The 1950s were a time of great fear – fear of communism and fear of the nuclear bomb. At the urging of state and local government officials, thousands of Americans donned dog tags, practiced air raid drills, and built bomb shelters in their homes to protect themselves from possible nuclear attack. While these measures may seem ineffective and even insane to us now, at the time, they were all that people could do to prepare themselves physically and psychologically for a potential nuclear attack. In the spirit of the absolute madness of the atomic age, you are going to make your own piece of atomic “art.”

Your task: You may do one of the following:

- Make a short (2-4 minute) atomic film. This could be an education film which instructs people on what to do or expect in the event of a nuclear attack OR it could be an atomic scare film more in the spirit of films like “Invasion of the Body Snatchers.” Be as creative as you’d like.
- Make a series of public service announcements indicating to Americans what precautions they should take for nuclear attack and guard against national security threats. These PSAs could be in print or audio form.
- In the spirit of some of the atomic songs we will listen to in class, write and record your own anti-bomb shelter, anti nuclear war, or pop song about the bomb.
- In the spirit of Dr. Suess’ *The Butter Battle Book*, write and illustrate a satirical book about life during the Cold War.
- Another option of your choosing – please talk to me first if you have another idea you’d like to present.

All of these options require effort, time, and some degree of creativity on your part. You may work alone or in a group of up to 4 people. The finished products will be displayed/shared with the class so brace yourself for a day of crazy atomic culture.

*You do not need to work on this assignment over February break, however, you certainly may if you’d like.*