On the week of the 79th commemoration of the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, the National Security Archive today publishes a fascinating new collection of papers from the office files of Leslie Groves, the director of the Manhattan Project, the U.S. effort during World War II to develop and produce the world’s first nuclear weapons. Among the newly available records are candid memos and other correspondence from inside the Manhattan Project on the role of nuclear technologies in the post-war environment and the importance of being the preeminent atomic power.

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