

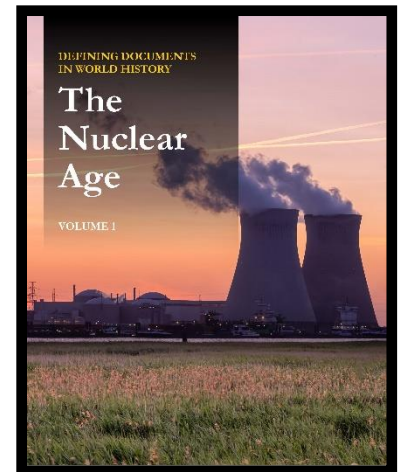
# Defining Documents in World History: Nuclear Age

**“This is a powerfully troubling assemblage of 66 nuclear-age documents arranged into thematic groupings that bring focus to the emergence of the atomic age, the Cold War, the Red Scare, atomic weapons, and our contemporary nuclear world order.** Collectively, these selected book excerpts, conventions, declarations, legislative acts, speeches, pacts, and treaties trace the period's evolution from WWII to today. Introducing the atomic age is Albert Einstein's 1939 letter to President Roosevelt, modestly explaining that a nuclear chain reaction in a mass of uranium would generate vast amounts of power and cautioning that this process "would also lead to the construction of bombs, and it is conceivable—though much less certain—that extremely powerful bombs of a new type may thus be constructed." The final "End of History" chapter analyzes the scary concept of mutually assured destruction. Even if we limit nuclear energy to peaceful endeavors, the energy-production process, unfortunately, yields long-lasting radioactive waste.

**This is a high-quality, compelling academic-reference work that presents primary-source material accompanied by outstanding background and analysis. It is recommended for research-oriented public- and academic-library collections.”**

—BOOKLIST

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