Response Week 3

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HST 415 / Alex Wellerstein

Something that popped into my mind during the lecture was the extent that Truman was involved in the dropping in the Bomb and why so many people attribute it to him instead of L. Groves. It seems that Truman was all for dropping the bomb but did not order the dropping itself. What are nucleonics?

The meeting minutes for the dropping the bombs was very detailed. The scientists put a lot of thought into what the weather would be like to each of the targets and the back up targets as well. They even included a section on the psychological impact of the bomb and how bombing those targets would affect the Japanese government. The goal clearly was here to use the bombs as an end all to the war. The scientists were used to maximize the damage of these bombs to houses and industry targets. After listening to the lectures, it was clear that the Japanese did not take the Atomic bombs into consideration in their surrender. The biggest problem for them was the Soviet forces invading from the other side.