

Evolution of Radiation Protection

Introduction

Radiation protection measures were initiated following the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan in 1945. Survivors demonstrated early and late effects of radiation exposure such as rashes, GI sickness, cataracts, leukemia and death. Since then numerous research studies have been conducted to demonstrate the affects of radiation exposure on the human body. From the time x-rays were discovered in 1895 to present day radiation protection measures have continued to evolve.

References

nobi.nlm.nih.gov
<https://www.nde-ed.org/EducationResources/CommunityCollege/Radiography/Introduction/history.htm>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3907953/>
Air-te.com

Roentgen Age

X-rays were discovered by Wilhelm Roentgen on November, 8 1895. At this point in time the effects of radiation were unknown and therefore protection measures were obsolete.



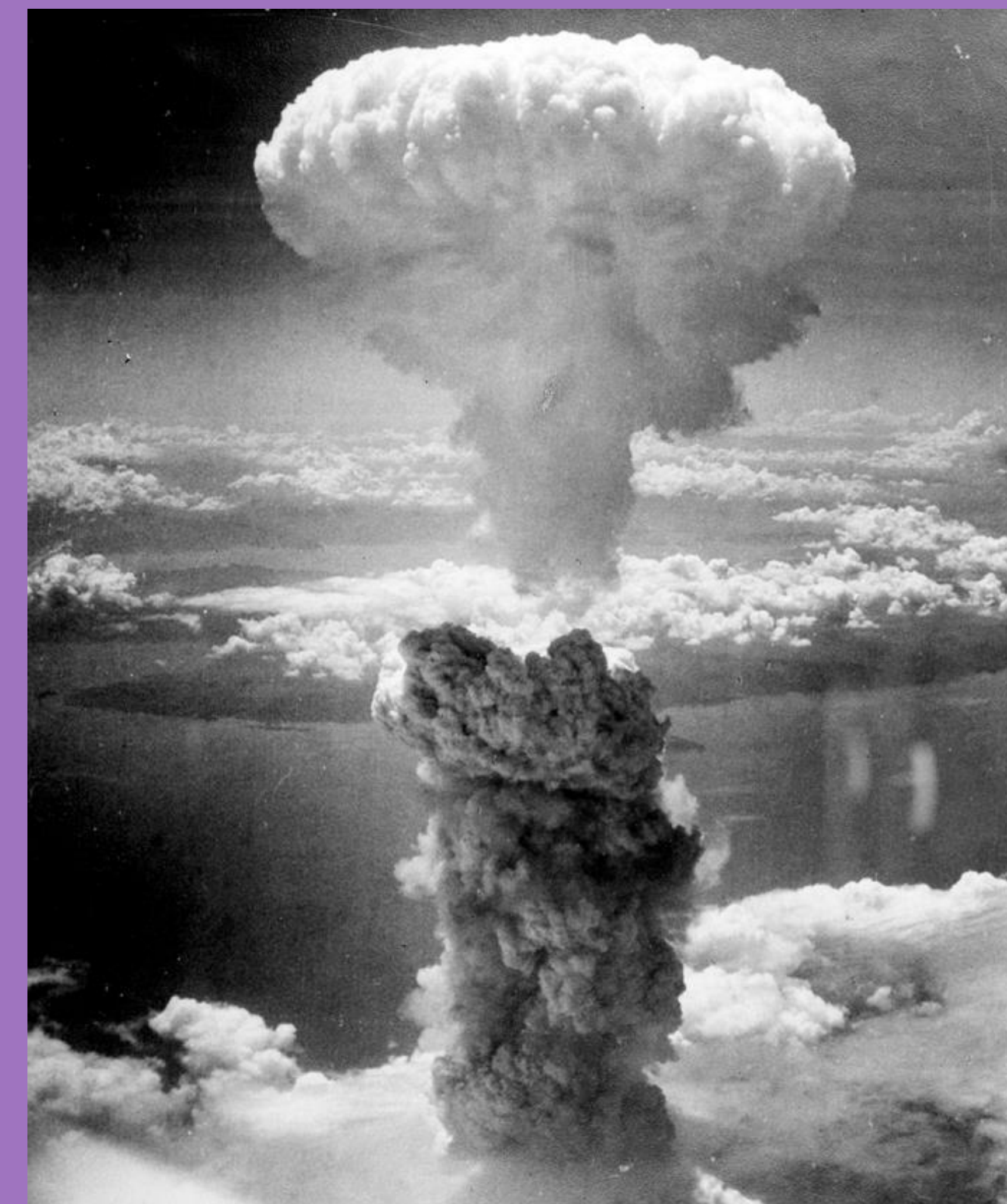
Early 1900s

As the effects of radiation became known, protection measures became a priority. Heavy, bulky lead shields and aprons were first utilized during this time.



Post Atomic Bomb

On November 26, 1946 President Truman approved a long range continuing study of biological effects and medical effects of the atomic bomb on man. Radiation dose limits were determined over the next 60 years.



Present Day

Continued research efforts provided better understanding of the effects of radiation on human tissue. Ultimately this lead to advancements in radiation protection equipment. Lead aprons became less bulky and more convenient for the user.