

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
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STATEMENT BY THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

The Atomic Energy Commission is making public the attached transcript of the unclassified testimony presented to the Personnel Security Board in the matter of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer. This release is made in advance of the time -- later this month -- when the Commission will reach its decision.

The wide national interest and concern in the matter make inevitable and desirable close public examination of the final determination.

AEC security clearance proceedings are conducted in privacy. The Commission's personnel security regulations provide for closed hearings. The Commission protects the privacy of the individuals concerned in such proceedings if they so desire. In this instance, privacy was maintained for the hearings before the Board. However, Dr. Oppenheimer's attorneys, as was their privilege, have issued texts of some documents. In the present circumstances, release of the transcript, within the limits of security, will in the opinion of the Commission best serve the public interest.