





HARVARD
COLLEGE
LIBRARY

1962

274
272-2

US Doc 2.791

Committee on Un-American Activities

House

87th Congress

Table of Contents

1. Testimony By and Concerning Paul Corbin	3124
2. The Communist Party's Cold War Against Congressional Investigation of Subversion	324
3. Communist and Trotskyist Activity Within the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee	326
4-5. Communist Outlets for the Distribution of Soviet Propaganda in the United States. pt.1-2	327
6. Communist Youth Activities	328
7-8. U.S. Communist Party Assistance to Foreign Communist Governments. pt.1-2	329
9. Communist Activities in the Peace Movement	330

1

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

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

Since these hearings are consecutively
paged, they are arranged by page number
instead of alphabetically by title



1

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

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

SEPTEMBER 6 AND 13, 1961; NOVEMBER 13, 27, AND 28, 1961;
AND MARCH 15 AND JULY 2, 1962
INCLUDING INDEX

Printed for the use of the
Committee on Un-American Activities



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1962

ACTIVITIES

DELEGATES

, Chairman

SCHERER, Ohio

JOHANSEN, Michigan

BRUCE, Indiana

SHADEBERG, Wisconsin

For

Counsel

!

!

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FRANCIS E. WALTER, Pennsylvania, *Chairman*

MORGAN M. MOULDER, Missouri

GORDON H. SCHERER, Ohio

CLYDE DOYLE, California

AUGUST E. JOHANSEN, Michigan

EDWIN E. WILLIS, Louisiana

DONALD C. BRUCE, Indiana

WILLIAM M. TUCK, Virginia

HENRY C. SCHADEBERG, Wisconsin

FRANCIS J. McNAMARA, *Director*

FRANK S. TAVENNER, Jr., *General Counsel*

ALFRED M. NITTLE, *Counsel*

JOHN C. WALSH, *Co-counsel*

CONTENTS

	Page
Committee resolution-----	VII
September 6, 1961 : Testimony of : John Dominick Giacomo-----	1236
November 13, 1961 : Testimony of : Harold Scott-----	1263
September 13, 1961 : Testimony of : Walter T. Anderson-----	1279
November 27, 1961 : Testimony of : Joseph C. Kennedy-----	1285
Afternoon session :	
Edward S. Kerstein-----	1312
Fred Bassett Blair-----	1320
Ishmael Flory-----	1323
Kenneth Born-----	1330
Seena Powell-----	1337
November 28, 1961 : Testimony of : Emil Costello-----	1343
March 15, 1962 : Testimony of : Esther Wickstrom-----	1348
Perry E. Wilgus-----	1354
July 2, 1962 : Testimony of : Paul Corbin-----	1373
Afternoon session :	
Paul Corbin (resumed)-----	1415
Appendix-----	1455
Index-----	i

PUBLIC LAW 601, 79TH CONGRESS

The legislation under which the House Committee on Un-American Activities operates is Public Law 601, 79th Congress [1946]; 60 Stat. 812, which provides:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, * * **

PART 2—RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RULE X

SEC. 121. STANDING COMMITTEES

* * * * *

17. Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine Members.

RULE XI

POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

* * * * *

(q) (1) Committee on Un-American Activities.

(A) Un-American activities.

(2) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (i) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by such chairman or member.

* * * * *

RULE XII

LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT BY STANDING COMMITTEES

SEC. 136. To assist the Congress in appraising the administration of the laws and in developing such amendments or related legislation as it may deem necessary, each standing committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall exercise continuous watchfulness of the execution by the administrative agencies concerned of any laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of such committee: and, for that purpose, shall study all pertinent reports and data submitted to the Congress by the agencies in the executive branch of the Government.

RULES ADOPTED BY THE 87TH CONGRESS

House Resolution 8, January 3, 1961

* * * * *

RULE X

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. There shall be elected by the House, at the commencement of each Congress,

* * * * *

(r) Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine Members.

* * * * *

RULE XI

POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

* * * * *

18. Committee on Un-American Activities.

(a) Un-American activities.

(b) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (1) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (2) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (3) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

27. To assist the House in appraising the administration of the laws and in developing such amendments or related legislation as it may deem necessary, each standing committee of the House shall exercise continuous watchfulness of the execution by the administrative agencies concerned of any laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of such committee; and, for that purpose, shall study all pertinent reports and data submitted to the House by the agencies in the executive branch of the Government.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INVESTIGATION AND HEARINGS

After a preliminary investigation conducted under authority of Representative Francis E. Walter, chairman of the Committee on Un-American Activities, the committee adopted the following resolution on the 22d day of November, 1961:

BE IT RESOLVED:

(1) That hearings be held in the Old House Office Building in Washington, D.C., beginning on November 27, 1961, or on such other date or dates as the Chairman of the Committee may determine, and continued from day to day, time to time, and place to place, until the hearings are completed, and that the staff of the Committee be authorized to conduct investigations deemed reasonably necessary in preparation therefor, relating to the occupation by past or present members or affiliates of the Communist Party of positions affecting the national interest, in order to keep this Committee and the Congress informed of the extent and character of such activities so that Congress may enact legislation outlawing the Communist Party, or take other remedial legislative action in the national defense and for internal security, when and if the exigencies of the situation require it.

(2) Any other matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee which it or any subcommittee thereof, appointed to conduct these hearings, may designate.

(3) That the action of the Chairman designating that the hearings relating to the above subject be held on the 27th and 28th days of November, 1961, and his action in issuing and causing to be served subpoenas for the appearance of witnesses before the Committee and the continuance of such subpoenas for the appearance of witnesses to the 27th and 28th days of November, 1961, are hereby approved and confirmed.

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1961

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ¹

A subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call, at 10 a.m., in Room 215, Old House Office Building, Hon. Clyde Doyle (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Subcommittee members present: Representatives Clyde Doyle, of California, and Gordon H. Scherer, of Ohio.

Committee members also present: Representatives August E. Johansen, of Michigan; Donald C. Bruce, of Indiana; and Henry C. Schadeberg, of Wisconsin.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., director; Alfred M. Nittle, counsel; and Neil E. Wetterman, investigator.

Mr. DOYLE. The committee will please come to order. Let the record show that the subcommittee for this morning consists of Hon. Morgan M. Moulder, of Missouri; Gordon H. Scherer, of Ohio; and myself, Clyde Doyle, of California, as chairman. Let the record also show that Mr. Scherer and Mr. Doyle are present, therefore, a majority of the subcommittee. I will also name the other committee members we are pleased to have with us, Mr. Johansen, Mr. Bruce, and Mr. Schadeberg.

Let the record at this point show the appointment of the subcommittee.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1961.

To: Mr. Frank S. Tavenner, Jr.
Director
House Committee on Un-American Activities

Pursuant to the provisions of the law and the Rules of this Committee, I hereby appoint a subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities, consisting of Honorable Morgan M. Moulder and Honorable Gordon H. Scherer as associate members, and Clyde Doyle, as Chairman, to conduct a hearing in Washington, D.C., Wednesday, September 6, 1961, at 10:00 a.m., on subjects under investigation by the Committee and take such testimony on said days or succeeding days, as it may deem necessary.

Please make this action a matter of Committee record.

If any Member indicates his inability to serve, please notify me.

Given under my hand this 5th day of September, 1961.

/s/ Francis E. Walter
FRANCIS E. WALTER, *Chairman,*
Committee on Un-American Activities.

¹ Released by the committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. DOYLE. Who is the witness this morning?

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Giacomo.

Mr. DOYLE. Do you solemnly swear that the testimony which you are about to give before the committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. GIACOMO. I do.

TESTIMONY OF JOHN DOMINICK GIACOMO

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your name?

Mr. GIACOMO. John Giacomo.

Mr. TAVENNER. Spell your name, please.

Mr. GIACOMO. G-i-a-c-o-m-o.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have a middle initial?

Mr. GIACOMO. "D" for Dominick.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you reside, Mr. Giacomo?

Mr. GIACOMO. 336 East Van Norman Avenue, Milwaukee 7, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the date of your birth?

Mr. GIACOMO. May 30, 1908.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee briefly please, what your employment background has been? First, tell the committee what your present employment is.

Mr. GIACOMO. I am with the United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO.

Mr. TAVENNER. In what capacity?

Mr. GIACOMO. I am known as a staff representative, which is what all of the people in the district or in the field are known as. I specialize, if you can call this a specialty, in the legislative and political action work of District 32 for and on behalf of the United Steelworkers of America.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the geographical area within District 32?

Mr. GIACOMO. All of the counties in the State of Wisconsin, with the exception of the northern counties that form the northern border of the State. That is over in the Michigan-Minnesota District 33, and all are part of the Seventh Congressional District in Illinois, comprising some 28 or 29 counties. Our district runs from the northern border of North Chicago and it follows the Rock River substantially down to Peoria, and all of that area from the Rock River west to the west border of Ohio is in our district, down as far as Peoria, Ill.

Mr. TAVENNER. What has been your employment from 1937 up until the time that you became employed in the manner in which you have just described?

Mr. GIACOMO. In 1937 I was employed at the Harnischfeger Corp. in Milwaukee as an arc welder. I worked there from 1937 until February 10, 1943, I am quite sure, to the best of my recollection—that could or could not be the specific date—at which time I went with the Office of Labor Production of the War Production Board. I was asked to do that by the late Philip Murray, who was the late president of the United Steelworkers of America.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that in 1943?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, sir. I served practically 1 year to the day in the district office in Milwaukee. Then I was transferred to the re-

gional office in Chicago as regional head of the production office in Chicago. I served there a year, you might say, to the day, so I served 2 full years with the War Production Board.

I resigned from the War Production Board at that time and went back—it was my intention to go back into private industry again, back at Harnischfeger's. In the meantime I received my "greetings" from the President. I took my physical and passed it and was OK'd for general military service. Because of my marital status—I had a daughter around 13 or 14 years old—I was told to so arrange my affairs to be prepared for a call on 24-hour notice in case I was needed. I don't mind saying here that they did not only scrape the bottom of the barrel when they called me, but the bottom of the barrel was there when they called me in for a physical, although I passed it and I am quite proud of that.

I went back to Harnischfeger's and went to work there, of course, expecting to be called at any moment, but the war ended of course in that year, in August of that year, at least it did in Europe. I was elected vice president—when I left Harnischfeger's I was president of Union Local 1114.

Mr. TAVENNER. Of the United Steelworkers of America?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; of the United Steelworkers of America.

Mr. TAVENNER. And you became vice president on your second employment?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; whenever I went back again, in June of that year they were electing officers again and I suppose out of respect for me and since I had been president of the union, they wanted me to run as an officer of the union again and I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have been employed in your present position since 1945?

Mr. GIACOMO. August 1, 1945.

Mr. TAVENNER. During the period that you have mentioned, from 1937 to the present date, did you become acquainted with a person by the name of Paul Corbin?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first become acquainted with him?

Mr. GIACOMO. To the best of my knowledge, it was in 1946. To the best of my knowledge, it was early in 1946. It may have been May or June, somewhere in along there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know how he was employed at the time that you became acquainted with him?

Mr. GIACOMO. I do not recall that I knew that he was employed. I thought he just came into Milwaukee whenever I met him.

Mr. SCHERER. From where?

Mr. GIACOMO. I do not know from where. This happened some 14 or 15 years ago and maybe the years have sort of clouded my recollection a little bit. I do remember, though, that he was wearing his GI clothes when I met him. I cannot recall who introduced me to him, however. I do remember that I met him out on the street at the entrance to where the United Steelworkers had its building, 108 Wells Street.

Mr. TAVENNER. Our investigation shows that Mr. Corbin was employed as a business manager of the *CIO News* from February 8, 1946, to June 28, 1946, and that on this latter date he became employed on

the staff of the United Public Workers of America, district staff, as a field representative.

Can you recall at this time whether your acquaintanceship with him was prior to June 28, 1946, or whether you first learned to know him after that date?

Mr. GIACOMO. To the best of my knowledge, I did not know Paul before 1946. As I say, the exact moment I cannot recall, because when you are just introduced to someone you have never seen before, and he meant nothing to you before, the occasion was not a great occasion, so it is hard to pin down a specific moment or date, and he was just one of many, of course, that I was introduced to in the course of my lifetime. I did not pin it down as a "red letter" day as having met Paul Corbin as if I had met the President of the United States or some dignitary, so I cannot recall what month or day. It could have been very early in 1946, but I just cannot for the life of me recall that it was prior to June 1946.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have an occasion to discuss with Paul Corbin any matters related to the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; Paul had never discussed it with me. May I just take it from there?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. GIACOMO. Paul had never discussed this thing of communism with me as a general discussion, but he did one day entering into the building at 108 West Wells Street, where the United Steelworkers had their district headquarters, asked me—put it to me substantially this way, and I don't recall his exact words—"Are you—when are you going to join the party?" Of course, I just shoved it off and told him I had not thought about it at all.

On another occasion, Paul asked me, "Why don't you join the Communist Party?" I put it off again. Just when this was I don't know, but it had to be from the period in 1946 or 1947, sometime in there, because, as I say, the cleanup in the labor movement in the State of Wisconsin came in the fall, I think, of 1947, when they had a convention in Wisconsin where they threw out all of the so-called Communists and the other fellows took over. On one or two occasions he asked me if I wanted to make a contribution to the party.

Mr. SCHIERER. Was there any question when he asked you on these one or two occasions whether you wanted to make a contribution to the party, that he was referring to the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; at least there was no question in my mind as to what he was referring to.

Mr. SCHIERER. There was just this one occasion in 1946 when he used the words "Communist Party"?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't recall whether he said "Communist Party" or not. Of course, whenever you mentioned even "party" in those days, the inference was the Communist Party. At least, that was the impression that I got. Now I certainly could not sit here today and say that he said "Communist Party." I think it would be unfair to you, to myself, and to Mr. Corbin if I said that.

Mr. SCHIERER. But there is no doubt in your mind that he referred to the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. In my own opinion, yes, sir, because of the conditions that existed at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Had he shown any interest in the Communist Party at that time by comments that he made to you on various subjects?

Mr. GIACOMO. First of all, let me say this. Mr. Paul Corbin is a mouthy sort of individual. He likes to be the center of attraction. He is an egotist. He is domineering, he is forceful, he is a pathological liar. He is just about everything that a fine, upstanding citizen would not want to be. He does not know loyalty and he holds nothing sacred. I do not think he would hold a friendship sacred.

On occasion, once or twice, he would come into the office and say, "Giacomo, there is a sale at Gimbel's or at the Boston Department Store and they are having a suit sale. They are getting rid of some of their fall suits and they are having a sale. Let's go down and take a look at them."

He pulled this on me once or twice until I caught on to him, and then I never went to another sale with him. I was completely embarrassed and I think he did it to embarrass me or anyone else he pulled this on. He proceeded to embarrass everybody else by beginning a dissertation on the benevolence of Joe Stalin and the Communist movement, and so forth, so that everybody could hear it—it seemed to me to deliberately draw attention to him, not because he was dedicated to that ideology or the principles involved in the democratic movement, but to deliberately draw attention to himself.

On another occasion he asked me to drive him to Janesville. He wanted to see his wife. She worked for some Government service there. I don't know whether it was the OPA or what it was. It would be easy for you gentlemen to check this. I think it was the OPA.

Mr. SCHERER. He wanted to see his wife?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. He had no automobile and to the best of my recollection, at that time, Mr. W. T. Anderson, an associate of mine and who had been with the United Steelworkers for a good many years, and I were the only ones who had an automobile. He or I would drive the district director, Meyer Adelman, we would drive him around the district and anyone else. Anyway she [Mrs. Corbin] told him [Paul Corbin] to go over to the butcher shop. To the best of my knowledge, this butcher shop was not too far from the office, and to the best of my knowledge, I don't think he was just working there but he had something to do with the store by a boy who had just been discharged and who had served in the Armed Forces. Of course, Paul began one of his orations about the prices of the meat and people were damn fools for buying meat at this price, and, by God, if Joe Stalin had anything to say about it, by God, blah, blah, blah, things would be different.

Evidently this fellow who ran this store knew Paul quite well, or he knew Paul's wife and through her knew Paul. He told Paul to cut it out, to come outside he wanted to talk to him. This was the last time that I was embarrassed by this guy. I never went anywhere else with him again. This gentleman who ran this meat market proceeded to tell him off. He said, "Go somewhere else with this gush." He said to stay out of his store and never come back there again.

MR. SCHERER. What was the store owner complaining about in particular?

MR. GIACOMO. That he was mouthing off in his store about his meat, and people were damn fools for buying meat in his store, and so forth and so on, and here again he [Paul Corbin] deliberately called attention to Mr. Paul Corbin.

MR. SCHERER. Did the owner object to his talking about Joe Stalin?

MR. GIACOMO. Not only that, but he objected to these other things also, coming into his store and mouthing off and all, in front of his customers. It was natural for him not to want anyone around who was going to begin this. It was not his fault, because the OPA had charge of the meat prices.

I am just giving you some general background—whenever I say Paul Corbin is mouthy and he is domineering and forceful. On other occasions, if Paul would notice at a convention or at a meeting of some kind, a union meeting, or anywhere where there was a get-together or maybe a Democratic meeting, he would see a group of people, and in the background he would sort of scan the group and then just sort of walk around until he would spot me or somebody else he knew and talk to me for a moment, and then say, “I am going to meet Senator Joe McCarthy in 5 minutes,” and off he would go, and I knew he wasn’t going to meet Senator Joe McCarthy, but he wanted to leave that impression with the group there that he was a big guy. Or if it was a group of union people, he would pick on what is termed one of the most antilabor employers in the city of Milwaukee, and that is Walter Harnischfeger, and he would just blurt out, “I have to go meet Walter Harnischfeger,” and then duck.

I say this, gentlemen, because I got to know Paul Corbin and the way he worked and I was under the impression then, and I still am under the impression today, that if it is revealed that Paul Corbin did, in fact, belong to the Communist Party, that Paul Corbin did not belong because he was dedicated to that ideology or principle but he joined the party in order to, shall we use the common term, “finger” some of the people in the labor movement and to pass on this information to someone or somebody—I don’t know who. That is the impression I have of Paul Corbin.

MR. TAVENNER. Did he at any time indicate to you or say to you that he had been to a Communist Party meeting?

MR. GIACOMO. Yes; the same as, I say, he would blurt out before this group of people, “I am going to see Walter Harnischfeger” or, “I have a meeting with Senator Joe McCarthy.”

MR. TAVENNER. Tell us the circumstances under which he mentioned this to you.

MR. GIACOMO. On two occasions. Why he would say it to me—and he probably said this to other people, although I don’t know whether he would or not—why he would say it to me; they didn’t, the Hirsches didn’t, the Fred Blairs didn’t, the Eisenschers—who were known Communists—didn’t say to me ever that they were having a meeting or anything like that; but Paul Corbin would say, “I got to rush. I am going to a high-level meeting of the Communist Party.” Then off he would go.

MR. SCHERER. You said he said that to you on two different occasions?

Mr. GIACOMO. Once he was going to one and once he was coming back from one.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where would these conversations take place?

Mr. GIACOMO. I would not say always on the street, but coming or going, in passing.

Mr. TAVENNER. What would be the occasion of his making such a statement to you? He would not just meet you and say, "Well, I have just come back from a Communist meeting."

Mr. GIACOMO. Absolutely. That is the first thing he would blurt out when he would meet me. He would blurt out, "Giacomo, I have just come from a high-level meeting of the Communist Party."

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that before he said to you on another occasion, "Why don't you join the Communist Party?"

Mr. GIACOMO. No; this was after these occasions.

Mr. SCHERER. As I remember your testimony, he approached you on three different occasions about joining the party?

Mr. GIACOMO. On two different occasions.

Mr. SCHERER. You, of course, never joined the party?

Mr. GIACOMO. I would like to state for the record here that I was never a member of the Communist Party, I am not one now, and if the good Lord continues to bless me with an iota of sanity, I shall never be a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. SCHERER. I wanted to give you an opportunity to get that on the record.

Mr. DOYLE. You say it was on the street the first time that he said he was going to a high-level meeting with the Communist Party. Do you remember about what year that was?

Mr. GIACOMO. I would say that this was in 1947.

Mr. DOYLE. You and he were all alone, a chance meeting on the street?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. Paul never talked to me in the presence of other people.

Mr. DOYLE. About how long after the first time did he say that he had just come from a high-level meeting of the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. I wish that I could tell you that but, Mr. Chairman, I really don't know.

Mr. DOYLE. Where was it in Wisconsin?

Mr. GIACOMO. All of this happened in Milwaukee.

Mr. DOYLE. Near your office or approximately close to it?

Mr. GIACOMO. Never in our office. He never discussed any of these problems with me in our office.

Mr. DOYLE. Daytime or nighttime?

Mr. GIACOMO. It was in the daytime. Paul is always a man who is in a hurry. I don't know if any of you gentlemen here ever saw Paul Corbin, but he is always a man in a hurry. He never stops. He will start talking to you about right here and, as he is pacing, he is way over there before he gets finished.

Mr. DOYLE. Do you remember what, if any, reply you made to him when he said he was going to a high-level meeting of the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. I did not have an occasion to reply. He was going.

Mr. DOYLE. The second time when he said he had just been to a high-level meeting of the Communist Party?

MR. GIACOMO. I would have had to stop him and say, "Come back here."

MR. DOYLE. He was alone and you were alone with him?

MR. GIACOMO. Yes.

MR. SCHERER. You have referred to him as "Paul" all through your testimony. You evidently got to know him fairly well?

MR. GIACOMO. I have known Paul Corbin now, better than I have ever known him before, while he has been in the movement of the Democratic Party in the State of Wisconsin as a fund-raiser and as a fellow who helps promote the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinners, and so forth. I have come in contact with Paul Corbin in this capacity in the State of Wisconsin on several, several occasions. I have been to Democratic functions with him. I have discussed the Democratic Party with him, and so on and so forth. Since he has been active in the Democratic Party, I have known him well enough to call him "Paul" and he calls me "John." I make no bones about this.

MR. SCHERER. You have known him from 1946 until today?

MR. GIACOMO. Yes; although I lost track of Paul after 1948 for a little while and I would only see him on occasion. He became commandant of the State Marine Corps League in the State of Wisconsin. I was told that he had the opportunity of becoming the national—I don't know if they refer to this as commander or commandant of the Marine Corps League. He turned that down because it would interfere with his promotional business, which is advertising and promotion of various functions and so on, in the State.

MR. SCHERER. Do you know whether Corbin is a naturalized American? Did you ever know that? Was he born in the United States?

MR. GIACOMO. Yes. I did learn that. I learned through Emil Costello that he was born in Winnipeg, Canada.

MR. SCHERER. Did you ever know him by any name other than Corbin?

MR. GIACOMO. Yes; I learned that through Mr. Costello. I thought at that time it was Korbinsky, but I see in the papers it is Kobrinsky.

MR. SCHERER. When did you learn that?

MR. GIACOMO. It had to be in 1947.

The nationality, if I recall correctly as it was told to me, he was a Russian. I understand that he comes from a reputable, highly respected, highly regarded family in Canada.

MR. SCHERER. How old a man is he now?

MR. GIACOMO. Paul seems to carry his age pretty well. I am 53 and I do not think he is as old as I am.

MR. SCHERER. When is the last time you talked with him, approximately?

MR. GIACOMO. I am trying to pin it down as closely as I can. I think it was right after the primary elections, the Presidential elections, right after he came back from West Virginia?

MR. JOHANSEN. 1960?

MR. GIACOMO. Yes.

MR. TAVENNER. You spoke of the two occasions, first when he said to you, "Why don't you join the Communist Party?" and then on another occasion, "When are you going to join the party?" I want you to tell us where those conversations took place and any other circumstances regarding the conversations that might be of some help

to the committee to understand the situation. Let's take the first instance.

Mr. GIACOMO. The first instance was—I don't know whether I was going in or he was coming out. I was just going to take the elevator or he was going to take it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is that the building where you had your office?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; 108 West Wells. We then moved out of the building.

Mr. TAVENNER. What preceded that statement? There must have been some discussion going on between you.

Mr. GIACOMO. No; there just wasn't any. He just asked me, "Why don't you join the Communist Party?" I am saying "Communist" again. He said, "Why don't you join the party?" But he never took me aside and attempted to rationalize why I should join the Communist Party. He would just merely ask the question and continue right on.

Mr. SCHERER. Was that the time in Milwaukee when there was a recruitment drive on by the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. In 1946 and 1947, it was bad business to begin recruiting, with the furor and the boys attempting to arrest the activities of the CIO in that State during those days. It has always been a question to me and bothered me as to why Paul Corbin should happen upon the scene when all of this was beginning to happen in Milwaukee and in the State of Wisconsin. He made it so obvious to everyone by little statements that he made, by the organizations that he represented in the Public Workers; and, still, when the story came out exposing the story and the people quite active in the movement, Paul Corbin was not mentioned at all.

To me, having known Paul since then and having seen the way he works, it would lead me to believe, as I say, if it is established that he was indeed and in fact a member of the Communist Party, I hardly believe that he was so because he was dedicated to that ideology or the principles of that party.

Mr. SCHERER. But you indicate that, from all of these conversations that you had with him and the statements he made concerning the party or the Communist Party, there was no doubt in your mind that he was a member of the party.

Mr. GIACOMO. At first I thought he was, but then I began to revise my thinking on this and since then I have held to that revision of my thinking. It seems to me that it just does not jibe. It would not surprise me if Paul didn't give the writer of the John Sentinel articles some information or help him in the formulation of the story.

Mr. SCHERER. What story are you talking about?

Mr. GIACOMO. The John Sentinel articles.

Mr. TAVENNER. It was a series of exposés of Communist infiltration of the labor movement in Wisconsin published in the *Milwaukee Sentinel* during the Allis-Chalmers strike in 1946.

How long after that conversation was it that the second one occurred in which he asked you when you were going to join the party?

Mr. GIACOMO. The first was "why don't you join" and the second one was "when." I just would not know. I wish I could tell you exactly how long.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did that conversation take place?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know. I cannot remember it as having been in confinement, in a room or anything. It was out in the open some place. Like I say, Paul was on the go.

Mr. TAVENNER. Paul Corbin disappeared from the scene there in Milwaukee some time around 1947 or 1948, did he not?

Mr. GIACOMO. It was around in 1948, and whenever I heard of Paul again he was living in Janesville. To the best of my knowledge, that has been his home since then.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you discover at a later period that he had been in California?

Mr. GIACOMO. He told me that he had been.

Mr. TAVENNER. He told you that?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. He told me he had been to California on a vacation, he and his wife.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have an occasion to discuss Corbin with anyone in California yourself?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was that?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know just when. It was after he came back in 1948.

Mr. TAVENNER. When were you in California?

Mr. GIACOMO. In November of 1948, right after the Presidential election.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you learn that Corbin was living in California for a period of time?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; I never knew him to be living in California; no. It may be that in the intervals—I did not see Paul Corbin every day or every week or every month after 1948. There might have been a year or a year and a half separating.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he move back to Milwaukee at a later date?

Mr. GIACOMO. He never did. I am saying he never did. I don't know whether he did nor not. I don't know that he did. I was always under the impression that he maintained his residence in Janesville from 1947 or 1948.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your next personal relationship with Paul Corbin after he returned to Janesville?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know whether it was in 1947 or the 1949 session of the legislature—I wish I could remember this vividly but I can't—1947 or 1949 legislature in the State of Wisconsin. I was engaging in just some general discussions with Paul Corbin. He, as usual, looked around to see that no one could hear and he said, "Giacomo, the FBI was over to my house." I said, "Why were they over to your house?" Paul said, "They want some information concerning you," meaning me. I said, "What have I done now?" "Well," he said, "the FBI has a jigsaw puzzle and all of the pieces fit. They have all the pieces fitting firmly in place with the exception of one. Now this jigsaw puzzle is not going to mean a thing to them until they get this one piece in its place. They think that one piece is you. So they are asking me what I know about you."

I said, "Yes, Paul, what did you tell them about me? What did you know about me?"

He said, "I told them to lay off you. You are a good guy, a clean guy, and I defended you."

Mr. SCHERER. What did he say the FBI accused you of?

Mr. GIACOMO. That if this piece fit, meaning me or whoever that piece fitted, but they thought it would be me, then this whole thing would expose the great Communist conspiracy in the Middle West.

Mr. SCHERER. It dealt with the subject of Communist cells, this jigsaw we are talking about?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. I become now the mystery man.

Inwardly I thought, "Paul, you just go right ahead and talk."

Mr. SCHERER. However, this was after he had talked to you about joining the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. And after he said to you on two different occasions that he was going to a high-level meeting of the Communist Party and after he said to you that he had just been to a high-level meeting of the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. I met Paul Corbin here and there, so one day he comes into the office.

Mr. SCHERER. Let me interrupt once more. Did the FBI ever come to you and talk to you personally about this?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. This could have been 2 years or so ago that Paul Corbin came into my office and said, "I want to talk to you privately." I said, "Close the door."

He said, "I understand you have been going around for quite some time, and this has come to my attention over a period of some time, that you have been telling people that I was getting information on guys, that I was an undercover man, and so forth, and that you thought in those days that I was."

I said, "Paul, I not only thought in those day you were, but I still think you are."

He said, "What makes you think so?" And I related all of these things I am telling you now, such as his contacting me, asking me when I was going to join the party, and soliciting me for contributions, and never missing an opportunity to make it obvious by drawing attention to him to leave the impression, at least, that he was a member of the Communist Party, and then saying to him, recalling his being a commandant of the Marine Corps League in the State, and so on and so forth, and then coming out of this thing absolutely unscathed. There were a lot of people who were just on the fringes who were mentioned in the John Sentinel story that was a surprise to me, but Paul Corbin was not even mentioned once.

He said, "No, no, no; you are wrong. You are wrong about that."

I said, "You may tell me I am wrong, but I still believe it, Paul."

He tells me there that I am wrong and then he turns around again so he has me on the hook, and he doesn't want me to ever forget that possibly he was in some sort of spying capacity for somebody. So he said, "The FBI was over to my house again on you."

I said, "Paul, the pieces do not fit."

He says, "They want that piece to fit in there and they are after your tail."

I said, "They have not made it fit yet, so they have not made it fit." I asked him what they could add now, and he said he told them to

leave me alone and to go somewhere else and try to find out who that piece is.

Mr. TAVENNER. That happened about 2 years ago?

Mr. GIACOMO. Two or 3 years ago.

Mr. TAVENNER. In 1959?

Mr. GIACOMO. Around about there to the best of my recollection.

Mr. TAVENNER. What time of the year?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did the FBI come to you at any time and have a conversation with you through any representative?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. When was that?

Mr. GIACOMO. Right after the inaugural when the present Administration took office and certain appointments were being considered for the various jobs.

Mr. TAVENNER. That would be in 1961?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; of this year.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was their purpose in coming to you at that time?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know whether they called these loyalty checks or security checks or whatever they are. They are routine checks that are made on people who are about to enter Government service.

Mr. TAVENNER. It related to Paul Corbin?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Not to you?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; at least he did not tell me it did.

Mr. TAVENNER. As far as you know, the FBI was not engaged in investigating you?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know and I can't say they didn't, but I don't know of any such investigation.

Mr. TAVENNER. But you did think they came to you for information relating to Paul Corbin?

Mr. GIACOMO. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. How much of this story that you have told us did you tell the FBI?

Mr. GIACOMO. I think I told them substantially the same thing as I have told you, if my memory serves me correctly.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did the FBI indicate that Paul Corbin had been acting for them in any undercover capacity?

Mr. GIACOMO. When I referred to that, the gentleman who was interviewing me was quick to say "No" I was wrong, that this—that he had never done any work for the Bureau.

I can recall that I said, "Well, of course if I were in your boots, I would not admit to it either." And that was that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was there any reaction of surprise on the part of the investigator when you made this statement that you thought he [Corbin] was a member of the FBI or working for them?

Mr. GIACOMO. He registered no discernible surprise.

Mr. SCHERER. But he did say to you affirmatively, as I understand it, that Corbin was not an undercover operative at any time for the FBI?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. I might add, the question he asked me last was, "Do you think Paul Corbin is loyal to the United States?" And I told

him that I had no reason to believe that he was not—and I had no reason to believe that he wasn't.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know of any other fact which would be of assistance to the committee in ascertaining the nature of Paul Corbin's activity in connection with the Communist Party, if he had any?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; I think I have pretty well covered it from what I can remember of it just offhand.

Mr. DOYLE. How could he be loyal to the United States and be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. I just don't know that he was.

Mr. DOYLE. He told you he was going to top Communist Party meetings and so forth.

Mr. GIACOMO. I just cannot relieve myself of the impression that Paul Corbin, being the type of person that he is, to draw you in in a position, you understand, actually did not go to any top priority Communist meetings.

Mr. DOYLE. You felt he was either lying to you or exaggerating or making a bluff?

Mr. GIACOMO. I believe it was an exaggerated lie.

Mr. DOYLE. What organization did he work through?

Mr. GIACOMO. The Public Workers. That is the only one that I know that Paul was actually engaged with.

Mr. DOYLE. You mentioned that he was in the Democratic Party. In what capacity, if you know?

Mr. GIACOMO. Fund raiser, doing promotional work for them, working for certain candidates in campaigns.

Mr. DOYLE. Where is he now?

Mr. GIACOMO. Right today?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes.

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know where he is physically.

Mr. DOYLE. To the best of your belief, what is he doing now?

Mr. GIACOMO. From the best of my belief from reading the papers, he is special assistant to the—to John Bailey, the national committeeman.

Mr. DOYLE. Of the Democratic Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. Of the Democratic Party.

Mr. DOYLE. How long has he been in that capacity, if you know?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know, a month or 2 months. It has just been recent.

Mr. DOYLE. Have you ever discussed with anyone else the subject of whether or not he was a Communist?

Mr. GIACOMO. On several occasions.

Mr. DOYLE. With whom?

Mr. GIACOMO. To all of my best acquaintances, never that he was a Communist. It was always my impression that he was engaged in some spying activities, and I would always relate so to associates of mine.

Mr. DOYLE. What was their impression to you?

What was their reply to you as to whether or not he was a Communist in their belief?

Mr. GIACOMO. No one ever indicated to me that they believed he was, but they all believed he was capable of being a spy.

MR. DOYLE. For whom?

MR. GIACOMO. Just for anybody.

MR. SCHERER. Can you tell us the names of these people with whom you discussed these things?

MR. GIACOMO. I discussed it with so darn many people, sir. I discussed it with Bill McCauley, the district attorney. I discussed it with James Brennan, who is now the Federal attorney. I guess you would call him. What do you call these—

MR. TAVENNER. U.S. attorney.

MR. GIACOMO. I have discussed it with any number of people who are close associates of mine in the Democratic Party. I just cannot recall. I have never made it any secret that these were my impressions of Mr. Corbin whenever he became the subject of discussions.

MR. SCHERER. Did you discuss it with any representatives of the *Milwaukee Journal*?

MR. GIACOMO. Mr. Kerstein or Kerstin discussed it with me.

MR. SCHERER. On how many occasions was that?

MR. GIACOMO. Just one.

MR. SCHERER. When was that?

MR. GIACOMO. Three weeks ago.

MR. SCHERER. Since the story broke in the *Milwaukee Journal*?

MR. GIACOMO. Yes. I might add here—although this is a problem when you talk to newspaper people and because of that I don't talk to them too often—but I told him that my impression was that Paul Corbin was not a Communist; also that he was a spy. He neglected to print that in the paper.

MR. SCHERER. A spy for what?

MR. GIACOMO. I did not know who. It might have been some employer group in those days. I don't know. It might have been John Sentinel. [Pen name of the author of the *Milwaukee Sentinel* articles.]

MR. SCHERER. He was working for a union at that time, was he not?

MR. GIACOMO. Part of the time. He was with the Public Workers Union.

MR. SCHERER. In what capacity?

MR. GIACOMO. The newspapers say "field manager," whatever that is.

MR. SCHERER. You say you have talked recently about Paul Corbin with some of your associates in the Democratic Party?

MR. GIACOMO. Not only recently. I have been talking on every occasion that Paul Corbin's name came up. Some of the stuff he has pulled, like the overselling of tickets for Senator Kennedy's banquet at that time, deliberately oversold, knowing full well that the hall would only seat 500, and he deliberately oversold 500 persons and he deliberately oversold 250 seats.

MR. SCHERER. When did our investigator talk to you?

MR. GIACOMO. Last Wednesday or Thursday.

MR. SCHERER. Is that the first time Mr. Wetterman talked to you about this?

MR. GIACOMO. Yes, sir.

MR. SCHERER. Since that time has anyone else attempted to talk to you?

MR. GIACOMO. No, sir.

MR. SCHERER. And you have not talked to anyone else?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; I talked to Congressman Zablocki.

Mr. SCHERER. That is since Mr. Wetterman talked to you?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Would you mind telling us what your conversation was with Congressman Zablocki?

Mr. GIACOMO. I told him I was subpoenaed to come before this committee.

Mr. SCHERER. What did Zablocki say?

Mr. GIACOMO. He did not seem surprised or did not seem excited about it.

Mr. SCHERER. What was the occasion of your talking to Zablocki?

Mr. GIACOMO. Because I know Zablocki is very interested in the Paul Corbin story.

Mr. SCHERER. Did Zablocki come to see you, or did you call him?

Mr. GIACOMO. I called him.

Mr. SCHERER. After you talked to Mr. Wetterman?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. What did Zablocki say, in substance?

Mr. GIACOMO. As I say, he did not act excited about it. He just as much as said he was not surprised about it.

Mr. SCHERER. Surprised about what?

Mr. GIACOMO. That there was going to be some hearings on it.

Mr. SCHERER. What did he say about Corbin?

Mr. GIACOMO. I think I can say what Congressman Zablocki could tell you, that he does not have very high regard for Paul Corbin.

(A short recess was taken.)

Mr. DOYLE. Let the record show that the subcommittee has reconvened with a majority of the subcommittee here, as well as Mr. Schadeberg.

Mr. SCHERER. Before we had the recess, Mr. Witness, you stated that Mr. Wetterman, from the staff of the Committee on Un-American Activities, had talked with you about 10 days ago?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; it was about a week ago, roughly.

Mr. SCHERER. Then you contacted Congressman Zablocki?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; he was home for the Labor Day vacation.

Mr. SCHERER. How long was that after you had talked to Mr. Wetterman, a day or so?

Mr. GIACOMO. In 2 or 3 days; yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you call Congressman Zablocki on the phone or did you go to his office?

Mr. GIACOMO. I called him on the phone, at his home in Milwaukee.

Mr. SCHERER. That is the only conversation you have had with him since Mr. Wetterman talked with you?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; he came to my home.

Mr. SCHERER. He came to your home?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. After the telephone conversation?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you have any other conversations?

Mr. GIACOMO. I did not have any conversations with him on the phone. I just told him I wanted to talk something over with him about a mutual friend of ours, and he understood who the mutual friend was.

Mr. SCHERER. And then he came to your home?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. I was sorry to have disturbed him because he was celebrating his little son's birthday and he was having a party for him. It was either a Saturday or a Sunday.

Mr. SCHERER. Have you had any conversation with him since that time?

Mr. GIACOMO. No. You see, I was told, Mr. Congressman, by Mr. Wetterman, that I was not to divulge anything about this hearing to any newspaper man or any member of a newspaper, and I did not. As a matter of fact, I did not, and the only other person who knows I am here for this purpose—the girl in the office may know I am in Washington, but she does not know why I am here, because she made the plane reservations for me. Mr. Wetterman was there the day I asked the girl to make the reservations. He was also there whenever I canceled out some meetings I had with a company in Madison.

Mr. SCHERER. When Congressman Zablocki arrived at your home, tell us just in substance what you said to him.

Mr. GIACOMO. I said, "Congressman, I want you to know, and I think you ought to know, that I have been subpoenaed by the House Committee on Un-American Activities." I thought he would find out sooner or later that I had been subpoenaed and appeared before this committee and, being my Congressman, I thought he should know about it from me rather than anyone else.

Mr. SCHERER. We certainly would not take exception to that.

Mr. GIACOMO. I have a great admiration for Clem Zablocki and I hope he has for me.

Mr. SCHERER. We all do.

Mr. GIACOMO. So he asked me if I was concerned about anything and I said, "Yes."

Mr. DOYLE. Off the record.

(A short discussion was held off the record.)

Mr. DOYLE. I recessed the committee for a moment to have an informal discussion with reference to this question. I would like to have the record show what Mr. Tavenner feels, as long as we have gone as far as we have on the record, that the question ought to be answered, which Mr. Scherer asked about the conversation between the witness and Congressman Zablocki.

I just informed Congressman Scherer that I felt that that question was not germane or pertinent and not a proper question.

Mr. TAVENNER. It was my suggestion to the chairman that, inasmuch as the record shows what it does, it ought to be clarified by a complete and full answer to the question and such further questions as Mr. Scherer desires to ask him regarding Mr. Zablocki. Then, if there is any need, Mr. Zablocki can be called for any explanation that he desires to make.

Mr. DOYLE. I might further state that it has been my impression or feeling, as a member of the committee, that conversations in which a Congressman is referred to—that confidential conversations between a constituent and a Congressman are, more or less, in the category of a confidential communication. On that basis, partially, I felt that it was an improper question, but let's proceed.

Mr. SCHERER. Will you proceed to tell us what you told Congressman Zablocki?

Mr. GIACOMO. He asked me what I was concerned about. I told him I was not concerned about myself. I am just concerned about being engaged in some testimony before a committee which may or may not indict, I don't know, a human being in the eyes of the people of the United States. I am concerned about his having been engaged in Government work and whether this would have any effect on the good name and integrity of the President of the United States.

He told me the only thing he would advise me to do is appear before this subcommittee and to give the facts as I knew them, that you were all fine, upstanding gentlemen. I said, "Be that as it may, I do not know them personally." I said, "It would be nice if I could see your friendly face in the committee room." He told me he did not know whether he would be allowed to visit these hearings. He said he was not sure about this and, if not, "Just be relaxed and appear before the committee and answer their questions as best you know how and you have nothing to worry about."

Mr. SCHERER. What was said about Corbin?

Mr. GIACOMO. I think Clem already knew, having gotten the information from Mr. Kerstein of the *Milwaukee Journal*, that I had given them some information and I was interviewed by Mr. Kerstein of the *Milwaukee Journal*, and to the best of my knowledge I repeated to him the conversation that took place, and I told him substantially what I knew about Paul Corbin.

Mr. SCHERER. What you have told us here today?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. We talked about it, and I repeated to him that Paul wasn't. He said, "Whether he was or was not, his background, even if he was not a Communist, he has no position being in the position he holds," and that was the sum and substance of the conversation. It may not be right in detail what we talked about, but generally, that is just about how the conversation went. I could not give you exactly verbatim what was said.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you say anything, or was anything said, in that conversation about Corbin having been employed by former Congressman Gerald T. Flynn?

Mr. GIACOMO. I did not recall that the question of Flynn came up at all. I don't recall that it did.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you know former Congressman Gerald T. Flynn?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; I knew him for a good many years. I knew him when he was a State senator.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you have any conversations with Congressman Flynn at any time about Corbin?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. When was that conversation?

Mr. GIACOMO. About Corbin?

Mr. SCHERER. Yes.

Mr. GIACOMO. Whenever he named him as a member of his staff.

Mr. SCHERER. Would you tell us about that conversation?

Mr. GIACOMO. I do not recall what the conversation was.

Mr. SCHERER. What was the subject of the conversation?

Mr. GIACOMO. The subject of the conversation was that Paul Corbin being the type of man he was—Corbin is not a personable guy and

he has a knack for antagonizing people—and I just figured, and I was concerned, Gerry Flynn being a good friend of mine as he was, that Paul Corbin would tend to embarrass him in his office.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you discuss with Gerald Flynn, Corbin's possible Communist connections?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; I don't know.

Mr. SCHERER. You don't remember?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't remember whether I did or did not.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you have any conversations with Flynn after Flynn dismissed Corbin as his administrative assistant?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't recall. I could have, but I do not recall, Mr. Congressman.

Mr. SCHERER. You do know why, do you not, Corbin was dismissed by Flynn?

Mr. GIACOMO. I did not know it—the reason—until I read it in the paper. I thought it was Corbin's messing up this Janesville dinner, and so forth.

Mr. SCHERER. You have not talked to Flynn since then?

Mr. GIACOMO. No. As a matter of fact, I have not seen Gerry Flynn since he was defeated for Congress in the first district.

Mr. SCHERER. Since the article appeared in the *Milwaukee Journal* a few weeks ago, have you discussed the Corbin matter with anyone? Has anyone attempted to talk to you about it, other than Mr. Wetterman and other than Congressman Zablocki?

Mr. GIACOMO. No.

Mr. SCHERER. No one has gotten in touch with you about the Corbin matter, and you have not gotten in touch with anyone else or discussed the Corbin matter with them?

Mr. GIACOMO. I was told not to.

Mr. SCHERER. I understand that, but since the article was printed in the *Milwaukee Journal* and before Mr. Wetterman talked to you, had you talked to anyone or had anyone attempted to talk to you?

Mr. GIACOMO. Well, the people in my office knew that Mr. Kerstein had talked to me.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, other than Mr. Kerstein. Mr. Kerstein talked to you before the *Milwaukee Journal* article was published?

Mr. GIACOMO. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. I am just asking whether anyone other than Wetterman or Congressman Zablocki talked to you since the publication of the *Milwaukee Journal* article. Is your answer "No"?

Mr. GIACOMO. The answer is "No."

Mr. SCHERER. You testified, I believe, that Corbin on two occasions back in the forties told you that the FBI had come to him and inquired about you. Did the FBI ever come to you or talk to you about any complaint they might have about you?

Mr. GIACOMO. If they did, it was not under the name of the FBI.

Mr. SCHERER. As far as you know, the FBI never raised this issue about you which, Corbin said, on two different occasions the FBI raised with him?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; never.

Mr. SCHERER. Then, when the FBI came to you early this year when they were investigating Corbin, I understand you told the FBI substantially what you told this committee here today.

Mr. GIACOMO. About the jigsaw?

Mr. SCHERER. Yes.

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, I did.

Mr. SCHERER. Not only about the jigsaw, but whatever else you knew about Corbin.

At that time, did you tell the FBI that Corbin had come to you back in the forties and told you that the FBI had inquired of him about your alleged Communist activities?

Mr. GIACOMO. This was in the fifties that Corbin told me this. Yes; I did tell them, of course.

Mr. SCHERER. What did the FBI say to that? That you had never been under investigation?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; he never said that I had been under investigation. I don't know that he made any reply to that at all. I don't recall that he did. He merely accepted it as testimony or information that I was giving him.

Mr. SCHERER. He did say to you, however, as I recall your testimony, that Corbin was not in any undercover capacity or employed in any way by the FBI?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. That he told you?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. He told you that when you said that you had some suspicions that he might be an undercover agent for the FBI?

Mr. GIACOMO. I might add, I said to him, "I could not blame him at all for denying his associations, businesswise or organizationwise, with Paul Corbin."

Mr. SCHERER. If he was an informant for the FBI, it would be rather unusual for the FBI, at that late date, to come to you to inquire about Corbin, would it not?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes. I suppose I had not thought of it in that way, but I understand it is routine and normal and necessary to make a check on everyone before they are admitted to any Government service. This is the impression I have always gotten.

Mr. DOYLE. Are we trying to interpret here what the FBI thinks and how it operates?

Mr. SCHERER. I am trying to get all the light I can. I may not get all of that.

Mr. DOYLE. What good is his opinion as to how it operates?

Mr. SCHERER. That was just a comment. I just made an observation.

You indicated by your testimony that you are still under the impression that he was an agent or a spy for somebody. Do you have any basis for that?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; except this is the way he impresses me.

Mr. SCHERER. Only through impressions?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; it is my own personal opinion. I just have this feeling, Mr. Congressman, and I just cannot relieve myself—to me, Paul Corbin could very well be working for the National Democratic Committee and my impression is, my opinion is, that he could very well be giving whatever information he might have to the Republican Committee. That is just the opinion I got of this fellow.

This is just a fantastic application that I put as far as my impressions of Paul Corbin.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you have a position with the Democratic Party in Wisconsin?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; I am just a member of the party.

Mr. SCHERER. Were you a delegate?

Mr. GIACOMO. I was a delegate in 1956 and a delegate in 1952.

Mr. DOYLE. It seems to me this is going too far afield.

Mr. GIACOMO. For your information, when the Communists were out supporting Senator McCarthy, I was out supporting Howard McMurray—the democratic process—and that is of public record because I went along and made speeches.

Mr. JOHANSEN. I am sure nothing of opprobrium can be attached to the witness being a delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

Mr. SCHERER. The witness just raised the issue about Corbin. I am anxious to find out all I can about it.

Mr. DOYLE. We are all proud to be delegates to our respective party's national convention, but it is not germane here.

Mr. GIACOMO. Are you trying to find out about me?

Mr. SCHERER. Not at all.

Mr. GIACOMO. I would be glad to tell you what I think of myself.

Mr. SCHERER. This gentleman said if this man had any connections with the Democratic Party that he is of such a character that he would sell out the Democratic Party, and I wanted to know what basis he had for saying that.

Mr. DOYLE. I think the statement was that he might sell out to be the agent of the Republican Party.

(A brief discussion was held off the record.)

Mr. SCHERER. Did you know Philleo Nash?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes; I supported him when he ran for chairman of the Democratic Party.

Mr. SCHERER. Corbin and Nash were well acquainted, were they not?

Mr. GIACOMO. They were acquainted, but I do not say they were good friends.

Mr. SCHERER. When was this? What period of time is involved?

Mr. GIACOMO. The period of time that I knew was when Philleo Nash was the head of the Democratic Party in the State of Wisconsin.

Mr. SCHERER. I do not want anyone to infer by this question that I am about to ask that I feel that Philleo Nash was a Communist, but I do want to know whether or not you know anything about Nash's connections with Communists?

Mr. DOYLE. Off the record.

(A brief discussion was held off the record.)

Mr. SCHERER. Mr. Tavenner, would you put the question?

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have any knowledge of Communist Party activities or affiliations by Mr. Nash?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; except what I read in testimony before—a poster came out of the McCarthy hearings and subsequently during Philleo Nash's campaign, the campaign that was started against him by some persons there in Wisconsin using the Senator McCarthy hearings' testimony as the reason why he should not be elected Lieutenant

Governor. I know of no connections as far as Philleo Nash is concerned with the Communist Party. I have always regarded Philleo Nash as a good, average American.

Mr. SCHERER. You have no knowledge of the time that he signed petitions for release of convicted Communists? You do not know about that?

Mr. GIACOMO. No.

Mr. SCHERER. Or his testifying on their behalf?

Mr. GIACOMO. No.

Mr. SCHERER. I have no further questions.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Schadeberg?

Mr. SCHADEBERG. I have no questions.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Johansen?

Mr. JOHANSEN. I have no questions.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Bruce?

Mr. BRUCE. In listening to your testimony, as I recall the testimony, you have testified that Mr. Corbin did ask you if you would join the Communist Party on one occasion, and then on another occasion, in effect, he urged you to join the Communist Party. Am I correct in that?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, if you can call that urging.

Mr. BRUCE. Why didn't you join the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. On one occasion it was "Why don't you?" and on the other it was "When are you going to join the Communist Party?"

Mr. BRUCE. You have testified that you have had the feeling all along that Corbin was an undercover agent of some sort?

Mr. GIACOMO. Rather than undercover agent, a spy.

Mr. BRUCE. A spy of some sort then?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes.

Mr. BRUCE. When the FBI men came to you, I take it around January, and asked you about Mr. Corbin, you have testified that you at that time said that you suspected that he was an FBI undercover informant. The FBI agent replied that he was not and never had been, to which you replied, "Well, I would expect you to say that"—

Mr. GIACOMO. Disavow, of course.

Mr. BRUCE. This would indicate that you still held to the feeling of a strong possibility that he was an FBI undercover informant?

Mr. GIACOMO. How could I, after he said "No," although it was natural for him to disavow it, but I have to take his word for it that he [Corbin] wasn't.

Mr. BRUCE. You did say that, which would indicate that you were not convinced.

Mr. GIACOMO. I said, if he was not with the FBI, then he was a labor spy, or somebody was getting this information that he was gleaning from the labor movement at this time.

Mr. BRUCE. May I ask the stenographer to read back to us the description of the witness concerning Mr. Corbin at the early part of his testimony, his evaluation of the nature of Mr. Corbin?

The following testimony was read by the reporter:

Mr. GIACOMO. First of all, let me say this. Mr. Paul Corbin is a mouthy sort of individual. He likes to be the center of attraction. He is an egotist. He is domineering, he is forceful, he is a pathological liar. He is just about everything that a fine, upstanding citizen would not want to be. He does not know loyalty and he holds nothing sacred. I do not think he would hold a friendship sacred.

Mr. GIACOMO. My reference to loyalty was with respect to personal friendships.

Mr. BRUCE. Taken in connection with this impression, here is a man whom you quickly analyzed as mouthy, a man who wanted to be the center of attraction, egotist, domineering, forceful, pathological liar.

With that kind of an impression, how could it be that you would conclude that this man would be an FBI undercover informant? Is this the kind of man that you believe the FBI would use as an undercover informant?

Mr. GIACOMO. How do I know that this is not a deliberate act to attract attention to him so that would be the least you would suspect of the guy, not only as an FBI agent, but any other guy who is gleaning information for someone? To me a normal, natural, average person just does not do these things. It is just impossible.

Let me say it would be impossible for me to be that way. This impression is so imbedded of Paul Corbin, that I just cannot relieve myself of it. I just can't do it.

I might say here that I would be the most surprised and would be most stunned and most shocked if it were actually revealed that Paul Corbin was ever a Communist.

Mr. BRUCE. Why?

Mr. GIACOMO. Because I just can't believe that he was dedicated to that ideology. I think he was in there, like I say, to make an exposition.

Mr. BRUCE. In where?

Mr. GIACOMO. Pretending, at least, by saying he was going to a Communist high-level meeting. Why would he want to advertise a thing like that? If I were going to any kind of a meeting, if it was a high-level meeting, even of the Democratic Party, and it was supposed to be hush-hush, I would never tell anybody I was going to a high-level meeting of the Democratic Party.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you consider that out of character for an FBI undercover informant also?

Mr. GIACOMO. Like I say, it might have been a deliberate attack so you would not have these impressions of him.

Mr. BRUCE. Would it not sound odd as an analysis of an FBI undercover informant, because this would smack of entrapment rather than undercover work?

Mr. GIACOMO. I am not as profound as you. I do know what it would smack of.

Mr. BRUCE. Having been through the mill, as it were, during a very critical period of the labor movement in Wisconsin, you would be aware of the techniques of the Communist Party. You were fighting them.

Mr. GIACOMO. Of course, I was aware of the techniques of the Communist Party, and Paul Corbin's were a lot different than their techniques, believe you me.

Mr. BRUCE. Would this not on the surface, then, raise a question as to whether or not he would plausibly be an undercover informant for the FBI?

Mr. GIACOMO. Then why was he not exposed in the John Sentinel articles? They put the finger on everybody else, and this guy [Cor-

bin] made no attempt to cast suspicion away from him. Why wasn't he mentioned or exposed in the John Sentinel story?

Mr. BRUCE. I don't know.

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't either, and it would not surprise me if he were sieving—siphoning off information to the guts of this story, because the guy who wrote the story is not named John Sentinel.

Mr. BRUCE. But you have a definite feeling in your own mind—

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes, sir, and try as I might, I just can't relieve myself of it. Everything just comes back as far as I am concerned in making my own analysis in my own experienced way. I mean this surely must have happened. Would you say that Senator McCarthy would be caught dead knowing that a man was a Communist, having a picture [taken of himself] embracing a fellow after he had conducted all of these hearings and everything else? This all happened while Paul Corbin was commandant of the Marine Corps League.

Mr. BRUCE. Mr. Corbin, in the *Milwaukee Journal* items, gave a rather forceful explanation and repudiation of this, saying it was not an embracement at all, but it was a situation of immediate advantage to causes in which he was interested.

Mr. GIACOMO. Let's say I don't know what it was, that they did not even touch one another or did not even shake hands, but would you not, before you would appear at a meeting anywhere—let's say I invited you to appear before a meeting that I was chairing, would you not want to know something about me before you appeared there as a Congressman of the United States? Don't you think Senator McCarthy's mind—

Mr. BRUCE. I have no idea what might have gone through his mind.

Mr. GIACOMO. As wary as he was, I am sure he got the book on Mr. Corbin before he appeared.

Mr. BRUCE. You repeated on a number of occasions that you have a strong feeling that Corbin was actually the man who slipped information for the Sentinel story, supplied it; is that right?

Mr. GIACOMO. He is capable of it.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you think he did? Do you have any evidence that would indicate to you that he did?

Mr. GIACOMO. Just this feeling that I have on this.

Mr. BRUCE. In other words, you felt that this man Corbin was an undercover FBI informant, also possibly in the employ of somebody who was writing an exposé?

Mr. GIACOMO. Or even an employers group, or some other group. I never just pinned him down. The FBI was my first—

Mr. BRUCE. Apparently your last, up until the FBI interviewed you.

Mr. SCHERER. Would you yield for one brief question?

Mr. BRUCE. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. You have checked with the union and found out he was not an agent for the union in any way?

Mr. GIACOMO. What union?

Mr. SCHERER. Have you checked to find out whether he was an agent or spy for a union?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; where would I go to check this? Would you please tell me?

Mr. SCHERER. I don't know. I thought maybe you would know. We are just trying to eliminate things.

Mr. GIACOMO. If I knew where to go to check, I would go and check. At least I would relieve myself, one way or another, that my impressions were or were not correct.

Mr. BRUCE. I am still baffled about the conclusion that you drew that a man who fits the description that you gave so vigorously—pathological liar, mouthy, domineering, and so forth—could conceivably be an FBI undercover informant.

Mr. GIACOMO. Are you trying to get me to say that that kind of a man could not be? Are you trying to get me to say that a man of that description could not be? Because that I will not say because I don't know. I don't know.

Mr. DOYLE. Are there any other questions of this witness?

Mr. GIACOMO. I would like you to know that I wish that, in the final analysis, my opinion of Paul Corbin is right, because I would just not ever want to feel that I had formed an opinion of—I mean, after all, it is terrible to know that you were wrong about a person.

Mr. DOYLE. Do you have any other questions, Congressman Bruce?

Mr. BRUCE. No; I do not.

Mr. DOYLE. Have you ever attended a Communist Party meeting with Mr. Corbin or any meeting called by Communists in Wisconsin at which he was present?

Mr. GIACOMO. No, sir. If there were Communists there at some meetings that I attended, I would know about them. Usually the meetings that I was to, whenever they were called, were meetings where labor, in general, attended.

I might add here I worked with Emil Costello and I visited his home and he visited mine. I knew his father and his sister and brothers.

Mr. SCHERER. Who was Emil Costello?

Mr. GIACOMO. He was on the staff and he was called before the grand jury here in Washington, I think back in 1947, in connection with this Christoffel business¹ in Milwaukee; and it was established, I think without question, that he was a Communist, although I don't think he answered any questions at all. He took the fifth amendment—I always thought that Emil was—

Mr. DOYLE. He is not before the committee in any way, is he?

Mr. TAVENNER. I have been in conference with him.

Mr. DOYLE. Do I understand you to say that at a public meeting in Wisconsin, Senator McCarthy, now deceased, was on the same platform with Paul Corbin?

Mr. GIACOMO. Mr. Chairman, it was a convention of the Marine Corps League, I believe.

Mr. DOYLE. In Milwaukee?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know whether it was in Milwaukee or where it was. That I don't know, but this was the occasion.

Mr. SCHERER. Senator McCarthy was the speaker?

Mr. GIACOMO. He was the speaker.

¹ In 1948 Harold Christoffel, a trade union official and identified Communist was tried for—and convicted of—perjury before a congressional committee. His conviction was subsequently reversed by the Supreme Court on a technicality. In 1950 he was again tried and convicted for the same charge.

Mr. DOYLE. Corbin was commandant of the Marine Corps League under whose auspices Senator McCarthy spoke?

Mr. GIACOMO. Yes.

Mr. DOYLE. As I recall it, neither time that Paul Corbin gave you an invitation or asked you about the party did he mention the word Communist, is that right, or do you have any positive recollection on that point?

Mr. GIACOMO. No; I do not have. To say that he actually said Communist Party, I just could not just emphatically say yes to that; no, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. Have you now given us the best of your recollection of any incident or any occasion or any circumstance of your own knowledge in connection with Paul Corbin, there being any possibility of his being a Communist? In other words, have you told us all you know about him? I don't want to use the term "any connection with the Communist Party" because I don't think there has been any shown here of a connection with the Communist Party so I don't want to ask something that is not proven—

Mr. SCHERER. Let me say for the record I disagree with the conclusions of the chairman.

Mr. DOYLE. I know you do, but I want counsel of the committee to know what my own conclusion is just immediately after hearing the testimony.

Do you have any other witnesses on this point, Counsel?

Mr. TAVENNER. Off the record.

(A brief discussion was held off the record.)

Mr. GIACOMO. On several occasions, whenever the name Paul Corbin would come up, and there were given opinions by me of Paul's pretense of being a Communist in order to get information that he was giving to someone, and that I believe that it was as an agent for the FBI, however, he could have been a spy in other directions. This I have told to many people. I could not sit here and divulge how many people I have said this to.

Mr. SCHERER. I understand the staff has talked to this witness in an effort to determine the names of the individuals with whom he discussed Corbin's pretense at being a Communist.

Mr. TAVENNER. No, we have not, but we have followed every suggestion that this witness could give us as to persons who may have knowledge of the things that we are inquiring about.

We were not interested in following what he might have said to somebody else, but we were trying to get information from people themselves who would have knowledge. That is the distinction we wanted to make.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask just two or three questions to close up my part of the inquiry.

Am I to understand, Mr. Counsel, in the discussions with the staff, that this witness, that he indicated to the staff in what he told them that he regarded this as a pretense of Communist affiliation, rather than a claim of Communist affiliation?

Mr. TAVENNER. He has expressed that opinion throughout.

Mr. JOHANSEN. That he was claiming it, or there was an element of pretense?

Mr. TAVENNER. I did not discuss with him the element of pretense on the part of Corbin. I did discuss his own personal opinion of the matter. I told the witness it is not a question of your personal opinion; it is a question of what are—

Mr. JOHANSEN. My point is, simply, it is one thing for the witness to testify that Corbin claimed to be a Communist or have Communist connections; it is another thing for a witness to give, as his opinion, his subjective judgment that this claim was a pretense; and I think the record should be clear that, at least at the outset of his testimony, he testified with respect to claims made by Corbin.

I would like to ask the witness just two questions to firm up the record.

Mr. TAVENNER. May I interrupt you there? Off the record.

(A brief discussion was held off the record.)

Mr. JOHANSEN. Did I not understand you to say that Corbin made statements to you that he was going to, or had been at, a high-level meeting of the Communist Party? Is that correct?

Mr. GIACOMO. That is correct.

Mr. JOHANSEN. So to that degree, at least, you testified that, regardless of any interpretation you placed on it, that there was to that extent a claim of some association with the Communist Party? Is that correct, that Corbin made that claim by these statements?

Mr. GIACOMO. He made that claim by these statements, and I also said I did not believe him.

Mr. JOHANSEN. I understand that, but I want to draw a very sharp line that he did, to your knowledge, make such a claim—whether you think it fantastic or whatever.

The second question is: When he asked you about when you were going to join the party or if you were going to join the party, you are not certain “to the best of your recollection” that he referred to it as the “Communist” Party? You are clear, certainly, that he was not referring to the Republican or Democratic Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't think that he was. I don't believe he was.

Mr. JOHANSEN. In the whole connotation of that and other comments, you construed it then to be the Communist Party?

Mr. GIACOMO. That is right, although as I say, I have no recollection of his mentioning the word “Communist.”

Mr. DOYLE. The bells have sounded again. It seems to me with the status of this hearing, there ought not to be, by any stretch of the imagination, any release of any kind, direct or indirectly going out on this hearing. I think the committee would agree with me it would do irreparable damage. I was asked to act as chairman, and that is my opinion. There should be no testimony or any part of any testimony to go out, to be used in a release, directly or indirectly, unless there is more evidence about this man, Paul Corbin, being a Communist than there is thus far. That goes for the witnesses as well.

Mr. GIACOMO. If I am told by this committee not to say anything about this, you can rest assured nothing in this hearing room will be mentioned to anyone.

Mr. TAVENNER. We cannot make the investigation of this in one moment. We have to do it by degrees as we develop the testimony. We think it better to take it as we develop it.

Mr. DOYLE. In the developing of it, there is no need for publicity about a man who has not yet been identified as a Communist.

Mr. TAVENNER. Certainly the staff had no intention of making anything public.

During the course of your testimony, you made a statement which was not responsive to a specific question in which you made reference to requests made by Paul Corbin of you to make contributions to the Communist Party. Explain that, please.

Mr. GIACOMO. Well, he would just ask me pointblank, "Wouldn't you like to make a contribution to the party?" And he would tell me of some—I don't remember now for what purpose, but some sort of activity that was going on, and I would always tell him "No," I could not afford it, and so on and so forth. I could not recall just now what purpose it was for.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you know if he made that request to anyone else?

Mr. GIACOMO. No, I don't.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was any statement made as to whom the money should be paid?

Mr. GIACOMO. No. The impression I got was if I wanted to make a contribution, I could make it to him.

Mr. TAVENNER. In that connection, did he use the term "Communist Party"?

Mr. GIACOMO. I don't know. Here again I don't know whether he said merely "party" or "the Communist Party." I would not want to say that he said "Communist Party."

Mr. SCHERER. There was no question in your mind under the circumstances to what party he referred?

Mr. GIACOMO. That is right.

Mr. DOYLE. The subcommittee will stand in recess.

(Whereupon, at 1:05 p.m., Wednesday, September 6, 1961, the subcommittee recessed to reconvene at the call of the Chair.)

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1961

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.
EXECUTIVE SESSION ¹

The subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities convened at 10:20 a.m., in Room 219, Old House Office Building, Hon. William M. Tuck presiding.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., director; Alfred M. Nittle, counsel; Raymond T. Collins and Neil E. Wetterman, investigators.

Mr. TUCK. Will you raise your right hand?

Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give before the House Committee on Un-American Activities will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. SCOTT. I do.

TESTIMONY OF HAROLD SCOTT, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL, HIRAM M. NOWLAN, JR.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your name, please, sir?

Mr. SCOTT. Harold Scott.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will counsel accompanying Mr. Scott identify himself?

Mr. NOWLAN. Hiram Nowlan, Jr., attorney at law, from Janesville, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Scott, you were subpoenaed to appear before the committee as a witness and the committee has received work from you, through your counsel, that you wanted to appear here prior to the originally scheduled hearing and make certain explanations to the committee regarding your own activities and your knowledge about the subject under inquiry. Is that correct?

Mr. SCOTT. I guess so. I understood this was to be the hearing itself. The subpoena I received was for this date.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is correct. The hearing was continued to a later date.

When we learned that you desired to appear here ahead of that hearing, we permitted you to appear under this subpoena.

¹ Released by the committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. NOWLAN. That is substantially correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, Mr. Scott, will you tell us where you reside?

Mr. SCOTT. Route 3, Janesville, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your occupation?

Mr. SCOTT. Electronic technician for Oak Manufacturing at Elkhorn, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you lived in Janesville?

Mr. SCOTT. All my life, except for about 2 years at college.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you attend college?

Mr. SCOTT. Beloit.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Scott, have you been acquainted with a person by the name of Paul Corbin?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes, I have known him.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first become acquainted with Mr. Corbin?

Mr. SCOTT. As to the exact date, I could not say definitely. I think it was approximately only 1945, 1946.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that at your home in Janesville?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes. I think that is the first time I met him. I am not positive. It has been some time ago. I may have met him some place else, but that is the first time I recall becoming acquainted with him.

Mr. TAVENNER. How were you employed at that time?

Mr. SCOTT. I was farming at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Farming?

Mr. SCOTT. My own farm.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Mr. Corbin living in Janesville at the time you first became acquainted with him?

Mr. SCOTT. I am not sure. I am rather of the opinion that he wasn't, but he may have been. I am not positive.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he marry locally in Janesville?

Mr. SCOTT. Well, he married a girl that lived there. I don't know whether he married there or not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, he married a Janesville girl?

Mr. SCOTT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall her name?

Mr. SCOTT. McGowan was her last name, I believe.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was her first name Gertrude?

Mr. SCOTT. That is right, now that you mention it. I was just trying to think of it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Prior to her marriage to Mr. Corbin, had she been married to a person by the name of Cox?

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

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you and your wife become closely associated with Mr. Corbin and his wife after the marriage of Corbin?

Mr. SCOTT. I wouldn't say so; no.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your opportunity of becoming acquainted with Mr. Corbin and his wife?

Mr. SCOTT. Well, as I recall it, he came out with some other people whom I was acquainted with to hunt pheasants. Through that we became acquainted.

I don't know at the time whether he was living in Janesville or not. I am not sure as to that. I am just trying to recall where he was

living at the time, but I don't know. At least, he must have moved to Janesville soon after because I saw him off and on afterward.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you see both Mr. Corbin and his wife off and on?

Mr. SCOTT. Well, usually Paul, himself, rather than his wife, although I have seen his wife.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did they visit in your home and you visit in their home?

Mr. SCOTT. I wouldn't exactly call it that. He came out and bought poultry quite often.

I have been up there two or three times. One of the times he bought some sort of hi-fi record changer and he asked my opinion on it as long as he knew I was interested—at that time electronics servicing was more of a hobby to me than a business because I was farming.

Another time he was moving his television set to the basement and he wanted me to change the antenna connection over.

I think possibly we were up there together one time shortly after he moved in his new house, to see his house.

Mr. TAVENNER. How was Paul Corbin employed at the time you first met him?

Mr. SCOTT. I believe he was employed by some union. I couldn't say definitely which one. I think it was some public workers union.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know in what capacity he was employed?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I couldn't say.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did Paul Corbin remain in the community of Janesville, as nearly as you can tell, after you first met him?

Mr. SCOTT. Up until the election time, last Presidential election—

Mr. TAVENNER. That has been his home, then, since the time you first knew him?

Mr. SCOTT. That is right, most of the time. I think possibly he had just moved to Janesville. I am not sure.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now I want to give you an opportunity to tell the committee in your own words anything that you have in mind regarding your own activities during that period and Mr. Corbin's.

You asked the privilege of coming in, in advance, so I want to give you now an opportunity to state whatever you have in mind stating, and then possibly I will ask you some questions.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Before you start, if you prefer that I ask questions, why, I shall be very glad to do it.

Mr. SCOTT. It does not make too much difference. I assume the purpose—I would not call it a hearing, what is the technical term for it?

Mr. TAVENNER. It is a preliminary investigation.

Mr. SCOTT (continuing). Was mainly because of my past activities as a Communist.

I have been a member of the Communist Party in the past. I don't know exactly what to say. It was a mistake, I think now.

Mr. TAVENNER. I will tell you what I think is a good way to discuss that.

You tell the committee when you became a member of the Communist Party and why you became a member.

I think that would be helpful for the committee to understand your situation a little better and, when you have done that, if you left the Communist Party, then tell the committee when and state why.

Mr. SCOTT. Well, that is a rather general question.

I first joined the party sometime in the thirties for about 2 months. Then I dropped out. I had been what you might call a "sympathizer" with the Communists, with the Communist Party.

To put it bluntly, I thought possibly they could help the country.

During the thirties for some reason, it seemed to me, as though the means of distributing what we were producing had broken down some way—now it looks to me rather foolishly—I thought perhaps some form of socialism would be a way out of the problems that the country was facing at the time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you in school at that time or were you at home in Janesville?

Mr. SCOTT. I was home in Janesville.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you complete your college work?

Mr. SCOTT. I only went 2 years, in 1930, '31, '32, during those years I was at college.

Mr. TAVENNER. So you became a member for several months before you went to college?

Mr. SCOTT. No; that was afterward.

Mr. TAVENNER. I misunderstood you.

Mr. SCOTT. Later in the thirties, I would say possibly 1936 or along in there. Again I could not say definitely. Perhaps you have more of a record than I have on that.

Then I dropped out for quite a long period. I was still interested but I couldn't stand their intolerance of everybody else that thought different than they did.

Then in about 1949—I could not give you the exact date—about 1949, I dropped out. I would say 1946 or 1945, maybe. I [had] again joined the party.

At that time I thought possibly they had changed their attitude for ideas other than the exact party line. I thought, I guess you would call it, becoming more liberalized.

Then I belonged, I think, for about 4 or 5 years until after the takeover of Czechoslovakia. Then I quit soon after that. I couldn't give the exact date, again.

Let us see. That was 1948—I would say sometime in 1949. As to why I joined, it is pretty hard to put in words. Now it looks rather foolish.

That is about all I can mention now, I think.

Mr. TAVENNER. What group in the Communist Party were you assigned to in 1945?

Mr. SCOTT. I belonged—well, usually with the Beloit group.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did it have any further name than the Beloit group of the Communist Party?

Mr. SCOTT. No; I don't think so.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many composed that group?

Mr. SCOTT. I would say there were six members beside myself. I believe there were six.

Mr. TAVENNER. How far is Beloit from Janesville?

Mr. SCOTT. About 13 miles.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who recruited you into the Communist Party in 1945; that is, who led you back into the party?

Mr. SCOTT. I wouldn't say anybody led me. I did it myself. In other words, when I belonged to the party before, I was acquainted with Fred Blair. I went to see him and I said I was interested in becoming active again.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did Fred Blair reside at that time?

Mr. SCOTT. I think he probably resided in Milwaukee. I went to the party office there.

Mr. TAVENNER. How far is Janesville from Milwaukee?

Mr. SCOTT. About 72 miles, I believe; 70 miles.

Mr. TAVENNER. What position did Fred Blair have in the Communist Party?

Mr. SCOTT. I think he was State chairman.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he State chairman during the entire period that you were a member for the second time; that is, from 1945 to 1949 or 1950?

Mr. SCOTT. That I couldn't say. I think he was most of the time. It seems to me as though—I couldn't say for sure. I am trying to think of another name, the State chairman. I don't think so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know Fred Blair when you went into the Communist Party the first time in the late thirties?

Mr. SCOTT. Not prior to that, no.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first become acquainted with Fred Blair?

Mr. SCOTT. I don't exactly recall when I did first meet him.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was it as early as 1940?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes; I think it was before then. I think it was in the thirties that I had met him, sometimes then.

Mr. TAVENNER. What position did he hold in the Communist Party at the time you met him?

Mr. SCOTT. That I couldn't say.

Mr. TAVENNER. What were the circumstances under which you became acquainted with Fred Blair?

Mr. SCOTT. I rather recollect that—well, I had been interested in the party back in the thirties. I am of the opinion that he was the person who urged me to join the party back in the thirties. I am not positive. I don't know what connection he had with the party at that time. I am not even sure he was the person that did it, but I think he was the one.

Mr. TAVENNER. I am not certain that I understood you correctly as to the time when you say you left the Communist Party.

Mr. SCOTT. I believe it was in 1949, I think. I am not positive of the exact date. It may have been a year earlier or a year later.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, I would like to ask you where the Communist Party meetings of your unit or group of the party were held from 1945 until you left the party in 1949 or 1950.

Mr. SCOTT. Actually, there weren't too many of them. When they were held they were usually held at some member's house.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, does that mean that those meetings were held at your home, as well as the homes of other members?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes, I think there was one meeting at my place although, because I was some distance from Beloit, usually they were down in Beloit.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were there other members from Janesville besides yourself?

Mr. SCOTT. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Of the Beloit group?

Mr. SCOTT. Not that I know of.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think you should tell us now all that you know regarding the activities of that group that you were a member of, including the names of those who were in the party with you.

Mr. SCOTT. The activities weren't much to mention. Mostly it was merely payment of dues and, as far as activities, they mainly consisted of selling either the *Sunday Worker* or the *Daily Worker* to people who might be interested in it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall what section of the Communist Party it was that your group was a member of?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I just can't recall any section name given to it. I suppose you mean—

Mr. TAVENNER. Normally there is a section that is made up of representatives from a number of groups.

I am trying to find out what section it was that your group was a member of.

Mr. SCOTT. So far as I know, there was no section at all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did your group have to report to a functionary of the Communist Party of higher rank and on a higher level than your own group?

Mr. SCOTT. Well, occasionally there was a State conference held, I think, and occasionally somebody from the State office would come down to Beloit. But I can't think of any section name that I know of.

Mr. TAVENNER. Very well. Tell us the names of the functionaries of the Communist Party or the representatives from the State office or any other place who came or who attended your meetings.

Mr. SCOTT. I have already mentioned Fred Blair. Sigmund—

Mr. TAVENNER. May I help to refresh your recollection?

Was he at one time a candidate for Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the person to whom you refer?

Mr. SCOTT. I couldn't say. I don't remember that he was but he could have been.

There was his sister, Esther, who occasionally came down.

I think possibly Mary Keith, I believe. She used to work in the bookstore.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where was the bookstore located?

Mr. SCOTT. It was on the main street in Milwaukee. It was called the People's Bookshop, or something of the sort.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the person to whom you referred a moment ago as "Sigmund," Sigmund G. Eisenscher?

Mr. SCOTT. I would say probably that is it; I am not positive.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, this individual did run for Governor of the State of Wisconsin on the Communist ticket.

Now, will you proceed to give us the names of other persons who were not members of your group who attended meetings?

Did Paul Corbin attend some of your meetings?

Mr. SCOTT. I don't think so. No, not that I know of.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say you don't think so?

Mr. SCOTT. No. I mean I wasn't at all the meetings. I couldn't say definitely he did or didn't. To the best of my recollection, he did not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did his wife attend any of those meetings?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I don't think so. That is my best recollection.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know Paul Corbin to be a member of the Communist Party at any time during the period that you actually knew him, or any prior period, from statements he may have made to you?

Mr. SCOTT. Well, I don't know. As far as I know, he was not a member. As to what you mean by statements he made, that is a rather unusual question.

Mr. TAVENNER. It is not unusual at all. I often have people ask me what political party I am a member of or what societies of one kind or another. It is a very usual question among friends.

Mr. SCOTT. Well, any recollection of any discussions I had with him I don't recollect him saying he was a member of the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you and Mr. Corbin discuss communism?

Mr. SCOTT. Possibly. I assume he probably knew I was a member of the party. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did he know you were a member of the party?

Mr. SCOTT. Possibly I could have been trying to sell him *The Worker* or something. I wouldn't say—I mean it is nothing that I have kept secret, myself.

At the time I was a member, I was not ashamed to admit it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then you discussed the matter of communism freely with any friend of yours where the subject would come up; is that true?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes, but, nevertheless, lots of my friends declined to discuss it with me. So I don't know. I couldn't say definitely he said he was a Communist. I wouldn't say—I don't know what else to say exactly.

Perhaps I am being a bit evasive. Well, I think I had better wait until you ask another question.

Mr. TAVENNER. No, we want to know what you know about Paul Corbin's activities in Janesville at the time you were acquainted with him, and just proceed to tell us what you know about him.

You said you would not state definitely that he was a member of the Communist Party. I think that was about the language you used. But from the way in which you have expressed yourself and your hesitancy to answer these questions, it indicates that you must have some knowledge which would be of value to this committee regarding Paul Corbin. I would like you to say what it is.

Mr. SCOTT. I don't think it is of value other than what came out in the papers. I knew he associated with, in fact he has even talked with me—

Mr. TAVENNER. You started to say who he associated with.

To whom did you have reference?

Mr. SCOTT. I had reference to originally when I first met him, there was some member of the CIO—I should remember the name, I did be-

fore, but it slipped my mind now—Emil Costello came out with him when they were hunting.

As far as association with people, it has been in the papers that he has associated, worked with the [Wisconsin] CIO at the time when it was considered more or less under the control of the Communists. I don't know whether that was exactly the right statement to make but it was considered that way. So that is about all I could offer.

MR. TAVENNER. Now, you say Costello was the one who brought him out there to hunt pheasants. Was that the first time that you met Paul Corbin?

MR. SCOTT. I think it was. As far as I can remember that is the first time that definitely sticks in my mind.

MR. TAVENNER. You knew Costello at that time was a member of the Communist Party, didn't you?

MR. SCOTT. I was of the opinion he was a member, too, yes. I had met him probably at some sort of a meeting in Milwaukee.

MR. TAVENNER. Actually, did you ever meet Corbin at a meeting of the Communist Party?

MR. SCOTT. No, I don't think I ever have that I can remember. I can't recall—of course, again, he was a member before I knew him. He could have been at a meeting and I wouldn't remember it.

I don't know whether it was before or after.

Now that I am thinking, I met him at some sort of a picnic in Milwaukee, but I don't remember who was sponsoring the thing. I think it was after his hunting trip that he had out there.

MR. TAVENNER. What kind of picnic was it?

MR. SCOTT. That I couldn't say.

MR. TAVENNER. Well, you know why you went to the picnic in Milwaukee, 70-odd miles away, don't you?

MR. SCOTT. Again, it might have been a CIO picnic or a fraternal workers order picnic.

MR. TAVENNER. How many picnics did you attend in Milwaukee?

MR. SCOTT. I think I went to one other besides that one.

MR. TAVENNER. If you went to two picnics 70 miles away, you certainly should not have any difficulty recalling them if you just stop to think about it, and I want to give you plenty of time. You take all the time you need.

MR. SCOTT. I definitely can't remember who definitely sponsored it. I think there probably were some Communists there. It could have been communistic sponsored, but I don't remember. I couldn't say definitely.

MR. TAVENNER. When was this picnic?

MR. SCOTT. I'd forgotten all about it until now. I couldn't say definitely when it was.

MR. TAVENNER. That was between 1945 and 1949, was it not?

MR. SCOTT. I think so, some place in there. I don't even remember the year it was.

MR. TAVENNER. Who were some of the more prominent Communists that you recall attended?

MR. SCOTT. I don't even remember—I think this Eisenscher's sister was there, Esther. I don't know, we stayed a very short period of time. I really don't remember anybody else that was there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Could this picnic or dinner have been sponsored by the Midwestern Section of the Committee for Protection of Foreign Born?

Mr. SCOTT. It could have been. I don't know—I really can't remember what the official name was.

Mr. TAVENNER. I am just trying to see if I can help to refresh your recollection, possibly the suggestion of things might be of some help to you.

Mr. SCOTT. It could have been. Let me see. I am trying to think here. I think possibly he asked me to go—

Mr. TAVENNER. Who asked you to?

Mr. SCOTT. Paul did because, as I remember, he came out looking for some sheep to barbecue or lambs to barbecue at the time. I don't think he got them around the neighborhood because I didn't raise sheep at the time, and I suggested a neighbor. I don't think the neighbor sold him any because it was during price control, and he thought he could get into some sort of trouble there, so I don't think he sold him any.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, do you recall whether Corbin spoke on that occasion, whether he was one of the speakers?

Mr. SCOTT. Not that I know of. I don't think I heard any of the speakers. I was there for a while, tried the barbecued lamb and left very soon. Most of the people were complete strangers to me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were some of the other leading Communists that you saw there besides the sister of Eisenscher?

Mr. SCOTT. That is the only one I can recall now.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall who was in charge or who presided at the affair?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I don't.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know a person at that time by the name of Joseph Poskonka?

Mr. SCOTT. What was that last name again?

Mr. TAVENNER. Poskonka.

Mr. SCOTT. It does not bring any recollection at all to me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Costello present?

Mr. SCOTT. I couldn't say. I don't remember seeing him at all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Fred Blair present?

Mr. SCOTT. I don't remember. I don't think so. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were other members of your group of the Communist Party present?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I don't think so. I am quite sure they weren't, because I think myself and my wife were the only ones and I knew Paul—actually that is all I can remember that I knew at all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Paul Corbin's wife go, too?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes, I am quite sure she was there, too.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you travel together?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I am quite sure we were alone. We did not travel together.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where was this meeting held?

Mr. SCOTT. It was not a meeting. It was a picnic. I could not even give you the name of the ground that it was held at. I think Paul gave me the directions to get to it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was it inside Milwaukee?

Mr. SCOTT. I don't think it was inside the city limits. It was close, in the Greater Milwaukee area, I guess you would say.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were the other members of your group of the Communist Party at the time you became a member in 1945?

Mr. SCOTT. You mean in Beloit?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. SCOTT. Jack Lyons, Tom Riley, Ann Olen. There was a Wilson Olds.

Mr. TUCK. Did you say Mr. Corbin came to buy some sheep or some lambs for slaughter?

Mr. SCOTT. That is right. They were going to barbecue, as I remember. In fact, I am sure they barbecued some for the picnic but I don't know where they got them.

Mr. TUCK. He came to your house looking for them?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes.

Mr. TUCK. That was Mr. Corbin?

Mr. SCOTT. That is right.

Mr. TUCK. He was buying them for the purpose of using them at this picnic?

Mr. SCOTT. I think he was, yes.

Mr. TUCK. Was he there at the picnic?

Mr. SCOTT. Was he there at the picnic?

Mr. TUCK. Yes.

Mr. SCOTT. I am quite sure he was. I am almost positive.

Mr. TUCK. When was the picnic held?

Mr. SCOTT. That I can't remember, either the date or the place.

Mr. TUCK. Was it given last year or the year before last?

Mr. SCOTT. No, it was during the time that I was a member of the party. So it would be between, approximately between, I would say it was in the later period, probably 1948 or 1949. Possibly a year before or after. I am sorry it is rather indefinite.

Mr. TUCK. Do you recall whether it was in the fall, spring, or summer?

Mr. SCOTT. I would say it was about July—July or August, I believe, because I think it was quite warm.

Mr. TUCK. Did they have a big crowd there?

Mr. SCOTT. I don't know, I would say 150 maybe, or so.

Mr. TUCK. Men and women?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes.

Mr. TUCK. What did they do for entertainment?

Mr. SCOTT. Nothing that I know of. They had barbecued lamb. I don't know, I left soon after we had a little lamb.

Mr. TUCK. What time of day was it? An all-day picnic?

Mr. SCOTT. I assumed it was going to be. We went shortly before dinner or shortly after.

Mr. TUCK. You mean dinner in the middle of the day?

Mr. SCOTT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, you were telling us a little while ago as to the circumstances which I understood led you to believe that Corbin may have been a member of the Communist Party. You mentioned the fact that he was with Costello, the fact that Costello brought him

out there to do pheasant hunting on your property and you knew Costello was a member of the Communist Party. Now I want to follow that up and ask you whether or not you saw Corbin with Fred Blair.

Mr. SCOTT. No, I don't think I ever have seen them together that I can remember.

Mr. TAVENNER. It seems to me that you were having difficulty in recalling who it was that you knew to be a member of the Communist Party and a close associate of Corbin. I think you said Costello. Now, is there any other person in that category?

Mr. SCOTT. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Any other persons that were known to you to be members of the Communist Party who were closely associated with Paul Corbin?

Mr. SCOTT. I believe there were about, I am just trying to think who was in the hunting party, too, at that time—

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with Joe Kennedy with whom Mr. Corbin was associated in union work?

Mr. SCOTT. No; I don't think I am acquainted with him that I know of.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Maybe I disrupted your chain of thought.

Mr. SCOTT. I am just thinking of who else was in the hunting party. I don't think there was a Joe Kennedy. I am not positive. It was some time ago. Again it is something that has not stuck in my mind at all except in relationship with Paul because I had met him since then. I couldn't say definitely who else was in the party. I am not even positive that Costello was in but I think he was. I am quite sure he was the one who, more or less, concocted the hunting party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Christoffel, Harold Christoffel, present at the picnic that you described in Milwaukee?

Mr. SCOTT. I don't know whether he was or not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Christoffel at any time attend a Communist Party meeting at which you were present?

Mr. SCOTT. Again, I don't know. I wouldn't know Mr. Christoffel if I had met him. I don't think so.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many Communist Party meetings were held at your home between 1945 and 1950?

Mr. SCOTT. I think two, as I remember. Maybe more, but I am not positive on the number there. Possibly more.

Mr. TAVENNER. Give us the names of those who were present in your home.

Mr. SCOTT. Again, I am not positive. I don't know. It seems to have been something that I just shut off in my memory, more or less. I couldn't say definitely which ones were there that were members of the party. If you have the list of the members that I am trying to recall who were members of the party when I was, I assume any one of them could be but I am not definite on that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, you identified a Jack Lyons as one of the members of your Communist Party group. Did he attend any one of these meetings in your home? Does that help you to refresh your recollection?

Mr. SCOTT. I think probably, but again I am not positive on that. I assume he probably would.

Mr. TAVENNER. Going back to the question I asked you a while ago as to whether or not Paul Corbin was known to you to have been a member of the Communist Party at any time, you were attempting to search your memory, as I recall it, as to whether or not he said anything to you, indicating that he had been a member.

Mr. SCOTT. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you at this time recall any statement that Corbin made to you with regard to the Communist Party?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I don't recall any statement now.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall any conversation that the two of you had regarding the Communist Party?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I don't think so. At the time I was talking with him, at the time I met him more often, I was, you might say, in the process of withdrawing or becoming more, having more reservations as to their actual names. So I can't think of any time when we directly discussed the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he ask you for a contribution to a Communist Party cause?

Mr. SCOTT. No; I don't think I have ever, in fact I am quite sure I have not given him any money.

Mr. TAVENNER. I did not ask you whether you had given it to him. I asked, did he ever ask you?

Mr. SCOTT. No; I don't think he asked me for any, for any reason.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ask for a contribution from him to the Communist Party?

Mr. SCOTT. No; I don't think I have. I am quite sure not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, you spoke of Mr. Costello. What was your knowledge of Mr. Costello's Communist Party membership?

Mr. SCOTT. I seem to recall seeing him at a conference I attended once in Milwaukee.

Mr. TAVENNER. What kind of conference?

Mr. SCOTT. I think it was a party State conference, convention, or something of the sort. I think that is where I met him. I am not positive. I may have met him at some other occasion.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Paul Corbin present in your home at any time when there was a meeting being held of the Communist Party?

Mr. SCOTT. No; I am quite sure not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Paul Corbin's wife, Gertrude, ever present in your home when a Communist Party meeting was being held?

Mr. SCOTT. No; I am quite sure not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you ever been present at a Communist Party meeting at a time when Mrs. Gertrude Corbin was present?

Mr. SCOTT. Not that I can recall; no, I don't think so.

Again, she may have been at that conference. I had known her slightly before I met Paul. I mean just the name is all.

So, she could have possibly been present at some meeting and I didn't know her.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say she may have been present at the conference?

Mr. SCOTT. In fact, that could be applied to anybody. Even any gentleman here could have been at some meeting.

MR. TAVENNER. Yes, but you made the suggestion that she may have been present at the conference.

MR. SCOTT. I mean in the same terms that anybody could have been and I not realize it because I don't know them.

I don't wish to imply that she had more likelihood of being there than anybody else that I know of.

MR. TAVENNER. Did you ever discuss the Communist Party with Mrs. Corbin?

MR. SCOTT. No; I am quite sure not.

MR. TAVENNER. Was Mrs. Corbin a member of the Communist Party?

MR. SCOTT. No; not to my knowledge.

MR. TAVENNER. Have you received any knowledge or information from any source, including your own personal knowledge, that Paul Corbin was at any time affiliated with the Communist Party?

MR. SCOTT. No.

MR. TAVENNER. Have you received any information or do you have any personal knowledge that he was at any time connected with the Young Communist League?

MR. SCOTT. No.

MR. TAVENNER. Were you a member of the Civil Rights Congress?

MR. SCOTT. I don't think I was ever a member; no.

MR. TAVENNER. Were you a member of any organization in which Paul Corbin was also a member?

MR. SCOTT. Not to my knowledge; no.

Wait a minute. I am just trying to think of whether he was ever a member of the Progressive Party when Henry Wallace was running, but I can't recall that he was. From the conversation I had with him, I don't think he has ever attended any meetings I know of, of the Progressive Party when Henry Wallace was running for President.

I more or less have the opinion that he was more or less in favor of it, but I wouldn't say definitely whether he was or wasn't.

Let me see. There was some—again, I may have to ask you to refresh my memory—there was a progressive Congressman, wasn't there, from Milwaukee, who was elected for a short period of time in about 1946 or 1947? I am trying to recall his name.

I rather think that Paul was more or less in favor of his candidacy but I am not positive.

As to Mr. Wallace himself, I can't recall any definite commitment on him.

MR. TAVENNER. There was a period, you will recall, when the Communist Party was temporarily disbanded and the party was reorganized in the name of the Communist Political Association. Was Paul Corbin at any time a member of the Communist Political Association?

MR. SCOTT. No; not to my knowledge.

MR. TUCK. When was the last time you saw Paul Corbin?

MR. SCOTT. I don't think I have seen him since the election.

MR. TUCK. What election?

MR. SCOTT. The last Presidential election.

MR. TUCK. Did you see him before then?

Mr. SCOTT. Well, I have seen him before the election, yes. I am just trying to recall the exact date that I had seen him.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. SCOTT. My counsel mentions that I had seen him at the 4-H fair, which would be around September 16 or 17, not this last year but the year before. I don't think I saw him at the last fair.

Mr. TUCK. At what fair?

Mr. SCOTT. At the Rock County 4-H Fair. I think at that time he was working for the Democratic Party, and I think he had attended there. I was working on an eating stand for the Grange at that time. I think he probably came down for a hamburger, and he said "Hello." I saw him at that time, but I think that was the last time I have seen him. That was about 1959 or 1960.

Mr. TUCK. Have you had any communications with him, directly or indirectly, in the last few months?

Mr. SCOTT. No.

Mr. TUCK. No conversations with him since?

Mr. SCOTT. No.

Mr. TUCK. Since you have been summoned to appear here before this committee?

Mr. SCOTT. No.

Mr. TUCK. When was the last time you had a conversation with him?

Mr. SCOTT. I can't think of the last time. He has been out to my house. It has been some time because I think it has been 2 or 3 years since I have raised any chickens, so he has no reason for coming out.

He used to buy fat hens that had a poor market value or otherwise. For some reason he seemed to like them and would come out to buy hens. That is the main time I saw him.

Mr. TUCK. Did he buy them in large quantities?

Mr. SCOTT. No, one or two at a time, off and on every 2 or 3 weeks possibly, depending on the season of the year, I guess. Sometimes he would be out quite often and sometimes he would go for quite a while.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have no further questions.

Mr. NOWLAN. There is one other thing I think Mr. Scott should bring out for his own peace of mind, and so forth.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Nowlan thinks that I should bring out the fact that at one time I was on the State Committee of the party. I don't know whether that means much or not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Give us the date.

Mr. SCOTT. That I can't definitely—in fact, I think probably it was the Communist Political Association at the time. Maybe that would help you on the date. I don't think I was ever actually a member of the party itself.

Mr. TAVENNER. That would be 1945?

Mr. SCOTT. That sounds very like it. It was possibly 1946. I don't remember the dates when it changed.¹

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you hold any other office or position in the Communist Party outside of your own local group?

¹ The Communist Party called itself the "Communist Political Association" during the period May 1944 to July 1945.

Mr. SCOTT. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a delegate to the State convention?

Mr. SCOTT. I think I have been, yes. A State convention or a conference, I don't remember the exact title but I have been to one or two State conventions. I don't know whether two or only one. I couldn't say definitely.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, did Blair, Fred Blair, a functionary of the Communist Party in Wisconsin, ever discuss Paul Corbin with you?

Mr. SCOTT. No. Well, he may have given me his name as somebody interested in subscribing to *The Worker*.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say he may have. Do you know? You know whether he did or not, don't you?

Mr. SCOTT. I am not positive now.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you go to Corbin and sell him *The Worker*?

Mr. SCOTT. No, I didn't sell him one.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you try?

Mr. SCOTT. I think possibly I did give him some issues and asked him if he would be interested in it. I am quite sure the answer was negative because I am sure I didn't sell him a subscription or give him one, which I did in some cases.

Mr. TAVENNER. But Blair suggested to you that you see Corbin?

Mr. SCOTT. I am not sure whether it was Blair or whether somebody else did. That I couldn't say. That is a possibility. I couldn't say for sure one way or another whether he did or didn't.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is all.

Mr. TUCK. You may be excused.

Mr. TAVENNER. Unless you have some other statement you desire to make.

Mr. SCOTT. That is all I can think of now.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I think that this gentleman should be continued under his subpoena to the 27th of November.

Mr. TUCK. You are excused for the day, and will continue under subpoena until Monday, the 27th of November 1961.

Mr. NOWLAN. Off the record, please?

Mr. TUCK. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

(Whereupon, at 11:35 a.m., Monday, November 13, 1961, the subcommittee recessed, subject to the call of the Chair.)

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1961

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.
EXECUTIVE SESSION ¹

The subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call, at 3:30 p.m., in Room 219, Old House Office Building, Washington, D.C., Hon. Clyde Doyle (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Subcommittee members: Representatives Clyde Doyle, of California; Morgan M. Moulder, of Missouri; and Gordon H. Scherer, of Ohio.

Subcommittee members present: Representatives Clyde Doyle and Gordon H. Scherer.

Committee members also present: Representatives Donald C. Bruce, of Indiana, and Henry C. Schadeberg, of Wisconsin.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., director; Alfred M. Nittle, counsel; and Neil E. Wetterman, investigator.

Mr. DOYLE. Let the subcommittee come to order and show the attendance of Messrs. Bruce, Scherer, Schadeberg, and Doyle.

Let me swear the witness. Will you please rise and raise your right hand?

Do you solemnly swear you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

TESTIMONY OF WALTER T. ANDERSON

Mr. TAVENNER. You are Mr. Walter T. Anderson?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you live, Mr. Anderson?

Mr. ANDERSON. 340 North 71st Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your present occupation?

Mr. ANDERSON. My present occupation is laying in bed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you hold any position of any type?

Mr. ANDERSON. I am with the United Steelworkers of America.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your position with them?

Mr. ANDERSON. Field representative.

¹ Released by the committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you mean that you are at the present time off duty as a result of—

Mr. ANDERSON. Sickness.

Mr. TAVENNER. Of sickness?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you been a field representative of the United Steelworkers of America?

Mr. ANDERSON. Since January 1, 1938.

Mr. TAVENNER. During that period of time, where have you been located with reference to the performance of your duties?

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, I started out in Lewistown, Pa.; Johnstown, Pa.; Lebanon, Pa.; Buffalo, N.Y.; Ashland, Ky.; Middletown, Ohio; Butler, Pa.; and Milwaukee; and I have worked out of there and various other States, but my home has been on 71st Street since December 30, 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Anderson, are you acquainted with a person by the name of Paul Corbin?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first become acquainted with him?

Mr. ANDERSON. Oh, when the strike was in Beloit, Wis., in 1946, I got acquainted with Paul Corbin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you tell us the season of the year in which you became acquainted with him?

Mr. ANDERSON. I think it was in the spring of 1947 when I first started hauling him back and forth from Milwaukee to Janesville, but I got acquainted with him in Milwaukee before that.

Mr. TAVENNER. I understand you first became acquainted with him in 1946.

Mr. ANDERSON. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you tell us about what time of the year this was?

Mr. ANDERSON. I would say it was about the middle of the year 1946.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know how Mr. Corbin was employed at the time you first became acquainted with him?

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, he was selling ads for the [Wisconsin] *CIO News*.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the occasion of your becoming acquainted with him in 1946 when he was employed by the *CIO News*?

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, in 1946, we was located at 108 West Wells Street, which was known as the Commie nest.

Mr. SCHERER. What was the nest?

Mr. ANDERSON. The Communist nest.

Mr. SCHERER. I did not get your whole answer.

Mr. ANDERSON. I said in 1946 we was located at 108 West Wells Street, which was known as the Communist nest.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by "we were located?"

Mr. ANDERSON. United Steelworkers. The United Steelworkers, Fur & Leather Workers, the Farm Equipment Workers, was all on one floor.

Mr. TAVENNER. And that was known as the Communist nest?

Mr. ANDERSON. That's right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Anderson, will you state how well acquainted you became with Mr. Corbin, that is, just what was the nature of your association with him?

Mr. ANDERSON. I had no social associations with him. The best I got acquainted with him was when I was hauling from Milwaukee to Janesville and I would go on to Beloit when Fairbanks Morse was on strike.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, will you tell us when that was?

Mr. ANDERSON. That was in 1947.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Proceed.

Mr. ANDERSON. Just like anybody else, we had conversations and we were talking about some of the situations there was in Milwaukee and he talked about Phil Smith. He was with the United Electrical Workers. He talked about Jim DeWitt, and he talked about Harold Christoffel. He says, "They're great labor leaders."

I says, "They're a great bunch of Commies, is what they are. You know the paper carries their names every day or two."

He says, "Why don't you get yourself on the right side of the fence?"

Mr. SCHERER. Who said this to you?

Mr. ANDERSON. Paul Corbin.

Mr. BRUCE. This is not hearsay?

Mr. ANDERSON. This is not hearsay. That was said in my Chrysler going between Milwaukee and Janesville. He lived in Janesville. I would go by the way of Janesville. I didn't know county trunk A which went across the corner here and up to Beloit and instead of going straight through on Highway 15, and he showed me the road. That's the first time I ever knowed there was such a thing as a county trunk.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Anderson, did Mr. Corbin make any explanation to you of what he meant by stating to you, "Why don't you get yourself on the right side"—I believe that is the language you used—

Mr. ANDERSON. That's right.

Mr. TAVENNER (continuing). "of the fence?" Did he make any further statement to you to indicate what he meant?

Mr. ANDERSON. No; he didn't. It was dropped there.

When I shot right out and told him—I says, "If they are great labor leaders, all they are is a bunch of Commies and you know that as well as I do."

Mr. SCHERER. To whom did you say that?

Mr. ANDERSON. I said that to Paul Corbin.

Mr. SCHERER. Do I understand, then, from the answer you have just given that you understood Corbin to mean by "getting on the right side of the fence," to get on the right side of the fence by joining the Communist Party?

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, you will have to take from that the same as me. I thought he meant that.

Mr. SCHERER. What was your answer to him when he said that?

Mr. ANDERSON. I says, "All they are is a bunch of damn Commies, and you know that as well as I do."

Mr. TAVENNER. How often do you say you took Mr. Corbin in your automobile to or from Janesville?

Mr. ANDERSON. I'd say around three times.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the subject of communism discussed on the other two occasions or either of them?

Mr. ANDERSON. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Just this one occasion was the only time?

Mr. ANDERSON. This one occasion.

Mr. TAVENNER. And this was 1947?

Mr. ANDERSON. That's right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify the time with more accuracy than you already have?

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, the strike lasted 6 months and 26 days, and it is pretty hard to recall exactly the times that I did haul him. It happened within 6 months.

Mr. TAVENNER. What year was this?

Mr. ANDERSON. This was 1947, the first 6 months of 1947.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you certain that that strike occurred in 1947 instead of 1946?

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, it could have been in 1946. It was whenever the 18½ cents an hour we got across the board.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you certain it occurred during the strike period?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir. It could have been January 1, 1946, when that strike took place. I think it was, if I recall right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have any occasion to be closely associated with Paul Corbin after the occasions on which you took him in your car to Janesville?

Mr. ANDERSON. No. He was very cool to me after that time that I set him back about those labor leaders.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is all I have to ask, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. DOYLE. Any questions?

Mr. SCHERER. When was the last time that you had any contact with Corbin, sir?

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, it's been at least—I don't think I have talked to him since about '56 or '57. No. Wait. It's longer. Anyway, it was at a Democratic convention. I can't just tell exactly when it was. It was when a Democratic convention was held in Superior, Wis., I think.

Mr. SCHERER. I have no further questions.

Mr. DOYLE. Is there any way you can fix that date?

Mr. SCHERER. It does not make any difference. I just want to know if it was sometime in 1956. That is all right.

Mr. ANDERSON. It could have been in 1955. It was either '55—I guess it was in '55.

Mr. BRUCE. Did I understand that the witness had volunteered the information to this committee?

Mr. TAVENNER. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. BRUCE. I simply want to commend the witness for his willingness.

Mr. ANDERSON. Giacomo gave my name in. He told me he did. He called me, and I volunteered it to the *Milwaukee Journal* and give a sworn statement in my own home at Milwaukee which this gentleman right here has.

Mr. TAVENNER. The statement is correct. We obtained the lead from Mr. Giacomo, but I did not know whether this witness knew that.

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes; he called and told me he did.

Mr. DOYLE. Do you have all the leads that you were after with this witness?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Was that after Giacomo's testimony?

Mr. ANDERSON. No; that was before.

Mr. SCHERER. Before he testified?

Mr. ANDERSON. That's right.

Mr. BRUCE. I would like to make this observation. I think as a member of the organized labor movement you are to be commended for your attitude during those times when there was some heavy infiltration in the area, for your firm position, and I wish your tribe would increase a hundred times over.

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, I can say this: That when I went to Milwaukee, I was called to Pittsburgh once and asked how the situation was around there and every man that I recommended be let go, was let go. That was Emil Costello and Ethel Isaacs, secretary, and they sent John Riffe in, and John Riffe lived over in Arlington when he died, and John asked me the names that I should say let go, and I told him just what I told you here, Emil Costello and Ethel Isaacs.

Mr. BRUCE. Let me ask the witness this: In your work, did you ever run into a man by the name of Russ Nixon?

Mr. ANDERSON. What is the name?

Mr. BRUCE. Russ Nixon.

Mr. ANDERSON. No; I didn't.

Mr. BRUCE. Not up around Milwaukee?

Mr. ANDERSON. No.

Mr. SCHERER. The witness volunteered the statement that he had given the affidavit to the *Milwaukee Journal*. When was that, sir? Have you got the date there of it?

Mr. ANDERSON. It was only the last couple of weeks.

Mr. TAVENNER. 24th day of August 1961.

Mr. SCHERER. How was the contact made?

Mr. ANDERSON. Through Giacomo.

Mr. SCHERER. With the *Milwaukee Journal*?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. And some reporter came and interviewed you?

Mr. ANDERSON. Him and a judge came out and they took the affidavit and typed it out right in my house and asked for a copy of, and I gave him a sworn statement there. He asked me if I would testify to it, and I told him anywhere in this country.

Mr. DOYLE. Anything else, gentlemen, Mr. Scherer and Mr. Schadeberg?

Mr. SCHADEBERG. I have no questions.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Scherer, any other questions?

Mr. SCHERER. No.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Bruce?

Mr. BRUCE. No further questions.

Mr. DOYLE. Thank you, Witness, for coming.

Mr. ANDERSON. You are quite welcome.

Mr. DOYLE. We hope you recover your health fully and promptly.

Mr. ANDERSON. Thank you. Anything else I can do for you, you know where to get me. If any of you come to Milwaukee any time and want any leads, I will go with you.

Mr. TAVENNER. Thank you very much.

Mr. ANDERSON. You are quite welcome.

Mr. DOYLE. Anything else?

Mr. TAVENNER. No, sir; that is all.

(Whereupon, at 4:05 p.m. Wednesday, September 13, 1961, the subcommittee was recessed, to reconvene subject to the call of the Chair.)

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1961

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ¹

The subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call, at 10 a.m., in Room 219, Old House Office Building, Hon. Francis E. Walter (chairman) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Francis E. Walter, of Pennsylvania; William M. Tuck, of Virginia; Gordon H. Scherer, of Ohio; August E. Johansen, of Michigan; Donald E. Bruce, of Indiana.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., director; James Walsh, co-counsel; Neil E. Wetterman, investigator.

(Order of appointment of subcommittee follows:)

NOVEMBER 27, 1961.

TO: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr.

Director

Committee on Un-American Activities

Pursuant to provisions of law and the rules of this Committee, I hereby appoint a subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities, consisting of Representatives William M. Tuck and Gordon H. Scherer, as associate members, and myself, Francis E. Walter, as Chairman, to conduct hearings in Washington, D. C., beginning on Monday, November 27, at 10 a.m., on subjects under investigation by the Committee and take such testimony on said day or succeeding days as it may deem necessary.

Please make this action a matter of Committee record.

If any member indicates his inability to serve, please notify me.

Given under my hand this 27th day of November, 1961.

/s/ Francis E. Walter
FRANCIS E. WALTER,
Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order.

Do you swear the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. KENNEDY. I do.

TESTIMONY OF JOSEPH C. KENNEDY

The CHAIRMAN. Give your name, please, to the reporter.

Mr. KENNEDY. Joseph C. Kennedy.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kennedy, where do you live?

Mr. KENNEDY. Cedar Falls, Iowa.

¹ Released by the committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state briefly for the committee your formal educational training and background?

Mr. KENNEDY. Well, I graduated from grammar school, high school, and several years of college, but I did not graduate from college.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you attend college?

Mr. KENNEDY. DePaul University in Chicago; Crane Junior College.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your occupation?

Mr. KENNEDY. I am president of the Black Hawk Publishing Co., Inc., in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you been engaged in that business?

Mr. KENNEDY. About 13 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. That would take you back, then, to about 1948?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes; that is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your employment prior to 1948?

Mr. KENNEDY. Well, I was briefly in partnership with Paul Corbin. I lived in Rockford, Ill., then.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the nature of your partnership business in which you and Mr. Corbin were engaged?

Mr. KENNEDY. We represented several veterans organizations, publishing their national paper and several local veterans organizations' papers, publications, and yearbooks, et cetera.

Mr. TAVENNER. Over what period of time did that partnership last?

Mr. KENNEDY. May I consult my notes here?

Mr. TAVENNER. Surely. I think I should say to you, Mr. Kennedy, that any witness appearing before this committee has the right to have counsel with him if he desires to. Some do and some do not.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes; I understand that.

The question was, What was the period of association with Mr. Corbin in this partnership?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. KENNEDY. It was approximately January 1948 until April 11, 1949. The last date is specific because I have a written document of the dissolution in my file.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the nature of your work prior to your partnership with Mr. Corbin which began in January 1948?

Mr. KENNEDY. I was in the wholesale produce business—eggs, butter, and cheese—in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Over what period of time were you so employed?

Mr. KENNEDY. Approximately January 1946 until November of 1947.

Mr. TAVENNER. Prior to 1946?

Mr. KENNEDY. I was in the Army for about 2½ years.

Mr. TAVENNER. That would take you, then, back to about 1943?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. I went in the Army in 1943, yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Prior to 1943, how were you employed and where?

Mr. KENNEDY. I was the business manager of Local 707 of the United Furniture Workers of America, which was then a CIO affiliate.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you the business manager of United Furniture Workers of America?

Mr. KENNEDY. Well, first I was an international representative servicing the union and then I was the business manager and the two

sort of merged together. I could not give you a specific breakdown, but approximately from sometime late in 1939 until I went to the Army in July of 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of the CIO Industrial Union Council as a result of your position with the United Furniture Workers of America?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, I was.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you a member of that organization?

Mr. KENNEDY. I believe the council was formed in 1941, and I was a member until I went into the service in World War II, in July of 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kennedy, when did you first become acquainted with Paul Corbin?

Mr. KENNEDY. I met Paul Corbin in 1941 in Rockford, Ill.

Mr. TAVENNER. What were the circumstances under which you met him?

Mr. KENNEDY. I was head of this large union. It was a full-time job, of course. Mr. Corbin and some other man, a man by the name of Lancaster, came there with the CIO Council with some advertising scheme so that we could make some money for our new council, so we employed them on a commission basis.

After they were through, Mr. Corbin just sort of hung around and performed all sorts of volunteer jobs, legwork, helped pass out handbills, and the usual type of Jimmy Higgins work which is associated with trade union organizing. Ultimately, he would sort of get on the payroll for a month or two when we had some special job. He just sort of hung around there and made himself useful.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was that date when you first became acquainted with him?

Mr. KENNEDY. I think it was sometime in 1941. I am not positive. It was either 1941 or early 1942.

Mr. TAVENNER. Could it have been as early as the summer of 1940?

Mr. KENNEDY. It could have been, but I am not too sure of that date.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you know him by the name of Corbin at that time or some other name?

Mr. KENNEDY. He was using the name of Paul Corbin, but I knew he had originally the name "Kobrinsky."

Mr. TAVENNER. He told you that?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he tell you anything of his activities in Canada before coming to this country?

Mr. KENNEDY. He told me he had been a member of the Young Communist League at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg and he had some relatives that were rather active in the leftwing movement around Winnipeg.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he say "Young Communist League" or "leftwing movement"?

Mr. KENNEDY. He stated the Young Communist League.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he mention what relatives?

Mr. KENNEDY. He mentioned an uncle, but I don't know if it was maternal or paternal.

MR. TAVENNER. Do you know whether the uncle's name was Corbin, or whether it was Pavlov?

MR. KENNEDY. I really don't know.

MR. TAVENNER. Did he tell you how long he had been engaged in Communist Party activities in the Young Communist League?

MR. KENNEDY. No, he didn't.

MR. TAVENNER. Did he tell you anything about the nature of his activities while affiliated with that group?

MR. KENNEDY. No. As he explained it to me, it was while he was a student at the University of Manitoba and that is all I know about it.

MR. TAVENNER. At this time in 1940 or 1941 when you first met him, was he a citizen of the United States?

MR. KENNEDY. No; he was not.

MR. TAVENNER. Was he married at that time?

MR. KENNEDY. He was married to his first wife, but he had deserted her and their children. He was wanted for desertion.

MR. TAVENNER. He was wanted for desertion?

MR. KENNEDY. He was picked up in Rockford by the police for desertion.

MR. TAVENNER. Do you recall when that occurred? Let me ask you if that was the only time that you knew of when he was put under arrest by Rockford authorities.

MR. KENNEDY. Yes, that is the only time I know of.

MR. SCHERER. Rockford, Ill.?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. The committee, in the course of its investigation, has learned that he was placed under arrest on August 22, 1941, by Rockford authorities at the request of the police of New York City who then directed his release from custody, which was done.

Does that help to refresh your recollection as to the year in which you first knew Paul Corbin, because the date of arrest that I referred to was August 22, 1941.

MR. KENNEDY. I met him in 1941 because it was just several months before that I met him.

MR. TAVENNER. What was his first wife's name?

MR. KENNEDY. I really don't know. I heard it, but I don't remember.

MR. TAVENNER. Did she live at any time with her husband in Rockford, to your knowledge?

MR. KENNEDY. To my knowledge, she did not.

MR. TAVENNER. From 1941 until the time you went into the service, covering a period of 2 to 3 years, what was Paul Corbin's association with you during that entire period, the 2 to 3 years?

MR. KENNEDY. Well, he just sort of hung around me, you might say, and occasionally I would have some work like putting on an assistant for a few weeks or a few months, so if he was available we would use him. I got him a job with the Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store Union sometime, I believe, in 1942, and he handled that job for a number of months. Then he went to work for Mr. Bridge's Longshoremens's union.

MR. TAVENNER. Do you recall when he went to work for the Longshoremens's Union?

Mr. KENNEDY. He went to work for the ILWU in 1942.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where was he located at that time?

Mr. KENNEDY. He went to work in Chicago under Lou Goldblatt who was the international vice president of the ILWU, and then he was transferred to Freeport, Ill., which is west of Rockford, and then he organized the W. T. Rawleigh plant there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Mr. Corbin live in your home at any time during the period when you first became acquainted with him and the time you went into the service?

Mr. KENNEDY. He roomed with us, I would say, for about several months.

Mr. TAVENNER. When was that?

Mr. KENNEDY. Late 1941, I believe it would be.

Mr. TAVENNER. In fact, Mr. Corbin was living with you at the time he was arrested?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, sir; he was not. He moved in with me shortly thereafter.

Mr. TAVENNER. It is noted from the records of the arrest that he gave his address as 1622 South Fifth Street, Rockford, Ill. That was your address?

Mr. KENNEDY. That was my address, but that was not a true statement.

Mr. TAVENNER. What were the circumstances under which Paul Corbin told you of his activities in Canada in the Young Communist League?

Mr. KENNEDY. It was shortly after he was arrested—this incident we have been discussing here—and he heard that I was involved in some way with the leftwing union, this leftwing union and the Communist Party, and he was attempting to probably ingratiate himself with me. This is just supposition.

May I just add something voluntarily?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. KENNEDY. The reason Mr. Corbin said he lived with me was we had considerable political influence, the Furniture Workers Union, in this town. The president of the union was chairman of the board of the police and fire commissioners of Rockford, Ill.

Mr. TAVENNER. And he had been president of your union?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes. And he had been a party member at one time.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you mean Communist Party member?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was his name?

Mr. KENNEDY. Ray Rollins.

Mr. TAVENNER. After his arrest, Corbin told you about his activities in Canada?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned his knowledge of your activity in certain groups, including the Communist Party.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of the Communist Party at that time?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes; I was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a functionary in the Communist Party at that time? That is, did you hold any office?

Mr. KENNEDY. Well, I didn't hold any office that I can remember. I was not a chairman or secretary or anything like that. I don't think I was.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you become a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. In late fall of 1937.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you remain a member or are you a member now?

Mr. KENNEDY. I am not a member now: no. I was more or less a member until just before I went into the service. I might explain that they were going to expel me and would not allow me to attend meetings when this Stalin-Hitler thing came along, so I was not an active member, really, for several years prior to going into the service. It is kind of hard to explain. You see, I held a key position in the trade union movement so they had to work with me. At the same time, they would not let me come to a party meeting for a period there and so on, so I don't know whether I was a member or not. If I could not go to closed meetings, I suppose I was not.

Mr. BRUCE. Did you pay dues?

Mr. KENNEDY. I don't really know whether I did or not. Knowing how hard up they were for some money, they probably dunned me for some money but they did bar me from meetings.

Mr. JOHANSEN. You mean you don't recall?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. It has been a long time ago.

Mr. SCHERER. But you were definitely out when you went into the service—in what year?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir; in 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you affiliate with the Communist Party after your return?

Mr. KENNEDY. I came back from the service and my job had disappeared while I was in the Army. I had been overseas almost 2 years and I didn't know what was going on, so my job was gone. I went into Chicago to the various trade unions that had all wanted my services very badly prior to the war and the leftwing unions had no job for me and, of course, the so-called rightwing unions had no job for me either. I went up to party headquarters on Wells Street in Chicago and tried to find out what it was all about. I was apparently being blackmailed by the party and by the other groups.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you mean "blackmailed" or "blacklisted"?

Mr. KENNEDY. I beg your pardon, blacklisted. So they made out a card and brought it out to me, but I think I attended one or two meetings after the war just to find out—another thing, I was very curious about this whole question of Browderism and the new business when Browder was kicked out and Foster took over and so on, but I was never really a party member after the war in any sense other than I went to find out what it was all about on this job situation.

Mr. BRUCE. Did you sign the card they gave you?

Mr. KENNEDY. I really don't remember whether I did or not. I remember them giving me a card.

Mr. BRUCE. But you did go to a meeting or two afterward, so that would indicate that you signed a card.

MR. KENNEDY. These meetings were at a man's house, an informal thing and I am not sure whether all of the people there were members or not. In Rockford, the thing is very informal. I have only been to one meeting or so that was not open. Maybe in the big cities they did things differently, but out in the sticks they operated on a rather loose basis.

MR. TAVENNER. Did you confer with Fred Blair after you returned from the service?

MR. KENNEDY. No, sir. He was in Wisconsin and this was in Chicago.

MR. TAVENNER. Who solicited your membership into the party or who brought you into the party?

MR. KENNEDY. George Stewart.

MR. TAVENNER. How do you spell his name?

MR. KENNEDY. S-t-e-w-a-r-t.

MR. TAVENNER. His name was also Smerkin?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. How do you spell that?

MR. KENNEDY. S-m-e-r-k-i-n.

MR. TAVENNER. What position did he hold in the union of which you were business manager?

MR. KENNEDY. He was my predecessor, and I was his assistant for a while before he left.

MR. TAVENNER. Did Stewart give Corbin any employment in the union?

MR. KENNEDY. No, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. That was all done by you?

MR. KENNEDY. He had left before Corbin arrived on the scene. He had left for New York.

MR. TAVENNER. What work, if any, did Paul Corbin do for the Communist Party during the period from 1940 or 1941, when you first knew him, until you went into the service in 1943?

MR. KENNEDY. As far as I knew, he didn't do anything for the Communist Party.

MR. TAVENNER. Do you know whether he sold the *Daily Worker*?

MR. KENNEDY. He sold some subscriptions to the *Daily Worker*. I can give you a specific instance.

MR. TAVENNER. Go ahead.

MR. KENNEDY. He sold a subscription one time while I was present with a well-known attorney in Rockford. I can't think of his name. Can I come back to that question later? The name will come to me.

MR. TAVENNER. Very well.

Did he engage in any fund-raising activities for Communist Party causes?

MR. KENNEDY. Not that I know of.

MR. TAVENNER. Did he show any interest in the Communist Party during the period he lived with you and while you knew him, up until you went into the service?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes; he seemed greatly interested.

MR. TAVENNER. What do you mean by that?

MR. KENNEDY. Well, he read the *Daily Worker* and was always associating with people who are thought to be, or known to be, members of the Communist Party in the area.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give us the names of those people?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes. Emil Costello, then of the United Steelworkers Union, and Carl Thorman of the United Furniture Workers Union, and Einar Sell of the Furniture Workers Union, and Lou Goldblatt of the ILWU.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is the same person you referred to a while ago as being the person who employed him in Chicago?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, and Robertson of the ILWU.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you know Mr. Goldblatt as a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, I didn't know him as a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned a person by the name of Robertson. What Robertson?

Mr. KENNEDY. Robertson, a vice president of the ILWU, who was in Rockford and Freeport.

Mr. SCHERER. All these men you have just named to us, do I understand you to say that they were generally considered to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. We knew them to be members of the Communist Party. They were known to us to be members of the Communist Party, by common repute in labor circles, leftwing circles and Communist circles, but I had never been to any meeting with them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Could the Robertson you referred to be J. R. Robertson?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, that is who it is.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall whether the Robertson as vice president of the ILWU was the same person who was a codefendant in the Harry Bridges perjury and conspiracy trial?

Mr. KENNEDY. I don't know enough about that trial to answer that question. I assume it is the same one, but I have never seen the transcript of the trial. I am sure it is the same one—you know.

Mr. TAVENNER. During the period we have been discussing, up until you went into the service, was any reference made by Paul Corbin to membership in the Communist Party of the United States?

Mr. KENNEDY. I personally blocked his membership in Rockford.

Mr. SCHERER. Would you repeat that?

Mr. KENNEDY. I personally blocked his becoming a member of any Rockford Communist Party group by talking to the key people there, mistrusting the man quite a bit.

Mr. SCHERER. You distrusted him?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes. He is an emotionally unstable person, and I did not want any involvement with him at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. You went into partnership with him at a later date?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. I should think that that is a closer relationship than just joint membership in the Communist Party.

Mr. KENNEDY. May I explain how I went into partnership with him, very briefly?

Mr. SCHERER. Before we leave this subject, when you say "blocked his membership," did he make application for membership in the local group of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. I believe he did. I do not actually know. I talked to Thorman and some of these people and said that this man is an emotionally unstable person and I would advise you not to become deeply involved with him.

Mr. BRUCE. Then Goldblatt later hired him?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. On your recommendation?

Mr. KENNEDY. Maybe I wanted to get him out of town and out of my hair.

Mr. BRUCE. Is that the reason?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us more in detail about Corbin's desire to get into the Communist Party or what he did to get into the Communist Party.

Mr. KENNEDY. About this time, Emil Costello, from the Steelworkers Union, appeared on the scene in Rockford. He was not suspect by the leadership like I was. In other words, he had some direct pipelines to some people in the higher echelons of the Communist Party, apparently, and I suspect that he recruited Corbin into the party. Suddenly Corbin appears on the ILWU payroll and starts wheeling and dealing, you know, with known party members, and he is getting jobs from them, and so forth and so on.

Then he starts talking to me about party policy and all this business. A good example of his following the party line, we had the State CIO convention in Springfield, Ill., and do you remember the America First, which I believe you could say was an isolationist movement, that of opposing our entry into world war or at least something roughly like that?

Corbin stood up and made a speech at the CIO convention attacking this America First bitterly; and it was strictly party policy he was following because, just a few weeks before, the party was all for the America Firsters and for keeping out of the so-called imperialist war, and then Hitler attacked the Soviet Union and then, all of a sudden, all of the party people were going in the other direction.

Mr. TAVENNER. That was June 22, 1941?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. This convention was held in July of that year.

Mr. BRUCE. Corbin had been speaking the other way prior to that?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir; I did not make the switch because I helped to organize the Committee To Aid America by Aiding the Allies which was the opposite of party policy, and I was criticized for it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Corbin make any overtures to you for your assistance in getting him into the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. He did; yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us about that.

Mr. KENNEDY. He kept hanging around and hinting and saying, well, you know, indicating that he was already communicating with the higher level people, and the implication was that, you know, I should take him to the meetings, and so forth and so on. I just simply ignored his advances and had nothing to do with him on this question.

Mr. SCHERER. You were convinced that he was a member of the Communist Party and he merely wanted to have membership in the local group since he had come to Iowa?

Mr. KENNEDY. Not Iowa.

It is kind of hard to explain, sir, but we are dealing with a rather pathological case here. One day he was a Communist and the next day he was something else.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you mean one day he was a Communist by what he said to you?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. In Wisconsin in later years, one month he was working for Senator McCarthy and the next month he was working for somebody at the opposite pole of the political spectrum.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you mean on the payroll?

Mr. KENNEDY. He was raising funds for him. I don't know specifically, but I was informed he embraced Senator McCarthy at this American Legion State convention and so on, so I don't know what to think about the man so far as his stability is concerned.

Mr. SCHERER. When he was talking to you about the possibility of getting into the local Communist group in Rockford, Ill., that was after he had told you that he had been a member of the Young Communist League?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Was his telling you that he had been a member of the Young Communist League a part of the buildup with you as sort of a credential to justify your supporting his effort to get into the party in Rockford?

Mr. KENNEDY. I believe it was; yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. There was no doubt in your mind that he had been a member of the Communist Party at the time he was trying to get into the membership of the local group, was there?

Mr. KENNEDY. I would just restate that, sir, that there was no doubt in my mind that he had been a member of the Young Communist League, but I did not know whether he had ever been a member of the party.

Mr. BRUCE. But he did tell you, if I recall your statement, that he was already in contact with the higher-ups and, in other words, he couldn't understand, then, why you would not sponsor him in the local party?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated that you remonstrated to various leaders of the Communist Party in your area against Corbin being permitted to come into the Rockford group of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. And you mentioned Costello as one of those?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were the others?

Mr. KENNEDY. Costello, nominally, was the organizer for the United Steelworkers Union, but actually, of course, he was apparently a high official in the party or had very strong connections, and I remonstrated with him about pushing this Corbin into too close a relationship with us. In fact, Corbin started to interfere with trade union policy and related things where the two were blending together somewhat. That

is the reason I had encouraged Costello to get him the job with Bridges and get him out of town.

Mr. SCHERER. Was this before you went into the Army?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. Everything was before I went into the Army.

Mr. TAVENNER. Your going into partnership with Corbin was after your return from the service?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. That was after Corbin's return and your return from the Army?

Mr. KENNEDY. He was in the Marine Corps, and I was in the Army.

Mr. BRUCE. Did the two of you maintain contact during that period?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, I think maybe one letter or two. He was in the Pacific and I was in Europe.

I went in the wholesale butter, egg, and cheese business after I got out of the service. I was with a cooperative for a while and then I went into business for myself. I was doing quite well when I became ill with gallbladder trouble, and by the time I came out of the hospital the market had gone down and the butter, egg, and cheese market had some drops.

While I was in the hospital, I was visited by Paul Corbin. Paul Corbin was, I believe, the State commander of the Wisconsin Marine Corps League. He said, "Joe, I have a deal for you. Why don't you go to work for the State Marine Corps League? We are going to have a convention, cover the State, put out a program yearbook which is to be held in Janesville, Wis."

I was out of business. I had been in the hospital, and when I came out I had no job. I did not want to go back to the trade union movement, so I took this job from Corbin, but the strange thing that happened, he was with the sponsoring organization and he was the State commander.

After I had been in business for about 6 weeks, suddenly he quit the State CIO that he was working for, the Wisconsin Industrial Union Council, and appeared no longer on the scene but going into partnership with me. I was put in the difficult position, he was both the sponsoring organization and also wormed his way into a partnership. I thought, well, what have I got to lose? Here was a very sharp, shifty individual who could teach me some practical facts about running a business. We got along swell for 3 or 4 months and then things—we were fighting quite a bit.

Mr. SCHERER. What type of business was that?

Mr. KENNEDY. He was the commander for the State Marine Corps League and he was chairman of the convention and he gave me the job of doing the yearbook.

Mr. SCHERER. This was a limited, temporary partnership until the convention was over?

Mr. KENNEDY. It was not a partnership at all. I was working. He was the head of the organization. He was the State commander. Once I took the deal and started working on it, he suddenly appeared on the scene and said, "I am going to become your partner."

Mr. BRUCE. You took this as a separate operation from the Marine Corps League?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. And it was a temporary thing until the convention was over?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. JOHANSEN. This was soliciting and selling advertising?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. BRUCE. You split this on a percentage basis?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. BRUCE. Your operation was completely separate from the Marine Corps League?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. We were just a business operation.

Mr. BRUCE. As I understand it, Corbin literally muscled his way into your operation.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. JOHANSEN. In other words, he had become a participant in that which otherwise would have totally gone to you?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. BRUCE. Here was the situation of the commander of the Marine Corps League in a venture for personal profit at the expense of the Marine Corps League?

Mr. KENNEDY. I would not really say at the expense of—at my expense. He was working both sides of the street.

Mr. JOHANSEN. It was at your expense, if it was at the expense of anyone because it reduced your proportion of the payments?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. You and Corbin also entered into a contract with the Navy Club of the U.S.A.?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. This was on the 16th day of February 1949. It was for the purpose of soliciting advertising and selling, was it not?

Mr. KENNEDY. Would you check that date again, sir?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir. The 16th day of February 1949.

Mr. KENNEDY. I have here the contract signed with both Mr. Corbin's signature and mine and by the national commander of the Navy Club of the United States, Dr. R. J. Mashek, a dentist in Milwaukee, and that is dated the 1st day of July A.D. 1948. This might have been the local Rockford post. That is probably what it was.

Mr. TAVENNER. It was a corporation organized and existing pursuant to a charter granted by the United States of America. Let me hand it to you and see if you can further identify it.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Would you like to see this document, sir?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

(Document handed to counsel.)

Mr. KENNEDY. I can explain this now, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Just explain to the committee what your association was with Corbin in connection with the advertising work done for the Navy Club of the U.S.A.

Mr. KENNEDY. Well, the Navy Club of the U.S.A., of course, is a legitimate veterans organization and just accidentally was founded in Rockford, Ill., by some people who were veterans, I believe, in World War I. With World War II, it flourished and grew rather large, and a man by the name of Keegan, a respected lawyer in Rockford, Ill., was our counsel.

Incidentally, my brother-in-law was one of the founders of this thing, although he has no connection with any leftwing activity. So I got this contract to represent them nationally, a national newspaper they had. We covered parts of the United States, selling advertising and so on.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you say "we," whom do you mean?

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Corbin and I. He rode along on my coattails.

Mr. TAVENNER. Over what period of time did that relationship continue?

Mr. KENNEDY. The dissolution—I mentioned the date earlier. Here it is in his handwriting. The dissolution of our partnership took place April 11, 1949, and he apparently kept on with the Navy Club after I left it.

Mr. TAVENNER. I request that this document be marked "Kennedy Exhibit No. 1."

The CHAIRMAN. So ordered.

(Document marked "Kennedy Exhibit No. 1" and retained in committee files.)

Mr. TAVENNER. It began when?

Mr. KENNEDY. Do you mean our partnership or the contract with the Navy Club?

Mr. TAVENNER. Your partnership with Corbin in connection with advertising matters.

Mr. KENNEDY. That would be about February of 1948—yes, approximately February 1948.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you not have some association with Corbin in the matter of solicitation of funds prior to 1943, prior to your going into the Army?

Mr. KENNEDY. I was with the union, but I was not involved in any working with him on anything.

Mr. TAVENNER. The minutes of the Rockford Industrial Union Council of February 10, 1943, reflect that a question was raised as to whether authority had been given any person to sell advertising material in any form or place in the name of the Rockford Industrial Union Council unless he had credentials from the council. Also, that a man by the name of Harry Gantt and Corbin were asked whether they had gotten authority to sell this advertisement for the Rockford Industrial Union Council.

Do you recall that?

Mr. KENNEDY. I recall Mr. Gantt's coming to town, but I had nothing to do with the sale of anything. I was a union official at this time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have any interest in this matter that I have called to your attention.

Mr. KENNEDY. No financial interest; no, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you know about this man Harry Gantt? What business did he have, if any, in addition to the sale of advertising material?

Mr. KENNEDY. I met Mr. Gantt in Rockford, and he was sent there by—I mean he was recommended to us, I should say, by Mr. Meyer Adelman, who was the district director of the Steelworkers Union in Milwaukee and northern Illinois outside of Chicago.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was this man, Harry Gantt, known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, sir; just worked for the *Wisconsin CIO News* soliciting from business firms.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, what your association with Corbin was after your return from the Army and after his return from the Marine Corps?

Mr. KENNEDY. I returned from the Army on the 26th of October 1945, and I was home a month or two before Corbin was returned from the Marine Corps. I was working for a cooperative store in Rockford, Ill., consumer cooperative store, for a few months, and I was trying to figure some way to get back into the trade union movement as an organizer.

Corbin appeared on the scene with his wife—

Mr. TAVENNER. Was this his first wife or second wife?

Mr. KENNEDY. Second wife, Mrs. Gertrude Cox Corbin. We just had a social visit and he wanted me to start a labor agency representing management. I had been offered, by the way, the presidency of the Furniture Manufacturers Association when I was with the union, that is Rockford, which was then a great furniture-producing center. He knew this, of course, and he wanted to use my connections to get into a labor-management agency.

He came down to see me three or four times about this. Of course, if I was going to go into a labor-management agency, I would not have gone in with him.

Mr. SCHERER. Were you in Rockford then?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. He came down from where?

Mr. KENNEDY. From Janesville.

Mr. TAVENNER. He and his wife were living in Janesville at that time?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. Then I went into the wholesale produce business and maybe four or five times he stopped in to see me. He always had some sort of a proposition. He wanted to go in business with me or he wanted to get involved in labor some way with me. In fact, this man has sort of a rather odd attachment to me.

I have a letter some place in my files showing this, and rather dependent upon me. He was always trying to propose that we go into some business of some kind, but we had nothing to do with one another except this deal I told you about, the Marine Corps League and the Navy deal.

Mr. TAVENNER. Janesville is in Wisconsin?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where was Costello at this time, Emil Costello?

Mr. KENNEDY. Postwar, Emil was still with the Steelworkers and he was fired from the Steelworkers some time in, I believe, 1948, at the order of Philip Murray, the former head of the Steelworkers Union.

Mr. SCHERER. Was he fired because of his Communist activity?

Mr. KENNEDY. I am sure he was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was his scene of activity in Wisconsin—Costello's?

Mr. KENNEDY. The district of the Steelworkers with whom Mr. Costello was connected was Milwaukee and northern Illinois outside of Chicago, and it went 'way down to Kewaunee and that section.

Mr. TAVENNER. After getting out of the armed services was Corbin employed in Wisconsin, in any way, in any union, or any capacity in which Costello would have had close association with Corbin?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, in two particulars. No. 1, he was given a job to represent the *Wisconsin CIO News*, which was a special Wisconsin edition of the national *CIO News*—carrying an advertising program in it to finance it and so on, and, of course, the State of Wisconsin CIO in those days was dominated by Meyer Adelman and Emil Costello, and was known to be leftwing dominated, which means practically the same thing.

Costello got Mr. Corbin a job as their representative. Then, Mr. Corbin was given a job, I am sure by Costello, to be the representative of the Public Workers Union, and he represented the Milwaukee City Workers Union, that is, the garbage and disposal workers and I don't know what else.

He was doing that prior to his quitting and going to work with me in this partnership.

Mr. TAVENNER. During the period of this close relationship of you with Corbin, for more than a year in 1948 and 1949, did Corbin discuss with you his status as a citizen?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes. He told me he had become a citizen while he was in the Marine Corps and the fact that he had gotten a divorce while in the Marine Corps and married this Gertrude Cox Corbin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Had you known his wife before their marriage?

Mr. KENNEDY. The second wife?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes. She was secretary of a local union I organized in Janesville at the Hough Manufacturing Co. and Corbin rode along with me that night when I went to give them their charter and that is where he met her.

Mr. TAVENNER. That was before he went into the armed services?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TUCK. You introduced him to the present Mrs. Corbin?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir, I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was she known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. He told me she became one in California while he was in the Marine Corps stationed at San Diego; that she became a member of the party on the West Coast at that time.

Mr. SCHERER. Was that prior to the time that you introduced him?

Mr. KENNEDY. No; afterward.

Mr. SCHERER. Prior to his marriage?

Mr. KENNEDY. Prior to his marriage, but after he met her.

Mr. TAVENNER. You did not get back from the armed services until 1945?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. My recollection is that he married his second wife in 1944.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. That was while he was still in the Marine Corps?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. That is what the witness said.

Mr. TAVENNER. When was it that Corbin told you that his wife had joined the Communist Party in San Diego?

Mr. KENNEDY. I would like to amend that testimony to state that prior to Corbin's going into the Marine Corps, the future Mrs. Corbin moved to Chicago and Mr. Corbin moved to Chicago to go to work under Mr. Robertson of the ILWU in Chicago. I believe she joined the party in Chicago prior to going to the West Coast. She wrote letters to my wife, and so on, and he wrote one or two letters to me and they were talking about some of their activities, and so forth.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have any letter from either Mr. or Mrs. Corbin indicating their activities in the Communist Party or connection with it?

Mr. KENNEDY. I am sure I don't have because we moved a couple of times since then, and I did not save them.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the nature of the letters?

Mr. KENNEDY. Just personal letters, and some of the activities she was carrying on.

I might add for the record, while she was in California, she had something to do with penetrating the Telephone Workers Union and trying to get the Telephone Workers Union to leave its independent status and become affiliated with the CIO Communications Workers of America,¹ which was left wing dominated.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the address of Paul Corbin and his wife in San Diego?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, I do not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you find out from any notations or records of your own what their address was?

Mr. KENNEDY. I could look, sir, but I doubt it very much.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you look, please?

Mr. KENNEDY. I will.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have any further discussion after getting out of the service with Paul Corbin regarding Communist Party membership by him?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes. Every time I would see him he would be talking about how he was wheeling and dealing and he was always talking about Fred Bassett Blair, who I believe was State chairman of the Communist Party of Wisconsin, and Harold Christoffel who I am sure is well known to this committee, and Costello, and a number of other people whose names I do not remember.

I was busy in the egg business and I did not pay too much attention to it. I was working about 12 hours a day then.

Mr. SCHERER. I believe you said he told you how he was always wheeling and dealing with these known Communists.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Could you just tell us the nature of his wheeling and dealing as he related it to you?

Mr. KENNEDY. I can't really remember too much. He specifically used to tell about going out with this Fred Bassett Blair, with whom he had some sort of an affinity, and sit around having a scotch or a beer and talking about all sorts of things about the party; but, as I say,

¹ Actually the American Communications Association.

I was not active in the party then and I really didn't pay much attention, you know, about the specific things that he discussed with Mr. Blair.

Mr. SCHERER. But he told you of Communist discussions with known Communists?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir, he did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he specifically state whether or not he was at that time a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, he did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us in more detail about that.

Mr. KENNEDY. On several occasions when he would drop in to see me, he told me about he and Fred Bassett Blair associating together and being at meetings and he told me about being at some party meeting and getting into a fist fight and slugging one of his fellow comrades and a lot of things like this. I did not pay too much attention to it in detail.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he at any time make any statement to you regarding any particular phases of Communist Party work in which he was engaged?

Mr. KENNEDY. He was interested in work in the trade union field and following the party line of the then dominant group in the Wisconsin State CIO.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know what his activity was at this time in veterans' organizations?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes. He became quite active in the Marine Corps League and rapidly rose to become the State commander and I believe he became national commander later on.

I might mention in this connection why I broke up my partnership with him, if I could just put that in here. It relates to this veterans' question. You see, a rather strange thing happened. We were always talking about Communists infiltrating labor unions and so on, but veterans' organizations can be infiltrated effectively and rather dangerously. The thing that frightened me when I tried to disassociate myself from the past was Corbin and I had been with this Marine Corps League and whenever we went to a town, we would usually have a letter to the captain or a commander—we would usually meet Commander So-and-So, and what rather worried me, I was trying to avoid being put in an embarrassing position that could embarrass me in the future. They would take us out and show us the radar training program and start giving us the grand tour about their Naval Reserve training and stuff like that and Corbin was eating this stuff up.

I got a little bit frightened with this setup because I didn't want to know anything about the naval radar setup or the Naval Reserve training program or anything like that. That was one of the reasons—I gave him the entire Navy Club contract and walked off to get rid of him.

The other thing was under the income tax law, you have to file a partnership return. My accountant told me I should file a partnership return and he demanded that I not file one. I went ahead and filed the partnership return and we fought over that. I filed the partnership return and he refused to.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you at any time have occasion to discuss Communist Party membership with Gertrude Corbin, the second wife of Paul Corbin?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, I believe when they came out from Chicago or before we went into Chicago, before I went in the service, rather, she discussed her party activities in Chicago and then in later years about her activity in San Diego area and so on. She worked for the Rheem Manufacturing Co. while she was in Chicago and I believe on the West Coast for a Rheem subsidiary there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the name of that subsidiary on the West Coast?

Mr. KENNEDY. It was just a branch of the Rheem Co.—water heaters and so on.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Communist Party literature or the *Daily Worker* ever supplied you by either Paul Corbin or his wife?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes. Corbin brought me copies of the *Daily Worker*.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Was this after his war service or before, or both?

Mr. KENNEDY. After his war service.

Mr. SCHERER. What rank did you say he held with the Marine Corps?

Mr. KENNEDY. I believe he was a sergeant.

Mr. SCHERER. In the Marine Corps League?

Mr. KENNEDY. He was the State commander and I believe later, national commander.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with a person by the name of Perry E. Wilgus?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know where Perry Wilgus is now?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, I don't.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did he reside the last time you knew of him?

Mr. KENNEDY. Freeport, Ill.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the association between Wilgus and Corbin, if you know?

Mr. KENNEDY. Wilgus represented himself as a member of the Communist Party and came to Rockford to see me several times about doing something about Corbin.

You see, the war was now on and the Communist Party line was to win the war and not have strikes, and so forth, for the interests of the Soviet Union, and so forth. Corbin was being rather reckless in his activities in Freeport, causing a lot of trouble and the possibility of sitdowns, etc., not following their political line as precisely as Mr. Wilgus wanted it followed. So Wilgus came and talked to me about it. He had no control over Corbin whatsoever. Wilgus at this time was an official of the Micro Switch Division, a subsidiary of Minneapolis-Honeywell.

Mr. BRUCE. An official of the company?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. And a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. He represented himself to me as a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. He was in charge of manpower for the Micro Switch Division, was he not?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you fix the approximate time when this occurred?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir; it occurred in early 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have any connection with Wilgus after that time?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, sir; I have not seen him since I went to the service.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have stated that Corbin, after your return from the service, told you several times that he was a member of the Communist Party. Did he ever indicate to you where he had joined the Communist Party; that is, whether in Milwaukee, Chicago, or where?

Mr. KENNEDY. In the postwar period his activities all centered around the Communist Party in Milwaukee. It is possible that he might have belonged in Chicago, but if he did, he was not an open member, because he was not a citizen and you couldn't become a regular member unless you were a citizen at this time.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Is this Wilgus?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, Corbin.

Mr. TAVENNER. You indicated that his wife probably joined the Communist Party in Chicago which would fix the date as being prior to Corbin's entry into the armed services.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you at any time receive any information indicating that the second wife of Paul Corbin had transferred her Communist Party membership from Chicago to San Diego?

Mr. KENNEDY. I understand she did, sir, but I have no evidence of it. I understand that she became a member of the party in Chicago before he went to service in World War II; that he did not become a member then because he was not a citizen. This is what they told me. I don't know whether it was true or not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Whom do you mean by "they"?

Mr. KENNEDY. Paul and Gertrude Corbin. Then, when they went to the West Coast, she was active and he became a citizen during the service and then went back to Wisconsin and then became a member of the party. That is the way the picture has been presented to me by the Corbins.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Would that be Janesville?

Mr. TUCK. I would not call that hearsay.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Was this in Janesville that he became a member?

Mr. KENNEDY. No; this was in Milwaukee. They had an apartment in Milwaukee.

Mr. SCHERER. That was how long after he had become a citizen as a result of his services in the Marine Corps?

Mr. KENNEDY. I would say almost immediately after he returned from the service.

Mr. SCHERER. What year would that be?

Mr. KENNEDY. About December of 1945, and you have the record of his citizenship. I don't know when he received his citizenship.

Mr. SCHERER. Did he ever try to become a citizen prior to the time that he became a citizen as a result of his service in the Marine Corps?

Mr. KENNEDY. In later years, he told me how he would get an immigration permit to come over to Minneapolis and then the Immi-

gration Department would make him leave, and I guess he was asked to leave the country several times. It was not a formal deportation proceeding, but just, "Your permit is over and about gone," so that probably discouraged him from ever trying to become a citizen before.

Mr. SCHERER. Counsel, would you refresh my recollection as to how a person who was a member of the armed services and not a citizen could become a citizen?

Mr. TAVENNER. There was a special statute or regulation which permitted the Government to waive certain requirements for naturalization of persons in the armed services, so that it became very easy and very quickly performed by the person in the armed services appearing in a Federal court or some other court and taking the oath which renounces allegiance to the former country of his birth and become naturalized.

Mr. SCHERER. As long as I have been a member of this committee, I did not know until I listened to this witness this morning that a person who was an alien, under the rules of the Communist Party, could not join the Communist Party in the United States.

Mr. TAVENNER. I may add that in the opinion of the staff, it seems that this must have been merely a local arrangement because we know of numerous instances in which people have been deported who were found to have been members of the Communist Party of the United States both before and after having been naturalized.

Mr. SCHERER. Witness, what do you have to say to that?

Mr. KENNEDY. We were told if a person was not a citizen they could not be recruited into the Communist Party and if they were members of the Communist Party, they could no longer be active and attend meetings. But I know that the opposite was carried out in many cases. I am sure they didn't go out and kick out all of their hard-core members because of this. It was a tactical move.

Mr. SCHERER. Where were you living when you were told that?

Mr. KENNEDY. Rockford, Ill.

Mr. SCHERER. Is my recollection correct that you said you had some correspondence or conversation with Corbin and/or his wife relative to his not joining the Communist Party because he was not a citizen?

Mr. KENNEDY. No, I think the record will show that I said that I had discussion with Carl Thorman, Einar Sell, and some other people who were Communist Party members that they should not take in this Paul Corbin in the Rockford branch—

Mr. JOHANSEN. Because he was not a citizen?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. What prompted us to get in the record the statement of the witness that a person had to be a citizen of the United States before becoming a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. TAVENNER. As I recall, the witness volunteered that statement in discussing where the wife became a member of the Communist Party and from what area there may have been a transfer of her membership to San Diego.

Mr. TUCK. I imagine, also, they followed that policy, not just for the protection of the Communist Party of the United States, but to make it so that a person who might become a party applicant would become a citizen first—because he could not become a citizen after he had become a member of the Communist Party without committing perjury. Is that right, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes; that would be the effect of it. It would certainly subject the Communist Party member to a very serious jeopardy.

Mr. TUCK. It disqualified him from ever becoming a citizen.

Mr. SCHERER. It is obvious to me from the testimony we have had this morning and other testimony we have already had in this matter that this fellow Corbin was a hard-core member, not only of the Young Communist League, but subsequently a member of the Communist Party. The only thing that is not clear is when and where.

Is my analysis of the testimony correct that we do not have a clear picture as to when and where he first became a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, I think the evidence so far is subject to possible various interpretations and I would not want to express an opinion with regard to it until I have produced for the committee all of the evidence that we have.

Mr. SCHERER. I am trying to remember from the evidence where and when he initially became a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. BRUCE. You stated Milwaukee, did you not?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. JOHANSEN. I believe you stated that that was from information that you had had from Mr. and Mrs. Corbin.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. BRUCE. That is Communist Party, U.S.A.?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. And that was after his discharge from the Marine Corps?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have any more specific information as to the location from which Mrs. Corbin's membership may have been transferred to San Diego, if you know anything about it at all?

Mr. KENNEDY. Nothing specific; no, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. The witness says nothing specific, but as you pointed out, we are engaged in an exploratory investigation. I think we should pursue that further.

Mr. TAVENNER. The point that I am raising is whether or not her membership was transferred to the west coast. My question is directed at that subject to see whether or not you learned from Mr. and Mrs. Corbin, or either of them, anything about transfer of membership of Mrs. Corbin to the west coast.

Mr. KENNEDY. I understand from conversations with the Corbins that Mrs. Gertrude Cox Corbin became a party member when they lived in Chicago, prior to his going into the Marine Corps. Then I further understand from conversation with them that she transferred her membership when she was moved to the West Coast, to San Diego, with Paul Corbin.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Was it in that general area of those same conversations that you learned of his having become a member of the party after he became a citizen in Milwaukee?

Mr. KENNEDY. Sir, the conversations wherein he told me of his membership in the party, of course, occurred after the war and concerned his membership in Milwaukee.

Mr. JOHANSEN. About when were those conversations?

MR. KENNEDY. I would say several times during the year 1946.

MR. JOHANSEN. That was in conversations where—in Milwaukee or where?

MR. KENNEDY. At my house in Rockford and at his mother-in-law's house in Janesville and at his apartment in Milwaukee.

MR. JOHANSEN. Was the mother-in-law present during any of those conversations?

MR. KENNEDY. No, sir, she was in no way connected.

MR. TAVENNER. I want to be certain that the record is clear on this point. When was it that Mrs. Corbin was on the West Coast? Was it while her husband was still in the armed services or was it at some later period?

MR. KENNEDY. It was when her husband was in the armed services.

MR. TAVENNER. Do you know whether Corbin and his wife went back to California at some later date after getting out of the service?

MR. KENNEDY. They never lived there. They just went out there to visit. They went one time to visit Emil Costello. They came back to Janesville after the service was over.

MR. TAVENNER. There was a name of an attorney in Rockford who subscribed to the *Daily Worker* being sold by Paul Corbin. Do you recall now who that was?

MR. KENNEDY. That was an attorney, James Berry.¹

¹ Affidavit:

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
Winnebago County, ss:

James Berry, being first duly sworn on his oath, deposes and says that:

On December 5, 1961, Mr. Neil E. Wetterman, of the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives of the United States, consulted me in my office concerning my acquaintance with one Paul Corbin. At that time Mr. Wetterman showed me two sets of pictures purporting to portray photographically the Paul Corbin to whom reference was made in his investigation. At that time Mr. Wetterman asked me whether or not I had purchased a subscription to the *Daily Worker* through Paul Corbin. Mr. Wetterman also informed me that Joseph Kennedy, whom I knew in Rockford as a business representative or business agent of the United Furniture Workers CIO Local Union prior to his induction in the service about the middle of 1943, had informed the committee that Paul Corbin sold me said subscription to the *Daily Worker*. At that time I told Mr. Wetterman I had no recollection as to who sold me the subscription. To the best of my recollection Mr. Joseph Kennedy was in my office at the time the subscription was sold.

One picture purporting to be a photograph of Paul Corbin, which was shown by Mr. Wetterman, appeared to be that of a person whom I had known. Had I seen the man's picture without the information Mr. Wetterman gave me, I could not have said it was a photograph of Paul Corbin. Had I seen the person whose picture was shown me by Mr. Wetterman I would not have known his name.

I knew Joseph Kennedy very well. My records indicate a billing to the United Furniture Workers Local No. 707 situated at 118 North Water Street, Rockford, Ill., on May 2, 1941. On February 12, 1942, I wrote Mr. Kennedy a letter confirming our agreement for me to represent the union on a retainer basis. I did represent the union in matters of contract negotiation by advising Mr. Kennedy and other members as to the legal interpretation of contracts. I represented other members of the union who had been arrested for various minor offenses in conjunction with picketing and other union activity.

In the period mentioned from May 1941, in 1942 and during a portion of 1943 I know that Mr. Kennedy was business agent of the United Furniture Workers Union Local No. 707. I saw Mr. Kennedy shortly after his return from service in World War II. I represented Mr. Kennedy in 1949 in a personal business matter.

I believe that I did know a man named Corbin who was connected with the Furniture Workers Union. I do not know in what capacity he was connected. My diary of June 23, 1942, indicates that a Mr. Corbin was in my office. I do not believe that I did any work for him personally.

I did subscribe to the *Daily Worker* for a short period, my recollection is for a period of 3 months. It might have been made in 1941 subsequent to the 1st of May or during the year 1942. My best recollection is that the subscription was made in the summer of 1942. I have no records, however, which would substantiate this. It is my recollection that Mr. Kennedy was in my office at the time I purchased the subscription. I have no recollection as to who was with him. I cannot state who sold me the subscription.

Further this affiant saith not.

JAMES BERRY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of December, A.D. 1961.

[SEAL]

MARION MACCALLUM,
Notary Public.

MR. TAVENNER. Is he still living in Rockford?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. Do you have any further knowledge regarding the trip that Corbin made to the west coast to visit Costello? By that I mean, do you know whether it wound up merely as a visit and whether there was some intention on the part of Corbin when he left to establish a permanent residence in California?

MR. KENNEDY. I am sure that he had no plans to establish a permanent residence in California because he was in partnership with me and very dependent upon me at that time, and I am sure he had no such plans.

MR. TAVENNER. Did Corbin state what the purpose of his trip to California was?

MR. KENNEDY. He had a brother-in-law who was a doctor in Winnipeg who had moved, as a Canadian citizen, to California with Corbin's sister to set up practice there, and it was illegal at that time to take money out of Canada. This was in 1948. I believe that Corbin went to Canada as a tourist, got the money, came back and then delivered the money to his brother in California.

MR. JOHANSEN. To deliver the money to his brother-in-law in California?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes.

MR. TAVENNER. What was the connection of Costello with this?

MR. KENNEDY. Costello lived in California and I think it was purely social. My impression of Costello when he broke with the party was completely and utterly.

MR. TAVENNER. And that he broke before he went to California?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

MR. BRUCE. A while ago you indicated that you had in your possession a letter which you referred to as the strange attachment of Mr. Corbin to you. Do you have that letter with you?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes, I do.

MR. BRUCE. Would you care to read the letter?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes. It is on the stationery of the Hotel Northland and it is from Green Bay, Wis.

MR. BRUCE. What is the date?

MR. KENNEDY. There is no date on the letter, but the envelope carries the date of July 6, 1949.

MR. JOHANSEN. That is the postmark date?

MR. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. I have here that the last day of our partnership was April 11, 1949, so this letter was several months later. [Witness reading:]

DEAR JOE: Reason am writing, tried to reach you at home couple of times. I suppose you are on the road. I have two deals plus one am finishing now, however. I find that it gets monotonous working alone and I don't think it is as profitable because two people sell more working together and now that you have a car it would work out much better on the road because that was the reason for the differences with you.

Would you call me at Janesville as soon as you get in town or drop over to the house with Marion? It is pretty cool up here but still not cool enough to suit me. How's business? I understand you have swung a couple of big deals. I have, too, Joe, but frankly, the money ain't coming in as it used to when we both worked together. I don't like working alone.

I don't know how you feel about it, but I suppose if you feel the same as I do, I think we could make more together by pooling our energies and resources and I believe it is more congenial to work that way. However, I don't know how you feel about it so am putting out a feeler, so to speak.

In any event, let me hear from you, Joe.

PAUL.

I would like to introduce the letter and ask that it be identified as Kennedy Exhibit No. 2.

Mr. TUCK. It will be so marked.

(Document marked "Kennedy Exhibit No. 2" for identification purposes only.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kennedy, I want to give you an opportunity to make any statement that you may desire to make regarding your getting out of the Communist Party. I would like for you to have every opportunity to place in the record any statements that you have.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Chairman, I left the Communist Party and since that time I have developed into the publishing business and my business has to do with publishing house organs for veterans organizations, fraternal organizations, labor organizations, and so on. For example, we publish the official paper for the Veterans of Foreign Wars for the State of Iowa for many years and we publish an annual year book that they use at their convention every year and we publish the official paper for a number of labor councils in Iowa and that vicinity.

The only thing I can say is that I have a written record of which I have just brought a few samples along, of publishing hundreds of anti-Communist articles, and I will submit here for the committee, and I have hundreds of these, and of course, hundreds of copies of newspapers.

Naturally, I have built myself a very successful business and I belong to chambers of commerce and better business bureaus and country clubs and have stocks in banks and all that, and naturally, it is very embarrassing 20 years later to be exposed as a former Communist. It is a very rough row to hoe.

The only thing I can say is 'way back when, years ago—I believe we had the date of 1953 mentioned here today—I went to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to the Immigration and Naturalization Service about Paul Corbin because I consider him a very dangerous person and I am sure that by the time this committee is through investigating this person, they will probably come to the same conclusion.

So, the only thing I can say is that I was wrong in those years and I think I have been right since then and I hope that I don't have to suffer too much from my errors of the past.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have no further questions.

Mr. BRUCE. I would like to make one comment. There are an awful lot of people who made some pretty tragic mistakes at one period in the history of this country not too many years back, and it takes a great deal of courage to do what you have done. I personally would like to thank you for your cooperation and for the testimony that you have given.

There is one other question I would like to ask off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. JOHANSEN. You have spoken, Mr. Kennedy, of having gone to the Federal Bureau of Investigation with information and a report regarding Mr. Corbin in 1953. Were there any particular events or circumstances or other factors which triggered or motivated or prompted that action at that time, and if so, what were they?

Mr. KENNEDY. The only thing that I remember, I had been to the FBI before that in Rockford, Ill.

Mr. SCHERER. When?

Mr. KENNEDY. In 1950, I believe.

Mr. BRUCE. This was after you left the party?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes; and I talked to the Internal Revenue people about this partnership return because I was a little worried about the whole picture. If he would fail to file, I wanted to know what my status would be and I consulted with them about this partnership return.

To get back to this question, the Korean war was quite a shock—

Mr. SCHERER. In 1950 when you went to the FBI the first time, did that involve Corbin, other than in reference to matters involving income tax?

Mr. KENNEDY. The income tax, of course, I consulted with the Internal Revenue people.

Mr. JOHANSEN. What did you go to the FBI people about in 1950?

Mr. KENNEDY. The whole question of the Communist activity in Rockford, Ill.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you go voluntarily?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Did that involve Corbin?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes; the earlier one.

I can't remember who I talked to at the FBI in Rockford. I am a little vague about it. I remember going to Internal Revenue. I am a little confused on this to tell you the truth. You see, I was talking to the people from Immigration and Naturalization many times, and it might have been the Immigration people, too, because the Immigration people talked to me many times and I talked to the FBI several times. I would not want to set the specific date of that conversation.

Mr. JOHANSEN. But there was an earlier one, prior to 1953, with the FBI?

Mr. KENNEDY. I believe there was.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Go ahead in answer to my question about 1953. I am afraid I diverted you.

Mr. KENNEDY. In 1953, of course, the Korean war shocked everybody, including myself. Then I saw that Corbin had become national commander of the Marine Corps League and I had known about this deal when we were being shown all these naval installations and things like that and I was a little bit worried about what this unstable character might do some day if he got too deeply worked into the patriotic societies, veterans societies, and the whole question of national defense and so on.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Did your concern go not only to what you refer to as his instability, but also his party membership?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. When was he national commander of the Marine Corps League?

Mr. KENNEDY. I don't have the facts on that.

Mr. SCHERER. It was prior to the time that you went to the FBI in 1953?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. If I may add to this, as one who once was a member of the Communist Party, I know considerable about infiltration tactics. Whenever I see any former member becoming prominent in any mass organization or any organization of this type, I watch that person. I am a little suspicious of them.

Mr. BRUCE. Unless they have openly recanted?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes; but in my own case, I have had many opportunities to be the county chairman of the county I am in and to run for political office and things like that.

Well, I just did not think it was in the cards.

Mr. SCHERER. Witness, you just said that you had many conversations with the Immigration and Naturalization Service about Corbin.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Why did the Immigration and Naturalization Service contact you?

Mr. KENNEDY. I didn't say that we were talking specifically about Corbin all the time. We talked about Corbin because they are interested in the question of whether his affidavit when he got his citizenship under this special statute of Congress—did he perjure himself when he swore he was not a member of the Communist Party?

In other words, it was a question of whether there was perjury on his part and they consulted me about many people who had been members of the party.

Mr. SCHERER. I am only interested in your conversations with the Immigration and Naturalization Service with reference to Corbin.

Mr. KENNEDY. That is what they were looking for.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you tell the Immigration and Naturalization Service substantially what you have told us today?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir. There is only one conditioning factor. They wanted statements under the rules of evidence and, consequently, my testimony was a little more limited.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, we do not have a record of Corbin having been national commander of the Marine Corps League. We are uncertain whether he was or not, but in 1952 and 1953 he did hold a position of national chief of staff of the organization.

Mr. SCHERER. Was he then State commandant of the Marine Corps League?

Mr. KENNEDY. 1947 and 1948.

Mr. SCHERER. This was in Wisconsin?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TUCK. When did you first make public your connections with the Communist Party?

Mr. KENNEDY. I never made them public. I only spoke to the FBI, the Immigration Service, and so on.

Mr. BRUCE. In other words, the people in your community do not know this?

Mr. KENNEDY. No; they do not.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have made several references to Corbin's statement to you regarding the difficulties about his entry to the United States.

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he at any time ever tell you whether he had been excluded or had been deported?

Mr. KENNEDY. He said that he had been; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. He said what?

Mr. KENNEDY. He said that he had been excluded and had been deported, but I understood this to mean not a formal deportation. Just "Get back across the border or else" type of thing.

Mr. JOHANSEN. What was the reference to exclusion? As I understand the terms, exclusion would be denying him admission in some instance, whereas deportation or notification that his time had expired and that he had to leave would be in a different category.

Do I understand that there are instances or at least one instance of a denial of admission to the United States?

Mr. KENNEDY. I really don't know, sir. I did not go into it specifically. I suspect there was a lot of unemployment during this period and I suspect there was a question of some Canadian coming here and working or it might have been some crooked activity or some Communist Party activity.

Mr. BRUCE. What year was it that you said you went to Chicago after you got out of the service?

Mr. KENNEDY. Immediately afterward.

Mr. BRUCE. What year was that?

Mr. KENNEDY. Probably November or December 1945.

Mr. TAVENNER. At the time that Corbin was talking to you about his difficulties with regard to entry and being sent back, did he tell you why he had been deported or excluded?

Mr. KENNEDY. He didn't really say specifically, but I got the impression that he was just considered rather undesirable by the Immigration people up at the border there.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have no further questions.

Mr. JOHANSEN. I want to associate myself with the comments of Congressman Bruce in expressing my appreciation for the very difficult task you have performed and the cooperation you have given.

Mr. SCHERER. I think the whole committee feels that way.

Mr. TUCK. The committee will be in recess until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

(Whereupon, at 12:45 p.m., Monday, November 27, 1961, the hearing was recessed, to be reconvened at 2 p.m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION—NOVEMBER 27, 1961

Mr. TUCK (presiding). Mr. Kerstein, will you stand and raise your right hand, please?

Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. KERSTEIN. I do.

TESTIMONY OF EDWARD S. KERSTEIN

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kerstein, will you please give us your full name?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Edward S. Kerstein, K-e-r-s-t-e-i-n.

Mr. TAVENNER. How are you employed, Mr. Kerstein?

Mr. KERSTEIN. I am a newspaper reporter.

Mr. TAVENNER. With what newspaper?

Mr. KERSTEIN. The *Milwaukee Journal*. Milwaukee, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you been so employed?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Since June 20, 1935.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kerstein, the committee has subpoenaed you here under somewhat unusual circumstances. Notwithstanding the decision of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, in the case of *Judy Garland v. Marie Torre* (259 F. 2d. 545), of comparatively recent date, which upheld the right to compel a newspaperman who appears as a witness, under certain circumstances, to divulge sources of his information, it has, nevertheless, been the policy of this committee not to put a news reporter in that position. By that I do not mean to say we will not do so in the future, but it has been generally against the committee's policy.

So first of all, I think that we ought to make it clear that we do not want to deviate from that policy in this case if you have any feeling that you should not answer questions that the committee is interested in.

Mr. KERSTEIN. I understand.

Mr. TAVENNER. So we would like to know, first of all, how you feel about that.

Mr. KERSTEIN. Well, I was served with a subpoena, and I certainly respect the subpoena and the subpoena powers of this committee. And with that understanding, I came here to testify and answer questions, and before being asked any questions I thought perhaps if I made an opening statement as to how I began this investigation, or how I was assigned, perhaps it would clarify a lot of questions.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, now, there is a difficulty about that. I don't know how closely you have followed the hearings before this committee, but in virtually every hearing that we have, we have persons who have been members of the Communist Party who appear as witnesses, and the first thing that they want to do is to make a statement to the committee. Now, in those instances, we know pretty well why those statements are being prepared and made, but it puts us in a very awkward position to establish a precedent about permitting other people to make statements that we will not permit certain witnesses to make.

Mr. KERSTEIN. Surely.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, if, at the close of the hearing, you desire to make any statement that you may have and hand it to the chairman of the committee, he will be very glad to see, I am sure, that other members of the committee see the statement.

Mr. SCHERER. Or if he wants to present the statement now, he may do that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. if you want to do it now.

Mr. KERSTEIN. You see, the statement explains how I received this assignment and how I went about to investigate the past of Paul Corbin. In view of the delicate nature, perhaps the committee would be interested in knowing how I went about investigating the background of Mr. Paul Corbin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, if you have such a statement and desire to hand it up to the chairman, I am sure he will accept it.

Do you have a written statement?

Mr. KERSTEIN. If you would like to, then——

Mr. TUCK. I would just suggest that he hand it to you.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have it in looseleaf form, there, that we could look at it and hand it back to you?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Yes. I could take these pages out. The rest are my notes relating to the entire investigation that I made.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, we could have copies made of it by the staff, so that every member of the committee could have a copy.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kerstein, the committee has interviewed a number of witnesses, and it has subpoenaed a number of witnesses from time to time to appear before subcommittees, and we have received their testimony. In the course of the testimony of some of them, it has appeared that, prior to our subpoenaing them, they had given affidavits to you regarding facts within their knowledge regarding Paul Corbin. And I assume that that is correct. Do you have affidavits?

Mr. KERSTEIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think, Mr. Chairman, that we ought to request the witness to present those affidavits, because it will be of importance to the committee in weighing the testimony of these witnesses to determine whether there is anything material that was left out of their testimony before us, or whether there is any erroneous or false statement made that should require further investigation. So with the chairman's permission, I will ask the witness to present those affidavits to us.

I assume, of course, that you will want to retain the original, and if you permit us to make copies of the affidavits, we will return the originals to you.

Mr. SCHERER. Maybe he has copies.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, if you have copies, we will accept those in lieu of the originals.

Mr. KERSTEIN. I have duplicate copies. The originals are in the possession of my superior at the *Milwaukee Journal*. I had made an original and a duplicate.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, if you can spare the duplicate, that is quite satisfactory.

Mr. KERSTEIN. However, my boss would appreciate it if we could have these back.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Let me look at them.

Mr. KERSTEIN. Here are four affidavits.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, the first affidavit is that of John Giacomo, who testified before our committee. I would like to offer that affidavit in evidence and ask that it be marked "Kerstein Exhibit

No. 1," with instructions that the original may be withdrawn and a copy retained in the record.

Mr. TUCK. Unless there is objection from some member of the committee, it is so ordered.

(Document marked "Kerstein Exhibit No. 1," and retained in committee files.)

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire also to offer in evidence the affidavit of Walter T. Anderson, with the same request.

Mr. TUCK. Unless there is objection, it is so ordered.

(Document marked "Kerstein Exhibit No. 2" and retained in committee files.)

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like also to offer as an exhibit the affidavit of Joseph A. Poskonka, with the same request.

Mr. BRUCE. What is his name?

Mr. TAVENNER. Poskonka.

(Document marked "Kerstein Exhibit No. 3" and retained in committee files.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I desire to offer in evidence the affidavit of Joseph C. Kennedy, with the same request.

Mr. TUCK. Unless there is objection.

Hearing none, it is so ordered.

(Document marked "Kerstein Exhibit No. 4" and retained in committee files.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Thank you very much.

Mr. KERSTEIN. You are welcome.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kerstein, this committee, of course, is very zealous of its record regarding abstinence from use of hearsay testimony. The purpose of calling you is to get any lead information you can give us which the committee does not have. That is one of the main purposes.

I am not going to ask you to tell this committee anything that you have learned by hearsay testimony, by hearsay statements, in talking to various people, but I would like to ask you to give us the names of all the persons who have been interviewed by you who can contribute any information to the committee regarding Communist Party membership of Paul Corbin in the United States, or his membership in the Young Communist League in Canada, prior to his entry into the United States, and to give us the addresses of these persons that you may know, who have information; and then, when that information is obtained, investigators of this committee, if they have not already done so, will follow those leads and interrogate the people whose names you give us.

Would you be willing to attempt to give us that information?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Well, that is a rather lengthy question. The only information that was available, in response to your question, was the admission of Paul Corbin to Joseph C. Kennedy in the affidavit that was presented here to you.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Yes, we have that affidavit, and Mr. Kennedy has testified.

Now, is there any other individual whom you have contacted who is in a position to give information relating to Communist Party membership of Corbin? If so, will you give the name and address?

Mr. KERSTEIN. You have an affidavit which was sworn to by John D. Giacomo.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Now, you need not go into those whose affidavits you have given us, because we have that information from those affidavits, as well as other information; but if there is anyone else, whose affidavit we do not have, or rather whose affidavit you do not have, we would like to know it.

Mr. KERSTEIN. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think I should ask you: Are you personally acquainted with Paul Corbin?

Mr. KERSTEIN. As I stated in the statement which I handed to the committee, and as I said at the outset, perhaps if I read that statement, it would clarify a number of questions which you might have put forth to me. As my opening statement to the committee states, I had never met Mr. Paul Corbin. The only conversation I ever had with Mr. Paul Corbin was on the day I was assigned to investigate a memorandum that a Mr. Neil Wettermann, an investigator of the House Un-American Activities Committee, is in Milwaukee on August 16, reportedly to investigate Mr. Paul Corbin.

I then contacted Mr. Wettermann at the Shorecrest Hotel in Milwaukee, and he told me he was in no position to make any comment of any kind, and he advised me to contact Mr. Tavenner, the executive director of this committee, or his secretary.

I contacted Mr. Tavenner's office, but he was not available, and subsequently I contacted Mr. Paul Corbin. And that was the only contact I ever had with Mr. Paul Corbin.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe maybe you called here several times. I think maybe I spoke to you once over the telephone, when you asked for information as to whether the committee was engaged in making this investigation.

Mr. KERSTEIN. Perhaps a day or two later, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, some days later. But the only discussion that you have had with any member of this staff was to ask whether we were making the investigation?

Mr. KERSTEIN. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the reply given to you on all the occasions, I believe, was the same reply we would give to anyone else?

Mr. KERSTEIN. That is correct. And that is why my office told me to go ahead and investigate the past of Mr. Paul Corbin, to determine why this committee should be interested in investigating his background.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the reply that you received was that the committee would neither affirm nor deny that an investigation was being made?

Mr. KERSTEIN. That is correct, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. And that is the only discussion you have had with any member of the staff, is it not, until after you were subpoenaed here?

Mr. KERSTEIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the date when you were subpoenaed? Do you recall?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Well, the subpoena is dated October 13.

Mr. TAVENNER. It was served on you, according to the return, on November 1, 1961.

Mr. KERSTEIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Since November 1, I believe you called into the committee and asked what information you should bring; is that correct?

Mr. KERSTEIN. I spoke to Mr. Wetterman, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. And I believe he advised you to bring all the information you had. Was that not in substance what he said to you?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Yes. He says: "Bring whatever you may have."

Mr. TAVENNER. And other than those conversations, you have not had any with the staff of this committee?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Well, you mean the members of the committee?

Mr. TAVENNER. No; the members of the staff.

Mr. KERSTEIN. The staff? No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, do you have any personal knowledge of your own regarding any Communist Party activities at any time engaged in by Paul Corbin?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Would you kindly repeat?

Mr. TAVENNER. I ask you if you have any personal knowledge of your own, that is, information aside from what has been told you by other people, as to Paul Corbin's affiliation with the Communist Party.

Mr. KERSTEIN. By that you mean: Do I have my own personal observations of his participation in Communist activities?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. KERSTEIN. No. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, Mr. Chairman, we have obtained, now, the affidavits that we were interested in obtaining, and we have obtained the lead information in the form of names of any individuals that the witness knows of who could give us information, and we have obtained his statement that he himself had no personal knowledge of Communist Party activities of Corbin. So in light of that, I feel I have no further questions to ask.

Mr. SCHERER. May I ask, Mr. Chairman: Did we obtain the names of all of the people he contacted who had information?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, he said there were no others besides those whose affidavits he gave us.

That was what I understood the witness to say.

Mr. KERSTEIN. You mean of his—

Mr. TAVENNER. His Communist Party membership.

Mr. KERSTEIN. His Communist Party membership; yes. His admissions to those who had given me the affidavits.

Mr. JOHANSEN. In other words, your information regarding his Communist Party membership and/or activities is covered by the material in the affidavits?

Mr. KERSTEIN. As far as his membership in the Communist Party is concerned?

Mr. JOHANSEN. Yes.

Mr. KERSTEIN. Just in those affidavits.

Mr. JOHANSEN. I mean: Those affidavits are the extent of the information you have?

Mr. KERSTEIN. As to Communist Party membership?

Mr. JOHANSEN. Or activities.

Mr. KERSTEIN. Oh, there is other information through research that I was able to gather, in which he had associated and participated in activities in which known Communists had participated.

Mr. SCHERER. And those had been the subject of articles in the *Milwaukee Journal*?

Mr. KERSTEIN. That is correct. You have the *Milwaukee Journal* articles.

Mr. SCHERER. I think perhaps, Mr. Chairman, we might ask him the names of individuals with whom he discussed Paul Corbin and who knew something about him, in order that the names of these individuals might furnish leads for further questioning by our staff. Often, of course, a person talking even to newspapermen will withhold some information which he might subsequently give if he is called under oath to testify.

Mr. TUCK. Would you object to disclosing to the committee the identity of the other persons with whom you conferred to gain information as a basis for your articles, other than the names of those who signed affidavits?

Mr. KERSTEIN. Well, there have been a number of individuals whom I have interviewed who have assisted me in my research, and I researched through our newspaper files to trace the history of how the Communist Party members were disposed of from labor unions in Wisconsin, particularly in Milwaukee; and Paul Corbin was a member of some organizations which the rightist elements of labor had cleaned out.

Mr. TUCK. Could you give us the names of some of those organizations?

Mr. KERSTEIN. When Paul Corbin became business manager of the *Wisconsin CIO News*, as was stated in the *Journal* article, and this was announced also in the *Wisconsin CIO News*, the announcement stated that Corbin had been active in the labor movement in Illinois from 1939, where from 1939 to 1942 he was an organizer for the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, which was reported to be a Communist-dominated labor group.

Prior to that, he was on the staff of the United Furniture Workers, according to the *CIO News* announcement, and the United Furniture Workers also was proven to be a Communist-dominated labor group.

The June 28, 1946, issue of the *Wisconsin CIO News* announced that Paul Corbin was appointed to the staff of District 7, United Public Workers of America, as a field representative.

The United Public Workers of America lost five of its Milwaukee locals to the Government Workers Union in subsequent years on the grounds that it was Communist dominated.

Organized labor in Wisconsin was among the first in the Nation to break the stranglehold of the Communists on its organizations, including the *Wisconsin CIO News*.

Alfred Hirsch, editor of the *Wisconsin CIO News* since 1942, was fired by the new executive board of the State CIO Council at its first meeting, December 13, 1947. Hirsch had been identified with the Communist element in the CIO, which, in the State CIO Convention

in December 1947, suffered a severe setback at the hands of the right-wingers. Hirsch had been a former editorial employee of the Sunday department of the *Daily Worker*, official Communist Party newspaper.

Following his discharge for his pro-Communist views, Hirsch and other members of the leftwing CIO groups disclosed plans to publish their own rival labor newspaper, because they were disgruntled with the new anti-Communist editorship of the *Wisconsin CIO News*.

The new publication was called the *Midwest Guardian*, which was published for about a year before it folded, in August 1949. The paper had offices in Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Chicago. Hirsch served as associate editor and had an office in Milwaukee at 108 West Wells Street, which was shared by the Communist-dominated CIO United Public Workers Union, of which Corbin was Milwaukee business agent.

Corbin replaced Albion Hauke, a Communist, who had applied 4 months earlier for the job of organizer for the union in the Hawaiian Islands.

John Sorenson, who was secretary of the newly reorganized State CIO in 1947, when Hirsch was fired as editor of the *Wisconsin CIO News*, declared the new publishing venture of Hirsch and his colleagues as "Communist inspired."

"The Communists and their fellow travelers who have been ousted from policymaking positions in the state CIO council apparently have banded together to start a rump newspaper," Sorenson said.

"They have a lot of gall speaking of bias in the reporting of labor news. Hirsch was dismissed from his job with the *CIO News* because he couldn't keep bias out of the paper's columns—pro-Communist bias."

Sorenson said that the proposed newspaper, the *Midwest Guardian*, was merely another manifestation of attempts by Communist-dominated groups in the CIO to sabotage pro-democratic policies of the national CIO. Efforts to oust Hirsch from the *CIO News* had been undertaken a year before he was fired. A showdown on the ouster of Hirsch and other Communist sympathizers on the *Wisconsin CIO News* occurred in December 1947, when rightwing forces captured control of the CIO Wisconsin State Union Council.

It proceeded on January 12, 1947, when the rightwingers clinched their victory with the selection of Walter Cappel, a rightwing leader, as legislative representative, and Max Raskin, anti-Communist attorney, as legal counsel. The selection of Cappel and Raskin at the first meeting of the council's new executive board in Milwaukee on January 12, 1947, was marked by vigorous opposition from leftwing Communist members still on the board. Cappel's election by the narrow vote of 10 to 9 shut off a possible vote by the board for Mel J. Heinritz, a Communist who handled the legislative work for the CIO along with his former job as council secretary.

Heinritz was defeated for the secretary's post by John Sorenson of the rightwing faction at the council's annual convention at Warsaw, Wis. The new executive board at its Milwaukee meeting voted unanimously to withdraw financial support from the Wisconsin State Conference on Social Legislation in line with recommendations made by the national CIO in a report in November 1946 on the situation in the council.

Mrs. Josephine Nordstrand, who had been identified with Communist activities in Wisconsin, headed the conference. The board at the same meeting also discussed action on revamping the staff of the *CIO News*, calling for reorganization of the labor paper and the resignation or removal of the staff.

The board also voted that instead of paying \$50 a month to the Wisconsin Conference on Social Legislation, which was headed by Mrs. Nordstrand, a Communist, the money was to be applied toward Attorney Max Raskin's retainer.

In accepting the council post of the new CIO board, Raskin said that he planned to dedicate himself to the task of making the State CIO acceptable to all labor groups in the State. Because of its previous pro-Communist activities, rightwing labor groups in Wisconsin had for a long time shied away from any alliance with the Wisconsin Conference on Social Legislation.

Mrs. Isadora Ruffine, reportedly a Communist, was Hirsch's assistant when he was fired as editor of the *Wisconsin CIO News*, and the staff was reorganized. She served on the staff from July 1945 to March 1947, when she reportedly had lived at 1247 North Kass Street in Milwaukee. During its comparatively brief life, the *Midwest Guardian*, of which Hirsch served as associate editor, had the financial support of a number of Communist-dominated CIO unions. The paper claimed a wide circulation in Wisconsin, but these claims had been sharply discounted by rightwing CIO leaders.

The *Milwaukee Journal* had carried all of this information in its news articles, and prior to my appearance here in Washington, I had doublechecked all these facts in the newspaper with Mr. Raskin, who is still a widely active labor attorney in Milwaukee. And he corroborated the veracity of these facts that I have stated here to you, involving the *Wisconsin CIO News* and its Communist Party domination.

MR. TUCK. We thank you very much.

MR. KERSTEIN. Do you want his association with other known Communists in Milwaukee?

MR. TAVENNER. We have heard a lot of testimony regarding that subject.

MR. KERSTEIN. You have his affiliation and his association with Edmund V. Bobrowicz of the Veterans Committee?

MR. TAVENNER. Yes.

MR. KERSTEIN. And the United Public Workers Committee?

MR. TAVENNER. Yes. We have all that.

MR. BRUCE. Go ahead with other names.

MR. TUCK. Is there anything else that you have that we do not have?

MR. KERSTEIN. Well, I don't know whether the committee has his association with a committee that had been repudiated by the Wisconsin CIO Council for its sponsorship of a meeting for Henry Wallace.

MR. TAVENNER. Yes, we have an exhibit on that.

I believe that covers everything I have in mind, Mr. Chairman.

MR. TUCK. Well, we thank you very much, Mr. Kerstein.

MR. KERSTEIN. May I request a copy of the transcript of my testimony?

Mr. TUCK. We, of course, as you know, are in executive session, and we do not customarily make available to any witnesses copies of their testimony, and I certainly would not have any authority to rule on that today, until we have the whole committee here. The chairman of the committee is not present here today.

Mr. BRUCE. Mr. Chairman, may I suggest that he submit a request such as that to the committee for further consideration?

Mr. TUCK. If you will consider that then as a formal request, we will be glad to consider it.

Mr. KERSTEIN. Yes, I would like to make this a formal request.

Mr. TAVENNER. Thank you very much.

Mr. KERSTEIN. You are welcome.

Mr. TAVENNER. We will return these originals to you very promptly.

Mr. TUCK. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. KERSTEIN. Thank you.

(Witness excused.)

Mr. TUCK. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. BLAIR. Yes, sir.

TESTIMONY OF FRED BASSETT BLAIR, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL, DAVID REIN

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state your full name, please, sir.

Mr. BLAIR. My name is Fred Bassett Blair.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Blair, it is noted that you are accompanied by counsel. Will counsel please identify himself for the record?

Mr. REIN. David Rein, 711 14th Street NW., Washington, D.C.

Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you born, Mr. Blair?

Mr. REIN. I wonder, Mr. Tavener, if we could have a statement as to the purpose of this hearing at this time?

Mr. TAVENNER. A resolution authorizing this hearing was adopted by the committee on the 22d day of November, 1961.

(For text of resolution, see p. vii.)

Mr. TAVENNER. The purpose, as outlined in that resolution, to repeat, is that the committee is investigating the occupation of important posts in this country affecting the national interest by persons who have been or are now members or affiliates of the Communist Party, and for the legislative matters mentioned.

Now, we did not call you, Mr. Blair, for the purpose of asking you about your own Communist Party activities. We called you for the purpose of asking you questions regarding alleged Communist Party activities of other persons, and one particular person; and that person is Paul Corbin, in this instance.

So my first question to you is—

Mr. SCHERER. Have you got the address of this witness?

Mr. TAVENNER. No, I have not.

What is your address?

Mr. BLAIR. You asked me my place of birth. October 4, 1906, in Berlin, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you now reside?

Mr. BLAIR. 3136 North 15th Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you lived in Milwaukee?

Mr. BLAIR. Off and on since 1925.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by "off and on"?

Mr. BLAIR. Well, in the main in Milwaukee. In early years I went to school. I worked there and went to school, and things like that, you see. But my pretty steady residence, I would say, since 1929—

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you lived there constantly since 1940?

Mr. BLAIR. Since 1940, with the exception of 3 or 4 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. What years?

Mr. BLAIR. The years were 1951-55.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you reside then?

Mr. BLAIR. I resided in Rockford, Ill., Duluth, Minn., and Chicago, Ill. I returned to Milwaukee in the fall of 1955.

May I ask a question?

I would like to identify Congressman Schadeberg, if I may.

Mr. BRUCE. He is not here.

Mr. BLAIR. I see his name over there.

Mr. TAVENNER. There is no one sitting behind the nameplate.

Mr. BLAIR. Could I be acquainted with the other members of the committee? Mr. Bruce from where?

Mr. BRUCE. Indiana.

Mr. BLAIR. And Mr. Johansen from Minnesota?

Mr. JOHANSEN. Michigan.

Mr. BLAIR. You strayed off the range.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Never got there.

Mr. BLAIR. Well, that is a Danish name, anyway. You probably come from Omaha originally.

Mr. Scherer, I guess, is from Ohio. And Mr. Tuck is from—

Mr. REIN. Virginia.

Mr. BLAIR. I like to know who I am talking to. I would like to see Mr. Schadeberg, because he is a neighbor of mine and a fellow Congregationalist, you see.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your present occupation?

Mr. BLAIR. I am a bookseller.

Mr. TAVENNER. Representing what company?

Mr. BLAIR. I am a manager of Mary's Bookshop at 530 West State Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you been so engaged?

Mr. BLAIR. Close to 6 years, 6 years come February.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Blair, Mr. Harold Scott, who testified before this committee, stated that in 1945 he went to see you about being reactivated in his Communist Party membership. Do you recall the incident?

Mr. BLAIR. Well, here I think I will have to make clear something. The stated purposes of this inquiry are such that, because of the existence of the McCarran Act and the Supreme Court ruling on it, and the Smith Act—

Mr. SCHERER. Would you talk a little louder, please?

Mr. BLAIR. The stated purposes of this hearing are such that because of the existence of the McCarran Act, the Smith Act, the Supreme Court rulings, I shall have to decline to answer any questions

in connection with the Communist Party, my past associations, knowledge of anybody now or previously connected with it, under the fifth amendment.

I shall have to do that. I think it is not with any intention to defeat the aims of justice or to be recalcitrant or to be contemptuous of this committee; but any of you gentlemen in my position will understand it. I shall have to refuse to answer under the fifth amendment, claiming my right not to testify against myself or to incriminate myself.

I furthermore believe that this whole line of questioning, since you have mentioned the name of Mr. Corbin—it hardly seems likely that a committee which is engaged in studies for legislation should be picking on a fellow who was the object of an interparty Democratic Party fight in Wisconsin, where there were a lot of people on one side and a lot on the other, and this is from Mr. Schadeberg's own district, and it is being pushed by the man defeated by Mr. Schadeberg, Mr. Flynn, by Congressman Zablocki in the *Milwaukee Journal*, and I think the committee demeans itself by going after an individual and meddling in an interparty fight over patronage and power in a situation like this. I don't want to get caught in the middle of this scrap between a bunch of Democrats over jobs, and I have nothing to say for or against Mr. Corbin or those who are fighting for or against him. But I think that should be left for the Democratic Party to disentangle the mess they got into themselves, and I know the Republican members will be very happy about it. But I for one don't want to get caught in the middle, and I state from now on in my answer to any questions of this type will be to plead the fifth amendment.

MR. TAVENNER. Let me ask you this question: Did Paul Corbin, after getting out of the armed services in about 1946, come to you and obtain from you directions as to what to do in the Communist Party?

MR. BLAIR. I shall have to refuse to answer that under the fifth amendment.

MR. JOHANSEN. Mr. Chairman, let's clarify this point. The witness says, "I shall have to do it." The witness, I am sure, is not implying that the committee is compelling him to do it.

Am I correct in my understanding that you are invoking the fifth amendment with respect to these questions because you believe that to answer the questions would or might tend to incriminate you?

MR. BLAIR. That is correct. I am not implying any compulsion on the part of the committee. I am just saying that by asking these questions you are placing me in a position where, frankly speaking, if I want to save my own hide I must plead the fifth amendment.

MR. JOHANSEN. Thank you.

MR. TAVENNER. Are you a member of the Communist Party now?

MR. BLAIR. Again I will have to call for the protection of the fifth amendment.

MR. TAVENNER. I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

MR. TUCK. Any questions?

MR. BRUCE. Do you know Paul Corbin to have been a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BLAIR. As I stated in the beginning, I will have to answer that the same way. I decline to answer under the fifth amendment.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know Paul Corbin?

Mr. BLAIR. I will have to again plead the fifth amendment.

Mr. BRUCE. You used the fifth amendment on both questions I asked you, did you not?

Mr. BLAIR. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have no further questions.

Mr. TUCK. The witness is excused.

Mr. BLAIR. Give my regards to Mr. Schadeberg.

Mr. TUCK. Mr. Flory, will you stand and raise your right hand, please?

Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. FLORY. Right.

**TESTIMONY OF ISHMAEL P. FLORY, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL,
JOSEPH FORER**

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state your name, please, sir.

Mr. FLORY. The name is Ishmael Flory.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you spell your last name.

Mr. FLORY. F-l-o-r-y.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will counsel accompanying the witness identify himself for the record.

Mr. FORER. Joseph Forer, Washington, D.C.

Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you born, Mr. Flory?

Mr. FLORY. Lake Charles, La.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee briefly what your educational training has been?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FLORY. Would you mind stating the subject matter of the hearing?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir. The committee adopted a resolution on November 22, 1961, which provides for these hearings.

(For text of resolution, see p. vii.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Now will you state, please, briefly, what your educational training has been?

Mr. FLORY. Well, I went to grammar school in Louisiana; in Los Angeles, Calif. I went to junior high school in Los Angeles, Calif. I went to the University of California at Los Angeles. I went to the University of California in Berkeley. I went to Fisk University in Nashville, and went to the University of California again in Berkeley.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you complete your work at the University of California in Berkeley?

Mr. FLORY. In 1931, and some graduate work about the year 1934.

Mr. TAVENNER. How are you employed now?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FLORY. Sir, I refuse to answer that question on the following grounds: First, on the basis of the fourteenth, fifteenth, and nineteenth amendments to the U.S. Constitution, which, in the reasoning

of any reasonable historian, would indicate by history that there has been a conspiracy against people of African descent to violate Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and to make null and void these amendments, and therefore, in a real sense, challenges the actual legality of the existence not only of this body but of the Congress itself.

My second reason is on the grounds of the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which I am sure all of you are familiar with, and my third reason is the fifth amendment, with which, again, I am sure all of you are familiar.

I also feel that the committee in the context of the thing that I have said doesn't really have a legislative purpose.

(Counsel conferred with the witness.)

Mr. FLORY. And also that the question is irrelevant to the subject matter that you projected as the purpose of your investigation.

Mr. SCHERER. You were asking the question as to his occupation for the purposes of identification, were you not, counsel?

Mr. TAVENNER. That and the additional reason that it may probably throw some light upon his knowledge of the subject under investigation here.

Mr. SCHERER. You said you took graduate work at the University of California?

Mr. FLORY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. What degrees do you hold?

Mr. FLORY. I hold a bachelor of arts in business administration.

Mr. TAVENNER. And I believe I asked you where you were born. Did I ask you when you were born?

(Witness conferred with counsel).

Mr. FLORY. I was born July 4, 1907.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Flory, an investigation of the records of the clerks' office in the circuit court of Cook County reflects that a person by the name of Ishmael Flory was a witness in the divorce proceedings of Paul Kobrinsky, also known as Paul Corbin, against Seena P. Kobrinsky. Were you the Flory who was the witness in that case?

Mr. FLORY. Sir and gentlemen, I really don't remember. However, I will say this: that it was entirely possible, being acquainted with presumably the gentleman you are referring to, it is quite possible that I could have performed as is so indicated there.

Mr. SCHERER. What year was that, Counsel?

Mr. TAVENNER. The year was 1944, February 11, 1944.

Mr. FLORY. I don't recall it, but, as I said—

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you living in Chicago in 1944?

Mr. FLORY. Yes; I was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with an attorney by the name of Jack Freeman, who was the attorney for the plaintiff, according to the record in this case?

Mr. FLORY. That, too, I do not recall.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with another witness in that case, by the name of Kenneth Born, B-o-r-n?

Mr. FLORY. That I refuse to answer for the previous reasons.

Mr. BRUCE. Which? That you do not recall? Or that you use the fifth amendment?

Mr. FLORY. No; all of the reasons that I gave when I first started out.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Including the fifth amendment?

Mr. FLORY. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. I will read you a part of the examination of you as reported in the record of this case:

By Mr. FREEMAN:

Are you acquainted with Paul Corbin or Paul Kobrinsky, the plaintiff in this case?

Answer. I am.

Question. How long have you known him?

Answer. I have known him since December 1941.

Is that a correct statement of your knowledge of Paul Corbin?

Mr. FLORY. That is essentially correct, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. How is that?

Mr. FLORY. That is essentially correct, insofar as the knowledge of a Mr. Corbin in this period.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first become acquainted with Paul Corbin?

Mr. FLORY. As I recall, we used to have offices in the same building, and in the building there was a restaurant, and the people in the building frequently went down to have coffee, coffee and doughnuts, things like that, and that is the period in which I became acquainted with Mr. Paul Corbin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you in the same office with Paul Corbin?

Mr. FLORY. We were in the same office at the time that I met him, as I recall.

Mr. TAVENNER. What office was that?

Mr. FORER. Excuse me. I think there was a misunderstanding, there. Did you understand that he asked you whether you worked in the same office with Mr. Corbin?

Mr. FLORY. No. In the same office building. I am sorry.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were not employed by the same employer?

Mr. FLORY. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. How was Paul Corbin employed at that time?

Mr. FLORY. As I recall, it seemed to me that he was on a staff of a union. I don't even remember the particular union, by the way.

Mr. TAVENNER. You do? Or do not?

Mr. FLORY. I do not.

Mr. SCHERER. What were you doing at that time?

Mr. FLORY. I was a trade union organizer, myself.

Mr. SCHERER. For what union?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FLORY. The International Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you an international representative of that union?

Mr. FLORY. Approximately 3 to 4 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. Beginning when?

Mr. FLORY. About 1941.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the occasion for your becoming acquainted with Paul Corbin?

Mr. FLORY. Well, sir, as I say, we were all in the office building there together, and we used to eat downstairs together. The most that I can say and the most that I know about Mr. Corbin was that insofar as white people are concerned, or what we call white people, Mr. Corbin was among the few who did not condescend with the race's contempt toward me. I had considerable respect for the gentleman, and he was indeed a nice person. That is about the extent of my acquaintance with him.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you visit him and did he visit you?

Mr. FLORY. I never visited him, sir.

Mr. FORER. Excuse me, but just to clarify that last question: Did you mean visit at his home and vice versa?

Mr. TAVENNER. The question is: Did you visit Mr. Corbin at his home, or did he visit you at your home?

Mr. FLORY. No; we didn't have that kind of a relationship.

Mr. SCHERER. I believe you said that Corbin, as a white person, was not condescending?

Mr. FLORY. Correct.

Mr. SCHERER. To members of the colored race?

Mr. FLORY. No; to me.

Mr. SCHERER. Was that at the time he was employed by the Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store Employees of America as an organizer?

Mr. FLORY. Sir, as I say, I really don't remember what union he was working for at the time.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you know he was reprimanded by the international union for threatening to picket Jewish synagogues and for anti-Semitic activities?

Mr. FLORY. I am not aware of that fact.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have occasion to visit Paul Corbin in his office, or he you in your office?

Mr. FLORY. No. The only occasion that we would meet, they have a common elevator, as you probably know they have in most buildings, especially those that are in the downtown areas, and he would be occasionally down in the restaurant with other people who worked in the building, in a normal way that one may be sitting around eating and drinking coffee.

Mr. TAVENNER. What were the circumstances under which Paul Corbin procured you as a witness in his divorce proceeding?

Mr. FLORY. As I said, I do not remember with pinpoint accuracy the details. The only proposition is that I had known Paul, and he wanted a witness. He had to have somebody who knew him for a certain period of time, as I understood it, as best I can recall. And that was the basis upon which I served as whatever it is there.

Mr. SCHERER. But you do recall now having acted as a witness for him, do you not?

Mr. FLORY. I still say, sir, it is a vague matter in my mind. It happened, as I understand it, over 16 years ago. And frankly speaking, as you recall, in those days we were quite busy winning the war against Hitler, working night and day, and, as you perhaps would realize, you would do a lot of things, and some of them may not necessarily stick with you over the years. And I am not trying to

give you any song and dance. I don't feel that that is necessary. I just want you sincerely to know that I do not recall the details of the divorcement.

Mr. SCHERER. Oh, I understand that. I wasn't asking you with reference to the details concerning the testimony of the witness. Merely I was asking you about your appearance as a witness on his behalf.

Mr. FLORY. I have only a vague recollection of that, sir.

Mr. FORER. Is it fair to say, if I may interject, that if he asked you, you certainly would have testified?

Mr. FLORY. Certainly.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, is there any doubt in your mind but what you did serve as a witness?

Mr. FLORY. I don't express doubt, sir. I simply say that I do not recall the details.

Mr. TAVENNER. You do not recall the details, but you do recall the fact that you were one of his witnesses?

Mr. FLORY. Vaguely so, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Will you tell the committee, please how you learned that Mr. Born, Kenneth Born, was also to be a witness with you in that case?

Mr. FLORY. How did I learn that Mr. Born was to be a witness in the case? You have a double question there. How do you know I knew Mr. Born was going to be a witness? I mean it seems to me that that is improper to state.

Mr. TAVENNER. My question is, How did you know that Mr. Born was to be a witness in this case with you? The record shows that he was a witness.

Mr. FLORY. Oh, how did I know he was to be a witness?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. FLORY. As I said, as a matter of fact, I don't know who the second witness was, until you just told me. I didn't know that Mr. Born was the witness. I don't recall the circumstances around the divorcement.

Mr. TAVENNER. But you did know Mr. Born, did you not?

Mr. FLORY. I refuse to answer that for the previous reasons stated; namely, the fourteenth, fifteenth, nineteenth, first, and fifth amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

Mr. TAVENNER. You knew that Mr. Born was a member of the Communist Party, did you not?

Mr. FLORY. I refuse to answer that, for the same set of reasons.

Mr. TAVENNER. At the same time, that is, the time you have testified, in the period in which you knew Mr. Corbin, you were a member of the Communist Party, were you not?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FLORY. Well, sir, first I object to the question, because I think this is an irrelevant question. I didn't come here, as I understood it, to be investigated. Frankly speaking, I have been up in the air as to why you called me here.

However, again I will submit the same objections; namely, the fourteenth, the fifteenth, the nineteenth, the first, and the fifth amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Mr. Paul Corbin known to you to be a member of the Communist Party when you testified for him in his divorce proceeding?

Mr. FLORY. Sir, I do not know what Mr. Corbin's views were, what his political thinking was.

Mr. JOHANSEN. The question did not go to his views or his political thinking.

Mr. FORER. He is answering the question. He intends to, anyway. Give him a chance.

Mr. FLORY. I did not know what his political thinking was, sir. As I said, I have not seen Mr. Corbin, I don't suppose, in 14, 15, or 16 years. I don't know that Mr. Corbin had any thoughts at all, frankly speaking, beyond sitting over the coffee cup and perhaps cracking a joke, or something like that. I certainly am not in a position to tell you Mr. Corbin's views. Again I repeat: The only thing that I can say about him is that in the matter of human relations, the fellow was a nice, noncondescending white person.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, will you answer my question, please? You have gone all around the periphery, but avoided answering the question.

Mr. FLORY. I do not know, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. The question of counsel was whether at the time you acted as a witness for him in his divorce case he was a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. FLORY. Well, sir, if I can be any more simple, I do not know, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. My question was, Did you ever know Paul Corbin to be a member of the Communist Party?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FLORY. I have no knowledge of it, really.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you ever go to a Communist Party meeting with him?

Mr. FLORY. I think that that question is irrelevant, sir, and if you direct me to answer it, I will again stand upon—

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FLORY. I have no knowledge sir, of Mr. Corbin ever having attended any meeting. I have no knowledge on the subject.

Mr. SCHERER. You can answer this: Did you ever attend a Communist Party meeting with Corbin?

Mr. FORER. The witness just said he never attended any meeting with Mr. Corbin.

Mr. SCHERER. He did not say that. He said he had no knowledge.

Mr. FLORY. Well, sir, I never attended any meeting with Mr. Corbin. I told you I didn't know anything about the man beyond the occasions when he was in the same building.

Mr. JOHANSEN. But evidently you knew something about him, or enough about him, that you qualified as a witness for him in the divorce case. Is that correct?

Mr. FLORY. I had known Mr. Corbin a number of years, and as I understood it—I don't know that much about the legal procedure involving divorces—as I understood it, he wanted a witness. And I would do that for anybody that I had known for as long as I had known him.

Mr. FORER. Excuse me. What was the nature of this witness? Just on Paul Corbin's residence in Illinois?

Mr. TAVENNER. The length of time he knew him and whether he had lived separately from his wife.

Mr. FORER. Do you want to ask him whether he knew Mr. Corbin's wife?

Mr. TAVENNER. No.

Mr. BRUCE. Did you ever know anyone by the name of Gertrude Cox?

Mr. FLORY. It seems that Mrs. Cox was working in one of the offices in the same building, sir, and I knew her only in the context that I have described to you about Mr. Corbin. She was in the building, and the eating place was downstairs, and occasionally she, too, would come in to eat. Now, beyond that, I know nothing about her.

Mr. SCHERER. You knew that Corbin subsequently married her?

Mr. FLORY. I knew that. I had heard that, anyway.

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

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FLORY. Sir, I have no information, really, whether she was a member of the Communist Party or any other party, sir.

Mr. BRUCE. Did she ever attend Communist Party meetings where you were present?

Mr. FLORY. Sir, I don't know what meetings she attended, really.

Mr. BRUCE. Did she ever attend meetings, where you were present?

Mr. FLORY. I don't recall any meetings, any kind of meetings, she attended, sir.

Mr. TUCK. Any further questions?

Any further questions, Mr. Tavenner?

* * * * *

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did Corbin reside?

Mr. FLORY. Sir?

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did Corbin live?

Mr. FLORY. I don't recall at the moment, frankly speaking.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have no further questions.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know a Lou Goldblatt?

Mr. FLORY. A Lou Goldblatt? Lou Goldblatt? I have read about a Lou Goldblatt. I don't know him.

Mr. BRUCE. Have you ever met him?

Mr. FLORY. No; I haven't met him.

Mr. BRUCE. J. R. Robertson?

Mr. FLORY. No.

Mr. BRUCE. Einar Sell?

Mr. FLORY. Who is that?

Mr. BRUCE. Einar Sell.

Mr. FLORY. Never heard of the name.

Mr. BRUCE. Carl Thorman?

Mr. FLORY. Never heard of the name.

Mr. BRUCE. Emil Costello?

Mr. FLORY. Never heard of the name.

Mr. BRUCE. Fred Blair?

Mr. FLORY. I refuse to answer on the following grounds—

Mr. FORER. On the previous grounds.

Mr. FLORY. I shall repeat them.

Mr. FORER. If you want.

Mr. FLORY. On the fourteenth, fifteenth, nineteenth, and the first and fifth amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

Mr. SCHERER. What is the nineteenth?

Mr. FLORY. The nineteenth amendment made provision for women to vote, sir, and American women citizens of African descent had not been included, as you know, under the fourteenth and the fifteenth amendments in the matter of voting. And of course they are not too much included to this day, judging from the reports of the Civil Rights Commission of the Government of the United States.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know a Joseph Kennedy?

Mr. FLORY. No, I don't know Joseph Kennedy.

Mr. TAVENNER. This is Joseph Michael Corwan Kennedy, the one that we are asking about.

Mr. TUCK. Any further questions, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. No, sir.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know George Stewart?

Mr. FLORY. I don't know him.

Mr. TUCK. Any further questions?

You may be excused.

Will you stand and raise your right hand, please?

Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. BORN. I do.

TESTIMONY OF KENNETH BORN, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL, LAWRENCE SPEISER

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state your full name, please, Mr. Born?

Mr. BORN. Kenneth Born, B-o-r-n.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will counsel accompanying the witness please identify himself for the record?

Mr. SPEISER. I am Lawrence Speiser. I am an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, 1612 I Street NW., Washington.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you representing this person as an individual, or as a representative of the American Civil Liberties Union?

Mr. SPEISER. I am representing him as an attorney; and as an attorney, I am working for the American Civil Liberties Union. I represent a good number of people before the committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, and every time you give the statement you are with the American Civil Liberties Union; so it has given me reason to believe that possibly it is the American Civil Liberties Union that is representing the defendant, instead of you, as an attorney.

Mr. SPEISER. Well, I am not sure you can dissociate me. I am not trying to fudge on what my position is. I am representing him because people have contacted me as an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, requesting me to represent them, and I have agreed in those cases.

Mr. TUCK. Do you represent the individual witness? Or do you represent the American Civil Liberties Union?

Mr. SPEISER. Well, when I come in as an attorney, I am representing the client. My obligation is solely to the client. The initial decision about representing the witness I make as an employee of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did your client contact the American Civil Liberties Union to procure employment, or did he contact you for employment?

Mr. SPEISER. He contacted the American Civil Liberties Union to provide an attorney for him. There is no money relationship, if you use the term "employment" in that sense.

Mr. SCHERER. I didn't—

Mr. SPEISER. There is no money relationship. There is no fee retainer involved at all in this.

Mr. SCHERER. This is, you mean between him and the American Civil Liberties Union, or between him and you?

Mr. SPEISER. Either.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, it is not a case of the American Civil Liberties Union practicing law?

Mr. SPEISER. No, it is not.

Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you born, Mr. Born?

Mr. BORN. Topeka, Kans.; 1911.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you now reside?

Mr. BORN. Chicago.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your occupation?

Mr. BORN. I am a bartender.

Mr. BRUCE. We cannot hear the witness.

Mr. BORN. A bartender.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you engaged in that occupation?

Mr. BORN. Several years; 6 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. Prior to that time, how were you employed?

Mr. BORN. Well, I had a little restaurant before that a while.

Mr. TAVENNER. For how long a period?

Mr. BORN. About a year and a half.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, that takes you back to about 1953?

Mr. BORN. Around that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Prior to that, what was your employment?

Mr. BORN. Well, I had better consult Mr. Speiser, here.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. Well, Mr. Counsel, that question I shall have to refuse to answer, on the grounds, first, that I see nothing in the way of legislative interest being served by the question; and secondly, on the grounds that you are violating my rights under the first and fifth amendments by such question.

Mr. TUCK. I can't hear the witness.

Mr. TAVENNER. He says it violates his rights under the first and fifth amendments. I do not know whether by that he is refusing to answer on the grounds of the first and fifth amendments or not.

Mr. BORN. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. By the fifth amendment, are you referring to that clause in the fifth amendment regarding testifying against yourself?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, what your educational training has been, just briefly?

Mr. BORN. Well, I was to high school, 3 years of college, 3 or 4 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you attend college?

Mr. BORN. Washburn College, in Topeka, University—

If you had a little water here, it would be a little easier. I don't want to criticize your arrangements.

(Water was made available to the witness.)

Mr. BORN. I said I went to school at Topeka, Kans., Washburn College in Topeka, Kans., and the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated that you have been a bartender for approximately 6 years. You are actually the owner of an establishment, are you not?

Mr. BORN. Owner, bartender, bouncer.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Born, I have before me a photostatic copy of a record in the circuit court of Cook County, Ill.—

Mr. BORN. Pardon me a minute.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER. —in the case of Paul Kobrinsky, also known as Paul Corbin, against Seena P. Kobrinsky, defendant, which was a divorce proceeding.

In this case there appears the testimony of a person by the name of Kenneth Born. Were you the Kenneth Born who was a witness in this case?

Mr. BORN. Well, that is the problem. I believe the gentleman next to you is Mr. Wetterman; is that right?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. BORN. Apparently, from the record—that is from the circuit court proceeding, is it?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. BORN. I must have either appeared or signed a deposition for him. I don't recall the incident at all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, possibly this will refresh your recollection:

Question. State your name, please.

Answer. Kenneth Born.

Question. Where do you live?

Answer. 4438 Jackson, Chicago.

Was that your address?

Mr. BORN. I lived on Jackson at one time.

Mr. TAVENNER (reading):

How long have you known Paul Corbin or Paul Kobrinsky?

Answer. Since the early fall of 1941.

Does that refresh your recollection?

Mr. SPEISER. May we see that?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

(The document was handed to the witness.)

Mr. SPEISER. May I turn the pages?

Mr. TAVENNER. Surely.

All right, sir.

Mr. BORN. I claim the privilege under the same amendments.

Mr. BRUCE. What was the question again, Counsel?

Mr. TAVENNER. The question was whether or not this refreshed his recollection as to his having testified in the case of Paul Corbin; and he has taken the fifth amendment.

Mr. JOHANSEN. May the record show that between your question and the invocation of the fifth amendment, he viewed the document that you hold.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

I believe before you answered the question, you reviewed with your counsel the entire document, did you not, showing the record of the trial?

Mr. BORN. I glanced through it.

Mr. TAVENNER. I saw you leafing from page to page. You went through the entire document, did you not?

Mr. BORN. Well, I couldn't quote it to you.

Mr. TAVENNER. You couldn't quote it, but you examined it carefully?

Mr. BORN. As much as you can——

Mr. TAVENNER. And after examining it, you refused to answer.

Well, let me ask this. Do you know Mr. Jack Freeman, who was the attorney for the plaintiff in this case?

Mr. BORN. I know Mr. Freeman slightly. That is the lawyer, Jack Freeman. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the other witness in this case, Mr. Ishmael P. Flory?

Mr. BORN. Well, again, I knew him, somewhat.

Mr. TAVENNER. You knew him somewhat?

Mr. BORN. I wasn't a bosom buddy. I know him, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long had you known him before 1944, the date of this deposition, February the 11th, 1944?

Mr. BORN. Is that a deposition there?

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, it is testimony taken in the course of this trial.

Mr. BORN. I really don't know. I would see him off and on.

Mr. TAVENNER. How were you employed at that time?

Mr. BORN. I have to take the fifth amendment.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you in the same office building that Mr. Flory occupied at that time, when he was a representative of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union?

Mr. BORN. The same response.

Mr. BRUCE. We cannot hear.

Mr. BORN. The same thing.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mean you refuse to answer on the same grounds?

Mr. BORN. The same grounds, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Mr. Corbin occupying an office in the same building in which you were employed at the time, on February 11, 1944?

Mr. BORN. I will decline to answer that on the same grounds.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Mr. Ishmael P. Flory known to you to be a member of the Communist Party on February 11, 1944?

Mr. BORN. I decline to answer that question on the same grounds; on the grounds also that it serves no legislative purpose.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of the Communist Party on February 11, 1944?

Mr. BORN. I decline to answer that question on the same grounds, under the fifth amendment.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were a candidate for city treasurer of Chicago on April 6, 1943, on the Communist Party ticket, were you not?

Mr. BORN. I decline to answer that question; same reason.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Paul Corbin known to you to be a member of the Communist Party on February 11, 1944?

Mr. BORN. I decline to answer that question; the same reason.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you state in the course of your testimony in this case that you had known Paul Corbin since the early fall of 1941?

Mr. BORN. I believe I already said I decline to comment on that document.

Mr. SCHERER. How long did you know Paul Corbin prior to 1944?

Mr. BORN. I decline to answer that question.

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

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know Gertrude Cox?

Mr. BORN. I will have to decline that question, on the same grounds.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know Fred Blair?

Mr. BORN. I decline to answer that question, on the same grounds.

Mr. BRUCE. Did you know Paul Corbin's first wife?

Mr. BORN. I decline to answer that question, on the same grounds.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have another question, Mr. Chairman.

Are you a member of the Communist Party now?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. I am not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you been a member of the Communist Party at any time within the last 6½ years? That is, since you have had your business?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. About a year and a half before that you had a restaurant?

Mr. BORN. A small place, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of the Communist Party at any time while you owned that restaurant?

Mr. BORN. No.

You have got me confused on the time issue, there.

Mr. TAVENNER. That would take you back to about 1953. The time that you first obtained your restaurant, according to your earlier testimony. It would be about in 1953.

Mr. BORN. I will have to decline to answer that question on the grounds of the fifth amendment.

Mr. BRUCE. Have you had any contact with Ishmael Flory within the last 6 months, telephone or otherwise?

Mr. BORN. I saw him in the hallway.

Mr. BRUCE. Outside of seeing him in the hallway, here.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. I will decline to answer that question.

Mr. BRUCE. Has Mr. Corbin contacted you within the last year?

Mr. BORN. No.

Mr. BRUCE. Has anyone contacted you, outside of this committee and its staff, on behalf of Mr. Corbin in the past year?

Mr. BORN. No.

Mr. BRUCE. Has anybody in any way discussed the case of Mr. Corbin with you, outside of this committee and your counsel, in the last 6 months?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. Well, yes.

May I ask for clarification, there: Do you mean prior to the time that I got this subpoena?

Mr. BRUCE. Prior or since.

Mr. BORN. And what was your question?

Mr. BRUCE. Let me rephrase the question. Has anyone in any way tried to influence you as far as your testimony before this committee is concerned?

Mr. BORN. No. No one.

Mr. BRUCE. You wanted some clarification on the last question. What did you want?

Mr. BORN. Well, you clarified it. I wasn't quite clear whether you meant had I spoken to another lawyer after I was subpoenaed, or not.

Mr. BRUCE. Outside of seeking legal counsel, have you been contacted by anybody, outside of this committee, in your attempts to find legal counsel, concerning this individual named Paul Corbin?

Mr. BORN. No. The answer is "No."

Mr. BRUCE. Not even Ishmael Flory? You invoked the fifth amendment on that question a moment ago.

Mr. BORN. I remember that I did. I will stand by that.

Mr. JOHANSEN. In other words, let me see if we are clear in the record on this. In other words, your answer is "No," with respect to discussion of this with any person other than the attorney or persons that you contacted seeking advice. Your answer is "No," that you were not approached by anyone or did not discuss it, with the exception that when that question is raised in regard to Mr. Flory, you invoked the fifth amendment. Is that correct?

Mr. SPEISER. There were two aspects. One was the contact, and the other was the question of influence.

Mr. BORN. Yes. What was the first question that you asked, exactly, regarding Flory?

Mr. JOHANSEN. Let me just recapitulate: Have you had any conversations with Mr. Flory at any time during the last 6 months?

Mr. BORN. I will have to decline to answer that question.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Now, did you have any conversation with Mr. Flory with regard to your appearance here today or with regard to Mr. Corbin, within the last 6 months?

Mr. BORN. I will have to refuse to answer that question.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Now, have you discussed this case, or your appearance here, or have you been approached by anyone with respect to your appearance here, or the Corbin matter, other than counsel, in the last 6 months?

Mr. BORN. To that I will answer "No." I haven't been approached by anyone.

Mr. SCHERER. No one?

Mr. BORN. No one.

Mr. SCHERER. Including Flory?

Mr. BORN. "No one" is a general term.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Well, I just want the record to show—

Mr. BORN. Yes. I am not trying to be evasive, here, but—

Mr. BRUCE. You say "no one," but you invoked the fifth amendment on the question of Flory. Am I correct?

Mr. SPEISER. I think there may be some confusion. The question is as to whether he had been contacted by anyone with regard to Mr. Corbin or his being called by the committee?

Mr. BRUCE. No, I asked him directly whether he had had any contact with Mr. Flory.

Mr. TAVENNER. I though you said "conversation."

Mr. BORN. I thought you said had Mr. Corbin—

Mr. BRUCE. All right. Let's take it 1-2-3.

Do you know Ishmael Flory?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. I answered that previously that I decline to identify that I know Mr. Flory.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Under the fifth amendment?

Mr. BORN. Under the fifth amendment; correct.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Have you had conversation with Mr. Flory regarding Paul Corbin, or any discussion between you and Flory and anyone regarding Corbin within the last 6 months?

Mr. BORN. I will decline to answer that question under the fifth amendment.

Mr. BRUCE. Let me phrase it another way: With the exception of preparing your appearance here, and in conversation with attorneys, have you had any contact or conversation with Mr. Flory in the last 6 months?

Mr. BORN. The previous question asked before was: Did I have contact with anyone? Had I been contacted by anyone in connection with this appearance, except for my legal counsel? That was the preceding question. And to that I answered "No." But for this particular question, I will claim the privilege; the fifth amendment.

Mr. JOHANSEN. In other words, you state a general denial, but you take the fifth amendment on a specific denial; is that correct?

Mr. SPEISER. May I address the committee on this? I recognize that ordinarily attorneys do not. It seems to me there is a distinction in the way the questions are phrased, which has been the reason for Mr. Born's answering the way that he has.

As I understand Congressman Johansen's question, to which Mr. Born answered "No," it was, "Have you been contacted by anyone," implying a contact, an initiation of a contact, by someone else; to which he answered, "No." And then, with respect to Congressman Bruce's question, "Have you had any questions or contact," in the sense of a contact being an all-embracing term which could go in both directions, he claimed the privilege, because you asked with respect to Mr. Flory.

Mr. BRUCE. Have you called Mr. Flory on the telephone within the past 6 months?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. I will claim the privilege on that question.

Mr. BRUCE. Have you discussed this case, the case of Paul Corbin, or the person of Paul Corbin, within the last 6 months, with a man by the name of Fred Bassett Blair?

Mr. SPEISER. Again, prior to the time he got his subpoena?

Mr. BRUCE. Within the last 6 months.

Mr. SPEISER. May I pursue it? Mr. Blair has been out in the hallway, you know.

Mr. BRUCE. Excluding the visitation in the hall.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. BORN. No.

Mr. BRUCE. Have you and Mr. Flory exchanged notes in regard to your appearance here, or exchanged ideas as to how you were going to handle yourself before this committee, since you have received the subpoena?

Mr. BORN. I will have to decline to answer that question, on the same grounds.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Let me just ask one further question. I am trying to meet counsel's point, and I am not attempting to entrap you in any way. I am trying to get the record straight.

Have you, either on your initiation, or on the initiation of any other person, discussed this case, discussed the pending appearance, or discussed Mr. Corbin, during the last 6 months, with anyone, outside of any conversations in the hall today? And, of course, excluding your legal counsel, naturally.

Mr. BORN. Well, if you were to ask me: have I been approached by anyone or influenced by anyone regarding my appearance here, or about Mr. Corbin, in the past 6 months, or for the past 10 years, my answer would be "No." But so long as the question is phrased as you have phrased it, then I must take my privilege under the fifth amendment.

Mr. TUCK. That is all.

(Witness excused.)

Mr. TUCK. Miss Powell, will you raise your right hand, please?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Miss POWELL. I do.

TESTIMONY OF SEENA POWELL

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please state your name?

Miss POWELL. Seena Powell.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you the first wife of Mr. Paul Corbin?

Miss POWELL. I was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you now reside?

Miss POWELL. Brooklyn.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is it Miss Powell?

Miss POWELL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. In Brooklyn?

Miss POWELL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you lived in Brooklyn?

Miss POWELL. Let's see. Most of my life, I should say.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, where were you born?

Miss POWELL. In Brooklyn.

Mr. TAVENNER. And did you live out in the Midwest at one time?

Miss POWELL. Well, I did live in Winnipeg for about—well, I can't say. I am not too sure. About 4 months, I believe. My daughter

was born there. And then I lived in Indiana for about a year and a half.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that before you went to Winnipeg?

Miss POWELL. I beg your pardon?

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you live in Indiana before you went to Canada?

Miss POWELL. No; after.

Mr. TAVENNER. After?

Miss POWELL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did your family live in Indiana at any time before you were married?

Miss POWELL. No.

Pardon me. My father lived there, but he was separated from the family. I don't know just how long. And we didn't know he resided there at that time, but we stopped over.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you say "we," to whom do you refer?

Miss POWELL. My mother and brothers. My brothers were musicians, and they were working in Indiana. That is how we got up there in the first place.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you were related to your husband, were you not?

Miss POWELL. We are still related. He is my first cousin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Your first cousin. How long did you live in Canada?

Miss POWELL. Well, about—

Well, let's see. Probably we got there in October, and she was born July 6. I brought her back to Indiana when she was about, let's see, 2 months old, I think, about that. I left Winnipeg and moved to Indiana.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then you were in Canada about how long? About how many months or years?

Miss POWELL. About 5 months.

Mr. TAVENNER. About 5 months. Did you live at the home of your husband's family while there?

Miss POWELL. Yes. I was in West Kildonan.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the name of Mr. Corbin's father?

Miss POWELL. I don't remember.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many brothers and sisters—

Miss POWELL. I will tell you why, sir; because I wasn't acquainted with that family. You see, it is just that I went there on a vacation, and that is the first time I met them—my relatives.

Mr. TAVENNER. And your mother was a sister of Mr. Corbin's mother. What was your mother's maiden name?

Miss POWELL. Elizabeth.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, but what was her last name?

Miss POWELL. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, what was your name before marriage?

Miss POWELL. Powell. I thought you meant her maiden name.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, I did.

Miss POWELL. I don't know her maiden name.

Mr. TAVENNER. You do not know your mother's maiden name?

Miss POWELL. No, I do not.

Why?

Mr. TAVENNER. Wasn't it Pavlov?

Miss POWELL. Pavlov? I don't think so. I think it was Parlo, or something like that.

Mr. TAVENNER. P-a-v-l-o-v?

Miss POWELL. Well, I don't know. There is a sister to my mother. She was named Parlov. I don't know what my mother called herself.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, tell me the names of the brothers and sisters of Paul Corbin.

Miss POWELL. Well, he has a brother Sid.

Mr. TAVENNER. Sidney. He was born in New York, was he not?

Miss POWELL. Yes. And while an infant, he was taken to Winnipeg and became a Canadian citizen. He has a sister Irene and—let's see. Who is the other one?

Mr. SCHERER. Why don't you refresh her recollection?

Mr. TAVENNER. Freda?

Miss POWELL. That is it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who married—

Miss POWELL. A doctor.

Mr. TAVENNER. A doctor by the name of Shankman, Dr. Irvin Shankman?

Miss POWELL. Irvin Shankman.

Mr. TAVENNER. Any others?

Miss POWELL. No, just two sisters and a brother.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the names of any of the uncles of Paul Corbin?

Miss POWELL. Uncles?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Did he have an uncle?

Miss POWELL. I don't know any of his side, but I know of his mother's brother, my uncle, Ben Pavlov. He calls himself Ben Pavlov. There is a Phillip Pavlov. And that is about all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then there is no doubt about what your mother's maiden name was, if her brothers were named Pavlov?

Miss POWELL. Probably. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know a person by the name of Mike Corbin?

Miss POWELL. Mike Corbin? No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Or Kobrinsky?

Miss POWELL. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know of the names of any of Paul Corbin's uncles on his father's side?

Miss POWELL. No. I don't know any of his father's relatives.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you in Canada at any time other than the 4 or 5 months' period that you just told us about?

Miss POWELL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. When?

Miss POWELL. Oh, golly. Probably the end of 1932 or 1933. I went there on a vacation. Around that time. I am not sure.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you visit the Corbin family at that time?

Miss POWELL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where were they living?

Miss POWELL. In West Kildonan. That was the first time I had seen him.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where is that?

Miss POWELL. West Kildonan.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you spell the name, please?

Miss POWELL. You mean of the town?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Miss POWELL. W-e-s-t K-i-l-d-o-n-a-n, I believe.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you there on that occasion?

Miss POWELL. Two months, I believe.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you there at any other time?

Miss POWELL. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, whether or not you learned, while you were on any of these visits to the family of Mr. Corbin, that any member of the family was a member of or affiliated with the Young Communist League of Canada?

Miss POWELL. Not that I know of. I am not sure.

Mr. SCHERER. What was that answer? She was not sure?

Mr. TAVENNER. Not sure?

Miss POWELL. I have never heard any of it mentioned.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever hear Paul Corbin state that he had been a member of the Young Communist League of Canada?

Miss POWELL. No, I haven't. Never.

Mr. TAVENNER. When were you and your husband separated?

Miss POWELL. Well, this has been going on and off. I can't remember that exactly.

When did I leave him? I left him in Winnipeg, to tell you the truth, and I moved to Indiana, when we weren't getting on. I took the baby and went to Indiana.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then you came back together?

Miss POWELL. Well, he came.

Mr. TAVENNER. And then did all of you go to New York and make your home there?

Miss POWELL. No, I lived with my parents. And then after a while I believe he rented a small apartment, and we tried again living together.

Mr. TAVENNER. In New York?

Miss POWELL. In Indiana.

Mr. TAVENNER. In Indiana?

Miss POWELL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. But did you live together at any time in New York City?

Miss POWELL. Most of the time with my mother.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, in other words, you and your husband lived together in your mother's home in New York?

Miss POWELL. That is right. Most of the time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then you separated?

Miss POWELL. Yes, we would separate, and he would leave. I don't know where. And then he would come back.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, did you get out an arrest warrant for him in New York and try to have it served in Rockford, Ill.?

Miss POWELL. Illinois? For what?

Mr. TAVENNER. How is that?

Miss POWELL. I don't know of—

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, did you swear out an arrest warrant for your husband?

Miss POWELL. I don't remember.

Mr. SCHERER. For failure to provide?

Miss POWELL. Oh, yes. But I think I went to Domestic Relations and I also went to the Red Cross to try to get support. That was during the war.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you complain to the Court of Domestic Relations that he was not supporting you and your child?

Miss POWELL. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. And while you were there, while the court took jurisdiction over that complaint, you signed a warrant for his arrest for failure to provide for you and the child?

Miss POWELL. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you remember what year that was?

Miss POWELL. No, I don't.

Mr. SCHERER. How long had you been separated at the time you went to complain to the Court of Domestic Relations?

Miss POWELL. Well, let me think.

Mr. SCHERER. Approximately.

Miss POWELL. To tell you the truth, I really had him brought up on charges for beating me. I don't like to bring up my personal life. It is very embarrassing. And also for nonsupport.

Mr. SCHERER. Two charges?

Miss POWELL. Yes. And he gave his side of the story. I can't exactly remember mine. But they held him for 15 days at the Raymond Street jail.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you hear that, Frank?

Mr. TAVENNER. No, I did not.

Mr. SCHERER. She says he served 15 days in the Raymond Street jail.

Was that for his beating you?

Miss POWELL. That must be it.

Mr. SCHERER. Where is the Raymond Street jail?

Miss POWELL. In Brooklyn.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you remember about when that was, what year?

Miss POWELL. No. Maybe 1938. I don't know; 1937 or 1938.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where were you married?

Miss POWELL. In the Brooklyn Municipal Building.

Mr. TAVENNER. And you went from there to Winnipeg, did you?

Miss POWELL. No. He went. I remained.

Mr. TAVENNER. He went?

Miss POWELL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he have difficulties with the Immigration authorities in getting back into this country?

Miss POWELL. That I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then while your husband was up in Winnipeg, you went up, did you not?

Miss POWELL. Well, my main purpose was to have my baby there, because my uncle was a doctor. He took care of me. I didn't want to go to a charitable hospital, so I went there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then you came back from Winnipeg?

Miss POWELL. Right to Indiana.

Mr. TAVENNER. To Elkhart, Ind.?

Miss POWELL. Elkhart, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then from Elkhart, Ind., back to Winnipeg?

Miss POWELL. I moved to South Bend for a while. And from there I went back to Brooklyn with my mother and my daughter.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee whether or not Paul Corbin was a member of the Communist Party at any time, to your knowledge?

Miss POWELL. I don't know. I know nothing of—I don't know anything of his political doings. I know nothing of his political doings. I never did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever see a Communist Party card?

Miss POWELL. A what?

Mr. TAVENNER. A Communist Party card, the membership card?

Miss POWELL. No. I wouldn't even know what one looks like. I know nothing of that.

Mr. SCHERER. When was the last time you saw your former husband or had any contact with him?

Miss POWELL. Well, let's see.

Mr. SCHERER. Approximately.

Miss POWELL. He called me, I think 2 years ago. Not this past summer. The summer before. He wanted to discuss my daughter. He wanted to discuss things about my daughter. He felt that she ought to settle down, and things like that, and thought I could assist him in showing him a way.

Mr. SCHERER. That is the last time you saw him?

Miss POWELL. That is all. Just about 5 minutes. Then he called again, and I told him not to annoy me.

Mr. BRUCE. When did he call again?

Miss POWELL. He usually called at 4 a.m. in the morning.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have no further questions.

Mr. TUCK. No questions.

Miss POWELL. Through?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. TUCK. You may be excused.

We will meet in the morning at 10 o'clock.

(Whereupon, at 5 p.m., Monday, November 27, 1961, the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 10 a.m., Tuesday, November 28, 1961.)

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1961

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ¹

The subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call, at 10:30 a.m., in Room 219, Old House Office Building, Hon. William M. Tuck, presiding.

Subcommittee member present: Representative William M. Tuck, of Virginia.

Committee members also present: Representatives August E. Johansen, of Michigan, and Donald C. Bruce, of Indiana.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., director; Alfred M. Nittle, counsel; John C. Walsh, co-counsel; Neil E. Wetterman and Raymond T. Collins, investigators.

Mr. TUCK. The subcommittee will be in order.

Mr. Costello, will you stand and raise your right hand please?

Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. COSTELLO. I do.

TESTIMONY OF EMIL COSTELLO

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state your name please.

Mr. COSTELLO. Emil Costello.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Costello, it is our practice to advise witnesses who are unaccompanied by counsel that they are entitled to counsel if they desire it.

Mr. COSTELLO. I can't afford it. I don't need one.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you reside?

Mr. COSTELLO. North Hollywood, Calif.

Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you born?

Mr. COSTELLO. I was born in Kenosha, Wis., 1908.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, briefly what your formal educational training has been?

Mr. COSTELLO. Junior high school.

Mr. TAVENNER. What has been your principal profession or trade or occupation?

Mr. COSTELLO. At the moment?

¹ Released by the committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAVENNER. In the last 15 or 20 years.

Mr. COSTELLO. An employee of the Sewing Machine Co. and one of its subsidiaries, the Automatic Pencil Sharpener, a short time with the Litton Industries, International Expeditors and Universal Enterprises, which is one and the same company, and the past 7 years employment agencies as an employee and as an operator.

Mr. TAVENNER. How are you now employed?

Mr. COSTELLO. I am self-employed in an employment agency known as Emil Costello & Associates.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Costello, the purpose of calling you here is to ask your assistance in the study of the activities of an individual who occupies a position of importance in the national interests. This individual's name is Paul Corbin. We have had testimony from quite a few witnesses regarding his activities in Rockford, Ill.; Janesville, Milwaukee, and other places in Wisconsin; and in Chicago.

Information has come to us that you were in a position at the time, back in the 1940's, when you had information relating to the activities of this individual. For instance, a witness by the name of Joseph Michael Kennedy advised that he discussed with you the question of whether or not Paul Corbin should be taken into a local group of the Communist Party and that on one occasion he suggested to you that he should not be taken in.

The indication in the testimony also was that, at a later date, you had special information regarding Paul Corbin's affiliation with the Communist Party. So I think that is a fair introduction to the questions that I want to ask you.

First of all, let me ask you: Was Paul Corbin a member of the Communist Party to your knowledge?

Mr. COSTELLO. I refuse to answer the question on the grounds that it might tend to incriminate me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, I am disappointed that you are taking that position, but having talked with you this morning, I am not surprised that you have taken it.

I want to say to you that I believe, maybe eventually, you may change your viewpoint; at least I hope you do. I think I understand from some information which I have received regarding you and which did not emanate from you that you have had a pretty rugged time since you testified in the Christoffel case, and that is true, is it not?

Mr. COSTELLO. I don't recall which case it was. It was before the grand jury in 1947.

Mr. TAVENNER. That was known as the Christoffel grand jury wasn't it?

Mr. COSTELLO. I don't know. It may have or it may not have, I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where was that grand jury held?

Mr. COSTELLO. Here in Washington, D.C.

Mr. TAVENNER. You did not take advantage of the fifth amendment at that time. You told facts as you knew them.

Mr. COSTELLO. I don't recall. No, I took the fifth amendment.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then did you testify openly at a later time?

Mr. COSTELLO. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. I had been advised that you made a break with the Communist Party at that time and that you had not been a member of the Communist Party at any time since. Isn't that right?

Mr. COSTELLO. I would like you to ask me a question please.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you break with the Communist Party along about the time you testified?

Mr. COSTELLO. I refuse to answer the question on the grounds that it might tend to incriminate me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is it not true, Mr. Costello, that after that date you suffered in employment relationships that you had as a result of information coming to your employer from various sources that you had, at one time, been a member of the party?

Mr. COSTELLO. I refuse to answer the question on the grounds that it might tend to incriminate me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Would you step outside for a moment?
(Witness excused.)

Mr. TUCK. You may come back in, Mr. Costello.

Mr. TAVENNER. I am going to say to you, Mr. Costello, what I have said to one other witness. This particular witness' name was Robert Rossen. Mr. Rossen took the fifth amendment before the committee, and I was convinced that it was under circumstances which indicated he could not make up his mind whether he should or should not give the committee the information it desired. I said to him, in substance, "In all probability the time will come when you will see matters differently. If that time comes, get in touch with us and the facilities of this committee will be here and you can say what you want to say."

He left, and we did not hear from him until 2 years later when we were in the middle of hearings in New York City. He came to me at the hotel one night and he said something like this, "I have had time to think this matter over. Many things have happened since the time that I appeared before your committee, and I feel I would like to cooperate," and he did, fully. I just want to tell you the same thing, that we hope that the time may come when you will see the situation differently from what you do now. I am not going to attempt to pressure you in any way, now or at any time in the future, to change your mind but I hope you will.

Mr. Chairman, that is all I have to say.

Mr. TUCK. All I can say is that the director of the committee has expressed what I believe to be the sentiment of the members of the committee and certainly it is the sentiment of the members of this subcommittee.

Mr. BRUCE. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Suppose we bring the hearing to a close now and let the reporter retire if you wish to discuss something with the witness.

Mr. TUCK. The hearing will now be recessed.

(Whereupon, at 11:15 a.m., Tuesday, November 28, 1961, the subcommittee was recessed, subject to the call of the Chair.)

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1962

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ¹

The subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call, at 4:05 p.m., in Room 226, Old House Office Building, Washington, D.C., Hon. Clyde Doyle (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Subcommittee members present: Representatives Clyde Doyle, of California, and Gordon H. Scherer, of Ohio.

Committee members also present: Representatives August E. Johansen, of Michigan; Donald C. Bruce, of Indiana; and Henry C. Schadeburg, of Wisconsin.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., director; Alfred M. Nittle, counsel; John C. Walsh, co-counsel; George H. Lynch, consultant; and Neil E. Wetterman, investigator.

Mr. DOYLE. The subcommittee will come to order, please.

The chairman of the full committee, the Honorable Francis E. Walter, has named a subcommittee, under date of March 15, 1962:

MARCH 15, 1962.

To: Mr. Frank S. Tavenner,
Director,
House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Pursuant to the provisions of the law and the rules of this Committee, I hereby appoint a subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities, consisting of Representatives Clyde Doyle, as Chairman, William M. Tuck and Gordon H. Scherer, as associate members, to conduct a hearing in Washington, D.C., on Thursday, March 15, at 3:30 p.m., on subjects under investigation by the Committee and take such testimony on said day or succeeding days, as it may deem necessary.

Please make this action a matter of Committee record.

If any Member indicates his inability to serve, please notify me.

Given under my hand this 15th day of March, 1962.

/s/ Francis E. Walter
FRANCIS E. WALTER, *Chairman,*
Committee on Un-American Activities.

Messrs. Doyle and Scherer, a quorum of the subcommittee constituted by this notice, are present, and we are glad there are also present Messrs. Johansen, Bruce, and Schadeberg.

We are glad to have you here with us.

Are you ready, Counsel?

¹ Released by the committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Will Mrs. Wickstrom come forward, please.

Mr. DOYLE. Will you please raise your right hand, Mrs. Wickstrom? Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I do.

**TESTIMONY OF ESTHER WICKSTROM, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL,
JOSEPH FORER**

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state your name, please?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Esther Wickstrom.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you spell your last name, please?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. W-i-c-k-s-t-r-o-m.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you kindly raise your voice? It is a little hard for us to hear in this room.

It is noted that you are accompanied by counsel. Will counsel please identify himself for the record?

Mr. FORER. My name is still Joseph Forer of Washington, D.C.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you reside, Mrs. Wickstrom?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. 920 West Argyle Street, Chicago.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Wickstrom, the committee's investigation has disclosed that you were secretary of the Wisconsin Communist Party in the year 1948. The committee's investigation also reflects that in 1948 while you were secretary of the Wisconsin Communist Party there was issued a Communist Party transfer card for Paul Corbin and a transfer card for his wife, whose name was Gertrude Cox Corbin, from Milwaukee to San Francisco, Calif., and at that time Corbin's dues were reportedly paid for March 1948.

I ask you whether you issued or caused to be issued the transfer cards which I have referred to, or either of them?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I do not know of any such thing.

Mr. TAVENNER. Excuse me. I could not hear.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I do not know of any such thing.

Mr. TAVENNER. You do not know of any such thing?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you issue Communist Party transfer cards during the year 1948 to any individuals?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I shall refuse to answer on the basis of my rights under the first amendment and my privilege under the fifth amendment.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with Paul Corbin?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with him during the year 1948?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't think so.

Mr. FORER. Did you hear what she said?

Mr. TAVENNER. I am not sure.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't think so.

Mr. TAVENNER. You do not think so. When did you first become acquainted with him?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I am not certain of the dates but it was during the—

Mr. TAVENNER. We can't hear you.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. When I was working in the union office.

Mr. TAVENNER. What union office?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. The CIO Council.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. In Milwaukee.

Mr. TAVENNER. In Milwaukee?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Paul Corbin living in Milwaukee at that time?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I believe so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, what was the period of time in which you were employed in the union office in Milwaukee?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. About late 1936 or early 1937 until early 1943, I believe.

Mr. TAVENNER. Excuse me. Will you repeat that, please?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I think it was late in 1936 or early 1937 to the beginning of 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. And did you know Paul Corbin at a date later than 1943?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't recall having seen him. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. You don't recall?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you continue to live in Milwaukee after 1943?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. And how long did you continue living there?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. About 1950.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you the State secretary for Wisconsin of the Communist Party in 1948?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I refuse to answer for the same reasons I said earlier.

Mr. TAVENNER. How were you employed in 1948?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I refused to answer for the same reason.

Mr. TAVENNER. What local of the union was it that you were a member of, or that you were employed by in 1943?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. You mean until 1943?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I indicated earlier, the CIO Council.

Mr. TAVENNER. Oh, the CIO Council.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. If I were to tell you that Mr. Corbin did not live at Milwaukee until after he got out of the Army in 1945, would that refresh your recollection as to the period of time that you actually knew him, in Milwaukee?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No, I don't believe so.

Mr. TAVENNER. If I am correct in stating that he did not move to Milwaukee until after he got out of the Army, you would necessarily

be wrong about having known him when he lived in Milwaukee in 1943?

Mr. FORER. Excuse me, Mr. Tavenner. She was not sure he lived in Milwaukee during that period. She can explain—

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, let her explain that.

Mr. FORER. I am asking you to give her a chance to explain how she knew him.

Mr. TAVENNER. I am giving her every chance in the world to explain. That is why I am asking if it would refresh her recollection.

Mr. FORER. She said it wouldn't.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, I am trying to help her.

Mr. FORER. Well, I don't think you are being so helpful.

What is the question now?

Mr. TAVENNER. My question now is: After I have told you that he did not move to Milwaukee until after he got out of the Marine Corps in 1945, aren't you mistaken about having known him there in 1943?

Let me state it another way. Doesn't that indicate to you that you were mistaken, that you must have known him after 1945?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FORER. Can I explain one thing? She knew him during the period that she worked at the CIO Council. She is not sure that she knew him as late as 1943 when she left the council. Did Corbin live in Milwaukee or work in Milwaukee between 1937 and 1943? Because she is not sure that she knew him up to 1943. She knew him between 1937 or late 1936 and 1943, but she is not sure how late she knew him or how early she knew him.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me ask you this: What were the circumstances under which you became acquainted with Paul Corbin?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Through contact through the union office. As I remember it, he in one capacity or another worked in or came into that office on frequent occasions. Other than that, I wouldn't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Over how long a period of time, do you think?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Possibly a year or two, but I don't recall the exact time.

Mr. TAVENNER. And what was his employment during that period of time, that year or two?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't remember his official capacity. I don't know. I think he was an organizer for one of the unions, but I don't remember the exact position.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Not to my knowledge. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. You don't know. Did you at any time see his transfer card?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I have no knowledge of anything.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, answer the question. Did you see at any time a transfer card issued to him?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I have no knowledge of any such thing.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you acquainted with Gertrude Cox, the wife of Paul Corbin?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I think I met her on a couple of occasions in casual contacts.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first meet Mrs. Corbin?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't remember the date, but it was in connection with Mr. Corbin. So I suppose it was about the same period.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that also in the period before 1943?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I would assume so. I don't recall exactly.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, did you meet her after 1943?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Not that I know of.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was she known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Not that I know of. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. What were the circumstances under which you first met Mrs. Corbin?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't recall.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where were Mr. and Mrs. Corbin living at that time?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't know. Their address, you mean?

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, was it in Milwaukee?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I am not certain. I don't know, really.

Mr. TAVENNER. You knew Mrs. Corbin by the name of Gertrude?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I met her, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know her before marriage to Corbin?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No. At least I don't believe so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, Mrs. Wickstrom, actually Mr. and Mrs. Corbin were not married until in 1944, when he was still in the Marine Corps, and he and his wife did not come back to Wisconsin until in 1945. Therefore, if you knew them as husband and wife, it must have been after 1945. Does that not refresh your recollection?

Mr. FORER. Are you sure you have got the dates right for the time you were employed by the CIO Council?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Yes.

Mr. FORER. Are you sure you didn't work for them later than 1943?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No.

Mr. FORER. No, you are not sure?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No, I didn't.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. FORER. Mr. Tavenner, she wants to make a further explanation on that Gertrude Cox issue.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I had met Gertrude Cox, but whether they were married or not, I do not know. As I think back on it, I just took for granted it was Mr. and Mrs., but I am not certain that that was so at that time. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mean you considered them as man and wife, but you don't know whether they were?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't know. They were associating together. I don't know whether they were married. I have no knowledge—

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, now, Mrs. Wickstrom, certainly if you were acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Corbin, it must have been that Mrs. Corbin was going by the name of Mrs. Corbin.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't know about that. I mean it was a long time ago. I don't remember whether it was just that—whether they

were married at the time or not, I don't know. They were going together, but I don't know whether they were married.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, you know that they did become married, don't you?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I heard about it, I believe.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, that could not have been until after 1944, and she did not come back until after 1945. So therefore your contacts with the Corbins must have been after 1945. Don't you agree?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I may have run across them, but my contact with them was from the union office.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, when did you tell me that your work in the CIO Council ended? I am not certain that you did tell me, but when was it?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I think I said 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. 1943. What were you doing in 1944?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I refuse to answer on the grounds I previously cited.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you become a secretary of the Communist Party for Wisconsin in 1944?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I refuse to answer on the previous grounds.

Mr. TAVENNER. When were you married? Let me ask you that.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. When was I married?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I was married in 1935. That was the first marriage.

Mr. TAVENNER. What name did you use in 1948?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. My maiden name.

Mr. TAVENNER. And what was your maiden name?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Esther Eisenscher.

Mr. TAVENNER. E-i-s-e-n-s-c-h-e-r?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. You attended the 16th National Communist Party Convention, from February 9 to 12, 1957, in New York, didn't you?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I refuse to answer on the grounds I stated.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you now a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I refuse to answer on the same grounds.

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

Mr. DOYLE. Any questions from the committee?

Mr. SCHERER. You don't deny that you issued a Communist Party transfer card to the Corbins, do you?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I said previously I have no knowledge of any such thing.

Mr. SCHERER. You have no knowledge? You would not deny that you issued it, would you?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't know. I have said all I can say on that.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to ask one further question.

Aside from the question as to whether or not you issued a transfer card for Paul Corbin and also for his wife, did you in 1948 know that Paul Corbin had been a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. To the best of my knowledge, I didn't.

Mr. TAVENNER. My question is whether in 1948 you knew Paul Corbin had ever been a member of the Communist Party, meaning at any time.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. To the best of my knowledge, I did not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Had a Communist Party card been issued to Paul Corbin at any time, to your knowledge?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I have no such knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Paul Corbin's name appear on a list of members of the Communist Party?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I have no such knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Paul Corbin to your knowledge, or according to information furnished you, pay dues at any time to the Communist Party?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I have no such knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. I did not ask you if you had the knowledge. I said information.

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I have no such information.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Gertrude Cox Corbin ever a member of the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I have no such knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have the information that she paid dues to the Communist Party?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No; no such knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have information to that effect?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who collected the dues for the Communist Party in Milwaukee in 1948?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I refuse to answer, on the grounds previously given.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is all.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Mr. Tavenner, did you ask at an earlier time if she had any recollection of whether she had issued a transfer card? I wonder if we can have the reporter read back the answer, which I believe was that she had no recollection or no knowledge. I would like to have the answer read back.

(The question and answer referred to were read by the reporter.)

Mr. JOHANSEN. Were you in a position whereby had such a thing occurred, you would have had knowledge of it?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I refuse to answer on the grounds previously given.

Mr. SCHADEBERG. When was the last time that you saw Paul Corbin?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't recollect.

Mr. SCHADEBERG. How many years ago?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Probably 10 or 15 years, I don't know.

Mr. SCHADEBERG. Have you had any contact with him since that time?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No.

Mr. SCHADEBERG. Either directly or indirectly?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No.

Mr. JOHANSEN. It is still your insistence that your acquaintance both with Corbin and the man who was or became his wife—

Mr. FORER. The woman.

Mr. JOHANSEN. The woman. Pardon me. The woman who was or subsequently became his wife—that acquaintance was all prior to 1943?

Mrs. WICKSTROM. To the best of my knowledge.

Mr. JOHANSEN. And yet as I understand the staff director's statement of the facts, neither Corbin nor his wife were in Milwaukee prior to 1943; is that correct, or is it not, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. FORER. That is not correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. He did not live in Milwaukee prior to 1943.

May I ask you this: Did you at any time attend a meeting, a Communist Party meeting, in which Paul Corbin was present?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. Not to my knowledge.

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

Mr. DOYLE. Any further questions, gentlemen?

Mr. BRUCE. At any time did you consider Paul Corbin to be under the discipline of the Communist Party?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. I don't know what you mean by such a question.

Mr. BRUCE. Would you consider that Paul Corbin was under the direction of the Communist Party at any time?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. WICKSTROM. No such thought ever occurred to me.

Mr. DOYLE. Is there any other question?

Thank you very much.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Perry E. Wilgus, please come forward.

Mr. DOYLE. Will you please rise and be sworn?

Do you swear that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. WILGUS. I do.

TESTIMONY OF PERRY E. WILGUS

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please state your full name?

Mr. WILGUS. Perry E. Wilgus.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Wilgus, I will advise you, as I do all witnesses, that you are entitled to have counsel with you if you desire. So I want to ask you first: Do you desire counsel?

Mr. WILGUS. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you live, Mr. Wilgus?

Mr. WILGUS. Marion, Ind.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state briefly what your educational training has been?

Mr. WILGUS. Largely self—high school and school of hard knocks.

Mr. TAVENNER. I am sorry. I can't quite hear.

Mr. WILGUS. School of hard knocks. Self-taught to a large extent.

Mr. TAVENNER. That may be the very best type of schooling, if it is properly utilized. Have you attended college?

Mr. WILGUS. Oh, I have attended a few classes. Not as an enrolled student.

Mr. TAVENNER. Not as an enrolled student?

Mr. WILGUS. No. A few seminars, and that sort of thing.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, tell us more about that. Where did you attend seminars?

Mr. WILGUS. I have sat in some classes at Northwestern, at the School of Business Administration.

Mr. TAVENNER. When?

Mr. WILGUS. About 1931 or 1932, I believe.

Mr. TAVENNER. Excuse me.

Mr. WILGUS. 1931 or 1932, in through there.

Mr. TAVENNER. If you don't mind, will you raise your voice a little? The acoustics are not good here. 1932?

Mr. WILGUS. 1931 or 1932. It was not for an extended period. Maybe a half a dozen classes. That is all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was the professor?

Mr. WILGUS. That I don't remember. I don't remember. They were in the form of lectures, and I can't remember back that far.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where were you living at the time?

Mr. WILGUS. In Chicago.

Mr. TAVENNER. And where is Northwestern University located?

Mr. WILGUS. Well, the downtown campus is around Chicago Avenue near the lake front.

Mr. TAVENNER. So you attended classes there without enrolling?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right. You could walk into seminars. You paid a fee for attending a lecture. That is all it was.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many lectures did you attend?

Mr. WILGUS. I would say five or six.

Mr. TAVENNER. Over what period of time?

Mr. WILGUS. Oh, possibly a year.

Mr. TAVENNER. Very well. Did you attend any other colleges or universities?

Mr. WILGUS. No. I took some correspondence school training.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where?

Mr. WILGUS. I think it was LaSalle Institute.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is in Chicago, is it not?

Mr. WILGUS. It was a correspondence school; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Any other?

Mr. WILGUS. That is all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Wilgus, what is your present employment?

Mr. WILGUS. I am assistant general production manager of the Bell Fiber Products Corp.

Mr. TAVENNER. Located where?

Mr. WILGUS. We have plants in Marion, Ind.; Chicago, Ill.; and Grand Rapids, Mich.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you been employed by that company?

Mr. WILGUS. October 1, 1955.

Mr. TAVENNER. 1955?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Prior to 1955, how were you employed?

Mr. WILGUS. I was with the Dana Corp.

Mr. TAVENNER. From what period?

Mr. WILGUS. I am trying to think. July 1, 1952, 'til September 1, 1955.

Mr. TAVENNER. 1952 to 1955?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you go on back? How were you employed prior to that?

Mr. WILGUS. Prior to that I was with the management consulting firm of Stevenson, Jordan & Harrison.

May I smoke?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes.

Mr. WILGUS. Thank you. I believe that employment started in August or September of 1950.

Mr. TAVENNER. And prior to that employment?

Mr. WILGUS. A diecasting plant in Detroit, Glendale, I believe it was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you speak a little louder, please?

Mr. WILGUS. Excuse me. Glendale Die Casting in Detroit.

Mr. TAVENNER. From what period?

Mr. WILGUS. That lasted just 1 year.

Mr. TAVENNER. That takes us back, then, to what date?

Mr. WILGUS. It should take us back to about September of 1948 or 1949.

Mr. TAVENNER. 1949. All right. Then prior to that?

Mr. WILGUS. 1949. Kalamazoo Stove & Furnace Co., Kalamazoo, Mich. I believe that date was around May 1948, and that lasted for just about a year. It closed down at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. And prior to that?

Mr. WILGUS. Prior to that, Marks Bros. Manufacturing Co. in Chicago. Prior to that, Micro Switch.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you terminate your employment with Micro Switch?

Mr. WILGUS. It was around October 1, 1945.

Mr. TAVENNER. From 1945 to 1948, how were you employed?

Mr. WILGUS. I was with Marks Manufacturing.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you with Micro Switch?

Mr. WILGUS. Well, let's see. Around May 1, 1942, I believe.

Mr. TAVENNER. And prior to that employment, how were you employed?

Mr. WILGUS. I was with the Radiant Manufacturing Co. in Chicago.

Mr. TAVENNER. From what date to what date?

Mr. WILGUS. It seems to me it could have been 1938 or 1939. I think it was 1939. I am trying to think of the age of my oldest boy to try to tie some of these dates together. I believe it was 1939.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me ask you if this would refresh your recollection. I have before me a copy of your application for employment with Micro Switch. Just a moment. I have before me application for employment with the Dana Corp. and you state there that the time employed at Radiant Manufacturing Co. was July of 1935 to May 1942. I also have a copy of your application for employment with Stevenson, Jordan & Harrison, Inc., in which you state Radiant Manufacturing Co., Chicago, Ill., production manager, motion picture screens, June 1935 to May 1942.

Mr. WILGUS. I think those are both in error, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Both in error?

Mr. WILGUS. I think so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, what was your employment? You are stating, then, that it may have been in 1939?

Mr. WILGUS. I think so.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your employment prior to 1939?

Mr. WILGUS. I was on the writers' project of WPA during that time. That is one thing I recall.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did that begin and end?

Mr. WILGUS. Frankly, I don't recall. I think it was around 1937 or 1938. It was about a year's duration.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, Mr. Wilgus, we have examined carefully your applications for employment at Stevenson, Jordan & Harrison, Inc., and the Dana Corp., and they indicate that you gave the date of 1935 to 1942 as the time for your employment with Radiant Manufacturing Co., which you now say is wrong.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. It is of course wrong, because our investigation discloses that Radiant Manufacturing Co. was not organized until 1939.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, what reason did you have in reporting in your applications for employment that you were employed between 1935 and 1939 in a corporation that was not in existence? What reason did you have for doing that?

Mr. WILGUS. Well, I was not particularly proud of having been on the WPA writers' project, in the first place.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was there anything else in connection with your work that you were also not proud of?

Mr. WILGUS. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was that?

Mr. WILGUS. I was a member of the Communist Party. I think you well know that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. You were a member of the party, and you were concealing that fact when you prepared these applications?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. And that was for the period 1935 on up to 1939, when you had no other employment?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you leave the party in 1939?

Mr. WILGUS. No, sir; I did not.

Mr. SCHERER. When was it you left the party?

Mr. WILGUS. I think it was a period of a gradual withdrawal that would probably end up in 1943 or 1944, in through there.

Mr. TAVENNER. During your period of employment at Micro Switch, you held what position? And that was from 1942 to 1945, I believe.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were production—

Mr. WILGUS. No, I was staff assistant to the secretary-treasurer and assistant to the vice president of manufacturing.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were in charge of manpower, were you not?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right. I set up procedures on the handling of selective service problems and other things that came up.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you also, during that period of time, hold a responsible position in civilian defense?

Mr. WILGUS. For a short period of time I was in the morale division of the northside section of civilian defense in Chicago. That was prior to my moving to Freeport.

Mr. TAVENNER. But in the period you held that position, you were a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. And you were also a member of the Communist Party while employed with Micro Switch?

Mr. WILGUS. To a greater extent or lesser extent, yes. Not active.

Mr. TAVENNER. And Micro Switch was engaged in the performance of subcontractual work for defense plants, was it not, at that time?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. You represented to your employer before you were employed that you had been a member while you were in school but had not since been a member?

Mr. WILGUS. Not while I was in school.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, Mr. Wilgus, we have questioned you at this length about this matter because our investigator, when he came to see you, did not have your cooperation.

Mr. WILGUS. I was a little stunned, if I may say.

Mr. TAVENNER. We would not have gone through all this detail if you had been frank with us from the beginning. And I am pleased to know and to observe that you now have decided to give the committee the facts within your knowledge.

Now, in 1942, Paul Corbin, according to the committee's investigation, was sent by ILWU to Freeport to organize the W. T. Rawleigh Co. The W. T. Rawleigh Co. was organized; Local 221, ILWU-CIO, by Paul Corbin. I have here, for instance, the agreement between the company and the Warehouse and Distribution Workers' Union, which shows those having an official connection with that work.

Now, here are the parties that signed the agreement for the organization of that plant. "For the Union, signed Paul Corbin, International Representative." And the date is 1942.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Tavenner, that is a rollecall. We must go to vote. The committee will have to stand in recess.

(Short recess.)

Mr. DOYLE. The committee will reconvene and will proceed.

There is a quorum present: Mr. Scherer, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Johansen, Mr. Bruce, and Mr. Schadeberg.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Wilgus, at the time you were a member of the Communist Party while being employed at Micro Switch, what group of the Communist Party was it that you were identified with?

Mr. WILGUS. I was "at large."

Mr. TAVENNER. At large?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right. I had no connection whatsoever with anybody.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell the committee what you mean by "at large."

Mr. WILGUS. Well, if my memory recalls, you are supposed to be attached to a local unit or club or whatever it might have been called, of the party organization. If you happened to live in an area where there wasn't such a thing, they had an "at large" sort of a deal.

Mr. TAVENNER. And they also had it for the additional reason of not disclosing the Communist Party connection of the individual, even to other members.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right. But in my case, certainly I was not in an important position.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you attend meetings of the Communist club known as the John Alden branch in Rockford, Ill.?

Mr. WILGUS. I have a very faint recollection of having attended one or two meetings in a hotel.

Mr. TAVENNER. In Rockford?

Mr. WILGUS. In Rockford.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that the Nelson Hotel?

Mr. WILGUS. I think that was it. The one sticks in my memory was the Faust, but that is the new one and I am sure it wasn't the new one.

Mr. TAVENNER. And was Carl Thorman the head of the Communist group there at the time?

Mr. WILGUS. That name I do not remember. In fact, the names of the people involved are very, very vague.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, the committee has information in the form of sworn testimony that you came over from your plant at Freeport to Rockford, Ill., to talk to Joe Kennedy regarding the conduct of Paul Corbin over there at Freeport. I will refresh your recollection about it. The subject of your conference was that Paul Corbin was not adhering to the Communist Party line at that time, which was that the Communist Party desired to cooperate in the war effort, and that Corbin was causing trouble because of his favoring sitdown strikes and other types of interruption of activities that would hinder the war effort and he couldn't be controlled, and that Kennedy, then, was asked to try to do something about it.

Now, I think maybe to assist your recollection I should also tell you that we now have information that Mr. Kennedy visited you, Mr. Kennedy and his wife.

Mr. WILGUS. That is what he told me over the telephone.

Mr. TAVENNER. Visited you in your home. And I should tell you this in advance, that he told us where you lived, and described the place. And he went there and found that place. And that apartment was located just as he described it.

Now, I want to help you all I can, because it is important to you that you be frank with this committee.

Mr. WILGUS. I am being very frank. The name "Corbin" or "Corbett," something of that sort, rings a bell in my memory. Let's face it, gentlemen. This is going back 19 years, with a person I may have seen two or three times.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Right there maybe we can help you further.

Mr. WILGUS. I don't even remember what the man looks like.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Here are pictures of Corbin.

Mr. WILGUS. Yes. I remember him.

Mr. TAVENNER. You remember him?

Mr. WILGUS. I remember him, yes. I remember him. This is Corbin [indicating].

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Did you know him by any other name than Corbin?

Mr. WILGUS. I don't believe so. I say the name "Corbin" or "Corbett" rings a bell. Now I see a face, I can tie it together. I remember the man.

Mr. TAVENNER. I don't know whether we showed you the agreement between the W. T. Rawleigh Co. of Freeport and the Warehouse and Distribution Workers' Union, which was signed by Corbin in Freeport in 1942.

Now, Mr. Wilgus, having furnished you this information for the purpose of trying to refresh your recollection, I want you to tell the committee whether you came over to Rockford and had a discussion with Kennedy regarding Paul Corbin.

Mr. WILGUS. As I say, I have a very vague recollection of it. I remember Corbin. I do not place the name "Kennedy." Frankly, I don't think I would recognize the man if I saw him. I do not remember that name. I remember the name "Corbin" and I remember Corbin's features.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. I should give you this further bit of information. Joe Kennedy's Communist Party name was Joseph Curran. Is that of any help to you?

Mr. WILGUS. No, it is not, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. It could be of assistance to your memory if we exhibited to you a picture of Joseph Kennedy?

Mr. WILGUS. I think that would possibly help, too.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, unfortunately we do not have one here now, but we will supply one.

Now, I should tell you more about Kennedy. Kennedy was the international representative and business manager of the United Furniture Workers from 1939 to 1943, which would cover the period we are talking about.

Mr. WILGUS. That is beginning to fit together.

Mr. TAVENNER. He was also a member of the CIO Industrial Union Council in Rockford, Ill., from 1941 to 1943.

Mr. WILGUS. That, of course, I would know nothing about.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, to help you refresh your recollection again, Mr. Kennedy recalls a specific luncheon engagement that he had with you in a restaurant in Rockford, Ill., which was a place called "Jack's or Better."

Mr. WILGUS. I don't remember that place.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have helped you all I can, other than to show you a picture of Kennedy.

Mr. WILGUS. It is coming through when you mentioned the business manager of the Furniture Workers Union. I recall that title, but I cannot tie a face to it. There was a person present, as I say, I may have had lunch with him. I do not remember that. The only restaurant that I have ever had lunch in to any extent at all in Rockford was the Old Rathskeller. I used to go down there for dinner once in a while. But the "Jack's or Better" does not ring a bell.

Mr. TAVENNER. But now you do recall an occasion that you remember in which you conferred with an official of that union that was mentioned?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. And did that take place in Rockford?

Mr. WILGUS. I am sure it did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, what was the occasion of your going there and having that conference?

Mr. WILGUS. As Mr. Kennedy says, it was probably on this Corbin thing. I can think of nothing else that it would be, although how I got into it, I really can't remember.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. What was it about Corbin that caused you to consult others?

Mr. WILGUS. If I recall, as you say, he was a wild man. He was a wild man.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, now, tell us more about that. What do you mean, "a wild man"? That will help you to remember the whole situation?

Mr. WILGUS. Yes. As I recall, he was tied in with the Longshoremen's Union. Frankly, I thought it was after 1942. I thought it was in 1943. After all, these years sort of run together after a time.

Mr. TAVENNER. I should tell you that Mr. Kennedy said at the time that your trip over there was in 1943.

Mr. WILGUS. As I recall, conversation throughout the town, when the Longshoremen were trying to organize the W. T. Rawleigh Co.—

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you speak a little louder?

Mr. WILGUS. What particular interest would W. T. Rawleigh be to the Longshoremen? And it just didn't seem to add up, even to me, for goodness sakes, that the Longshoremen had nothing to do but to try to organize a proprietary drug company, which was certainly not of any great importance to them that I could see, but, evidently, this happened in the fall of 1942.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. What was the business in which that company was engaged?

Mr. WILGUS. The W. T. Rawleigh Co. manufactured a complete line of proprietary drugs, farm insecticides, and that kind of thing. At one time they had plants scattered in various parts of the world. I believe they had one in Melbourne, Australia, at one time, and so on. I happened to know this, because their executive vice president lived directly across the hall from me in Freeport, and he, of course, had been with it since his early youth and he, of course, knew it inside and out.

It was sold largely on routes, such as the Stanley deal is today, I believe. Furce-McNess, which is also in Freeport, have a similar site where they sell to farmers in the rural communities, where they sell to farmers primarily.

Mr. TAVENNER. Why did you call Corbin a wild man?

Mr. WILGUS. It just seemed to me that from the antics that I recall vaguely of his going through, he was not the most calm individual. In fact, I think I met him in Freeport once or twice, and probably in Rockford.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Probably what?

Mr. WILGUS. Probably in Rockford.

Mr. TAVENNER. I don't quite understand what it was about Corbin that seemed to be wrong over there in Freeport that caused you to be concerned about it.

Mr. WILGUS. Frankly, I wasn't concerned about it. I was not concerned about this. It was not of my doing. I had nothing to do with it. He certainly was not working for me. I had nothing to do with his union.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. But if at that time you were a member of the Communist Party and Corbin was not following the Communist Party line and what the Communist Party was supposed to be doing in the war effort at that time, you would take note of that, would you not?

Mr. WILGUS. Not particularly. Frankly, I was pretty busy myself trying to do my own job. That was the main thing I was there for, to do a job for Micro Switch Corp.

Mr. TAVENNER. This manager who lived just across the hall—wasn't he vitally concerned about this?

Mr. WILGUS. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he talk to you about it?

Mr. WILGUS. We were not that well acquainted in those days. We did not move into that building until June of 1942. There was quite an age difference. Mr. Cooper, I believe, was somewhere in his middle sixties at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. As you have told us, you do recall going over there to Rockford and talking to the person who was the international representative and business manager of United Furniture Workers and that you can't imagine what you talked about unless it was Corbin. That is what you said?

Mr. WILGUS. That is exactly what I said.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Now, why did you go over there and talk to Kennedy?

Mr. WILGUS. I think I was asked to do it. I think I was asked to do it because I was in the locality.

Mr. SCHERER. Because you were what?

Mr. WILGUS. Because I was in the locality. After all, Rockford is only 25 or 26 miles from Freeport.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. You were asked to do that by a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. WILGUS. Yes, I presume so.

Mr. TAVENNER. You presume so?

Mr. WILGUS. I presume so. Otherwise I would not have gotten into it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Just what were you asked to do by the person that you presumed was a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. WILGUS. I presume it would be to settle down and counsel with the guy and try and calm him down.

Mr. TAVENNER. And why go to the business manager or, rather, the international representative and business manager of the United Furniture Workers over in Rockford about it?

Mr. WILGUS. Because I believe that there was a prior meeting with him at the hotel.

Mr. TAVENNER. A prior meeting?

Mr. WILGUS. A prior meeting at which I became acquainted with Kennedy, or Curran.

Mr. TAVENNER. A prior meeting at which you were present?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, was that a Communist Party meeting?

Mr. WILGUS. A Communist Party meeting, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. And so you went there to get a leader in the Communist Party to discipline or control Corbin; isn't that what that means?

Mr. WILGUS. In essence, that was exactly that, to try to control him.

Mr. TAVENNER. Why go to a Communist to get a Communist to control Corbin?

Mr. WILGUS. If I recall, the word had come down that Corbin had been a Communist or was tied in very closely with them. I do not recall having attended a meeting, a Communist meeting, with Corbin.

Mr. TAVENNER. You said a while ago that you probably met Corbin on one occasion over at Rockford.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that a Communist Party meeting over there?

Mr. WILGUS. That I cannot say. I cannot recall that. It was either with Kennedy, if that is what Kennedy says, or it was a separate meeting. I do not know. I do not recall having seen the man more than once in Rockford.

Mr. SCHIERER. Mr. Counsel, Kennedy has freely admitted to us that he was a Communist Party member, a Communist Party functionary.

Mr. TAVENNER. Oh, yes. Yes. Oh, there is no question. And the witness knew Kennedy, or Curran, to be a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, I am asking you to try to recall the circumstances under which you saw Corbin over in Rockford. What could have been your business over there, which would have caused you to see Corbin in Rockford? Was it Communist Party business?

Mr. WILGUS. I would presume so. I would have no other reason to see the man.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were other people present at the time you saw him?

Mr. WILGUS. I do not remember whether Corbin and Kennedy were the sole people there, whether there were other people involved, other than Kennedy at another meeting. As I say, I remember attending two or possibly three meetings in Rockford at the Nelson Hotel. Now, who was present at those meetings, frankly, I cannot remember.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall the name of anyone? If we would give you a list of the membership of the Alden branch, the John Alden branch of the Communist Party in Rockford, would you be able, do you think, to identify any of them who were present at the meeting?

Mr. WILGUS. I could try. That is all I can do.

Mr. TAVENNER. Take it down and show him.

Mr. WILGUS. There are some of those names that I do recognize. Katherine Erlich, Mike Kingsley, Irving Herman, Larsen—that is about the extent of the names that I can recall.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Those persons whose names you have identified, do you recognize as being persons you met in Communist Party meetings?

Mr. WILGUS. No, I don't believe any of those were there.

Mr. TAVENNER. You don't believe they were present?

Mr. WILGUS. Because most of these people I knew in Chicago.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know them as members of the Communist Party in Chicago?

Mr. WILGUS. Oh, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. You did? Did you see any of them in the two Communist Party meetings? Of the two or more that you attended in Rockford?

Mr. WILGUS. I don't believe so. I don't believe so.

Mr. TAVENNER. After reflection, can you give us the names of any of the persons who were present at the meetings you attended?

Mr. WILGUS. I cannot recall those names. I cannot recall. My memory is not that good.

Mr. TAVENNER. What possible meeting could you have had or have attended in Rockford, with Corbin, if it was not a Communist Party meeting?

Mr. WILGUS. As I say, I cannot think of any other kind of a meeting. It had to be that. I can't think of anything else.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you recall anything which happened at the meeting which you and Corbin attended?

Mr. WILGUS. No. I cannot.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you go together?

Mr. WILGUS. No. I took the train in.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you fix the time of those meetings?

Mr. WILGUS. No, I can't. They were probably on Saturdays or Sundays. That is all I can tell you, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, you said that word came down that Corbin was, or had been, a member of the Communist Party. Came down from where?

Mr. WILGUS. I met Mike Kingsley in Chicago.

Mr. TAVENNER. Kingsley. Isn't he one of those on that list?

Mr. WILGUS. Yes. And I think Mike had been in and out of Rockford a lot. In fact, I believe he was sent there back in the late thirties as the organizer and I ran into Mike in Chicago, as I was in Chicago frequently during those days, and he asked me to check into this and told me about Corbin, or Corbett.

Mr. TAVENNER. Any way, the same man whose photograph was shown?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right. That was the man. The photograph I remember. The face I know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was this man Kingsley the Communist Party organizer for Chicago at that time?

Mr. WILGUS. He was in Chicago, I believe, at that time. He had been in Rockford.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether he was a Communist Party organizer or not?

Mr. WILGUS. Oh, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, a functionary?

Mr. WILGUS. Oh, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. A rather high functionary of the Communist Party in that area?

Mr. WILGUS. He was a section organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is that?

Mr. WILGUS. A section organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us again what he told you about Corbin.

Mr. WILGUS. In the best of my recollection, Corbett or Corbin was acting up, "See what you can do about it." And if I recall, he was living in Rockford, and I reached this one person—evidently it was Curran or Kennedy—to arrange a meeting. Now, whether that was the meeting at which I saw Corbin, I, gentlemen, am sorry, my memory is not that good.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, when Kingsley said to do something about it, what did that convey to you?

Mr. WILGUS. He asked me. He did not tell me to do it. He asked me to do it.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. What did he ask you to do?

Mr. WILGUS. To see if we couldn't straighten the man out.

Mr. TAVENNER. Straighten him out about what?

Mr. WILGUS. To alleviate the situation that apparently was beginning to develop, which he knew a lot more than I did about, about the situation, even in Freeport, among the unions. After all, I did not associate with these people. I worked 6 days a week and nearly every evening. We worked on a 6-day week then. That is all there was to it.

Mr. TAVENNER. You see, it is hard to understand how the Communist Party organizer in an area would request another Communist Party member to straighten out a person, unless that person were under the discipline of the Communist Party.

Mr. WILGUS. That is quite evident. That is why I presumed he was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, when the time came to straighten him out and you had the meeting and Corbin attended, what happened to indicate that Corbin was either accepting or rejecting that discipline of the Communist Party?

Mr. WILGUS. Frankly, I don't recall any problems after that. In fact, I don't even know whether the man was still around after that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Wait a minute. How is that?

Mr. WILGUS. I say I don't recall having heard of any problems arising after that.

Mr. TAVENNER. After that?

Mr. WILGUS. Nor do I even recall whether the man was around after that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, can you recall now, since thinking about these matters as deeply as you are now thinking about them, what reaction Corbin gave to this effort to straighten him out? Take all the time you need.

Possibly to help a little more on that, did you and Kingsley discuss what course you should take to try to straighten this man out?

Mr. WILGUS. I think it was simply a question of explanation, selling the man, pointing out what was happening. If there were problems in that union, which undoubtedly there were, I don't believe the man understood a small community, a hidebound community, such as Freeport, and was certainly not in my opinion doing himself or his group any good at all, his union, with the threats of sitdown strikes and all that sort of thing.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, did Kingsley suggest that you go and get the help of Joe Kennedy in this?

Mr. WILGUS. Frankly, I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did you happen to go to Joe Kennedy?

Mr. WILGUS. Because I believe I had met him, as I said, at a prior meeting.

I think the major emphasis was to get the United States into the war, up until that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. If this situation was so difficult in that union there at Freeport as to cause the organizer in Chicago to take this action, there are other people in that union that would know about it, too, about the condition?

Mr. WILGUS. Yes: I presume so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who could they be?

Mr. WILGUS. I knew none of the men of that union, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the name of the manager who lived across the hall from you? He would know.

Mr. WILGUS. Cooper.

Mr. TAVENNER. What Cooper?

Mr. WILGUS. Well, we called him Bus Cooper.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know where he is now?

Mr. WILGUS. I haven't the faintest idea. I left Freeport in 1948.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Now, I think you have made progress. You have received information requesting you to go down there and straighten this man out. What you had in mind was to straighten him out by the use of someone who had influence on him there in that community, such as Joe Kennedy, but you were going to do it in a way that would explain to him the effect of what he was doing.

Now, how did he receive that? You must have made some kind of an explanation such as that.

Mr. WILGUS. Evidently I heard nothing further about it, to my knowledge. So therefore it must have worked all right, as I say. Whether the man even stayed around after that, I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. You heard of no more trouble?

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. But what was his reaction at the time you had your conference with him?

Mr. WILGUS. As I say, evidently he took it in that spirit. As I say, I have no recollection of any further being asked to go in and help on the situation.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Now, try to reenact that conference as nearly as you can. Just picture it this way. Here is the organizer of the Communist Party asking you to go down there and straighten him out. You picked out Joe Kennedy to arrange for the conference. You have the conference. And then when you arrived there, how did you approach him? What did you say to him? Try to reenact just what occurred.

Mr. WILGUS. To me that is impossible. That is too fuzzy. I wouldn't stake my life on it, it is so fuzzy.

As I say, it must have worked.

Mr. SCHERER. One of the things that comes to me that you naturally explained to him is that the Communist Party had now changed its policy and wanted the fullest cooperation of everybody in the war effort.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. That would be the only logical thing to tell him.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you report back to Kingsley?

Mr. WILGUS. I don't believe so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Kingsley ever say anything more to you about it?

Mr. WILGUS. I don't believe I ever saw Mike after that. I think he went into the armed services, because I ran into his wife, I believe, a year or two after that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, were you acquainted with Jack Martin?

Mr. WILGUS. Oh, yes; I have known Jack Martin for a long time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he an organizer also?

Mr. WILGUS. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was Jack Martin?

Mr. WILGUS. Jack Martin at that time, I believe, was legislative director.

Mr. SCHERER. For the Communist Party?

Mr. WILGUS. For the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. He came into Rockford from up in Chicago, too, didn't he?

Mr. WILGUS. That I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever report your action to anyone with regard to Corbin?

Mr. WILGUS. No, sir, I don't believe I did. As I said, it was getting into my period of a very gradual withdrawal from the whole thing.

Mr. WALSH. May I ask a question? Before, you said that Corbin was around Rockford and Freeport, and that he was rather boisterous, and you also stated, if my memory serves me correctly, that he could not do that in a small community, because he was getting too much attention drawn to himself and his associates. Now, did Kingsley tell you anything about what he was doing and about what he had heard Corbin was doing? Does that refresh your recollection as to what you told Corbin when you did see him, because of his prior conduct in what Kingsley told you, to go down and straighten him out, because he could not act that way in a small community? Does that refresh your recollection?

Mr. WILGUS. I don't think Kingsley recognized what a small community was himself. I was living there, and I knew what these people thought.

Mr. WALSH. What did they think about Corbin's actions in that small community?

Mr. WILGUS. The people with whom I associated were a little bit burned up about it, naturally.

Mr. WALSH. Burned up about what? What did he do?

Mr. WILGUS. Threats about sitdown strikes and that sort of thing.

Mr. WALSH. And it was Kingsley that told you to straighten him out with reference to the sitdown strikes?

Mr. WILGUS. Well, there was a threat of them. I don't think they ever materialized.

Mr. WALSH. Well, of course, under party discipline in the Communist Party, Kingsley would not assign you, as a Communist, to go and tell another individual who was not a Communist to lay off this and cooperate with the Government from then on?

Mr. WILGUS. And I agree with that, absolutely. That is why I say I was led to believe he was a Communist. I either met him at a party meeting in Rockford or at some later time. Now, I cannot recollect all those details.

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

Mr. DOYLE. Are there questions by any committee members?

Mr. BRUCE. Well, there was one point. At the time that Kingsley came to you, Mr. Wilgus, you were in your mind pretty well separated from the party, or still under the discipline of the party?

Mr. WILGUS. I don't feel that I was under the discipline of the party. I think I realized that the situation had developed that perhaps I might be able to do something that would help the war effort. I think that was the primary concern.

Mr. BRUCE. Why would a party organizer—I mean with your knowledge of how the Communist Party operates, and previous experience—do this? Is it not a bit unusual for a Communist Party organizer to go to somebody that perhaps he would not trust completely to carry out an important mission?

Mr. WILGUS. I had known Mike for quite some time. In fact, I moved into an apartment that he vacated. I did not know it until he came back to pick up his bar bells one afternoon. I met him in the bookstore.

Mr. BRUCE. What bookstore was that?

Mr. WILGUS. A bookstore down on Randolph Street that was operated by the party, and he knew that I was in Freeport.

Mr. BRUCE. In recent months there has been quite a bit of publicity with the name of Paul Corbin attached to it. Did you see any of that?

Mr. WILGUS. I have seen nothing whatsoever. The name simply meant nothing to me, even when Mr. Wetterman mentioned it, it was so far out of my memory. And, frankly, gentlemen, I spent 5 months trying to dig out, 5 months since around December 5, trying to dig back into memory. And, frankly, these things begin to run together, and my memory is not that good.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think, out of fairness to you, the committee should know a little more about yourself, the type of employment that you have, so that they may evaluate your testimony a little better.

Mr. WILGUS. Well, may I be just a little bit historical about this? I think it might put it into context.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, I think you are entitled to that.

Mr. WILGUS. My first experience in industrial employment was with Radiant Motion Picture Screen Co.

Mr. TAVENNER. Keep your voice up.

Mr. WILGUS. Excuse me. I'll try to moisten it a bit.

I had no knowledge of industry whatsoever, except what I had read in the party tracts. I started out as a bench hand, attaching the motion picture screens to a roller with staples. It took 12 to 15 staples, depending upon the size of it and each one hit the hand. Well, it began to hurt and to bruise, so I began to think of other ways of doing it, and I finally began looking over the lineup of the entire shop and when they moved to larger quarters, I made some suggestions as to straight-line assemblies, and so on, which seemed to me to be nothing more than commonsense, and within about 5 or 6 months I was scheduling production and setting up bills of material, and that sort of thing, which, of course, I knew nothing about at all. But it just seemed a commonsense way to do it.

I set up the inventory controls, the whole works, and when I left there to go to Micro Switch, they had a pretty fair operation going. That was my first experience.

At Micro Switch I was very fortunate in getting to know a W. W. Gilmore, who died about 2 years ago. Gil was out there as a consultant at that time doing market research and when the war came on they

asked him to remain. He was an old George S. May man—George S. May, who died just a couple of days ago. Gil sort of took me under his wing. And while functionally I reported to the secretary treasurer as staff assistant, I actually reported to W. W. Gilmore, who outlined the various things that he felt ought to be done in order to get this thing moving.

The Micro Switch plant produced an average of 10,000 switches a week at that time. Air Corps requirements were somewhere around 200,000 switches. Their mentality had been geared to this 10,000 switch production. They did not see how they could possibly meet those schedules. As I say, we worked 6 days a week, many times on Sunday. I was there night after night after night. And as I say, Gilmore taught me an awful lot.

At the conclusion of the war, I had the opportunity to become plant superintendent at the Marks Manufacturing Plant, which manufactures lighting fixtures, lamps, and that sort of thing. I had gotten some knowledge of stamping operations, what machine tools were, what they could do and what they could not do while at Micro Switch, and some of the improvisations which were really medieval, that I thought were marvelous things at Radiant.

We still maintained our home in Freeport. I stayed with my parents during the week and spent weekends in Freeport. Well, it was simply no good. Two small children. You can't be away for 5½ days a week and have a family. The opportunity arose to become production manager of the Kalamazoo Stove Co. at a salary of 50 percent more than I was getting at Marks.

Art Blakeslee, who was president and board chairman and I got along very well.

Mr. JOHANSEN. If I may interrupt, Mr. Blakeslee died just within the last few months.

Mr. WILGUS. He did? Well, his son-in-law, Henry Blanchoc, was there. In fact, I replaced Hank when I went in there. Unfortunately, the stove company got into the stamped stove too late. It had been a cast-iron operation for generations, "from Kalamazoo direct to you." Their dealer franchise setup and so on was so inadequate that I spent my last 4 months selling steel. We had it coming in 5,000 to 8,000 tons a month, and we were only chopping up a thousand tons, and we had 70,000 tons in the warehouse, so we began dumping steel. And, actually, that is what broke the steel market back in 1948 and 1949, when we started turning loose these large quantities of steel. The company made more money that year than they ever made in their life simply by selling the steel.

Well, I ended up without a job, anyhow, and during a discussion with a very close friend of mine who was in the employment agency business, he suggested that I go up to see Stevenson, Jordan & Harrison, and perhaps one of their clients might have a spot for me.

Well, I spent 2 days up there taking their psychological tests and ended up working for them, which lasted until I did an assignment for the Dana Corp. in Toledo, setting up their manufacturing budgets for a plant employing around 4,000 people, that had an annual payroll in excess of a million and a half—oh, \$15 million. We ended up by taking out of their works expense, within a 6-month period, over \$3 million a year in savings in that one plant.

I was asked to remain with Dana by another Jack Martin, who was president of the Dana Corp., no relation, incidentally, that we mentioned earlier. Jack asked me to stay on at the end of the assignment, which lasted 6 months, and I agreed to. There were certain promises made, and so on, to train staffs for each one of the 11 plants to do the same job.

In the fall of 1952, they opened a plant in Marion, Ind., about a \$40 million investment. They could never get it off the ground. So in March of 1953 I had a trained staff that was carrying out the entire budget control for the Toledo plant. So I was sent down to Marion, Ind. In the meantime, I had lost my wife and family and was pretty much at loose ends. The agreement was that when I got that plant into the black, I would become director of manufacturing budgets for the corporation, which by that time included about 12 plants, and they were picking them up each year.

Somehow or other the promise wasn't kept. So on August 1, I submitted my resignation, effective September 1, 1955.

* * * * *

I had met _____, who is the sole owner, incidentally, of _____ [name of company]. He is, I think, 2 years younger than I am. And we became acquainted, and I, while with S. J. & L., had done some work for box shops. And over the period from time to time we would get into conversations about the operations of a corrugated box shop and some of the people in the industry. I knew a lot of them, and my wife and I had decided to take a month's trip through the East and visit Jack while he was at Hamilton College and when I got back there was a note: "Before you decide what you are going to do, if you haven't decided, I would like to talk with you. [Name of company owner]."

We got back just before the 1st of October of 1955. I went to work for _____ on October 1, 1955, as cost analyst.

In February 1959 I was made assistant general production manager. I still report to _____, although we have a vice president and a general production manager.

That, gentlemen, is my story.

Mr. DOYLE. Thank you very much for taking the time to tell us. Anything more?

Mr. TAVENNER. No, I have no further questions.

Mr. SCHERER. I might make an observation and see what counsel and the rest of the committee think about it. Perhaps the witness now, as a result of his hearing here today, having his recollection refreshed, might give some further thought to this matter. You might want to continue him under subpoena, and then maybe he could elaborate a bit more and be a little more definite.

Mr. BRUCE. I have listened very attentively to your detailing of your hard struggle and the disappointments that came occasionally and also the pride with which you have cited the accomplishments of both—

Mr. WILGUS. Gentlemen, I am not about to jeopardize those accomplishments.

Mr. BRUCE (continuing). Your stepchildren and your own children.

Mr. WILGUS. I am very proud of them.

Mr. BRUCE. Well, you have every reason to be from what you have said here. And there are occasions when a committee such as this has to delve into things that from our standpoint we would just as soon not have to delve into, because you realize and I realize before I came down here—I don't know whether you are at all familiar with the broadcasting work I was doing. I was hitting pretty hard in this area. It is a hard, cold battle that we are in. You know that and I know that. Sometimes we are forced to do things to men like you and others that we would just as soon not do. I can understand the apprehension, which you have not stated, incidentally, about what effect there would be if the word becomes known that you were at one time in the Communist Party and that now, in the year 1962 you have been subpoenaed before a congressional investigating committee. I can feel and sense the apprehension that you have as to how it will affect not just you but these children of which you are so proud.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. BRUCE. These are conditions, however, that you cannot change, and we cannot change, simply because there is loose in the world a force that is determined not just to destroy my children, but the future of the merit scholar youngster who scored a 99, the Harvard graduate, and all the rest of us. Sometimes we are called upon to have to do things which cut deeper than anything that we could possibly have imagined. And all I can say to you, Mr. Wilgus, is that my heart bleeds for the situation in which you find yourself. It is something that you have put out of your mind, that you have tried to wipe away as if it had not happened.

Mr. WILGUS. That is right.

Mr. BRUCE. I do not know what led you into the party—I do not know what you performed in these activities in the party.

Mr. WILGUS. I will tell you, I was not much of a speaker.

Mr. BRUCE. Well, that is only a minor part of party function. But I simply beg you as you go out of here, feeling the thoughts that you do feel about the repercussion on your family and elsewhere, to look at it in an even broader sense.

We are in a situation here where we have been working on it, the counsel much more than the Congressmen, actually. I never heard of you until today. We are in something that is a very important case that we are trying to pursue. I think you have pieced that together; when you realize the position of the gentleman that you have been interrogated about and the positions he has held, and I simply beg you to get that memory refreshed as much as you can. I mean, try and pin these things down. Because this can be vital to part of a total picture in which you may be called upon to play a very important role.

You have told us enough to verify some things that we already know. You have played an important role already, whether you realize it or not. And a committee such as this, in order to verify other evidence, has to go back and check out others who can be substantiators of evidence we already have.

I cannot but feel that with the memory you have displayed with the detail that you have gone into here in the last 10 minutes, step by step, and the feelings that you have, somewhere, somehow, these other things are going to fall into place, too. Psychologically, you can always wipe

out of your mind, even subconsciously, details that you want to forget, and in perfect honesty sit here and actually have forgotten them. But as you struggle with these thoughts within you, you could be of tremendous help to us, I am sure, by the things that you have already told us. And I simply ask you in the days ahead: Don't wipe it out of your mind but try and get these things back into the chain. Because anybody who feels as deeply as you do, the way you have been reciting here in the last 10 minutes, is a man who has had deep emotional impact with the things he has been involved in.

That is all I have to say, and I thank you for coming.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, may I go off the record a moment?

Mr. DOYLE. All right. Off the record, please.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Back on the record.

I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the witness be held under subpoena. After hearing his statement, I am not uneasy that he will attempt to avoid the command of that subpoena. So if we need him again, we will write to him.

Mr. WILGUS. I would appreciate that, gentlemen. May I make a statement off the record, please?

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. DOYLE. You understand, then, that you are continuing under subpoena. That will be the order. Thank you very much.

Mr. WILGUS. Thank you, gentlemen.

(Whereupon, at 6:45 p.m., Thursday, March 15, 1962, the hearing was adjourned, and the subcommittee recessed, subject to the call of the Chair.)

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

MONDAY, JULY 2, 1962

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ¹

The Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call, at 10 a.m., Room 219, Old House Office Building, Hon. Francis E. Walter (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Francis E. Walter, of Pennsylvania; Clyde Doyle, of California; William M. Tuck, of Virginia; Gordon H. Scherer, of Ohio; August E. Johansen, of Michigan; Donald C. Bruce, of Indiana; and Henry C. Schadeberg, of Wisconsin.

Staff members present: Francis J. McNamara, director; Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., general counsel; and Neil E. Wetterman, investigator.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order. Let the record show that there is a quorum present.

Will you please raise your right hand?

Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. CORBIN. I do, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, two members of the bar are accompanying the witness. I would like to ask each of them to identify himself for the record.

Mr. HOOKER. My name is John Hooker, Jr. I am a lawyer from Nashville, Tenn. This is my law partner, Mr. William R. Willis, also from Nashville, Tenn.

TESTIMONY OF PAUL CORBIN, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL, JOHN HOOKER, JR., AND WILLIAM R. WILLIS

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, will you please state your name, age, occupation, residence?

Mr. CORBIN. My name is Paul Corbin. I am 47 years old, and I presently reside at 1108 Sussex Place, Alexandria, Va.

My occupation is, I am employed as an inspection assistant to the national chairman of the Democratic Party, Mr. John Bailey.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, the following resolution of the Committee on Un-American Activities authorizing this investigation and hearings subsequently held pursuant thereto, was adopted on the 22d of November 1961.

(For text of resolution, see p. VII.)

¹ Released by the committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, for some period of time public charges and accusations have been made concerning Mr. Corbin. As a result, some Members of Congress have stated that if these charges are true a security problem is created by the fact that Mr. Corbin is in a position to select, recommend, or influence selection of, personnel for Government positions.

Mr. Corbin, knowing of these charges and the investigation in which the committee has been engaged, requested by letter that he be given an opportunity to testify before the committee in answer to them.

Under the rulings of the committee and in accordance with its traditional practice in such instances, this hearing is being held in response to his request and in the discharge of the committee's investigative responsibility in this matter.

Mr. Corbin, do you hold the position of special assistant to the chairman of the Democratic National Committee? I believe you said you did.

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I do, sir.

Mr. HOOKER. Mr. Chairman, if I might, might I say here that my client, Mr. Corbin, has prepared a statement, which is fairly brief, stating in general in chronology his life in this country and, to some degree, prior to that. I would like to ask the chairman if it would be permissible for Mr. Corbin to read that statement so as to make an affirmative—

The CHAIRMAN. You submit the statement. If we find that it is proper, we will admit it because, in all probability, Mr. Tavenner will ask questions relating to what is contained in the statement. You just file the statement for consideration of the committee.

Go ahead, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, I have before me a photostatic copy of an excerpt from the February 16, 1961, issue of the *Janesville Gazette* and I will read two paragraphs of it.

Paul Corbin, Janesville free lance public relations man who served on President Kennedy's campaign staff, reported from Washington today that he is serving as special assistant to John Bailey, the new Democratic national committee chairman.

Corbin said he currently is processing a deluge of applications from persons seeking jobs affiliated with the new administration.

Were you correctly reported in that interview?

Mr. CORBIN. I would like to explain, Mr. Chairman and members, that the deluge of applications came from Congressmen and Senators recommending various people for various positions, and I would merely separate them by State and turn them over to the administrative aide of Mr. John Bailey, who would then determine as to what they wished to do with them.

My job was merely to separate the applications from State chairmen, Congressmen, and Senators. The mail came in, and they would allocate them, a pile for me and a pile for another member of the staff, and I would separate them. At times at the early stages of the Administration in January there were quite a few people coming in to be interviewed. I had instructions from the national chairman of the Democratic Committee, who would have a regular formula.

An applicant would come in, and you would ask him his name and where he was from and what State. If he came from Missouri, "Have

you a recommendation from your Senator or from your Congressman?"

If the answer was "Yes," I had to take his résumé and forward it to his administrative aide. If he didn't have any recommendation from the Senator or Congressman, I would refer him back to the Senator from the State or his Congressman for recommendation.

If there was not any Democratic Senator from that State or no Democratic Congressman from that State, I would refer him back to the State chairman.

We had a book of organizations, which every member of the staff had, designating, in those States where there was no Democratic Congressmen or Senators, the name of the State chairman or the national committeeman, depending on the rules set down by that State.

If a man didn't have those letters of recommendation, I wouldn't talk to him. As a matter of fact, after a week or so, I was spending a lot of time talking to people who didn't have these recommendations.

We left instructions with the receptionist that if a man came in, the first thing she would ask him was, "Do you have letters of endorsement from your Congressman and Senators?" If he didn't have them, he never got to me. This was done for about 3 or 4 weeks until we organized it and then my duty, as far as that function was concerned, was taken away from me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Why was it taken away from you?

Mr. CORBIN. My experience in politics has been mostly with organization, organizing, strengthening party units; and that was my field and, frankly, I didn't particularly enjoy personnel work.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, during the period that you were serving in the capacity you described, did you make recommendations or suggestions for the selection of appointees to Federal positions?

Mr. CORBIN. That was not my authority. As the Members of Congress know, the only ones that make recommendation is the Congressmen and Senators themselves.

Mr. TAVENNER. I didn't ask what your authority was. I said did you make recommendations?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. To whom are you referring that I made these recommendations?

Mr. TAVENNER. To anyone?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, occasionally a girl would come in and she wanted a job as a typist. I would check with the chairman, Mr. Bailey, or one of the deputies, and I would turn over the résumé to them and say, "What do you think about this gal?"

They would say, "Get a letter from her Congressman or get a letter from her county chairman, or State chairman," but I never recommended anyone for a position on my own. It was always at the specific orders of the chairman or the deputies, chairman of the Democratic Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. What had been your duties since the period that you described as 3 or 4 weeks, I believe, after you began your original duties?

Mr. CORBIN. My duties, during the campaign, the Democratic campaign—

Mr. TAVENNER. No.

Mr. CORBIN. I am trying to lead up to the circumstances. I have never been before a committee before, so if I goof up I just want you to understand that I haven't got the experience as you have.

Mr. TAVENNER. All you have to do is state the facts.

Mr. CORBIN. I will just do the best I can and answer truthfully the best I am able to.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is what we want you to do.

Mr. CORBIN. During the campaign my assignment, after the convention, was New York State; and during the campaign I had discovered that there were a lot of, many, many, county chairmen, as far as I was concerned, who were inept. They didn't do anything and they were just hoping that a miracle would come, that they would win, and it was quite obvious from my observations that some of them, in order to maintain themselves in the position of county chairmen, weren't too anxious to have too much organization in case some of the young fellows would oust them, so I had difficulty during the campaign in dealing with many of those chairmen up in New York.

For example, some of them, their grandfathers were county chairmen, their fathers were county chairmen, and they were county chairmen. They ruled by divine right.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think you are getting a little far afield. We are not inquiring about what occurred prior to the election.

My question is, What were your duties after the first 3 or 4 weeks?

Mr. CORBIN. My duties were to try to correct the situation that I described in New York State and help some of the former Citizens for Kennedy that I had organized, independents, and Democrats who were dissatisfied with local leadership to oust county chairmen and, as a matter of fact, I'm doing it up to the present time. I am still at it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, are you a native of this country?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you born?

Mr. CORBIN. I was born in a suburb of Winnipeg, which is called West Kildonan in the Province of Manitoba in the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the date?

Mr. CORBIN. I was born on the 2d of August, 1914.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you reside in Canada prior to your first entrance into the United States?

Mr. CORBIN. I lived with my parents on a farm outside of Winnipeg.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you known by any name other than Corbin before being admitted to this country?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes; my father's name and my name was Paul Kobrinsky.

Mr. TAVENNER. And your father's name?

Mr. CORBIN. Was Nathan Kobrinsky.

Mr. TAVENNER. Please give us the date of your first entrance into the United States and the place at which you entered?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, gentlemen, it has been such a long time ago that I might be off on my dates, but I will try to give you an honest answer.

The CHAIRMAN. Just to the best of your recollection.

Mr. CORBIN. I will try to give you an honest answer.

I believe it was in 1934, approximately in the month of June, that I entered the United States for the first time.

Mr. TAVENNER. The committee information is that you entered the first time on May 1, 1930.

Mr. CORBIN. 1930?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Could that be correct?

Mr. CORBIN. No, that's wrong.

Mr. SCHIERER. What did you say, Frank?

Mr. TAVENNER. May 1, 1930.

Mr. CORBIN. No, that is absolutely wrong.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say then your first entrance was in 1934?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you married at the time of your entrance into the United States?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. I was single.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your purpose of coming into the United States on that occasion?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, every summer at home I worked the farm. We were chiefly engaged in cutting of hay. That was our chief source of revenue outside of milk, and me and my brother used to go out and do the hay cutting. We would hire a group of men.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your brother's name?

Mr. CORBIN. Sid, S-i-d.

Then my brother was entering in medicine, in the last year, so my dad decided that rather than cut hay that year he would lease the land and hire professional hay cutters who would move from sections of land to sections of land, so consequently there was no work for me in the fields with the exception of milking the cows, which I wasn't particularly fond of.

Mr. TAVENNER. You are going into right much detail.

Mr. CORBIN. I am trying to explain to you why I left, in answer to your question.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CORBIN. So I took a freight train, a group of us, to see Canada and I went to Montreal. From Montreal I went to Windsor, and there across the river I saw Detroit. Well, every Canadian was always fascinated by America. Every man's ambition was to go to the United States. So I crossed over and I don't mind saying that you would ask the people how you get over. Well, you have to have your birth certificate or you have to have a head tax, which is \$8, and I guess I was about 18 at the time and I don't believe I ever had \$8 to my own, so most of the fellows used the excuse they were going over to see a ball game over in Detroit.

I went over there, and then we decided that there was a World's Fair on in Chicago; I might as well hitchhike over to Chicago and see the World's Fair. I did that and spent about a day, didn't have any money, so I was forced to leave Chicago, and that's how I got into the United States.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you go from Chicago?

Mr. CORBIN. From Chicago I did a little hitchhiking down around the southern part of the State and was fascinated by New York, and it was only the end of June, I had a lot of time before September before I went back to school, so I hitchhiked to New York.

I arrived there with, I remember, a nickel and had some relatives that lived in Brooklyn on 29th Street. I used the nickel to take the

subway, and I wound up in New York rather than Brooklyn. I will never forget that. I wound up walking all the way from 29th Street, New York, across the bridge to Brooklyn to see my relatives. That's where I went.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you marry while there on this vacation?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that the 16th of August 1934?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct. I met my cousin there, my first cousin, my mother's sister's daughter, and I got married.

Mr. TAVENNER. Had you met her before this?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I did. She had visited us with an aunt previously a year or two before. I can't remember exactly.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then when did you return to Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. I returned to Canada I believe within—it is hard to recollect, but I would say within 30 days because I was notified—I hadn't told my parents that I was married and I had notified them I was staying at my aunt's house, and they notified me that my oldest sister was getting married sometime in August and I should come back home, and my dad sent me the bus fare and I went back in August.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then did you return to the United States at a later date for the purpose of making this country your permanent residence?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I wouldn't say definitely that I came back for that purpose. I came back to my wife, and I hadn't actually formulated any definite plans as to whether I wanted to adopt the United States as my country or go back to Canada.

Mr. TAVENNER. Hadn't your wife gone back to Canada with you?

Mr. CORBIN. No; not at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. But when you came back to the United States didn't you leave your wife in Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. When I went back to the United States?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes; when you came back.

Mr. CORBIN. You asked me a question as to when I went back to Canada. I came back to Canada for the wedding in August and my wife remained in New York.

Mr. TAVENNER. She didn't go to Canada with you?

Mr. CORBIN. At that time, no.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did she go back to Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. I am just trying to recollect. I went back to New York and within a few months my wife was pregnant, so I wrote to my parents and they suggested that, inasmuch as I wasn't earning much of anything at the time and inasmuch as one of my uncles was an obstetrician and that we had plenty of room on the farm, and all the rest of the members of the family hadn't shown any particular interest in farming because they were going on to higher education, it might be a good idea if I brought my wife back to have the child and stay and work the farm with my father.

So I came back. I would say, roughly the latter part of 1934 or early part of 1935, because my daughter was born in Canada.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mean you came back to Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. Canada, with my wife.

Mr. TAVENNER. But I understood you to say that you left New York for Canada within 30 days.

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. That was the first time, sir. Then when I came back, attended the wedding, and I stayed about a month, I then went back to New York.

When you asked me if I came back to adopt this as my country, I did not. I went back to see my wife. I stayed until she became pregnant and this problem arose. I wrote to my parents, and they suggested that I come back with the wife to work the farm, which I did; came back to Canada.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then when did you return to the United States?

Mr. CORBIN. Now, again, sir, I want you to understand, this is over 25 years ago and I can't very well remember the exact dates.

Mr. TAVENNER. See if I can refresh your recollection—October 21, 1935?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, it doesn't bear any significance, but I would say it is—let's see. Donnie was born in July. I would say—just a moment—1935? This was in October. Yes, that would be accurate, because I never spent the winter with my wife in Canada, right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you enter the United States at that time for the purpose of making this country your place of permanent residence?

Mr. CORBIN. At that time—I can honestly say I hadn't actually formulated any definite plans as to whether I was going for a brief period. I guess I was about 19 at the time or 20 and I wasn't sure then. I can't honestly answer that.

Mr. TAVENNER. You would have been 21?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't honestly answer that, at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, at this point, I would like to ask you a few questions about your educational background and your employment background.

Will you tell us what your educational background was prior to this time of which we are speaking; that is, when you entered the United States in 1935?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I attended a one-room country school outside of Winnipeg until the eighth grade and then, for the first year of high school, I was sent to an adjoining municipality. No, I believe it was the same municipality, but a different section for a grade—no, excuse me. Up to and including the seventh grade, I went to this one-room country school. That was the John H. Gunn School. Then I went for the eighth grade, where you took your final exams, to a public school. I went to another school because we never had the eighth grade in this one room.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was that other school?

Mr. CORBIN. It was a public school. Then I went to the high school in our municipality and from then on in I left high school and went to the University of Manitoba.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where is the University of Manitoba located?

Mr. CORBIN. That is in the city of Winnipeg.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many years did you attend that school and when?

Mr. CORBIN. Two years.

Mr. TAVENNER. What were the dates?

Mr. CORBIN. Let's see. I left in 1934 in the summer. That would be—1934, 1933—1932 to 1934.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now what was your record of employment prior to your coming into the United States in 1935 outside of your work on the farm?

Mr. CORBIN. The only money I ever earned was one summer I went to work for another farmer in the Province of Saskatchewan. I believe it was 1932. I was a young man and it was difficult. It was depression years, and my brother was going to college and my sister was going to college, and I was pretty experienced in fixing machinery so I told my dad that I could earn more—he could hire people cheaper than he could pay me in order to earn money so I went to Saskatchewan.

They paid me \$3 a day where I would run a binder, fix harness, milk cows.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have any other employment prior to coming to this country in 1935?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I believe I did. After I came back with my wife I worked for about 2 weeks for the college newspaper, the *Manitoban*, called the University of Manitoba paper, and they hired me to sell advertising to the local business people in the community, and I couldn't continue because there was a question of whether it was legal or not because I wasn't attending college and the rule that you had to be actually a student in order to sell this. That was the extent of my employment.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have any other employment, other than what you have mentioned?

Mr. CORBIN. No other employment.

Mr. TAVENNER. Prior to 1935?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now let us return to the question of your entrance into the United States. Did you have a visa when you entered the United States on October 21, 1935?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I did not.

(At this point Mr. Tuck left the hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. It was the practice in 1935 to have an immigrant sign a manifest card in some cases in lieu of presenting a visa.

Did you sign a manifest card?

Mr. CORBIN. I signed nothing.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, the committee's investigation discloses that upon your entry into the United States on October 21, 1935, you stated to the immigration authorities that you were American-born.

The investigation also discloses that you represented yourself as being Sidney Kobrinsky, that Sidney is the name of your brother, and that in using your brother's name on entry into the United States you also presented your brother's birth certificate to the immigration authorities for verification of your claimed identity in an attempt to show your birthplace as being Brooklyn, N. Y.

Did you state to the immigration authorities that you were American-born?

(Council confers with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. You have an advantage over me, Mr. Tavenner. Even though I have lived that life, you have it in front of you and I have to go back 25 years, so you have an edge on me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, if you want me to repeat any part, I will. I am asking you about each detail of it.

Mr. CORBIN. My wife and child left Canada.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now wait a minute.

Mr. CORBIN. I am going to answer your question if you will just give me a second. I am not an expert.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right.

Mr. CORBIN. She left with the baby and she took a train to Minneapolis on to New York. I was busted and I asked my dad for the money and he says, "All I will give you, kid, is \$2 and a carton of Millbank cigarettes. You got yourself into this mess. You get yourself out of it."

He did help me to this extent. He arranged with the cattle commissioner to get me a free ticket. A lot of cattle is shipped from western Canada to eastern Canada. He got me a free ticket, and I went to Windsor and at that time, wanting to go to my child and my wife who was in New York, I recall vividly, I couldn't take the calculated risk of telling the man I was going to a ball game, so my brother, who was born in Brooklyn, I took his birth certificate and presented it at Windsor.

I believe it was at Windsor, Ontario, and that's how I crossed over to New York.

The CHAIRMAN. Why did you give your brother's name? There is no quota. The border is wide open. Why did you not use your own name? Why did you not say you were going across to take a walk or to see your wife? Why did you give your brother's name?

Mr. CORBIN. I will try to answer that, Mr. Chairman. See, there was a head tax for Canadians of \$8. I didn't have it.

The CHAIRMAN. That was for immigrants who were coming to the United States for permanent residence. If you wanted to come to see your wife you did not have to pay any head tax, but just give your name.

Mr. CORBIN. The only explanation I have, Mr. Walter, is when you are broke and winter is coming and you have nobody and you go to New York, having been born on a farm, I erred: but maybe at that time, under those circumstances, a fellow can't think as clearly as he ought to. My main objective was to go to New York for my wife and baby.

(At this point Mr. Tuck entered the hearing room.)

The CHAIRMAN. Why did you not tell the immigration people that frankly? There is no problem at all.

Mr. CORBIN. I wasn't aware of that. I thought there might be difficulty and here I am—

The CHAIRMAN. You walked back and forth to the ball game and everything else.

Mr. CORBIN. I beg your pardon?

The CHAIRMAN. You said a minute ago you came over to see a ball game.

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, at that time. I have no alibi. At that time I was single, Mr. Chairman. I was a little more carefree than I was when I was married. Marriage and a child sort of matures you pretty quickly, especially when you are broke.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me understand this. I thought you said you had left your wife in Canada when you came to the United States on October 21, 1935.

Mr. CORBIN. I didn't say that, sir. I left my wife in Canada?

Mr. TAVENNER. That is what I thought you said.

Mr. CORBIN. I never left my wife in Canada alone, never did, never said that.

Mr. SCHERER. Counsel is correct. I made a note of it as he said it. He said he came over on October 21, 1935, and at the age of 21 he left his wife in Canada. That is the note I have.

Mr. CORBIN. No, my wife had gone to Minneapolis to New York prior to me leaving. I never said that. I beg your pardon.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, the record speaks for itself.

Mr. CORBIN. If you got that interpretation I am sorry that I—

Mr. SCHERER. I just wrote down what you said.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say your wife had gone to some other State prior to your leaving Canada. Did you say Indiana? No, you said Minneapolis.

Mr. CORBIN. She went to Minneapolis. As a matter of fact, I am trying to recollect now. It wasn't only my wife and child, but her mother had come. My mother's sister had arrived from New York. There was three of us. My wife at that time—her mother and father were separated, had been separated for years—and the oldest boy, that's my wife's brother, had located their father who resided at that time in Elkhart, Ind.; and he had convinced his father that years had gone by and that all had grown up and that they should get together, so the family, the rest of the family, the three brothers, had moved to Elkhart, Ind., to get together with their father who they had been separated from for years, so when she left—now, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, it is a long time ago.

I can't remember if I used a birth certificate when I went to New York after I went to my sister's wedding, or whether I used the birth certificate to go back the third time. I can't remember, but it was one of those times I used a birth certificate. It was either to go back in 1935, or I might have used it—I used it at one point, but I can't remember at what point I used it.

I just can't recollect.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Let's try to get this point straight before we go any further.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, why did you use your brother's certificate and not your own?

Mr. CORBIN. I was born in Canada, sir. My brother was born in the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand that.

Mr. CORBIN. Well, people do foolish things when they are young, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Not quite that foolish. I do not think, when there is no need for it, I just cannot understand, unless I do not know what the Immigration laws say.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, you gave your name to the Immigration authorities, did you not, as being Sidney Kobrinsky?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. What was that date now, Counsel?

Mr. TAVENNER. October 21, 1935.

(Counsel confers with witness.)

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, that date, October 1935, I am trying to get it in my mind. I was married, let's see, in 1934. I went back to the wedding and shot right back. My wife became pregnant. I went back to the farm.

Mr. TAVENNER. The baby was born in July, was it not?

Mr. CORBIN. In July. I was heading for Indiana at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. You went to Indiana instead of New York?

Mr. CORBIN. That's right. I was heading to where the whole family had now settled in Elkhart, Ind.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is right. Now, you offered to the Immigration authorities, to prove that you were Sidney Kobrinsky and that you were born in Brooklyn, a copy of his birth certificate; did you not?

Mr. CORBIN. I do not remember, sir, whether it was a copy or the original.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Corbin Exhibit No. 1," a certified copy of the birth certificate of Sidney Kobrinsky, and I will ask the witness to examine it.

The CHAIRMAN. It may be a part of the record.

(Document marked "Corbin Exhibit No. 1" and retained in committee files.)

Mr. CORBIN. What is the question, sir?

Mr. TAVENNER. I ask you to examine it and ask you if that is a copy of the birth certificate you presented to the Immigration and Naturalization Service?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, sir, it has been since 1935. Hell, I don't know whether that's the one or not. Excuse me.

Mr. SCHERER. May I interrupt just a minute? This is not the first time you have discussed these dates since 1935, sir. You talked to the Immigration officials numerous times about these.

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. SCHERER. You are not refreshing your recollection as of this moment for the first time since 1935. All these things have been pointed out to you on a number of occasions, have they not, by the Immigration authorities?

Mr. CORBIN. That is right, sir, but I went back so many times it is very difficult to remember. As you get older, sir, the thing seems to be getting more vaguer and more vaguer.

Mr. SCHERER. But you led us to believe that this is the first time you had this date refreshed since 1935.

Mr. CORBIN. I beg to differ, sir. I am not trying to make you believe anything. I am just trying to give you a reasonable, honest answer to the best of my ability. I am not trying to mislead you in any way. I am sorry if you think that, but I am just trying to do the best I can and remember back 25 years or so, or 27 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was anyone with you when you appeared before the Immigration and Naturalization Service and gave them this certificate, or a copy of it?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember it, but I doubt it.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did you obtain the copy or the original certificate?

Mr. CORBIN. Got it from my brother.

Mr. TAVENNER. In Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. Right.

(Counsel confers with witness.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, the committee, during the course of its investigation, received testimony from Mr. Joseph C. Kennedy, from Rockford, Ill., former business manager of Local 707 of the United Furniture Workers of America, who admitted membership in the Communist Party from 1937 until his entrance into the Armed Forces of the United States in 1943 and for a very short period after his discharge.

In the course of his testimony, Mr. Kennedy advised the committee of his close association with you and his joint business ventures with you. Mr. Kennedy stated under oath that you advised him that you had been a member of the Young Communist League in Canada before coming to the United States.

His testimony on this subject is as follows:

Question. Did he tell you anything of his activities in Canada before coming to this country?

Answer. He told me he had been a member of the Young Communist League at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg and he had some relatives that were rather active in the leftwing movement around Winnipeg.

Question. Did he say "Young Communist League," or "leftwing movement"?

Answer. He stated the Young Communist League.

Question. Did he mention what relatives?

Answer. He mentioned an uncle, but I don't know if it was maternal or paternal.

Question. Do you know whether the uncle's name was Corbin, or whether it was Pavlov?

Answer. I really don't know.

Question. Did he tell you how long he had been engaged in Communist Party activities in the Young Communist League?

Answer. No, he didn't.

Question. Did he tell you anything about the nature of his activities while affiliated with that group?

Answer. No. As he explained it to me, it was while he was a student at the University of Manitoba and that is all I know about it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is it not true that you endeavored to conceal your true identity when you entered this country because of your Communist affiliations referred to here?

Mr. HOOKER. Mr. Chairman, before he answers that question, I would like to address myself to the chairman and the committee for a moment, if I might.

Mr. SCHERER. I object.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes. Let us go on. Answer the question. If you do not want the witness to answer, then tell him. Advise him of his rights.

Mr. CORBIN. May I have the last part of the question, sir?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. My question was, Did you not endeavor to conceal your true identity when you entered this country on October 21, 1935, because of your previous Communist affiliations in Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner and Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, I will start out by saying I never was a member of the Young Communist League of Canada. I was never a member of the Communist Party of the United States.

If you knew where I lived on the farm, my father was a conservative, member of the Conservative Party. My father was a member of the Conservative Party.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you answered the question. You said you were not a member.

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not.

The CHAIRMAN. What was this uncle's name? Pavlov? Was that your uncle?

Mr. CORBIN. I have an uncle by that name.

The CHAIRMAN. What is his first name?

Mr. CORBIN. There is a few of them.

The CHAIRMAN. Name them all.

Mr. CORBIN. There is Ben.

Mr. SCHERER. What is Ben's last name?

Mr. CORBIN. Pavlov. There is Philip Pavlov. Uncles you are referring to? I have those two uncles with that name.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you spell the last name?

Mr. CORBIN. P-a-v-l-o-v. I didn't know a Young Communist League. I wouldn't know what it looked like. I didn't know what it was like in, when I was in Canada.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you know this man that Mr. Tavenner mentioned?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I certainly do, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you state to Mr. Kennedy at any time that you were a member of the Young Communist League of Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not; no, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. According to Mr. Buck, who wrote a book entitled *Thirty Years, 1922 to 1952, The Story of The Communist Movement In Canada*, by Tim Buck, reference is made to the fact that there was a strong center of the Young Communist League at Winnipeg.

Do you know anything about the existence of this organization there?

Mr. CORBIN. I don't know who Tim Buck is. I never heard of that organization. The only organization I belonged to at the University of Manitoba was the Canadian Officers Training Corps.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you been convicted of any criminal offense in Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir; never been arrested in my life in Canada.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you say never been arrested in your life, or did you say never arrested in your life in Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. In Canada.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you subsequently arrested on March 17, 1936, in Detroit, for illegal entry into the United States?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you deported as a result of this proceeding?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you permitted voluntarily to return to Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. I will try to explain that to you. I never could figure it out to this day. I was let out and I was told that I could reside in the United States as long as I wanted to, but I had to behave myself and try to be a good citizen. I asked him, "How does one become a

citizen?" He says, "You are going to have difficulty because in order to become a citizen you must leave this country, go back to Canada, and start all over again and enter legally, but you must never leave this country if you intend to return unless you get permission. You must notify us that you are leaving," which I subsequently did.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like again to refer at this point to Exhibit No. 1, the birth certificate of your brother. I notice at the top it was originally made out in the name of Samuel Cobrinsky, and that is stricken out and the name Sidney Kobrinsky appears above it.

Can you explain that?

Mr. CORBIN. All I can explain to you, sir, is what I picked up in the family.

My father entered the United States first. Now, I believe in his job he was engaged, or if I am not mistaken or can't recollect, in making chandeliers.

In those days they used to make these big glass lamps, chandeliers, and somehow he got an infection in his leg by the glass or something and he left New York and headed out to Canada where he had a brother. Well, when my father lived in New York he went under the name of Cobrinsky. After he had resided for a year or two after he got married, he changed it to Corbin. I don't know if he went through it legally, but he just adopted that name.

When he arrived in Canada he discovered that his brother there spelled his name K-O-B, and the brother already established on the farm, he said it looked kind of silly with a "C," so he went back and took the name that his older brother spelled, the way his older brother spelled it.

Mr. TAVENNER. And in 1959 the name was legally changed from Cobrinsky to Kobrinsky?

Mr. CORBIN. Who changed that?

Mr. TAVENNER. By order of the court in Canada in 1959. I offer in evidence as Corbin Exhibits Nos. 2 and 3, the records of that.

(Documents marked "Corbin Exhibits Nos. 2 and 3," respectively, and retained in committee files.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Your mother's name was Pavlov, apparently, as you have stated that the uncle's name was Pavlov. That is correct, isn't it?

Mr. CORBIN. To the best of my knowledge, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was there any relationship with Vitali G. Pavlov?

Mr. CORBIN. Who?

Mr. TAVENNER. V-I-T-A-L-I G. Pavlov, P-A-V-L-O-V, of Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. Never heard of that name.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were any of your uncles by the name of Pavlov engaged in Communist Party activity in Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. The answer is "No," but the Pavlovs who are my uncles resided in New York. There were no Pavlovs in Canada, with the exception of one short period that I can recall, when I was a child one of the youngest brothers was called Philip and he came over to visit my mother and he married a girl from Canada and my dad gave him about 140 or 160 acres of land and about 10 head of cattle to start him off, but he had come from New York and he lasted about 6

months. He couldn't go for these hard winters so he took right off and left his wife in Canada and went back to New York and never came back to see his wife since then.

MR. TAVENNER. Were any of your uncles on your father's side, the Kobrinskys, spelled "K," engaged in Communist Party activity in Canada?

MR. CORBIN. No, sir. As a matter of fact, they are much more conservatives.

MR. TAVENNER. Now, was there a subsequent proceeding held at Winnipeg, Canada, before the Immigration Service on August 24, 1936, at which time you were refused admission to the United States?

MR. CORBIN. I can't ascertain the dates.

THE CHAIRMAN. Were you ever refused admission to the United States?

MR. CORBIN. Categorically, no. I went up to see the American consular—I remember his name; he was a very fine fellow by the name of Erickson. He was the American consul there. And I came back not for the purpose of coming back and entering legally. My mother was dying of cancer, so I notified Immigration I had to go home, so I went home, knowing that once I got to Canada I could never get back in again unless I did it legally. Then I had discussed with my mother and father my future, more or less, and they were suggesting that I come back and work the farm because by that time my brother had been gone, and I said that I didn't think that I was particularly fond of the farm and that I was going back to the United States, so my dad advised me, "Why don't you grow up and stop horsing around and go to Immigration—you may have to do it in a year or two—and go in and start doing things correctly for a change instead of doing the way you have been. Apply, and get back and try to be a good citizen."

So I went to the American consul, and he informed me at that time that I couldn't enter the United States because there was a lot of unemployment, a lot of people out of work, and that I would have to prove that I would be self-supporting.

Inasmuch as I had no job at the time, he couldn't see how he could let me in, but he suggested to me that, if I could raise some money—I forget the amount, maybe you have the record there—to show that I would be self-sufficient, he might consider letting me in, so I went to my dad, told him the story, and asked him if he would loan me the money.

He says, "No, sir. From now on you better start using your head." But I talked to my mother and she suggested that I go to one of my uncles who was a doctor and ask him if he would help me, so I went to him and told him I was going to cross the line and was trying to apply for entry, but I had to show that I was self-supporting.

Well, he said he would take a gamble on me and he said, "Even though you got yourself fouled up." He thought that my parents had taught me the difference between right and wrong that would snap me out of it, so he loaned me the money in cash. I went over to Mr. Erickson, the American consul—I will never forget that—walked in his office and laid the money out. He said, "Get that out of here." He said, "Where did you get it?" I says, "Got it from my uncle."

He says, "If your uncle can trust you with all that money, I think the United States can take a chance on you, too, and I am going to let you in."

And there were a lot of documents to fill out and I can't remember them, but, anyway, I got a permanent visa and came in.

Mr. TAVENNER. You came in on November 27, 1936, I believe, didn't you?

Mr. CORBIN. If you say that I suppose that's it, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. That's the approximate date? At Noyes, Minn.?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you take up your residence in the United States on this admission?

Mr. CORBIN. 1936, was it?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CORBIN. I am just trying to recollect. Indiana. That's where I went. I'm pretty sure of that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where in Indiana?

Mr. CORBIN. It was Elkhart or Mishawaka, one of those towns. I can't remember specifically, or South Bend, that area.

Mr. TAVENNER. At a later period, did you become a member of the Armed Forces of the United States?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. Yes, I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was that date?

Mr. CORBIN. It was, I believe, in August 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, will you please at this time give the committee a statement of your employment record from the time of this admission to the United States and the time you entered the Armed Forces?

Mr. CORBIN. I have some notes here. May I refer to them?

Mr. TAVENNER. Surely.

Mr. CORBIN. That is from the time I came in? I have here, gentlemen: I entered the country on a permanent visa approximately in 1937. I was off a year here. 1936. And I stayed with my father-in-law a short time. I am vague as to sequence of events. Anyway, my first paying job I had was with a fruit company that handled Sunkist oranges in South Bend, Ind., and on a commission basis.

I stayed there for a while, and we had a sales meeting and the sales manager just returned from Edinburg, Tex., where this company had great fruit fields and was saying what a great up and coming country was Texas.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me suggest you not go as much in detail. We just want it in a general way, and your going into such detail is a needless consumption of time, but I don't want to cut you off.

Mr. CORBIN. I was impressed by his speech about Texas so I quit. I went to Texas and had about \$400 so I bought some Maiden Blush apples from a trucker from Joplin, Mo., and opened up a fruit stand in the Fort Worth market, my first venture into business. The market opened about 4:00 in the morning, and just as I was supplying my Maiden Blush apples, which is a green apple with a red facing, in come four truck loads of Mexican apples, bright and red. I was out of business by noon, so I hitchhiked back to Indiana and tried to get my job back again, and he admitted I was a good salesman, but I was a little cocky and he says, "Where are you staying?" I said, "I stayed

at the YMCA last night." He said, "I'll tell you what, Corbin, you come back in 2 weeks when you are real hungry. I'll give you a job." I told him to go to—fly a kite.

MR. TAVENNER. You are going into a great deal of detail unnecessarily.

MR. CORBIN. After that job I hung around and sold fruit for various companies. I can't remember. And my father died at that time. My father died at that time, and I left Indiana and went to seek out my wife and child who were in New York.

MR. TAVENNER. When was that?

MR. CORBIN. Let's see. You say I arrived in thirty—

MR. TAVENNER. November 27, 1936.

MR. CORBIN. I can't remember the year. It was 1937, 1938, somewhere around there.

MR. TAVENNER. You think you went to New York in 1937 or 1938?

MR. CORBIN. Sometime around there, yes.

MR. TAVENNER. All right.

MR. CORBIN. And I came back to see the child and they suggested—I talked to my wife and we said we'll give it another whirl, try it again. Well, I was in New York City and I guess it was too big for me. I wasn't too particular happy, and—you were asking about the jobs.

MR. TAVENNER. Yes, that is all I am asking you, how you were employed.

MR. CORBIN. My first job in New York City, and my only job, was answering an ad to distribute political leaflets. It was a Republican running in one of the boroughs in Manhattan. I answered the ad and it paid \$3 a day to distribute the leaflets to all the apartment houses. The first night I came to get my \$3 I was dead tired and I mentioned to one of the coworkers, "Boy, I sure worked hard." He says, "You're crazy."

MR. TAVENNER. Let me remind you again we are not interested in these details. We want to know how you were employed.

MR. CORBIN. That is what I did. I passed out leaflets for one day and that was it.

MR. TAVENNER. What other employment did you have in New York City?

MR. CORBIN. I got a job, I believe, in one of the fruit markets unloading cars of grapefruit and oranges. I did that for about a month and I picked up odd jobs, mostly physical labor. Then I sold china-ware, mattresses, and a few other things. Then I went back to visit my brother, who had by that time graduated in medicine.

MR. TAVENNER. In Canada?

MR. CORBIN. In Canada.

MR. TAVENNER. All right. When did you leave New York to go back to Canada?

MR. CORBIN. Well, I'll tell you exactly. Well, I haven't got the dates, but you probably have them.

I was having a disagreement with my wife and I said I was going back to Canada, that I wanted to see my family, hadn't seen them since my father had died, and there was some question about some property. The farm hadn't been settled yet and there might be something belonging to me, because my brother had already called me in Indiana when my father died, saying that the farm was mine solely

if I would work it, but if I didn't work it, they were going to divide it among the four of us, so he says, "You got to make up your mind right now because there is cows to milk." So I came back and I am trying to remember the year. Let's see. You probably have a record because at that time I had an alien's reentry permit, and everytime I left I notified the Federal Government that I was leaving, so you probably have the dates better than I have, but I went to visit him and—

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, what is the approximate date? You certainly know how long you stayed in New York when you went there to see your wife?

Mr. CORBIN. I am just trying to figure out. Approximately 1937 or 1938. I can't remember.

Mr. TAVENNER. You said you went there in approximately 1937 or 1938. How long did you stay there?

Mr. CORBIN. Oh, I would say I stayed there—again it is hard to recollect—maybe 6 months, 7 months, maybe a few months longer. I can't remember.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have any other employment in that 6 or 7 months, in addition to what you have told us?

Mr. CORBIN. No. To the best of my knowledge, no. I might have some other odd jobs.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you remain in Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. I went to visit my brother in Saskatchewan. I would say I was there about 2 weeks, if that long.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then when you returned to this country where did you go?

Mr. CORBIN. My first stop was Minneapolis.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you there? A matter of days, was it?

Mr. CORBIN. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Weeks? Months?

Mr. CORBIN. No. As a matter of fact, that became my residence for quite a number of years.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. For how many years?

Mr. CORBIN. Let me see. It all depends on whether I came back there in 1937 or 1938. I'm not sure of the date. But I would say I stayed there until approximately 1940, 1941, somewhere thereabouts.

(At this point Chairman Walter left the hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. How were you employed during that period of time from 1937 to 1941?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I was in the advertising business. I stumbled into it. I read an ad which said "Salesman wanted and we pay every night," and I was broke so I answered the ad. I was selling ads for a Norwegian Ski Club to try to build a subscription. They were putting on a program.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you so employed?

Mr. CORBIN. Advertising?

Mr. TAVENNER. By that company?

Mr. CORBIN. Oh, maybe a couple of weeks.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. What was your next employment?

MR. CORBIN. Well, by then, when I worked for this advertising company, there were people drifting in and out, advertising men. One fellow said, "When this is through, Paul, how about working for me?"

"What are you selling?"

He was selling ads for the Republican Party paper. They were practically dead there. I guess the Democrats were in there so I said, "All right," and I sold that for a while. That wasn't so good, so I shifted to another promoter. Then I sold veterans and service clubs and Rotary, Elks, anything that came along, and then I drifted into Labor Day picnics.

MR. TAVENNER. Into what?

MR. CORBIN. Labor Day picnics, things of that nature. And while we were in Minneapolis, the promoter would move to Dakota. He would have a promotion into Dakota or Wisconsin or some part of Minnesota that I would go with them. Then I went into business for myself one winter, the last winter. I bought thermometers and went up to the northern part of Minnesota, where it was cold, and put the thermometers in a drugstore and sold ads, and the druggist would get the free thermometer and I would keep the revenue from the advertising. I did all kinds of advertising, anything that was salable. Then—what was your question?

MR. TAVENNER. My question was how you were employed up until the time you went into the Armed Forces and you have described your employment at Minneapolis.

MR. CORBIN. Then I got in partners with a fellow who had an idea of selling ads in the union hall, what was called a bulletin board, and he said, "If you go with me, Paul"—I think his name was Lancaster, L. W. Lancaster—"we will split 50-50." I says, "Who's going to do the selling?"

MR. TAVENNER. I haven't asked you the detail of what your contract was. I am trying to find out what the nature of your employment was.

MR. CORBIN. Selling ads.

MR. TAVENNER. And how long did that continue with this man?

MR. CORBIN. Well, we went to Rockford, Ill.

MR. TAVENNER. When did you go to Rockford?

MR. CORBIN. I can't remember the exact year, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. Well, you said you were in Minneapolis up until 1941.

MR. CORBIN. Then let me backtrack. I joined the Marines in 1943. I would say roughly about 1940, because I remember I was in Rockford on Pearl Harbor day, which was December 1941, so it might have been the latter part of 1939 or early part of 1940, sometime during that period, to the best of my knowledge.

MR. SCHERER. Did this fellow Lancaster go with you?

MR. CORBIN. Yes, he went with me to Rockford, and I did the selling and he did the collecting. We were getting 50-50, so I told Bill that the average rate of pay for collections was 10 percent and I didn't see why I should do all the selling and give him 50 percent, so we broke up.

MR. TAVENNER. Was that selling in connection with advertising for a labor union or labor council in Rockford?

Mr. CORBIN. Rockford CIO District Council, right.

Mr. TAVENNER. That's what took you to Rockford?

Mr. CORBIN. Right. And Bill left and I stayed behind, and that's where I met Mr. Joe Kennedy.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. What was your next employment?

Mr. CORBIN. Joe Kennedy said, "Why don't you do something useful? Get yourself a decent job instead of these gimmicks, chicken one day and feathers the next, you are a young fellow, a lot of energy." He said, "We need a fellow, an organizer, for the Retail Clerks." I said, "What does it pay?" "Well, it pays \$35 a week," he says, "but it's steady."

So I took that job with the Retail Clerks, and that didn't last very long because I got in a fight with the Teamsters Union. They claimed they belonged to them, the Retail Clerks belonged to them, and I worked for the CIO retail clerks and the rest of the CIO union in that town, I recollect, was getting along pretty good with the Teamsters. They didn't want me to irritate them, so the first thing I knew I was out of a job, and then Joe Kennedy said, "We're interested in organizing some plants, unorganized plants, in Rockford, furniture plants," which is a great furniture center. He says, "I can't do it because I am business agent, so I'll get you a job working for the international union. The local can't afford to pay you because I am the business agent and all the money is collected in dues and goes to the office girl and myself, so I'll recommend you to the international union for the purpose solely of organizing." I remember the plant specifically. It was Illinois Cabinet.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was that name?

Mr. CORBIN. Illinois Cabinet. They make cabinets for little typewriters. And I spent considerable time organizing it and 4 days before the election, I recall, just to lead up to my next job, the Furniture Workers withdrew their petition for an election. I said to Joe, "What the hell gives here? We got this made. We could win. These people want to join the union."

He says, "We'll make that decision, Corbin." So we got in an argument and I was out of a job again. Then the Rockford CIO Council hired me and the UAW, which is auto workers union; and, oh, I would help put out their little paper, monthly paper, and that lasted for a little while. Then one day a fellow came in by the name of Emil Costello. He was a representative of the United Steelworkers of America and he was making a survey of the plants in Rockford as to whether the steelworkers had any jurisdiction interest in them.

Incidentally, the auto workers were doing that also. And Joe Kennedy asked him if he could find me a job somewhere, and Emil started talking to me and said, "Where are you from?" I told him I was from Canada. He said, "Yes, I believe I can get you a job."

I said, "Where?" He said the longshoremen's. I said, "The Longshoremen's Union? Hell, they are out in San Francisco."

He says, "No, they are coming out to the West and organizing warehouses." And I said, "Well, there's no warehouses here."

Well, there was a plant in Freeport that the auto workers had tried to organize on several occasions and had lost.

Mr. TAVENNER. W. T. Rawleigh Co.?

Mr. CORBIN. Right. And Charley Fane, who was a representative for the auto workers suggested that their union was no longer interested in it, but he had a personal interest because he had failed to organize it and he would like to see that plant organized. They had lost the election to the Bookbinders Union, AFL. He says, "I think Paul could do a terrific job," and he recommended me. I promised to help. He had all the names, the leads. "You help me,"—

Mr. TAVENNER. When was that?

Mr. CORBIN. Again I can't remember, 1939, 1940, somewhere around there.

Mr. TAVENNER. 1942 is our information, according to the date of the contract.

Mr. CORBIN. All right. Then I went out there and Emil Costello and Joe Kennedy called somebody in Chicago where the Warehousemen's Union had already established an office, and they came out to interview me and they offered me \$40 a week, and he would pay my hotel bills for 30 days in Freeport, and from then on I was on my own, so I went to Freeport and organized the workers and we won the election.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you living at Rockford at the time you did this work at Freeport?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir, I lived in Freeport, and I stayed and I organized the plant and won the election. I didn't stay with the union very long because I got in an argument with them. At that time that union had set up what was called a Bridges defense fund, and all kinds of literature used to come, and they sent me a letter to raise money at union meetings for this Bridges defense fund and pass these leaflets out, which was sanctioned by the CIO. I was trying to play down having Bridges in Freeport because he had a bad smell and I says, "I'm not going around—these people are interested in wages and hours and working conditions. They are not interested with the trouble Harry Bridges is in. That is not their battle. Our battle is to get more dough and better working conditions."

Well, 2 days later I was out of Freeport and transferred into Chicago.

Mr. TAVENNER. What work did you do in Chicago?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I stayed with the Warehousemen's union, and I wasn't feeling very well. I mean they looked at me as if—well, they would have staff meetings and sometimes invite me and sometimes they wouldn't and they would go for coffee and they would never invite me, and I was just sort of a lone duck, so my family back in Canada were writing me to come to Canada to join the Army. The war was on. So I thought, "nuts." I have always had a great admiration for the Marines. I remember when I was a boy my mother took me to see Lon Chaney in "Tell It to the Marines," and so off I went to Chicago and away I went and I quit the Longshoremen's union.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. That is your employment up until the time you went into the armed services?

Mr. CORBIN. To the best of my knowledge, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned your work in Rockford in connection with the advertising plan to sell for the CIO Council.

Mr. CORBIN. Right.

Mr. TAVENNER. In this connection I want to read to you a few paragraphs from the testimony of Mr. Kennedy :

Question. What were the circumstances under which you met him?

That means you.

Answer. I was head of this large union. It was a full-time job, of course. Mr. Corbin and some other man, a man by the name of Lancaster, came there with the CIO Council with some advertising scheme so that we could make some money for our new council, so we employed them on a commission basis.

After they were through, Mr. Corbin just sort of hung around and performed all sorts of volunteer jobs, legwork, helped pass out handbills, and the usual type of Jimmy Higgins work which is associated with trade union organizing. Ultimately, he would sort of get on the payroll for a month or two when we had some special job. He just sort of hung around there and made himself useful.

At the time that this testimony refers to, when you were assisting Mr. Kennedy there, who was business manager of that local, did you know Mr. Kennedy was a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not. However, at one time there was a detective by the name of Clarence Read in Rockford. I went to pay a traffic ticket, and he called me in and he said that he had received an anonymous telephone call that I was wanted in New York City and he was going to hold me for 3, 4 days, take my fingerprints, and find out if I was really wanted in New York. I says, "Go right ahead." I stayed there 3, 4 days, and he questioned me, when I entered the country and all those things, and then he called me in one day and said, "Paul, I have checked you out with some of the labor people that I know in Rockford, substantial people. They say that you are a clean fellow, but that you are living at Joe Kennedy's house paying rent." I said, "That's right." He said "Joe Kennedy, to our knowledge, is a Communist. You are not. We know that. We have checked with the newspaper people there, everybody that would know the labor movement from the Guild, others, and they say that as a delegate to the Council that you are an independent voter." I says, "Well, who's the guy that called?"

He says, "We got an anonymous call, and I think it was Mr. Kennedy. I think he wants you out of town."

I says, "Are you sure about that?"

He says, "Right."

I says, "Why?"

He says, "I'm just teasing you, Paul, if I were you I would move out of his house."

I says, "Frankly, Clarence, I think Joe Kennedy is a nut. He keeps talking about things. I think he is one of those sour on the world."

Mr. TAVENNER. You say you thought he was a nut?

Mr. CORBIN. Right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, you went in business with him later, didn't you, for a period of years?

Mr. CORBIN. That is right. I will explain that to you. Do you want me to answer this?

Mr. TAVENNER. Not at this time. We will give you an opportunity later. We don't want to interrupt at this moment.

Mr. CORBIN. I said, "Clarence, how in the hell do you tell a Communist? For crying out loud, everybody is bitching about low wages, sour grapes, grievances. How can you tell one from the other?"

He says, "I'll tell you. You stay with Charley Fane and Herschel Wolfe and keep away from Joe."¹

That was the first time there were any indications as to the presence of a Communist. So I went to Charley Fane and Herschel Wolfe and told them my conversation with this Mr. Read.

They said, "Yes, Paul, they checked with us about you."

I says, "Why didn't you tell me these things?"

"Well," they said, "What the hell. You were broke and, furthermore, Corbin, you voted with us most of the time so we didn't particularly care. You voted with us in the Council so you were no bother to us," and Joe actually never liked me for the simple reason, in the labor movement, they used to have Labor Day picnics and I would get the concession for some of the games, and he thought it was a terrible thing. One day he says, "Shut this thing down. We have a guy making a speech."

I says, "Well, I got more people at my booth than they have listening to your speaker," and that is one of the times we had a fight on. So actually Joe Kennedy, I think, was a little jealous of me, frankly.

I wouldn't believe Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Tavenner, on a stack of Bibles.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me read this to you. You referred to a time of being arrested.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER. You referred to a time at which you were arrested there at Rockford. Did I understand you to refer to that?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, sir, he didn't call it an arrest. He was just going to hold me for 4 days. He said, "We got this anonymous call, Paul, and we want to check you out."

Mr. TAVENNER. This is what Mr. Kennedy says about that. He had been asked the question:

Question. What were the circumstances under which Paul Corbin told you of his activities in Canada in the Young Communist League?

¹ Affidavit:
STATE OF VIRGINIA
County of Arlington, ss:

I, Colonel C. E. Read, USA (Ret.), being duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

1. I was a member of the Detective Bureau of the Police Department of Rockford, Illinois, from 1940 to 1942.

2. I have read that part of the testimony of Paul Corbin before the Committee on Un-American Activities at a hearing on July 2, 1962, in which he alleges that at the time of his arrest in Rockford, Illinois, I advised him that I had received an anonymous telephone call that he was wanted in New York; that later I called him in one day and said I had checked him out with some of the labor people and they advised me he is a clean fellow; that Joe Kennedy, to our knowledge, is a Communist; and that I thought we got the anonymous call from Kennedy.

3. Insofar as the foregoing is concerned, I wish to state most emphatically that Mr. Corbin's version of our meeting and conversations is incorrect insofar as it relates to (a) the source of the information which led to his arrest; (b) the alleged statement that to our knowledge Joe Kennedy is a Communist; (c) the alleged reference to being informed he had been checked out with labor people and was a clean fellow; (d) and to any admonishments concerning his future associations with Mr. Kennedy.

Sworn to and subscribed this 31st day of August, 1962.

(Signed) Col. C. E. READ,
(Typed) Col. C. E. Read, USA (Ret.)

Sworn to and subscribed by Col. C. E. Read, USA (Ret.) before me in my County and State aforesaid, this 31st day of August, 1962.

CLARENCE S. EDWARDS, JR.,
Notary Public.

[SEAL]

My commission expires April 30, 1963.

Answer. It was shortly after he was arrested—this incident we have been discussing here—and he heard that I was involved in some way with the left-wing union, this leftwing union and the Communist Party, and he was attempting to probably ingratiate himself with me. This is just supposition.

May I just add something voluntarily?

Question. Yes.

Answer. The reason Mr. Corbin said he lived with me was we had considerable political influence, the Furniture Workers Union, in this town. The president of the union was chairman of the board of the police and fire commissioners of Rockford, Ill.

Question. And he had been president of your union?

Answer. Yes. And he had been a party member at one time.

Question. Do you mean Communist Party member?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Mr. CORBIN. May I answer that, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, any answer you desire to make.

Mr. CORBIN. It just goes to show you what a liar and a great artist at deception these Communists are. If you would check out the record, Mr. Tavenner, you will find when that Mr. Rollins was police commissioner, appointed, I no longer lived with Mr. Kennedy. The only reason I moved in with Mr. Kennedy is they owned a house and they had no children. Joe and Marion had no children and they had this big house, and one of the inducements for me to stay in Rockford was that Joe said, "With what the Retail Clerks pay you, I will charge you \$3 a week rent. You can stay at my house."

That was one of the inducements he got for me to stay in Rockford originally, because he had this big house, no children, and he invited me in his house. You didn't muscle yourself in or jump into a man's home. He invited me there, and I stayed there and I left Joe Kennedy's place after Clarence Read told me that he was a Communist.

Mr. TAVENNER. You didn't want to associate with a Communist?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I didn't say that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, that's the inference you were leaving.

Mr. CORBIN. What I am saying is—yes, I would say I wouldn't want to live in his house, definitely.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you found he was a Communist you didn't want to have anything more to do with him?

Mr. CORBIN. As far as living at his house is concerned, that is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. But you would go in business with him, wouldn't you?

Mr. CORBIN. I will explain that later, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right.

Mr. SCHERER. Just a minute. We have been talking about an arrest and that you were wanted in New York. For what were you wanted in New York?

Mr. CORBIN. Sir, Mr. Read told me that he had received an anonymous telephone call that I was wanted in New York and he wanted to investigate me. Would I mind stepping in? I says, "Go ahead. Investigate me."

Mr. SCHERER. Actually, there was a warrant sworn out for your arrest for desertion, wasn't there?

Mr. CORBIN. At that time? No time was there a warrant sworn out for desertion. Excuse me, sir. Before I left my wife for the last time, I went to visit her and see the child on one Saturday and as I was going into the apartment house, rather coming out of the apart-

ment house after seeing the baby, there was a New York policeman who handed me a paper, and on the paper was a warrant that I was leaving the jurisdiction of the court at the time I went home to see about the property.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. SCHERER. Do you mean to tell me you were never detained at Rockford, Ill., as a result of action taken by court authorities?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. You never were detained there?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, did they put you in jail at that time?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, sir, bars for 3, 4 days until they investigated me.

Mr. SCHERER. Put in jail on an anonymous phone call? Is that what you are telling us?

Mr. CORBIN. I am telling exactly what Mr. Read, the detective, told me, why he was locking me up.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is this the same Mr. Read that you referred to a while ago as having given you certain information regarding Mr. Kennedy?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes; excuse me, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CORBIN. There were two policemen who picked me up as I paid this traffic ticket, and I can't remember whether one of them was Mr. Read. They took me downstairs to where Mr. Read did the conversing with me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Does the name Forson, F-o-r-s-o-n, refresh your recollection?

Mr. CORBIN. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know Mr. R. A. Johnson, the sergeant of detectives? Were you acquainted with him?

Mr. CORBIN. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have before me a photostatic copy of a report of the Department of Police by Read and Forson.

Mr. CORBIN. Right.

Mr. TAVENNER. In which they say in a directive to R. A. Johnson, sergeant of detectives:

Upon information received from you we arrested the above subject on an investigation charge as he left the Police Court Room this A.M.

In other words, you were arrested, were you not——

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, that statement——

Mr. TAVENNER. After——

Mr. CORBIN. I walked——

Mr. TAVENNER. Just a minute. I want to get my question in and then give you all the time to answer it. Weren't you arrested in accordance with this report as you left the courtroom after having answered the minor charge that you said was presented against you?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I am not a lawyer. If you call it an arrest, I will agree to arrest. I was locked up for 4 days.

Mr. SCHERER. On an anonymous telephone call?

Mr. CORBIN. Not to me; just what Mr. Read said.

Mr. SCHERER. I understand.

Mr. CORBIN. He picked me up. There was no warrant issued to me, no papers, just says, "Come along." If that's arrest——

Mr. DOYLE (presiding). May I inquire at this point, what was the charge, if any, upon which this man was arrested? If you have a record of it, Mr. Tavenner, let me have it. I have done a lot of police work. This is not an unusual circumstance in my experience. This man may have suffered. Give me the record, please. What was he arrested for, if anything?

Mr. TAVENNER. It had to do with a complaint filed in the city of New York relating to support, according to my recollection.

Mr. DOYLE. Support for a minor child?

Mr. TAVENNER. I think for his wife.

Mr. DOYLE. Does the record show it was a charge?

Mr. TAVENNER. I don't have the record which shows a charge.

Mr. DOYLE. I thought you said you had some record of it.

Mr. TAVENNER. I did and I read to you what he said.

I will ask the witness. Were you held there because of a charge that was filed against you in New York City?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I was held there because Clarence Read told me he received an anonymous phone call that I was wanted in New York, they wanted to investigate me. I said, "Fine." That's all I know, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Mr. Chairman, I have also practiced law for 30 years and I have never known of any police official holding a man on an anonymous telephone call for 4 days.

Mr. DOYLE. He may have been held on a warrant, but let's see what the warrant said, if anything. If he was held on a nonsupport charge, that is understandable. It is understandable. He may not have been supporting the baby under court order. I can understand that. He and his wife were apparently divorced for years.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I am not aware of the existence of a warrant for arrest——

Mr. SCHERER. The testimony of his former wife was that she did file a warrant for his arrest on desertion. That is in the record now.

Mr. TAVENNER. In the city of New York.

Mr. SCHERER. And that is what he was held for out there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Surely.

Mr. SCHERER. Let's not beat around the bush any more on this.

Mr. DOYLE. It is the facts that I want.

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I was not held for that because they let me out in 4 days.

Mr. HOOKER. I would like the record to show, Mr. Chairman, that simply because his wife testified here that she swore out a warrant for him in New York and the fact that he was arrested in Rockford and he says——

Mr. SCHERER. I object to the counsel making a statement.

Mr. DOYLE. May I state, in the absence of Mr. Walter, the chairman of the full committee—he asked me to act as chairman—we don't permit arguments before the committee, with all due respect to members of the bar. We simply don't have time for it. You understand?

Mr. HOOKER. Yes, sir. I am just trying to represent my man.

Mr. DOYLE. I realize that and if this were a court that would be wonderful, but we are not a court.

Proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Joseph C. Kennedy testified at some length regarding your interest—

Mr. SCHERER. Are you going to leave this subject?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. The fact is that at the time you were arrested, on what you say was an anonymous telephone call, at Rockford you were not living at Joseph Kennedy's house, were you?

You gave his address but you were not living there?

Mr. CORBIN. I didn't say that. I said I left after Clarence Read told me—

Mr. SCHERER. I am asking you if it isn't a fact that you were not living at Joseph Kennedy's house at the time you were arrested?

Let's get this straight.

Mr. CORBIN. I believe I was, to the best of my knowledge.

Mr. SCHERER. Isn't it a fact that you used the political influence you had out there in Rockford to have the warrant in New York withdrawn?

Mr. CORBIN. Sir, I never have known to this day that there was a warrant in regards to me, against me, until just now.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, you knew that there was a warrant issued for your arrest at the time you were in New York. You said you were arrested by two policemen on your wife's complaint.

Mr. CORBIN. You never let me finish that, sir. I tried to explain to you that they had me picked up in New York because I was leaving the jurisdiction of the court because I had applied to the Federal Government for an alien's reentry permit because I was going home to discuss the question of the farm; and when I went to the court, her attorney stated that I was leaving New York to go back to the farm, get my share of the inheritance, and stay there, so I stayed there in jail until the investigation was made into how much money I had in Canada.

Mr. SCHERER. That was in New York?

Mr. CORBIN. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. On your wife's complaint?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. SCHERER. And the complaint was that you were leaving the jurisdiction and deserting her, was it not?

Mr. CORBIN. No. It was leaving the jurisdiction of the court, and the argument to the court, to the best of my knowledge and the record could show that, was the question of inheritance and she wanted her share of the inheritance that my father left me.

Mr. SCHERER. That was because you were back in your payments in support of the child?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. At that time, sir, our relationship was that I would come every weekend and support the child.

Mr. SCHERER. She instituted that proceeding in New York on which you were arrested, did she not?

Mr. CORBIN. She instituted the proceedings to the fact that I was leaving for Canada to collect the money.

Mr. SCHERER. And that was a criminal proceeding, was it not?

Mr. CORBIN. I am not a lawyer, and I wouldn't know, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. Just a minute. I am wondering why we are going so far as to the divorce action in support of the child as to this witness. It seems to me it is irrelevant and immaterial, and if this man has committed a crime in connection with subversive activities, let's have it.

Mr. SCHERER. Because it relates to what eventually happened in Rockford.

Mr. DOYLE. Let's have it. If this man has committed any subversive activity, if he is a Communist, let's have it. I am getting to where I am going to object to this sort of a shotgun attack on a man, going into divorce proceedings and all that sort of thing. What have they got to do with whether or not this man is a subversive?

Mr. SCHERER. Do you want me to tell you?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes. Tell us what you are getting at.

Mr. SCHERER. It is just as simple as this.

Mr. DOYLE. Tell us what the record is.

Mr. SCHERER. Joseph Kennedy has identified this man and it was Joseph Kennedy that Corbin said he was living with at the time he was arrested in Rockford, Ill. The fact is that he wasn't living with Kennedy, according to the testimony, at the time of his arrest.

Mr. DOYLE. That doesn't make him a subversive or Communist.

Mr. SCHERER. I didn't say that, but it is certainly testing the credibility of a man Corbin has called a liar.

Mr. DOYLE. What proof do we have about his credibility?

Mr. TAVENNER. I think as the testimony goes on, Mr. Chairman, a lot of these things will be made clear as to the facts, and it is pretty hard to make much comment about it in advance. I believe if I am permitted to develop these facts here—

Mr. DOYLE. I want you to develop the facts, Mr. Tavenner, but we have been an hour, almost 2 hours. Let's get the facts, whatever they are.

Mr. TUCK. Part of that is due to the reluctance of the witness to get down to the real facts. Although he is a voluntary witness here, he seems to want to go into all of these inconsequential details, instead of getting down to the fact or answering the questions propounded to him by counsel and by members of the committee.

Mr. DOYLE. I am not pleased with the ramifications either, that this witness goes 20, 25, and 30 years back. These are understandable in my book, and I don't object to getting the facts, but let's have them. Let's have them. We are here to ascertain the subversive activities or Communist affiliations of this man, as I understand it.

Mr. BRUCE. Will the gentleman yield for a moment?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes.

Mr. BRUCE. I would suggest that we allow counsel to go ahead and proceed, even though it may seem remote to some of us, in order that he may properly develop this case in this particular hearing.

Mr. DOYLE. Of course, I didn't have the benefit of any briefing in this and I didn't have the benefit of being furnished with any copy of any record or anything else.

Mr. BRUCE. We have held substantial hearings prior to this.

Mr. DOYLE. Let's get at the facts. I don't object to getting at the facts. I want them, whatever the facts are that show whether or not this man was ever a Communist or ever a subversive, but whether or not he had trouble with his wife is, in my book, immaterial.

MR. BRUCE. His first wife was a witness before this committee, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DOYLE. That is all right, but we don't need to try the divorce case here. That has been tried.

MR. BRUCE. Only as it is relevant.

MR. DOYLE. I want you to go ahead, Mr. Tavenner, and bring out whatever facts you feel are pertinent and conclusive as to this witness.

MR. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

MR. DOYLE. I don't mean to throw a fence around anybody.

MR. CORBIN. I didn't mean to be disrespectful in language and I will try to do better and be a little more precise. This is the first time I have been before a committee and I am just trying to give honest answers. I will try to be more short and more precise. I am awful sorry.

MR. TAVENNER. Mr. Joseph C. Kennedy testified at some length regarding your interest in Communist Party membership during the period that he and you were associated prior to your entry into the armed services. At one point he testified as follows:

Question. During the period we have been discussing, up until you went into the service, was any reference made by Paul Corbin to membership in the Communist Party of the United States?

Answer. I personally blocked his membership in Rockford.

Question. Would you repeat that?

Answer. I personally blocked his becoming a member of any Rockford Communist Party group by talking to the key people there, mistrusting the man quite a bit.

Question. You distrusted him?

Answer. Yes. He is an emotionally unstable person, and I did not want any involvement with him at that time.

* * * * *

Question. Before we leave this subject, when you say "blocked his membership," did he make application for membership in the local group of the Communist Party?

Answer. I believe he did. I do not actually know. I talked to Thorman and some of these people and said that this man is an emotionally unstable person and I would advise you not to become deeply involved with him.

Question. Then Goldblatt later hired him?

Answer. Yes.

Question. On your recommendation?

Answer. Maybe I wanted to get him out of town and out of my hair.

Question. Is that the reason?

Answer. Yes, sir.

The question I want to ask you is, Were you making overtures to be invited into the Communist Party group at Rockford?

MR. CORBIN. No, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. Were you aware of any effort being made to block your admission into the Communist Party in the Rockford group?

(At this point Mr. Johansen left the hearing room.)

MR. CORBIN. Sir, I don't see how they can block admission, because you never asked to join, never would, never have asked, never have applied, wouldn't dream of it.

MR. TAVENNER. Let me read an additional part of this testimony:

Question. Tell us more in detail about Corbin's desire to get into the Communist Party or what he did to get into the Communist Party.

Answer. About this time, Emil Costello, from the Steelworkers Union appeared on the scene in Rockford. He was not suspect by the leadership like I was. In other words, he had some direct pipelines to some people in the higher echelons

of the Communist Party, apparently, and I suspect that he recruited Corbin into the party. Suddenly Corbin appears on the ILWU payroll and starts wheeling and dealing, you know, with known party members, and he is getting jobs from them, and so forth and so on.

Then he starts talking to me about party policy and all this business. A good example of his following the party line, we had the State CIO convention in Springfield, Ill., and do you remember the America First, which I believe you could say was an isolationist movement, that of opposing our entry into world war or at least something roughly like that?

Corbin stood up and made a speech at the CIO convention attacking this America First bitterly; and it was strictly party policy he was following because, just a few weeks before, the party was all for the American Firsters and for keeping out of the so-called imperialist war, and then Hitler attacked the Soviet Union and then, all of a sudden, all of the party people were going in the other direction.

This convention, he testified, was held in July of 1941.

Now, Mr. Corbin, let me ask you, Did you make a speech in the CIO convention in July of 1941 in which you attacked the America First bitterly?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember ever making a speech, sir, on the convention floor at that date.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, was there any other date within a short time either before or after the time I mentioned?

(At this point Mr. Johansen entered the hearing room.)

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember that date or any other time. As a matter of fact, Mr. Tavenner, I was interested because of having come from Canada and my brother fighting in war—he left in 1939—I was interested at that time that America should help Britain at that particular period and I never took that type of position. I can't recall ever taking that type of position, to the best of my knowledge, and I can't remember changing any position. Mr. Kennedy, as far as I am concerned, as I said, I won't believe him, and as far as I am concerned every word there is untrue.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, let me read a little further from his testimony:

Question. Did Corbin make any overtures to you for your assistance in getting him into the Communist Party?

Answer. He did; yes, sir.

Question. Tell us about that.

Answer. He kept hanging around and hinting and saying, well, you know, indicating that he was already communicating with the higher level people, and the implication was that, you know, I should take him to the meetings, and so forth and so on. I just simply ignored his advances and had nothing to do with him on this question.

Mr. CORBIN. That statement is untrue.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you desire to make any comment regarding this testimony of Mr. Kennedy's?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Kennedy is a liar.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, now, you don't know whether he is before you heard the question.

Mr. CORBIN. I thought you were referring to the previous statement. Excuse me.

Mr. TAVENNER. No. I am giving you another:

Question. You stated that you remonstrated to various leaders of the Communist Party in your area against Corbin being permitted to come into the Rockford group of the Communist Party?

Answer. Yes.

Question. And you mentioned Costello as one of those?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Who were the others?

Answer. Costello, nominally, was the organizer for the United Steelworkers Union, but actually, of course, he was apparently a high official in the party or had very strong connections, and I remonstrated with him about pushing this Corbin into too close a relationship with us. In fact, Corbin started to interfere with trade union policy and related things where the two were blending together somewhat. That is the reason I had encouraged Costello to get him the job with Bridges and get him out of town.

Well, Costello did get you the job, didn't he, with ILWU? I believe you said so earlier.

MR. CORBIN. Mr. Costello and Mr. Kennedy both got me the job and I would like to state this: That the only section of that statement of Mr. Kennedy which is true is that I was getting into his hair, because when I was in the Rockford CIO Council, I was voting against some of his resolutions and, by that time, having worked for a short period for the Furniture Workers union organizing this Illinois Cabinet plant, I had become acquainted with some of the furniture workers because they would assist me to pass out these leaflets in front of the plant, and I would say to them that Joe is "all wet" on this resolution, and Joe would come to me after the meetings and say, "Hell, I gave you your start in the labor movement, and you are voting with these other guys like the auto workers and the steelworkers," and I sure was getting into Joe's hair when I was elected to the Rockford CIO Council; all the votes that Joe commanded he tried to stop me from being elected; and if what he says is true, if he was a Communist at the time, I am very glad that I did get in his hair. I must have been doing some good then, not even knowing it.

MR. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, the Communist Control Act of 1954, Title 50, Section 844, contains this language:

In determining membership or participation in the Communist Party or any other organization defined in this Act, or knowledge of the purpose or objective of such party or organization, the jury, under instructions from the court, shall consider evidence, if presented, as to whether the accused person:

There are 13 or 14 different things mentioned, but at this point I mention only two of them:

(3) Has made himself subject to the discipline of the organization in any form whatsoever;

(4) Has executed orders, plans, or directives of any kind of the organization;

Now, the committee has received testimony relating to alleged execution by you of Communist Party orders and your subjection to the discipline of the Communist Party. Again, in the course of the testimony of Mr. Joseph C. Kennedy, we find that he refers to a person by the name of Perry E. Wilgus. I think you already testified that you were the organizer of the W. T. Rawleigh plant over in Freeport. That is correct, isn't it?

MR. CORBIN. Correct.

MR. TAVENNER. Were you working under the directions of Lou Goldblatt, vice president of the ILWU, in the performance of that work?

MR. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was it?

Mr. CORBIN. Bob Robertson.

Mr. TAVENNER. Robertson?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is J. R. Robertson, is it?

Mr. CORBIN. I wouldn't know. I used to call him Bob, Bob Robertson. He was the director of organization, I believe.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with a person by the name of Perry Wilgus?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I was, met him on one or two occasions.

Mr. TAVENNER. The following is the testimony of Mr. Kennedy relating to Mr. Wilgus, and it involves you:

Question. Were you acquainted with a person by the name of Perry E. Wilgus?

Answer. Yes.

This is Mr. Kennedy testifying.

Question. Do you know where Perry Wilgus is now?

Answer. No, I don't.

Question. Where did he reside the last time you knew of him?

Answer. Freeport, Ill.

Question. What was the association between Wilgus and Corbin, if you know?

Answer. Wilgus represented himself as a member of the Communist Party and came to Rockford to see me several times about doing something about Corbin.

You see, the war was now on and the Communist Party line was to win the war and not have strikes, and so forth, for the interests of the Soviet Union, and so forth. Corbin was being rather reckless in his activities in Freeport, causing a lot of trouble and the possibility of sitdowns, etc., not following their political line as precisely as Mr. Wilgus wanted it followed. So Wilgus came and talked to me about it. He had no control over Corbin whatsoever. Wilgus at this time was an official of the Micro Switch Division, a subsidiary of Minneapolis-Honeywell.

Question. An official of the company?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. And a member of the Communist Party?

Answer. He represented himself to me as a member of the Communist Party.

Question. He was in charge of manpower for the Micro Switch Division, was he not?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Can you fix the approximate time when this occurred?

Answer. Yes, sir; it occurred in early 1943.

Now, were you aware that Mr. Wilgus complained to Mr. Kennedy that you were not following the political line of the Communist Party as precisely as Mr. Wilgus desired?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I was not even aware that Mr. Wilgus knew Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then do you deny that you were aware that Mr. Wilgus went to Mr. Kennedy with regard to you?

Mr. CORBIN. I deny that I was aware that Mr. Wilgus went to Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have a conference with Mr. Wilgus and—

Mr. CORBIN. At that time—what was that? Excuse me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Excuse me. Go ahead.

Mr. CORBIN. No. Go ahead.

Mr. TAVENNER. Go ahead and state what your answer is.

Mr. CORBIN. I am waiting for you.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is it?

Mr. CORBIN. I am waiting for you to proceed, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. You started to make an explanation of a conference with Mr. Wilgus.

Mr. CORBIN. No, I did not. You said a conference after I started talking.

Mr. TAVENNER. Suppose you tell us about the conference you had with Mr. Wilgus.

Mr. CORBIN. I had no conference.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is that?

Mr. CORBIN. Let me explain to you how I met Mr. Wilgus.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right.

Mr. CORBIN. I was organizing in Freeport, Ill., and occasionally people in the community who were interested in seeing the unions organized would write in letters offering suggestions and my union office in Chicago would call me and say, "There is a fellow by the name of So-and-So," first call came, sporting goods shop. "He is for the union. He has some suggestions for you. He will give you some names of people who are interested in unionism."

We got these calls continuously, letters of people who came in. At one time, I got a call stating that there was a man by the name of Mr. Wilgus, who was an official of the Micro Switch Co., and he was interested in unionism and, "He would like to talk to you." I met Mr. Wilgus. I can't remember where. It was quite some time ago.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was it in Freeport?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, it was in Freeport, and he claimed that I was organizing wrong, that I would never win the election, and I asked him why. I asked how he knew so much about it. He said, "Well, I attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting and I heard some of these fellows were making remarks the way we were doing it and I had some experience in union in my younger days. You are not doing it right." I can't recall specifically what his complaint was; but I just ignored it, from some guy who sat by the sidelines, who was telling me I was doing it wrong and he had the answer.

I got numerous, I would say, in at least every campaign of that. I probably would have 20 or 30 calls from people who were interested in unions. Even ministers and priests would write in, and I would go to see them. In fact, specifically, there was a Father Byrne who also wrote in and suggested—

Mr. TAVENNER. Of course, we are not interested in what the ministry may have said about it, but what the Communists said.

Mr. CORBIN. I don't know of the Communists. I didn't know who was a Communist. I couldn't tell a Communist from a Republican in those days.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you say Wilgus was an officer of a company?

Mr. TAVENNER. He was an officer of Micro Switch, entirely different people from the Rawleigh Co., that he was organizing.

Mr. SCHERER. And this witness tells us that he was trying to tell him why he wasn't being successful in organizing employees of another company?

Mr. TAVENNER. That is what the witness said.

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have a conference with Mr. Wilgus and Mr. Kennedy in Rockford, Ill.?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Relating to your activity at the W. T. Rawleigh Co., of Freeport?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have a conference with Mr. Wilgus alone or with any other person in Rockford regarding the activities in your union?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I can't recall to the best of my knowledge—I paid no significance, Mr. Tavenner, no more than I did to the other people who were telling me how to do it there; but, to the best of my knowledge, and I am trying to recollect, I saw Mr. Wilgus once or twice, which was the most times, most I have ever seen him; and then I remember when he would call I would ignore his call, just as I would others who would call, and to the best of my knowledge, I can't remember. It wasn't significant to me at the time. I just can't remember.

Mr. JOHANSEN. But you are testifying that there were repeated efforts on his part to contact you after the one meeting you recall?

Mr. CORBIN. He called me about—I am just trying to vaguely—there would be messages, I would say, maybe once or twice, I would say.

Mr. JOHANSEN. But this was after the one meeting which you recollect that the calls came?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, messages.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Messages?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, sir.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Indicating that he had called?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes.

Mr. JOHANSEN. This was after your initial meeting, your one meeting, with him?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, Mr. Corbin, Mr. Perry E. Wilgus appeared as a witness before this committee and testified that he had been a member of the Communist Party from 1935 to 1944, during the latter part of which time he was employed as a staff assistant to the secretary-treasurer and assistant to the vice president of the Micro Switch plant in Freeport. Prior to Mr. Wilgus' moving to Freeport, he was a member of the morale division of the North Side Section of Civilian Defense in Chicago.

Upon being asked whether he had engaged in a conference with Mr. Joseph C. Kennedy, business manager of the United Furniture Workers of America, relating to you, Mr. Wilgus testified:

Question. But now you do recall an occasion that you remember in which you conferred with an official of that union that was mentioned?

The union referred to there was Mr. Kennedy's union, United Furniture Workers of America.

Answer. That is right.

Question. And did that take place in Rockford?

Answer. I am sure it did.

Question. Now, what was the occasion of your going there and having that conference?

Answer. As Mr. Kennedy says, it was probably on this Corbin thing. I can think of nothing else that it would be, although how I got into it, I really can't remember.

Question. Yes. What was it about Corbin that caused you to consult others?

Answer. If I recall, as you say, he was a wild man. He was a wild man.

I want to make an explanation. That isn't what I said. That is what Wilgus said.

Question. Well, now, tell us more about that. What do you mean, "a wild man"? That will help you to remember the whole situation?

Answer. Yes. As I recall, he was tied in with the Longshoremen's Union. Frankly, I thought it was after 1942. I thought it was in 1943. After all, these years sort of run together after a time.

Question. I should tell you that Mr. Kennedy said at the time that your trip over there was in 1943.

Answer. As I recall, conversation throughout the town, when the Longshoremen were trying to organize the W. T. Rawleigh Co.—

Then Mr. Wilgus continues:

What particular interest would W. T. Rawleigh be to the Longshoremen? And it just didn't seem to add up, even to me, for goodness sakes, that the Longshoremen had nothing to do but to try to organize a proprietary drug company, which was certainly not of any great importance to them that I could see, but, evidently, this happened in the fall of 1942.

And Mr. Wilgus further states:

The W. T. Rawleigh Co. manufactured a complete line of proprietary drugs, farm insecticides, and that kind of thing. At one time they had plants scattered in various parts of the world. I believe they had one in Melbourne, Australia, at one time, and so on. I happened to know this, because their executive vice president lived directly across the hall from me in Freeport, and he, of course, had been with it since his early youth and he, of course, knew it inside and out.

It was sold largely on routes, such as the Stanley deal is today, I believe. Furce-McNess, which is also in Freeport, have a similar site where they sell to farmers in the rural communities, where they sell to farmers primarily.

Question. Why did you call Corbin a wild man?

Answer. It just seemed to me that from the antics that I recall vaguely of his going through, he was not the most calm individual. In fact, I think I met him in Freeport once or twice, and probably in Rockford.

* * * * *

Question. I don't quite understand what it was about Corbin that seemed to be wrong over there in Freeport that caused you to be concerned about it.

Answer. Frankly, I wasn't concerned about it. I was not concerned about this. It was not of my doing. I had nothing to do with it. He certainly was not working for me. I had nothing to do with his union.

Question. Yes. But if at that time you were a member of the Communist Party and Corbin was not following the Communist Party line and what the Communist Party was supposed to be doing in the war effort at that time, you would take note of that, would you not?

Answer. Not particularly. Frankly, I was pretty busy myself trying to do my own job. That was the main thing I was there for, to do a job for Micro Switch Corp.

* * * * *

Question. As you have told us, you do recall going over there to Rockford and talking to the person who was the international representative and business manager of United Furniture Workers and that you can't imagine what you talked about unless it was Corbin. That is what you said?

Answer. That is exactly what I said.

Question. All right. Now, why did you go over there and talk to Kennedy?

Answer. I think I was asked to do it. I think I was asked to do it because I was in the locality.

Question. Because you were what?

Answer. Because I was in the locality. After all, Rockford is only 25 or 26 miles from Freeport.

Question. Yes. You were asked to do that by a member of the Communist Party?

Answer. Yes, I presume so.

Question. You presume so?

Answer. I presume so. Otherwise I would not have gotten into it.

Question. Just what were you asked to do by the person that you presumed was a member of the Communist Party?

Answer. I presume it would be to settle down and counsel with the guy and try and calm him down.

Question. And why go to the business manager or, rather, the international representative and business manager of the United Furniture Workers over in Rockford about it?

Answer. Because I believe that there was a prior meeting with him at the hotel.

Question. A prior meeting?

Answer. A prior meeting at which I became acquainted with Kennedy, or Curran.

Curran, it developed, was Kennedy's Communist Party name.

Question. A prior meeting at which you were present?

Answer. That is right.

Question. Well, was that a Communist Party meeting?

Answer. A Communist Party meeting, yes.

Question. And so you went there to get a leader in the Communist Party to discipline or control Corbin; isn't that what that means?

Answer. In essence, that was exactly that, to try to control him.

Question. Why go to a Communist to get a Communist to control Corbin?

Answer. If I recall, the word had come down that Corbin had been a Communist or was tied in very closely with them. I do not recall having attended a meeting, a Communist meeting, with Corbin.

Question. You said a while ago that you probably met Corbin on one occasion over at Rockford.

Answer. That is right.

Question. Was that a Communist Party meeting over there?

Answer. That I cannot say. I cannot recall that. It was either with Kennedy, if that is what Kennedy says, or it was a separate meeting. I do not know. I do not recall having seen the man more than once in Rockford.

* * * * *

Question. Now, I am asking you to try to recall the circumstances under which you saw Corbin over in Rockford. What could have been your business over there, which would have caused you to see Corbin in Rockford? Was it Communist Party business?

Answer. I would presume so. I would have no other reason to see the man.

Question. Were other people present at the time you saw him?

Answer. I do not remember whether Corbin and Kennedy were the sole people there, whether there were other people involved, other than Kennedy at another meeting. As I say, I remember attending two or possibly three meetings in Rockford at the Nelson Hotel. Now, who was present at those meetings, frankly, I cannot remember.

* * * * *

Question. Now, you said that word came down that Corbin was, or had been, a member of the Communist Party. Came down from where?

Answer. I met Mike Kingsley in Chicago.

Question. Kingsley. Isn't he one of those on that list?

Answer. Yes.

The list referred to was a list of Communist Party members at Rockford, Ill., that the committee had obtained through its investigation.

Answer (continued). And I think Mike had been in and out of Rockford a lot. In fact, I believe he was sent there back in the late thirties as the organizer and I ran into Mike in Chicago, as I was in Chicago frequently during those days, and he asked me to check into this and told me about Corbin, or Corbett.

I should advise you that, in the early stages of the interrogation, Mr. Wilgus could not remember definitely the name of "Corbin," but we produced a photograph of Mr. Corbin for the witness, and he immediately identified him as the person that he was talking about.

Question. Anyway, the same man whose photograph was shown?

Answer. That is right. That was the man. The photograph I remember. The face I know.

Question. Was this man Kingsley the Communist Party organizer for Chicago at that time?

Answer. He was in Chicago, I believe, at that time. He had been in Rockford.

Question. Do you know whether he was a Communist Party organizer or not?

Answer. Oh, yes.

Question. In other words, a functionary?

Answer. Oh, yes.

Question. A rather high functionary of the Communist Party in that area?

Answer. He was a section organizer.

Question. What is that?

Answer. A section organizer.

Question. Tell us again what he told you about Corbin.

Answer. In the best of my recollection, Corbett or Corbin was acting up, "See what you can do about it." And if I recall, he was living in Rockford, and I reached this one person—evidently it was Curran or Kennedy—to arrange a meeting. Now, whether that was the meeting at which I saw Corbin, I, gentlemen, am sorry, my memory is not that good.

Question. Now, when Kingsley said to do something about it, what did that convey to you?

Answer. He asked me. He did not tell me to do it. He asked me to do it.

Question. All right. What did he ask you to do?

Answer. To see if we couldn't straighten the man out.

Question. Straighten him out about what?

Answer. To alleviate the situation that apparently was beginning to develop, which he knew a lot more than I did about, about the situation, even in Freeport, among the unions. After all, I did not associate with these people. I worked 6 days a week and nearly every evening. We worked on a 6-day week then. That is all there was to it.

Question. You see, it is hard to understand how the Communist Party organizer in an area would request another Communist Party member to straighten out a person, unless that person were under the discipline of the Communist Party.

Answer. That is quite evident. That is why I presumed he was.

Mr. DOYLE. Shall we recess for luncheon at that point, Mr. Tavenner, or are you ready?

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I think there is a little more that I should read of the Wilgus testimony, if you will permit me.

Mr. DOYLE. Yes; go ahead.

Mr. TAVENNER (continuing).

Question. Well, when the time came to straighten him out and you had the meeting and Corbin attended, what happened to indicate that Corbin was either accepting or rejecting that discipline of the Communist Party?

Answer. Frankly, I don't recall any problems after that. In fact, I don't even know whether the man was still around after that.

Question. Wait a minute. How is that?

Answer. I say I don't recall having heard of any problems arising after that.

Question. After that?

Answer. Nor do I even recall whether the man was around after that.

Question. Well, can you recall now, since thinking about these matters as deeply as you are now thinking about them, what reaction Corbin gave to this effort to straighten him out? Take all the time you need. Possibly to help a little more on that, did you and Kingsley discuss what course you should take to try to straighten this man out?

Answer. I think it was simply a question of explanation, selling the man, pointing out what was happening. If there were problems in that union, which undoubtedly there were, I don't believe the man understood a small community, a hidebound community, such as Freeport, and was certainly not in my opinion doing himself or his group any good at all, his union, with the threats of sitdown strikes and all that sort of thing.

Question. Now, did Kingsley suggest that you go and get the help of Joe Kennedy in this?

Answer. Frankly, I don't know.

Question. How did you happen to go to Joe Kennedy?

Answer. Because I believe I had met him, as I said, at a prior meeting. I think the major emphasis was to get the United States into the war, up until that time.

That is all.

Mr. DOYLE. What is your wish, Counsel? Do you wish the committee to adjourn at this point so that after luncheon you can begin to question the witness again?

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to have his reaction now, if he is prepared to give it.

Mr. DOYLE. Go ahead.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think while it is fresh in his mind.

Mr. HOOKER. What is the question, please, sir?

Mr. TAVENNER. My first question is, were you acquainted with Mike Kingsley, section organizer of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. Never heard of the name until today.

Mr. HOOKER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out for the record—

Mr. TUCK. According to the rules of the committee, counsel is to advise only.

Mr. DOYLE. That is right. As I stated an hour or two ago, we simply cannot permit counsel to argue or make statements to the committee. Your function under our rules is to advise your client.

Mr. HOOKER. I have no right, or my client has no right and through him I have a right to comment upon the pertinency of testimony?

Mr. DOYLE. Your client can raise the question of pertinency if he wants to, if that is your advice to him, but you can't proceed as a matter of argument, no.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I never heard of Mike Kingsley until today. No. 2, this guy Perry Wilgus is the world's greatest liar, because the only time he talked to me he was telling me how to win the election. He said he didn't like the way I was organizing it. Then he is testifying and he is referring to something after the plant was organized, contract signed, and I had disputes. I never knew that Perry Wilgus was around. He was just some crackpot that called up from the union that wanted to give suggestions.

This other knowledge about him being a Communist and meeting with Joe and having meetings is all complete news to me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you meet in Rockford with Wilgus on any occasion?

Mr. CORBIN. My answer would be, I would say pretty certain now.

Mr. TAVENNER. Pretty certain?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. You see, I met him once or twice at the most and I am pretty positive it was at Freeport. I don't believe I ever met the man in Rockford. I am convinced of that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you meet with Kennedy relating to any of the problems in the W. T. Rawleigh Co.?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, every labor leader in Rockford were interested in the W. T. Rawleigh Co. because the Auto Workers had

tried to organize it twice before and had lost and they were all watching what Corbin was going to do, because the first time they lost it they lost outright and the second time they lost the election against the Bookbinders. The union boys were saying it would be impossible to organize that plant because they had an existing contract and the working conditions improved as a result of this existing contract with the Bookbinders.

So, occasionally, a labor organizer would come through, especially the Auto Workers, who had participated in the previous elections, and offer me suggestions, and I used to kid them and say, "Well, your system didn't work. I'll try mine."

MR. TAVENNER. All right. Now, did you have any conference with Mr. Kennedy on problems relating to the W. T. Rawleigh Co. union?

MR. CORBIN. The only conversations I might have had, Mr. Tavenner, is he would call me and say, "How are things going?" And I'd say, "Pretty good." That's about the extent of it, but I would never rely upon Mr. Kennedy's judgment when it came to organizing after my experience with him previously. He would be the last person I would ask or take advice.

MR. TAVENNER. Did you meet with Mr. Kennedy in Rockford?

MR. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I would like to explain that. It is very difficult to answer because when I would go to Chicago occasionally, Rockford was right on the route and, no doubt, I would drop in the CIO hall to say hello, no specific reason for a conference or any planned meetings, but it would be a normal thing for me to stop over at the CIO hall to say hello.

MR. TAVENNER. Did you have any meeting with him in the Nelson Hotel?

MR. CORBIN. No, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. Did you reside in the Nelson Hotel?

MR. CORBIN. At the time that I was organizing the Freeport company, Mr. Tavenner, I was residing—the record will show—at the Freeport Hotel. I moved, got my first 30 days' expenses paid, and from then on in I stayed at the Freeport Hotel.

MR. TAVENNER. Prior to that you had lived at the Nelson Hotel?

MR. CORBIN. I lived at various hotels, Nelson, Grand, and wherever I could get a cheap rate.

(Counsel conferred with witness.)

MR. TAVENNER. Did you ever meet with Mr. Wilgus and Mr. Kennedy in Rockford?

MR. CORBIN. I would say no, sir; I can't recall.

MR. TAVENNER. Just a moment. You say no, and then you say you can't recall. Are you in doubt about it?

MR. CORBIN. I met Mr. Wilgus once or twice at the most. The first time I remember meeting him in Freeport. I would be willing to say no, I did not meet him in Rockford. There would be no point in me meeting him in Rockford. There would be no point unless it was casually, by accident, but I would never waste my time to go to Rockford to meet Mr. Wilgus because somebody was calling me up to give a curbstone story. I would never go to Rockford to have a meeting with Mr. Wilgus, unless maybe by accident he was there at the union hall when I was there.

Mr. SCHERER. You wouldn't meet him by accident at the Nelson Hotel?

Mr. CORBIN. No.

Mr. SCHERER. You said you had no meeting—

Mr. CORBIN. With Wilgus at the Nelson, that is correct.

Mr. SCHERER. Not with Wilgus and Kennedy?

Mr. CORBIN. Wilgus and Kennedy at the Nelson Hotel, that is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Just one more question, Mr. Chairman. Did you knowingly accept Communist Party discipline in regard to any of the activities of your union in the organizational work of the W. T. Rawleigh Co.?

Mr. CORBIN. I did not because I never knew who a Communist was and never met one. I didn't know that Wilgus was or the rest of the gang.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, you knew Kennedy was at that time.

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct, but he was the last person in the world that I would take orders from or suggestions.

Mr. TUCK. But you did stop off on your way to Chicago to say hello?

Mr. CORBIN. Not to say hello to Kennedy. As a rule, I would go to consult with the Auto Workers, who had previously conducted campaigns in Freeport, and I would occasionally check with Charley Fane or Herschel Wolfe, two of the organizers for the Auto Workers, as to the credibility of some of the people in the plant, as to how truthful they were, and the conditions, and that would be my only point, or, in the second place, I might go in there—they had a bowling alley—maybe play a game of bowling or something, game of 10, 15 minutes, on the way, but it certainly wasn't to take any advice of Joe on organizing.

Mr. TUCK. I understood you to say earlier that occasionally on your trips to Chicago you would stop off at Rockford for the express purpose of saying hello to this Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. CORBIN. No. If I said that, sir, I didn't mean it in that sense.

Mr. TUCK. You knew him at that time to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. Sir, I was told by Mr. Read, but I personally thought that Joe Kennedy was a nut. If that's the best the Communists had, this guy was—

Mr. TUCK. Then, how could you explain to this committee that you would stop off at Rockford to say hello to this man whom you believed to be a nut and whom you say you didn't trust and whom you say was involved with communism?

Mr. CORBIN. I would stop in to say hellos to the boys in the union hall, Charley Fane, Herschel Wolfe. I knew all the people there in Rockford. It wasn't specifically to see Mr. Kennedy. It was just to drop in because I had been there for several years. I knew everybody and it was for no other purpose than to say hello to perhaps Charley Fane or Herschel Wolfe. If Joe was there, I would say hello, but it was never to see Joe Kennedy.

Mr. SCHERER. You had this feeling about Joe Kennedy, which you have just described, having been told that he was a member of the

Communist Party, having now said that you wouldn't take any suggestions from him, and you indicated a few minutes ago that he was a liar; but yet, subsequent to this, you went into business with him.

Mr. CORBIN. I will explain this. If you want me to start explaining, I will do that right now. I would just like to say this.

When I talked to Mr. Wilgus on the one or two occasions and he didn't like the way I was organizing, I paid no more attention to what Mr. Wilgus said to me than the other 15, 20, or 25 people who had suggestions. In the first place—I am trying to recollect—I just never could understand why he called. He was working with Micro Switch and he was telling me he was going to Chamber of Commerce meetings. I couldn't figure the guy out in the first place, but you have a lot of those things.

Every time you go to organize a plant a guy calls and says, "My father was a carpenter and I am for labor" or "I am a friend of labor," and you have that all the time.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Perhaps I misunderstood. I thought you said that you might have seen Wilgus by mere chance at the union hall. Did I understand that correctly?

Mr. CORBIN. What I was saying, sir, is that they both insist—and I haven't seen the testimony—they saw me in Rockford with Wilgus. I can't recall ever meeting Mr. Wilgus in Rockford. I wouldn't drive four blocks to see Mr. Wilgus, across the street, but if Mr. Wilgus frequented Rockford, there is a possibility, as I walked into the union hall, he might have been there. That is the only extent. As far as a meeting at the hotel or consulting with him and Mr. Kennedy about the union activities in Freeport, absolutely no.

Mr. JOHANSEN. What puzzled me was your feeling that it was possible that Mr. Wilgus, who I understand was a management man with another firm, would have been at the union hall.

Mr. CORBIN. Well, after hearing the testimony, sir, that he was a Red, there is just a possibility—then the meeting with Mr. Kennedy—there was a remote possibility of him being there, and I didn't want to perjure myself by saying no; but as far as meeting with him in Rockford with Kennedy to discuss the Freeport plant, the answer absolutely is "No."

Mr. DOYLE. May I inquire what union were you working for, what union was paying you, when you were doing this organizing of this plant?

Mr. CORBIN. Freeport?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes.

Mr. CORBIN. It was the Longshoremen's union, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Were you working for Lou Goldblatt?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I was working for a fellow called Bob Robertson. Of course, Lou Goldblatt was an officer of the union.

Mr. SCHERER. You did know Lou Goldblatt?

Mr. CORBIN. I would say I probably saw him maybe two, three times, because he operated out of San Francisco and he occasionally would come into Chicago, but my base was Freeport, so on the rare occasions that I would come into Chicago I might have seen him once or twice.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you know that Louis Goldblatt is one of the top Communists in the country?

Mr. CORBIN. I have read articles since then that he is alleged to be a Communist. I wouldn't know if he is or not. He sure looks like one, though.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know that J. R. Robertson was a codefendant with Bridges in his perjury conspiracy trial?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I did not. Bob Robertson—when did that happen?

Mr. TAVENNER. At a much later date, of course. It was in the 1950's.

Mr. CORBIN. Robertson, as I recall, was a tall Texan from Texas and he was an affable fellow, and I would say that he, more than any person, directed my organization in Freeport. They didn't like the leaflets that I was printing on the plant, and Robertson called me up one time and said, "Paul, we don't like this stuff that you are putting out in front of the plant. From now on, we will write the leaflet in our head office in Chicago and ship them to you."

Mr. SCHERER. You didn't know that Robertson was a member of the Communist Party either?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. You heard since, though, haven't you?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. That I do not know.

Mr. BRUCE. A moment ago you stated that you weren't sure whether Goldblatt was a member of the Communist Party, but "he sure looks like one." What do you mean?

Mr. CORBIN. I read some articles—I think it was a few years ago—about Lou Goldblatt. I can't remember what paper it was. He was involved in some matter which I, as an American, would not.

Mr. BRUCE. You mean from what you know about him you would say—

Mr. CORBIN. From what I read in that article in the paper. I don't know the man. In fact, I saw him several times. He was a cold-fish type.

Mr. BRUCE. You saw him several times?

Mr. CORBIN. Two or three times, I would say.

Mr. BRUCE. But you didn't know him?

Mr. CORBIN. No. He was a cold fish, and I doubt if he said hello more than once to me.

Mr. BRUCE. Just a moment ago you said you didn't know him.

Mr. CORBIN. That's right. I didn't know him, but seeing him, yes. If you call that knowing. I don't know what you call knowing him.

Mr. BRUCE. Had you had any conversation with him at any time?

Mr. CORBIN. I might have, a couple of words exchanged.

Mr. BRUCE. If he came in the room, you could identify him?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. What is it the committee wishes? Shall we adjourn until 2:00 o'clock? It is 1:00 o'clock now.

Mr. SCHERER. Two o'clock.

Mr. DOYLE. The committee will stand in recess until 2:00 o'clock and the witness will return at 2:00 p.m. with counsel. The committee will stand in recess until 2:00 o'clock.

(Whereupon, at 12:55 p.m. Monday, July 2, 1962, the hearing was recessed, to be reconvened at 2:00 p.m., of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION—MONDAY, JULY 2, 1962

TESTIMONY OF PAUL CORBIN—Resumed

The committee reconvened at 2:10 p.m., Hon. Francis E. Walter (chairman) presiding.

Members present at time of reconvening: Representatives Walter, Doyle, Scherer, Johansen, Bruce, and Schadeberg.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, I read to you again from the testimony of Joseph C. Kennedy on the general subject of the alleged execution of Communist Party orders by you:

Question. Did he [meaning you] show any interest in the Communist Party during the period he lived with you and while you knew him, up until you went into the service?

Answer. Yes; he seemed greatly interested.

Question. What do you mean by that?

Answer. Well, he read the *Daily Worker* and was always associating with people who are thought to be, or known to be, members of the Communist Party in the area.

Question. Will you give us the names of those people?

Answer. Yes. Emil Costello, then of the United Steelworkers Union, and Carl Thorman of the United Furniture Workers Union, and Einar Sell of the Furniture Workers Union, and Lou Goldblatt of the ILWU.

Question. That is the same person you referred to a while ago as being the person who employed him in Chicago?

Answer. Yes, and Robertson of the ILWU.

* * * * *

Question. Could the Robertson you referred to be J. R. Robertson?

Answer. Yes, that is who it is.

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

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Chairman, I did not know who Mr. Costello was, outside of the fact that he was a representative from the Steelworkers union. I did not know he was a Communist. At that time I was just an organizer that got \$40 a week to organize plants that they gave me, and this morning you asked me about dates, and it is very difficult to go back 25 years to give you exact dates. You mentioned people that I was supposed to have associated with. I do not know if they were Communists. There are a lot of people in the unions.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me make the question specific. Did you at any time prior to 1953 know that Mr. Costello was a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, did you at any time advise any investigative agency of the Government; that is, Immigration Service or the Federal Bureau of Investigation or any other investigative agency of the Government, that Emil Costello was a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I thought—after I left the labor movement and went into veterans' activities, I began to think back and thought a lot of those boys certainly looked like Communists and I told, I believe it was, the Immigration or somebody with the Federal Government I thought he was; but I have no definite proof that he was a Communist. I had no actual knowledge to say that he was. He sounded like one. When you look back in retrospect. At that time in the

labor movement I did not know one from another. A lot of us organizers who worked in the labor movement, we did not know who the Communist was and who was not. Afterwards, when the exposure was made in the newspapers and there was more alertness to the menace of communism, especially about the labor movement in Milwaukee, having been there I was more interested in following the exposures than perhaps the average citizen was because I was there at the time, and even I then came to the conclusion that, no doubt, there was a great possibility that Emil was a member of the Communist Party. So far as to prove it, I cannot.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, he obtained for you your position in the ILWU, did he not?

Mr. CORBIN. Him and Joe Kennedy and Charley Fane and the others thought it was a good idea that they would hire me to organize this plant.

Mr. TAVENNER. And Costello himself had no position of any kind within the ILWU?

Mr. CORBIN. No, he represented the Steelworkers union, but it was common practice at that time—just to clarify it—when an organizer was out of a job to call another international union and say there was a man available. That was common practice. They shifted around.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Emil Costello at any time give orders to you—

Mr. CORBIN. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Wait a minute. Relating to activities of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. No. He never gave me any orders of any kind.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he counsel you or advise you in any matters relating to Communist Party activities?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, the answer is "No." I was not a Communist. I was opposed to communism. If I would have realized at the time that they were the enemy of our country as they were, I would not have hung around the labor movement for 24 hours. I would like to state this right now, Mr. Tavenner: The proudest day of my life is when I raised my hand in San Diego and became a citizen of this country when I had the Marine Corps uniform on. If some of us in the labor movement had known there was a danger with enemies of our country, I would not have hung around for \$40 a week or \$40 million a week. So all these questions you are asking me about enemies of our country, and answer is "No."

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with Carl Thorman of the Furniture Workers union?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I was. He was a member of the union and worked in the plant like thousands of others.

Mr. TAVENNER. He was a member of the Communist Party, wasn't he?

Mr. CORBIN. I did not know that. I was unable to know.

(Mr. Tuck entered the hearing room at this point.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Actually he was chairman of the Rockford section of the Communist Party.

Mr. CORBIN. I am not aware of that, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. At any time during your association with Carl Thorman, did he give you orders relating to activities of the Communist Party in the United States?

Mr. CORBIN. He definitely did not. As I stated, he would be unable to because I was not a Communist and he would be in no position to discuss that with me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Whether you are a Communist or not, my specific question is, Did he give you any orders relating to Communist Party activity?

Mr. CORBIN. He was not in authority to give me a position. He was just another member of the union.

Mr. TAVENNER. My question is, Did he give them to you?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir; absolutely not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he advise you in connection with Communist Party activities?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were acquainted, of course, with J. R. Robertson, vice president of the ILWU, who was your immediate supervisor.

Mr. CORBIN. Bob Robertson, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know him to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he at any time give you orders relating to activities of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he give you any advice or counsel you in regard to those activities?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, in what branch of the armed services did you serve?

Mr. CORBIN. I served in the U.S. Marines, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Overseas, I believe.

Mr. CORBIN. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is there anything you desire to state regarding your military record?

Mr. CORBIN. My military record? Well, I was proud to serve in the U.S. Marines. I would do it again. I had an honorable discharge with a citation.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were naturalized while you were a member of the armed services?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct, sir, and I was very proud of that.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was that date?

Mr. CORBIN. That would be in August. That would be in the fall, perhaps around September, I would say.

Mr. TAVENNER. Of what year, 1943?

Mr. CORBIN. 1943. Roughly around there.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you receive your discharge?

Mr. CORBIN. I got discharged in 1945, sir, the end of 1945.

Mr. TAVENNER. In December 1945, wasn't it?

Mr. CORBIN. I think it was just prior to New Year's Eve, a couple of days, 4 or 5 days, somewhere around that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kennedy testified that he returned from the Army on the 26th day of October 1945 and, after having been back

in Rockford for 2 or 3 months, you returned from the Marine Corps. At that time, Mr. Kennedy was working for a cooperative store in Rockford. He testified that you came to see him three or four times for the purpose of inducing him to form a labor management agency with him. Is that correct?

Mr. CORBIN. I visited, I was looking for work at the time, I recall, and Joe Kennedy was working in a cooperative store, and he informed me that he was acquainted, because of his being business agent, with the Furniture Workers Union factories in Rockford and he was acquainted with several of the Chamber of Commerce members and a fellow by the name of Mr. Brown, who was a former mayor of Rockford, and he thought it would be a good idea if an association was organized to represent the furniture plants in negotiations with the union. There had been one in existence up to the time, and he thought that he could get the account for the Furniture Workers and then use that as a means of expansion to get other accounts. And I can't recall what happened but it was never consummated. I went back to Janesville where I was living.

Mr. TAVENNER. You went where?

Mr. CORBIN. I was living in Janesville at the time, Janesville, Wis.; and it was just another one of the ideas of Joe's.

Mr. TAVENNER. Upon being asked whether you, Mr. Corbin, were employed in Wisconsin in any way after getting out of the service in a union capacity in which Emil Costello would have had close associations with you, Mr. Kennedy replied that you had been given a job with the *Wisconsin CIO News*, which was a special edition of the national *CIO News*; is that correct? I mean were you so employed with the *CIO News*?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes; after the service I was employed as an advertising salesman for the *Wisconsin CIO News*.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did that employment begin and end?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I can't give you exactly the exact dates but I would assume it was, it would be, I would say, the early part of 1946, sometime in 1946.

Mr. TAVENNER. As early as April 1946 that you became employed?

Mr. CORBIN. It might be a little earlier. I am not sure. It might be earlier because I was looking for a job, and I got home on New Year's Eve, and it might have been earlier than that. I am not sure.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you remain employed there as late as June of the same year?

Mr. CORBIN. I am not certain of the dates because, as I said before, it was a long time ago; but I worked there for 2 or 3 months. I am not positive exactly.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the *Wisconsin CIO News* known to you to be Communist controlled?

Mr. CORBIN. No. I had no knowledge of that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Alfred Hirsch its editor at that time?

Mr. CORBIN. He came upon the scene after I was there for about a couple of weeks. I guess he was on vacation or leave or something but he—

Mr. TAVENNER. He was the editor?

Mr. CORBIN. He was the editor; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Alfred Hirsch a member of the Communist Party to your knowledge?

Mr. CORBIN. I would not know that, sir. I would not be in a position to know that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, Alfred Hirsch has been identified as a member of the Communist Party. He has appeared before this committee and refused to answer pertinent questions, relying on the fifth amendment. As I say, he has been identified. Mr. Corbin, during your association with Mr. Hirsch while he was editor, did he at any time give orders to you relating to activities of the Communist Party of the United States?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he advise or counsel you in any Communist activities?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the *Wisconsin CIO News* dominated at that time by Emil Costello?

Mr. CORBIN. I would not be in a position to know. The State CIO newspaper was a paper which was published by the Wisconsin State CIO which in turn was, consisted of every union in the State that was affiliated with the CIO. I would say that I don't think there was, to the best of my knowledge, any one man or two men or three men that controlled that paper. There would have to be a vote taken at a convention or an executive order.

Mr. SCHERER. What was Costello's connection with the paper at that time?

Mr. CORBIN. Emil Costello was a representative of the Steelworkers Union and he worked for the director of the Steelworkers Union at the time, who was a member of the board of the paper.

Mr. SCHERER. A member of the board?

Mr. CORBIN. Of the paper, yes.

Mr. SCHERER. A three-man board?

Mr. CORBIN. I could not remember. I think it was more than that, sir, but I would not be sure. It is a long time ago. I think it was much more than that.

Mr. TAVENNER. After leaving the employment of the *Wisconsin CIO News* in June of 1946, what was your next employment?

Mr. CORBIN. I left the State *CIO News* over an argument over commissions, and there was a position becoming open in a local city workers union, municipal workers union; that is the Public Workers. There was a business agent who was leaving. There was a vacancy, and the director of the Steelworkers Union—

Mr. TAVENNER. That is Mr. Costello?

Mr. CORBIN. No, Mr. Adelman and others told me about the vacancy, and I became employed by them as a business agent dealing with the city of Milwaukee and the county.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that the Garbage Workers' Union?

Mr. CORBIN. That was one. They had several locals. The Garbage Workers' Union was one of the locals.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you obtain that employment through Emil Costello?

Mr. CORBIN. I could not answer that. I can't remember offhand. I think I was interviewed—no, I didn't. I was interviewed by

the—they had a local city workers council there consisting of the garbage workers and the forestry branch and the hospital workers. They had a council that interviewed me. They had the final say as to whether they wanted me to represent them in bargaining because it was not organizing, it was actually bargaining for them, for their wages and hours; and they decided on that. I recall going to several of their executive board meetings before they hired me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Mr. Costello then obtain employment for you as a representative of the Public Workers Union?

Mr. CORBIN. No. No. It is a long time ago and I am just trying to give you a reasonably honest answer. A long time ago. The local council were taking the position that they were paying dues to the international union and why should they pay my salary. They were willing to pay part of it. They thought that the head office should pay some of it and they would take it up with them; if they would be willing to split—I forget what percentage it was—and they met with the international union officers, and I believe that the international union paid my entire salary and the council would maintain their offices, some sort of arrangements. I forget what it was but there is a negotiation between the Public Workers international and the council itself.

Mr. TAVENNER. My question was, Did Mr. Costello obtain this employment for you with the Public Workers Union?

Mr. CORBIN. I would say no. He might have. I am not in a position to say if they called him up for recommendation. But to my knowledge, no.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you become business agent of that union?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did your employment continue with it?

Mr. CORBIN. I would say I left in March of, approximately February or March or April of 1948.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your employment then?

Mr. CORBIN. I was a business agent and I got into an argument with my union over—

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. Well, actually I got into an argument with the union over my refusal to support Henry Wallace at the time although, originally, when he came to Milwaukee to speak, I was asked if I would have any objections to using my name on the stationery to bring him in and I said, "No, I will listen to anybody," and when he came in I heard him and I didn't think he had a winning platform and I stated that and I got involved with an argument with the international union over the telephone and I told them that I was an American citizen and nobody was going to tell me how to vote. They said, "Your union"—

Mr. TAVENNER. What union is this?

Mr. CORBIN. That is the Public Workers. They said, "When you work for our union you support whoever the international executive board agrees." I said "Not when it comes to politics. I will vote for whoever I want," and that was that, and I was out of a job again.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your next employment?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I had—while I was in the Public Workers I had run across some marines that I met in the service and I got interested in the Marine Corps work. So I had established a detachment of the

Marine Corps League of my hometown in Janesville. I was elected the first commandant and I began to sell advertising for Marine and Navy and organization program books; and when I left the Public Workers, I guess I was out of a job for about a week or two and then I went directly into selling advertising. Incidentally, I wonder if I may have permission to submit some of the articles that I had written in the Marine, the Navy magazine pertaining to my feelings about communism. In fact, I had made speeches in my activities with the Marines across the country, fighting communism; and I have excerpts from newspapers, the *Houston Chronicle* and the Los Angeles papers as to what I had said. I do not know if you want me to read it or do you want me just to submit it?

MR. TAVENNER. I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that we accept them for the record?

THE CHAIRMAN. They may be received for the record.¹

MR. CORBIN. In some of the news releases about my alleged Communist activities that you are aware of, Mr. Tavenner, there were also accusations made about my associations with Senator Joe McCarthy at the same time. In fact, in some of the stories in the *Milwaukee Journal*, one fellow said I was a McCarthyite on Monday, and on Monday afternoon said I was a Communist, which is rather inconsistent. I became interested in the Marine activity and I was elected as the first World War II veteran as the commandant of the Marines in my State and I invited Senator McCarthy as a speaker, which accounts for some of the pictures in the *Milwaukee Journal* with me and the Senator with the arms around each other. I would like to submit that, if I may, and also some of the telegrams and communications between me and Senator Joe McCarthy.

MR. SCHERER. Were not all the Congressmen and Senators from Wisconsin invited to this meeting?

MR. CORBIN. At that time, at my first initial meeting with Senator Joe McCarthy, it started with correspondence. He belonged to the Appleton Marine Corps League detachment. Some of the marines in Appleton were objecting to some of the positions that Senator McCarthy was taking.

MR. SCHERER. That was not my question. My question was whether or not all the Congressmen were invited.

MR. CORBIN. Yes, sir, most of them. I would say all of them were invited.

MR. SCHERER. And Joe McCarthy was the only one who accepted?

MR. CORBIN. The reason he accepted—

MR. SCHERER. Wait a minute. Isn't he the only one who accepted?

MR. CORBIN. Yes. The reason he accepted, sir, was that I had been in correspondence with Senator McCarthy because, when I heard rumblings about many being kicked out of the Appleton detachment, I wrote him a letter and asked him to join the Janesville detachment and I have his letter in his own personal handwriting where he accepted. So we had correspondence through the mail; and when I sent him a telegram inviting him to speak to the State convention, where I was the State commandant, he was the only one that accepted. Normally the marines in Wisconsin were not large numerically, and

¹ For documents submitted by Mr. Corbin, see appendix, pp. 1456-1465.

most of the Senators and Congressmen—I would say all of them as a rule—turned it down unless it was held in Milwaukee. Then, as a rule, a Congressman would attend or, if it was an election year, they would all be there. So, some of the charges that are made against me about being a Communist—on the same day they were calling me a Communist, I was being accused of being with Joe McCarthy and making speeches against the “Truman war” and asking for more vigorous action for victory, to drop the atom bomb across the Yalu River and untying the hands of General MacArthur. That was my position. I would like to submit some of these articles from the newspapers.

I made those speeches. At the same time, of course, I incurred the wrath of some new people. The Democrats in my home town were irritated because I invited Joe to my detachment and was taking that position, and I made an attempt at one time in a Democratic meeting to get an endorsement of Senator Joe McCarthy’s activity relative to exposing communism. So I incurred their wrath, and years later on they all came back and said, “We will get even with Corbin now.”

Mr. TAVENNER. All right now. During that period that you were active in the Marine Corps League, you stated that you were engaged in the advertising business with the Marine Corps League, is that correct?

Mr. CORBIN. I signed contracts with them, yes. I sold for them on a commission basis.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, you were representing the Marine Corps League and, at the same time, you were doing business with them?

Mr. CORBIN. Not when I held that position, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who did you sign the contracts with?

Mr. CORBIN. With various detachments, with various detachments.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who procured the work from those various detachments? Who did the work?

Mr. CORBIN. I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. So you did the work and then you signed the contracts for payments to yourself?

Mr. CORBIN. No, Mr. Tavenner. I went outside the jurisdiction of my State. I went to Illinois, Iowa. I never engaged in a contract within my areas as commandant of Wisconsin even though at the time I had left office.

Mr. TAVENNER. You did not do it in your own name; is that what you mean?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. I didn’t do it under anybody else’s name.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you in business at that time with Mr. Kennedy?

(At this point Mr. Doyle left the hearing room.)

Mr. CORBIN. At what time are you referring?

Mr. TAVENNER. The time you are talking about when you were having these contracts with the Marine Corps League for advertising.

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Had you been in business with him before that, in the advertising business?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was it after that?

Mr. CORBIN. It was after that. Excuse me.

Mr. SCHERER. I move we recess for 15 minutes.

(Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)

(Members present at time of recess: Representatives Walter, Moulder, Tuck, Scherer, Johansen, Bruce, and Schadeberg.)

(Whereupon, at 3:20 p.m. the committee reconvened.)

(Members present: Representatives Doyle, Tuck, Scherer, Johansen, and Schadeberg.)

Mr. DOYLE. (presiding). It is now 3:20. A quorum is present. The meeting will come to order and we will proceed, please.

Are you ready, Mr. Tavenner, Witness and Counsel? Let the record show the committee members who are present, please: Mr. Schadeberg, Mr. Johansen, Mr. Scherer, Mr. Tuck, and Mr. Doyle.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, what was the date on which you entered into the advertising business with the Marine Corps League?

Mr. CORBIN. I am trying to recollect to the best of my knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me put it to you this way. Were you still employed with your union at the time you entered into it?

Mr. CORBIN. I am trying to answer that, Mr. Tavenner. You have an advantage over me, Mr. Tavenner. You have all the facts there. I am just trying to recollect them to the best of my ability. It has been quite some time ago. When I worked for the union, as I stated, I had become active in Marine affairs and organized my detachment. I am just trying to give you a coherent answer as to how Joe Kennedy got back in with me. I had put in a bid for the convention to be held in Janesville, that our detachment should be host, and we were awarded the convention. We had our problem at the time when you put on a convention as to the finances of paying the expenses for the distinguished guests and the local commandant.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me interrupt you there. You said it was at the time of that convention that you made this arrangement about work for the advertising?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I didn't say that. I am just trying to give it to you in my words, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. I am trying to understand.

Mr. CORBIN. Just give me a chance. It is very difficult for me to exactly give exact dates. So I had gone over to the Rockford detachment of the Marines, which is approximately 40 miles from Janesville, to ask them if they could send some visitors over to make the crowd look larger, and it was there that I ran across Joe Kennedy, who informed me that he was now in the egg business and chickens. He was a trucker—and cheese—and he was about to go out of it. I said, "Didn't you go back to the labor movement, Joe?" He said, "No, I am through with all that. I am going to stay in business." I said, "You are?" I said, "If you are interested in a proposition I can give you one, subject to the ratification of my detachment." He said, "What is it?" I said, "Did you ever think of going in and selling advertising?" He said, "I have never done it." I said, "We are having a convention coming to Janesville and we have to hire somebody to put out a program book. Would you be interested in it? If you are, we are having an executive meeting. Come on down." I was still working for the union. Joe came down to the detachment and said, "What is the going rate?" I said, "As a rule you pay 50 percent and you pay all the expenses." I said, "That is

usually the arrangement that is made." He said, "All right. I will take a crack at it." I was still working for the union. Our detachment, the convention chairman and myself, as commandant, and the paymaster and the adjutant, signed an agreement with Joe Kennedy. I was still in the labor movement. One of the arrangements I believe—I am not positive—I don't think he was allowed to sell in Janesville, although I am not sure of that. I think he could sell other towns, but I am not positive of that arrangement. He had gone to various cities, like Sheboygan and others, to sell advertising and he was not doing very well, naturally, because he just started it. At that time I quit my position with the union and went back to Janesville and I lived with my mother-in-law. At that time I had already decided what I was going to do.

I was going to go in the advertising business, selling ads for programs. Then I asked—we got a report from Mr. Kennedy who was working for our detachment on his sales that were down.

MR. TAVENNER. This is the explanation that you said you wanted to make earlier in your testimony as to how you became associated with Mr. Kennedy?

MR. CORBIN. Yes. I had asked him what he was doing. He was no longer in the labor movement. He was trying to make an honest dollar selling eggs and chickens and cheese. He had a truck. He was telling me how hard he worked. Of course, I know a little bit about farming. You have to go out and get the chickens and eggs.

MR. TAVENNER. Don't go so much into detail. It is a needless consumption of time. Just address yourself more directly to the point.

MR. CORBIN. All right. I will try to do that. So I went with Joe Kennedy. Joe was working in La Crosse for our detachment. His sales were down. I said, "Joe, I am going to go in there as a commandant of my detachment and I am going to show you how to sell, and every sale I make is yours. I will get some of the local boys." I went into La Crosse, met the Chamber of Commerce secretary, which he had not done, conferred with the Chamber of Commerce, and showed him how to sell. In the meantime, I had gone on my own and got some other contracts for Labor Day papers, specifically in Rockford for a paper they had called the *Advocate*. After Joe had completed his job with the Marine Corps League, he went back to Rockford and I met Joe in Rockford. I do not know whether he looked me up or I looked him up and I said, "Joe, have you found something to do yet?" He said, "No." I said, "I will tell you what, Joe. Are you still interested in business or are you going back to the old labor movement?" He said, "No, I am all through with the labor movement, Corbin. I am trying to earn a dollar." I said, "Fine. Are you interested in going in with me, going to Iowa and expanding to Minnesota, and see if we can get some contracts?" He said, "I can't sell, Paul, as you know." I said, "That is all right. You will learn." I said, "It's lonely to sell alone. If you will come along with me, we will go 50-50 and I will teach you how to sell advertising." So we went into partnership. We went into Iowa and we sold mainly Labor Day programs or some form of labor ads, usually a bulletin board. Excuse me. I am just trying to remember. After he finished the Marine Corps thing, he left. That is right. He left.

MR. TAVENNER. Didn't you take on the Navy Club first?

Mr. CORBIN. Just a moment. Give me time, Mr. Tavenner. You are way ahead of yourself another 6 months. He left and he went on his own and he was selling ads for some organization in Waterloo. I think it was a blood bank. He was on his own. Then when I met him when I worked in Rockford, he had picked up experience on his own, and I asked him how much he grossed and how he was doing and I said, "OK, let's go in together." So we went in together and he said to me he knew—and again I am trying to give you the best answer to the dates, Mr. Tavenner, because I just haven't got that perfect a memory. He said there was a Navy Club in Rockford which had the national headquarters and they had a paper, a magazine, and he thought maybe—he said he could not go there because he served in the Army but, inasmuch as I was a marine, which is part of the Navy with the Coast Guard, that I should make an approach and they could check me out on the basis of my Marine Corps activity back in Wisconsin.

Mr. TAVENNER. So you were in partnership again.

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. When I got the contract I believe, it might have been a month or so before, we signed a partnership agreement where Joe and I were partners. I don't know how long it lasted exactly. You have the dates.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. It began in February of 1948 and lasted up until 1949.

Mr. CORBIN. Right. The reason I quit with Joe Kennedy is I had come to pick him up on Sunday to leave to go to work on Monday in some other town and I was in there one Sunday and I saw a *Daily Worker* on his desk, and I said, "Joe, I thought you were through." He said, "Well, they just mail it to me." I said, "Joe, that is out." We would get into arguments and about a week later in Waukegan we split up.

Mr. TAVENNER. You split up, you say, over communism?

Mr. CORBIN. Over his connection with the labor movement and, also, some of the people in the Navy Club in Rockford were objecting to Joe Kennedy selling ads for this Navy.

Mr. TAVENNER. So you didn't want to have any more of him?

Mr. CORBIN. That is right. That was the end of that.

Mr. TAVENNER. And you terminated partnership?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then if you terminated the partnership why did you write a letter on the 11th day of April 1949, in which you said:

DEAR JOE:

Reason am writing, tried to reach you at home couple of times. I suppose you are on the road. I have two deals plus one am finishing now, however. I find that it gets monotonous working alone and I don't think it is as profitable because two people sell more working together and now that you have a car it would work out much better on the road because that was the reason for the differences with you.

Would you call me at Janesville as soon as you get in town or drop over to the house with Marion? It is pretty cool up here but still not cool enough to suit me. How's business? I understand you have swung a couple of big deals. I have, too, Joe, but frankly, the money ain't coming in as it used to when we both worked together. I don't like working alone.

I don't know how you feel about it, but I suppose if you feel the same as I do, I think we could make more together by pooling our energies and resources and I believe it is more congenial to work that way. However, I don't know how you feel about it so am putting out a feeler, so to speak.

In any event, let me hear from you, Joe.

PAUL.

Mr. CORBIN. May I see that letter, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. No; I don't have it. But it was read into the record. I saw it, but we don't have it.

Mr. CORBIN. I don't recall ever writing such a letter to Joe Kennedy.

Mr. SCHERER. You did. I saw your signature. I saw the letter. That shows that all of your testimony here—

Mr. CORBIN. I would like to see that letter, if I may.

Mr. TAVENNER. We will get it for you to look at.

Mr. CORBIN. I don't recall such a letter.

Mr. TAVENNER. If that is your letter, then the statement you made to us is misleading.

Mr. SCHERER. You are kind when you say "misleading."

Mr. CORBIN. I stand on my statement that I never asked Joe Kennedy to come back or to go with him.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is not the question. You did not terminate the relationship because of any disagreement over communism. You terminated it, according to this letter, because of disagreements over the use of a car.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. SCHERER. Will you answer that question, Witness. I might say that that letter is in your handwriting.

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I never wrote that letter.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, now, will you explain to us why you call Mr. Kennedy a nut now, and you entered into partnership on at least two different occasions with a man that you now call a nut. You didn't think that he was a nut then, did you?

Mr. CORBIN. What two occasions, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. The two that you have described.

Mr. CORBIN. Once.

Mr. TAVENNER. You said that you were working in connection with him in the Marine Corps League and then that you stopped and then later came in again.

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. I didn't say that, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, the record will speak for itself.

Mr. CORBIN. I would like to have that read back to me. I am sorry. I was trying to explain to you that the only relationship I had was a business deal with Joe when I signed—you have the dates—and we terminated it. Now, the engagement that he had with the detachment was not as a partner. I was working for the labor movement when he was selling that for the detachment.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by the detachment?

Mr. CORBIN. That is the Marine detachment.

Mr. SCHERER. You got part of the money he made?

Mr. CORBIN. I certainly did not, sir. The records of the Janesville detachment—and Congressman Schadeberg is from that area and can check into it—the profits of that, Mr. Schadeberg, are lying in the bank of Merchants & Savings. Ann Nolan in the Trust Department is holding the profits of the sale of that advertising convention for the purpose of either giving a scholarship or building a clubhouse. The profits of that convention were converted in a bond at my resolution when I was commandant and turned over to Mr. McRoberts, who at that time was the president of the bank, who was a former marine, who is since dead; and when he died, I went to see Mr. Matheson,

the bank president, and he said, "Don't worry, Paul. Ann Nolan has got it in the Trust Department of the Merchants & Savings Bank." That is where the profits are today.

Mr. SCHERER. Joe Kennedy made some profits on that.

Mr. CORBIN. He worked for it. He sold advertising.

Mr. SCHERER. That he split with you. You could not take any on the surface because of your connection with the Marine Corps.

Mr. CORBIN. My answer to that, sir, is "No."

Mr. SCHERER. All right.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Tavenner, we are going to have to go to that quorum call. I must go. I have a perfect record there, and I don't want to break it. I will rush, though.

(Whereupon, at 3:35 p.m. the hearing recessed.)

(Present at time of recess: Representatives Doyle, Tuck, Scherer, Johansen, and Schadeberg.)

(The committee reconvened at 3:50 p.m.)

(Present at the time the committee reconvened: Representatives Walter, Doyle, Willis, Scherer, Johansen, Bruce, and Schadeberg.)

The CHAIRMAN. All right, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, I want to apologize for having misread a date. I misread the transcript as showing that the date was in April 1949 of the letter that I was questioning you about. So, I will ask you a few other questions first and then clear up the matter of the date.

Mr. CORBIN. In other words, sir, there is no date on the letter at all?

Mr. TAVENNER. No; and I am coming to that in just a moment. Now, Mr. Corbin, where were you in the summer, in July of 1949? Do you recall?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember. It would be impossible for me to remember. I say it would be very difficult for me to remember.

Mr. TAVENNER. Does this refresh your recollection: That you were in Green Bay, Wis.?

Mr. CORBIN. I have been in Green Bay several times, but I can't recall whether it is the summer of 1949.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you stay when you were in Green Bay, Wis.?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember. I can't remember. I know I was at a convention in Green Bay, at a Marine Corps convention, and I can't remember the year.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you stay at the Hotel Northland?

Mr. CORBIN. When I was at the convention that is where I stayed at.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, in order that there be no uncertainty about the date of the letter, let me read you exactly from the testimony:

Question. * * *. Do you have that letter with you?

Answer. Yes, I do.

Question. Would you care to read the letter?

Answer. Yes. It is on the stationery of the Hotel Northland and it is from Green Bay, Wis.

Question. What is the date?

Answer. There is no date on the letter, but the envelope carries the date of July 6, 1949.

Question. That is the postmark date?

Answer. Yes, sir. I have here that the last day of our partnership was April 11, 1949, so this letter was several months later.

Now, I inadvertently referred to the date of the letter as being April 11, but the situation is as I have just read it from the testimony.

The CHAIRMAN. I think that clarifies it. Ask him about the date of the envelope, the postmark.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you in Green Bay, Wis., on July 6, 1949?

Mr. CORBIN. It is very difficult to give you an honest answer if I was there at that date.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, I have read to you the letter.

Mr. CORBIN. Will you read that letter again, sir. It has no date on the letter, is that it?

Mr. TAVENNER. That is right, but there is a postmark date on the envelope, which the witness testified contained the letter which I am now going to read:

DEAR JOE:

Reason am writing, tried to reach you at home couple of times. I suppose you are on the road. I have two deals plus one am finishing now, however. I find that it gets monotonous working alone and I don't think it is as profitable because two people sell more working together and now that you have a car it would work out much better on the road because that was the reason for the differences with you.

Would you call me at Janesville as soon as you get in town or drop over to the house with Marion? It is pretty cool up here but still not cool enough to suit me. How's business? I understand you have swung a couple of big deals. I have, too, Joe, but frankly, the money ain't coming in as it used to when we both worked together. I don't like working alone.

I don't know how you feel about it, but I suppose if you feel the same as I do, I think we could make more together by pooling our energies and resources and I believe it is more congenial to work that way. However, I don't know how you feel about it so am putting out a feeler, so to speak.

In any event, let me hear from you, Joe.

PAUL.

Mr. SCHERER. Now, the witness has previously testified that he never wrote such a letter.

Mr. CORBIN. Sir, I do not recall writing such a letter. In view of the fact it has no date, and I can't recall being in Green Bay on that date, I would appreciate if I can see that letter before I answer that question. I just can't remember. I can't visualize myself writing such a letter, after I was glad to get rid of the guy, and I can't remember why I would be motivated to write to him. But I would like to see that letter and the handwriting before I answer that question.

Mr. SCHERER. Witness, just a few minutes ago, before we recessed, when I said I saw the letter and it was in your handwriting, why did you say that you absolutely never wrote such a letter?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner read off a date to me, a specific date.

Mr. SCHERER. That was not involved in my question at all.

Mr. CORBIN. He was so factual about it that my answer was "no," but, inasmuch as he now apologizes and there is a doubt as to the existence of the letter—

The CHAIRMAN. There is no doubt as to the existence at all. The question is the date. That is all.

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Chairman, I just can't visualize when I broke up this partnership. I was glad to get rid of Mr. Kennedy because, first, he could not sell as much as I did and, secondly, and the most important thing, is that working for the Navy Club I was getting complaints from the people in Rockford that he was very active in the labor

movement, and I was active in the Marines and knew he was reading that literature and still, which indicated an interest in the labor movement to the extent that I no longer had. So I disassociated myself, and I was tickled to death to do that, and I can't visualize myself what would motivate me to write Mr. Kennedy such a letter.

Mr. JOHANSEN. When you say the type of literature that he was reading indicated that he still had an interest in the labor movement, don't you mean it indicated he still had an interest in the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, he was reading literature that I would not read.

Mr. JOHANSEN. You testified it was the *Daily Worker*.

Mr. CORBIN. It was. The *Daily Worker* was the thing that I saw which—

Mr. JOHANSEN. That didn't indicate a continuing interest in the labor movement, did it?

Mr. CORBIN. No.

Mr. JOHANSEN. It indicated a continuing interest in the Communist Party, didn't it?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct. That is correct. It was a buildup of reasons. I was getting remarks from certain Navy people that they didn't think that Joe should be with me; he was an Army man, he was in the labor movement.

Mr. JOHANSEN. And reading the *Daily Worker*?

Mr. CORBIN. That was in my own mind, reading the *Daily Worker*. I thought them all nuts for that.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you not yourself sell subscriptions to the *Daily Worker*?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you not sell a subscription of the *Daily Worker* to a prominent lawyer in Rockford?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you not regularly read the *Daily Worker* at one time?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. I will tell the truth. When I was in the labor movement, in the union, in the union offices at that time we had the *CIO News* laying around.

(At this point Mr. Tuck returned to the hearing room.)

Mr. CORBIN. We had various workers' journals; the *Daily Workers* laying around, just as if it was part of the labor movement, I might have picked it up sitting there, just as I would any periodical, but I was not a regular reader of the *Daily Worker* and I would just pick it up as a regular labor medium at that time. At that time in the CIO in those early days those were displayed around.

Mr. SCHERER. You are still saying in response to the question that you never sold subscriptions to the *Daily Worker*?

Mr. CORBIN. That is right, sir. I never sold subscriptions to the *Daily Worker*.

Mr. SCHERER. That is all.

The CHAIRMAN. Go ahead, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. With regard to the *Daily Worker*, here is this testimony from Mr. Kennedy:

Question. Do you know whether he [meaning you] sold the *Daily Worker*?

Answer. He sold some subscriptions to the *Daily Worker*. I can give you a specific instance.

Question. Go ahead.

Answer. He sold a subscription one time while I was present with a well-known attorney in Rockford. I can't think of his name. Can I come back to that question later? The name will come to me.

First of all, let's see if the name did come to him. I believe it did. (Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) :

Question. There was a name of an attorney in Rockford who subscribed to the *Daily Worker* being sold by Paul Corbin. Do you recall now who that was?

Answer. That was an attorney, James Berry.

Mr. CORBIN. I never sold a subscription in my life to Mr. Berry or anybody else.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you know him?

Mr. CORBIN. I recall the name Mr. Berry; yes.

Mr. SCHERER. The question was, do you know him, not whether you recall his name.

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I haven't seen Mr. Berry I would say—

Mr. SCHERER. That wasn't my question. My question is, Do you know Mr. Berry, or did you know Mr. Berry?

Mr. CORBIN. I did know Mr. Berry. I wouldn't recognize him today if he walked in here.

Mr. TAVENNER. Another question was asked Mr. Kennedy regarding Communist Party literature:

Question. Was the Communist Party literature or the *Daily Worker* ever supplied you by either Paul Corbin or his wife?

Answer. Yes. Corbin brought me copies of the *Daily Worker*.

Mr. CORBIN. That is not true, sir. I never did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you subscribe to the *Daily Worker* yourself?

Mr. CORBIN. I never paid for a subscription in my life to the *Daily Worker* and I would like to explain that. In the labor movement when you went to work, when I went to work for those unions, the *Daily Worker* was automatically mailed to every organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then you received that regularly?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, it was sent to me on occasion. I think it was a Sunday edition.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was it sent to you at the Hotel Nelson in Rockford?

Mr. CORBIN. It might have been. I am not sure. I can't remember, but I never paid.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you distribute the *Daily Worker* to any people?

Mr. CORBIN. I never distributed a *Daily Worker* in my life to anybody.

Mr. JOHANSEN. You did distribute regular labor papers and material in the course of your work; did you, or did you not?

Mr. CORBIN. When we were organizing a plant, we would mimeograph pamphlets pertaining to that particular plant, to the working hours and the conditions to get the people in the plant to join. That is the extent of it.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Regular printed labor organization newspapers?

Mr. CORBIN. No.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Or publications?

Mr. CORBIN. No, no, no. Just the pamphlets which we would mimeograph when you were organizing a plant.

Mr. BRUCE. Did you at that time know that the *Daily Worker* was an organ of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes.

Mr. BRUCE. And at this time, as I recall your testimony, you had really no knowledge about communism at all? I mean, as I piece together what you have told us, while you were in the labor movement you didn't know whether any of these people were, and didn't suspect that they were, until after you left the labor movement?

Mr. CORBIN. I still don't know who the Communists were.

Mr. BRUCE. Didn't that strike you as strange, that you would automatically receive, when you became a union organizer, the Communist *Daily Worker*? Didn't that arouse a suspicion in your mind.

Mr. CORBIN. At that time, sir, in the labor movement, maybe I was naive, more so than the next man, but I didn't know what communism was.

Mr. BRUCE. But you knew that the *Daily Worker* was a Communist publication?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. I never knew that the Communist Party was the enemy of this country. I never knew that they advocated the overthrow of our country. I never knew the evil philosophy they had. So help me God, that is the truth.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Why was it then that you were so incensed when you saw the *Daily Worker* on the desk of Kennedy, to such an extent that you would terminate your relationship with him?

Mr. CORBIN. At that time, sir, I had become really active in the veterans affairs. I was reading literature and I was following more closely the newspaper and, having come out of the Marine Corps, as a matter of fact, that thinking started with Henry Wallace, who was advocating peace; and I was watching the papers and, having fought for the Marine Corps, I realized that these people are our enemies. I was beginning to see that these guys were not for us when they were moving on in Europe and it was purely as simple that any man could see it.

Mr. BRUCE. Sir, didn't you testify a few moments ago, if I recall, almost verbatim, that if you had known any of these people were Communists you wouldn't have worked for them for \$3 an hour, or \$40 a week, or \$4 million a week?

Mr. CORBIN. That is right.

Mr. BRUCE. Why would you feel like that if you didn't know anything about communism?

Mr. CORBIN. What period are you referring to, sir?

Mr. BRUCE. The period that you were in the labor movement in Wisconsin.

Mr. CORBIN. That was after the war, sir. I had been in the Marines and I had been honorably discharged and I had fought in Saipan and Okinawa.

Mr. BRUCE. Wasn't your relationship with people who have been identified as Communists during that period?

Mr. CORBIN. What was that, sir?

Mr. BRUCE. Wasn't your working relationship during that period in this labor movement with people who have been identified as Communists as well?

Mr. CORBIN. I don't know what people you are specifically referring to, but after the war when I was in Milwaukee, I was a marine, I knew what the score was, and I knew the Reds were our enemies. I knew that. I knew that they were our enemy.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Was it when you were in Milwaukee that you were held in connection with an anonymous call, that you were held by the police?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir; that was in Rockford.

Mr. JOHANSEN. That was prior to the war?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct, sir.

Mr. JOHANSEN. And this is when the police detective told you that Kennedy was reportedly a Communist?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes.

Mr. JOHANSEN. And that was when you moved out of the house?

Mr. CORBIN. It has been so long, and I am trying to recollect that. I can't remember specifically the date or me moving out of Joe Kennedy's house. It's so long.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Didn't the police detective's statement go to the fact that you were living in his house?

Mr. CORBIN. If the facts show, sir, that I was living in the house at that time, I would say the reasons, if I lived there, if I left, that would be the reason for me leaving.

Mr. SCHERER. You told us just this morning that the police lieutenant told you, "Do you know that you are living with a man who is a member of the Communist Party?"

That is the substance of your testimony this morning.

Mr. CORBIN. Excuse me.

Mr. SCHERER. When you went to the police headquarters and registered when you were arrested, you gave—

Mr. CORBIN. Joe's address?

Mr. SCHERER. Kennedy's address.

Mr. CORBIN. That is where I lived then.

Mr. SCHERER. I asked you this morning, if it wasn't a fact that you weren't living with Kennedy at that time but that you gave his address because of his influence?

Mr. CORBIN. Influence.

Mr. SCHERER. Yes. Kennedy and his officials had great influence with the police officials.

Mr. CORBIN. Sir, I had nothing to hide. I committed no crime. When they took me in there I had nothing to hide. I wasn't looking for influence.

Mr. SCHERER. That is the time you told us they held you 4 days?

Mr. CORBIN. I did not use his name for influence. I had nothing to worry about. I committed no crime.

Mr. SCHERER. May I ask one more question, Mr. Counsel. Mr. Corbin, as I understand it, you testified that you talked with Kennedy after you had both returned from the war and that you proposed to Kennedy that he go into the selling of advertising for the Marine Corps League. Is that correct?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. How did it happen that you would make that proposal with respect to selling advertising for the Marine Corps League to a man whose home you had moved out of because you had been told he was a Communist?

Mr. CORBIN. Sir, during that period of years he had joined the service. He was in the Army. He came out of the Army, sir, and he no longer was in the labor movement. He had a truck and he was selling butter, cheese.

Mr. SCHERER. Yes, but the labor movement, I assume, is not synonymous with the Communist Party. Did you, when you approached him on this possible enterprise, discuss with him the question of whether he had been a Communist?

Mr. CORBIN. Sir, I didn't think that in my mind. Maybe I am stupid, or was stupid or still am, but I just couldn't see a Communist working, throwing crates of eggs in a truck and doing hard work to make a living. I just couldn't see a Communist doing that. I always associated the Communists as being—

Mr. SCHERER. The fact is you did not, at any time in connection with this suggestion that he start selling advertising for the Marine Corps League, raise the question of his having been a Communist.

Mr. CORBIN. I asked him the question if he was interested in the labor movement. When I asked him that I was referring to his activities.

Mr. SCHERER. What reason did you have to believe that he knew you were referring to the matter of Communist affiliation?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I don't know what reason he would have, but I always associate with the Communists being in the labor movement.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you associate people being in the labor movement as being Communists automatically?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. It seems to me that that is the implication.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. In those days, sir, in those days.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you finished?

Mr. CORBIN. I didn't ask him that question but I assumed that he was out of it, sir. He had been in the Army. He had fought for his country. He should have learned some patriotism.

Mr. SCHERER. Later on you dissolved that partnership because you found him reading the *Daily Worker*?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. I asked you a question a while ago that you didn't answer, and I would like to come back to it.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER. You called Mr. Kennedy a nut. That is, you call him that now.

How can you square that with your having entered into a partnership arrangement with him that lasted over a period of several years?

Mr. CORBIN. Several years?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, 1948 and 1949.

Mr. CORBIN. What was the exact dates on that, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. My recollection is that Mr. Kennedy says it terminated in April of 1949.

Mr. CORBIN. It started when?

Mr. TAVENNER. And it began in 1948.

Mr. CORBIN. I didn't leave the labor movement until April of 1948. It had to have been less than a year, sir, not several years.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Say a year.

Mr. CORBIN. Or less than a year.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, answer my question, please, sir.

Mr. CORBIN. What was the question?

Mr. TAVENNER. Read the question.

(The pending question was read.)

Mr. CORBIN. Well, the partnership, as the evidence shows, has lasted less than a year; and, as I repeatedly stated, Joseph Kennedy came out of the service. He was no longer in the labor movement. He was working hard on this cheese-and-butter-and-egg thing. He had also fought in the war, and I assumed that his interest was in business and I just couldn't see a guy who was interested in business or working hard, a Communist. Maybe I am naive. I just can't put them together.

Mr. SCHERER. You weren't talking about Communists. You were talking about a nut, weren't you, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CORBIN. That is the same thing. He came out of the service. He was working hard. He was a different fellow.

Mr. SCHERER. Then the fact that he had a *Daily Worker* on his desk is the reason that you called him a nut? That is the reason?

Mr. CORBIN. I would say one of the reasons, yes.

Mr. SCHERER. Any other reason?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, Joe was a little frustrated, a little upset. He was brought up a very strong Catholic and left the church. He was also—well, as far as I was concerned, I thought he was a nut as far as his personal makeup was concerned.

Mr. SCHERER. All right.

Mr. TAVENNER. But he was the type of nut that you would go in business with.

Mr. CORBIN. As I stated, Mr. Tavenner, when he came out of the service, he had settled down and he had this truck and he was trying to make a go of it. He had been in the Army.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right.

Mr. Corbin, in addition to sections 3 and 4 of title 50, United States Code, section 844, which I read, I would like to call your attention to item 6 of the matters which shall be considered in determining membership or participation in the Communist Party. It reads as follows:

(6) Has conferred with officers or other members of the organization in behalf of any plan or enterprise of the organization;

During the period from 1946 to 1948, when you were extensively engaged in trade union activities, several instances of unusual note occurred. One was the veterans march on Madison, the State capital. This occurred on April 13, 1946. Were you a member of the Wisconsin State CIO Veterans Committee at the time of this occurrence?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you become a member of the Wisconsin Veterans Committee?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember the exact date.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, you had been out of the service only about 5 months, had you not?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How soon after you got out of the service did you become a member of that organization?

Mr. CORBIN. I would assume, and I can't give the exact date, that when I was in the labor movement in Milwaukee that I would naturally be drawn into the CIO Veterans Committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted at this time with Fred Blair, the head of the Communist Party for the State of Wisconsin?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I was not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you acquainted with Fred Blair?

Mr. CORBIN. That all depends what you meant, "acquainted." I probably met him.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first meet him?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I believe the first time, we used to go to a place called Childs there for coffee, the organizers in the CIO hall; and we went in there one day and we sat around and this fellow came in and sat down and he said, "This is Mr. Fred Blair."

He said, "What do you do," and he said "I am some official of the Communist Party," and I sort of laughed and after I finished my coffee I left, and I might have seen him once or twice on occasions such as that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you at any time ask advice of Fred Blair as to what veterans organization you should affiliate with?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you given orders or counseled in any way by the Communist Party or any members of it—

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Wait a minute—regarding the planning of the march on the State capital or your participation in it?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not. The march on the State capital was—every GI who didn't have a home and had the problem of housing was vitally interested. I believe it was in regard to State loans for GI's to buy homes and I believe—I don't believe I know what the exact figure, but there must have been a couple of thousand of us veterans from all over the State that went to Madison.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you one of the delegates that called on the Governor on that occasion?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I believe I was the secretary or had some title in the veterans. It believe it was the secretary.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Emil Costello also a member of the delegation with you?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. I believe he was. I am not positive but I believe he would be, because he was a veteran. He would be there. I can't recall seeing him there but I would imagine that it would naturally follow that he would be.

Mr. TAVENNER. Another incident of note occurred during the period of your involvement with trade union activities and that was the Allis-Chalmers strike. The committee has ascertained from its investigation that during the latter part of April 1947 a defense com-

mittee was set up to reinstate the 91 employees who had been discharged by Allis-Chalmers and that Philip Smith of UE was elected chairman and you were elected treasurer, is that correct?

MR. CORBIN. Yes, sir; that is correct.

MR. TAVENNER. Was Philip Smith a member of the Communist Party?

MR. CORBIN. I have no idea of knowing.

MR. TAVENNER. During your association with Philip Smith, did he at any time give orders to you relating to activities of the Communist Party?

MR. CORBIN. No, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. The committee's information also is that a committee was elected from the floor of the meeting consisting of three persons to assist the officers in their work and that this committee consisted of Harold Christoffel, Hyman Cohen, and Al Hirsch. Do you recall whether that is correct, that those three persons assisted you?

MR. CORBIN. I can't remember because I resigned from that committee. I don't remember the dates. I resigned from that committee.

MR. TAVENNER. Were they not designated at the same time that you were elected treasurer?

MR. CORBIN. I can't remember that, sir. I don't remember even if I was there when I was elected treasurer. It was a strict question of trade unionism with 91 people discharged. The entire labor movement in Wisconsin were supporting that strike, and I recall vaguely that the reason they wanted me as secretary was because I worked up in the office and I had a desk, an office there, and they wanted to know if I would be secretary or treasurer. I can't remember what it was.

MR. TAVENNER. It was treasurer, I think.

MR. CORBIN. Treasurer, and I said, "That is all right with me." I said, "won't do any work because I am too busy but it is all right for a place for the mail to come in."

I said, "That is OK with me," because everybody at that time, the entire labor movement in Wisconsin, were supporting the Allis-Chalmers workers.

MR. TAVENNER. My question to you was about Harold Christoffel, Hyman Cohen, and Al Hirsch being a committee to assist.

MR. CORBIN. I don't see how they could assist me because I wasn't doing anything. I was treasurer.

MR. TAVENNER. As a treasurer, didn't you collect funds?

MR. CORBIN. I didn't collect them. They had—I am pretty positive that they mailed out brochures across the country. They had girls sending out brochures for an appeal for the fund and the address was to send the check to the treasurer, to me.

MR. TAVENNER. And you received the money?

MR. CORBIN. It was mailed to me, yes.

MR. TAVENNER. Did you know Harold Christoffel to be a member of the Communist Party?

MR. CORBIN. No, I did not, sir.

MR. TAVENNER. Did you know Hyman Cohen to be a member of the Communist Party?

MR. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have already asked about Al Hirsch. Now, did either Harold Christoffel or Hyman Cohen give you any directions regarding any matters relating to Communist Party activities?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever take orders of any character from any of the three, including Hirsch?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, I want to read three more sections of the elements going into the matter of determining membership or participation in the Communist Party. Item 1, in the statute:

(1) Has been listed to his knowledge as a member in any book or any of the lists, records, correspondence, or any other document of the organization;

(7) Has been accepted to his knowledge as an officer or member of the organization or as one to be called upon for services by other officers or members of the organization;

(13) Has in any other way participated in the activities, planning, actions, objectives, or purposes of the organization;

Now, I propose to ask you various questions relating to alleged conferences between you and other persons regarding membership in the Communist Party. I will have occasion to refer to your wife, Gertrude Cox Corbin. I will not ask you any question as to your knowledge of her alleged Communist Party activities, but it will be necessary to question you regarding statements alleged to have been made by you regarding her. Now, I desire, first, to read from the testimony of Mr. Kennedy:

* * * I understand that she [referring to your wife] became a member of the party in Chicago before he went to service in World War II; that he did not become a member then because he was not a citizen. This is what they told me. I don't know whether it was true or not.

Question. Whom do you mean by "they"?

Answer. Paul and Gertrude Corbin. Then, when they went to the West Coast, she was active and he became a citizen during the service and then went back to Wisconsin and then became a member of the party. That is the way the picture has been presented to me by the Corbins.

This is Mr. Kennedy:

I understand from conversations with the Corbins that Mrs. Gertrude Cox Corbin became a party member when they lived in Chicago, prior to his going into the Marine Corps. Then I further understand from conversation with them that she transferred her membership when she was moved to the West Coast, to San Diego, with Paul Corbin.

Question. Was it in that general area of those same conversations that you learned of his having become a member of the party after he became a citizen in Milwaukee?

Answer. Sir, the conversations wherein he told me of his membership in the party, of course, occurred after the war and concerned his membership in Milwaukee.

Question. About when were those conversations?

Answer. I would say several times during the year 1946.

Question. That was in conversations where—in Milwaukee or where?

Answer. At my house in Rockford and at his mother-in-law's house in Janesville and at his apartment in Milwaukee.

Now, did you at any time make any statement to Mr. Kennedy that you had become a member of the Communist Party in Milwaukee?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. Absolutely.

Mr. SCHERER. Or were the statements read to you by Mr. Tavenner true or false?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely false.

Mr. TAVENNER. At another place Mr. Kennedy testified that:

* * * She [meaning Mrs. Corbin] wrote letters to my wife, and so on, and he wrote one or two letters to me and they were talking about some of their activities, and so forth.

Question. Do you have any letter from either Mr. or Mrs. Corbin indicating their activities in the Communist Party or connection with it?

Answer. I am sure I don't have because we moved a couple of times since then, and I did not save them.

Question. What was the nature of the letters?

Answer. Just personal letters, and some of the activities she was carrying on.

I might add for the record, while she was in California, she had something to do with penetrating the Telephone Workers Union and trying to get the Telephone Workers Union to leave its independent status and become affiliated with the CIO Communications Workers of America,¹ which was leftwing dominated.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER (continuing).

Question. Did you have any further discussion after getting out of the service with Paul Corbin regarding Communist Party membership by him?

Answer. Yes. Every time I would see him he would be talking about how he was wheeling and dealing and he was always talking about Fred Bassett Blair, who I believe was State chairman of the Communist Party of Wisconsin, and Harold Christoffel, who I am sure is well known to this committee, and Costello, and a number of other people whose names I do not remember.

I was busy in the egg business and I did not pay too much attention to it. I was working about 12 hours a day then.

Question. I believe you said he told you how he was always wheeling and dealing with these known Communists.

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Could you just tell us the nature of his wheeling and dealing as he related it to you?

Answer. I can't really remember too much. He specifically used to tell about going out with this Fred Bassett Blair, with whom he had some sort of an affinity, and sit around having a Scotch or a beer and talking about all sorts of things about the party; but, as I say, I was not active in the party then and I really didn't pay much attention, you know, about the specific things that he discussed with Mr. Blair.

Question. But he told you of Communist discussions with known Communists?

Answer. Yes, sir, he did.

Question. Did he specifically state whether or not he was at that time a member of the Communist Party?

Answer. Yes, he did.

Question. Tell us in more detail about that.

Answer. On several occasions when he would drop in to see me, he told me about he and Fred Bassett Blair associating together and being at meetings and he told me about being at some party meeting and getting into a fist fight and slugging one of his fellow comrades and a lot of things like this. I did not pay too much attention to it in detail.

Question. Did he at any time make any statement to you regarding any particular phases of Communist Party work in which he was engaged?

Answer. He was interested in work in the trade union field and following the party line of the then dominant group in the Wisconsin State CIO.

Mr. SCHERER. I think at this point, Mr. Chairman, I should ask the witness again whether or not any of the statements made by Mr. Kennedy as read to him by Mr. Tavenner, were false.

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, I would like to answer that question now to you. No. 1, inasmuch as my wife's name is interjected into this thing, I would like to say those who know my wife know that she has been a Republican Party member—

Mr. TAVENNER. Just a minute.

¹ Actually the American Communications Association.

Mr. CORBIN. You raised my wife's name, and I have a constitutional privilege to defend her. She has been a member of the Republican Party all her life. She had been a member of the Congregational Church all her life. Anybody talking about my wife penetrating unions on behalf of communism is absolutely crazy and should be incarcerated. As far as following the line, in Milwaukee during that period, there were articles written in the *Milwaukee Sentinel* exposing every fellow traveler and alleged Communist, by the *Milwaukee Sentinel*. You can check every single article in that résumé and, at no time, were all the labor leaders who were mentioned or people who worked in the labor movement in Milwaukee—everybody's name was mentioned but Paul Corbin. I was never a follower of the Communist line, never voted with the Communists. That is a matter of record. You can go to the *Milwaukee Sentinel* and see the exposé. At no time was the name of Paul Corbin mentioned. The answer to the question is entirely, absolutely "No."

Mr. TAVENNER. I was merely trying to advise you that I am not asking you to answer any question regarding your wife, but if you want to do it voluntarily, that is your privilege.

Mr. CORBIN. You raised the point, and I am just trying to tell you my wife is a very deeply religious woman, a member of the Republican Party, and the arguments we have had is because I am a Democrat and she is a Republican. We have had a hard time keeping her quiet during the campaign. She voted for Mr. Schadeberg, went up and down the streets of Janesville, got his petition signed, and I believe signed his petition nomination in my home town of Janesville.

Mr. SCHERER. Mr. Tavenner, is there an answer to my last question?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, I thought there was.

Mr. CORBIN. My answer is—

Mr. SCHERER. My last question was whether or not the statements made by Mr. Kennedy before this committee under oath, as read to you by Mr. Tavenner, are true or false.

Mr. CORBIN. They are false, sir.

Mr. WILLIS. Mr. Chairman, would it be permissible for me to be excused for about 5 minutes?

The CHAIRMAN. Surely.

Mr. HOOKER. Excuse me, just 1 minute, Mr. Tavenner.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you advised at any time by Fred Blair—

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Tavenner, Mr. Kennedy has made serious charges and this is the greatest day of my life, because I love America and would die for it, just like any other man in this room. He says about letters being sent to him. Why doesn't he produce all these communications, all these evidences? He just reads off a bunch of charges.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Were you advised by Fred Blair to attend Communist Party meetings at Beloit, Wisconsin?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Giacomo, John Giacomo, are you acquainted with him?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, very well.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Giacomo has related under oath that you claimed that you were engaged in formulating Communist Party policy. Is that true?

I said, Did you tell him that ?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not, sir.

Mr. Giacomo used to go around Milwaukee and call me a spy for the FBI and the employers, because everybody's name was in the exposé of Communists but me. He says, "That's the guy that is doing it right here. Look at him."

Mr. SCHERER. Were you ever an undercover agent for the FBI?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

The accusation's made, and now Mr. Giacomo has changed his accusation, because when I was in Milwaukee every day he would go by my office. "Well, how's the labor spy? How is the FBI agent?"

Mr. TAVENNER. And you were on friendly terms with him, were you not?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, I was. You lived in an office. You meet him. In fact, I like Giacomo.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever solicit him to become a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not.

Mr. TAVENNER. I read you some of his testimony :

Question. Did you have an occasion to discuss with Paul Corbin any matters related to the Communist Party?

Answer. No; Paul had never discussed it with me. May I just take it from there?

Question. Yes.

Now this is testimony before this committee :

Answer. Paul had never discussed this thing of communism with me as a general discussion, but he did one day entering into the building at 108 West Wells Street, where the United Steelworkers had their district headquarters, ask me—put it to me substantially this way, and I don't recall his exact words—"Are you—when are you going to join the party?" Of course, I just shoved it off and told him I had not thought about it at all.

On another occasion—

Let me ask you first—

(Counsel conferred with witness.)

Mr. TAVENNER. That statement is correct?

Mr. CORBIN. I would like to explain it this way, Mr. Tavenner: In my mind, Mr. Giacomo always impressed me as different than the rest of the fellows up there. We used to go out together. In fact, I was one of the very few people that he invited to his oldest daughter's wedding. We liked each other because, in retrospect, we were probably different than the other fellows that were around there, and I used to facetiously and on several occasions used to needle Giacomo. I would say "John, how's the Communist Party going?" In my mind I felt that he wasn't, because he was a little different. We voted different. I used to occasionally kid him because he was connected with Steelworkers and had been there years before I got there, and I always used to needle him about not being in the service. I would say, "How come you didn't fight for your country? What are you, a Communist?"

I might have said that in the elevator, because I always used to like to needle the guys who stayed out of the service.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then you admit you said to him, "When are you going to join the party?"

Mr. CORBIN. No, I never said that to him.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is all this explanation about?

Mr. CORBIN. I would facetiously needle him about being a Communist or I might have said "Have you joined? Are you a Red?"

Mr. TAVENNER. Or "When are you going to join the party?"

Mr. CORBIN. Oh, no.

Mr. BRUCE. Is Giacomo the man that you testified a moment ago spread all over the area that you were an FBI spy?

Mr. CORBIN. That's correct.

Mr. BRUCE. And yet he was a friend of yours?

Mr. CORBIN. I didn't feel insulted by being associated with the FBI.

Mr. JOHANSEN. But he also accused you of being a company spy, did he not? Didn't you so testify?

Mr. CORBIN. He used to say, "You think like the employers do."

Mr. SCHERER. You just testified a few minutes ago that he accused you of being a company spy.

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, he accused me of that.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Was he just needling you when he did that?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, sir, he has been doing it ever since I left the labor movement, so evidently he hadn't been needling. He still says it. In fact, he claims in Milwaukee that he said that in front of the committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. That he said what in front of the committee?

Mr. CORBIN. That I was a labor spy and spy for the Republican Party and an FBI agent.

Mr. SCHERER. I think you should ask him about the next sentence.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me read you the rest of his answer.

On another occasion, Paul asked me, "Why don't you join the Communist Party?" I put it off again. Just when this was I don't know, but it had to be from the period in 1946 or 1947, sometime in there, because, as I say, the cleanup in the labor movement in the State of Wisconsin came in the fall, I think, of 1947, when they had a convention in Wisconsin where they threw out all of the so-called Communists and the other fellows took over. On one or two occasions he asked me if I wanted to make a contribution to the party.

Mr. CORBIN. That, sir, is untrue, false.

The CHAIRMAN. What reason would there be for your friend to make such a false accusation?

Mr. CORBIN. It is a very hard thing to understand what motivates people to say things. He, as of this date, sir, will tell people in Wisconsin that he is willing to bet his life he would be the most surprised man in the world if I have turned out to have been a Communist. He says that every day in the street, he just can't visualize Paul Corbin being a Communist. He has told that to several people. Yet, in the same breath, he says that I asked him to join and, in the same breath, he says he would be the most surprised man in the world if I was, that I am an FBI spy. I can't understand what motivates people.

Mr. DOYLE. Do I understand that you have information that he is saying just what you said recently in Milwaukee?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes.

Mr. DOYLE. In the last month or two?

Mr. CORBIN. No, not the last month or two. I heard that, sir, when all this controversy—

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. What was that question, sir?

Mr. DOYLE. Will the reporter please read it?

The CHAIRMAN. I heard "when all this controversy," is what you said.

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. I will tell you specifically where I heard it.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. The person who told me this statement. Is that the question?

Mr. DOYLE. I asked whether or not you had heard recently from Milwaukee that Giacomo was making the statement that you just related you heard him make.

Mr. CORBIN. I was told that Giacomo was making the statements that he would be the most surprised man in the world if I ever was a Communist, he just couldn't visualize me being a Communist, he thought I was a spy for the Republican Party or the employers or the FBI, and the only reason he objected to me working for the Democratic Party, he thought I was in the pay of the Republican Party.

Mr. JOHANSEN. When was this statement supposed to have been made?

Mr. CORBIN. It was supposed to have been made after he had appeared in front of this committee. He is supposed to have made this statement to this committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, that is what I had reference to. The witness when he appeared here testified as I have stated, but he also said—

* * * I hardly believe that he was so [that is, a Communist Party member] because he was dedicated to that ideology or the principles of that party.

In other words, that is his language, that he didn't believe that you were a member of the Communist Party insofar as being dedicated to the ideology or the principles of the party. He stated that.

Mr. DOYLE. Did he testify that way before this committee?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir. And when this question was asked him:

But you indicate that, from all of these conversations that you had with him and the statements he made concerning the party or the Communist Party, there was no doubt in your mind that he was a member of the party.

His answer was:

At first I thought he was, but then I began to revise my thinking on this and since then I have held to that revision of my thinking. It seems to me that it just does not jibe. It would not surprise me if Paul didn't give the writer of the John Sentinel articles some information or help him in the formulation of the story.

So he did take the position with the committee that Mr. Corbin said certain things but, in spite of Mr. Corbin's admission, he didn't believe they were true. That was the sum and substance of his testimony. But now I want to refer to—

Mr. SCHERER. Are you going to pursue further discussions that Giacomo had with the FBI about Corbin reporting on him?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, I can.

Mr. SCHERER. I think it is important.

Let me ask. When was the last time you saw Giacomo?

Mr. CORBIN. Giacomo?

Well, it is either—I am not quite certain—it was either the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles, or I might have bumped into him at the inaugural ball here in January of 1961, but I am not sure.

Mr. SCHERER. Have you seen him since?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I have not.

Mr. SCHERER. Have you talked to him on the phone?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Nobody on your behalf has talked to him?

Mr. CORBIN. Not to my knowledge, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Congressman, to follow up the question that you asked me to go into:

Question. What was your next personal relationship with Paul Corbin after he returned to Janesville?

Answer. I don't know whether it was in 1947 or the 1949 session of the legislature—I wish I could remember this vividly but I can't—1947 or 1949 legislature in the State of Wisconsin. I was engaging in just some general discussions with Paul Corbin. He, as usual, looked around to see that no one could hear and he said, "Giacomo, the FBI was over to my house." I said, "Why were they over to your house?" Paul said, "They want some information concerning you," meaning me. I said, "What have I done now?" "Well," he said, "the FBI has a jigsaw puzzle and all of the pieces fit. They have all the pieces fitting firmly in place with the exception of one. Now this jigsaw puzzle is not going to mean a thing to them until they get this one piece in its place. They think that one piece is you. So they are asking me what I know about you."

I said, "Yes, Paul, what did you tell them about me? What did you know about me?"

He said, "I told them to lay off you. You are a good guy, a clean guy, and I defended you."

Now, Mr. Corbin, did that occur substantially as related by Mr. Giacomo?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you say, "No, sir"?

Mr. CORBIN. That is correct.

Mr. SCHERER. Did the FBI ever talk to you about—

Mr. CORBIN. Can you reread the question because—

Mr. TAVENNER. You better repeat it.

(The pending question was read by the reporter.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Let's be more specific.

(The witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. I will explain my version of it, gentlemen. I can't remember the exact year, but one of my neighbors came over and said, "Paul, there was an FBI agent called on me and wanted to know what I thought of you as a neighbor and asked questions, where I thought you was born."

Mr. TAVENNER. Wanted to know about whom?

Mr. CORBIN. About me, my neighbor. And, oh, about 2 weeks later I ran into another citizen of Janesville who told me substantially the same thing. So I picked up a telephone and called the nearest FBI office, which was in Madison. I told them if they wanted to know any questions about me, where I was born, what I did, that I lived at 775 South Fremont Street and they were welcome to come, I would be very glad to answer any questions.

They said they would. I can't remember—It's quite some time ago—but at that time I believe they asked—

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you remember about when this was?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I can't remember what year it was, roughly, I can't remember. It was after the war. It was after I left the labor movement.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then it was after 1948?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. They asked me some questions, asked me if I was a member of the Communist Party; and I said I was not, never had been; and he asked me about what I thought about some people, what I thought at that time, and he asked me about John Giacomo, and I told him I did not think he was a Communist based upon his behavior in retrospect; and I met Giacomo—I don't know exactly where I met him—and I said to him, "John, the FBI was over at my house. They asked me about you, and I told them that I didn't think that you were ever a Communist." That was the extent of the conversation.

Mr. TAVENNER. You didn't say anything to him to the effect that they thought that he was the one piece that would solve the jigsaw puzzle?

Mr. CORBIN. No. I called the FBI and asked them to come over and talk to me.

Mr. SCHERER. Did the FBI question you about your membership in the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. As I said previously, they asked me if I ever was a member of the Communist Party, and I said "Never have been and I am not now."

Mr. SCHERER. Was that all they asked you?

Mr. CORBIN. They asked me various questions. They stayed in the house—I don't remember—a half hour or so. It is hard to remember.

Mr. SCHERER. They stayed in there longer than that, did they not?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember. I am doing this to the best of my ability.

Mr. SCHERER. What did they ask you in that half hour?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember.

Mr. SCHERER. You can't remember? You can't remember when the FBI calls on you and asks you about—

Mr. CORBIN. They were asking me about communism in the labor movement. I can't remember the specific questions. I just honestly can't.

Mr. SCHERER. Did they ask you some of the same questions we asked you here today?

Mr. CORBIN. I know they asked me if I was a member of the Communist Party, and I answered no. And I remember they asked me what I was doing for a living and I told them at that time I was the national chief of the staff of the Marines, that I was a business manager of the national magazine, and he asked for several copies, and I submitted several copies of the magazine.

Mr. SCHERER. What year was this?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember offhand, but I would say that would be 1952 or 1953, because I was chief of staff, I believe, in 1950 and 1951. It would have to be after that, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. That is the only time the FBI talked to you, is it, about your membership in the party?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I occasionally, on several occasions, talked to the FBI.

Mr. SCHERER. You voluntarily talked to them, or did they come and see you?

Mr. CORBIN. It was voluntary. I usually dropped in about four or five times in Madison or various times.

Mr. SCHERER. You mean you would report to them other persons' membership in the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. No. Specifically, it was in 1959 that I became chairman of the Citizens for Kennedy in Janesville, and there was a lot of anti-Catholic literature mailed to my house and people would call up every hour on the hour all night long and say "What are you doing? You are bringing a Catholic in."

And when this literature started coming in, I took some of it over, one or two pamphlets, to the FBI in Madison.

Mr. SCHERER. And it came into there in volumes?

Mr. CORBIN. No, no. Just one letter, "You S.O.B.," or something like that, some vile words, all kinds of just a lot of poison.

Mr. SCHERER. Were these letters addressed to you?

Mr. CORBIN. Addressed to me as chairman of the Citizens committee trying to get me to give it up.

Mr. BRUCE. Does the FBI have those letters now? Did you turn them over to them?

Mr. CORBIN. I turned them over to the FBI and related that they had thrown a rock through my window and had phoned me every hour on the hour during the night.

Mr. SCHERER. But it was only on this one occasion, as I understand it from your testimony, that they talked to you about your membership in the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. No, if I recall correctly—the FBI probably would have the records. I recall talking to the FBI agents on several occasions voluntarily, willing to see them.

Mr. SCHERER. About your own membership in the party?

Mr. CORBIN. I never was a member of the Communist Party, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. No. You just told us, a few minutes ago, that on one occasion they called on you and talked to you about a half hour concerning your Communist Party connections and you told them you weren't a member of the party.

Mr. CORBIN. They asked me if I had been a member of the Communist Party, and I said, "No."

Mr. SCHERER. My question is, Did they talk to you on any other occasion about your possible membership in the Communist Party other than that one time? That was a time you were a commandant in the Marine Corps when you said they talked to you?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. The only time?

Mr. CORBIN. I was not commandant of the Marine Corps at the time I talked to them. When I talked to them, I presented them the magazine that I was myself manager of and, as national chief of staff, I wrote some articles and that had to be, because I recall vividly giving them this magazine and that must have been, it had to be, after I was chief of staff, and I was no longer a commandant because I worked my way up in the chairs.

Mr. SCHERER. Was that the only time they talked to you about your possible connections with the Communist Party?

I still haven't gotten an answer to that question.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. I visited the FBI office at one time in Madison, I recall.

Mr. SCHERER. Was that voluntary, or at their request?

Mr. CORBIN. Always voluntary.

Mr. SCHERER. At this time you visited the office in Madison, did they talk to you at that time about possible Communist connections, or was it conversations about something else?

Mr. CORBIN. I honestly believe that they did not. I might be wrong, but my impression is they did not. They might have once more, but I doubt it. I am not sure. I can't remember. I have seen them several times, but I can't remember.

Mr. SCHERER. You can't tell us now anything, other than you have already told us, about what the FBI asked you in connection with possible Communist Party activities on your part?

Mr. CORBIN. No. Specifically, right now I can't; no. If you have it, you may refresh my memory, but I can't remember it.

Mr. SCHERER. Did they talk to you about your connections with the Communist Party in Milwaukee?

Mr. CORBIN. They never said I was connected with the Communist Party in Milwaukee. I never was connected with the Communist Party in Milwaukee. I worked as a labor organizer, trying to get the garbage workers more wages for their working conditions.

Mr. SCHERER. All right. Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. You have told us, Mr. Corbin, about the one occasion when the Bureau, in talking to you, made an inquiry regarding Mr. Giacomo. Did that happen more than one time or not?

Mr. CORBIN. I believe they only asked me one time, to the best of my knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, Mr. Giacomo further testified in which he states that:

* * * he [meaning you] doesn't want me to ever forget that possibly he was in some sort of spying capacity for somebody. So he said [meaning you], "The FBI was over to my house again on you."

I said, "Paul, the pieces do not fit."

He says, "They want that piece to fit in there and they are after your tail."

Mr. CORBIN. I can't recall ever making that statement.

Mr. TAVENNER (continuing):

I said, "They have not made it fit yet, so they have not made it fit." I asked him what they could add now, and he said he told them to leave me alone and to go somewhere else and try to find out who that piece is.

Mr. CORBIN. I did not make that statement to Mr. Giacomo.

Mr. TAVENNER (continuing):

Question. That happened about 2 years ago?

Answer. Two or 3 years ago.

Question. In 1959?

Answer. Around about there to the best of my recollection.

Mr. CORBIN. The answer is "No" to that, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. All right.

Mr. CORBIN. Unless he might have brought up the first conversation from the first time that I mentioned it to him, but I had never told him that the FBI had seen me again on him.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to read some more of Mr. Giacomo's testimony regarding you:

Question. Did he [meaning Mr. Corbin] at any time indicate to you or say to you that he had been to a Communist Party meeting?

Answer. Yes; the same as, I say, he would blurt out before this group of people, "I am going to see Walter Harnischfeger" or, "I have a meeting with Senator Joe McCarthy."

Question. Tell us the circumstances under which he mentioned this to you.

Answer. On two occasions. Why he would say it to me—and he probably said this to other people, although I don't know whether he would or not—why he would say it to me: they didn't, the Hirsches didn't, the Fred Blairs didn't, the Eisenschers—who were known Communists—didn't say to me ever that they were having a meeting or anything like that; but Paul Corbin would say, "I got to rush. I am going to a high-level meeting of the Communist Party." Then off he would go.

Did you make a statement to Mr. Giacomo that you were in a rush and were going to a high-level Communist Party meeting?

Let me read a little more to you. It may refresh your memory:

Question. You said he said that to you on two different occasions?

Answer. Once he was going to one and once he was coming back from one.

Mr. CORBIN. My answer to that is that I would not be able—I would not be in a position to say that to him because I was never at such meetings. So the answer is "No" to that. However, about the Joe McCarthy and Harnischfeger part, that is years after the labor movement. That came years after the labor movement, but I never said that to him.

Mr. JOHANSEN. What came years after the labor movement?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, when I was active in the Marines—are you referring to the part about McCarthy and Mr. Harnischfeger?

Mr. JOHANSEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. CORBIN. I was active in the Marines and I was acquainted with Senator McCarthy and, when he would come to Milwaukee, I would go to visit him. And as far as Walter Harnischfeger is concerned, I can't ever recall saying that to him. I have never met Mr. Harnischfeger and would have no occasion to meet him, so I would never have made that statement to him about meeting Mr. Walter Harnischfeger, although I might have said to him—that I can't recall and I can't see any point in telling him—about seeing Senator McCarthy. They used to needle me about that.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you know that Mr. Giacomo was a member of the Office of Labor Production of the War Production Board? Did you know him then?

Mr. CORBIN. What year was that, sir?

Mr. SCHERER. I don't know. Did you know that he was a member of the War Production Board?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember. I was in the service during the war and I imagine that committee operated during the war and I was in the Marines at the time.

Mr. SCHERER. Did he ever tell you about that?

Mr. CORBIN. He might have. I can't remember.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, this further question was asked the witness, Mr. Giacomo:

During the course of your testimony, you made a statement which was not responsive to a specific question in which you made reference to requests made by Paul Corbin of you to make contributions to the Communist Party. Explain that, please.

Answer. Well, he would just ask me pointblank, "Wouldn't you like to make a contribution to the party?" And he would tell me of some—I don't remember now for what purpose, but some sort of activity that was going on, and I would always tell him, "No." I could not afford it, and so on and so forth. I could not recall just now what purpose it was for.

Mr. CORBIN. That is false, sir. That statement is false.

The CHAIRMAN. We will recess for 20 minutes.

(Brief recess.)

(The committee reconvened at 5:45 p.m., with Representatives Walter, Doyle, Scherer, Johansen, Bruce, and Schadeberg present.)

The CHAIRMAN. All right, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, I have asked you about soliciting contributions for the Communist Party. I now want to ask you, Have you made any contributions to the Communist Party?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did it occur, Mr. Corbin, that the two witnesses selected by you to testify in your divorce case were members of the Communist Party?

(At this point Mr. Tuck returned to the hearing room.)

Mr. CORBIN. Sir, at the time I got my divorce, I was in the Marine Corps stationed in San Diego. I got a 10-day leave from my commanding officer for the purpose of going back to Chicago and getting a divorce and, if I was successful, getting married. I had 10 days. During the period of the war, which was 1944, in February, you had to take a Northwestern, I believe it was, which was the Challenger, which took you 3 days and 2 nights, or 3 nights and 2 days to get to Chicago, plus a day to get from San Diego to Los Angeles, almost 7 days of transportation to and from San Diego to Chicago. I arrived in Chicago and I was informed that I had to get prepared for marriage by taking health certificates, which was another day, which left me 2 days. We also intended to go to visit my wife's folks in Janesville, which was another day. I believe it was the morning or the night before—I can't remember exactly—I was informed that I had to get two witnesses who knew me. Well, I said "All the people I know are in the service." He said "You are not going to get a divorce until you find two people that know you."

The only place I knew where to go was the labor hall. I went down to the old union office, and there were two fellows sitting there, one that had an office for a union that I had seen on various occasions and another person who was also a union official. One said, "Corbin, what are you doing back?" I said, "I am here on leave for a divorce and I am looking for two witnesses. Will you boys testify that you know me?"

"Yes, we will."

I went down to the courtroom and 17 years later I pick up the *Milwaukee Journal* and I find that those two boys that I picked up in the labor office to be my witnesses turned out to be Communists.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know they were Communists?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not. That is the last thing I would have as a witness at my wedding or divorce.

Mr. SCHERER. Did these two witnesses know your wife whom you were divorcing?

Mr. CORBIN. The wife I was divorcing?

Mr. SCHERER. Yes.

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. They never saw her in their life.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Were these witnesses for the divorce or for the wedding?

Mr. CORBIN. To identify me. I had to have two witnesses. I went to the union hall and I was in Marine uniform and had a day to go and that was the story.

Mr. SCHERER. Those two witnesses were to testify as to your grounds for divorce, were they not?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. All they testified to was whether they knew me.

Mr. SCHERER. I quit.

Mr. DOYLE. Did they testify that they knew you as a resident? Was that it?

Mr. CORBIN. They knew me, that I lived in Chicago.

Mr. SCHERER. They did not know anything about your marital difficulties, did they?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir. Under normal circumstances it would have been a different divorce and different wedding. It was time of war. I had 10 days leave, 7 shot from the start, and I had to use one to get my health certificate. I had to go to Janesville and I was tickled to death to find anybody that would be my witnesses. Seventeen years later they turn out to be Communists.

Mr. TUCK. They were Communists at the time, were they not?

Mr. CORBIN. I didn't know. I don't know they were Communists now except I read it in the paper.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Corbin, was a Communist Party registration card bearing No. 62908 for the year 1946 issued in your name?

Mr. CORBIN. What was that again?

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you read it?

(The pending question was read.)

Mr. CORBIN. I don't follow you. You mean did I join the Communist Party in 1948? Absolutely not.

Mr. TAVENNER. The question was whether or not the card was issued in your name.

Mr. CORBIN. How do I know? I wasn't a Communist.

Mr. TAVENNER. My question is, Was it done?

Mr. CORBIN. I never had one. I never was a Communist.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was it done to your knowledge?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely not. I may add, gentlemen, that when this question of communism came up, I took a lie detector test in the city of Washington on the question of my affiliations, and even though there was a humiliating feeling to get into the machine and be strapped, when it was all through he said, "Don't worry, Paul. You are as clean as a whistle."

Mr. TAVENNER. Who told you that?

Mr. CORBIN. The man that took the test.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was that?

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Leon.

Mr. TAVENNER. What Leon? What is the rest of his name?

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember. I was given an address where to go.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. John Leon, I believe his name was.

Mr. TAVENNER. What address?

Mr. CORBIN. It was in the vicinity of Dupont Plaza.

Mr. SCHERER. Did he ask you whether you had a Communist Party card by the number Mr. Tavenner just mentioned?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. I mean the man that gave you the lie detector test.

Mr. CORBIN. The man that gave me the lie detector test asked me if I was a member of the Communist Party, had ever been a member of the Communist Party, and a series of questions; and my answer was "no" to all of them; and, when it came through, he said, "I have never seen one as clean as that, Mr. Corbin."

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. May I have the right reserved to submit that lie detector test to the committee?

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I think if he has anything to submit we should accept it.

The CHAIRMAN. What does it show?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, sir, the gentleman who took it—

The CHAIRMAN. Who gave it to you and what were the results?

Mr. CORBIN. I am not an expert reading it, sir, but the gentleman told me—and Mr. Bailey is national chairman and he ascertained the facts and said—"You are all right, Paul. You are clean." He said, "You are all right. I am proud of you."

Mr. SCHERER. Who paid for the test?

Mr. CORBIN. That I don't know.

Mr. SCHERER. Who sent you to him?

Mr. CORBIN. Bailey. Incidentally—

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. TAVENNER. All right, sir. Were you issued a Communist Party transfer card—

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Wait a minute. On February 27, 1948, bearing No. 21894, signed by E. Eisenscher?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Membership secretary of the Communist Party in Wisconsin, transferring you to San Francisco?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you directed to report in California to the Communist Party headquarters at 942 Market Street, San Francisco?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you go to California?

Mr. CORBIN. I went to California on several occasions. I went to a Marine Corps League convention, in some of the articles you have there.

The CHAIRMAN. Where?

Mr. CORBIN. A Marine Corps League convention in Los Angeles, and then I went to visit my sister, who lived in Vallejo at the same time. Then I went to the Democratic National Convention and I believe, at one time, I went to California with the Marine Corps League for a trip. I believe I haven't been in California more than three or four times since the war, when I was discharged; and, when I did go, it was always on Marine Corps or veterans activities or the Democratic Party. That is the only time I went and the only time I have been in San Francisco was when I visited my sister in Vallejo, went over to Oakland to go to Los Angeles. I believe I stopped there and had dinner at Chinatown and kept going. That is the only time I have been to

San Francisco, with the exception of 1961 when I went to the convention. I went up there for a day to see San Francisco in July of 1961.

Mr. Chairman, is it possible for me to see that Communist Party membership card that is supposed to be mine?

The CHAIRMAN. I don't know where it is. I know nothing about it. It is the first I have heard about it.

Mr. CORBIN. I would like to see it.

Mr. BRUCE. I think it was just asked whether you could identify the number.

Mr. CORBIN. They must have a card to have a number on it. I would like to see it, whose handwriting it is in.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you go to California on March 27, 1948?

Mr. CORBIN. March 27, 1948? No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you go any time during the month of March or early in April 1948?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. When was the last time you went back to Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. The last time?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CORBIN. Two weeks ago.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you go to Canada in 1947 or 1948?

Mr. CORBIN. I went to Canada when I came out of the service to see my family.

Mr. TAVENNER. That would have been in 1945 or 1946.

Mr. CORBIN. I can't remember. No, I was still in service until the last day of December. It might have been 1946 or 1947. I can't remember, but I did go to see my brother, who had just gotten out of the service himself.

Mr. TAVENNER. When was the next occasion you went to Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. I went to Canada on a vacation. I can't recall, but I took a trip by car through the Lake of the Woods. In fact I went with Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy to Canada on a trip. I can't remember the exact year, but it was after I left the labor movement. It must have been during the period of our partnership.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where was your brother living at the time that you went to Canada, Mr. Corbin?

Mr. CORBIN. My brother?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CORBIN. My brother resided at Kingston Crescent, Saint Vital, which is a suburb of Winnipeg.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he later move to the United States?

Mr. CORBIN. No; he is still there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have another brother in California?

Mr. CORBIN. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you had a brother living in California within the past 10 or 12 years?

Mr. CORBIN. No, sir.

Mr. BRUCE. You have a sister living there?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes.

Mr. BRUCE. All right.

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

Mr. DOYLE. May I see those cards that have been brought up? I would be interested in knowing about a card if there is one.

Mr. TAVENNER. We do not have it.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions?

Mr. DOYLE. No questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Governor?

Mr. TUCK. I have no questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Scherer?

Mr. SCHERER. How long have you known Philleo Nash?

Mr. CORBIN. Philleo Nash? I knew Philleo Nash—I believe the first time was when I went to the Democratic convention, he was running for State chairman, and I voted for the other guy. It was—I can't remember—1955, I believe, was the year, sir, or 1954.

Mr. SCHERER. He is from Canada, is he not?

Mr. CORBIN. I wasn't aware of that.

Mr. SCHERER. You did not know him when both of you were residents of Canada?

Mr. CORBIN. No. The first time I met him was at the convention in Green Bay. He came in from Washington, I believe, and he ran for State chairman and he got elected although I didn't vote for him.

Mr. SCHERER. You have known him since 1955, then?

Mr. CORBIN. Well, I would say I know him from that convention, is the first time I met him. It might have been 1954, 1953, 1955. That is the first time I met him.

Mr. SCHERER. You have seen him off and on during those intervening years, have you not?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. He was State Chairman of the Democratic Party, and I knew him, saw him on numerous and various occasions, frequently, I would say, compared to some of the others.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you have anything to do, either directly or indirectly, with his recommendation for appointment to a Federal position in this Administration?

Mr. CORBIN. My dear sir, with all due respect to the ability of Mr. Philleo Nash, I am a strong partisan of Senator Kennedy and Mr. Nash in Wisconsin was leading the stump for Humphrey. I would not recommend Mr. Philleo Nash to any position, based on my partisanship, nor on his ability.

Mr. SCHERER. I just asked, you didn't have anything to do, either directly or indirectly?

Mr. CORBIN. Absolutely. And if I was asked, my answer would say, "Don't give him the job."

Mr. SCHERER. He was recommended.

Mr. CORBIN. That I don't know, sir. He got the job. Somebody must have put him in there. I didn't, although I believe he is a capable man.

Mr. SCHERER. I have no further questions.

Mr. JOHANSEN. I have just one or two questions.

Has there ever been any occasion on which an effort was made, or an attempt was made, to secure a security clearance for you?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. I really wouldn't know, sir, unless it was done in the service.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Do you have any knowledge of any, after your war service?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. I am not certain. There was something in the newspaper that somebody had taken an FBI test. I read it in the *Milwaukee Journal*. I didn't know to my knowledge, sir, but I had read in the *Milwaukee Journal*—

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. CORBIN. Yes, there was.

Mr. JOHANSEN. You know or can you elaborate as to the circumstances or the occasion?

Mr. CORBIN. Yes. I was up. Yes, I do. It was in January or February of 1961. I think it was prior to going to work for the committee, Democratic National Committee, that a fellow with the FBI approached me in my office and, well, he called me, as a matter of fact, and wanted to see me; and I said I was going out to lunch, going to the Mayflower, and he said, "I would like to ask you some questions," and I said, "Will you join me in lunch?" And he said he would. He wouldn't eat anything. I guess he—he had a coke, or something, and he said he was running an FBI check, a security check on me, and I guess he asked me where I was born and some questions. That was back in 1961, sometime in 1961. I can't remember the exact dates.

Mr. SCHERER. The fact is, you didn't get a clearance?

Mr. CORBIN. I am not aware of that, sir.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Was this check presumably in connection with your position with the committee or was it in relationship to an application for some other position?

Mr. CORBIN. I had applied for no position in the Federal Government. I liked organizing and getting things stirred up.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Then it was presumably in connection with your committee assignment?

Mr. CORBIN. I presume. I can't say that, but I presume that. I am not in the position to say one way or another.

Mr. JOHANSEN. My recollection is that you testified earlier that you had been, in the past, questioned by the FBI regarding alleged Communist affiliations or activities, is that correct?

Mr. CORBIN. I have been questioned. They went to one of my neighbors. My neighbors told me the FBI was there. So I called the FBI agent in Madison.

Mr. JOHANSEN. This was when you voluntarily contacted them?

Mr. CORBIN. Right.

Mr. JOHANSEN. Now, in this check that was made, so-called security check—

Mr. CORBIN. In 1960. I didn't volunteer. They came to me.

Mr. JOHANSEN. They came to you, yes. Were any questions asked you in connection with that check as to allegations of Communist Party activities or affiliations?

Mr. CORBIN. No, he asked me, sir, if I was—I can't remember the exact words—was I ever a member of the Communist Party or Fascist party, which advocated the overthrow of the Government, and I said "No."

Mr. JOHANSEN. But there was no reference in this later interview, which the FBI sought with you, to the previous interviews which you had had with the FBI on your initiation?

Mr. CORBIN. No, but I had told them that I had, I believe I told them I had talked to the FBI. I am pretty sure of that.

Mr. JOHANSEN. And indicated the subject matter?

Mr. CORBIN. No, I can't recall. I was busy having lunch but I can't honestly remember, sir.

Mr. JOHANSEN. That is all at the moment.

Mr. BRUCE. No, I have no questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I guess that is everything, is it not, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Chairman, may I have a copy of the transcript of the testimony?

The CHAIRMAN. Certainly, after it is completed.

Mr. CORBIN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out that in the press—I don't know if it has been called to your attention—there have been allegations about communism of Mr. Corbin by an ex-FBI agent, and subsequently pointed out that it was a different Paul Corbin. That was a terrible shock to my wife's folks in Wisconsin when a big story appeared in the *Milwaukee Journal*, my home town, that an ex-FBI agent identified me as a Communist speaker and a Communist leader, and about 3 weeks later there appeared a story in the *Milwaukee Journal* that the man had made a mistake, he got me mixed up with somebody else and I wasn't even there.¹ So I just would like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that—

The CHAIRMAN. We know about that, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. We did not ask him about it.

Mr. TAVENNER. We did not call the person as a witness, and I have not asked any question regarding it.

Mr. CORBIN. It was in every paper in the country, Mr. Tavenner, and this man's name was involved in it, too, Mr. Wetterman.

The CHAIRMAN. I guess we may adjourn now. Have we anything set for tomorrow?

Mr. TAVENNER. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 6:05 p.m. Monday, July 2, 1962, the committee was recessed subject to call of the Chair. Committee members present at time of recess: Representatives Walter, Doyle, Tuck, Scherer, Johansen, Bruce, and Schadeberg.)

¹Fact: A former FBI undercover informant in the Communist Party furnished a *Milwaukee Journal* reporter, Edward S. Kerstein, an affidavit stating only that Paul Corbin had been a speaker at a Communist-front meeting he had attended in the middle or late forties. The informant subsequently realized that the speaker he had in mind was not Corbin, but a man with a similar sounding last name—Robert A. Herbin—who was about Corbin's age and resembled him in physical appearance. He then retracted his affidavit. There is no evidence of any other Paul Corbin being a Communist leader and speaker at Communist-front affairs.

TESTIMONY BY AND CONCERNING PAUL CORBIN

APPENDIX

During Mr. Corbin's testimony (p. 1421), he submitted the following documents which were ordered to be made a part of the record by the chairman of the committee:

Article, "Marine Corps League May Move Here," *Houston Chronicle*, Mar. 22, 1952.

Article, "Marine Leaguers Favor A-Bomb War," *Los Angeles Times*, Sept. 10, 1952.

Article, "Marine chief sees atom as solution," a Los Angeles daily, Sept. 10, 1952.

Picture, Paul Corbin, Senator McCarthy, William Golz, *Milwaukee Journal*, June 25, 1951.

Telegram, McCarthy to Corbin, accepting invitation to State convention of Marines on June 24, 1951.

Letter, dated June 7, 1951, from Senator McCarthy to Mr. Corbin in regard to said convention.

Article, "Corbin Heads State Marines," *Janesville Gazette*, June 19, 1950.

Article, "Now Hear This!" edited by Paul Corbin, *The Quarterdeck*, October 1955, published by The Quarterdeck Commission of The Navy Club of the U.S.A.

The above documents are reproduced on the pages following.

[*Houston Chronicle*, Mar. 22, 1952]

Marine Corps League May Move Here

The national staff of the Marine Corps League here Saturday began studying the possibility of moving the national headquarters to Houston.

Paul Corbin, chief of staff of the league, said a decision on the selection of the site will be made either late today or Sunday morning.

The Jamesville, Wis., marine official said the discussions will also cover ways and means of blasting Red sanctuaries in Korea and China, high marine casualties in the Korean War, and the possibility of getting the marine commandant appointed to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Corbin charged that high level decisions on use of marines in amphibious warfare are made by service chiefs not versed in that phase of war.

The 20 members of the staff are led by national league commandant, John R. O'Brien of Passaic, N. J.

If Houston is selected as the site, the national headquarters will be at the Marine Corps Memorial Club at 3515 Montrose.

[Los Angeles Times, Sept. 10, 1952]

Marine Leaguers Favor A-Bomb War

Resolution Urges Attack to Speed Peace; Break With Soviet Sought

Resolutions calling for atomic bomb attacks across the Yalu River and immediate severance of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union will be proposed to delegates to the 29th annual national convention of the Marine Corps League.

Paul Corbin, National Chief of Staff of the league, declared after the first business sessions got under way yesterday that "A-bombs across the Yalu River" is the only answer to getting out of Korea. Corbin, who is handling convention resolutions, predicted almost unanimous endorsement of such a policy.

John R. O'Brien of Passaic, N.J., National Commandant of the league, disclosed that the resolution favoring severance of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union will be presented.

Other resolutions which will come before the delegates will demand the immediate removal of Secretary of State Acheson as a "left-winger." Additionally, the league will call for a nationwide plan designed to cope with the future welfare of America's delinquent teen-agers.

Memorial Rites

O'Brien made his statements shortly after delegates to the convention attended solemn memorial rites for departed marines at Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

Before the Church of the Re-cessional, upon a symbolic grave—that of a fallen marine hero—O'Brien and Mrs. Isabelle Stump, national Auxillary President, and Mrs. Lizette McCarde, representing the Marine Gold Star Mothers, placed wreaths.

The Rev. Michael J. Hally, national Chaplain, delivered a eulogy. He also asked the benediction for those "who are setting the example for America's youth" on the firing line in Korea at the present time.

Opening Dedication

Mrs. Emily Shultz, of Rosemead, memorial chairman and Southwest national vice-president of the auxillary, made the

opening memorial dedication, with Allen Henderson, California State department commandant serving as master of ceremonies.

Mrs. Marilyn Rothenberg sang "The Star Spangled Banner" and the stirring "My Buddy."

During the rendition of the latter Mrs. Lillian Mead, of Oakland, clung to Mrs. Alma Steinbeck, also of Oakland, tearfully remembering the husband who lost his life with the Marine Corps during World War II.

It was a precise, brief and typically Marine service.

Salute to Dead

The 3rd Marine Division Band provided fitting music for the colorful ceremony. A colorguard from the Burbank detachment of the league dipped their Colors as Commandant O'Brien saluted the departed.

A firing squad of six riflemen, based at Camp Pendleton, let go three volleys over the grave as Taps was sounded by a bugler.

A lecture by the Rev. Frank Sopher, California League chaplain, followed the ceremonies in the Hall of the Crucifixion.

Chuck Wagon Dinner

Last night's convention festivities consisted of the annual Marine Corps chuck wagon dinner and western dance. The chuck wagon is reminiscent of "feeds" usually tossed by commanding generals of the marines for their men after combat sieges in the Pacific during World War II.

Today's sessions of the convention will be occupied primarily by business discussions dealing with America's problems in the international picture.

No small attention will be given to the men of the 1st Marine Division who are on the

* * * * *

[A Los Angeles daily, September 10, 1952]

Marine chief sees atom as solution

National chief of staff of the Marine Corps League firmly believes that "A-bombs across the Yalu River" is the only solution to getting out of Korea.

Paul Corbin, who is handling resolutions for the 29th convention of the league here, today predicted that this Yalu policy would be endorsed almost unanimously during the Marines' meeting.

The national commandant of the league, John R. O'Brien of Passaic, N. J., also said that a resolution calling for severance of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union will be presented to the group.

Delegates will also hear resolutions calling for the immediate removal of Secretary of State Dean Acheson as a "left-winger," and a nationwide plan to cope with the future welfare of America's teen-agers.

Tonight the Marines will break ranks when their fun-making outfit, the Military Order of Devil Dogs, meets in Patriotic Hall at 9:30 tonight.

Tomorrow, Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr., USMC, commandant of the Marine Corps, will arrive to be guest of honor of the League at its banquet in the Biltmore Bowl.

With him will be Maj. Gen. William O. Brice, USMC, director of aviation and assistant commandant for air, and Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Wornham, USMC, of headquarters in Washington.

[*Milwaukee Journal*, June 25, 1951]



The Wisconsin Marine Corps league ended its three day convention Sunday at Oshkosh. From left are Paul Corbin, Janesville, retiring state commandant; Senator McCarthy (Rep., Wis.), the principal speaker at the closing dinner, and William Goiz, Oshkosh police chief.

—Arden L. Mengr

Use 2

POSTAGE SERVICE
 Full rate
 1/2 rate
 1/4 rate
 1/8 rate
 1/16 rate
 1/32 rate
 1/64 rate
 1/128 rate
 1/256 rate
 1/512 rate
 1/1024 rate
 1/2048 rate
 1/4096 rate
 1/8192 rate
 1/16384 rate
 1/32768 rate
 1/65536 rate
 1/131072 rate
 1/262144 rate
 1/524288 rate
 1/1048576 rate
 1/2097152 rate
 1/4194304 rate
 1/8388608 rate
 1/16777216 rate
 1/33554432 rate
 1/67108864 rate
 1/134217728 rate
 1/268435456 rate
 1/536870912 rate
 1/1073741824 rate
 1/2147483648 rate
 1/4294967296 rate
 1/8589934592 rate
 1/17179869184 rate
 1/34359738368 rate
 1/68719476736 rate
 1/137438953472 rate
 1/274877906944 rate
 1/549755813888 rate
 1/1099511627776 rate
 1/2199023255552 rate
 1/4398046511104 rate
 1/8796093022208 rate
 1/17592186044416 rate
 1/35184372088832 rate
 1/70368744177664 rate
 1/140737488355328 rate
 1/281474976710656 rate
 1/562949953421312 rate
 1/1125899906842624 rate
 1/2251799813685248 rate
 1/4503599627370496 rate
 1/9007199254740992 rate
 1/18014398509481984 rate
 1/36028797018963968 rate
 1/72057594037927936 rate
 1/144115188075855872 rate
 1/288230376151711744 rate
 1/576460752303423488 rate
 1/1152921504606846976 rate
 1/2305843009213693952 rate
 1/4611686018427387904 rate
 1/9223372036854775808 rate
 1/18446744073709551616 rate
 1/36893488147419103232 rate
 1/73786976294838206464 rate
 1/147573952589676412928 rate
 1/295147905179352825856 rate
 1/590295810358705651712 rate
 1/1180591620717411303424 rate
 1/2361183241434822606848 rate
 1/4722366482869645213696 rate
 1/9444732965739290427392 rate
 1/18889465931478580854784 rate
 1/37778931862957161709568 rate
 1/75557863725914323419136 rate
 1/151115727451828646838272 rate
 1/302231454903657293676544 rate
 1/604462909807314587353088 rate
 1/1208925819614629174706176 rate
 1/2417851639229258349412352 rate
 1/4835703278458516698824704 rate
 1/9671406556917033397649408 rate
 1/19342813113834066795298816 rate
 1/38685626227668133590597632 rate
 1/77371252455336267181195264 rate
 1/154742504910672534362390528 rate
 1/309485009821345068724781056 rate
 1/618970019642690137449562112 rate
 1/1237940039285380274899124224 rate
 1/2475880078570760549798248448 rate
 1/4951760157141521099596496896 rate
 1/9903520314283042199192993792 rate
 1/19807040628566084398385987584 rate
 1/39614081257132168796771975168 rate
 1/79228162514264337593543950336 rate
 1/158456325028528675187087900672 rate
 1/316912650057057350374175801344 rate
 1/633825300114114700748351602688 rate
 1/1267650600228229401496703205376 rate
 1/2535301200456458802993406410752 rate
 1/5070602400912917605986812821504 rate
 1/10141204801825835211973625643008 rate
 1/20282409603651670423947251286016 rate
 1/40564819207303340847894502572032 rate
 1/81129638414606681695789005144064 rate
 1/162259276829213363391578010288128 rate
 1/324518553658426726783156020576256 rate
 1/649037107316853453566312041152512 rate
 1/1298074214633706907132624082305024 rate
 1/2596148429267413814265248164610048 rate
 1/5192296858534827628530496329220096 rate
 1/10384593717069655257060992658440192 rate
 1/20769187434139310514121985316880384 rate
 1/41538374868278621028243970633760768 rate
 1/83076749736557242056487941267521536 rate
 1/166153499473114484112974882535043072 rate
 1/332306998946228968225949765070086144 rate
 1/664613997892457936451899530140172288 rate
 1/1329227995784915872903799060280344576 rate
 1/2658455991569831745807598120560689152 rate
 1/5316911983139663491615196241121378304 rate
 1/10633823966279326983230392482242756608 rate
 1/21267647932558653966460784964485513216 rate
 1/42535295865117307932921569928971026432 rate
 1/85070591730234615865843139857942052864 rate
 1/170141183460469231731686279715884105728 rate
 1/340282366920938463463372559431768211456 rate
 1/680564733841876926926745118863536422912 rate
 1/1361129467683753853853490237727072845824 rate
 1/2722258935367507707706980475454145691648 rate
 1/5444517870735015415413960950908291383296 rate
 1/10889035741470030830827921901816582766592 rate
 1/21778071482940061661655843803633165533184 rate
 1/43556142965880123323311687607266331066368 rate
 1/87112285931760246646623375214532662132736 rate
 1/174224571863520493293246750429065242664704 rate
 1/348449143727040986586493500858130485329408 rate
 1/696898287454081973172987001716260970658816 rate
 1/1393796574908163946345974003432521941317632 rate
 1/2787593149816327892691948006865043882635264 rate
 1/5575186299632655785383896013730087765270528 rate
 1/11150372599265311570767792027460175530541152 rate
 1/22300745198530623141535584054920351061082304 rate
 1/44601490397061246283071168109840702122164608 rate
 1/89202980794122492566142336219681404244329216 rate
 1/178405961588244985132284672439362808488658432 rate
 1/356811923176489970264569344878725616977316864 rate
 1/713623846352979940529138689757451233954633728 rate
 1/1427247692705959881058277379514902467909267456 rate
 1/2854495385411919762116554759029804935818534912 rate
 1/5708990770823839524233109518059609871637069824 rate
 1/11417981541647679048466219036119219743274139648 rate
 1/22835963083295358096932438072238439486548279296 rate
 1/45671926166590716193864876144476878973096558592 rate
 1/91343852333181432387729752288953757946193117184 rate
 1/182687704666362864775459504577907515892386234368 rate
 1/365375409332725729550919009155815031784772468736 rate
 1/730750818665451459101838018311630063569544937472 rate
 1/1461501637330902918203676036623260127139089874944 rate
 1/2923003274661805836407352073246520254278179749888 rate
 1/5846006549323611672814704146493040508556359499776 rate
 1/11692013098647223345629408292986081017112718999552 rate
 1/23384026197294446691258816585972162034225437999104 rate
 1/46768052394588893382517633171944324068450875998208 rate
 1/93536104789177786765035266343888648136901751996416 rate
 1/187072209578355573530070532687777282273803503992832 rate
 1/374144419156711147060141065375554564547607007985664 rate
 1/748288838313422294120282130751109129095214015971328 rate
 1/1496577676626844588240564261502218258190428031942656 rate
 1/2993155353253689176481128523004436516380856063885312 rate
 1/5986310706507378352962257046008873032761712127770624 rate
 1/1197262141301475670592451409201774606552342425554128 rate
 1/2394524282602951341184902818403549213104684851108256 rate
 1/4789048565205902682369805636807098426209369702216512 rate
 1/9578097130411805364739611273614196852418739404433024 rate
 1/1915619426082361072947922254722839364483718808886848 rate
 1/3831238852164722145895844509445678728967437617773696 rate
 1/7662477704329444291791689018891357457934875235547392 rate
 1/15324955408658888583583378037782714915869750471094784 rate
 1/30649910817317777167166756075565429831739500942189568 rate
 1/61299821634635554334333512151130859663479001884379136 rate
 1/122599643269271108668667024302261719326958003768758272 rate
 1/245199286538542217337334048604523438653916007537516544 rate
 1/490398573077084434674668097209046877307832015075033088 rate
 1/980797146154168869349336194418093754615664030150066176 rate
 1/1961594292288337738698672388836187509231328060300132352 rate
 1/3923188584576675477397344777672375018462656120600264704 rate
 1/7846377169153350954794689555344750036925312241200529408 rate
 1/15692754338306701909589379110689500073850624482401058816 rate
 1/31385508676613403819178758221379000147701248964802117632 rate
 1/62771017353226807638357516442758000295402497929604235264 rate
 1/125542034706453615276715032885516000590804995859208470528 rate
 1/251084069412907230553430065771032001181609991719416941056 rate
 1/502168138825814461106860131542064003643219983438833882112 rate
 1/1004336277651628922213720263084128007286439966877667764224 rate
 1/2008672555303257844427440526168256014572879933755335528448 rate
 1/4017345110606515688854881052336512029145759867510671056896 rate
 1/8034690221213031377709762104673024058291519735021342113792 rate
 1/1606938044242606275541952420934604811658303947004268427584 rate
 1/3213876088485212551083904841869209633216607894008536855168 rate
 1/6427752176970425102167809683738419266433215788017113713344 rate
 1/12855504353940850204335619367476832528866431576034227466688 rate
 1/25711008707881700408671238734953665057732863152068454933376 rate
 1/51422017415763400817342477469907330115465726304136909866752 rate
 1/102844034831526801634684954939814660230931452608273819733504 rate
 1/205688069663053603269369909879629320461862905216547639467008 rate
 1/411376139326107206538739819759258640923725810433095279334112 rate
 1/822752278652214413077479639518517281847451620866190558668224 rate
 1/1645504573304428826154959279037034563694903241732381117336448 rate
 1/3291009146608857652309918558074069127389806483464762234672896 rate
 1/6582018293217715304619837116148138254779612966929524469345792 rate
 1/13164036586435430609239674232296276509559251933859049338691584 rate
 1/26328073172870861218479348464592553019118503867718098677383168 rate
 1/52656146345741722436958696929185106038237007735436197354766336 rate
 1/105312292691483444873917393858370212076474015470872394709532672 rate
 1/210624585382966889747834787716740424152948030941744789419065344 rate
 1/42124917076593377949566957543348084830589606188348957883813088 rate
 1/84249834153186755899133915086696169661179212376697915767626176 rate
 1/168499668306373511798267830173392339322358424753395831535252352 rate
 1/336999336612747023596535660346784678644716849506791662670504704 rate
 1/673998673225494047193071320693569357289433699013583325341009408 rate
 1/1347997346450988094386142641387138714478867380027166650682018816 rate
 1/2695994692901976188772285282774277428957734760054333301364037632 rate
 1/5391989385803952377544570565548554857915469520108666602728075264 rate
 1/10783978771607904755089141131097109715830939040217333205456150528 rate
 1/21567957543215809510178282262194219431661878080434666410912301152 rate
 1/43135915086431619020356564524388438863323756160869332821824602304 rate
 1/86271830172863238040713129048776877726647512321738665643649204608 rate
 1/172543660345726476081426258097553755453295024643477331287298409312 rate
 1/345087320691452952162852516195107510906590049286954662574596818624 rate
 1/690174641382905904325705032390215021813180098573909325149193672448 rate
 1/1380349282765811808651410064780430043626360197147818650298387344896 rate
 1/2760698565531623617302820129560860087252720394295637300596774899792 rate
 1/5521397131063247234605640259121720174505440788591274601193549799584 rate
 1/11042794262126494469211280518243440349010881577182549202387099599168 rate
 1/22085588524252988938422561036486880698021763154365098404774199198336 rate
 1/44171177048505977876845122072973761396043526308730196809548387396672 rate
 1/88342354097011955753690244145947522792087052617460393619096774793344 rate
 1/176684708194023911507380488291895045584174105234920787238193549586688 rate
 1/353369416388047823014760976583790091168348210469841574476387099173376 rate
 1/70673883277609564602952195316758018233669642093968314952677419846672 rate
 1/141347766555219129205904390633516036467339284187936629905354839733344 rate
 1/282695533110438258411808781267032072934678568375873259810709679466688 rate
 1/565391066220876516823617562534064145869357136751746519621419358933376 rate
 1/1130782132441753033647235125068128291738714273503493039242838717866752 rate
 1/2261564264883506067294470250136256583477428547006986078485677435733504 rate
 1/4523128529767012134588940500272513166954856944013972156971354871467008 rate
 1/9046257059534024269177881000545026333909713888027944313942709742934016 rate
 1/18092514119068048538355762001090052667819427776055888627885419485868032 rate
 1/36185028238136097076711524002180105335638855552111777255770838971736064 rate
 1/72370056476272194153423048004360210671277711104223554511541677943472128 rate
 1/144740112952544388306846096008720421342554422208447109022823357886944256 rate
 1/289480225905088776613692192017440842685108444416894218045646715773888512 rate
 1/578960451810177553227384384034881653770216888833788436091293431547777024 rate
 1/1157920903620355106454768768069763267540433777667576872182586863095554048 rate
 1/2315841807240710212909537536139526535080867555335153744365173726191108096 rate
 1/4631683614481420425819075072279053070161735110670307487330347452382216192 rate
 1/9263367228962840851638150144558106140323470221340614974660694904764432384 rate
 1/18526734457925681703276300289116212800646840442681229941321389809528864768 rate
 1/37053468915851363406552600578232425601293680885362459882642779619057729536 rate
 1/7410693783170272681310

KENNETH MCKELLAR, TENN., CHAIRMAN

CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ.
 RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA.
 PAT MCCARRAN, NEV.
 JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY, WYO.
 DEYNIS CHAVEZ, N. MEX.
 BURNET R. MAYBANK, S. C.
 ALLEN J. ELLENDR, LA.
 LISTER HILL, ALA.
 HARLEY M. KILGORE, W. VA.
 JOHN L. MCCLELLAN, ARK.

STYLES BRIDGES, N. H.
 HOMER FERGUSON, MICH.
 KENNETH S. WHERRY, NEBR.
 GUY CORDON, OREG.
 LEVERETT BALTONSTALL, MASS.
 MILTON R. YOUNG, N. DAK.
 WILLIAM F. KNOWLAND, CALIF.
 EDWARD J. THYE, MINN.
 ZALES N. ECTON, MONT.
 JOSEPH R. MCCARTHY, WIS.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

EVERARD H. SMITH, CLERK
 CELIL H. TOLBERT, ASST. CLERK

June 7, 1951

Mr. Paul Corbin
 Commandant
 Department of Wisconsin Marine
 Corps League
 775 S. Fremont Street
 Janesville, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Corbin,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 31 giving further information regarding the Convention which is to be held at the Raulf Hotel in Oshkosh, Sunday, June 24.

I have filled in and signed the application form which you enclosed with your letter and I am returning that to you with a check for \$3.00. The hat size is 7 3/8.

Thank you very much for the invitation to address the members of your organization.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


 JOE MCCARTHY

McC:det
 Enclosures

[*Janesville Gazette*, June 19, 1950]

Corbin Heads State Marines

**Three Other Janesville
Men Honored With
State Offices**



PAUL CORBIN

Paul Corbin, 775 S. Fremont street, was elected commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps League of Wisconsin at the closing session Sunday of its three-day convention in Green Bay. Corbin, who succeeds Lawrence Becker, Green Bay, defeated Nick Dodich, Waukesha, by a 2-1 majority in a hotly contested race for the top office.

Corbin is the first World War II veteran to hold the commandant's post. He entered state department activities four years

ago as a district commandant, later serving as junior and senior executive officers. Corbin is employed in public relations work for the Navy Club of the U.S.A., covering Wisconsin and six other midwest states. He saw combat duty with the Second marines in the Pacific and occupation duty at Tsingtoa, China.

Other Local Men Honored

Three others from Janesville were honored with state offices in the Marine Corps League—Edmund P. Kraftchak, 210 Clark street, appointed state adjutant paymaster by Corbin; Francis Flynn, 1014 Laurel avenue, elected state chaplain; and Frank Stritof, 1506 Maple avenue, state police dog in the Military Order of Devil Dogs.

Other officers named were: I. D. Hale, Milwaukee, senior vice commandant; Robert Walters, Green Bay, junior vice commandant; and Cyril A. Silverthorn, Jefferson, district commandant.

McCarthy Motion Tabled

The convention Sunday declined to go to bat for one of its most prominent members—U.S. Sen. Joseph McCarthy. Corbin was one of the leaders in offering a resolution praising McCarthy for his attack on alleged Communists in the state department. However, the resolution was tabled until the next staff meeting set for Oct. 15.

The convention dealt with many American issues, the formation of an Americanism Committee to combat subversive activities within the state. A strong resolution was passed urging congress to pass measures which would give the commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps an equal representation on the chiefs of staff of the navy, army and air force.



VOL. 13, NO 3

OCTOBER, 1955

NOW HEAR THIS!

Edited By PAUL CORBIN

The recent summit conference held at Geneva between the heads of States of the United States, United Kingdom, France and the U.S.S.R., might well in the future be known as the "Dale Carnegie Conference". It was apparent to all news commentators who were in attendance that the Soviet delegation had put on a new front and was imbued with the obvious desire to win friends and influence people around the world. That they were in part successful is indeed a tribute to their planning, to their acumen and to their skill.

Because of the fact that almost every nation in the world is tired of war and dreads war, we, in common with other nations, are prone to accept the appearance of a thing as the thing itself. So in this case have we rushed headlong into the friendly embrace of the Soviet bear without ever pausing for a second to look or to think what might be result of that not so tender embrace.

Before we can appraise anything which was achieved at Geneva or which the Russians may say in the future, we should stop and carefully consider whether or not the basic goals of International Communism have really changed.

Some of our more naive commentators hoped that as a result of the meeting at Geneva we would be able to gauge the intentions or honesty of purpose of the Russians. Even these wishful thinkers, however, now admit somewhat ruefully that this has not been the case.

Khrushchev, Bulganin and company talked much and pleasantly without saying anything. They smiled, they proposed toasts and they were hospitable. However, these fine words were not accompanied by any gesture other than liberating our fliers who were shot down in Korea and held in violation of the solemn agreements entered into at Panmunjom. The Russian delegation still consistently says "nyet". The only difference is that they now say it with a smile instead of a scowl.

AIMS LONG KNOWN TO MILITARY

It may be that the Russians at Geneva created the impression that for the present they are not desirous of unleashing a war in Europe. However, this fact has been known to our military and diplomatic intelligence source for a long time.

As a result of Geneva it is likely that our formal relations with the Soviet Union will somewhat improve. However, we should ever be mindful of the fact that the Soviet government is based on terror, slave labor and the worst kind of opposition. Under the Communist system the individual possesses no rights. The individual exists only to serve the State as its will is manifested by those who run it. Neither should we ever forget that despite Geneva, the honeyed words and all of the protestations of good will, the Communists continue to operate the world's greatest espionage and subversion ring which operates in every country of the civilized world, including our own.

Speaking of the Geneva Conference, the Senate Minority Leader, Senator William Knowland of California, said, on July 27th, that despite the summit conference at Geneva, "all the basic problems remain in Europe and Asia.

"Neither we nor the free world must lull ourselves into a little Miss Riding Hood belief that because the wolf has put on Grandmother's cap and nightgown, his teeth are any less sharp or his intentions any less menacing."

Senator Knowland then went on to point out that, "ten years after the end of

NOW HEAR THIS!

(Continued from Page 3)

World War II the Communist regime still holds large numbers of German and Japanese prisoners, still keeps captive population in the satellite states and remains 'the fountain head of International Subversive Communism'."

"Communist China is in undisputed violation of the Korean Armistice and is building up its air and military strength beyond the permissive limits of that agreement."

Senator Knowland reminded listeners that the same Communist China which is in flagrant violation of the peace terms solemnly entered into at the time of the ceasefire agreement in Korea now seeks to be admitted to the United Nations as a "peace loving nation".

RUSSIAN COUNTER OFFER

When President Eisenhower, in spirit of good faith, trust and in a sincere desire for peace, offered the mutual inspection proposal for military bases at Geneva, the Russian Communists took the Fifth Amendment. Not to be outdone, however, the Communists offered an all-European treaty which would, if adopted, exclude the United States from the defense of Western Europe and would also be an act of Western suicide. It is a proposal which could end in making the Soviet government the political director of the whole of Eurasia and which would inevitably result in the complete isolation of the United States. It would give the U.S.S.R. a veto over every European policy. Unfortunately, in the excitement of Geneva this proposal for complete domination of the world by the Communists received only scant notice.

While it is possible to coexist with communism and while we can, within limitation, trade with communist states and while we can, for purposes of expediency, cooperate with Communist Governments for limited objectives, still it is impossible really ever to be friends with a Communist regardless of the charms, talents or the persuasiveness which he might possess. The communist objective was well expressed by columnist Dorothy Thompson in her syndicated column appearing on July 25 where she said, "the driving (and dedicated) purpose of the communist life is to convert you, or failing in that, to destroy you—even if you are that person's own wife or husband."

Despite the new look put on by the communists at Geneva it is still appropriate to quote the Bible to the effect that, "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau."

MUST REMEMBER LESSONS

As Americans we are prone to forget the lessons of the past. At the end of both World Wars I and II we indulged in a saturnalia of disarmament, which immobilized us in a military sense. When the communists thought that we had reached a state close to military paralysis, they struck in Korea. We learned then to our sorrow that in a world threatened continuously by communist aggression we must maintain a strong fighting force in being. Now again we seem to be on a new binge of good will. Once again we are closing our eyes to reality and indulging in wishful thinking that ease—its wonderful, because we want it to be that way.

Despite all the fine words uttered by the communists at Geneva they continue to prepare for war. Their recent statement that they were reducing their armed forces by 600,000 established a new all time high in duplicity. First of all, no one but the Russians themselves know exactly how many personnel they have in their various services. It may be that this number will be reduced somewhat but only because such a reduction might be necessary in order to stave off famine, or in order to continue essential military production in the factories. The immutable fact remains that the U.S.S.R. continues to build a strong Red Fleet. They are, on the basis of fleet units and military potential, certainly the world's number two Navy. It is expected that on the basis of manpower they are now the world's number one fleet. This fact should give us pause and lead us to consider whether it is in the interest of our continued independence and of a sound national defense to allow such a situation to continue. We of NCUSA realize that our motto **KEEP THE FLEET TO KEEP THE PEACE** is more adaptable today than it ever was before in the history of the United States. We must bend every effort to alert our communities on the dangers of the inscrutable smile Russian version and continue our battle for the maintenance of a strong United States Navy as a bulwark for the defense of freedom.

INDEX

INDIVIDUALS

	Page
A	
Acheson, Dean-----	1459
Adelman, Meyer-----	1239, 1297, 1299, 1419
Anderson, Walter T-----	1239, 1279-1284 (testimony), 1314
B	
Bailey, John-----	1247, 1373, 1374, 1450
Becker, Lawrence-----	1463
Bell, John-----	1370
Berry, James-----	1306, 1430
Blair, Fred Bassett-----	1240, 1267, 1271, 1273, 1277, 1291, 1300, 1301, 1320-1323 (testimony), 1329, 1334, 1336, 1337, 1435, 1438, 1439, 1447
Blakeslee, Art-----	1369
Blanchoc, Henry-----	1369
Bobrowicz, Edmund V-----	1319
Born, Kenneth-----	1324, 1327, 1330-1337 (testimony)
Brennan, James-----	1248
Brice, William O-----	1459
Bridges, Harry Renton (also known as Harry Dorgan)-----	1288, 1292, 1295, 1393, 1414
Browder, Earl-----	1290
Buck, Tim-----	1385
C	
Cappel, Walter-----	1318
Christoffel, Harold-----	1258, 1273, 1281, 1300, 1344, 1436-1438
Cohen, Hyman-----	1436, 1437
Cooper, Bus-----	1362, 1366
Corbin, Donnie-----	1379
Corbin, Freda (Mrs. Irvin Shankman)-----	1339
Corbin, Gertrude McGowan Cox (Mrs. Paul Corbin)-----	1239, 1264, 1265, 1269, 1271, 1274, 1275, 1298-1300, 1302-1306, 1329, 1337, 1348, 1350-1354, 1437, 1439.
Corbin, Irene-----	1339
Corbin, Mike. (See Kobrinsky, Mike.)	
Corbin, Paul (born Paul Kobrinsky)-----	1237-1249, 1251-1261, 1264, 1265, 1269-1277, 1280-1282, 1286-1289, 1291-1311, 1313-1317, 1320, 1322, 1324-1326, 1328, 1332-1342, 1344, 1348-1354, 1358-1364, 1367, 1368, 1373-1454 (testimony).
Corbin, Seena Powell. (See Powell, Seena.)	
Corbin, Sidney. (See Kobrinsky, Sidney.)	
Costello, Emil-----	1242, 1258, 1270, 1272-1274, 1283, 1292-1295, 1298-1300, 1306, 1307, 1329, 1343-1345 (testimony), 1392, 1393, 1401, 1403, 1415, 1416, 1418- 1420, 1435, 1438.
Cox, Gertrude. (See Corbin, Gertrude.)	
D	
DeWitt, James (Jim)-----	1281

	Page
E	
Edwards, Clarence S., Jr.-----	1395
Eisenschel, Esther. (See Wickstrom, Esther.)	
Eisenschel, Sigmund G.-----	1240, 1268, 1447
Erickson-----	1387
Erlich, Katherine-----	1363
F	
Fane, Charley-----	1393, 1395, 1412, 1416
Flory, Ishmael P.-----	1323-1330 (testimony), 1333-1337
Flynn, Francis-----	1463
Flynn, Gerald T.-----	1251, 1252, 1322
Forer, Joseph-----	1323, 1348
Forson-----	1397
Foster, William Z.-----	1290
Freeman, Jack-----	1324, 1325, 1333
G	
Gantt, Harry-----	1297
Garland, Judy-----	1312
Giacomo, John Dominick.-----	1236-1261 (testimony), 1313, 1315, 1439-1444, 1446, 1447
Gilmore, W. W.-----	1368, 1369
Goldblatt, Louis (also known as Lewis Miller)-----	1289, 1292, 1293, 1329, 1401, 1403, 1413-1415
Golz, William-----	1455, 1460
H	
Hale, I. D.-----	1463
Hally, Michael J.-----	1457
Harnischfeger, Walter-----	1240, 1447
Hauke, Albion-----	1318
Heinritz, Mel J.-----	1318
Henderson, Allen-----	1458
Herbin, Robert A.-----	1454
Herman, Irving-----	1363
Hirsch, Alfred-----	1240, 1317-1319, 1418, 1419, 1436, 1437, 1447
Hooker, John Jr.-----	1373
Humphrey, Hubert-----	1452
I	
Isaacs, Ethel-----	1283
J	
Johnson, R. A.-----	1397
K	
Keegan-----	1296
Keith, Mary-----	1268
Kennedy, John F.-----	1248, 1374, 1452
Kennedy, Joseph Michael Corwan (party name Joseph Curran)-----	1273, 1285-1311 (testimony), 1314, 1330, 1344, 1359-1363, 1365, 1366, 1384, 1385, 1392-1396, 1399-1413, 1415-1418, 1423-1426, 1428, 1429, 1431-1434, 1437, 1438, 1445, 1451.
Kennedy, Marion (Mrs. Joseph C. Kennedy)-----	1307, 1396, 1425, 1428, 1451
Kerstey, Edward S.-----	1248, 1251, 1252, 1311, 1312-13020 (testimony), 1454
Kingsley, Mike-----	1363-1365, 1367, 1408-1410
Knowland, William-----	1464, 1465
Kobrinsky, Mike (or Corbin)-----	1339
Kobrinsky, Nathan-----	1376
Kobrinsky, Paul. (See Corbin, Paul.)	
Kobrinsky, Seena P. (See Powell, Seena.)	
Kobrinsky, Sidney (Sidney Corbin)-----	1339, 1377, 1380, 1382, 1383, 1386, 1451
Kraftchak, Edmund P.-----	1463
L	
Lancaster, L. W.-----	1391
Larsen (Whirlwind)-----	1363
Leon, John-----	1449
Lyons, Jack-----	1272, 1273

	M	Page
MacArthur, Douglas	-----	1422
MacCallum, Marion	-----	1306
Martin, Jack	-----	1366, 1367
Martin (John Edward)	-----	1370
Mashek, R. J.	-----	1296
Matheson	-----	1426
May, George S.	-----	1369
McCarde, Lezette	-----	1457
McCarthy, Joseph R.	1240, 1254, 1257-1259, 1294, 1421, 1422, 1447,	1455
McCauley, Bill	-----	1248
McMurray, Howard	-----	1254
McRoberts	-----	1426
Mead, Lillian	-----	1458
Murray, Philip	-----	1236, 1298
	N	
Nash, Philleo	-----	1254, 1255, 1452
Nolan, Ann	-----	1426, 1427
Nordstrand, Josephine	-----	1319
Nowlan, Hiram M., Jr.	-----	1263
	O	
O'Brien, John R.	-----	1456-1459
Olds, Wilson	-----	1272
Olen, Ann	-----	1272
	P	
Pavlov, Ben	-----	1339, 1385
Pavlov, Elizabeth	-----	1338
Pavlov, Philip	-----	1339, 1385, 1386
Pavlov, Vitali G.	-----	1386
Poskonka, Joseph A.	-----	1271, 1314
Powell, Seena (formerly Mrs. Paul Corbin)	-----	1324, 1332, 1337-1342 (testimony), 1378, 1399, 1401
	R	
Raskin, Max	-----	1318, 1319
Read, Clarence E.	-----	1395-1399, 1412
Rein, David	-----	1320
Riffe, John	-----	1283
Riley, Tom	-----	1272
Robertson, J. R. (Bob)	-----	1292, 1300, 1329, 1404, 1413-1415, 1417
Rollins, Ray	-----	1289, 1396
Rossen, Robert	-----	1345
Rothenberg, Marilyn	-----	1458
Ruffine, Isadora	-----	1319
	S	
Scott, Harold	-----	1263-1277 (testimony), 1321
Sell, Einar	-----	1292, 1304, 1329, 1415
Sentinel, John (pen name)	-----	1243, 1245, 1248, 1256, 1257, 1442
Shankman, Irvin	-----	1339
Shepherd, Lemuel C., Jr.	-----	1459
Shultz, Emily	-----	1457
Silverthorn, Cyril A.	-----	1463
Smith, Philip	-----	1281, 1436
Sopher, Frank	-----	1458
Sorenson, John	-----	1318
Speiser, Lawrence	-----	1330
Steinbeck, Alma	-----	1458
Stewart, George (also known as Smerkin)	-----	1291, 1330
Stritof, Frank	-----	1463
	T	
Thorman, Carl	-----	1292, 1304, 1329, 1359, 1401, 1414-1417
Torre, Marie	-----	1312

	W	Page
Wallace, Henry	-----	1275, 1319, 1420
Walters, Robert	-----	1463
Wetterman, Niel E.	-----	1248-1250, 1252, 1306, 1315, 1316, 1368
Wickstrom, Esther (Mrs. Lester Wickstrom; nee Eisenscher)	-----	1240, 1268, 1270, 1271, 1348-1354 (testimony), 1447, 1450
Wilgus, Perry E.	-----	1302, 1303, 1354-1372 (testimony), 1403-1413
Willis, William R.	-----	1373
Wolfe, Herschel	-----	1395, 1412
Wornham, Thomas O.	-----	1459

Z

Zablocki, Clement J.	-----	1249, 1250-1252, 1322
----------------------	-------	-----------------------

ORGANIZATIONS

A

Allis-Chalmers Co.	-----	1243, 1435, 1436
America Firsters (also known as America First)	-----	1293, 1402
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)	-----	1330, 1331
Automatic Pencil Sharpener Co.	-----	1344
Automobile, Aircraft, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, United (UAW)	-----	1392, 1410-1412

B

Bell Fiber Products Corp.	-----	1355, 1370
Black Hawk Publishing Co., Inc. (Cedar Falls, Iowa)	-----	1286
Bookbinders Union, AFL	-----	1393, 1411

C

Canadian Officers Training Corps	-----	1385
Citizens for Kennedy	-----	1376
Civil Rights Congress	-----	1275
Committee To Aid America by Aiding the Allies	-----	1293
Communications Association, American (ACA)	-----	1300, 1438
Communist Party of the United States of America	-----	1302, 1304, 1310, 1316, 1365, 1366, 1384, 1402, 1404, 1437, 1449, 1453, 1454
National Conventions and Conferences:		
Sixteenth Convention, February 9-12, 1957 (New York City)	-----	1352
States and Territories:		
Illinois:		
Rockford	-----	1292, 1294, 1363, 1364, 1367, 1401, 1402, 1408, 1409, 1416
John Alden Branch	-----	1358, 1363
Wisconsin	-----	1241, 1243, 1245, 1247, 1256, 1260, 1265-1267, 1269, 1281, 1300-1303, 1305, 1317, 1319, 1348-1353, 1366, 1435, 1450
Beloit group	-----	1266, 1268
Communist Political Association (May 1944 to July 1945)	-----	1275
Wisconsin State Committee	-----	1276
Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO):		
States:		
Illinois:		
Industrial Union Council (Rockford, Ill.)	-----	1287, 1297, 1392, 1393, 1403
Wisconsin	-----	1301, 1419, 1438
Industrial Union Council	-----	1295, 1317-1319, 1349-1352
Veterans' Committee	-----	1319, 1434, 1435

D

Dana Corp.	-----	1355-1357, 1369, 1370
Democratic Party (U.S.A.):		
Democratic National Committee	-----	1247, 1253, 1374, 1453

E

Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America, United (UE)	---	1281, 1436
Emil Costello and Associates	-----	1344

F	Page
Farm Equipment and Metal Workers of America, United (CIO)-----	1280
Fur and Leather Workers Union of the United States and Canada, Inter- national-----	1280
Furniture Manufacturers Association-----	1298
Furniture Workers of America, United (CIO)-----	1317
Local 707 (Rockford, Ill.)-----	1286, 1287, 1289, 1292, 1306, 1360, 1362, 1403, 1406-1408, 1415, 1416, 1418
G	
Glendale Die Casting (Detroit, Mich.)-----	1356
H	
Harnischfeger Corp. (Milwaukee, Wis.)-----	1236
Hough Manufacturing Co. (Janesville, Ill.)-----	1299
I	
Illinois Cabinet-----	1392
International Expeditors (Universal Enterprises)-----	1344
K	
Kalamazoo Stove & Furnace Co. (Kalamazoo, Mich.)-----	1356
L	
Litton Industries-----	1344
Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, International (ILWU)-----	1288, 1289, 1292, 1293, 1300, 1317, 1361, 1392, 1393, 1402, 1403, 1407, 1413, 1415, 1417.
M	
Marine Corps League-----	1450, 1456, 1457, 1459
Wisconsin-----	1242, 1245, 1257-1259, 1295, 1296, 1298, 1301, 1302, 1309, 1310, 1421- 1424, 1426, 1432, 1433, 1450, 1460, 1462, 1463.
Marks Bros. Manufacturing Co. (Chicago, Ill.)-----	1356, 1369
Mary's Bookshop (Milwaukee, Wis.)-----	1321
Micro Switch Corp. (See entry under Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co.)-----	
Midwest Committee for Protection of Foreign Born-----	1271
Milwaukee City Workers Union-----	1299
Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, International Union of-----	1325, 1333
Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co., Micro Switch Division (Freeport, Ill.)-----	1302, 1356-1358, 1361, 1368, 1369, 1404, 1405, 1407
N	
Navy Club of the United States of America-----	1296, 1297, 1428, 1463-1465
O	
Oak Manufacturing Co. (Elkhorn, Wis.)-----	1264
P	
Progressive Party-----	1275
Public Workers of America, United--	1238, 1243, 1247, 1299, 1317, 1318, 1419-1421
District 7-----	1317
R	
Radiant Manufacturing Corp. (Morton Grove, Ill.)-----	1356, 1357, 1368
Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Employees of America, United-----	1288, 1326, 1392, 1396
Rheem Manufacturing Co. (Chicago, Ill.)-----	1302
S	
Steelworkers of America, United-----	1279, 1280, 1292-1294, 1297, 1298, 1392, 1401, 1403, 1415, 1416, 1419, 1440
District 32-----	1236
Local 1114-----	1237
Stevenson, Jordan & Harrison Inc. (Chicago, Ill.)-----	1356, 1357

T

Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen & Helpers of America, International Brotherhood of.....	Page 1392
Telephone Workers, National Federation of.....	1300, 1438

U

U.S. Government:	
Justice, Department of:	
Federal Bureau of Investigation.....	1246, 1252, 1255, 1308-1310, 1444-1446, 1453, 1454
Immigration and Naturalization Service.....	1303, 1304, 1308-1310, 1383, 1387, 1415
War Production Board:	
Office of Labor Production.....	1236, 1447
University of Manitoba (Winnipeg, Canada).....	1287, 1288, 1379, 1385

W

Warehouse & Distribution Workers Union (ILWU-CIO):	
Local 221, ILWU-CIO.....	1358, 1359
Wisconsin Conference on Social Legislation. (See Wisconsin State Conference on Social Legislation.)	
Wisconsin State Conference on Social Legislation.....	1318, 1319
Wisconsin State CIO Veterans Committee. (See entry under Congress of Industrial Organizations, Wisconsin.)	
W. T. Rawleigh, Co. (Freeport, Ill.).....	1289, 1358, 1359, 1361, 1392, 1403, 1405-1407, 1410-1412

Y

Young Communist League.....	1275
Young Communist League, Canada.....	1287-1289, 1294, 1305, 1314, 1340, 1384, 1385, 1395

PUBLICATIONS

A

Advocator.....	1424
----------------	------

C

CIO News.....	1237
Wisconsin.....	1298, 1299, 1317-1319, 1418, 1419

H

Houston Chronicle.....	1421, 1455, 1456
------------------------	------------------

J

Janesville Gazette.....	1374, 1455, 1463
-------------------------	------------------

L

Los Angeles Times.....	1455, 1457, 1458
------------------------	------------------

M

Manitoban.....	1380
Midwest Guardian.....	1318, 1319
Milwaukee Journal (Milwaukee, Wis.).....	1248, 1252, 1257, 1283, 1312, 1421, 1455, 1460
Milwaukee Sentinel.....	1243, 1248, 1439

Q

Quarterdeck, The.....	1455, 1464, 1465
-----------------------	------------------

T

"Thirty Years, 1922 to 1952, The Story of the Communist Movement in Canada" (book).....	1385
---	------

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 9999 05706 3123

