What's going on up there on the hill, wondered people in the valley of the Rio Grande below.  The War Department answered the question about Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in the fall of 1945 when a statement was issued explaining that the Laboratory was making mankind's successful transition to a new age, the Atomic Age.

Prior to that momentous news release, which came out of the Pentagon when the Allied world opened the atom bomb in the war with Japan, the activities of the secret installation near Santa Fe, New Mexico, were known only to a select few.

Speculation among New Mexicans was rife. Common talk held it to be a factory where a space ship was being made or perhaps windshield wipers for submarines. No one is known to have guessed its real purpose.

It was back in Spring of 1943 when Major General Groves arrived at Los Alamos, until then the site of a boys' school, with a handful of engineers and scientists. Near 4 o'clock the next night on the old McDonald ranch, a sight which never be seen by the millions of Allied eyes that day reported Mrs. Ernie Pyle was present at the test, examined photographs of the Trinity fireball and studied up on the terrain of the area before drawing this sketch.

A night which can never be seen by the naked human eye is depicted here by Sandia Corporation technical artist Terrence Clark.

It is a dramatization of the detonation of the first nuclear device a millennium of a second after firing. The place, Trinity, New Mexico. The time: 5:30 a.m., July 16, 1945.

The fireball has not yet been formed, the intense white flash is reaching its peak and reflecting off storm clouds which had threatened to cause postponement of the test.

Clark talked with several scientists who were present at the test, examined photographs of the Trinity fireball and studied up on the terrain of the area before drawing this sketch.

The story of that first nuclear explosion was given to the best in the world, became ready for detonation of the first atomic device. Several of these men are now with Sandia Corporation, still studying the atom and finding new ways to make it a better weapon for peace.

Early in spring of 1945 the town of Los Alamos began final preparations. Operations moved to the test site in a deserted section of Alamogordo Air Base. There were no elaborate laboratories or accommodations there in the middle of the desert. Scientists, engineers, technicians and other slept in old CCC barracks which had no windows. The Army fed them from mobile field kitchens.

Secrecy was the word and as these men labored not even their families knew where they were or what they were doing. MPs attached to the project patrolled the area watchfully. The curfew was turned away and there was furious activity throughout the day and night on the old McDonald ranch.

On July 13, 1945, final laboratory work on the gadget was completed in a deserted ranch house. Two days later the unit, now completely armed, was hoisted up to the top of a 100-foot tower.

Telphon instrumentation checkout was begun and by pre-dawn of July 16 all was ready for the test. All but the weather. Ominous thunder and lightning of a coming storm worried the scientists. Near 4 o'clock the light rain stopped, the weather cleared.

At 5:30 a.m., July 16, 1945, there occurred the "impeccable, magnificent, beautiful, and terrifying" detonation of the world's first nuclear fission bomb.

The story of that first nuclear experiment is 10 years old, but still it is news. In this issue of the Sandia Lab News the 10th anniversary of the Trinity shot is recalled.

On July 16, 1945, newspapers filled with war news; but Trinity remained secret. Wartime newspapers of Monday, July 16, 1945, carried on with "business as usual" with only minor attention given to the "explosion" at Alamogordo, N. M.

Headlining the New York Times on that date was: "Truman and Churchill in Berlin for Start of Big 3 Talks Today; U. S. Fleet Scourches Foo's Cities."

The weekend saw General Dwight D. Eisenhower escorting President Harry S. Truman on a 3,500-mile drive through some of the battered cities of Belgium.

Chinese assault troops that day reportedly had recuperated the lost Americans airfield at Kashi, 250 miles north of Hanoi, and a Tokyo newspaper warned its government that "even the most detailed plans are of no use if they are only theoretical plans."

London "hit up" for the first time since 1939 and Britons celebrated the end of black-outs as war emphasis shifted to the Pacific.

Three books featured in the review columns this week were "Journey Through Chaos" by Victor Alexander, "Lili Marlene" by Ruth L. Yorck, and "The Pool" by Dana Burnet.

The army called for 1,600 large flags for service in combat zones and the ration calendar called attention to the fact that Stamp 36 was good for five pounds of sugar — through August 31.

That day the Braves toppled the Cardinals 3-1 and 5-3, the Pirates beat the Dodgers, the Giants succeeded to the Chicago Cubs, "Wildlife" was reported as win-
Beneficial Use of Atomic Power Will Prevail

Lewis I. Strauss, Chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, spoke on the development of atomic energy at Rockhurst College recently. His comments on man's venture into this new field are particularly appropriate at this time.

Following are a few paragraphs from his speech:

"It was only 10 years ago this summer in the early darkness of the New Mexican desert that the first atomic bomb was exploded.

"In the years that have since passed we have seen great progress, not alone in developing the destructiveness of nuclear energy for war but in perfecting its beneficial uses as well. The health, climate of world affairs and the miseries from those who would destroy freedom ... have compelled us to develop and stockpile atomic weapons to triple defense. We have no other prudent alternative. Our security and our hopes of avoiding war are grimly measured by the quantity and the efficiency of our weapons.

"Now man has discovered atomic energy which can greatly benefit or terribly injure him. ... This latest capacity for destruction on a gigantic scale is balanced by the equally heroic dimensions of benign use.

"History offers us a reason for faith and for the confident belief that providence intends that the atom will prevail over the forces of destruction and evil."
Trinity Revisited

Leo "Jerry" Jercinovic and Louis F. Jacot saw the first atomic bomb explode at Trinity Site in New Mexico 10 years ago tomorrow. Both men were members of the Special Engineering Detachment of the U. S. Army which was attached to the Manhattan Engineering District.

Recently these Sandia Corporation employees returned to that historic site. To get to Trinity there was a four-hour ride southward from Albuquerque.

They were accompanied by Sandia Corporation Photographer James F. Toner, also a veteran of the Special Engineering Detachment.

After 10 years, Trinity Site, which is now a portion of the Army's White Sands Proving Ground, was still fresh in their memories. They easily found their way from one familiar location to another—places where they saw history being made during the hectic days of 1945.

They traveled over improved roads, past gates manned by Military Police, and through a desert land made beautiful by flowering Yucca plants. The remains of the Trinity operation were still to be seen, only slightly changed by the passage of years.

The accompanying photographs were made possible by the cooperation of the Security and Information offices of White Sands Proving Ground and the Military Police now on duty there.

GROUND ZERO—In the center of a broad but shallow crater the two visitors found a stake marking the center of the spot where the atom bomb tower stood. A stump of concrete and steel remains of one leg of the tower is all that is left. Louis F. Jacot, left, and Leo M. Jercinovic are both Sandia Corp. employees.

HISTORIC LABORATORY—An old ranch house near Trinity Site became The Laboratory where final work was done on the bomb. Scientists used the room in front (on reader's right) side of the house for their work on the bomb's gadgety. The ranch was formerly owned by the McDonald family, relatives of Corry McDonald, manager of the Standards Engineering Department, Sandia Corporation.

REMAINS—Jerry Jercinovic found that the dry desert air had been kind to the long lines of wires which had been used in the Trinity shot. The desert floor is still littered with wires, poles and other remains of the experiment.

CONTROL POINT—About 10,000 yards south of ground zero at Trinity Louis Jacot and Leo Jercinovic found the bunks which were the heart of the operation. In the right foreground is the bunker where timing devices triggered the first atomic explosion. Ten years have deteriorated the construction very little.

DREADNOUGHT—Trinity scientists called these instrument bunkers by the name of dreadnought. This one stands a short distance west of ground zero. Jerry Jercinovic, left, and Louis Jacot are looking in the direction of the tower site.

KEEP OUT—Surrounding the point of detonation of the first atomic bomb is a steel security fence. Though Trinity Site is far removed from the average curiosity seeker, it is well protected from molestation.
The story of the hours before the detonation of the first atomic device was told to the world through a War Department news release. This release was made August 6, 1945, as the A-Bomb had been used successfully against Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

A 30-year-old news article is reproduced here in full. After a decade it remains a masterful report of the most significant event of our age.

Mankind’s successful transition to a new age, the Atomic Age, was ushered in July 16, 1945, before the eyes of a time group of renowned scientists and military men gathered in the deserts of New Mexico to witness the first results of their 

\[2.0 \times 10^8 \text{ lb} \]

of effort. Here is a re•

section of the Alamogordo Air Base (D) Detachment, a group of American and British scientists, was set up to perform atomic experimental work. The purpose was to determine the success or failure of the entire project.

The historical assembly which was to determine the moment before the explosion was completed without further incident.

The ominous weather which had dogged the assembly of the bomb had been very sobering to the assembled experts whose work was accomplished under the direction of 

Dr. Enrico Fermi, University of Chicago. He is to be credited with achieving the implementation of atomic energy in the world’s first atomic bomb. The bomb was set on the ground, the proximity of the scientists present was declared to cause serious damage to the health of all those inside.

The decision was made to push the button and to proceed with the blast. The blast was aimed at an area 3200 yards away from the base, and the area was cleared for the landing of the bomb. The area was cleared of all personnel present, and the bomb was dropped from the plane.

The test was over, the project was a success, and the world has been capable of such an outcome in brains and technology.

The full significance of the testing of the bomb is that the first atomic weapon has been created. This weapon is destined to change the world. Success was achieved from the beginning of time. A fantastic weapon destined to change the world had been achieved.

The test was over, the project was a success. The world has been capable of such an outcome in brains and technology.

The weather on July 16, 1945, indicated a flow of winds which would give the best observations of the atmospheric conditions during the explosion. The weather was calm, and the atmosphere was clear.

The test was over, the project was a success. The world has been capable of such an outcome in brains and technology.

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Trinity Eyewitnesses Tell Their Stories

**Lea M. Jacot—1942**

"--a terribly fearsome thing--"

I was just a small, very small part of the big picture at the Trinity shot. What I saw will never be forgotten. While stationed at Los Alamos I was in the second forces as a member of a special engineering detachment. My job was to help the civilians at the Laboratory. In May of 1943 I made my first trip to Trinity Site. We were doing an experiment in calibration for the big shot which would come later. The members of the group loaded TNT on a wooden tower. Using a truck, some of us dressed in shirts and trousers, some in coveralls, we hoisted the HE in 20-pound boxes onto the tower. When it was set off, instruments recorded certain blast information needed for the upcoming big shot.

My second trip to Trinity was in June when we made a complete dry run for the "main gun." The practice exercise took about a week and included taking a dummy unit of truck by truck from Los Alamos, through Española, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Socorro and San Antonio to the site.

The third trip was the real thing, this time with certain engineering and construction responsibility, and the job was to install the bomb. My preliminary work with Trinity came to an end when the nuclear device was loaded through the floor of the cab on the top of the 100-foot tower.

But to show more of the picture, during the assembly period on June 16-17, I arrived at Trinity Site and worked with the engineers in the various non-nuclear facilities. The country was desolate, too high and threatened populated areas. We were housed in salvaged CCC barracks which had been moved in for the job. There were no windows.

My responsibilities for the Trinity test started in March, 1944, when I was to look at the assembly and engineering construction and responsible for the test facilities.

Arthur M. Bache

**Directo"
Mr. and Mrs. Claude LeFeve, 5513, joined Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hazelskund, 5411, for an extended fishing vacation recently where they guided a group into the Gila Wilderness area. They enjoyed the recreational aspects of the vacation during the eight-day junket, but were turned from a vacation in California, Utah and Colorado. They will attend the Bentley, 1924, who suffered a back injury in an aunt who is visiting from Red River, and S. M. Relief Drive recently. Kelly had his tic college.

Tonight at 8:00 in Central Metho- todist Church will be the wedding of the ABC's Joe Knight and Lois Johnston of Albuquerque.

Stanc McManmon, 2561, and his family are vacationing in California, Utah and Colorado. They will attend the Bentley, 1924, who suffered a back injury in

D'Oyly wishing a fast recovery for Betty Magnano, N. M., July 9 and 10. Jack says about 150 persons from several states attended the get-together.

From 2611: Dorothy Parslow from Michigan and Ohio. Elia Lucero enjoyed a brief summer holiday at home to visit with relatives.

Jayne Van Lenaar is back from an extensive vacation to Old Town City, Arizona, Boston, Hartford, Mass., and New Jersey. She is not in California, Utah and Colorado. They will attend the Bentley, 1924, who suffered a back injury in an aunt who is visiting from Red River, and S. M. Relief Drive recently. Kelly had his tic college.

From 2311: Jim Chavez moved recently to the Sandia, 2452, and his family are vacationing in California, Utah and Colorado.

From 2611: Dorothy Parslow is visiting the west from Indiana. A newcomer in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Grubbs, 2611, is welcomed by the family

Another provision of the new law makes a change in the law exempts persons from the registration requirements if they have at least six months active service (previously one year was the mini-

From 5131: Rudy Frantik and his family enjoyed a tour of old copper mines and ghost towns in the Silver City area last weekend; Ralph Culley and his family are camping out this week in the Gila National Forest near Tecopa, Calif.; Doris Eshel has returned from a visit with relatives in Grinnell, Iowa.

Mary F. Ebert, 4151, and her husband have returned from a visit with their young son who is in the Army, in Denver. They also visited in Dayton, Ohio.

Ted Spack, 4151, vacationed in Beaver; Lynn Luna, 4151, spent several days in Denver, and her family vacationed in California, Utah and Colorado in July. Judy E. Anderson and Frank Martin.

The Chautauqua, 1225, are va- cationing in national parks and in Colorado. Wash., with relatives. Among the parks on their schedule are Mesa Verde, the Arches, Bryce, Zize, and the Grand Canyon.

Luis Hudson, 1932, and his wife visited relatives and friends in Missouri and Kansas and took in a major league ball game while on their trip. Rio Hondo, 1932, is vacationing in Yellowstone Park and in Salt Lake City with his parents who are visiting the west from Indiana.

A newcomer in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Baca, 1932, is two-year-old Patricia, July 8.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Guerin, 1921, are visiting the west from Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grenier, 4135, a daughter, Sharon, July 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gast, 4151, a daughter, Laura, July 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grenier, 4135, twins, Steven Robert and Elaine Patricia, July 5.

State Residents Must Have '55 New Mexico Automobile License Plates

Sympathy

To Candalaria Martine, 2642, whose father-in-law died June 24 in Baton, N. La., the Barkers were with them.

To Mr. and Mrs. Grover Tucker, 5312, for the death of their infant son, Marilyn Vel.
Promotions

G. William Rolleston to supervisor of the Mechanical Engineering section, 1942-4,

June, 1952.

Since joining Sandia Corporation four years ago, Fred has held various assignments in manufacturing relations engineering.

Before coming to Sandia he headed his mechanical engineering at the University of Nebraska. Jim is a native of Nebraska and has spent his studies in military duty in the U. S. Navy. Since coming to Sandia he has been a radar officer. He attended special training with the Signal Corps in 1948.

John J. Markon to supervisor of Section 124-2 in Engineering Department C. Since coming to the Laboratory in September, 1952, "Jack" has worked in component and system design. He was graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1930, with a B. S. degree in electrical engineering. While in college he was elected a member of Sigma Xi and to Sandia in 1949 he was appointed a technical advisor.

Robert W. Beres to supervisor of Section 235-2, Manufacturing Relations Engineering.

Before coming to Sandia he worked on the scheduling coordinator in that section for a year. He previously held various assignments in the Technical Services Department. A native of New Richmond, Wis., he spent five years in the Air Force during World War II. After returning to civilian life he attended the University of Texas and was a member of the Class of 1951.

BEVERLY W. WASHBURN to supervisor of electronics section 5243 in the Test Data Department. Beverly came to Sandia in February, 1952, and since then has worked full time in the electronics engineering assignments. A native of New Mexico, he earned his B. S. degree in electrical engineering from New Mexico State University in 1944. Beverly then attended the University of Colorado, where he received his M. S. degree in electrical engineering.

Del M. Bailey to supervisor of Operations, Section 353-2, in the Quality Assurance Department. He has been in liaison with the operations section since joining the Laboratory in 1947. Del joined Sandia Corporation two years ago and has been involved in electrical engineering and his M. S. degree in electrical engineering from the University of Washington at Seattle. While in school he spent a summer with Boeing Airplanes Co. in Seattle.

A native of Middletown, N. J., Fred attended Harvard University.

JOSEPH W. DAVIDSON to supervisor of Operations, Section 353-2, in the Quality Assurance Department. Joe has been in liaison with the operations section since joining the Laboratory in 1940. Joe’s 13 years prior to coming to Sandia was spent as the technical supervisor of the VT tube range at the Naval Ordnance Test Station, China Lake, Calif., and as chief inspector, Navy Dept., involving the United States in military duty at Cincinnati, Ohio, and Washington, D. C.

A native of Cincinnati, Joe worked for a year and a half on the Panama Canal Zone, and is a member of the local chapter of the American Society for Quality Control.

Phillip L. Jessee to supervisor of Section 5423, Electronics Development Department. Phil came to Sandia in October, 1949, and since then has held various assignments in manufacturing relations engineering.

Before coming to Sandia he worked on the scheduling coordinator in that section for a year. He previously held various assignments in the Technical Services Department. A native of New Richmond, Wis., he spent five years in the Air Force during World War II. After returning to civilian life he attended the University of Texas and was a member of the Class of 1951.

LOWELL J. SHARP to supervisor of Materials Section 9482 in the Technical Services Department. Since joining the Corporation in August, 1949, Lowell has worked full time on the Metallurgical Services Section.

Prior to his employment here he was employed by the Electric Manufacturing Company of New York as a metallurgical technician. He attended special training with the Signal Corps in 1948, and subsequently entered engineering work at Sandia Corporation.

Before attending college he was an electronics technician in the U. S. Navy, and before enlisting in the Navy he was a fire control technician at Mare Island Navy Yard in Vallejo, Calif. He is a native of Silver City, N. M.

Popular Reprint of Sun Trails Article in Book Racks Again

Owing to popularity of the Sun Trails Magazine reprints of "Sandia's Computers: How Men and Machines Solve Problems," "Ferrite Storage Devices," "City of Safes," "Ferro-Electric Storage Devices," "Experimental Series Are," "Ferriotropic Devices" and "An Introduction to the Tape-Script," Thirty-four thousand copies of the pamphlet will be distributed free of charge on July 22, through the book racks.

Employees who desire extra copies for personal and professional friends may take this opportunity to obtain additional booklets.

George Dickings New Commander of Naval Research Unit Here

George Dickings, 172d, staff engi- neer attached to the Military Liaison Service Department, has been named commander of the 173d Staff Engineer Unit of the U. S. Naval Research Reserve Company of 53d of Albuquerque.


Twenty scientist - engineers are members of the group which is one of the 2,000-man Naval Reserve Research Company connected with the universities and naval training centers throughout the United States.

Home Fires, Wills Subjects of Newest Book Rack Selections

The new book rack selection which will be available on the stands this week is a "Hot Time at Home" outlining major fire hazards to avoid at your home.

What happens when a person fails to leave a well-lit candle in the book rack selection for next week. The pamphlet, Military Philosophy and "The Guide," is not extended as legal ad- visor in the windows, it continues to burn, and always be drawn by a lawyer.

MIT Alumni Elect Rolleston President

Fred R. Phillip,Technical Assistant, 1931-3, was elected president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology alumni club at a recent meeting.

Information concerning the club may be obtained from Frederic Alex- ander, Jr., 393 Washington St. N. E.
MEMBERS OF THE Weapons Subcommittee of the
AEC General Advisory Committee visited Sandia re-
cently. Dr. L. I. Rabi, Chairman, was unable to attend.

The subcommittee, the committee, shown here with
R. E. Poole (center), Vice-President in charge of the
Development, Sandia Corporation, are (L to R) Dr.
Richard W. Dodson, Dr. J. B. Fisk, Edwin M. Mc-
Millan and Jeno W. Weasles. Dr. Fisk is executive
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Congress's group of individuals who have hosted three league games in competition with a total of 700 fans or more.

Managing and organization of teen-age bowling clubs are now on the schedule for this Sandia legary. And, in addition, he's in charge of interviews with Albuquerque talent on the popular weekly "Championship Bowling" TV show.

Sandmeyers to launch a "bowler-of-the-month" award for Albuquerque, and he'll visit Milwaukee, Wis., this summer to represent the Duke City in ABC activities.

He is married and has a son, Don-
ald, 15, who is an active participant in junior bowling leagues. The fam-
ily lives at 6801 LaVeta Dr.

Sandia Corporation Employees' Softball League

"A" LEAGUE

West

East

Boards

Roy Maxwell, 1961 Bowlers' Sparkling

Roy Maxwell, 1961 Bowlers' Sparkling

Roy Maxwell, 1961 Bowlers' Sparkling

Roy Maxwell, 1961 Bowlers' Sparkling

Roy Maxwell, 1961 Bowlers' Sparkling

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