Perl

Re: John Doe

(Mr. Lane)

WILLIAM PERL, called as a witness,
having first been duly sworn by the Foreman,
testified as follows:

## BY MR. LANE:

- Q Mr. Perl, you have been advised by counsel before you appeared here, is that right? A Yes.
- Q And he advised you of your constitutional rights A Yes.
- And he also advised you to tell the truth, to tell everything that you know about this and try to be -- he told you to try to be as cooperative as you could, isn't that correct? A Yes.
- Q At least, that is what he told me, and I assume he told you the same thing. A Yes, he did.
- Where is your home at the present time? A In the city here?
- Q No where you live. A 666 East 103rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Do you have a telephone number? A Glenville 1 4247.
- Q Where are you employed? A With the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory, that is at Cleveland Airport.
- And in what capacity? A My title is Aeronautical Research Scientist. I do theoretical research on aerodynamic problems.

- Q What is your salary? A It is about seven or eight thousand dollars base pay.
- Who is your boss? A The United States Government.
- Who is your immediate superior? A I should say Mr. Abe Silverstein. I work somewhat independently, but he is my immediate as well as more distant superior.
- Q And just what sort of work do you do? Can you explain it in a minute or two? A Yes, I think so. I work independently, with one or two associates, at the present time on theoretical problems relating to the flow of air around airplane wings.

Well, a typical problem would be that of trying to calculate, without testing, the forces acting on an airplane wing, and to a certain degree of approximation; and that, of course, would enable people to design airplane wings without the necessity of testing them.

A typical problem would be to compute on paper the forces acting on airplane wings, by using the basic laws of physics. Shall I go into any more detail?

- Q I think that is enough. Do you work with jet propulsion? A Not directly.
- Q But indirectly? A Well, I don't quite know. I am aware of jet propulsion problems, which are being studied.
  - Q Well, you say you are working with the air-flow

of wings, and I assume that those wings also have to do with jet airplanes, too. A Oh, yes. As a matter of fact the problems which I most recently worked on are abstract, so that I don't work on specific wings but on aerodynamic shapes in general.

In the past, I have worked on jet propulsion wings indirectly. That was before I left the Cleveland Laboratory to go back to school. But my most recent problems have been to work on the problems on an abstract level.

- Q But in the past you have worked on jet propulsion theory? A Yes.
- Q Do you work with the Army or Navy closely?

  A I personally dn't. My position has always been that of taking from the currently pressing problems which the Army and Navy, I presume, pass along to the N. A. C. A. and passing to the problems which I can figure out theoretically.
- Q When did you work on jet propulsion? A Well, during the war; I should say in the years 1944 and 1945.
- Q Did you work on these wing-less bombs, these ones that they have now that are propelled by themselves? A Well, I recall making a design study a long time ago, probably in 1944, of a guided missile arrangement.
- Q That is what I meant. A Yes. To what detail do you /wish
- Q Well, you worked on it and knew about it?

  A Yes. It was a general configuration. I don't think it

ever became specific.

Q Now, will you tell us about your background, educationally - where did you go to school? A Well, I was graduated from the College of the City of New York in 1938, with a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering degree. In 1940 I received a Master of Electrical Engineering degree.

I actually left City College in 1939, in February of '39. I finished my Master's thesis at Langley Field, Virginia, where I was employed immediately after leaving City College.

In February, 1946 - -

Q Excuse me just a minute, now. Who awarded you the Master's degree? A The College of the City of New York. I was employed thereafter continuously with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, first at their Langley Field Laboratory from 1939 to the end of 1943, at the end of which time I was transferred to their Cleveland Laboratory, which was then just getting under way. I was there from 1944 to February, 1946.

At that time I took a leave of absence, to go back to school. I spent one semester at California Institute of Technology, from February, 1946 to June, 1946; and I then transferred to Columbia University in New York, where I spent the next two years in residence.

In June, 1948, I returned to the Cleveland Laboratory of the N. A. C. A.

- Q Were you sent to that school? A No, I just chose those schools voluntarily.
  - Q Did you pay for the tuition yourself? A Yes.
- Q What did you study at the California Institute of Technology and at Columbia? A I took the regular physics curriculum, and I have received the PH. D. degree recently from Columbia in Physics.
- Q Q Is it a fact that you plan to teach physics at Columbia this fall? A Yes.
- Q You have already signed the contract? A Yes, I have the appointment to instruct in physics at Columbia.
- Q Starting in September or October? A That's right.
- Q Where did you work from the time you finished City College did you work for this National Advisory Council all the time? A Yes.
  - Q You have had no other job? A That's right.
- Q Do you know Morton Sobell? A Well, I do not, to the best of my recollection, although I realize he went through City College at the same time I did.
- Q Well, I show you a picture and ask you if you recognize that? A No, I do not recall him from that picture.

MR. LANE: May the record indicate that the witness cannot identify the picture of Sobell.

[Photograph marked Grand Jury Exhibit 1, this date.

- Q Do you know Max Elitcher - is that the right pronunciation? A I think the latter is what I recall.
- How long have you known him? A I recall him from City College days.
- And have you known him socially for quite some time? A No, I have not.
- Q Have you ever known him socially? A Except for City College days, I think not.
- Q Do you know Julius Rosenberg? A No, I do not, to the best of my recollection.
- Q I show you a picture of Rosenberg, and ask you if you can identify him? A No, I cannot.
- Q Are you positive? A Well, to the best of my recollection, I could not. Again I realize he went through City College at the same time I did, and I have tried to recall any possible meetings with him, but I cannot.

MR. LANE: May the record indicate that the witness is unable to identify pictures of Julius Rosenberg.

- Q Now, before we go any further, I want you to be aware of the fact that this is a very serious proceeding, and everything you say here is subject to the penalties of perjury. A I understand.
  - Q And I think you, in your position, understand what that means, and what it means to you and to your future. You are not just the ordinary type of person. From what you

have told us here, and from the degrees you have received, you have a rather unusual mind in certain respects. It would be a shame for you to ruin your whole future by coming in here and not telling the truth. Bear that in mind. A Yes.

Q It could be that you might be a little bit confused by the picture, or by Rosenberg, so the fact that Rosenberg has been indicted — that in itself should not tend to confuse you. But I don't want you to come in here and say that you don't know Rosenberg, if you do know him; or that you don't know Sobell, if you do know him; because I am going to have other people come into this Grand Jury who may refute that.

So think hard now, when I ask you about these things, because I am going to bring out certain incidents at which people will testify that you were present when Rosenberg was present.

It is no sin to know a person because he is indicted, and if you do know him just say so, because if you lie there won't be anything left for me to do but to ask the Grand Jury to indict you for perjury — — and I am not threatening you in any way; but it seems to me that if you were indicted for perjury and we could prove it, and you were convicted, I can't imagine that a school like Columbia, or anybody else, would be particularly interested in you — — do you think so? A I agree with you.

Q So keep that in mind. I am not asking you to come in here for the purpose of trying to trick you or trip you. I have you here, the same as I am here, to try to elicit certain facts; and I think you can be very helpful, and I think your lawyer told you the same thing.

Now, your mind is too keen and too unusual, for you not to remember things - and this is an intelligent jury. If you were a person who came out of the African jungle, and had no education and a few things like that, why perhaps you couldn't remember certain things - - perhaps you could, but the chances are that maybe you couldn't - - but you didn't do that; you have had a marvelous education, you have a good brain, and you are in a position to think, to remember little details.

Now, keep that in mind when you are talking. Now, it could be that momentarily you could have forgotten that you met Rosenberg. Now I ask you again: Did you meet him? A I don't recall meeting him, and certainly not after City College days.

- Q Did you ever meet his wife? A No, I have not.
- Q Do you know Rosenberg? A No, I cannot say that I do know him
  - Q Do you know Helene Elitcher? A No, I do not.
- Q Now, do you recall being present at a party in 1946, in New York City a social get-together somewhere in the Village in New York City? A Well, it might very

well have happened. I certainly might have attended a party at that time.

- Now, let me recall these things: Do you recall any party that you attended, where the lights were out and soft music was played, in the Village? A Not specifically, but that is something that could very well have happened.
- Q Well, have you ever attended those sorts of parties at the Village? I am talking about the Sarant apartment. A I could very possibly have attended such a party. I don't recall such a party specifically - that is, a specific occasion.
- Q You don't recall meeting Julius Rosenberg at one of those parties? A No, I cannot.
- Q Do you recall meeting Joel Barr at one of those parties? A No, I cannot recall that.
  - Q Do you know Joel Barr? A Yes, I know Joel Barr
- Q How long have you known him? A Since City College days. He was a class-mate of mine.
- Q Have you known him intimately, socially? A Well, I regarded myself as a friend of his, and vice versa, but I don't know exactly what you mean by "intimate."
- Q Well, socially - you knew him not casually, but you met him and went out on dates together, and things like that? A Yes, I knew him intimately in that sense.
- Q I mean, it wasn't just casually, someone that you knew? A That is true.

- Q By the way, where were you born? A In New York City.
  - Q When? A In 1918, October first.
  - Q Are your parents here in New York City? A Yes.
- Q Where do they live? A My father is a baker, and my mother is a housewife.
- Q Where do they live? A 936 Tiffany Street, Bronx, New York.
- Q Whom does your father work for? A I don't know exactly. He is sent out on various jobs, through his union.
- Q What union is that? A Well, there is a bakers union. I don't know the official title of it.
- Q Well, do you see much of your parents? A When I am in New York I see something of them, yes.

A JUROR: A little louder, please.

THE WITNESS: In the last ten years I have not seen too much of my parents.

- Q Do you correspond with them? A Oh, yes.
- Q Are you living with them now, while you are in New York City? A Yes.
  - Q Are you stopping at their place? A Yes.
- Q Do you contribute to their support at all?

  A Yes, I send money to my mother.
- Q Your father's name is what William Mutterperl?

  A Abraham Mutterperl.

- Q You changed your name? A Yes.
- Q When? A In January, 1945.
- Q You changed it legally? A Yes.
- Q Whereabouts was it done in New York City?

  A No; in Cleveland, Ohio.
- Q I want to get that straight. I notice you are going under the name of Perl, and I wondered whether it was something that you assumed, or you changed it legally?

  A No, I decided to change my name legally.
- Q You say you never recall having met Julius Rosenberg? A That is correct.
- Q Do you recall ever meeting anyone that looked like him?

(CONTINUED BY LB)

- A It's hard to answer a question like that. In what sense?
- Well, on any of these occasions that you went to these parties at Sarant's place? A Well, I can't recall any party specifically although, since I met Sarant, that is a sort of thing that I would be likely to attend -- I would say I probably did attend parties in his place. I can't recall a specific party.
- Do you remember a party around Christmas 1946 that you attended at Sarant's place, during the Christmas holidays?

  A No, I cannot recall a specific party at that time. Let's see, I was in New York at that time.
- Q Do you recall any party that Joel Barr attended around 1946? A No, I cannot recall such a party.
  - Q Do you know Vivian Glassman? A Yes, I know her.
- Q She made a visit to you in Cleveland the latter part of July, 1950, is that correct? A Yes.
- Q What time did she see you? A It was about noon on a Sunday.
- Q Do you remember the date? A No other than it was the latter part of July, I don't.
- Q Will you tell the jury what transpired, and tell them as best as you recall what was said at that time? A At about noon, I was preparing some food in my apartment and preparing to go out on a picnic --

JUROR: A little louder.

THE WITNESS: About noon on this Sunday afternoon,

while I was preparing to go out on a picnic, Vivian Glassman suddenly appeared. My apartment in Cleveland is such that one doesn't have to go through a locked door to get into the kitchen alcove. There is a door with a lock into the kitchen alcove from the rest of the apartment. As I was standing at the alcove, she suddenly appeared before me. I was quite surprised. I recognized her as a friend of Joel Barr's. I asked her to come in. She acted somewhat mysteriously. She proceeded to take some paper which I had lying around and start writing on it and motioning me to read what she had instructions from a person unknown to her, in New York, to travel to Cleveland to get in touch with an aeronautical engineer to give him money and instructions to leave the country, and I believe she mentioned Mexico in that connection

- Q Well, you say those were written down? A Yes, this was all written down.
- Q Why did she do that, was she afraid there was a dictaphone in the room? A She mentioned nothing about that. I do not recall she mentioned that or wrote anything like that.
- Q Was it all written down before she came up or did she write it in your presence? A She wrote it in my presence
- Q What did she write it on? A On some paper. I had a lapboard in the room. She took that and sat down on the couch and I sat down next to her and read what she was writing.

- Q Didn't you think it was odd or strange she should be writingsomething down? A I certainly did.
- Q What did you say to her while she was doing that? A Well, I do not recall the language specifically.
- Q Wait a minute. Wait. Come on, don't go back into that shell. What did you say to her? This only took place a couple of weeks ago. A Well, I was very upset. I mentioned something about, I hope that she hadn't anything on her conscience and I did not understand what this was all about. I believe I possibly mentioned that I thought it was a trap of some kind, words to that effect. I was feeling rather incoherent at the time.
- Q What did she say? A Well, she didn't say anything, as I recall. She just wrote.
- Q She just what wrote? When she finished writing what did she say? You had some conversation there. A Well, our conversation was mainly confined to her appearing and leaving the apartment except for talking to her.
- Q What did she say, that is what I am getting at -- what was said? Here's a girl comes all the way from New York to Cleveland and suddenly appears at your apartment, and did she knock on the door? A She doesn't have to knock.
  - Was the door open? A It's a curtain.
  - Q She walks in -- does she say he lo? A Yes.
- Q What did she say, that is what I am getting at?

  A She said hello.

  O "Hello Butch" something like that? A No. 5

Q "Hello, Butch," something like that? A No. She

greeted me politely -- I do not recall specifically, but since there was nothing unusual I presume she greeted me as though she knew me, which she did.

- Q I said Butch not facetiously. Did she know you by some intimate name? A Oh, not an intimate name. She must have called me by my first name.
  - Q What? A Probably Bill.
- Q Do you have some nickname that they call you? A No, I do not.
  - Q Curley or something like that? A No, I do not.
- Q We all have them and there is nothing wrong with having a nickname. A I assume she called me Bill.
  - Q She called you Bill? A I do not recall it specifical
- Q She say "Hello, Bill," or "How are you, Bill? How are you doing?" What did she say? A She may simply have said "Hello."
- Q To the best of your recollection what did she say?
  A I should say "Hello."
- Q Hello what? A Well, I am awfully sorry, I can't recall specifically.
- Q You are a Dottor of Science. You must remember what a girl said three weeks ago when she suddenly came into your apartment. You know whether she said, "Hello, Bill. Hello, Doctor."

  A I do not think she said, "Hello, Doctor."
- Q "Hello, Dear," or something like that? A It was not an unusual greeting. It was probably just the reason I do not remember it specifically.
  - Q Then what did you say to her, "Hello, Viv"? A Well,

I knew her as Vivian Glassman. I may have said, "Hello, Vivian," or I may not have said anything but, "What are you doing here," something like that.

- Q What did she then say after that, after you said, "Hello, Vivian. What are you doing here?" You probably said, "What do I owe the pleasure of this call to," something like that? A She must have said something to the effect she would like to talk to me, she would like to see me.
- Q She was right there, ready to talk. A I invited her into the apartment proper after some greeting which I do not recall specifically.
  - Q here was nobody else there, was there? A No.
- Q You walked her into your living room? A Yes. I presume she looked around, she may have. I think she said some things to me in there.
  - Q She did not discuss canasta, did she? A No.
- hat did she talk about? A Well, I do not recall that she said anything about her mission, her supposed mission, to me aloud. I think she said something.
- Q "Do you have a piece of paper," or something?

  A I do not recall that. I think she just looked around and saw some paper and took it.
- Q Did she beckon you to come over and sit beside her? A Did she beckon?

- O Yes. A I do not recall the specific beckoning.
- She was going to write something? A Well, yes; she sat down and motioned to me to sit down next to her.
  - O On a couch? A A day-bed.
- Q A day-bed. She motioned you to sit beside her?
  - Q While she took a pad. Wasit a pad? A It was some sheets of paper from a pad, remains of a pad.
    - O She have something under it? A A lapboard.
    - Q Then she started to write? A Yes.
    - O And she wrote this message? A Yes.
- Q And the message was to the effect that she was told to come out and interview an electrical engineer or you specifically? A No, she was told to come out to see an aeronautical engineer.
- Q I assume there are probably more than one apronautical engineer in Cleveland? A Yes, and a friend, I recall she wrote too.
  - Q And a friend? A Yes.
- Q Did you ask her why she picked you out of all the aeronautical engineers in Cleveland? A No, I did not.
- Q Did you think it was rather strange that she should suddenly choose you? À Yes. I thought it was strange, of course, but I knew her and she knew me from my association with  $J_0$ el  $B_a$ rr.
  - Q You knew that? A Yes.

- $_{\mbox{\tiny $N_{\rm C}$}}$  She explain to you why she picked you out? A No, she did not.
  - O Didn't you ask her? A I think I did.
  - Q What did she say? A I do not recall.
- Q Now, wait a minute. Fun is fun, but let's not make it facetious. A I am sorry. What do you mean?
- Q You must recall something she said. This is very important. Where was your mind at the time you were talking with her? A I was feeling very upset at the time.
- Q I know, but you had your faculties, you knew what was going on, you didn't have a hangover from the night before or anything like that. You knew what was happening? A Yes.
- Q You haven't got the kind of a mind that blocks those things out. You remember details. That's your work, isn't it? A Well, presumably.
- Q Not presumably at all. You wouldn't last in your particular job very long if you weren't a very good man on detail and remembered details, isn't that so? A Well, what kind of details?
- well, details are details? Is there any difference in kind? If you are trained to remember details it doesn't matter whether it is a detail of a ball game or the details of a jet propulsion plane. As a matter of fact you can remember the details of a ball game better than you can the details of aeronautical engines. If you can remember those details you can remember the details of a conversation that

took place three weeks ago. A I am doing my best to recall.

Well, if this is your best -- if you do not do
any better with airplane engines, I wouldn't want to ride
in one. Now, what did she say after she started to write
on that pad? A Well, I can only repeat that she had
instructions to give -- she had memorized insturctions as
to how this aeronautical engineer and his friend were to
leave the country.

- Q Yes, but what were they? What were they? What were those instructions? A I did not let her get that far. I told her I was not interested in what she had to say, that I hoped that she wasn't getting in bad or doing anything bad. She did identify herself. She wrote that she had been told to identify herself to this aeronatical engineer by a ship incident of some kind in which she had been involved with Joel Barr.
- Q What was that, do you recall? A No, I have no idea of this incident.
  - Q You knew her sister quite well, didn't you? A Yes
  - Q You used to go around with her? A Not very much.
- Q Well, you had dates with her; you knew her?
- Q And she knew that you knew her? A At that time, yes.
- Q Didn't she tell you that she had gone over to her sister's to get your address? A No, she did not.

- Q How did she happen to pick you out in Cleveland, out of a clear sky? A I asked her that. She said that she had gotten my address, a previous address of mine well, I do not recall whether she had gotten it from this stranger whether she said she had gotten it from this stranger or some other source, which could have been her sister. She had gone to this previous address and the landlady there had given her my present address in Cleveland, and that was how she had found me. I had recently moved —
- Q Did she offer you a sum of money? A Well, in effect she did. She said she had money and instructions.
- Q Did she say she had the batch of money -- she show you the money? A No, she did not, and I did not inquire.
- Q How long did the conversation last? A I should say from 15 minutes to half an hour or so.
- Q How did you leave it? How did you leave her?

  A Well, I told her that I thought she had better go. I ushered her out I asked her some questions about how she had found me. I believe I also told her, "Give my regards," to her sister, that sort of thing.
- Q What time did you usher her out, what time of the day was it? A It was shortly after noon.
  - Q Have you heard from her since? A No, I have not.
  - Q Have you talked with her since? A No.
  - Q "ave you written to her since? A No, I have not.
  - Q Have you talked to any of her relatives? A No, I

have not. I have recently received a letter from her sister, a general kind, asking me something to the effect of when I would be in New York.

- Q Have you seen her sister? A No, I have not.
- Q Did you report the incident to the FBI? A Yes, I
- Q Immediately? A No, it was not immediately. As I say, I was very upset, and I had been questioned by the FBI for the previous week or two, and this coming on top of it all, made me feel very, well, upset, so I decided that I should consult -- so I decided I should consult a lawyer, which I did the following morning.
- Q In Cleveland? A In Cleveland, which I tried to, the following morning. He happened to be out of town, the lawyer I was referred to, so I got him on Tuesday, told him this whole story, and wrote out a statement regarding it and submitted it to the FBI, I think it was the following day, Wednesday.
- Q And then the FBI Agents conferred with you after that? A Yes.
- Q Now, what made you think -- you made some statement to the effect when she started to write something on a paper hat you hought it was a trap. What sort of a trap? A Well, here I was in the middle of something. I did not know what it was all about. Of course I had been reading about the spy cases in thepapers. She didmention in writing that she

knew Julius Rosenberg. Well, here was something I was being asked, to flee the country for some reason. And so all I could think of was that somebody was trying to trap me into something, since I had no reason to leave.

- Q You thought some friend of Rosenberg's was trying to trap you into something, because you had seen in the papers about Rosenberg's arrest? A Yes.
- Q And she had mentioned in writing things down that she knew the Rosenbergs? A Yes.
- Q Did you figure Rosenbergs had something to do with wanting you to flee the country? A I thought it was possible.
- Q Was there anything there that tied you up, why you thought it was possible? A I do not exactly know what you mean.
- Q What caused you to think that Rosenbergs had something to do with this, ha ving you flee the country? A Well, as a matter of fact I did not think the Rosenbergs specifically were back of all this, but possibly a Communist apparatus of some kind.
- Q You knew that? I think you knew at least that Vivian Glassman had been taking more or less an active part in Communist organizations in New York City, you knew that? A Well, I did not know it specifically, but I was aware of the fact that she was engaged in radical activities of some kind.
- Q You state you did not know it specifically. What do you mean by that? A It is my impression from my knowledge of her association with Joel Barr, that she had been engages.

in some kind of, well, perhaps I shouldn't say radical activity; it is union activity.

- $\mathbb{Q}$  Joel  $B_{n}$ rr was a Communist, so far as you know? A No, not as far as I know.
- Q He was engaged in Communistic activities, belonged to that Young Communist League? A Not that I knew.
  - Q You sure? A Yes.
- Q You knew this Vivian Glassman was quite intimate with him, was engaged to him at one time? A I did not know that.
- $\mathbb{Q}$  Never knew it? A I understood she was his girl friend.
- Q That's what I mean. A I do not know what you mean by engaged, officially.
- Q It was my understanding that they had been formally engaged to be married, but if you correct me and knew they weren't, I don't know. They were quite intimate, anyway.

  A I would say they probably were, to my knowledge.

  (WITNESS EXCUSED)

(Cont. by IFG)

August 18, 1950

Re: John Doe

(Mr. Lane)

Perl 0157

WILLIAM PERL, recalled, testified as follows:

THE FOREMAN: You can be seated; you are still under oath.

## BY MR. LANE:

- Q You are still under oath, Mr. Perl; you know that? A Yes, I understand.
- Q Now, I think we were at the point where we were discussing what else was said on that piece of paper that Miss Glassman was writing on in your apartment. She said something about she knew the Rosenbergs? A Yes.
- Q And she mentioned something about the Rosenbergs being arrested in New York? A No, I don't recall that.
- Q Why did she mention the Rosenbergs? A I couldn't say, unless it was possibly an explanation of what she was doing there. I don't know.
- Q Well, did you question her as to the Rosenberg name being in there? A I might have asked her something to the effect of what she was doing in all this.
- Q What who was doing? A Well, what the purpose was of all her - of this visit.
- Q And what did she say? A Well, I don't recall whether she said, in response to that, that she knew the Rosenbergs, but it possibly was along those lines.
- Q Well, now, you see you tell us nothing. You say she may have done something, she may have said something,

possibly this happened, possibly that happened. I am not interested in possibilities, but I am interested in what actually transpired. Look - you are a doctor. Get that mind working.

What did she say? A Well, to the best of my recollection, she stated at one point, on this paper, that she knew Julius Rosenberg. As to what the actual, immediate cause of her writing that, I cannot recall.

- Q But you had already been questioned by the F. B. I. A Yes.
  - Q -- about Julius Rosenberg, hadn't you? A Yes
- Q And you knew that Julius Rosenberg had been arrested for conspiracy to violate the espionage law - you knew that, because the F. B. I. had talked to you about a girl by the name of Anne, hadn't they - Sidorovitch?

  A Yes.
  - Q And you know her, don't you? A No, I do not.
  - Q You know her husband, Mike? A No, I do not.
- Q But you were questioned about it, and you knew exactly that Rosenberg had been arrested? A Yes.
  - Q You were familiar with that? A Yes.
- Q So that when his name appeared on that paper, you weren't completely ignorant of the fact, were you?

  A Oh, no.
- Q Didn't you immediately connect that arrest up with her visit, in your own mind? A Yes, I think I did.

- Q of course you did. Even a six-year-old child would do that, and you are a doctor, with a master's degree. I am not saying that to be funny, but I am saying that because you are a person with an education and have a much higher intelligence than the average person, and would be able to put two and two together more readily, and two and two make four; and the Rosenbergs and the arrest and the F. B. I. visit that is one two; and when she is there, asking you to flee the country, and mentioning Rosenbergs you immediately have to associate yourself with the Rosenbergs in your own mind, and her visit - is that correct? A Yes.
- Q That is what you did, isn't it? A Yes, I think so.
- Q Then you must have said something to her at that time. You must have been not only confused, but you might have been irritated by it. I know, if I were in that situation, and I was completely innocent, and someone came to me and said, "Look, get out of the country. The Rosenbergs," and all that sort of thing I would resent it in no uncertain fashion; and believe me, the air would be blue by the time I got through with a person like that. That is what any normal, innocent man would do.

Now, what did you do? A I don't think I lost my temper, but I think I made some remarks to the effect I had nothing to do with any of this, and didn't know what it was

all about, and she had better leave.

- Q You mean you were practically accused of espionage there, and you didn't lose your temper? A Not in the conventional sense.
- Q Well, what is the conventional sense, in your mind? A (No answer.)
- Q Don't you ever get mad at anybody? A Not very often.
- Q Not very often? A I can't recall when I have really been mad at somebody.
- Q If someone came up and slapped you in the face, wouldn't that make you mad? A Yes; but I don't recall when that occurred.
- Q Well, supposing somebody took undue liberties with you, and went up and slapped you in the face let us say when you were in the subway train what would you do, would you turn the other check? A No, I don't think I would.
- Q Do you think you would turn your check? A No, I don't think so.
- Q Don't you think you would take your glasses off and go in with both fists swinging? A No, I don't think I would do that, but I think I might take my glasses off.
- Q Supposing you were with somebody that you really cared for a girl and someone came along in the street and insulted her, and called her some bad name, some vile

- name - would you just stand by and say, "Call her another one," to yourself? A No, I don't think I would.
- Q Would you get mad would you resent it? A I think I would.
- Q And you would tell him off, wouldn't you? A I presume so.
- Q Now, the next question is: That would be important to you, wouldn't it? A What would?
- Q To make sure that some man didn't insult your best girl. A Yes.
- Q And you would resent it and take some action of some sort? A Yes.
  - Q You would get mad? A Yes.
- Q Well, here is a situation where a person is accusing you of selling your country down the river, in a sense; and while you would get mad with your girl being insulted, you say you were calm and cool and collected, and you didn't get mad when somebody practically accused you of espionage. A I was anything but calm and collected.
- Q But the point is: Which is more important to you, to have your girl insulted or to be accused of espionage? A They are both important.
- Q Which is the more important to you? A Well, espionage would be.
  - Q Well, you say you would get mad if your girl

was insulted, and you were cool and calm when you were accused of espionage. A I wasn't cool and calm.

- Q Well, you didn't get mad. A Well, --
- Q What did you say? A I thought it was all a mistake of some kind.
- Q Didn't you tell her she had a nerve to come out and accuse you, or something like that? A I may have asked her why she came to me.
- Q Well, you may have; you did ask her that, didn't you? A I don't recall specifically.
- Q Give us your best recollection. A I would say, to the best of my recollection, I asked her things to that effect, as to why me.
- Q And what **di**d she say? A Well, specifically I don't know.
- Q Well, generally. We are having a little trouble with specifically, but generally what did she say? A I can't I don't know.
- Q Oh, please, please - you don't know what she said? A That may have been the general reason for her stating that she knew Rosenberg. Perhaps she identified me in her mind as knowing Rosenberg.
- Q Forget the "perhaps." What did she say?

  A Well, generally, that is about all I can think of, that would pertain to this, in this connection.
  - Q I think that is most unsatisfactory. Do you

realize what you are doing before this body? You are painting yourself almost as a person who is committing perjury, because of your reluctance or inability to remember little conversations. A I am sorry, sir. I am doing my best.

- Q Here is a woman that is practically accusing you of being a spy. She puts a finger on you. She selects you out of one hundred fifty million Americans she selects you as the one that is to flee the country. She is putting the finger on you, and you don't even recall what happened at that time? A It certainly seems incredible, I know.
- Q You agree that it is incredible, isn't it?
  A Yes.
- Q If I told you the same story, you would think there is something wrong with me, wouldn't you? A I couldn't answer that; I don't know.
- Q How many times have you ever been accused in your life of being a spy? A None.
  - Q Have you ever been married? A Yes.
  - Q Where? A In Cleveland.
- Q Whom did you marry? A I entered into a commonlaw marriage with Henrietta Savage.
- Q I am not talking about that. I mean, did you ever have a church ceremony of any sort? A No, I have not.

- Q My point being that if you were ever married, you would remember the details of that day, I assume wouldn't you - you would remember who the minister was, and where the church was, and little details like that. In other words, marriage is important to every man. A I presume so.
  - Q He remembers that day. A Yes.
- Q Well, I don't think it is any more important than to be accused of being a spy, because to be accused of being a spy carries a death penalty. At least, if you are married you get a few more years with it but with espionage it is a death penalty; so that any time you are involved in something that may cost you your life, you remember every little detail there as though it were put up on a blackboard before you. The details of that day are never eradicated from your mind.

Now, you are a man whose mind is trained to remember little details on average matters; but here is something that is big, the most important thing in your life so far, and yet you don't remember even the details at all, and you don't even remember in general what the conversation was. Doesn't it look a little odd to you?

A I think I do recall in general some of the details.

Q Then give it to us, in general. Don't let me be like a dentist, pulling these out of you. You should be eager to do this and be cooperative with us. Let us

see you be a little bit eager here, and give, without me trying to pull. Let us go over it again:

She came in and said, "Hello, Bill," and you said, "Hello, Viv," and she beckened to you to sit on the day-bed, and she took this paper and started to write?

A Yes

A She wrote that she had instructions to write, from a stranger in New York, and money which she was to transmit to an aeronautical engineer in Cleveland. She made some mention of a friend in along there. The instructions were as to how this person, and presumably this friend, were to flee the country. I believe she mentioned Mexico in there somewhere, and —

Q Go on. That isn't all? A I believe I interrupted her along there somewhere, with some questions as
to why she had visited me, and why she thought that I
had anything to do with this; and that I hoped she wasn't
doing anything bad, although I realize it is sort of
trivial now.

As nearly as I can recollect, in around here she mentioned that she knew Julius Rosenberg. Oh, previous to this she did mention the business of the identification, that this aeronautical engineer was supposed to know her by, this ship incident with Joel Barr, and also she wrote the name "John."

- What was John supposed to be? A She didn't write any further on that, and I didn't inquire.
- Q What was the ship incident? A She didn't write anything more than just about that, and I didn't inquire as to what the ship incident was.

(CONTINUED BY LB)

Perl

- Q Did you ask her why she happened to pick you out?
  A Yes, I asked her something to that effect.
  - O What did she say? A I don't know.
- Q You don't know what she said when you asked her why she picked you out? A That's right. Something that, I might judge for myself. I recall that phrase.
- Q Didyou tell the FBI that you were trying to minimize your connection with Joel Barr and Sarant?

  A Yes, I did.
- Why were you trying to minimize your connection with those two? A I was under a loyalty investigation, and two men who I understood were from the FBI questioned me about Barr and Sarant and stated that they had evidence that Barr and Sarant were members of the Communist Party. I was afraid of losing my job.
- Q. You knew that they were connected with the Communist Party yourself, didn't you? A No, I did not.
- Q You did not know anything about their activities? A  $N_{\mathrm{O}}$ .
  - Q Communist activities? A No, I did not.
  - Q What did you do with this paper? A I destroyed it.
  - Q Why? A I don't know why.
- Q Well, you must have some reason? A It was -- I was really rather upset and I presume I acted in response to an impulse to deface the memory of this visit.
  - Q WHY, FOR WHAT reason, if you were innocent?

- A I can't give you a logical reason.
- Q When you were going to Columbia you had an apartment,  $\label{eq:didn'tyou} \mbox{didn'tyou, in the $V_i$ llage?} \mbox{ A Yes.}$ 
  - Q Where was it, 65 Morton Street? A That'sright.
- Q Was there a lease on it? A Well, I don't know. I presume that Al Sarant had leased it. I sublet it from him.
  - Q When did you sublet it? A In the fall, 1946.
- Q Did you live there with Sarant? A No, I did not.

  I used the apartment intermittently for a while. My then then, actually wife, Henrietta, from whom I was separated /came to New York, and I arranged for her to use it for a period of months.

  She found an apartment of her own some time in the fall of 1947 whereupon I used that apartment thereafter until the spring of 1948.
- Q You said you arranged to have her use it. What do you mean by that? A I must have arranged with Sarant that she should live in it and pay the rent to Sarant.
- Q When yousay you must have, do you mean you did?
- when you sublet? A I was to pay him the rent by mail, and he was presumably to pay the rent to the landlord.
- Q Was that in writing, that agreement? A No, I don't believe it was.
- Q Did you make payments for the rent to Sarant?

  A Yes, I did.

- Q How did you make those payments by check?

  A Well, it was either check or money order. I probably -
  probably money order. I will say money order.
  - Q Was this a month to month arrangement? A Yes.
- Q You agreed with him when you were to get out you were to give him a month's notice? A Well, I don't recall any such agreement.
- Q But you only paid for the place while you occupied it, or while your wife occupied it? A Well, I thought I did.
- Q Did you or didn't you? A Well, I should say that I didn't.
- Q Why? Do you mean you paid rent on that place after you had left it? A Yes. I apparently sent some money orders to Sarant after I left the place, monthly. I had not recalled that until the FBI informed me that I apparently did. As a matter of fact I still don't recall it actually, but if I did. I did.
- Q In other words, you left the place for good when?
  A In June of '48.
- Q And you kept sending checks even though you left the place? A Yes.
- Q How much money were you making in June '48? A When I resumed my job at Cleveland I probably was making six or seven thousand dlars a year.
- Q Up to June '48 what were you making? A Well, I had various income. I had \$1200 from Columbia University for teaching physics, and I made several thousand dollars by doing

subcontract work on aerodynamic problems, directly from my professor who was working as a consultant with an engineering firm, Sverdrup & Parcel.

- Q Who was your professor? A Prof. Theodore Von Karman.
- Q He paid you the money? A He paid me some money, and I got some money from Sverdrup & Parcel directly.
  - Q He paid you some money, you say? A I think he did.
- Q How much did he pay you? A I couldn't quite break it down. I think the total sum involved was something like, well, for the previous year, possibly three thousand dollars or so.
- Q What did you pay for rept out in Cleveland when you went back? A In Cleveland?
- $\mathbb{Q}$  Yes. A Well, I lived at the "Y" and then in furnished rooms.
- Q "hat are you paying at this am riment? A It's \$45 per month.
- Q What did you pay for Sarant's apartment? A About \$45 per month.
- Q What was your reason for continuing to make payment to Sarant after you had left the place? A Well, as far as I can recall now, it was to hold an option on the apartment.
- Q To what? A To just hold on to the apartment -- have a claim on it.
  - Q He moved in there, didn't he, when you moved out?

## A I don't know.

- Q You don't know that? A No.
- Q Why did you want to hold the apartment when you were living in Cleveland? A Well, I may have had some ideas about coming back to New York. My initial idea in going back to Cleveland was to finish my thesis.
- o went to work, didn't you, as soon as you got back? A Yes. My thesis was part of my work.
- Q Did you plan to come back to New York? A Well, specifically, no. But I had ideas at that time about wanting to go into academic life and I did/know but what I might be back in  $N_{\text{ew}}$  York.
- Q But you did not know when you were coming back?

  A No. I did not know when I was coming back.
- Q So your explanation is that you wanted to hold the apartment until such time as you were planning to come back to New  $Y_{O}$ rk? A  $Y_{O}$ s.
  - Q That doesn't make sense, does it? A Why not?
- Q Well, I am asking you. Does it make sense?

  A Yes, I think so.
- Q You had no definite time when you expected to get back to New York? A Well, I terminated the payment of rent sometime after June 148.
  - Q Quite some time after. A I don't know.
- Q You usually paid by checks, didn't you? A I ap-

- Q That was brought to your attention by the FBI?

  A Yes, I hadn't recalled these payments at all.
- Q You had a checking account, didn't you? A Yes, I did.
- Q And was there any reason why you couldn't pay by check? A  $N_{\text{O}}$ .
- $\mathbb Q$  You suddenly switched to paying by money ofder, is that correct? A Yes.
- Q No explanation? A Well, none other than I started paying by money order in New York. There was no prticular reason to continue --
- Q As a matter of fact you made payments for six additional months inthat apartment when you did not live the real A Was it as much as that ? I do not recall.
- Q No explanation for it? A None other than that I would have the apartment if I came back to New York.

MR. LANE: Mr. Foreman, do you have some questions?

Perhaps some of the jurors have questions on points I may have missed.

#### BY THE FOREMAN:

- You do not recall anybody at this Sarant apartment?
  You do not recall the Rosenbergs. But can you tell us whom you recall, some of the people there? I know you do not recall Rosenberg or any of these people. Do you recall anybody at the monent?

  A At the apartment?
  - Q Yes. Of the incident we are talking about? A I

saw my then wife at the apartment fairly frequently.

- Q You remember her? A Yes. And I recall seeing Sarant and his wife before they had moved out of the apartment. And I believe that Joel Barr was with us at that time; he introduced me to Sarant.
- Q But you do not remember Rosenberg? A No, I do not remember  $R_0$  senberg at all in that apartment.
- Q Remember about six or seven people. Were there more than six or seven people there? A At this party?
- Q Yes. A As a matter of fact I do not recall the party.

### BY MR. LANE:

Q Maybe we can refresh your recollection. Do you remember a party where somebody played the guitar, people were sitting on the floor, the lights were out and they were playing soft music? Prior to that you had dinner at the Blue Mill. Do you remember that? A It is very possible that I did that.

#### BY JURORS:

- Q Do you go to so many parties that youcannot remember one party from another? A This was quite some time ago. I do not go to parties very frequently, as a matter of fact.
- Q Wouldn't that be all the more reason why you would remember a specific party, and certain incidents; you would have to have a good memory to handle differential equations.

A I do not know whether it is memory or logic, but I am really sorry about the party. It is something I may very well have been at.

# BY MR. LANE:

Q We have very definite information that you were present at a party around Christmas 1946, at 10 Monroe Street.

10 Monroe Street. Do you recall being there? A No, I do not recall being there.

Q 10 Monroe Street was the Rosenbergs apartment. At this party, our information is, that you werd present, or at this meeting, that two Sobells were present, and that Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were present, and that she was pregnant at that time. Do you recall that? is very important to you that you recall it, and now, because I don't want to be in a position, with your brilliant career ahead of you, to have to do anything that would in any way affect it, and you are the one that is doing this. I am not. You have nothing to lose by telling us the truth in this, and if I have to have somebody come before this grand jury and say you were present and took part in the conversation and everything else, it leaves the grand jury nothing to do but indict. Come on. n o w . This is the time to do it. Try hard. A pregnant woman, Christmas time, Rosenbergs, 10 Monroe Stfeet. is over here at Kntockerbocker Village. Do you recall being down there? A I do not recall being down at Knickerbocker

- Village. I have been asked this before and have tried to think about it.
  - Q You cannot recall being there? A That's right.
- Q You have seen the pictures of the Rosenbergs, haven't you? A Yes.
  - Q You have been shown those? A Yes.
- Q You still cannot identify them? A That'sright, sir.

#### BY JURORS:

- $\mathbb Q$  You say that when Vivian Glassman came to see you she had some means, about the ship, to identify herself, is that right? A Yes.
- Q Why did she proceed to go through this writing without identifying you? A Without identifying me?
- Q Through this medium that she had. A I don't know why she came to me in Cleveland.
- Q I am not asking you that. You say she had means of identifying the individual she was supposed to see or contact, and if you couldn't make the identification, why would she go ahead and write this whole business out?

  A Apparently this identification was such that this aeronautical engineer would recognize this ship incident.
- Q  $Y_{0u}$  -- but you aid not recognize it? A That's right. I did not.
- Q Why should she write the rest, about your getting out of the country, if you are not the man? A She said something about, "Judge for yourself," I recall.

BY MR: LANE:

Q Did she tell you about the ship incident? A No, she did not go into any details.

a As the juror just pointed out here, she was acting as a courier for someone who is interested in this spy case or espionage case. They advised her before she talks to you she has to be satisfied that you are the man that she is supposed to contact. Now she has several thousand dollars on her person. She is not going to give that money, or take a chance on giving it, to someone who is not the person whe is supposed to see. Somewhere along the line between the time she had the conversation in New York with this nerson who gave her the money and the time that she talked to you she was satisfied by some means that you were the person she was supposed to see; otherwise, as the juror points out, she wouldn't even talk to you about this, because it was too dangerous, because it was too serious. How did she know you might not be in cahoots with the FBI? had to be satisfied, and she satisfied herself, and in satisfying herself she must have said something to you about the ship incident, or you said something to her to confirm What was it, that is what the juror is trying to find There was nothing along that line I can recall. out? The only reason that would make her believe I was the person because she knew of my friendship with Joel Barr.

Q Did she say that was the thing that satisfied her? A No, she did not say that. She knew she had met me, then she certainly knew of my friendship with Barr. I presumed all along that was the reason she had come to me in Cleveland.

(Cont. by IFG)

0478

IFG\_1 (From LB)

Re: John Doe (Mr. Lane)

- Q Well, tell me this: You don't have to answer it unless you want to, but I think you are here to try to cooperate: at least I hope so - - were you yourself ever interested in any of these Communistic activites? A No.
- Q Did you belong to any of the organizations? A I have, of course, discussed philosophy and Communist philosophy, but not formally, and not at any of the Party meetings.
- Q And you never belonged to any Communist outfit the Communist Party or the Young Communist League? A No. I never belonged to any such organizations.
- Q Did you ever attend any Communist Party meetings? A No, I can't recall ever attending any Communist Party meetings.
- Q Whom did you discuss Communist philosophy with? A I can't recall the people - probably Joel Barr and Sarant. We talked about lots of things.
- Q What were your ideas on Communist philosophy? Let me askyou this: Have your ideas on Communist philosophy changed in the last year or two? A Well, I don't know what you would call a change.
- Q For instance, what was your philosophy as far as Communism was concerned, in 1946? A Well, in - - that Communism as it is being practiced today is a system which is very abhorrent and very much different from a democratic system.

- Q That is today, but what was it in 1946? A It was the same.
- A I realized how Russia was applying the Communist principles?

  A I realized how Russia was applying the Communist principles, or I thought I realized it, and I could see the ideas of thought control coming in, and the police state idea, as being the only way apparently to carry out a Communist system, and that is very abhorrent to me, especially in science.
  - Q That was abhorrent to you? A Of course.
- Q And Joel Barr and Sarant took the opposite point of view? A Well, actually I don't recall debating on these matters.
- A I don't mean debating, but discussing it. You had a little "bull-session," as they say, and you sat around and talked about it - they were quite active, weren't they, in this movement? A I don't recall any specific discussions in which they said Communism was good and I said Communism was bad, if that is what you are referring to.
- Q Yes, that is what I am referring to. Did you ever talk to Vivian Glassman about it? A No, I don't think so.
  - Q How about her sister? A I don't think so.
- Q Where did you meet her sister? A In a restaurant, in the Village.

- Q Who introduced you? A I picked her up.
- Q Do you mean you never knew her before? A That's right.

A JUROR: In that note that was written, was that in reference to you and a friend - the note that Miss Vivian Glassman wrote - - was there a reference to you and a friend?

THE WITNESS: Well, the reference was to an aeronautical engineer in Cleveland, and a friend.

A JUROR: And what was the friend - a male or female?

THE WITNESS: There was no other reference, other than that. Presumably this aeronautical engineer was to know who the friend was.

A JUROR: When you told Miss Glassman that she had better go, what did she say to that - - did she say anything to you at all?

THE WITNESS: No, I don't recall that she said anything, except as I was ushering her out I asked her how she had found me at this place, and she referred to knowing my previous address, having gone there first, and being then referred to my present address.

A JUROR: Did she say that maybe she had made a mistake?

THE WITNESS: No, she did not say anything that

I can recall, along those lines. I didn't get the impression that she had felt she had made a mistake.

A JUROR: You do not know who this friend was, at all?

THE WITNESS: No. I do not know.

A JUROR: What made her write that?

THE WITNESS: I presume that was part of the instructions.

A JUROR: Mr. Foreman, I would like to get two points cleared in my mind. It may have been mentioned before, and if the question is repetitious I would like it anyway.

There were two things that must have surprised you a lot, with Vivian Glassman's meeting: One is the fact that she did pick you out.

THE WITNESS: Yes, it did.

A JUROR: It did surprise you?

THE WITNESS: Yes, it surprised me, but I assumed it was because of my association with Joel Barr. You see, I had been questioned the previous several weeks about Barr, Sarant and Rosenberg, and I therefore made that connection.

A JUROR: The next question I would like to ask you is: Weren't you very much surprised when the name "John" was mentioned - - didn't that name

John mean something to you?

THE WITNESS: No. I assumed it was part of the itself instructions, and John/does not mean anything to me.

- Q You graduated in 1938? A Yes.
- Q Well, wasn't Sobell one of your classmates?

  A Well. I understand that he was.
  - Q You know he was. A (No answer.)

    THE FOREMAN: Answer that. Do you know, or

    don't you know? We are getting very upset here,

    which we don't like to do; and you are talking

    before intelligent people. Maybe not as intelli
    gent as you I am speaking for myself and not the

    jury but answer that.

THE WITNESS: I am sorry, I cannot recall Sobell being in my class.

THE FOREMAN: I went to City College, too, and I can remember pretty much, and the members in Townsend Harris Hall, and I can remember the names in 4-A - and I am not a scientist.

Now think again.

THE WITNESS: (No answer.)

Q Perhaps this will help you: When Sobell applied for a position with the General Electric Company, your name was given as one of his references - and I am going pretty far in telling you this; I should not tell you.

What I should do is put you in a little bit of a position where you might perjure yourself. I don't want to do it, I am straining not to.

You were given as a reference, as a man whom he knew for more than eight years. Why does he pick you out?

A This is news. I don't know.

- Q It may be bad news. A I certainly must have known him in City College.
- Q You certainly must have; and you certainly must have must have known him afterwards, and you certainly must have met him at these meetings. A I can't recall anything like that.
- Q You remember Max Elitcher, don't you? A Yes; for some reason I remember him.
- Q For some reason - what is the reason? A I don't know.
- Q He was a classmate of yours, wasn't he?

  A Perhaps we were in the same lab, or something like that.
- Q And you saw him after you graduated? A I might have seen him after, but I don't recall seeing him very long after.
- Q Did you see him at some of these meetings in the Village? A No, I don't recall seeing him there.
- Q Do you recall meeting his wife? A No, I do not.
  - Q Do you recall ever having a conversation with

Rosenberg and Barr and Sarant and Sobell? A No, I do not.

Q Do you remember ever having a conversation with Elitcher? A In the time period that you are referring to, no, I do not.

Q Do you suppose, if I brought you and Elitcher together, you might refresh your recollection as to conversations? A Possibly.

MR. LANE: Mr. Foreman, will you continue?
THE FOREMAN: You may be excused, temporarily.

- Q You are still under subposes, and the Foreman will advise me when they went you to reappear here. A Yes. May I inquire as to whether that will be today?
  - Q It won't be today. A Thank you.

A JUROR: You are still remaining in New York City over the week-end?

THE WITNESS: Yes, I will certainly remain here as long as I am needed here.

A JUROR: You are not leaving New York City over the week-end?

THE WITNESS: No: not until I am excused here.

Q Will you stop off at my place on the way out.

I will meet you down there. A All right.

(WITNESS EXCUSED)