

Artie Shaw's May 4, 1953 Testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee

In order to accommodate him in his itinerary. I would like to call Mr. Artie Shaw. Mr. WELDE. Will you raise your right hand? In the testimony you are about to give before this committee, do you solemnly swear you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? Mr. SHAW. So help me God, I do. TESTIMONY OF ARTIE SHAW, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS COUNSEL, ANDREW D. WEINBERGER Mr. TAVENNER. What is your name, please, sir? Mr. SHAW. Artie Shaw. Mr. TAVENNER. Are you accompanied by counsel? Mr. SHAW. Yes: I am. Mr. TAVENNER. Will counsel please identify himself for the record? Mr. WEINBERGER. Andrew D. Weinberger, 369 Lexington Avenue, New York. Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you born, Mr. Shaw? Mr. SHAW. New York City, May 23, 1910. Mr. TAVENNER. What is your profession? Mr. SHAW. Music and writing—both. Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you now reside? Mr. SHAW. At Pine Plains, N. Y. Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, what your formal educational training has been? Mr. SHAW. Actually very little, formal education. I left high school in my second year to go out into the world as a musician, and subsequently have a number of extension courses at Columbia, among other places—Columbia University of this city, among other places—and studied music from time to time with various people—composers, so on—and academically I've had practically no education.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give the committee, please, a brief background of your experience in the field of music and in the field of writing? Mr. SHAW. Well, the field of writing can be summed up very quickly. I've written one book and had it published. I have an other book ready for publication, now, which is in its editing stage and probably will be published this fall. That is my experience in the field of writing. In the field of music, I have been playing as a professional musician since I was 14. Actually, at the age of 15 I became a professional. COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1151 That was when I started getting paid for it. I am self-taught in that sense. I worked around the country with various orchestras until I was 19, at which time I came back to New York City. I had, by the way, started playing music in New Haven, where I was raised, because my folks left New York when I was 7 or so. I was raised in New Haven, and took up music there. At the age of 19 I came back to New York City, after various vicissitudes in the field. It was kind of difficult to get any employment at that time, and I went to work in one of the radio stations. Shortly after that, I became a free-lance musician and quit the music business at about the age of 23, and I then tried to write.

At that point I was then taking Mr. TAVENNER. What was the date; what was the year, approximately? Mr. Shaw. Well, when I was 23, it was 1933. I went off to a so-called farm at that time—a little place in the country in Pennsylvania—and I spent a year there trying to learn more about this craft of writing, and found at the end of the year I knew very little about it—little more than when I started I then came back into the music business, decided to take more courses, learn more about what I wanted to learn, and use music to support myself. Along the line there, I might say I have written all this in the first book—written about all this in the first book, which is—I don't know that I have said, but it is sort of an autobiographical work.

I then went into the band business, which is quite different from the music business in the sense of playing music for the public directly rather than for an employer. I started my own organization—my own musical organization I think in 1935 or 1936, traveled around the country for about 3 or 4 years, all this time getting the orchestra whipped into shape and making an organization out of it, and around 1938, I had my first national success. It came in the form of a hit record, which I made at that time—and

I'm not going to advertise my own recordings here . So, there's no point in going into that kind of details . Mr. TAVENNER. I think the committee would like to know what have been your chief productions Mr. Shaw . Well Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Those that you consider among the top of your work. Mr. Shaw . Well, in 1938 , on the basis of a record called Begin the Beguine, I first came into national prominence as an orchestra leader. At that time my salary shot way up almost overnight, and that is the criterion for success in any mass business. And I have had orchestras on and off ever since 1938, up until 1942. In 1941— December 7 , on Pearl Harbor Day, to be precise - I was playing in a theater in Providence, R . I., and the news of Pearl Harbor came over the radio right in the wings while we were on the stage. I had stepped out of the wings for a smoke for a moment or two and , after hearing that, having to go back on the stage seemed pretty stupid at that time, in view of what was happening. The theater was filled with servicemen , and I had to go out and make an announcement that all servicemen were to return to their bases immediately , which I did , and I turned to my band and said , “ You boys better start looking for jobs," and by the first of the year I had canceled out all my engagements and went down and enlisted in the Navy .

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you in the Navy ? Mr. Shaw . Well, up until 1944 . Mr. TAVENNER. On your return from the Navy, in what business did you ens . Well,actua. In the Navyan apprer Mr. SHAW . Well, actually the business didn't change very much from what I did in the Navy. In the Navy, after several months, I went down to Washington. I enlisted as an apprentice seaman. They made me a seaman first. I went down to Washington to see Mr. Forrestal, who was then Assistant Secretary of the Navy, to ask him actually, I did that before I joined the Navy at all — I asked him if there was room for anyone like me in the Navy. I knew a lot of people in show business had been drafted , but I hadn't heard of any in the Navy. So, I asked him whether I could be of any use in the Navy. He said I most certainly could , and together with a Captain Ginrick , who was his aide, they were going to - they asked me if I wanted a commission. I said I thought I would be better off going in as an enlisted man because I could do more for the enlisted men. There were more of them . So, I went overseas shortly after that. I went back to Washington and was given permission to see a Captain Bledsoe he was then a captain, and since then was made an admiral — who was in charge of all enlisted personnel. · At my request he allowed me to recruit a number of men in the Navy, which I did here at 90 Church Street, New York , and we worked up a Navy band made up of Navy personnel and went out to the South Pacific, where he assured me we could do a job . After we got down to the South Pacific, in the combat area - we went to Guadalcanal and other forward areas, as close to the front as we could get — that was then up front- Admiral Halsey and other people came down, such as Admiral Nimitz, and led me to believe I did a good job down there. I feel I wouldn't ordinarily bring this up, but you are asking for this information . Well, at any rate, shortly after that I came back to the United States. We served a tour of duty down there — the normal period of time, I think , was 14 to 18 months, although I am not sure of the exact duration of the period — and were sent back to the United States then for reorganization.

Many of the men had taken sick. I, myself, was in pretty bad shape, and actually I must be guilty of a deception to the United States Government at that point. I ordinarily would not have been allowed to enlist in the Navy had I told them this information when I went down. My left ear has not functioned very well since I was about 24. I had to hide that to get in. When I came back to the United States it was discovered I couldn 't hear with this ear; also, by that time, I had developed a sort of operation — what they called operation fatigue. We had been down there on a very rigorous schedule, and they called me

in for a medical examination . I had migraine headaches, severe ones which used to incapacitate me for a COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1153 day or two, and at that time they separated me or discharged me from the Navy.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now , on your Mr. Shaw (continuing) . With a medical discharge . Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Return from the Navy, where did you take up your work again as a musician ? Mr. Shaw . Well, I didn't at first. I was in pretty bad shape for a while, and I was living at that time in California , in Los Angeles Beverly Hills, to be exact. Mr. TAVENNER. Where were you living in Beverly Hills ? Mr. Shaw . Well, now let 's see if I can remember the address. I' ve lived at so many places — it 's a little difficult. When I first got out of the Navy, I stayed with my father- in -law . I stayed at his house until I could get located . I had a home in Hollywood , but it was rented at that time and I couldn 't get back into it . There were all kinds of restrictions about that. So, I had to live at my father - in law ' s house for a while . After I found the house, I bought one. It was in Beverly Hills, on Bedford Drive, but the address is a little vague in my mind. Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you remain as a resident of Los Angeles ? Mr. Shaw . I stayed there from the time I was discharged from the Navy - well, outside of a few months, during which time I rented a car - I was discharged in San Francisco - at the Oakland Naval Hospital, to be precise I rented a car and drove around California for a while . I was sort of at loose ends. I didn 't know quite what I was going to do with myself. I was pretty beat up at that time.

Then I moved down to Hollywood, or Beverly Hills. I lived there, I think, until the latter part of 1946 or early part of 1947. I am not too clear as to the exact dates, but that could be verified . Mr. TAVENNER . So, you were in Los Angeles between 1944 and 1946 Mr. Shaw . Or 1947. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Or 1947 ? Mr. Shaw . From the middle of 1944 up until 1946 or the beginning of 1947, as close as I can remember now . I could verify it exactly, but

Mr. TAVENNER. How were you employed during that period of time ? Mr. Shaw . I have never been employed , actually . I've always been self-employed . Mr. TAVENNER. What work were you engaged in ? Mr. Shaw . In music , when I was engaged in anything. I did some recordings at first. I had an old contract with RCA Victor, which had been signed during the war and which had been suspended during the duration. So, at first I confined myself to recording. I was actually looking for some work in the Hollywood area . I wanted , if possible, to locate out there and just find some place where I could sit still for a while and work at my profession ; but that is always difficult in my profession because most of my work is on the road , as you probably know . Anyway, I lived out there during that period of time, trying to get myself set out there and to work out there. In the end , I wasn 't 1154 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA able to succeed and what I did do, instead , was put a band together for various periods and go out for short road tours - road engagements. That would mean one-night stands.

I did — let me see was that before ? No ; that was before the war. I sometimes get very vague about these engagements because I 've played so many of them . Mr. TAVENNER . I think that is sufficiently in detail. Mr. Shaw . All right. Mr. TAVENNER . Are you aware, Mr. Shaw - I suppose you are that the committee has been making an investigation over a period of time of Communist activities in the entertainment field , with special reference to the moving picture enterprise ? Mr. Shaw . Yes ; I certainly am aware of that, sir . Mr. TAVENNER . The committee has endeavored to ascertain to what extent the Communist Party was successful in infiltrating the entertainment field at Hollywood , what the purposes of the Communist Party were in the effort it was making, and the methods by which it pursued its objectives. Mr. Shaw . Yes, sir .

Mr. TAVENNER. Now , in the course of our investigation , information has come to the attention of the committee which would indicate that you had some knowledge of the operations of the Communist Party during the period between 1945 and 1946 and maybe for a later period . Now , first of all, I want to ask you if you became acquainted with a person by the name of Paul Perlin ? Mr. Shaw . Paul who ? Mr. SHAW . Perlin - P - e - r - l - i - n . Mr. Shaw . If so , not under that name; I don't know that name. I've never heard it, to my conscious knowledge, before. May I say, first of all, that I' m going to answer every question you ask me as honestly and as fully as I possibly can . So, that being the first one, I can only say I don't know that name. Mr. TAVENNER . Possibly I can give a further identification of him which may refresh your recollection . Mr. Shaw . I'd be glad if you could , sir. Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Max Silver, who was the organizational secretary of the Communist Party of Los Angeles County , one of the top functionaries of the Communist Party in Los Angeles, testified before this committee that Paul Perlin was an organizer of a branch of the Communist Party composed of studio workers and that he participated in a number of small functionary meetings — that is, that Paul Perlin did — and, further, during the course of our investigation a witness by the name of Mr. Leo Townsend identified Mr. Shaw . Leo who ? · Mr. TAVENNER. Townsend - T - O - w - n - s - e - n - d - testified that Paul Perlin had been sent to his group of the Communist Party as a lecturer in Marxism . Now , does that information relating to Paul Perlin help to refresh your recollection ?

Mr. Shaw . I could say something, which I think will come in later, as part of the whole story I can give you, which may easily implicate this man; but I never knew him by name, if it is the same man. There was a lecture in Marxism that I did have one encounter with , and I' ll be very glad to tell you all I know about that. COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1155 Mr. TAVENNER. Well, if you prefer to discuss it later Mr. Shaw . Well, it doesn 't matter. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . That is all right. Mr. Shaw . I could bring it up now , if you like, but it is part of the entire story I could tell you of about a period of a month to 6 weeks. I believe that is the outside 6 weeks. It is about a month in which I had some connection with these men - a mistaken kind of connection , because I am sure there were assumptions made which I could not be held responsible for ; and I will be glad to explain that when the time comes, if you want me to . I can wait until then, comes, if you want me to . I can wait until then, or Mr. TAVENNER. Let's wait until the time comes. Mr. Shaw . All right ; that is up to you .

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with a person by the name of Hy Kraft ? Mr. Shaw . Yes ; I knew Mr. Kraft. Mr. TAVENNER . Were you acquainted with Leo Townsend ? Mr. Shaw . No; I don 't know that name. Mr. TAVENNER. And Mrs. Townsend , his wife ? Mr. Shaw . I don 't know that name. I don 't know Mr. Townsend's name. There were a lot of people - I must make this clear — there were a lot of people whom I knew around the film industry, or know around the film industry , whom I know by sight or whom I have seen here and there at parties, and what not, whose names I don 't know . It's quite possible I might know these people very casually, but certainly not by name, and they are certainly not friends. They might have been very vague acquaintances.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now , Mr. Leo Townsend testified before the committee at some length regarding his own Communist Party member ship , and both he and his wife have given sworn statements to the committee describing some of their experiences and the activities of various persons who were associated in the work with them . Now , I will read to you the testimony of Mr. Townsend , or his . sworn statement, rather, which identifies you so that you may know exactly what the testimony has been before the committee. Mr. Wheeler, in his questioning of Mr. Townsend , asked : Did you ever have occasion to meet Artie Shaw as a Communist ? Mr. TOWNSEND. Yes ; Artie Shaw was brought into

our branch of the Communist Party , I would think , in the year 1946 - - 1945 or 1946 . He attended 5 or 6 Communist Party branch meetings, and he attended 4 or 5 Marxist classes which were conducted by Paul Perlin , who was sent to our branch as an instructor by the county Communist organization . Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who brought Artie Shaw into the group ? Mr. TOWNSEND. I don' t recall who brought Artie Shaw in . Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall of any friction which existed among the Communist Party because of his recruitment ? Mr. TOWNSEND. Yes ; I remember a conversation between my wife, who was a member of that branch at the time, and a man named Hy Kraft, who was a friend of Shaw 's and who was also a member or had been of the Communist Party . He was greatly annoyed at whoever had recruited Artie Shaw on the ground that Shaw would be a bad Communist.

Mr. SHAW . Well, I'm afraid he had me right there. I didn 't know that Mr. Kraft was a Communist. I can tell you that now , and I may as well tell you this story right now Mr. TAVENNER. Well 1156 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA tion: Were you a member of the Communist Party group as mentioned by Mr. Townsend ? Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Because it bears in exactly with what you have just said . Mr. TAVENNER. Well, first, I want to ask you specifically the ques tion : Were you a member of the Communist Party group as mentioned by Mr. Townsend ?

Mr. Shaw. I can only say there that this is, in my opinion , false testimony. Part of it is directly false and some of it can only - I can only say to the best of my knowledge is false. Now , that — thereby hangs this whole story that I 've been referring only say the false andwise. to . If I may, I would like to clear that all up now . Mr. TAVENNER . Very well. Mr. Shaw . My recruitment, if any Mr. VELDE. Well, just a minute, Mr. Witness. Mr. Shaw . Yes. Mr. VELDE. I think the question was very simple and is easy to answer, and I believe, before you go ahead, you should answer the question that was put to you by counsel, Mr. Shaw .

Mr. Shaw . I thought I had answered when I said to the best of my knowledge I have never been a member of the Communist Party. Now , the words to the best of my knowledge' require some explanation - I am aware of that — and that is what I am preparing to do is to explain that Mr. VELDE. All right ; proceed . **Mr. Shaw . And I am trying very hard to be unequivocal about all this , and I would like very much to make as clear a story as I can about this. So, if you gentlemen will bear with me, I'll give to you this story exactly as I remember it and exactly as it was. This whole thing about the suspicion of me is quite justified , and I can explain the basis on which that arose. First of all, I did know Mr. Kraft. My work with Mr. Kraft was with one screenplay, which we endeavored to sell together. As a matter of fact, we sold an option of this screenplay to RKO . This was in about 1945, or maybe 1946 . I'm not sure, as I say, as to the dates ; but this also is on the record . We worked on a story together, which we were going to try to put together for Frank Sinatra, who was then around Hollywood looking for a screenplay . Kraft had an idea and he thought I could get two certain people at RKO, which I could have. I knew the people at studios, and, with my public reputation, I could gain entree to various places that he couldn't. He was rather unsuccessful at the time as a screenwriter, and I realize now one of the things he was doing was using me to help him to get a job. I did . I helped him get a job . We subsequently had a fight and split up about the job because, as it turned out, I did most of the actual writing on the screenplay but he refused to let me have any screen credit, rather than Mr. TAVENNER . Well, I don 't want to go into any personal difficulties Mr. Shaw . No; I am not Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . With you and Mr. Kraft.**

Mr. Shaw . No; I'm not doing that. I am just explaining my difficulties with Mr. Kraft. Shortly after that I became quite active in the Hollywood Independent "Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and

Professions, COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1157 known as HICCASP out there ; and after I joined the thing and attended several meetings of that, I was made a member of the executive council, which consisted of 100 members of the film colony, most of whom were nationally — of national reputation - nationally known men like Dore Schary ; men like, at that time, Walter Wanger - this was before his unfortunate affair that hit the papers some while ago and people of that kind. I joined that and one day , after I had been a member of the executive council of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions, as closely as I can remember now , a month or 2 , or maybe 3 months, I received a phone call at my office . . I had a little office in Beverly Hills, where I used to do my work . This phone call was from a man who described himself as a friend of various friends of mine people who were on the executive council. He wanted to speak to me about some HICCASP business . I asked him to identify himself, and he said it wouldn't mean anything to me if he did . So, I said , “ What can I do for you ?” He said , “ I would like to see you for about 5 or 10 minutes at your convenience any time at your convenience .” We made an appointment for the following day . He then came to my office , still not giving his name.

He came into my office and we sat down and talked . He then told me he knew various people on the executive council of the HICCASP who had told him that they thought I might be recruited as a member of the Communist Party, that I might be willing to become a member of the Communist Party. I told him at that time it had never been my intention — it had never been any intention of mine to become a member of the Communist Party ; I wasn 't clearly acquainted with the objectives of it, and I thought I was doing about all I could as an individual in the Holly wood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions. The issues at that time in HICCASP was concerned with state wide fair - FEPC — the fair-employment practice thing, and the extension of the OPA program , which was then in debate as to whether it would continue or not.

Mr. CLARDY. Counsel, did we establish the date of this ? Mr. Shaw . Well, I can give you the date as closely Mr. TAVENNER. The witness has not. Mr. Shaw . It should be difficult for me to give you the date . I can say it was some time around , in 1946 . It would be very difficult for me to tell you when, but I would say some time in the middle of 1946 .

Mr. WEINBERGER. Mr. Velde, I might help the witness to establish a date by referring to a matter unconcerned with this, if I may. Mr. VELDE. Mr. Counsel, it has been a rule , a custom of the committee to allow counsel to confer with his client, with the witness, but make no voluntary statements — and I am sure your statement is meant in all sincerity Mr. WEINBERGER. Yes. Mr. VELDE (continuing) . But that has been the rule. Mr. WEINBERGER. May I speak to him , and just refer him Mr. VELDE. Certainly. (At this point Mr. Shaw conferred with Mr. Weinberger.) 1158 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA

Mr. Shaw . Then , it was previous to July 1946. I would say a matter of months previous- several months previous— to 1946 that this occurred . This man then asked me whether I had ever thought of joining the Communist Party. I said I had never thought of it. I had been occasionally asked by various people — when I was in New York in 1941 I was asked Mr. TAVENNER. Let me ask you at this point: Who was that person ? Mr. Shaw . Now , that is what I was coming to . Mr. TAVENNER. Oh, all right ; yes. Mr. Shaw . This is the man I first thought you might be talking about when you said the first name— Paul Mr. TAVENNER. Paul Perlin .

Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Paul Perlin . This man 's name I asked him , first of all, who were the members of the party of the executive council of HICĀASP who had referred him to me. He refused to give me any names, unless he said unless I were a member he had to regard certain security rules that they functioned by. I then asked him for his name. The only name he would give me was Herb , for quite awhile. His first name was Herb . Herb was his first name, and his last name was White or Wright, as I remember. That is my best recollection . I only saw him once after that. After that, I talked to him only 2 or 3 times on the telephone. I might explain that in the course of this he called me several times after that. At any rate, the one thing he said to me he said if it seemed to me I was interested in the functions of such organizations as HICĀASP , it was my clear duty to investigate what the Communist Party offered and how the Communist Party operated within these organizations, and I maybe could be doing a service to the things they were interested in if I could see how they operated . I said , “ Well, I'll be very glad to see how they operate.” He said , “ The only way to do that is to attend some meetings.” I said , “Well, I will be glad — very glad — to attend meetings.” He said , “ You can 't attend the meetings unless you are a party member.” I said , “ Well, I am not going to be a party member - I want to make that clear - before I know what I am getting into, and I will not sign any cards or an application to become one.” I said , “ How do you get around that ?” He says, “ I have with me a form which, if you sign , you can go to these meetings.” I said , “ I refuse to put my name on any such thing.” He said , “ Would you do this : Would you be willing to go to a couple or 3 or 4 meetings in order to see if you could be of service ? “ You will probably find people there who are also members of the executive council of HICĀASP, and you will see how they work.” My assumption was they, these people , were going in there on the same basis I was— that they were trying to recruit us into this thing. Now , I asked him if that was so, and he said, “ As much as I can tell you , that is so.” COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1159

Oply some observer. To do with it He was quite mysterious about it. There was kind of a cloak -and dagger atmosphere about the entire thing . Finally I said , “ The only thing I can do is this: I would be willing to go to some meetings with these people I know and let — to see what your objectives are ; but if it is something I don 't agree with, I certainly want no part of it. But I am perfectly willing to see what it is.” He said , “ All right ; we can do it on this basis : If you will put any name you want, just so you can sign a piece of paper, so that I can go back to my people ” — that is the way he put it, “my people” — “ and show them - say to them you signed this piece of paper” — I said , “ What are you going to do with this piece of paper if I sign it, if I put a name, any name, on it — some name I make up ? ” He said , “ That's all. It doesn 't matter if I tear it up afterward . It is of no value to us because it will not be a membership card ; but, because of that, I can clear you to go to these meetings.” What I did was to sign a piece of paper, which he said he had on him , which was, as far as I could see , not a party card . I read the thing carefully, and he said it was simply something to sign to enable me to go to meetings as a participant or as an observer. I signed that piece of paper and asked him then what he was going to do with it . He said this was going to be his way of clearing me to go to these meetings. I went after that to one — he gave me an address.

Mr. FRAZIER. Mr. Chairman . Mr. VELDE. Mr. Frazier. Mr. FRAZIER. May I interrupt the witness ? Did you sign your own name to that ? Mr. SHAW . I certainly did not. I made up some name. Mr. FRAZIER. Could you tell us the name? Mr. Shaw . No. Mr. FRAZIER . Do you recall the name? Mr. Shaw . I don 't. It was some fantastic name. I made up some thing idiotic . I said , “ This is silly, if you think this is going to do you any good.” He said , “ No ; it 's only so I can clear you .” Now , I am confident this was one of the times referred to in the testimony. And he said , “ I am confident if you go to a few of these meetings

this will be what you want to do ." I have been led to believe this is how it is done. So, I did that . I gave him that. As far as I know , he told me he was going to tear it up. That was to the best of my knowledge. Well, I knew it could be of no use to him . My own name wasn't on there, and there was no name of anybody I knew on there. I had never had anything to do with joining anything like that, and - now , if I may, I'll come to the the other testimony.

Mr. SCHERER . May I interrupt a minute ? Mr. VELDE. Mr. Scherer. Mr. SCHERER. You know , Mr. Shaw , do you not, that persons in the party did use assumed or fictitious names ? Mr. Shaw . I have been told that since. I didn 't know at the time. Mr. SCHERER. You have learned it since Mr. Shaw . I have since learned that. 33909 - 53 - pt. 1 - 3 1160 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA Mr. SchERER (continuing). That they are carried on the rolls of the party— Mr. SHAw. I found it out— Mr. SchERER (continuing). Under assumed or fictitious names? Mr. SHAw (continuing). Shortly after, and I will tell you what the whole situation was—and this is something I want to make perfectly clear because I was absolutely misled into one set of assumptions which later turned out to be something else, I learned. I will explain all of that, if I may.

Mr. CLARDY. Whatever name you used, it was neither the name with which you were baptized Mr. SHAw. No. Mr. CLARDY (continuing). Nor the name— Mr. SHAw. It had nothing to do with me, or anybody I knew. It was just as if I reached in the sky and pulled out a name like Joseph Sam. I have no idea what the name was. It was just the first name that occurred to me. Mr. SchERER. You have learned since that is a common practice in the party? Mr. SHAw. I don't know what the common practice is. I have been told there are party names— Mr. SchERER. Yes.

Mr. SHAw (continuing). **Which are not the names of the individuals; but that I also was on a Communist Party membership card— this was not that. To the best of my knowledge, that was an ordinary card which would enable me—which would enable him to clear me to go to these meetings for the purpose of my finding out what they were about. That is all I know about that part. At any rate, he gave me the address of a home, at which on the following Wednesday or Thursday, or some night during the week, there would be a meeting; and I went to this meeting, and at the door—it was a rather informal gathering—I was met at the door by a woman who introduced herself to me as the hostess. There were no names mentioned at the meetings. At the most, I would hear first names— John or Joe, or Jack—whatever the names were; and if they were women, it would be Mary, or whatever the names were. I was asked to come in and sit down. They weren't quite ready to start: I came in and sat down. It was very informal. People were smoking and just sitting around. A short time later this woman took a chair and said, "The meeting is called to order."**

Mr. CLARDY; You said "this woman." Will you, identify her? Mr. SHAw. I can't, because she introduced herself to me as the hostess. I might tell you this house was somewhere in Laurel Canyon. I had the address at the time, but I haven't got it any more. I don't remember it now. That was the only time #.at that place. Mr. CLARDY. That is a pretty long street. Mr. SHAw. No; H.P.is not even a street. That is the trouble. Mr. CLARDY. I have been on it. COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1161 w . It withe house Mr. Shaw . It winds around,hat , and is what you just go to the address. There are the cars there, the house, cars in front of the house, and you get out of your car and go up. That is what I did.

Mr. CLARDy. You would recognize it if you went there again , I take it . ? Mr. Shaw . That is hard to know. I presume I would , if the cars were there. I am sure I would if the cars were there. At any rate, it was a house up, off the road , on a hill. And I'll try to recollect this to the absolute best of my ability, Mr.

TAVENNER . All right; just proceed . Mr. Shaw . I went into this room , and there were a group of people ; and , finally, 2 or 3 others came in , and there were some people from the executive council or of the HICCASP there and most of them I didn 't know at all, and I assumed that those were ordinary rank -and -file members of the HICCASP. This, so far as I know , was HICCASP business, and the idea was to see how this operated insofar as the Communist Party was concerned . I understand they were trying to supervise or organize a group within the HICCASP executive council.

Mr. CLARDY . May I ask a question , Mr. Chairman ? Mr. VELDE. Mr. Clardy. Mr. CLARY. How long after you first became a member of this organization called the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions did this incident take place ? Mr. Shaw . **That, as I say, was several months after I became a member of the executive council. Mr. CLARDY. This was sometime in 1946 ? Mr. Shaw . That's right. Mr. CLARDY. Thank you .** Mr. SCHERER. You said when you went to this meeting there were certain people there who you could not recognize. • Mr. Shaw . No; I said most of them . Mr. SCHERER. Most of them you did not recognize ? Mr. Shaw . Yes. Mr. SCHERER. You did recognize some of them , then ? Mr. Shaw . That's right. Mr. SCHERER. Can you remember and tell us who you did recognize ? **Mr. Shaw . I will be glad to mention the names under the condition that it be clearly understood I do not know whether they were in my category there or whether they were I don 't know whether they were members of any Communist Party . Mr. SCHERER. We understand that, but would you mind telling us who the persons were at that meeting whom you did know and did recognize ? Mr. KEARNEY . Mr. Chairman. Mr. VELDE. Mr. Kearney. Mr. KEARNEY. I think if the witness is going to mention any names they should be mentioned in executive session and not in public session . Mr. SHAW. I would be very happy to have it that way. Mr. KEARNEY. I don't think it is fair to the individuals to have the names mentioned here at this time. Mr. TAVENNER. If there is uncertainty about their membership Mr. KEARNEY. Yes. 1162 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA Mr. SHAW . That is the point. I can say nothing about their status because I know they couldn't say anything about my status at that time.**

Mr. CLARDY. May I inquire, Mr. Chairman : We are not talking about a meeting of the party ; we are talking about the meeting of this Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions Mr. Shaw . As far as Mr. CLARDY. Am I correct ? Mr. Shaw . As far as I know , it was a meeting of the group from the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. Mr. CLARDY. I see. Mr. Shaw . It was not the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. It was described to me as a caucus, to be exact. Mr. CLARDY. I understood you to say it was a meeting called by the group of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts , Sciences, and Professions.

Mr. Shaw . No ; I was told about this meeting by Mr. Herb White or Wright Mr. CLARDY . I see. Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Who called on me. Mr. CLARDY. I am sorry. Mr. Shaw . That is the first I heard about the meeting. I Mr. Clardy. I am incorrect. I thought it was the other, Mr. Chairman .

Mr. VELDE. Let me get this correct. Did you understand this to be a meeting of the Communist Party or a branch of the Communist Party? Mr. Shaw . What I understood it to be was a group of Hollywood a group of members of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions who were being attempted that they were attempting to organize within the framework of the Communist Party. I did not know whether it was a member whether it was a group of the Communist Party members or not a group of the Communist Party members.

Mr. VELDE. And you would be willing to give us the names of those you remember in executive session ? Mr. Shaw . Actually , they are names I am sure you know . Mr. VELDE. The committee has no desire- in fact, we try our best not — to name anyone who is not connected with subversive influences in any way, and we appreciate your cooperating. Mr. Shaw . I would be glad to give you the names on the clear un derstanding that I cannot state what their actual status was.

Mr. VELDE . Yes. Mr. Shaw . I wouldn't want to be in position of bearing testimony against a man whose status I didn 't know . Mr. Jackson. Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question at that point ? Mr. VELDE. Mr. Jackson . Mr. Jackson . Mr. Shaw , were any of those individuals who were in attendance known to you to be members or did they ever become known to you to be members of the Communist Party subsequently, either by public hearings, or other identifications ? COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1163

Mr. SHAW. I can answer you—these are people whose names I have seen in connection with hearings on this question; but I have no way of knowing whether they were or were not. Mr. JACKSON. I see. Mr. CLARDY. You mean they are persons who have been identified before this committee as members of the Communist Party? Mr. SHAW. Not identified. They have been questioned in front of this—I don't know whether it was this committee, but one— Mr. CLARDY. I see. Mr. SHAW (continuing). Or one of the branches of this committee. **Mr. CLARDY. As to whether they were actually named party members, you are uncertain? Mr. SHAW. I can't know that because I never followed it that closely. I only remember seeing their names. Actually, there were 2 and at the most 3 who I saw.**

Mr. DoyL.E. Mr. Chairman. Mr. WELDE. Mr. Doyle. Mr. Doyle. I think, in view of the testimony of the witness and his answers to the questions in the last minute or two, we ought to hear him testify in executive session as to the names of these folks and not release their names unless they are positively identified as members of the Communist Party. Mr. WELDE. Yes. Mr. Doyle. I think that is in line with our established policy— Mr. WELDE. I agree. Mr. Doyle (continuing). And we ought to follow it here. Mr. VELDE. I agree with the gentleman. Mr. SHAW. Can I, then, finish this part of my story? Mr. TAVENNER: I would like to interrupt you at that point to clarify one matter that is in my mind at least. This meeting that you attended apparently was a Communist Party meeting because you have told us that you couldn't have gotten into the meeting unless you signed a card which this man White or Wright would have to take back to his people.

Mr. SHAW. That is right, but the point is: What he gave me to understand very clearly was this was a group of people who, like myself, were being approached to become members of the Communist Party and work within the party direction or framework in the group, the HICCASP, of which we were already members. Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Mr. SHAW. So, I didn't know whether it was actually a party membership or a kind of Mr.TAVENNER. Well, you wouldn't have to sign a card or a paper, using a fictitious name, to meet with a bunch of your own coworkers in HICCASP?

Mr. SHAW. Well, the point was— Mr. TAVENNER. It would only be in the event you and others were being invited to a Communist Party meeting to discuss matters— Mr. SHAW. **I understood it was not a Communist Party meeting so much as it was a meeting of people, some of whom were and some of whom were not Communists, in an attempt to get those who weren't to join and become Communists.** 1164 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA

Mr. TAVENNER. All right. Why, then, would it be necessary for Mr. White or Mr. Wright to take back a piece of paper to his people in order to get you into the meeting ? Mr. Shaw . I suppose because he did not want me to be in a position of knowing anyone there, unless I was willing to show I was willing to give them a chance and willing to listen to what they had to say . He made it on the basis of security . There may be people there I would recognize, and unless I was willing to do this they couldn 't trust me to come. **Mr. CLARDY. Well, Witness, at any rate, it was your understanding that the meeting was being conducted by people who were trying to proselyte persons into the party ? Mr. Shaw . That's right ; exactly. (Representative Donald L . Jackson left the hearing room at this point.)**

Mr. CLARDY. So that it was your definite understanding that the meeting was being conducted by the members of the party , Mr. Shaw . That's right, sir. Mr. CLARDY (continuing). In an effort to get others to become members? Mr. Shaw . That is right. Mr. CLARDY. That is your understanding ? Mr. Shaw . That's right. Mr. CLARDY. Then , wouldn 't you agree with counsel— it was a Communist Party meeting, even though some of you there were merely pilgrims along the road and they were trying to persuade you to join ?

Mr. SHAW . I suppose you could put it that way. I would hate to say it was a Communist Party meeting because that usually means Communists— I mean a group of people, all of whom are members. · Mr. CLARDY. Well, that is probably a conclusion , but all the facts would lead in one direction , wouldn 't they ? Mr. Shaw . Certainly. I would not hesitate to say the meeting was conducted by — purely for members of the party.

Mr. CLARDY. That is what you meant earlier when you said you thought some of these suspicions were probably logical, when you started out, because you did attend things of this kind ? Mr. Shaw . Not only that because, as I say, it was found out quickly I was going to be a bad Communist, and I was dropped about as quickly as I was picked . Anyway, do you want me to go on ? Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, if you will proceed, please. **Mr. Shaw . Anyway, I went to that meeting. That meeting concerned itself primarily with a discussion as to how the executive council — the hundred people of the executive council - could best be moved in regard to establishing an FEPC - fair employment practices and an extension of the OPA, or in order to carry on the OPA . It concerned itself with that and seemed to me rather harmless at the time, It was a question – I didn't like too much the idea , and I raised this objection several times during the evening, and was kind of put down as a rather naive person who didn't understand these matters. One of the questions I raised was, if this was what we were after, “ Why don 't we do it in the executive council, because that is where we- - COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1165 we are talking about working within the executive council - why don't we do that ”**

Mr. CLARDY. Just a moment. Is that the executive council of this independent group that you have identified ? Mr. SHAW . Yes ; that is the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions. Mr. CLARDY. Yes. **Mr. Shaw . And I said , “ why do we have to have this meeting for that purpose ? ” I mean , we discussed that at the executive council. I didn't see the need for what they called the caucus meeting. I was then told the reason for it was this showed me how the operation went. There was a certain amount of organization done at these meetings, which later paid off in the council meetings so we would not — we would not have any difficulties among ourselves— when it came to voting on an issue, we would all know how to go after the thing we wanted , which was to get the HICCASP to throw its weight behind the FEPC and the OPA thing. Well, that didn 't**

seem too unreasonable an explanation . So, I went away and, as I was leaving that evening — the meeting took place at around, oh , I'd say 9 o'clock , 8 : 30, something like that, it lasted about an hour, or an hour and a quarter at the most ; it was just a short and rather informal thing — I was then told by the hostess, the woman who let me in at the door, that the next meeting would take place at such and -such an address — I think 2 weeks, or 1 week at that time— at that date — and that was an address somewhere in Hollywood , or Beverly Hills. I can't remember just where because I went in all to 4 of these meetings, to the best of my recollection , one of which was one of these lectures. Mr. Townsend is in error there. I won 't say he is lying, but he is in error as to the amount of these things I went to.

The second meeting was one which had very little bearing on anything I was interested in at all. The meeting took place under similar circumstances. In this case, I was let in — well, the door was open , as a matter of fact. I heard, “ Come in ,” as I rang the bell. There were certain people sitting around a good - sized living room , and again they were talking, and so on . They waited for a few people . No one addressed any of the people by any but first names. I waited a while , and again the meeting was called to order by someone who assumed the chairmanship of the meeting. **I assumed they knew what they were doing, and I sat there. At this meeting the discussion mostly had to do with the Hollywood Screen Writers' Guild activities. I, not being a member of the Hollywood Screen Writers' Guild at that time could see - and still couldn 't see very little point in my being there ; but I listened to what they were talking about, and they were talking about various Screen Writers' Guild activities, and whether they should do this , or do that, whether so -and -so should be allowed to get away with this screen credit, and there was sort of a shop - talking kind of meeting. I contributed very little to this thing. I just sat there and , for the most part, didn 't open my mouth ; and sometime toward the end of this I observed to someone next to me- I said , "What am I doing here ? I have no connection with this."** 1166 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA They said , "Well, these meetings sometimes take this form . Sometimes they take another form . We want you to have a rounded picture of the activities of this group." So, I

Mr. TAVENNER. Were the same people in control of the conduct of this meeting as the previous meeting ? Mr. Shaw . No; in each case there would be a different so -called chairman . As I say, it is very difficult to describe because it wasn't a formal meeting as such. It was just as though you were in your living room . Mr. TAVENNER. Did you observe pamphlets and booklets there Mr. Shaw . No. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . And their being made available Mr. Shaw . No; there was no such thing. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . For the members ? Mr. Shaw . There was no such thing. I am coming to that in a moment. As far as my part is concerned

Mr. CLARDY. You said the chairman changed , but did the general membership of the meeting remain about the same, with a few different persons ? Mr. Shaw . Well, there would be at the first meeting, as closely as I can remember, there would be well, these were small groups there might have been 14 to 20. There weren't 20. There couldn't have been 20 people. Mr. CLARDY. Now , as to the subsequent meetings Mr. SHAW . Yes. Mr. CLARDY (continuing) . At the subsequent meetings, did you recognize any of the faces of the people who showed up at the first one?

Mr. Shaw . Some— some I did not - at the first one - of the faces I recognized from the first one. One of those I knew did , and one did not. Most of them I did not know . As I said , I only saw 2 people I positively knew . Mr. CLARDY . These characters we didn't have you name a moment ago_ did they

run like a thread through all of the meetings ? Mr. SHAW . They were, as I say , not at all the meetings. Mr. CLARDY. Most of them , though ? Mr. Shaw . As I say, there were only two I can positively identify, and a third I would hate to identify because I may have them confused with the executive council.

Mr. CLARDY. But some who appeared at the first meeting did appear at subsequent meetings? Mr. Shaw . Yes , and only 1 or 2 , possibly both , of these people I recognized . As I say , there is very little I can tell you beyond what I have already told you . The first one dealt with FEPC and OPA and how the HICCASP. the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions, could be moved to behave organizedly and concertedly in the direction of perpetuating OPA and - how do I say it ? Promulgating the effort of statewide FEPC, which seemed to me at that time perfectly normal and perfectly justifiable procedure. 14.30 peopl.een 14 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1167 I wasn 't too happy about the idea of carrying it out under those circumstances, rather than at the open meeting but, at any rate, that is what they told me— it was more easily done this way.

The second meeting had to do almost primarily — almost entirely, that is with the Screen Writers' Guild activities and , since I had no voice in that, had been to no meetings, and had no participation in it , I asked what I was doing there ; and once I got up and made some suggestion that, since I had nothing to do with this organization , it was probably just as well if I didn't stay. And someone then said , “ Well, you may as well stay and see how this thing operates.”

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Hy Kraft attend any of these meetings ? Mr. Shaw . Never. He was never at any of these meetings ; but I would have suspected him of being a Communist, although I didn't know he was a Communist. Mr. CLARDY. You say you would have suspected him of being a Communist ? Mr. Shaw . I would have suspected him of being one, because there were — I felt - Communists in the meetings. I mean , I felt - I was there as a member of the executive council of HICCASP, because he came to ask me to be a member — become a member of the Communist Party, attend these meetings and become a member. So, I assume there were others there who were.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did the person who induced you to come to the meeting in the first place attend the meetings himself ? Mr. Shaw . No ; he wasn 't there. Mr. TAVENNER. He wasn't there ? Mr. Shaw . No. I never saw him after that meeting - after that visit to my office . I had 1 phone call from him , and that was the end of it - no ; 2 phone calls — and I've never seen him since .

Mr. TAVENNER . But he was a member of the executive council of HICCASP ? Mr. Shaw . No; he didn't have anything to do with the executive council. Mr. TAVENNER. Oh, he didn 't ? Mr. Shaw . No. Mr. TAVENNER. He did , though , know someone on the executive council Mr. Shaw . Yes, who had referred him to me. That is why I saw him to begin with . I never saw him since , after that first visit to my house, or my office . I know this sounds, as I say, very mysterious; but that is the way it worked .

Anyway, the second meeting — as I say, the second meeting was this Screen Writers' Guild meeting ; and there was one subsequent to that, which was a very short one, and also had to do with some issue of HICCASP. I was present at that meeting. On this one, the Holly wood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions was redrafting its charter, and one of the purposes - one of the purposes of the redrafting of the charter was to contain a statement that the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions was against communism in any

form whatsoever. This was recommended by one of the members of the 33909 – 53 - pt. 14 - 4 1168 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA executive council and was passed on as a resolution - I mean, was not passed on — was put to vote. Certain members of the HICCASP council were against this resolution; others were for it. The thing was pretty well split down the middle. The basis of it was that some of them felt since we were not primarily an organization concerned with what they called red baiting we should not have that in there; others said we should come out very clearly against communism . So, the thing was a pretty hot issue for a while. On the third meeting of this same kind of group I went to that was the issue, and it was pretty well determined at that time all of those present at that meeting who were members of the executive council, or members of HICCASP, whether of the council or in the rank and file, should vote against the issue of the HICCASP coming out against communism .

Mr. TAVENNER. Doesn 't it appear to you that this meeting was a meeting of Communist Party members who were attempting to fashion the policies of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee Mr. Shaw . I was just going to say Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Of the Arts, Sciences and Professions? Mr. Shaw (continuing) . At the end of that meeting, I spoke to the person who chaired that meeting, and I said , “ Look , it seems to me, if this is the way I am being treated now I am being told what to do . I haven 't yet made up my mind as to this issue. I am being told what to do, and I haven't yet decided to join this thing. I am here as an observer. I am not here as a participant, but as an observer. " I then told him about the incident of how I came to the first meeting . There was kind of a shocked look . I was greeted with a kind of a shocked look at that time. Oh , it was a woman this time. The first time it was a woman ; the third time it was a woman ; the second time it was a man who chaired the meeting. There was a rather shocked look , an incredulous look , and I said , “ Look, if this is the tenor of these things, I don 't think I want to come to any of these things any more." After that — at any rate, that was not argued at all. There was no issue made of it at all. “ Well, you suit yourself” — more or less that was the tone of it , but it was sort of suspicious and sort of incredulous that I didn't want to belong to this thing .

I then heard nothing further from them about another meeting. They didn 't tell me at that point there was another meeting. Usually the policy was— at the end of the meeting, the thing was discussed and you were told where to come. Shortly after that, I received another call from this Herb White or Wright, telling me there had been a certain amount of carping about my presence at these things, and asking me what I had done and what I felt about them . I said - well, I didn't think I should belong to this. I didn 't see any point in my being there. I have told you very little as to what probably went on at these meetings. It was a little fresher at the time, but it seemed to me it made very little sense. First of all, I was the only person there with COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1169 a kind of - well, nationally known name I have; and it was, well, very awkward. They couldn 't - in other words I didn't know who most of the people were, and yet they seemed , all of them , to know who I was - or most of them seemed to know who I was. I felt I was at some kind of a disadvantage. I felt if there was going to be any secrecy about this, the least I could do was to have as much secrecy as anyone else .

He then asked me if I would like to go to a Marxist lecture class. He described this as a class in which I would be given a thorough grounding in what the objectives of the party were. This is what I thought I was going to the first time, to see whether I would make up my mind to join this thing. He then told me about this Marxist lecture meeting, at which this man — that is the one I said earlier may have been the name you were talking about Mr. TAVENNER. Paul Perlin . Mr. Shaw . Paul Perlin . I went to

(MZ15) this meeting, and the lecture meeting took place again at someone's home in one of the canyons around Beverly Hills, or Hollywood. Mr. TAVENNER. Did you see any of the people at that meeting you had seen at the other meetings?

Mr. Shaw. None of the people who had been at the other meetings were present at this meeting — not one of them — at least that I can remember. It may be that some of the people were there, but I didn't know them ; I didn't remember them , to the best of my recollection . Mr. TAVENNER . Yes. Mr. SHAW . There were none, to the best of my recollection. The other three meetings had nothing to do with this one. I gathered this was rather - I think right now that meeting — rather, **this lecture thing — was made up of people who, like myself, were uncertain as to where they wanted to go or what they wanted to do, and this was an attempt to show them how the thing functioned and an attempt to clarify it so they could make a decision as to whether they wanted to sign a card . At any rate , the meeting had to do with mostly international policies.**

Mr. TAVENNER. So, that means you attended four of these meetings? (Representative Donald L. Jackson returned to the hearing room at this point.) **Mr. Shaw. Three meetings and one lecture. Mr. TAVENNER . Over what period of time Mr. Shaw . Well, during Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Were those meetings held ? Mr. SHAW. During the period I told you about — as I say, from a month to 6 weeks previous to July 1946 . At this lecture meeting there was a lot of, oh , large — an awful lot of large - there were a lot of large statements made about international policy , and so on and so forth , and I wasn 't very concerned with it. I mean, I just didn 't care about it one way or another. It didn 't mean very much to me. It didn't interest me very much , and I sat there for about an hour, an hour and a quarter, and listened to this man talk . At the end of that time, I left. I informed someone 1170 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA I wasn't coming back to these things any more, and that was the end of any of these meetings.**

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you— Mr. SHAW. I once heard— Mr. TAVENNER (continuing). Pay any dues; Mr. SHAW. No; I never paid anybody anything. I then heard once more from Mr. White or Mr. Wright, asking me whether I definitely made up my mind that I didn't want to come to these things. I said I did not. He said, "Well, I will appreciate one thing: If you don't, will you forget anything you have heard or seen at these meetings?" I said O. K.; that was all right with me—and that was the end of that period. I have never seen him since, or heard from him since. And if that lecturer that night was Paul Perlin, I think I would have to say I have seen him; but I certainly didn't know his name. *

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you see dues collected from other persons? Mr. SHAW. No; I did not. Things were done, as I say, very informally. That is the reason, as I say, to this date I don't know whether they were or were not actually party meetings. Mr. TAVENNER. Were you given any Communist Party literature to read and study? Mr. SHAW. No; I wasn't. I went to the meetings; left the meetings as I came.

Mr. SCHERER. There wasn't anything said at those meetings, as I understand it, from your testimony, Mr. Shaw, that would require j this gentleman to say to you, §.forget anything you saw or at the meeting?" Mr. SHAW. I don't know. All he did was say that to me. I suppose what he meant—would I forget the 2 or 3 people I might have seen that I might have known. Mr. SCHERER. Oh, and not the substance of the discussion? Mr. SHAW. Well, yes, the substance of the last lecture meeting. I might very well have been asked to forget that. It had to do with international policies of Stalin as against Roosevelt and Churchill—and it was all pretty big grand strategy stuff. I can't tell you what that was about because I have no experience on those matters. I have never been politically minded—a political-minded man, anyway, ex

(MZ16) cept on specific issues. I mean, I have joined organizations which had to do with words like democracy and peace. And I am at the point now where I am afraid to join any organization. I haven't joined an organization for 3 years because I don't know what any word stands for any more.

Mr. SchERER. While I have got the floor, I would like to ask you this question: During your testimony you said "If there is going to be any secrecy about this, I would like as much secrecy as anyone else." Mr. SHAW. Yes. Mr. SchERER. What did you mean by that statement? Mr. SHAW. Well, what they were saying to me was: Nobody in these things was allowed to talk. In other words, nobody would know who was going to be at the meetings; the membership was never known to anyone. In other words, if we were sitting around here and I didn't COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1171 know the name of anybody here and you didn't know the name of me, if we agreed no one was to know anybody else, it seems to me I am at a disadvantage if everybody knows me and I don't know anybody else there. Mr. SCHERER. You were right when you said it was a cloak -and dagger outfit? Mr. SHAW. It seemed like that to me. Mr. SCHERER. That was your statement. Mr. Shaw. It seemed like that. It seemed like cops and robbers. Frankly, at about the third meeting I said: **"I don't see any sense in that. If we are going to discuss FEPC in this manner, in a closed session like this, I don't want to join , because I can discuss these things, discuss these questions on FEPC, as I have discussed them , openly and quite loudly at the executive council session of HICCASP" - and not only I but, as I say, an awful lot, a large number of reputable Holly wood citizens. I mean men like Dore Schary. No one ever accused him of being a Communist, and he was as strong and as emphatic as anybody could be about FEPC. So , I couldn 't see sitting around in a closed session to discuss something I was perfectly willing to discuss openly. And the other stuff had to do with the Screen Writers' Guild , which I had nothing to do with or knew anything about.**

Mr. JACKSON . Were you aware of the fact there was a heavy concentration of the Communist Party in the Screen Writers' Guild ? Mr. Shaw . I have heard that ; but, look , I have heard all kinds of stuff. I have heard lies about myself all over the place, and I can know when a thing is a lie about me. I heard - well, the papers were filled with stuff about me, for example - a good example of that is the World Peace Conference, or World Peace Congress thing, which took place in 1949 or 1950 . I signed that as a sponsor. Before I signed it - 1, by that time, had gotten very leery of signing anything and they asked meraman approached me on this. Some fellow came up to my place, to the place I was working, and said , "Would you sign a petition for the World Peace Congress ?" I said , "Who are some of the people who have signed it ?" He said , " Oh, such people as Eugene Ormandy, Einstein, Thomas Mann." I said, " Sure ; I will be glad to put my name down with them ."

Mr. Jackson . My comment on the Screen Writers' Guild was not a contention . Mr. Shaw . I understand. Mr. JACKSON . It was a statement of fact Mr. Shaw . Yes. Mr. JACKSON (continuing). Directed to you in the form of a question Mr. Shaw . I understand . · Mr. JACKSON (continuing). As to whether you knew at that time there was a heavy concentration of Communist Party members in the Screen Writers' Guild ? Mr. Shaw . I am just trying to explain one point. Shortly after I saw my name on the front pages of either the Herald Tribune or the Times here, both of which are perfectly sound papers, saying I was in Paris, and in the back section there was a review of a concert I played in Carnegie Hall during the same week .
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Mr. CLARDY. You mean the Paris Peace Conference, which followed the one in New York ? Mr. Shaw . That's right. I never had any intention of going to it. I never had any intention of going to the one at the

Waldorf- Astoria . I was very busy with a small symphony at the time, and I certainly had no time to attend or participate in any such thing as that ; but I was contacted just as a sponsor, not an attendant, and I put my name down - and there were any number of reputable persons on the list, any number of preachers, reverends. It seemed to me perfectly all right.

Mr. SCHERER. You did say at the opening of your testimony here this morning - I believe I got your exact words— " I can see this whole suspicion of me is justified ." You meant the suspicion of possible membership in the Communist Party ? Mr. SHAW . I was Mr. SCHERER. Is that what you meant ? Mr. Shaw . I was making, I would say — I suppose — a sort of frame work. As I remember, Mr. Tavenner said one of the people testified and said he was a little angry at my being allowed at these meetings because he was afraid of my being a bad Communist. I said that suspicion was justified , in that I was a bad Communist. The fact of the matter is I wasn 't any kind of Communist at all.

Mr. CLARDY. All Communists are bad, aren't they? Mr. Shaw. I suppose so ; but to a Communist that is a good one, a bad Communist is a bad one or - -well I am getting all tangled up but, at any rate, I was certainly a bad Communist. It was never my intention to be one, and to the best of my knowledge I have never been one, although these people may have assumed I was, as I could probably assume some of those people were. Mr. CLARDY. So , you meant earlier because of these things you have done their suspicions were justified , in their mind, at least ? Mr. Shaw . I suppose so ; and that is why I should hate to testify that a man I saw at one of those meetings was a Communist. He might have been there in the same capacity I was, and I would hate to damage a man on that basis. That is why I said it was going to take a little while to explain that. It is a fairly involved story, but it is the truth — and I think you will agree.

Mr. TAVENNER. Well, it is certainly most unusual, in that you used a scheme of deception to get into the Communist Party meetings Mr. Shaw . I didn't Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . By indicating you had signed a card Mr. Shaw . I didn't Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Or something equivalent Mr. Shaw . I didn't Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Through the inducements of your friend, Mr. White or Mr. Wright. Mr. Shaw . " My friend" is hardly the word .

Mr. TAVENNER. Well Mr. Shaw . Anyway, he is the one who told me this would be his way of allowing me to come. I didn 't want it . I didn 't want to 1 Scientific and Cultural Conference for World Peace, arranged by the National Council of the Arts , Sciences, and Professions, held in New York City . March 25 - 27 . 1949 . COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1173 go ; but, you see, when he said , " How would you like to see how it operates ? I would appreciate it if you would see how it operates, and you will see other people you know there " - I thought, " What can I lose ?" I was curious. I'll be perfectly honest about it. I was curious.

Mr. TAVENNER. But the whole basis of the scheme to get you into the meeting was to lend credence to the belief by other persons that you were actually a member of the Communist Party. Mr. SHAW . What he told me was not that. That is the point. He told me— he simply told me— this was his way of clearing one, and that did not indicate my intention of becoming one or being one, because actually I signed a false name to the card . Mr. TAVENNER. That isn 't quite all, because he had to take it back to the people he was associated with before you could be brought to the meeting. Mr. Shaw . He did tell me this Mr. TAVENNER . Yes. Mr. Shaw (continuing) . And this, again , as far as I can remember — what he said - almost his exact words because this was very important to me— this part of it - he said , " I have to clear this with my people . " I said , " Well, look , this card , you must understand — I don 't sign this as me. If

(MZ18) you want a phoney name on there, I'll put it on there." He said, " Look , as far as the card is concerned , it means nothing. I can tear it up , but I can go back , without lying, and say you have signed a card, which will enable me to get you in ."

Mr. TaVENNER. That is what I am referring to - this device of a deceptive nature to make other people believe you were a member of the party. Mr. Shaw . That is what I am trying to explain . That is the reason I feel I was hoodwinked about that, because now you show me testimony by a man who says I was a member because I was at these meetings Mr. TAVENNER. And that is where Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Which I resent fiercely. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . The membership discussed the advisability of your being a member of the Communist Party ? **Mr. Shaw . I was never really recruited . They attempted to recruit me, and, as I have told you here, the only statement I ever made was : " I cannot answer that. I would like to see it . I am very curious to see how it works. " And I was, and I must admit that. Mr. CLARDY. Well, Mr. Shaw, didn't you try to create in the mind of the person or persons to whom you gave this piece of paper with a false name on it the general idea that you were at least in the market for membership ? Mr. Shaw . He told me that he was told that their program was something that I would sympathize with Mr. CLARDY. Yes, and you , knowing — Mr. Shaw (continuing) . And I said, " I don 't know I would sympathize with it, but certainly I am willing to listen to you , if that is the way you put it ."** Mr. CLARDY. Well, you understood , of course, what they were trying to interest you in was membership in the Communist Party, from what you have said ? Mr. Shaw . That's right. 1174 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA

Mr. CLARDY. Now, don't you agree further with counsel the reason they asked you to adopt this deceptive device he has described and to attend the meeting was because you at least had given them reason to believe that you might become a Communist? Mr. SHAW. That is quite possible. Mr. CLARDY. Well, they weren't— Mr. SHAW. I could only answer that by saying— Mr. CLARDY (continuing). Inviting you just for the fun of it? Mr. SHAW. No; I think they were Mr. CLARDY. It was a very serious thing? **Mr. SHAW (continuing). Trying to get some pretty big names— names that were prominent before the public—and I guess I was a name they wanted to have there.**

Mr. CLARDY. Didn't it occur to you at that time precisely what they were after Mr. SHAW. It did. Mr. CLARDY (continuing). That by using your name— Mr. SHAW. Yes. Mr. CLARDY (continuing). By getting your name and using your name—they could get others in the party? Mr. SHAW. It did; but this is the only answer I can give you: At the executive council of the HICCASPI was a pretty hot fellow. I was a pretty firebrandish young man at that point. **Mr. CLARDY. Well, you had some sympathies with what you generally understood to be the Communist objectives— Mr. SHAW. I don't think— Mr. CLARDY (continuing). Or you wouldn't have attended those meetings? Mr. SHAW. I don't think that is true, sir. Mr. CLARDY. Well, what sympathies did you have with what— F §o SHAW. The Fair Employment Practices Committee—the EPC. Mr. CLARDY. That is one specific thing. Is that all? Mr. SHAW. That was the main issue in HICCASP when I was at HICCASP. That issue was discussed right straight down the line. The only other thing—temporary thing—was when Gerald L. K. Smith was coming to town. There was a big civic furor over that, and HICCASP was in the vanguard of that to deny him the right of the board of education facilities to speak. That sort of thing I was very angry about. I just came out of the war, and I was very angry about a lot of things. There was a lot of black-marketeering and an awful lot of other things going on that I didn't like. - I think you can understand a man who has been out in the Pacific and lost most of his hair, lost almost all his teeth, and got to the point where he doesn't know whether he's going to be able to make a living again at a profession that he made a lot of money at**

(MZ19) can be a little disgruntled. There were a lot of things going on that I was very unhappy about—and I am not the only ex-serviceman to say that, or feel that way. It is an old story.

Mr. CLARDY. And based on that you were willing at least to explore what the Communist Party had to offer? COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1175 Mr. SHAW. Well, based on that and Mr. CLARDY. Just answer the question directly. I said: Based on that you were willing at least to explore what the Communist Party had to offer? Mr. SHAW. That's right. Mr. CLARDY. And you did? Mr. SHAW. I did. - Mr. SCHERER. You said you were in the vanguard of those opposing Gerald L. K. Smith using the public auditorium? Mr. SHAW. No, sir; I said the HICCASP was in the vanguard of those opposing him. Mr. S. The HICCASP was in the vanguard? Mr. SHAW. Yes; the HICCASP was in the vanguard. Mr. SCHERER. But you didn't want him to speak? Mr. SHAW. We didn't even want him to speak in that town. We felt anything he could say could have nothing but harm to it. Mr. TAVENNER. Now, Mr. Shaw Mr. SHAW. Those were the specific issues on which I was at that time fighting for and very much interested in.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Shaw, our investigation of the activities of the Communist Party in Hollywood has been very revealing as to the methods they used in connection with Communist-front organizations. Mr. SHAW. Yes, sir. Mr. TAVENNER. We have found that the Communist Party used Communist-front organizations as a recruiting ground— Mr. SHAW. That has been my experience. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing). For members quite frequently. Mr. SHAW. The experiences of mine bear it out. Mr. TAVENNER. Your experience fits in with that perfectly. On the other hand, we have an equal amount of evidence indicating that once a person becomes a member of the Communist Party he is expected to go out into what are known as the mass organizations for the purpose of carrying the Communist Party line to the Communist front organizations, just as this group of Communists was attempting to influence the policies of your organization. Mr. SHAW. Correct. Well, if you will—if you'll look at my record, you'll see my joining of other organizations was almost entirely before this episode. wasn't simply joining then with anything to do in that connection.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is very interesting. Mr. SHAW. That is probably why they thought— Mr. TAVENNER. I note from my examination of your membership in Communist-front organizations, though, you were a member of the American Peace Mobilization, which was back along 1940. Mr. SHAW. That's right, just before America got into the war. Mr. TAVENNER. You were a member of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions at least as early as 1945. Mr. SHAW. Yes; that was after I got out of the Navy. Mr. TAVENNER. And you also were in there in 1946. Mr. SHAW. That's right. Mr. TAVENNER. And you were a member of the executive committee during those 2 years. 33909—53—pt. 1—5 1176 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA Mr. Shaw . That's right. Mr. TAVENNER. And then , subsequent to that, you were a member of the Committee for Democratic Far Eastern Policy for quite a long period of time. Mr. Shaw . That one that is — I don 't know what that is all about. I think I remember someone asking me if I would put my letter my name on a letterhead - it had something to do with democratic Far Eastern policy — and I think - I 'm pretty sure I must have said yes to that, because it sounded perfectly harmless and , as a matter of fact, a beneficial kind of thing ; but I was never any member in a sense of being active, and

Mr. TAVENNER. No- I should not have said “member.” You were a sponsor ; that is, your name appears as a sponsor on the letter head of the organization for the years 1946 , 1947, and 1948 . Mr. Shaw . Well, actually , I suppose the reason it appears that long is that I never had any opportunity or any reason to take my name off it. I didn't even know it was still functioning. Mr. CLARDY. Well, Mr. Counsel,

(MZ19) what year was that for the last time his name was on the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy ? I didn 't hear it . Mr. TAVENNER . His name appears on letterheads which we have dated November 2 , 1946, July 11, 1947, and May 28 , 1948. Mr. CLARDY. Perhaps you better ask the witness when he authorized that to be done to establish a better date . Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Can you give us more information on that ? Mr. Shaw . I suppose the earliest date you had there would be the closest one to which I authorized it. I know this was just one of those phone-call things, or probably a letter in the mail, that solicited my name on this . Certainly the committee — the title of it — the Committee for Democratic Far Eastern Policy sounded to me- still sounds to me- like a rather innocuous thing. I don 't know - certainly I didn't think there was anything subversive about it at that time; and, as far as the name is concerned , it seems to me it would be a good thing if we had a democratic Far Eastern policy right now , as well as then . If we had had one then , maybe

Mr. TAVENNER. You realize the Communists used all the catch names and phrases that the human mind could conceive of - Mr. Shaw . Well, IM Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . To fool people and get them to come into organizations of a Communist- front type ? Mr. Shaw . I am becoming increasingly aware of that. I mean , the word " peace" has become something I am suspicious of now . Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, and even " religion " has been misused by the Communist Party . Mr. Shaw . Well, I can only answer - my only answer to that is : If any mistakes were made on that basis, I have to plead guilty to making mistakes. Mr. JACKSON . Mr. Chairman Mr. VELDE. Mr. Jackson . COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1177 Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . May I ask a question ? When , after all, you finally determined this Committee for Democratic Far Eastern Policy was a Communist- front organization Mr. Shaw . Well, I never really paid any attention to the thing. Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . Did you ever make a positive attempt Mr. Shaw . I have no knowledge of it at all. Someone wrote me saying, " Will you sponsor this ?" It sounded good to me. Here were the aims to promote democracy in China, in Japan, and it sounded like a good idea to me. I said , " Sure ; you can have" — Mr. Jackson. Is this the first time Mr. Shaw (continuing) . My name on there. Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . You had any knowledge your name had been used as a sponsor by organizations Mr. Shaw . I knew , but as far as Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . Which were Communist- front organizations ? Mr. Shaw (continuing) . I knew some of them were fronts long ago, but I didn 't even know this still existed . I saw it today in my record . Mr. JACKSON . It existed until at least 1948. The point is : Did you ever make a positive, affirmative effort to have your sponsorship, the use of your name as a sponsor, withdrawn ? Mr. Shaw . No, because I've never seen any mail, or had nothing to do with that. I never heard of the organization until 2 days ago when that thing — Mr. Weinberger has a copy of a report of my activities in which that is mentioned . I was amazed to see it there. I thought this was one of those little sporadic things that 6 people had gotten together to present to their Congressmen , or something. Mr. CLARDY. Have you — Mr. JACKSON . Do you Mr. CLARDY. Pardon me. Mr. Jackson . Do you believe Mr. Shaw . Had I known, I would certainly have liked to disaffiliate . Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . Your name as a sponsor of that organization did , in fact, lend a certain amount of aid to the Communist influences behind it ? Mr. Shaw . If I at that time had any vague suspicion there were Communists or Communist influences behind it, you may be sure my name wouldn 't have been anywhere near it .

Mr. JACKSON . Granting that, my question is : Do you believe the use of your name enhanced the organization ? Mr. Shaw . Yes ; it probably did , and that is why I feel so bad about it. I feel the use of my name on a lot of these things should have been should not have been granted ; but at that time I can only say the intent on my part when I granted them was not to do anything disloyal. I have never in my

(MZZO) life done anything disloyal to this country. The only thing I can tell you is that my record as an American citizen will bear that out. Mr. SCHERER. Mr. Counsel, when was that organization designated as a Communist- front organization , and by whom ? 1178 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA Mr. Shaw . It was certainly not at that time I joined it. I am sure of that, because I would have been aware of that. Mr. TAVENNER. It was cited as Communist and subversive by the Attorney General April 27, 1949 — Mr. Shaw . And when did I join it ? Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . And by the California Committee on Un- American Activities in 1948. Mr. SHAW . When did I join ? Mr. TAVENNER. You were a member or a sponsor Mr. Shaw . Yes. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . For the 3 years— 1946 Mr. Shaw . In other words Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . 1947— Mr. Shaw . In other words, I gave them the use of my name in 1946 , and could have hardly known at that time it would have been later cited as subversive. Mr. JACKSON . I think the point is : During the years 1946 , 1947 , and 1948 the activities of the organization were such , during the time your name was being used , as to bring it within the scope of official investigation . Mr. Shaw . May I ask Mr. JACKSON . That is the important thing, isn 't it ? Mr. Shaw . May I get it clear — make it clear right now that I don 't know whether this — this committee has a record of it , but I have a belief - it seems to me that in every one of these instances I always used to examine the letterhead and see what other people were on it . It was my way at that time of trying to safeguard myself of doing something that was wrong or mistaken ; and whenever I would see really reputable names on these things I would say , “ Go ahead.” I have an idea that if you examine that letterhead you are bound to find some other names - names of other people — who couldn't possibly be Communists. Mr. JACKSON. Yes, but you understand that other people , looking at the letterhead and seeing the name of Artie Shaw , would say, " It must be all right ; there is Artie Shaw . " Mr. Shaw . That's right, but I started with someone else on there . Mr. Jackson. That is right. Mr. Shaw . And I suppose it snowballed, in other words, and my lending my name made it roll up more. Mr. JACKSON . Which is precisely the Communist attack — Mr. Shaw . Yes ; as I say, I am aware of that. Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . Just to get those people 's names Mr. Shaw (continuing) . I have been made aware of that. Mr. Jackson (continuing) . On letterheads as sponsors and members in order to attract others who will also in turn use their names Mr. Shaw . Yes. Mr. Jackson (continuing) . Or lend their names. Mr. Shaw . I understand that. Mr. Jackson . It is a vicious cycle . Mr. Shaw . I understand that, sir. Mr. JACKSON. And quite possibly this is how your name was used , and also quite possibly aid and comfort was inadvertently given the party and the organization by the use of your name as a sponsor. COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1179

Mr. Shaw . As I say, I am beginning to see that, and I can only tell you - certainly if it was done, it was inadvertent on my part. I would have never done that without knowing this was what it ostensibly said it was in my case . Mr. VELDE. Mr. Shaw , without mentioning any names, do you re call who it was who requested the use of your name as a sponsor to this organization ! Mr. Shaw . Gee, I wish I could — in answer to that, I wish I could show you my mail. You would be amazed at the organizations I get letters from . I can 't . Mr. VELDE. Mr. Shaw Mr. SHAW (continuing) . Begin to tell you Mr. VELDE (continuing) . You don't know whether this was a telephone call or Mr. Shaw . As I say, some general secretary or chairman will come to me— “ Would you please lend your name to this ?” I get this all the time. My mail is filled with such requests — anything from a nonethereal symphony on up or down. I mean, I get these all the time. Some seem rather worthy causes, and it is very hard sometimes to turn them down, when someone comes to me to put my name on something to defend some guy who is being persecuted or having a hard time. It may turn out to have been a mistake. I have now learned it is better to be sure,

(MZZ1) but at that time I thought well, even if I make two mistakes, I would rather do one good thing than not do anything at all.

Mr. Jackson. Don't you have a professional clearing house for organizations which are approved for benefits Mr. Shaw . Unfortunately Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . And thing of that sort ! Mr. Shaw (continuing) . There is no such thing . I had this discussion with a man not long ago, when he asked me how I could have been naive enough to join the congress — the World Peace Congress - put my name on that. I said to him , “ Do you know of any other peace congress I can join ? I want peace." He says, " That is the Communist-inspired one." I said , "Get me a Republican Party -inspired one and I'll join that. I don 't care which one” _ Mr. VELDE. The committee must have order Mr. Shaw . That wasn 't meant Mr. VELDE (continuing) . In the hearings, and we will countenance no further demonstrations, favorable or unfavorable. Mr. Shaw . I wasn 't bidding for any applause, I assure you. Mr. VELDE. I am sure you weren't Mr. Shaw .

Mr. CLARDY. Well, Mr. Shaw , as these organizations you joined were one by one shown to have been Communist- inspired , don 't you think it would have been the best wisdom to have, in writing, with drawn and disassociated yourself from them ? Mr. Shaw . I see that now . I do see that now . Mr. KEARNEY . Mr. Chairman , I suggest we have a short recess . Mr. VELDE . The committee will be in recess for 10 minutes. (The hearing was recessed at 12 o 'clock , to reconvene at 12 : 10 o ' clock .)

(The hearing reconvened at 12 : 10 o 'clock, the following committee members being present: Representatives Harold H . Velde (chair 1180 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA man , Bernard W . Kearney, Donald L . Jackson , Kit Clardy, Gordon H . Scherer, Clyde Doyle , and James B . Frazier, Jr.)

Mr. VELDE. The committee will be in order. Proceed . Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Shaw , we have been speaking of Communist front organizations, and your affiliation with some of them . Mr. Shaw . Yes, sir . Mr. TAVENNER. You appeared to have been a sponsor of the Civil Rights Congress . Mr. Shaw . I would like to - like to deny that, sir . That is not true. I never gave my name- gave permission for my name on that one, as well as many others I have seen on this record . My name was used falsely. I mean, I just did not give my name on it. In fact, I don 't remember - I remember being approached several times on it , and this I was clearly informed was a group of people trying to foment trouble . I never put my name on it. If my name was used , it distinctly was without my permission . Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a photostatic copy of a notice showing that your name appears as a sponsor of the Los Angeles chapter. Mr. Shaw . Yes ; I see. Mr. TAVENNER. Do you mean to say you did not give authority Mr. Shaw . I do, sir . Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . For the use of your name? Mr. Shaw . I do; very definitely. There are several others in this list I have in front of me in which my name is completely unauthorized . May I just add one thing to that ? Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Mr. Shaw . There are at times, I think you will understand — there are times when it is very difficult for a person in my position to know when his name is being used ; and there is no ordinary procedure - at least I don 't know of any procedure without going to a lot of trouble by which a person , like me, can say, “ Stop using my name." I might write them a note to that effect , saying, " I don 't want you to use my name any further," but I don 't know that would guarantee that any organization would stop using my name. You see, a lot of these things are sporadic. They print their letterheads, and they don't want to go to the trouble of unprinting them . So, that is all I can answer you about that. I know on that one my name was never authorized

(M223) Mr. TAVENNER. You recall the occasion of the hearing of the 10 from Hollywood before the Committee on Un-American Activities in 1947 ? Mr. Shaw. I heard of it ,but I do not know much about it. I didn't follow it very closely . Mr. TAVENNER. You are reported as one of those who came from New York down to Washington on that occasion and as having spoken against the committee in that hearing. Mr. Shaw . That is absolutely false . Mr. TAVENNER. Now , I am not saying there should be any inference drawn from your speaking against the committee, but what we are interested in is knowing the circumstances under which your consent to speak was given Mr. SHAW . The facts are COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1181 Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . If you did give your consent Mr. Shaw . The fact is I never did . Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Or did speak . Mr. Shaw . The fact is I never did speak , sir . Mr. TAVENNER . You did not ? Mr. Shaw . I did not. Mr. CLARDY. Did you make the trip ? Mr. SHAW . No, sir ; I did not. I know nothing about that case. In fact, I know absolutely nothing about that except what I saw in the papers. When you are on the road the way I am , you don 't see too much about these things. Some of these papers in the small towns don 't even carry some of these things. Mr. CLARDY. I suppose it would be not too difficult to run down whether you were actually, physically there that day . Mr. Shaw . Oh , I suppose it would be very easy . Mr. CLARDY. I am not suggesting that be done now , but I Mr. Shaw . In 1947, I think it can be clearly established I was never near Washington at that time, and I had no intention of being there. Mr. JACKSON . What is the source, may I ask , of the documentation ? Mr. SHAW . It is a Mr. TAVENNER. It is a newspaper account Mr. Shaw . Pardon me! Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Of the Daily Worker. Mr. KEARNEY. I wouldn 't put too much faith in that. Mr. Shaw . No; if we are going to use them as witnesses, we're all in serious trouble, I am afraid . Mr. CLARDY. Counsel, did that specifically say he was present Mr. Shaw . I don 't think you can completely believe some of these things Mr. CLARDY (continuing) . Or was it merely a story saying he was to appear ? Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Because that is like that Paris thing, where I was supposed to appear and never was even there. Mr. TAVENNER. It says : " Movie and State celebrities who acted and spoke against the inquisition during the week included some of the biggest names of Hollywood and Broadway ," and then it gives a list of those . The delegation to Washington was led by certain persons from Hollywood and from Broadway, and it names certain persons including Artie Shaw .

Mr. Shaw . Is that the one - may I ask - I think I remember seeing something in the papers — about Humphrey Bogart being down there ? Mr. TAVENNER. That's right. Mr. Shaw . I remember that. I was not with them and I'll swear on any stack of Bibles to that. Mr. TAVENNER. Then , it is not unusual for the Communist Party to use the names of persons Mr. Shaw . No. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . For their own purpose Mr. Shaw . Exactly. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Without authority Mr. Shaw . Exactly, and in this case without even consulting me at all . 1182 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA Mr. JACKSON . You had no call or no reference to this ? Mr. Shaw . None, sir. I was never even approached on this . If I was, I certainly would not have done it. If I was approached , my answer would have been , " No. " I had no sympathy with that. I wanted no part of it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then , shortly after that the Civil Rights Congress advertised in the Daily Worker of November 11, 1947, that " New York Answers the Witch Hunt" and it gives the various names of those who were to take part in the program , and among them Artie Shaw . Mr. Shaw . This is again the Civil Rights Congress ? Mr. TAVENNER. Yes; a rally. Mr. Shaw . I don 't remember any such occasion . Can you give me more details about it ? Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Mr. SHAW . As far as I know , I have never sponsored any Mr. TAVENNER. This was at the St. Nicholas Arena November the 13th . Mr. VELDE. What year ? Mr. TAVENNER. 1947 ? And this was given out on November 11. Mr. SHAW . I see. Well Mr.

(M224) TAVENNER. So, it is an indication of those who were expected to appear. It is not Mr. Shaw . That might have been . Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Those who did appear. Mr. Shaw . I don 't know anything about the civil- liberties thing, because I know — as far as I know , I didn't have any connection with it . Mr. JACKSON . Did you attend any such rally at Mr. SHAW . As far as I know Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . St. Nicholas Arena ? Mr. SHAW . As far as I remember, I think there were some rallies. I don 't think they had anything to do with this. There were rallies at Madison Square Garden , and other places, and I believe I attended some of those . Mr. SCHERER. But you did attend some? · Mr. Shaw . Well, I was at many — some of these shows, and some of them were big Broadway-star benefits . There were an awful lot of people there people in every field ; people in the field of popular music ; stage, radio , television people. Men from all walks of this profession - all walks of life - were there ; and I may have been at some of them . But I don 't remember this at all, and I know it had nothing to do with this Hollywood 10 thing because I never had any sympathies with it, and wouldn't have.

Mr. CLARY. You were acquainted with the Hollywood 10 because of your activities generally ? Mr. Shaw . I knew some of them , but I wouldn't say I was well acquainted with them because they were mostly writers — screen writers - out there . Mr. CLARDY. That is right. Mr. Shaw . I would see them on occasion . I mean, if you work at a studio it is pretty hard not to get to know these people ; but they COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1183 were not social friends. I mean, I didn't see them evenings after work . I might run into them on the studio lot — something of that sort - you know , " Hello " — that kind of thing.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then , there was a group organized known as the Committee for the First Amendment, and you appear to have been one of the original signers Mr. SHAW . Again , I can only — Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Of the statement of the Committee for the First Amendment. Mr. Shaw . What exactly was it ? I don't even remember very much about that. As I say, there for a while I suppose I was a sucker for signing these things. I signed an awful lot of them . This may have well been one. I can 't say I didn 't sign it. Mr. TAVENNER. Well, do you recall the circumstances under which your signature was obtained ? Mr. Shaw . I don 't even recall the committee. I don't even recall the actual committee. It's like that Far East one. I can 't remember much about it . As far as I am concerned , it probably seemed like a good thing . I mean, the first amendment- it seemed to me a perfectly harmless thing to be on the committee for it .

Mr. TAVENNER . You have referred, in a general way, to your having participated as a sponsor in various peace conferences, which I believe you said , Mr. Shaw . There were two. Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . You later found out to be Communist inspired or controlled . Mr. Shaw . There were two of them I was definitely informed were, by people who might have known or might not have known , friends of mine, men who were fairly well informed. One was the one before the war. At the time, as I say That is the American Peace Mobilization ? Is that the name of it ? Mr. TAVENNER . Yes. Mr. Shaw . At that time I was approached I was in the east for a short while . I was traveling around on the road . I would come into New York occasionally. I was approached I think I was living here at the time I think I remember this one quite well, because they planned a large rally of state delegates from every state in the Union - and they asked me if I would put my name on the American Peace Mobilization plan ; and I asked them what it was. As near as I can remember, they explained to me it was an attempt to mobilize all the forces in America which were against war, to keep us out of war, and at that time it seemed to me a perfectly valid objective ; and I said , "Of course, you can have my name." They then asked me to appear at a large rally , and I refused that , first , because I didn 't want to and, second , because I was not going to be in

(MZZ5) New York , anyway. I didn 't believe in lending myself professionally . They wanted me to appear with my orchestra on that occasion , and this was something I couldn 't do. That is all I remember about that, and the only other thing I re member is that World Peace Congress which , as I said a while ago, I would have signed if it had been inspired by the American Legion , 88909 — 53 - pt1. 6 1184
COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA or anyone else. It wouldn 't have mattered to me because I was posi tively and wholeheartedly for peace.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is the peace conference in Paris, April 1949 ? Mr. SHAW . There was apparently one in Paris. The one I signed had to do with a meeting at the Waldorf- Astoria . Mr. TAVENNER. That was the earlier conference. Mr. Shaw . That was the only one I signed . The Paris one I didn't sign . Mr. TAVENNER. Well, your name- - Mr. Shaw . That didn 't originate Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . Appears as a sponsor on the back Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Didn't take place in this country . Mr. TAVENNER (continuing) . As an American sponsoring the Committee for the World Congress for Peace. Mr. Shaw . I believe that it appears. Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Mr. Shaw . As I say, I saw an item - if you check the press at that time, you would find I was reported as being present in Paris Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Mr. Shaw . Which is on the record false . I can show you I was never anywhere near it. In fact, I have never been in Paris.

Mr. CLARDY. May I ask him a question, Counsel? You were a member of that organization you discussed as the Holly wood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions. Mr. Shaw . Of Hollywood . Mr. CLARDY . That later became something else — the National Council Mr. SHAW . I was not Mr. CLARDY (continuing) . Ofthe Arts, Sciences, and Professions. Mr. Shaw . I was not on that. I see my name Mr. CLARDY. Don 't you remember the National Council of the Arts , Sciences, and Professions are the ones that sponsored and the ones that promoted the Waldorf-Astoria meeting in 1949 — Mr. SHAW . I can 't Mr. CLARDY (continuing) . At which you were a sponsor ? Mr. Shaw . I was playing at a night club in New York, and I was busily engaged with a symphony, which was quite — something quite unexpected and something I wanted to try ; and during that period it was a very hectic period . The press was very much for it and against it. There was a lot of controversy , and somebody came up to meat one ofthese rehearsals — and I was pretty harried at that time somebody came up and said , “Would you please put your name on this, for the World Peace Congress ? ” . I said , “ Who else is on it in my field ? ” He gave me absolutely irreproachable names and showed them to me in print on their letter. Mr. CLARDy. Did that have to do with the Waldorf Astoria meeting ? Mr. Shaw . That was the Waldorf-Astoria meeting. He told me there would be delegates from every nation in the world Mr. CLARDY. Well, you knew , then Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Sincerely trying to find some way to — COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1185 Mr. CLARDY (continuing). Because of the petition, or whatever you signed, it must have been sponsored by the successor of that independent group you mentioned— Mr. SHAw. I didn't sign the thing. Mr. CLARDY (continuing). And was then known as the National Council of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions? Mr. SHAw. I didn't sign anything. Mr. CLARDY. Well, what did you do to give them permission to use your name? Mr. SHAw. Well, mostly it was not in writing. They would just ask, “Will you give us your name?”—and I would say, “of course”— or you .# sign a card—“I hereby give you permission to use my name on the World Peace Congress letterhead.”

Mr. CLARDY. You subsequently became aware of the fact that your name was used? Mr. SHAw. Oh, my name was used. The papers were full of it. I found myself castigated all over the place, but it sounded to me at that time like a perfectly harmless thing. Mr. CLARDY. You discovered later it was a Communist-front outfit? Mr. SHAw. I was told so by any number of people. I never dis covered it because I was

(M226) never near it. I was never around it. I never attended one of the meetings of it. Mr. CLARDY. Well, the Paris Peace Conference—World Peace Conference—was scheduled by the same outfit, wasn't it? Mr. SHAW. That I don't know, sir. Mr. CLARDY. Well, you are familiar with the Paris one that followed the one at the Waldorf-Astoria? Mr. SHAW. No. As I say, all I know about the Paris one is that I saw my name listed as having appeared at it. That was afterward. Mr. CLARDY. I see. Mr. SHAW. And I don't know—I saw a number of names—Chaplin, Joliot-Curie; people like that. Mr. CLARDY. Well, you knew it had something to do with the Soviet Union at that time, didn't you? Mr. SHAW. Well, the papers were full of it, of course.

Mr. CLARDY. And that was a year after the airlift started in Berlin, wasn't it? Mr. SHAW. I can't connect the two events, because I Mr. CLARDY. Well, do you recall when the Berlin airlift started? Mr. SHAW. I don't now the years. Mr. JACKSON. May I ask a question to the point of this Scientific and Cultural Conference for World Peace? Do you recall or do you have knowledge that the then Secretary of State denounced, in advance of this meeting, this conference for world peace as being an instrument of Soviet foreign policy? Mr. SHAW. No, sir; I didn't. Who was the then Secretary of State? Mr. JACKSON. Secretary Dean Acheson. Mr. SHAW. No, sir; I did not know that. Mr. JACKSON. Did you know that— Mr. SHAW. This is the first I heard of it. Mr. JACKSON (continuing). A number of people, who undoubtedly in good faith lent their names to this organization, withdrew from the 1186 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA organization following that statement and had no part of the conference? Mr. SHAW. I did not know that. As I say — Mr. JACKSON. That is a fact. Mr. SHAW (continuing). I was not in New York after that. You see, this is one of the difficulties. It's very hard to reach me once I get out on the road. Mr. CLARDY. Mr. SHAW, that was a matter of front-page news all across the Nation, and I am sure that was the basis for my colleague's question. You didn't see anything anywhere about the fact this was denounced by the Secretary of State? Mr. SHAW. You mean after I had signed it? Mr. CLARDY. At any time— before or after Mr. SHAW. Of course. Mr. CLARDY. Did you? Mr. SHAW. Never before; but after, of course. As I say, the papers were full of this. Mr. CLARDY. Well, did you withdraw from it after the papers - - Mr. SHAW. How do you withdraw from something after it is over? Mr. CLARDY. The same way some of the others did - by merely withdrawing. But you didn't do anything, as I understand? Mr. SHAW. No; I didn't. I didn't go, and I only knew the conference was at the Waldorf. It was picketed, and at that point I was shocked to hear this was what it was supposed to be- I mean, it was not what it was supposed to be. I was on the road with the band, traveling around, and I paid no attention to it. I had nothing to do with it. I didn't go near it. I thought it was over. Mr. CLARDY. Didn't the fact the Russians were raising so much Cain with us, and we had to have an airlift going into Berlin, in some way alert you to the fact that any organization dealing with friendship Mr. SHAW. I can Mr. CLARDY (continuing). With Russia was suspect? Mr. SHAW. I can answer that by saying not since then will you find my name on anything of any kind outside of the American Federation of Musicians.

Mr. CLARDY. What you are saying is you want us to believe that you were extremely naive, shall we say, at that time Mr. SHAW. Well, I Mr. CLARDY (continuing). And didn't investigate thoroughly enough to understand what it was all about? Mr. SHAW, I investigated only to the extent of seeing people's names on there that I thought were perfectly all right, and that I still do in most cases think they are perfectly all right - and on the basis of that put my name on it. Since then, I have never signed anything because, as I said earlier, I wouldn't sign anything today unless I had the advice of 7 lawyers and the granting of permission or clearance by this committee. Mr. CLARDY. I take it your wastebasket is your biggest file on these things, things like this, today? Mr. SHAW. Yes, sir; and it has been awfully full for 3 years now.

(MZZ7) COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1187 Mr. ScireRER. You realize, then, Mr. Shaw, you were thoroughly duped by the Communist group then, do you not? Mr. Shaw. In this Communist thing, I certainly, was. Mr. SchERER. Not this particular thing, but in all of these matters? Mr. SHAw. Yes, sir. If these things that I joined—in other words, if a committee for democracy is Communist inspired—was Communist inspired—I was a fool; I should not have signed it. . Mr. JAckson. Democracy is not Communist inspired, but the Mr. SHAw. No; I say the committee for it. - I am at a point today if someone says, “Here is a committee for personal freedom,” I don't want any part of it. I don't know what these things mean any more. Mr. JAckson. They have been used by the Communist Party to the detriment of those words. Mr. SHAw. I am afraid that is true. I used to think I knew what freedom and democracy meant.

Mr. CLARDY. The meaning has been pretty well destroyed? Mr. SHAw. I am afraid so. Mr. Doyle. May I just interpolate there? I was just thinking, as Mr. Shaw has testified, the meaning of these words has not been changed, in my judgment. The words mean just what they have always meant in the history of our Nation. A wrong construction has been put upon them by the Communist conspiracy. But I was just going to observe to Mr. Shaw now that I hope the jam in which he has found himself has resulted in a desire to fight for world peace and world democracy—using your own language— Mr. SHAw. That's close enough to it. Mr. DoxLE (continuing). And will not discourage you in fighting for the same worthy objectives. Mr. SHAw. It won't, but it's certainly going to discourage my loose granting of permission to use my name for things. Mr. Doyle. I am not advocating you do that; ^o,of course, I would advocate you be more vigorous than ever against the false use or any misuse of your name by the international conspiracy Mr. SHAw. Yes, sir. Mr. Doyle (continuing). And I do want to urge again that you, as a young American, are, it just seems to me, in a position to give some very vigorous leadership for real world peace and real democracy. Mr. SHAw. I would like nothing better than to know how to do that. Mr. Doyle. I, as a member of this committee, don't want you to be bitter or discouraged about those very objectives merely because you find yourself indiscreet, naive in making these moves which developed to be serious mistakes.

Mr. SHAw. Could I say one thing—would it be permissible for me to make a very short statement—in regard to that? Mr. TAVENNER. I think so. Mr. WELDE. Proceed. Mr. SHAw. Well, I would just like to say one thing. This is no prepared statement, or anything. It may sound garbled, but I have, } think, personally, a very large stake in this country, and I want to do everything I can, as I always have, to defend American institutions and American folkways. 1188 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA This country has been very kind to me. I started out as a minority member of a poor family, and I have come a long way for a guy like me; and I have found on the roads I am met with a lot of love and a lot of affection , and when I was serving in the service that same thing happened . I think one of the members of the committee here could bear that out. I never had any intention of doing anything detrimental or disloyal to the interests of this country.

Mr. CLARDY. Mr. Shaw , may I Mr. VELDE. Just a minute , Mr. Clardy. Let Mr. Doyle finish . Mr. CLARDY. Pardon me. Mr. DOYLE. I was just going to ask the witness at this time a couple of questions. I wrote down, Mr. Shaw , your exact language. I wrote it down with a purpose. You said , “ Academically, I have had very little education . I am self- taught in that sense.” Those were your exact words in beginning your answer to the question by our distinguished counsel. I just wish to say, as one American to another , I want to compliment you on arriving at the pinnacle in your profession , which you did arrive at, as being self-taught and self-made, in spite of the fact you never had or apparently could never make

(MZ28) arrangements to have your academic preparation. Some of the rest of us understand what you mean . Now , because this committee is here under an express assignment, under Public Law 601, passed in the 79th session of Congress in 1945, and that assignment, under statutory law , assigns us, amongst other things, the investigation of all questions in relation to subversive activities which " would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation ," I would like to ask you this question : Have you any suggestion to this committee in that area ? In other words, one reason we are here in New York and other cities over the country is that part of our assignment is to study facts and get information which will relate to our obligations to report to Congress recommendations for remedial legislation in the field of subversive activities, whether it is the Communist Party or any other form of totalitarian conspiracy against our constitutional form of government. Mr. SHAW . Would you like me to answer that ? Mr. DOYLE. Now , with that statement by me, let me ask you : Have you thought out the question ? Have you any suggestions to make to the United States Congress— that is your Congress and mine through this committee ? Have you ever thought in the area of whether or not there is any remedial legislation which ought to be enacted by your Congress ?

Mr. Shaw. Yes , sir ; I have. I have thought a great deal about it. Mr. DOYLE . Will you give us the benefit of your conclusion or, if you haven't reached any conclusion, give us the benefit of your tentative thinking ? Mr. Shaw . I can give you a kind of tentative conclusion . It seems to me something could be done and I, as one citizen , would be very appreciative of seeing it , I would like to see it done. We all have this — how shall I say it ? - haze of rumor. This haze of CoMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW York AREA 1189 rumor started about me. It started about 4 years ago, and about 3 years ago it began to affect me as a citizen very seriously. At that time I was approached by various people in the radio and television— in the related fields, friends of mine who knew me very well, who wanted to get me jobs, who offered me things which could have been good for them, and they could have been good to me—and they would say, "Do you realize the cloud you are under? Do you realize you ought to clear yourself of all this suspicion?" And I would ask every one of them, "How do I clear myself? What way is there?" I have had to wait 3 years to ask to appear before this committee so I can clear myself in this sense, and F. ht there ought to be somewhere some group, some responsible, official party designated by the Congress of the United States, to which people like I could come and appeal, without having to wait to be subpoenaed, where I could go and say, "Could I come and testify as to my part in this so I can once and ef all make it clear where I stand now, and where I stood at that time?"

Mr. Doyle. Well, of course— Mr. SHAW. Would that be possible? Mr. Doyle (continuing). You, no doubt, did not hear over the radio, nor did you see through the press, nor did you hear the statements by the former chairman of this committee, as well as this chairman, and by members of this committee, in this session, and previous sessions, we have had for years a standing invitation, which we thought had been given wide publicity Mr. SHAW. I never heard of it, sir. Mr. Doyle (continuing). For men who had been former Communists and who wished to clean up and help their Nation. We have had a standing invitation.

Mr. SHAW. What is the procedure? I think that should be much more widely publicized than it is, because, for one, I never knew. Mr. Doyle. The procedure is very simple, to communicate your desire to this committee through our office at Washington— Mr. SHAW. To say you would like to testify? Mr. Doyle (continuing). That you would like to come before the committee and testify, even in executive session. Mr. SHAW. I have never known that, sir. Mr. Doyle. Well, let me say again—and I know the

(MZZ9) chairman of this committee and every member of the committee will back me in my emphasis—that there is that standing invitation, and this committee gives that invitation now again to any American citizen, wherever he is— Mr. SHAW. I think that— Mr. Doyle (continuing). To come forward Mr. SHAW. I think that should get more wide publicity than it has. Mr. Doyle (continuing). And disclose the Communist activities of the Communist Party, or any other group or any other individual who is subversive, whether he is a Communist or not. There are other fields of subversive activities in our Nation which are not confined entirely to the Communist conspiracy. So, let me emphasize, Mr. Shaw—I am sure we members of the committee are all thinking along the same line you are—we are 1190 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA anxious that men and women who have made the mistakes that you came near making, according to your own testimony — and you want to help your Nation understand the Communist conspiracy - do come forward voluntarily , without waiting for a subpoena .

Mr. Shaw . I certainly would have been in a much better position than I am right now if I had known that Mr. DOYLE. Well, will you broadcast Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Because I have had to come all the way from Arkansas- - Mr. Doyle. Will you broadcast, from your distinguished position , to the men and women in your profession , and to the people you meet as you travel throughout this great Nation of ours, that this invitation is again given by this committee ? Mr. Shaw . I certainly will do all I can to make that known. As I said earlier, I could have done this 4 years ago and saved my self the trouble to break a tour, right in the middle of it, to get here. Mr. DOYLE . We regret that became necessary , too . Mr. Shaw . I understand. I am appreciative of the fact I was allowed to come here today so I could do this and you can take my sincere statement for this when I got this subpoena, it was like a breath , I was relieved to get it. I wanted to come here and do this. I was really very anxious, as I am sure you must know , to come here and say everything and tell everything I could .

Mr. DOYLE. May I ask one other question , Mr. Chairman ? I was interested in what proportion of the men and women who attended or what proportion of the persons attending these 3 meetings you attended were men and what proportion were women. You said there were only 14 to 20 people. Mr. Shaw . Never over that; maybe 16 at the most. Some of them were even smaller than that. Mr. DOYLE . Well, if only 16 were in attendance, about what proportion were men and about what proportion were women ? Mr. SHAW . About the closest I could recollect would be to say there were a few women . By that, I mean 5 or 6 women, say, out of 15 . Mr. Doyle. And what would be the approximate age of those people attending those meetings ? Mr. Shaw. They were mostly youngish people Mr. DOYLE. Well Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Mostly young people Mr. DOYLE. I mean Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Young meaning anything from 38 on down ; not many over 40, certainly . I mean, you would have noticed any who was over 40. They were mostly young — as I say, mostly people from the film business , or either connected with films and you know that is a business for young people , for the most part, except for the executives ; and at these 3 meetings and the lecture there were no executives there.

Mr. DOYLE. I have just this one further observation , Mr. Chairman , and members of the committee , and Mr. Shaw : I , of course, have no appreciation of music such as you possess in your heart and soul, but I think I do recognize that through your art , gift of God , you have a great chance to disseminate very vigilant and vigorous expressions COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1191 of patriotism for our Nation , and I hope you may find it possible, financially and otherwise, to use the medium of your art, music Mr. Shaw . I have done so, to the best of my ability . Mr. DOYLE (continuing) . To see that the young people , under 28 or under 35 Mr. Shaw . Yes. Mr. DOYLE (continuing) . Will

(MZ30) become more impressed with what their American citizenship means, more than otherwise as a result of your music. You understand my thought ? Mr. SHAW . I certainly do. I say that to myself continuously, and wherever possible, as a musician , wherever I have been approached , when I have been near a town where any such thing as a Navy or Army base is, I have contributed my services, and I will always be very glad to do that. That is why I joined the Navy - to do that. Mr. DOYLE. Even Americans younger than those in the military forces. Mr. Shaw . They are pretty young - some of them . You would be surprised at the age of some of these kids at these bases. Most of them are young kids who would be my audience, who would be in my audience mostly, except they can 't afford to or they can't get off the base in many cases; but ordinarily - I might say last night I don 't even know what the date is any more- night before last I played at the University of Arkansas ; and I assure you this is what I tried to do. This is what my whole profession is .

Mr. DOYLE. Perhaps you might take a minute for a chosen word or two, as you leave those great audiences in the joy of hearing you and your orchestra play - I have seen band leaders and heard some band leaders take a minute or two — and say something to the audience which has been a great inspiration . Perhaps you might find it convenient. Mr. Shaw . I think I have on occasion done that. It is a hard thing to do because I mean, sometimes it sounds as though you are saying , “ Look where I have gone,” and actually you can upset an audience pretty well that way . Mr. DOYLE. Not by preachment, but by example , if you understand my thought Mr. Shaw . I think I do. Mr. DOYLE. Through your music. Mr. Shaw . I think I do.

Mr. CLARDY , Mr. Chairman , I would like to ask one question here. Mr. VELDE. Mr. Clardy . Mr. CLARDY. The Waldorf- Astoria meeting, as you recall , was in March of 1949 — March 26th and 27th of 1949 and the April 4 , 1949, issue of Life pretty well sums up your whole attitude of this whole performance of yours in the past. I will read it to you and ask for your comments. In that issue, immediately after the conference, Life said this : Offhand , it might seem that a propaganda meeting like the one in New York last week would have been regarded by almost all Americans with scorn , but the Communists prepare carefully for such eventuality. Their weapons are the fellow traveler and so -called innocent dupe. These are the prominent people who, wittingly or not, associate themselves with a Communist- front organization * Scientific and Cultural Conference for World Peace. 1192 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA and thereby lend the glamor, prestige , or the respectability of American liberalism . Now , upon reflection, wouldn't you say that pretty well sums up what you have been trying to tell us as to your past connections with these things ? Mr. Shaw . I hate to admit I was a dupe I don 't like the word — and I certainly don 't like to have to admit publicly I wasn 't responsible for my behavior; but I think that just about accurately states my position in these matters. Mr. CLARDY. Well, that is the way it seemed to me, and I had this handy ; so , I used it on you .

Mr. Shaw . Thank you . That states it pretty clearly for me. Mr. VELDE. Do you have further questions? Mr. TAVENNER. I have not, Mr. Chairman . Mr. VELDE. Mr. Kearney ? Mr. KEARNEY. No questions. Mr. VELDE. Mr. Jackson . Mr. Jackson . Mr. Shaw , as one who listened to your music in South Pacific , I want to say that I think probably this hearing has been beneficial to all concerned . I certainly think it has not been conducted in the manner which will lend any currency or credence to the charges of redbaiting or witch hunting, and I hope you share that feeling that your constitutional rights have been observed fully Mr. Shaw . I feel very good about it. Mr. JACKSON (continuing) . Here this morning, and we probably have done a good deal to clear up some of the things which have caused so much confusion in the past . The committee is just as interested in getting people out from under a cloud, if they are unjustly there,

(MZ31) as they are in pointing out the truth and facts of the Communist Party membership when they exist. I think that is a very important fact which is sometimes overlooked by the critics of the committee. Mr. Shaw . It is not being overlooked by me today, sir. I feel very glad, and I am actually — I suppose it's difficult to say— I hate to have to come in and plead any kind of exculpation because of what I have done in the past. I know ignorance is no excuse , but in these cases I have never broken laws. So, I think I can plead ignorance in regard to having made a great mistake- or great mistakes-- in judgment about what I was lending myself to . Mr. JACKSON. I wouldn't even sign a check without two thoughts these days. Mr. Shaw. I sign autographs on the back of them occasionally. Mr. VELDE. Mr. Clardy, do you have any further questions? Mr. CLARDY. I just want to agree with what Congressman Jackson has said . And, as I understand your testimony, you are not now presently & member of the Communist Party ? (Mr. Shaw responded by shaking his head in the negative.) Mr. CLADY . You are saying no there ? Mr. Shaw . You can bet your bottom dollar on it.

Mr. CLARDY. And now that your eyes are opened to how you have been duped and misled in the past, I take it that you do appreciate this opportunity of appearing before the committee and getting your story before the people of the United States ? COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA 1193
Mr. SHAW . I certainly do, sir . I welcomed the opportunity before I came here, and now that I am finished I am very glad that I had the opportunity to state my views and state my present status, my present position . * Mr. CLARDY. I am unable to quite see why our invitation — the latch string was always out - escaped you , but perhaps you have been so immersed in your musical career Mr. Shaw . I just wish you could come out on the road with me some time and see Mr. CLARDY. We have been on the road , too. Mr. Shaw . Not quite in the same capacity, I am afraid . This is by way of being a location job for me, compared to the skipping around I do.

Mr. VELDE. Mr. Scherer. Mr. SCHERER. I have no questions. Mr. VELDE. Mr. Doyle. **Mr. DOYLE. I have one further question : We have had some members of your art, profession , whom we believe had been Communists , according to the sworn testimony of from 1 to 6 , 7 or 8 witnesses, previously given , come before the committee and refuse to name any one on the grounds they didn't want to be called stool pigeons— they have used that term - and, yet, you came today and offered to give us names. You didn 't plead you wouldn 't do so on the ground that you might be called a stool pigeon .**

Mr. Shaw . I can answer that for you , sir. Mr. DOYLE. Well, why - and I am not opening up a door for you to use any names — would you , in your fine art and profession , be willing to come and do this ? Wouldn't you consider it putting you in a class of being called a stool pigeon ? Wouldn't that be an ignominious name to you ? Wouldn't that be a name you would not want to have assigned to you ? Mr. Shaw . Well, could I answer that ? Mr. Doyle. How do you explain that you were willing to come and help us to that extent ? Mr. Shaw . I can state it this way : If I were unwittingly made or if I were somehow misled into being a partner in something I didn't believe in , or a partner to some kind of crime, I wouldn 't consider myself a stool pigeon in going in and giving the names of those people who were the committers of the crime, and I don 't believe in the objectives of the Communist Party . I do not believe in that. I can only emphatically state I am against the objectives of the Communist Party in the United States. I don 't know what they want in Russia , and that is not my affair, but I do know what I believe about here. Mr. DOYLE . Then , if I word your answer in a little bit different language, will you tell me if I am in error and if I get your thought ? In other words, you feel so strongly that the security of your Nation is more important Mr. SHAW . Than any individual. Mr. DOYLE (continuing) . Than your own personal status Mr. Shaw . Yes. I think it is more important Mr. Doyle (continuing) .

(MZ32) And you are placing Mr. Shaw (continuing) . Than any individual status. Mr. DOYLE (continuing) . The security of your Nation ahead of any embarrassment or any loss of income? 1194 COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YORK AREA Mr. SHAw, I think the security of the Nation affects millions of people, and I don't think any one person is more important than millions. Mr. Doyle. Thank you. Mr. SHAw. That is about the way it sums up. Mr. WELDE. Mr. Frazier.

Mr. FRAZIER. I just want to tell Mr. Shaw we appreciate his appearing here today and giving us a fine statement about his past association with these various organizations; and I want to say also, Mr. Shaw, that we regret that you didn't know that you had an opportunity, like every other man whose name was mentioned here, to come before the committee and to make a clean breast of what has transpired, and either confirm or deny any allegations that have been made before the committee. We welcome any witness to come before the committee.

Mr. SHAw. Thank you. I am sorry, too, I didn't know about it. It could have saved me 2 or 3 years of real heartaches. Mr. WELDE. Mr. Shaw, to avoid needless repetition, I want to say I concur generally in the statements that my colleagues have made about your appearance here, and to say also that we regret we had to cause you inconvenience. Of course, I think you realize any person who is called before the committee to testify necessarily suffers inconvenience. We try to make that as little as possible.

If there is nothing further, Mr. Counsel, the witness, Mr. Shaw, is dismissed with the committee's thanks. Mr. SHAw. Thank you. - Mr. WELDE. The committee will stand in recess until 2:30. (Whereupon, at 12:43 p.m., the hearing was recessed until 2:30 p.m., the same day.) AFTERNOON SESSION