

ALMASI, MICHAEL

## 'Fake' Atom Scientist Won Look at Secrets

WICHITA K., Dec. 8 (UPI)—A man who masqueraded successfully as a nuclear physicist, then disappeared, had access to classified information while employed by the Boeing Airplane Co. for four years, it was disclosed today.

The man carried on company rolls as Michael Almasi, disappeared with his wife and children immediately after he resigned Nov. 26 as a research scientist at Boeing's plant here.

He admitted, a company spokesman said, that he falsified his qualifications. Almasi had claimed he held a doctor's degree in nuclear physics from Canada's Ottawa University, that he had worked in Switzerland under the late Albert Einstein, and that he had studied at the Madame Curie Institute in Paris.

Boeing said it did not know "just how much was false, but we do know that Ottawa University never heard of him."

Boeing said Almasi a balding man of undistinguished appearance, was employed in 1954 at its Seattle plant for research on the Bomarc guided missile. Later he was transferred here.

Suspicion was aroused when company officials found Almasi was not working at the technical level required for his classification as a research scientist.

Boeing said it did not know whether officials were looking for Almasi. Under regulations,

a spokesman said, "we are required to report such matters to the Air Force. We reported it, and that's all we know."

In Washington, the Air Force said it was the responsibility of contractors to catch imposters.

"It is up to the company to see that employees are properly cleared and are what they say they are," a spokesman said when asked what the Government would do to prevent such incidents.

### Leaves Town

Michael Almasi, Boeing Airplane Co. research scientist at Wichita, resigned recently when suspicious company officials began checking his qualifications. Almasi sold his household goods and left the city with his wife and two small sons. He was hired at the Seattle Boeing plant in 1954 and had been at the Wichita division about a year and a half. Officials at the University of Ottawa (Canada), where he said he obtained a doctor's degree in nuclear physics, said they never heard of him.



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