

(AFTERNOON SESSION)

THE COMMITTEE RESUMED AT 4 O'CLOCK

--Continuing the Examination of Mr. Norman Freed

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we are ready to proceed. Mr. Freed, will you come forward please. When we left off this morning, had you completed giving us your views on the period extending between the declaration of war by Canada on Germany and the declaration of war by Germany on Russia?

WITNESS: Yes, I think I have largely finished with that, unless there are any matters that I could emphasize. I was going to say that in reference to the quotation here from Mr. Kashton I had said I disagreed with that, that as far as I know that does not constitute at all the official policy of the Communist Party. This thing leads me into a question that seems to be discussed at the present time; it is one which has been suggested as one of the reasons for continued internment, and that is the question of force and violence or, as it has been formulated, I think, by the Minister of Justice, that communists are still pursuing their former aims - I think they were the words used - which probably implied this question, and I would like to say a few words about that if I may.

Just briefly, I would say that the Communist Party of Canada has always opposed force and violence. The question of force and violence is a matter that involves a concrete examination of conditions prevalent. For instance, if you take the situation existing in Germany today or the situation existing in any of the conquered countries, it is obvious to everyone that the people who are opposed to that system are opposed to the consequences arising from that system and have no other means of expressing their opposition other than through - well, illegal forms,