

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

House of Commons,
Room 268,
June 10, 1942.

The Special Committee on Defence of Canada Regulations met this day at 10.30 o'clock a.m. The Chairman, Hon. Joseph Enoil Michaud, presided.

THE CHAIRMAN: Order. Shall we proceed now, gentlemen? If it is agreeable I will ask Mr. Cohen to continue.

MR. COHEN: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, before I go on with the item that I have stated I would devote myself to this morning, that is the question of the war position of the group in respect to whom representations were being made yesterday, there are just two items that I should like to touch on with respect to the matters dealt with yesterday. First of all I have noted that I omitted to mention that I had been informed some several weeks ago that sometime in the autumn of 1940 the communist party of Canada formally disaffiliated itself from the entity known as the communist international. Having no official address, so to speak, in Canada to which I could address any communication and no recognized officer who could so formally inform me, although the information in the first place came from one of the men now in Hull, Freed, I forwarded a communication about ten days ago to the communist party of the United States, asking them if they could in any way inform me as to whether or not the communist party of Canada to their knowledge was an affiliate of the communist international.

I understand the communist party of the United States also, at or about the same time, disaffiliated itself from the Comintern -- I think that is the technical term. Now,