bd 1

Bohm

- DAVID JOSEPH BOHM, called as a witness, having first been sworn, testified as follows:

 BY MR. DONEGAN:
- Q Will you give your full name to the reporter?

 A My name is David Joseph Bohm.
 - Q You are a professor at Princeton University? A Yes
 - Q Professor of Mathematics? A Physics.
 - Q And you have a Ph.D. degree? A Yes.
- Q And you are generally addressed as Dr. Bohm?

 A Yes, either -- "Doctor" is all right.
- Q Now, Dr. Bohm, will you give your resident address, please? A I'm now living at 1 Evelyn Place, Princeton, New Jersey.
- Q Dr. Bohm, you understand that this is a Federal Grand Jury sitting in the Southern District of New York?

 A Yes.
- Q And you are here in response to a subpoena which was served on you by the Marshal? A Yes.
- Q Will you briefly give this Grand Jury some information on your background? Now, when I say "your background" I mean where you were born, where you were educated and your occupation. A Well, "was born in Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania.
- Q Might I interrupt you just one minute; I forgot something. With reference to this subpoena, have you consulted an attorney? A Yes.

- Q Will you give his name and business address?

 A His name is Herman Rosenfeld, and his business address is 38 Park Row.
- Q And he has advised you with reference to your appearance before this Grand Jury? A Yes.
- Q I would like to advise you, Dr. Bohm, that you have the right to refuse to answer a question if you reasonably believe and it appears reasonable that your answer to the question might incriminate or degrade you. Do you understand that? A Yes.
 - Q Has your lawyer so advised you? A Yes.
- Q Now, to go back to the question I asked you about your background, will you tell the Grand Jury, in your own words, your background? A Well, I was born in Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, and -- do you want me to give my educational background?
 - Q Yes. A I --
- Q You can skip grade school and high school. The university background. A I went to the Pennsylvania State College in 1935 and there I studied four years. I got my B.S. degree in Physics in 1939. And then I went to the California Institute of Technology for two years, studying physics, and then I went to the University of California and got my Ph.D. degree about a year and a half later.
- Q Would you try to put that in chronological order? When did you attend the University of California?

- A I attended the University of California starting in the fall of 1941.
- Q And you graduated when? A About '43. I can't remember the precise date.
 - Q Well, approximately. A In 1943.
 - Q And when did you receive your Ph. Degree? A In 1943.
 - Q And that was in Physics? A Physics.
- Q Have you done any other graduate work? A No; except at California Tech, which I mentioned.
- Q Have you written any books? A I just finished writing a book on a subject which I have taught in Princeton University.
- Q What's the title of the book? A Quantum Theory.

 It is not yet published. Now, since that -- do you want me to continue?
- Q Yes, if you please. If you will, try to remember, keep your voice up, because you have a tendency to drop -- A Well, since that time I worked in the University of California Radiation Laboratory until 1946, and then I worked in the University of California for six months as a Research Associate, ending early in 1947, and then I came to Princeton University and I have been there since.
- Q Are you associated with the College or the Institute For Advanced Studies? A The Princeton University, which is not the Institute For Advanced Studies. That is a separate institution.

- Q You are not associated with the Institute For Advanced Study? A No.
- Q Dr. Bohm, do you know an individual named Joseph W. Weinberg? A Well, after consultation with my attorney, I'm afraid I'll have to decline to answer that question because of the possibility that it may tend to incriminate me.
- Q You say that after consultation with your attorney -did you discuss, with your attorney, Joseph Weinberg?

 A Well, I mean we -- I think that we -- I mean, we decided
 not -- that I couldn't discuss in detail precisely our discussions, that --
- Q I'm not asking you to give your conversation with the -- with your attorney. The reason asked you that question is that you say after consultation with your attorney, and the implication in your answer is that you considered that particular question with reference to Weinberg. A We considered a general line of questions.
- Q I'll repeat the question again. Do you know Joseph W. Weinberg? A Well, I must decline to answer that, on the grounds that it may tend to incriminate me.
- Q Do you know Giovani Rossi Lomanitz? A I must decline to answer on the same grounds.
- Q Do you know Max Bernard Freidman? A I must decline to answer that question, too, on the same grounds.
- Q I show you a photograph which was taken in June, June 3, 1943, of four men standing under a sign "University

of California, Campus Limits," and ask you if you can identify any of the individuals in this photograph? A Well, I must decline to answer that, again on the same grounds.

- Q When you say "the same grounds" you mean on the grounds of self-incrimination? A The possibility of self-incrimination.
- Q Now, I call your attention more specifically to the individual second from the right, and ask you to closely examine that and see if you can identify that individual.

 I'm not clear on the person. I mean, if you will -
 A Well, I think + still have to answer the same way.
- Q I ask you, isn't that a picture of yourself?

 A Well --

BY THE JURY:

Q Well, is it, Dr. Bohm? Isn't that a picture of yourself? A Well, I still answer the same way; I mean, to answer that might incriminate me.

[The photograph referred to was marked Grand Jury Exhibit No. 1, this date.]

BY MR. DONEGAN:

- Q Again calling your attention to this photograph identified as Grand Jury Exhibit 1, I ask you if the individual second from the right -- if the photograph of the individual second from the right is a photograph of you?

 A Well, I'll say it's a photograph of me.
 - Q That is a photograph of you? A Yes.

Q Now, with reference to the other three individuals, can you identify them for the Grand Jury? A Well, I decline to answer that question, on the ground of the possibility of self-incrimination.

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JUROR: Was the answer responsive? I didn't hear the answer.

MR. DONEGAN: Yes. He declines on the gounds of self-incrimination.

BY THE JURY:

- Q Dr. Bohm, when did you become a full Professor of Physics? A I'm not a full Professor. That is a mistake.
- Q I thought you said you were. A No. That's a mistake on the subpoena.

BY MR. DONEGAN:

Q And when did you become an Assistant Professor? A That's when I first came to Princeton.

BY THE JURY:

- Q That is, your appointment? A Yes, sir.
- BY MR. DONEGAN:
- Q I think you gave the date. Will you give it again?
 A 1947.
- Q Have you ever met, talked with, had any correspondence with an individual known to you as Steve Nelson? A I must decline to answer that question, on the grounds that answering it might tend to incriminate me.
 - Q I show you a photograph of an individual kmown as

Steve Nelson, and ask you if you can identify this photograph of an individual you have ever met, had any conversation with or talked with in a group? A I decline to answer this question, for the same reason; that is, self-incrimination.

[The photograph referred to was marked Grand Jury Exhibit No. 2, this date.]

- Q Have you ever met, had any conversations with, corresponded with or had any personal correspondence with a woman by the name of Bernadette Doyle? A I decline to answer that question, also on the grounds of the possibility of self-incrimination.
- Q I show you two photographs, one a full-length photograph and one a head photograph of Bernadette Doyle, and ask you if you have had any contact with that woman? A Well, I decline to answer, again on the same ground of self-incrimination.

[The two photographs referred to were marked Grand Jury Exhibits Nos. 3 and 3-A, respectively, this date.]

- Q Do you know a Dr. Frank Charles Collins, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, Brooklyn, New York? A I never heard of him.
- Q Have you ever had any contacts with an individual known to you as Dr. Collins at the University of California?

 A Well, not to my knowledge. Is it the same one?
 - Q Well, your answer should be responsive to the ques-

tion as to whether you had any contact with an individual known to you as Dr. Collins. A Well, I mean, I'll simply say that I remember no such contact.

- Q You have no recollection? A No.
- Q Dr. Bohm, try to keep up -- and if you want to take some time in considering your answer, that's perfectly all right, if you want to phrase it; but it's important that the Grand Jurors and the reporter hear it. Did you appear before the Committee on Un-American Activities? A Yes.
- Q Were you asked any questions concerning a Dr. Collins at that Committee? A I can't remember. I'm sure it's all in the record.
- Q Well, I didn't ask you that now, Doctor. I understand that. But I'm asking -- the record is not being considered here; it's your testimony. So -- A Well, I don't recall precisely what I was asked about. I was asked about quite a few people at that time.
 - Q Have you ever been contacted by the FBI? A Yes.
 - Q Did the FBI ask you questions? A The same questions.
 - Q The same questions? A As you have asked.
 - Q And did you answer the questions? A No.
- $\mathbb Q$ Is it true that you refused to answer the questions? A Yes.
- Q When did you start your work at the Radiation
 Laboratory of the University of California? In 1943. Can
 you give the month? A I'm not very precise about that, I

can't remember too well. It was probably in '42.

- 0 In '42? A Yes.
- 4 Your best recollection is in '42? A About November.
- Q About November, 1942? A Yes.
- Q And in connection with your work at the Radiation Laboratory you were engaged in research projects concerning atomic energy? A Yes.
- Q Were you a part-time physicist consultant, was that your designation, or were you a full-time -- A I don't recall precisely. I think I was part-time for a while and then full-time later.
- Q Will you identify your supervisor at that -- A My general supervisor?
- Q Your general supervisor. A Well, I mean, my immediate supervisor was Dr. Eldrid Nelson, I believe -- I can't remember at that precise time -- and I mean, more generally we were working in the group under Dr. Robert Oppenheimer.
- Q In connection with your employment at the Radiation Laboratory was Joseph W. Weinberg also employed? A Well, again I can't answer that question, on the ground of the possibility of self-incrimination.
- Q Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Farty? A I decline to answer that question, on the grounds of the possibility of self-incrimination.
 - Q Have you ever met, talked with or had any contacts

with whatsoever an individual named Irving Fox? A I decline to answer that question, because of the possibility of self-incrimination.

- Q Have you ever attended any meetings of the Young Communist League? A I decline to answer that question, because of the possibility of self-incrimination.
- Q Have you ever attended any meetings of the Communist Party? A I decline to answer that question, because of the possibility of self-incrimination.
- Q Were you present at a group meeting in Weinberg's apartment on or about August 17, 1943, at which time were present Steve Nelson, Bernadette Doyle, Joseph Weinberg, Irving Fox, Rossi Lomanitz and Max Freidman? A I decline to answer that question, because of the possibility of self-incrimination.
- Q Do you know or have you had any contact with a person known to you as Hans Hoffman? A I decline to answer that question, because of the possibility of self-incrimination.
- Q Do you know or have you had any contact with an Ann Hoffman? A I decline to answer that question, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.
- Q Do you know or have you had any contact with an individual named Martin Chester? A I decline to answer that question, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.
 - Do you know or have you had any contact with

Wilhemine Loughrey? A I decline to answer that question, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.

- Q Have you ever visited the home of your superior, Dr. Nelson? A No.
- Crouch? A I decline to answer that, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.
- Q Have you ever met or had any contact with an individual named Sylvia Crouch? A I decline to answer that, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.
- Q Have you ever had any contact with an individual named Libby Burke? A I decline to answer that, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.
- Q I show you a photograph of the front view of a house located at 2427 Blake Street, Berkeley, California, which is the home of an individual named Weinberg, and ask you if you have ever been in this house? A I decline to answer that question, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.

[The photograph referred to was marked Grand Jury Exhibit No. 4, this date.]

- Q Will you give the Grand Jury the addresses of your residences in Berkeley? A Well, I'm sure I don't remember them all.
- Q Well, to the best of your recollection, as far as you can recall. A I lived at 38 Mosswood Road, at some-

and somewhere in DeWitt Way -- I can't remember the number - and somewhere on -- well, there is a street which I just can't catch right now, there is a final street which I just can't seem to remember right now.

- Q Have you ever resided on Channing Way? A Channing Way. Let me see. Well, not to my recollection.
- Q I show you a photograph -- A Let me think. I don't think so.
- Q You don't think so. Your best recollection is that you have never lived on Channing Way in Berkeley, California?

 A No. I have lived near there, but not on there.
- Q I show you a photograph of a house designated as 2632-2634 Channing Way, Berkeley, California, and ask you if you have ever been in this house? A I decline to answer that question, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.
- Q Do you identify that house as the residence of Bernadette Doyle? A I decline to answer that question, because the answer may tend to incriminate me.

[The photograph referred to was marked Grand Jury Exhibit No. 5, this date.]

Q With reference to Grand Jury Exhibit No. 1, which is a photograph of Joseph Weinberg, Giovani Lomanitz, David Bohm and Max Freidman, Dr. Bohm, did you know any of those -- either of these three individuals, other than yourself, under any other name? A I decline to answer that question, because the answer may incriminate me.

Q Did you know them on or about June 3, 1943, under any other name? A I decline to answer, again because the answer may tend to incriminate me.

JUROR: Mr. Donegan, would you care to ask who took the picture?

- Q Dr. Bohm, again referring to Grand Jury Exhibit No. 1, which is a photograph of four individuals including yourself, will you tell this Grand Jury who took this picture, since you are one of the persons standing in the group?

 A Well, I'm sure I don't know who took the picture, I don't know the man.
- Q Have you a recollection of the picture being taken?

 A Well, I decline to answer that question, because it may tend to incriminate me.
- Q I would like to, with the permission of the Foreman and the Grand Jury, excuse this witness for a few minutes. Will you wait outside, Dr. Bohm?

[WITNESS EXCUSED]

(Mr. Donegan)

Bohm

DAVID JOSEPH BOHM, recalled,

testified as follows:

BY MR. DONEGAN:

- Q Dr. Bohm, are you married? A No.
- Q I assume by that answer, you never have been married? A No.

A JUROR: How old are you, doctor?
THE WITNESS: Thirty-two.

- Q Have you any close relatives? A Well, yes.
- Q What are they will you identify them? A My father and my mother.
- Q Where do they reside? A My father is in Philadelphia, and my mother is in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

A JUROR: Any brothers or sisters?

THE WITNESS: I have one brother.

- Q Where is your brother employed? A He is in Pottsville, Pennsylvania.
- Q What does he do? A Well, he is just teaching in a small school of some kind.
- Q Do you know what type of school it is A No, I don't know, precisely.
- Q Is it a high school? A No, it is some sort of trade school.
- Q Did you make an application form - I withdraw that question - was it necessary for you to submit an

application form when you became associated with Princeton University? A What kind of form?

- Q Any kind of application form. A I can remember some kind of contract which I signed, which probably had my name and some kind of application.
- Q Were you ever employed by the Government in any manner whatsoever? A Not directly.
- Q Well, indirectly? A Well, if you would call the Radiation Laboratory -
- Q Wasn't it necessary for you to fill out certain forms in connection with your association at the Radiation Laboratory? A Well, --
 - What is the answer? A I assume it was.

 A JUROR: What is that?

THE WITNESS: I said, as far as I can remember it was.

- Q Dr. Bohm, you must have some recollection on that point. After all, that was a very important happening in your career. Did you sign a form acknowledging that you knew that that was a highly confidential and secret project, concerned with the national defense? A Well, I am afraid I will have to decline to answer that on the grounds that it may tend to incriminate me.
- Q Have you a recollection of signing any forms at the time you became associated with the Radiation Laboratory? A I have to decline to answer that on the grounds

that it may tend to incriminate me.

Q I want you to carefully consider that question, and also to recall my statement to you, that your refusals to answer questions on the grounds of self-incrimination have to be based on reasonable grounds; and my question was: Do you recall signing any forms whatsoever, submitted by the Government? I haven't identified the forms. I asked you, do you recall signing any forms whatsoever? A I think I still have to decline to answer that question upon the grounds of the possibility of self-incrimination.

Q In connection with your employment and association with the Radiation Laboratory at the University of California, were you told by any of your fellow employees, or by your supervisor or superiors on that project, that that was concerned with a national defense project? A Well, yes. When I joined the project, I was told it was a war project.

A JUROR: We can't hear you.

THE WITNESS: I was told when I joined the project, it was connected with the war effort.

A JUROR: With what?

THE WITNESS: That it was a war project.

Q And when you were told that that was a war project, were you asked to sign any form to the effect that you understood it was a war project? A Well, I can't remember whether I signed any form with that particular

statement in it.

- Q Do you recall signing any forms? A I signed some kind of form, I will say that.
 - Q You did sign some kind of a form? A Yes.

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- Q Do you have any recollection of any statement to the effect that your work would be confidential, in connection with the war project? A Well, I can't recollect that, but it is not impossible that it was in there.
- Q Now, Dr. Bohm, I think you must remember this: that you are a man of high intellectual development, and this Grand Jury is made up of people of the world, experienced people, and it is rather difficult to believe that you could not recall signing something having to do with the importance or secrecy of a war project. A Well, I will say that I can't remember the precise phraseology of everything that I signed, but I am quite sure I must have signed a statement like that, and I am sure that people told me it was a secret project.
- Q Well, is it correct to say that it was your understanding that this was a secret war project? A Yes.
- Q Now, did you ever discuss your work on this secret war project with any individuals who were not entitled to this information? Do you understand my question? A Yes.
- Q You do? A Yes. Well, to my recollection I have never discussed it with anyone except someone who was

on the project.

Q Did you ever discuss your work with Joseph Weinberg? A Again I can't answer that question because of the possibility of self-incrimination.

Q I would like to point out, Dr. Bohm, that you have told the Grand Jury that you have only discussed your work on this project with persons employed on the project, and with reference to Joseph Weinberg the question is necessarily related to your previous answer.

Now, I want you carefully to weigh your answer, for the purpose of considering whether you would not want to change it. A (No answer.)

Q I might interrupt your deliberations, Dr. Bohm, and point out to you, although you might realize it at the present time, that the functions of a Grand Jury are quite different from a Congressional Committee.

The proceedings in a Grand Jury - - first of all, the Grand Jury is part of the judicial system of this country, and although our judicial system might have many faults, I think it is generally agreed among thinking people that it is the best we can get with the human limitations involved.

Now, this is a secret proceeding. These people are in this Grand Jury because they have been chosen by lot, and are performing their duties as citizens of the country.

None of them is being paid for it, except a pittance of

expenses. They are sacrificing their business and everything else.

They are just as much interested in seeing that justice and fairness, and the laws which safeguard our civil liberties, are administered, as the most ardent scapbox orator, concerning the importance of preserving our civil liberties.

They haven't sat down and said, "We would like to have Dr. Bohm here to embarrass him." You at some time in your career, by fate or something else which we can't identify, have found yourself in a web of circumstances. Those circumstances have become quite important. They are important from many points of view.

First of all, this is not a perfect world, as you well realize, and there have been many false hopes held out by various ideologies. We are now down to the grim business of preserving our own country, and that is our only criterion. To preserve our own country, we have to be sure that it is strong. We have to take every step that we can to eliminate any weaknesses.

Now, many people are concerned about the fact that in our efforts to keep what freedoms we have, we might lose some of those freedoms. I think that the Grand Jury process is one of our greatest safeguards to the preservation of those freedoms.

As I said before, this is not a proceeding to develop

headlines or to embarrass an individual, or to advance the career of some prominent individual. We are trying to get at facts. We are all citizens in a common cause.

You have been asked to come here and give testimony. The record testifies to the fact that you are an individual of high intellectual development. You have certain gifts which have been developed. I do think that, having developed in a country where you have had the opportunity of exercising your gifts, where you have great freedom, that you should seriously consider whether you don't have a moral obligation — I am not talking about patriotism, but I am talking about your moral obligation—to yourself, to remove the stigma of sitting before twenty—three people, your fellow citizens, and refusing to give information on important matters.

You have the right, under the Constitution, to do that; but, as I said before, nobody can ever mistake that the Grand Jury is not engaged in a "witch hunt." After all, no matter what our personal thoughts are, with reference to religion or what obligations we have, we all have to face ourselves, or realize curselves whether we have any standards, whether there isn't something superior to our own selfish interests.

Now, as I said before, your associations, your background, what circumstances or fate has thrown you into at some time or another, is something that is perhaps not

within your control. But as an important member of the community, as an Associate Professor at one of the leading universities in the country, I wonder whether you would want to be in the position of letting the record stand the way it is, with reference to some of the questions that have been asked you. A Well, I realize the seriousness of the business, but I still feel I have no choice but to let the record stand as it is.

- Q Do you want to make any statement to the Grand Jury, do you want to say anything to the Grand Jury?

 A Well, I don't have anything in particular to say.
- Q Do you want to comment on anything I have said to you? A No. I think the proceedings are very fair, but I must follow my own conclusions.
 - Q Dr. Bohm, have you ever given any information concerning the Radiation Project to any members of the Communist Party, any people known to you as being members of the Communist Party? A Again, I can't answer that question because of the possibility of self-incrimination.
 - Q I think that, with the Grand Jury's permission, I will excuse this witness, with the instructions that the Grand Jury will want you to appear before them again at some time in the future. A Do you have any idea of when?
 - Q No. That is at the Grand Jury's pleasure.

 The Marshal will get in touch with you. A If I should decide to go on a vacation, will that be all right?

Q Where will you go, and how long will you be?
A Well, I have been planning to go to Colorado.

Q Well, for the purpose of the record, will you please tell us where you are going and how long you will be there? A I don't know my precise address, but I will give it to you when I know. I will be in Aspen, Colorado, for a while.

I had thought of going to California, too. I can certainly give you my address when I know.

Q I can say that the Grand Jury will definitely want you to appear before them again, and you should - - when you have definite information concerning your whereabouts, if you will address a communication to me then I will keep the Grand Jury informed as to your whereabouts. A Yes.

MR. DONEGAN: Are there any other instructions by the Grand Jury?

A JUROR: I would like to have the witness wait outside for one moment, and then I will ask him the question.

MR. DONEGAN: Will you wait outside for a moment?

(WITNESS EXCUSED)