

From "Around the Nation" section:

'Pumpkin Papers'

NEW YORK—Alger Hiss, the former State Department official convicted of perjury stemming from alleged espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union, sought access to the "pumpkin papers" that played a key role in his trial.

In a suit filed in S. District Court, Hiss and writer William A. Reuben moved to compel the U.S. attorney's office to make available to them five rolls of microfilm found by investigators of the former House Un-American Activities Committee in a pumpkin on the Maryland farm of Whittaker Chambers on Dec. 2, 1948.

Chambers testified at Hiss's trial that Hiss had given him secret State Department documents in 1938 to be microfilmed for delivery to the Soviet Union.

Lawyers for Hiss, 70, said the microfilm was not manufactured until 1940.

Congressman Richard M. Nixon of California, who headed a House Subcommittee said at the time that the "pumpkin papers" were proof of Hiss treason.