

April 6, 1949

Typewriter

Attached is Haring's memorandum giving his final opinion about the documents. This can be summarized as follows:

1. Exhibit 1 is in the handwriting of Alger Hiss.
2. The Baltimore typed papers were typed on the identical Woodstock which typed the Hiss samples. This Woodstock was manufactured between 1925 and 1928 as shown by the fact that both the Baltimore papers and the Hiss samples contain a figure 6 of a type which was used only on typewriters manufactured during those years.

3. He could not say definitely who made the handwritten interlineations on the Baltimore typed documents. Some of them, notably the transposition sign and the close-up sign, look like those made by Chambers on his letters to Longmans Green and his Time copy. There is also a letter "i" on one of the sheets which looks like Chambers' "i". Some of the other corrections, notably the word "German" look like Alger's. Haring cannot say definitely that Alger made them nor can he say definitely that he did not. The same applies to Chambers.

4. He cannot say definitely who the typist was. There are certain similarities between the typing on the Baltimore papers and the typing on the Hiss samples. The principal ones are the fact that there is a wide left-hand margin, that the right-hand margin is very irregular and that there is only one space after the period.

The known samples of Priscilla's typing are not

all exactly alike in technique. The 1933 letter to Tibbetts is a better job than the Bryn Mawr memorandum of 1937. The 1933 letter is better balanced. Also, the indentations at the beginning of a paragraph are more regular than they are in the 1937 letter.

The only pronounced difference between the known Hiss samples and the Baltimore papers is that the Baltimore papers are all single spaced whereas most of the Hiss samples are double spaced. Priscilla says that she always double spaces. However, the 1933 letters to Tibbetts and Schelker contain single spacing. The single spaced passages in these letters are material that is indented and thus affords a special reason for single spacing.

Haring first thought that we might show another difference in that the Baltimore papers all have dashes before and after the page numbers whereas the known Hiss samples do not. However, Haring pointed out that in the request typing that she did for him, Priscilla very carefully followed the model that she was copying. The microfilm papers show that government documents contain dashes before and after the page number so that the government could argue that Priscilla merely copied the documents accurately.

There is also some underlining on the Baltimore documents and no underlining on any of the known Hiss samples. However, the microfilm shows that government documents contain underlining so that this also could be merely accurate copy.

E. C. McL.

Haring says that the Baltimore papers are on a thin paper which is similar to the paper used in the Bryn Mawr report, although it is not exactly the same kind.

E. C. McL.