

18 Part I—SUNDAY, SEPT. 13, 1953 * Los Angeles Times

BALL TESTIMONY

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I tried to explain why I had done it. I had no reason except I had been called.

Wheeler: How long ago did you go to the FBI?

Miss Ball: I have no idea. I have no idea when I did this broadcast. I have no idea how long after that they called me down in an FBI office and asked why I did it. Apparently, it was wrong. It was my first knowledge it was wrong.

I had no answer at all, because I hadn't done it of my own volition. I had been sent there. It didn't seem wrong to go some place the studio had sent you.

I had nothing to do with whatever it was. I didn't know what I was doing, but you assumed at the time, when you are called by a union or one of your—I don't know who called me. I know both times I was called to replace someone.

Wheeler: Did you discuss this material today with the FBI or did they question you regarding your voter's registration?

Miss Ball: No. That was apparently just something I had

read on the radio I shouldn't have. I don't know. Wheeler: Do you have anything in addition you would like to add for the record?

Miss Ball: I am very happy to have this opportunity to discuss all the things that have cropped up, that apparently I have done wrong.

'I Don't Know'

I had nothing to do with whatever it was. I didn't know what I was doing, but you assumed at the time, when you are called by a union or one of your—I don't know who called me. I know both times I was called to replace someone.

Wheeler: Did you discuss this material today with the FBI or did they question you regarding your voter's registration?

Miss Ball: No. That was apparently just something I had

never done anything knowingly against the United States. I have never done anything for Communists, to my knowledge, at any time. I have never contributed money or attended a meeting or ever had anything to do with people connected with it, if to my knowledge they were.

I am not a Communist now. I never have been. I never wanted to be. Nothing in the world could ever change my mind. At no time in my life have I ever been in sympathy with anything that even faintly resembled it.

I was always opposed (indicating to how my grandfather tried to vote in the Presidential election, I guess it was at that time, I don't know, to my knowledge I didn't vote, but I

time it was very important because we knew we weren't going to have daddy with us very long. If it made him happy, it was important at the time. But I was always conscious of the fact I could go just so far to make him happy. I tried not to go any farther.

'Never Political Minded'

In those days that was not a big, terrible thing to do. It was almost as terrible to be a Republican in those days. I have never been too civic-minded and certainly never political-minded in my life.

Since I got any feelings on the subject at all, we went maybe one year and we got into trouble doing that. That is when Roosevelt was still alive. We were always very much for Roosevelt and did everything

that Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt asked us to do, as all of Hollywood, or as most of Hollywood, was doing.

He was the only President I had ever known. It was a wonderful thing to get out and help him with his March of Dimes or bond tours during the war and we were very busy. Never in my life have I had any other feeling than the Communists were wrong, that anybody in this town would dare to think of changing any of it or complaining about what they had is just the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard of.

Questioning Reds

I certainly was never in sympathy with the Dmytryke, I can't remember any of the other names.

How we got to signing a few things or going among some

people that thought differently, that has happened to all of us out here in the last 10 or 12 years and it is unfortunate, but I certainly will do anything in the world to prove that we made a bad mistake by, for one week or a couple of weeks, trying to appease an old man. But there has never been any thought of belonging or wanting to belong to the Communist Party.

Wheeler: I have no further questions. Thank you for your co-operation.

Air Chief to Visit

NAPLES, Italy, Sept. 12 (AP)—Lt. Gen. David M. Schlotter, commander of allied air forces in Southern Europe, left Naples by air today for a 10-day trip in the United States.