

MR. CHAMBERS. There was never any business relationship of any kind between Mr. Hiss and me.

MR. NIXON. Now, will you describe for the committee, Mr. Chambers, the last time you saw Mr. Hiss?

MR. CHAMBERS. About 1938, toward the end of 1938, I tried to break away from the Communist Party a number of people. It seemed to me that the time was coming when I would have to do something about this problem. It also seemed to me proper that they should have an opportunity to break away themselves. I had once been a Communist, and I broke away, and the possibility was always there.

I went to Mr. Hiss. He was then living on Dent Place, and I had supper with him there, and with his wife, and in the course of that meeting I tried to raise my doubts, and detach him from the Communist Party. I failed.

MR. NIXON. Well, now, will you describe for the committee how you happened to go to his apartment? I mean, how you happened to go to his house. Did you go to the door, do you recall, or what was the occasion?

MR. CHAMBERS. I went to the door, I suppose, about 7 o'clock at night, perhaps. I was afraid of an ambush, but when I got there, only a maid was at home.

MR. NIXON. What is that?

MR. CHAMBERS. Only a maid was at home.

MR. NIXON. What did you do?

MR. CHAMBERS. I waited nearby, and very shortly Mrs. Hiss drove up, and we went into the house together, and——

MR. NIXON. Well, how did you get Mrs. Hiss? Do you remember that?

MR. CHAMBERS. Not particularly; I do not recall.

MR. NIXON. You met her at that time?

MR. CHAMBERS. What is that?

MR. NIXON. You say you met Mrs. Hiss as she drove up.

MR. CHAMBERS. She drove up, and stepped out of the car.

MR. NIXON. I see.

MR. CHAMBERS. And we went in together.

MR. NIXON. And you discussed breaking away from the party at that time with Mr. Hiss?

MR. CHAMBERS. Yes; I did.

MR. NIXON. And what was his reaction?

MR. CHAMBERS. As I testified before, when I left him, Mr. Hiss cried, but he would not break away from the Communist Party.

MR. NIXON. Mr. Chambers, you said that you felt that there was some risk in going to Mr. Hiss at that time.

MR. CHAMBERS. Yes; I did.

MR. NIXON. Why did you go to him? Did you go to all the others that were in this group?

MR. CHAMBERS. No; I went to two or three others.

MR. NIXON. Why did you go to see Mr. Hiss?

MR. CHAMBERS. I was very fond of Mr. Hiss.

MR. NIXON. You were very fond of Mr. Hiss?

MR. CHAMBERS. Indeed I was; perhaps my closest friend.

MR. NIXON. Mr. Hiss was your closest friend?

MR. CHAMBERS. Mr. Hiss was certainly the closest friend I ever had in the Communist Party.