

BRITISH NUCLEAR TESTING AN INTRODUCTION



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Welcome to the Supplementary
guide for

**BRITISH NUCLEAR TESTING
AN INTRODUCTION**

‘Have You Seen The Dragon’

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‘Have You Seen The Dragon’

The educational video is available on the LABRATS YouTube channel by clicking the link below:

www.labratsacademy.online/ukeducation

This video lasts 18 minutes and contains details and information about the British Nuclear testing program (both atmospheric and underground) as well as clean-up operations.



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‘Have You Seen The Dragon’

Each testing operation was given a code name by the British Government. The following slides detail the codename for the Operations. Each slide will show:

- Year(s)
- Number of Tests
- Location
- Approximate Total Yield (given in kilotons)



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‘Have You Seen The Dragon’

Instructor Notes:

- The video contains each of the test slides, but they are provided here for reference purposes and to show the location using Google Earth for reference.
- The testing program ran from 1952-1991.
- The UK tested in Australia, Pacific Islands and the Nevada Desert (USA)
- Further information about worldwide testing can be found at www.labratsacademy.online
- Further information about the participants of the tests can be found at <https://damned.mirror.co.uk/>

Series	Years	Location	Tests	Yield Range	Total Yield (Kilotons)	Notes
Hurricane	1952	Trimouille Island, Montebello Islands, Western Australia	1	25	25	First British Nuclear Test
Totem	1953	Emu Field, South Australia	2	8 to 10	18	
Mosaic	1956	Montebello Islands, Western Australia	2	15 to 60	75	
Buffalo	1956	Maralinga, South Australia	4	2 to 15	30	
Antler	1957	Maralinga, South Australia	3	1 to 27	34	
Grapple	1957-1958	Kiritimati and Malden Island, Kiribati	9	24 to 3,000	7,869	First scalable thermonuclear test
NTS Series	1961-1991	Nevada Test Site, Nevada, United States	24	0 to 140	1,232	
Dominic (Brigadoon)	1962	Kiritimati and Johnson Island	31	20 to 7,700	38,100	Joint Operation with the USA
Minor Trials	1953-1963	Maralinga, South Australia	600 (approx)	N/A	N/A	Most contaminating tests (non atmospheric)

British Nuclear Testing (including UK/US Tests)

Ran From 1952 – 1991

Included approximately 600 Minor Trials

22,000+ Servicemen were involved





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‘Have You Seen The Dragon’

Diary Information

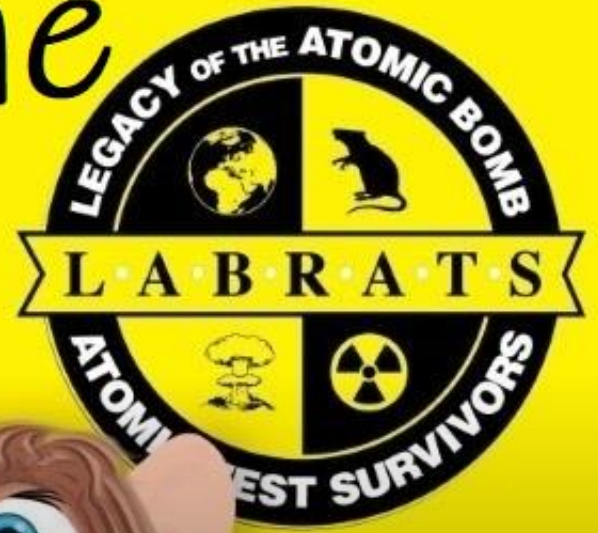
The LABRATS Academy contains a calendar of tests, each day is listed with the details of the country and testing undertaken.

The calendar will show just how much testing has been undertaken across the world as well as provide information for a particular day.

You can access this resource using the following link:

<https://www.labratsacademy.online/diary>

Operation Hurricane



1952 - 1 Test
Montebello Islands
Australia
25 kilotons



Operation Hurricane


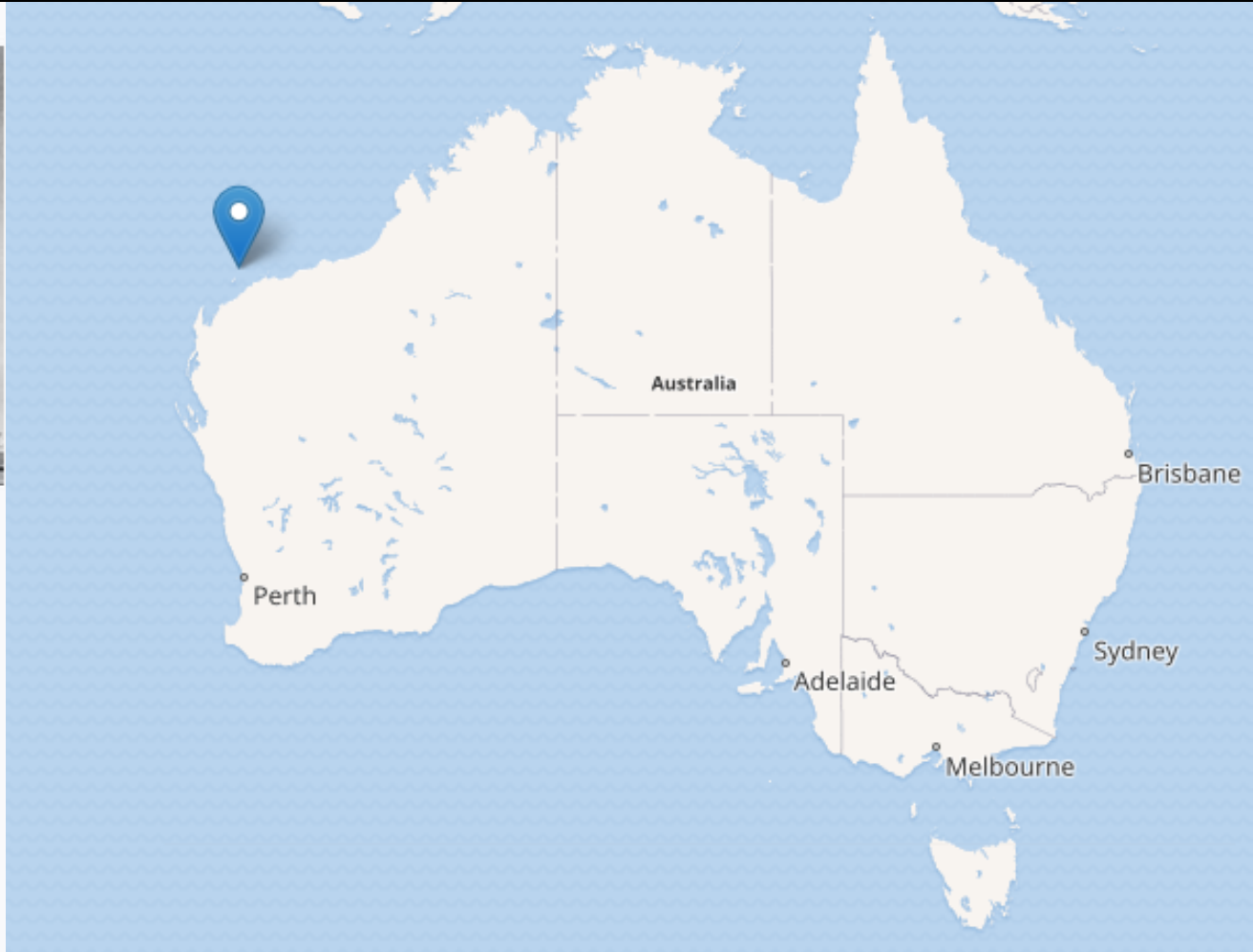
Operation Hurricane



The mud-laden cauliflower explosion


Information

Country	United Kingdom
Test site	Trimouille Island, Montebello Islands, Western Australia  20°24'19"S 115°33'59"E
Date	23:59:24 UTC, 2 October 1952
Number of tests	1
Test type	Ship
Max. yield	25 kilotons of TNT (100 TJ)



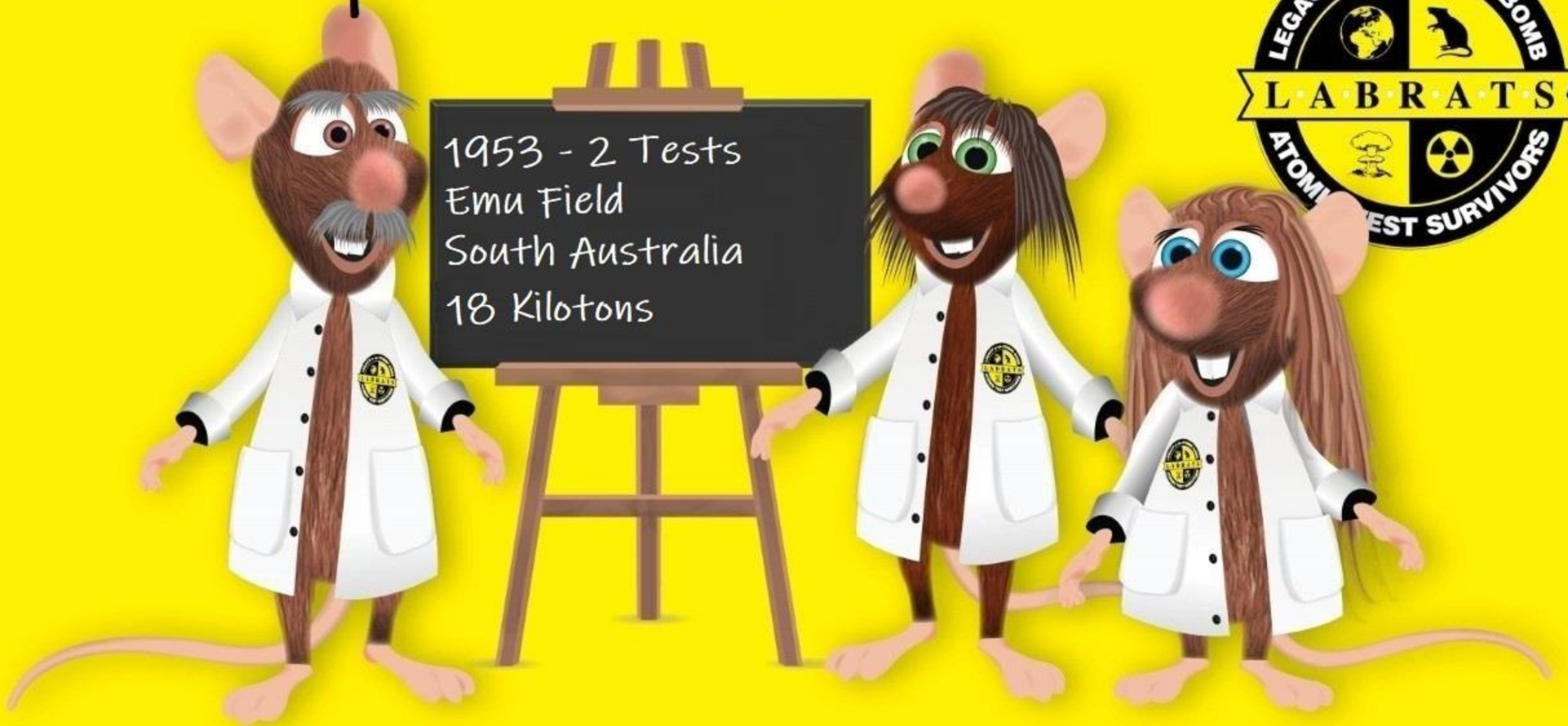
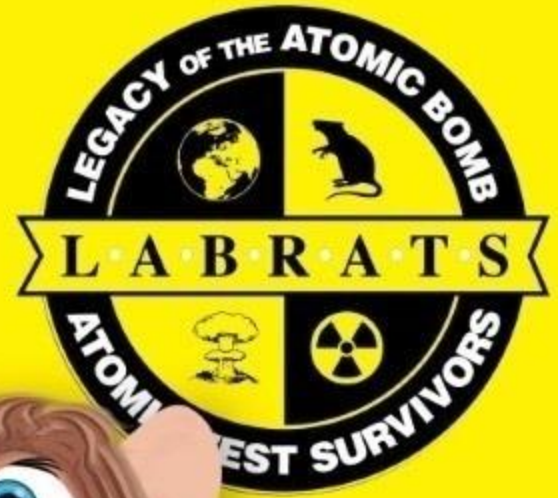
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Operation Totem

1953 - 2 Tests
Emu Field
South Australia
18 Kilotons



Operation Totem

Totem



Obelisk at the Totem 1 test site

Information

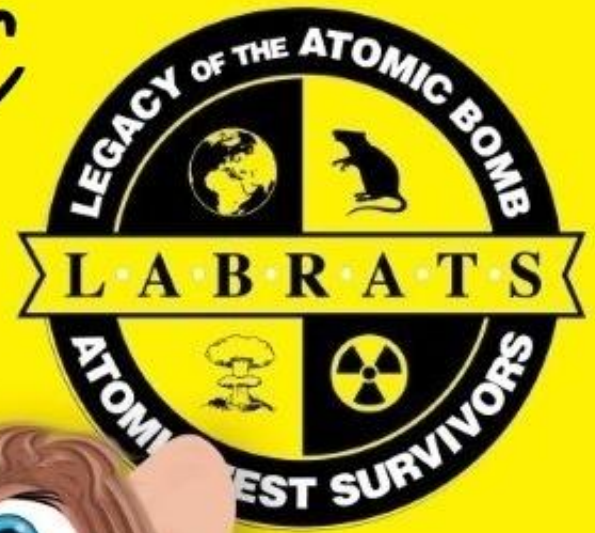
Country	United Kingdom
Test site	Emu Field, South Australia, Australia
Period	15–27 October 1953
Number of tests	2
Test type	tower
Max. yield	10 kilotonnes of TNT (42 TJ)



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Operation Mosaic



1956 - 2 Tests
Montebello Islands
Western Australia
75 Kilotons



Operation Mosaic

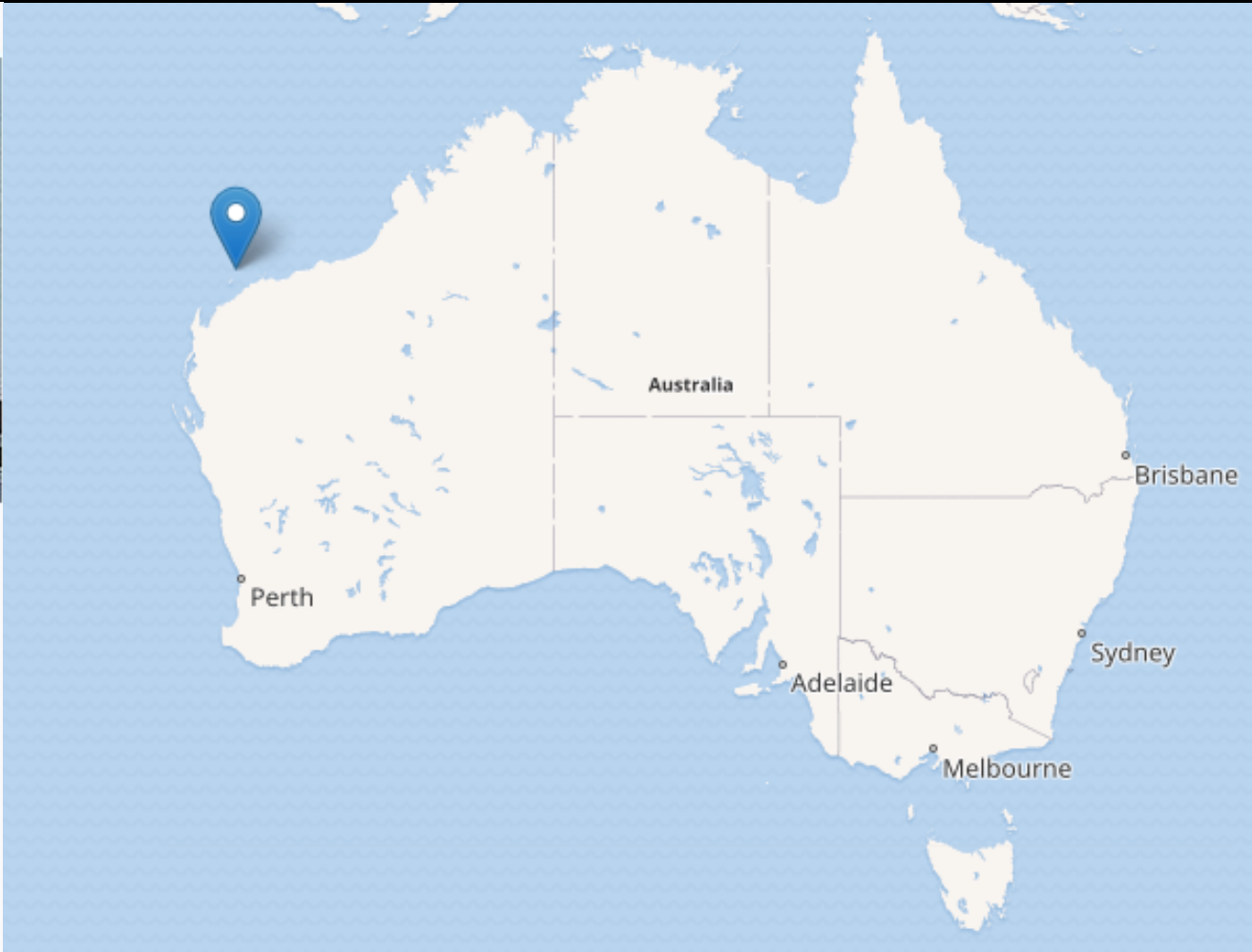
Mosaic



Mosaic G2 test

Information

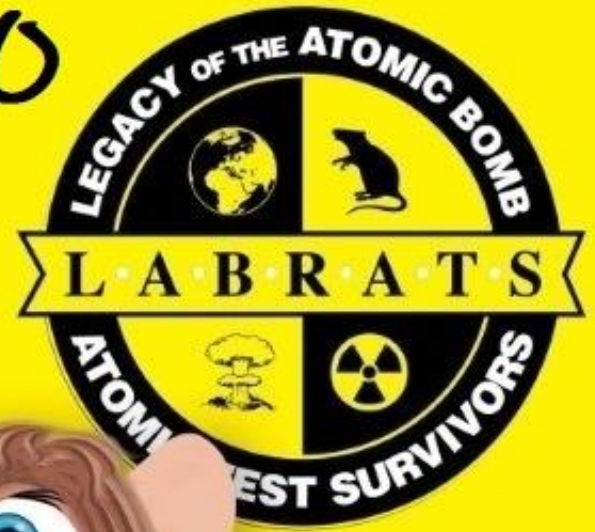
Country	United Kingdom
Test site	Montebello Islands, Western Australia
Period	May–June 1956
Number of tests	2
Test type	tower
Max. yield	60 kilotonnes of TNT (250 TJ)



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Operation Buffalo



1956 - 4 tests
Maralinga
South Australia
30 Kilotons



Operation Buffalo

Buffalo



Buffalo R4/Breakaway nuclear test

Information

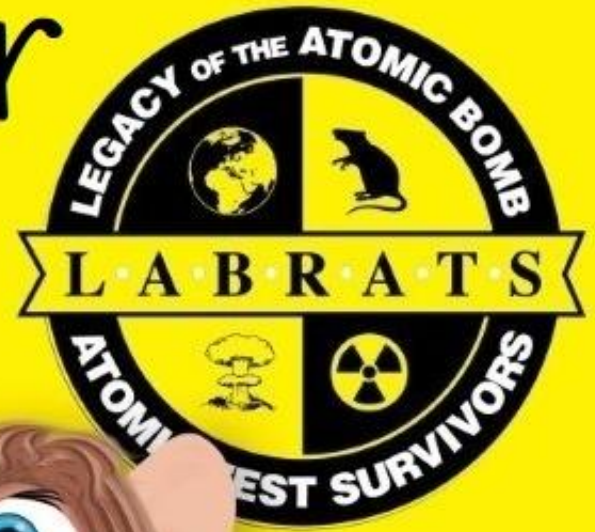
Country	United Kingdom
Test site	Maralinga Range, SA
Period	27 September – 22 October 1956
Number of tests	4
Test type	air drop, dry surface, tower
Max. yield	15 kilotons of TNT (63 TJ)



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Operation Antler



1957 - 3 Tests
Maralinga
South Australia
34 Kilotons



Operation Antler

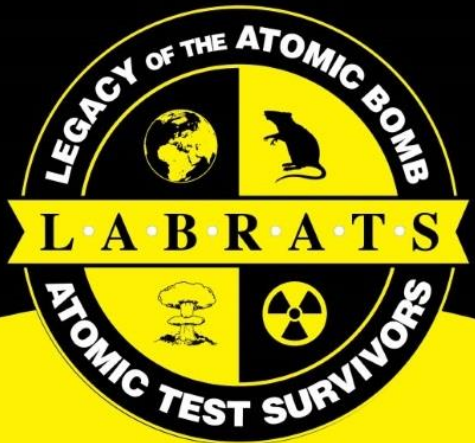
Buffalo



Buffalo R4/Breakaway nuclear test

Information

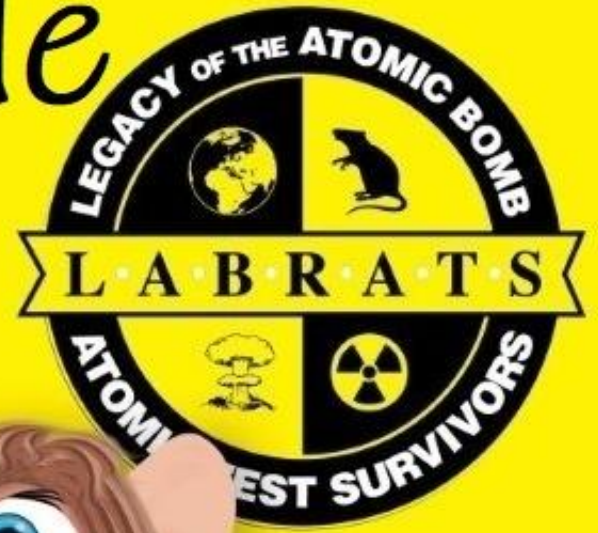
Country	United Kingdom
Test site	Maralinga Range, SA
Period	27 September – 22 October 1956
Number of tests	4
Test type	air drop, dry surface, tower
Max. yield	15 kilotons of TNT (63 TJ)



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Operation Grapple



1957-58 - 9 Tests
Kirimati and Malden
Island, Kiribati
7,689 Kilotons



Operation Grapple

Grapple



Grapple 1 test in May 1957. Hailed as Britain's first hydrogen bomb test, it was in fact a failure.

Information

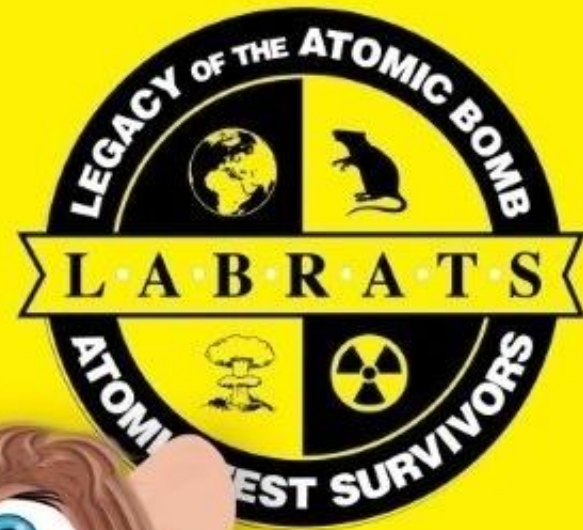
Country	United Kingdom
Test site	Kiritimati (Christmas Island), Kiribati; Malden Island , Kiribati
Period	1957–1958
Number of tests	9
Test type	Air drop, balloon
Max. yield	3 megatonnes of TNT (12.6 PJ)



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NTS Series



1961-1991 - 24 Tests
Nevada Test Site
United States
1,232 Kilotons



NTS Series

NTS series



Krakatau subcritical experiment being lowered into the floor of the tunnel of the U1a Complex at the Nevada Test Site (2006). The cables extending from the hole will carry data from the experiment to recording instruments.

Information

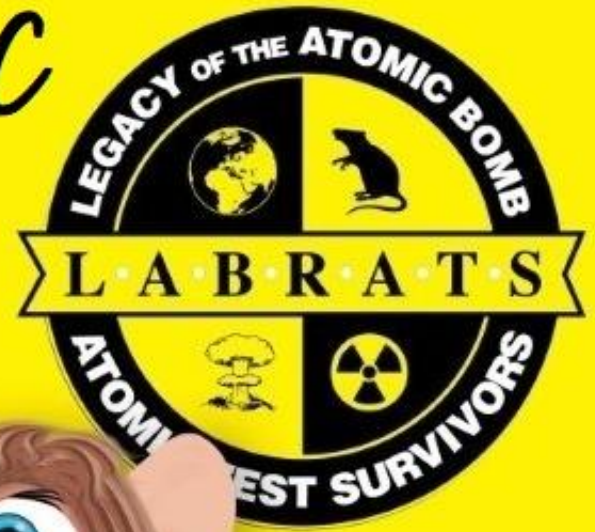
Country	United Kingdom
Test site	NTS Area 19, 20, Pahute Mesa; NTS, Areas 1-4, 6-10, Yucca Flat
Period	1962-1991
Number of tests	24
Test type	underground shaft
Max. yield	140 kilotonnes of TNT (590 TJ)



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Operation Dominic



1962 - 31 Tests
Kiritimati & Johnston
Island
38,100 Kilotons



Operation Dominic

Operation Dominic



Dominic Bighorn, 7.7 megatons.

Information

Country	United States
Test site	Johnston Island, Johnston Atoll Kiritimati (Christmas Island), Kiribati Pacific Ocean off California
Period	1962
Number of tests	31
Test type	air drop, free air drop, high-altitude rocket (30–80 km), parachuted, underwater
Max. yield	9.96 megatonnes of TNT (41.7 PJ)

[Test series chronology](#)

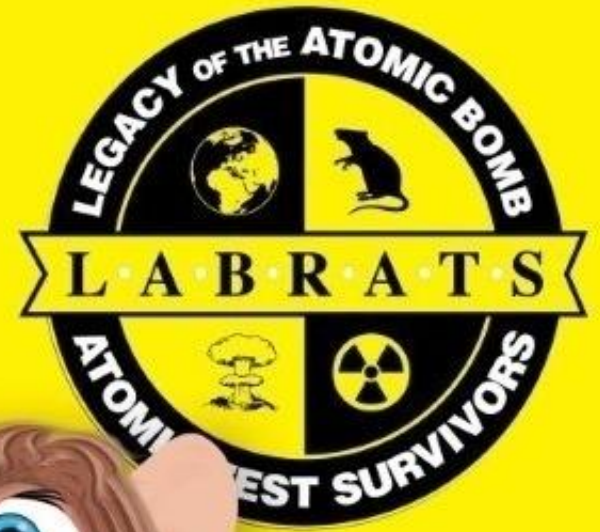


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Minor Trials

1953-63 600 Tests
Maralinga
South Australia
Kittens, Tim, Rat, Vixen




Minor Trials

Maralinga Atomic Test Site in South Australia

Near Maralinga in Australia



Map showing nuclear test sites in Australia

Coordinates  30°10'S 131°37'E
Type Nuclear test range

Site information

Operator United Kingdom
Status Inactive

Site history

In use 1955–1963

Test information

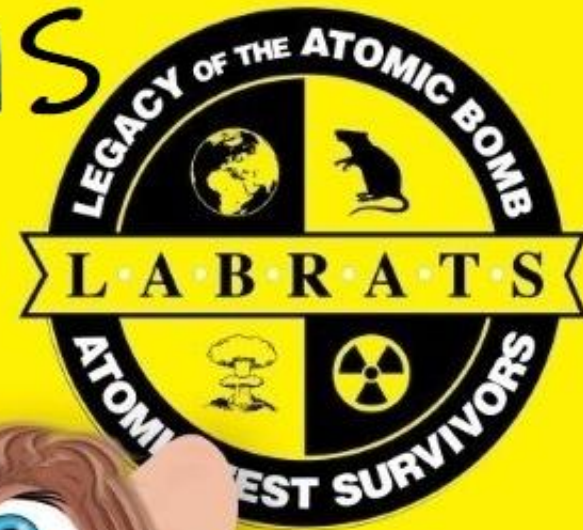
Nuclear tests 7
Remediation Completed in 2000



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Clean-up Operations



1963 - Op Clean Up
1964 - Op Hercules
1967 - Op Brumby
2000 - TAG Report




Cleanup Operations

Maralinga Atomic Test Site in South Australia

Near Maralinga in Australia



Map showing nuclear test sites in Australia

Coordinates  30°10'S 131°37'E
Type Nuclear test range

Site information

Operator United Kingdom
Status Inactive

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In use 1955–1963

Test information

Nuclear tests 7
Remediation Completed in 2000



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Three cartoon mice wearing white lab coats and ties stand in front of a blackboard. The blackboard has the text 'LABRATS EDUCATION PACK' written on it. The background is yellow.



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Please provide feedback on the Video and the Educational Material provided by emailing info@labrats.international.

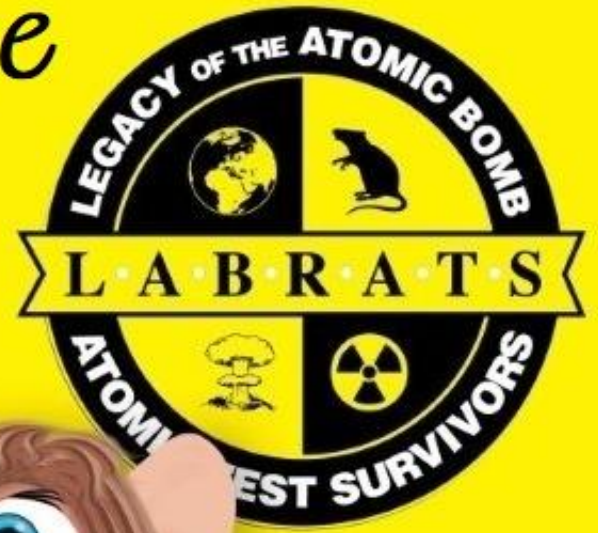
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<https://www.labratsacademy.online/teacher>

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Thank you
for watching

