

Harry S. Truman
Statement on the Hydrogen Bomb
January 31, 1950

It is part of my responsibility as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces to see to it that our country is able to defend itself against any possible aggressor. Accordingly, I have directed the Atomic Energy Commission to continue its work on all forms of atomic weapons, including the so called hydrogen or superbomb. Like all other work in the field of atomic weapons, it is being and will be carried forward on a basis consistent with the overall objectives of our program for peace and security.

This we shall continue to do until a satisfactory plan for international control of atomic energy is achieved. We shall also continue to examine all those factors that affect our program for peace and this country, security.

“Harry S. Truman: Statement, January 31, 1950.” The Nuclear Files Project of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. 3/4/2011. http://www.nuclearfiles.org/menu/library/correspondence/truman-harry/corr_truman_1950-01-31.htm