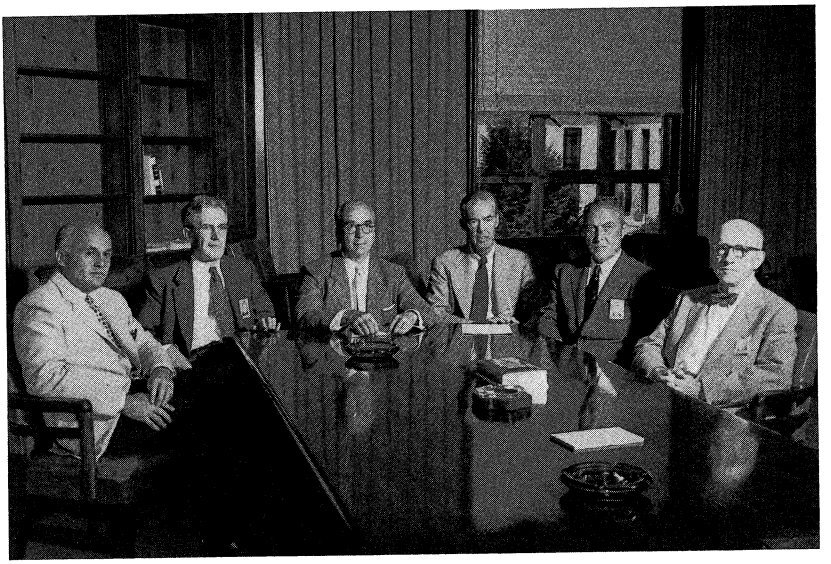
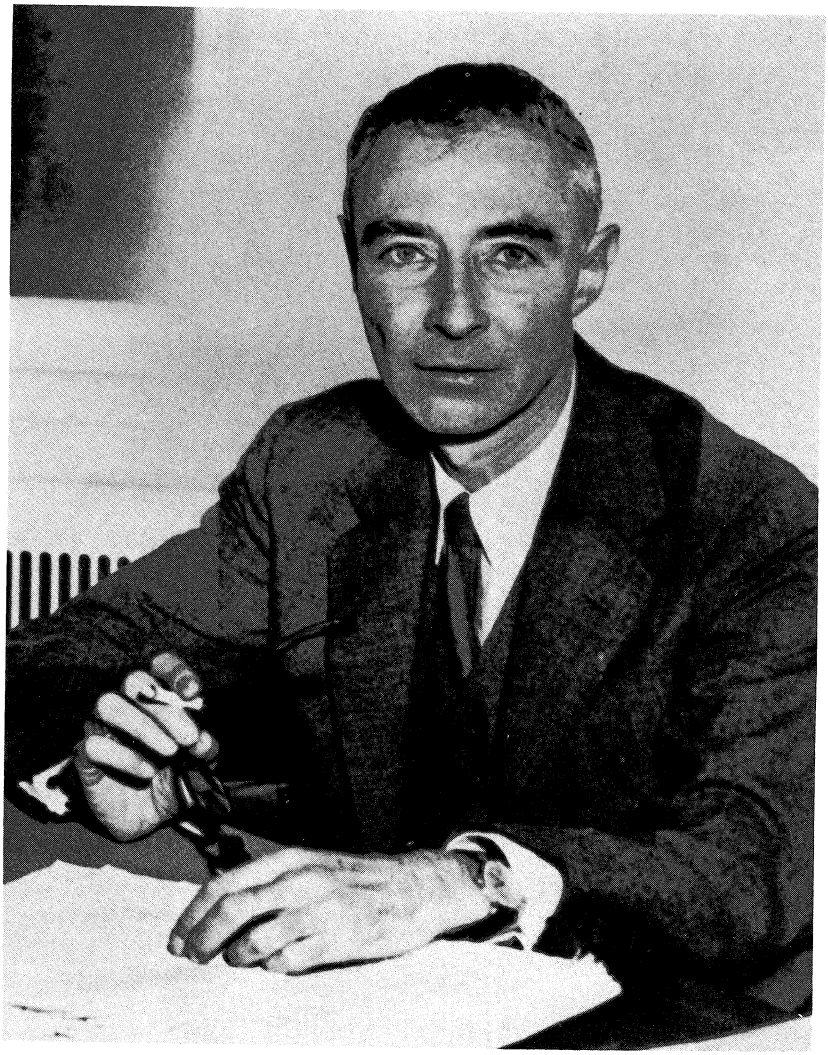
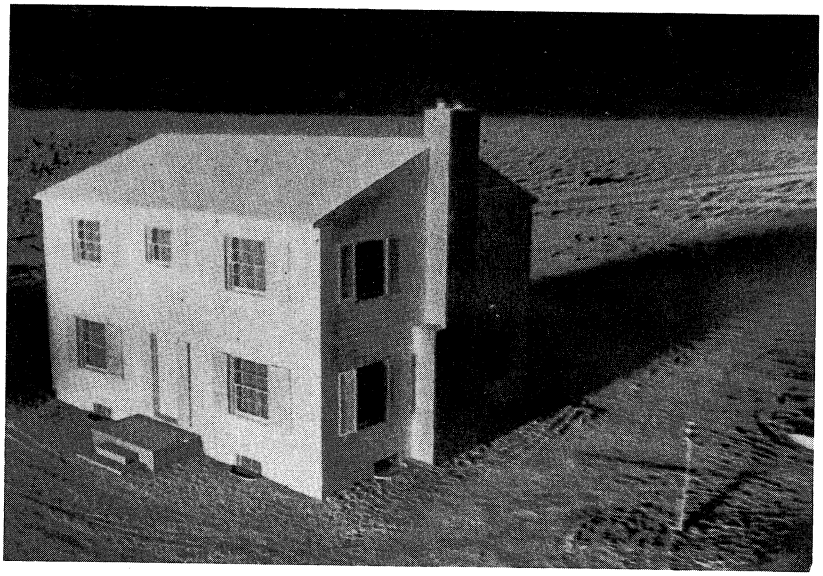


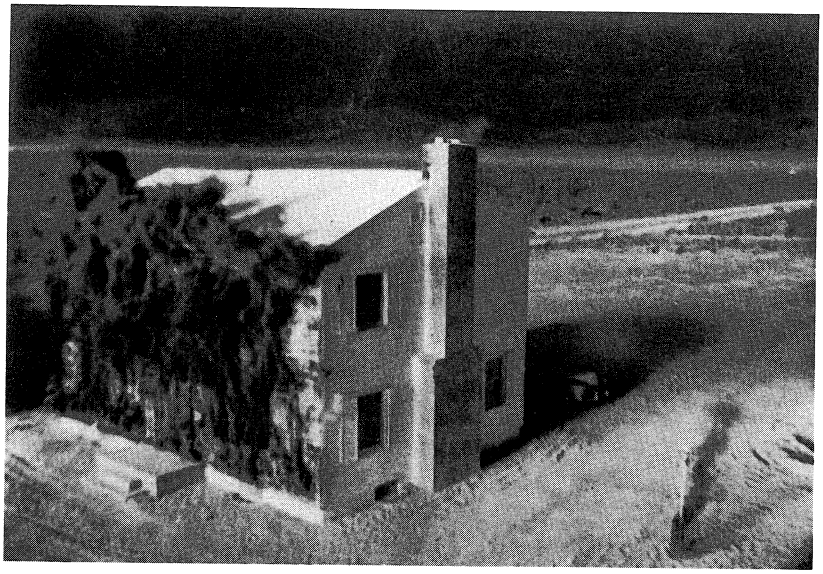
Atomic Energy Commissioners and the general manager at Washington Headquarters, fall 1953. Seated, left to right: Commissioners Eugene M. Zuckert, Henry D. Smyth, Lewis L. Strauss (Chairman), Thomas E. Murray, Joseph Campbell, and General Manager Marion W. Boyer. Photo by Elton Lord.



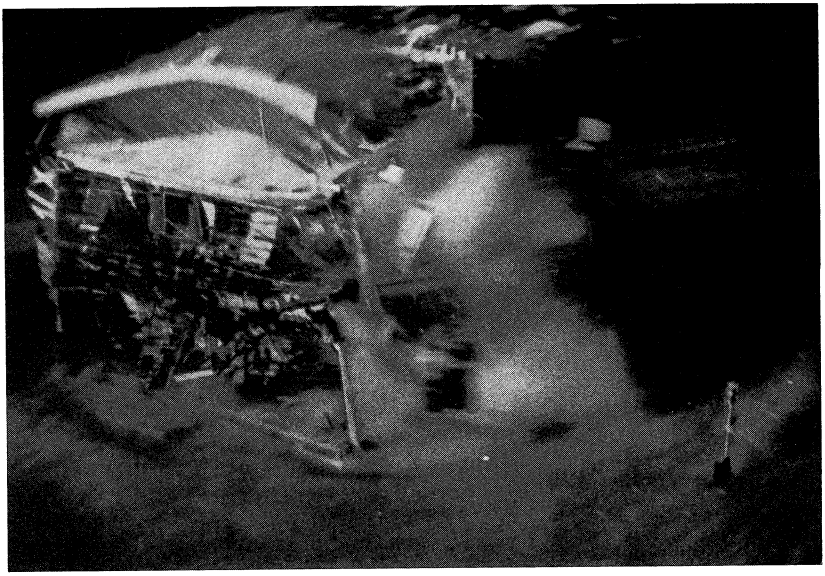
June 2, 1954. Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, seated at his desk in his office at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, ponders response to the Gray board decision announced the previous day recommending withdrawal of his security clearance.

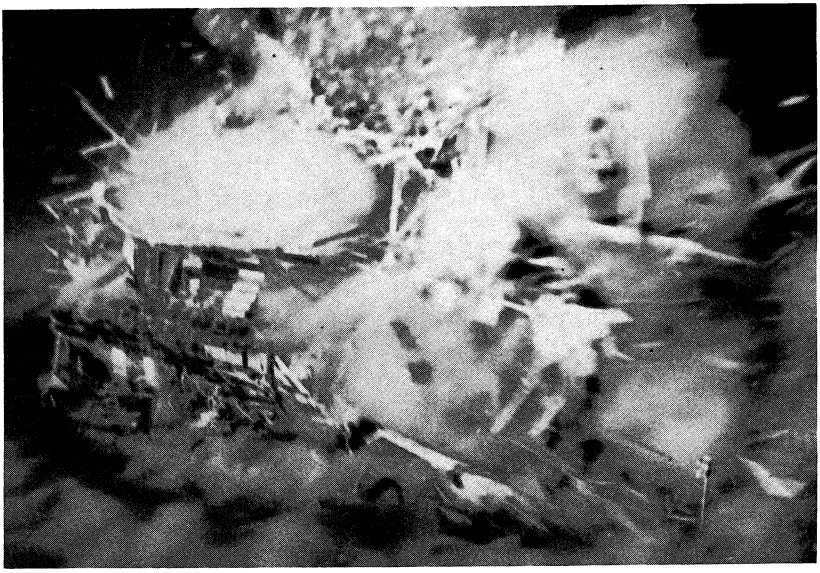
President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 at the White House on August 30, 1954, a major step in opening the way for industrial participation and international cooperation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. Seated, left to right: Senator William F. Knowland, President Eisenhower, Representative W. Sterling Cole, and AEC Chairman Lewis L. Strauss. Standing, left to right: AEC General Manager K. D. Nichols, Commissioner Henry Smyth, Assistant Secretary of Defense Donald A. Quarles, Military Liaison Committee Chairman Herbert B. Loper, Senator Edwin C. Johnson, Representatives Carl Hinshaw, James E. Van Zandt, Melvin Price, and Carl T. Durham, and Commissioner Thomas E. Murray.

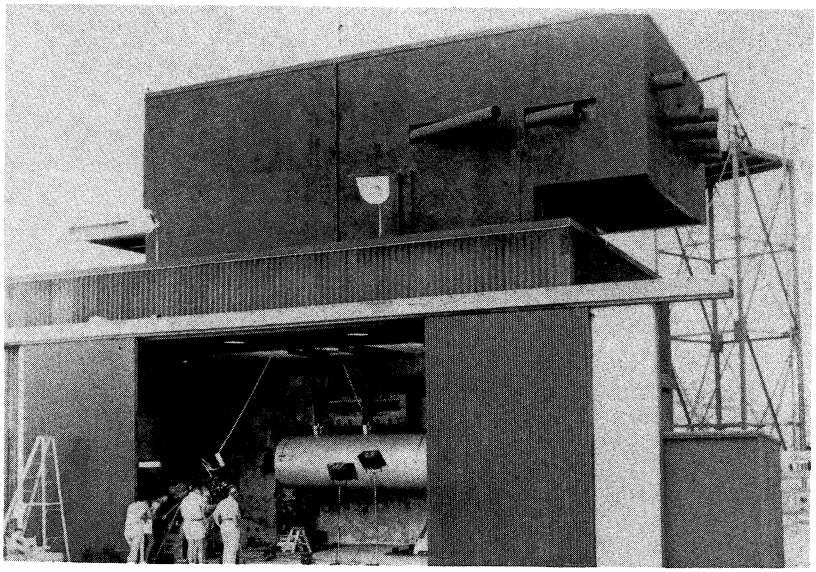




March 17, 1953, civil defense experiment at Yucca Flat. In this series of pictures, the high-speed camera shows the complete destruction of House #1 by atomic blast, 3,500 feet from ground zero.



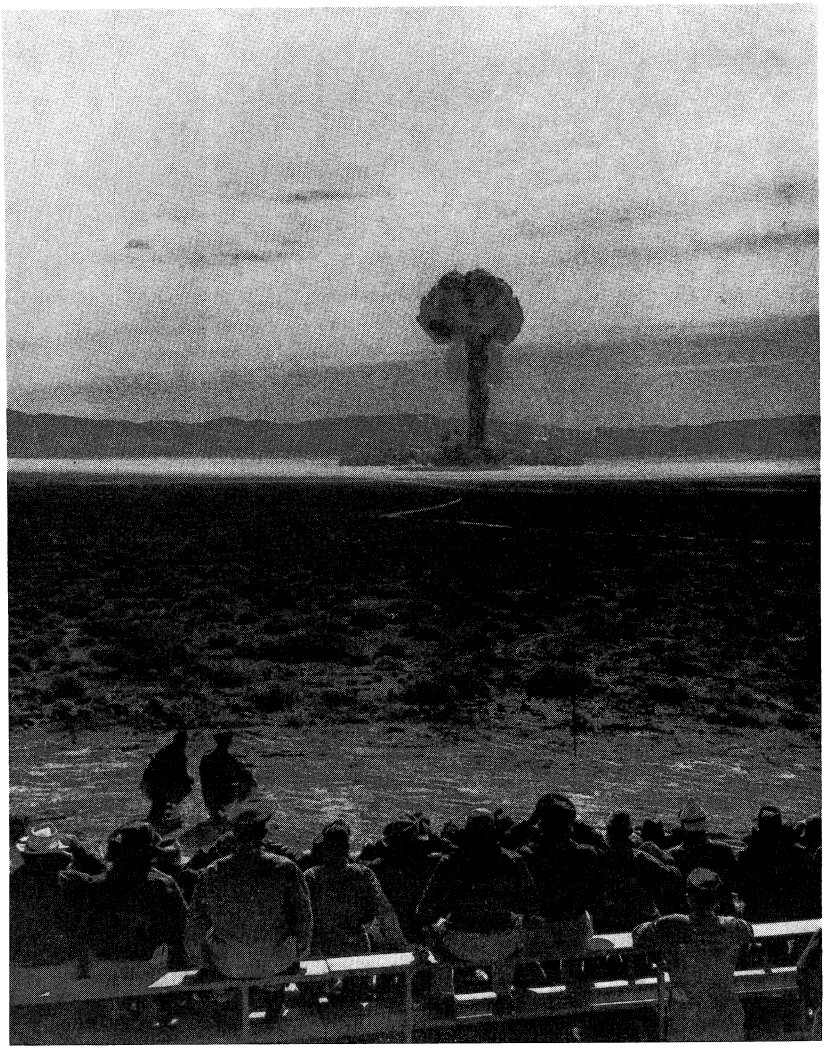




Last minute inspection of the *Castle-Bravo* device located in a small structure on a reef off Namu Island in the central Pacific. The March 1, 1954, detonation of the first shot in the *Castle* series demonstrated the feasibility of a "dry" thermonuclear weapon.

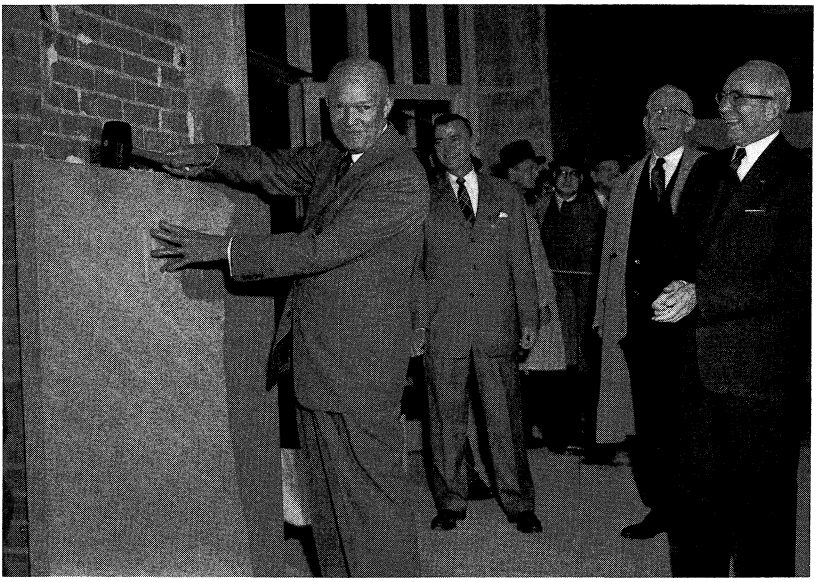
President Eisenhower confers with Administration officials at the White House on January 13, 1956, on the Atoms-for-Peace program. Seated, left to right: Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, President Eisenhower, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, Special Assistant to the President Dillon Anderson, AEC Chairman Lewis L. Strauss, and Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson. Photo courtesy Dwight D. Eisenhower Library.

Utility company executives Edgar H. Dixon and Eugene A. Yates break ground in June 1955 for a power plant to supply power for Memphis, Tennessee. The contract between the utilities and the AEC was terminated by President Eisenhower when Memphis officials announced their intention to build a muncipal power plant.

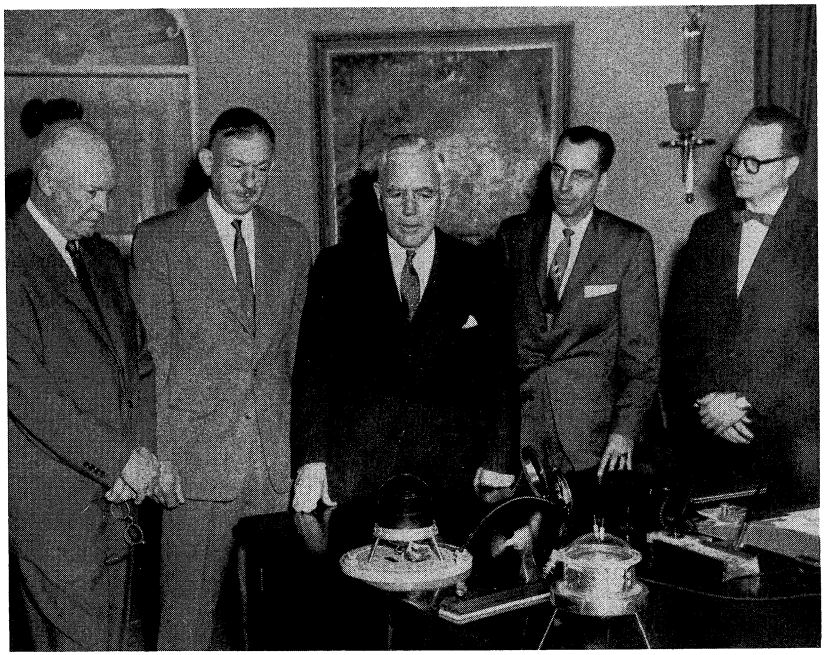


Congressmen and other official observers watch the formation of a mushroom cloud following the firing of an atomic artillery shell from the Army's new 280mm artillery gun. Part of Operation *Upshot-Knothole* test series, the *Grable* shot was fired on May 25, 1953.

AEC Chairman Lewis L. Strauss confers with scientists from Livermore laboratory following June 24, 1957, meeting with the President to discuss "clean" weapons. Left to right: Ernest O. Lawrence, Strauss, Edward Teller, and Mark Mills.



President Eisenhower sets the cornerstone of the new Atomic Energy Commission building located in Germantown, Maryland, twenty-five miles northwest of Washington, D.C. Left to right: AEC Director of Construction and Supply John A. Derry, Representative Carl T. Durham, chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and AEC Chairman Lewis L. Strauss.



AEC Chairman John McCone describes the SNAP-3 device to President Eisenhower as it sits on his desk in the Oval Office of the White House, January 16, 1959. The small lightweight device is a radioisotope-fueled thermoelectric generator for use in space missions. Left to right: President Eisenhower, Major General Donald J. Keirn, assistant director for aircraft reactors (AEC), Chairman McCone, Colonel Jack Armstrong, deputy assistant director for aricraft reactors (AEC), and Lt. Colonel Guveren M. Anderson, project officer, missile projects branch, division of reactor development (AEC).