

A-BOMB CLOSE-UP

Pressmen are in position at Yucca Flats, Nevada, as troops arrive for the biggest atomic explosion ever set off in America. It's a tactical exercise to test the reactions of troops to atom bombs used in support of an attack. Below is Ground Zero. Three-thousand-feet above this spot the airborne bomb will be exploded. Four miles away in slit trenches - the closest they've yet been - the men will see a blinding flash. After 45 seconds of unearthly silence will come the sound of the blast and its shock. The remaining seconds are counted off ... five, four, three, two, one ... zero!

At four miles it looks a small, almost disappointing burst, but in a moment we'll go in close and see the swirling power of the bomb and hear the delayed roar of the explosion.

Now we see the same explosion from a different angle - the flash reflected by the spectators. The ball of fire, with a temperature of a million degrees, is a hundred times as bright as the sun seen from the earth. Then, once again, the sound and shock waves.

Now the slow-motion camera gives its record of the same bomb. The streamers you see are rocket trails fired almost simultaneously for measuring purposes. The power of the detonation bends the trails out of shape. Then again, utter silence before the roar of the atom bomb.

Now an officer orders the infantry to prepare to move into the blast area. They are unharmed by the searing light and the rearing blast of the bomb. As a close-support weapon, it is proved practicable. Radio-activity is checked ahead of them as America moves closer to controlling this dread invention of almost inconceivably destructive power.

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A-BOMB

Fain--Weist

Busloads of newsmen arrive at Yucca Flat, Nevada, for the biggest atomic explosion ever detonated in the United States. Security officers check credentials. In a few moments the motion-picture camera will show you-- with a detail and accuracy no other medium can approach--the awesome beauty of man's most terrifying creation.

Trucks move troops into positions four miles from the blast center. For this is a tactical exercise, to test the physical reactions and morale of soldiers in atomic warfare. Never have troops stood so close.

Below is ground zero. Three thousand feet above this target the bomb will explode. From trenches the men will see--as will you--a blinding flash. Then forty-five seconds of unearthly silence. Then the sound of the blast and its shock--which will rock our camera--strike simultaneously.

Remaining seconds are counted off:

Now we see the same explosion filmed from a different angle, the flash reflected in the faces of the spectators. The fireball, with a million-degree temperature, is a hundred times as bright as the sun seen from the earth. Then the sound and shock waves!

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After  
chapter

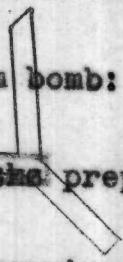
Safety

Wave

X Now the slow-motion camera gives its record of the same atomic blast.

The streamers you see are trails caused by rockets, fired almost simultaneously ~~with the atomic bomb~~ for measuring purposes.

the power of the detonation bends the rocket trails out of shape. Then, again, after utter silence, the roar of the atom bomb:



X An officer orders the infantrymen to ~~prepare to move~~ prepare to move into the blast area. They are unharmed by the searing light and the roaring wind of the bomb. But a check with Geiger counters for radioactivity is made before they venture into the target zone--ground zero. Paratroops join the the simulated seizure of an enemy position. Officers in charge say that morale was high after the explosion. As a weapon to be used in close support of ground troops, the atomic bomb is found to be practical. And America moves closer to taming and controlling this dread invention of almost inconceivable destructive power.

