London project will mark the birth of the nuclear age

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prepared by Mr. Churchelt before he mand man Downlag-street last eight. The sistement sets

By WINSTON S. CHURCHILL BY THE YEAR 1939 IT HAD BECOME WIDELY RECOG-NISED AMONG SCIENTISTS OF MANY NATIONS THAT THE RELEASE OF ENERGY BY ATOMIC FISSION WAS A POSSIBILITY.

The problems which remained to be solved before this possibility could be turned into practical achievement were, however, manifold and inssesse; and few scientists would at that time have vestured to predict that an atomic bomh could be ready for use by 1945. Nevertheless, the potentialities of the project were so great that his Majoriy's Government thought it right that research should be carried on in spite of the muny competing claims on our scientific manpower.



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At this stage the research was curved out sminly in our universities, principally Oxford, Cambridge, London (Imperial College), Liverpool and Birmingham. At the time of the feeworked at mation of the Coalitions Government [May 1943] responsibility for co-endinating the week and mation of the Coalition Government [May 1940] pressing it forward by in the Ministry of Aircraft Production, advined by a committee of leading scientists presided over by Sir Goorge Thomson,

> At the same time, ander the present arrangements then in Jone for the pooling of scientific indormation, there was a full interchange of steat between the attentions earlying and this work in the United Kongdom and those in the Dated States.

A REASONABLE CHANCE

Sorb progress was loade that by the scenner of 1943 Hy George Thomson's committee was able to report that, in they thre, there was a presonable chadde that an alumit much could be produced before the and of the war. At the old of Atgest 1941 Lord Cherwell, whose daty it was to keep me informed an all these and other technical developments, reported the astationital program which was being made. The general responsibility for the scientific research

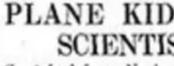
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TWO GERMANS PRALE DIGST

Daily Express article about the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima A south London theatre will link with counterparts in Japan to commemorate the 70th anniversary this year of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

The Japanese city was destroyed on 6 August 1945 when the United States dropped the world's first atomic bomb.



Initial reports of the destruction caused by the bomb were censored but after the full effects, including radiation sickness, became more widely known in the UK, politicians, philosophers, scientists and church leaders came together to campaign against nuclear weapons with peaceful protests, marches, music and artwork among the responses.

The Bubble Theatre, Southwark, has launched a project to see how Londoners reacted to the news that heralded the nuclear era. Their research project has been made possible by a grant of £74,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The information they uncover will be shared with theatre groups in Hiroshima as part of that city's commemoration of the traumatic event.

The research, much of which will be handled by volunteers, will cover a wide range of issues. They will set out to discover how newspapers in London reported the bomb explosion that destroyed more than ten square miles of Hiroshima and killed up to 135,000 people. The researchers want to learn how Londoners received the news, what reaction came from Japanese people living in London and how families of British servicemen who had served in the Far East or had been prisoners of war under the Japanese felt at the time. The project will cover the period up to October 1963 when an international Test Ban Treaty was signed by the United States, the UK and the then Soviet Union. The early days and protests by the peace movement will also be studied.

Much of the research will be based on recorded interviews undertaken by the estimated 180 volunteers. The information and personal stories gathered during the project will be presented in a number of ways including dramatic presentations of testimony, a new website and teaching resources available to schools. The archive of information uncovered will be shared with the Hiroshima Peace Museum.



Daily Express article about the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima

London and the A-Bomb