

FORM 6 HISTORY 2022

There will be 3 Sub-strand covered:

1. **Co-operation and Conflicts: The Search for Security in the Nuclear Age 1945 – 1990s**
2. **Leadership: George Tupou IV**
3. **Religion and Beliefs: The Christian Missions in Tonga.**

SUB-STRAND 1: CO-OPERATION AND CONFLICTS:

THE SEARCH FOR SECURITY IN THE NUCLEAR AGE 1945 – 1990s.

Outcome 1: Students will examine the events and policies that shaped post war world, explain how it led to Cold War crises and ways in which Superpowers searched for peace and means to control war in the Nuclear Age.

Concepts

Allies – Britain, France, USA and the USSR (Russia)

Red Army – Army of the Soviet Union

Satellite States – semi-independent states dominated by a larger country.

Cold War – a war of political hostility, threat, suspicion and general non-cooperation between countries that stop sort of direct fighting.

1. SHAPING OF THE POST WAR WORLD (1945-1949)/ (Background History)

I. Development of Atomic Bomb and Decision to use it in 1945.

A. Atomic Bomb of 1945

The Manhattan Project

- During the 2nd World War, Hitler boasted of his 'secret weapons' that would win the war for them.
- The Allies were well aware that the Germans were working on a nuclear bomb.
- They were determined to produce the first atomic bomb.

Using/ Dropping of the Atomic bomb on Japan (1945)

- In December 1941 Japan bombed Pearl Harbor with a reasons to prevent the US from interfering with its planned military actions in South East Asia.
- The attacked killed thousands of American soldiers and sunk many of their battleships and aircrafts.
- In 1945 the US Government decided to use the atomic bomb against the mainland of Japan.

Reasons for the dropping of the bomb

- i. Save the American lives which would be lost during a lengthy and expensive campaign in the Pacific.
- ii. To shorten the war
- iii. Restricts Russia's influence in the Far East.

On August 6, 1945 the first Atomic Bomb named '*Little Boy*' dropped on Hiroshima and on August 9 the second bomb dropped on Nagasaki which was names '*Fat Man*'

Activities

1. Where does Pearl Harbor located?
2. Explain why did Japan bombed Pearl Harbor.
3. Describe events related to the development of the atomic bomb and the decisions to its use in 1945.

The Decision to Drop the Bomb

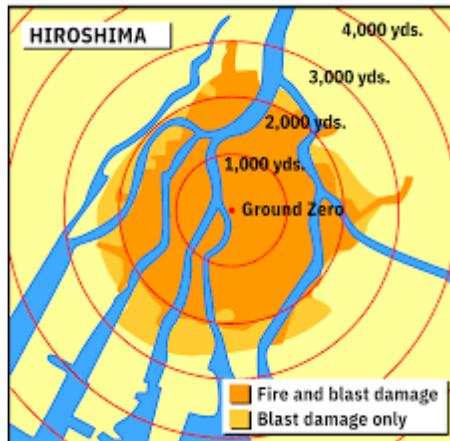
America had the bomb. Now what?

When Harry Truman learned of the success of the Manhattan Project, he knew he was faced with a decision of unprecedented. The capacity to end the war with Japan was in his hands, but it would involve unleashing the most terrible weapon ever known.

American soldiers and civilians were weary from 4 years of war, yet the Japanese military was refusing to give up their fight. American forces occupied Okinawa and Iwo Jima and were intensely bombing Japanese cities. But Japan had an army of 2 million strong stationed in the home islands guarding against invasion.

For Truman, the choice whether or not to use the atomic bomb was the most difficult decision of his life. First, an Allied demand for an immediate unconditional surrender was made to the leadership in Japan. Although the demand stated that refusal would result in total destruction, no mentions of any new weapon of mass destruction was made. The Japanese military command rejected the request of unconditional surrender, but there were indications that a conditional surrender was possible.

Regardless on August 6, 1945, a plane called the **ENOLA GAY** dropped an atomic bomb on the city of HIROSHIMA. Instantly 70,000 Japanese citizens were vaporized. In the months and years that followed, an additional 100,000 perished from burns and radiation sickness



This map shows the range of the destruction caused by the atomic bomb dropped over Hiroshima. Exploding directly over a city of 320,000, the bomb vaporized over 70,000, people instantly and fires over two miles away.

Two days later, the Soviet Union declared war on Japan. On August 9, a second atomic bomb was dropped on **NAGASAKI**, where 80,000 Japanese people perished.

On August 14, 1945, the Japanese surrendered.

Critics have charged that Truman's decision was a barbaric act that brought negative long-term consequences to the United State. A new age of nuclear terror led to a dangerous arms race.

Some **military analysts** insist that Japan was on its knees and the bombings were simply unnecessary. The American government was accused of racism on the grounds that such a device would never have been used against white civilians.

Other critics argued that American government diplomats had ulterior motives. The Soviet Union had entered the war against Japan, and the atomic bomb could be read as a strong message for the Soviets to tread lightly. In this respect, Hiroshima and Nagasaki may have been the first shot of the Cold War as well as the final shots of World War II. Regardless, the United Nation remain the only nation in the world to have used a nuclear weapon on another nation.

Truman stated that his decision to drop the bomb was purely military. A Normandy type amphibious landing would have caused an estimated million casualties. **Truman believed** that the bomb saved Japanese lives as well. Prolonging the war was not an option for the President. Over 3,500 Japanese kamikaze raids had already wrought great destruction and loss of American lives.

The President rejected the demonstration of the atomic bomb to the Japanese leadership. He knew there was no guarantee the Japanese would surrender if the test succeeded, and he felt that a failed demonstration would be worse than none at all. Even the scientific community failed to foresee the awful effects of **RADIATION SICKNESS. Truman saw little difference between atomic bombing Hiroshima and FIRE BOMBING Dresden or Tokyo.**

The ethical debate over the decision to drop the atomic bomb will never be resolved. The bombs did, however, bring an end to the most destructive war in history. The Manhattan Project that produced it demonstrated the possibility of how a nation's resources could be mobilized.

Hiroshima and the Cold War

After Hiroshima and Nagasaki nothing was ever the same again... the use of the atomic bomb in August 1945 changed the world more dramatically than any single event before.

(1989).

Chronicle of the World

When I first started teaching, we just thought that the atomic bomb brought the war to an end. Only recently that we have come to appreciate that the last shot of the Second World War was also the opening scene of the Cold War – that the Bomb was a cause as much as a conclusion.

British historian John D Clare,

writing in 2010.

1. WHAT: Dropping the Bomb

By March 1945, the Japanese were clearly losing the war in the Pacific; they started making requests for a peace. Stalin told Truman at Potsdam of ‘telegram from Jap Emperor asking for peace’ (it was refused; instead the Potsdam Conference called on Japan to surrender unconditionally). In fact, the Japanese offered to surrender on 3rd August, but their offer was rejected because it wasn’t an ‘unconditional’ surrender.

Instead on 6 August 1945, the B29 bomber Enola Gay dropped the first atomic bomb (nickname ‘Little Boy’) on Hiroshima. The temperature in the center of the bomb was 50 times hotter than the surface of the sun. Winds swept out from the center at 500 mph; everything in a two-mile radius was flattened. The mushroom cloud rose to 50,000 feet. The Americans estimated at 117,000 people were killed – the Japanese put the figure at a quarter of a million.

Three days later, on 9 August, the Americans dropped another bomb, on Nagasaki and the Japanese surrendered.

2. WHY was the bomb dropped?

For many years (traditional) historians were prepared to take Churchill and Truman’s words at face value, and accepted without question the official explanation that the bomb was dropped to end the war in Japan quickly, saving millions of American casualties (*see Sources A and B*).

In 1965, however, revisionist historians Gar Alperovitz wrote *Atomic Diplomacy: Hiroshima and Potsdam*. Alperovitz turned the whole question on its head, claiming:

1. The Japanese were on the verge of surrender in August 1945;

2. Truman dropped the atomic bombs because he wanted to end the war before the USSR could enter the war in the Pacific and claim the lands promised them at Yalta.
3. The bomb was dropped to impress the Soviets, and persuade them to relax their grip on Eastern Europe.

Source A

To bring the war to an end, to give peace to the world... at the cost of a few explosions, seemed after all our toils and perils, a miracle. The end of the Japanese war no longer depended upon the pouring in of (the Russian) armies.

Winston Churchill, describing a conversation with Truman in 1945.

Source B

Having found the bomb we have used it. We have used it in order to shorten the agony of war, in order to save the lives of thousands and thousands of young Americans.

Speech by President Truman, 9 August 1945.

Activity.

1. Construct a timeline related to the events of Pearl Harbor and the bombing of Japan.
2. Explain the reaction of people regarding the bombing of Japan.
3. Make a comment on the events of 1945 when the US dropped the bomb in Japan. Was this a fair movement of the US against Japan OR was it too harsh on Japan? Explain your reasons.
4. Describe reasons why was the Bomb dropped in Japan.

Terms & Definitions

(This terms and definitions is to assist you while going through your notes and readings. If you have any terms that you do not know of its meanings, note it down and look for its meaning.)

NOTICE: This will be your spelling. You need to study them to help you throughout this unit.

- i. **Co-operation** – working together
- ii. **Conflicts** – tensions between nations
- iii. **Atomic bomb** – a destructive weapons
- iv. **Manhattan Project** – a code named for the American led-effort to develop a functional atomic bomb during WWII
- v. **Atomic bomb** - a bomb which derives its destructive power from the rapid release of nuclear energy by fission of heavy atomic nuclei, causing damage through heat, blast, and radioactivity.
- vi. **Invasion** – occasion when an army or country uses force to enter and take control of another country
- vii. **Critics** – a person who judges, evaluates, or criticizes and express and unfavorable opinion
- viii. **Arms race** – a competition between nations for superiority in the development and accumulation of weapons.
- ix. **Kamikaze raids** – Japanese pilots who in WWII made deliberate suicidal crashes into enemy targets, usually ships.
- x. **Harry Truman** – President of America
- xi. **Winston Churchill** – Prime Minister of Britain
- xii. **Adolf Hitler** – leader of Germany

II. THE EFFECTS OF THE USAGE OF THE ATOMIC BOMB ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- It served as a warning to the USSR of the growing military and scientific power of the US
- Nuclear arms were to become vital factor in relations between the superpowers from 1945 onwards
- Increased the sense of insecurity in the USSR
- USSR worked rapidly to catch up.

“It has been suggested that the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were as much beginning as an end”

Activity 1: Document Analysis

No demonstration, such as over a desert island, was likely to bring the war to an end. The final decision to when and where to use the atomic bomb is up to me.

I regarded the bomb as a military weapon and never had any doubt it should be used. The top military advisers

UNITED STATES PRESIDENT HARRY TRUMAN, who gave his order to use the bomb

It is my opinion that the use of this barbaric weapon at Hiroshima and Nagasaki was of no material assistance in our war against Japan. The Japanese were already defeated and were ready to surrender because of the effective sea blockade and the successful bombing with conventional weapons

ADMIRAL LEAHY, UNITED STATES NAVY, adviser to President Truman in 1945, writing in 1950

The decision whether or not to use the atomic bomb to compel the surrender of Japan was never ever an issue. There was a unanimous, automatic, unquestioned agreement (on the use of the bomb) around our table; nor did I hear the slightest suggestion that we do otherwise

WINSTON CHURCHILL, describing the meeting of Allied leaders at Potsdam, July 18, 1945

Any weapon that would bring an end to the war and save a million casualties among American boys was justified, and we were talking about people who had not hesitated at Pearl Harbor to make a sneak attack destroying not only ships but the lives of many American sailors... I would have been satisfied had the Russians determined not to enter the war against Japan. I believed the A-bomb would be successful and would force the Japanese to accept surrender on our terms. I feared what would happen when the red Army entered Manchuria

JAMES BYRNE, UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATES, in 1945

The experience of Russian scientists in nuclear research is entirely sufficient to enable them to retrace our steps within a few years. The race for nuclear armaments will be on in earnest not later than the morning after our first demonstration of the existence of nuclear weapons. The military advantage and saving of American lives achieved may be outweighed by a wave of horror and revulsion sweeping over the rest of the world.

Report to the USA by an **ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF SCIENTISTS, 1945**

1. Explain why were Churchill and Truman so certain that the decision to drop the bomb was right?
2. Discuss how the explanation made by Admiral Leahy went against Harry Truman's decision to drop the bomb?
3. According to the Resources explain why the dropping of the A-bomb signaled the start of a new period of confrontation?
4. Describe the justification made by the United States Secretary of State about the using of any weapon that would bring an end to the war.
5. Explain how the report made by the advisory committee of scientists to the United States government may contribute to a competition between the two major Powers (USSR and USA)

