

# National Park Service Department of the Interior

## Manhattan Project National Historical Park Oak Ridge, Tennessee



August 2020

### Manhattan Project History in August

- On August 4, 1945 Lt. Col. Paul Tibbets briefed the crew of the B-29 bomber Enola Gay that they will drop a powerful bomb, but the nature of the weapon was not revealed.
- Gen. LeMay officially confirmed mission for the next day with Lt. Col Paul Tibbets on August 5, 1945.
- On August 6, 1945 at 08:15 am the Little Boy was dropped on Hiroshima. With temperatures at 5,400 degrees over 70,000 people were killed by the blast with a force of 15,000 tons of TNT and another 60,000 would die later as a result of the weapon.
- On August 9, 1945 at 11:02 am the Fat Man atomic bomb was dropped over the city of Nagasaki. The weapon detonated 1,600 feet over the city.
- Japan officially surrendered on August 14, 1945. An atomic bomb has not been used in war since WWII.
- The Atomic Energy Act was signed by President Truman on August 1, 1946, establishing the Atomic Energy Commission.



### The Park Will be Commemorating *Days of Peace and Remembrance: Marking 75 years since Hiroshima & Nagasaki* here in Oak Ridge at Sunrise on Thursday, August 6 at the International Friendship Bell at A. K. Bissell Park. All are invited to take turns ringing the bell once. Please ring the bell for whatever reason that speaks to you. After ringing the bell, you are invited to record your reason for ringing the bell. Park staff will later catalog the papers for historical purposes.

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### We Invite Everyone to Participate in a Virtual Bell Ringing Option on the Park's webpage (<https://www.nps.gov/mapr/learn/historyculture/75th-commemoration.htm>) from 6 am ET on August 6 through midnight on August 9.

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**Messages of Peace.** The *origami* crane has become a symbol of resilience, strength, and peace. To celebrate these

values and recognize the historical trauma of the atomic bombings, we are soliciting paper cranes from the public. Submit a crane with your personal message of peace written on it. These cranes will be saved in a time capsule and opened in 2045 on the 100th anniversary of the atomic bombings. Use standard *origami* paper size of no larger than 6x6 inch (150 x150 mm) squares. Mail your crane and message of peace to our address by August 5, 2020.

### A *Girl's Perspective* Photographic Exhibit Will Open on Thursday, August 13 at the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge (CMOR). The pictures on display were taken by the young women of Girls Inc. of Oak Ridge. CMOR is offering free admission on opening day from 10 am to 4 pm ET.

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### Park Visitor Center Desk at the

Children's Museum of Oak Ridge  
461 W. Outer Drive,  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830  
(865) 482-1942

or visit us:

[www.nps.gov/mapr](http://www.nps.gov/mapr)

[www.twitter.com/MnhntnProjectNPS](https://www.twitter.com/MnhntnProjectNPS)

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