

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT William Peel

FILE NO. 65-59312

SECTION NO. Sub A

SERIALS NR-1

Through

NR-62

## **NOTICE**

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File No: 65-59312 Re: William PerlDate: 3/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
NR-1	2-15-51	Wash News Art	1	1	
NR-2	2-15-51	Wash Star Art	1	1	
NR-3	3-16-51	Time-Herald Art	1	1	
NR-4	3-16-51	Wash Post Art	1	1	
NR-5	3-15-51	Wash City News Serv	1	1	
NR-6	3-15-51	Akron Beacon Journal	2	2	
NR-7	3-15-51	Times-Herald	1	1	
NR-8	3-15-51	NY News	3	3	
NR-9	3-15-51	NY Journal American	1	1	
NR-10	3-15-51	Times-Herald Art	1	1	
NR-11	3-15-51	Cleveland Plain Dealer	2	2	
NR-12	3-15-51	Cleveland News	2	2	

File No: 65-59317 Re: William PearlDate: 3/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
NR-13	3-16-51	NY World Telegram <sup>SUN</sup>	1	1	
NR-14	3-15-51	NY Times Art.	4	4	
NR-15	3-15-51	NY Herald Tribune	6	6	
NR-16	3-15-51	Cleveland Press Art.	1	1	
NR-17	3-15-51	NY Journal American Art.	5	5	
NR-18	3-15-51	NY Brooklyn Eagle art.	3	3	
NR-19	3-16-51	NY Herald Tribune Art.	2	2	
NR-20	3-16-51	NY Times art.	2	2	
NR-21	3-17-51	East Liverpool Review	1	1	
NR-22	3-15-51	Wash. Star Art.	1	1	
NR-23	3-15-51	Wash Post Art.	1	1	
NR-24	4-19-51	NY Times Article	1	1	



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(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
NR-25	9-17-51	Times Herald Art.	1	1	
NR-26	3-14-51	Wash City News Service Art	6	6	
NR-27	6-9-52	Wash City News Service	1	1	
NR-28	7-1-52	NY World Telegram + Sun	1	1	
NR-29	5-18-53	NY World Telegram + Sun	1	1	
NR-30	5-19-53	NY World Telegram + Sun	1	1	
NR-31	5-19-53	NY Times Article	2	2	
NR-32	5-19-53	Daily Worker Art	1	1	
NR-33	5-20-53	NY News	1	1	
NR-34	5-20-53	NY Journal American	1	1	
NR-35	5-20-53	NY Herald Trib. Art.	1	1	
NR-36	5-20-53	NY Journal American	1	1	

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Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
NR-37	5-22-53	Daily Worker Article	1	1	
NR-38	5-22-53	Wash. Post Art.	1	1	
NR-39	5-22-53	Wash. City News. Serv.	1	1	
NR-40	5-23-53	NY Mirror Article	1	1	
NR-41	5-23-53	NY News Article	1	1	
NR-42	5-23-53	NY Times Article	1	1	
NR-43	5-20-53	NY Times Article	1	1	
NR-44	5-23-53	Wash. Post Article	1	1	
NR-45	5-23-53	NY Herald Tribune Art.	2	2	
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NR-47	5-20-53	NY World Telegram & Sun Art.	1	1	
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(month/year)

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NR-49	5-22-53	NY Herald Trib. Art.	1	1	
NR-50	5-22-53	NY News Art.	1	1	
NR-51	5-23-53	Times-Herald Art.	1	1	
NR-52	5-23-53	NY Post	1	1	
NR-53	5-19-53	NY Journal American	1	1	
NR-54	6-5-53	NY World Telegram & Sun <sup>art</sup>	1	1	
NR-55	6-6-53	Times-Herald Art	1	1	
NR-56	6-6-53	NY Herald Tribune Art.	1	1	
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NR-58	6-6-53	Wash. Post Article	1	1	
NR-59	6-8-53	Article the Militant	1	1	
NR-60	10-27-53	Washington City News Service	1	1	

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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U. S. Department of Justice

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**FEDERAL BUREAU**

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**INVESTIGATION**

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## Columbia University Instructor Arrested

# Say Scientist Lied About Knowing Spy Defendants

NEW YORK, March 15—FBI agents today failed a 32-year-old Columbia University instructor charged with being the 10th American connected with the Gold-Fuchs Russian atomic spy ring.

William Perl, described as the nation's second-ranking aerodynamics engineer, was arrested last night in his book-lined mid-Manhattan apartment. FBI agents also seized some of his personal papers.

The tall scientist, whose father was a native of Russia, was to be arraigned today before Federal Judge Henry M. Goddard on charges he lied four times to a grand jury investigating espionage last August and September.

### CLASSMATE

A member of the U. S. District Attorney's office said the indictment "charges Perl lied before the grand jury about his acquaintance with five persons."

The spokesmen said the first two counts accused Perl of perjury in testifying he did not know Morton Sobell and Julius Rosenberg, now on trial in New York for atomic espionage.

"Charge number three," the spokesman said, "was that he lied when he said he was not acquainted with Max and Helene Elitcher, and, number four, that he was not acquainted with Michael and Ann Sidorovich."

### 'HIGHLY COMPETENT'

Elitcher, a civilian ordnance expert for the Navy, was the Government's first witness in the present Sobell-Rosenberg trial.

"Perl was a college classmate of Sobell, Rosenberg and Mrs. Elitcher's husband," the spokesman said. The FBI had been watching Perl's



MRS. RUTH GREENGLASS  
 Helped spy for money

movements since shortly after Gold, a Philadelphia chemist, was arrested last May on atomic spy charges.

Perl's 33-year-old wife said last night she knew something was amiss because her husband had not attended his classes in theoretic physics in three days.

"I know he is innocent," she said. Officials at Columbia University said Perl was a "highly competent physicist" and the nation's second-ranking aerodynamics engineer.

In addition to Perl, nine Americans have been arrested by the FBI since British scientist Dr. Klaus Fuchs was brought to trial as an atomic spy last year.

## She Knew She Was 'Doing Wrong'

NEW YORK, March 15—Mrs. Ruth Greenglass told Federal court she knew she was "doing wrong" when she helped slip U. S. atomic bomb secrets to Russia, but she regarded it as a "C.O.D. proposition."

She described such spying yesterday as a family matter involving her husband and his sister and brother-in-law, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg.

Mrs. Greenglass, 26-year-old mother of two children, returned to the witness stand this morning for cross-examination of her testimony against her in-laws.

On trial with the Rosenbergs for wartime espionage conspiracy is electronic engineer Morton Sobell. Conviction on the charge carries a possible death penalty.

The defense tried to shake Mrs. Greenglass' testimony that she was "too young to realize the significance of what was going on" when she helped her husband, who has pleaded guilty, relay secret data from the Los Alamos, N. M., atomic project during the war.

Mrs. Greenglass, named as a co-conspirator in the spy plot but not a defendant in the case, admitted she felt she was "doing wrong" from the start but that she continued to take money for betraying her country.

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-Herald

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Wash. News

Wash. Star

N.Y. Mirror

N. Y. Compass

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# Columbia U. Instructor Charged With Perjury In Atom Spy Case

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Mar. 15—William Perl, 32-year-old Columbia University physics instructor, was arrested by the FBI last night on perjury charges.

A Federal grand jury, in an indictment returned Tuesday but not made public pending his arrest, accused him of lying about his relationship with alleged atomic espionage.

A spokesman at the office of United States District Attorney Irving Saypol described Perl as "one of the two top scientists in the field of aerodynamics."

Mr. Saypol refused to discuss the case.

He said he would "defer any comment" until Perl's arraignment in Federal Court today.

Under Investigation for Months. J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said Perl had been under investigation since shortly after the arrest of Harry Gold in May, 1950.

The indictment charged Perl with four counts of perjury in connection with testimony he gave on August 18 and September 11, 1950, in which he denied acquaintance with Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, on trial in New York on espionage charges. Perl also denied knowing other individuals who figured in the trial, the Justice Department said.

A spokesman in the New York prosecutor's office said the indictment also accused Perl of lying about his "association and friendship" with Helen Elitcher, wife of Max Elitcher, the first Government witness and with

Anne and Michael Sidorovich, who have been mentioned in the case of Rosenberg.

Changed Name in 1945.

The spokesman added that Perl "is supposed to have gone to school with Sobell, Rosenberg and Elitcher. He was a roommate of Sobell's in Washington in 1940."

Perl was born in 1918 in New York under the name of Mutterperl, and changed his name by court order in 1945, the FBI said.

The FBI said Perl's father was a native of Russia and his mother a native of Poland. They are naturalized American citizens.

The department announcement said Perl attended high school in the Bronx, New York, and received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at City College of New York in 1938. At CCNY he was a classmate of Rosenberg and Sobell, Mr. Hoover said.

Joined Columbia Last Year.

Mr. Hoover added that from 1939 to 1943 Perl was employed by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics at Langley Field, and during 1944-45 he worked for NACA at the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory in Cleveland.

After a brief leave of absence, Perl was re-employed by NACA as an aeronautical research scientist at Cleveland where he had access to the latest developments in the field of aeronautics, and jet propulsion. The FBI said he returned on September 1, 1950, to become an instructor at Columbia University. Perl lives with his wife in New York.

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# 3 Linked to Red Spy Ring Vanish

NEW YORK, March 15 (UP).—The government revealed today that three persons allegedly involved in a Russian spy ring "have flown the jurisdiction of the court" and charged that Dr. William Perl, tenth American arrested in the spy ring, intended to flee the country.

Asst. U.S. Atty. John M. Foley made the revelation in asking high bail for Perl, who was arrested last night in his mid-Manhattan apartment on charges of lying four times to a grand jury investigating the Gold-Fuchs atomic spy ring.

Sought to Leave U.S.

Foley said that Perl, Columbia university instructor, described as the nation's second-ranking aerodynamics engineer, had applied for a passport to leave the country last month so he could escape prosecution.

The government attorney said Michael and Ann Sidorovich and Helene Elitcher, three of five persons with whom the government charges Perl tried to cover his relationships, already have "flown." No indication was given in court as to their whereabouts.

The other two persons, Julius

Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, are on trial for their lives in federal court along with electronics engineer Morton Sobell on charges of wartime espionage for the Russians.

## \$20,000 Bail Fixed

Federal Judge Henry Goddard ordered Perl held in \$20,000 bail after he learned of the university instructor's passport application.

At the trial of the Rosenbergs and Sobell, confessed Soviet spy Harry Gold today came out of jail, where he is serving 30 years for espionage, to link Rosenberg directly with the Soviet atom spy ring.

Gold testified he picked up atom bomb information in Rosenberg's name during a 1945 trip to New Mexico where the government was working on the atom project.

The convicted spy said he was to get the information from David Greenglass, brother-in-law of Rosenberg, who was working at the Los Alamos project. Greenglass and his wife have appeared as government witnesses against the Rosenbergs.

The plot, Gold testified, was worked out with former Russian

consulate official Anatoli Yakovlev, over drinks in a Manhattan restaurant.

Yakovlev fled the United States six years ago, but was named a defendant in the present spy trial.

On the Russian's instructions, Gold told the court, he met Greenglass in Albuquerque, N. M., in June 1945 and got the atom information from him.

On the same trip he also picked up "a bunch of papers" from British scientist Klaus Fuchs in Santa Fe, N. M., Gold said.

He said he turned over both sets of data to Yakovlev on his return to New York.

Gold testified that when the Russian briefed him on the trip he told him he had "an extremely important" job for him.

"I Come from Julius"

"I met with Yakovlev inside of a combination restaurant and bar called Volk's on the corner of Forty-second street and Third avenue," Gold said.

The Russian, Gold said, led him to a seat in the rear of the cafe where he handed him an onion skin sheet.

"On it was typed the name



WILLIAM PERL

"Greenglass" and a number on High street and underneath that, Albuquerque, N. Mex.," Gold said. "The first thing was the recognition signal—I come from Julius."

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Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_

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# A-Bomb Test Told to Reds Month Early

NEW YORK, March 15. (U.P.)—Confessed Soviet Spy Harry Gold said today he told the Russians about the first New Mexico atom bomb test one month before it happened.

Gold, sentenced to 30 years for his role in betraying the bomb to Russia, testified as a Government witness in the spy trial of Julius Rosenberg. He said Rosenberg was directly linked to the plot.

Gold testified he informed Russian Agent Anatoli Yakovlev in June 1945 that the first bomb test would be held the following month at Almagordo, N. Mex.

He made the disclosure as the Government revealed that three persons allegedly involved in a Soviet spy ring "have flown the jurisdiction of the court." It charged Dr. William Perl, tenth American arrested in the spy ring, also intended to flee the United States.

Assistant United States Attorney John M. Foley made the revelation in asking high bail for Perl, who was arrested last night in his mid-Manhattan apartment on charges of lying four times to a grand jury investigating the Gold-Fuchs atomic spy ring.

## Perl Sought Passport

Foley said that Perl, Columbia University instructor described as the Nation's second-ranking aerodynamics engineer, had applied for a passport to leave the country last month so he could escape prosecution.

The Government attorney said that Michael and Ann Sidorovich and Helen Elichter, three of five persons with whom the Government charges Perl tried to cover his relationships, already have flown. No indication was given in court as to their whereabouts.

The other two persons, Julius Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, are on trial for their lives in Federal Court along with electronics engineer Morton Sobell on charges of wartime espionage for the Russians.

Federal Judge Henry Goddard ordered Perl held in \$20,000 bail after he learned of the university instructor's passport application. In the trial of the Rosenbergs and Sobell, Gold today came put of jail to link Rosenbergs directly

Gold testified he picked up atom bomb information in Rosenberg's name during a 1945 trip to New Mexico where the Government was working on the atom project.

The convicted spy said he was to get the information from David Greenglass, brother-in-law of Rosenberg, who was working at the Los Alamos project. Greenglass and his wife have appeared as Government witnesses against the Rosenbergs.

Gold testified, was

worked out with former Russian Consulate Official Anatoli Yakovlev, over drinks in a Manhattan restaurant.

Yakovlev fled the United States six years ago, but was named a defendant in the present spy trial.

On the Russian's instructions, Gold told the court, he met Greenglass in Albuquerque, N. Mex., in

where he handed him an onion-skin sheet.

"On it was typed the name 'Greenglass' and a number on High st. and underneath that, Albuquerque, N. Mex.," Gold said. "The first thing was the recognition signal—I come from Julius."



Associated Press WIREPHOTO  
WILLIAM PERL  
Columbia University instructor

June, 1945 and got the atom information from him.

On the same trip he also picked up "a bunch of papers" from British Scientist Klaus Fuchs in Santa Fe, N. Mex., Gold said.

He said he turned over both sets of data to Yakovlev in New York.

Gold testified that when the Russian briefed him on the trip he told him he had "an extremely important" job for him.

"I met with Yakovlev inside of a combination restaurant and bar called Volk's, on the corner of 42d street and 3d ave.," Gold said. The Russian, Gold said, led him to a seat in the rear of the cafe

Tolson ✓  
Ladd ✓  
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Rosen	✓
Tracy	✓
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Mohr	✓
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Gandy	✓

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(PERL)  
 NEW YORK--UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR WILLIAM PERL, 32, THE 10TH AMERICAN  
 ARRESTED IN THE GOLD-FUCHS RUSSIAN ATOMIC SPY RING, APPLIED FOR A  
 PASSPORT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY LAST MONTH, THE GOVERNMENT CHARGED  
 TODAY.

PERL, DESCRIBED AS THE NATION'S SECOND-RANKING AERODYNAMICS ENGINEER,  
 DENIED AT HIS ARRAIGNMENT ON PERJURY CHARGES THAT HE INTENDED TO FLEE  
 THE COUNTRY TO ESCAPE PROSECUTION FOR LYING TO A FEDERAL GRAND JURY.

THE GOVERNMENT ALSO CHARGED THAT WHEN PERL WAS IN CLEVELAND LAST  
 SUMMER A WOMAN NAMED VIVIEN GLASSMAN OFFERED HIM "A SUBSTANTIAL SUM  
 OF MONEY TO FLEE THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURT."

HIS ATTORNEY, RAYMOND WEISS, SAID THE YOUNG COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
 SCIENTIST, WHO WAS ARRESTED LAST NIGHT, MERELY INTENDED TO TRAVEL  
 ABROAD DURING HIS SUMMER VACATION.

BUT THE PASSPORT CHARGE, MADE BY ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY JOHN M.  
 FOLEY CAUSED FEDERAL JUDGE HENRY GODDARD TO ORDER PERL HELD IN  
 \$20,000 BAIL. GODDARD THEN ADJOURNED THE HEARING UNTIL APRIL 17.

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## Columbia U Teacher Seized In A-Spy Case

Charge William Perl Lied Concerning  
Friendship With Accused Communists

NEW YORK (UP)—FBI agents jailed today a 32-year-old Columbia University instructor charged with being the 10th American connected with the Gold-Fuchs Russian atomic spy ring.

William Perl, described as the nation's second-ranking aerodynamics engineer, was arrested last night in his book-lined mid-Manhattan apartment. FBI agents also seized some of his personal papers.

The tall scientist, whose father was a native of Russia, was to be arraigned today before Federal Judge Henry M. Goddard on charges he lied four times to a grand jury investigating espionage last August and September.

HE WAS indicted Tuesday and the sealed charges were opened yesterday a few hours before the FBI went to his apartment.

A member of the U. S. district attorney's office said the indict-

ment "charges Perl lied before the grand jury about his acquaintance with five persons."

The spokesmen said the first two counts accused Perl of perjury in testifying he did not know Morton Sobell and Julius Rosenberg, now on trial in New York for atomic espionage.

"Charge number three," the spokesman said, "was that he lied when he said he was not acquainted with Max and Helene Elitcher, and number four, that he was not

AKRON BEACON JOURNAL  
March 15, 1951

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acquainted with Michael and Ann Sidorovich."

Eltcher, a civilian ordnance expert for the Navy, was the government's first witness in the present Sobell-Rosenberg trial.

"Perl was a college classmate of Sobell, Rosenberg and Mrs. Eltcher's husband," the U. S. attorney's office spokesman said.

HE WOULD not disclose the circumstances under which Perl allegedly became acquainted with the Sidoroviches. During the current trial it was brought out that Mrs. Sidorovich was to have been a spy contact at Albuquerque, N. M., near the Los Alamos atomic project.

"She was to have contacted David Greenglass in Albuquerque

or Los Alamos, but at the last minute there was a substitute and Harry Gold became contact man," the spokesman said.

Greenglass has pleaded guilty to espionage charges, but has not been sentenced.

The FBI had been watching Perl's movements since shortly after Gold, a Philadelphia chemist, was arrested last May on atomic spy charges.

Officials at Columbia University said Perl was a "highly competent physicist" and the nation's second-

ranking aerodynamics engineer.

Perl, a native-born New Yorker whose father was a Russian and mother a Pole, attended high school in the Bronx. He received his

bachelor's and master's degrees at City College of New York. The year that he received the master's, in 1940, Sobell and Rosenberg were fellow graduates.

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## Physicist, 32, Is Accused Of Perjury

NEW YORK, March 24 (AP).—A Columbia university physicist, described as the nation's second-ranking aerodynamic engineer, was arrested tonight on four counts of perjury in connection with the troubling Soviet atomic spy ring.

The engineer, Dr. William Perl, 32, was arrested by four FBI agents at his modest, book-lined apartment in midtown Manhattan where he lived with his wife, Henrietta, and went to FBI headquarters.

He will be arraigned tomorrow morning before federal Judge Henry M. Goddard on charges that he had in four instances to a grand jury investigating atomic espionage.

### Aerodynamic Advisor

The tall, bespectacled physicist was charged in a sealed indictment handed up yesterday by the jury with lying about his association with Morton Sobell and Julius Rosenberg, who are on trial here for atomic espionage.

The youthful physicist had been under FBI investigation since shortly after the arrest of Philadelphia chemist Harry Gold last May on spy charges.

Perl, whose father was born in Russia, worked formerly for the government as an adviser attached to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, a scientific division of the Air Force. He had access to latest American developments in aeronautics and jet propulsion.

Shortly after World War II, agents stopped him the FBI charged he had systematically furnished the premises.

After searching for an hour and a minute they left with Perl.

His 17-year-old wife declared she was his innocent. At Columbia university, where Perl taught theoretical physics, officials described him as "a highly competent physicist."

He was in New York.

In 1941, while he was working for the government in the Navy's flight propulsion laboratories at Cleveland, Perl had his name dropped from clearance to Perl.

Perl was a classmate at City College of New York with the same people he is accused of lying about.

Perl was born Oct. 1, 1918, in New York. He went to high school in the Bronx and received his master's degree in mechanical engineering from City College in the class of 1941. Fellow graduates that year were Sobell and Rosenberg.

He continued his schooling while working for the government flight project and, in September, 1941, left the government service to become a physics instructor at Columbia, where he earned his doctorate of philosophy the same year.

The arrest indicated Perl may have been implicated in the Soviet spy ring which started to topple in February 1940, with the arrest of Dr. Klaus Fuchs in England.

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Date: 3/25/51

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

# Columbia Instructor Grabbed By FBI as Atom-Plot Perjurer

By Norma Abrams and Henry Lee

William Perl, 32, Columbia University instructor in physics and a top jet propulsion expert, was arrested last night by the FBI on charges of perjury in the A-bomb spy ring investigation. Perl, picked up at his home, 104 E. 38th St., had been under investigation since shortly after the arrest of spy Harry Gold, the FBI said.

The six-foot Perl, who wears horn-rimmed glasses, was led out of his one-room apartment by four FBI agents. One of them carried a red accordion-style envelope bulging with papers.

When they left, his wife, Henrietta, looked over the disordered apartment and said:

"They really ransacked the place. It's a shambles. They were polite enough, though."

The 33-year-old blonde insisted her husband was innocent and that his arrest was "a shock" to her, adding:

"But we both knew something was in the air. He didn't go to Columbia the last three days."

The scientist was indicted Tuesday by a federal grand jury on four counts. He was charged with denying before the grand jury last August and September that he knew Julius Rosenberg, 33, and Morton Sobell, now on trial on espionage charges.

The FBI said he was a classmate of Rosenberg and Sobell at City College where he was graduated under the name of William Mutterperl in 1938. He changed his name with court permission in 1945.

From 1939 to 1945 he worked for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. The next three years he taught at Columbia and the California Institute of Technology, returning to the

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## Grab Columbia Prof on A-Spy Perjury Count

(Continued from page 2)

NACA in 1949. He was appointed to his Columbia post in 1950.

In Federal Court yesterday it was testified that Rosenberg devoted all his energies to espionage, even to spending \$50 to \$70 an evening entertaining spies.

His activities were divulged by his wife, Ethel, a co-defendant, to Mrs. Ruth Greenglass, who testified yesterday in the espionage conspiracy trial of the Rosenbergs and Sobell, electronics expert. She followed her husband, David, an ex-Army sergeant, and Ethel's brother, and corroborated his four-day expose of the A-bomb ring.

Presumably, Rosenberg had an entertainment expense account, because, when Ruth Greenglass said she was worried about money, "Julius said not to worry about that—that he would take care of my expenses."

Judge Irving R. Kaufman developed that Rosenberg obtained such money from "his friends," and asked Ruth: "Did he say who his friends were?"

"Yes," she answered. "In another conversation later, he said the  
~~friends~~."

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#### Almost Reformed.

As Ruth related it, the Greenglasses were very reluctant traitors drawn into the conspiracy by Rosenberg. They didn't like to take spy money, but did, and they almost—but not quite—voluntarily confessed to the FBI.

An attractive, well-shaped brunette in a plain black dress, Mrs. Greenglass, 26, said that back in '44 and '45 she was "too young to realize the significance of what was going on and the danger involved."

But when Gold gave her husband \$500 for information he filched from the Los Alamos project, she said, she realized "it was just a C.O.D. business—he gave information and he got paid for it."

However, she deposited \$400 in the bank, took some for household expenses—and put \$37.50 into a war bond.

It was Rosenberg, she related, who first told her that her husband was assigned to "the most dangerous weapon that had ever been perfected" and also argued that, "if all nations had the information, one could not use the bomb against the others."

Very reluctantly, she said, she took all Rosenberg's questions to her husband when she met him in Albuquerque, argued against his throwing in with the conspiracy and said his initial reaction was the same. However, next day Greenglass changed his mind.

#### Another Fit of Repentance.

Again, after Hiroshima, she said, she realized what the bomb was "and didn't think it should be passed on to the Russians, but David insisted on going through with it." As late as 1946, she claimed, she wanted to go to the FBI with the story.

"But everything died down," she explained, "and nothing ever came of it."

With Mrs. Greenglass still under cross-examination, the trial will resume at 10:30 A. M. today.



Mr. Tolson	_____
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Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

# Professor's Wife Tells of FBI Raid

Ethel Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, on trial in Federal Court here, and a number of witnesses the Government accuses Perl of knowing although he denied it, Mrs. Perl said:  
"Neither of us is related to

any of those people. I don't know any of them. I'm sure he knows nothing about the trial

The blue-eyed blond wife of a Columbia University physics instructor who was seized by the FBI on perjury charges in connection with the A-bomb spy ring probe, said both "knew something was in the air."

Mrs. Henrietta Perl, 33, wife of the seized Dr. William Perl, 32, who is rated second only to Dr. Theodore Von Karmen as an authority on aerodynamics, surveyed their one-room apartment at 104 E. 38th st., just off Park ave., after the four FBI agents left with her husband. Papers and books were strewn everywhere.

"They really ransacked the place," she said. "They were polite enough, though."  
About defendants Julius and

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*Edwin*

*Pick*

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# Physicist, 32, Is Accused Of Perjury.

NEW YORK, March 14 (UP). A Columbia university physics instructor described as the nation's second-ranking aerodynamics engineer was arrested tonight on four counts of perjury in connection with the crumbling Soviet atomic spy ring.

The engineer, Dr. William Perl, 32, was arrested by four FBI agents at his modest, book-lined apartment in midtown Manhattan where he lived with his bride, Henrietta, and taken to FBI headquarters.

He will be arraigned tomorrow morning before federal judge Henry M. Goddard on charges that he lied in four instances to a grand jury investigating atomic espionage.

## Aeronautics Adviser

The tall, bespectacled physicist was charged in a sealed indictment handed up yesterday by the jury with lying about his association with Morton Sobell and Julius Rosenberg, who are on trial here for atomic espionage.

The youthful physicist had been under FBI investigation since shortly after the arrest of Philadelphia chemist Harry Gold last May on spy charges.

Perl, whose father was born in Russia, worked formerly for the government as an adviser attached to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, a scientific division of the Air Force. He had access to latest American developments in aeronautics and jet propulsion.

Shortly after 9 o'clock four FBI agents stepped into the Perl apartment and systematically searched the premises.

After searching for an hour and 30 minutes they left with Perl.

His 33-year-old wife declared "I'm sure he's innocent."

A Columbia university, where Perl taught theoretical physics, officials described him as "a highly competent physicist."

## Born in New York

In 1945, while he was working for the government in the Lewis flight propulsion laboratories at Cleveland, Perl had his name changed from Utterperl to Perl. Perl was a classmate at City College of New York with the same people he is accused of lying about.

Perl was born Oct. 1, 1918, in New York. He went to high school in the Bronx and received his master's degree in mechanical engineering from City College in the class of 1940. Fellow graduates that year were Sobell and Rosenberg.

He continued his schooling while working for the government flight project and, in September, 1950, left the government service to become a physics instructor at Columbia, where he earned his doctorate of philosophy the same year.

The arrest indicated Perl may have been implicated in the Soviet spy ring which started to topple in February 1950, with the arrest of Dr. Klaus Fuchs in England.

Tolson ✓  
Ladd ✓  
Clegg ✓  
Glavin ✓  
Nichols ✓  
Rosen ✓  
Tracy ✓  
Harbo ✓  
Belmont ✓  
Mohr ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Nease ✓  
Gandy ✓  
Henderson ✓

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# COLLEGE TEACHER HELD IN SPY CASE

Columbia Physicist Indicted  
as Perjurer

WASHINGTON, March 14—(AP)—The Justice Department announced tonight the arrest of William Perl, 32-year-old scientist in New York on charges of perjury. He is an instructor in physics at Columbia University.

He was indicted yesterday by a federal grand jury in New York investigating atomic bomb espionage.

J. Edgar Hoover, Federal Bureau of Investigation director, said Perl had been under investigation since shortly after the arrest of Harry Gold in May, 1950.

The indictment charged Perl with four counts of perjury in connection with testimony he gave Aug. 18 and Sept. 11, in which he denied acquaintance with Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, on trial in New York on espionage charges. Perl also denied knowing other individuals who figured in the trial, the Justice Department said.

## Changed His Name

Perl was born in 1918 in New York under the name of Mutterperl, and changed his name by court order in 1945, the FBI said.

The FBI said Perl's father was a native of Russia and his mother a native of Poland. They are naturalized American citizens.

The department announcement said Perl attended high school in the Bronx, New York, and in 1938 received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at City College of New York, where he was a classmate of Rosenberg and Sobell, Hoover said.

Perl lives with his wife at 104 E. 38th Street, New York.

(She looked on as FBI agents arrested Perl after searching their apartment systematically, the United Press said.)

A spokesman at the office of United States District Attorney Irving Saypol described Perl as "one of the two top scientists in the field of aerodynamics." Saypol declined to discuss the case.

## Worked at Lab Here

William Perl was employed as a scientist at the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory at Cleveland Airport for four and one half years until September, when he resigned to take the Columbia University instructorship.

His work here was as a mathematician in connection with the altitude wind tunnel and did not

(Continued on Page 3, Column 4)

Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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## COLLEGE TEACHER HELD IN SPY CASE

Columbia Physicist Indicted  
as Perjurer

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have anything to do with atomic research, according to laboratory spokesmen. The altitude tunnel is used to test full size jet engines under atmospheric conditions encountered at altitudes up to 50,000 feet.

### Could Have Learned of Jets

As a wind tunnel worker, however, Perl would have had plenty of opportunity to learn all the latest developments in jet engines and follow closely the progress of research on many phases of jet propulsion.

Perl first came to the laboratory here in December, 1943, when he was transferred by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics from its laboratory at Langley Field, Va.

He obtained a leave of absence in December, 1946, to continue his studies at Columbia and then returned to the Cleveland laboratory in June, 1948.

NEW YORK, March 14—(UP)

—The wife of an atomic spy said today she was told not to worry about money in spying out United States atomic secrets since the cash was coming from "friends, the Russians."

Mrs. Ruth Greenglass, a government witness, testified in federal court that Harry Gold, convicted Soviet spy, gave her husband, David, \$500 in 1945 in exchange for top secret data on the atom bomb.

She backed up testimony of her husband that his sister, Ethel, and Ethel's husband, Julius Rosenberg, acted as spies for Russia during World War II.

The Rosenbergs and Martin Sobell, an electronics engineer, face a possible death sentence if they are convicted of giving wartime secrets to the Russians.



AP Wirephoto

**WITNESS IN SPY TRIAL.** Mrs. Ruth Greenglass, wife of David Greenglass, former army sergeant who has pleaded guilty to passing atomic secrets to Russian agents, sat yesterday in a New York federal courthouse anteroom before testifying. The defendants in the trial are Julius Rosenberg, his wife Ethel, who is a sister of Greenglass and Morton Sobell.

# Report Bribe Offer to Spy Witness Here

## U.S. Charges Perjury Suspect Was Told To Flee Country



WILLIAM PERL (P)

Bail for Dr. William Perl, former Cleveland aeronautics research engineer held on a perjury charge in connection with a New York atomic espionage case, was set at \$20,000 today after the government charged that a mystery brunet had offered him "a considerable sum" to flee the country.

Assistant U. S. Attorney John M. Foley told Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard in New York that the offer to Perl was made last August in Cleveland when Perl was working at the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory at Cleveland Airport.

Foley said the offer was made by a Miss Vivian Glassman of Manhattan, before the indictment of Julius Rosenberg, electrical engineer; Morton Sobell, radar expert; and Mrs. Rosenberg as atom spy suspects for the Soviet Union. The three are on trial now in New York and face possible death penalties.

It was Perl's denial that he knew his former schoolmates—Rosenberg and Sobell—that resulted in his arrest Wednesday on the perjury charge.

Foley, in pressing for a heavy bail in Perl's arraignment today, told the court that Perl had applied for a passport last Monday. Perl pleaded not guilty to the perjury charge.

Raymond Wise, defense counsel, said Perl's application was for renewal of his two-year-old passport because of a contemplated "summer vacation" trip abroad.

Judge Goddard set April 17 for trial. Dr. Perl was indicted Tuesday.

Perl, 32, worked as a mathematician in connection with the altitude wind tunnel at the labora-

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CLEVELAND NEWS  
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... tory for more than four years. He resigned last September to take a post as physics instructor at Columbia University.

In testimony before the grand jury, Perl also denied knowing Michael and Ann Sidorovich, who have been identified as "spy couriers" between Cleveland and New York.

The fourth count involves denial of knowing a Flushing, N. Y., couple. Sidorovich could not be identified here by anti-subversive

agents of the Cleveland Police Department.

The U. S. Attorney General's office in New York said Perl in his work here had access to the latest

developments in the field of aeronautics and propulsion. Laboratory spokesmen said he had nothing to do with atomic research while employed here.

# Peri Jailed, Can't Raise \$20,000 Bail

## Prof in A-Case Got Passport, U.S. Says

William Peri, Columbia instructor called by his lawyer an "absent-minded professor" type, was in jail for want of \$20,000 bail today after pleading innocent to a perjury indictment connected with atom spying.

The 32-year-old physics teacher's bail was set yesterday after the government revealed he had obtained a passport a month ago. It was charged he had been offered "a considerable sum" to leave the country.

### Accused of Lying.

The four-count indictment accused the lean, ascetic-looking Peri of lying when he told a federal grand jury he did not know five alleged members of a Soviet spy ring.

Two of these five, Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, are defendants in an atom spy trial now in progress on Federal Court here.

Peri was sent to the Federal House of Detention yesterday when he failed to furnish the \$20,000 bail ordered by Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard.

Raymond L. Wise, his attorney, asked for \$5000 bail after Peri's not guilty plea. He said he believed his client, and added that professors are "usually absent-minded."

He said Peri had got the passport last month only because he planned a European summer vacation.

February, Judge Goddard commented, is "a little bit early" to be getting a passport for a summer trip.

### Mrs. Rosenberg Testifies.

In the trial of Sobell, Rosenberg, and the third defendant, Rosenberg's wife Ethel, Harry Gold, a convicted atom spy, returned to the stand today.

Gold, sentenced to 30 years for giving atom data to the Russians, yesterday put the finger on Rosenberg as the man who plotted with former Soviet Vice Consul Anatoli Yakovlev to get atom secrets out of Los Alamos, Nev.

The Rosenbergs and Sobell face a death penalty if convicted.

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Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
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Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

# Columbia Teacher Arrested Linked to 2 on Trial as Spies

**Physicist Called Perjurer  
in Denying That He Knew  
Rosenberg or Sobell**

William Perl, a 32-year-old Columbia University physics instructor and an outstanding specialist in aerodynamics, was arrested here last night by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on a sealed indictment charging perjury.

One charge in the four-count indictment was that he had denied before a Federal grand jury here that he knew Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, now on trial on charges of conspiracy to supply atomic secrets to Russia.

The arrest, made at Perl's home, 104 East Thirty-eighth Street, was announced in Washington by J. Edgar Hoover, director of the F. B. I.

United States Attorney Irving H. Saypol said the indictment against Perl, whom he described as one of the two top aerodynamics experts in the country, had been returned on Tuesday by the August grand jury. This is the same body that indicted Rosenberg, whose wife also is on trial, and Sobell.

Mr. Saypol said also that Perl had been listed by the Government as a potential witness in the current atomic espionage trial. His intended role on the stand, Mr.

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## COLUMBIA TEACHER LINKED TO SPY RING

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Saypol added, was to corroborate certain statements made by David Greenglass and the latter's wife, who are key Government witnesses in the trial.

Mr. Saypol and Mr. Hoover had declared that Perl, whose father was a native of Russia, had been under investigation since shortly after the arrest of Harry Gold, Philadelphia chemist, last May. Gold was sentenced to thirty years in prison for conspiring to pass stolen atom bomb secrets to Soviet agents.

Perl was accused also in the true bill of having denied that he knew Max and Elaine Elitcher or Ann and Mike Sidorovich. Mr. Elitcher, a civilian ordnance expert for the Navy, was the first Government witness in the Rosenberg-Sobell trial.

Ann Sidorovich had been mentioned in previous testimony by Greenglass. He had told of a meeting with Rosenberg in Greenglass' home while the latter was there on leave from the Los Alamos atomic bomb plant. Greenglass said he had been introduced to Ann Sidorovich and had been told that she would meet him in Albuquerque, N. M., to receive certain papers from him relating to the atom bomb project.

The alleged false testimony to the grand jury was said to have been given last Aug. 18 and Sept. 11.

The sealed indictment was opened last night, and Federal Judge Irving Kaufman, who is presiding at the atomic espionage trial, issued a bench warrant for Perl. He was arrested at 9:20 P. M. at the East Thirty-eighth Street address, where he lives with his wife. They have no children.

Perl, who is more than six feet tall and studious looking, was brought into the Federal Building on Foley Square at 10:48 P. M. He wore a loose-fitting box-type overcoat and had a crew haircut. Four F. B. I. agents accompanied him.

#### To Be Arraigned Today

After being questioned, ~~Perl will~~ be arraigned today before Federal Judge Henry Goddard, Mr. Saypol said.

Perl, Rosenberg and Sobell were college classmates, having been graduated from City College in February, 1938. Perl was known then as William Mutterperl, but in 1945 he changed his name by court order to William Perl.

At 11:25 P. M. Perl was taken from Foley Square to the Federal House of Detention in West Street for the night. Mr. Saypol said the arraignment would be in charge of John M. Foley and Albert A. Blinder, two assistants in his office.

Perl received a doctorate in physics from Columbia University in September, 1950, and started to work as an instructor in the Physics Department of the university that month. His office is Room 922 in Pupin Hall, the physics building.

Perl was a specialist in aircraft design and jet propulsion. His doctorate thesis was entitled: "Calculations of Trans-sonic Flows Past Thin Airfoils by an Integral Method." It was classified, and based on technical notes from the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, for which Perl had worked earlier.

Perl was born here on Oct. 1, 1918, and was graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx. He entered City College in February, 1934, and received his Bachelor's degree four years later with Rosenberg and Sobell. Perl received an electrical engineering degree at City College in 1940.

He got a Government job through Civil Service examination in April, 1939, and was assigned as an "advisor" to the National Aeronautics Committee, research group ~~for the Air Force. He was sent to~~

ARRESTED BY F. B. I.



William Perl, Columbia University physics instructor.

*The New York Times*

the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory in Cleveland in 1944. He directed fifteen researchers studying jet propulsion mechanisms and the design of aircraft for faster-than-sound speed.

In 1946 the air committee sent Perl to Columbia University for further studies—at Government expense—and he remained in Federal service at the university until he received his doctorate.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Mumford	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

# Columbia Instructor Arrested For Perjury in Atom Spy Case

## F. B. I. Seizes William Perl; 4-Count Indictment Based on Denial He Knew Rosenberg, Sobell

William Perl, thirty-two, an instructor in physics at Columbia University, was arrested here last night at his home by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on a sealed indictment charging him with perjury in connection with a spy ring transmitting atomic secrets to Russia.

Mr. Perl, who lives at 104 East Thirty-eighth Street, was taken into custody by F. B. I. agents and was to be kept overnight at the Federal House of Detention for arraignment today at the United States Court House in Foley Square.

Officials at Columbia University reported that Mr. Perl had not attended classes since Friday.

His arrest was based on an indictment by a Federal grand jury in the Southern District of New York which has been conducting an inquiry into espionage involving the atomic bomb.

The four-count indictment accuses him of lying when he denied that he knew Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, two of the three defendants in a trial now entering its eighth day at the United States Court House here in which they are accused of a wartime conspiracy to steal atomic secrets for Russia.

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#### Classmate of Defendants

Mr. Perl was a classmate of both Rosenberg and Sobell at City College. Third defendant in the trial is Mrs. Ethel Rosenberg, wife of Julius.

Two counts of the indictment, which was returned Tuesday and kept sealed until Perl's arrest, accuse him of denying that he knew Rosenberg and Sobell. The other two counts accused him of denying that he knew Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sidorovich and Mrs. Helene Ellitcher, who have already appeared as witnesses for the government in the current espionage trial. All four of the alleged perjuries were said to have been committed before the grand jury Aug. 18 and Sept. 11, 1950.

Mr. Perl, who was born in New York City, is recognized as an expert on aerodynamics and jet propulsion. He was appointed an instructor at Columbia in September.

He was graduated from City College in 1938, took his master's degree there in 1939 and obtained his Ph. D. last year at Columbia, writing his thesis on technical aspects of super-sonic aircraft. From 1939 to 1943, he worked for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics at Langley Field, Va., and for the N. A. C. A. Flight Propulsion Laboratory in Cleveland during 1944 and 1945. He returned to the N. A. C. A. in Cleveland in 1948, after a leave of absence. He resigned last year to join the Columbia faculty.

In 1945, he changed his name legally from Mutterperl to Perl. He is married.

At yesterday's session of the espionage trial, Mrs. Ruth Greenglass testified and further involved her in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. Rosenberg, in the conspiracy to steal atomic secrets for Russia.

Speaking rapidly, the pretty,  
(Continued on page 13, column 1)

## Spy Trial

(Continued from page one)

brunette wife of David Greenglass, a former Army sergeant and confessed spy, also testified that Ethel Rosenberg, her husband's sister, had tried to get from her assurance that Greenglass "would not talk" to the F. B. I. about their joint espionage activities on behalf of the Soviet Union.

Mrs. Greenglass, the mother of two children, has been named a co-conspirator but not defendant in an indictment which charges her husband, the two Rosenbergs and Martin Sobell with conspiracy to commit espionage for Russia during World War II. Her testimony yesterday before Judge Irving R. Kaufman and a jury of eleven men and one woman corroborated and amplified the testimony her husband had delivered during the last three and a half days of this trial.

Questioned by James B. Kilshelmer 3d, Assistant United States Attorney, Mrs. Greenglass unhesitatingly admitted that her role in the spy ring had its beginning in a conversation with the Rosenbergs in November, 1944. Julius, she said, had told her of a new, powerful weapon called an atomic bomb. She said Rosenberg said he believed the secrets of this bomb should be shared with Russia—"so that one nation couldn't use it as a threat against another nation."

At first, Mrs. Greenglass said, she demurred, but finally agreed to tell her husband, then employed as a sergeant-machinist at Los Alamos, N. M., of this conversation after "Ethel said I should at least tell it to David." Mrs. Greenglass added that Rosenberg, who told her "his friends had told him David was working on the atomic bomb," asked her to obtain from David a physical description of the Los Alamos project, including in what manner the area was camouflaged, the security measures in effect there, the names of scientists employed and the number of persons employed at the secret project.

~~Rosenberg~~, she said, gave her \$150 to cover the expenses of her trip to Albuquerque, N. M., and she arrived there in the latter part of November.

Rosenberg's suggestion that David engage in espionage work for Russia was duly passed on to him, and when she returned to New York a few days later, the witness testified, she had memorized the information David had given her. This information, she said, was turned over to Rosenberg.

#### Tells About Visit

Mrs. Greenglass said she was witness to a subsequent meeting between her husband and Rosenberg during which Greenglass wrote down facts concerning the atom bomb and the project which she, Mrs. Greenglass, had been unable to memorize. At a later meeting, after a means of identifying the courier Rosenberg intended to dispatch to Albuquerque had been worked out, Mrs. Greenglass joined her husband in Albuquerque. She confirmed the story, told earlier by her husband, that Harry Gold, who has since admitted acting as a spy for Russia, was the first courier for Rosenberg to appear at their apartment there.

After her husband's arrest in June, 1950, Mrs. Greenglass said she was visited by Mrs. Rosenberg.

"She came to my mother-in-law's house to see me," Mrs. Greenglass said.

"Will you tell me," Mr. Kilheimer asked, "what occurred on that occasion?"

"Yes," said the witness, "Ethel came with pie for me and gifts for my son, and after we talked . . . for a few minutes she asked me would I please go out and walk with her. We walked around the block several times and she said her counsel advised her to see me personally and get assurances from me that David would not talk."

~~"She said it would only be a~~  
matter of a couple of years and in  
the long run we would be better  
off; that Julius had been picked up  
by the F. B. I. for questioning. He  
said he was innocent and that he  
had been released; that she had no  
doubt that he would probably be  
picked up again. He would con-  
tinue to say he was innocent . . .  
that if David said he was innocent  
and Julius said he was innocent it  
would strengthen their position.  
Everybody would stand a better  
chance, and she said: "Do you  
think it is a dirty shame for David  
to take the blame and sit for  
two?"

Under cross examination by Al-  
exander Bloch, a defense attorney,  
Mrs. Greenglass said that she and  
her husband had never "gone  
over" their stories together but  
had agreed, instead, to tell only  
the truth. She admitted that she  
wanted to tell her story to the  
F. B. I. in 1946, but had dropped  
the idea when it began to appear  
likely that neither she nor her



husband would ever be questioned about their activities.

"It's not easy," she explained, "to live with something you know is wrong." Mrs. Greenglass added some minutes later that "I think I was too young to realize the significance of what was going on and the danger involved."

During the morning session, the defense had David Greenglass on the stand under cross examination.

In attempting to show that Greenglass' motive for testifying against his brother-in-law, Julius Rosenberg, did not spring from fear or patriotism alone, Emanuel H. Bloch had Greenglass admit to a series of bitter quarrels with Julius over business matters.

#### Got No Money for Stock

Greenglass testified that he and Rosenberg were partners in a business enterprise after the war. When Greenglass left the machinery concern, he still owned some shares of stock in the company and attempted to turn them over to Rosenberg for a cash consideration.

"You never got a nickel for your shares?" Mr. Bloch asked.

"No," Greenglass replied. But the witness insisted that, although "there were quarrels of every type and kind . . . we remained on good terms in spite of them." Questioned further, however, Greenglass said he remembered one occasion when he and Rosenberg were separated just before coming to blows.

Greenglass' final words to the defense counsel were an admission that, after his arrest, he had instructed his attorney, O. John Rogge, to prosecute a claim against Rosenberg for the \$2,000 due him on the shares.

The trial will resume at 10:30 a.m. today.

# Accused Spy Link Was Air Lab Aide



William Perl, the former Cleveland charged in New York with perjury in connection with the Gold-Fuchs atomic spy ring, was described today by former associates and friends here as "studious, quiet, efficient."

The 32-year-old scientist, who worked on theoretical calculations until September at the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory of NACA at Cleveland Airport, applied for a passport to leave the country last month, the Government charged.

At Perl's arraignment, the Government also said Perl, while in Cleveland last summer, was offered "a substantial sum of money to flee the jurisdiction of the court" by a woman named Vivien Glassman. The woman was not further identified.

"Perl seemed like such a nice gentleman," said Mrs. C. A. Middleton, 16804 Larchwood Ave. Perl roomed in an upstairs suite at 16802 Larchwood.

"I did wonder, however, why FBI agents questioned us, off and on, for two whole years about him."

"His assignment here was on anything but secret work," said Dr. Edward R. Sharp, director of the NACA Air Lab.

Perl, who left here to become a Columbia University instructor, was "quiet and retiring like most scientists I know," Dr. Sharp said. "Of course, I'm surprised and shocked to hear of Perl's indictment."

Perl is accused of perjury in testifying he did not know Morton Sobell and Julius Rosenberg, now on trial for atomic espionage.

**INDICTED FOR PERJURY** in connection with a spy ring probe, former Cleveland William Perl is shown with an FBI agent after his arrest in New York. (Acme)

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CLEVELAND PRESS  
March 15, 1951

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Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Egan	
Miss Gandy	

# Perjury Charge Jails Instructor

By HOWARD RUSHMORE

A young Columbia University instructor, one of the two top scientists in the field of aerodynamics in this country, today was held on perjury charges in connection with the A-bomb spy probe.

He is six-foot Dr. William Perl, 32, native-born New Yorker, instructor of physics at the university and a specialist in aircraft design and jet propulsion.

The N. Y. Journal-American revealed exclusively last Tuesday Perl's imminent arrest.

Perl, who was born William Mutterperl but legally changed his name in 1945, not only was educated in city-owned schools and college, but took advance studies at Columbia at Federal Government expense.

## SEIZED BY FBI.

Four FBI agents seized him last night in his one-room fifth-floor apartment at 104 E. 38th st., just two doors from Park ave., while his blond wife, Indianapolis-born Henrietta, 33, looked on.

They took with them a folder bulging with papers after combing the place.

The indictment, handed up sealed on Tuesday to Federal

Continued on Page 2, Column 2.



**NABBED . . .** Dr. William Perl (above), top aerodynamics expert, who is charged with perjury in connection with the A-bomb spy network probe.  
*Journal-American Photo by William Flinn*

*Wife*

*Wife*

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TITLE CLASS *Perjury*

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Accused of Perjury:

## Columbia Tutor Held in Spy Probe

*Continued from First Page*

Judge Irving R. Kaufman by the Federal grand jury probing the spy ring, charges Perl with four counts of perjury.

A member of the U. S. Attorney's office said the indictment "charges Perl lied before the grand jury about his acquaintance with five persons."

The first two counts, this spokesman said, accuse Perl of perjury in testifying he did not know Morton Sobell and Julius Rosenberg who, with Mrs. Rosenberg, are on trial here for atomic espionage.

"Charge No. 3," the spokesman said, "was that he lied

when he said he was not acquainted with Max and Etienne Elitcher, and No. 4 that he was not acquainted with Michael and Ann Sidorovich."

Elitcher, a civilian ordnance expert for the Navy, living in Flushing, was the Government's first witness in the Sobell-Rosenbergs trial. He testified Sobell and Rosenberg invited him to join the spy ring.

"Perl was a college classmate of Sobell, Rosenberg and Mrs. Elitcher's husband," the explanation continued.

It was not disclosed under what circumstances Perl is supposed to have become acquainted with the Sidoroviches, of Cleveland, O. During the current trial it was brought out that Mrs. Sidorovich was to have been a spy contact at Albuquerque, N. M., near the Los Alamos atomic project.

"She was to have contacted (David) Greenglass in Albuquerque or Los Alamos, but at the last minute there was a substitute and Harry Gold became contact man," the U. S. Attorney's office said.

The dark wavy-haired Perl had been urged by the Government for the past month to be a prosecution witness in the current spy trial.

#### FOLLOWED FUCHS' ARREST.

It was learned he became more and more obstinate, though his name was on the list of prospective Federal witnesses handed over to the defense, and flatly refused to testify.

From 10 to 15 other persons, it also was learned, are under investigation as part of the spy network in which Harry Gold and David Greenglass were confessed participants.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, in Washington, said Peri has been under investigation since shortly after the arrest of Gold in May, 1950.

The seizure of Gold, Rosenberg, his wife Ethel, and Sobell followed the arrest of Dr. Klaus Fuchs in England as the central figure in the Soviet atomic information spy ring.

Peri's Russian father and Polish mother came to this country before he was born, Oct. 1, 1918, and became naturalized citizens.

As Mutterperl, he was graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx. In February, 1934, he entered City College and received his bachelor's degree four years later with Rosenberg and Sobell. In 1940 he received an electrical engineering degree at CCNY.

#### GOT AERONAUTICS JOB.

Then he got a Government job through Civil Service examination in April, 1939, and was assigned as an "advisor" to the National Aeronautics Committee, research group for the Air Force.

From 1939 to 1943, Peri was employed at Langley Field, Va., by the advisory committee. In 1944-45, he worked for NACA at the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratories in Cleveland.

There he directed 15 researchers studying jet propulsion mechanisms and the design of aircraft for faster-than-sound speed.

In 1946—at Government expense—the air committee sent Peri to Columbia University for further studies and he remained in Governmental employ until he got his final degree, resigning Sept. 1, 1950.

That advanced degree in physics made him Dr. William Peri, and he became an instructor in the physics department at Columbia.

~~His doctorate thesis, based on~~



**SPY WITNESS . . .**  
Mrs. Ruth Greenglass pictured at Federal Court House during recess in atom spy trial. Wife of confessed spy David Greenglass, she testified her brother-in-law, Julius Rosenberg, one of the three defendants, told her he was getting money from Reds.  
*AP Photo.*

classified, technical notes from the NACA, was entitled:

"Calculations of Trans-sonic Flows Past Airfoils by an Integral Method."

Dr. Perl, who wears horn-rimmed glasses, is also the author of 17 technical articles, most of which have to do with design of advanced types of aircraft.

The FBI agents, who questioned Perl and his wife for an hour and a half before the arrest, took him to the Federal Building at 10:45 last night.

He was held in a detention cell

there pending arraignment today before Acting Chief Judge Goddard of the Federal District Court here, in Room 618 of the Federal Building.

Gold, 39, chemist who admitted giving atomic secrets to Russia and is under 30 year prison sentence, was expected to take the stand today in the trial of the Rosenbergs and Sobell, before Judge Kaufman.

He will follow Ruth Greenglass, 26, of 265 Rivington st., wife of confessed spy Greenglass. Mrs. Greenglass yesterday testified her brother-in-law, Rosenberg, told her he was getting money from the Russians.

#### TELLS OF A BOMB DATA PLOT.

Mrs. Greenglass swore both Rosenberg and Greenglass' sister, Mrs. Rosenberg, who lived in Knickerbocker Village at 10 Monroe st. before her arrest, plotted to deliver A-bomb secrets to the Soviet Union.

The Rosenbergs and Sobell, a radar expert who lived at 164-17 73d ave., Flushing, are charged with conspiring to spy for Russia during wartime—an offense carrying a possible death penalty.

Greenglass has confessed taking atom secrets from the Los Alamos, N. M., atom bomb center and giving them to Rosenberg both directly and through Mrs. Greenglass.

After a meeting with Rosenberg here in September, 1945, Mrs. Greenglass testified, she told her husband she did not want to give Rosenberg more information.

"The bomb had already been dropped on Hiroshima," she said, "and I realized what it was and didn't think it should be passed on to the Russians. But David insisted on going through with it."

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# Seize 10th Man In Atom Spy Case



**SCIENTIST HELD**—William Perl, 32, leaves Manhattan Federal Courthouse to be locked up after his arrest on perjury charges in connection with atomic espionage. Perl, a Columbia University instructor, was indicted for allegedly denying under oath that he knew the key figures in the current atom spy trial.

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## **Say Columbia Instructor Lied About Knowing Trial Defendants**

FBI agents today jailed a 32-year-old Columbia University instructor charged with being the 10th American connected with the Gold-Fuchs Russian atomic spy ring.

William Perl, described as the nation's second-ranking aerodynamics engineer, was arrested last night in his book-lined mid-Manhattan apartment at 104 E. 38th St. FBI agents also seized some of his personal papers.

The tall scientist, whose father was a native of Russia, was to be arraigned today before Federal Judge Henry M. Goddard on charges he lied four times to a grand jury investigating espionage last August and September.

**Indicted Tuesday**

He was indicted Tuesday and the sealed charges were opened yesterday a few hours before the FBI went to his apartment.

A member of the U. S. Attorney's office said the indict-

**Continued on Page 2**

## Seize 10th Man In Atom-Spy Case

Continued from Page 1

ment "charges Perl lied before the grand jury about his acquaintance with five persons."

The spokesman said the first two counts accused Perl of perjury in testifying he did not know Morton Sobell and Julius Rosenberg, now on trial in Manhattan for atomic espionage.

"Charge number three," the spokesman said, "was that he lied when he said he was not acquainted with Max and Helene Ellitcher, and, number four, that he was not acquainted with Michael and Ann Sidorovich."

### Classmate of Suspects

Ellitcher, a civilian ordnance expert for the Navy, was the Government's first witness in the present Sobell-Rosenberg trial.

"Perl was a college classmate of Sobell, Rosenberg and Mrs. Ellitcher's husband," the U. S. Attorney's office spokesman said.

He would not disclose the circumstances under which Perl allegedly became acquainted with the Sidorovichs. During the current trial it was brought out that Mrs. Sidorovich was

to have been a spy contact at Albuquerque, N. M., near the Los Alamos atomic project.

### Gold Contact Man

"She was to have contacted (David) Greenglass in Albuquerque or Los Alamos, but at the last minute there was a substitute and Harry Gold became contact man," the spokesman said.

Greenglass has pleaded guilty to espionage charges, but has not been sentenced.

The FBI had been watching Perl's movements since shortly after Gold, a Philadelphia chemist, was arrested last May on atomic spy charges.

### 'He's Innocent,' Says Wife

Perl's 33-year-old wife said last night she knew something was amiss because her husband had not attended his classes in theoretic physics in three days.

# Not-Guilty Plea Made by Perl In Perjury Case

Columbia Instructor Held  
in \$20,000 Bail; Accused  
of Lying in Spy Inquiry

By M. Jay Racusin

William Perl, thirty-two-year-old physics instructor at Columbia University, pleaded not guilty yesterday when he was arraigned in United States District Court on a four-count perjury indictment. He is accused of lying in connection with his relationship to several persons figuring in the atomic espionage trial in progress in the same court.

Judge Henry W. Goddard, who sat in the proceedings, placed Perl under \$20,000 bail and fixed April 17 as the date for trial.

Perl, who was arrested by F. B. I. agents Wednesday night at his home, 104 East Thirty-eighth Street, is charged specifically with having lied in four instances on Aug. 18 and Sept. 11, 1950, when he told a Federal grand jury that he did not know Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, two of the three defendants in the spy trial who had been his classmates in City College, and denied knowing Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sidorovich and Mrs. Helene Ellitcher, who figure in the government's investigation.

## Bail Called Too High

The tall, studious-looking aerodynamics specialist appeared in court accompanied by his lawyer, Raymond L. Wise, of 80 Broad Street.

"I wish to plead not guilty," he said to the court.

When Mr. Wise represented that the \$25,000 bail suggested by John M. Foley, Assistant United States Attorney, was excessive, Mr. Foley told the court that Perl had been offered a "considerable sum of money" in Cleveland on July 23 by a "Miss Vivian Glassman," of 131 East Seventh Street, New York City, to flee.

This was before the indictments of Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, the third of the defendants now being tried for conspiring to steal atomic secrets for transmission to Russia. Perl at the time had been employed by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

Mr. Foley did not further identify Miss Glassman.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

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#### Says Perl Sought Passport

Mr. ~~Foley~~ also told the court that "a number of suspects had fled the jurisdiction of the government and the government is unaware of their whereabouts." Among these, he added, were two persons who had been associates of Perl. Also, said Mr. Foley, Perl had applied for a passport Monday.

This brought a comment from Judge Goddard, "I think that has a bearing on it."

Mr. Wise, asking that the bail be reduced to \$5,000, argued that his client had "told me everything," that he had talked freely to F. B. I. investigators and "did everything he could to aid and assist the government." Mr. Wise explained that the purported passport application was merely a request for renewal of Perl's two-year-old passport for a contemplated "summer vacation trip" abroad.

"The government somehow has got the idea that the defendant is lying," argued Mr. Wise. "The defendant does not have the type of mind of a business man or lawyer."

"Would you say that the defendant had a bad memory?" asked Judge Goddard.

Mr. Wise replied that professors were "usually absent-minded."

Mr. Wise said that government agents got in touch with Perl two weeks ago and told him that it was believed he had lied and that he would be indicted unless he "cleared up" the situation. Mr. Wise argued that the defendant thus had two weeks in which to flee before his arrest, if he had wanted to.

Government files show that Perl is married, that his wife's name is Henrietta, and that he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Mutterperl, of this city. He is also said to have a sister and a brother living in the city.

Federal authorities disclosed that Perl had been associated with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics as a research scientist engaged in theoretical analysis of physical problems, with particular attention to studies of airplane wings and design of guided missiles.

Perl failed to furnish bail yesterday and was taken to the Federal House of Detention, 427 West Street.

## PERL DENIES GUILT; HIS BAIL IS \$20,000

Columbia Physics Instructor  
Planned to Leave Country,  
Government Discloses

William Perl, 32-year-old Columbia University physics instructor and a leading expert on aerodynamics, pleaded not guilty in Federal Court yesterday to a four-count perjury indictment. He was held in \$20,000 bail when the Government disclosed that he obtained a passport last month to leave the country.

The Government also charged that Perl, who was arrested Wednesday night at his home at 104 East Thirty-eighth Street, had received the offer of a "considerable sum" to flee the country after the arrest of Julius Rosenberg, a defendant in the atom spy trial.

Assistant United States Attorney John M. Foley asked Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard to set bail at \$25,000. He asserted that several suspects in the Soviet spy ring who associated with Perl "have fled the jurisdiction and the Government is unaware of their whereabouts."

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#### Trial Date Set

Only once did the thin-faced collegiate-looking instructor speak. In a firm voice he said: "I wish to plead not guilty." Judge Goddard then set April 17 for trial.

The indictment charged that Perl lied when he told a Federal grand jury that he did not know Rosenberg, Morton Sobell, another spy case defendant; Helene Elitcher, wife of Max Elitcher, the first Government witness in the spy trial, and Ann Sodorovich.

David Greenglass, who has pleaded guilty to wartime espionage, testified at the spy trial that he had been introduced to Mrs. Sodorovich by Rosenberg. He was told that she would go to New Mexico to obtain from Greenglass atomic secrets for the spy ring. At the last minute Harry Gold, convicted atom spy, was substituted as the courier.

After Rosenberg's arrest, Mr. Foley said, a Vivian Glassman of 131 East Seventh Street, "approached this defendant and offered him a considerable sum to flee the jurisdiction."

Raymond L. Wise, Perl's attorney, then represented to the court that \$25,000 bail was excessive and that \$5,000 would be enough. He said that he had pleaded with his client to tell the truth and assist the Government. He added that Perl had insisted he was innocent of the charge.

#### An "Absent-Minded Professor"

Mr. Wise likened Perl to the absent-minded professor. He added he had believed his client when he said "to the best of my recollection I do not know these people."

Mr. Wise said that only last week he had advised Perl that he was likely to be indicted, adding, "he could have fled then, but he didn't."

When Judge Goddard indicated that he would set bail at \$10,000, Mr. Foley told the court that only last month Perl had applied for a passport for himself and his wife.

Mr. Wise interjected that Perl had only applied for a renewal of an old passport. He added that the Perls were thinking of spending a summer vacation in Europe.

"It's a little bit early to apply for a passport for a summer vacation," Judge Goddard said.

When Mr. Wise tried to give a further explanation Judge Goddard snapped: "\$20,000 bail!"

An expert on guided missiles, Perl was sent in 1944 to Cleveland to the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory. Greenglass testified that Rosenberg told him that he had a contact in Cleveland who supplied secrets on jet-propulsion.

If found guilty Perl would be liable to five years and a \$2,000



**SCIENTIST ACCUSED.** William Perl, 32, Columbia University scientist, is shown outside federal courthouse in New York following arrest on perjury charge in connection with atomic espionage. He faces a four-count indictment, accused of lying under oath in denying he knew the key figures in the current atomic spy trial in New York. Perl is one of the two top aerodynamics specialists in the United States.

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EAST LIVERPOOL REVIEW  
East Liverpool, Ohio  
March 17, 1951

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Re: WILLIAM PERL, aka  
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# Columbia U. Instructor Charged With Perjury In Atom Spy Case

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Mar. 15.—William Perl, 32-year-old Columbia University physics instructor, was arrested by the FBI last night on perjury charges.

A Federal grand jury, in an indictment returned Tuesday but not made public pending his arrest, accused him of lying about his relationship with alleged atomic espionage.

A spokesman at the office of United States District Attorney Irving Saypol described Perl as "one of the two top scientists in the field of aerodynamics."

Mr. Saypol refused to discuss the case.

He said he would "defer any comment" until Perl's arraignment in Federal Court today.

Under Investigation for Months. J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said Perl had been under investigation since shortly after the arrest of Harry Gold in May, 1950.

The indictment charged Perl with four counts of perjury in connection with testimony he gave on August 18 and September 11, 1950, in which he denied acquaintance with Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, on trial in New York on espionage charges. Perl also denied knowing other individuals who figured in the trial, the Justice Department said.

A spokesman in the New York prosecutor's office said the indictment also accused Perl of lying about his "association and friendship . . . with Helen Klitcher, wife of Max Klitcher, the first Government witness, and with Anne and Michael Sidorovich, who have been mentioned in the case of Rosenberg."



—AP Wirephotos  
WILLIAM PERL

## Changed Name in 1945.

The spokesman added that Perl is supposed to have gone to school with Sobell, Rosenberg and Klitcher.

He was a roommate of Sobell's in Washington in 1940.

Perl was born in 1918 in New York under the name of Mutterperl, and changed his name by court order in 1945, the FBI said.

The FBI said Perl's father was a native of Russia and his mother a native of Poland. They are naturalized American citizens.

The department announcement said Perl attended high school in the Bronx, New York, and received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at City College of New York in 1938. At CCNY he was a classmate of Rosenberg and Sobell, Mr. Hoover said.

## Joined Columbia Last Year.

Mr. Hoover added that from 1939 to 1943 Perl was employed by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics at Langley Field, Va., and during 1944-45 he worked for NACA at the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory in Cleveland.

After a brief leave of absence, Perl was re-employed by NACA as an aeronautical research scientist at Cleveland where he had access to the latest developments in the field of aeronautics, and jet propulsion. The FBI said he returned on September 1, 1950, to become an instructor at Columbia University. Perl lives with his wife in New York.

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# Scientist Held As Perjuror In Spy Inquiry

ALBERT PERI, 40, was held in New York City today as a perjuror in the spy inquiry.

Peri, a physicist, was held in New York City today as a perjuror in the spy inquiry.

Director J. Edgar Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation said the indictment charged Peri with perjury in connection with testimony he gave on August 11 in September 1949, in which he denied acquaintance with Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, now on trial in New York on espionage charges. Peri also denied knowing other individuals who figured in the trial, the Justice Department said.

Peri, an instructor in physics at Columbia University, was born in 1915 in New York under the name and alias of Albert Perle, he changed in 1945.

His workmen at the United States District Attorney Irving Saypol described Peri as "one of the two top scientists in the field of aerodynamics."

He said that from 1942 to 1943 Peri was employed by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics at Langley Field, Va.

Peri lived with his wife at 20 E. 14th st. New York. He was reported by some newspapers that on Page 7.

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Ladd ✓  
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Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

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**Perjury Trial Deferred**  
The perjury trial of William M. Perl, 32-year-old Columbia University physics instructor, was adjourned yesterday in Federal Court until July 2. Perl, who lives at 104 East Thirty-eighth Street, was accused of lying when he claimed knowing Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted as atom spies.

*Perl, William*

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**Prof's Trial Set Oct. 4  
In Atom Secrets Case**

New York, Sept. 17 (N. Y. News) — Federal Judge Thomas F. Murphy today listed Oct. 4 for fixing

of the trial date for William Perl, Columbia university physics instructor. Perl is accused of perjury in the grand jury investigation of transmission of U. S. atom secrets to the Russians.

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Tolson

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(SPY RING)

FBI AGENTS ARRESTED WILLIAM PERL, 32-YEAR-OLD COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PHYSICS INSTRUCTOR, ON A SEALED INDICTMENT CHARGING HE LIED IN CONNECTION WITH THE SPY RING FEEDING ATOMIC SECRETS TO RUSSIA.

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ADD 1 SPY RING

FBI DIRECTOR HOOVER SAID PERL'S ARREST IN NEW YORK FOLLOWED TONY IN WHICH HE DENIED ACQUAINTANCE WITH JULIUS ROSENBERG AND M. SOBELL, NOW BEING TRIED IN NEW YORK ON ATOMIC ESPIONAGE CHARGES.

PERL, WHOSE FATHER WAS A RUSSIAN NATIVE, HAD BEEN UNDER FBI INVESTIGATION SINCE SHORTLY AFTER THE ARREST OF PHILADELPHIA CHEMIST HARRY GOLD LAST MAY. GOLD WAS SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR CONSPIRING TO PASS STOLEN A-BOMB SECRETS TO SOVIET AGENTS.

HOOVER SAID PERL IS MARRIED AND LIVES WITH HIS WIFE AT 104 EAST STREET, NEW YORK. A NATIVE NEW YORKER, HIS NAME ORIGINALLY WAS MUTTERPERL, BUT WAS CHANGED TO PERL BY COURT ORDER IN 1945.

HIS ARREST ON FOUR COUNTS OF PERJURY WAS BASED ON AN INDICTMENT RETURNED TUESDAY BY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK WHICH HAS BEEN INQUIRING INTO ATOM BOMB ESPIONAGE. THE INDICTMENT ALSO ACCUSES HIM OF DENYING ACQUAINTANCESHIP WITH SEVERAL OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE FIGURED IN THE CURRENT ROSENBERG-SOBELL TRIAL.

3/14--W0944P

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# **ADD 2 SPY RING**

HOOVER SAID PERL ATTENDED HIGH SCHOOL IN THE BRONX AND RECEIVED AN AB IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AT CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK IN 1938, FOLLOWED A YEAR LATER BY A MASTER'S DEGREE FROM THE SAME INSTITUTION.

WHILE AT CCNY HE WAS A CLASSMATE OF ROSENBERG AND SOBELL, HOOVER SAID. FROM 1939 TO 1943, PERL WAS EMPLOYED BY THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS AT LANGLEY FIELD, VA.; AND DURING 485 WORKED FOR NACA AT THE LEWIS FLIGHT PROPULSION LABORATORY AT THE CLEVELAND AIRPORT.

RETURNING IN 1948 AFTER A LEAVE OF ABSENCE, HOOVER SAID PERL WAS AGAIN EMPLOYED BY NACA AS AN AERONAUTICAL RESEARCH SCIENTISTS AT CLEVELAND.

IN THIS JOB, PERL HAD ACCESS TO THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF AERONAUTICS, JET PROPULSION AND AERODYNAMICS, HOOVER SAID.

HE RESIGNED TO TAKE THE INSTRUCTORSHIP IN PHYSICS AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LAST SEPT. 1, HOOVER SAID.

DATA RELEASED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL MCGRATH SAID PERL WAS BORN OCT. 1, 1918. HIS MOTHER WAS A NATIVE OF POLAND AND HIS FATHER WAS RUSSIAN-BORN. BOTH ARE NATURALIZED AMERICAN CITIZENS, HE SAID.

THE ARREST INDICATED PERL MAY HAVE BEEN IMPLICATED IN THE SOVIET SPY RING WHICH STARTED TO TOPPLE IN FEBRUARY, 1950, WITH THE ARREST OF DR. KLAUS FUCHS IN ENGLAND ON ATOM-BOMB ESPIONAGE CHARGES.

3/14--W0957P

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ADD 3 SPY RING  
THE ALLEGED PERJURY TOOK PLACE BEFORE A GRAND JURY LAST AUGUST  
AND SEPT. 11, HOOVER SAID.  
PERL WAS ARRESTED AT HIS HOME AND IMMEDIATELY REMOVED TO A  
FEDERAL HOUSE OF DETENTION.

3/14--W01021P

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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#### ADD 4 SPY RING

PERL, DESCRIBED AS THE NATION'S SECOND-RANKING AERODYNAMICS ENGINEER, WAS ARRESTED BY FOUR FBI AGENTS AT HIS MODEST, BOOK-LINED APARTMENT WHERE HE LIVED WITH HIS BRIDE, HENRIETTA. HE WAS TAKEN TO FBI HEADQUARTERS AT 10:48 P.M.

HE WILL BE ARRAIGNED TOMORROW MORNING BEFORE FEDERAL JUDGE HENRY M. GODDARD ON CHARGES THAT HE LIED IN FOUR INSTANCES TO THE GRAND JURY.

PERL HAD TAUGHT THEORETICAL PHYSICS SINCE HIS APPOINTMENT AS A COLUMBIA INSTRUCTOR LAST JULY. UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS SAID HE WAS REGARDED BY FACULTY MEMBERS AS "A FAR ABOVE AVERAGE STUDENT AND A HIGHLY COMPETENT PHYSICIST."

HIS ONE-YEAR TERM AS INSTRUCTOR EXPIRES JUNE 30.

PERL FIRST CAME TO COLUMBIA FROM CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY IN 1947. HE HAD BEEN AT THE INSTITUTE FROM FEBRUARY UNTIL JUNE, 1946.

DURING HIS STUDIES AT COLUMBIA PERL WROTE A TREATISE WHICH WON HIM HIS DOCTORATE OF PHILOSOPHY IN 1950. IT WAS ENTITLED, "CALCULATION OF TRANSSONIC FLOWS PAST THIN AIR FOILS BY INTEGRAL METHODS."

3/14--W01123P



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Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**ADD 5 SPY RING**

IN NEW YORK ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY JOHN M. FOLEY SAID PERL IS CONSIDERED THE NATION'S SECOND-RANKING AERODYNAMICS ENGINEER.

FOLEY SAID THAT PERL WAS A CLASSMATE AT CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK WITH THE SAME PEOPLE HE IS ACCUSED OF LYING ABOUT.

THE SIX-FOOT SCIENTIST, A BESPECTACLED MAN WITH A COLLEGE CREW CUT TO HIS DARK HAIR, WAS CHARGED IN THE NEW YORK GRAND JURY INDICTMENT SPECIFICALLY WITH:

1. LYING LAST AUG. 18 BEFORE THE GRAND JURY CONCERNING HIS ASSOCIATION WITH MORTON SOBELL, ALLEGED SPY.
2. LYING ON THE SAME DATE ABOUT HIS ASSOCIATION WITH HELENE ELITCHER, WIFE OF A GOVERNMENT WITNESS IN THE CURRENT NEW YORK SPY TRIAL OF SOBELL, JULIUS ROSENBERG AND ROSENBERG'S WIFE.
3. LYING ON THE SAME DATE ABOUT HIS ASSOCIATION WITH ROSENBERG.
4. AND LYING BEFORE THE SAME GRAND JURY ON SEPT. 11 ABOUT HIS ASSOCIATION WITH ANN AND MICHAEL SIDOROVICH. AT THE CURRENT TRIAL IT WAS STATED SHE WAS TO HAVE BEEN A SPY CONTACT AT ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

3/14--W01148P

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Gandy

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Brady  
Baker

NEW YORK--COUNSEL FOR A FORMER COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PHYSICS INSTRUCTOR ACCUSED OF LYING WHEN HE DENIED CONNECTION WITH THE ROSENBERG-SOBELL SPY RING MOVED TODAY TO BRING JULIUS ROSENBERG OUT OF THE SING SING DEATH HOUSE AS A DEFENSE WITNESS.

IN ASKING FOR AN EARLY TRIAL FOR WILLIAM PERL, 32, ATTORNEY FRED WATERS TOLD FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGE FRANK E. MCGONEEY THAT HE WANTED ROSENBERG TO TESTIFY "BECAUSE IF WE WAIT UNTIL HE IS EXECUTED, IT WILL BE TOO BAD FOR THE DEFENDANT."

PERL WAS INDICTED FOR PERJURY BY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN MARCH, 1951, FOR SWEARING THAT HE DID NOT KNOW ROSENBERG AND MORTON SOBELL. ROSENBERG AND HIS WIFE, ETHEL, WERE CONVICTED OF STEALING ATOMIC SECRETS FOR RUSSIA AND SENTENCED TO DEATH IN THE OSSINING, N. Y., PRISON'S ELECTRIC CHAIR. SOBELL WAS CONVICTED WITH THEM AND SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS.

EXECUTION OF THE ROSENBERGS HAS BEEN DELAYED PENDING AN APPEAL TO THE U. S. SUPREME COURT. THEIR CONVICTION WAS UPHELD BY THE FEDERAL COURT OF APPEALS AND A RE-HEARING OF THE APPEAL WAS DENIED.

ASSISTANT U. S. ATTORNEY ROBERT MARTIN OPPOSED WATER'S MOVE FOR AN EARLY TRIAL DATE. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT "DEEMED IT UNWISE TO REVEAL THE PROOF IN THIS PERJURY CASE" UNTIL ARGUMENTS IN THE ROSENBERG CASE HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

679--5609P

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- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

U. I. R. 3

# Atom Spy Witness Gets Perjury Trial Setback

William Perl, 33-year-old ex-Columbia University physics teacher under indictment on perjury charges in the Rosenberg atom-bomb spy case, was smarting today under Federal Court denial of a plea for trial this month. In denying Perl an early trial, Judge John F. X. McGohery yesterday referred to a government affidavit stating it would be "unwise to proceed further and reveal the proof in this case until the Rosenberg case final appeal and other related matters have been concluded."

Perl was indicted on perjury charges stemming from a denial that he knew Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and Morton Sobell. The Rosenbergs were convicted of stealing A-bomb secrets and were sentenced to death. They are awaiting a U.S. Supreme Court review of the case. Sobell was found guilty in the same case and sentenced to 30 years in federal prison.

*Brubigan*  
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N. Y. N.Y. WORLD TELEGRAM & SUN

DATED JUL 1 1952

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 Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Perjury Trial Opens for A-Spy Witness

Lanky, black-haired William Perl, 34, former Columbia University physics instructor, went on trial today in Federal Court on charges of lying to the grand jury that indicted Julius Rosenberg, condemned A-bomb spy, and Morton Sobell, serving 30 years.

Perl, called as a witness before the grand jury in August and September, 1950, pretended he didn't know the atomic spies when, actually, the government charges, he attended City College with them and was in their 1938 graduating class.

Perl, who also is charged with perjuring himself in denying that he was familiar with three government witnesses in the case, faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and an \$8000 fine if convicted on all four counts in the indictment returned against him. A jury of 11 men and one woman was picked today to try the case before Judge Sylvester A. Ryan.

The academic-looking defendant told newspapermen he had been jobless since Columbia University let his appointment lapse in June 1951, a few months after his indictment. He said he had been working privately on "some points of the relativistic quantum theory," the basis of much work done in developing the atom bomb.

Federal authorities said the case probably would take three or four days. Perl and his wife, who was in court, live at 104 E. 88th St. The couple have a 10-month-old son.

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N. Y. WORLD TELEGRAM & SUN

DATE: MAY 18 1953

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 Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# Perl's Letters Cited To Prove He Knew Spy

## College Files Also Used

The government today produced personal letters and City College records to show that William Perl, an aeronautical physicist, lied when he said he did not know Julius Rosenberg or Morton Sobell, convicted atom spies.

The letters, according to Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney Lloyd F. MacMahon, were written by Perl when he was working on Army Air Force projects at Langley Field, Va., during 1940 and 1941.

### "My Friend" Quoted.

In one, the Federal Court jury was told, Perl alluded to "my friend . . . the boy who owns the drug store—Sobell" and said Sobell "came down from Washington."

In another letter more than a year later he declared "a friend of mine just quit his \$2600 a year job to go back to school."

Mr. MacMahon introduced Navy Dept. records to show that Sobell quit his government job, paying \$2600 a year, two days before Perl's letter on Oct. 2, 1941.

At the same time he produced City College records to show that Perl, Sobell and Rosenberg shared classrooms between 1934 and 1935, when Perl was graduated sum laude.

### Engineer Testifies.

In the perjury trial earlier today, Max Elitcher, an electrical engineer, of 164-18 72d Ave., Flushing, told the jury that he, Perl, Rosenberg and Sobell were friends at City College.

In 1940 or 1941, Mr. Elitcher said, Perl visited him in Washington and met Sobell, who then was living with Mr. Elitcher.

During the summer of 1944, the witness said, he and his wife, Helene, met Rosenberg at Eighth Ave. and 42nd St., where they were joined by Perl and his brother, Sam.

### Tells of Dinners Together.

They all had dinner at the Bird-In-Hand Restaurant and went to the apartment of Joel Barr, another CCNY man. About midnight, the witness said, they went to the Greenwich Village apartment of another classmate, Al Sarant.

Mr. Elitcher also testified that sometime near Christmas in 1946 Perl and his wife, Rosenberg, Sobell and his wife and the Elitchers met at the Blue Mill Restaurant in Greenwich Village and then to the Rosenberg apartment, 10 Monroe St.

Defense attorney Raymond W. . . . tried to discredit the witness in

cross-examination by getting him to admit that he once filled out a loyalty questionnaire for the Navy Department and swore he never had been a Communist, although he actually was a member from 1939 to 1942.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Martin has declared he will show that Perl attended 10 or 12 meetings of the Young Communist League at City College when Rosenberg was president and Sobell was an active member of the group.

*Handwritten:* b/paperman

*Handwritten:* 7-11-1953  
S. Am.

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N.Y. WORLD TELEGRAM & SUN

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## PERL TRIAL OPENS IN SPY CASE LYING

Prosecution Reads Grand Jury  
Testimony on Secret Orders  
to Columbia Ex-Teacher

The Government charged in Federal Court yesterday that William Perl, 34-year-old authority on aerodynamics, lied deliberately and knowingly when he told a Federal grand jury here in 1950 that he did not know Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted atom spies, and three other persons.

Taking issue with this, Raymond L. Wise, defense attorney, asserted that the former Columbia University physics instructor had not lied intentionally, but that he had told the truth as he knew it and as it appeared to him as he sat in the witness chair during his three appearances before the grand jury.

Mr. Wise told a jury of eleven men and one woman and two male alternates at the opening of Perl's trial on a four-count perjury indictment that to understand what happened, it would have to realize that Perl was no ordinary person, but the No. 2 authority on aerodynamics in this country.

Assistant United States Attorney Robert Martin said in his opening statement that Perl had when he denied knowing the five persons mentioned in the indictment and that he did not tell the whole truth when on subsequent appearances before the grand jury he modified his statements regarding Rosenberg and Sobell.

He said Perl had attended ten or twelve meetings of the electrical engineers section of the Young Communist League at City College when Rosenberg was its president and Sobell an active member and all three were classmates. Mr. Martin described this as "a striking instance" of where Perl knew the two men and said it supplied a motive as to why he denied knowing them.

In addition to Rosenberg, who with his wife, Ethel, is under sentence of death, and Sobell, who is serving a thirty-year prison sentence, the others whom Perl denied knowing were Helene Eitner, whose husband, Max, was a Government witness against Rosenberg and Sobell, and Michael and Ann Sodorovich.

Perl, who is tall, thin and dark-haired, was arrested by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on March 14, 1951, at 104 East Thirty-eighth Street, where he lives with his wife, Henrietta, and 10-month-old son. He and his wife listened intently during the proceedings yesterday and both looked relieved when Judge Sylvester J. Ryan continued his \$20,000 bail.

Most of the afternoon session

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

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N.Y. TIMES

MAY 19 1953

*State City Edition*



The New York Times

**HIS TRIAL OPENS:** William Perl, Columbia University physics instructor, who went to trial here on a four-count perjury indictment.

was taken up by Mr. Martin reading from Perl's grand jury testimony. The highlight of the testimony was Perl's account of a mysterious visit to him of a woman named Vivian Glassman when he was doing aerodynamics work in Cleveland for a Government agency.

He said the woman, whom he had known here, slipped into his apartment in July, 1950, after the arrest of the Rosenbergs and Sobell, picked up a piece of paper and wrote out that she had received money and instructions from a person unknown to her, for an aeronautical engineer and another person. The instructions were for the two men to leave the country.

The trial will be resumed at 10 A. M. today.

# Perl Trial Seen As Pressure on Rosenberg Case

By MILTON HOWARD

The U.S. Supreme Court did not act yesterday on the appeal of the Rosenberg defense for a new trial. The court meets every Monday, and is expected to adjourn some time early in June for a summer recess.

The defense appeal is based on charges that the government's key witness, David Greenglass, perjured himself when he said that he overheard atomic scientists talking about the A-bomb at Los Alamos, Nevada, rushed home to make a "picture" of the a-bomb, and then gave this "drawing" on a piece of paper to Ethel and Julius Rosenberg.

Since this appeal was made to the court, the world has seen in Greenglass' own handwriting a statement made 10 months before the trial in which his original story contradicts the yarn he told the jury on a number of basic questions.

A number of developments showing behind-the-scenes activity on the part of government sources marked this week's news on the Rosenberg case.

1. The government launched the trial of William Perl, Columbia University physicist, on charges of perjury. Perl had said he did not know the Rosenbergs. The remarkable fact about this prosecution is not only its character but its timing. During a vital turn in the Rosenberg trial, prosecutor Irving Saypol told the press that he would produce Perl at the trial to corroborate the Greenglass testimony. But Saypol never produced Perl.

and revealed that the FBI had been seeking for these documents itself during the last week of April.

6. Leonard Lyons, New York Post columnist, whose column has been observed to carry planted items on the Rosenberg case, said yesterday that the government had been planning to bring Julius Rosenberg to the William Perl trial in order to "have him plead his Constitutional privilege against self incrimination." This would provide another sensational headline with the intent of smearing the Rosenbergs and Perl.

WELLESLEY, Mass., May 18.

A resolution asking for executive clemency for Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, who face death for conviction on a conspiracy charge, was passed last week at the 94th annual Massachusetts Universalist Convention at the Community Universalist Church here.

The convention resolution, passed after considerable discussion, declared the death sentence of the Rosenbergs was without precedent in this country.

It pointed out that the Rosenbergs were not charged with espionage or treason but with conspiracy to commit espionage. Moreover, the resolution said, no civilian court in the U.S. ever created a death sentence for espionage.

The same church heard the Rev. Charles Briggs of the West Somerville Congregational Church, object to terms Congressional investigators of "Communism" witchhunters, and the reason that it "is a libel" on the original Salem witchhunt, he said.

Rev. Milligan, an instructor in the philosophy of religion at church history at Tufts, declared: "Those who are standing up for constitutional liberties are not producing new foreign ideas but are trying to preserve what is best in the American tradition."

He added to attacks on such distinguished persons as Bishop Oxnard and said it was clear that the investigators were not after facts but were trying to make cases to get certain people named those who criticized their investigations.

This is a clipping from

Page 3 of the  
Daily Worker

Date 5/19/53

Clipped at the Seat of  
Government.

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# Scientist Perl Knew A-Spy, Jury Is Told

By NORMA ABRAMS

Four government witnesses at the perjury trial of William Perl, former Columbia University physics instructor, testified yesterday about a series of meetings between the brilliant young scientist and three persons—including the condemned atom spy, Julius Rosenberg—whom he told a federal grand jury he did not know.

The Government is expected to complete its case today and Perl will likely take the stand in his own defense this afternoon. The case is being tried before Federal Judge Sylvester J. Ryan and a jury of 11 men and a woman.

## Classmate of Both.

Perl, now 34, was a City College classmate of both Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, who was convicted with Rosenberg and is now serving a 30-year sentence. But, in testimony in 1950 before the same grand jury that indicted them, he denied knowing either man and also denied knowing three persons whose names were to figure in their trial—Mrs. Helene Elitcher, wife of a brother classmate, and Michael and Ann Sidorovich.

Yesterday's witnesses included Mrs. Elitcher and her husband, Max, who live at 164-18 72d Ave., Flushing, Queens; Milton Klein, 6690 Morris Ave., Bronx, a New York University physics instructor, and Dr. Jack Shapiro, now an intern at Kings County Hospital, but also once a classmate of Perl.

The Elitchers described in detail two dinner meetings—one in June, 1944, the other at Christmas time of 1946—at which both Perl and Rosenberg were present. On the second occasion, they said, Sobell and his wife also were present.

Elitcher, an electrical engineer and former employe in the Navy Bureau of Ordnance, admitted under cross-examination by defense counsel Raymond L. Wise that he was a Communist Party member from 1939 to 1945 and that he perjured himself by stating on a government loyalty questionnaire that he was not a Communist.

## He Didn't Report Them.

He also told of a visit by Rosenberg to the Elitcher apartment in Washington, D. C., in 1944, during which Rosenberg suggested Elitcher could help get information for the Soviet Union.

The trial will continue at 10 A. M. today.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# **Denied Knowing Atom Spies:** **U.S. May Close Case** **Against Perl Today**

The Government today expects to complete its case against William Perl on trial in Federal Court, Foley sq., on four perjury counts.

He is accused of lying to the grand jury that indicted Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, condemned atom spies.

He allegedly denied he knew Rosenberg, Morton Sobell, Helene Elitcher and Michael and Ann Bodorovich.

Four witnesses yesterday, including Mrs. Elitcher, testified to meetings between Rosenberg, Sobell and Perl.

The others were Milton Klein, of 5690 Morris ave., Bronx, a physics instructor at New York University; Dr. Jack Shapiro, an

intern at Kings County Hospital, and Max Elitcher, of 144-18 73d ave., Flushing, Queens.

Klein, Dr. Shapiro and Elitcher were classmates of Perl, Rosenberg and Sobell at City College.

They told of meetings of the Steinmetz Club, described by Dr. Shapiro as "affiliated with the Young Communist League at City College," presided over by Rosenberg with Perl as a speaker.

The case is being tried before Federal Judge Ryan and a jury of 11 men and a woman.

Perl, an electronics scientist, lives at 104 E. 38th st.

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 MAY 20 1953

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*Afternoon Edition*

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# Four Link Perl With Rosenberg

Four witnesses testified yesterday at the perjury trial of William Perl that they saw him with Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted atom spies.

Perl, thirty-four, is an aerodynamics and jet propulsion specialist who worked on highly secretive projects for the Federal government during World War II. He is being tried by a jury in United States District Court for denying in 1950 before a grand jury investigating war-time espionage that he knew Rosenberg and Sobell, fellow classmates at City College, and three other persons.

One of the witnesses, Milton M. Klein, a physics instructor at New York University, testified that in July, 1950, "Perl told me he was being followed by the F. B. I. because they believed he was involved with Julius Rosenberg." He quoted the defendant as saying that he (Perl) "was active in the Young Communist League and pointed out Rosenberg and Sobell as active members."

## Saw "The Three of Them"

Mr. Klein, of 2690 Morris Ave., the Bronx, was in the class of '38 at City College with Perl, Rosenberg and Sobell and told of seeing the three of them together "a half dozen to a dozen times." The witness also said he attended two Young Communist League meetings with Perl.

Max Elitcher, of 164-18 72d Ave., Flushing, Queens, an electrical engineer who also was in the same City College class, swore that in June, 1944, he and his wife Helene had dinner and spent the evening with Perl and Rosenberg, and that around Christmas, 1946, they spent a similar evening with Perl, Rosenberg and Sobell, winding up in Rosenberg's apartment.

Mrs. Elitcher corroborated her husband's testimony. Elitcher also recounted that in 1940 or 1941, while he was with the Navy's Bureau of Ordnance in Washington and living with Sobell, Perl came to Washington and talked for two hours with Sobell. Sobell was also working for the Navy then.

**Elitcher on Cross-Examining**  
by Raymond L. Wise said he was in the Communist party from 1939 to 1948, and admitted he committed perjury when he denied on a Navy loyalty questionnaire that he was a Communist.

## Tells of Club Meetings

Dr. Jack Shapiro, an intern at Kings County Hospital, related that he saw Perl, Rosenberg and Sobell at City College Steinmetz Club meetings, describing the club as "affiliated with the Young Communist League at City College." He said that Rosenberg introduced the speakers, and one of them was Perl, who spoke briefly.

Perl is accused of willfully committing perjury in a four-count indictment. He also denied knowing Mrs. Elitcher and Michael and Ann Sidorovich, according to the prosecutors, Assistant United States Attorneys Lloyd F. MacMahon and Robert Martin.

Perl is scheduled to take the stand in his own defense. He is a former Columbia University physics instructor, serving there from September, 1950, until his indictment in March, 1951.

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Belmont ☒  
Clegg ☒  
Glavin ☒  
Harbo ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Tracy ☒  
Gearty ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Winterrowd ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holloman ☒  
Sizoo ☒  
Miss Gandy ☒

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98 JUN 4 1953

Times-Herald ☒  
Wash. Post ☒  
Wash. News ☒  
Wash. Star ☒  
N.Y. Herald Tribune ☒  
N.Y. Mirror ☒

Date: MAY 20 1953

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# Perl Case Prosecution Rests:

## Ex-Columbia Prof's Trial Nearing End

The prosecution today rested in the Federal Court perjury trial of former Columbia University physics instructor William Perl, charged with lying under oath in denying he knew convicted atom spies Julius Rosenberg, Morton Sobell and three others.

Perl, 34, electronics scientist who lives with his wife, Henrietta, at 104 E. 38th st., is being tried before Judge Ryan and a jury of 11 men and one woman.

Before the Government concluded its presentation of evidence, four witnesses testified against the defendant, making a total of 12 who took the stand to refute the defendant's contentions.

Perl, it is charged, lied to a Federal grand jury in 1950 when he stated he didn't know Rosenberg, Sobell, Helene Elitcher, Michael Sidorovich and the latter's wife Ann.

Three witnesses today connected the defendant with Michael and Ann Sidorovich, whose names were mentioned in the Rosenberg trial. They were

Robert E. Pfleger, vice president of a Cleveland advertising agency; his wife, Mildred; and their next door neighbor, Mrs. Marie Beier, all of Parma, Ohio.

The Pflegers said Perl went to their home with the Sidoroviches in July 1948 in answer to a newspaper advertisement offering the Pflegers' car for sale.

Mrs. Elizabeth W. Brown, 41 Glen Ridge, N.J., today's fourth prosecution witness, testified that Perl told her in June, 1948, that he was going to Cleveland, where he was allegedly seen in company of the Sidoroviches.

Previous Government witnesses offered testimony linking Perl with Rosenberg, who with his wife Ethel is under death sentence, and with Sobell, now serving a 30-years-to-life prison term for conspiracy to commit espionage.

Max Elitcher, electrical engineer, of 164-18 72d ave., Flushing, Queens, has testified that on several occasions Perl met and talked to Rosenberg, as well as the witness' own wife Helene, whom Perl denied knowing.

*Belmont*  
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DATED MAY 20 1953  
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**Tue 11**

Did you meet with Roy C. Les Layne and Mr. Cochran here, in this building?

He reported yesterday from the  
prison stand:

"There are many strange—  
strange that is to me—things in this  
case."

**THE GOVERNMENT'S USE**  
yesterday of this weird, unex-  
plained incident to place the  
atmosphere of "atomic spy" around  
the William Perl who would not  
"confess" when bid to do so, re-  
called that it was around Perl  
that prosecutor Irving Saypol in  
the Rosenberg case manufactured  
the headline bait which shocked  
the U. S. Court of Appeals.

On March 15, 1951, prosecutor Saypol told the New York Times that he would produce a key witness, Perl, who would corroborate the fantastic yarn of David Greenglass, sole witness who claimed that he gave "atomic secrets" to the Rosenbergs.

"His special role," Saypol said, "was to corroborate certain statements made by David Greenglass and the latter's wife, who are key government witnesses."

This sensational announcement was seized by the press, since up to that point it had been widely noted that the government could not corroborate its charge against the Rosenbergs.

But as a matter of fact, government prosecutor Saypol—never called Fari to the witness stand in the Rosenberg case after he

had told the American people that he would do just that to corroborate his key witnesses' testimony. Why?

The testimony about Roy Cohn's demand for a "confession" throws a lurid light on this whole affair.

Later, the U. S. Court of Appeals declared that Saypol's tactic should have caused a new trial for the Rosenbergs in 1951.

IN THE COURTROOM yesterday, Perl vigorously denied he had ever engaged in "subversive

activities, had ever been a member of the Communist Party, what his lawyer called "communist fronts" or had ever lied about anything the FBI had asked him. But he had refused to "cooperate."

And he was told he would be indicted if he didn't confess.

It was an accurate prophecy made by the men now prosecuting him, not for espionage, which hangs like a cloud over the jury, but for alleged perjury on four counts each carrying a five-year term.

Port was being told to "confess" to what? If the government had the slightest evidence against him for any wrongdoing why did it not use it to indict him, instead of lying in wait for a discrepancy, on which to rig a perjury indictment?

**Another astounding fact:**

The government yesterday leaned heavily on the story told from the witness stand that a certain Miss Glassman visited Perl in Cleveland and wrote down on a piece of paper the name "Julius Rosenberg" and then told Perl that Rosenberg wanted him to leave the country.

This statement had absolutely nothing to do with the case of perjury. It was a statement of so serious a nature that, if true, it was clearly aimed at making a criminal connection in the minds of the jury with the alleged espionage of the Rosenbergs.

Yet the government has never dared to allege the slightest espionage or espionage connections on Perle's account in any official indictment.

Nevertheless, out of a clear sky, an alleged incident of the above type is brought into the case. When confronted with this kind of incident—arranged by whom?—FBI immediately rushed to the FBI to tell them of it. He said he had not had the slightest idea what his visitor was talking

**This is a clipping from**

Page 3 of the  
Daily Worker

Date 5/22/53

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 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Perl Admits He Possibly Lied About Knowing Rosenbergs

NEW YORK, May 21 (AP)—William Perl, young college teacher accused of lying about his friendship with atom spies for Russia, ended his defense today with the case expected to go to the jury early Friday.

Perl said under cross-examination that he had "possibly" lied in 1950 to the loyalty board because "I feared I would lose my job if the loyalty board found out I was associated with Communists."

The 34-year-old aerodynamics expert is accused of lying to a 1950 grand jury when he denied he knew Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobel, convicted of giving atom secrets to Russia.

He testified during his perjury trial that he denied knowing them and three other persons because he was not "intimately acquainted" with them.

Testifying in his own defense yesterday, Perl protested he did

not wilfully commit perjury before the grand jury. Under cross-examination the former Columbia University physics instructor was asked about statements he made in a number of documents uncovered by the FBI.

The defendant worked during and after World War II on aerodynamic problems for the National Advisory Committee for Aerodynamics, a Government agency.

The defense interrupted Perl's examination to call two character witnesses for him. They were Dr. Henry M. Foley of New York, a professor of physics at Columbia University, and Vernon Hughes of Philadelphia, assistant professor of physics at the University of Pennsylvania. They said they had attended graduate classes with Perl and that his reputation in school was "excellent."

Times-Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Bratton*

(PERL)

NEW YORK--WILLIAM PERL, ELECTRONICS EXPERT AND FORMER COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PHYSICS TEACHER, WAS FOUND GUILTY TODAY ON TWO COUNTS OF PERJURY IN CONNECTION WITH TESTIMONY ABOUT HIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH ATOMIC SPIES JULIUS ROSENBERG AND MORTON SOBELL.

THE JURY OF 11 MEN AND ONE WOMAN FOUND PERL INNOCENT OF TWO OTHER COUNTS WHICH HAD CHARGED HIM WITH LYING IN DENYING ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

THE VERDICT WAS RETURNED AFTER FOUR HOURS AND SEVEN MINUTES OF DELIBERATION.

PERL IS LIABLE TO SENTENCE OF FIVE YEARS IN PRISON AND \$2,000 FINE ON EACH OF THE TWO COUNTS ON WHICH HE WAS CONVICTED.

HE WAS CHARGED WITH COMMITTING THE PERJURY IN TESTIMONY BEFORE A FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN 1950. THE JURY FOUND HE HAD LIED IN DENYING THAT HE KNEW SOBELL AND IN DENYING ACQUAINTANCE AT THE COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK WITH ROSENBERG, WHEN BOTH WERE STUDENTS THERE.

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WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

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## Perl Guilty; Linked By Prosecutor to Spy Ring

By GEORGE GRADY and HARRY COHEN

A jury of 11 men and one woman, after deliberating four hours, yesterday found William Perl, former Columbia University physics instructor, guilty on two counts of perjury for falsely swearing before a Federal grand jury in 1950 that he did not know atom spies Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell.

The jury, which acquitted Perl on two other counts of perjury, recommended clemency to Federal Judge Ryan. The recommendation is not binding on the court, but Ryan said he will give it careful consideration when sentencing Perl on June 5.

MAXIMUM SENTENCE is five years in prison and a \$2,000 fine on each of the two counts.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Robert Martin, in opposing a defense motion to continue Perl in bail, startled spectators when he said he feared Perl may flee the country and added he will furnish the court with information which will "directly connect Perl with the espionage ring of Rosenberg and Sobell." The information, Martin added, was too confidential to disclose in public.

Ryan refused to grant bail and

directed U. S. Attorney Lumbard to obtain from the FBI further information on the possible motives Perl may have had in denying he knew the persons mentioned in the atom spy trial. The counts on which the defendant was acquitted involved his denying that he knew Helene Elitcher, wife of a witness, and Michael and Ann Sidorovich, whose names came up in the trial testimony.

Perl, who lives at 104 E. 88th St., is married and is the father of a 10-months-old son. His defense at the perjury trial was that when asked before the grand jury whether he "knew" the persons mentioned, he thought the question meant whether he was "intimately acquainted" with them.

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# Columbia Prof Guilty; Denied Ties to A-Spies

By Norma Abrams and James Davis

After four hours and seven minutes of deliberation, a Federal Court jury yesterday found William Perl, 34-year-old former Columbia University physics instructor, guilty of perjury for telling a federal grand jury that he did not know atom spies Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell.

His answers with reference to Rosenberg, who is awaiting death in the electric chair, and Sobell, serving a 30-year term, represented two counts of a four-count indictment returned against Perl in March, 1951.

The jurors—11 men and a woman—recommended clemency for Perl, who is married and the father of a 10-month-old son.

## Could Get 10 Years

Perl could receive a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a fine of \$2,000 on each of the counts. Judge Sylvester Ryan set June 5 for sentencing.

Opposing a defense motion to continue Perl in \$20,000 bail pending sentence, Assistant U. S. Attorney Robert Martin linked Perl "directly" with the spy activities of Rosenberg.

"We have information tying this defendant in with the Rosenberg espionage ring," Martin told the court. He added: "Directly."

Pointing out that others, including Sobell, who was collared in Mexico, had fled the country during a federal crackdown on spy suspects, Martin asked that Perl's bail be revoked.

## Judge Heeds U. S. Plea

Ryan granted the request and Perl was remanded to the Federal House of Detention. The judge told the jury he would consider the clemency recommendation and directed the prosecution, headed by Chief Assistant U. S. Attorney Lloyd P. MacMahon, to give him any information the FBI might have which would show "any possible motive" for Perl's perjury.

The counts on which an innocent



William Perl and his wife, Henrietta, enter court.

verdict was returned charged that Perl lied when he denied knowing, Helene Elitcher, wife of an atom spy trial witness, and Michael and Ann Sidorevich, who figured in the trial of Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, also under death sentence.

Ryan indicated that if Perl had anything to say about his past associations, he would be willing to hear it.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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(NEWS photo by Ed Jackson)

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JUN 5 1953

# Perl Guilty of Perjury in Spy Case; Link to Rosenbergs Now Charged

By MILTON BRACKER

William Perl, one of the nation's leading experts on jet propulsion, was convicted in Federal court yesterday on two of four counts of perjury.

He is subject to up to five years in prison and a fine of \$2,000 on each of the two counts on which he was found guilty.

A jury of eleven men and a woman found after a little more than four hours of deliberation that the 34-year-old physicist had deliberately lied to a Federal grand jury in 1950 when he said he did not know Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted atom spies. Sobell is serving thirty years; Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, are in the death house at Sing Sing awaiting outcome of an appeal.

The jury recommended clemency for Perl on each count on which he was found guilty and acquitted him on two other counts, involving his alleged acquaintance

with three lesser figures in the espionage inquiry.

But Perl's situation worsened during argument on a motion that he be continued in \$20,000 bail pending sentence. Assistant United States Attorney Robert Martin told District Judge Sylvester Ryan that the Government was now in a position to "link this defendant to the Rosenberg espionage ring directly."

Asked about the nature of the information involved, Mr. Martin said quietly:

"I am sorry that we cannot make it public at this time."

Mr. Martin argued that at least three other persons in the espionage inquiry had fled. One was Sobell, who was arrested in Laredo, Tex., in August, 1950, after being deported by Mexico. The two others, according to Mr. Martin, were Alfred Sarant and Joel Barr.

Continued on Page 6, Column 3

## PERL FOUND GUILTY OF LIES IN SPY CASE

Continued From Page 1

He said they had "disappeared" in 1950.

No further details as to the supposed involvement of these two in the spy case were given in court. It had been testified that Sarant rented to Perl an apartment at 63 Morton Street—an address which the physicist had not listed in a 1949 security questionnaire as one of his places of residence in the preceding decade. Barr had been mentioned as having been present on various occasions with Perl and Sobell.

It was 4:40 P. M. when the jury filed in. Perl, calm at the defense table, kept his eyes on the bench. His hands were clasped.

Lawrence W. Payne of 150 East Fortieth Street, foreman of the jury announced this verdict:

"In count No. 1, guilty with a recommendation of clemency." This was the Sobell count. Neither Perl nor his wife, Henrietta, seated behind, moved. The foreman continued "Count No. 2, not guilty; No. 3 [the Rosenberg count], guilty with a recommendation of clemency; No. 4, not guilty."

The routine motions for dismissal, by defense counsel Raymond L. Wise, were denied. On the bail question, Mr. Wise said \$18,000 of Perl's bail had represented the physicist's life savings; the other \$2,000, a loan from a brother-in-law.

Perl was remanded without bail for sentence on June 5. He faced the court, a lanky, broad-shouldered figure, as the judge, in very low tones, told him he could write to the court if he wished, to make any suggestion he might have about his sentence.

Mr. Wise said no attempt would be made in a higher court to procure bail. The attorney announced that he was not continuing in the case, "due to the fact that I now reside in Florida." He said an appeal would be taken, and its handling turned over to his successor in the case.

"If there is substance in what Mr. Martin says," the attorney added, "and I know Mr. Martin doesn't speak lightly—I hope that Mr. Perl will be moved to cooperate with the Government from now on."

The second and fourth counts on which Perl was acquitted, charged that he had lied in denying that he knew Helene Ellitshay, wife of a Government witness against Rosenberg and Sobell; and Michael and Ann Sodovich. Mrs. Sodovich had been mentioned in spy trial testimony by David Greenglass, who pleaded guilty to war-time espionage.

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Clegg  
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Mr. Holloman  
Mr. Sizoo  
Miss Gandy

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- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Gearty
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Holloman
- Mr. Schoon
- Miss Gandy

## Perl Once an Active Young Red, Witnesses Say at Perjury Trial

A New York University physics instructor and an interne at Kings County Hospital testified yesterday at the Federal Court perjury trial of William Perl that they had attended Communist meetings with Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted atom spies, and Perl in the Nineten Thirties when all were students at City College.

Perl, a former Columbia University physics instructor, is charged with lying deliberately when he told a Federal grand jury here in 1950 that he did not know Rosenberg, Sobell, Helene Elitcher and Michael and Ann Sodorovich. He later modified his denial to say he had an "awareness" of Rosenberg as a fellow-student and that he might have had some dealings with Sobell after they left school.

Among the other witnesses called by the Government yesterday to show that Perl's acquaintance with Sobell and Rosenberg was not casual were Mrs. Elitcher and her husband, Max, a former civilian employe of the Naval Bureau of Ordnance. Both told of being in the company of the three men from about 7 P. M. to midnight one evening in the summer of 1944 and for about the same length of time around Christmas, 1948.

Elitcher, who also testified for the Government at the trial that resulted in death sentences for Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, and in a thirty-year sentence for Sobell, admitted under cross examination by Raymond L. Wise, Perl's attorney, that he had lied when he swore to the Navy he had never been a member of the Communist party. He said he belonged from 1939 to 1948.

Milton M. Klein of 2690 Morris Avenue, the Bronx, the N. Y. U. instructor, said he had been a close friend of Perl's at DeWitt Clinton High School and at City College, and that they had worked together for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics during and after the war.

He told the jury of eleven men and one woman that he, Perl, Rosenberg, Sobell and Elitcher had attended meetings of the Young Communist League in the East Bronx while they were students at City College, that they also had gone to Union Square rallies together and that Perl had told him he was active in the league.

Dr. Jack Shapiro, the interne, a slightly built and highly nervous witness, testified that he had attended meetings in 1937 and 1938 of the Steinmetz Club, which, he said, was composed of electrical engineering students at City College and was affiliated with the school's Young Communist League unit. Among the regular attendants were Rosenberg, Perl and Sobell, he asserted.

At the end of the day Lloyd F. MacMahon, chief assistant United States Attorney, and his aide, Robert Martin, told Judge Sylvester J. Ryan they would call four more witnesses and end their case this morning. Mr. Wise said he would put Perl and two character witnesses on the stand in the afternoon. With the summing up scheduled for tomorrow, the case is expected to go to the jury Friday.

Perl, who lives at 104 East Thirty-eighth Street, with his wife and an infant son, was arrested in March, 1951. He is free in \$20,000 bail.

*Handwritten:* Perl was in the room

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## Perl Guilty, Faces Spy Ring Charge

NEW YORK, May 22 (AP).—A jury found today that a former Columbia University physics instructor lied when he denied he knew convicted atom spies Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, and a Federal prosecutor immediately told the court he would connect the teacher to the Rosenberg espionage ring.

A jury of 11 men and one woman found William Perl guilty of two counts of perjury on a four-count indictment and included a recommendation for clemency.

Perl's lawyer, Raymond L. Wise, moved to set aside the verdict and to continue Perl's bail. Assistant United States Attorney Robert Martin then asked Judge Sylvester Ryan to remand Perl to prison because, he said, "I will present information to the court that will link the defendant decidedly with the espionage ring," adding that the information was "too confidential" to be made public at this time.

Judge Ryan denied Perl bail, and the physicist was taken to the Federal House of Detention to await sentencing June 5.

*File 65-59312  
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Date: MAY 23 1953

New Atom Spy Angle:

# Perl Guilty of Perjury; Tied to Rosenberg Ring

By Milton Lewis

William Perl, former government physicist who worked on top secret government projects, was found guilty yesterday on two counts of perjury in deliberately denying that he knew Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted atom spies. Immediately after a jury — which acquitted Perl on two other perjury counts — returned the verdict in United States District Court at 4:40 p. m., Assistant United States Attorney Robert Martin advised Judge Sylvester Ryan that the government has information "directly" tying Perl with the Rosenberg spy ring.

Mr. Martin said this data could not be made public but would be supplied to the judge in private before sentence is imposed June 5. The prosecutor mentioned the spy ring tie in arguing successfully to remand the physicist pending sentence, which can be up to five years in jail and a \$2,000 fine on each count. The jury of eleven men and a woman, which deliberated four hours and ten minutes, recommended mercy for the thirty-four-year-old scientist.

### Wife Glares at Jury

Perl, former Columbia University physics instructor, blanched, blinked repeatedly and gripped the right arm of his chair on hearing the verdict, while his wife, the former Henrietta Savage, sat dry-eyed and glared at the jury from her front-row seat. She was present all through the five-day trial.

Just before he was led away, Perl said "thank you" to Judge Ryan, who had told him he could communicate with the judge before sentence if he wished. Perl, who lived at 104 E. 38th St., has a ten-month-old son.

Perl, a specialist for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics during and after the war, was found innocent on the counts which charged him with perjury in denying that he knew Helene Elitcher and Michael and Ann Sidorovich. Mrs. Elitcher is the wife of Max Elitcher, an admitted former Communist who testified against Rosenberg and Sobell and the names of the



William Perl

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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## Perl

(Continued from page one)

Sidoroviches were mentioned at the Rosenberg trial. Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, are under the death sentence, while Sobell is serving thirty years.

### Won't Represent Him

Raymond L. Wise, Perl's counsel, said there would be an appeal but that he would not represent him in that, since his own practice is regularly in Miami, Fla. Mr. Wise also said that "if there is substance to what Mr. Martin says (about the spy link), I hope Mr. Perl will be moved to co-operate with the government from now on."

Perl was in the '38 City College class with Rosenberg and Sobell, each graduating with engineering degrees. He was indicted for denying in 1950 before a grand jury investigating espionage that he knew Rosenberg, Sobell and the three other persons.

At the trial, he doggedly insisted that the word "know" to him meant "a close association"—and he denied that he was close to any of the five persons. He testified he had an "aware-

ness, a recollection" of Rosenberg and Sobell at college, and as to meeting them in 1944 and 1946, he would not deny it, saying he "might" have.

In charging the jurors, Judge Ryan said that if they found that Perl had told the truth as he believed it to be in regard to the word "know," he must be acquitted. However, if they found a wilful lie, he must be convicted. The judge emphasized that the fact that the grand jury before which Perl appeared was investigating espionage was not a factor in the case.

After the jury was polled, Judge Ryan said he would carefully consider the recommendation for clemency. He then called upon the prosecution, headed by Lloyd F. MacMahon, chief assistant to United States Attorney J. Edward Lumbard, who was present to give the court any information the Federal Bureau of Investigation might have about Perl which would show "any possible motive" for his perjury.

Judge Ryan also said that he may hold a hearing before sentence is imposed "if the defendant wants to give me his version."



Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Didn't Know A-Spy, Perl Insists

William Perl, 34-year-old physicist, insisted today before Federal Judge Ryan and a jury that he told the truth to a Federal Grand Jury in August, 1950, when he denied knowing Julius Rosenberg, the condemned atom bomb spy, and four other persons.

"It was the truth," he testified when he took the stand to defend himself against a perjury charge. "I don't tell lies."

Seven witnesses testified for the government, which rested its case earlier today, that he had met Rosenberg; Morton Sobell, another convicted member of the Soviet spy ring; Mrs. Helene Ellitcher, and Michael and Ann Sidorovich, who were named in the Rosenberg trial.

Perl, offering the jury his word against those of the witnesses, said he did know Mrs. Ellitcher as Mrs. Max Ellitcher, wife of a college classmate, but it was months after his Grand Jury questioning that he learned that her first name was Helene.

While insisting he did not

know the other four persons, Perl qualified that denial in several ways. He said he was questioned frequently and intensively by FBI agents and that he was

"shocked and horrified" when they "strongly emphasized that Rosenberg and Sobell might fry for their activities."

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*Blakeman*

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# Perl Admits He Knew A-Spies— Not 'Intimately'

William Perl, 34-year-old Columbia University physicist, told jurors in his Federal Court perjury trial today that he knew Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted atomic spies, but that he was not an "intimate associate."

That, he said, was what he meant to convey on Aug. 18, 1950, when he told a federal grand jury investigating the Communist spy ring that he did not know them.

"I always tell the truth," Perl declared as he made his first appearance on the witness stand.

He maintained that he may have given an erroneous impression before the grand jury because "I had only one idea in mind . . . to disassociate myself from those perjured souls."

He said he was referring to Rosenberg and Sobell and three other persons involved in the grand jury's investigation of the spy ring that sold atomic secrets to Russia at the end of World War II.

Under questioning from his counsel, Raymond L. Wise, he admitted he knew all but two of the persons named in the perjury indictment against him. He did not, he said, remember Michael and Ann Sidorovich, whose names were mentioned in the trial of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, and who are alleged to have been friends of Perl's.

The government rested its case before the noon recess and the defense was expected to wind up today. Federal Judge Sylvester Ryan is expected to charge the jury tomorrow.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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# PERL DENIES LYING TO U. S. GRAND JURY

## But Physicist Admits on Stand He Swore Falsely About His Marriage and Residence

After protesting again and again that he did not tell lies, William Perl was confronted on cross-examination at his Federal court perjury trial yesterday with false and conflicting statements he had made, sometimes under oath.

Perl is charged in a four-count indictment with lying willfully when he told a Federal grand jury here in 1950 that he did not know Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted atom spies, and three other persons. During and after World War II he worked on aerodynamic problems for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, a Government agency. He was a Columbia University instructor in physics when he was arrested in March, 1951.

Tall, lean and dark-haired, the defendant seemed completely composed and answered questions in a firm, confident manner while he was under direct examination by his attorney, Raymond L. Wise. But he showed signs of discomfiture when Lloyd F. MacMahon, Chief Assistant United States Attorney, questioned him about statements he had made in a number of documents brought to light by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Did Not Wish to Mislead  
On direct examination he said he had no intention of misleading the grand jury when he testified he did not know Rosenberg and Sobell. He said he thought he was being asked whether he had been intimately acquainted or associated with them, and that he had not been.

As for the others mentioned in the indictment, Perl said he did not realize until later that the Helene Elichter he was asked about before the grand jury, was the wife of a Max Elichter, whom he had met, and that he did not recall ever meeting Ann and Michael Soderovich.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*Back to Mr. Tolson*  
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At the morning session yesterday, Robert Pfeiffer, a Cleveland advertising agency executive, testified that Perl and the Sodorovichs came to his home in July, 1948, to buy a car he had advertised for sale. He said Perl drove the car when all four went on a test run. Mr. Pfeiffer's wife and two of his neighbors also told the jury of seeing the three together.

#### Failed to List an Address

In direct examination Perl volunteered repeatedly that he did not lie, but he admitted to Mr. McMahon that he had sworn falsely in a loyalty questionnaire of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics that he had married the former Henrietta Savage in New York in 1944 and divorced her in Reno in 1946. Actually, he said, they were married in Cleveland in 1944 and were never divorced. He explained that their marriage was a common-law one and he thought that when they later separated that constituted a divorce. The two later were reconciled and married at a church ceremony in 1951.

Mr. McMahon then produced a security questionnaire of the Atomic Energy Commission that Perl filled out in November, 1949, when he was looking for a job with the agency. The prosecutor asked the witness why he had not listed 65 Morton Street in Greenwich Village when he was asked to name all the places he had lived in the preceding ten years.

Perl replied that he had lived there "occasionally" between 1946 and 1948, but did not regard it as residence although he had paid

rent on an apartment for a year or a year and a half. Mr. McMahon then produced voting registers showing Perl had given 65 Morton Street as his residence when he registered and voted in 1947 and 1948.

Perl's examination was interrupted while the defense called two character witnesses, Dr. Henry M. Foley of 525 West 238th Street, the Bronx, a Professor of Physics at Columbia, and Vernon Hughes of Philadelphia, assistant Professor of Physics at the University of Pennsylvania. Both said their relations with Perl had been almost entirely professional and that his reputation was excellent.

Judge Sylvester Ryan said at the close of the day that he expected to give the charge and present the case to the jury tomorrow morning. Perl, who is free on \$20,000 bail, is to return to the stand this morning.

# Perl Trial Summed Up; Jury Gets Case Today

By Milton Lewis

William Perl was described alternately yesterday as a "genius" who "honestly forgets things" and as a deliberate perjurer who hindered a Federal grand jury inquiry into atom spies.

These diverse pictures were offered by opposing sides in summing up at the thirty-four-year-old physicist's perjury trial in United States District Court, where he is charged with wilfully denying before a grand jury in 1950 that he knew Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, convicted spies for Russia in war time, and three others. This morning, after a charge by Judge Sylvester Ryan, a jury of eleven men and one woman will get the case. The trial began Monday.

## "Didn't Intend to Lie"

"Mr. Perl didn't intend to lie—he just went as far as he thought he truthfully could short of deliberately lying," Raymond L. Wise, his counsel, argued.

If convicted on each of four counts in the indictment, Perl, formerly with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, faces five years in prison and a \$2,000 fine on each.

Perl testified that when he was asked if he knew Rosenberg and Sobell, he understood that to mean if they had been his intimate associates at City College. To that he said no, but later said he had an "awareness" of them in the class of '38. As to seeing them during

the 1940s, he admitted at the trial he "might" have.

Mr. Wise, calling his client a "genius," said "there is a very fine border line between genius and insanity," though he was not claiming insanity for Perl. Mr. Wise said Perl's pure scientific view is "I will tell the truth in my own way as I know it."

## Called Equivocator

Lloyd P. MacMahon, chief assistant to United States Attorney J. Edward Lumbard, insisted that Perl was "so caught up with so many lies that he can't make a straight answer to anything—he ducks, he evades, he equivocates."

Mr. MacMahon said the testimony proved that Perl knew Rosenberg and Sobell from 1934 to 1946 and that he deliberately lied about their associations before a grand jury chasing atomic spies. He repeated testimony showing that the three were fellow Young Communist Leaguers at college and that in 1950 a woman, invoking Rosenberg's name, tried to get Perl to flee to Mexico.

Earlier, Judge Ryan asked Perl how he defined the word "know."

"The only way to answer you is to go to the dictionary and tell you," the tall, lean defendant replied with a straight face.

"Did you ask for a dictionary when you were a witness before the grand jury?"

"No."

Judge Ryan turned his back on the witness.

Tolson ✓  
Ladd ✓  
Nichols ✓  
Belmont ✓  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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S. Price

# Perl 'Young Einstein' To One, Liar to Other

By NORMA ABRAMS

William Perl 34, former Columbia University physics instructor accused of perjury, was described by his lawyer yesterday as "a sort of young Einstein" and "a genius" with a mind "of unusual complexity," but the Government said he was just a plain liar.

The two portrayals of Perl were made as defense and prosecution summed up at his trial in Federal Court. He was charged with com-



William Perl

Two contrasting pictures

mitting perjury by telling a federal grand jury he did not know convicted atom spies Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell and three others.

Ready for Charge

With delivery of the summations, Judge Sylvester J. Ryan adjourned the trial to 10 A. M. today, when he will charge the jury of 11 men and one woman. The jury will receive the case after the charge.

Defense attorney Raymond L. Wise contended the Government

had not proved Perl knew his answers to be false when he made them. "There are not enough facts in this case to prove that Perl deliberately lied," he said. "On the contrary, he didn't intend to lie. He went as far as he could short of a deliberate lie."

Time and again, in an apparent effort to explain what made Perl tick, Wise called the defendant a genius. Wise said there was "a fine borderline between genius and insanity" and "this boy is separated by a hair's breadth from insanity."

"Caught Up in Lies."

Perl, he insisted, had given answers "which in his involved mind were justified."

"He lied," Assistant U. S. Attorney Lloyd F. MacMahon declared. He added that Perl had even lied on the witness stand.

The question of whether Perl deliberately lied is an important one. Perjury means deliberate lying.

Earlier yesterday Perl admitted on the witness stand that he might "possibly" have told a lie in a loyalty board statement.

He was questioned about a grand jury hearing at which he was asked if he "knew" Rosenberg. His testimony to the grand jury was that he "had an awareness" of Rosenberg as a fellow student at City College. He said yesterday he felt that the word "know" meant an "intimate" acquaintance.

"What is your concept of the word 'know'?" Judge Ryan asked Perl.

"The only way I could answer that would be to go to the dictionary," Perl replied.

"Did you ask for a dictionary before the grand jury?" Perl conceded he hadn't.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

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MAY 22 1953

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# A-Spy Probe Figure Guilty Of Perjury

New York, May 22 (NYNews) —After four hours and seven minutes of deliberation, a federal court jury here Friday found William Perl, 34-year-old former Columbia University physics instructor, guilty of perjury when he told a federal grand jury that he didn't know atom spies Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell.

Perl's associations with Rosenberg, who with his wife, Ethel, is awaiting death in the electric chair, and Sobell, serving a 30-year term, represented two counts of a four-count indictment returned against Perl in March, 1951.

The jurors—11 men and a woman—recommended clemency for the physicist, who is married and is the father of a 10-month-old son.

Sentence June 5  
Perl could receive a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a fine of \$2,000 on each of the two counts. Judge Sylvester J. Ryan set June 5 for sentencing.

Opposing a defense motion to continue Perl in \$20,000 bail pending sentence, assistant United States attorney Robert Martin linked Perl "directly with the atomic spy activities of Rosenberg."

"We have information tying this defendant in with the Rosenberg espionage ring," Martin told the court. He added: "Directly."

**Bail Is Revoked**  
Pointing out that others, including Sobell, who was collared in Mexico, had fled the country during a federal crackdown on Red spy suspects, Martin asked that Perl's bail be revoked.  
Ryan granted the request and Perl was remanded to the federal house of detention. Ryan told the jury he would consider the clemency recommendation and said he would study the FBI files on Perl.  
Ryan indicated that if Perl had anything to say about his past associations, he would be willing to hear it. He directed the young scientist to stand, and informed him:  
"At any time before I sentence you, you may communicate to me directly, or you may write me. That is not a direction. You need not, but you may."

- Tolson ✓
- Ladd ✓
- Nichols ✓
- Belmont ✓
- Clegg ✓
- Glavin ✓
- Harbo ✓
- Rosen ✓
- Tracy ✓
- Gearty ✓
- Mohr ✓
- Winterrowd ✓
- Tele. Room ✓
- Holloman ✓
- Sizoo ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

*Bray*

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- Times-Herald
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- Wash. News
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- N.Y. Herald Tribune
- N.Y. Mirror

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Date: MAY 23 1953



Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Rm.  
Mr. Holloman  
Mr. Sizoo  
Miss Gandy

# **Perl to Be Sentenced June 5; U.S. Charges Direct Spy Link**

William Perl was held in the Federal House of Detention Saturday awaiting sentence June 5 on a perjury conviction after the government dramatically charged he was linked directly with the Rosenberg spy ring.

Perl, former Columbia University instructor and a jet-propulsion expert, was convicted Friday

by a federal jury of lying when he told a federal Grand Jury in 1950 that he did not know atom spies Julius Rosenberg, now awaiting execution in Sing Sing Prison, and Julius Sobell, serving a 30-year term. Rosenberg and Sobell were Perl's classmates at CCNY when they were graduated in 1938.

Federal Judge Ryan revoked

Perl's \$20,000 bail when Asst. U. S. Atty. Martin told him, "We have information tying this defendant in with the espionage ring—directly."

The judge indicated he might hold a hearing before sentence on this information. He said he would study the FBI files on Perl.

The jury recommended leniency and found Perl innocent on two other counts—charging that he lied in saying he did not know three minor figures in the Rosenberg spy case.

The maximum penalty in the perjury conviction is five years in prison and a \$2,000 fine on each count.

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Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Rosenberg Case:

# Jury Told Perl Lied in Spy Quiz

## Charged with 4 Counts of Perjury

William Perl, former Columbia University physics instructor, lied when he told a Federal grand jury he didn't know convicted atom spies Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, a classmate testified today.

Perl, 34, who lives with his wife, Henrietta, at 164 E. 38th st., is on trial before Federal Judge Sylvester J. Ryan and jury of 11 men and one woman, charged with four counts of perjury.

May Elitcher, electrical engineer, of 164-18 72d ave., Flushing, Queens, testified that on several occasions Perl met and spoke with Rosenberg, who with his wife, Ethel, is under death sentence in Sing Sing for espionage; and Helene Elitcher, wife of the witness.

Perl on Aug. 18, 1950, denied under oath that he knew Rosenberg, Sobell or Mrs. Elitcher. Later, however, he stated he "had an awareness" of knowing Rosenberg and Sobell.

Elitcher admitted he was a Communist Party member from 1939 to 1948, and that he committed perjury himself in giving answers on a Government loyalty questionnaire.

## DINED TOGETHER

In the Spring of 1940 or 1941, he said, he, Perl and Sobell had lunch together in Washington, D. C., and in the Summer of 1944 and around Christmas, 1946, he and his wife had dinner with Perl, Rosenberg, and others.

Elitcher also testified that he and Sobell "shared an apartment" in Washington from 1939 to 1945, during which time he had seen correspondence from Perl to Sobell in the apartment.

Perl testified before the Federal grand jury that he "might have written Sobell one or two letters."

## VISITED BY ROSENBERG

Under cross examination by defense attorney Raymond L. Wise, Elitcher told of a visit by Rosenberg in 1944 to the Elitcher apartment in Washington, when Rosenberg suggested that Elitcher, because of his position in the Navy Bureau of Ordnance, could help get information for the Soviet Union.

*Back to the future*

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Physicist Perl Gets 5 Years for Perjury

Judge Ignores Jury's  
Plea for Clemency

By BERNARD NOSSITER  
and ROBERT PRALL  
Staff Writers

Ignoring a jury recommendation for clemency, Federal Judge Sylvester J. Ryan today sentenced William Perl, 34-year-old former physics instructor in Columbia University, to five years in prison for perjury in denying that he knew atom spies Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell.

Perl, one of the country's leading experts on jet propulsion, had stood stolidly during the 40-minute of pre-sentence remarks by the prosecutor, the defense attorney and the judge himself. But when the jurist asserted that he was brushing aside the jury's request Perl blinked rapidly as if to keep back tears.

Wife Fales at Sentence.

His wife, Henriette, dressed gaily in a bright summer frock, paled as the prison term was imposed on her husband.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Lloyd F. MacMahon, who prosecuted Perl, had demanded a severe sentence for the lanky, dark-haired defendant stating:

"Perl withheld evidence of the most vital nature. This evidence would have been of great help in putting an end to Soviet espionage in this country. His perjury struck a great blow at this country's security."

### Guilt Only of Perjury

So demanding was the prosecutor for a stiff jail term that when it came time for Perl's own lawyer, Philip Wittenberg, to speak he declared:

"Mr. Perl was convicted of perjury but he is being sentenced for espionage. And I think that what we're doing in this country has some aspects of horror."

Whereas Mr. MacMahon had contended that Perl had direct and personal knowledge of the Rosenbergs and Sobell, the defense attorney said angrily that "during the trial there was no proof, nothing but intimations, that Perl had been engaged in espionage."

### Definition a Big Issue

Judge Ryan characterized as "stupid and clumsy" Perl's explanation of his definition of the word "know," one of the big issues of the trial. Perl had said that when asked by the grand jury whether he knew the Rosenbergs or Sobell, he thought that knowing them meant an intimate and then present acquaintanceship.

This explanation, commented the jurist, is "an affront to the intelligence of a normal man."

*Big issue*

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# PERI IS GIVEN 5-YEAR TERM FOR PERJURY

## Convicted of Lying In A-Spy Probe

New York, June 5 (AP)—William Peri, a brilliant young jet propulsion expert, was sentenced to five years in prison Friday for lying in the Rosenberg atom spy case.

The principals in the case, Julius Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, lost another bid for a stay of execution during the day when the United States Court of Appeals refused to tamper with the June 18 death date.

Their defense lawyer, Emanuel H. Bloch, plans new legal moves, plus a possible second appeal for clemency to President Eisenhower. However, these will avail him little unless he can get a stay of sentence.

### Concurrent Sentences

Peri, 34, is a former Columbia university physics instructor, described by his attorney as "a sort of young Einstein." He is married and has a 10-month old son.

He was convicted on two counts of perjury May 22 for denying to a federal grand jury that he knew Rosenberg and Morton Sobell. The latter was convicted of atomic espionage conspiracy with the Rosenbergs and now is serving 30 years in Alcatraz.

The jury recommended mercy for Peri, who faced a maximum of 10 years in prison on two perjury counts. Federal Judge Sylvester J. Ryan gave five years each on the two counts but made the two sentences run concurrently.

Peri took the sentence without any outward show of emotion. His wife, Henrietta, stepped to his side as the judge finished.

### Claim Spy Connection

Defense attorney F. H. Wittenberg at once launched an appeal. However, he was unable to obtain Peri's freedom on bail pending the outcome of the appeal.

The government claimed Peri was directly connected with the spy ring that conspired from 1944 to 1950 to betray the atom bomb and other secrets to Soviet Russia. The proof, if any, of this claim has been kept secret on grounds it is too confidential to disclose publicly.

Tolson ☒  
Ladd ☒  
Nichols ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Clegg ☐  
Glavin ☐  
Harbo ☐  
Rosen ☐  
Tracy ☐  
Gearty ☐  
Mohr ☐  
Winterrowd ☐  
Tele. Room ☐  
Holloman ☐  
 Sizoo ☐  
Miss Gandy ☐

*File 65-59312*  
*5-11-53*

165-59312-A  
NOT RECORDED  
98 JUN 26 1953

Times-Herald ☒

Wash. Post ☐

Wash. News ☐

Wash. Star ☐

N.Y. Herald Tribune ☐

N.Y. Mirror ☐

Date: JUN 6 1953

6: JUN 29 1953

# Perl Receives 5 Years For Spy-Probe Perjury

William Perl, jet-propulsion expert who worked on top secret government projects during World War II, was sentenced yesterday to five years in prison for perjury.

Judge Sylvester Ryan, in United States District Court, said he was forced to ignore the trial jury's recommendation for mercy. The judge held it was "abundantly established" that the thirty-four-year-old physicist willfully lied when he swore before a grand jury investigating espionage that he did not know Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell.

Defense counsel, after Judge Ryan refused to grant bail pending appeal, applied for bond in the United States Court of Appeals. That court, which generally does allow bail—as in the perjury case of Alger Hiss—went along with Judge Ryan in refusing bail on the ground "that not a sufficient showing of substantial error is made."

In asking for a "most severe sentence," Chief Assistant United States Attorney Lloyd F. MacMahon advised Judge Ryan that Perl deliberately denied knowing the spies because he had "direct knowledge" of their activities and others in their espionage ring, that Perl has information that could help the government and that his "evildoence would have been a great help in putting an end to Soviet espionage in this country."

Perl's perjury, found to have thrown a huge roadblock in the inquiry, was committed before the same panel which indicted Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who are slated to be executed June 19, and Sobell, under a thirty-year sentence. The three-

men were in the class of '38 at City College. Perl, convicted May 22 on two of four perjury counts, stood fast on hearing the sentence. He is eligible for parole after twenty months.

## Only a "Recollection"

Perl, former physics instructor at Columbia University, testified at his trial that he denied to the grand jury that he knew Rosenberg and Sobell because he understood the questions to mean did he know them intimately, have a close association with them. He said he only had a "recollection," an "awareness" of them. Judge Ryan described that explanation as "stupid and clumsy, an affront to any normal, rational man."

Philip Wittenberg, lawyer who came into the case after Perl's conviction, insisted that there was "no consciousness of guilt" on Perl's part. He noted that while Perl was found guilty of perjury, "we are asked to punish him for espionage" even though there was "no testimony at all of espionage."

Mr. Wittenberg accused the prosecution of spinning "a spider web of guilt by association," and said "I think what we are doing today has some aspects of horror" in pleading against following what he calls the "infamous terms" and procedures of Iron Curtain countries.

Judge Ryan imposed five-year terms on each of the two counts—the maximum—but ordered that they run concurrently. A moment after Perl, a tall, lank figure, was led away, his wife, the former Henrietta Savage, rushed forward and conferred with him in a detention cell adjacent to the court. They have a ten-month-old son. Their home is at 104 E. 38th St.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
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- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*File 65-59312*  
*S. M.*

**65-59312-A**

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- Times-Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash. Post \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_
- N.Y. Herald Tribune 6
- N.Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: JUN 6 1953

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# Perl Gets 5 Years for Perjury

Former Columbia University physics instructor William Perl, 34, yesterday was sentenced to five years in prison for lying about his association with condemned atom spy Julius Rosenberg and withholding testimony which the Government contended could have helped shatter Soviet spy rings.

Without a trace of emotion, the jet propulsion expert heard U. S. Judge Ryan impose sentence. Seated behind her husband, Perl's wife Henrietta kept an icy calm, relaxing only to smile slightly when his attorney, Philip Wittenberg, announced plans for an appeal.

RYAN DISREGARDED Wittenberg's long plea for clemency and branded Perl's explanations for his perjury before a grand jury as "stupid, clumsy and an affront to the intelligence of a normal man." Perl claimed he thought questions as to whether he knew Rosenberg and Morton Sobell, now serving a 30-year term for espionage, related to knowing them intimately. The three were classmates at CCNY.

Chief Assistant U. S. Attorney McMahon told Ryan that Perl's testimony before the grand jury could have been "of great help in putting an end to Soviet espionage in this country" and that his perjury "struck a great blow at this country's security."



Jet scientist William Perl and wife—his explanations called "stupid, clumsy"

Times-Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wash. Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 N.Y. Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 N.Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_ 4

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 77 JUN 29 1953

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 98 JUN 26 1953

Date: JUN 6 1953

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 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

### Scientist Gets 5 Years for Perjury in A-Case

NEW YORK, June 5 (AP).—Scientist William Perl was sentenced to five years in prison for perjury today for denying he knew convicted atom spies Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell.

Perl a former Columbia University physics instructor, showed no emotion as Federal Judge Sylvester Ryan ignored the jury's recommendation for leniency and sentenced him to five years on each of two counts. The sentences to run concurrently.

File 65-59312  
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Times-Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wash. Post \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 N.Y. Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 N.Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Prosecution of "International Security" Act  
 Pertaining to Rosenberg was now Mr. Edgar  
 (Assistant U.S. Attorney) said this secret  
 data could not be made public but would  
 be supplied to the judge in private before  
 sentence was imposed June 30, 1952. (Same  
 source.)

The right to trial by jury is the product of centuries of struggle by the people to participate in the judicial process. Without it democratic rights and civil liberties are a fiction. Why? Because there is no safeguard whatever against the courts being used as instruments of oppression and tyranny if the power to judge what the facts are upon evidence is left to the president and the magistrate.

It is the jury and no one else who must decide whether the evidence laid before the court is true. Such evidence must be presented openly to the jury, with the defendant guaranteed a speedy and public trial. All this is guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. But Eisenhower's Department of Justice, particularly the FBI, are now moving to violate all this. They propose, in fact, to prohibit the participation of the people in the judicial process. They propose to start turning the clock back to Star-Chamber procedures, back to the practices of totalitarian regimes.

The organized workers must sound the alarm. If such a precedent is allowed to be established in the Perl case, the union will presently find themselves at the mercy of the courts — on the basis of "secret evidence" presented "in private" to the judge.

This legal Chuggerery must be denounced for what it is. If the FBI or Department of Justice has any "information" against Perl, let them present this "secret data" in court before a duly constituted jury. Hands off the RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY!

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Mr. Tolson ☒ *sl*  
 Mr. Ladd ☒  
 Mr. Nichols ☒  
 Mr. Belmont ☒  
 Mr. Clegg ☒  
 Mr. Glavin ☒  
 Mr. Harbo ☒  
 Mr. Rosen ☒  
 Mr. Tracy ☒  
 Mr. Gearty ☒  
 Mr. Mohr ☒  
 Mr. Winterrowd ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Mr. Holloman ☒  
 Mr. Sizoo ☒  
 Miss Gandy ☒

*B. J. [unclear]*

(GOUZENKO)

NEW YORK—SEN. JOSEPH R. MCCARTHY'S INVESTIGATORS SAID THEY WILL SEEK PERMISSION TO QUESTION WILLIAM PERL, NOW SERVING A PRISON TERM FOR PERJURY IN THE ROSENBERG SPY CASE, ABOUT ALLEGED ESPIONAGE AT THE ARMY SIGNAL CORPS FORT MONMOUTH, N.J., RADAR LABORATORIES.

AIDES OF MCCARTHY AND OF SEN. WILLIAM E. JENNER ALREADY ARE SEEKING TO QUESTION IGOR GOUZENKO, A FORMER RUSSIAN CIPHER CLERK IN CANADA WHOSE DESERTION FROM COMMUNISM LED TO THE BREAKING OF THE ROSENBERG RING. THEIR REQUEST POSED A TOUCHY DIPLOMATIC QUESTION FOR THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS SAID TO BE SENSITIVE ABOUT "MCCARTHYISM."

G. DAVID SCHINE, MCCARTHY'S CHIEF CONSULTANT, SAID PERL WOULD BE BROUGHT HERE FOR "EXTENSIVE QUESTIONING." PERL IS SERVING A FIVE-YEAR TERM IN THE TERRE HAUTE, IND., FEDERAL PENITENTIARY FOR PERJURY IN DENYING HE KNEW JULIUS ROSENBERG.

SCHINE SAID THE MCCARTHY STAFF WOULD QUESTION 10 WITNESSES IN PRIVATE PRELIMINARY SESSIONS TODAY, STUDY THE FILES OF 17 MORE FORT MONMOUTH EMPLOYEES WHO ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION, AND ISSUE SUBPENAS FOR SEVEN OTHERS. AT LEAST 27 EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED SINCE ARMY AND SENATE INQUIRIES BEGAN SEVERAL WEEKS AGO.

10/27--JE122P

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WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

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Re: Semontel

# Radar Spy Probe To Summon Perl, Rosenbergs' Pal

## Monmouth Quiz Due Here Friday

William Perl, former Columbia University physics instructor who was jailed for perjury in the Rosenberg atom spy case, will be called as a witness in Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's probe of security leaks at Fort Monmouth, N. J., the World-Telegram and Sun learned today.

Informed sources said Perl has "a direct connection" with the Fort Monmouth case, involving thefts of top-secret radar information from Army Signal Corps laboratories.

### Will Quiz Greenglass

Perl also may be questioned on possible leaks of U.S. aircraft information which enabled Russia to develop the powerful MIG-15 jet fighter plane.

Another Rosenberg associate, confessed atom spy David Greenglass, will be questioned by Sen. McCarthy in federal prison in connection with the Fort Monmouth inquiry.

Greenglass, whose testimony helped send his sister and brother-in-law, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, to the electric chair, is serving 15 years for espionage in the federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pa.



WILLIAM PERL

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

*Redacted*

*Lamp*

*F.L. Jones*

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CLIPPING FROM THE

N. Y. WORLD TELEGRAM & SUN

DATED OCT 21 1953

FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

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#### Hearings Here Friday.

Sen. McCarthy said the Justice Department has instructed the warden to allow him and his investigators to quiz Greenglass.

The Senator added that his subcommittee will hold closed hearings at Ft. Monmouth tomorrow and in New York on Friday. Asked if he believes a spy ring is still operating at the radar center, the Wisconsin Republican said, "I have not evaluated the evidence."

But, after an inspection trip to Ft. Monmouth yesterday, he said he was favorably impressed with tightened security measures there.

#### More Than 12 Ousted.

Sen. McCarthy stated that 12 civilian specialists employed in the radar laboratories have been suspended as security risks. "That figure is too low," interrupted Army Secretary Robert T. Stevens, who accompanied the Senator on the tour.

"More than 12 have been suspended," Mr. Stevens added. He did not disclose the exact number, however.

Sen. McCarthy said his subcommittee will call six or seven witnesses at the closed hearings tomorrow and Friday. They will include some "completely friendly" and some "who may be suspected of disloyalty," he stated.

#### Needs Justice Dept. Consent.

To call Perl as a witness, Sen. McCarthy will have to get permission from the Justice Department to remove the physicist temporarily from the U.S. prison at Terre Haute, Ind. He is serving five years for telling a grand jury that he did not know the Rosenbergs.

Perl has been described as a "top repository" of knowledge about the Rosenberg spy ring which fed military secrets to Russia.

While in Cleveland at the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Perl had access to secret information on latest military aircraft developments. He left Cleveland in September, 1950, to become a physics instructor at Columbia.

"Other Ohioans may be involved in the Monmouth situation," a subcommittee source said.



Tolson ☒  
 Ladd ☒  
 Nichols ☒  
 Belmont ☒  
 Clegg ☒  
 Glavin ☒  
 Harbo ☒  
 Rosen ☒  
 Tracy ☒  
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 Trotter ☒  
 Winterrowd ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Holloman ☒  
 Miss Gandy ☒

# Peri Loses Appeal In Spy Perjury

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals denied unanimously yesterday an appeal by William Peri, thirty-three, a former physics instructor at Columbia University, from a five-year prison term imposed last June on conviction for perjury.

Peri was indicted in March, 1951, on charges that he perjured himself before a grand jury in denying that he knew atom spy Julius Rosenberg, who has since been executed, and Morton Sobell, serving a thirty-year term in Alcatraz. Peri is in the Federal Penitentiary at Terre Haute, Ind.

*Robinson*

*JH*

*File - 65-59312*

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Times-Herald ☒  
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