



Laboratory's role in Cold War nuclear weapons testing program focus of next 70th anniversary lecture

September 5, 2013



Sept. 11 at Bradbury Science Museum

LOS ALAMOS, N.M., Sept. 5, 2013—Los Alamos National Laboratory's role in the development of nuclear weapons during the Cold War period of 1947 to 1991 will be discussed by Byron Ristvet of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency at 5:30 p.m., Sept. 11 at the Laboratory's Bradbury Science Museum. The talk is part of the Laboratory's 70th anniversary lecture series.

"Los Alamos National Laboratory's role in conjunction with the Department of Defense in meeting this challenge with new nuclear weapon designs was an amazingly complex and intellectual endeavor," said Ristvet.

Ristvet also will talk about the need for development of nuclear weapons from the target design-testing-stockpile sequence, and emphasize the importance of nuclear weapons testing toward ensuring that U.S. nuclear weapons systems will be reliable and provide for the defense of the nation.

Ristvet is a senior subject matter expert to the Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Research and Development Directorate in the areas of nuclear and conventional weapons effect and testing, hard and deeply-buried target characterization and defeat, counterterrorism, cooperative threat reduction, knowledge preservation and nuclear test readiness. He has served in a number of nuclear weapons related positions, including the Defense Nuclear Weapons School, as an International Atomic Energy Agency technical advisor, and as an instructor/mentor in several nuclear weapons training programs, including at Sandia National Laboratories. About the 70th anniversary lecture series

Los Alamos National Laboratory celebrates 70 years of service to the nation in 2013. This free lecture series is part of a number of activities planned to mark the anniversary.

Mensa, an internationally recognized high-IQ society, named the Bradbury Science museum as one of the top 10 "Favorite Science Museums."

All events at the Bradbury Science Museum are free and open to the public. Bradbury Science Museum is located at 1350 Central Ave., in downtown Los Alamos. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m., Sunday and Monday.

Los Alamos National Laboratory

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