



PRESS RELEASE

JULY 2020

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16 JULY 1945 - 75TH ANNIVERSARY

A few people laughed, a few people cried,
most people were silent.

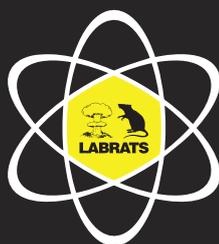
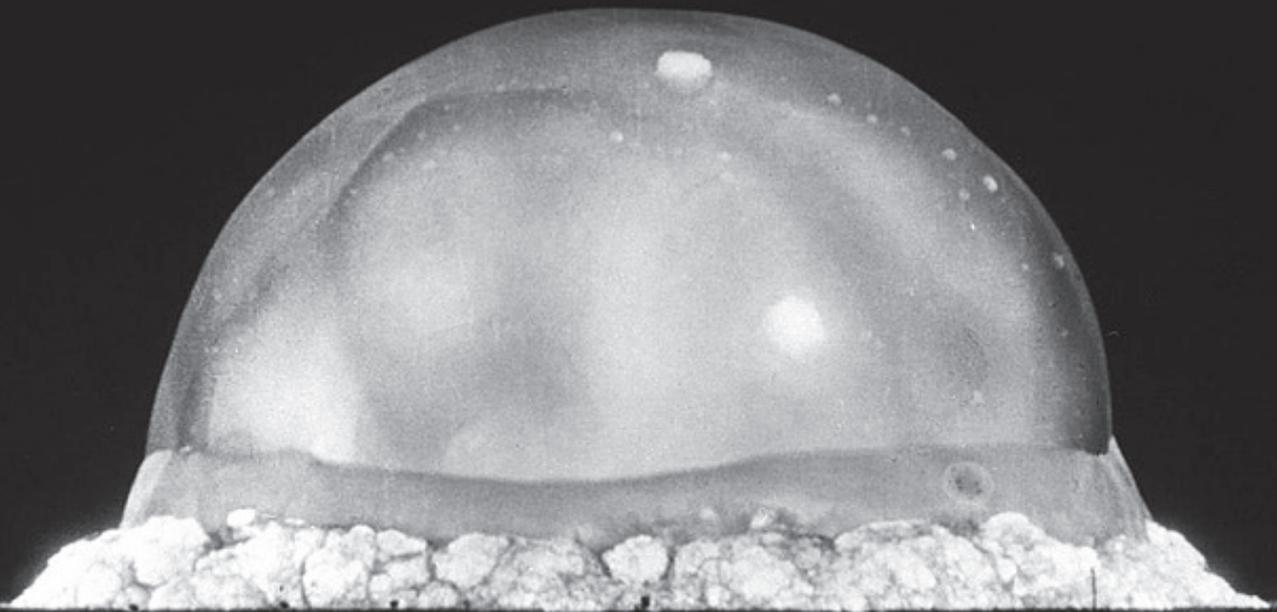
I remembered the line from the Hindu scripture,
the Bhagavad-Gita.

Vishnu is trying to persuade the Prince
that he should do his duty and to
impress him takes on his multi-armed form and says,
“Now, I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds.”

I suppose we all thought that way or another.

J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER,

Speaking at the detonation of his invention, the first atomic bomb.



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WE MUST NEVER FORGET

On the 75th Anniversary of the first nuclear explosion, we must never forget the brave servicemen, scientists and civilians that have been affected by the Atomic testing program across the world.

LABRATS represents all individuals across the world who have been affected, We are one big family, connected together with a common bond. The Atomic family includes service veterans, scientists, descendants and the indigenous people whose homes were devastated.

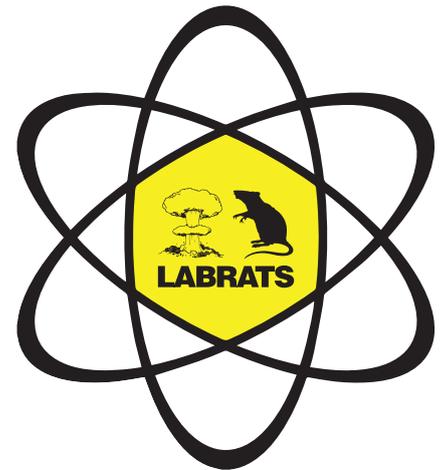
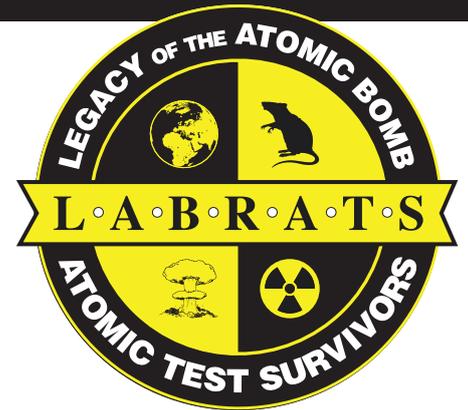
Thousands of people across the world have been affected by the tests and there are many organisations and individuals across the world helping them, **LABRATS** brings these organisations together in one place, with over 100 videos, research papers, Social media links and weekly blogs.

In the UK 22,000 servicemen

took part in the UK testing program, in the USA, 225,000 servicemen took part in 216 atmospheric tests. In later years, servicemen were sent back to clean up the mess left by the tests. Runit dome in the Marshall Islands stands as a reminder of these dark days. There have been in excess of 2000 nuclear tests across the world.

Our world was changed forever by these tests and we must remember the sacrifices of these men, many dying at a young age and their families suffering with congenital defects. These servicemen have not been officially recognised, their fight for a medal continues, their fight for compensation.

It is time for governments across the world to recognise this sacrifice, for many they are still engaging an invisible enemy.



LABRATS

LEGACY of the ATOMIC BOMB
RECOGNITION for ATOMIC TEST SURVIVORS

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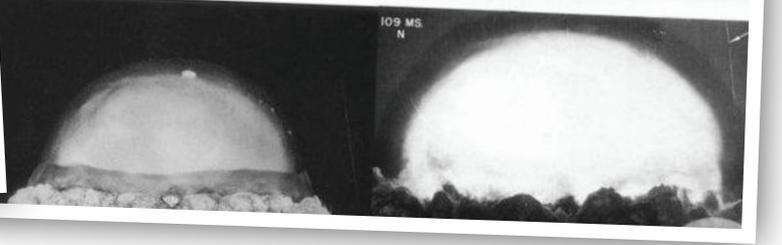
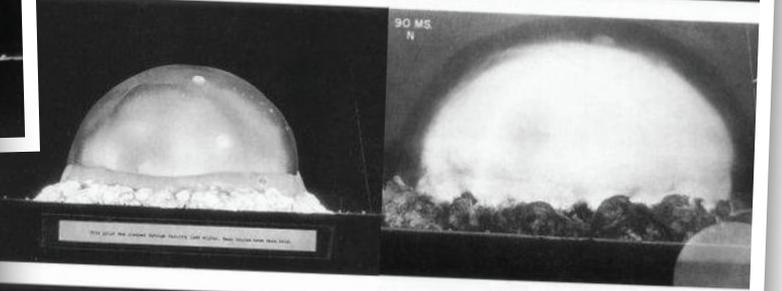
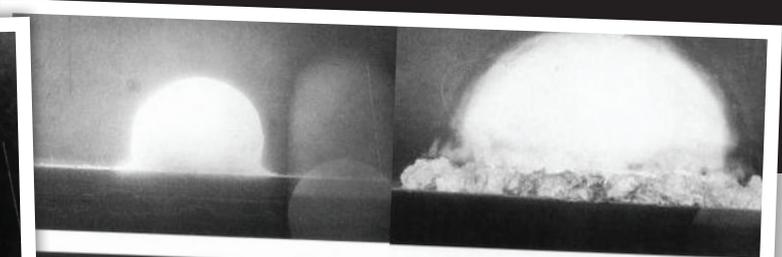
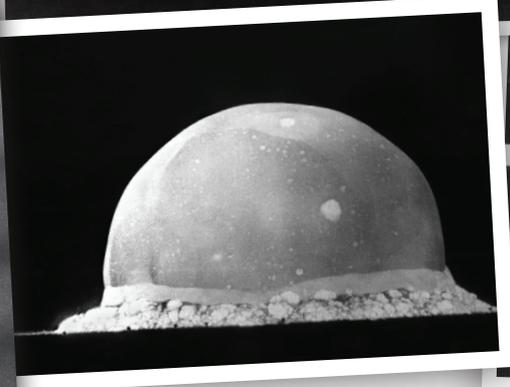
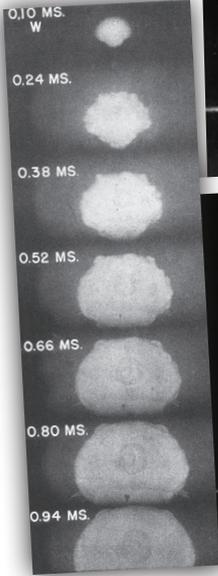
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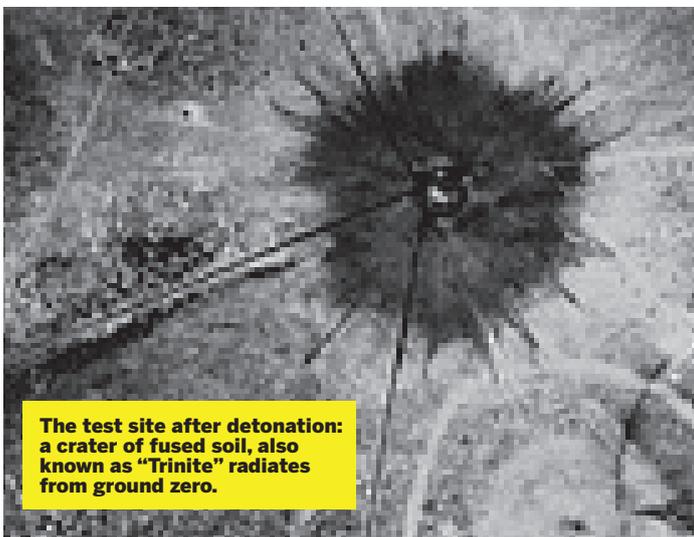


TODAY MARKS THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLDS FIRST NUCLEAR TEST

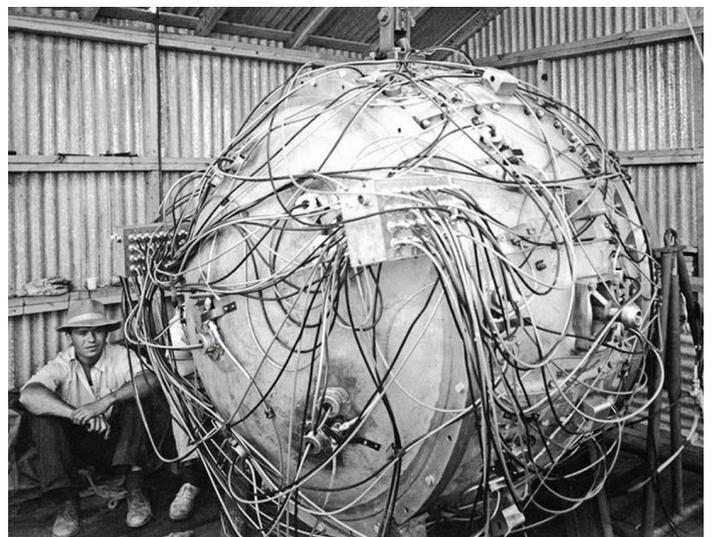
On 16 July 1945, the ‘Trinity’ nuclear test plunged humanity into the so-called Atomic Age.

The first-ever nuclear bomb was detonated in New Mexico, at the Alamogordo Test Range. Nicknamed the “gadget”, the plutonium-based implosion-type device

yielded 19 kilotons, creating a crater over 300 metres wide. A crater of fused soil, also known as “Trinite” radiates from ground zero after the test.



The test site after detonation: a crater of fused soil, also known as “Trinite” radiates from ground zero.



TRINITY

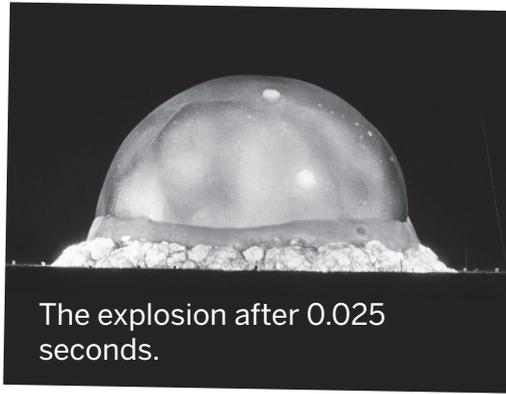
Under the umbrella of the “Manhattan Project”, the test’s original purpose had been to confirm that an implosion-type nuclear weapon design was feasible.

T.F. Farrell, brigadier general on the staff the Manhattan Project’s military commander said “No man-made phenomenon of such tremendous power had ever occurred before. The lighting effects beggared description. The whole country was lighted by a searing light with the intensity many times that of the midday sun”

HISTORY

U.S. efforts to develop nuclear weapons were driven by the fear that Nazi Germany would soon be able to do so.

German chemist and Nobel Prize laureate Otto Hahn and his assistant Fritz Straßmann, helped by the Austrian-born physicist Lise Meitner, had produced the world’s first nuclear fission in late 1938. Following this discovery, Albert Einstein sent a letter to U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, warning him about the threat of a German nuclear weapons



The explosion after 0.025 seconds.

“NO MAN-MADE PHENOMENON OF SUCH TREMENDOUS POWER HAD EVER OCCURRED BEFORE. THE LIGHTING EFFECTS BEGGARED DESCRIPTION. THE WHOLE COUNTRY WAS LIGHTED BY A SEARING LIGHT WITH THE INTENSITY MANY TIMES THAT OF THE MIDDAY SUN”.

T.F. Farrell, brigadier general on the staff the Manhattan Project’s military commander

A SINGLE BOMB OF THIS TYPE, CARRIED BY BOAT AND EXPLODED IN A PORT, MIGHT WELL DESTROY THE WHOLE PORT WITH SOME OF THE SURROUNDING TERRITORY.

Letter from **Albert Einstein** to U.S. President Roosevelt in 1939

NOW, I AM BECOME DEATH, THE DESTROYER OF WORLDS

Robert Oppenheimer cited Hindu Scripture, Bhagavad Gita under the impression of the Trinity explosion

programme and urging the United States to speed up its own efforts. The letter said “A single bomb of this type, carried by boat and exploded in a port, might well destroy the whole port with some of the surrounding territory.”

MANHATTAN PROJECT

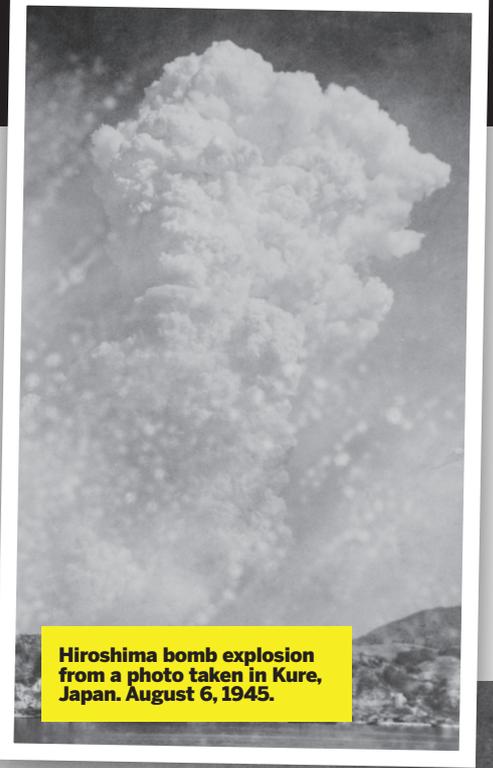
Germany had indeed conducted nuclear research, but only a handful of scientists were assigned to the task. Their efforts were largely unsuccessful and scaled down after 1942. The United States, by contrast, invested essentially unlimited manpower and industrial resources into the Manhattan Project, which started in 1942. Its headquarters was the newly established Los Alamos nuclear facility in New Mexico. Robert Oppenheimer led the group of 6,000 scientists at Los Alamos, and was the project’s scientific head. Now, I am become death, the destroyer of worlds, Oppenheimer cited Hindu Scripture, Bhagavad Gita under the impression of the Trinity explosion.

HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

Three weeks after the test, on 6 and 9 August 1945

Nuclear bombs – one of them based on the Trinity design - were dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and

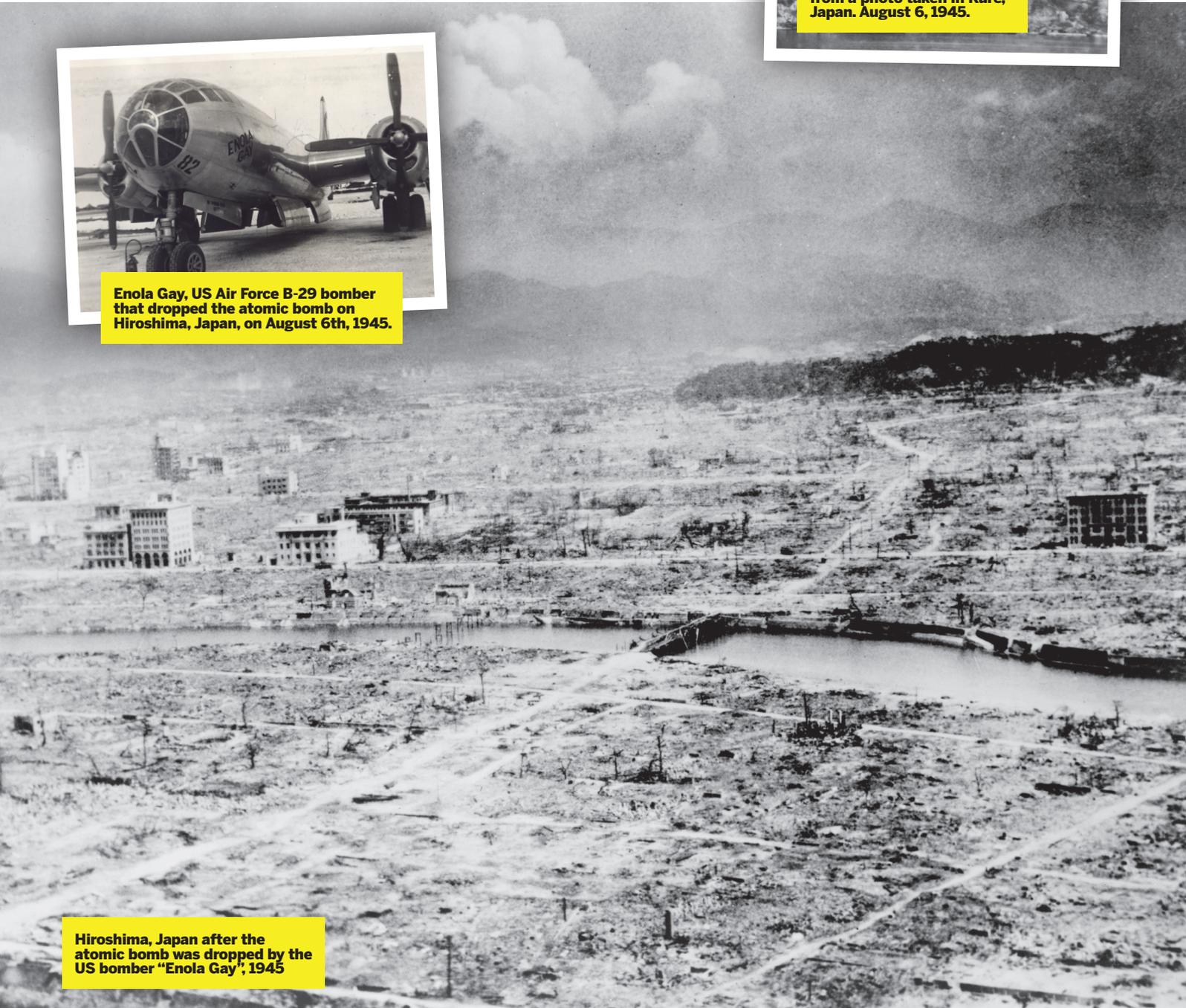
Nagasaki, killing tens of thousands civilians immediately and many more from radiation exposure later.



Hiroshima bomb explosion from a photo taken in Kure, Japan. August 6, 1945.

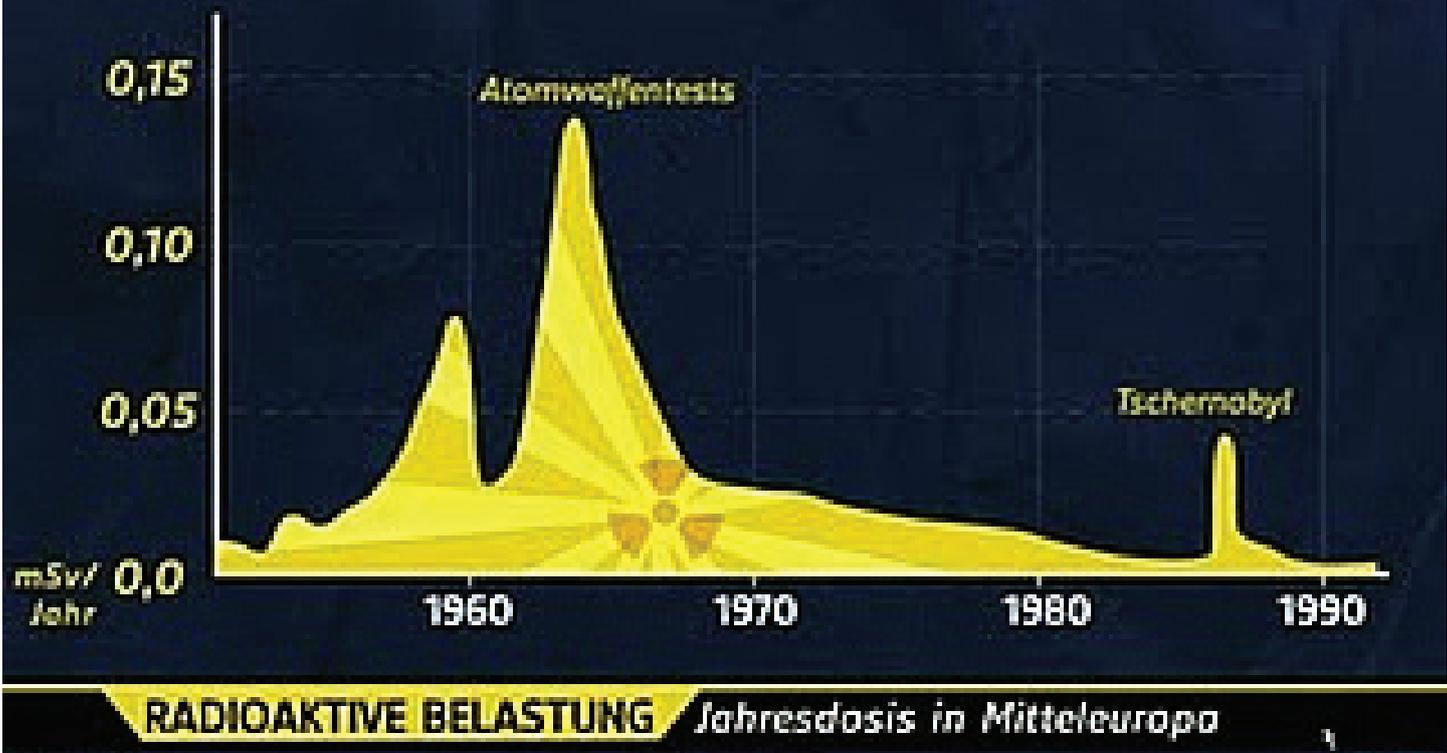


Enola Gay, US Air Force B-29 bomber that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6th, 1945.



Hiroshima, Japan after the atomic bomb was dropped by the US bomber "Enola Gay", 1945

The overall level of radioactivity in the Earth's atmosphere increased to levels that even dwarfed the Chernobyl disaster (source: WDR-Quarks & Co).



WORLD NUCLEAR CONTAMINATION

Trinity was the first of over 2000 nuclear tests

These were conducted worldwide, with over 1000 in the U.S. nuclear testing programme alone.

The tests released vast amounts of radioactivity

around the globe.

They also spurred the proliferation of nuclear weapons hundreds of times more powerful than the earliest prototypes.



THE CTBT TREATY

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) bans all forms of nuclear testing.

The United States was the first country to sign it when it opened for signature on 24 September 1996. Today, however, it is one

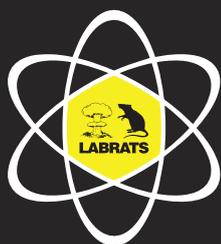
of the eight countries that have still to ratify the CTBT before it can enter into force. The others are China,

the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel and Pakistan.

We must never forget the sacrifices
made for nuclear weapons testing.
So many tests have been carried out by the USA,
United Kingdom, Russia, France, China, India,
Pakistan and North Korea.

The effects have been catastrophic
on the eco-systems, the land, the indigenous
populations, the veterans, civilians
and the downwinders.

Families affected for generations.
We must remember that all actions are global.



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"We need to ensure the testing program is never forgotten, we need to educate future generations"



WHY IT MATTERS



You can help **LABRATS** to ensure that the servicemen and the civilians exposed during these tests are officially recognised and their families supported.

- ☢ Subscribe to our updates to receive emails relating to our work
- ☢ View the directory of organisations and Individuals who are involved in the Atomic testing community
- ☢ Follow us on Facebook and Twitter
- ☢ Contact us by calling **+ 44 20 3286 3988**
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or alternatively: **media@labrats.international**



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