

MR. WHIPPLE: I am.

MR. HOUSTON: And you have previously been in the box and been sworn.

MR. WHIPPLE: I have.

Affidavit of Col. Ralph R. Glass, Retired

MR. HOUSTON: What is your purpose in taking the witness stand at this time?

MR. WHIPPLE: I would like to present to the committee at this time—at this time—an affidavit of Colonel Ralph R. Glass, a resident of the State of California, concerning whom it is impossible for him to be here to testify at this hearing.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA }
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA } ss.

Ralph R. Glass, of lawful age, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and says:

My name is Ralph R. Glass, and I am a Colonel, United States Army retired, and at the present time living at 1019 Ardmore Avenue, Oakland 10, California.

During 1941 I was Post Commander at Fort Lewis, Washington. At that time Joseph D. Roberts was my Recreation Officer. I remember that Mr. and Mrs. James and others took a theatre group from the Seattle Repertory Playhouse to Fort Lewis to present plays on the Post. I recall that Mr. Roberts informed me that the plays were subversive propaganda in substance and that they should not be allowed to present plays of that type before the men. I personally did not see the plays. Due to the information given to me by Mr. Roberts I instructed Mr. Roberts to inform the Jameses that there were no more open dates available for them to present plays on the Post. I believe these instructions were carried out by Mr. Roberts.

I have read the above affidavit consisting of one page and thoroughly understand the matters and things contained therein. These statements are made by me of my own free will and accord, without promise of remuneration or reward of any nature and without duress or threat of violence. To the best of my recollection the above statements are correct.

/s/ Ralph R. Glass
Ralph R. Glass

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to this 9th day of June, 1948, before me.

/s/ C. A. Larson
Notary Public in and for
the State of California.

MR. HOUSTON: Phillip H. Davis.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I'm just informed that the witness is outside parading in the picket line. Do you suggest we send a patrolman out and get him?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I suggest that a patrolman go out and advise Mr. Davis that he is called for appearance on the witness stand; he was required to remain in attendance but we will go that far to help him to find his way here and it will be my suggestion that we will be at ease for about two minutes. Seems to be some difficulty in locating Mr. Davis. He is required to be in attendance; however, we will call him again in a few minutes and he should be here at that time. Can you proceed with another witness at this time?

TESTIMONY OF PROF. MELVILLE JACOBS Dept. of Anthropology, University of Washington

MR. HOUSTON: Melville Jacobs. Is your counsel here, Dr. Jacobs.

DR. JACOBS: Yes, it is.

MELVILLE JACOBS, called as a witness, after being duly sworn was examined and testified as follows:

MR. HOUSTON: And you wish the record to show that Mr. Henry is acting as your counsel at this occasion.

DR. JACOBS: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: You have heard our instructions, have you not, to the other witnesses, Dr. Jacobs?

DR. JACOBS: Yes, Mr. Houston, go ahead.

MR. HOUSTON: It's correct to call you Doctor, isn't it?

DR. JACOBS: Yes.

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please state your name?

DR. JACOBS: Melville Jacobs.

MR. HOUSTON: Are you a resident of the city of Seattle?

DR. JACOBS: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: How long have you lived in the city of Seattle?

DR. JACOBS: My appointment to the University was in January, 1928, and immediately afterwards I went on a field expedition and made my first residence here in the third quarter of that year. That would be, I suppose, the beginning of April, 1928.

MR. HOUSTON: And have you taught at the University ever since then?

DR. JACOBS: Yes, except for quite a number of sessions when I was on leave of absence to conduct field researches or for one or another purpose.

Admits Communist Party Membership

MR. HOUSTON: Dr. Jacobs, I will ask you if you are, or ever have been, a member of the Communist Party.

DR. JACOBS: I was a member of the Communist Party but I am not now.

MR. HOUSTON: When did you join the Communist Party, Doctor?

DR. JACOBS: When?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes.

DR. JACOBS: I'm not clear, because it's so long ago, of the precise date. It could have been as early as '35. I prefer or think rather that the probabilities are somewhat higher than it was in early '36, but I prefer to let it go in that vague way because it is long ago and I've been so busy and it just doesn't fit in as a definite point, sir, anywhere.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, when did you get out of the Communist Party, Doctor?

DR. JACOBS: That was an extremely gradual process in my own mind and as far as any formal disaffiliation is concerned, there again I feel that I cannot place it more precisely than possibly at the end of '45, possibly in the beginning of '46, somewhere along in that vague period there were many months, many, many months, that were—one could say, the end occurred. Simply because I was not attending or participating in any way and I simply just was out of the picture, just dropping by the wayside.

MR. HOUSTON: During the period of time that you were in the Communist Party, did you attend meetings, Doctor?

DR. JACOBS: Of course.

MR. HOUSTON: Can you tell me about how often these meetings were held?

DR. JACOBS: My own attendance at all times was intermittent and irregular and there were many periods when I was engaged in researches either—uh—well, in almost all cases since the early '30's out of the state.

But the regularity of meetings and there are periods to me I'm not quite clear about. I think there were times when I might have gone one week after another for a few weeks but I think at other times it might have been two or three or four week intervals of absence. It was an intermittent thing and I'm quite sure as I recall this period that's—that I frankly tried to erase from my mind, it was essentially a changeable phenomenon, rather irregular.

MR. HOUSTON: Did you hold any offices in the Communist Party?

DR. JACOBS: There again I feel that if I held any offices they were merely minor evening role in the branch meeting but I do not recall honestly any office other than some modest, to the capacity within the branch. And at any case I'm quite certain that during the past decade not even a minor office of that sort ever fell to my lot because I was just too busy with other things to do anything except as a relatively passive by-stander.

MR. HOUSTON: Did you attend any of the county plenums or conventions?

DR. JACOBS: I have no recollection of ever having gone down town to that sort of thing. Now, there is a possibility, I should say a very small, a very remote possibility, that I did so far back that I cannot recall it, but at the moment I feel quite confident. I cannot swear that there was a hundred percent non-participation in that sort of thing but I'm quite confident that I never did.

MR. HOUSTON: Doctor, were you given a card in the Communist Party?

DR. JACOBS: There again my recollection is that—that another person simply handed in a card for me. I'm not clear about it—I've talked about it to a friend or two recently and I am quite sure I—I never carried a card on my person, that is absolutely certain. I figured to my recollection it was merely an application thing of some sort or other. I didn't even fill out in my own handwriting, I'm quite sure of that.

MR. HOUSTON: Did you receive in turn any card that you recall, with dues stamps in it?

DR. JACOBS: Yes, I have memories of small stamps, I couldn't describe them.

MR. HOUSTON: These were signified that dues had been paid?

DR. JACOBS: That's right.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you recall the approximate amount of dues that you paid in any given period?

DR. JACOBS: I've heard varying testimony this past week which has not struck any loud responsive chord in my memory. All I can say about that is that dues to me were always microscopic. They were very, very small and I am quite sure that if they amounted into—into sums in terms of dollars they might have been two or three dollars at the most a month as far as I was personally concerned, but I have no recollection of dues that amounted to very much.

Now, I heard the other day, Mr. Houston of a—of one of the witnesses indicating 5%. That—that doesn't strike any responsive chord in my memory.

MR. HOUSTON: Were you called on from time to time to contribute money for other purposes?

DR. JACOBS: Requests came through as I recall very vaguely, for additional money for this, that, or the other thing that was on someone else's calendar that they felt that funds ought to be collected for, but what they were specifically, I don't recall.

MR. HOUSTON: Doctor, were you requested from time to time to perform services and do things that the Communist Party was interested in?

DR. JACOBS: I don't think that the word request could have ever applied to me. It's possible that people asked if I would do this, that, or the other, and I know full well from the record of the research that I've simply been primarily obligated to do all these years that I must have been pretty unsatisfactory to many of my friends and that I just said "no."

MR. HOUSTON: Have you ever been on any kind of a picket line?

DR. JACOBS: I believe that once years ago I visited and observed a picket at the wharves not far from here, but I was not, myself, ever on a picket line.

MR. HOUSTON: That's the only—

DR. JACOBS: I have no recollection of ever having been on a picket line anywhere.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you ever participated in any demonstration—

DR. JACOBS: I am certain that I never have, ever.

MR. HOUSTON: —or ever march on a particular place?

DR. JACOBS: I am certain that I never have, anywhere, to my recollection at the present. I don't feel very congenial in that kind of an environment.

Explains Why He Got in Communist Party

MR. HOUSTON: Doctor, who solicited your membership in the Communist Party?

DR. JACOBS: I wouldn't phrase it as a—as a solicitation. I would put it somewhat in this light, Mr. Houston, if I may, that in the period of the depression and in the course of visiting around in the country, riding about in my car and seeing poor devils starving or walking along the Bowery of New York, I became aware of a—of an aspect of life I had never had any occasion to be interested in. Furthermore, a professional anthropologist has to work with people who have taken the most indescribable beating, our American Indians or other natives in various parts of the world.

MR. HOUSTON: I'd like the question to be rather responsive, but I want it to be as—

DR. JACOBS: Well, I wanted to give a little bit of the background so that I could feel that I had given an absolutely honest testimony.

MR. HOUSTON: The question was whether or not you could remember anyone who had solicited you for membership in the Communist Party.

DR. JACOBS: I have already mentioned a gentleman who talked to me to the investigators who visited me on the campus. It was Robert Roberts, years ago—who was the one person who was in the picture at that time, but I wouldn't phrase it as a solicitation. He was a friend, the brother of a student of earlier years, and he interested me in that period when we sat around and

chatted and had coffee. He interested me in various things that were rather intriguing to me because I had presumed that the Communist Party was loyal to Soviet Russia, primarily, and I had presumed that it believed in force and violence and I didn't want to have anything whatever to do with that type of an organization.

MR. HOUSTON: Uh—

DR. JACOBS: He brought me several of the Strachey books if I might pursue that, Mr. Houston?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think that we had better confine this to the answers to the questions of the counsel. I want to give you reasonable latitude but I think we are getting far afield, here.

DR. JACOBS: Well, I think I can say in a word that after he had persuaded me, and my reading had persuaded me, that the party was not in favor of force and violence and violent overthrow of the government and was not loyal to a foreign power. But then I became interested and myself approached him, after a very long period of reflection and time, and indicated that he could sign me up. Is that the answer you wished?

MR. HOUSTON: Did you ever solicit anyone for membership in the Communist Party?

DR. JACOBS: Not as an individual. There were individuals, friends, who sat about and several of us chatted with them and it was on that kind of a group basis rather than my personal or individual solicitation. I have no recollection of any individual solicitation of any one person.

MR. HOUSTON: Well, do you have any recollection of any group solicitation of any one person?

DR. JACOBS: Mrs. Jacobs and some friends.

MR. HOUSTON: Mrs. Jacobs and some friends.

DR. JACOBS: Yes. I promised not to mention Mrs. Jacobs, but I think that's all right.

Refuses to Name Other Party Members

MR. HOUSTON: Who are the friends, or who were they?

DR. JACOBS: I am very sorry, Mr. Houston, but I cannot, I simply cannot, be an informer on people who, in my judgment, have always been completely loyal to our country, and who do not believe in force and violence, who have never done anything illegal, and who are my friends.

MR. HOUSTON: I will ask you, Doctor, did you ever sit in Communist Party meetings with Herbert J. Phillips?

DR. JACOBS: I'm sorry, I cannot inform on a friend, Mr. Houston.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you—

DR. JACOBS: I realize full well and against the advice of counsel—

MR. HOUSTON: Have you ever sat in Communist Party meetings with Ralph Gundlach?

DR. JACOBS: The same answer, Mr. Houston.

MR. HOUSTON: You refuse to answer?

DR. JACOBS: I cannot inform on friends who have not testified already.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, this witness refused to answer questions which I believe to be proper and I ask that the chairman of the Committee put the questions to the witness where he may answer and not be in contempt of the Legislature.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Who—what were the names of the two you asked him about?

MR. HOUSTON: Herbert J. Phillips, Ralph H. Gundlach.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Before I repeat the questions of the Committee I wish to be certain that you understand the responsibilities you are taking upon yourself.

DR. JACOBS: I understand.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The Committee will proceed against you to have you cited for contempt of the Legislature for refusing to answer the questions of the Committee. I will ask you again so there will be no misunderstanding.

Have you ever sat in closed Communist Party meetings with Herbert J. Phillips?

DR. JACOBS: I cannot answer, Mr. Canwell.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Have you sat in closed party—Communist Party meetings with Professor Gundlach?

DR. JACOBS: I cannot answer, Mr. Canwell.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You may step aside.

DR. JACOBS: Thank you.

(Witness Excused)

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Is Mr. Phil Davis in the audience? We will take proper action on Mr. Davis' case when we are in the executive session. Are you prepared to proceed with another witness?