

War in the Pacific

From Pearl Harbour to VJ Day

War in the Pacific

Pearl Harbour - Causes

The attack on Pearl Harbour was a surprise military strike conducted by the Japanese navy against the U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii on Sun Dec. 7 1941.

Americans were isolationists but were waging a political and economic war against the Japanese by interfering in trade with Japan (oil exports) and by supporting the Allies.

America was taking sides without an official declaration of war.

Japan wanted control over Pacific.

Significance of Pearl Harbour

US was going to make an official declaration of War prior to the attack. Focus was going to be on Nazi Germany.

Because of Pearl Harbour, US declares war on the Japanese and Germany, strengthening the Allies.

The Manhattan Project (to build an atom bomb) begins shortly after Pearl Harbour.

Japanese Canadians: Enemy in Their Own Country

After the bombing of Pearl Harbour, Canadians feared Japanese Canadians would assist and spy for Japan.

Canadians were already racist towards the Japanese Canadians. They used Pearl Harbour to justify their racism.

Most Japanese Canadians lived in B.C.

W.L.M. King initially incarcerated Japanese males and forced them to move inland. He then interned over 22,000 Japanese families in B.C.

War + Fear = Racism

A Notice to Japanese Canadians.

Can you think of an example of racism in our country today that is similar to this one?

NOTICE TO ALL JAPANESE PERSONS AND PERSONS OF JAPANESE RACIAL ORIGIN

TAKE NOTICE that under Orders Nos. 21, 22, 23 and 24 of the British Columbia Security Commission, the following areas were made prohibited areas to all persons of the Japanese race:—

LULU ISLAND (including Steveston)	SAPPERTON
SEA ISLAND	BURQUITLAM
EBURNE	PORT MOODY
MARPOLE	IOCO
DISTRICT OF QUEENSBOROUGH	PORT COQUITLAM
CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER	MAILLARDVILLE
	FRASER MILLS

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that any person of the Japanese race found within any of the said prohibited areas without a written permit from the British Columbia Security Commission or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police shall be liable to the penalties provided under Order in Council P.C. 1665.

AUSTIN C. TAYLOR,
Chairman,
British Columbia Security Commission

Internment Camps

The War Measures Act allowed for internment of all persons of Japanese racial origin.

Their personal belongings were seized and/or sold
They were moved to one of ten internment camps
Some families were separated
Forced labour and poor conditions for families to live

After VJ day, the internees were given the option of deportation or relocation

Read pages 126 and 127 as well as 134 and 135 -

Answer :

- 1) Discuss a few characteristics of the War in the Pacific.
- 2) Answer #1 on page 127
- 3) From page 134, state why the Japanese were interned and what happened to them.
- 4) What was the Public Apology?
- 5) Read and consider Hide Hyodo Shimizu's life story. Why was she awarded the Order of Canada?

War + Fear = Racism

Fishing Boats Seized and Impounded



Redress – An Apology... Too Late

I know that I speak for Members on all sides of the House today in offering to Japanese Canadians the formal and sincere apology of this Parliament for those past injustices against them, against their families, and against their heritage, and our solemn commitment and undertaking to Canadians of every origin that such violations will never again in this country be countenanced or repeated.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's remarks to the House of Commons, Sept. 22, 1988

The End of the War...and the World?

The war in the Pacific ended on August 15, 1945 when Japan surrendered. It is known as Victory Japan Day (VJ Day)

The use of 2 atomic bombs led to the unconditional surrender of Japan

The Japanese believed in Bushido. This honor code barred the idea of surrender--to do so would mean forfeiting one's people, betraying one's emperor, and shaming and cutting all ties to one's family.

Some argue the bombs had to be used to force surrender. Others argue, given the state of the Japanese military, lack of food and low morale, they would have surrendered eventually

The Atomic Bombs

The Beginning



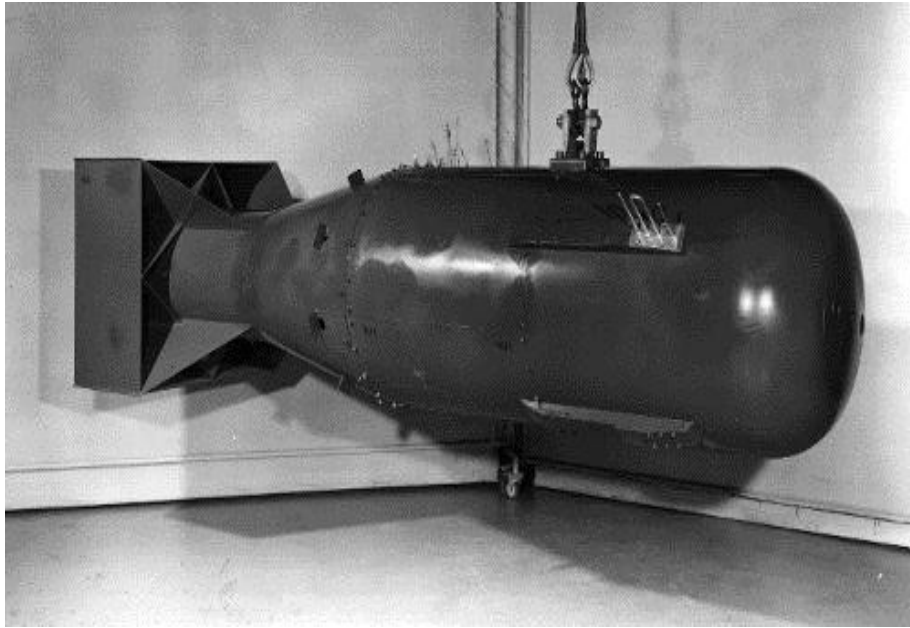
In 1939, Einstein told Franklin D. Roosevelt. (Pres. Of US) of efforts in Nazi Germany to purify uranium-235, which could be used to build an atomic bomb

After Pearl Harbour and the threat of German ability to build an atom bomb, the US began to develop nuclear weapons under the code name of the Manhattan Project (1941 – 1946)

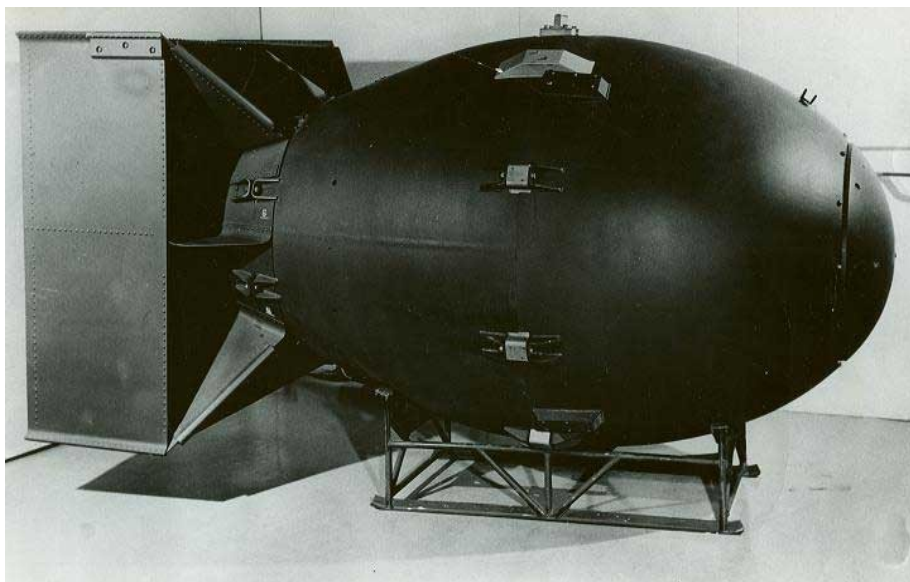
The project employed 130,000 people, cost 2 Billion Dollars and was led by physicist J. R. Oppenheimer

Los Alamos, New Mexico

A Fat Man and Little Boy

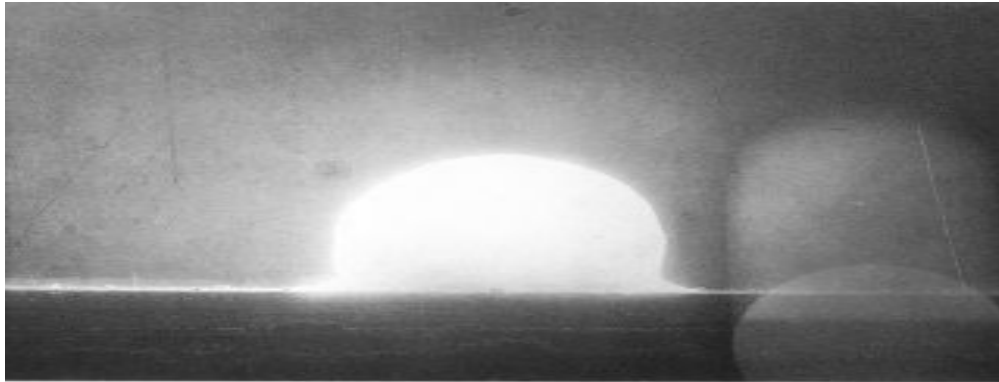


Known as "the hill," Los Alamos produced two bombs. One, nicknamed Little Boy, was a gun-type weapon that used U-235. A slug of U-235 would be projected down a gun barrel into the center of another piece of U-235. When combined, a nuclear explosion would occur

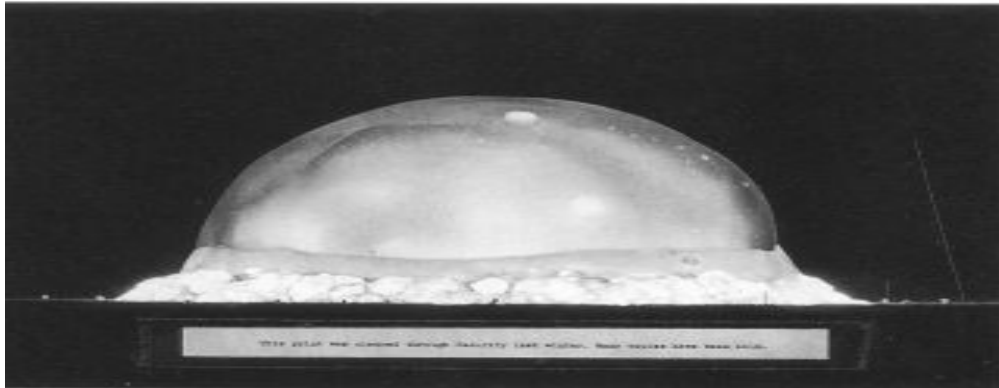


The second bomb, Fat Man, used implosion to detonate plutonium. Here, explosives would surround the plutonium ball. When detonated, they would compress the plutonium, causing a nuclear explosion.

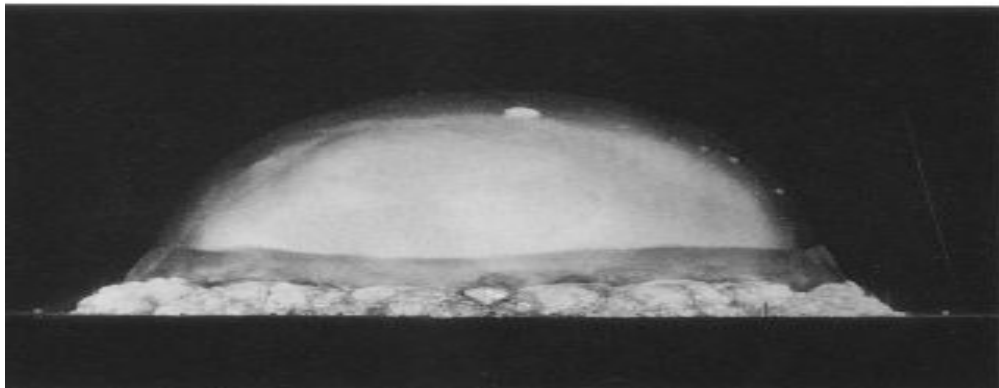
The Test



An atom bomb was tested in New Mexico in July of 1945



The shock wave was felt over 160 km away and the mushroom cloud reached 12 km in height



Oppenheimer was reminded of a Hindu quote when he watched it :

“I am become Death, the destroyer of Worlds”

What, do you think, is meant by this?

The Drop



Little Boy was dropped on Hiroshima
on Aug. 6th, 1945

70,000 immediate deaths, 200,000
by 1950

2/3 of town destroyed

3 miles radius destroyed

When Little Boy smashed into the
heart of Hiroshima, there was a
prolonged flash of light so brilliant
that it has become known as the
day the sun rose twice.

Accompanying the flash of light
was an instantaneous flash of
heat 900 times hotter than the
sun.

Fat Man was dropped on Nagasaki
on Aug. 9, 1945

The explosion generated heat
estimated at 3,900 degrees
Celsius (7,000 degrees
Fahrenheit) and winds that were
estimated at 1005 km/h (624
mph).

Why?

Why Drop the Bomb?

To be the first to use “the atom bomb”

To demonstrate power

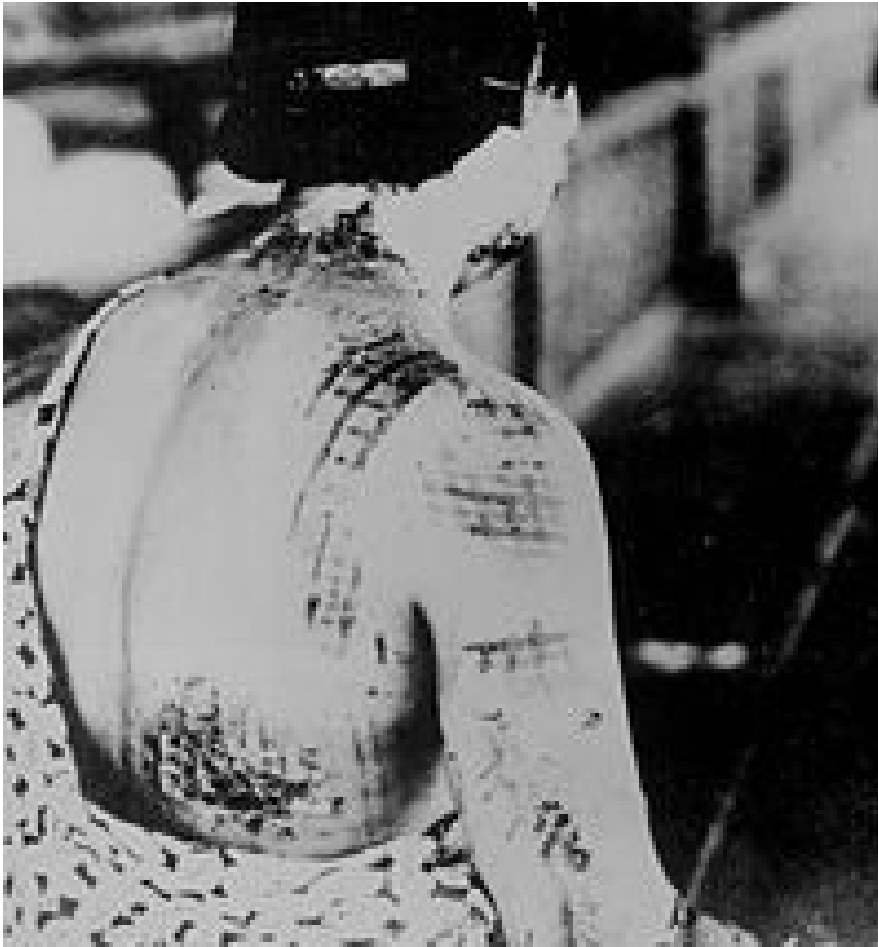
To avenge Pearl Harbour

To force Japan to surrender

Significance

The Cold War begins and the dawn of a new era of weaponry.

The Effects



Short terms and long terms physical effects of the bomb – burns, exposure to radiation

Long term effect include – birth defects, cancer, radiation poisoning