



Smithsonian
National Air and Space Museum

The Atomic Bomb [Knudsen]

Patti Williams

2020

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	<i>The Atomic Bomb</i> [Knudsen]
Identifier:	NASM.2020.0029
Date:	1945
Extent:	0.53 Cubic feet (20 by 24 by 1 inch flat box)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of an 18 inch by 21 inch spiral book, entitled, <i>The Atomic Bomb</i> , which was created by the United States Army Air Forces in 1945 to commemorate the success of the atomic bombs and the end of World War II.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gary Knudsen, Gift, 2020, NASM.2020.0029

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Patti Williams, 2020.

Preferred Citation

The Atomic Bomb [Knudsen], NASM.2020.0029, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Boeing's B-29 Superfortress was the most sophisticated propeller-driven bomber of World War II, and the first bomber to house its crew in pressurized compartments. Although designed to fight in the European theater, the B-29 found its niche on the other side of the globe. In the Pacific, B-29s delivered a variety of

aerial weapons: conventional bombs, incendiary bombs, mines, and two nuclear weapons. On August 6, 1945, the Boeing B-29 Superfortress, Silverplate, "Enola Gay" dropped the first atomic weapon used in combat on Hiroshima, Japan. On August 9, 1945, the Boeing B-29 Superfortress, Silverplate, "Bockscar" dropped a second atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan.

Biographical / Historical

Captain Roy F. Knudsen (1918 - 2011), graduated from the 10th Class of the Aviation Cadet Detachment at Scott Field, Illinois in August, 1942. Initially assigned to the 1st Mapping Group at Bolling Field, Washington, DC, Knudsen was later reassigned to the 2nd Photo Charting Squadron at Felts Field, WA. In August, 1944, Knudsen was assigned to the 1st Photo Charting Group while later in October of that year he was assigned to the 3rd Photo Reconnaissance Squadron, both located at Buckley Field, CO. In April, 1945, he was sent to Smoky Hill Army Air Field in Salina, KS, for training on communications equipment installation for B-29 aircraft. He was then deployed to the Pacific Theater, based on Guam where his squadron was responsible for the aerial reconnaissance leading up to and following the atomic bomb attacks in August of 1945 and the end of the war. He left active duty upon his arrival home in February 1946.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of an 18 inch by 21 inch spiral book, entitled, *The Atomic Bomb*, which was created by the United States Army Air Forces in 1945 to commemorate the success of the atomic bombs and the end of World War II. This 17 page publication includes text, maps, and strike photography of the two atomic bomb sites, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, 1945. This copy was given to Captain Roy F. Knudsen.

Arrangement

No arrangement as collection is just one item.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Atomic bomb
- Boeing B-29 Superfortress, Silverplate "Bocks Car"
- Boeing B-29 Superfortress, Silverplate "Enola Gay"
- World War, 1939-1945