

Even without his assistance, the facts may presently become clearer and fuller. For I have reason to believe that there is still another witness with first-hand knowledge of the Group. At least, like Hamlet. I see a cherub who sees one.\*

## V

The Ware Group was a background and a base for my activities, from the time I arrived in Washington, in 1934, until I broke with the Communist Party, in 1938. Until his death, I was constantly in touch with Harold Ware. As long as Henry Collins lived at St. Matthews Court, his apartment was one of my informal Washington headquarters. Through it, I maintained contact with the Group, which stood ready to help me in any way that I saw fit. Through it, I often maintained contact with J. Peters, whose comings and goings in Washington it was sometimes more convenient to keep track of through the Ware Group than by direct contact in New York City.

Though members of my special apparatus were officially separated from the Ware Group, they continued to meet their former comrades by chance, socially or in the course of Government work. Sometimes Alger Hiss, in particular, found his separation and inactivity in the special apparatus so wearing that he broke the rules and spent a few hours with his former cell mates. Now and again, Alger would confess that he had seen Henry Collins, usually on the pretext of giving him party dues. I winked at these irregularities.

Two members of the Ware Group became my unofficial helpers and continued to act as such almost until the time that I broke with the Communist Party. One was Henry Collins. The other was Lee Pressman.

But the historical importance of the Ware Group is as the root from which divided two sinister stems—the Soviet espionage apparatuses of Elizabeth Bentley, about which the world now knows a great deal, thanks to her remarkably detailed recollection; and whatever apparatus Alger Hiss continued with after my break. The second, and the more important, still lies in the shadows.

\* Since this was written, another witness has appeared. In February of this year, Nathaniel Weyl testified before the McCarran Committee that, early in 1934, he had been a Communist and a member of the Ware Group. With one exception (a man who presumably entered the Group after Weyl had left), he named as his fellow members all those whom I had named, including Alger Hiss. Weyl, however, was not the witness referred to above.