TESTIMONY OF TED ASTLEY Veterans Counselor, University of Washington

MR. HOUSTON: Will Mr. Astley take the stand? Ted Astley.

Mr. Chairman, will you call for the witness, Ted Astley?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Mr. Ted Astley.

MR. ASTLEY: Mr. Houston, I want it understood that I-

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Take the stand and be sworn.

TED ASTLEY, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Astley, have you heard the instructions to the witnesses to talk directly into the microphone?

MR. ASTLEY: I have heard all of the instructions.

MR. HOUSTON: Will you please state your name?

MR. ASTLEY: My name is Theodore Raymond Astley, and I am also known as Ted Astley because that is a rather long name. Most people call me Ted.

MR. HOUSTON: I will be very pleased to oblige you.

MR. ASTLEY: My friends call me Ted.

MR. HOUSTON: Where do you live, Mr. Astley?

MR. ASTLEY: I live at 4401 Union Bay Place, which is in the Veterans' Housing Project at the University of Washington.

MR. HOUSTON: Are you a resident of the State of Washington?

MR. ASTLEY: I assume so. I vote here.

MR. HOUSTON: What is your occupation, Mr. Astley?

MR. ASTLEY: I am a vocational counselor at the University of Washington Veterans' Guidance Center.

MR. HOUSTON: Who is your employer?

MR. ASTLEY: My employer is the University of Washington.

MR. HOUSTON: Where were you born, Mr. Astley?

MR. ASTLEY: I was born in Atlanta, Georgia.

MR. HOUSTON: When were you born?

MR. ASTLEY: I was born in 1920.

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

MR. ASTLEY: Mr. Houston, I will answer your question in my own manner. This is a question which cannot be asked of any citizen of the United States without a violation of the Constitution of the United States. The—(starts shouting)

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You will be quiet.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to report, for the record's sake, that the answer was totally unexpected and unresponsive to the question.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Do I understand correctly, that he is employed by the State of Washington?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes.

(Witness Excused)

TESTIMONY OF MRS. MAUD BEAL Assistant Professor of English, University of Washington

MRS. MAUD BEAL, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

MR. HOUSTON: Mrs. Beal, have you heard the instructions given to the previous witnesses about speaking?

Would you please state your name?

MRS. BEAL: Mrs. Maud Beal.

MR. HOUSTON: And how do you spell it?

MRS. BEAL: Beal.

MR. HOUSTON: There is no "s" on it?

MRS. BEAL: No, sir. I'm singular.

MR. HOUSTON: Are you a resident of this city, Mrs. Beal?

MRS. BEAL: Yes, sir.

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

MRS. BEAL: Since 1925. Oh, pardon me, I am not a resident. I am a resident of north King County.

MR. HOUSTON: What is your occupation, Mrs. Beal?

MRS. BEAL: I teach at the University.

MR. HOUSTON: What do you teach?

MRS. BEAL: I teach people to write on paper what they know so that the college professors won't misunderstand them, if possible. Composition and English.

MR. HOUSTON: Composition and English. How long have you taught at the University?

MRS. BEAL: Twenty-two years.

Admits Communist Party Membership

MR. HOUSTON: Twenty-two years. Mrs. Beal, I will ask you, are you or have you ever been, a member of the Communist Party?

MRS. BEAL: I was a member of the Communist Party from about 1935, I think, to—I'm not sure when—my leaving the Party was gradual, and I think it was ten years ago, approximately.

MR. HOUSTON: 1938.

MRS. BEAL: It might have been '38 or '39.

MR. HOUSTON: '38 or '39.

MRS. BEAL: Yes. It was before the war, I know.

MR. HOUSTON: But you're positive it was-

MRS. BEAL: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you associate any particular thing with your leaving the Party?

MRS. BEAL: Yes, sir. I was—my work was very—at the time, was rather heavy at the University and I had difficulty keeping up with anything else. Then there was—of course the other was a matter of sort of inability to adjust myself, of searching my conscience, I suppose.

MR. HOUSTON: Now during this period of three or four years that you were a member of the Communist Party, did you attend meetings from time to time?