Did Stalin Know about the USA’s Atomic Bombs?

This Question is a hard question to answer with hard evidence. Though we know absence of evidence is not evidence of absence. But I will set out to attempt to prove that Stalin did know about America’s Atomic Bombs and had multiple Atomic spies in the Manhattan project. We may never truly know about the true extent of this spy ring or Stalin’s true knowledge of the program.

Holmes, M. S. (2009, April 19). Spies who spilled atomic bomb secrets. Retrieved December 4, 2016, from Smithsonian Magazine, <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/spies-who-spilled-atomic-bomb-secrets-127922660/>

This source explains a lot about atomic spies and how much they knew about in the Cold war even including their life stories. It points out that there were numerous soviet spies in the Manhattan project and some that we still do not know their identity today. It includes the spy known as Klaus Fuchs a soviet spy who during 1944 leaked documents to the USSR including “detailed information about the bomb construction, including sketches and dimensions” Pointing to the fact that not only did the soviets know about the development of the weapon they had a fairly good idea of how to manufacture one for themselves. This source also lists Theodore Hall a very significant spy. Hall was very important to the theory that Stalin knew of the US nuclear bomb due to the fact that he actually tested and experimented on Fat Man so we know that Stalin clearly knew of the possession of such device and as early as

Oct. 18, 1945: Red Spy Steals U.S. Atom Bomb Secrets. (n.d.). Retrieved December 04, 2016, from <https://www.wired.com/2011/10/red-spy-steals-a-bomb-secrets/>

This source explains more on Klaus Fuchs a crucial Soviet spy who infiltrated the Manhattan project so deep that he was actually a well-known physicist around the Manhattan project and befriended well known Quantum physicist Richard Feynman. But this source explains a lot it points out that Fuchs was at the Trinity test on July 1945 the first detonation of the nuclear bomb. Now this would have been major news to everyone in the project especially to Klaus who would have reported this back to the Soviets along with many of the spies present at the Manhattan project.

Espionage. (n.d.). Retrieved December 04, 2016, from http://www.atomicheritage.org/history/espionage

This website contains a better list of all the known Soviet spies related to the Manhattan project. It shows the life of these spies before, after and during their affairs and the consequences for their actions. It also shows how many of these spies are interconnected into one large spy ring reaching into the upper ranks of the Manhattan Project. But the big thing we get from this site is the scale and complexity of the Soviets operations it shows how much the USSR spent on getting information on the Nuclear bomb and learning how to duplicate this. It even shows us how much we do not know today only 8 spies are listed here however we know there were many, many more but they were so good no one noticed. There were spies in the Manhattan project who leaked information probably even more confidential then whether the USA has a bomb, by 1949 the soviets had a nuke and could not have done it in that timeframe without detailed information on the research the American and British scientist developed.

Manhattan Project: Potsdam and the Final Decision to Use the Bomb, July 1945. (n.d.). Retrieved December 04, 2016, from <https://www.osti.gov/opennet/manhattan-project-history/Events/1945/potsdam_decision.htm>

This source is very significant it gets right to the point. This is the US department of Energy site so you know the facts are accurate but it has two lines that prove the point of the entire question did “Stalin know about the US Atom Bombs before the Potsdam Conference” it states that Truman told him that the USA has a weapon of “unusual destructive force” an goes on to say “The reason for Stalin's composure became clear later: Soviet intelligence had been receiving information about the atomic bomb program since fall 1941.”. This concludes the entire question a government website claiming Stalin already knew of the USAs nuclear weapon and showing no sign of distress or surprise over the announcement of a destructive force. The source also points out that Stalin “showed little interest” and that it would make “good use of it against the Japanese” casually stating how he already knew of its destructive power and possibly its purpose.

With all this evidence from trusted sources we can make up our own conclusions. However these are the conclusions I drew. First of all we can conclude that Stalin has a wide ranging Soviet spy ring in the Manhattan project and other nuclear-based programs throughout the United States. Secondly we can conclude that Stalin knew about the Atom bomb and even possessed designs and classified research for Atomic bombs which would eventually lead to the USSR manufacturing a nuclear bomb similar to Fat Boy. Finally to the question with all this evidence it is safe to assume that Stalin knew about the USA possessing nuclear bombs, the Trinity test and even potentially the plan to drop the nuclear weapon.