

AEC Ban On Oppenheimer Ends Governmental Career

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Atomic Energy Commission has nailed down the ban against atomic pioneer J. Robert Oppenheimer with a 4-1 declaration that he is unfit to handle America's nuclear secrets because of "defects of character . . . and dangerous associations."

The commission thus closed out late yesterday its role in a long and wordy legal battle with the 50-year-old physicist who was once one of its most trusted advisers.

What the next act would bring was unclear. Neither Oppenheimer nor his attorneys were saying what steps, if any, they contemplated. One unanswered question: Would he appeal to President Eisenhower?

The President has declined comment in the case since, on his orders, Oppenheimer's security clearance was suspended last December.

Oppenheimer appealed then, and the AEC set up a special security panel to consider his case. It heard 38 witnesses, including Oppenheimer, and on May 27 voted 2-1 against him.

DECISION

Oppenheimer, in New York last night after the commission released its decision upholding the board's ruling, had no direct comment on the majority report.

But he voiced confidence in the will of America's scientists to "work faithfully to preserve and strengthen this country." And he praised Dr. Henry D. Smyth, the only commissioner to recommend reinstatement of his security clearance, as having rendered a "fair and considered statement."

The majority report was signed by AEC Chairman Lewis L. Strauss and Commissioners Eugene M. Zuckert and Joseph Campbell, both of whom appended statements of their own.

Commissioner Thomas E. Murray, agreeing with them that Oppenheimer should be denied access to secrets, wrote a separate opinion which said: "Dr. Oppenheimer was disloyal" in the sense that he disregarded security regulations.

DISAGREES

But Mr. Smyth, a Princeton scientist who worked with Oppenheimer in wartime development of the atomic bomb, strenuously disagreed with his four colleagues.

"He is completely loyal," wrote Smyth, "and I do not believe he is a security risk."

In Congress, Rep. W. Sterling Cole (R-NY), chairman of the Senate-Atomic Energy Committee, said he sees no reason to challenge the commission's decision. He said there had been no request for any move by the committee, which keeps tabs on commission activities.

Oppenheimer, now director of a private research group called the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, N.J., winds up his career as an AEC consultant today, with expiration of his contract.

The security board which weighed his case last spring heard a half-million words of testimony and ruled Oppenheimer was loyal but a security risk.

MAJORITY

As the commission majority saw it, the issue was whether it was in the interest of national security to let Oppenheimer see "some of the most vital secrets in the possession of the United States."

"Substantial defects of character and imprudent and dangerous associations, particularly with known subversives who place the interests of foreign powers above those of the United States, are also reasons for disqualification," said the report, and it

added: ". . . We find Dr. Oppenheimer is not entitled to the continued confidence of the government and of this commission because of the proof of fundamental defects in his character."

"We find that his associations with persons known to him to be Communists have extended far beyond the tolerable limits of prudence and self-restraint which are to be expected of one holding the high positions that the government has continuously entrusted to him since 1942."

To this, Dr. Smyth dissented: "I cannot accept this conclusion or the fear behind it."

CLOSELY WATCHED

He said Oppenheimer had been closely watched, by professionals as well as by "amateurs" with a grudge against him, for much of 11 years—as head of the Los Alamos, N. M., laboratory which developed the A-bomb in World War II and, later, as head of the AEC advisory committee until 1952.

Through it all, Smyth argued, there has been no evidence that Oppenheimer ever leaked atomic secrets.

"I am confident," he added, "that Dr. Oppenheimer will continue to keep to himself all the secrets with which he is entrusted."

The majority said no importance was attached to allegations that Oppenheimer hurt the nuclear program by opposing all-out H-bomb development efforts and, after former President Truman ordered it in 1950, failing to give it his enthusiastic support.

"Dr. Oppenheimer was, of course, entitled to his opinion," said the majority.

The majority said Oppenheimer's past contributions to the A-bomb program were taken into accounts, but so, too, it said, were the demands of the jobs he was called upon to fill.

COURT

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Egypt's revolutionary court Wednesday sentenced Col. Ahmed Chawky to 10 years imprisonment and announced it was going out of business. Chawky, a former commandant of the infantry corps, was accused of conspiring against the government.

MINISTER

VARESE, Italy (AP) — Luigi Gasparotto, former Italian defense minister, died Tuesday night at the age of 81.

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A NEW RIDE is offered West Coast Shows patrons this year in this new whirling, the main feature of which is the fact that you stand instead of sitting and don't need to be strapped in. It's the ninth one manufactured to date and the only one on the Coast. Operating it are Fred Mortensen (left) an ex-wrestler who went under the title of "The Terrible Dane" and Art Anderson. Mortensen used to hit Klamath Falls on the wrestling circuit many years ago.

Dental School Building Begun

PORTLAND (AP) — Ground was broken here Tuesday for the \$2,200,000 State Dental School Building. The school, to be built on the University of Oregon Medical School campus, is scheduled for completion in June, 1956.

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HST Condition Said Improved

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Harry S. Truman's condition was reported as "better" last night although he was described as somewhat tired after a restless day.

The former president's recovery from an emergency operation June 20 has been hampered by an intestinal inflammation. His recovery appeared highly satisfactory for a few days after his gall bladder and appendix were removed in the operation. Then he was harassed by secondary infections and a hypersensitivity to drugs.

Yesterday, however, Dr. Wallace Graham, his personal physician, said he was no longer in a critical stage and that his condition is now "fair, but guarded."

In last night's report, a Research Hospital spokesman said the 70-

year-old Truman had been somewhat nauseated and restless but "as a total picture for the day he was perceptibly better."

The hospital report also said "the enteritis (intestinal inflammation) has been somewhat aggravating."

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All local and out of town square dancers planning a full Fourth of July weekend are invited to attend the Do-Si-Do Club's square dance this Saturday evening.

Guest caller will be Douglas Posbury, well known caller who was formerly president and caller for the Circle Dancers Square Dance Club in Albany.

Posbury was transferred in his business to Medford. At the present time he is a square dance group but is in constant demand for guest appearances.

Posbury will call both square and round dances from 8 to 12 at the Do-Si-Do Clubhouse at the fairgrounds.

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| 6:15 p.m. | 12:15 p.m. | 5:00 a.m. | AR. Lakeview, Oregon | LV. 7:15 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. |
| | 12:30 p.m. | | LV. Lakeview, Oregon | AR. | Daily except Sun.-Holidays 12:01 p.m. |
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