

tion schedule for 1938, but were not going to lay down any new battleships that year.

Much was made of the fact that Hiss had practically written out this note twice. He explained that often a day or two elapsed between his receiving the telegram and reporting to Sayre, and the first part did not contain all the relevant facts. In any case, since the first part contained the information interesting to Russia, why bother to write it out twice?

#### *Document 4*

Mar 11. Gauss US Consul at Shanghai cabled that military observers estimated that over 7,000 reinforcements with considerable quantities of heavy artillery had landed at Woosung during past 2 weeks. Over 50% believed destined for the Southern Tsinpu front, the rest to be distributed between Wuhu, Hangchow and along the lines of communication.

This was written in blue chalk with additions made in lead pencil. It referred to a telegram sent in Grey Code and *en clair* on the 11th March 1938 by the US Consul in Shanghai, which he repeated to Hankow and Peiping. It would have been of interest to the Russians, but not vitally so.

The one striking question about these four notes is: if Hiss made them for Chambers for onward transmission to Moscow, he must have been genuinely mad to have given them in his own handwriting to someone who could – though a practised courier would not – have lost them. It would have been the rashest kind of act for a man involved in espionage. Admittedly Hiss, if he was guilty of spying, had not been trained in espionage security techniques, but the most ordinary common sense would have told him that he was laying himself open to discovery, however

remote the chance might be. No man in his position would take such a risk.

#### ii *The Typewritten Documents*

The typewritten documents consisted of sixty-five typed pages all produced on the same typewriter, allegedly an ancient Woodstock belonging to Mrs Hiss, with the exception of one document, which a prosecution expert witness was to say was typed either on a Royal or an Underwood typewriter. The composition of these papers is very interesting.

It will be recalled that in explaining why these documents had been typed, Chambers had said that Bykov had decided that there must be an increase in the documents transmitted by Hiss, and that to increase this flow some should be typed in the intervals of Chambers's visits. Bykov told Chambers that some of the documents should be copied verbatim when this seemed desirable, but that others could be summarised.

As Hiss so rightly points out in his book: 'The typed pages included some verbatim copies of official papers, including cables. They also included a number of summaries of documents, or brief quoted excerpts. There was no rational classification which would explain why this differing procedure was followed by the typist . . . lengthy as well as short cables were copied verbatim.

'On the other hand, short as well as long cables were summarised. In other words, cables of comparable interest and length were summarised or elaborately copied in full quite arbitrarily. . . . Another arbitrary feature of these papers was that some pages contained several summaries or excerpts in full, while others contained only a few lines of the same kind of material – brief summaries of cables of the same or closely following dates being put on separate pages. Again, some copies placed date, salutation, and signature as in a facsimile reproduction of the original; others