

information from the communist party of the United States who would be able to verify what I have said because they would be in a position to know. At any rate I will further inform the committee in that respect. The committee could bring before it Norman Freed, who was an officer of the party and who is now in Hull. He was a member of the political bureau of the communist party of Canada and knows intimately about the act of disaffiliation.

THE CHAIRMAN: Can you not supply documentary evidence to establish that point?

MR. COHEN: I doubt it very much, because at that time the party was already illegal; it was meeting surreptitiously.

MR. McKINNON: Have you not received any information as to why that action was taken?

MR. COHEN: Not at all.

MR. HAZEN: That was in March?

MR. COHEN: The autumn of 1940. I will deal further with that when I get a reply to the communication I have sent.

MR. MARTIN: With regard to the question of furnishing documentary evidence, I presume the disaffiliation took place by letter or telegram and undoubtedly there will be a copy of that letter or telegram.

MR. COHEN: The only difficulty about that, sir, is that now the persons who would be in a position to furnish me with the original or duplication of the document are persons who are sometimes referred to as missing and the closest --

MR. MARTIN: Let us not fence. Some of them are missing and some of them are not missing. I think it should not be difficult to produce them if you really want them.

MR. COHEN: The only person who is available to me, sir, apart from the man who is now in Hull -- I should be very