

The Los Alamos Times

EINSTEIN, DEAD AT 66 April 19, 1955

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correspondent

Albert Einstein

Princeton- Albert Einstein died early yesterday morning at the age of 66 in Princeton NJ. His remains will be cremated this afternoon. By the time he was thirty, Einstein was renowned as one of the most brilliant minds of our time. Born in Ulm, Germany in 1879. As a boy he spent much of his time in Munich and Milan. He graduated from the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich in 1900. Awarded the Nobel Prize for physics in 1921, Einstein gained notoriety for his theory of relativity, which challenged the accepted theory of the relationship between motion, mass, light, time, energy, and gravity. When his hypotheses were later proven mathematically, this marked the beginning of the atomic age. Scientists realized that energy could be liberated from atoms.

1905

Einstein received his doctorate at the University of Zurich in 1905. During that same year, he published three scientific papers in "Annals of Physics" which turned the scientific world inside out. It was in these three works that he first published his groundbreaking hypotheses.

1. "On a Heuristic Viewpoint Concerning the

Production and Transformation of Light". In this paper Einstein theorized that light exhibits characteristics of both particles and waves. It was hitherto thought that light was composed only of waves. The German physicist Max Planck called these particles "quanta"; we now know them as photons. The Quantum Theory of Physics evolved from his notions about light. The development of the photoelectric cell, or electric eye, would not have been possible without Albert Einstein. Modern inventions such as television and movies would not exist without the electric eye. Albert Einstein won the Noble Prize in Physics in 1921 for this work.

2. "The Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies". This was where he first described his theory of relativity. This introduced the revolutionary idea that "given that the speed of light is constant and all natural laws are the same, then both time and motion are relative to the observer". Time and motion had previously been assumed to be constant.

3. Einstein later developed his theory of relativity in more depth. In his third

scientific treatise he expanded on his original theory, and translated it into a mathematical formula. $E=mc^2$. "E" stands for energy, "m" for mass, and "c" for the speed of light. This stated that a tremendous amount of energy could be released from tiny particles. This provided the mathematical groundwork for harnessing atomic power. Einstein published a fourth paper in 1905, however less renowned, which he called "On the Motion of Small Particles Suspended in a Stationary Liquid". He explained in this article the seemingly random movements of particles in a liquid. It is called Brownian motion.

In 1912 Einstein became professor at the German University in Prague. In 1914 he moved back to Berlin where he was invited by the Prussian Academy of Science to become director of theoretical physics, and continue his research. Einstein was awarded this prestigious post because his theories had caused such excitement in the scientific community.

In 1916 he expanded further on his theory of relativity in an article entitled "The Foundation of the General Theory of Relativity". This hypothesized that starlight

should bend or be deflected when it passed by the sun. This suggested that the field of gravity is curved, and not just a force, as Sir Isaac Newton had previously thought. Unfortunately, this hypothesis could not be proven for three years, because a solar eclipse of the sun was needed for scientists to see the starlight on earth. In 1919, scientists from the Royal Society of London traveled to the Gulf of Guinea, and by watching a solar eclipse, were able to make calculations that proved Einstein's premise. This affirmation of his genius earned him worldwide respect and notoriety.

Einstein later performed experiments to prove his "unified field theory". This was a controversial area. Einstein believed that he could find mathematical relationships among all fields, such as gravitational and electromagnetic. He was unable to accomplish this goal in his lifetime, but continued to work on this until his death. Among the scientific community there were disputes for and against a unified field theory. Einstein always wanted his theories to have simplicity and beauty, which was how he saw the universe.

In 1933 the Nazis confiscated his property. Regardless of his stature in the scientific community, having been born a Jew, he was denied German citizenship. He then fled to America where he became a

citizen in 1940. He settled in Princeton, New Jersey, where he continued his research until his death. At the request of fellow scientists, he wrote a letter to President Roosevelt, stressing the urgency of looking into the use of atomic energy in bombs. However, he was strong pacifist and only suggested this to counter Germany's alleged experiments with atomic energy. Einstein had deep philosophical concerns that his mathematical research could be implemented with destructive results to mankind. In fact, Einstein often emphatically spoke out in favor of worldwide disarmament.

Einstein and his first wife were divorced in 1914, when he went to Berlin. They had two sons and a daughter. He later married his cousin Elsa at the end of World War I. She died in 1936. From World War I through the rest of his life, he dealt more and more with theoretical physics. Einstein has made unparalleled discoveries, which helped us to better understand and have greater control over our world. He will never be forgotten for his contributions to science, and for his humanity.



Albert Einstein photographed at Princeton University, where he lived and worked after fleeing Nazi Germany.



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Geneva Conference Held

The Geneva Conference was held this year in response to concerns for world peace. It has been determined that the Soviets are experimenting with a hydrogen bomb, or H-bomb. World powers feel the need to negotiate to ensure an appropriate balance of power. U.S. leaders as well as leaders of Western European Nations are all concerned that this situation could turn into nuclear war, and possibly World War III. This was the first time Soviet Leaders were seen in public by Westerners because they were not permitted to travel.

McCarthy Trials Continue

This series of televised hearings was spawned by the communist scare. Joseph McCarthy, the one who has been perpetuating these trials, is convinced that communism has infiltrated the government. Many Hollywood writers are being accused and are forced to use pseudonyms to get jobs. Any accused are not allowed to work and were black listed. Many are falsely accused if they have a friend who was communist. This routing out of supposed communists is not unlike the Salem witch-hunts. McCarthy usually has little evidence against those

whom he accused. People believe him because the communists have caused us a lot of frustration, especially in the Korean War. All government officials are required to take oaths of loyalty before they can start their jobs.

Von Braun Given Citizenship

Werner Von Braun, the famous rocket and missile scientist has just been given citizenship. He has experimented with rockets since he was a child, and later became advisor to Germany's rocket program. He was a major player in developing the V-2 rocket, which Germany used to bomb allied cities. In 1944 when Heinrich Himmler, and head of the Nazis secret police, took over the rocket program, he jailed Von Braun because he did not want to cooperate. Later that year he was freed by Hitler. In 1945, von Braun led a group of scientists who surrendered to the US army, 116 of which were sent to the US to work on guided missile systems. In 1950, Von Braun was assigned to Red Stone Arsenal in Huntsville Alabama, to develop the first large ballistic missile. Werner Von Braun has just been made a citizen of the United States.

Black Woman breaks segregation laws

At the same time that there is a lot of racial tension in the south, because southern schools are being forced to integrate. Miss Rosa Parks has created more tension. As is well known, southern laws say that blacks must give up their seats on public transportation if a white person gets on. Last week Miss Rosa Parks, a black woman, dared to violate these laws. She was riding on a full bus in the heart of Alabama, when a white man, General Bernard Law Montgomery, stepped on the bus. The driver told her to get up because it was the law. However, she refused. At the next stop, she was arrested, charged for misdemeanor, and fined ten dollars. Three quarters of the bus passengers are black. They have now realized that they can fight the system, by stopping taking the buses. Reverend Martin Luther King has organized alternative means of transportation. The bus companies are now filing for bankruptcy, and charging the blacks with running an illegal transportation company. The case will now go to the Supreme Court, and it appears the blacks will win.

Letters to the Editor

I wish to speak out against the injustice against the blacks in the South. My brother is a teacher Mobile, Alabama, where the desegregation of schools is currently underway. One of his students showed up to school wearing a sign, which read, "We won't go to school with Negroes". How is this helping the blacks? Inside the schools, the blacks have separate drinking fountains, bathrooms, and buses from the whites. How is this desegregation? If anything, this is creating more hatred between the races, not pacifying them. However, I do believe it is a step in the right direction.

-F.S.

Washington

I think there ought to be something done about the immense numbers of immigrants. There is not enough monitoring of who is coming into the country. We could unknowingly be letting in Communist forces and spies, or the former Nazi SS. Daily we hear of former Nazis being ferreted out of our neighborhoods. Keep an eye on your children!

-J.M.

Fargo

Editorial

As editor of the "Los Alamos Times", I wish to address the public's growing concern over the threat of a possible nuclear war. The truth of the matter is that there is no real threat. All that is happening now is that the Allies, the communists, and the Germans are all racing to build the most powerful bomb. This is not because they plan on using the bombs against each other. Believe me, at this point, no one wants a third world war. It is just so that we do not fall to the mercy of our enemies. Developing the bomb is merely a precaution. If the Communists and Germans know we have nuclear power, they will think twice before attempting to bomb us.

E.S.

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Footnote:

1. "Einstein, Albert." Men and Women of Science. Chicago: 1989 ed. Vol.8 of The World Book Encyclopedia of Science. Pg. 68