

The New Atomic Industry Encyclopedia Article

The New Atomic Industry

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The war mobilization effort included the creation of an industry to produce atomic bombs. To develop the atomic bomb many new facilities, including three new cities, were built. The cities, built for the purpose of testing the atomic bombs, were Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Hanford, Washington; and Los Alamos, New Mexico. Each was built in a remote location to maintain top secrecy and public safety. Congress provided \$2 billion to the top-secret atomic development program called the Manhattan Project. Hundreds of scientists and more than 120,000 other workers were employed on this project. In July 1945 the first successful test of the atomic bomb occurred in the New Mexico desert at Alamogordo. The following month the United States dropped atomic bombs on two Japanese cities, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, ending the war with Japan.