



More than 80 people attended a January 2002 teach-in at Los Alamos. Here we are gathered near the Area G nuclear waste disposal site.

Who We Are

Since 1989, the Los Alamos Study Group community—our staff and board, volunteers, interns, and supporters—has consistently provided leadership on nuclear disarmament and related issues in New Mexico. Not infrequently, we also have provided leadership nationally as well. Our work includes research and scholarship (central to all we do), education of decisionmakers, providing an information clearinghouse for journalists, organizing, litigating, and advertising. We place particular emphasis on the education and training of young activists and scholars.

Our careful, reasoned approach has gained us many friends, and built bridges even with people in the nuclear labs and plants. Since September 11, 2001, our work has increasingly placed nuclear weapons in the context of aggression abroad and the militarization of our society at home.

The Study Group is based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Our board of directors includes both New Mexico and national members, and the work of our staff is supplemented by the contributions of interns and volunteers. We are supported largely by individual donations. We welcome your questions, participation, and support.

The cover shows an underground nuclear explosion ("Sedan," 104 kilotons, 1962) similar in yield and effects to some of the new U.S. weapons now being developed. The sunflower is the symbol of the international nuclear disarmament movement.



Citizen inspection of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), 1998. Inspectors Bill Doyle, Willem Malten, and board member Zia Mian are shown at Technical Area 55 (the LANL plutonium facility). News media to left, off picture.

Resistance and Renewal

The work of the Study Group has been directly effective in changing public policy, and serves as a political "deterrent" against still worse policies.

But more than this, to the extent it embodies our commitment to truth and nonviolence, the Study Group itself is an essential part of the culture of peace, and anticipates the society we seek to create. We enjoy that freedom now.

If you are interested in working with us, give us a call.

"[W]e as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values...A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death."

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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Los Alamos Study Group

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SOCIAL JUSTICE

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY



"Mere praise of peace is easy, but ineffective. What is needed is active participation in the fight against war and everything that leads to it."

—ALBERT EINSTEIN, 1953



Join Us!

Many of us understand the profound dangers to our society posed by increasing militarism, and we want to do something about it. We will be ineffective, however, if we oppose violence and militarism in general without addressing the huge nuclear weapons industry in our own back yard.

Silence concerning these weapons implies a broad moral consent to the policies of aggression and injustice that require them, as well as to the environmental destruction they cause. If we do not act to eliminate these most terrible of weapons, which embody the most terrible of intentions, we vitally undercut our work against violence in all its forms, including environmental destruction and the structural violence that crushes the spirits and shortens the lives of the poor.

“The Bomb”—absolute mass destruction on demand—has always been much more than a weapon. It’s a way of life. As novelist E. L. Doctorow put it, “The bomb first was our weapon. Then it became our diplomacy. Next it became our economy. Now it’s become our culture. We’ve become the people of the bomb.” Nowhere is this more true than in New Mexico—unless we actively oppose it.

The absolute weapon requires absolute secrecy and control in all its affairs—the antithesis of democracy. It commands a militarized economy, in which no sacrifice is too great for “national security,” and *human* security is ignored. It requires the permanent consumption of parts of the environment. It even usurps the state itself, which must sacrifice its moral authority and bend its laws, because the absolute weapon is incompatible with law and morality. It poisons our values, brutalizes our sensibilities, and darkens the human prospect at the very moment in history when we need all the creative, spiritual strength we can muster.

There are more operational nuclear weapons in New Mexico than anywhere else in the world, more labs and production plants, and this state receives far more money to build nuclear weapons than any other. In addition, we have four military bases and two operating nuclear waste disposal sites (so far), with more nuclear facilities just over the border in Texas. Another plutonium pit factory and a uranium enrichment plant also may be built here—unless we stop them.

Sixty years of misguided devotion to The Bomb has not even brought us prosperity. Quite the reverse, in fact. Our economic position relative to the other states has fallen, and ours is now among the very poorest states, even though we consistently lead the nation in per capita federal spending.

*It is no longer a choice
between violence and
nonviolence in this world;
it’s nonviolence or
non-existence.*

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,
April 3, 1968,
the day before he died

Won’t you join with us
to work for a better future?

Support Our Programs

- I would like to make a one-time donation of \$ ____.
- I would like to make a monthly donation of \$ ____.
- I would like to give by credit card
(please visit www.lasg.org).
- I would like to make a donation of stock (please call).
- I would like to discuss a possible bequest.

All contributions to the Los Alamos Study Group, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, are fully tax-deductible.

Work Directly for Peace

Please indicate any of the following activities that interest you!

- Group study, planning, and discussion (the center and wellspring of the rest)
- Organizing public meetings
- Research
- Fundraising
- Tabling and other outreach
- Mailings
- Organizing citizen inspections
- Providing housing for visiting speakers
- Meeting with elected officials

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

(Important! We promise not to overwhelm you.)

A Few of Our Accomplishments:

- prevented expansion of Los Alamos’ nuclear waste dump (10 years so far);
- halted construction (so far) of a second disposal site;
- prevented construction of a large plutonium storage facility in Los Alamos;
- delayed and downscaled plutonium pit production in Los Alamos from 50 to 20 pits/yr until at least 2007;
- exposed a new earth-penetrator bomb and proposed nuclear glide bomb (the latter was then halted);
- revealed the planned upgrade of more than 3,200 nuclear weapons to first-strike capability; and with this
- exposed the real purpose of most of the U.S. “stockpile stewardship” program—designing weapons;
- generated hundreds of articles and news segments in regional, national, and international press and broadcast media;
- helped educate activists in dozens of organizations;
- provided key information to Congress, UN delegates, and thousands of individuals;
- aired several hundred radio ads so far against the Iraq war and against potential pit production in New Mexico;
- displayed disarmament and anti-war billboards, seen by hundreds of thousands of people each month.