



USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER

CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL

Maxwell AFB, Alabama

CONTENTS

[Proposals To N. Korea Weighed](#)

[2nd N. Korean Nuclear Site Not Likely](#)

[Tehran Envoy Expects U.N. Nuclear-Team Visit](#)

[Tens Of Thousands Nearby Wait, Worry As Army Prepares To Burn Chemical Weapons In Alabama](#)

[Massive Response To Mock Terror Attack](#)

[Nuclear Waste Shipping Resumes](#)

[Wolfowitz: Iraq Weapons Not a Priority](#)

[11 Nations Join Plan To Stop N. Korean Ships](#)

[Pentagon To Hold Training Exercise](#)

[Administration Will Use START, CTR For Moscow Treaty Verification](#)

[Specter Of A Nuclear-Armed North Korea Alarms Analysts](#)

Welcome to the CPC Outreach Journal. As part of USAF Counterproliferation Center's mission to counter weapons of mass destruction through education and research, we're providing our government and civilian community a source for timely counterproliferation information. This information includes articles, papers and other documents addressing issues pertinent to US military response options for dealing with nuclear, biological and chemical threats and attacks. It's our hope this information resource will help enhance your counterproliferation issue awareness.

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Washington Post

July 22, 2003

Pg. 1

Proposals To N. Korea Weighed

U.S. Might Offer No-Attack Pledge

By Glenn Kessler, Washington Post Staff Writer

Bush administration officials are considering granting North Korea formal guarantees it will not come under U.S. attack as part of a verifiable dismantlement of its nuclear facilities, in what would be part of a diplomatic gambit by the Bush administration aimed at resolving a standoff over Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions.

In extensive talks last week with Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo, administration officials asked him to inform the North Koreans that the United States would agree to meet again with Chinese and North Korean officials in Beijing, provided the session was followed almost immediately by multilateral talks that include South Korea, Japan and possibly Russia, U.S. officials said yesterday.

Administration officials said that at this broader multilateral meeting, they would formally unveil a U.S. plan for ending the crisis, which has prompted intense discussion within senior levels of the administration about the form of the proposal and how it would be presented.

U.S. officials have indicated to Asian allies they would open with discussion of how the administration could reassure North Korea it does not face a U.S. invasion and then move toward what one official called a "whole gamut" of issues between North Korea and United States, such as providing energy and food aid if the North Korean government meets a series of tough conditions, including progress on human rights.

The diplomatic activity -- including a willingness to bend on the administration's previous insistence that its next meeting with North Korea must include South Korea and Japan -- suggests the administration is actively looking for ways to defuse the crisis.

A White House official, however, disputed any notion the administration had shifted in its public refusal to negotiate with North Korea. "As we have said many times, we will not submit to blackmail or grant inducements for the North to live up to its obligations," he said.

"We must continue to work with the neighborhood to convince [North Korean leader] Kim Jong Il that his decision [to develop nuclear weapons] is an unwise decision, and we will do just that," President Bush said yesterday in Crawford, Tex.

Since North Korea admitted in October the existence of a secret program to create the fuel for nuclear weapons, the administration has insisted it would not reward the government in Pyongyang for nuclear blackmail. But some officials said they believe they have succeeded in diplomatically isolating North Korea enough -- including enlisting the support of China, North Korea's main patron -- that they can begin to delicately and formally dangle the incentives available to North Korea if it ends its nuclear programs.

North Korea has long demanded that the United States sign a nonaggression pact, but it is highly unlikely such a treaty would be approved by the Senate, so any U.S. proposal may fall short of North Korean desires. Bush has repeatedly said he does not want war with North Korea, but he also has labeled it part of the "axis of evil," including Iran and the former government of Iraq .

Other nations in the region, especially China, have urged the administration to formally assure North Korea it will not be attacked. North Korea's state-run KCNA news agency yesterday called on Washington to "legally commit itself to nonaggression."

U.S. officials have invested months of effort in convincing other nations in the region they must work together to thwart North Korea. Bush has also refused to agree to senior bilateral talks with North Korean officials, as demanded by Pyongyang.

At the only trilateral meeting -- in April, with the Chinese in attendance -- North Korean representatives said Pyongyang would give up its nuclear weapons and missiles only after the United States fulfilled a long list of conditions, including full diplomatic relations. Since then, the Bush administration and some of its allies, especially Japan, have signaled they will increase the pressure on North Korea by cracking down on the illegal smuggling and weapons trade that provides much of its foreign revenue.

Earlier this month, North Korea said it had successfully reprocessed 8,000 spent fuel rods to separate out the plutonium necessary to fashion several nuclear weapons, alarming other nations in the region. China, in particular, has embarked on an unusually aggressive diplomatic effort. Dai spent four days in Pyongyang before flying to Washington for consultations on Friday. He held a 2 1/2-hour meeting with Secretary of State Colin L. Powell after seeing Vice President Cheney and national security adviser Condoleezza Rice at the White House.

South Korean national security adviser Ra Jong-yil yesterday predicted another round of talks will be held soon, telling South Korean television that "we are in the final stage of fine-tuning the format of dialogue." He said that Pyongyang's security concerns need to be "addressed in some way."

Senior U.S. officials, meanwhile, yesterday cast doubt on a report over the weekend that the United States had evidence that North Korea might have a second, secret facility to reprocess spent fuel rods. U.S. officials have long speculated North Korea might have built a second facility underground, but they said no new evidence of such a project had emerged.

Two officials said the report, which was first published in the New York Times, appears to have started with information South Korea received from North Korean agents, and officials viewed it as part of a series of North Korean provocations. There are indications of activity having started at the Yongbyon reprocessing plant 55 miles north of the North Korean capital, but so far there is "no indication that anything of significance has emerged at the other end," according to a senior administration official familiar with the intelligence.

While the report suggested that krypton gas released by the reprocessing had come from a direction other than Yongbyon, supporting the theory of a second plant, officials and other experts said that was unlikely.

David Albright, president of the Institute for Science and International Security, a Washington research organization, recently completed a "worst case" study of the possibility that North Korea could have a secret reprocessing plant. In that study he determined that the amount of krypton released from reprocessing "would barely be above background level" -- the amount contained in normal air. Given the small amounts, Albright said, "there would be almost no chance to determine the direction from which it came."

Staff writer Walter Pincus contributed to this report.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A25824-2003Jul21.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Wolfowitz: Iraq Weapons Not a Priority

Tue Jul 22, 3:13 AM ET

By ROBERT BURNS, AP Military Writer

OVER THE ATLANTIC OCEAN - Finding the Iraqi weapons of mass destruction that President Bush ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) cited as his main justification for going to war is now a secondary issue, says Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz.

In an interview Monday night aboard an Air Force jet en route to Washington following a five-day tour of Iraq ([news](#) - [web sites](#)), Wolfowitz said the task of settling the weapons question is in the hands of U.S. intelligence agencies.

"I'm not concerned about weapons of mass destruction," Wolfowitz told a group of reporters traveling with him.

"I'm concerned about getting Iraq on its feet. I didn't come (to Iraq) on a search for weapons of mass destruction."

He also asserted that Iraqis themselves have little concern about the weapons issue.

"If you could get in a relaxed conversation with Iraqis on that subject they'd say why on earth are you Americans fussing so much about this historical issue when we have real problems here, when Baathists are killing us and Baathists are threatening us and we don't have electricity and we don't have jobs. Those are the real issues.

"I'm not saying that getting to the bottom of this WMD issue isn't important. It is important. But it is not of immediate consequence."

The CIA ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) has put David Kay, a former United Nations ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) weapons inspector in Iraq, in charge of the search for illegal weapons.

Wolfowitz said Kay told him during a meeting Sunday that U.S. officials were having difficulty getting Iraqi prisoners to tell what they know about Saddam Hussein ([news](#) - [web sites](#))'s chemical, biological or nuclear programs.

The Iraqi government claimed prior to the war that it had destroyed all the weapons of mass destruction it once held, and U.N. inspectors were unable to find evidence of any.

"I pushed him (Kay) a bit on why aren't these people talking. Why don't you, in effect, plea bargain with them,"

Wolfowitz said. "He said there is no concept of plea bargaining in this place. If you confessed you just got executed faster or tortured less."

Administration officials had hoped, and in some cases expected, to find evidence of chemical or biological weapons on the battlefield in the aftermath of the war, but so far nothing has turned up. Pentagon ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) officials have said they believe the key is getting lower-level Iraqi officials to help.

"The people that we're holding still feel they have much more to fear from their old buddies — still buddies — than anything we do to them," he said. "So he (Kay) says it's going to be a painstaking process."

http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=540&ncid=736&e=10&u=/ap/20030722/ap_on_re_mi_ea/iraq_wolfowitz

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Washington Times

July 22, 2003

Pg. 8

2nd N. Korean Nuclear Site Not Likely

By Bill Gertz, The Washington Times

Radioactive gas detected recently over North Korea by U.S. intelligence agencies is likely to have originated from the Yongbyon reprocessing plant and not from a separate, secret nuclear site, The Washington Times has learned.

Defense officials familiar with intelligence reports said the detection of krypton-85 gas by a U.S. "sniffer" intelligence aircraft is evidence that North Korea has begun producing plutonium from spent nuclear fuel rods. The detection of the gas, which is a byproduct of the reprocessing method, and limited vehicle and human activity at the Yongbyon reprocessing facility has fueled speculation among some officials that North Korea has a second nuclear reprocessing facility hidden underground in the mountainous communist state.

The New York Times reported Saturday that an intelligence analysis of where the krypton-85 originated suggested that the gas did not come from Yongbyon but a hidden underground plant in the mountains.

However, U.S. intelligence agencies have no knowledge of a second plant, and the likeliest source for the gas is Yongbyon, the American officials said about the New York Times report.

One U.S. official said North Korea has numerous underground weapons and military facilities in the mountains throughout the country, and suspicions of more facilities have dogged the U.S. government for years.

"They keep a lot of bad things underground," the official said.

In Seoul, a spokesman for South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun also played down the New York Times report.

"The president expressed concern about the phenomenon of unclear and groundless media reports," Kim Man-soo said.

North Korea's government knows that U.S. intelligence agencies use aircraft, ships and satellites to conduct almost round-the-clock surveillance and has reacted by hiding some facilities and deceiving U.S. intelligence agencies.

U.S. intelligence agencies discovered an underground complex near Kumchangri, 25 miles north of Yongbyon, that was suspected of being an underground nuclear facility.

After years of negotiation, the North Koreans agreed in 1999 to an inspection of the facility in exchange for U.S. food aid. The facility, believed to be either a nuclear production or storage facility, had been emptied in advance. No nuclear material was detected during the inspection.

Also in 1999, U.S. officials learned that parts for North Korea's 50-megawatt nuclear reactor were missing and they may have been diverted to help construct another reactor in secret.

President Bush sidestepped answering a question about the possibility of a hidden North Korean nuclear plant yesterday.

Mr. Bush said the nuclear crisis can be solved diplomatically and that China, South Korea and Japan can "join us with a single voice that says to [North Korean leader] Kim Jong-il: A decision to develop a nuclear arsenal is one that will alienate you from the rest of the world."

"The desire by the North Koreans to convince the world that they're in the process of developing a nuclear arsenal is nothing new," Mr. Bush said during a meeting in Texas with Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

"I mean, we've known that for a while, and therefore we must continue to work with the neighborhood to convince Kim Jong-il that his decision is an unwise decision, and we will do just that."

North Korea's statement last year that it was pursuing a uranium-based nuclear-arms program set off a scramble within the U.S. government to locate a secret plant where Pyongyang could build a centrifuge system to produce highly enriched uranium, one fuel for nuclear weapons.

Three locations in North Korea were possible sites for uranium-based program, separate from the reprocessing of nuclear-plant fuel-rods, which produces plutonium, another such fuel.

The CIA and other intelligence agencies were forced to review their intelligence on North Korea's nuclear reprocessing after a Pyongyang diplomat said in Beijing in April that reprocessing of the 8,000 stored nuclear fuel rods was nearly finished.

The review concluded that some reprocessing is under way but that it could not have been completed without extremely dangerous efforts that would have endangered the lives of the workers involved, officials said.

<http://www.washtimes.com/national/20030721-103637-5145r.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

USA Today
July 23, 2003
Pg. 6

11 Nations Join Plan To Stop N. Korean Ships

U.S. hopes to put squeeze on Kim

By Barbara Slavín, USA Today

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is preparing to tighten an economic noose around North Korea, even as it considers new talks to persuade the regime of Kim Jong Il to give up nuclear weapons.

The administration has lined up 10 other nations to join a so-called proliferation security initiative. These countries — Japan, Australia, Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, the Netherlands, Bulgaria and Spain — have agreed to intercept North Korean ships suspected of carrying weapons and illegal drugs, major sources of hard currency for Kim's government.

A State Department official who is familiar with the program but asks not to be named says, "We're ready to rock and roll right now" on the interception program. "All we need is actionable intelligence" on a suspect North Korean shipment, he says.

Despite administration assurances that it seeks a diplomatic solution to the crisis, State Department officials are not optimistic about the prospects for new talks, which could take place as early as next month in Beijing. "No one has a good, new solution to this problem," one concedes.

U.S. intelligence shows that North Korea is accelerating its nuclear program by reprocessing used reactor fuel. It could produce enough plutonium for a half-dozen bombs this year, in addition to the two bombs' worth it is believed to have had for a decade. The regime's goal is to ensure its survival and deter attacks by becoming the world's ninth nuclear arms power. The others: the United States, Russia, Britain, France, China, Pakistan, India and Israel.

The Bush administration says it is willing to talk to North Korea, but only if Pyongyang agrees that diplomats from Japan and South Korea, as well as China, eventually take part. Diplomats are trying to craft a common position to present to North Korea. But an Asian official in Washington says the administration is reluctant even to call the position a "proposal," for fear of looking like it is following the route of the Clinton administration. In 1994, that administration traded economic and political concessions for a North Korean freeze of its nuclear program. That agreement capped plutonium production, but it unraveled last fall after North Korea admitted that it had a second, secret program to make enriched uranium for bombs.

"We've made it very clear that we will not give in to blackmail," White House spokesman Scott McClellan says. He denies published reports that the administration was considering offering a formal security guarantee if North Korea gave up its nuclear program.

Victor Cha, a North Korea expert at Georgetown University, calls the Bush approach "the least worst option. Putting multilateral pressure on the regime has never been tried before."

Others say the administration squandered a chance to slow North Korea's nuclear development two years ago when it dropped the Clinton strategy of one-on-one negotiations and began branding the Kim regime as "evil."

"In the last two years, we've convinced the North Koreans that we're out to get them," says Robert Einhorn, a proliferation expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Einhorn negotiated with the North Koreans under the Clinton administration.

Kenneth Quinones, a former Korea analyst for the State Department, says the United States has three options for dealing with Pyongyang, all of them "just absolutely appalling":

*Attack North Korea and risk retaliation that would kill more than a million South Koreans and many U.S. troops.

*Hope the Chinese, who provide 70% of North Korea's fuel and a third of its food, "will pull the rug out from under" Pyongyang. That could lead to a deeper humanitarian crisis in North Korea and massive refugee flows but not necessarily bring down the regime.

*Learn to live with a nuclear North Korea.

Failure to contain the program could have dire consequences.

"If North Korea continues on its present course, by the end of the year, I think we'll have about eight nuclear weapons, and next year will be in serial production of about five to 10 nuclear weapons a year," former Defense secretary William Perry told PBS' *NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* on Monday. Such an escalation, Perry said, would give the North Koreans enough weapons to target Japan and South Korea and to sell bomb material to terrorists.

<http://www.usatoday.com/usatoday/20030723/5346006s.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Washington Times

July 23, 2003

Pg. 13

Tehran Envoy Expects U.N. Nuclear-Team Visit

PRETORIA, South Africa (Reuters) — Iran expects experts from the United Nations' nuclear agency to visit in the next few days to explain a stringent inspection protocol the United States and others want Tehran to sign, Iran's foreign minister said yesterday.

The U.N. experts will help Iran decide whether to sign the protocol to permit intrusive and quick checks on its nuclear program, Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi told reporters during a visit to South Africa.

"We have asked the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] to send legal experts to Iran to brief us on aspects of the protocol . . . We hope in the next days they will arrive in Iran," he said in reply to a question.

"We will prepare a document for our leaders to decide whether Iran will join," he added.

Mr. Kharrazi spoke at a signing ceremony between South Africa and Iran for a variety of deals including disarmament, politics, investment, health, trade, oil and petrochemicals.

Tehran is under pressure to dispel doubts about its nuclear program, which it says is solely for energy for its 65 million people.

Iran also says it has no intention of withdrawing from the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The country is considering signing the NPT protocol, which allows U.N. inspectors to make more intrusive, extensive and short-notice checks of its nuclear facilities.

Mr. Kharrazi gave no time frame for a decision, but said that Iran signed the protocol, that should dispel European Union concerns about its nuclear program.

EU foreign ministers said Monday that they would review relations with Iran in September in light of its behavior. Mr. Kharrazi dismissed renewed accusations by President Bush that Tehran supports militants seeking to undo the Middle East peace process.

"Iran is not harboring terrorists. Iran is fighting terrorists," Mr. Kharrazi said, adding that Tehran had arrested or deported many supporters of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda group.

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Washington Post

July 24, 2003

Pg. B3

Pentagon To Hold Training Exercise

Pentagon officials are warning the public -- and their own employees -- not to panic today when dozens of fire and rescue vehicles arrive at the South Parking Lot. It is just a training exercise called "Gallant Fox."

The large-scale chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear training exercise will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will simulate a "real-world scenario" for the Pentagon Force Protection Agency during a workday, officials said. About 500 people will participate in the exercise, including role players, Arlington firefighters, Virginia State Police and the FBI, they said.

Army Navy Drive between 12th and Eads streets and southbound Hayes Street between 15th and Fern streets will be closed from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. because of the drill, but the Pentagon Metrorail and bus stations will stay open.

Only designated areas of the Pentagon will be evacuated, and the exercise will be staged outside.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A38026-2003Jul23.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Columbia (SC) State

July 24, 2003

Tens Of Thousands Nearby Wait, Worry As Army Prepares To Burn Chemical Weapons In Alabama

By Jay Reeves, The Associated Press

ANNISTON, Ala. - Inside the pink zone - where tens of thousands of people live and work near an Army chemical weapons incinerator - the debate over weapons of mass destruction hits dangerously close to home.

With the burning of a huge stockpile of nerve agents and mustard gas set to begin soon, some here feel almost like guinea pigs because the Army has never before tried to carry out such unforgiving work in such a populated area.

About 35,000 live within nine miles of the incinerator - the pink zone - and more than 250,000 are within a 30-mile circle.

"If something happens I think we'll pretty much be dead," said Beverly Carlisle, who cares for 90 children at her Ms. B's Child Care Center. "I just don't feel safe."

Some worry what will happen once workers start chopping up Cold War-era rockets, shells and mines and feeding them to the superheated flames.

Others fear what could happen if the \$1 billion incineration program doesn't get started. They're afraid of possible deterioration and leakage from the 2,254 tons of chemical weapons that have been stored in concrete bunkers for decades.

One way or the other, things are about to change.

As early as late July - an exact date has not yet been set - the Army plans to begin destroying weapons at Anniston Army Depot, a sprawling garage and storehouse about 50 miles east of Birmingham.

Opponents have filed suit trying to stop the work and the state has yet to give its final approval, but the Pentagon is pressing ahead.

Seated outside her mobile home, Debra Echte said she hates living just down the road from a weapons stockpile big enough to kill millions, but she also fears the Army's solution. She cringed at the thought of the incinerator being up and running.

"I want to just get away from it," said Echte, whose daughter and 2-week-old granddaughter live with her at Shady Acres Mobile Home Community.

"It's for her," said Echte, referring to the newborn. "She deserves a chance to live."

The Army says concerns over incineration are overblown, calling it a safe way to dispose of the weapons. Any dangers are at least 200 times less serious than those posed by the weapons stockpile, the military says.

As proof, the Army says it has destroyed some 8,100 tons of munitions - about a quarter of the nation's stockpile - at isolated incinerators on Johnston Atoll in the Pacific Ocean and Tooele, Utah, without anyone being seriously injured by the chemicals. Two workers suffered minor exposures, it says, and one person was crushed to death by a machine.

"If folks will just trust us, we can do this job," said Mike Abrams, a spokesman for the Anniston incinerator. "We know the community is going to be so relieved when we have completed our mission."

Cathy Coleman, a spokeswoman for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program in Anniston, said about \$140 million has been spent safeguarding the community. The work has been extensive and, in some cases, last-minute.

Special air filters and ventilation systems have been installed in 10 nearby schools to ward off fumes in an accident, but work continues at 28 more, said David Ford of the Calhoun County Emergency Management Agency.

Evacuation routes have been mapped out, but only 12,500 protective masks have been distributed to the 35,000 pink zone residents. Sirens and some 30,000 tone radios will alert people to an accident.

More than 9,700 "shelter-in-place" kits - cardboard boxes containing duct tape, plastic sheeting, scissors and a training video - have been given out along with filtration systems for residents to seal up a room during any accident.

But preparations have just started in some areas. Talladega County, located south of the pink zone, has distributed only 160 of its 7,600 shelter-in-place kits.

"We just started last week," said Deborah Gaither of the Talladega Emergency Management Agency.

Carlisle is near the point of despair over the safety of the children at her day care center.

A squirming little girl in her lap, Carlisle said there is no way to make the center airtight because it is located in a combination of mobile homes and a frame building. There's also no way to quickly get protective hoods on 90 kids, she said, and businesses aren't provided with the equipment, anyway.

Carlisle figures her best option during an accident might be to rush children across the street to an elementary school, which is equipped with the special filtering equipment. But Carlisle said there is little chance of getting so many children even that far in the three or four minutes officials say would be required.

Tasha Salter's family has its own plan for what to do if any gas escapes: They'll all meet in the parking lot at Six Flags Over Georgia, just west of Atlanta.

For now, she keeps a roll of duct tape stored in the glove compartment of her car in case of an accident. "I'll tape up the vents," said Salter.

School secretary Judy Hanvey, who lives across the depot from the incinerator, has made sure her 80-year-old mother has an airtight room and a radio in her home in the pink zone.

While Hanvey wonders what will happen once the incinerator fires up, she also is one of those who hasn't gotten a protective hood. With the startup looming, Hanvey said she plans to pick one up soon.

"It's scary thinking about that first time," she said. "Is it going to work?"

Just getting this close to incineration in Alabama has been a long haul.

The Army decided in 1982 to construct eight incinerators nationwide to dispose of some 31,500 tons of lethal chemicals, but it has since decided to use chemical neutralization to destroy nerve agents in Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky and Maryland.

The Pentagon settled on incineration only for the stockpiles in Alabama, Utah, and Pine Bluff, Ark., saying the method works best with the individual weapons stored there.

For Phil Harris, whose CENTECH Group has been hired to hand out the protective hoods and other safety equipment, easing fears is part of the job.

Each day, people come to a tan building at the Army's defunct Fort McClellan to pick up their gear and learn how to use it. A trainer shows a videotape, and each person has to put on a hood, made of clear plastic with a battery-powered fan that blows filtered air over the wearer's face.

Aside from the distribution of similar hoods on Capitol Hill after the anthrax scares, never before has the government provided civilians with safety gear on such a large scale, Harris said.

"We are breaking new ground," he said. "Our goal is to treat this seriously, but not alarmingly."

<http://www.thestate.com/mld/thestate/news/local/6369813.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Inside The Pentagon

July 24, 2003

Pg. 1

Administration Will Use START, CTR For Moscow Treaty Verification

The Bush administration plans to rely on an existing arms control treaty and ongoing threat reduction programs to verify Russian compliance with the Moscow Treaty, an agreement that would cut the number of deployed U.S. and Russian strategic nuclear weapons to between 1,700 and 2,200 each by 2012, a State Department official told *Inside the Pentagon* this week.

Assistant Secretary of State Paula DeSutter said the administration's view is that the Moscow Treaty is a complete document and additional verification measures are not needed. DeSutter heads the department's bureau of verification and compliance, which is responsible for verifying that other countries are complying with agreements entered into with the United States and working verification issues during treaty negotiations.

President Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin signed the Moscow Treaty in May 2002. The Senate ratified it on March 6, 2003, by a 95-0 vote. During floor debate, several Democrats criticized the treaty for lacking a solid verification mechanism.

Karin Look, DeSutter's deputy who worked on the treaty negotiations, told *ITP* that verification "is not a one-size-fits-all concept," and that this agreement should not be viewed through the prism of previous arms control treaties. "We felt the Moscow Treaty, with START I already in force with its verification regime and with [the Cooperative Threat Reduction program] providing information through the types of things we collect with our intelligence, that it was verifiable enough if you will," Look said. "Or transparent enough. And that there was not anything additional that was needed. Now will the Russians agree with us? I don't know. Will there be other parts of the U.S. government that thinks there is something needed? I don't know."

Look said the verification and compliance office would scrutinize what START I will deliver over the next two years and what the CTR program will produce, but that right now "we are basically satisfied."

If DeSutter's office had felt differently, "we would have pressed in the context of the negotiations and the ratification hearings to have something more in the treaty," Look added.

The treaty calls for the creation of a Bilateral Implementation Commission that might have its first meeting near the end of the summer. The U.S. representative is George Look (Karin's husband) who also heads up similar commissions for the START I Treaty and the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty. "The U.S. made a choice that the same person would head all three so this transparency issue between START and the Moscow Treaty could be easily done," Karin Look said.

DeSutter said she hopes the commission is not structured or formulaic. Currently, there is no talk about having the commission do anything else beyond keeping both sides informed about what the reduction schedule is, she said.

"At the end of the day the MT has two obligations, one is to have the BIC meet and the other is to have both sides down to 1,700 to 2,200 warheads by 2012," Look added.

This month, DeSutter's office delivered an annual report to Congress outlining the State Department's assessment of how the United States and other countries are adhering to arms control and nonproliferation agreements. The report covers the period from Dec. 1, 2000, to Dec. 31, 2001. It is the first one the Bush administration has produced. The report is produced in classified and unclassified versions. DeSutter said the next one would be written at an even higher level of classification "in order to give us the most rock-solid base upon which to make our assessment."

"The bureau is going to be moving out a little bit more in terms of compliance diplomacy, working with other countries and doing a little bit more to bring them into compliance," DeSutter said. Using the Chemical Weapons Convention as an example, she said provisions of that treaty have been used to maintain an ongoing dialogue with some of the countries the United States has wanted to keep in touch with.

"What we can do is go to other countries and explain the basis for our concern," DeSutter said. "In some cases there can simply be a lack of clarity over understanding what we are doing. We also want people to understand that when we reach a finding that another country is not compliant, it is based on a rigorous analysis of all the evidence available."

The United States needs other countries to understand that if they have a stake in arms control agreements or nonproliferation commitments as a means toward collective security, then every country involved has to have a stake in compliance enforcement, DeSutter said.

Last March, DeSutter told the House Armed Services Committee that Russia was in violation of the Biological Weapons Convention and its activities were inconsistent with the Chemical Weapons Convention. DeSutter told *ITP* that further bilateral discussions over the BWC and CWC might take place.

"The biological [weapons] issue is tough," she said. "In the case of Russian noncompliance, there is time and we have a relationship. I am not overconfident that we will get them into strict compliance with all of their obligations sometime this year. But I think over time we will be able to move closer to what we want. Nobody is staying up at night worrying that the Russians are going to use chemical and biological weapons against us."

DeSutter's office is staffed with 70 people. Its fiscal year 2004 budget request is \$14.3 million.

The office was created through the efforts of former Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) and Sen. Joseph Biden (D-DE), the ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Helms, who chaired the committee at the time, included language in the FY-00 State Department Authorization Act that established the office. Helms had been upset that a Clinton administration reorganization of the department took the former Arms Control and Disarmament Agency -- which had been in charge of verification and compliance -- and placed it within the under secretary of state for arms control policy, a move Helms saw as diluting the verification and compliance process.

-- *Thomas Duffy*

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Washington Post

July 25, 2003

Pg. B1

Massive Response To Mock Terror Attack

By Robert A. Reeder, Washington Post Staff Writer

For the staging of a mock terrorist attack on the Pentagon yesterday, more than 50 rescue vehicles, including 18 ambulances, descended on the South Parking Lot.

The scenario was that a van had exploded, releasing a nerve agent outside the building. Rescue workers helped 25 people playing the part of victims. "Some really got into their role-playing," said Pentagon spokesman Glenn Flood. "Some were pretty much in shock and quiet. Others were screaming."

Rescue workers, most from the Arlington fire department, practiced decontaminating victims and assessing their medical needs. Because the parking lot was a crime scene, the FBI was there, too. At the same time, a related drill was underway at Virginia Hospital Center-Arlington, where some people playing victims showed up unannounced. Altogether, about 500 people took part in the exercise.

"We saw some improvements," said James Schwartz, Arlington's director of emergency services, comparing the drill with others held since the 2001 terrorist attacks. "Coordination continues to grow."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A42894-2003Jul24.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Miami Herald
July 25, 2003

Specter Of A Nuclear-Armed North Korea Alarms Analysts

By Michael Dorgan, Knight Ridder News Service

BEIJING - The prospect that North Korea soon may acquire an arsenal of nuclear weapons is scaring security experts around the globe.

"This is a scenario nobody wants to think about," said Paik Jin-hyun, a North Korea expert at Seoul National University in South Korea. "It would have far-reaching effects on regional stability."

Without exploding a single bomb, North Korea could destroy the delicate balance of power in Northeast Asia -- where the interests of the United States, China, Japan and Russia collide -- by triggering an arms race that would leave the region bristling with nuclear warheads, said Zhu Feng, a North Korea expert at Peking University in China's capital.

"The security architecture of the region would collapse overnight," he warned, if a nuclear North Korea became an accepted fact.

SITES REACTIVATED

That has not yet happened, but since North Korea withdrew late last year from the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and reactivated its nuclear facilities, it has moved closer each month to becoming a full-blown nuclear power.

The Bush administration insists that will not happen. President Bush says he seeks a diplomatic solution to the mounting crisis but that all options are on the table, a clear reference to possible military action.

Experts aren't optimistic about a new round of talks expected to take place in Beijing in coming weeks, noting that neither side seems willing to compromise. And military options are limited, because crucial targets are well hidden in tunnels under North Korea's mountains and because strikes could provoke a massive retaliation against South Korea.

Gloomily, security experts throughout Northeast Asia and in Washington have begun to seriously consider the consequences of North Korea, which is believed to have one or two nuclear bombs already, formally joining the club of nuclear-armed nations. Their conclusions are bleak.

MORE DANGER

Beyond the region, a nuclear North Korea would provide nuclear wanna-bes or terrorists with inspiration -- and possibly actual materials in exchange for cash -- to make the whole planet a more dangerous place, according to Anthony Cordesman, a security strategist at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington-based research center.

"Every time a country formally proliferates, the example spreads around the world," he said.

The epicenter of impact, however, would be Northeast Asia. Precisely how the balance of power might unravel is difficult to predict because so many nations and variables would be involved.

JAPAN'S OPTIONS

One fear is that Japan would "quietly re-examine its nuclear option," said Cordesman, which probably would provoke China into beefing up its nuclear arsenal.

South Korea's government still hopes that its so-called sunshine policy of reconciliation with its surly neighbor will pay off eventually with a decision to halt the nuclear program.

But Paik said his country's government would have to shift its policy if efforts to shut down North Korea's weapons programs failed and it became a bona fide nuclear power.

"North Korea having nuclear weapons would change the military balance between North and South Korea and would force South Korea to respond," he said.

Taiwan also would come under pressure to go nuclear, according to Andrew Yang, the secretary general of the Chinese Council of Advanced Policy Studies, a security research center in Taipei.

DEFENSE SYSTEM

The United States and China, which already have nuclear arsenals, also would feel pressured to respond to a nuclear North Korea.

The United States probably would accelerate its development of a robust missile-defense system, which could provoke a further nuclear buildup not only by China but also by Russia.

"Strategic effects are never predictable," Cordesman said. "This would not play out over days or months but would shape the strategic character of Asia for years."

<http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/world/6379463.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Nuclear Waste Shipping Resumes

By Tom Ramstack, The Washington Times

The Department of Energy has lifted its moratorium on nuclear-waste shipments imposed after the September 11 terrorist attacks.

The routes no longer include plans for moving the shipments by rail through downtown Washington.

"The moratorium is lifted," Energy Department spokesman Joe Davis said.

The nuclear waste is being shipped from nuclear power plants and Defense Department installations to federal storage sites.

Virginia officials confirmed this week that nuclear-waste shipments have resumed through their state.

"Yes, we have been notified of at least one instance I'm aware of," said Kevin Hall, spokesman for Virginia Gov.

Mark Warner. "But for obvious national security reasons, I would decline to provide any details."

Most nuclear waste produced by power plants at Calvert Cliffs in Maryland and North Anna in Virginia is stored on site.

In the United States, nearly all high-level nuclear waste consists of fuel rods used to control the amount of energy generated by nuclear power plants. When the rods become saturated with radiation, they must be discarded.

However, they can remain dangerously radioactive for centuries.

The 103 nuclear reactors in 31 states produce 20 percent of the nation's electricity. Most of the waste not stored on site is shipped to federal storage facilities near Barnwell, S.C.; Hanford, Wash.; and Idaho Falls, Idaho.

A smaller amount of high-level radioactive waste is produced by the Defense Department during uranium processing for nuclear weapons.

The long-term solution will be underground storage at Yucca Mountain in the Nevada desert. However, the Yucca Mountain facility is not scheduled to open until 2010.

The issue of safety arose this month when residents in upstate New York complained about nuclear-waste shipments from a former Defense Department facility in West Valley, N.Y. The shipment of 125 spent nuclear fuel rod assemblies moved by rail this week to the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory.

Energy Department officials said the moratorium on shipments was lifted sometime before the nuclear waste was shipped this week. However, they would not disclose details of when nuclear waste is shipped or the routes used, except with local authorities who participate in security arrangements.

"Shipments are monitored 24 hours a day and escorted 24 hours a day," Mr. Davis said.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission said it imposed new security requirements last year on power plants shipping waste but gave few details.

"The augmented security requirements included increased communications and additional escort and monitoring provisions," commission spokeswoman Sue Gagner said.

Safety was an issue in the Washington area after the September 11 attacks. An Energy Department map of proposed routes for nuclear-waste shipments showed some of them would be carried on railroad tracks along Virginia Avenue, near L'Enfant Plaza and about a half-mile from the Capitol.

After September 11, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said it would review and revamp its routes for greater security.

"The information I have on any movements is classified," said Dan Murphy, spokesman for CSX Transportation, the railroad whose tracks are used for many of the nuclear-waste shipments along the East Coast. "The one thing I can tell you is no nuclear waste moves through the Virginia Avenue tunnel."

Other routes would have carried nuclear-waste shipments by rail through Baltimore and by truck near Richmond and Baltimore.

Energy Department officials refused to give further information about routes used since the moratorium was lifted.

"We don't disclose that," Mr. Davis said.

The Energy Department hopes secrecy will help them avoid risks such as terrorists firing a missile at a cask carrying nuclear waste.

Bob Halstead, transportation adviser to the Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects, told Congress last year that a 1998 test at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland showed an armor-piercing anti-tank TOW missile could blast a hole in even the strongest of nuclear-waste transportation casks.

The missile cut a 4- to 6-inch diameter hole in a rail cask, Mr. Halstead testified to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The smaller truck casks are even more vulnerable.

Nuclear energy industry officials deny the casks create risks from a terrorist attack.

"These are extremely robust containers," said Steve Kerekes, spokesman for the Nuclear Energy Institute, the policy organization for the nuclear energy industry. "On the relative scale of risk, this would have to be far down the list compared to anything else terrorists could do easily to cause public harm."

Since 1964, about 3,000 nuclear-waste shipments have been made, none of which leaked radiation, Mr. Kerekes said.

Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico is experimenting with the casks to determine whether they could be made stronger.

<http://www.washtimes.com/business/20030724-102542-5357r.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)