

The Manhattan Project

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New Mexico History Period 3

The Manhattan Project was a research project conducted primarily by the U.S. government starting around the time of WWII (1938); which aimed at the creation of nuclear weapons. The project initiated as a result of Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassmann's accidental discovery of [nuclear fission](#), which prompted [Albert Einstein](#) and [Leo Szilard](#) to send a [letter](#) to Franklin D. Roosevelt discussing the possibility of nuclear energy/bombs. The name *Manhattan Project* is considerably a misnomer as the project took place in Las Cruces, New Mexico; it was started in Manhattan, at 270 Broadway.

Having the possibility of nuclear warfare was a notion much too devastating to ignore. Pearl Harbor was attacked, without provocation, on December 7, 1941; which prompted the U.S. to put into action the produce of The Manhattan Project, a nuclear

Sources

References

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Hyperlinks

1. <http://nuclearconnect.org/know-nuclear/science/nuclear-fission>
2. <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/physics/1921/einstein/biographical/>
3. <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/leo-szilard>
4. https://www.osti.gov/opennet/manhattan-project-history/Events/1939-1942/einstein_letter.htm