

74-1335-2237

ENCLOSURE

Alger Hiss's defense obviously intends to press the charge that I have had homosexual relations with certain individuals. With the resumption of pre-trial deposition, it is necessary to face this issue since my answer or refusal to answer certain questions must have a direct bearing on the case. I am for stating the facts. They are as follows:

The cause of separation between my father and my mother, which I have described in my statement, was chiefly due to my father's active homosexualism.

As a boy, I was aware that something peculiar was involved, and I even knew the name of the other participant. But the nature of homosexuality remained secret to me. Nevertheless, I undoubtedly inherited this tendency from my father. It was no doubt further intensified by the domination of our home by my mother, who taught me that sex is an evil.

Yet I did not know what homosexuality meant until I was more than thirty years old. Before then, some of my friendships with men were too intense but they were completely innocent. My relations with women were slow to develop, but were normal.

The defense will probably bear down on my relationships with Michael Intrator and Frank Bang.

I. Relations with Intrator. Nothing in this relationship at any time exceeded the strong friendship natural between two men deeply interested in the same political and journalistic experiences.

II. Relations with Frank Bang. No physical relations occurred during this friendship. Nevertheless, it was a homosexual relationship. For the first three or four years, this friendship was perfectly innocent, based on common interests in camping, canoeing and outdoor living. But when both of us became involved with the same girl (I share

describe the relationship in the course of my general statement), I became conscious that my friendship with Frank Bang was excessive. I am not sure how much he realized. Both of us ^(individually) continued to live with various women. One of these subsequently told my wife that "The trouble with Frank is that he is in love with Whittaker". At the time this remark was made, I was seeing Frank Bang very seldom. I presently ceased seeing him altogether. By that time both of us were married and the fathers of children.

When I say this relationship was homosexual, I mean that Frank Bang and I were attracted to each other to the exclusion of most of other relationships.

It was the kind of exclusive comradeship that often develops in war between soldiers. The manifestations of this relationship are quite obvious to other people - much more so than to the persons involved. Hence the defense may have many people who would charge a much greater degree of relationship than actually existed.

III Relations with others. In 1933 or 4, a young fellow stopped me on the street in N.Y. and asked me if I could give him a meal and lodgings for the night. I fed him and he told me about his life as a miner's son. I was footloose, so I took him to a hotel to spend the night. There he presently taught me an experience I did

not know existed. At the same time, he revealed to me, and unleashed, the hereditary tendency of which I was still unaware.

Because it had been repressed so long, it was all the more violent when once set free. For three or four years, I fought a warring battle against this affliction.

Ten years or more ago, with God's help, I absolutely conquered it. This does not mean that I am completely immune to such ^{stimuli} ~~stimuli~~. It does mean that my self-control is complete and that for years I have lived a blameless and devoted life as husband and father.

The Hiss forces, of course, will seek to prove that my weakness entered into my

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relations with Alger Hiss and possibly others.

This ^{is} completely untrue. At no time, and I have such relations, or even the thought of such relations with Hiss or with anybody else in the Communist Party or connected with Communist work of any kind. I kept my secret as jealously from my associates in the C.P. as I did from everyone else.

I tell it now only because, in this case, I stand for truth. Having testified mercilessly against others, it has become my function to testify mercilessly against myself.

I have said before that I am consciously destroying myself. This is not from love of self destruction but because only if we are consciously prepared to destroy ourselves in the struggle for the thing we are fighting to be destroyed.

We have now reached a point in my testimony where I must testify to certain facts which should be told only to a priest. Therefore, to save embarrassment to myself, and possibly to others, I have attached a general statement of these facts which may be used as a basis for specific questions.

As a special courtesy, I should like to have only one agent present during this interview. For some reason the presence of a second agent makes the ordeal more difficult.

Kisseloff-24900

Whitaker Chambers

22.37



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