

Figure 6. Canal dug by nuclear explosives.

examples of canals connecting two navigable rivers to broaden inland waterway transportation systems (Figure 6).

Similarly, water might be transported from a water-rich region to an area of dry wasteland in canals constructed with peaceful nuclear explosions. Also, some arid areas of the world are dry only because there is no way to retain the rainfall. Large lined craters formed by peaceful nuclear explosions could retain this water as needed for irrigation.

In other water-poor areas, rainfall quickly runs off as surface water. Dams might be constructed by nuclear explosions in several ways. The lip of the crater itself could serve as the dam, a part of a canyon wall could be blasted onto the canyon floor, or a mountainside could be collapsed into a valley (Figure 7). Even in conventional dam construction, nuclear explosives, deeply buried at a conventional site, could break rock.

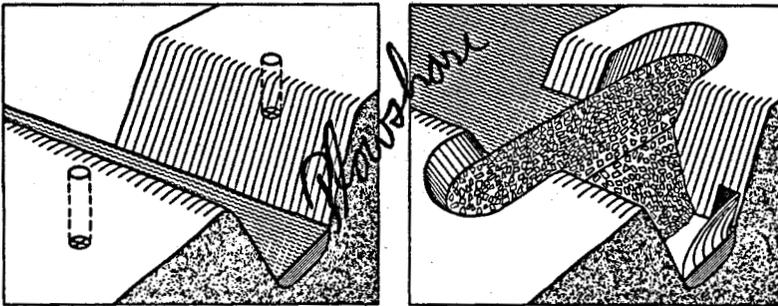


Figure 7. Dam from a mountainside collapsed into a valley.