

HIROSHIMA

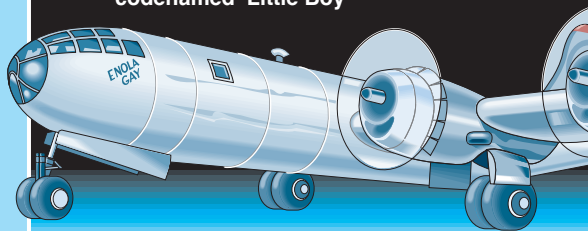
Countdown to destruction

Forty eight years ago this week the first A-bombs were dropped on Japan. Each year on August 6, as thousands of people gather in the Peace Park in Hiroshima, a peal of bells traditionally sounds at 8:15 am to mark the moment when the city was destroyed by the world's first atomic bomb

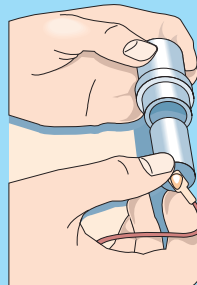
- ① July 16, 1945
U.S. scientists
explode the first
atomic device at
Alamogordo in the New
Mexico desert



- ③ August 6, 02:45 hours
B-29 bomber, Enola Gay, takes off
from Tinian carrying the 9,000lb bomb,
codenamed 'Little Boy'



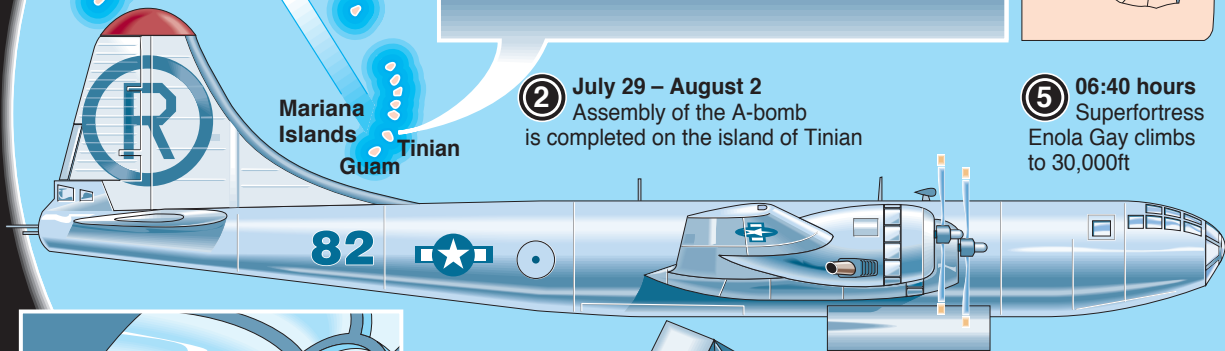
- ④ 03:00 hours
A U.S. navy
weapons expert
arms the bomb



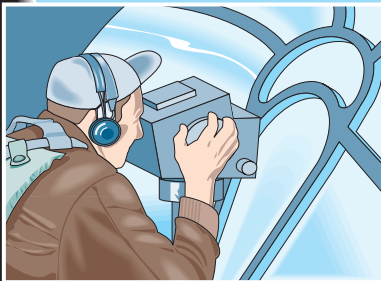
- ② July 29 – August 2
Assembly of the A-bomb
is completed on the island of Tinian

Mariana Islands
Guam
Tinian

- ⑤ 06:40 hours
Superfortress
Enola Gay climbs
to 30,000ft



- ⑥ 08:14 hours
The bombardier
links his bombsight
to the autopilot of the
B-29. He sights the 'aiming
point' – a bridge in the city centre
08:15 hours
The bomb is released



The bomb falls for
almost six miles. At
1,890ft the fuse fires and
the bomb detonates;
140,000 people
will die in
Hiroshima

