

TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON 23 SEPTEMBER 1949  
RE: FIRST RUSSIAN ATOMIC EXPLOSION

I believe the American people to the fullest extent consistent with the national security are entitled to be informed of all developments in the field of atomic energy. That is my reason for making public the following information.

We have evidence that within recent weeks an atomic explosion occurred in the U. S. S. R.

Ever since atomic energy was first released by man, the eventual development of this new force by other nations was to be expected. This probability has always been taken into account by us.

Nearly four years ago I pointed out that "scientific opinion appears to be practically unanimous that the essential theoretical knowledge upon which the discovery is based is already widely known. There is also substantial agreement that foreign research

can come abreast of our present theoretical knowledge in time." And, in the three-nation declaration of the President of the United States and the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and of Canada, dated November 15, 1945, it was emphasized that no single nation could, in fact, have a monopoly of atomic weapons.

This recent development emphasizes once again, if indeed such emphasis were needed, the necessity for that truly effective and enforceable international control of atomic energy which this Government and the large majority of the members of the United Nations support.

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Text of announcement by the President on 3 October 1951  
re: 2nd Russian atomic explosion.

"Another atomic bomb has recently been exploded within the Soviet Union.

In spite of Soviet pretensions that their atomic energy program is being directed exclusively toward peaceful purposes, this event confirms again that the Soviet Union is continuing to make atomic weapons.

In accordance with the policy of the President to keep the American people informed to the fullest extent consistent with our national security, the President has directed me to make this statement and to stress again the necessity for that effective, enforceable international control of atomic energy which the United States and a large majority of the members of the United Nations support.

Further details cannot be given without adversely affecting our national security interests."

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Text of announcement by the President on 22 October 1951  
re: 3rd Russian atomic explosion.

"Another atomic explosion has occurred within the Soviet Union, apparently as a part of a test series.

Of course, there may be more such explosions from time to time."

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