Not—how can I say it? The cell that I belonged to—at the time I was told that most cells were open, but this cell was a closed one because of the professional nature of the cell.

Mr. JACKSON. Yes.

Dr. KRIEGER. I know that they attended—certain members would attend certain gatherings where, I believe, information was to be brought back to us. However, any dynamic political action by the cell itself was not taken as such.

Mr. JACKSON. No position was taken by the cell as to candidates?

Dr. KRIEGER. Oh, you mean—

Mr. JACKSON. Who would or would not be supported.

Dr. KRIEGER. Well, at the time that I belonged there were no—as far as I can recall, there was no election at the time; so, therefore, what happened prior or after, I don't know.

Mr. WHEELER. I have a few more questions.

Mr. JACKSON. All right.

Mr. WHEELER. I would like to go back to the Korean—

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER (continuing). And ask you if you could give a physical description of him.

Dr. KRIEGER. Slender, about my height. That's about all.

Mr. WHEELER. Age?

Dr. KRIEGER. He was a comparatively young man, I believe. He was about 22, I would say, offhand, or so he said.

Mr. WHEELER. In conversation did he give you any indication of his background, where he was from?

Dr. KRIEGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. The school he had attended?

Dr. KRIEGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Nothing at all?

Dr. KRIEGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. He was actually brought into this group by Cefkin?

Dr. KRIEGER. By Cefkin; that's right. He didn't know exactly what it was to be. In other words, he knew——

Mr. WHEELER. Cefkin would know?

Dr. KRIEGER. Cefkin knew, and Cefkin knew him and knew that—he told me that, politically, he was all right.

Mr. WHEELER. Was he a native of Los Angeles?

Dr. KRIEGER. As far as I knew.

Mr. JACKSON. He spoke excellent English, I assume?

Dr. KRIEGER. Spoke very good English; that's right.

Mr. WHEELER. Does the name Diamond Kim mean anything to you?

Dr. KRIEGER. Diamond Kim?

Mr. WHEELER. K-i-m.

Dr. KRIEGER. No; other than Kim is a very common Korean name.

Mr. WHEELER. I have one here that I am going to have to spell the middle name of. The first name is Sang, S-a-n-g, the middle name R-y-u-p, the last name Park.

Dr. KRIEGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. That means nothing to you?

Dr. KRIEGER. It doesn't click.

Mr. WHEELER. The name Hyun doesn't mean anything to you, whether the first name was Peter or David?

Dr. KRIEGER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Sung Hyun?

Dr. KRIEGER. No.

Mr. JACKSON. Would you recollect the name, do you believe, if you heard it?

Dr. KRIEGER. I might if—now, if I am not mistaken, I believe the FBI brought it up to me at the time of our little chat, and I think I recalled it at the time.

Mr. JACKSON. You were able to identify it at that time?

Dr. KRIEGER. That's right.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your height?

Dr. KRIEGER. What is my what?

Mr. WHEELER. Height.

Dr. KRIEGER. My height?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Dr. KRIEGER. About 5 feet 7.

Mr. WHEELER. The Bureau knows who the Korean is, then, in other words?

Dr. KRIEGER. I believe so.

Mr. WHEELER. That is all.

Mr. JACKSON. You cannot recall at the moment, then, the names of any other members of the cell group of which you were personally a member?

Dr. KRIEGER. No, sir; I can't.

Mr. JACKSON. Or of any other persons who were known to you to be members of the Communist Party, outside of the cell organization?

Dr. KRIEGER. No; not right offhand, I cannot, Mr. Jackson.

Mr. JACKSON. If the names of any additional individuals occur to you, will you get in touch with Mr. Wheeler?

Dr. KRIEGER. I will. I will be more than happy to.

Mr. JACKSON. Or in the absence of Mr. Wheeler, will you communicate that information to the committee?

Dr. KRIEGER. I will.

Mr. JACKSON. Is there any reason why the doctor should not be excused at this time?

Mr. WHEELER. I see no reason why not. I think his subpoena should be continued open, unless you want to set a date. I assume, or go on the presumption that the full committee will be very interested in taking the testimony from the doctor.

Mr. JACKSON. Of course, I have no authority to vacate the subpoena pending the arrival of a full committee in Los Angeles, so the subpoena will be continued open.

Mr. WHEELER. Make it Friday morning at 9:30.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. Why don't you leave it open, then. If you ever want him, just call me and I will be glad to produce him for you.

Mr. JACKSON. Let's put it on that basis. The subpoena will be continued open. If, for any reason, you anticipate changing your address or being absent from the city during the course of the public hearings, will you communicate that information to Mr. Wheeler?

Dr. KRIEGER. I will; yes, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. In order that we will be able to call you if it is the desire of the committee.

Dr. KRIEGER. Yes.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. If Mr. Wheeler will give me a ring I will produce him for you.

Mr. WHEELER. All right. Fine. Thank you.

(A discussion was had off the record.)

Mr. JACKSON. One further question on the record.

Have you communicated your identities to the press or not?

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. Yes; they got us out there.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, I didn't want to inadvertently give that information in the event that you had not already so identified yourself.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. We got here about a quarter of 10. We tried to sit up at the other end, but you just can't avoid them.

Mr. JACKSON. It is very difficult to do.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. Some of them knew who I was. I don't think they have identified him with that Canadian deal.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, as far as any information that will be given out from this committee on this hearing, there will be none except to possibly distinguish between those who cooperated with the committee and those who did not; so pending any further word from us, thank you very much.

Dr. KRIEGER. Thank you.

Mr. ARNOLD KRIEGER. Thank you, gentlemen.

(Whereupon the subcommittee adjourned until the following day.)





# COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF HOLLYWOOD MOTION- PICTURE INDUSTRY—PART 6

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1951

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Los Angeles, Calif.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A special subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call at 11 a. m., in conference room C, at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Los Angeles, Calif., Hon. Donald L. Jackson presiding.

Committee member present: Representative Donald L. Jackson.

Staff members present: Thomas W. Beale, Sr., assistant counsel; and William A. Wheeler, investigator.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Wheeler, will you call the witness?

Mr. WHEELER. Prokop Jack Prokop.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Prokop, will you stand and be sworn, please?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. PROKOP. I do.

## TESTIMONY OF PROKOP JACK PROKOP, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS COUNSEL, BEN MARGOLIS

Mr. WHEELER. State your full name, please.

Mr. PROKOP. Prokop Jack Prokop.

Mr. WHEELER. Where were you born?

Mr. PROKOP. In Hlinsko, Bohemia.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you born on July 28, 1881?

Mr. PROKOP. That is right.

Mr. WHEELER. You entered the United States September 30, 1930?

Mr. PROKOP. That is right—the United States, you say?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. PROKOP. September 1, 1913, not 1930.

Mr. WHEELER. 1913?

Mr. PROKOP. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. When were you naturalized?

Mr. PROKOP. About 14 years ago.

Mr. WHEELER. On February 10, 1939, you received your final papers?

Mr. PROKOP. Yes; I do think it was earlier but I would have to look it up.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your present address?

Mr. PROKOP. I have two addresses; one business and one home address.

Mr. WHEELER. We would like both.

Mr. PROKOP. The business address is 10974 West Pico; the home address is 12033 Goshen Avenue.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you a member of the Communist Party, Mr. Prokop?

Mr. PROKOP. I am not a member—

(The witness consulted with counsel.)

Mr. PROKOP. If I may claim the privilege and retract that, I prefer to claim the privilege, if I can.

Mr. JACKSON. I presume that counsel's remarks were directed to the witness' constitutional rights?

Mr. MARGOLIS. You have no right to assume anything, especially what my remarks might have been to the witness. I was just consulting with my client.

Mr. JACKSON. Your client did not ask for any consultation. Now, he has been subpoenaed here to answer certain questions.

Mr. MARGOLIS. I consulted with him and I am his attorney and have a right to do so.

Mr. JACKSON. At the point where the witness was about to make his answer to the question, that had been directed by the investigator, the record should show that counsel intervened and a discussion took place, following which the witness claimed the privilege of the fifth amendment.

Mr. MARGOLIS. The record should also show that no one could understand what he said and it can also show that I advised him and it can also show I will not tolerate any inquiry as to what I said to my client by anyone.

Mr. JACKSON. No one is inquiring into your discussion with your client. I am merely making the point, that from this time on, if the witness—and I want the witness to make note of this—if there is any question in your mind, as to whether or not you should answer a question, you have the right to ask your counsel for advice. Do you understand that?

Mr. PROKOP. Yes; thank you.

Mr. JACKSON. When counsel is requested for advice it is the privilege and the right, your privilege and right, to request such advice on questions which are not clear to you, and on questions which you may want to discuss with counsel.

As you very well know, counsel is not here as an ironclad right, and I would so advise counsel. There have been many occasions in the past when witnesses have not been permitted counsel.

Continue, if you will.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you also known as Jack Frank?

Mr. PROKOP. I will claim the privilege.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been known as Jack Prokop?

Mr. PROKOP. That is my business name, yes, by the advice of the immigration authorities.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the Communist Party before you entered the United States?

Mr. PROKOP. No; not at all.

Mr. JACKSON. You were not a member of the Communist Party before you entered the United States?

Mr. PROKOP. Not at all; no.

Mr. WHEELER. According to the records of the committee, Jack Prokop held Communist book No. 74742, under the name of Jack Frank, in Hollywood unit J-9 in 1937. Would you like to affirm or deny that?

Mr. PROKOP. I will not answer under the privilege.

Mr. JACKSON. On the grounds of possible self-incrimination?

Mr. PROKOP. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. I would suggest to counsel, if refusals are stated on the grounds previously stated, rather than trying to go through the whole formality—

Mr. MARGOLIS. I would have suggested it, that he just state that he is not answering the question on the grounds previously stated, but I didn't want to be thrown out of here. I didn't want to consult with him unless he asked me a question.

Mr. JACKSON. I suggest that for the benefit of the witness, in view of his speech difficulty. You have already stated your refusal to answer several questions on the grounds of possible self-incrimination. If there are other questions which you do not wish to answer, it will be sufficient if you will decline to answer on the grounds already stated.

Mr. PROKOP. Thank you.

Mr. WHEELER. Our records also reflect that in 1934 and 1935, you were assigned to unit J-6 and unit J-4, under the party name of J. Frank, in the Communist Party, in the city of Los Angeles; is that correct?

Mr. PROKOP. I claim the privilege previously stated.

Mr. MARGOLIS. I might explain that his English is not too good, Mr. JACKSON. I think it is clear that he intends to claim the privilege under the fifth amendment.

Mr. JACKSON. We will do what you lawyers call, so stipulate.

Mr. WHEELER. Our records also disclose that in 1945 you were a member of the Benjamin Franklin Communist Club in the city of Los Angeles; is that correct?

Mr. PROKOP. I claim the same privilege.

Mr. WHEELER. You are making the same answer to that question?

Mr. PROKOP. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Wilma Solomon?

Mr. PROKOP. I don't know any such person?

Mr. WHEELER. You don't know any such person?

Mr. PROKOP. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been in her home?

Mr. PROKOP. Wilma Solomon's home?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. PROKOP. I really don't know or don't remember.

Mr. WHEELER. She resides at 10513 Holman Avenue in West Los Angeles.

Mr. PROKOP. I don't remember.

Mr. WHEELER. Her husband's name is Lou Solomon; he is a writer in the motion-picture industry.

Mr. PROKOP. That is strange to me.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know any writers in the motion-picture industry?

Mr. PROKOP. I don't think I know any; no.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Irving Gordon?

Mr. PROKOP. Who is he supposed to be?

Mr. WHEELER. I am asking you if you know him, Irving and Clare Gordon, who live at 231 South Thurston Drive, West Los Angeles.

Mr. PROKOP. No.

Mr. JACKSON. The answer is "No"?

Mr. PROKOP. The answer is "No."

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Leonard and Lory Titelman?

Mr. PROKOP. No.

Mr. WHEELER. You never heard of them?

Mr. PROKOP. No.

Mr. WHEELER. They live at 12217 Denoon Lane, West Los Angeles.

Mr. PROKOP. I don't know them.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Bessie and Isadore Friedman? They live at 1914 Barry Avenue in West Los Angeles.

Mr. PROKOP. I don't recollect any such.

Mr. WHEELER. Your business is located in West Los Angeles; is it not?

Mr. PROKOP. Yes; on Pico Boulevard.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever attend any Communist Party meetings in West Los Angeles?

Mr. PROKOP. I claim the privilege.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you deny that you know any of these individuals that I have mentioned?

Mr. PROKOP. That is right.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions.

Mr. JACKSON. Your subpoena will be extended and in the meantime, Mr. Margolis, if your client moves from his place of residence or his place of business will you notify Mr. Wheeler here at the hotel in order that we can contact him, if it is our desire to so do?

Mr. MARGOLIS. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Who is the next witness?

Mr. WHEELER. Hannah Schwartz Donath.

Mr. JACKSON. Mrs. Donath, will you stand and be sworn, please?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. DONATH. I do.

#### TESTIMONY OF HANNAH SCHWARTZ DONATH, ACCOMPANIED BY HER COUNSEL, ROBERT W. KENNY AND BEN MARGOLIS

Mr. WHEELER. Will you please state your full name?

Mrs. DONATH. Hannah Donath.

Mr. WHEELER. Your name, prior to being Hannah Donath, was what?

Mrs. DONATH. Hannah Schwartz.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you give us the spelling of that?

Mrs. DONATH. S-c-h-w-a-r-t-z.

Mr. WHEELER. I think it was misspelled on the subpoena.

Mrs. DONATH. Yes, it was.

Mr. WHEELER. Your present address is what?

Mrs. DONATH. 4543 Simpson Avenue, North Hollywood.

Mr. WHEELER. Where were you born?

Mrs. DONATH. New York City.

Mr. WHEELER. What has been your educational background?

Mrs. DONATH. I was educated in the public schools of New York, in high school, and graduated, and spent some time at NYU.

Mr. WHEELER. When did you leave NYU?

Mrs. DONATH. Oh, I just took some courses for about a year.

Mr. WHEELER. Approximately what year?

Mrs. DONATH. Let's see; let me figure back. That was about 31 years ago. What year would that be?

Mr. WHEELER. That would be about 1920?

Mrs. DONATH. About 1920, yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you been employed since leaving school?

Mrs. DONATH. I have never been employed. For a short time, about 5 years ago, I was in the building business for myself.

Mr. WHEELER. Who is your husband? What is his name?

Mrs. DONATH. Ludwig Donath.

Mr. WHEELER. What is his occupation?

Mrs. DONATH. He is an actor.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Donath, have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. DONATH. I decline to answer that on the grounds that it may tend to incriminate, and I stand on the fifth amendment.

Mr. WHEELER. We have sworn testimony by a witness who appeared before this committee, who testified that you were a member of the Communist Party; that you were assigned to the Hollywood branch of the Communist Party in Hollywood. This testimony reflects that this was during the years 1943 and 1944.

Would you like to affirm or deny the statement that I have just made?

Mrs. DONATH. I would decline to answer that for the reasons previously stated. I stand on the fifth amendment.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you a member of the Arts, Sciences and Professions Council?

Mrs. DONATH. I decline to answer for the same reasons as I previously gave.

Mr. WHEELER. What was your residence address again?

Mrs. DONATH. 4543 Simpson Avenue, North Hollywood.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you resided at that address?

Mrs. DONATH. 11 months.

Mr. WHEELER. What was your address prior to that?

Mrs. DONATH. 2076 Paramount Drive in Hollywood.

Mr. WHEELER. How long did you live there?

Mrs. DONATH. About 8 years.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you a member of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions Council?

Mrs. DONATH. I think I answered that by declining to answer that question before.

Mr. WHEELER. I am sorry. I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BEALE. No questions.

Mr. JACKSON. The subpoena will be continued open, pending the arrival of the full subcommittee. If you move in the interim, or if your counsel will keep the committee advised as to any move that you might make, as to your whereabouts, we would appreciate it.

Mrs. DONATH. My appearance will be on what day?

Mr. JACKSON. That is a matter within the jurisdiction of the full subcommittee and not a matter for this preliminary hearing.

Mrs. DONATH. Then I await further notice?

Mr. JACKSON. That is the situation; yes.

Mr. JACKSON. The next witness, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Bella Lewitzky Reynolds.

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Will you stand and be sworn, please.

Mrs. REYNOLDS, do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I do.

### TESTIMONY OF BELLA LEWITZKY REYNOLDS, ACCOMPANIED BY HER COUNSEL, ROBERT W. KENNY AND BEN MARGOLIS

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Bella Lewitzky Reynolds.

Mr. WHEELER. You are known professionally as Bella Lewitzky?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Where were you born?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. In Los Angeles.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your occupation?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I am a dancer.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you have a business of your own?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Yes, I have; I have a dance school.

Mr. WHEELER. Where is that dance school located?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. 5552 Hollywood Boulevard.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you relate briefly your educational background?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I went through the first year of junior college.

Mr. WHEELER. In Los Angeles?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. In Los Angeles and San Bernardino both.

Mr. WHEELER. What year did you leave junior college?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I haven't the faintest idea; I can't remember.

Mr. WHEELER. How have you been employed since leaving college?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. In concert work, principally as a dancer.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you been under contract for any studio?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Doing individual jobs as a dancer; yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What studios have you been under contract for?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. RKO, M-G-M, and Universal.

Mr. WHEELER. And the approximate dates?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. That I wouldn't remember. I would say that for 10 years I worked as a dancer in films.

Mr. WHEELER. What films have you been in?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. The first one, I think, was Anna Karenina; I don't remember the year. That was at M-G-M. There was one at RKO that I think was called The Lady Dances, and then quite a few at

Universal. I can't remember the names of them. It has been a little while ago. I was in most of the Montez films that had dance sequences in them.

Mr. WHEELER. You are referring to Maria Montez?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you have an agent?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. No; I haven't.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you had an agent in the past?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. No.

Mr. JACKSON. What are the circumstances of your employment?

How, for instance, are you called to work?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Well, through the studio casting office generally, and then by audition. Most dancers simply receive a studio call. Then you audition for the dance director.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever use the name Becky Lewis?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever reside at 2045 Griffith Park Boulevard?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Probably; I can't remember that either.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you ever live on Griffith Park Boulevard?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I lived off of Griffith Park Boulevard but in that neighborhood.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your husband's name?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Newell Reynolds.

Mr. WHEELER. What is his occupation?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. He is a student.

Mr. WHEELER. Where?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. He has been at Wiggins for the past year.

Mr. WHEELER. The Wiggins Trade School?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party, Mrs. Reynolds?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I refuse to answer that question on the grounds that it might incriminate me.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever know a person by the name of Mickey Ashton?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I would refuse to answer that question on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know that Mickey Ashton was a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I would refuse to answer that question on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. In 1938, were you dues secretary of a group to which you were assigned?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Pardon me?

Mr. WHEELER. In 1938 were you dues secretary of a Communist Party group to which you were assigned?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I would refuse to answer that question on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Harry Morgan?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I would refuse to answer that question on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Our information is that Harry Morgan recruited you in the Communist Party.

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I would still refuse to answer on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. I might add, this was in the year 1938. Were you a member of the Communist Party in 1938?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I will give the same answer to that question.

Mr. WHEELER. Our information also shows that in 1945 you were a member of the northwest section of the Communist Party in Hollywood, and were issued Communist Book No. 44911. Would you like to affirm or deny that statement?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I would use the same answer that I gave before.

Mr. WHEELER. Our information also discloses that in 1946 you held Communist book No. 36420. Would you like to affirm or deny that?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I will refuse to answer that question on the same grounds.

Mr. JACKSON. You decline to answer?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Yes; I do.

Mr. JACKSON. On the grounds that it might incriminate you?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. On the grounds it might incriminate me, yes, and all the other grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been employed by the United States Government?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Weren't you employed in a WPA theatre project in 1937?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I am sorry; I was employed by the Federal theater project.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the Communist Party while employed by the WPA?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I refuse to answer on the grounds that it might tend to incriminate me.

Mr. WHEELER. Our records also show that on August 11, 1950, you were a member of the legislative committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions Council; is that correct?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I refuse to answer on the grounds that it might incriminate me.

Mr. WHEELER. You are a member of the A. F. of L. Motion Picture Dancers, are you?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do the dancers have a union or a guild?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. They do have, but I am not employed in the motion-picture industry. I haven't been for about 5 years, so I don't belong to any of the trade-unions.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of any trade-union?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Yes; I was a member of the Screen Actors' Guild at the time when the dancers were a junior part of that guild.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Workers' Alliance?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I don't think so.

Mr. WHEELER. According to our records, in 1938 you were registered in the Communist Party under the name of Becky Lewis. Do you have any knowledge of that? I think I previously asked you if you ever used the name of Becky Lewis.

Mrs. REYNOLDS. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with James Ward?



Mrs. REYNOLDS. I refuse to answer that question on the grounds that it might incriminate me.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions.

Mr. JACKSON. Are you presently a member of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions Council?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I refuse to answer that on the grounds it might incriminate me.

Mr. BEALE. I have some questions that I would like to ask. I understood you to say that you were employed in the Federal theater project during the WPA?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Yes.

Mr. BEALE. What year was that?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I can't remember.

Mr. WHEELER. I think it was in 1937.

Mr. BEALE. Approximately in 1937?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. It was probably in the thirties, but I don't remember the date.

Mr. BEALE. At that time were you required to sign an affidavit to the effect that you were not a member of any organization that advocated the overthrow of the Government, or what you might term a loyalty affidavit?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I don't remember.

Mr. BEALE. You do not recall whether or not you were required to sign such an affidavit?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I don't remember what the procedure was in joining the Federal theater.

Mr. BEALE. This was after you became employed and not before you became employed.

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I really don't remember.

Mr. BEALE. You have no recollection of signing such an affidavit?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. No; I haven't.

Mr. BEALE. If you were required to sign such an affidavit, did you sign one?

Mr. MARGOLIS. That is an "iffy" question.

Mr. BEALE. Let the witness answer the question.

The question is this. You stated you had no recollection of having signed a loyalty oath while you were employed in the Federal theater project. But if, after you were employed, that your continued employment depended on you signing a loyalty oath, did you sign such an oath?

(Whereupon the witness consulted with counsel.)

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I refuse to answer the question. It seems to be an "iffy" question and it might tend to incriminate or degrade me.

Mr. BEALE. That is all I have.

Mr. WHEELER. I should like to go back into your employment record for a moment. How have you been employed for the last 5 years?

(Whereupon the witness consulted with counsel.)

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I may have had one studio job. I am sorry, but I can't remember the exact dates of all these things, but primarily my employment has been as a teacher.

Mr. WHEELER. And for what school?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. For the last, oh, I would say the past 3 years for the Dance Theater. For about 3 months I was in a show called Out of This World. Now, I am very bad with dates. For the past 3 or 4 months I have had my own school.

Mr. WHEELER. What is the name of your school?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Dance Associates.

Mr. WHEELER. And the address again?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. 5552 Hollywood Boulevard.

Mr. WHEELER. You have had your own school for only the past 3 or 4 months?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever work for the Lester Horton Dance Theater?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. The Dance Theater was the organization that I mentioned for the past 3 years.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Lester Horton?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I was codirector of the Dance Theater.

Mr. WHEELER. Lester Horton was the other director?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. WHEELER. For what period of time were you codirector of this Dance Theater?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Approximately 3 years.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions.

Mr. JACKSON. The production Out of This World, who produced that?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Salem Inc., or something like that.

Mr. JACKSON. Who directed it?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. The first few sessions it was Agnes DeMille and they brought in other directors after that.

Mr. JACKSON. How long a run did the show have?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. I did not stay beyond opening night.

Mr. JACKSON. Where did it play here in Los Angeles?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. It closed in New York.

Mr. JACKSON. It was a New York production?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Who was the star of the show?

Mrs. REYNOLDS. Charlotte Greenwood.

Mr. JACKSON. Very well. The subpoena will be continued open. If counsel will keep Mr. Wheeler advised as to the whereabouts of the witness we will appreciate that.

Mr. WHEELER. In case a definite date is set for any of the witnesses represented by yourself, will you assume responsibility by our notifying you as to their appearance?

Mr. KENNY. Yes.

(Whereupon the subcommittee adjourned.)







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