

Excerpts from the FBI file of J. Robert Oppenheimer.
 (Copies made from a microfilm copy in the Government
 Documents room at Lamont Library, Harvard University.)

11925

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Case originated at **SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA** File No. **100-3132**

Report made at SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	Date Made 2/10/43	Revised 5/29, 10/3, 8, 11/41; 11/24/41; 10/10/42; 2/2, 3, 5, 6, 8/43	Report Made by: GEORGE M. LANGDON JR
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Title: JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, with aliases: J. Robert Oppenheimer, Robert J. Oppenheimer, Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer, Robert Oppenheimer, "Oppe"	Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C Custodial Detention
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SYNOPSIS OF
FACTS -

Subject JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, with aliases, has moved from 10 Kenilworth Court, El Cerrito, California, and now resides at 1 Eagle Hill, Berkeley, California. Subject at present is devoting full time at the Radiation Laboratory, University of California, which is engaged in experiments vital to the National Defense, all experiments of which are highly confidential and a closely guarded military secret. Confidential Informants and Sources of Information report subject is closely associated with high-ranking Communists of the San Francisco Area, including such officials as WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN, State Secretary, STEVE NELSON, member National Committee and present organizer of Alameda County Communist Party, and others. Subject was placed in at least one meeting with WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN, ISAAC FOLKOFF, important financial figure in the Communist Party, and HAAKON CHEVALIER, at the home of the latter. According to one informant, the subject contributed \$100 to the Communist Party which went through STEVE NELSON and ISAAC FOLKOFF. Informants report that subject is or has been associated with the following organizations,

*Refer to AEC
admission 3/15/54
to meeting with
from MED*

Approved & Forwarded *[Signature]* Special Agent in Charge **100-1722-10**

- 5 - Bureau
- 2 - El Paso
- 2 - Wash. Field
- 2 - OHI, San Francisco
- 1 - G2, San Francisco
- 3 - San Francisco

*cc: OHI 1/2
3-2-43
S. W. [unclear]
3/10/43
Ephardt Col. [unclear]*

RECORDED
INDEXED

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

39
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reportedly Communist in nature: the AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, the COMMITTEE TO AID CHINA, the CONSUMERS' UNION, the AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRATIC AND INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM, and the BERKELEY CONFERENCE FOR CIVIC BETTERMENT. Investigation reflects that many well-known Communists and others associated therewith are presently employed at the Radiation Laboratory with the subject and that the Communist Party is extremely interested in the research developments being conducted there, and that the Party is attempting through the FAECT and International Representative thereof, MARCEL SCHERER, known Communist member, to organize the employees of the Radiation Laboratory. A very reliable source advises arrangements now under way to commission subject of this investigation as Lt. Colonel in U. S. Army.

P.

REFERENCES -

SOURCES A, B, C.

DETAILS -

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA:

The title of this case is being changed to reflect the following additional aliases of the subject as being Dr. J. R. OPPENHEIMER, ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, and "OPPE."

Source D, who is known to be extremely reliable, made available her records concerning the more recent Communist activities of the subject and other pertinent information pertaining thereto. Her files reflected that the subject had moved from his former residence, 10 Kenilworth Court, El Cerrito, California, telephone Landscape 5-7523, and at the present time resided at 1 Eagle Hill, Berkeley, California, telephone Thornwall 2916. Informant revealed that subject OPPENHEIMER was contacted on October 3, 1941, by ISAAC FOLKOFF, an important functionary of the Communist Party, San Francisco, who advised the subject that he would be unable to attend a matter with him over the week end and had made arrangements for STEVE NELSON, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party and the present organizer of the Communist Party, Alameda

County, to see the subject for him at that time. Later, according to Source D, an individual whom she thought she recognized as STEVE NELSON, contacted ISAAC FOLKOFF on October 6, 1941, at which time he advised FOLKOFF that while in the East Bay, Alameda County, on the preceding day, October 5, 1941, he got \$100 for him and arranged for LEO BARATAY, important functionary of the Communist Party, San Francisco, to hand it to FOLKOFF. This same informant advised that on approximately October 14, 1941, subject OPPENHEIMER contacted ISAAC FOLKOFF and requested him to arrange for RUDY LAMBERT, important functionary of the Communist Party, San Francisco, to contact him. During this same meeting, according to Source D, OPPENHEIMER advised FOLKOFF that an individual whom he identified as STEVE, presumed to be STEVE NELSON, had contacted him and had given him a message from FOLKOFF.

As a result of information furnished by SOURCE E, known to be very reliable, it was ascertained that LLOYD LEHMANN, organizer of the YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE, Alameda County, advised STEVE NELSON on approximately October 10, 1942, that a very important weapon was being developed and that he was in on the research end of this development. At this point, according to the informant, STEVE NELSON asked LEHMANN if OPPENHEIMER knew he was a "YCLer. (member of the YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE) and added that OPPENHEIMER was too jittery; that the subject OPPENHEIMER at one time was active in the Party, but was not at the time. NELSON further stated that the reason the Government leaves OPPENHEIMER alone is because of his ability in the scientific field. It is thought that LEHMANN had reference to the research development in progress at the Radiation Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley. Those primarily charged with the development of new techniques in the National Defense Program are extremely interested in the work being conducted at the Radiation Laboratory, and OPPENHEIMER, as will be pointed out later, is involved in these experiments. The investigation has reflected no information indicating that LLOYD LEHMANN is employed on this research work. However, an individual named ERIC LEHMAN is so employed.

It has been determined that ARTHUR (ART) ROSEN is employed in this work. ROSEN is a member of the YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE, and it is possible that LLOYD LEHMANN's statement to the effect that he was "in on the research end of this development" inferred that through the employment of a YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE member at the Radiation Laboratory, he had access to or was in on the research end of the development.

Through the services of Source F it has been determined STEVE NELSON, previously referred to, was contacted on or about October 1942, by an individual identified as ROSSI, who advised NELSON that he was employed on a research project, the technical research of which was in connection with a very dangerous weapon. NELSON, according

Informant, indicated a prior knowledge of the work referred to by RUSSI, and stated that the project was very important to another Party member who considered this project more important than Party work. NELSON identified this Party member as an individual who was only good in the technical field. According to NELSON, this individual was called a "Red," and in fact, had worked on the Spanish Committee and on other Committees. From the latter's statement, it is thought that the Party member referred to by NELSON is J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, subject of this investigation. NELSON, according to this informant, admonished RUSSI not to irritate this man (OPPENHEIMER) or to quit the research work, and further, not to be too active in his Section (of the Party), or to distribute the PEOPLE'S WORLD. RUSSI indicated a desire to come out in the open with his activities (Communist Party) and to secure a job in the shipyards. NELSON advised RUSSI that he should not quit his present technical job on this extremely important project, that he was considered an undercover member of the Party. NELSON further stated that the research is just as important and "if a Communist is doing it, it is done better." NELSON added that it was important for them (the Communist Party) to have knowledge of these discoveries and research developments.

The individual referred to as RUSSI is thought to be identical with GIOVANNI RUSSI/LOMANITE, who, according to Confidential Informant [redacted] was born in Bryan, Texas, October 10, 1921. He is of Jewish extraction. He has been employed as a technical assistant at the Radiation Laboratory since June 1, 1942, and recently made a physicist under Professor OPPENHEIMER at the Radiation Laboratory. [redacted] advised further that LOMANITE attended the University of California, and during that time, was concerned with the activities of the Communist Party. He appears in several photographs of radical group meetings.

Confidential Informant [redacted] upon interview advised that the subject of this investigation drove an automobile with license 47P 158, which was registered in his name. The files of this informant reflected that the Oakland Tribune, issue dated March 26, 1941, reported that Dr. J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, Professor of Physics, and associates in the same field, had announced the belief that the mesotron is the particle which binds together the other particles in an atom's center or nucleus. If this can be proved, the Berkeley scientists will have solved one of the great mysteries of matter. [redacted] stated it was his opinion that the above article related to the cyclotron or atom-smasher now in the experimental stage at the Radiation Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley. He explained this was a new field of science, and that efforts were being made to utilize variations of this experiment in the National Defense program of the United States. Further, according to this informant, the Oakland Tribune, issue dated May 1, 1941, announced that Dr. J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, Professor of Physics, Berkeley, California,

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that he had heard OPPENHEIMER referred to by known high party members as "the big shot," and as "OPPE," and that the subject is familiar enough with STEVE NELSON, high Party official, to call him by his first name. In view of the information regarding the Communist affiliations of OPPENHEIMER and SCHERER, their mutual friendship with STEVE NELSON, WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN, and other high-ranking Communists, together with the fact that the Party is interested in the developments at the Radiation Laboratory, the employment of Communists there, and the activity of the FAECT, it would appear that OPPENHEIMER has the background which would lend credence to the possibility that he may be rendering aid to the FAECT and the Communist Party in the successful culmination of their efforts to organize the employees of the Radiation Laboratory and to place members in key places.

It was ascertained through the cooperation of Confidential Informant [redacted] on November 24, 1941, that an examination of toll calls emanating from Inornwall 4546, listed to Professor J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, reflected calls to the following individuals during the period August 11, 1941, to September 3, 1941:

ISAAC FOLKOFF

112 Havelock Street, San Francisco
Delaware 9756

49 - 4th Street, San Francisco
Exbrook 8076

Mrs. BYRON ISENBERG

3000 Baker Street, San Francisco
West 0613

FRANK OPPENHEIMER

954 Roble Ridge, Palo Alto, Calif.
Palo Alto 9857

P. MORLISON

714 2nd Avenue, San Francisco
Discon. 9/3/41.

HELEN PILL

1151 Newcombe, San Francisco
Mission 3468

Mrs. L. M. HANKS

Oak Hill Road, Lafayette, Calif.
Lafayette 3264, Disc. 10/6/41

Dr. H. A. STEVENSON

490 Post, No. 530, San Francisco
Garfield 1210

Dr. JOSEPH H. DAVIS

2211 Broderick, No. 4, San Francisco
Fillmore 0715

HENRY MOSS

4340 California, No. 5, San Francisco
Evergreen 4838

ADOLPH ROSENBERG

622 - 16th Avenue, San Francisco
Evergreen 5921

ROBERT D. ROWE

957 Fall, #9, San Francisco
Union 7663

Confidential Informant [redacted] also reported calls to R. M. BOROFKY, and LOUIS O. LEVISON.

Additional records furnished by Confidential Informant [redacted] reflected that the subject on August 13, 21, and 29, 1941, called Dr. THOMAS ADDIS, at the latter's home. This record also reflected that ADDIS was called on July 18, 1941, by Professor HAAKON CHEVALIER. A further check of toll calls emanating from Berkeley 4546, listed to Professor HAAKON CHEVALIER reflected calls going to F. E. BALDAUF at Overland 5706, 2777 Edgewood Drive, San Francisco, on August 9, 11, 12, and 14, 1941. It was also noted that this same individual, BALDAUF, was called on August 20, 22, 25, 1941, at his office address, 1373 Post Street, San Francisco, by Professor J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER from Thornwall 4546. Although these calls may have related to business only, it is believed significant that both OPPENHEIMER and CHEVALIER have placed several calls to BALDAUF. Further in regard to BALDAUF, it is pointed out that an examination of the personal papers of Dr. ALFRED STERN, German Alien, who will be referred to later, on January 7, 1942, reflected a check in the amount of \$45.17, dated December 21, 1940, which was noted to run to the order of F. E. BALDAUF, who, the doctor explained, was an interior decorator.

By way of background on Dr. THOMAS ADDIS, referred to above, it is pointed out that he has his name on the sponsorship list of perhaps more Communist Party Front organizations than any other individual in this area, some of these being the COMMITTEE FOR CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS (the SCHNEIDERMAN-D'ARCY DEFENSE COMMITTEE), the INTER-PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION, UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE, and the INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE. Former Confidential Informant [redacted] also definitely showed a connection with prominent Communists. ADDIS is a well-respected doctor, employed at the Stanford Lane Hospital, and is a naturalized American citizen of English birth.

Relative to HAAKON CHEVALIER, also referred to above, he is a professor of French at the University of California. He was reportedly born in New Jersey of French parentage. A former butler of CHEVALIER reported to this office that the home contained much literature of a Communistic nature and meetings seemed to be held there regularly. It will be remembered that it was at the Chevalier home that agents of this office observed a meeting held on December 1, 1940, at which were present WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN, ISAAC FOLKOFF, as well as Professor J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER. It is of interest to note that a check of telephone toll calls through Confidential Informant [redacted] reveals many interlocking calls between ADDIS, CHEVALIER, and OPPENHEIMER. In other words, ADDIS has called OPPENHEIMER and CHEVALIER, OPPENHEIMER has called ADDIS and CHEVALIER, and CHEVALIER has called OPPENHEIMER and ADDIS. The

widely separated professional fields of these individuals, CHEVALIER, French, OPPENHEIMER, physics, and ADDIS, medicine and surgery, could not be a basis for this close association, and it is thought that this association may possibly be due to their mutual interest in a common field, namely, Communism.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on February 2, 1943, that an examination of the toll calls emanating from Thornwall 2916, a non-published number listed to ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, 1 Eagle Hill, Berkeley, revealed the following activity:

An individual identified as B. OPPENHEIMER made a collect call to this number from Chicago, Hyde Park 3603, on October 16, 1942, listed to the Quadrangle Club, 1155 East 57th Street, Chicago. On October 19, 1942, there was listed a collect call from Washington, D. C., at LD 621. An individual called Thornwall 2916 collect from a Chicago number, Fairfax 4413, listed to the Chicago University, 5734 South University Street, Chicago, on October 21. There was listed on November 13, a Western Union to Albuquerque, New Mexico, signed KIPE (it is thought that KIPE is possibly identical with KITTY, wife of the subject).

Subject OPPENHEIMER called his home collect from Albuquerque, New Mexico, LD 31, which is listed to the Hilton Hotel, 125 North Second Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The call was placed from Room 707 on November 15, 1942. On the following day, November 16, 1942, a person to person call was placed to Dr. OPPENHEIMER, Hilton Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

It was reflected that on November 20, 1942, there was a collect call to the subject's home telephone from Espanola, New Mexico, 6F7. This call was from ROBERT OPPENHEIMER at the Los Alamos Ranch School, to which 6F7 is listed.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that recent information indicated that the government is to take over this telephone number 6F7 as of February, 1943.

On November 24, 1942, there was listed a collect call from Chicago, Hyde Park 8601, also listed to the Quadrangle Club, referred to above. This call was from ROBERT OPPENHEIMER.

[redacted] advised that on December 14, 1942, ROBERT OPPENHEIMER made a collect call from Washington, D. C., Emerson 6933. The listing of this number is not known. On the following day, December 15, 1942, records of Confidential Informant [redacted] reflected that a Western Union message was sent from subject's home to Boston, Massachusetts, signed [redacted]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD
FROM : J. C. Strickland
SUBJECT: JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER

DATE: March 29, 1946

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Miss Gandy	

Reference is made to your memorandum to the Director, dated March 11, 1946, and to my memorandum to you dated March 26, 1946, concerning the Reverend [redacted] offer to attempt to develop a contact for the Bureau with subject Oppenheimer's secretary through Father John O'Brien.

You will recall that the meeting was to be on the night of March 26, 1946, and that Father [redacted] was advised by the Bureau that if the girl could not be persuaded to cooperate on the basis of her religious convictions and patriotism to the United States, that no approach should be made and that under no circumstances was it felt advisable that derogatory information concerning Oppenheimer be furnished to her.

At 7:40 pm, March 28, 1946, Father [redacted] phoned and advised as follows:

He and Father O'Brien conferred with Oppenheimer's secretary, a young girl age 22 or 23, named Ann Wilson, on the evening of March 26 at the Kennedy-Warren Apartments. She is the daughter of Admiral Wilson, USN. She worked for Oppenheimer at Los Alamos and is now acting in a secretarial capacity for him at the State Department where Oppenheimer has been working on the Atomic Energy Committee, headed by Dean Acheson of the Department of State. [redacted] stated that Miss Wilson was very close to both Oppenheimer and his wife and stated that she knew from discussions with Mrs. Oppenheimer that the latter had once been engaged in Communist Party activity but had broken all such contacts sometime ago. She was very loyal to Oppenheimer and expressed resentment over the fact that security agencies such as the Army had engaged in checks on his activities. She indicated that Oppenheimer had told her that he was under surveillance by the FBI at the present time.

(You will recall that this Bureau does not have Oppenheimer under physical surveillance and has never had Oppenheimer under physical surveillance as yet.)

Father [redacted] stated that Miss Wilson had no regard whatsoever for the character or integrity of some of the other scientists who have been connected with the atomic bomb and atomic energy operations, mentioning in particular, Professor Harold Urey. She also realizes that a good many foreign nations would probably be anxious to obtain all possible information concerning this country's discoveries in the realm of the utilization of atomic energy for military and other purposes.

Father [redacted] stated that he felt that he personally had made a good impression on Miss Wilson but under no circumstances wanted to act as an intermediary

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EX-31

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for information and although he did not indicate to her in her frame of mind at that time what his hopes were as far as the Bureau's utilization of her was concerned, he told her to think the matter over and let him know when she had made up her mind.

Father [redacted] advised that he had just received a call from her previous to calling the Bureau and she had stated that she had complete faith in Oppenheimer's integrity and that she would have to be shown and convinced that something was wrong with Oppenheimer before she would consider discussing his activities. She indicated to Father [redacted] her disgust of Professor Urey.

Father [redacted] stated that he was leaving town on March 29, 1946, and would not return until April 12, 1946. He was advised that we could discuss the matter of Ann Wilson, therefore, at a later date.

ACTION:

Although Miss Wilson apparently has a strong personal loyalty to Oppenheimer, he is known to be on the West Coast and travelling a great portion of his time, little time actually being spent in Washington, D. C. where Ann Wilson is employed.

It is felt that consideration should be given to the possible utilization of Ann Wilson as an informant concerning Professor Urey and other left-wing scientists connected with the atomic experiments.

A complete file review regarding Ann Wilson will be made and the results presented for your further consideration. |||

no contact with her per [redacted] LWS



Federal Bureau of Investigation
 United States Department of Justice
 Suite 1729 - 111 Sutter Street
 San Francisco, California
 June 12, 1946



0.52
 11-15

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
 FILE NO. _____

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
 AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY -
 REGISTERED MAIL

Director, FBI

RE: JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, was
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There is enclosed herewith information received from Confidential Informant [redacted] on June 11, 1946. Reference is made to the information pertaining to the conversation between VERA and ALTYA OPPENHEIMER regarding the possibilities of employment of a Mrs. STEVE WITS. Further reference is made to information along this same line submitted by memorandum dated June 9, 1946.

For the information of the Bureau, it is noted that Mrs. STEVE WITS, according to GEORGE F. WILES, Field Agent, Berkeley, California, has applied for a position at the Radiation Laboratory, engaged on work of the D.S.'s Project.

Very truly yours,

H. B. Fletcher

H. B. FLETCHER
 SAC

*copy of blind memo
 2, 7 & 8 by P. Barker
 11/17/46
 RLF*

WJ/Jo
 100-3132
 Incl.-3

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-41 SE 35 1180-17828-61
 JUN 19 1946

52 JUL 12 1946

5-27

June 11, 1946

MEMORANDUM

Information was received that J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER was in contact with HERBERT MARKS at the State Department, Washington, D. C. (Republic 5600, Extension 2161). The following is a verbatim transcript of their conversation:

OPPENHEIMER: I came home to talk to you as I thought you might want to talk to all of us. Because I can get a plane tomorrow afternoon to New York at a reasonable time, I didn't plan to stop in Washington. I have an idea of the events of the past few weeks, but if there is any desirable reason to change that plan, I can do it. However, I had hoped you could come to New York.

MARKS: I have no such plans and there is no such prospect.

OPPENHEIMER: Is it suitable to come for the fun of it?

MARKS: Probably not. DAVE (MILITZ) is here this evening. DEAN (ACHESON), DAVE, and I are having a meeting with FERDINAND (or EBERSTADT - phonetic), going over things. We will start in a few minutes, and expect to finish tonight. I don't know what the substance of discussion will be.

OPPENHEIMER: If I am to come to Washington, I must get a plane arriving there at 2:00 in the morning. If I can, I must go down to Washington and see DEAN. But it would be easier if we could meet after that and see DEAN and you.

MARKS: Who is on the panel?

OPPENHEIMER: Of the people on the panel, most of them said no. Mr. BARUCH (BERNARD BARUCH) called me on Sunday about the plans, gave me a notion on what he was going to say, and arranged for BACHEL (ph.) and me to sit at the table, or whatever it is. On the panel is (J.O.) LAMARCHE, COMPTON, who is not coming, (HAROLD) MURPHY, THOMAS, BACHER (ph.), and me.

MARKS: Then, probably, CHARLES will be there.

OPPENHEIMER: Yes, probably.

MARKS: Where are you going to stay?

172-28-61
ENCLOSURE

OPPENHEIMER:

I asked them to get me a room at the Brevoort Hotel in New York, but (BERNARD) BARUCH said, would you stay with me, and ROBBY (ph.) said, would you stay with me. If you think it desirable for me to come to Washington, I hope you will call me back tonight.

MARKS:

I'm sure DEAN will do that if he thought it necessary. I'll mention it to DEAN and DAVE.

OPPENHEIMER:

How hard do you want us to go after this job for you?

MARKS:

Writing this book?

OPPENHEIMER:

Yes. I talked to this man—he is the executor of the Morrison Trust (Fund) and he wants a note from you, something on paper. MAX WADIN is here in the house, and he wrote him today. I feel I want some sense on if we're going to do it or not.

MARKS:

I will discuss it with DEAN, But I won't know what I can do for a couple of weeks.

OPPENHEIMER:

I'll give you his name—he is EDWARD MOHPELD on Post Street in San Francisco. You can get his address from the directory in the State Department. He is very much interested, and so on, but he wants something in writing from you to justify it. There are other possibilities that will all come true, but they can wait.

MARKS:

I will talk it over more fully with DEAN and see if it is possible for him to do it. Either I or DEAN or DAVE, will call you're coming to Washington.

At this point in the conversation, ALF NILSON, an associate of HERBIE MARKS, Washington, D. C, presently a house guest at the OPPENHEIMER residence, spoke with MARKS, and the following is their conversation:

MARKS:

I sent papers belonging to you in airmail envelopes, and sent them on to you.

NILSON:

Good. HAT FIMNEY, a newspaperman was on the plane, pass the word on to DOVALTI (ph.)—he was at the White House yesterday and he said that the business on GROVES has been signed by the President.

MARKS:

I'll tell that to JEFF (DOVALTI ?).

WILSON: He (FINLEY) swears it is authentic. Will you call my home and tell them I am here in one piece?

MARKS: I'll have LOUISE do it.

WILSON: KITTY says you must come—she has room for you.

MARKS: I'll leave all the things that there are to say to the next batch of papers I send you. Meantime, I hope they are completely understood.

WILSON: This is a wonderful place. I recommend it.

MARKS: I don't need any inducement, beyond those I already know first-hand. I'll visit that General Delivery business once in a while.

WILSON: Good!

MARKS: Goodbye.

WILSON: Goodbye.

With reference to the conversation between OPPENHEIMER and HERBERT MARKS, information was received that HARRY RADIN contacted J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER and informed him that he had an appointment to meet with Mrs. ELIUS (ph.). At the same time, OPPENHEIMER stated that at the suggestion of LESLIE GANNARD, he had talked with HOFFELD (EDWARD HOFFELD), identified by RADIN as the trustee "of the Morrison firm." OPPENHEIMER stated that HOFFELD was interested in the proposition and desired RADIN to drop him a brief note explaining it. It is believed this referred to the proposal of OPPENHEIMER that HERBERT MARKS write an analysis of the manner by which agreements were reached concerning atomic energy, as set forth in the ROBINSON report. RADIN indicated that despite the interest of HOFFELD, he considered it worthwhile to proceed with their attempts to get the money from other sources. OPPENHEIMER advised RADIN that Miss WILSON, "who has been working in the State Department with us, is here now," adding that, "She has worked with the committee and with MARKS and I think it would be a good idea if we all had a chance to talk." Arrangements were made for RADIN to visit the OPPENHEIMER residence for cocktails during the latter part of the afternoon of this day.

An individual believed to be DEAN ACHESON conversed with OPPENHEIMER. The following is their conversation:

ACHESON: Hello, Oppie. Mr. ZERNSTADT (ZERNSTADT - ph.) is here with DAVE and HERB and me, and we're going over a paper.

OPPENHEIMER: Right.

ACHESON: And there's a statement in the paper which bothered us a great deal. And we want to read it to you. Mr. ZERNSTADT is on another extension here, and the three of us can talk together.

OPPENHEIMER: Right.

ACHESON: It says, as matters now stand, several years may be necessary for a country to produce a bomb de novo. However, once the basic information is known and the authority has established producing plants for peaceful purposes in the several countries, the ...features of such plants would enable a malevolent country to produce a bomb in from three to twelve months. Now, the question that we raised here was whether that period of time, from three to twelve, was right.

OPPENHEIMER: It does not seem right to me. What I've said about it, and it's the best I know, is that if the authority does its job properly, it'll be more than a year. Now, one point I think should be made very clear. If one thinks of this problem in terms of a single bomb, one is thinking of it wrong. Because we're talking about major aggression, and one bomb is a minor factor in that. I would say that if the authority does not meet with illegal resistance—that is, if it's allowed to do what it's supposed to do—and if it has the kind of spirit that we think is possible and that we know is necessary, it could easily arrange matters so that no production of atomic weapons which was significant (which would make any difference) would take place in less than a year, and my own guess would be longer—a year and a half or two years. I don't think you can make absolute statements in a completely abstract framework.

ACHESON: Ah—OPPIE, would there be people who would disagree with you on that—from the scientific point of view?

OPPENHEIMER: It's not a scientific problem, I'm afraid. If you assume that the malevolent nation has built all of the plants that it needs, if it has all of the organization established, which it may need, and that immediately upon seizure, it is capable

of putting into effect a pre-arranged plan, all of the physical elements of which exist, then you will come out with a fairly short time. That is, this time is not determined by physical laws, but by times of learning and times of construction, and times of trial, and so on. I believe that granted the hypothesis that such facilities did not exist, no one would argue that I was being over-optimistic.

MARKS: Are you saying further, Oppie—this is HERB.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah.

MARKS: —that if the authority does its job properly, then it would know whether or not these facilities and organizations existed.

OPPENHEIMER: Of course. If the authority does its job properly, any of the things which would be needed to convert a power plant into a bomb plant in a short time would themselves appear as acts of aggression and would have been discovered. And if there has been no act of aggression in that sense, before seizure, I believe that a year is an extreme under-estimate of the time necessary to get into the job in a major way.

BERNSTADT: Well, what about the primary plant. Would you have to do something to that?

OPPENHEIMER: You would have to put in new feeds and you would have to change operating characteristics. You might have to change parts of the design, but I'm not sure. That is—a primary plant, as we've used the term, is one that is dangerous because it is capable of being changed into a plant to make atomic weapons.

BERNSTADT: Suppose you had a well-designed primary plant under the authority which was producing...and suppose you had a properly designed power plant...let's say a laboratory of the authority, and some of your nationals were in it. And you were in charge of seizing the country's operations, swooped down and took the whole business, and you went to work on it, having the knowledge—how long would it take you to...

OPPENHEIMER: To...to turn over to the armed services a couple of hundred atomic weapons? Two years.

BERNSTADT: Two.

OPPENHEIMER:

There is something a little bit arbitrary and fictitious about these pictures because they leave out of account the world in which all this happens, but the things that need to be done to go from the peacetime uses of atomic energy to adequate atomic armament are major things and unless they are being done concurrently with...well, unless they have been done prior to actual seizure, a very considerable time will elapse. I think three months, FRED, is just a preposterous figure. I think that you might conceivably, as a tour de force, produce one atomic bomb in three months, but you could not possibly be in a situation where you could have atomic armament in three months, unless you were just ready for it and the act of seizure was the last of a series of aggressive acts of which the earlier ones were to get set up in every other respect.

ACHESON:

Mr. FELDSTADT, do you want to...

FELDSTADT:

No, that's complete.

OPPENHEIMER:

It seems to me, of course, one does not want to exaggerate the kind of security that one gets from this, and on the one hand one must distinguish between what one can get if the authority works and on the other hand, one must make some kind of allowance for failure on the part of the authority. But nothing that could properly be called a functioning authority would have a situation where you could produce atomic armament in three months. That is just completely wide of the mark.

ACHESON:

Yeah, sure.

OPPENHEIMER:

All right. I don't know whether I've been of any use.

ACHESON:

Oppie, are you stopping here on your way to New York?

OPPENHEIMER:

I wasn't planning to—largely because of the mechanics—but would be glad to if you think it would be helpful.

ACHESON:

No, no. I just wondered whether you were.

OPPENHEIMER:

I'll come down for a visit as soon as I can.

ACHESON:

Fine, fine.

OPPENHEIMER:

Thank you. Good luck, sir.

Also on this date, OPPENHEIMER was in conversation with an individual believed to be DAVID LILIENTHAL, who spoke to OPPENHEIMER from his room in a hotel in Washington, D. C. The name of the hotel is not known, but the room number was indicated as 732. The following is their conversation:

LILIENTHAL: Hello, Robert.

OPPENHEIMER: Hello, Dave. How are you?

LILIENTHAL: Oh, all right, I guess. I'm back at my hotel. I wanted to report to you, knowing that you were taking off, and that I will be in transit in the meantime. A long session, but, a--some of the things like sanctions, and so forth, are really quite impossible, and the...not, there is nothing we can do about it.

OPPENHEIMER: Well, I've been worried about that part of it for a long time.

LILIENTHAL: Yeah.

OPPENHEIMER: Is it still in?

LILIENTHAL: What say?

OPPENHEIMER: Is the sanction still in?

LILIENTHAL: Yes, in quite grandiloquent form.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah.

LILIENTHAL: And veto, and so on. Very self-righteous about the sanctions. I made a point, as well as I could, and everyone else did, and I don't think anything will happen. But on raw materials, and on a certain phraseology in respect to primary plants, there is serious trouble.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah.

LILIENTHAL: The language on raw materials is dominion. But the idea is very amorphous and is essentially ownership, plus licensing. I was inclined to feel if we could get away with leaving it in this terminology of dominion, and perhaps later, as I said to him, you will find on inquiry and investigation, it really isn't as serious an economic problem as you anticipate. If there were, it would still be an actually inaccessible position to take. But I don't think even that's true. Therefore, I was inclined to let it go, that terminology, and that would cover anything. DEAN (ACHESON), I'm glad to say, flared up at that and said, well, we've heard enough of

this mumbo-jumbo—that is—that covers my term, and it wasn't intended to cover what you had in mind, and indicated the standard that should apply, namely that—

OPPENHEIMER: Safety.

LILIENTHAL: ...It may be established by ownership or manager of control, or by various devices, the supreme authority over the extraction of raw materials. And that was written out and taken back with him. I had to explain that if it went in in a form that indicated there was to be a weakening and dilution on raw materials, which was what he had in mind, that I personally would have to blow my top, and I would do it just as hard and nastily as I could. And I think I will. But it won't do much good on Saturday. It ought to happen before then.

OPPENHEIMER: It certainly should, DAVE.

LILIENTHAL: ...ought to get straightened around on it, and I'm afraid don't quite understand how serious an error it is. Now on the primary plant thing, the man we talked to said he was quite willing to have the word "ownership and control," but the way it was drawn, the word ownership was out, but what was even worse was the word "ownership or." And that certainly is a curious—

OPPENHEIMER: That's crazy.

LILIENTHAL: ...and just insane. There's no—he was quite understanding about it. On the other point he seemed, I think, he was completely unpersuaded, but on this I think he is not.

OPPENHEIMER: Only one man came down—is that right?

LILIENTHAL: Yes, that's right.

OPPENHEIMER: Golly, golly.

LILIENTHAL: The other man—his principal is here, but he didn't come to this session.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah.

LILIENTHAL: The thing you were called about is what (most ?) shocking thing of all, of course.

OPPENHEIMER: Where did that come from—PROVES?

LILIENTHAL:

No. Well, it may have, but what he said was, he heard you mention "three months" across the table just as casual as that. Well—I mean—

OPPENHEIMER:

Oh, well.

LILIENTHAL:

...considering how desperate and important it was—well, anyway, they had other people read it, and he seemed personally satisfied that the whole thing was just a mistake.

OPPENHEIMER:

Yeah.

LILIENTHAL:

And I'm sure that will be modified.

OPPENHEIMER:

Good, yeah. I don't know that this is the place to ask the question, but one may of course raise the question of whether this talk on Friday makes any difference.

LILIENTHAL:

Whether whatever is said makes any difference?

OPPENHEIMER:

Yeah. I mean I think it is easy to exaggerate how much difference it will make.

LILIENTHAL:

Well, I'm glad to hear you say that.

OPPENHEIMER:

This is not said in optimism, Dave.

LILIENTHAL:

Yeah.

OPPENHEIMER:

But it is said in a kind of—with some sense of perspective.

LILIENTHAL:

That is the reason I was willing. I told him there were two ways of doing it. One was to say something that would permit any interpretation, and the other was to say something that was so clear and definite a commitment there would be trouble. That is why I still think, maybe, if we can get over this particular juncture, something else, in time it will be proof. But on the whole, the thing that is difficult to take is, quite clear the burden of understanding what makes this thing tick.

OPPENHEIMER:

No, absolutely none. There never has been.

LILIENTHAL:

That's the worst part.

OPPENHEIMER:

Yeah.

LILIENTHAL: These particular points, they can be routed out somehow. But the lack of understanding what the theme of this business is, is something you can't do very much about.

OPPENHEIMER: No, I've tried, of course, and I suppose a lot of people have tried.

LILIENTHAL: Yeah. Well, I've bet on that one...and there is just nothing I can do, I guess.

OPPENHEIMER: Are you finished with it now, Dave?

LILIENTHAL: Yeah.

OPPENHEIMER: Where are you going?

LILIENTHAL: I'm going home early in the morning.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah.

LILIENTHAL: He conveyed an invitation to be on hand Friday, and I'm sure that's wrong, and I won't be there.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah. Well, it may also be wrong for me to go, but I have a feeling that the situation is a little different, enough different so that I better take a chance on it.

LILIENTHAL: Well, each of these things are different. In my case, it's clearly wrong.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah, I agree.

LILIENTHAL: There are very valid reasons why, in any case, I've got to be home. That's what I want to tell you. It's a question of rises. The Congressional Sub-Committee, the Appropriations Sub-Committee, is coming down Friday afternoon, and will be there Saturday, and I wouldn't be there Saturday. So that just wouldn't work. I wouldn't, and I'm not going to ask for dispensation on it. That'll cover it.

OPPENHEIMER: Well, I haven't any idea what will happen. I'm plenty gloomy.

LILIENTHAL: I think the general impression will be that this is, although efforts will be made to kind of mix it up a little, for short time reasons, not important--I mean vanity reasons.

that will be accepted as, in the acceptance of the report, and in the furthering of it, and making it stronger with penalties, and that sort of business.

OPPENHEIMER: Well, what about these penalties, Dave. They worry me like hell. I mean, what is said about them?

LILIENTHAL: It's one of the worst psychological settings for this sort of thing I can imagine. But the whole heart of this thing is punishment. All those who transgress can die in punishment.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah. That's not right, is it?

LILIENTHAL: Oh, it's very bad. Even in the short run point of view, it'll take all the—

OPPENHEIMER: Take all the fun out of it.

LILIENTHAL: Take all the fun out of it.

OPPENHEIMER: But, they don't see that, and they never will. They just haven't lived in the right world.

LILIENTHAL: They have lived in an unreal world, and it is populated by figures and statistics, and bonds, and I can't understand it and they can't understand ours.

OPPENHEIMER: Yeah. Well, I'm awful glad you were there tonight if only because I think that all of us will have some day to answer whether we know what we have done and this is one of those cases.

LILIENTHAL: There is one very comforting thing to me. There are so many ways it could have been worse. The bomb...business is out and understood, I think, and a few of those things that would have been completely...the survey thing...those things would have made it impossible to have had a second chance are not there. There is a second chance and something may happen.

OPPENHEIMER: Well, I may call you, Dave, toward the week-end. I hope you wouldn't mind that.

LILIENTHAL: I'd be very glad indeed if you would.

OPPENHEIMER: I'll do my best, and you know it won't amount to a hill of beans. You will hear from me, even if it's only to say we're not doing so good. And thank you for calling me.

LILIENTHAL: Yes. Good night.

OPPENHEIMER: Good night, DAVE.

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

March 14, 1947

DIRECTOR, FBI

JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, also known as
JEROME ROBERT OPPENHEIMER
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

RECORDED
EX-20
116-2117-1

In response to a recent request of the Atomic Energy Commission for an applicant investigation of Jerome Robert Oppenheimer, Chairman of the General Advisory Committee, a summary of pertinent information contained in the Bureau's files concerning Oppenheimer's character, loyalty and associations was forwarded to the Commission.

It is believed, however, that the request of the Commission in this regard now offers an excellent opportunity to conduct an open and extensive investigation of Oppenheimer in an effort to definitely establish his present sympathies and loyalty.

This investigation should be afforded immediate and preferred attention, and all reports must be submitted so as to reach the Bureau no later than March 31, 1947. Investigation requiring the attention of other field divisions should be handled by teletype. It will be necessary to incorporate in the reports submitted only the results of this investigation.

The requested investigation is attached.

Attachment

CC - Albany
Los Angeles
New York
Newark
St. Louis

RWR:tlc

tlc

ENCL

EX-20

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
MAR 15 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAR 15 1947

RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAR 15 5 35 PM '47

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAR 15 6 08 PM '47

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

1-14
G. I. 23

TO : MR. LADD
FROM : V. P. [Signature]

DATE: March 14, 1947

SUBJECT: JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, also known as
JEROME ROBERT OPPENHEIMER; ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Reference is made to the memorandum of Mr. Tamm to the Director dated March 11, 1947, and captioned "General Advisory Committee, Atomic Energy Commission," recommending that upon the basis of the Atomic Energy Commission's request, we should seize the opportunity to conduct an open and extensive investigation of Oppenheimer.

It is believed that the character and associations of Oppenheimer have been definitely established in connection with a pending Bureau investigation, which investigation has utilized both technical and physical surveillances. Pertinent information concerning his character and associations is reflected in the summary memorandum which was recently furnished to the Atomic Energy Commission.

It would, therefore, appear that additional investigation to be conducted should be directed toward more definitely determining the loyalty of Oppenheimer at the present time. It appears that the best way of establishing this loyalty is to determine Oppenheimer's present views concerning the international control of atomic energy through interviews with prominent individuals with whom Oppenheimer has recently been closely associated, such as Dean Acheson, Assistant Secretary of State; Bernard Baruch, former United States representative to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission; Richard Tolman, former Scientific Adviser to Mr. Baruch; R. P. Feynman, former theoretical physicist at the Los Alamos Laboratory; Chester I. Barnard, President of the New Jersey Bell Telephone Company and associated with Oppenheimer in the preparation of the Acheson-Lilienthal Report on the International Control of Atomic Energy; Dr. Charles A. Thomas, Vice President and Technical Director of the Monsanto Chemical Company and formerly associated with Oppenheimer in the preparation of the Acheson-Lilienthal Report; and, Harry A. Winne, Vice President in Charge of Engineering Policy, General Electric Company, and a former associate of Oppenheimer in the preparation of the Acheson-Lilienthal Report.

Also, additional efforts can be made to determine whether or not Oppenheimer is presently in contact with known Communists. This information could probably best be obtained through a physical surveillance and by additional investigation at his recent residence addresses. ~~It is noted that the Bureau is currently conducting a physical surveillance of Oppenheimer and his associates and that the Bureau is also conducting a physical surveillance of the persons who are in contact with Oppenheimer and his associates.~~

RECOMMENDATIONS:

RECORDED 116-2717
EX-88

If you approve, there is attached a letter to the field requesting interviews with the recent associates of Oppenheimer, as named above, and requesting the San Francisco Field Division to conduct a physical surveillance of Oppenheimer for a period of two weeks, it being noted that the applicant investigation should be terminated by the end of this time.

It is recommended that Dean Acheson, Assistant Secretary of State, be interviewed by the Liaison Section of the Bureau.

[Signature]

5 MAR 25 1947

Re: JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, ALSO KNOWN AS
JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

All offices should endeavor to determine the identity of other reliable individuals who have recently been associated with Oppenheimer and who can be interviewed in connection with this investigation.

Albany:

Interview the following persons concerning the loyalty, character and associations of Oppenheimer: Harry A. Vinne, Vice President in Charge of Engineering Policy, General Electric Company, Schenectady, New York, and a former associate of Oppenheimer in the preparation of the Acheson-Lilienthal Report on the International Control of Atomic Energy; and, R. P. Feynman, Assistant Professor of Theoretical Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, and a former Theoretical Physicist at the Los Alamos Laboratory where Oppenheimer was employed.

Los Angeles:

Interview Richard Tolkan at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, who was former Scientific Adviser to Dr. Bernard Baruch, former United States representative to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission, concerning the loyalty, character and associations of Oppenheimer.

New York City:

Interview Dr. Bernard Baruch, former United States representative to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission, concerning the loyalty, character and associations of Oppenheimer.

Newark:

Interview Dr. Chester I. Barnard, President of the New Jersey Bell Telephone Company, and former associate of Oppenheimer in the preparation of the Acheson-Lilienthal Report on the International Control of Atomic Energy, concerning the loyalty, character and associations of Oppenheimer.

St. Louis:

Interview Dr. Charles A. Thomas, Vice-President and Technical Director of the Monsanto Chemical Company, St. Louis, and formerly associated with Oppenheimer in the preparation of the Acheson-Lilienthal Report on the Control of Atomic Energy concerning the loyalty, character and associations of Oppenheimer.

San Francisco:

Institute an immediate discreet physical surveillance of Oppenheimer for a period of two weeks for the purpose of determining his contacts with any individuals who are connected with any Communist movements. It is believed that

ENCLOSURE

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Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Carson _____
Egan _____
Gurnea _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Quinn Tamm _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

this surveillance is necessary only from the time Oppenheimer leaves his employment at the University until retiring. If determined that Oppenheimer is presently absent from San Francisco, the office covering his whereabouts should be immediately requested by teletype to institute the necessary surveillance and submit a report to the Bureau not later than March 31, 1947.

A statement should be included in the San Francisco report to the effect that on the basis of information furnished the Bureau by the Atomic Energy Commission, no criminal record concerning Oppenheimer was located in the files of the Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

* * * * *

In conducting all interviews, an attempt should be made to specifically determine the views of Oppenheimer in connection with the international control of atomic energy, as well as Oppenheimer's feelings in connection with the sharing of atomic energy secrets with Russia or other foreign governments.

All offices should, of course, perform any additional investigation which is believed to be logical and desirable in determining the character, loyalty and associations of Oppenheimer.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

AL FILE NO. 116-104

REPORT MADE AT ALBANY, NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 3/27/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/19,26/47	REPORT MADE BY DONALD E. RONEY
TITLE JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, aka Jerome Robert Oppenheimer			CHARACTER OF CASE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

RICHARD P. FEYNMAN, Assistant Professor of Theoretical Physics, Cornell University, advises he worked with Applicant at Los Alamos from April 1945 to October 1945. FEYNMAN has no doubts or suspicions concerning OPPENHEIMER'S loyalty and patriotism; knows nothing derogatory concerning him. HARRY A. WINNIE, Vice-President, GE, Schenectady, associated with OPPENHEIMER for approximately 7 weeks. WINNIE knows nothing derogatory regarding the Applicant; believes his loyalty unquestionable.

- RUC -

STATISTICS
 APR
 1947
 14
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RE: Bureau Letter to San Francisco, dated 3/14/47.

DETAILS: At Ithaca, New York:

RICHARD P. FEYNMAN, Assistant Professor of Theoretical Physics, Cornell University, advised upon interview that he was acquainted with JULIUS OPPENHEIMER and stated that he first met OPPENHEIMER in April 1945, when he, FEYNMAN, entered on duty at the Los Alamos Atomic Bomb Project, Los Alamos, New Mexico. OPPENHEIMER was in charge of bomb assembly at Los Alamos and FEYNMAN worked with him on this project until October 1945, when FEYNMAN left the project. FEYNMAN stated that he did not know OPPENHEIMER previous to April of 1945.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *A. Corning*
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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116-2717-28

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EX-8

41-1cc to Fletcher
4/12 9 AEC
60 MAY 3 1947

5- [Signature]

AL 116-104

Professor FEYNMAN stated that in all of his associations with OPPENHEIMER he had no occasion to doubt or have any suspicions concerning OPPENHEIMER'S patriotism or loyalty to the Government of the United States. FEYNMAN stated that he knew that OPPENHEIMER had very definite opinions concerning the use and dissemination of atomic information, stating that essentially OPPENHEIMER'S philosophy was that there should be free and unrestricted interchange of all scientific information between scientists of all nations.

With respect to the security of information pertaining to the atomic bomb, FEYNMAN stated that OPPENHEIMER'S belief was that information concerning the construction of atomic bombs and armaments should be entrusted to an international atomic authority, and that this body should have the power to disseminate atomic information to the various nations of the world when that body could satisfy itself that each nation would meet definite pre-established conditions concerning the use of such information, one such condition being that atomic energy should not be used by any nation as an implement of warfare.

FEYNMAN stated that the essence of OPPENHEIMER'S political philosophy could be found in the Lilienthal Report, a report concerning atomic energy and the security of atomic information prepared by DAVID LILIENTHAL, and which has been adopted by a committee of the U. S. Senate. FEYNMAN pointed out that OPPENHEIMER and LILIENTHAL had collaborated in the preparation of this report, and that to the best of FEYNMAN'S knowledge OPPENHEIMER had no political philosophies which were not expressed in that report.

FEYNMAN stated that he had the highest regard for OPPENHEIMER'S character, as well as his ability, and was of the opinion that even though OPPENHEIMER'S opinions should differ, he would nevertheless obey the laws and regulations of the Government, and would not in any way be disposed to give atomic information to any unauthorized persons.

FEYNMAN was unable to furnish any derogatory information concerning OPPENHEIMER.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

FILE NO. 116-313

REPORT MADE AT Chicago, Illinois	DATE WHEN MADE 4-3-47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/27, 31/47	REPORT MADE BY W. RULON PAXMAN WRP:bjb
TITLE JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, aka Jerome Robert Oppenheimer			CHARACTER OF CASE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Dr. ENRICO FERMI stated he believes Applicant to be of good character and loyalty to the United States. He knows nothing derogatory concerning Applicant's associations. Applicant, according to FERMI, had hopes for international control of atomic energy prior to the United States' use of the atomic bomb. These hopes were crystallized in the LILIENTHAL report. FERMI stated he believes Applicant is now disillusioned in this respect, and he is under the impression that Applicant is disappointed with the attitude of the USSR towards International Control of atomic energy.

Handwritten notes:
S.F.C.
L.L.L.
Oppenheimer

Handwritten: 100-1-86

APR 1947
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RECORDED

- RUC -

Reference Bureau teletype dated March 25, 1947.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

Doctor ENRICO FERMI, Professor of Physics, Institute of Nuclear Studies, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, who was one of the principal scientists in the development of the atomic bomb, advised that he has known the Applicant off and on for ten or fifteen years. His real acquaintance with the Applicant, however, started about 1943 in Los Alamos, New Mexico. He stated he was never intimate with the Applicant, although for a year and a half he was the Associate Director at Los Alamos while the Applicant was the Director. FERMI stated the Applicant has an attractive personality but is not given to the development of intimate friendships. Applicant commanded the loyalty of his associates at Los Alamos. Much of this loyalty was due to the respect of the recognized administrative and scientific ability of the Applicant. He did not

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *[Signature]*
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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play favorites and apparently through a personal decision decided he should have no close friends of a personal nature at Los Alamos.

FERMI advised that the Applicant's ideas on international control of atomic energy have been evolving since two or three months before the end of the war. About May, 1945, FERMI recalled discussing international control with the Applicant. At this time the Applicant stated that he was hopeful that international control would be developed for atomic energy and that international use and development of atomic energy would result. The Applicant expressed the idea that atomic energy would otherwise be too dangerous for the world since it would create distrust between the United States and countries which had not succeeded in developing atomic energy but would be interested in such development. FERMI stated that at that time he agreed with the Applicant that international control would be desirable but did not share the Applicant's hopes for early success in this direction.

FERMI advised that OPPENHEIMER and he, prior to the use of the atomic bomb, were members of a group designated to consider the policy of the military use of the atomic bomb. He advised that OPPENHEIMER expressed the wish that it would not be necessary to use the atomic bomb but recognized that its use was a military problem and that the whole purpose of the development of the atomic bomb was its possible use against an enemy nation.

FERMI advised that it is his impression that the Applicant's ideas with respect to the control of atomic energy were of a nature which would lead to the policy proposed in the LILLIENTHAL report. FERMI advised that he does not know, but suspects that OPPENHEIMER was the principal writer of the LILLIENTHAL report and that it contains essentially the ideas of OPPENHEIMER. He stated that he believes this, since the report is definitely in the same style of writing as OPPENHEIMER uses.

FERMI stated that he has seen OPPENHEIMER on numerous occasions in the recent past and that he was last with him on March 30, 1947. He stated that on this occasion they did not talk about anything which would have a bearing on international control of atomic energy, or which would give an indication of OPPENHEIMER's present ideas. According to FERMI, however, these various contacts which he has had in the recent past gave him the impression that OPPENHEIMER is now seriously disillusioned with respect to the chances of international control of atomic energy. FERMI referred to the idea of international control of atomic energy as OPPENHEIMER's "favorite idea." OPPENHEIMER, according to FERMI, has not made definite statements with respect to Russia in this regard which have come to the attention of FERMI. However, general discussions along the lines of international control have caused FERMI to be under the impression that he is disappointed in the attitude of the USSR with respect to atomic energy, and he had hoped that the USSR would take a more sympathetic attitude toward the proposals of

Chicago File #116-313

the United States pertaining to international control. He stated that he is, also, impressed that OPPENHEIMER may have believed that the exclusion of the veto power in connection with atomic energy would make it difficult for the USSR to accept international control. He stated, however, that he has no indication as to whether OPPENHEIMER believes the veto power should or should not have been included in the plan of the United States. OPPENHEIMER has said nothing which has come to the attention of FERMI either for or against the exclusion of veto power in international control.

FERMI advised that both OPPENHEIMER and his wife, KITTY OPPENHEIMER, are very bitter towards Nazism and Fascism. He stated that OPPENHEIMER's wife is German born and is probably more bitterly anti-Nazi and anti-fascist than is the Applicant.

✓ FERMI advised that insofar as he knows, OPPENHEIMER has no really close personal friends. He stated that the friends which he does have are largely associated with him because of scientific matters. FERMI stated that OPPENHEIMER's students are unusually loyal to him and place a great deal of weight on the action which OPPENHEIMER, himself, decides to take. FERMI did not recall that OPPENHEIMER had any real intimates on the project at Las Alamos.

✓ OPPENHEIMER is thoroughly honest, believed to be completely loyal to the United States, has a high degree of integrity, and a good character, according to FERMI. FERMI advised that OPPENHEIMER entered the project for the development of the atomic bomb at considerable personal sacrifice, and that every indication he has received is to the effect that this was done because of a duty OPPENHEIMER felt toward the United States. FERMI is of the opinion that OPPENHEIMER's first loyalty is to the United States, and that no matter what other feelings OPPENHEIMER might have, there would never be any question in OPPENHEIMER's mind as to where his first loyalty lay. FERMI advised that OPPENHEIMER and he always worked congenially together on the Los Alamos project, although they did differ rather seriously on the matter of the chances for international control. FERMI stated that OPPENHEIMER was always much more hopeful as to the possibilities of international control than was he.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1-16

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

FILE NO. **116-180**

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 4/5/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/21-25, 28; 4/2-4/4/47	REPORT MADE BY DAVID EDWIN TODD ER
TITLE JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER aka Jerome Robert Oppenheimer			CHARACTER OF CASE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Dr. OPPENHEIMER has been continuously employed by the University of California since 1929. He was granted leave of absence from 7/1/42 to 8/23/46, being restored to active status this latter date. Dr. ROBERT GORDON SPROUL, President of the University of California, and Dr. ERNEST O. LAWRENCE, Director of the Radiation Laboratory, Berkeley, California, advised that Dr. OPPENHEIMER was once regarded as a radical on the campus but he is thoroughly changed now and they are certain of his loyalty. They regard his opinion regarding international control of atomic energy as being in line with the policy of responsible Government officers. Other associates at the University of California are confident of his loyalty. Dr. RAYMOND T. BIRGE, head of the Physics Department, said that Dr. OPPENHEIMER has had greater influence than any other one man on the United States policy of atomic control. Credit record satisfactory. No criminal record this area or on file at Washington, D.C.

*cc AEC
1-2-47
4/11/47*

G.I.R.

N O
 A.D.
 1947
 14
 STATIST

RUC.

REFERENCE: Letter from the Bureau to San Francisco, dated March 14, 1947.

DETAILS: This investigation was conducted jointly by Special Agents CHARLES F. BRUSCH and the writer.

The applicant is more generally known as J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, his full name being JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER.

*cc Mary
3/31/47
9/1/47*

Shirley M. K...

APPROVED FOR WTRD	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (AMSD) 3 San Francisco		DISCREET 41-XE 19 APR 19 5 RUC

*1 photo cc to AG
8-26-49
1cc to Fletcher
4/13 - 2 AEC
164*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. LADD

DATE: April 12, 1947

FROM : V. P. KEAY

SUBJECT: JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, aka JEROME ROBERT OPPENHEIMER
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Reference is made to the memorandum of Mr. Tamm to the Director dated March 11, 1947, recommending additional investigation of Oppenheimer.

The additional investigation outlined in my memorandum to you dated March 14, 1947, has now been completed, and the information obtained is summarized as follows:

G. I. R. - 5

SURVEILLANCE

A physical surveillance of Oppenheimer was conducted from March 20 through April 5, during which time his activities and contacts were observed in Berkeley, California, Washington, D. C., and Los Alamos, New Mexico. He was not observed to be in contact with any individuals of known Communist sympathies or to have engaged in any unusual activity.

FAVORABLE INTERVIEWS

The following prominent individuals with whom Oppenheimer has been associated in recent years were interviewed and all agreed that Oppenheimer's loyalty to the United States is unquestioned. They further agreed that he does not favor the sharing of atomic information with Russia or any other foreign power and is an advocate of strong international control of atomic information. His specific views concerning this matter are reportedly reflected in the Acheson-Ruffin report which he assisted in preparing.

INDEXED 116-717-12

- Robert F. Bacher, Member of the Atomic Energy Commission;
- Chester I. Barnard, President, New Jersey Bell Telephone Company;
- Bernard M. Baruch, former United States representative to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission;
- Dr. Raymond T. Birge, Professor of Physics and Chemistry, University of California;
- Dr. Vannevar Bush, President, Carnegie Institute, Washington, D. C.;
- Dr. Harold F. Cherniss, Professor of Greek, University of California;
- Dr. Leo A. DuBridge, President, California Institute of Technology, and member of the General Advisory Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission;
- Richard P. Feynman, Assistant Professor of Theoretical Physics, Cornell University;
- Dr. Enrico Fermi, Professor of Physics, Institute of Nuclear Studies, University of Chicago, and Member of General Advisory Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission;
- John M. Hancock, Financier, New York City, and former Member of the United States Delegation to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission;

60 APR 25 1947 154

RWR:tlc

Handwritten initials and signature at bottom right.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

- ✓ W. A. Higgenbotham, Executive Secretary, Federation of American Scientists, and former employee at the Los Alamos Laboratory;
- ✓ Dr. Ernest O. Lawrence, Professor of Physics, and Director of the Radiation Laboratory, University of California;
- ✓ Arnold Nordsieck, Physicist with the Bell Telephone Laboratory, New York City, and former Professor of Physics at Columbia University;
- ✓ Dr. Linus Pauling, Chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, and Member of the Executive Committee, California Institute of Technology;
- ✓ Dr. Kenneth S. Pitzer, Professor of Chemistry, University of California;
- Miss Agnes R. Robb, Administrative Secretary to the President, University of California;
- ✓ Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul, President, University of California;
- ✓ Dr. Charles A. Thomas, Technical Director and Vice President, Monsanto Chemical Company, and Project Director of the Manhattan Project, Oak Ridge, Tennessee;
- ✓ Richard Tolman, Professor of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics, California Institute of Technology, and former Scientific Adviser to Bernard Baruch, former United States representative to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission;
- ✓ Harry A. Winnie, Vice President, General Electric Company, Schenectady, New York; and,
- ✓ Dr. Don M. Yost, Professor of Inorganic Chemistry, California Institute of Technology.

DEROGATORY INFORMATION

In addition to the favorable comments concerning the present loyalty and character of Oppenheimer, the following individuals furnished information concerning his unfavorable associates and activities in the past.

Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul, President of the University of California, stated that he realized that Oppenheimer had been called a radical several years ago. He stated that Oppenheimer had been a fool about fifteen years ago due to immature judgment and had associated with a group of students who were radically inclined, but that Dr. Oppenheimer is now fully matured, has come down to earth, and has discontinued his association with this group, and is further thoroughly embarrassed by his past indiscretions. Dr. Sproul stated that he had a long conversation with Oppenheimer on his return to the University of California last fall after a leave of absence while working on the atomic bomb project. At this time Oppenheimer expressed his surprise that Dr. Sproul consented to take him back on the faculty because of Oppenheimer's foolish associations in the past. Oppenheimer at this time advised Dr. Sproul that he was ashamed and embarrassed because of such associations. Dr. Sproul explained Oppenheimer's past liberal or radical activities by characterizing Oppenheimer as a theoretical physicist and a man looking for new ideas. He stated that he is certain that Oppenheimer has no pro-Russian feeling whatsoever.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Dr. Ernest O. Lawrence, Professor of Physics and Director of the Radiation Laboratory, University of California, stated that in the early 1930's Oppenheimer had been active in the American Federation of Teachers which he called a Leftist group, and at that time Oppenheimer had gained a reputation of being a radical person and a sort of left winger. Dr. Lawrence stated that this is all now a closed chapter of Oppenheimer's life and that he is entirely a different person, and quite embarrassed by references to his past activity. Oppenheimer has reportedly told Dr. Lawrence that he has "had the rash and is now immune." Dr. Lawrence explained that Oppenheimer is a very friendly person and inclined to be inoffensive and due to this nature is inclined to let some of his friends impose on him. For example, Dr. Lawrence stated that Oppenheimer recently declined to talk at a dinner being given by the North California Branch of the Federation of American Scientists, but did agree to attend the dinner. In discussing this matter with Oppenheimer, Dr. Lawrence advised him that he should not even have agreed to attend the dinner since this alone was tacit approval of the aims of this organization. Oppenheimer agreed with Dr. Lawrence but stated that he disliked to offend any of his friends, and for this reason only had agreed to attend the dinner, but advised that he was definitely not sponsoring or in agreement with the aims of the organization. Dr. Lawrence added that he could not speak too highly of Oppenheimer at the present time and that he has the greatest confidence in him.

Dr. Vannevar Bush, President of Carnegie Institute, Washington, D. C., stated that Oppenheimer was definitely pro-Communist and pro-Russia prior to the beginning of World War II and that he had many friends and associates of pro-Communist inclinations. Dr. Bush, however, advised that Oppenheimer is now definitely not pro-Russian, although he might still be described as a "liberal." Dr. Bush further stated that Oppenheimer's brother is "definitely to the Left, associates with pro-Communist groups and persons, and is believed to be a member of the Communist Party" and that in addition, Oppenheimer's wife was formerly married to a Communist. Dr. Bush concluded his remarks by expressing his belief that Oppenheimer has broken off his associations with previous questionable friends of Communist Party leanings.

ACTION:

If you approve, there is attached a letter to Mr. David E. Lilienthal, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, enclosing the reports reflecting the aforementioned investigation.

✓

Attachment



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Suite 426 - 111 Sutter Street
San Francisco, California
April 3, 1947



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 116-180

AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

RE: JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the letter from the San Francisco Field Division to the Bureau dated July 29, 1946, entitled JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, INTERNAL SECURITY - R. This letter set forth information furnished by [redacted] of the Army Intelligence Office, Presidio, San Francisco. [redacted] stated that at one time during the investigation of J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER by the Counter Intelligence Corps, OPPENHEIMER approached a CIC Agent and inquired if he, OPPENHEIMER, was under investigation as a Communist. According to [redacted] the CIC Agent told Oppenheimer this was possible, whereupon OPPENHEIMER wrote on a piece of paper: "This is to certify that the undersigned is a member of the Communist Party in good standing, signed J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER". [redacted] said that this paper was filed with Manhattan Engineer District records relative to OPPENHEIMER.

The files of what was formerly known as the Intelligence and Security Division of the Manhattan Engineer District, Berkeley, California, now known as the Security Division of the Atomic Energy Commission, have been made available to this office. Agents of the San Francisco Field Division have thoroughly reviewed all material on file concerning J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, without finding any reference to such an incident. It is possible however, that records of such an occurrence might be on file at other DSM Project installations where OPPENHEIMER was employed.

In connection with the present inquiry for the Atomic Energy Commission, the Bureau may desire to conduct further investigation in an effort to verify the above described incident, by examining the files at Washington, D. C., formerly maintained by the Intelligence and Security Division of the Manhattan Engineer District, in the event such files are still available.

RECORDED 116-2717-36
EX-47

It is to be pointed out, however, that [redacted] specifically requested that his disclosure of the matter be kept secret and his identity as the original source should be protected.

*2-25
47
No record in full that [redacted] knows nothing about this incident.
3-10-47
JED
JED*

*Photo San Francisco
4-9-47
5-10-47
PMB*

69 MAY

Director, FBI from SAC, San Francisco

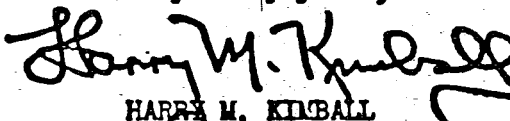
April 3, 1947

RE: JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

This was previously called to the attention of the Bureau for information purposes. At that time the evaluation of the matter made by this office was that such an incident, even though completely verified, would not be overly significant in identifying OPPENHEIMER with the Communist movement in that such action as was ascribed to OPPENHEIMER would appear more in the light of efforts on his part to belittle and ridicule the CIC Agent, rather than as a voluntary admission on the part of OPPENHEIMER admitting Communist membership.

This allegation should, however, be explored for possible information of value and it will be appreciated if the Bureau would furnish this office with all information available concerning the alleged incident described above.

Very truly yours,


HARRY M. KILBALL
Special Agent in Charge

DET:eh
116-180

cc - 100-3132

MR. LADD

November 10, 1947

V. P. [redacted]

70516

JULIUS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

During the course of a current investigation concerning [redacted] who is employed at Los Alamos, New Mexico in connection with the Atomic Energy Commission Program, the San Francisco Field Division interviewed Dr. Leonard Loeb of the Physics Department, University of California at Berkeley, California. Dr. Loeb advised that in 1935, [redacted] became involved in several relations with one [redacted], a mathematics student at the university, who was an individual of homosexual tendencies and at the time was living with Robert Oppenheimer.

It was further stated by Dr. Loeb that it was common knowledge around the campus that prior to Oppenheimer's marriage he was possessed with homosexual tendencies and at that time was having an affair with [redacted]

this info furnished to edw. Hoagrich orally 12-1-47 by RWF

ACTION:

This information is being submitted to you as a matter of possible interest.

A portion of the investigation concerning [redacted] has been completed and copies of the reports have been furnished to the Atomic Energy Commission. All interested Field Offices have been instructed to continue the investigation concerning [redacted] giving the matter preferential and expeditious attention.

MARK
[redacted]

116-16980

CC: 100-17828
116-2717 ✓

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

EX-104

RECORDED 116-2717-41

F B I
70 NOV 17 1947

- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Tracy
- Egan
- Gurnea
- Harbo
- Bendish
- Perkins
- Quinn Tamm
- Nease
- Beahm
- Gandy

R335

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CRD