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November 8, 1995

Reactions...

While the world was dividing just before the Second World War, the international physicists were trying to stay together. They were torn by pressures from Gorvernments who wanted power.

As many physicists were forced to leave their positions and homes in the years preceding WWII, they sought havens offered by others like Rutherford and Bohr. Eventually, many of these ended up in America, working on this Manhatten Project.

The events that occured while the physicists in Germany and elsewhere were trying to avoid the creation of a bomb would make a play with lots of irony, but unfortunately it actually happened. Neither side wanted a bomb. The physicists left in Germany who were supposedly working on a bomb were actually making sure no work was being done on one there.

In the meantime, the prospect of a tyrant like Hitlet having the bomb was such a scary thought that the Physicists in America were given lots of incentive to beat him to it; they were convinced the scientists left in Germany were working their hardest to produce a bomb, even though they had once been in close contact with them.

This distrust had further bad effects when the German physicists were trying to inform the Bohr, and other "free" physicists that they actually had *no* intention of producing a bomb!

The position of the physicists who made the bomb should not be critisized. Given that they thought that eventually Hitler would get the bomb, the only moral choice they had was to make one first, so they could preserve that which they valued.