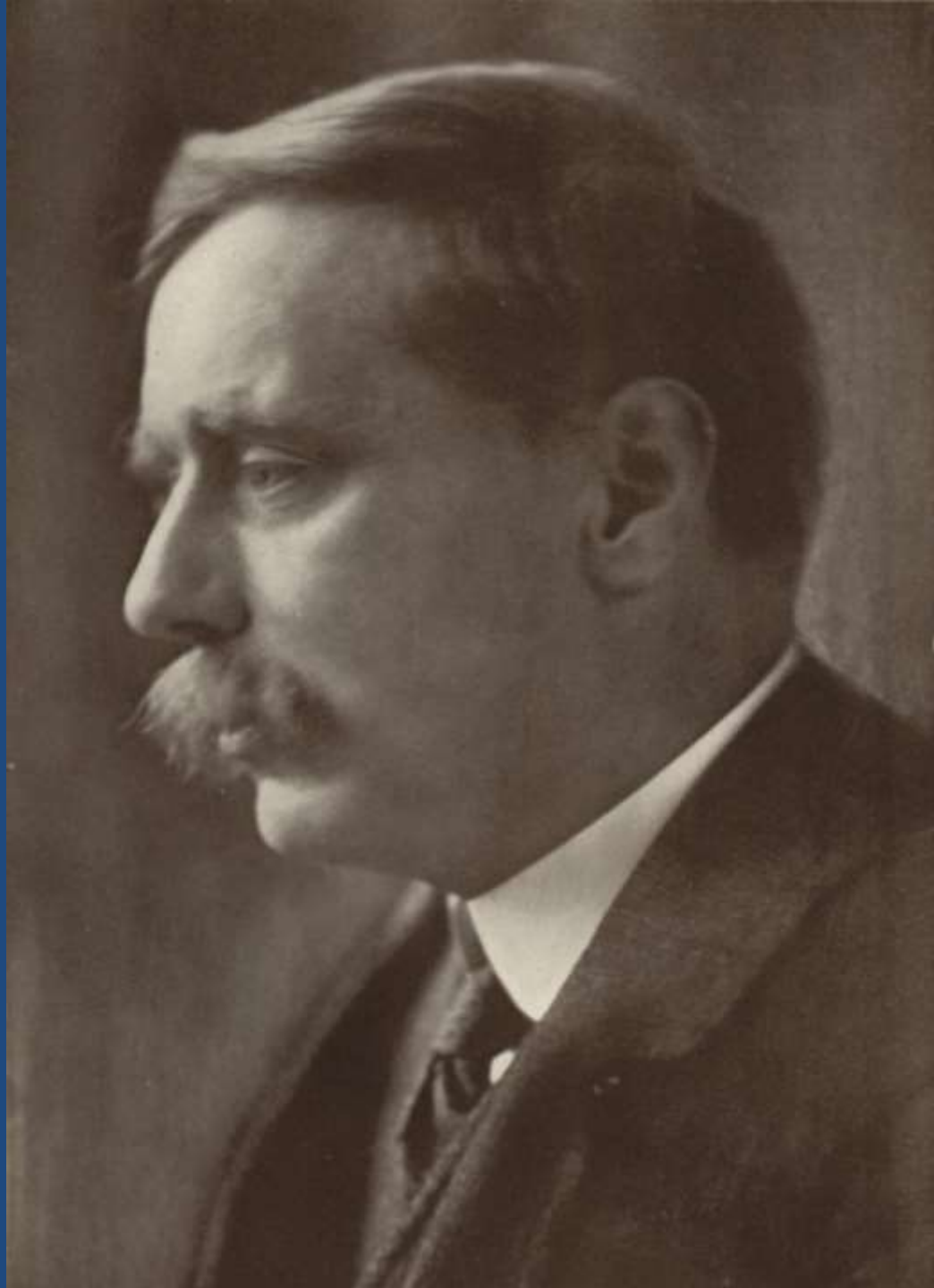


Churchill's Bomb

Graham Farmelo

Churchill College, Cambridge









WHAT OTHER SECRETS DOES THE INVENTOR HOLD?

— — —

One Day We May
Tap All The
Resources Of The
Elusive Atom

— — —



AT WORK WITH A PHOTOMICROGRAPHIC CAMERA IN THE RESEARCH
LABORATORIES OF IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES.

By The Rt. Hon. WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, C.H., M.P.

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ALMOST every day, the scientists tell us, discoveries are being made about the artificial building-up or breaking-down of the nuclei of the atoms.

Atoms, to use a common simile, resemble in their structure the solar system.

An excessively dense nucleus

social habits by cheap motor-cars, talking pictures, the radio and the aeroplane.

These inventions, to name but a few, all of which have been made within the last thirty years, are in the physical field.

The great biological inventions are much fewer, but their influence was far greater.

novel synthetic substances of similar type?

Organic molecules are very complex, but large numbers of different types, differing only in a small degree from one another, can be made.

It seems not impossible that some such substances might be employed and give totally new developments

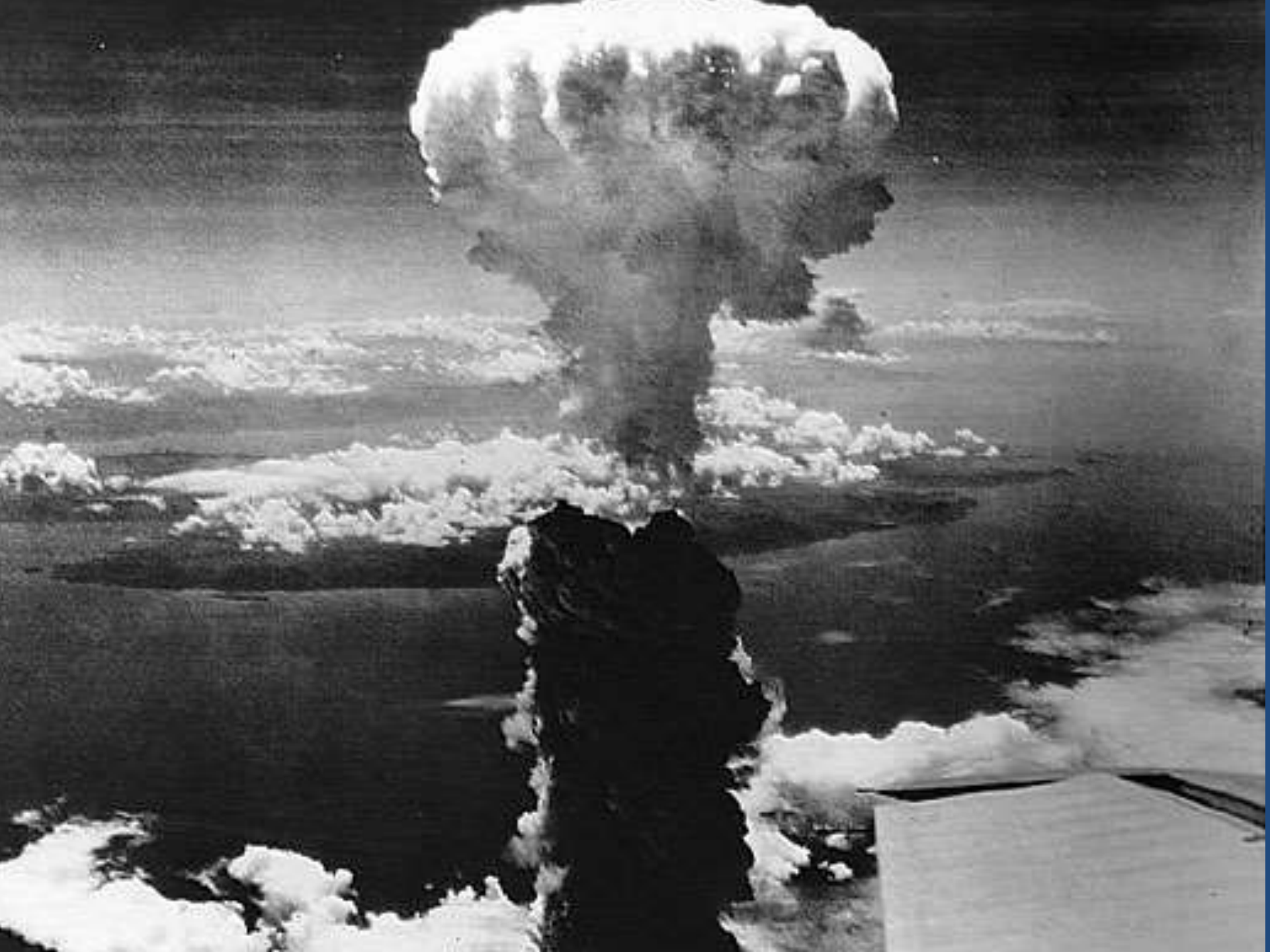
















CHICAGO, FEBRUARY 17.

The chairman of the Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Committee, Mr Sterling Cole, hinted to-day that the United States might have hydrogen weapons even more potent than the experimental one which tore a crater a mile wide and 175 feet deep in the floor of the Pacific Ocean in 1952.

He said that the United States had "in being" an entire family of atomic weapons, some of them 25 times more powerful than the bomb that destroyed Hiroshima in 1945.

Mr Cole gave details of the 1952 experiment in a speech at a commercial lunch here. He said:

"The thermo-nuclear test of 1952 completely obliterated the test island in the Eniwetok Atoll. It tore a cavity in the floor of the ocean—a crater measuring a full mile in diameter and 175 feet in depth at its lowest point. Within this crater one could place 140 structures the size of our nation's Capitol.

"If it occurred in a modern city, I am told that the heat and blast generated in the 1952 hydrogen test would cause absolute destruction over an area extending three miles in all directions from the point where the hydrogen device exploded.

"This is an area of complete devastation—using the word 'complete' in its most precise meaning—six miles in diameter. The area of severe-to-moderate damage would stretch in all directions to seven miles from ground zero.

"Finally, the area of light damage would reach to ten miles from the point of detonation. In other words, an area covering 300 square miles would be blanketed by this hydrogen explosion."

system could cripple and repel any fleet directed against us."

At present it was possible that a number of ten enemy planes could reach the targets—"and this is an age when only one hydrogen weapon would be needed to destroy the vitals of any American city." Mr Cole called for increased defences, including the use of "small size atomic weapons specifically adapted to anti-aircraft defence." He added:

"It is entirely within our capacity to guard all vulnerable approaches to the North American continent with interceptor squadrons and guided missiles armed with atomic warheads, and to have these warheads in such profusion that an enemy seeking to penetrate our defences would confront a barrier of atomic firepower."
—British United Press. Reuter. Associated Press.







