

# Commemorating Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Blaming Russia for U.S. War Crimes

By [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)  
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Region: [Asia](#)  
Theme: [History](#), [Militarization and WMD](#)

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*The following statement by **President Harry Truman** was formulated in late July 1945, 77 years ago.*

*People in Japan, America and Worldwide should read it:*

“This weapon is to be used against Japan between now and August 10th. I have told the secretary of war, **Mr Stimson**, to use it so **that military objectives and soldiers and sailors are the target and not women and children.**

**Even if Japs are savages, ruthless, merciless and fanatic, we as the leader of the world for the common welfare cannot drop this terrible bomb on the old capital or the new. He and I are in accord. The target will be a purely military one** and we will issue a warning statement asking the Japs to surrender and save lives. (**Harry Truman**, July 25, 1945, emphasis added)

July 25 1945



We met at 11 A.M. today. That is Stalina, Churchill and the U.S. President. But I had a most important session with Lord Mountbatten & General Marshall before that. We have discovered the most terrible bomb in the history of the world. It may be the fire destruction prophesied in the Euphrates Valley Era, after Noah and his fabulous Ark.

Anyway we think we have found the way to cause a disintegration of the atom. An experiment in the New Mexican desert was startling - to put it mildly. Thirteen pounds of the explosive caused the complete disintegration of a steel tower 60 feet high, created a crater 6 feet deep and 1200 feet in diameter, knocked over a steel tower 1/2 mile away and knocked men down 10,000 yards away. The explosion was visible for more than 200 miles and audible for 40 miles and more.

This weapon is to be used against Japan between now and August 10<sup>th</sup>. I have told the Sec. of War, Mr. Stimson to use it so that military objectives and soldiers and sailors are the target and not women and children. Even if the Japs are savages, ruthless, merciless and fanatic, we as the leader of the world for the common welfare cannot drop this terrible bomb on the old Capital or the new.

He & I are in accord. The target will be a purely military one and we will issue a warning statement asking the Japs to surrender and save lives. I'm sure they will not do that, but we will have given them the chance. It is certainly a good thing for the world that Hitler's crowd or Stalina's did not discover this atomic bomb. It seems to be the most terrible thing ever discovered, but it can be made the most useful

Note the rhetoric "we are the leader of the world for the common good". The "Japs are savages, ruthless, merciless and fanatic"

Hasn't changed. Continuity in US foreign policy.

Extensive crimes against humanity, carefully planned by the US War Department are portrayed as "the common good".

### Harry S Truman:

'The world will note that the first atomic bomb was dropped on

**Hiroshima, a military base’,**

**[radio broadcast - 1945](#)**

**9 August 1945, radio broadcast, Washington D.C., USA**

**77 years later, media reports on Hiroshima and Nagasaki (6 and 9 August 1945).**

Mainstream media lies then and now. The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki continues to be presented as a humanitarian undertaking by the U.S., as a means to ending WWII and saving lives.

And today, in chorus, in regards to nuclear weapons, the media is placing the blame on Russia.

U.S. “mistakes” are simply not mentioned.

Both the United Nations Secretary General and Japan’s Prime Minister are “toeing the line”:

Humanity is playing with a “loaded gun” as crises with the potential for nuclear disaster proliferate worldwide, United Nations **Secretary-General Antonio Guterres** said in the Japanese city of [Hiroshima](#) on the 77th anniversary of the first atomic bomb attack.

...

At an annual memorial on Saturday for the dropping of the first nuclear bomb, Guterres warned of the risk posed by crises in Ukraine, the Middle East and the Korean peninsula as he described the horrors endured in the Japanese city during World War II.

“Tens of thousands of people were killed in this city in the blink of an eye. Women, children and men were incinerated in a hellish fire,” the UN chief said.

“We must ask: What have we learned from the mushroom cloud that swelled above this city?” says Guterres.

No mention of Joe Biden’s **\$1.3 trillion nuclear weapons program**.

No mention of Washington’s **pre-emptive nuclear war doctrine** (2001 Nuclear Posture Review), which depicts tactical nuclear weapons (with an explosive capacity of 6 times a Hiroshima bomb) as “harmless to civilians”.

**Russia is to blame**

**“Fears of a third atomic bombing have grown amid Russia’s threats of a nuclear attack** since its war on Ukraine began in February.

...

**The Russian ambassador was not invited to the ceremony** but visited Hiroshima on Thursday to lay flowers at the memorial site.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in February, President Vladimir Putin has made thinly **veiled threats hinting at a willingness to deploy tactical nuclear weapons.**

Visibly the mayor of Hiroshima had also been co-opted by Washington. No history, no memories, no US war crimes. Accusations are casually directed against Russia:

**Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui**, in his peace declaration on Saturday, **accused Putin of “using his own people as instruments of war and stealing the lives and livelihoods of innocent civilians in another country”.**

Russia’s war on Ukraine is helping build support for nuclear deterrence, **Matsui said, urging the world not to repeat the mistakes that destroyed his city 77 years ago.**

Three days after the Hiroshima bombing, Washington dropped a second atomic bomb on the Japanese port city of Nagasaki, killing about 74,000 people and leading to the end of World War II.

...

The US remains the only country ever to have used nuclear weapons in conflict.

Saturday was the first time Guterres attended the Hiroshima memorial in person as UN chief. ([Al Jazeera](#) emphasis added)

...

Japan’s Prime Minister **Fumio Kishida** said at the memorial.

“I must raise my voice to appeal to the people around the world that **the tragedy of nuclear weapons use should never be repeated,**” ([Al Jazeera](#) \*emphasis added)

While the above report tacitly blames Russia with various innuendos, what it fails to mention is that barely two weeks after the end of World War II, on September 15, 1945, the US War Department issued a TOP SECRET plan consisting of a coordinated nuclear attack directed against 66 major cities of the Soviet Union.

## **The Infamous “WW III Blueprint” to Wage a Nuclear Attack against the Soviet Union (September 15, 1945)**

The War Department had estimated that **a total of 204 atomic bombs would be required to “Wipe the Soviet Union off the Map”.**

Read the Memorandum for General Lauris Norstad (below) **“on the number of atomic bombs which should be available to ensure our national security”.** This was before the Cold War at a time when the US and the Soviet Union were allies.

Was the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki a dress rehearsal for a much larger attack

against the Soviet Union?

The declassified documents speak for themselves.

Reference to Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the documents below pertains to “areas of total destruction” as a means to assessing the atom bombs required in the plan to bomb 66 cities of the Soviet Union.

“It is not essential to get total destruction of a city in order to destroy it’s effectiveness. Hiroshima no longer exists as a city even though the area of total destruction is considerably less than total”. (Memorandum dates 26 September 1945)

Key documents were released in September 1945. This plan of the Manhattan Project against the Soviet Union was formulated at an earlier stage, at the height of World War II.



ADDRESS REPLY TO  
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~TOP SECRET~~  
LIMITED

2043

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

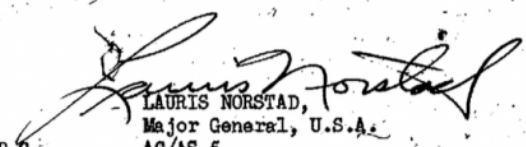
15 September 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR GENERAL L. R. GROVES:

Subject: Atomic Bomb Production

1. The attached study has been directed toward establishing an official Army Air Forces' view as to the number of atomic bombs which should be available in order to insure our national security.
2. This paper is still on the working level. Prior to concluding this study and forwarding it to the CG, AAF, your comments are requested.

Incl:  
Study abv  
subj w/Tabs A,B,C.

  
LAURIS NORSTAD,  
Major General, U.S.A.  
AC/AS-5.

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9/25/75  
DATE

FOR VICTORY



**TOP SECRET**

WAR DEPARTMENT

P. O. Box 2610  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



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26 September 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR GENERAL LAURIS NORSTAD:

1. Answering your memorandum of 15 September 1945 on the subject "Atomic Bomb Production", the following general comments are submitted:

2. The number of bombs for the minimum M-Day stock and the optimum stock are high because of the following factors:

a. The estimates are based on an area of total destruction and amounted to four square miles with an outer bomb damage of 6,000 to 7,000 feet. An area at least twice that should be used. While the damaged area of Nagasaki was considerably less than that of Hiroshima it was because the target was not suitable in size or shape for the maximum effectiveness of the bomb.

b. It is not essential to get total destruction of a city in order to destroy its effectiveness. Hiroshima no longer exists as a city even though the area of total destruction is considerably less than total.

c. While at Hiroshima the frames of a number of reinforced concrete buildings remained intact the windows were blown out and the interiors were gutted. While the buildings could be rebuilt they were made unusable for a considerable period. The Nagasaki bomb did more damage to reinforced concrete buildings. While our studies are not completed it is believed the final results will show a greater radius of destruction for such buildings than is indicated in the report.

3. In the limited time available no detailed analysis has been made of the report but my general conclusion would be that the number of bombs indicated as required, is excessive.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED  
DATE 9/25/75  
For the U. S. Energy Research  
and Development Administration  
JOHN K. HARTSOCK *JKH*  
Division of Classification

L. R. GROVES,  
Major General, U. S. A.

LIMITED

PROBLEM

1. To determine the United States requirements for atomic bomb stocks in the interim post-war era.

ASSUMPTIONS

2. It is assumed that:
  - a. The United States must be prepared to conduct offensive operations against any other world power or combination of powers.
  - b. The United States will maintain sufficient bases and air forces capable of attacking the strategic heart of any potential enemy.
  - c. The immediate destruction of the enemy's will and capacity to resist is the primary objective of the United States Army Strategic Air Forces.
  - d. Extensive research regarding the strategic vulnerability of all major powers will be conducted later and will permit a more complete analysis of bomb requirements.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

3. At the conclusion of World War II the United States first employed the revolutionary atomic bomb. Only two such bombs were dropped on Japan but these were spectacularly successful. Various conditions limit the reliability of information obtained on the properties of this weapon, and it is impossible to catalogue the full capabilities of any bomb by dropping two. Satisfactory experimentation is extremely difficult. However, photo analysis of the results at Hiroshima indicates the radius of destruction to be approximately 7000 feet. Tab "B" is a more complete description of the results of the Hiroshima bomb as interpreted from photo reconnaissance.
4. The characteristics of this weapon are such that it cannot be regarded as "just another bomb." These bombs are very expensive, cannot be produced in mass, require special storage conditions, require highly technical shipment and assembly procedures, and must be assembled and placed on the objective by highly skilled and specially trained personnel.
5. There is no approved production program for the atomic bomb.



18. In summary, it is computed that the United States requirements for stocks of atomic bombs are as follows:

| <u>Minimum</u>   |           | <u>Optimum</u>   |           |
|--|-----------|--|-----------|
| For incapacitation of 15 first priority targets -                      | 39        | For destruction of 66 cities of strategic importance -                 | 204       |
| For neutralization of possible enemy bases in the Western Hemisphere - | 10        | For neutralization of possible enemy bases in the Western Hemisphere - | 10        |
| For Strategic isolation of the battlefield -                           | <u>10</u> | For Strategic isolation of the battlefield -                           | <u>10</u> |
| Total  | 59        | Total  | 224       |
| Probable effectiveness factor -  | 48%       | Probable effectiveness factor -  | 48%       |
| Minimum requirement = $59 \div .48$ or                                 |           | Optimum requirement = $224 \div .48$ or                                |           |
| <u>123</u> bombs   |           | <u>466</u> bombs   |           |

#### CONCLUSIONS

19. It is concluded that the United States has a requirement for a minimum M-Day stock of 123 atomic bombs and an optimum stock of 466 atomic bombs.

#### Restricted Data

For further details and analysis, see



[Today the Threat of Nuclear War is Real: "Wipe the Soviet Union Off the Map", 204 Atomic Bombs against 66 Major Cities, US Nuclear Attack against USSR Planned During World War II](#)

By [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#), August 06, 2022

#### **Full text of Hiroshima Peace Declaration on 77th anniversary of atomic bombing**

[Not a word directed against the United States and its 1.3 trillion dollar nuclear weapons program,

Not a word pertaining to the extensive war crimes committed against the people of Japan]

\*\*\*

*The following is the full text of the Peace Declaration read Saturday by Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui at a ceremony to mark the 77th anniversary of the atomic bombing of the city.*

"I adored my mother; she raised me with such kindness and care." The woman speaking was 16 when she left home carrying the lunch her mother had lovingly prepared. She never imagined it would be their final parting. Summer, 77 years ago. That morning, without warning, the first nuclear weapon was dropped and detonated over humanity. Standing near Hiroshima Station, the girl saw a terrifying flash. Then came a thunderous roar. Striking from behind, the blast blew her through the air and knocked her unconscious. When she came to, she wandered through the smoldering city, searching for her mother. She saw a horrifying number of blackened bodies. One charred corpse still stood, clinging to the neck of a cow. Bodies floating in the river drifted up and down with the tide. She still remembers the morning when everyday life vanished violently into scenes from hell.

**In invading Ukraine, the Russian leader, elected to protect the lives and property of his people, is using them as instruments of war,** stealing the lives and livelihoods of innocent civilians in another country. Around the world, the notion that peace depends on nuclear deterrence gains momentum. These errors betray humanity's determination, born of our experiences of war, to achieve a peaceful world free from nuclear weapons. To accept the status quo and abandon the ideal of peace maintained without military force is to threaten the very survival of the human race. We must stop repeating these mistakes. Above all, entrusting a nuclear button to any world leader is to sanction continued nuclear threats to humanity and potential recreation of the hellscape of August 6, 1945. We must immediately render all nuclear buttons meaningless.

Must we keep tolerating self-centeredness that threatens others, even to the point of denying their existence? We should take to heart the words of Leo Tolstoy, the renowned Russian author of *War and Peace*, who advised, "Never build your happiness on the misfortune of others, for only in their happiness can you find your own."

Earlier this year, the five nuclear-weapon states issued a joint statement: "Nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought." They further declared their intent to "...remain committed to our Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) obligations." Having issued such a statement, why do they not attempt to fulfill their promises?

Why do some even hint at using nuclear weapons? The nuclear powers must act now to build bridges of trust among nations. Rather than treating a world without nuclear weapons like a distant dream, they should be taking concrete steps toward its realization. I call on the leaders of the nuclear-weapon states to visit the atomic-bombed cities where they can personally encounter the consequences of using nuclear weapons and strengthen their will to take these steps. I want them to understand that the only sure way to protect the lives and property of their people is to eliminate nuclear weapons. I fervently hope that the leaders who attend the G7 Summit in Hiroshima next year will reach this conclusion.

With the hibakusha's will to peace at our core, and inheriting the "never-give-up" spirit of hibakusha leader Tsuboi Sunao, who dedicated his life to the cause, Hiroshima will continue striding toward nuclear weapons abolition, however arduous the path.

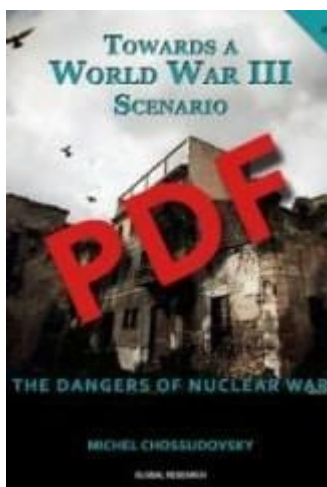
Mayors for Peace, now a network of 8,200 peace cities around the world, will hold its 10th General Conference in Hiroshima this year. That conference will work toward a civil society in which each and every citizen shares the conviction that happy lives require an end to war, an end to armed conflict, and an end to life-threatening social discrimination. In that pursuit, we will intensify cooperation among our peace-minded member cities to promote a "culture of peace" that rejects all forms of violence. Mayors for Peace encourages policymakers to

pursue foreign policies through dialogue without relying on nuclear deterrence.

**This past June, the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) adopted a declaration that, against the backdrop of the Russian invasion, categorically rejects the threat of nuclear weapons.** With nuclear weapons-dependent states participating as observers, the meeting specifically stressed that the TPNW contributes to and complements the NPT. Therefore, I demand first that the Japanese government serve as mediator at the NPT Review Conference. Then, Japan must participate in the next Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW, promptly become a State Party itself, and wholeheartedly support the movement toward nuclear weapons abolition.

The average age of the hibakusha now exceeds 84, and their lives are still impaired by radiation's adverse effects on their minds and bodies. Thus, I further demand that the Japanese government empathize with their suffering to better offer them enhanced support measures.

Today, at this Peace Memorial Ceremony commemorating 77 years since the bombing, we offer heartfelt condolences to the souls of the atomic bomb victims. Together with Nagasaki and likeminded people around the world, we pledge to do everything in our power to abolish nuclear weapons and light the way toward lasting world peace.



**[“Towards a World War III Scenario: The Dangers of Nuclear War”](#)**

**by Michel Chossudovsky**

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*[Michel Chossudovsky](#) is Professor of Economics at the University of Ottawa and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), which hosts the critically acclaimed website [www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) . He is a contributor to the Encyclopedia Britannica. His*

writings have been translated into more than 20 languages.

## Reviews

“This book is a ‘must’ resource - a richly documented and systematic diagnosis of the supremely pathological geo-strategic planning of US wars since ‘9-11’ against non-nuclear countries to seize their oil fields and resources under cover of ‘freedom and democracy’.”

**-John McMurtry**, *Professor of Philosophy, Guelph University*

“In a world where engineered, pre-emptive, or more fashionably “humanitarian” wars of aggression have become the norm, this challenging book may be our final wake-up call.”

**-Denis Halliday**, *Former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations*

Michel Chossudovsky exposes the insanity of our privatized war machine. Iran is being targeted with nuclear weapons as part of a war agenda built on distortions and lies for the purpose of private profit. The real aims are oil, financial hegemony and global control. The price could be nuclear holocaust. When weapons become the hottest export of the world’s only superpower, and diplomats work as salesmen for the defense industry, the whole world is recklessly endangered. If we must have a military, it belongs entirely in the public sector. No one should profit from mass death and destruction.

**-Ellen Brown**, *author of ‘Web of Debt’ and president of the Public Banking Institute*

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### About the author:

Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has undertaken field research in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa and the Pacific and has written extensively on the economies of developing countries with a focus on poverty and social inequality. He has also undertaken

research in Health Economics (UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNFPA, CIDA, WHO, Government of Venezuela, John Hopkins International Journal of Health Services (1979, 1983) He is the author of 13 books including The Globalization of Poverty and The New World Order (2003), America's "War on Terrorism" (2005), The Globalization of War, America's Long War against Humanity (2015). He is a contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at [crgeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:crgeditor@yahoo.com)

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