

**Albert Einstein's letters pleading for the atomic bomb never to be used again - for sale; LETTERS from Albert Einstein pleading for the atomic bomb never to be used again have been put on sale for £12,000. The genius physicist had played a crucial role in creating the technology. His 1905 theory on the relationship between mass and energy allowed scientists to weaponise the atom.**

Express Online

October 22, 2019 Tuesday GENERAL\_EDIT\_CORRECTION ERROR Document ID 63 Has error Validate old format failed - Input Date Invalid - 0001: Unparseable date: "0001"GMT

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**Length:** 266 words

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## **Body**

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Years later, Einstein signed a **letter** to US President Franklin D Roosevelt backing the building of an atomic bomb in the war against Germany. But he changed his stance after being left horrified by the death and devastation caused when they were dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. After the war, he helped set up the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists to "prevent such tragedies in the future", as one **letter** said. In the four **letters** that have now come to light, he said the weapons of mass destruction must be scrapped.

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The **letters** were sent to businessman Cleveland E Dodge, one of the campaign's supporters.

Einstein, a known pacifist, had invited Dodge to a conference at Princeton University to discuss the "problems of atomic energy control".

He wrote in October 1946: "At stake is the fate of our civilisation."

In another **letter** that year he wrote: "Through the release of atomic energy, our generation has brought into the world the most revolutionary force since prehistoric man's discovery of fire."

The four **letters** are being sold from the Dodge family archive with auctioneer Bonhams.

A spokesman said: "Einstein was aghast at the dropping of the atomic bomb. This is an important collection of **letters**, poignantly capturing a moment of American and world crisis."

The sale takes place in New York tomorrow.

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## Classification

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**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper; Web Publication

**Journal Code:** WEBDE

**Subject:** NUCLEAR WEAPONS (90%); LETTERS & COMMENTS (89%); BOMBS & EXPLOSIVE DEVICES (89%); WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (71%); WAR & CONFLICT (67%); NUCLEAR SCIENCE (66%); ENERGY DEPARTMENTS (66%); US PRESIDENTS (66%); RELIGION (50%)

**Organization:** PRINCETON UNIVERSITY (55%)

**Industry:** NUCLEAR WEAPONS (90%); NUCLEAR ENERGY (71%); WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (71%); ARCHIVE COLLECTIONS (68%); ENERGY DEPARTMENTS (66%)

**Person:** ALBERT EINSTEIN (93%)

**Geographic:** NEW YORK, USA (79%); CHUGOKU, JAPAN (55%); UNITED STATES (92%); JAPAN (79%); GERMANY (70%)

**Load-Date:** October 22, 2019