



**“Mr. President, I feel I have
blood on my hands.”**

Robert J. Oppenheimer

Oppenheimer (2023) is nominated for 13 Academy Awards this year. The film reveals how the US government manipulated the country’s best scientists and engineers to build the world’s first super-weapons — only to use the weapons on two civilian cities, NOT military targets.

The scientists recognized the consequences of their work too late. They couldn't see beyond the flash of the blast. The bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki killed and maimed hundreds of thousands of people, and the environmental effects of the tests created radioactive contamination around the world.

Today, at a cost of \$114.1 billion, General Dynamics’ Electric Boat Division of Groton and New London, Connecticut is building 12 new Columbia-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. They will be armed with 16 long range Trident missiles, each carrying multiple warheads with 8 times the destructive force of the atomic bomb, The reality is that the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki killed and maimed hundreds of thousands of people in a flash. The total destructive force of a single Columbia submarine will be capable of destroying the world as we know it.

On March 4, the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Union of Concerned Scientists, we ask the scientists and engineers at Electric Boat who, according to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, are designing illegal weapons, to consider if they can live with the effects of what they are making, or will they repeat Oppenheimer’s words of regret after the first atomic bomb exploded in New Mexico:

"Now I am become Death, destroyer of worlds."

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Union of Concerned Scientists



International Campaign to
Abolish Nuclear Weapons