

**Refuses to Answer**

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

MR. OTTENHEIMER: And I will say to you, Mr. Houston, that I consider that an attempted censorship of the arts, and I can't answer that kind of question under the circumstances which are permitted here.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Will you ask the question again, and I wish to instruct the witness that that is a question that might easily be answered by "yes" or "no."

MR. HOUSTON: Are you, or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Houston, I object to answering that question on the basis I have stated, plus moral grounds, professional ethics, and illegal grounds.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Do I understand that you refuse to answer the question directly?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: I am—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I want a "yes" or "no" answer to that. Do you or do you not wish to be responsive to the questions? Now you must answer these questions or we will have to ask you to step aside. We are trying to be reasonable here. We would like to have you tell your story, but if you insist on not answering the questions of the Committee we will have to follow the usual procedure and ask you to step aside.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Well Mr. Canwell, I've formed my own opinion, listening here, to the reasonableness of this Committee.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Well, we will take it for granted that you do not intend to answer the questions of the Committee. You may step aside.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Thank you, sir.

(Witness Excused)

**TESTIMONY OF MELVIN MILLER RADER**  
**Associate Professor of Philosophy,**  
**University of Washington**

MR. HOUSTON: Melvin Rader?

MELVIN MILLER RADER, after being first duly sworn was examined and testified as follows:

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Rader, you have heard the instructions to the witnesses on the stand, have you not?

MR. RADER: I have, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: What is your name?

MR. RADER: Melvin Miller Rader.

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

MR. RADER: I live in the City of Seattle.

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

MR. RADER: I have been here since 1921. I came here as a student the first time, at the University of Washington, in 1921. My regular appointment at the University, however, was not made until the fall of 1930. I have been employed since that time by the University of Washington, except for a leave of absence during 1944 and 1945 when I was in Chicago.

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

MR. RADER: I want to answer that question very fully and explicitly and to the point. I think I can answer the question best if I can read a statement. I will answer the question "no," I have never been a member of the Communist Party, and I am not now a member of the Communist Party, and I shall be very glad to elaborate that answer any time.

**Admits Front Organization Affiliation**

MR. HOUSTON: Now I will ask you, Professor, if you were ever a member of an organization known as the League Against War and Fascism, which has been declared a subversive organization by the Attorney General of the United States of America?

MR. RADER: I have been a member of the American League Against War and Fascism.

MR. HOUSTON: On Sunday, evening, April 7, 1935, in the Labor Temple in the City of Seattle, did you speak for an hour and ten minutes on the Soviet Union at a meeting of the American League Against War and Fascism?

MR. RADER: You will please repeat the question, Mr. Houston? I—you are referring to a very specific event. Will you please repeat the question, because I want to tell the exact truth to the best of my ability.

MR. HOUSTON: On Sunday evening, April 7, 1935, in the Labor Temple, in the City of Seattle, did you speak for approximately an hour and ten minutes on the Soviet Union to a meeting of the League Against War and Fascism?

MR. RADER: Well sir, you have stated the question in such very definite and such very precise terms, that I don't see how I could answer that question "yes" or "no" without perjuring myself, because I'm uncertain.

Now, I do have some memory of speaking at the Labor Temple. I don't know under what auspices. I can't remember precisely. That's quite a time

ago, gentlemen. I may well have been under the auspices, it may well have been on that exact date, and it may well have taken that precise length of time.

MR. HOUSTON: Now did you attend a conference of the Northwest Conference Against War and Fascism in the City of Seattle, in the Labor Temple, on the 6th day of April, 1935?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, again you are asking the same type of question. I'm—may I say, Mr. Canwell, that I have already issued to some gentlemen of the press, ah—my,—my attorney advises me that I should do my very best to answer this question to the very best of my ability, and I certainly intend and want to follow the advice of my attorney in this matter, and I want to state the exact and precise truth, to the very best of my ability in respect to every question asked me.

Would you mind repeating the question so I can get clearly in mind the exact terms of this question?

MR. HOUSTON: On April the 6th, 1935, did you attend a conference of the Northwest Conference Against War and Fascism, in the City of Seattle, in the Labor Temple?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, I know I have attended conferences, or at least one conference. I imagine more than one, but at least one conference of the American League Against War and Fascism. It may very well be that I attended this meeting. I do not intend to perjure myself. I could not absolutely swear that I attended that meeting, at that particular date, and I therefore will not say that I attended that meeting at that particular date.

MR. HOUSTON: Now I'll ask you if you spoke to a political rally of the Communist Party under the auspices of the Washington Commonwealth Federation, in a fraction meeting in the Senator Auditorium, September the 18th, 1939?

MR. RADER: I'm very certain I did not do that, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: You did not?

MR. RADER: I did not do that, sir, unless the meeting were so completely and utterly disguised that I, as a person whom am not a Communist, and have never been a Communist, was totally unable to recognize the nature of the meeting.

MR. HOUSTON: Now I will ask you if on July the 13th, 1939, you did not speak, and were a sponsor of a play at the Repertory Playhouse under a group known as the University Friends of Jim Norie, which was sponsored to raise money for a memorial there?

MR. RADER: You are asking if I spoke at a memorial meeting for Jim Norie?

MR. HOUSTON: That's right.

MR. RADER: James Norie, about—where money was raised?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes.

MR. RADER: You are asking about a precise date—

MR. HOUSTON: Yes.

MR. RADER: Well again, sir, I can't—these things took place a long time ago, and I can't, for the life of me, with the most honest effort, answer to the exact date. Now it is true, that I did speak at a memorial meeting for James Norie in the Repertory Playhouse, and it might have been that date.

MR. HOUSTON: Now on February the 9th, 1939, did you sponsor a meeting in the Moore Hotel for the purpose of raising money for the Communist Government of Spain in exile?

MR. RADER: Now, may I say, Mr. Houston, that I never interpreted any statement in respect to Spain as—that I have ever made it, in all my life, as a statement in defense of, or advocacy of any Communist government, in Spain or elsewhere.

Now, sir, again you are asking me a question about a particular date. Now these are events that took place many years ago, and I, gentlemen, do not have a perfect memory and I doubt if, indeed, I could act as if I did, without telling untruth here, which I don't intend to do.

Now I will say this; that I have spoken from time to time in favor of Loyalist Spain. I interpreting "Loyalist Spain" as not a Communist government.

MR. HOUSTON: Were you in the year 1945 one of the Seattle sponsors of this Joint Anti-fascist Refugee Committee, whose national officers were in contempt of Congress, and which organization has been declared subversive by the Attorney General of the United States of America?

MR. RADER: Sir, may I just make one statement, Mr. Canwell, about the Attorney General, and—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I don't think that is pertinent. I don't wish to curtail the witness here—

MR. RADER: Well, I don't want my answer to be misunderstood. I want to be perfectly fair to myself and fair to the truth, and I think I could express myself more accurately and truly if I first explained how I would interpret this question.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think the question was a little devious. I had trouble to follow it.

MR. HOUSTON: I will break it up into two or three then.

Were you in 1945 a Seattle sponsor of the Joint Anti-fascist Refugee Committee?

MR. RADER: I believe I was, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Are you conversant that the Attorney General of the United States has declared this to be a subversive organization?

MR. RADER: Yes, and I would like your permission to make a remark about that.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think it will be permitted at this time.

MR. RADER: I would like to remark that it seems to me, the classification or labeling of organizations as subversive is the proper function of the judicial branch of our government, where in courts of law there are fact-finding and objective techniques and procedures for determining these matters, and I would say that—

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I don't think this man should criticize an official function of the Attorney General of the United States, which has been accepted as within his prerogative.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Yes. I wanted to be reasonable as possible with Mr. Rader. He seems to be willing to give testimony before this Committee. I don't want to unduly curtail him. I would wish to caution him about extending remarks into the record here that are not—oh, perhaps too perti-

ment, but I think that if he feels that his answer there is sufficient, he has stated his position on that point.

MR. RADER: Very well, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, I will ask you if you participated on August the 23rd, 1941, in an Anti-Fascist Mass meeting in the Bothell High School at 8:00 p. m.?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, I just can't answer that question. I would like to, sir, but—I mean I can't answer it in the sense that I know that this is or is not the case. I can't remember.

MR. HOUSTON: Well, let's approach it in a different way then.

From 1936, did you believe in the collective security in the grouping of the democracies of the world against the Fascist countries?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, in 1936—you say from 1936?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes.

MR. RADER: Until—until—

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, until we had the switch in the—turn in the railroads. I will be explicit if you want me to, on the date.

MR. RADER: Now wait a minute. I'm not limiting this to any period that can be characterized in terms of a switch.

Now in 1936, and continuously I think, right up to the present time, I have believed in the principle of what we have now come to call the United Nations, but was in 1936 called the Principle of Collective Security. That is the principle of international organization for the prevention of war.

MR. HOUSTON: Are you conversant that in 1936 there was a switch in the Communist Party line after the speech by Mr. Dimitrov on the orientation and the starting of the United Front program?

MR. RADER: In 1936. About what—what time in 1936?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think we might dispense with these dialectical discussions, and—

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I—the man has no memory, and I am giving him specific dates and places; and if he wants to—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The witness is well within what is reasonable in saying that he cannot remember a specific hour or a date ten years ago. If you want to say about that time, or that sort of thing, I think that we want to remain within the realm of what is reasonable there.

MR. RADER: Thank you, Mr. Canwell.

MR. HOUSTON: Well, have you followed the Communist Party line, Doctor?

MR. RADER: I have never have been and I am not now a follower of the Communist Party line. I have reached all my decisions independently, as an individual, and never at the behest or the instruction, or the dictation, of the Communist Party, or any Communist front organization, or any other party or organization.

MR. HOUSTON: After the Hitler-Stalin Pact in September 1939, did you label the war an imperialistic war?

MR. RADER: Sir, I think you—I may be mistaken there, but I think you have the date of that pact slightly wrong.

MR. HOUSTON: Now your memory is much better there. I was testing you. The pact actually was in August of 1939, wasn't it?

MR. RADER: It was about then.

MR. HOUSTON: I just wanted to test your memory. It isn't so bad on some things, is it, Doctor?

MR. RADER: Yes, but you were referring then to a very, very famous historical event. Almost anybody who has any interest in history would make a real effort to remember, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Well, can you answer the question?

MR. RADER: All right. I certainly will answer the question. Would you repeat the question, because I want to be sure of the correct term.

MR. HOUSTON: After the Hitler-Stalin Pact, did you label the ensuing war an imperialistic war?

MR. RADER: In—I think it will take two or three sentences to answer that question. May I have those sentences?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think it would be easy to answer whether you did or not, and then I think you may enlarge on that.

MR. RADER: I don't think I ever did in an unqualified way.

MR. HOUSTON: You can enlarge on that if you want to.

MR. RADER: All right, thank you. I want to point out that this was a period in which my book "No Compromise" was before the public. It was published in New York in, oh, around about the end of June or the beginning of August of 1939.

Now, I wrote in September 1935, a preface for British readers to that book, a preface that never appeared in the American edition. That preface was sent by Trans-Atlantic Air Mail to London, and it appears in the English copy of this book. In that preface, written—I'm not exactly sure of the date, but sometime during September of 1939, I strongly expressed my sympathies, my sympathies, solidarity, and my loyalty, not only to American democracy but to the whole concept of democracy internationally and specifically to France and England.

I don't know whether that answers your—the question, sir. Do you want any more elaboration?

MR. HOUSTON: No, you wanted to elaborate. Now, did you join and were you active in the Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy?

MR. RADER: Yes.

MR. HOUSTON: Did you observe any Communist domination of that organization?

MR. RADER: —

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Will you answer a little louder?

MR. RADER: Oh, excuse me. No, sir. I was not in a position to observe that. If it—and I have no reason to suppose, since I was not in a position to observe it, that it occurred.

MR. HOUSTON: Are you aware that the Attorney-General has also labeled that organization a subversive organization?

MR. RADER: I think so, yes. I read—some time ago I—quite some time ago I read a list of these organizations. As I remember, that name appears in this list.

### Cannot Remember

MR. HOUSTON: Now were you one of the sponsors of the Harry Bridges Defense Committee? Were you on that committee?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, I may be mistaken. I don't remember whether I was on that committee or not. If there is any clear evidence I was that seems convincing to me, I will certainly be glad to say "yes."

MR. HOUSTON: May I refresh your memory. June 30th of 1939 of the "Post-Intelligencer," a Seattle newspaper, under the heading "Bridges Defense Committee Formed": "A Harry Bridges Defense Committee was formed here yesterday for the purpose of attempting to obtain an open hearing by Immigration authorities for the West Coast C.I.O. director. A hearing on the deportation charges against Bridges is set for July 10th on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. Listed as member of the committee are Professors Harold Eby, Garland Ethel," another professor previously unnamed, and if you will permit, I prefer not to name him because his name has not been brought into the record so far, "and Melvin M. Rader."

MR. RADER: Well, sir, I don't regard the "Post-Intelligencer" as always accurate. I am willing to say that there is some presumptive evidence here.

MR. HOUSTON: Did you answer that you did belong to that organization?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, I answered that question to the best of my ability. I don't know for certain.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, are you aware that the Special Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives of the United States of America, 78th Congress, in Appendix IX, page 592, states: "The Harry Bridges Defense Committee, The Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges, and The Harry Bridges Victory Committee, must be designated as front organizations of the Communist Party, United States of America."

Are you aware of that?

MR. RADER: With the question stated in that form, I can only say "no," because you are referring to a specific case and it's a definite statement.

MR. HOUSTON: You had no knowledge previous to this, that that was labeled by any governmental organization as a subversive organization?

MR. RADER: I think I remember that this was on the list of, oh, I don't know how many. More than ninety, it seems to me, organizations listed by the Attorney-General. I think he had two lists, as a matter of fact. Ninety on one list, and I don't know how many on another list. I think on one of those two lists, this organization was so listed, although I am not certain of that.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Well, in that his participation, if any, in this committee may have occurred before its designation or may not, we haven't introduced evidence to that effect, I think that his answer is certainly responsive.

MR. HOUSTON: Never occurred before what, Mr. Chairman? I didn't catch that.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Before his alleged participation in this Bridges Defense Committee action. I don't know what the dates were, and it hasn't to my—I am not certain that I understand, and I don't know that Mr. Rader does.

MR. HOUSTON: Well, here's a committee that was formed. We've read a public newspaper of its formation. I've read a report of Congress that it is a Communist-dominated organization.

Now, are you absolving him from any responsibility?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No, I think that he answered the question properly.

MR. HOUSTON: If there is any doubt about it, the "Post-Intelligencer" under date of August 29, 1939, Appendix IX, page 600 of the reports of the Un-American Committee of the Congress of the United States, it states: Professor Melvin Rader is listed as chairman of the Washington State sponsoring committee of the Harry Bridges Defense Committee.

MR. RADER: Let me again say that I don't think the "Post-Intelligencer" is always accurate. I am not able to affirm or deny that statement that you say appears in the "Post-Intelligencer," as certain fact.

### Has Statement in "Daily Worker"

MR. HOUSTON: Now, I will ask you if this statement of February 21, 1940 in the "Daily Worker" of the City of New York, is correct, wherein it states: "Professor Melvin Rader was one of the signers of the letter to President Roosevelt and Attorney-General Jackson protesting the attacks upon the veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade."

Is that, or is that not, correct?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, I just can't remember signing any such statement.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Rader, during the period of time you have taught at the University of Washington, have you been aware of any Communist activity on the campus?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, my knowledge about activities on the campus is, I think, just what any ordinary faculty person's knowledge is. I could engage in speculation, I've heard rumors, but I—I take it this is a fact-finding committee and you are not interested in my speculations.

MR. HOUSTON: I don't want speculations or rumors. I asked you a question that can be answered "yes" or "no." Would you care to answer it that way?

MR. RADER: You're asking if I know about—

MR. HOUSTON: If you have become aware of any Communist activity.

MR. RADER: I will say that I remember from time to time of hand bills on the campus that had their apparent sponsorship by the Young Communist League or something of that sort. Now I do remember seeing from time to time some literature like that, that has been apparently thrown on the campus or handed perhaps to people as they walked on the campus.

### Denies Hewitt's Testimony

MR. HOUSTON: Well, now, you heard the testimony yesterday afternoon of the witness George Hewitt. I'll ask you, did you ever attend a school at the Beriehl Farm near Kingston, New York?

MR. RADER: Emphatically not, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Other than "not" would you mind using the word "no"?

MR. RADER: No.

MR. HOUSTON: You did not?

MR. RADER: I did not.

MR. HOUSTON: I'll ask you if you attended a Communist Party School anywhere in the year 1930—summer of 1938, or the summer of 1939?

MR. RADER: No.

MR. HOUSTON: I'll ask you if you were in the State of New York in the summer of 1938 or the summer of 1939.

MR. RADER: No.

MR. HOUSTON: Where were you in the summer of 1938?

MR. RADER: I'll try to answer that as fully as I can.

MR. HOUSTON: What are the notes that you are reading?

MR. RADER: Well now wait a minute.

MR. HOUSTON: I have a right to know what he is reading, you know.

MR. HENRY: All right, show him.

MR. HOUSTON: And when were these notes prepared?

MR. RADER: They were prepared this very day, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: This very day.

MR. RADER: I sat down out there in the—in the—in the hall, sat down on the floor in preparation for this hearing. I thought I'd better try to be accurate about this question so I sat down and I wrote these out. I scribbled them out in a hurry, and I came in this room and I sat over in about the seat I think I was sitting in when you called me to the stand. I don't remember that I changed my seat and I finished writing these notes at that time.

MR. HOUSTON: Why could what you thought of at that time a few hours ago be more accurate than now about events that occurred ten years ago?

MR. RADER: Well, sir, you're asking about a whole summer, I take it, in 1937.

MR. HOUSTON: The whole summer.

MR. RADER: Excuse me, 1938, isn't it? 1938, and about a whole summer in 1939, and you're asking this question about a very serious matter that concerns my reputation and therefore, and—since I'm an honest man and want to answer honestly, I want to be able to tell you the truth and not perjure myself.

MR. HOUSTON: That's why I want you to tell us now and not need a prepared statement before you knew what questions I'd ask. Had you made these notes in—years ago I think they'd be very admissible in evidence, but I certainly don't think notes that were made, not under oath, and only a few hours ago are admissible.

MR. RADER: I'm—I'm swearing to everything I say under oath, and I'm not waiving any immunity. Every statement I'm making is under oath.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I don't think we'll quibble over his notes. We are not going to admit them in evidence. We are not asked to admit them in evidence.

MR. RADER: Incidentally, there are very much fuller notes—very much fuller, that could be supplied.

MR. HOUSTON: Doctor, will you please answer the question?

MR. RADER: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Where were you in 1937 in the summer?

MR. RADER: I object. In the academic year 1937-1938 I taught at the University of Washington until the termination of the school term, as I remember about the middle of June, 1938. I feel confident, I believe to the best of my knowledge, that I taught in the summer school at the University of Washington in Seattle, until about August 1st. And shortly thereafter, I am sure it was a very short interval, shortly thereafter, I went with my

family to stay at Canyon Creek Lodge for a vacation, for a period of approximately a month and a half.

MR. HOUSTON: Six weeks.

MR. RADER: Approximately a month and a half at Canyon Creek Lodge.

MR. HOUSTON: Where is that? What state? What location?

MR. RADER: It's in the State of Washington near Granite Falls, not very far from here, sir. I think that the woman who was operating the lodge at that time was named Mrs. Mueller, if my memory serves me correctly.

MR. HOUSTON: How do you spell that?

MR. RADER: I think it was Mueller.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you recall her initials?

MR. RADER: No, I do not.

Well, upon returning to my home in Seattle I—I stayed very close to the radio for some period of time because this was the period of the Munich crisis, a very critical period in world history.

And I remember—

MR. HOUSTON: Now, Doctor, let's get to the point—

MR. RADER: Well, sir, I—

MR. HOUSTON: Well, we're talking about '38 and the Munich period was in '39.

MR. RADER: No, sir. You're mistaken. The war broke out in 1939 but the Munich—

MR. HOUSTON: You wouldn't mean Czechoslovakia—

MR. RADER: But the Munich crisis that I'm talking about where Chamberlain went and made a—a pact with Hitler, I am quite sure, sir, took place in 1938, not in 1939.

Well, sir, I—I—those were stirring events that I remember very well how intently I listened to Mr. Kaltenborn and the other people who were talking about these things. I stayed in Seattle, I listened to these things very closely. If I was out of Seattle during that month I'm very, very sure it was for a very, very short time, indeed. I am absolutely certain it was not in the State of New York, I'm absolutely certain it was not at any great distance from Seattle.

MR. HOUSTON: You were just resting that month.

MR. RADER: Well, uh—schools—the regular term of school and I teach at the University so I was—

MR. HOUSTON: Well, when did you start teaching?

MR. RADER: Well, I wa—I was about to answer, sir.

The regular term starts about the first of October ordinarily. Now, I'm sure I started at the regular time, although one's academic duties in a general way are supposed to begin about September the 15th. I think it is the policy of the University, in general, to ask that people stand by during that period and uh—I'm—I'm very serious about my academic duties, I don't shirk them. I—I assume that I must have stood by. I think I was in Seattle in this period and I'm absolutely certain I was not in New York in this period.

MR. HOUSTON: That's thir—

MR. RADER: Of New York State.

MR. HOUSTON: All right. Now what about '39?

MR. RADER: Let me—let me elaborate a little more about September.

Now, I'm not absolutely certain of this but it's a possibility that during—

during September of 1938 I may have been in Vancouver, British Columbia, no, excuse me, Victoria, British Columbia, for a very short time. If so, I went to visit some friends. I'd be glad to tell you their names, Malcolm Forbes and Lenora Forbes, and there was another person by the name of Josephine Goodner. They were renting a cottage, oh, excuse me—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: May I interrupt just a moment. In that you advised us that these notes were prepared less than an hour ago, I wonder if you would not be just as competent to answer those questions without referring to those notes. I think it would be a more acceptable procedure. I am not going to insist on this but it seems reasonable if you were able to prepare these figures out here before you knew what they were that you might be able to reconstruct them now that they are being asked without your notes.

MR. RADER: Well, sir, I could certainly make the attempt. I'm afraid if I did I might not be as accurate and I would like to be accurate—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Well, be as accurate as you can.

MR. RADER: —particularly when my honor is at stake and particularly when, after all, there—there is a question—a very serious question raised at this hearing about my behaviour, about my reputation.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I'm not going to bind you to that ruling. I just wondered if it couldn't be done that way in that you stated that you had prepared the notes out here in the audience about an hour ago.

MR. RADER: I—I—I—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I'll let you—

MR. RADER: I could dispense with notes uh—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I'll let you use your judgment.

MR. RADER: I'll advise with counsel about that, sir. I'll use my notes. May I go on and answer your question sir?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, yes. We're waiting for you.

MR. RADER: You're asking about nin—the summer of 1939, are you not?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, that's what we started out on, I may have been thrown off on one of these curves—

MR. RADER: Well, again I taught in the academic year of 1938-1939 as a regular employee of the University of Washington. Now—again I believe that the reg—the end of the regular school term was about June 15th, 1939. Again I'm quite certain, and I'm sure you can check this by looking at the University records, again I feel quite confident that I taught in summer school. I believe it was in the first session of summer school and not the second session of summer school.

One thing that fixes these things in my memory is that my book, "No Compromise" was published about this time. The official date of publication, which you can check with the MacMillan Company in New York, was June 30th, 1939, but if I remember correctly copies of the book did not reach Seattle until about the first or the second week in August. I remember that because the book was—was timely there was a good deal said about it and I was interviewed by the press and I remember, among other things, just about this time I went down and talked to Mr. Fitchett. What I am trying to establish is that I was in Seattle in that period, sir.

I would like again to confer with my counsel as to whether my answer is proceeding properly and—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Oh, I think that in that there is a question about his presence in another place—has been introduced in this hearing, I think

that he should be permitted to state the reasons for believing that he was not there for we have ways of checking some of this information and will, of course, do so.

MR. RADER: I—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: (inaudible.)

MR. RADER: I'll be very glad, sir, if you do check and check very carefully and very accurate sources.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I would like to ask you to make it as brief as you can consistently do. We have a good deal of business that is still up here.

MR. RADER: Yes, surely. I will be as brief as I can be and be fair to myself, sir.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Proceed.

MR. RADER: Well—now, I believe I remained in Seattle or the near vicinity until the outbreak of the war. I am absolutely certain that in this period I was not in New York City or New York State. One thing that again fixes this matter in my mind is the historical event that occurred, the outbreak of the war. For example, I—I remember very well that I had conversations with various people in Seattle about these events; about the growing tension and the outbreak of the war.

MR. HOUSTON: In a way that covers your position very well.

MR. RADER: All right. Another thing I would like to mention, if I might.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Well, I think that you have stated specifically that you were, in your opinion, not in New York during these times and given many of the reasons why you think you were not there and I would like to confine this to a reasonable amount of time. I don't want to have you feel that we're not giving you a fair chance to tell your side of the story, but I think you have stated unequivocally that you were not in New York during those periods of time and have given us somewhat of an outline of what you believe your activities to have been, and I just hope we can cut this off somewhere here without—

MR. HOUSTON: I'm not lengthening it—

MR. RADER: May I ask a question of my counsel?

Sir, Mr. Houston, I would like to state the exact time when I was in New York, the only time I've ever been in New York State. May I state that precisely?

### Says He Visited New York Only in 1945

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, we would be glad to get that.

MR. RADER: All right, sir.

I was in New York State, in New York City, and anywhere in the entire state, in only one period of my life, about a ten day period.

In the summer of 1945, after having just completed an academic year of teaching as a visiting associate professor of philosophy in the college of the University of Chicago, and I went to New York to see my son, Gordon Rader, who was in New York at that time, and also to see New York.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, Professor, according to your testimony there was a six-week period after the first session of summer school in 1938 when you were unemployed and out of the City of Seattle, allegedly being at this Canyon Creek Lodge.

MR. RADER: But not allegedly, sir, I feel quite confident about it.

MR. HOUSTON: No, I said allegedly, I didn't say positively. I hope that I will be able to say positively too.

There was a six-week's gap there, now that you were—during that period of time you could have been in New York, could you not?

MR. RADER: No, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Well, if you wanted to go to New York instead of Canyon Creek Lodge you could have been there, couldn't you?

MR. RADER: No sir, I did not want to go to New York, I was not in New York, there are people who know where I was.

MR. HOUSTON: I didn't say, now, that you were in New York but had you wanted to go there were six weeks you could have gone, Doctor.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think that is obvious on the face of the thing. I can see that—

MR. HOUSTON: Now, there was also a six-week period in 1939 that you were not teaching, you were just around Seattle, you could have—unemployed then.

MR. RADER: Sir, I—now, now wait a minute. I am very certain that time is given it will be possible to secure complete evidence that what I have said in all essential details is substantially correct and that I was not in New York or New York State in this period and I can tell you some ways in which I can—

MR. HOUSTON: We—we're going to do that. I'm trying to get some ways now if I can get rid of your speeches and get a little information.

MR. RADER: Well, I'm trying to answer your question.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, during the period, this six-week period, you state you were in Seattle here. You traded then with the same merchants you normally traded with, did you not?

MR. RADER: I imagine. I—

MR. HOUSTON: Then we could be able to establish that you were here then, couldn't we?

MR. RADER: Oh, yes, sir. I am very certain it can be established.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, Mr. Rader, I just want to repeat the question because it is tremendously serious.

Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party and can you answer it just "yes" or "no" without speeches?

MR. RADER: No.

MR. HOUSTON: Thank you.

#### Solicited for Party Membership Twice

MR. HOUSTON: Now, Doctor Rader, have you ever been solicited for membership in the Communist Party?

MR. RADER: Yes, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you been solicited for membership in the Communist Party on the University of Washington Campus?

MR. RADER: I believe not, sir. I can remember nothing of the sort.

MR. HOUSTON: Have you been solicited for membership in the Communist Party by any member of the University of Washington faculty?

MR. RADER: I am not absolutely certain. I thought I had. I still think I was. The reason I hesitate in answering that question is that when I went

to the person that I thought had solicited me, and I asked him if he had solicited me, he said he was confident he had not.

MR. HOUSTON: Were you only solicited to join the Communist Party once?

MR. RADER: No, I was solicited twice.

MR. HOUSTON: Who solicited you then the other time?

MR. RADER: I was solicited by Bob Roberts, a professional—I think a more or less professional organizer for the Communist Party. It was about the University District quite some time back.

MR. HOUSTON: Now, who did you think was soliciting you then the second time? Who was that that you thought was soliciting you?

MR. RADER: May I confer with my counsel again?

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, sir.

MR. RADER: Will you—will you repeat the question, sir?

MR. HOUSTON: Who was it, on the n—on the other occasion that had the conversation with you that you thought was a solicitation for membership in the Communist Party?

MR. RADER: I don't think that's an unambiguous question.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think, Mr. Houston, if you would ask him if it is any one of the several men by name in whom we are interested I think it would be reasonable to expect him to answer.

MR. HOUSTON: That's not the question, Mr. Chairman.

MR. RADER: May I—

MR. HOUSTON: That question is perfectly clear, he's—

MR. RADER: N—now wait. Mr. Canwell, may I explain just a moment why I hesitate about this.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think that's apparent.

MR. RADER: No, I think it's not. I think I can make it a lot clearer.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Well, will you repeat the question, Mr. Houston, maybe I'm confused.

MR. HOUSTON: Who was this gentleman that you had the conversation with that you thought resulted in a solicitation for your membership in the Communist Party?

MR. RADER: **Well, sir, I hope I can't remember any individual. I don't—just like these other people here I don't like—I don't like a bit to inform upon any—upon any individual,** I don't intend to allow you to cite me for contempt sir. I told the members of the press sometime this morning that I would evade no question, and that I would answer all questions to the very best of my knowledge and ability, and that is the way I am proceeding. Therefore, since you force me, I am going to answer that question to the very best of my knowledge and ability. I thought, sir, until it was denied by the man I am about to name, that is, was, Sophus Keith Winther who approached me and solicited me as a member of the Communist Party, and I can tell you where I approached him and asked him, and you can call him to the stand and ask him if I did not do this.

MR. HOUSTON: Didn't Professor Winther testify the other morning that he had solicited you for membership and you said—"No."

MR. RADER: I don't believe he did testify to that—to exactly that effect if I remember his testimony correctly, and I would like you to refer to the record so we will be accurate about this matter. I think Mr. Winther said

that the—well, I forget the date—certain date he was a member of the Communist Party. During this period, as a member of the Communist Party he heard the statement made in his presence—I believe he meant to say by some person or persons know to him as Communists, and I take it, though I may be wrong about this, that these persons were faculty people. I think he stated, sir, that he knew I had been asked to join the Communist Party, but that I definitely and unequivocally refused to join the Communist Party, and if that is what is in the record, sir, the statement is accurate.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: The record will speak for itself.

MR. HOUSTON: Now it is your sworn testimony today, that only Bob Roberts, and possibly Sophus Keith Winther ever asked you to join the Communist Party? Is that your sworn testimony?

MR. RADER: To the best of my knowledge and belief there was no other explicit, clear request that I could understand as to that effect.

Now there are possible implications that somebody might gather at some-time or other, but I never interpreted any implication that I ever heard, from any other person, as an invitation to join the Communist Party.

MR. HOUSTON: Did you ever have any discussion about joining the Communist Party then, with anyone other than Bob Roberts or Dr. Winther?

MR. RADER: I don't remember that I ever did, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Did anyone ever admit to you on the campus of the University of Washington, that he or she was a member of the Communist Party?

MR. RADER: No, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you believe in the form of government that exists in the United States of America, Dr. Winther—I mean, Dr. Rader?

MR. RADER: I certainly believe, sir, in the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights and the government setup under that Constitution, as it would be interpreted, for example, by the Supreme Court.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you believe in our system of society, a capitalistic economic system?

MR. RADER: I believe that there ought to be enough improvement in our economic system so that we could avoid very great depressions and a certain amount of unnecessary poverty, and therefore I can't say that I believe in every feature and aspect of our present economic system.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you believe in the capitalist system?

MR. RADER: I think I can best answer that question by saying that my general point of view about these economic matters, corresponds very closely—very closely indeed, to the point of view set forth in the reports and recommendations of the National Resources Planning Board, of which Mr. George Yantis, a former member of this Committee, who died, was a vice-chairman—a national vice-chairman, if I remember accurately.

MR. HOUSTON: I am not asking you what they think, I am asking you what you think, Doctor. We don't have available here today what they think.

MR. RADER: It's a matter of record, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you believe in the capitalist form of government as it exists in the United States of America today?

MR. RADER: Not in every single feature of it, sir.

MR. HOUSTON: What features would you change?

MR. RADER: I would change those features that as I understand, tend to

bring about great economic catastrophes, namely, great depressions; and that in consequence of this, threaten the very structure of our democracy itself.

MR. HOUSTON: Would you abolish capitalism if you had your way?

MR. RADER: I believe, sir, in a mixed type of economic order.

MR. HOUSTON: Would you change our system of society?

MR. RADER: I think anybody, including myself, would like to change our system of society in some respects.

MR. HOUSTON: How would you change the system?

MR. RADER: One thing I would be thoroughly for and anxious to do, and I think it's very very needful, and that is to change our system of society, and particularly in the City of Seattle at the present time, in the direction of a more complete obedience in spirit and letter to the Bill of Rights.

### Has No Objections to Way He Is Being Treated on Witness Stand

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Let me say, just ask you a question here. Have you any particular objection to the way you are being treated on the stand here today?

MR. RADER: No, sir. No objections.

MR. HOUSTON: Doctor, do you refer to the interpretation of the Bill of Rights by the Supreme Court of the United States—

MR. RADER: May I interrupt a second? I would like to qualify that answer, that I just gave you a moment ago, for the sake of accuracy. May I? For that purpose, may I?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We've asked for several of these speeches, so we can't complain.

MR. RADER: Oh, I don't want to make a speech.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: If I ask for another one, why—

MR. RADER: It will be very, very brief and to the point.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: All right, let us have it.

MR. RADER: All right. I'm waiving no Constitutional rights here.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We didn't presume you were.

MR. HOUSTON: Do you believe in the Bill of Rights, doctor, as interpreted by the Communist Party?

MR. RADER: No, sir.

MR. RADER: By the Supreme Court of the United States?

MR. RADER: No, excuse me. You're linking certain things together.

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, or by yourself.

MR. RADER: I believe in the Bill of Rights as interpreted, as I understand, by the interpretation by the United States Supreme Court. I'm not a lawyer. I'm not very familiar with the opinions of the United States Supreme Court; but in general, I feel myself in agreement with the interpretation placed on the Bill of Rights by the United States Supreme Court. I'm not referring to any particular interpretation, but the general tradition of interpretation by the United States Supreme Court.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I wonder, Mr. Houston, how long you expect this to go on, or shall we have a recess?

MR. HOUSTON: I'm presently through. I'm very weary—I'll just ask you one thing further. Would you be willing to work with our investigators, Doctor, in definitely and positively ascertaining with evidence, of documentary evidence, where you were in 1938 and '39, which you don't remember.



MR. RADER: Mr. Houston, I would be very glad to work with the Prosecuting Attorney of King County, or any of the deputies, or governmental officials of the State of Washington, that my counsel would approve. I follow the advice of my counsel. I think he will admit that.

MR. HOUSTON: Well, I suggest that you advise with him right now on that last question. I would like to run down every lead, everything that you think is in your defense.

Counsel, can we expect any cooperation out of Dr. Rader?

MR. HENRY: Well, I think he has answered your question already.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: What—if I understand Mr. Houston's question, it is precisely the answer to our position at all times. We have at all times attempted to find and obtain all the information available. We have approached every principle in this case, prior to these hearings, stating almost in full what our information was, asking them what their position was, and we still hold that position. If competent information can be supplied this Committee by the principals named here, we certainly want it. We've been trying to compel testimony here to bring out that side of the question; and I am certain that the staff of this Committee will be more than anxious to check any of the information that Mr. Rader wishes to give us. **We do not want an injustice to be done to Mr. Rader, nor do we want it to be done to the University of Washington or the State of Washington; and I feel that the question is entirely proper. We will lend our entire facilities to getting that information, if Mr. Rader will cooperate with us. That is as fair as we can offer.**

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out for the record's sake here that we attempted to cooperate with Mr. Rader during the course of the investigation; he refused. We subpoenaed him to the office; he refused to talk. Yesterday we asked him, prior to the testimony of the witness, to sit down with the witness and confront the witness, the witness talk with him; he refused.

So, I have no other alternative than to put him on the witness stand and ask for what degree of cooperation I could get, and you saw what I got this afternoon.

MR. RADER: May I make a remark here?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: I think that that—

MR. HOUSTON: I've concluded with the witness. I—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Mr. Henry, do you think that any additional—

MR. HENRY: I would like to put in the record a statement as a counteraction to that statement.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: What part of that—

MR. HOUSTON: I think there has been a lot of speeches and statements.

MR. HENRY: I don't want to be thrown out of here but I—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Mr. Henry, I—perhaps when I enlarge on this a little, it will not be necessary to carry this further. We are merely stating our position as to further information in this case. We did confer with you yesterday about confronting the witness before he gave his testimony, the testimony that we seem to be concerned about, and we certainly have every wish to carry this thing beyond that, but I don't think we will care to debate it here further. If you wish to cooperate with us, or advise your client to cooperate with us in getting information helpful to his side of the question,

we most certainly will do it; but I don't think we will carry this discussion any further.

MR. HENRY: May I submit a written statement, then, to counteract the statement made by counsel, which is damaging to me and my client?

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Yes, I would—we will entertain that statement, and consider it in our Executive hearing.

Now, if you are through with the witness, Mr. Houston, thank you for appearing, Dr. Rader, and you may step aside.

You may be excused, I believe. Do you have any further—

MR. HOUSTON: Yes, I—

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: No, I mean do you have further need of Dr. Rader's testimony?

MR. HOUSTON: No.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: You may be excused.

(Witness Excused)