

Hollywood's Whitewash of a Communist Spy and the Infiltration of America's Nuclear Labs

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By Cliff Kincaid, President, America's Survival, Inc.

Hollywood director Christopher Nolan's 3-hour film "Oppenheimer" about the scientific director of America's atom bomb project (1942 to 1945) confuses people about how J. Robert Oppenheimer served the communist cause and laid the groundwork for the expansion of international communism. There is no rational explanation for sowing such confusion, except for Hollywood's desire to whitewash the subversive activities of communists in American government and society.



Universal Pictures, a division of Universal Studios, has produced "Oppenheimer," making this Soviet spy and Communist Party member out to be an ethical and conscience-driven physicist who only had the best interests of our nation and the world at heart. Universal Studios is part of NBCUniversal, a subsidiary of Comcast Corporation.

Even more outrageous, America's premier spy agency, the National Security Agency (NSA), has a display in its museum insisting that Oppenheimer was an innocent victim of anti-communist hysteria. ¹

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On top of this treasonous activity, we have the on-going scandal of Communist China using the resources of our nuclear labs to build their own nuclear weapons.

In this scandal, which remains unresolved more than 20 years later after it was first exposed, former Los Alamos Laboratory scientist and Chinese-American Wen Ho Lee admitted to what officials said was downloading classified information about America's nuclear arsenal from a secured computer onto 10 unsecured computer tapes that went "missing."²

The 1999 Cox Report had declared, "The PRC [People's Republic of China] has stolen design information on the most advanced U.S. nuclear weapons, including every currently deployed thermonuclear warhead in the U.S. ballistic missile arsenal."³



Oppenheimer was a traitor. Physicist Edward Teller (above), seen here with President Reagan, was the real hero.

Incredibly, what the Russians did in secret the Chinese have done more-or-less openly. In fact, the article, "America's Hidden Role in Chinese Weapons Research," was published in the South China Morning Post on March 28, 2017, and served as the inspiration for an extraordinary report by a private intelligence service called Strider Technologies entitled, "The Los Alamos Club: How the People's Republic of China Recruited Leading Scientists from Los Alamos National Laboratory to Advance Its Military Programs."⁴

The report was issued on September 22, 2022, and identified "a central figure" in the so-called Los Alamos Club as Dr. Chen Shiyi, who arrived at Los Alamos in 1990 and "became one of the first PRC nationals to receive the Oppenheimer Fellowship, a distinguished fellowship reserved for the top postdoctoral applicants." He returned to the PRC in 2005 where he served as President of the Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech) and "excelled at recruiting scientists with links to Los Alamos."

The report declared that, between 1987 and 2021, at least 162 scientists who had worked at Los Alamos returned to the PRC to support a variety of domestic research and development programs. Of the 162 returnees, at least 59 scientists were selectees of the PRC's flagship talent recruitment program—the Thousand Talents Plan (TTP) and its youth branch, the Youth Thousand Talents Plan (YTTP).

"Since returning to China," the report says, "Los Alamos alumni have helped the PRC advance key military and dual-use technologies in areas such as hypersonics, deep-earth penetrating warheads, unmanned autonomous vehicles (UAV), jet engines, and submarine noise reduction."

Los Alamos nuclear physicist Edward Teller was the real hero of the atom bomb project. He is known as the father of the hydrogen bomb, which was opposed by Oppenheimer, and supported President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative, to guard against nuclear attack. A 1999 interview noted that he was a staunch anti-communist who had "reservations about Oppenheimer's motives and allegiance to the United States." ⁵

Asked if he thought Oppenheimer was a communist, he said, "Look, Oppenheimer's mother was a Communist. His wife became a widow when her first husband - a Communist - was killed fighting in Spain. He was not a member of the Communist Party. And it's not my business to tell you why he did things. But it is my business to repeat to you essentially what I answered under oath at his trial: 'I don't think he wanted to hurt the United States, but some of his actions are of the kind that I don't understand, and when the security of the United States depends on people, I want people I can trust more.'"

Teller had the right instincts about Oppenheimer but was not fully informed about the evidence which has emerged over time. The evidence in this report demonstrates not only his membership in the CPUSA but his actions as a Soviet spy.

The whitewash represented by the "Oppenheimer" film, which grossed \$81 million in North America its first weekend, goes beyond the matter of the Russian communists infiltrating the Manhattan Project to modern-day demands for "arms control" agreements with the Soviet Union and now Russia that give the Vladimir Putin regime a decisive edge in offensive nuclear weapons capability. With such an edge, Putin regularly threatens nuclear war over Ukraine.

The "World Nuclear Stockpile Report" of the Ploughshares Fund still shows Russia with 6,257 nuclear weapons -- 700 more than the United States. China is believed to have 350 nuclear weapons, with plans to expand its atomic arsenal to at least 1,500 warheads by 2035.

In the face of this threat, the Council for a Livable World, which supported Biden's political career, wants to put U.S. missile defense "on the table," to be negotiated away in "strategic stability talks" with Russia and China. ⁶



Some of the Russian nuclear edge can be attributed to weapons once in the possession of Ukraine, a former Soviet republic, which were transferred to Moscow under the terms of an agreement signed by U.S. President Bill Clinton in 1994, known as the Budapest Memorandum.

Congress is now considering more funds than requested by the Biden Administration for U.S. nuclear weapons modernization programs, including delivery systems and warheads.

However, the Biden Department of Energy (DOE), which has federal responsibility for the design, testing and production of all nuclear weapons, has a questionable track record. Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) identified the DOE's "failed security clearance process" when it vetted and hired Sam Brinton as the Deputy Assistant Secretary at the Department of Energy. Brinton, a so-called "non-binary" individual, was fired after he was charged with felony theft and grand larceny.

Barrasso, ranking member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, sent a letter to Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm "urging her to disclose former employee Sam Brinton's official travel itineraries and address continuing concerns surrounding the criminal acts he committed during his employment at DOE." ⁷

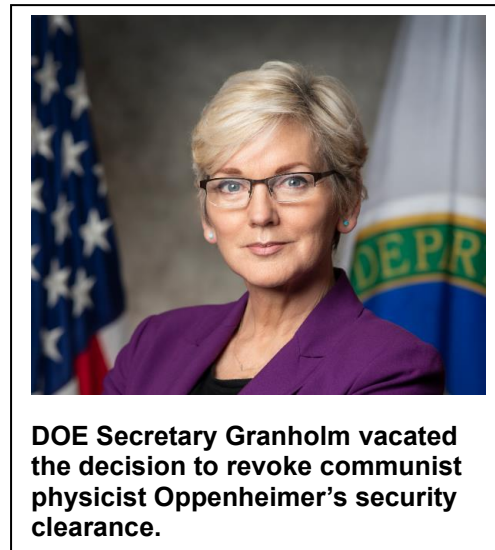
But it was Granholm who had announced the Department of Energy had vacated the Atomic Energy Commission's 1954 decision to withdraw Oppenheimer's security clearance. ⁸ She noted that the Department of Energy has previously recognized Oppenheimer in other ways including the creation of the Oppenheimer Science and Energy Leadership Program in 2017 to support early and mid-career scientists and engineers to "carry on [Dr. Oppenheimer's] legacy of science serving society."

In so doing, the U.S. Government is honoring a Stalinist spy for the Soviet Union.

The China Scandal

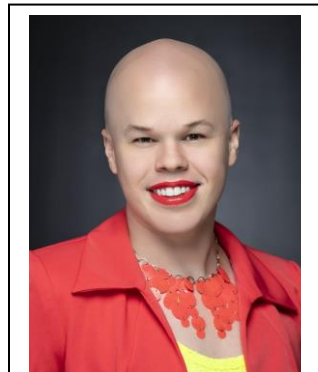
It was whistleblower Notra Trulock, the former Energy Department intelligence chief, who wrote the book, *Code Name Kindred Spirit: Inside the Chinese Nuclear Scandal*. His book quoted the former head of counterintelligence at the CIA as saying that "millions of Americans could someday die as a result of successful Chinese nuclear espionage" and that the scandal "is as bad as the Rosenberg case."

Or he might say, "This is as bad as the Oppenheimer case."



In Congressional testimony in 2000, Trulock testified, “For five years now we have been aware of the Chinese acquisition of some of our most sensitive nuclear weapon secrets. Are we any closer today to determining the source of this compromise? I am afraid that the answer is no.”⁹ Yet, to cover its failure to get to the bottom of the scandal, the FBI falsely accused Trulock of mishandling classified information and raided his home. His security clearances were withdrawn.¹⁰

I interviewed then-Rep. Christopher Cox, chairman of the commission which investigated Chinese espionage back in 1999, and he said that “the serious problems at the [nuclear] labs had gotten worse over a period of many years.”



Biden Energy official Sam Brinton was fired after he/she was charged with theft. Brinton wears lipstick and dresses.

Since then, President Biden has abolished a Trump program called the China Initiative to identify Chinese spies in the scientific community and academia.

Trulock was forced out of the Energy Department and later became an editor for Accuracy in Media, where I worked with him for several years, writing on such topics as “Oppie Was A Commie” in 2003, when the McCarthy hearings featuring a Communist Party member discussing Oppenheimer’s membership in the party were finally released.

Those hearings consisted of thousands of pages of transcripts from closed-door hearings held by Senator Joseph McCarthy, chairman of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, from 1953-1954.¹¹ These hearings, which vindicated McCarthy’s anti-communist investigations, had been

closed according to Senate rules for 50 years.

On the matter of the CPUSA affiliation, McCarthy on January 30, 1953, took the testimony of Paul Crouch, a long-time member of the Communist Party USA. Asked by McCarthy how many Communist meetings he attended with Oppenheimer, Crouch replied, “I attended one closed meeting restricted only to party members, where I gave an official report. I attended a number, at least six, social affairs arranged by the Communist party, where he was present, one being at the home of Kenneth May, one being an affair arranged to raise funds for the Spanish Communists.”

This exchange took place:

The CHAIRMAN. Let me ask you this: Is there any doubt in your mind but what Oppenheimer was under Communist party discipline at the time you were attending these Communist meetings with him?

Mr. CROUCH. No, sir, none whatever.

The CHAIRMAN. And if he were under Communist party discipline, he, of course, would be bound to turn over any atomic secrets to them that he had available?

Mr. CROUCH. That the party directed.

The CHAIRMAN. And naturally they would be interested in any atomic information he had?

Mr. CROUCH. Yes, sir. Just as a matter of fact, the Communist party might have chosen to direct him to turn over the information; they might have chosen to direct him to appoint other Communists to key positions who would in turn over the information. It is a matter of record that Dr. Oppenheimer has appointed many Communists to key positions in the atomic energy program...

In his 2009 book about McCarthy, *Blacklisted by History*, M. Stanton Evans looks at the evidence produced by McCarthy on this and other matters, noting that the FBI knew as early as December 1942 that Oppenheimer had been identified by Communist Party members as “a secret party member who had to be inactive because of the wartime work he was doing.”

The Nolan film admits that Oppenheimer was surrounded by communists and contributed to communist causes (Oppenheimer’s brother, his wife, and his mistress were Communist Party members), but claims that he never personally crossed the line into Communist Party USA membership.



Senator McCarthy’s hearings, kept secret for 50 years, named Oppenheimer as a Communist Party member.

However, the so-called “smoking gun” document consists of a Russian memorandum from NKVD director V. N. Merkulov, dated February 1944 and addressed to Stalin’s intelligence chief, Lavrenty Beria. It refers to Oppenheimer being a secret member of the Communist Party and its espionage apparatus. It states, “In 1942 one of the leaders of scientific work on [uranium] in the USA, Professor Oppenheimer while being an unlisted (nglastny) member of the apparat of Comrade Browder] [handwritten] informed us about the beginning of work.” The NKVD was the forerunner of the KGB. ¹²

“Robert Oppenheimer’s long-time membership in the Communist Party of the United States was made secret in 1942 because he was being used as a Soviet intelligence asset by the Communist Underground to help obtain atomic secrets” note Jerrold and Leona Schechter, authors of *Sacred Secrets: How Soviet Intelligence Operations Changed American History*. “Oppenheimer was being run through the American Communist Party and the Comintern, the Communist International until 1944.” ¹³

Defenders of Oppenheimer insist that he was motivated by opposition to the Nazis. In an MSNBC show about the atom bomb project, *Oppenheimer* writer and director

Christopher Nolan claimed that Oppenheimer's "sense of his own Jewishness" and fear of Hitler was a motivating factor in developing nuclear weapons for the West. ¹⁴ He came from a wealthy German Jewish family. But as a communist, Oppenheimer was also an atheist. As a young man, he attended the "humanist" Society for Ethical Culture in New York and then graduated from Harvard in three years.

Although nuclear fission, the process used to make a bomb, was discovered by Nazi scientists, the Nazis were not developing their own nuclear weapon. "The German atomic bomb had been a phantom," wrote James W. Knetka, author of the book, *City of fire: Los Alamos and the birth of the Atomic Age, 1943-1945*. He cited interviews of captured German scientists and the investigations of the matter conducted by General Lesley Richard Groves, the American Army officer in charge of the Manhattan Project.

However, the evidence shows Oppenheimer was a communist before and after the Hitler-Stalin Pact of 1939-1941 had paved the way for World War II. This makes Oppenheimer into a Stalinist.

The decision by Oppenheimer to pass America's atom bomb secrets to the Russians was not only treasonous to America but can be seen as facilitating the acquisition of nuclear weapons by other countries in the communist world, such as China and North Korea, and even Iran.



Cliff Kincaid (right) presented an America's Survival award to Herbert Romerstein (shown with his wife Pat) who co-authored a book on the NSA's Venona project exposing Soviet espionage in America's nuclear laboratory. His book *The Venona Secrets: The Definitive Exposé of Soviet Espionage in America*, can be found in the NSA museum library.

[xi] VEKSEL': i.e. "BILL OF EXCHANGE"; possibly Julius Robert OPPENHEIMER.

Oppenheimer was listed by the codename VEKSEL in the Venona messages, as determined by NSA and FBI analysts.

In his treatment of Oppenheimer's place in history, Professor Dwight D. Murphey zeroes in on the truth, noting, "From 1937 until 1942, he donated substantial sums to the Communist Party for assistance to leftist refugees from the Spanish Civil War. *Human Events* points out that 'he did this even through the Soviet-Nazi Pact of 1939-41, although at that time there was also a non-Communist organization raising money to help Spanish refugees.' The significance of this lies in the fact that a great many leftists shrunk in revulsion from Communist activity during the period of the Hitler-Stalin Pact.

The fact that Oppenheimer did not tends to place him among the hard-core. This is in direct contradiction to his claim that he had become disenchanted with Communism in 1938 after finding that it was 'a land of purge and terror.' From this we can see why the Board found that Oppenheimer 'was less than candid in several instances in his testimony.'" ¹⁵

The Board is a reference to the Atomic Energy Commission Personnel Security Board, which investigated his communist ties and revoked his security clearance.

Even if one insists that Oppenheimer was never an official member of the CPUSA, as claimed by historian John Major in his book, *The Oppenheimer Hearing*, he was clearly associated with the Communist movement. Major writes: "He had been closely associated with the Communist Party for several years, associated, moreover, at a time when the barbarities of Stalinism were becoming widely known and when the USSR was aligned with its supposed archenemy, Nazi Germany."

The film has him quoting a line from the Hindu scripture, the Bhagavad Gita, in which Vishnu says, "Now I am become death, the destroyer of worlds." That is supposed to sum up the power of nuclear weapons.

But viewed in the context of what we now know about his embrace of communist ideology, the frightening Hindu scripture cited by Oppenheimer could also apply to the power of the idea of international communism. This ideology of hate and terror fascinated and captured the imagination of Oppenheimer and his comrades and has taken the lives of 100 million people.

Without Oppenheimer and other traitors, the Soviets would have been without nuclear weapons for years, even decades. Indeed, depending on the U.S. response to communism, the U.S. could have maintained a nuclear monopoly.

As noted by Bruce Quarrie, author of *Hitler: The Victory That nearly Was*, "...the Soviet Union had enough problems on its plate by this time [1942] and could not cope with the additional burden of a complex and expensive nuclear research program."

Leaving aside the matter of his communist connections, Oppenheimer was weird. His supporters who were quoted in the MSNBC program, "To End All War: Oppenheimer & the Atomic Bomb," said he had an "identity crisis," saw a psychiatrist, had a nervous breakdown, and was an adulterer. Most importantly, one said Oppenheimer had no record of achievements when he was selected to run the Manhattan Project and another commented that he "couldn't run a hot dog stand." A chain smoker, he died of throat cancer in 1967.

For those who claim we still don't know the ultimate truth about Oppenheimer's dedication to communism, first consider the 1995-1996 release of the transcripts of the Venona project of the NSA, initially consisting of interceptions of Soviet messages exposing Soviet atomic bomb espionage.

In the official disclosure, ¹⁶ VEKSEL was identified as “possibly Julius Robert Oppenheimer” and the director of “the reservation,” referring to Los Alamos, while the NSA booklet, “The Venona Story,” says “The person codenamed VEKSEL remains uncertain but troubling.” ¹⁷

It is a sensitive topic for those who made Oppenheimer out to be a hero.

As M. Stanton Evans and Herbert Romerstein note in their book, *Stalin's Secret Agents: The Subversion of Roosevelt's Government*, Oppenheimer is routinely depicted in histories of World War II and the aftermath as a martyr, ignoring the evidence of his Communist Party membership and his “false testimony” about it.

A major source of specific information on Oppenheimer is Romerstein, who had served as an investigator or staff member for the U. S. House Committee on Un-American Activities, the House Committee on Internal Security, and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He was head of the Office to Counter Soviet Disinformation for the United States Information Agency.

He is the co-author of the book *The Venona Secrets* and confirmed Oppenheimer’s espionage activity, citing one message in which the NKVD, the Soviet secret police, is told to “re-establish contact” with VEKSEL in March 1945. ¹⁸

Romerstein’s co-author, Eric Breindel, commented, “At a minimum, therefore, Oppenheimer had been in contact with Soviet intelligence at some earlier stage. This accounts for the NSA's sense that Oppenheimer's role ‘remains troubling.’”



The NSA's National Cryptologic Museum glorifies Oppenheimer, a communist spy, by featuring a letter he wrote to a journalist. The National Cryptologic Museum is “NSA's gateway to the public.”

“The evidence is clear,” wrote Romerstein, “that the NKVD had contact with Oppenheimer and that the nuclear scientist and his wife were surrounded by people with Soviet intelligence connections.”

The hard proof that Oppenheimer supplied secret information to the Soviets didn’t come until Soviet KGB Lt. Gen. Pavel Sudoplatov revealed in his book, *Special Tasks*, that one of the critical sources of information for the Soviets was Oppenheimer. He said, “We received reports on the progress of the Manhattan Project from [J. Robert] Oppenheimer and his friends [Niels Bohr, Enrico Fermi, and Leo Szilard] in oral form, through comments and asides, and from documents transferred through clandestine methods with their full knowledge that the information they were sharing would be passed on. In all, there were five classified reports made available by Oppenheimer describing the progress of work on the atomic bomb.”

Defenders of Oppenheimer reacted with dismay and disbelief to the revelations. Indeed, in 1995, FBI Director Louis Freeh issued a letter on the Soviet espionage problem, generating such headlines as “FBI Clears Top Physicists of Passing A-Bomb Secrets,”

referring to Robert Oppenheimer, Niels Bohr, Enrico Fermi and Leo Szilard. Freeh reportedly said the Bureau had “classified information” refuting Sudoplatov but didn’t produce it.

It was under Freeh and the Clinton Administration that a case was developed but disastrously mishandled against Los Alamos Chinese American scientist Wen Ho Lee. Here is what Freeh himself said about how the facts of the case:

It is critical to understand that Dr. Lee's conduct was not inadvertent, it was not careless, and it was not innocent. Over a period of years, Dr. Lee used an elaborate scheme to move the equivalent of 400,000 pages of extremely sensitive nuclear weapons files from a secure part of the Los Alamos computer system to an unclassified, unsecure part of the system, which could be accessed from outside of Los Alamos-indeed, from anywhere in the world. Dr. Lee then downloaded those files onto portable computer tapes and still later made additional copies of some or all of those tapes. In order to achieve his ends, Dr. Lee had to override default mechanisms that were designed to prevent any accidental or inadvertent movement of those files. His downloading process consumed nearly 40 hours over 70 different days.

Nor was this all. Dr. Lee carefully and methodically removed classification markings from documents; he attempted repeatedly to enter secure areas of Los Alamos after his access had been revoked-including one attempt at 3:30 a.m. on Christmas Eve; and he deleted files in an attempt to cover his tracks before he was caught. ¹⁹

Despite the suspicious activities, the media portrayed Lee as an innocent victim of the government, and Lee sued news organizations to force them to give up their sources about the case.

He was indicted on charges of mishandling nuclear weapons secrets, rather than being a Chinese spy, and was not charged with espionage. Lee pleaded guilty on September 13, 2000 to one felony count of illegal retention of national defense information and was sentenced to time served, consisting of nearly nine months in solitary confinement.

At this time of Freeh running the FBI, another major scandal was developing. Russian spy Robert Hanssen, a top FBI official in charge of counter-intelligence against Russia, was arrested six years later, on February 18, 2001, and charged with committing espionage on behalf of Russia and the former Soviet Union. The FBI admits that “he ultimately became the most damaging spy in Bureau history” and that his espionage activities began in 1985. FBI Director Freeh expressed both “outrage and sadness” at the Hanssen case. ²⁰

The American people should be expressing outrage over the Oppenheimer cover-up.

The late anti-communist freedom fighter, the great Soviet dissident Vladimir Bukovsky, has a lot to say about Oppenheimer and his communist comrades in his book,

Judgment in Moscow. The subtitle of the book, “Soviet Crimes and Western Complicity,” is also important, for it helps explain why American officials continue to whitewash Oppenheimer.

Those officials include Biden Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, who vouched for Oppenheimer’s patriotism and reinstated his security clearance,²¹ and Senators who, in 2004, voted to recognize the “loyal service” of Oppenheimer.²²

Incredibly, these officials voted, in effect, to “restore” the security clearance of a known communist spy and security risk.

Referring to the hand-picked scientists and physicists, under the direction of Oppenheimer, Bukovsky notes, “It is sufficient to recall that the entire Manhattan Project was their initiative: the possible fear that the atomic weapon could end up in Hitler’s hands worried them to such an extent that they, forgetting their pacifism, simply forced the American president to sanction the creation of the atom bomb. But the real news that the weapon fell into Stalin’s hands did not concern them at all: on the contrary, from that moment they became pacifists again and ‘opponents of atomic weapons’ -- western ones, of course.”

“As it happened,” Bukovsky explains, “American ‘intellectuals’ of the 1940s and 1950s were leftists, a significant part of them were even procommunist (although they had not yet managed to enslave all society, as happened later). The outburst of dismay among the American establishment at the recently published memoirs of Stalin’s main butcher and superspy, Lieutenant General Pavel Sudoplatov, provides ample evidence of this.”

This is of course a reference to *Special Tasks*, in which Oppenheimer is identified as a key scientist who supplied the Russian communists with classified reports on America’s atom bomb development. Jerrold L. and Leona P. Schechter are co-authors with Sudoplatov.

Bukovsky comments, “The most amazing aspect of this situation is not so much the names of famous physicists -- J. Robert Oppenheimer, Enrico Fermi, Leo Szilard and others -- who willingly shared atomic secrets with Stalin, but rather the ease with which Soviet intelligence was able to operate in American leftist circles. Agents from their midst were not sought, but selected.”

Why did Oppenheimer and his comrades spy for Russia?

Russian President Vladimir Putin, during an appearance on CNN’s “Larry King Live” in 2000, offered an interesting perspective, saying about American scientists that “voluntarily they transferred those secrets to the Soviet Union because they wanted to restore the [nuclear] balance,” without naming Oppenheimer, of course.²³

The CPUSA’s People’s World continues the deception, saying that, “By his own account, he subscribed to People’s World and was ‘quite close to the Communist Party,’ though he never officially joined.”²⁴

It is evident that his “official” membership was carefully concealed, as he belonged to a hidden Communist Party cell and apparently used a “special channel” to the Russians. Even some supporters of Oppenheimer concede his secret membership in the CPUSA, based on various pieces of evidence, including from his communist comrades. One called Oppenheimer a “patriot” and a communist.

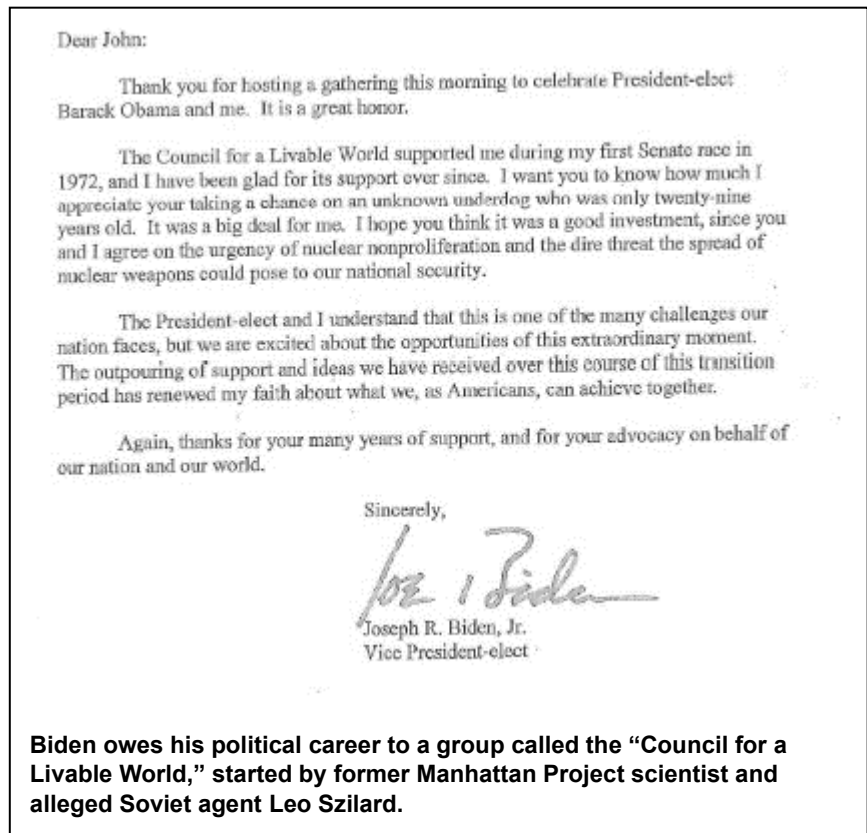
But his work on behalf of the Soviet Union is still concealed by Western elites.

Interestingly, the kind of rationale offered by Putin also justifies United Nations or international control of nuclear weapons, a goal pursued by Oppenheimer.²⁵

The “nuclear balance” theory could also explain why some Americans may have been motivated to “cooperate” in Chinese nuclear espionage.

What all of this means is that America’s nuclear labs are being used to build nuclear weapons for Russia and China, for the ultimate purpose of diminishing the military power of America.

Meantime, Oppenheimer’s apologists continue their campaign on behalf of the communist causes he embraced, justifying appeasement of Russia and China.



The Truth About Oppie

Rather than celebrate Oppenheimer, Congressional investigators should examine how Oppenheimer, a physics professor at the University of California at Berkeley, was selected to run the Manhattan Project, became chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission’s General Advisory Committee, and acquired a top-secret Q security clearance. The other question: why are Western elites still defending him? Specifically, why is the NSA promoting him?

By any objective measure, the film, based on Kai Bird’s Oppenheimer book, has to be viewed as hopelessly out of date and biased. Indeed, the magazine he was associated

with, *The Nation*, affirmed that convicted Soviet spy Alger Hiss may have been innocent of the charges against him. ²⁶

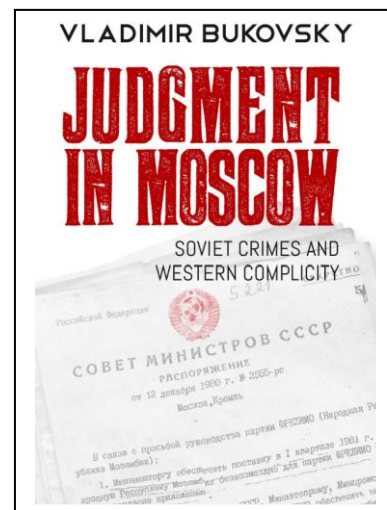
Despite Kai Bird's association with *The Nation*, his book, *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*, written with Martin J. Sherwin, was awarded the 2006 Pulitzer Prize in Biography.

The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) journal *Foreign Affairs* recommended the book for summer reading.

What we can say with certainty is that, courtesy of Oppenheimer and his comrades, the Soviet Union detonated its first atomic bomb on August 29, 1949, four years after the U.S. tested its weapon under the code name Trinity for the atomic test site. A Department of Energy history of the Manhattan Project notes that "...the device they used was virtually identical in design to the one that had been tested at Trinity four years previously." ²⁷

The U.S. ended the war, by dropping atomic bombs on Japan in August 1945, a course of action endorsed strongly by Oppenheimer, but the Soviets then proceeded to consolidate control of Eastern Europe, thanks to the work of another Soviet spy, Alger Hiss, FDR's top aide at Yalta.

After the Soviets exploded their first atomic bomb, Truman ordered American scientists to embark on a new program to build a more powerful hydrogen bomb, to give the United States an edge in military and diplomatic affairs. But Oppenheimer then objected.



Interestingly, Manhattan Project scientist Leo Szilard started a group called the Council for a Livable World, which was supported by money from Al Gore Sr., who in turn was funded by Soviet agent Armand Hammer. The Council for a Livable World is the key to understanding Biden, who was endorsed for president by the group in 2020 and has pushed various proposals during the course of his career for more power and influence for the United Nations, including the Law of the Sea Treaty. ²⁸

Biden wrote a Wall Street Journal column, "How I Learned to Love the New World Order." My group, America's Survival, fought the Biden effort. ²⁹

Oppenheimer became the lead author of the Acheson-Lilienthal plan to authorize the United Nations to assume control of nuclear weapons, under which Oppenheimer said the U.S. would have to accept the "partial abrogation of our national sovereignty." ³⁰

In my book, *Global Bondage: The U.N. Plan to Rule the World* (1995), I note that a proposal for a U.N. peace force or world army was offered in 1961, when the U.S. Department of State under the Kennedy administration issued *Freedom from War: The*

United States Program for General and Complete Disarmament in a Peaceful World. This extraordinary document urged, "The disbanding of all national armed forces and the prohibition of their reestablishment in any form whatsoever other than those required to preserve internal order and for contributions to a United Nations Peace Force."

In this context, a book which outlines a "short history" of the Council on Foreign Relations notes that Henry Kissinger in 1955 "had the opportunity to visit Princeton University and spend the day with J. Robert Oppenheimer, the acclaimed physicist who oversaw the effort to develop atomic weapons," to discuss nuclear weapons policy. Oppenheimer was then Director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton.

Oppenheimer was a member of the CFR, as was Alger Hiss, and Oppenheimer wrote an essay, "International Control of Atomic Energy," for the CFR journal *Foreign Affairs* in 1948.³¹ A subsequent essay for the CFR journal *Foreign Affairs*, entitled, "Atomic Weapons and American Policy," was published in 1953. At this point, Oppenheimer tried to sound anti-Soviet, seemingly alarmed by communist aggression.³²

For his part, Kissinger in 2009 insisted that President Obama could create a New World Order and that he had a good foreign policy team. He made these comments on CNBC during a "celebration" of 30 years of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and China.

More recently, he was a visitor to Communist China, for a friendly meeting with dictator Xi. In fact, Xi called him one of his "old friends."³³ It was Kissinger, of course, who played the key role in the talks that led President Nixon in 1972 to establish informal ties with China, leading to formal diplomatic relations in 1979. Kissinger insisted that China had abandoned communism, and was no longer a threat.

Kissinger wrote the foreword to the 2002 book, *The New Russian Diplomacy*, by Russian official Igor S. Ivanov, in which Kissinger discussed how Russia and the U.S. "have a rare opportunity to work together in building a new international system."

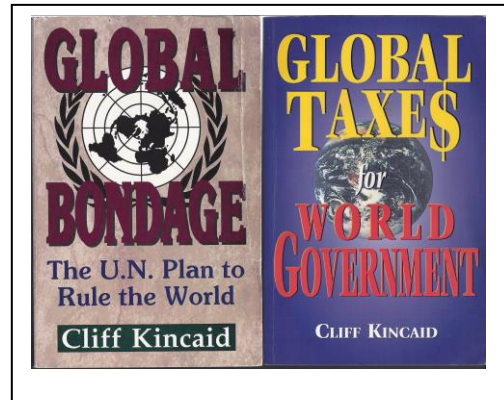
Perhaps referring to the Western elites such as Kissinger, Bukovsky wrote in his book *Judgment in Moscow* that, despite all the evil perpetrated by the physicists themselves, "I am more disgusted by their current protectors than by Oppenheimer and company. The latter at least believed in what they did and were prepared to risk their lives for their convictions, while their protectors are simply preserving their cozy position in the elite,



Cliff Kincaid with John Chambers, son of anti-communist hero Whittaker Chambers, at the Chambers Farm, where the "pumpkin papers" confirming Hiss's guilt were found. Hiss was named as a Soviet spy in the NSA's Venona papers.

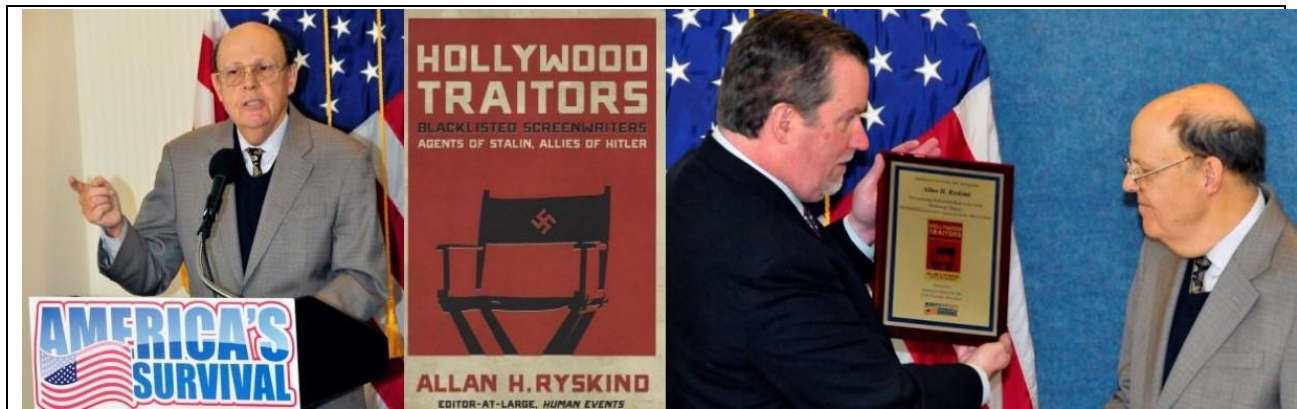
totally unashamed of barefaced lies. They are certainly not concerned about the good name of their late colleagues, but the need to take responsibility for the common fault.”

He added, “The participation of American leftist intellectuals in Soviet atomic espionage is just one example of their complicity in the communists’ crimes. And to admit this would mean admitting that the anticommunist campaign of the late 1940s and early 1950s, popularly known as ‘McCarthyism,’ was no ‘witch hunt.’ It is regrettable that, like everything in America, it took on a hysterical nature, but in fact it is indisputable that it was fully justified.”



To continue this anti-communist work, my group America’s Survival, Inc. has been advocating an anti-communist House committee for years. The much-maligned House Committee on Un-American Activities, known as HCUA, uncovered dramatic communist infiltration of Hollywood and forced the studios to clean house.

Allan Ryskind examines this period in his book, *Hollywood Traitors: Blacklisted Screen Writers, Agents of Stalin, Allies of Hitler*, and spoke at the America’s Survival, Inc. conference on “America’s Enemies in Hollywood: Then and Now.”



Cliff Kincaid (right) presents an America’s Survival award to author Allan Ryskind, author of *Hollywood Traitors*. Ryskind calls HCUA’s investigation of Hollywood in 1947 and 1950 “one of the most effective, albeit controversial, probes ever carried out by any committee of Congress.” He adds, “HUAC had revealed that Hollywood was packed with communists and fellow travelers, that the guilds and the unions had been heavily penetrated, and that wartime films, at least, had been saturated with Stalinist propoganda. Red writers were an elite and powerful group in Hollywood – many of them working for major studios.”

As the Oppenheimer movie obscures the ultimate truth about communist infiltration, demonstrating the Hollywood problem has returned, we are faced with the fact that many Americans have no idea how deep Chinese penetration of our nuclear labs has been – and how it continues.

Consider the case of former Los Alamos scientist Wen Ho Lee. He was a Chinese American physicist at Los Alamos National Laboratory with a security clearance to work in the lab's top-secret highly classified X Division, which designs America's most advanced nuclear warheads. The ACLU and the Asian Law Caucus came to his defense, arguing government discrimination against people of Asian descent, in a brief joined by the one-time communist front National Lawyers Guild. Playing the victim, he wrote the book, *My Country Versus Me*.³⁴

But Attorney General Janet Reno testified on September 26, 2000:

- Dr. Lee is no hero. He is not an absent-minded professor. He is a felon. He committed a very serious, calculated crime, and he pled guilty to it. He abused the trust of the American people by putting at risk some of our core national security secrets.
- He had one of the highest security clearance levels possible, granting him access to the most sensitive of nuclear weapons information. He had worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory for 20 years. He had access to the Los Alamos computer system that was designed precisely to be secure against unauthorized intrusions.
- What was on that secure system? Nuclear weapon design and testing data that is, in effect, the library of blueprints of most of the United States' nuclear weapons designs, designs that are the fruit of an investment of hundreds of billions of dollars.
- Dr. Lee systematically, deliberately moved nuclear weapons data that was not even related to the work he was doing.
- He moved it from the system where it was safe and secure to a vulnerable computer in the Los Alamos system that any hacker or foreign government could penetrate. Dr. Lee did so by betraying the trust that had been placed in him to protect those secrets.³⁵

More recently, a former Los Alamos scientist, Turab Lookman, got probation and a fine for making false statements about being employed by China through its Thousand Talents Program. The case was prosecuted under Trump's "China Initiative," which was discontinued under President Biden and Attorney General Merrick Garland.³⁶

According to the Washington Times, his lawyers reportedly stated that the Thousand Talents program was not always viewed as a danger to U.S. security. Strangely, this seems to be true, as demonstrated by "The Los Alamos Club" report from Strider Technologies. Indeed, the foreword to the report says it "does not suggest any illegal activities were conducted by any individual, university, professors, laboratory, or research institute named."

"From 2013 to 2016, the Department of Justice did not charge anyone with spying for China," noted Trump Attorney General Jeff Sessions on November 1, 2018. "But since the beginning of 2017, we have charged three people with spying for China or

attempting or conspiring to do so. And when it comes to trade secret theft, we are currently prosecuting five other cases where the theft or attempted theft was for the benefit of the Chinese government.”³⁷

Politico reports that several lawmakers are preparing to see the Oppenheimer film, including “one of the key Senators responsible for vindicating J. Robert Oppenheimer,” Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) Heinrich had joined with Senators, Patrick Leahy, Edward Markey, and Jeffery Merkley, in writing a letter to Biden asking to clear Oppenheimer's name. That resulted in Granholm’s declaration.³⁸

Not surprisingly, they blamed a “McCarthy era hearing” for the attention given to Oppenheimer’s communist associations and sympathies.

The tragedy, not addressed by Congressional Republicans, is that Oppenheimer is still being presented as a hero who helped end World War II when he and his comrades gave our nuclear secrets to Moscow.

But the Democratic Party wants to whitewash Oppenheimer’s record. Why?

The answer may lie in how the national Democratic Party handled the Oppenheimer matter, with John Stormer, author of the 1964 best-seller *None Dare Call It Treason*, noting that “Oppenheimer was a guest of honor at a formal [Kennedy] White House Dinner [in April 1962]. After this preliminary buildup, in December 1963, President Lyndon Johnson gave Oppenheimer the 1963 Enrico Fermi award of \$50,000 in tax-free government funds. The award was granted by the Atomic Energy Commission in April 1963 with President Kennedy’s approval.” The Fermi Award was described as one of the oldest and most prestigious science and technology honors bestowed by the U.S. Government.

Stormer noted that administration officials were quoted as saying privately that the award was a first step in rebuilding Oppenheimer’s “public image” and as a “test” of public reaction in preparation for his eventual return to a sensitive government job.

Rebuilding that image has been left to Hollywood and the Biden Administration, as well as the popular “Jeopardy!” show, which promoted the “Oppenheimer” movie to millions of Americans in advance of its debut on July 21, 2023.³⁹

Even some “conservatives” are ignorant. An article in a conservative publication by David Harsanyi said “the physicist was likely a communist — or, at best, a communist sympathizer” and “had been supportive of the Soviet Union” and wondered if he was a Soviet spy.⁴⁰ Citing that article, a conservative columnist for the Daily Signal of the Heritage Foundation scholar claimed, “Oppenheimer likely remained a loyal American despite his ideology, though there are still legitimate questions about whether he had been a Soviet spy.”⁴¹

These “conservatives” do not understand that the case is closed and the legitimate questions have already been answered.

Embraced by the Establishment

Even before the definitive proof of Oppenheimer's spying for Russia was firmly established by Venona, M. Stanton Evans, in his book *The Liberal Establishment*, had described Oppenheimer as "universally revered in Establishment circles as a combination scientist, sage, and prose-poet," despite his well-established communist connections.

Referring to the Fermi award, M. Stanton Evans added that, "Oppenheimer, after a gracious speech by the President, stepped forward to receive his bauble. He opined that it was a sign of great character and courage that the United States government should be making this award to him. The reference was an ironic one in view of the fact that Oppenheimer, whose clearance to handle secret data was suspended by the Atomic Energy Commission in 1954, is still officially categorized as a 'security risk' on the grounds of 'character.' That the American government should bestow so cherished an honor upon a man under this shadow of reprobation is indeed an unusual reversal suggesting extraordinary qualities in the government capable of it."

Much of the Christopher Nolan film emphasizes how Oppenheimer lost his security clearance after World War II in a process depicted as unfair to the scientist. Oppenheimer was denied a security clearance by the Atomic Energy Commission's Personnel Security Board, as it concluded that he was "more probably than not" an "agent of the Soviet Union."

Evans noted that the board which voted to withdraw Oppenheimer's security clearance "heard testimony both pro and con from a galaxy of witnesses" and that the hard evidence included the fact that Oppenheimer gave up to \$1,000 annually to the Communist Party for a period of four years, overlapping both the Hitler-Stalin pact and the commencement of Oppenheimer's participation in the atomic energy project.

William L. Borden, Staff Director of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and the author of the phrase, "More probably than not, J. Robert Oppenheimer is an agent of the Soviet Union," cited this evidence and more.

His letter to J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI, dated November 7, 1953, said the evidence indicated "that as of April 1942: (a) He was contributing substantial monthly sums to the Communist Party; (b) His ties with communism had survive the Nazi-Soviet Pact and the Soviet attack upon Finland; (c) His wife and younger brother were Communists; (d) He had no close friends except Communists..."⁴²

Hoover responded with a summary of the FBI's file on Oppenheimer that was sent to President Truman in November 1945.⁴³

However, as noted, the Senate in 2004 voted unanimously to recognize the "loyal service" of J. Robert Oppenheimer. Republican Senator Pete Domenici was a sponsor. The resolution honoring the Soviet spy was brought to the floor by then-Senate Majority and Republican Leader Bill Frist and it passed by unanimous consent.

Herbert Romerstein, who worked on Capitol Hill for 18 years, told me at the time that the resolution honoring Oppenheimer was passed by unanimous consent when it was likely that few Senators were even on the Senate floor and knew anything about Oppenheimer.

Nevertheless, New Mexico Senators Domenici and Jeff Bingaman would then participate in the dedication of the house where Oppenheimer and his family lived, after it was acquired by the Los Alamos Historical Society.

Today, the Oppenheimer House is operated by the National Park Service and became one of the filming locations for the movie "Oppenheimer." The U.S. Army says it is expecting a "larger than normal crowd" at an upcoming open house at the Trinity Site on October 21, 2023, "due to the overwhelming popularity" of the film. Another open house is scheduled for April 6, 2024.

Meanwhile, the Los Alamos National Laboratory honors the Soviet spy Oppenheimer by hosting an annual J. Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Lecture, which in 2021 featured speeches addressing "climate change." So-called climate change has become the latest attempt to forge a "New World Order" run by the United Nations, with the cooperation of China and Russia. The campaign was launched after the so-called collapse of the Soviet state, when Mikhail Gorbachev, the last Soviet president, was fooling the West with Glasnost and Perestroika while pursuing the goal of world communism with the support of "socialists" in the West, led by the Democratic Party in the United States. In his November 2, 1987 speech, "October and Perestroika: The Revolution Continues," Gorbachev said: "In October 1917 we parted with the old world, rejecting it once and for all. We are moving towards a new world, the world of Communism. We shall never turn off that road!"

The Nazis were defeated and the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan ended the war. But the communists were permitted to regroup in Soviet Russia, take Eastern Europe, and wage wars in such places as Korea and Vietnam. Since the end of World War II, tens of thousands of Americans gave their lives to stop the communist advance while the communists seized power on the mainland of China, were given Hong Kong, and now threaten Taiwan.

The facts show that the Communist Party of China was founded by a Bolshevik Soviet agent, Grigori Naumovich Voitinsky, a Russian born in Belarus in 1893. Kim Il-Sung, selected by Stalin to lead North Korea, was succeeded by his son, Kim Jong Il, who was born in Communist Russia.

If we had listened to General George S. Patton, who warned about the dangers of Russian communism, there might not have been a Soviet Union. "Tin politicians in Washington have allowed us to kick the hell out of one bastard (Adolf Hitler) and at the same time forced us to help establish a second one (Stalin) as evil or more evil than the first," he said. ⁴⁴ On the other hand, if President Harry Truman had listened to General Douglas MacArthur, who led U.S. forces during the Korean War and wanted to take the

fight to the mainland of Communist China, there would not be a Communist China or North Korea today. But Patton died in an “accident” and Truman fired MacArthur.

It was reported that Truman had asked Oppenheimer during their Oval Office meeting when he thought the Soviet Union would have its first nuclear weapon. Oppenheimer replied that he didn’t know and Truman thundered, “Never!”⁴⁵

Today, most Americans are in the dark about Russian and Chinese infiltration of our nuclear labs. Equally shocking, the NSA has gone “woke” on the matter of what its analysts determined about Oppenheimer’s record of service to the cause of Soviet communism.

To make matters worse, the U.S. Government admits that today’s nuclear weapons stockpile “is the smallest it has been since 1960”⁴⁶ and that new production of U.S. nuclear weapons ceased in 1990, after the “collapse” of the Soviet Union.

What’s more, the Biden administration declassified the number of nuclear weapons the United States possesses, reversing the secrecy of the Trump administration, which denied release of the number for three years.⁴⁷ “During the Cold War,” the State Department says, “the United States possessed large numbers and a wide range of non-strategic nuclear weapons, also known as theater or tactical nuclear weapons. Since 1991, the United States has retired and dismantled nearly all of those weapons. Note, non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons are non-accountable systems under the New START Treaty.”

Under President Barack Hussein Obama, the New START treaty was passed with 71 yes votes and 26 no votes (not Voting 3), and obligates the U.S. and Russia to cap their strategic nuclear weapons at 1,550 warhead.

In statements in the preamble to the pact, the two sides recognize “the interrelationship between strategic offensive arms and strategic defense arms” and how “this

The NSA Goes Woke

BETTER DEAD THAN RED

In 1954 the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) revoked the security clearance of physicist and Manhattan Project director J. Robert Oppenheimer. They claimed his ties to communism (mainly from the 1930s) were why he shouldn’t be trusted—he had, according to the AEC, “fundamental defects” in his character.

In reality, they were angry he spoke out in opposition to the development of the hydrogen bomb.

The decision ruined his career, and he lived out the remainder of his life a broken and bitter man.

In December 2022, the US Secretary of Energy nullified this travesty.

This reversal didn’t do Oppenheimer all that much good—he died in 1967.

Letter from J. Robert Oppenheimer to Edwin Diamond,
Princeton, May 9, 1962

On Loan from the TC Howard Collection



The NSA’s National Cryptologic Museum no longer features a display on how KGB spies infiltrated the Manhattan Project. Instead, it now includes a display (above) whitewashing Oppenheimer and ignoring the substantial evidence of his record as a communist spy.

interrelationship will become more important as strategic arms are reduced.” This linkage is a major concession to the Russians that could limit U.S. missile defenses.

Before becoming President, Barack Hussein Obama had authored a 1983 article, “Breaking the War Mentality,” for a campus newsmagazine at Columbia University, not only calling for support of the nuclear weapons freeze movement but going beyond that to calling for the abandonment of specific weapons systems and a general goal of a “nuclear free world.”



Obama did not achieve “global zero,” but he scrapped plans to build missile defense facilities in Poland and the Czech Republic and pursued a New START treaty with Russia. It left Russia with a nuclear weapons advantage and did nothing about Iran and North Korea developing nuclear weapons.

The Republican Response

The FBI acknowledges that the counterintelligence and economic espionage efforts emanating from the government of China and the Chinese Communist Party are a “grave threat” to the economic well-being and democratic values of the United States.⁴⁸

In response, citing the Strider Technologies report, Rep. Mike Waltz and ten other Republican members of the House asserted in a letter to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, Jennifer Granholm, and the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Arati Prabhakar, that, “The Chinese Communist Party has been stealing our research and technology for decades through its foreign talents programs and it’s critical to our national security that we put an immediate stop to their espionage efforts.” In effect, they want Trump’s China Initiative to be re-established.⁴⁹

Several Senators have introduced a bill, Protect America’s Innovation and Economic Security from CCP [Chinese Communist Party] Act. “The [Biden] Department of Justice canceled the China Initiative because a band of woke activists smeared it as racist and xenophobic,” noted Senator Marco Rubio.⁵⁰ On the House side, a similar bill has been introduced by Rep. Lance Gooden.⁵¹

But no Republican member of the Senate or House has sought to expose Oppenheimer’s real record.

Using “Oppenheimer” to Disarm the United States

Meanwhile, the far-left is working on the local level, using the “Oppenheimer” movie to to agitate for H.Res.77, “Embracing the goals and provisions of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” A July 17 story in the Frederick News-Post in Maryland, “Rally urges eradication of nuclear weapons,” was based on a turnout of “more than a dozen people” and sponsored by Prevent Nuclear War/Maryland.

H. Res. 77 is endorsed by Rep. Jamie Raskin, a Maryland Democrat and a vice chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, who emerged as a major critic of Russian influence in the Trump Administration. His father was Marcus Raskin, a former Kennedy administration official who was a founder of the Marxist Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) and notoriously soft on Soviet Russia.

In the 1980s, in order to undermine Reagan’s defense buildup, Marcus Raskin and the IPS planned several conferences with Soviet officials believed to be under the influence or control of the Soviet intelligence services. At the time, 12 members of the U.S. Senate and 70 members of the House wrote to Secretary of State George Shultz, warning that the Soviet Union would use the events for intelligence purposes. IPS subservience to the agenda of the Soviet Union and its client state was a major topic of concern to those backing Reagan’s anti-Soviet policies. Journalist and author Brian Crozier wrote in *National Review* that the IPS was “the perfect intellectual front for Soviet activities which would be resisted if they were to originate openly from the KGB.”

S. Steven Powell’s book on the IPS, *Covert Cadre*, includes photographs of identified Soviet agents who attended IPS functions or associated with IPS personalities. He names two as KGB officers. The IPS even hosted convicted Soviet spy Alger Hiss. It regarded him as innocent and launched a series of “Alger Hiss lectures” in 2002, after receiving a bequest from the estate of Alger and Isabel Johnson Hiss.

Ironically, Rep. Raskin used a speech in Washington, D.C. to denounce the Russians for using “active measures” or influence operations against the United States, the same kind that his own father’s organization facilitated.



¹ I visited the NSA's National Cryptologic Museum on August 9, 2023, confirming that the Venona exhibit had been "rotated out" of the museum and replaced with a "Protecting America's Secrets" display paying homage to Oppenheimer.

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