COPY

PATTERSON, BELKNAP & WER (Curtis & Belknap) One Wall Street New York 5, N. Y.

Jugust 4, 1948

Dear Alger:

This is just a line to say that the stories in the press this morning have not made the slightest dent in my trust and confidence in you.

You and Clark Eichelberger started the organization of the Committee for the Marshall Plan, which was certainly 180° from the "party line." I have that in mind as well as many other things.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Robert P. Patterson

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE Washington

August 6, 1948

Dear Alger:

Heartiest congratulations.

I knew you would come through with flying colors.

I have complete confidence in you.

No acknowledgment necessary.

Sincerely yours,

W.H.C. (William L. Clayton)

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

August 4, 1948

Dear Alger:

I feel distressed and keenly regretful that you are being subjected to these unfair and totally unjust accusations. I fear it is the price that all of us must be prepared to pay for offering ourselves and our lives in the public service. I feel deeply with you and for you and I wish that there were some way I could help. It is hard to see the friends for whom one deeply cares subjected to such injustices and outrageous accusations; and I know that you have hosts of friends ready to rally to your support.

Unfortunately we are now working day and night at Lake Success to complete the present session of the Trusteeship Council and I am sailing day after tomorrow for Europe, so that I shall not be on the scene here to offer my help. I want you to feel, nevertheless, that I stand ready to back you at every turn and I want you to know of my unfailing confidence and affection.

Ever sincerely yours.

(signed) FRANCIS B. SAYRE

(U.S. Representative on the Trusteeship Council U.S. Delegate to the General Assembly)

THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION Washington 6, D.C.

722 Jackson Place, N.W.

August 12, 1948

Dear Alger:

The enclosed came to me via one of the participants in the seminar, and I thought that you ought to see it if it has not already come to your attention.

Christine and I were shocked by the recklessness of the accusations made against you and read with immense gratification the account of your impressively convincing testimony before the Congressional Committee. Our deepest sympathy goes to you and Priscilla in this terrible ordeal, the possibility of which is, unfortunately, one of the ever-present hazards of public service.

Sincerely yours,

Leo (Pasvolsky)

(Special Assistant and close adviser for a mumber of years to Cordell Hull, chief U.S. technician in formulation of U.N.)

Copy of attached article in (Jose, California) MERCURY HERALD

"I would be willing to wager that Alger Hill never has done anything hostile to the United States Government."

This statement was made today during a student interview by Dr.

T.W. MacQuarrie, president of San Jose State College.

Subject of the interview was the State Department official and president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace who yesterday was accused of being a former Communist by Time Magazine Senior Editor Whittaker Chambers. Hiss addressed a San Jose State College Assembly here on June 29.

"I sat next to Mr. Hiss at the Brookings Institute seminar at Stanford in June and he was one of the most respected men there." MacQuarries said.

"Leo Pasvolsky, head of the seminar, who was born in Russia and lived there 26 years, was constantly hostile to that country, and Hiss strongly concurred with him at all times.

"...When I learned that Hiss was available to speak at our Summer session, he told me it was part of his job as president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace to speak before groups on world peace."

Chambers, an admitted Communist from 1924 to 1937, made the Hiss charges before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Washington, D.C.

Herbert H. Lehman 41 East 57th Street New York 22, N. Y.

August 6, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

Just a line to tell you how much I sympathize with you in the difficult position you unfortunately have been placed. I want you to know that I have complete confidence in your loyalty, and that, in common with your many other friends, I know that under no conceivable circumstances could you fail to safeguard the interests of your country.

Your statement yesterday before the committee was forthright and complete, and I hope that your denial will catch up with the unfair accusations that have been made. You have been very badly treated.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Herbert H. Lehman

Chairman Henry J. Cadbury Honorary Chairman RUFUS M. JONES

Executive Secretary Clarence E. Pickett

C

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

0 P

Twenty South Twelfth Street Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

September 2, 1948

Dr. James T. Shotwell 405 W. 117th Street New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Shotwell:

I have been deeply disturbed by the recent attacks that have been made on Alger Hiss and know that unless and until he is entirely cleared, this situation will be a matter of great concern to the Trustees of the Carnegie Foundation.

While, of course, I have no official responsibility, I am concerned that the Trustees shall know in what high regard Alger Hiss is held by some of us who have known and worked with him in different capacities.

I believe psychiatrists say that total recall is one of the most difficult mental maladies to overcome. Since Mr. Hiss does not suffer from that malady, but has centered his attention on the important and significant currents of life that are moving, he has naturally appeared at some disadvantage when recall of detailed events that have happened some years ago is thought to be of primary importance.

From my point of view, the very fact that constantly in my work with him he has centered on the creative, the forward-looking, the sound steps to take, I have prized very highly the friendship and cooperation we have shared. In such dealings as I have had with him I have found only a person of intelligence and integrity.

I am sure I do not have to persuade you or the Trustees of the Foundation of these facts. I am writing them to you with the understanding that you are at liberty to use them in any way you consider helpful.

With warm regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) CLARENCE E. PICKETT

Executive Secretary

CEP: rr

THE HOOVER INSTITUTE AND LIBRARY On War, Revolution, and Peace

Stanford University Stanford, California

August 6, 1948

Dear Alger:

I cannot begin to tell you how distressed I am about this shocking and disreputable business in Washington. Life, I realize, is full of the most incongruous and irrational injustices, but no matter how philosophical one may be on that score, it is impossible to be philosophical when one's friend is the victim.

I wish there were something I could do about it. My blood pressure, which does not rise very easily, goes up several notches every time I read a newspaper. If there were only something that I could do, it would certainly cool me off and probably postpone apoplexy.

Until you tell me, or I can discover some way of actually showing how I feel, I send you this word of confidence and affection from Helen and me.

Sincerely,

H.H.F. (H.H. Fisher) Chairman.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY 51 Madison Avenue New York 10, N.Y.

August 4, 1948

Dear Alger:

This is just a note to tell you that I do not believe in the irresponsible accusations that I read in the newspapers.

This attempted character assassination on you has upset me a great deal. Is there anything I can do? Your character and your merit are so well known that you don't need endorsement from others but should the time come when I can be of any use do give me the chance.

Sincerely yours,

Dev (Devereux C. Josephs)

THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHING 522 Fifth Avenue

New York 18, N.Y.

Office of the President

August 5, 1948

Dear Alger,

I returned from England last night at seven o'clock. On reading a copy of The Sun I came across an account of your difficulties. I am writing to express my sympathy and at the same time assure you that I am thinking of you and pulling for you in this ordeal.

If there is anything I can do to help in the situation, I hope you will call upon me.

I have no doubt of the exoneration which will result from the hearing. At the same time I know how unpleasant the whole situation must be.

This note is just to let you know that we are thinking of you.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) MIKE (Carmichael)

CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

Office of the President

August 4, 1948

Dear Alger

Perhaps you were right about the telegram (I still lean the other way), but, for Heaven's sake, don't lose your sense of proportion. Your peers have a confidence in you which is not to be undermined by the reckless charges of an hysterical renegade, and you must long since have discovered, as I have, that an honest man must chart his course in terms of the judgment of the few rather than of the many.

I say this not merely because of my own warm feeling toward you but also because I think you now have the Endowment on the high road and I should hate to see your attention distracted by a campaign against termites.

With warm good wishes,

Sincerely

(signed) CHUCK (Charles Dollard)

R. Mcallister LLOYD 522 Fifth Avenue New York 18

Chocorua, N. H. August 31, 1948

Dear Alger:

You have certainly been in the lime light!

I know it has been an awful ordeal for you and Mrs. Hiss.

The fact that such injustice as practiced by the Committee is allowed to exist in this day and age in the United States I cannot understand.

I have seen a few editorials criticizing the Committee's activities but on the whole the papers have enjoyed the news value of the hearings and have played it up on the front pages which is just what some members of the Committee relish. I wish I could be of some help to you.

You probably have been getting copies of all newspaper accounts of the matter. In case you have not I enclose an editorial by Edwin A. Lahey in the Boston Globe. I also enclose a copy of a letter I have written to Governor Dewey.

I shall be back in New York next week and hope to see you soon thereafter. Keep your chin up.

Sincerely yours,

MAC LLOYD (MCALLISTER LLOYD)
(President of the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association)

Chocorua, N. H. August 31, 1948

The Honorable Thomas E. Dewey Pauling, N. Y.

Dear Governor Dewey:

The procedures of the House Committee on Un-American Activities are about as un-American as anything could be. They are about as bad as the purge trials in Moscow some years back.

I know of course that you have nothing to do with the matter, but unfortunately the most spectacular members of the Committee are Republicans who are this year seeking election so the Committee's activities have been considered generally as a Republican sponsored enterprise. It is damaging to the party.

As a lawyer you are no doubt disgusted with the way the Committee has disregarded the civil rights of citizens and has ruined the reputations and careers of honest public servants and U.S. citizens such as Harry White and Alger Hiss without proper trial and due legal protection.

Mr. Truman and the present Attorney General have expressed their opinion on the Committee in no uncertain terms.

I hope when you are President you will exert your influence to see that such un-American activities as the Committee on Un-American Activities are eliminated. Perhaps it should be called the Committee of Un-American Activities.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

R. McAllister Lloyd

UNITED NATIONS LAKE SUCCESS. NEW YORK

19 August 1948

Dear Alger:

As one of those who have had the privilege and pleasure of knowing you and working with you I am stunned by this utterly shameless attempt to smear your good name. Though you have been greviously wronged I have full confidence in your complete vindication.

The gallant fight you are making is on behalf of the integrity and reputation of every decent American.

I have recently returned from Palestine on a short mission and will be rejoining Bernadotte in a few days, but I want you to know that I am in your corner.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph (Bunche)

(Serving with Count Bernadotte as Number 2 man in the UN Trusteeship Department, formerly head Trusteeship expert in State Department.)) O P Y

OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Diplomatic Section, GHQ, SCAP, APO 500, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California

Tokyo, August 14, 1948.

Dear Alger:

I want to congratulate you on your handling of the matter of the hearing before the House Committee, a write-up of which in the NEW YORK TIMES I have before me.

The charge against no person has so clearly and fully indicated to me the absurdity of the whole proceedings. It is distressing to think that charges of this nature are so irresponsibly made and so enthusiastically taken up. I hope you feel, as I do, that one worthy compensation of this inconvenience is that the inclusion of your name is a final reduction to absurdity of the process which allows such great immunity to witnesses in the fabrication of unsupported accusations.

Sincerely,

(Signed) CABOT Cabot Coville

(Career foreign service officer, escaped with Sayre from Corregidor by submarine, associated directly for several years with me in Far Eastern work of Department of State.)

LAW SCHOOL OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Cambridge 38, Mass.

29 Fair Street Nantucket 8/7/48

Dear Alger,

You don't need any letter from me to know that I have every confidence in your integrity and loyalty and every other quality that goes to make a gentleman, a lawyer and a first class citizen. The character assassination of that cursed committee and its reckless witnesses arouses nothing but wrath on the part of all decent people. The Boston Herald had a first rate editorial pointed particularly at the attack upon you. You have made such an outstanding record of public service that these rantings can do you no permanent harm, no matter how distressing they may be to you and to those who know you.

With kindest regards to the family, I am, as ever, your sincere friend and well-wisher.

Eddie

(Edmund M. Morgan)

E. M. Morgan

(Professor of Evidence, Harvard Law School for past 20 years, leading American authority on evidence, Member of Advisory Committee of the U. S. Supreme Court on Rules of Civil Procedure.)

CABANISS & JOHNSTON First National Building Birmingham 3

August 10, 1948

Dear Alger:

Herewith copy of a letter I have today written to Mr. Dulles. I hope that it will not be too late to catch that peripathetic gentleman. The delay was occasioned by a brief sojourn in Virginia on my way home.

My meeting with the Alabama delegation was extremely interesting and I think fruitful. Several of them promised to follow the matter up with their friends on the committee and to keep me closely advised.

I am very anxious to find out what happened on the reexamination of Chambers and I hope that I can find out something about this when our delegation comes home this week.

I know you and Bill will not fail to call upon me for any assistance in the further development of this grotesque affair.

If I should not be here, the office will always know where to reach me. The 'phone number is 7-1145.

Sincerely,

Joe (Joseph F. Johnston)

(Served with Judge Patterson in War Department, son of Forney Johnston leading conservative corporation and railroad lawyer of the south)

CABANISS & JOHNSTON First National Building Birmingham

August 10, 1948

Hon. John Foster Dulles Sullivan and Cromwell 48 Wall Street New York 5, New York

Dear Mr. Dulles:

As Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, you will, I am sure, be interested in a comment upon the hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, at which Alger Hiss denied the charges of communist activities made against him by Whittaker Chambers.

I was in Washington last week when this matter arose, and, as a long time friend I attended the hearings with Alger and William L. Marbury of Baltimore, who is advising him.

It is of course one of the grievously unjust aspects of the premature publicity which is given to such unchecked and uncorroborated slanders before Congressional Committees, that neither the full answers nor the intangible but vitally important factors of appearance and the effect upon the committee receive adequate publicity.

The impact of Alger's testimony, on the committee, the press, and the spectators, was as striking as anything in my experience. His obvious integrity, and the characteristic clarity of his statement and replies, were so convincing that the committee was left with only the question as to Chambers' motive, and comments to me by members of the press and spectators indicated this to be the general impression.

Several members of the committee led by Mr. Rankin of Mississippi came down from the bench to shake Alger's hand when the hearing was over, an action which sums up rather graphically the impression which he made.

In order to check the objectivity of my own reaction, as well as to do what I could toward erasing the suspicions created by the charges, I called Saturday on Representative Carter Manasco, of the Seventh Alabama District, whom I had seen at the hearing. He not only wholeheartedly confirmed my impression so far as his personal reactions were concerned but said that he had talked to several members of the committee and with other Congressmen who were there (naming Representative Clarence Brown of Ohio, among others) and that

Page #2 August 10, 1948 Hon. John Foster Dulles

as far as he could tell they all felt that the burden of suspicion had been fully transferred to Chambers. He also said that the committee had that day gone to New York to interrogate Chambers further and this was disclosed later in the press.

I then went with Mr. Manasco to a meeting of the entire Alabama House Delegation, several of whom had been at the hearings and expressed conviction of Alger's veracity. To the inevitable question as to Chambers' motive in such a detailed fabrication, I suggested that assuming his sanity the only logical explanation would appear to be that he is still a Communist and desired by impunging innocent victims to discredit the whole investigation and the inquiry into underground Communism. Another possibility is that Chambers obtained his present employment, notwithstanding his Communist affiliation, by recanting and falsely implicating to his prospective employer's men in Government service, to dramatize his conversion. Having made such statements, he would have had no alternative except to stand by them, or be discredited. It would be interesting to know what representations were made to the management of TIME which resulted in his employment.

I urge the members of the Alabama delegation to insist to members of the committee that, in justice to Mr. Hiss, it should check exhaustively into Chambers' background and activities and that it should make a report clearly absolving Mr. Hiss of the charges. Their procedure apparently by-passes responsibility for its rank injustice, however, and perhaps nothing could right this grotesque injustice except the indictment and conviction of Chambers for perjury.

The point of this letter is to state that Alger answered the charges to the satisfaction of all who are interested enough to consider denial as well as accusation. As for the general public, the prompt demand for hearing coupled with the dignity and effectiveness with which the charges were denied have gone as far as it is possible to go toward eliminating any general impression that Alger could ever have been gullible or sinister enough to have been led into such a transfer of loyalties.

Sincerely yours,

Jos. F. Johnston

NAO52 NL PD VIA SD - TDPD FREEPORT ME AUG 5 1948 Aug 6 PM 1 24

FOLLOWING IS A COPY OF A WIRE SENT BY ME TO THE COMMITTEE TONIGHT FOR YOUR INFORMATION QUOTE BASED ON WIDE EXPERIENCE DURING WAR IN CHARGE OF GROUP IN JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WORKING AGAINST COMMUNISTS WHO ATTACKED ME HERE AND IN MOSCOW FOR OUR WORK AND BELIEVING A DECENTLY CONDUCTED EXPOSURE OF COMMUNISM HIGHLY DESIRABLE I REGRET THAT YOUR COMMITTEE IS NEVERTHELESS PROVING ITSELF AS GREAT AN ENEMY OF DEMOCRACY BY ITS METHODS AS THE EVIL IT TRIES TO EXPOSE. WITH THOUSANDS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY I'M SHOCKED AT THE PERVERSION OF YOUR POWER AND FUNCTION TO CHARACTER ASSASSINATION IN STAGING IRRESPONSIBLE ATTACKS ON OUTSTANDING AMERICAN CITIZENS SUCH AS ALGER AND DONALD HISS AND AT YOUR FOMENTING HATRED AND DISTRUST AND THE VERY CONDITIONS ON WHICH COMMUNISM THRIVES BY THE PUBLIC RELEASE THREE MONTHS BEFORE AN ELECTION OF SF STALE AND

LAWRENCE M C SMITH 1107 REAL ESTATE TRUST BLDG. PHILADELPHIA

(Wealthy Philadelphia lawyer, served in Dept. of Justice during war in charge of ferreting out subversive activities)

MILITARY COMMITTEE OF THE FIVE POWERS

36 WHITEHALL S.W. 1

Telephone No.: WHitehall 4872

9 Aug '48

Dear Alger--

I was shocked and irritated at a report in the London newspapers the other day indicating that mud in the current communist muck-contest had been thrown your way.

I want you to know that this strikes me as one of the silliest yet. It would be a pleasure to me to state this opinion publicly should the occasion arise.

As you know, I have a marked and passionate interest in the security of the U.S. I would not be in the service today if I thought there were any better way of approaching the security problem. This is a passion I know you share and I have never known you to do anything-despite the difference in the civilian and military approaches-designed other than to forward the security.

I expect to be back in Washington around late September.

Sincerely yrs

(Signed) SID GIFFIN

(West Point graduate, leading member of brilliant group of young Joint Chiefs of Staff Officers during war.)

August 22, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

I have been absent on a long trip to Mexico; but have been able through the press to follow some of the happenings in the United States. Among these, the abysmally depraved behavings of the so-called Un-American Committee. These behavings are not new, of course; it rather is the cooperation of most of the press with them which is discouraging. It is as if the vampire goings-on of the so-called novel Dracula had been imported to make them the political and administrative reality of our country.

In that vampire onset you have been included. I am sure it is troubling you but little, but to have one's blood sucked and his respiration inhibited by a vampire is unpleasant, certainly.

This note is only to voice my sense of revulsion—of outrage would be the wrong word, since the men on that committee have always been known to be what they are. Revulsion in the matter of the committee, outrage and despondence in the matter of Congress and of the press. It would be rather in the way of insult to voice the confidence in you and my admiration—of your personality, your intelligence and your loyalty both to our country and to the human aim.

Sincerely and cordially yours,

(Signed) JOHN COLLIER

810 18 St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

This letter is not confidential, of course.

(Formerly in charge of Office of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.)

Y

Aug. 9, 1948

Dear Alger:

That was a shocking and disgraceful affair the Committee put you through with the assistance of one Chambers. It is incredible that the Congress—or one of its Committees—could not only permit but encourage such utterly irresponsible slandering of one who has every right and reason to receive the respect and gratitude of anyone familiar with U.S. foreign affairs and the U.N. I can only say that your calm and dignified appearance before the Committee was splendid and adds to the admiration which I and so many others have for you.

With congratulations and best wishes,

Sincerely

(Signed) JOHN C. DREIER

(Office of Latin American Affairs, Department of State)

FLETCHER SCHOOL OF LAW AND DIPLOMACY

P

Administered by Tufts College with the Cooperation of Harvard University

Office of the Dean

Tufts College Medford 55, Massachusetts

August 12, 1948

Dear Alger:

With the opening of school this fall we are observing our Fifteenth Anniversary as a graduate school of international affairs. We have prepared a little brochure taking note of the anniversary and also taking stock of ourselves and of our job in the present day world. Enclosed is a copy of the brochure which I hope you will find of interest. We should be much obliged for any comments or suggestions.

All best regards

Sincerely yours.

(Signed) BOB

RBS:1ks Enc. Robert B. Stewart Dean

P.S. I have followed with deep concern the scandalous goings on in Washington and the manner in which your name has been dragged into the picture. I certainly congratulate you on the vigorous way in which you have met these ridiculous charges and proceedings. I hope this business has all blown over now. However, I know there are literally hundreds of your friends and associates in the Department who would come to your side if need be. Please count me among them.—R.B.S.

(Formerly in European Office of State Department at British Commonwealth desk.) FAIRMONT HOTEL NOB HILL SAN FRANCISCO

August 17th (1948)

Dear Alger--

Mine is a voice from the distant past speaking belief in you, and hoping your ordeal will soon he over.

I am sure my whole family would join me in this if they knew I were writing it.

With all best wishes

(Signed) MARY CUSHING ASTOR
(Mrs. Vincent Astor)

(Mary Cushing Astor, daughter of Dr. Harvey Cushing the noted brain surgeon. I was an intimate of the Cushing household in Brookline during my years at the Harvard Law School and have kept in touch with most of them since. Mary's sister Betsy was James Roosevelt's first wife.)

C O P

OTTO T. MALLERY

Franconia, N.H.

August 28, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

Although I have not had the pleasure of meeting you personally, I want to express my sincere regret that you have been subjected to such unjust and false charges. You have rendered loyal and important service to our government and our people for many years and I sincerely hope that you will have every opportunity to continue your service along the same lines for many years to come.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) OTTO MALLERY

OTM:B

(Authur, unknown to me.)

C O P

> Bay View Gloucester, Mass. 20 August 1948

Dear Alger,

I am sorry you are being put to so much trouble by a tempest in a tea-pot. If I could be of any service to you, say the word and I shall come a-running to place myself at your disposition.

My phone number here is Gloucester 847-ring 2; in Cambridge, at the Law School.

Affectionately yours,

(Signed) MANLEY O. HUDSON

(Professor of International Law, Harvard University; former member Permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague.)

CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

522 Fifth Avenue New York 18.N.Y.

August 20, 1948

Dear Alger Hiss,

I find myself much more emotionally involved in your difficulties than our casual acquaintance would seem to warrant, partly because the whole thing is so damn unfair and partly out of my ever growing respect for your poise and wisdom in such a trying situation.

I don't want to bother you in person but before leaving on vacation today I write these lines to add my vote of confidence to those of your countless friends who are sympathetically standing by with complete faith in your integrity and sincerity. I am preaching this faith to every one I know, and only wish there were something more constructive I could do to help.

Please don't bother to acknowledge this. I just feel so strongly about the injustice that is being done in putting you through this ordeal that I have to express it in the only way I can.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) FLORENCE ANDERSON

(Staff member of Carnegie Corporation.)

SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH ASSOCIATION

995 Market Street - Room 402 San Francisco 3, California

August 23, 1948

Dear Alger:

I have just returned from my vacation where I have been rather out of touch with newspapers and news release, and the situation with which you are confronted comes as a real shock to me. I want to drop you a line to tell you that Marian and I have complete confidence in you and your word and that we are hoping that complete justice is done.

I know that it is of little help to offer you anything more than our word of confidence at this time, but if in any way we can be of assistance to you, please call on us.

With kind regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Tom Rowe

Thomas A. Rowe Executive Director

TAR: VA

(See signature and letterhead. Has long been in YMCA work in California and now heads new S.F. Youth Association in which all high schools, including parochial, participate for civic training.)

) P

Lenox, Massachusetts

August 23, 1948

PERSONAL

Dear Mr. Dollard:

I am distressed about all the trouble that Alger Hiss is having and that you are sharing with reference to the Communist investigations. I have only known Mr. Hiss slightly, but have always held him in high regard. This has been increased by the opinion of some members of my family who know him quite well.

I do not wish to trouble him by a direct letter, but in view of the fact that the public hearing is coming up on Wednesday I think it can do no harm to put down one or two things that seem to me worth consideration. They have probably all been thought of, but it will be at least an evidence of my sympathetic interest if I enumerate them to you:

- (1) The public should remember that the conditions described are conditions of a decade ago when the United States and Russia were allies and everything was being done to cultivate friendly relations between the two nations. I can well understand that it might have been part of Mr. Hiss' duties as an officer of the Government under the circumstances then existing, to cultivate friendly personal relations with prominent Russians. The national association of which Ned Carter was President and which included very representative leaders of public opinion Republican and Democrat—stood for the cultivation of Soviet-American friendship and rendered important service at the time.
- (2) It would be worth while, if he has not done so, for Mr. Hiss to look up his correspondence to prove that if he had any correspondence with Chambers it was under the assumed name by which he recognized him.
- (3) Mr. Hiss did such an extraordinarily useful work at San Francisco that I think it altogether likely that <u>Time</u> magazine referred to this fact at the time. If so, it would be an important point in case, as I believe, Chambers was then an editor of the magazine.
- (4) It would be worth inquiring as to why, if Mr. Chambers believed that Mr. Hiss was in touch with spies and was a Communist, he did not bring out the evidence earlier, instead of waiting until this time.
- (5) It might be worth while to see what Mr. Chambers' motives may be in connection with this whole matter.

These are not suggestions of any great importance, but I think that all thoughtful people are indignant at the way the Committee has been conducting this investigation, and would like to make sure that Alger Hiss is given every possible help in clearing his record. I cannot believe that he consciously did anything that was contrary to what he believed to be in the best interests of this country. You may of course show him this letter if you think it would be of any service.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) ANSON PHELPS STOKES

(Clergyman and author)

C O P

LAZARON Seven Storeys Blowing Rock, N. C.

August 5, 1948

Dear Alger.

I've read in the N. Y. Times the despicable insimuations about you. I just want to shake your hand in profound regard and to say — the it needs no saying — that I cannot conceive of you conducting yourself in any other way than with complete integrity and loyal devotion to our country. I am so accustomed to such misrepresentation that I know how you must feel. Stand fast and be strong in the conviction that truth will prevail.

Your friend

Morris Lazaron

(Rabbi Morris Lazaron, whom I have known since boyhood. Leading rabbi of Baltimore for past 25 years or so.) 923 Rucker Avenue Everett, Washington

August 14, 1948

Dear Alger:

I am very sorry indeed to learn about the publicity given you in the current House hearings and I wish to express my confidence that you will be able to controvert the charges and my hope that this incident will not have serious consequences for your work.

Sincerely,

Bryce (Wood)

(Professor of Economics, Swarthmore College, last year UN specialist with Rockefeller Foundation.)

FRIENDS' PEACE COMMITTEE
Of The Philadelphia Yearly Meetings
304 Arch Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

August 24, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

Condolence is not precisely the correct term, but perhaps you will accept a few words of sympathy and confidence from your friends.

As I still believe in the ultimate victory of truth, I cannot feel that you will suffer any permanent injury from your present annoyance at the hands of Messrs. Chambers, Thomas and company. Nevertheless, it is a serious nuisance to have to waste time and energy answering the questions of such a committee. I very much regret that you should be subjected to this annoyance.

Certainly such questions and accusations will not lessen the confidence in you of those who know you and your work.

With best wishes for the prompt and satisfactory termination of these annoyances,

Sincerely,

Richard R. Wood Executive Secretary DIXIE CUP COMPANY Easton, Pennsylvania

Aug. 14, 1948

Dear Alger:

I hope your recent publicity has not caused you too much distress. Such a thing could happen to any of us apparently.

You have a host of friends and associates, like myself, whose regard for you remains unshaken. I, myself, have faced embarrassing criticism in the past but found, fortunately, that persons who really knew me were unaffected. The others didn't count.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh (Moore)

(Member of the Board, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, American Association for the United Nations.)

C O P

2500 QUE ST., N.W. Washington, D. C.

August 17, 1948

Dear Alger:

I should like to take this opportunity of telling you how deeply I deplore the unfair and distasteful procedure to which you are being subjected. At the same time I would like you to know that I look back with pride to having served under you, not only in the day-to-day work of the Department but especially at San Francisco and subsequent meetings of the General Assembly.

Hoping that this unpleasant business will soon be terminated in your favor, as it must be, and with kind regards both to your wife and yourself.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth (H. Armstrong)

(Member of staff of Office of UN Affairs, Department of State.)

C O P

TOP O' THE MORNING Thetford, Vermont

Aug. 10

Dear Alger:

I am among those who received, with consternation, the completely unfair and unmitigated attack on you at the early Thomas Hearings.

Let me tell you I think I speak for the entire Board of the American Peace Society when I say we stand by you and your fine accomplishments 100%, while we deeply resent the malice of such procedures.

Faithfully,

Frank (Dunham)

(Secretary of American Peace Society and of U.S. section of Inter-parliamentary Union, employed in the U.S. Office of Education. A devout Roman Catholic.)

CHARLES J. SYMINGTON 230 Park Avenue New York 17

August 5, 1948

Dear Alger:

All of your friends are indignant at the unfair attacks on your reputation and integrity. I was shocked and disgusted that such reckless and unsubstantiated charges against a citizen of your standing in the community would be permitted by a Congressional Committee. Your testimony should clearly prove your innocence and that any talk about your being a Communist agent is ridiculous. What a very disagreeable mess the whole affair must be to you and you have my deepest sympathy!

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

(signed) CHARLES SYMINGTON

(Industrial Consultant)

HOTEL ALGONQUIN 59 West 44th Street New York 18, N. Y.

Aug. 28, 1948

Dear Alger:

This whole business will blow over, of course, and certainly no sensible person will be affected or influenced in the slightest degree.

At the same time your friends realize that it must be highly distracting and disagreeable for you. I write as one of them - the number I am sure is legion - merely to suggest a word of encouragement and to add that if you need any help in any way please by all means let me know.

I am writing a couple of people on my own.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Hardy (Dillard)

(Professor, University of Virginia Law School Head of Military Government Officers Training School at Monterey, California, during war.)

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE FOR MATHEMATICS AND MECHANICS

45 Fourth Avenue, New York 3, N. Y.

Telephone: GRamercy 3-5302

August 18, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

Ever since I had the gemuine pleasure of meeting you some months ago, I have felt a friendly admiration for you. It is therefore perhaps not presumptuous for me to write you a line today to express my feelings of friendship and confidence.

I think that we all agree with you that Communism is a menace and that the world must by all means defend itself against this threat. But that this situation should be utilized for an attempt to discredit people like you seems to me just as threatening.

With very best wishes for you and Mrs. Hiss,

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) R. COURANT

RC:er

(Professor Courant, head of the Dept. of Mathematics at N.Y.U., was chief mathematician for the Los Angeles project. His Dept. now has large Navy research projects under way. The Navy sent him to Europe last summer.)

SPRING VALLEY - DOYLESTOWN - PENNSYLVANIA

August 23d (1948)

Dear Alger--

While reading of your current "ordeal" by Congressional Committee it occurred to me that I might possibly be able to help in some slight way—though I do not know just how. However, I knew of no one in the Department whose devotion to duty impressed me more than yours, or whose every attitude reflected greater integrity toward service and duty. If any statement from me, on the basis of relationships in the Department, would prove helpful by all means I should be glad to prepare it.

I appreciated having your note from California and would like to see you when next in New York. Meanwhile, when you have a little time I should appreciate learning if the Foundation has any particular Philadelphia connections. I have the family settled now, have gained freedom from the doctors, so expect to search around to see what a private citizen may usefully do in a confused world.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely,

(Signed) LEO (STURGEON)

Although wishing to write this I understand there will be many who may better help.—LS

(Long time senior Far Eastern foreign service officer, with whom I worked closely over a period of several years.) Law Offices

MAC COY, BRITTAIN, EVANS & LEWIS

1000 Provident Trust Bldg.

Philadelphia 3

August 19, 1948

PERSONAL

Dear Alger:

I am distressed at the ordeal you are undergoing at the hands of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. It is an outrageous performance, the effect of which is to make it very difficult to get high-class citizens of liberal views to take government positions. In addition, there is the annoyance and distress which the proceeding must cause to you and your family. The sooner we can get rid of such Un-American activities as the Committee is engaging in, the better it will be for us all. No matter what the outcome of the investigation may be, you have been put in a very false light before the public, which I deeply regret.

If there is any way in which you feel that I can be of any help, I hope you will let me know.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) HAROLD EVANS

HE:KRS

(Leading Quaker lawyer in Philadelphia; was selected last spring by UN as High Commissioner for Jerusalem)

HOLLAND, BEVIS & MCRAE Attorneys and Counsellors at Law Bartow, Florida

August 6, 1948

Dear Alger:

The slanderous and irresponsible statements of Chambers about you have caused me indignation and deep concern. I hope that you will do everything within your power to discredit Chambers and forcibly be expose to the people the shocking tactics of the Thomas committee.

If there is anything that I can do on your behalf, please let me know. I shall be glad to execute an affidavit, appear before the committee, or render any other service within my power on your behalf.

I am writing today to my law partner, Senator Holland, and forwarding him a copy of this letter.

With high regards and very best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

Bill (Wm. A. MacRae, Jr.)

(Member of Joint Chiefs of Staff group of able young officers, served in that capacity at Dumbarton Oaks and San Francisco, later as civilian in Office of UN affairs under me.) R.F.D. NO. 1 Clifton, Virginia

August 6, 1948

Dear Alger:

I want to congratulate you on your testimony yesterday. I was sorry not to be able to get there to hear it and to shake your hand; Larry Knapp was there and said that you were splendid.

It is a sad thing in our time, I think, to allow malevolent crack-pots to have their slander given such importance without adequate means of refutation.

As always, I agree with your veto position expressed before the Committee.

With best regards,

Harding (F. Bancroft)

(Member of staff of the Office of UN Affairs, Department of State.)

9 Carvel Road Westmoreland Hills Washington 16, D.C.

August 8, 1948

Dear Alger:

I have wanted to write you during the past few days, but I have been so boiling mad that I was doubtful of my ability to be coherent. When the story came out last week, I was in Boston, and you would have been heartened to hear the many expressions of complete confidence in you and admiration of the way you handled yourself at the hearing, which came to my ears.

The only positive factor in the situation is that this extreme case of injustice may shock public opinion into recognizing the dangers of present procedures and demanding a more fundamental, more reasoned and more fair approach to the problem Communism and loyalty.

My wife joins me in cordial regards to you and Mrs. Hiss.

Faithfully yours,

Charles Thomson

(Head of Cultural Relations Work in Department of State)

UNITED NATIONS Lake Success New York

4 August 1948

Dear Alger,

Just a word to tell you how horrified I was to see that your name has been dragged into the public debate on underground activities. I am sure you know that your old friends have the highest regard for your competence and integrity and are convinced that it is either a colossal misunderstanding, or electioneering, or dolus malus on the part of the accusers.

Yours sincerely,

Egon Ranshofen-Wertheimer Chief Overseas Office Division

(Formerly with League Secretariat, Author of Endowment's study of League Secretariat. Served under me in Office of UN Affairs) VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY Nashville, Tennessee

Political Science Department

August 9, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

This is just to record my indignation at the attempt to pin a red smear on you — and to wonder who is behind Chambers.

I earnestly hope that you never stop until he is convicted of perjury. That would be a national service of the first order, in addition to being your own best vindication. It is an intolerable situation that as between the two of you "somebody has lied."

If a committee is formed to help with the prosecution, please let me know.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

(signed) D. F. FLEMING

(Professor of Political Science)

To the Editor of the Sun Sun Square Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

The shameful persecution of Alger and Donald Hiss by the House Sub-Committee on Un-American Activities is an affront to ordinary decency. It would be difficult to find two men in the country who have worked more diligently and effectively and at greater personal sacrifice to promote the interests of American democracy in international affairs than the Hiss brothers.

I am a Jeffersonian Democrat who has publicly opposed much of the New Deal. As such I abhor communism and fascism with equal intensity. I have known the Hiss brothers for over twenty years. I know that there is not the slightest shadow of disloyalty in either of them. Neither is a communist or a fellow traveler.

The real traitors to America are the snide Congressmen and others who are willing to exploit the uncorroborated testimony of an ex-Communist for their own personal political advantage. Measured against the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the House Sub-Committee conducting this investigation is as un-American as Hitler and Stalin and should be treated accordingly.

The members of this Committee know that our courts and grand juries are competent to deal with traitors and law breakers, but they prefer to deliberately and falsely smear those who have made large contributions to the United States and the world by giving wide publicity to such uncorroborated testimony, without even interviewing the victims in advance. By this means they hope to gain personal political advantage for themselves. This is politics at its worst.

The greatest threat to our liberties at home is not the communist underground, which will find the going very heavy as long as we deserve to be a democracy, but the activities of the vicious red-baiters who will stop at nothing in order to hit the headlines. The latter provide a ready forum for Communists and others to discredit democracy. The United States is not worth fighting for if it has reached the sorry state where it is necessary to resort to fascist methods to besmirch our best citizens in order to defeat communism. There is never a legitimate excuse for unfairness and falsehood.

Very truly yours,

Stewart Brown

(Baltimore attorney, son of late Judge Brown of U. S. Customs Court) 2107 Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Building Philadelphia 9, Pa.

August 10, 1948

Dear Alger:

Just a line to reaffirm my great respect for you, and my absolute confidence in your good judgment and integrity, as always -

Sincerely,

Tony (Whitaker)

(Anthony Whitaker, member of firm of Morgan, Lewis and Bockus)

THE BRESSLER COMPANY 130 West 42nd Street, New York 18

August 25, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

Knowing how extremely busy you are at the moment I shall only write you a few lines, to express my very deep admiration for the magnificent fight that you are making against the vicious smears of the un-American Un-American Activities Committee. Unfortunately the chairman of that committee happens to be a representative from my own district in New Jersey but we are doing whatever we can to retire this gentleman to political oblivion.

Meanwhile, the fight that you are putting up is being eagerly followed by many persons of my acquaintance who realize very well the nature of the forces that are out to destroy distinguished Americans like yourself. They have already killed Harry Dexter White but that has merely whetted their appetites.

I hope that when you are through defending yourself during the present witch-hunt, that you will find time to communicate with those of us who are eager to be helpful in the continuing fight which we must make collectively against the enemies of our country and of world peace.

With heartiest good wishes, believe me

Cordially yours,

(signed)

HARRY S. BRESSLER

(unknown)

September 2, 1948

Dear Alger:

In pursuance of what I volunteered to you when we talked last week, I want you to know that, having known you well for ten years and having had very close association with you in the Department of State during the years from 1939 to 1944 -- when you were my assistant and one of my "sparring partners" --I should be glad to testify in any forum that I have never known or thought of your having been engaged in any doubtful or questionable activities, or of your having given indication of radical leanings or sympathies; that I at no time have suspected you of being a Communist or a "fellow traveler"; that, short of conclusive proof, I would not now believe that you ever were either of these or that you ever have been knowingly a member of any "corp" chosen, favored or used by Communists in service of Communist, subversive or disloyal purposes; that I have never in any connection found you to have been other than truthful; and that I consider you a gifted, high-principled, devoted and loyal citizen.

With cordial regards and all best wishes,

I am,

Yours ever.

(Signed) STANLEY K. HORNBECK.

(Former Chief, Division of Far Eastern Affairs, Department of State:

Former Adviser on Political Relations, Department of State)

C O P Y STANFORD UNIVERSITY
School of Law
Stanford, California

August 11, 1948

Dear Alger:

Until last week Washington and New York seemed very close to Stanford. But when the first word of the charges against you reached us, the distance suddenly became very long indeed and increased the sense of dreadful helplessness which all of your friends felt out here.

After long talks with Easton Rothwell and Jack Sutro, and after learning that you would be heard by the Committee, I was satisfied that at last week's stage of the business there was little or nothing that I could do. Since then, the reports of your testimony, the newspaper and radio criticisms of the Committee's handling of the investigation, and the petering out of the entire business, combine to indicate that the charges are a thing of the past. But if there is anything at all that I can do, either now or in the future, I know that you will call on me. And I know that this goes for your many old and new friends in this community.

As I read the New York Times editorial on August 4 ("Due Process in Washington"), I felt that there must be some way to protect our people against procedures such as that to which you were exposed. I know that there is little that one can do to legislate or decree Congressional self-restraint, in an election year or at any other time, but I do feel that some of our elder statesmen - men like Henry Stimson - might be persuaded to take the leadership in a movement to enlist the support of both parties in opposition to the procedures developed by Congressional committees in recent years. I refuse to believe that this is one of those things about which nothing can be done.

Sheila, Grant and Laurie join in sending very best wishes with the hope that it will not be too long before we welcome you here again.

Sincerely yours,

Carl (B. Spaeth)

(Dean, Stanford Law School, former deputy-director Office of Latin American Affairs, Department of State)

MOORE, BUTLER AND MCGEE Counselors at Law 1421 Atlantic Avenue Atlantic City, N. J.

August 23, 1948

Dear Alger:

If there is anything you think I might do to assist you in the matter before the House Unamerican Activities Committee, please let me know. From what I have read in the newspapers, I think you have handled the situation exceedingly well.

The method of procedure of the Committee reminds me of the Inquisition and similar historical occurrences of that sort.

With my best wishes to you and Prossie,

Sincerely yours,

Charles S. Moore

P.S. It has occurred to me that Chambers may be a paranoic.

The character of his statements sounds as though he has delusions about communists. This is entirely possible from his past history.

CSM

(Leading elder statesman of the N.J. Bar, active in good-government politics and especially cleaning up notorious political corruption.)

JOHN H. HALL

30 State Street
Boston

August 24, 1948.

Dear Alger:

I am distressed at the unfortunate publicity that you are now enduring. Those things pass, however, and I want you to know that all of us feel so strongly the injustice which you are enduring in the public press. No one could dream of any basis for the charges the politicians are making against you. You have all our very best wishes.

Most sincerely yours,

(Signed) JOHN L. HALL

JLH:PS

(Member of Choate, Hall and Stewart with which Mr. Hiss was associated 1930-32)

THOMAS H. ELIOT

68 Francis Avenue Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

August 24, 1948

Dear Alger--

Be of good courage, and know that friends everywhere only wish that they knew what they could do, most effectively, to help.

Let us hope that this disgusting performance marks a turn in the tide, and that the strain which you must now be undergoing will seem in the end, worth while.

I am seeking some good way of resuming my own fight against that Committee, and hoping that you maintain your confidence and equanimity.

Sincerely,

(Signed) THOMAS H. ELIOT

(Lawyer)

UNITED STATES FEDERATION OF JUSTICE

1450 Girard St., N.W. Washington 9, D. C. August 6, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

I strongly suggest that you file affidavit with the District Attorney here charging Chambers with perjury and do so as quickly as possible.

This is in the interest of the Endowment, yourself, Congress and the general administration of justice. It is not that any of you need it but it would constitute a positive, helpful step instead of merely the negative one of denial, which as you said does not always catch up with the charges.

It would be helpful publicity for the Endowment and put you in a strong, positive position with your trustees and the public. I have had a great deal of experience as prosecutor and judge - sixteen years - with varied attacks on me for enforcing the laws against groups and individuals, but have invariably won out in the courts and with the public, and a great help has been my taking the offensive and attacking the attackers, - which I could do because I had the facts for it. You are in much the same position.

I called the Endowment here but found you had gone to New York. Hope this may reach you early. Since perjury consists of false testimony on material matters, an indictment would have to specify such matters, and an affidavit should do so technically as far as possible. You could make your affidavit do so, if possible. Or to save time, could write the District Attorney that you wish to file the affidavit such as he or you will prepare, and do this at once, and have it announced to the press there or here. You no doubt do not need any help from me, but I would be glad to give it any time.

I enclosed today's Washington Post, which shows the favorable attitude of the Committee members towards you and towards the perjury charges. You would have a down-hill pull there.

I would also send the Committee chairman a copy of your letter to the District Attorney and request the Committee to cooperate in the prosecution. (You lead the Committee instead of following it.)

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Ewing Cockrell

C O P

WESTERN UNION

August 7, 1948

Dear Alger

On vacation but deeply moved by your magnificent performance before Congressional Committee so I brought myself into town to send my warm congratulations Every liberal heart beat with pride at your courage.

Jim Eldridge, 429 No. Goodlet, Indianapolis, Ind.

(AAUN representative in Chicago)

G. Lister Carlisle
Norfolk
Conn.

August 17, 1948

Dear Alger:

I note with deep concern the trouble that has befallen you. Please know that I have absolute confidence in your loyalty and I am sure that every one of your personal friends, who really know your high character and ability, feels exactly as I do.

You must have been misunderstood or framed and this has happened to other good men.

My earnest hope is that you are given the strength to come through your ordeal with unimpared nerves and that I meet you at the next council meeting of the American Geographical Society in your usual high spirits.

Sincerely,

Lister Carlisle

(Industrial Engineer, Retired, Member of Board, American Geographical Society.)

Law Offices

STANLEY M. ISAACS

475 Fifth Avenue New York 17, N. Y.

Associated with M. S. - I. S. Isaacs

September 1, 1948

Dear Mr. Hiss:

I have followed closely in the newspapers the entire story of the Thomas investigation and the effort of the Committee to destroy your standing and smear your reputation. There is nothing new, of course, in its employment of unscrupulous, cheap and dishonorable means, blackening the good names of decent people who stand up for what they believe to be sound and right. No intelligent person should be fooled by what has been brought out; but I know that you and Mrs. Hiss must both feel shocked, disheartened and hurt as well as indignant.

I want you both to know that I, for one, believe you to be among those fine people who have made many sacrifices to serve their government, and that what you have been put through involves literally brutal injustice. I am using strong language because I feel bitter beyond measure against those who have abused their powers in the manner that the Committee on Un-American Activities has used for so many years - and I want you to know it.

Faithfully yours,

(signed) STANLEY M. ISAACS

SMI:MS

(Former President, Borough of Manhattan. Member of City Council.)

MACALESTER COLLEGE

Saint Paul 5, Minnesota

Office of the President

August 30, 1948

Mr. Alger Hiss, etc.

Dear Mr. Hiss:

I feel that the absurd charges that Whitaker Chambers has attempted to make against you should give fair-minded educators an opportunity to answer this attack as a symbol of what so-called religious-minded people do "when they get religion." I presume Mr. Chambers "got" the Catholic religion, and these people are going to stop at nothing, provided they can get the United States into a fighting war with Russia. The accusation against you has now simmered down to nothing at all, but you alone cannot overcome the venomous attacks that have been made. I do not know your particular friends, although I have seen some that you listed in the New York Times last Wednesday. I hope these people will prepare a fair summary of what has been said and done, and then let hundreds of educators, professional people, workers of all kinds, lovers of peace and tolerance and fairness, sign their endorsement of such a report.

For heaven's sake, don't quit. You have thousands of friends unknown to you, as I am, who want to go to work on your behalf and against Chambers and all the intolerance, unfairness and selfishness that he represents.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) CHARLES J. TURCK

CJT:RK

C O P

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

2 Park Avenue New York 16, N. Y.

August 4, 1948

Dear Alger:

I read with dismay and anger in the <u>Times</u> this morning the charges which had been made against you in a Congressional committee. Having had the privilege of serving under you on many assignments, I can hardly believe that anyone can take such outrageous allegations seriously. However, if you feel in need of a "character witness", I shall be delighted to volunteer.

Sincerely yours,

James Frederick Green

O P Y

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE Twenty South Twelfth Street Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

August 6, 1948

Dear Alger:

We appreciated immensely your arranging your schedule in such a way that you could be with us on this past Wednesday.

Your testimony yesterday in Washington was excellent and should go far in repairing the damage which had been done.

I talked with Clarence this morning by telephone and he is writing John Foster Dulles, expressing our great faith in your integrity and our hope that the Endowment will stand completely behind you.

Cordially yours,

Elmore Jackson Assistant Executive Secretary This memorandum is made without benefit of having read Mr. Berle's actual testimony. From accounts in yesterday's NEW YORK TIMES and NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, written by reporters who had examined the actual transcript of Mr. Berle's testimony, it would appear that Mr. Berle must have confused various developments.

(1) I was never an assistant to Mr. Acheson. My brother Donald was. From the press accounts it would appear that Mr. Berle may have confused me with my brother in his testimony.

I entered the Department of State in the fall of 1936 as the personal assistant to Assistant Secretary Francis B. Sayre. Mr. Sayre was in charge of economic matters and increasingly of political problems relating to our position in the Philippines. He did not handle European political questions. My main work consisted in preparing the legal defense for the Trade Agreements Act, in preparing materials for the Congressional committees when the Act was renewed in 1937, and in working on various economic matters and Philippine questions that fell under Mr. Sayre's jurisdiction. When Mr. Sayre went to the Philippines as our High Commissioner in the late summer of 1939, I became the assistant to Stanley Hornbeck, then the Department of State's Chief Expert on Far Eastern matters. I remained in this position continuously, working exclusively on Far Eastern matters until January or February of 1944. At that time Mr. Grew took over the Far Eastern work of the Department, and I was assigned to the newly developing United Nations work. I remained exclusively in this field until I left the Department on January 15, 1947. Incidentally, I was never in the "Legal Department" of the Department of State. I did from time to time confer with Mr. Hackworth and his successors in the Office of Legal Adviser of the Department, on various matters. During the first part of the period I was with Mr. Sayre, I was primarily in charge, within the Department, of legal aspects of the Trade Agreements program. This was arranged between Mr. Sayre, Mr. Hackworth, Secretary Hull and me with the understanding that on all important matters I would clear with Mr. Hackworth as the chief legal officer of the Department. I naturally also conferred frequently with other lawyers in the Legal Adviser's Office. My brother Donald, I believe, first entered the Department to work on Philippine matters and was initially, I believe, placed on the payroll of the Legal Adviser's Office, but assigned out to the Philippine Office.

(2) From the account in yesterday's press, it appeared that Mr. Berle intimated that he spoke to Mr. Acheson soon after September 1939 when Chambers spoke to Mr. Berle and that in talking with Mr. Acheson he did so because Mr. Acheson was then an Assistant Secretary of State and I was Mr. Acheson's principal assistant. If Mr. Berle did so testify, he was confused as to dates as well as to my respective positions within the Department. The latter point was dealt with in the preceding paragraphs. As to the prior point, Mr. Acheson did not enter the Department of State until February 1941. He succeeded Henry Grady, who in turn had succeeded Francis Sayre as the Assistant Secretary of State in charge of economic matters. In this capacity

Memorandum re: Berle Testimony of 8/30/48

Mr. Acheson devoted himself exclusively to economic and trade matters which were very burdensome during the war, involving as they did preemptive purchasing, black listing, foreign funds control, etc., as well as the Trade Agreements program and the normal commercial policy of the United States. He was succeeded in this position in 1945 when Mr. Clayton became Assistant Secretary of State for economic matters, Mr. Acheson, who continued to be an Assistant Secretary of State until he became Under Secretary on August 27, 1945, handling the Department's relations with Congress. It was well known in the Department that the relations between Messrs. Acheson and Berle were strained, to say the least. I never heard of any conflict between them over our Russian policy. I understood that Mr. Berle's transfer to Brazil, which occurred in 1945, was due to entirely different reasons.

- testimony, he thought there were newspaper "leaks" out of the office where I was employed during some of the time that Mr. Berle was an Assistant Secretary (1938-1944). During the period after September 1939, apparently the years to which Mr. Berle must have had special reference, I was, as stated above, in the office of Stanley Hornbeck. He and I, a male clerk, a secretary and for a period of time one or two additional typists comprised Mr. Hornbeck's personal office. I have never known any individual who was more careful about his contacts with the press than was Mr. Hornbeck. I never heard any suggestion that there were any newspaper leaks or any other leaks in Mr. Hornbeck's office. The press also indicated that Mr. Berle stated that "a Drew Pearson leg man" was pretty intimate in the office where I was employed. I have no recollection of anyone connected with Mr. Drew Pearson ever coming to Mr. Hornbeck's office.
- (4) It may be relevant to Mr. Berle's testimony that in January or February 1944, when I was about to be assigned to United Nations matters, Mr. Berle and his executive assistant, Mr. Fletcher Warren, now our Ambassador to Paraguay, invited me to join Mr. Berle's special staff working on intelligence matters. I declined because of my greater interest in United Nations work and because it was apparent to me that my superiors in the Department wanted me to do the United Nations work.

--Alger Hiss

NOTE: The above is based on newspaper accounts of Mr. Berle's testimony as that is all that was available to me at the time of writing and on dates appearing in WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA as to the positions held at the times in question by Messrs. Sayre, Grady, Berle, Clayton and Acheson, and myself.

CHESTER C. DAVIS, President,
Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis:

Alger Hiss was an assistant to the general counsel of the Agriculture Adjustment Administration from its inception in 1933 until his resignation in early 1935. During the latter months he was on leave service the Senate Munitions Investigating Committee. Answering your inquiry specifically I had no reason to suspect him of being a communist or of being in any way disloyal to the U. S. Government.

JOSEPH C. GREW, Diplomatist:

During my association with Alger Hiss in the State Department in 1944 and 1945 I saw or received no evidence whatsoever to cause me to question his complete integrity and loyalty to the United States Government, nor did I see or receive any indications whatsoever of communistic leanings on the part of Hiss. I regard Hiss as a man of high principles and devoted service to the Government.

STANLEY REED, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court:

Justice Reed said that he considered Mr. Hiss an "excellent young lawyer," that he had never heard Mr. Hiss' personal life discussed, and that Mr. Hiss' record in the Department of Justice was "entirely satisfactory in every way."

I am very glad to say what I think of the work of Alger Hiss. I've never known Mr. Hiss privately. I have only seen him work. The first time was during the United Nations meeting in London. It was my first meeting also. I feel entirely convinced that if he had been a Communist I certainly would have caught something to make me suspicious. I never heard a suggestion, or argument, or whisper that would lead me for one minute to doubt he was not acting in the best interests of his country.

People who are sympathetic with Communists show certain tendencies. One is to make certain kinds of excuses. The other way to tell is by their actions during the time between the (Soviet-German) alliance and the invasion (of Poland) by the Germans. Those people were justifying their changes in opinion.

As far as I know I never heard Mr. Hiss whisper a suggestion or argument that would indicate sympathy with Communism, and I am very watchful of these things. I know the earmarks so well. I feel it is entirely safe to say this is an incredible accusation.

I am judging Mr. Hiss by his work. I only worked with him. I had met him and had been to dinner several times with him but I didn't know him well. I have, however, never seen anything that would lead me to think that he had the slightest taint of Communism. I am happy to do what I can in this respect.

ISAIAH BOWMAN (Former President of The Johns Hopkins University)

"My association with Alger Hiss began in the State Department. He is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University and the Harvard Law School. I had only met him casually before I began my association with the State Department in February of 1942. From that time until late June, 1945, I saw him frequently in the Department of State, at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, and at the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. I worked with him as did scores of others. In that time, I gained the definite impression that Alger Hiss was a man of unusual ability. His mind is clear and analytical.

"In those two conferences, dealing as he did with many different kinds of people and with a large and quickly organized staff, and with the foreign ministers of so many different countries, he had every chance to make daily mistakes. The extraordinary thing is that he organized and ran the secretariat so well as to please everybody and gain a reputation for integrity. I heard only the highest praise of his work from others and have only the same commendation to offer on my own behalf.

"He was not only efficient. He was honest and firm without being unpleasant. I think it is of special importance that John Foster Dulles, who can speak for himself, should have played a leading part, as I understand it, in appointing him President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace after several months association with him in San Francisco."

Commenting specifically on allegations concerning Mr. Hiss' Communist Affiliation, Dr. Bowman said that he had no reason whatever to suspect any disloyalty on the part of Mr. Hiss, "nor had I heard of any such association until the present investigation began."

said that he would be glad to make "the strongest possible denial" that Alger Hiss had given any evidence of Communist leanings or shown any evidence of disloyalty to the United States Government.

"During the past year I have been closely associated with Alger Hiss as President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in which I am Director of all the research work. In this period of intense European diplomacy and strained relations with Soviet Russia, Mr. Hiss has with great energy worked to strengthen the United Nations, both by a careful critical analysis of its administrative problems and by an educational campaign on making clear its place in the structure of international peace.

"In none of this work has Mr. Hiss gone into the field of politics, which it would not be proper for the Endowment to enter into. He has impressed me with a complete sincerity of purpose and integrity of mind. In all of this work he has consistently shown his loyalty to the government and traditions of the United States."

BENJAMIN COHEN (Counselor to the Department of State since 1945 Delegate to the Third Session of the General Assembly)

I never had any reason to suspect Alger Hiss of being disloyal to the Government of the United States and had no reason to suspect Mr. Hiss of being a Communist. I have no doubt from my knowledge of Mr. Hiss and his work in the State Department that he is perfectly loyal to the United States.

GERALD NYE (Former U.S. Senator)

I did not have the faintest indication of anything other than his (Hiss) complete loyalty to the government of the United States and have had no reason to suspect Mr. Hiss of being a Communist.

CLARK M. EICHELBERGER: (Director, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE UNITED NATIONS)

I have known Alger Hiss for many years. I had an opportunity of watching his work closely at the San Francisco Conference and in the general field of international relations before and since. I am convinced that he is not a Communist and never was a Communist, that the charges against him are 100 percent false.

Mr. Hiss over a long period of years has made a distinct contribution to his country. It is a fantastic situation indeed where to some people the word of a confessed ex-Communist is given equal credence with the word of a distinguished public servant.