

Mr. Nixon: One of the items in the Hiss testimony which has been quite personal, is the matter of a rug which he alleged you gave to him, will you please enlighten the Committee on that?

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Mr. Chambers: When I first knew Colonel Bykov, he suggested to me that we should send to certain underground communists in Washington a present, the form of which he thought should be three or four rugs. These were to be Russian rugs and I was to tell the comrades that it was a gift from the Soviet people, out of gratitude for the work of American underground communists. I was rather checked by the idea thinking that the Communists in question would be offended, and told that to Colonel Bykov, but he insisted, so three rugs were sent to Washington to Mr. George Silverman. One of the rugs was for Mr. Silverman, another was for Harry Dexter White, and the third was for Mr. Alger Hiss.

Mr. Nixon: How do you know this?

Mr. Chambers: I know this because Colonel Bykov gave me the money to buy the rugs, which I had done.

Mr. Nixon: Do you know, as a matter of fact, that Hiss received the rug?

Mr. Chambers: Yes, I can describe two of the rugs, because I saw them in the homes of --

Mr. Nixon: Did you deliver the rug to Hiss?

Mr. Chambers: The rug for Hiss was delivered to him in back of a restaurant on the Washington Boulevard, the name of which I have forgotten, but the building was in the form of a ship. Silverman brought the rug in his car and drove up near the light on the corner. Hiss drove in his car bearing some distance away. Mr. White's rug was red, in an ordinary pattern with white medallions, in a red background. Hiss' was a

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very bright red rug with an overall design.

Mr. Nixon: When did this occur?

Mr. Chambers: At the very end of 1936.