

# THE DECISION TO DROP THE BOMB

**AFTER ANALYZING THE STATE OF THE WAR, DO YOU BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES DROPPING AN ATOMIC BOMB ON JAPAN WAS APPROPRIATE?**



# AUTUMN, 1941: THE PROJECT BEGINS

- WITH THE WAR RAGING AGAINST NAZI GERMANY IN EUROPE, THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN BEGAN A PROGRAM TO TEST THE CAPABILITIES OF A NEW WEAPON THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY CHANGE THE COURSE OF HISTORY.





# EARLY STAGES OF THE PROJECT

- EARLY ON, THE DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, **DR. VANNEVAR BUSH**, OVERSAW RESEARCH TO DETERMINE IF NUCLEAR FUSION COULD BE HARNESSSED TO DEVELOP A NEW TYPE OF MILITARY WEAPON CAPABLE OF IMMENSE POWER.





# RESULTS OF THE EARLY RESEARCH

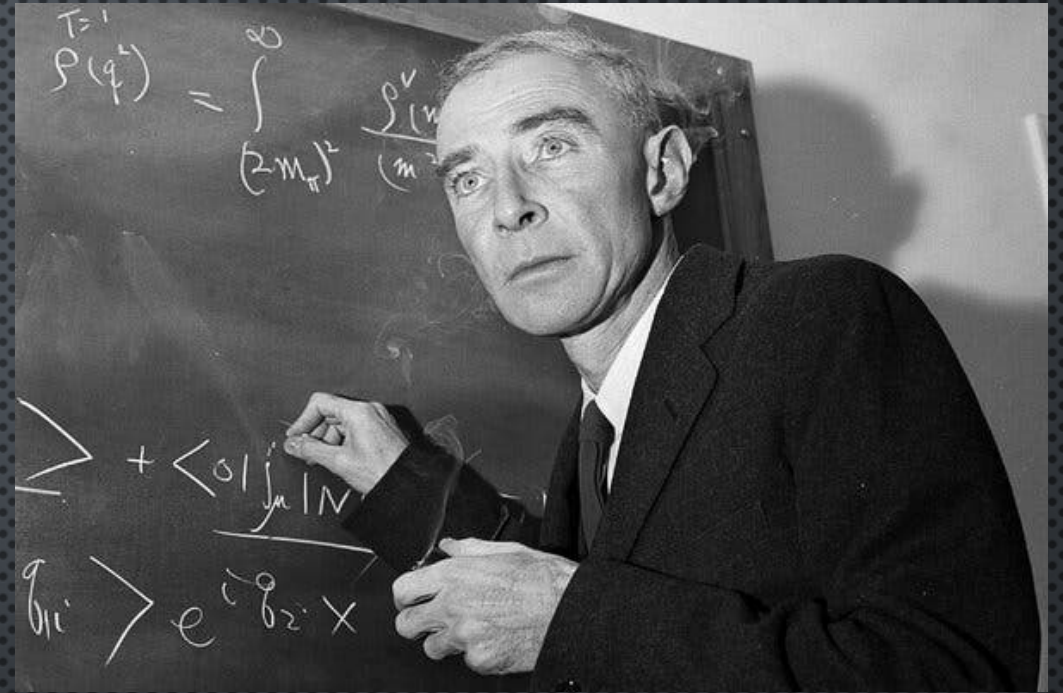
- DR. VANNEVAR BUSH AND HIS TEAM OF RESEARCHERS REALIZED THE NEW WEAPON HAD THE POSSIBILITY TO BE EVEN MORE POWERFUL AND DESTRUCTIVE THAN ORIGINALLY THOUGHT.
- DR. VANNEVAR BUSH SENT THE PROJECT'S FINDINGS TO THEN **U.S. PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT**.





# MANHATTAN PROJECT

- PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT IMMEDIATELY PASSED ALONG THE RESEARCHERS' FINDINGS TO THE MILITARY SO THEY COULD BEGIN TO DEVELOP THE WEAPON.
- BY JULY 1945, TOP SCIENTISTS AND PHYSICISTS, LED BY J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER WHO IS OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE "FATHER OF THE ATOMIC BOMB," HAD CREATED AN ATOMIC WEAPON CAPABLE OF LEVELING ENTIRE CITIES WITH ONE EXPLOSION.





# AUGUST, 1945: THE WAR

- AT THIS JUNCTURE OF THE WAR, NAZI GERMANY HAD BEEN DEFEATED, AND THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN WAS RAGING IN THE PACIFIC THEATER.
- SOLDIERS, LIKE **TED ESTRIDGE**, WERE FIGHTING THEIR WAY TOWARDS THE MAINLAND OF JAPAN IN BATTLES THAT WERE INCURRING TREMENDOUS LOSS OF LIFE ON BOTH SIDES.





# THE DECISION:

- THE UNITED STATES HAD TO MAKE A DIFFICULT CHOICE:

CONTINUE TO FIGHT THEIR WAY TOWARDS JAPAN, WITH THE DEATH TOLL CONTINUING TO CLIMB DAILY, OR UNLEASH ON JAPAN THEIR NEWLY DEVELOPED WEAPON, CAPABLE OF TREMENDOUS DESTRUCTION...

