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History of the Russian Nuclear Bomb Program

The history of the Russian atomic project is a microcosm of the history of Russia in the preceding thirty years. How could Russia - weakened and devastated by WW2 - take and compete with the most important technological challenge of the richest country in the world? Was it just not science but the job of better intelligence? The lecture will try to give some answers by considering historic developments of the Russian nuclear science and through biography sketches of the most important people involved.