

### Issue No. 1070, 16 August 2013

Articles & Other Documents:

Featured Article: What's at Stake After Failed Nuclear Inspection at Malmstrom?

- 1. Senior MP: US Should Show Good Will by Easing Sanctions
- 2. Iran to Sign New Nuclear Power Plant Deal with Russia Minister
- 3. Spokesman: Iran to Take Full Operational Control of Bushehr N. Power Plant Soon
- 4. Success of Iran Nuclear Talks Depends on World Powers' Seriousness: Russian Ambassador
- 5. <u>UN Chemical Experts to Visit Syria</u>
- 6. Beijing to Share Blast Detection Data with Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation
- 7. S. Korea's Top Nuke Envoy Departs for Russia to Discuss Six-Way Talks
- 8. <u>Traces of Nuclear Activity-Related Gas Detected in June: Sources</u>
- 9. China Conducts another Mobile ICBM Test
- 10. Japan Yet to Dispose of Arsenic from Wartime Chemical Weapons in China
- 11. Philippines Won't Allow Entry of Nuke-Carrying US Assets
- 12. NBC Reports 'N. Korea's ICBM is Hoax'
- 13. Giant Stride for Nation, PM says on INS Arihant Going 'Critical'
- 14. India Test-Fires Nuclear-Capable Prithvi-II Missile
- 15. India Launches 1st Aircraft Carrier Made at Home
- 16. Pakistan Struggles with Terror Strategy
- 17. Iran to Get Uranium from Zimbabwe Paper
- 18. US Warns Robert Mugabe against Iran Uranium Deal
- 19. Nuke Deals to Proceed Despite US-Russian Spat Paper
- 20. Russia Begins Construction of New Anti-Missile Radar
- 21. <u>US Tactical Nuclear Weapons Must Be Withdrawn from Europe Russian Defense Ministry</u>
- 22. No Progress in Russia-NATO Missile Defense Talks Official
- 23. UK's Nuclear Weapons Being Dismantled under Disarmament Obligations
- 24. Defence Cuts "Weakening Effect of Nuclear Deterrent"
- 25. Nato Chiefs Deal Blow to SNP's Anti-Nuclear Strategy
- 26. Texas Nuclear Weapons Plant to Build 11.5MW Wind Farm
- 27. What's at Stake After Failed Nuclear Inspection at Malmstrom?
- 28. Report: All U.S. Nuclear Facilities Vulnerable to Terrorism
- 29. It's a Force Multiplier
- 30. The Continuing Iranian Threat in the Americas
- 31. Aircraft Carriers Key to Strategic Deterrence
- 32. No, Pakistan Won't Sell Saudi Arabia Nukes
- 33. HEINRICHS: As Others Advance, U.S. Retreats on Nuclear Stage
- 34. EMP Awareness Day: The First Step to Averting Disaster

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 chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats and countermeasures. It's our hope this information resource will help enhance your counterproliferation issue awareness.

Established in 1998, the USAF/CPC provides education and research to present and future leaders of the Air Force, as well as to members of other branches of the armed services and Department of Defense. Our purpose is to help those agencies better prepare to counter the threat from weapons of mass destruction. Please feel free to visit our web site at http://cpc.au.af.mil/ for in-depth information and specific points of contact. The following articles, papers or documents do not necessarily reflect official endorsement of the United States Air Force, Department of Defense, or other US government agencies. Reproduction for private use or commercial gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. All rights are reserved.

### Issue No.1070, 16 August 2013

The following articles, papers or documents do not necessarily reflect official endorsement of the United States Air Force, Department of Defense, or other US government agencies. Reproduction for private use or commercial gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. All rights are reserved.



FARS News Agency – Iran Saturday, August 10, 2013

## Senior MP: US Should Show Good Will by Easing Sanctions

TEHRAN (FNA) - A prominent Iranian lawmaker called on the US to adopt a more serious attitude towards Iran, reiterating that the US should ease its sanctions on the Islamic Republic in order to prepare the grounds for direct talks with Tehran.

"Once the United States exhibits a confidence-building and realistic behavior, the Islamic Republic of Iran will take a proper decision concerning talks with the US," member of the parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Commission Esmail Kosari said on Friday.

He underlined that Washington should reduce the sanctions it has currently imposed against Tehran.

"Therefore, no decision can be made about negotiations with the United States unless such a change of behavior is displayed by Americans," Kosari added.

Addressing his first press conference in Tehran on August 6, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said the Islamic Republic is closely monitoring all measures taken by the US and will respond properly to Washington's "practical and constructive" moves.

"What is important for us is the US administration's practical response and not statements," he said.

The United States, Israel, and some of their allies have repeatedly accused Iran of pursuing non-civilian objectives in its nuclear energy program and have used the unfounded accusation as a pretext to impose illegal sanctions on the Islamic Republic.

Iran rejects the allegations, arguing that as a committed signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), it has the right to use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

In addition, the IAEA has conducted numerous inspections of Iran's nuclear facilities but has never found any evidence showing that Iran's civilian nuclear program has been diverted to nuclear weapons production.

http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13920519000167

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

# Iran to Sign New Nuclear Power Plant Deal with Russia - Minister

11 August 2013

TEHRAN, August 11 (RIA Novosti) – Iran intends to sign an agreement with Russia soon on the construction of a new nuclear power plant in the Islamic Republic, Iran's semi-official Mehr news agency reported on Sunday, citing Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi.

"Iran has held consultations with the Russian side and soon an agreement of mutual understanding will be signed on the construction of a new nuclear power plant," Mehr quoted Salehi as saying.

Iran's foreign minister said the Islamic Republic needed nuclear power for electricity generation, and also for medicine.

Iran's newly-elected President Hassan Rouhani said on Tuesday during his first press conference after his inauguration that the Islamic Republic would continue negotiations with Russia on nuclear power development in the country.

Rouhani said Iran needed to produce 20,000 MW of nuclear power and planned to build new nuclear power plants and continue cooperation in this sphere, in particular, with Russia.



Russian parliament speaker Sergei Naryshkin said on August 4 during his visit to Iran to attend Rouhani's inauguration ceremony that Russia hoped for holding consultations with Iran on expanding cooperation in civilian nuclear power after the Islamic Republic's first nuclear power plant at Bushehr was fully commissioned in September.

Western countries suspect Iran of using its nuclear program to develop atomic weapons capability, a claim Iran has consistently denied. Tehran claims it needs atomic technology for producing electricity, although it has some of the world's largest reserves of oil and gas.

Construction of Bushehr began in the 1970s, but has been plagued by delays. Russia signed a billion-dollar deal with Tehran to complete the plant in 1998.

Iran's foreign minister said in February Tehran expected to start joint work with Russia on a second power unit at Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant.

"We hope to start building the second unit with our Russian colleagues," he told journalists at a news conference.

Salehi said Russia was Tehran's preferred partner in the construction of Iran's second nuclear power plant, local media reported.

The Bushehr plant's launch in August 2010 prompted Israel and other nations to express fear that the reactor could help Iran create an atomic bomb. Tehran has denied the allegations, saying the facility was used for peaceful power generation only.

http://en.rian.ru/world/20130811/182707490/Iran-to-Sign-New-Nuclear-Power-Plant-Deal-with-Russia--Minister.html (Return to Articles and Documents List)

FARS News Agency – Iran Tuesday, August 13, 2013

# Spokesman: Iran to Take Full Operational Control of Bushehr N. Power Plant Soon

TEHRAN (FNA) - Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Seyed Abbas Araqchi reiterated that Tehran will take the full operational control of Bushehr nuclear power plant from Russia in the next few weeks.

"(The full control of) the Bushehr nuclear power plant will be delivered to the Islamic Republic of Iran a few weeks later," Aragchi said in his weekly press conference in Tehran on Tuesday.

"Our negotiations with Russia continue for (the construction) of other phases of the power plant and also other power plants and we hope that they will yield results," he added.

In relevant remarks earlier this month, Head of the Russian State Nuclear Energy Corporation Sergey Kiriyenko said that his company is ready to transfer the full operational control of Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant to the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization (IAEO).

"The state company (Rosatom) will soon sign the documents to transfer the full operational control of the Bushehr nuclear power plant to Iran," Kiriyenko said.

The Russian official underlined that Bushehr nuclear power plant is currently operating at 100-percent capacity and the process of preparing it for transfer to the project originator (Iran) is concluding.

Rosatom's construction arm, Atomstroyeksport, took over construction of Bushehr nuclear power plant after a German company pulled out of the project after the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran.

The Islamic Republic signed the Bushehr contract with Russia in 1995 and the nuclear power plant reached its full capacity by August 2012.



The Bushehr nuclear power plant is located about 18 kilometers South of the provincial capital.

http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13920522000444

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

Tehran Times – Iran

# Success of Iran Nuclear Talks Depends on World Powers' Seriousness: Russian Ambassador

The Political Desk Thursday, August 15, 2013

TEHRAN – Russian Ambassador to Tehran Levan Dzhagaryan has said that the success of the process of talks between Tehran and the six major powers over the country's nuclear program depends on the seriousness of some world powers.

Negotiations between Iran and the P5+1 group (the United States, Russia, China, France, Britain, and Germany) have been on hold since a round of talks in April.

Iran and the West are at loggerheads over Tehran's nuclear program, which Iran says is entirely peaceful but the West suspects may be a cover for developing nuclear weapons.

Moscow believes that the negotiations on the Iranian nuclear program can be successful if Tehran shows more flexibility and certain members of the P5+1 are more serious, Ambassador Dzhagaryan said in an interview with RIA Novosti published on Tuesday.

"The experience of the new president of Iran, Hassan Rohani in the early 2000s who headed the team of (Iranian) negotiators is obviously in demand now," he said, adding, "Adjustments in the direction of greater flexibility is not expected only from one party involved in the negotiations. Success in the final decision also depends on the seriousness of the mood of some members of the 'six' on the political and diplomatic settlement of the Iranian nuclear issue. Russia has always taken a constructive position on this issue."

In addition, Dzhagaryan said that a necessary condition for constructive talks on Iran's nuclear program was the normalization of relations between the West and Tehran.

Elsewhere in his remarks, he said, "Certainly, Moscow believes Tehran is one of its most important regional partners."

 $\frac{http://www.tehrantimes.com/politics/110012-success-of-iran-nuclear-talks-depends-on-world-powers-seriousness-russian-ambassador$ 

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

Al Jazeera – U.A.E.

## **UN Chemical Experts to Visit Syria**

Chemical team's departure imminent after Syria accepts terms of cooperation for investigation, UN says. 15 August 2013

The United Nations has said the departure of a team of chemical weapons inspectors to Syria was "imminent" following a green light from Damascus.

"The Government of Syria has formally accepted the modalities essential for cooperation to ensure the proper, safe and efficient conduct of the mission," UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's spokesman said in a statement on Wednesday.

The UN statement said "the departure of the team is now imminent," but it provided no specific date.



The team led by Swedish arms expert Ake Sellstroem would investigate the sites of alleged chemical attacks for a period of at least two weeks, the statement said.

Ten experts from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the World Health Organization will also be part of the team.

But diplomats and chemical weapons experts have raised doubts about whether they will find anything since the alleged incidents took place months ago.

Also, the mandate of the investigation is limited as experts will report on whether chemical weapons were used, and if so which ones, but they will not determine the responsibility for the attack, Reuters said.

The Syrian opposition says the investigators can have full access to sites under its control where chemical weapons are alleged to have been used.

#### Blame game

The mission has been delayed in the past over differences with President Bashar al-Assad's regime over the scope of the probe into the alleged use of chemical arms in the country's civil war.

The United Nations last month reached a framework agreement with the Syrian government on the mission, but had been awaiting a final approval from Damascus.

One of the sites to be investigated is Khan al-Assal, near Aleppo, where the government says rebels used chemical weapons on March 19, killing at least 30 people, including 16 Syrian soldiers.

The opposition says government forces carried out the attack.

The UK, France and the US followed with allegations of chemical weapons use in Homs, Damascus and elsewhere.

UN Middle East envoy Robert Serry told the Security Council last month that the UN has received 13 reports of alleged chemical weapons use in Syria.

On June 13, Washington said it had conclusive evidence that Syrian regime had used chemical weapons against opposition forces. That crossed what President Barack Obama had called a "red line" and prompted a US decision to send arms and ammunition to the opposition.

The conflict in Syria, which erupted more than two years ago, has left almost 100,000 people killed, according to UN figures.

Source: Al Jazeera and agencies

http://www.aljazeera.com/video/middleeast/2013/08/201381555257275800.html

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

South China Morning Post - Hong Kong, China

# Beijing to Share Blast Detection Data with Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation

Sharing monitoring information with test-ban agency expected to add to pressure on North Korea over controversial weapons programme

Sunday, 11 August 2013

By Stephen Chen

China has agreed to share data from its monitoring stations that watch for signs of atomic tests - including seismic waves and radioactive traces - with the global agency that oversees the nuclear test ban treaty.



The move could help dissuade North Korea from carrying out more nuclear tests, a researcher at the China Arms Control and Disarmament Association said.

The decision was announced by the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation in Vienna on Wednesday.

The organisation said its executive secretary, Lassina Zerbo, met Zhang Yulin, a deputy minister of defence, last week.

Zhang pledged the country's full support and commitment in co-operating with it.

"During the meeting, it was agreed to proceed with the provision of data from the organisation's monitoring stations in China to the organisation's International Data Centre in Vienna," a statement said. "This is part of the testing and evaluation process that marks the first formal step towards certification [formal acceptance] of the monitoring stations in China."

In the days after North Korea's third nuclear test in February, global agencies, including the test-ban treaty organisation, searched for signs to confirm it was indeed a nuclear test. There was evidence of a seismic event consistent with the signature of an underground explosion, and at the same location the North had used for previous tests.

But the US military and others were unable to determine whether the test used a plutonium or a uranium bomb, according to *Science* magazine. Too few radioxenon atoms - fission products that indicate a nuclear explosion has taken place - were detected to make that determination.

China's contribution of data from the 10 monitoring stations it oversees could change the game. Seven stations register seismic waves and low-frequency acoustic waves. Three stations - in Beijing, Lanzhou , and Guangzhou - detect radionuclides, which are left behind after the explosion of a nuclear device.

With the additional data, the test-ban organisation could refine its analysis.

One analyst who formerly worked with the body told the academic journal that because the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty had not entered into force, China, like other signatories, "has no legal obligation to provide data to anybody".

Over the past decade, as China has built up its monitoring stations, it has been especially leery of providing radionuclide data.

"They've come around," the analyst was quoted by the journal as saying.

Xu Guangyu, a researcher at the China Arms Control and Disarmament Association, said the data-sharing agreement was good news for international society and warning to North Korea.

"The monitoring networks can detect and assess any public or secret nuclear weapon test. It can constrain North Korea," he said.

Beijing's move doesn't suggest it would ratify the treaty, however. A total 183 countries have signed it and 159 have formally endorsed it. But China, North Korea, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Pakistan and the United States have yet to ratify it.

"China and Russia would not ratify a treaty on [a] nuke experiments ban as long as the US rejects it" Xu said. "By playing a more active role in the organisation, China can also increase the pressure on the US to endorse the treaty."

The organisation is building a global monitoring system with 337 facilities that, when complete, will be able to detect any nuclear explosion.

More than 280 have already been set up and are sending data to its headquarters in Vienna, but none is in China.

http://www.scmp.com/news/china/article/1295881/beijing-share-blast-detection-data-comprehensive-nuclear-test-ban-treaty

(Return to Articles and Documents List)



Yonhap News Agency – South Korea August 12, 2013

### S. Korea's Top Nuke Envoy Departs for Russia to Discuss Six-Way Talks

SEOUL, Aug. 13 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's point man on efforts to end North Korea's nuclear programs departed for Russia on Tuesday to hold talks with his Russian counterpart as the neighboring countries try to resume the long-stalled dialogue to denuclearize the North.

During his three-day visit to Moscow, Cho Tae-yong, South Korea's special representative for peace and security affairs on the Korean Peninsula, will meet with Igor Vladimirovich Morgulov, Russia's top negotiator for North Korea's denuclearization, according to Seoul's foreign ministry.

"I plan to share detailed opinions on how to assess North Korea's nuclear programs and threats and discuss how to push ahead with efforts to denuclearize the North during this visit," Cho told Yonhap News Agency before leaving the country.

Russia is one of the few very important pillars for the international non-proliferation system and has plenty of ideas about North Korea's nuclear arms possession, the official said, adding that Russia has a very clear stance on the North Korean nuclear issue.

The forthcoming meeting is the first of its kind between the two top delegates to the long-stalled six-party talks, designed to persuade the North to discard its nuclear programs, since Cho took office in May.

The Seoul-Moscow contact comes as the nations involved in the denuclearization talks scurry to revive the dialogue, which has been stalled since late 2008 after the North walked away from the negotiating table over the United Nations' condemnation of its satellite program.

The six countries to the disarmament talks involve the two Koreas, the U.S., China, Japan and Russia.

In June, Cho held talks with his U.S. and Japanese counterparts, Glyn Davies and Shinsuke Sugiyama, in Washington, and he separately met with China's top delegate to the six-party talks, Wu Dawei, in Beijing in the same week.

Meanwhile, North Korea's top negotiator Kim Kye-gwan has visited China and Russia earlier this year to drum up their support for resuming the multinational dialogue.

North Korea conducted its third nuclear test in February, sparking a strong backlash from the international community and drawing toughened sanctions against it by the United Nations and the United States.

The outside world believes the North's satellite launch in December was a cover for testing ballistic missiles that it is now developing.

http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/search1/2603000000.html?cid=AEN20130813002600315 (Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Korea Herald - South Korea

# **Traces of Nuclear Activity-Related Gas Detected in June: Sources**

August 13, 2013

South Korea detected traces of Xenon, a chemical element usually found near recent nuclear activities, in the country's atmosphere in June, but it does not seem to have originated from North Korea, government sources said Tuesday.

According to the sources, the Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety detected traces of the colorless, odorless noble gas on three occasions in June. Xenon is detected in trace amounts after nuclear bomb tests or other nuclear activities.



After the findings, the government tried to track down its source, but found no signs of nearby nuclear activities in the preceding weeks, the sources said.

The government could not determine the origin of the Xenon gas, one of the sources said, adding that the North may not be responsible because no signs of nuclear activities have been seen in the country at around that time.

Xenon takes about 12 days to reduce by half in the air and North Korea showed no signs of nuclear generation or arms tests in the cited period before the detection, including in its nuclear generation complex in Yongbyon, the source said.

Another source said that the government received no intelligence about the North's nuclear activities in relation with the Xenon detection.

In April, North Korea announced that its nuclear scientists will begin work "readjusting and restarting" a uranium enrichment plant and a graphite-moderated, 5-megawatt reactor in the Yongbyon complex.

The South, however, has not detected any actions by the North to resume the operations of the nuclear reactor, according to the sources. (Yonhap News)

http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20130813000694

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Washington Free Beacon

### China Conducts another Mobile ICBM Test

DF-31A launch was third flight test in past year By Bill Gertz August 14, 2013

China's military recently carried out a third test of a long-range DF-31A ballistic missile capable of hitting the United States with nuclear warheads.

U.S. officials with access to intelligence reports said the flight test of a DF-31A road-mobile ICBM took place July 24 in China and highlights Beijing's large-scale nuclear force buildup.

The test was carried out in complete secrecy as part of China's policy of not revealing details of its strategic nuclear forces in public.

A Pentagon spokesman had no comment on the flight test. "I recommend you contact the Embassy of the People's Republic of China," Lt. Col. Todd Breasseale said.

Chinese Embassy spokesmen did not respond to email requests for comment about the ICBM test.

The U.S. officials did not provide further details of the flight test.

However, it was the third flight test of a DF-31A within the past year.

By contrast, the Obama administration has put off U.S. ICBM tests several times in recent years in what military officials said were politically motivated delays. A Minuteman III missile test was put off last year until after the presidential election and delayed again until May over concerns an ICBM flight test would be misconstrued by North Korea, which has its own long-range missiles.

Missile analysts said the latest DF-31A test probably was carried out from the Wuzhai Space and Missile Test Center, where earlier tests occurred.

Until last month, China's most recent DF-31A test took place Nov. 30 when an ICBM was fired from Wuzhai to an impact range in western China.



An earlier DF-31A test took place Aug. 30, 2012, also from Wuzhai, a missile launch center located in Shanxi province, about 267 miles southwest of Beijing.

It could not be learned whether the latest test involved a single dummy warhead or multiple warheads.

China is developing multiple-independently targetable reentry vehicles, or MIRVs, for its missiles and also has used decoy warheads designed to fool U.S. missile defense sensors.

A recently published report by the Air Force National Air and Space Intelligence Center concluded "China has the most active and diverse ballistic missile development program in the world."

"It is developing and testing offensive missiles, forming additional missile units, qualitatively upgrading missile systems, and developing methods to counter ballistic missile defenses," the report said. "The Chinese ballistic missile force is expanding in both size and types of missiles."

According to the report, China's military has "more than 15" DF-31A launchers for the solid-fueled, single-warhead ICBM that has a range greater than 6,835 miles. Other missile specialists say the DF-31A is capable of carrying up to five nuclear warheads.

The July 24 DF-31A test came exactly a year after the Chinese conducted what U.S. officials said was one of the first flight tests of a new longer-range ICBM called the DF-41, which is expected to be China's first long-range missile outfitted with multiple warheads.

The Pentagon's 2011 annual report on China's military stated that China is continuing to modernize its nuclear forces by enhancing silo-based ICBMs and adding harder-to-detect mobile missile.

"In recent years, the road-mobile, solid-propellant [DF-31 and DF-31A] intercontinental range ballistic missiles have entered service," the report said, adding that the DF-31 A "can reach most locations within the continental United States."

Rick Fisher, a China military affairs specialist at the International Assessment and Strategy Center, said the latest flight test shows that Beijing's military has a robust missile-testing program.

"The DF-31A could be deployed with two to three brigades, which all engage in active year-around training which includes live launches at regular intervals," Fisher said.

"This latest DF-31A test also highlights the fact that China's nuclear missile arsenal continues to grow," he said. "The DF-31A fleet will soon be joined by an initial force of up to 36 JL-2 or JL-2A submarine-launched nuclear missiles within the next year, and these will be followed by multiple warhead or MIRV capable DF-41 road mobile ICBMs."

The DF-41 is expected to be capable of carrying up to 10 nuclear warheads.

China's military uses extreme secrecy to mask its strategic nuclear missile programs.

A senior Chinese official revealed during talks with U.S. officials in Beijing in 2009 that even the number of Chinese nuclear weapons is a closely guarded secret.

Assistant Foreign Minister He Yafei was quoted in a classified State Department cable made public by Wikileaks that said that if China revealed the size of its nuclear arsenal, it would eliminate its deterrent value.

China conducted a series of flight tests beginning in July 2012 that included the DF-31A, a silo-based DF-5 ICBM test, the DF-41 test, and a flight test of a new JL-2 submarine launched ballistic missile.

All the tests were not made public and Pentagon spokesmen also declined to comment on those tests.

http://freebeacon.com/china-conducts-another-mobile-icbm-test/

(Return to Articles and Documents List)



The Japan Times - Japan

# Japan Yet to Dispose of Arsenic from Wartime Chemical Weapons in China

Kyodo August 15, 2013

SHANGHAI – Japan has yet to dispose of arsenic residue from chemical weapons its Imperial army abandoned in China at the end of World War II, a source close to bilateral relations said Wednesday, noting there are calls for the toxin to be sent to Japan.

The arsenic comes from arms that were destroyed in a chemical weapons disposal project in Nanjing, Jiangsu province, from October 2010 to June 2012, the source said, adding the chemical agent also has yet to be eradicated.

The arsenic residue is being temporarily stored in airtight plastic containers in an area in Nanjing controlled by the Chinese military, but it could leak into the soil and cause health risks if hit by floods, the source said.

One option for permanent disposal would be to bury the arsenic in a sealed underground site, but the two governments have yet to agree to this.

Japan started the disposal project in accordance with a bilateral accord in July 1999 whereby it would provide money, technology and facilities to dispose of the weapons.

The Abandoned Chemical Weapons Office of the Cabinet Office said roughly 35,000 chemical weapons had been blown up in Nanjing, and the chemical agents inside them had been detoxified. But the arsenic, as an element, remains and cannot disintegrate any further.

There are thus calls in China to send the residue to Japan, the source said.

But Tsukasa Hirota, deputy chief of the office, said it is "more important" to speed up efforts to dispose of the abandoned chemical weapons than the arsenic residue, indicating a final method of arsenic disposal is not in the offing.

Japan has retrieved some 50,000 chemical weapons in various parts of China, including Nanjing.

The biggest concentration of abandoned chemical weapons is in Haerbaling in Jilin province, where 300,000 to 400,000 arms remain buried.

http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/08/15/national/japan-yet-to-dispose-of-arsenic-from-wartime-chemical-weapons-in-china/

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

Philippine Star - Philippines

## Philippines Won't Allow Entry of Nuke-Carrying US Assets

By Alexis Romero (philstar.com) August 15, 2013

MANILA, Philippines - The government will assert its authority over the facilities of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and will deny access to United States (US) assets carrying nuclear weapons.

The assurance was made Thursday by the Philippine panel negotiating with the US on the increased rotational presence of American forces in the country.

Panel member Defense Undersecretary Pio Batino said the framework agreement on the increased rotational presence would provide an opportunity to "insist on clearer safeguards" for national concerns.



"There should be full control of Philippine authority over AFP-owned facilities. We will insist that there will be no areas exclusive to the US troops," Batino said in a press briefing.

Batino was responding to queries about the supposed gaps in the implementation of previous defense agreements with the US.

Sources said there have been instances wherein even AFP generals were not allowed to enter the US Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines (JSOTF-P) headquarters in Zamboanga City.

Even journalists based in the province reportedly experienced similar restrictions a few years ago.

Sources said journalists covering a congressional probe on the alleged permanent presence of US troops in the area had been barred from taking video footages of the headquarters. The media men reportedly complained about the incident, prompting the JSOTF-P leadership to apologize.

Sources previously claimed that the US troops operate a powerful communication equipment in Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City.

Meanwhile, the Philippine panel said the US assets carrying nuclear weapons would not be allowed to enter the country.

Philippine panel head Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary Carlos Sorreta said mere suspicion that a US asset has nuclear weapons is enough to deny access.

"If we suspect or believe that the ship (that) they (US) ask for permission to enter has nuclear weapon, then we have the right to deny it. We actually don't have to see it (or) actually touch the weapon," Sorreta said.

He said both panels have agreed to respect the constitutional prohibition against nuclear weapons during the first round of negotiations last Wednesday.

Article II Section 8 of the constitution states that the Philippines, consistent with the national interest, "adopts and pursues a policy of freedom from nuclear weapons in its territory."

### US presents draft proposal

The US panel led by State Department senior negotiator Eric John also presented their proposed text of the framework agreement last Wednesday.

Batino said they already have initial comments on the proposed draft but declined to elaborate.

He said they were able to emphasize the significance of "very important" concerns like Philippine sovereignty, full Philippine control and authority, mutuality of benefits, and non permanence of course of US troops.

"There were provisions there that could be agreed upon by both parties, there were provisions that should be subject of further discussions," Batino said, adding that the draft is still "a work in progress."

Officials stressed that the framework agreement would not cover specific details like the number of US troops to be deployed to the country.

"The intention of the framework agreement is to provide general parameters and principles on the further implementation of the Mutual Defense Treaty and the Visiting Forces Agreement," Batino said.

Both sides agreed that the working title of the agreement would be "Framework Agreement between the Philippines and the United States on Increased Rotational Presence/Enhanced Defense Cooperation."

The agreement will contain the following provisions: preamble, definitions, scope, agreed installations/AFP facilities, implementing arrangements, prepositioning of defense equipment, supplies and materiel, ownership, security, utilities and communications, protection of environment, procedure, resolution of disputes, entry into force, duration, termination and amendment.



The US will host the second round of negotiations in the second half of the month.

The US and the Philippines have adopted a policy of increased rotational presence amid the growing aggressive actions of China in the West Philippine Sea, which has triggered tensions and concerns in the region.

http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2013/08/15/1094271/philippines-wont-allow-entry-nuke-carrying-us-assets (Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Korea Times – South Korea August 16, 2013

## NBC Reports 'N. Korea's ICBM is Hoax'

By Ko Dong-hwan

American news outlet NBC has reported that North Korean medium-range missiles paraded in Pyongyang in July are possibly hoaxes.

The outlet reported on Aug. 15 that Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) "Hwasong-13" which appeared on the most recent parade in Pyongyang on July 27 was judged not real by several U.S. government experts and independent analysts.

The conclusion came about as a result of their close analysis upon a video that recorded the parade.

Markus Schiller, an aerospace engineer in Munich and former RAND Corp. military analyst, said that "there was no evidence on the rear of the Hwasong-13 of retro rockets, critical in separating rocket stages" and that "small guidance nozzles and hatches are all placed at different positions," generalizing the missile as a "crude fake."

Schiller also insisted that North Korea fudged serial numbers and other indicating marks from past missiles to exaggerate the scale of their present missile reserve.

James Oberg, an NBC News space and missile expert, pointed to "undulating skin near the warhead" as another sign the missile is fake.

Alexandre Mansourov, a Korea expert and visiting scholar at Johns Hopkins University, argued that North Korea is experiencing technical hardships as their past attempt to launch a satellite in April 2013 had in fact failed under not political, but technical dilemma.

Mansourov also reasoned that disappearance from public view of Pak To-Chun, a politburo member who managed North Korea's weapons production, testified that North Korean missiles are in trouble.

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2013/08/485 141196.html

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Times of India - India

# Giant Stride for Nation, PM says on INS Arihant Going 'Critical'

By Rajat Pandit, Tamil News Network (TNN) August 11, 2013

NEW DELHI: Arihant, which translates as the 'destroyer of enemies" from Sanskrit, now has a new "heart" to take the battle to enemy shores. The miniaturized atomic reactor on board India's first indigenous nuclear submarine INS Arihant has "gone critical", in a big leap towards making the country's long-awaited "nuclear weapons triad" an operational reality.



Sources said the 83mw pressurized light-water reactor, fuelled by enriched uranium, achieved "criticality" late on Friday night after months of "checking and re-checking" of all the machinery, systems and sub-systems of the 6000-tonne submarine at the heavily-guarded ship-building centre at Visakhapatnam.

The green signal for the reactor to be "finally switched on" was apparently given by the top-secret meeting of the Nuclear Command Authority, chaired by PM Manmohan Singh and attended by Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) members, among others, on July 31.

On Saturday, congratulating the Navy, Department of Atomic Energy and DRDO for the milestone, the PM said it marked "a giant stride" towards enhancing the country's security. Only the Big-5; the US, Russia, China, the UK and France - currently operate nuclear-powered submarines armed with nuclear-tipped missiles.

To be followed by INS Aridhaman and another similar vessel already being constructed under India's "most secretive strategic project" for which over Rs 30,000-crore have already been sanctioned, INS Arihant was so far being powered and tested in the harbour with high-pressure steam from the shore.

The umbilical cord has now being cut. With the submarine now powered by the self-sustained, fission reaction in the reactor fitted inside a containment chamber in the hull, it will eventually head for open waters for extensive "sea-acceptance trials" with a 95-member crew led by Captain Sanjay Mahendru.

"The pipelines in INS Arihant went through multiple sets of flushing and cleaning. The first step has been taken. Even if everything goes well, the submarine will still take a minimum of another 18 months to become fully-operational and go on deterrent patrols," said a source.

Another reality check is that the 110-metre-long and 11-metre broad INS Arihant will initially be armed with the K-15 ballistic missiles that have a strike range of just 750-km. They, too, will require testing during the extensive sea trials. They dwarf in comparison to the well over 5,000-km range missiles of the US, Russia and China. The Chinese JL-2 SLBM, for instance, has a 7,400-km strike range. But INS Arihant, which has four silos on its hump to carry a dozen K-15 or four of the under-development K-4 missiles (3,500-km range), is still critical for building India's "credible and survivable" nuclear weapons triad - the capability to fire nukes from land, air and sea - like the Big-5.

The first two legs of the triad - the rail and road-mobile Agni series of ballistic missiles and fighters like Sukhoi-30MKIs and Mirage-2000s capable of delivering nuclear warheads - are already in place with the armed forces.

It has taken India more than quarter of a century to come close to achieving the most potent sea-leg of the triad. The capability to deploy submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) is crucial since India has a declared "no first-use policy" for nuclear weapons, and hence needs a robust second-strike capability. The country's nuclear doctrine, after all, itself lays down that "nuclear retaliation to a first strike will be massive and designed to inflict unacceptable damage".

http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-08-11/india/41294394 1 ins-arihant-submarine-reactor (Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Hindustan Times - India

## India Test-Fires Nuclear-Capable Prithvi-II Missile

Press Trust of India (PTI) August 12, 2013

BHUBANESWAR: India on Monday successfully test-fired its indigenously developed nuclear capable Prithvi-II missile, which has a strike range of 350 km, as part of a user trial for the defence forces.

The sophisticated surface-to-surface missile was test fired from a mobile launcher in salvo mode from launch complex-3 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur at 9.15am, defence sources said.



Describing the trial as successful, they said the launch of the sleek missile was conducted as part of operational exercise by the strategic force command (SFC) of the defence services, they said.

"The missile was randomly chosen from the production stock and the total launch activities were carried out by the specially formed SFC and monitored by the scientists of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) as part of practice drill," the sources said.

The Prithvi-II missile, developed by the DRDO, is already inducted into the Indian Armed forces.

Prithvi, the first missile developed under India's prestigious Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP), is capable of carrying 500 kg to 1000 kg of warheads and thrusted by liquid propulsion twin engines, uses advanced inertial guidance system with manoeuvring trajectory.

The last user's trial of Prithvi-II was successfully carried out from the same base on on December 20, 2012, the sources said.

http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-news/Odisha/India-test-fires-nuclear-capable-Prithvi-II-missile/Article1-1106858.aspx

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

Los Angeles Times

### India Launches 1st Aircraft Carrier Made at Home

By Mark Magnier August 12, 2013

NEW DELHI – India launched its first domestically built aircraft carrier Monday with an eye on regional rivals China and Pakistan, although it will be several years before the ship is fully operational.

The \$5-billion Vikrant, meaning "courage," was unveiled at a shipyard in the southern port of Kochi. The 37,500-ton ship will be outfitted with electrical cables, ventilation, weaponry and machinery before undergoing sea trials in 2016 and formal induction into the navy in 2018.

"I think it's great," said R. H. Tahiliani, an analyst and former Indian chief of naval staff. "It should have come much earlier, but better late than never."

The ship has been under consideration since the 1990s and construction is three years behind schedule.

When completed, the Vikrant will allow India to project more power in the Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal to counter rival Pakistan and a more muscular China. Beijing in recent years has signed port agreements with Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar and conducted anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden, raising concerns of encirclement among Indians. Last year Beijing launched its first aircraft carrier using a hull imported from Ukraine.

Pakistan's fleet consists mostly of destroyers, submarines and frigates, some Chinese-built.

With the Vikrant's launch, India joins a small group of countries – the United States, Russia, France and England – able to design and build their own carriers. The diesel- and gas-powered Vikrant is 853 feet long and 196 feet wide with a deck the size of two football fields.

"It's a very big landmark in India's indigenization program for warships," said Ajai Shukla, a New Delhi-based independent defense analyst. "This started in 1961 with a small boat and has been building for some time."

But operating an aircraft carrier is far more costly, difficult and time-consuming than simply piling some aircraft onto a vessel, analysts said. Complex shipboard systems must be integrated, people trained and a network of support ships built and coordinated, assuming the goal is to create a carrier group.



"This is significant, but there's still a long way to go," said Lee Willett, London-based editor of IHS Jane's Navy International, a defense industry publication. "If you look at the U.S., followed by the U.K. and France, it can take decades to build up a usable capability."

Although China has a far larger annual defense budget than that of India -- about \$140 billion compared with \$49 billion -- India is the world's largest weapon importer given that China makes most of its own weapons. The U.S. defense budget, by comparison, is about \$710 billion.

Indian domestic military programs have frequently suffered from delays, inoperability and cost-overrun problems. The defense industry also has seen a number of corruption scandals, including several involving foreign contractors and middle men.

"Some of our political leaders are more interested in imports for reasons you can guess," said Tahiliani, also chairman of the India chapter of Transparency International, an anti-corruption watchdog.

At Monday's launch ceremony, Elizabeth Antony, the wife of India's defense minister, affixed a garland to the Vikrant and broke a coconut over its bow as a band played and multicolored flags fluttered on the dock.

This follows another milestone Saturday when India activated a 83-megawatt reactor on the 6,000-ton Arihant, or "slayer of enemies," its first domestically built nuclear submarine. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh hailed the achievement as "a giant stride in the progress of our indigenous technological capabilities."

The Vikrant, when operational, will be able to carry 25 to 30 aircraft, including Russian-made MiG-29K light combat aircraft and Kamov 31 multi-function helicopters.

Analysts said the domestically built portion of the Vikrant's superstructure is around 80% to 90% and the mechanics up to 60%; the aircraft and other weapon systems were no more than 30% locally produced.

India operates one aircraft carrier, a 60-year-old British vessel acquired in 1987 and renamed the Viraat, although it's increasingly obsolete and will probably be decommissioned soon. Russia is also set to deliver to India later in 2013, after years of squabbling over delays and costs, a refurbished Soviet-era aircraft carrier named the Vikramaditya.

http://www.latimes.com/news/world/worldnow/la-fg-wn-india-launches-aircraft-carrier-20130812,0,906923.story (Return to Articles and Documents List)

Wall Street Journal August 14, 2013

# **Pakistan Struggles with Terror Strategy**

By SAEED SHAH Page – A7

ISLAMABAD—Pakistan's new government unveiled what it said was the country's first counterterrorism policy, but it still hadn't decided whether to negotiate with or fight the militants who have killed hundreds of people in recent weeks.

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Khan said that, 12 years after joining America's war on terror, the country had yet to decide if this was "our war." He conceded that the "terrorists are going far ahead" of law-enforcement agencies in organization and technology.

"Our enemies are laughing at us," Mr. Khan said Tuesday. "They don't have to do anything. We are falling apart ourselves."

A meeting of all parliamentary parties will be held this month to try to reach political consensus on whether to go for dialogue with the Pakistani Taliban militants, or launch army operations against them, he said.



"If we choose war, it will be a wholehearted war, not halfhearted, and for that, the whole nation will have to be ready," Mr. Khan said.

As part of new counterterrorism efforts, Mr. Khan said Islamabad will establish a rapid-response force to deal with terrorist attacks and a new organization to coordinate intelligence gathered by different agencies.

It will also activate the largely dormant National Counter Terrorism Authority, which was created by the last government to coordinate efforts to combat violent extremism and to develop counterterrorism strategies, but has been lacking in both personnel and resources.

There was no indication, however, that Pakistan would end its sponsorship or tolerance of jihadist groups that are based in Pakistan but focus their attacks on other countries, such as Lashkar-e-Taiba, which was named by the U.S. and India as the perpetrator of the 2008 Mumbai attacks.

After the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the U.S., Islamabad decided—under heavy pressure from the Bush administration—to ally itself with the U.S., prompting some of Pakistan's homegrown jihadists to turn against their own country.

More than 17,000 civilians have been killed in extremist violence in Pakistan since 2001, along with more than 5,000 security-force personnel, according to South Asia Terrorism Portal, a website that is tracking the casualties.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who took office in June, came to power promising to negotiate with the Pakistani Taliban. However, his tenure has been marked so far by a ferocious series of militant attacks.

Rifaat Hussain, a security analyst based in Islamabad, said that negotiating with an armed insurgent group was against Pakistan's constitution.

"I was hoping for a more coherent policy," Mr. Hussain said. "If the militants don't recognize the constitution, what's the point of holding talks, unless you want to cave in to them?"

Pakistan's counterterrorism initiative also comes amid severe tension on the border with India following the death of five Indian soldiers last week in the disputed Kashmir region. New Delhi blamed the killings on Pakistan. The Pakistani government denied it was involved.

Both sides accused the other on Tuesday of continuing to fire at their soldiers across the cease-fire linein Kashmir.

Mr. Khan, the interior minister, said that India was irresponsibly "heating up the border" between the two nuclear-armed nations.

In the most aggressive comments so far from a senior Pakistani government official, Mr. Khan also said that the New Delhi government and opposition were "trying to outdo each other in jingoism" for political gain in the Indian election, due next year.

Indian opinion is likely to be further inflamed on Wednesday, when Lashkar-e-Taiba's founder Hafiz Saeed leads a parade in Lahore to mark Pakistan's annual Independence Day.

Mr. Saeed has a \$10 million U.S. bounty on his head. He is accused of masterminding the Mumbai attack, which killed more than 160 people.

On Tuesday, the spokesman of India's Foreign Ministry, Syed Akbaruddin, said New Delhi was waiting for Pakistan to "bring to justice" Mr. Saeed.

He added that, for planned peace talks between the two countries to proceed, "we need an environment free of violence and terror."

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324085304579010992875828738.html (Return to Articles and Documents List)



RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

### Iran to Get Uranium from Zimbabwe – Paper

10 August 2013

MOSCOW, August 10 (RIA Novosti) – Iran will get uranium for its nuclear program from Zimbabwe under a secret deal that bypasses a UN ban on such exports to the Middle Eastern country, a British newspaper said Saturday.

The bilateral memorandum of understanding on uranium exports was signed last year, but not reported before, Gift Chimanikire, an opposition leader who is the deputy mining minister in the outgoing Zimbabwean government, was cited as saying.

Chimanikire did not say whether the Iran has actually received any uranium from the African country. Analysts cited by The Times said Zimbabwe uranium deposits may not yet be ready to supply produce for export.

Zimbabwe's authoritarian president, Robert Mugabe, has publicly supported Iran's nuclear program during a meeting with his then-Iranian counterpart Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in 2010.

Both countries are subject to international sanctions over, respectively, Mugabe regime's dismal track record on human rights and Iran's nuclear program, which Western countries say may be aimed at producing nuclear weapons, an accusation denied by official Tehran.

http://en.ria.ru/world/20130810/182691261/Iran-to-Get-Uranium-from-Zimbabwe--Paper.html (Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Zimbabwe Mail - Zimbabwe

## **US Warns Robert Mugabe against Iran Uranium Deal**

By Staff Reporter August 12, 2013

THE United States has warned Zimbabwe against selling uranium that could be used in a nuclear weapons programme to Iran saying any such deal would violate international law and lead to severe penalties.

"UN Security Council Resolution 1737 prohibits the sale or transfer of uranium to Iran, except for low-enriched uranium when it is incorporated into assembled nuclear fuel elements for light-water reactors," a US State Department official told the UK-based Times newspaper on Monday.

"The Government of Zimbabwe is bound by its commitments to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and relevant legally binding UN Security Council resolutions.

"The United States is committed to preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. We urge all countries to fully implement and enforce their obligations under multiple UN Security Council resolutions not to provide Iran with materials that could be used to develop a nuclear weapon."

The warning followed a weekend report by the British newspaper claiming that Zimbabwe had agreed a secret uranium trade deal with Iran.

The claim was dismissed as wishful thinking by Mines Minister Obert Mpofu.

"We are free to trade with any country but my ministry has not signed an agreement about uranium with Tehran," Mpofu said.

"It is fiction and usual wishful thinking of the Western media. Why would we have a secret deal when we are a free country?"



The Times had quoted deputy mining minister, Gift Chimanikire, as saying: "I have seen (a memorandum of understanding) to export uranium to the Iranians."

Chimanikire admitted speaking to the newspaper but said his remarks had been "deliberately misrepresented" in a bid to "tarnish the country's image".

"It is a speculative and dangerous story. We have nothing to export because we have not mined," he said.

"We have no capacity to handle uranium as a country, and besides we don't even know the quantity of uranium. We signed a memorandum of understanding with Iran, which covers various agreements in mineral trading such as diamonds, gold and other minerals."

Zimbabwe sits on considerable mineral riches, including platinum, chrome, gold, diamond, and iron ore. But there is no estimate of uranium reserves.

The US and its allies imposed sanctions against Iran's energy and financial sectors to force the Islamic republic to stop its uranium enrichment activities over fears that Tehran might produce nuclear weapons.

Iranian authorities have, however, insisted that the nuclear program seeks to harness energy and is only for peaceful means.

Zimbabwe is also a target of Western sanctions, led by the US and European Union who accuse President Robert Mugabe and his ruling Zanu PF party of electoral fraud and human rights failings.

Meanwhile, the Sunday Mail reported that police had launched a manhunt for the journalists responsible for the report - Jan Raath and Jerome Starkey - which officials said "could undermine Zimbabwe's foreign relations".

Starkey tweeted about the alleged "manhunt" by local police.

However, ZRP spokeswoman Charity Charamba claimed not to know about the search for the journalists.

"I have not heard about it. I only got a call from someone else who was inquiring," she told AFP, saying she would have to look into it.

http://www.thezimbabwemail.com/zimbabwe/17750-us-warns-robert-mugabe-against-iran-uranium-deal.html (Return to Articles and Documents List)

RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

## Nuke Deals to Proceed Despite US-Russian Spat – Paper

10 August 2013

MOSCOW, August 10 (RIA Novosti) – Two agreements on nuclear industry cooperation, meant to be signed at the upcoming meeting of US and Russian presidents, will likely be salvaged despite the meeting's cancellation, a newspaper said Saturday.

US President Barack Obama and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin were to sign the two deals at their meeting in Moscow on September 3, Russian daily Kommersant reported.

One deal was to boost bilateral contacts and information exchange on nuclear weapons proliferation under the aegis of Russia's National Nuclear Threat Reduction Center, while the other was to allow Russian state-run nuclear monopoly Rosatom collaborate with US laboratories, the report said.

Obama canceled the meeting with Putin earlier this week over lack of prospects for progress in the bilateral agenda as well as Moscow's harboring of accused US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden.

But the nuclear threat agreement will likely still be signed "in foreseeable future" to indicate that US-Russian military cooperation is not entirely on hold, Kommersant said, citing an unnamed Russian defense official.



The Rosatom deal is still at drafting stage, but may be signed by the heads of the Russian corporation and the US Department of Energy, not the presidents, once the document is ready, the newspaper said, citing another unnamed source familiar with the situation.

http://en.ria.ru/russia/20130810/182689722/Nuke-Deals-to-Proceed-Despite-US-Russian-Spat--Paper.html (Return to Articles and Documents List)

RIA Novosti - Russian Information Agency

## Russia Begins Construction of New Anti-Missile Radar

13 August 2013

MOSCOW, August 13 (RIA Novosti) – The construction of an advanced early missile warning radar will begin on Tuesday in central Russia to enhance the capabilities of the country's missile defenses, a Defense Ministry spokesman said.

The new Voronezh-class radar will be built near the town of Orsk in the Orenburg region as part of the comprehensive missile early warning network to be completed in Russia by 2020, Col. Alexey Zolotukhin told reporters on Monday.

"In addition to the Orenburg radar, the preparations for construction of new-generation radars are underway in the Krasnoyarsk and the Altai territories," Zolotukhin said.

The new assembly technology allows the construction of radars from standard container-type macro-modules at the place of deployment, while the infrastructure required for this purpose is minimal. As a result, the radar deployment period has been reduced to 12-18 months, compared to 5-9 years previously, the spokesman said.

Four Voronezh-class radar stations built with the use of high factory-readiness technology are already part of the Russian missile early warning network.

A Voronezh-DM radar is on combat duty in the Krasnodar territory and a Voronezh-M radar - in the Leningrad region. The Voronezh-DM radars in the Kaliningrad and Irkutsk regions are in the testing stage of operation.

Voronezh-class radars have an operational range of 6,000 kilometers (3,728 miles). They can be quickly redeployed to a new site and require a smaller crew to operate, compared to previous generation stations.

Deputy Defense Minister Yury Borisov said after visiting a Voronezh-M radar in Siberia's Irkutsk Region earlier in August that Russia's new-generation missile early warning radars are far superior to any similar foreign models.

http://en.rian.ru/military news/20130813/182730711/Russia-Begins-Construction-of-New-Anti-Missile-Radar.html (Return to Articles and Documents List)

Voice of Russia (VOR) - Russia

# US Tactical Nuclear Weapons Must Be Withdrawn from Europe - Russian Defense Ministry

14 August 2013

Russian Deputy Defense Minister Anatoly Antonov has called for withdrawal of US tactical nuclear armaments from the territories of non-nuclear countries and dismantlement of the related infrastructure.

"As an expert on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) I have a question why nuclear armaments are deployed on the territories of non-nuclear countries. What is the nuclear weaponry control system of NATO states? In my opinion, this is a violation of Articles 1 and 2 of the NPT," the deputy minister told reporters on Wednesday.

Article 1 of the NPT prohibits nuclear powers to transfer nuclear armaments to non-nuclear countries or to entrust them with control over such weapons. Article 2 prohibits non-nuclear states to acquire and use nuclear weapons.



"How does the concept of joint use of nuclear weapons look in this context? NATO states refuse to discuss this issue under the pretext this is an internal affair of the alliance and deny their violation of the NPT provisions," the deputy minister said.

Tactical nuclear weapons deployed in NATO states in Europe may be rapidly relocated towards Russian borders, which actually makes them strategic, he said.

At the same time, Russia is incapable of rapid delivery of its non-strategic nuclear weapons to the US territory and these weapons do not endanger US security, Antonov noted.

"We think that the United States and, obviously, NATO countries must decide on the withdrawal of US nuclear weapons to the US territory. But this would not be enough.

There is also military industrial and technological infrastructure in West European countries. We think this infrastructure should be destroyed," Antonov said.

Voice of Russia, Interfax

http://voiceofrussia.com/news/2013 08 14/US-tactical-nuclear-weapons-must-be-withdrawn-from-Europe-Russian-Defense-Ministry-9568/

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

RIA Novosti - Russian Information Agency

### No Progress in Russia-NATO Missile Defense Talks – Official

14 August 2013

MOSCOW, August 14 (RIA Novosti) – Missile defense talks between Russian and NATO military officials in the past 10 days have reached another impasse, Deputy Defense Minister Anatoly Antonov said Wednesday.

"We have been discussing the missile defense issue for the past 10 days...however, no solution for this problem is yet in sight," Antonov told reporters in Moscow after talks with German Defense Minister Thomas de Maiziere, Italian defense officials and US Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel.

Antonov said Russia is closely monitoring the progress of NATO's global missile defense system in Europe and in the Asia-Pacific region while studying how the system's readiness could affect Russia's nuclear deterrence potential.

He also downplayed the impact on missile defense talks of the recent standoff between Moscow and Washington over fugitive US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden.

"I don't have a feeling that the Snowden problem affects the missile defense talks as Russian and Pentagon officials focus on the military-technical aspects of the issues discussed, rather than on politics, when they meet," Antonov said.

Russia and NATO had initially agreed at the Lisbon summit in November 2010 to cooperate over the US-proposed missile defense system in Eastern Europe. But subsequent talks between Russia and the alliance have floundered over NATO's refusal to grant Russia legal guarantees that the system would not be deployed against Russia's nuclear deterrent.

NATO and the United States insist that the shield is intended to defend NATO member states against missiles from emerging threat nations like North Korea and Iran, and would not be directed at Russia. The alliance has vowed to continue developing and deploying its missile defense program, regardless of the status of missile defense cooperation with Russia.

In mid-March, the US announced it was modifying its planned missile defense deployment in Poland, dropping plans to station SM-3 IIB interceptor missiles in the country by 2022. Russian officials said this did nothing to allay their concerns,



and reiterated their demand for legally binding agreements guaranteeing Russia's strategic nuclear forces would not be targeted.

http://en.rian.ru/military\_news/20130814/182763891/No-Progress-in-Russia-NATO-Missile-Defense-Talks-Official.html

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

The London Guardian - U.K.

### **UK's Nuclear Weapons Being Dismantled under Disarmament Obligations**

Three Trident warheads a year being taken from navy depot near Glasgow to private contractor in Berkshire to be decommissioned

By Rob Edwards

Sunday, 11 August 2013

Quietly, slowly and without any fuss, Britain is dismantling its nuclear weapons. Three Trident warheads a year are being moved from the Clyde to the home counties to be taken to pieces, according to evidence seen by the Guardian.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has revealed that it is overseeing a programme "to disassemble Trident warheads" at Burghfield in Berkshire, in a way that will prevent them from being put back together. This fulfils a government promise to cut the number of the nation's nuclear weapons from 225 to 180 by the mid 2020s.

The latest monitoring of nuclear bomb convoys by activists suggests that in 2012 five warheads were sent by road to Burghfield from the royal naval armaments depot at Coulport on Loch Long near Glasgow. Two were refurbished and returned north, they said, while three stayed at Burghfield to be dismantled.

Ministers announced in June 2011 that Britain's stockpile of nuclear weapons was being reduced by 45 to "no more than 180" over about 15 years to comply with international disarmament obligations. Until now it's not been clear what was happening to the warheads, with critics suspicious that they could just be disarmed and stored ready to be rearmed if necessary.

But in response to a freedom of information request the MoD has made clear that the weapons are being dismantled at Burghfield. There is a secretive and heavily fortified weapons disassembly plant on the site operated for the MoD by a private consortium, the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE).

AWE is running a "stockpile reduction programme to disassemble Trident warheads," said Sue Ford, from the MoD's defence equipment and support policy secretariat at Abbey Wood in Bristol. "All warhead disassembly work is undertaken at AWE Burghfield."

She added: "The main components from warheads disassembled as part of the stockpile reduction programme have been processed in various ways according to their composition and in such a way that prevents the warhead from being reassembled."

According to Ford, warheads "yet to be disassembled" are stored at Coulport or as "work in progress" at Burghfield. "A number of warheads identified in the programme for reduction have been modified to render them unusable whilst others identified as no longer being required for service are currently stored and have not yet been disabled or modified," she stated.

As well as reducing the overall stockpile from 225 to 180, defence ministers have said that the number of "operational" warheads will drop from "fewer than 160" to "no more than 120". As a result fewer Trident missiles and warheads are being carried by Britain's four nuclear-powered Vanguard-class submarines, based near Coulport at the Faslane naval base on Gareloch.

The warheads are regularly transported by road between Coulport and Burghfield in heavily guarded convoys. They are observed by activists from Nukewatch, which publishes annual reports charting the movements.



Its report for 2012, due out this week, will suggest that a minimum of three warheads were kept at Burghfield, while at least two others were returned to Coulport after refurbishment. A similar pattern was observed in 2011.

The MoD has not disclosed how much it is currently spending on decommissioning nuclear weapons. But in a parliamentary answer in 2006, it put the cost of dismantling all Trident warheads at £146.4m.

http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/aug/11/uk-nuclear-weapons-dismantled-trident (Return to Articles and Documents List)

The London Daily Telegraph – U.K.

# **Defence Cuts "Weakening Effect of Nuclear Deterrent"**

Cuts to Britain's Armed Forces risk making the country's nuclear deterrent less effective, a former deputy head of the military has warned.

By Ben Farmer, Defence Correspondent 12 August 2013

Vice-Admiral Sir Jeremy Blackham said cuts may leave a gap where future enemies could call Britain's bluff, judging the UK would be unwilling to ever use a "disproportionate" nuclear response to a conventional attack.

He said the nuclear deterrent was "not a substitute for conventional capabilities", which had been badly hit by recent Government cost-cutting.

He also warned the costly process of replacing the submarines carrying the Trident deterrent could pose a "severe challenge to the shrinking UK defence industry".

In an assessment for the UK National Defence Association (UKNDA), Sir Jeremy said: "It has been UK policy that nuclear weapons would never be used against non-nuclear states party to the non-proliferation treaty, although during the Cold War first use was not actually ruled out.

"But the cardinal point is that the nuclear deterrent is not a substitute for conventional capabilities. The credibility of flexible response depends upon deferring any decision to use nuclear weapons until the very existence of the nation is at stake.

"This requirement means that conventional forces must always be of sufficient capability to deal with any lesser threat; and that one's potential enemy must believe this to be so."

The former deputy chief of defence staff added: "If the conventional means at our disposal are weak, the point of transition to nuclear use may be lowered to levels at which the risk of nuclear obliteration is self-evidently disproportionate to the issue at stake.

"At that point, it is likely that deterrence through the threat of nuclear use becomes incredible and can be so perceived by an opponent - a bluff waiting to be called.

"Thus, through conventional weakness, the nuclear deterrent is compromised, whether it is a rogue state or a major power that is involved.

"To be credible, the nuclear deterrent must be underpinned by strong conventional deterrence. The idea that nuclear deterrence is synonymous with strong defence is to assume 'big bang' is 'big defence'. It isn't; quite the reverse."

Vice-Admiral Blackham warned the Government's 2010 cost-cutting Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) had created "some highly significant capability gaps".

These gaps, "together with depleted equipment numbers and reduced manpower, have unbalanced our force structure, and for which no solutions are yet fully identified, let alone funded".



The Armed Forces had been given highly advanced ships and fighters in recent years, he said, but there were too few of them.

He said the Navy's new Type 45 destroyers were "astonishing" but added "there are however just six of them". The Typhoon fighter was "a quantum jump in capability over its predecessors; but only some 30 could be sustained in a prolonged conflict."

He said replacing Britain's nuclear deterrent "is likely to pose a far more severe challenge to the shrinking UK defence industry than did either Polaris or Trident".

He warned the long-term costs and timescales had yet to be spelt out.

"So without new money, the risks to the remaining conventional programme appear to be considerable. Conventional force levels are again at risk and so therefore is the credibility both of the nuclear deterrent and of deterrence more generally."

Sir Jeremy said conventional forces were an effective deterrent because the threat of their use was "genuinely credible".

"Any potential adversary is likely to believe in its use but only provided that it is also clearly sufficient for the particular purpose or operation to hand. And in so doing it can snuff out dangers before they escalate.

"That is the key point of conventional deterrence - to prevent bad things happening and getting worse so that escalation towards 'nuclear territory' does not occur."

A spokeswoman for the Ministry of Defence said: "Tough decisions had to be taken to tackle the multi-billion pound blackhole in the defence budget but it now means our Armed Forces, although smaller, will be fully funded, well trained and properly equipped to face the threats of the future.

"We remain committed to maintaining a continuous submarine-based nuclear deterrent which is the ultimate safeguard of our national security."

 $\underline{\text{http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/defence/10236211/Defence-cuts-weakening-effect-of-nuclear-deterrent.html}$ 

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

The London Guardian - U.K.

## Nato Chiefs Deal Blow to SNP's Anti-Nuclear Strategy

Alex Salmond warned independent Scotland would be prevented from joining defence group if there was row over bases By Severin Carrell, Scotland correspondent

Wednesday, 14 August 2013

Senior Nato officials have warned Alex Salmond's government that an independent Scotland would be barred from joining Nato if there were any disputes over the basing of nuclear weapons on the Clyde.

The Guardian can reveal that a small group of Scottish civil servants travelled to Nato HQ in Brussels last month to discuss Scotland's options for joining the alliance if Salmond wins next year's independence referendum. They argued that an independent Scotland should be given special treatment because it was already a significant part of an existing, founder member of Nato, the UK.

It is understood that Nato officials said it might be possible to allow Scotland to start fast-track talks – but in a blow to Salmond's anti-nuclear strategy, the Scottish delegation was also told that no new member would be allowed to join Nato if that state had unresolved military or territorial disputes with other countries.



Under article 10 of the Nato treaty, one assistant general secretary of Nato said at the meeting on 6 July, new applicants also have to show a history of stable defence policies and structures as a minimum entry requirement. Article 10 also implies that every Nato member accepts the alliance's nuclear first-strike policy. Official sources in Edinburgh and London confirm that these issues were seen as coded warnings that the Scottish government's determination to close down the Trident nuclear submarine base at Faslane on the Clyde would be a major obstacle to Scotland's application.

Lord Robertson, a former secretary general of Nato and a defence secretary in Tony Blair's government, said Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria were expected to resolve disputes over Transylvania and crossings over the Danube before starting their Nato membership process.

"You're not expected to import problems with your neighbours into Nato and that's a very clear warning signal," Robertson said. He said Faslane's continued operations were integral to Nato's strategic concept.

He said Salmond knew there was an unbridgeable contradiction between Salmond's desire to join Nato and his pledge to remove nuclear weapons from Scotland. "He's taking the Scottish people for fools by claiming that [the SNP] would want Scotland to be in Nato but laying down conditions that would make it impossible. It's a confidence trick both on their membership and the Scottish people."

Salmond has made closing down the nuclear facilities at Faslane a cornerstone of his independence campaign. In an appeal to leftwing voters, the first minister has promised to make that non-nuclear policy legally binding in a new written constitution after independence.

But becoming a full member of Nato is regarded as an essential part of Salmond's plans to persuade sceptical middle-ground voters that an independent Scotland would still remain part of mainstream and powerful international institutions.

The threat to close Faslane is one of the biggest obstacles facing a deal between the Scottish and UK governments over independence, because of its strategic significance and the immense cost of relocating the Trident fleet and its warheads to a new base in England or Wales.

Nato officials stressed that any decision on accepting new members would be political, requiring a unanimous decision by member states, adding to the pressure on Salmond over resolving any conflicts on defence policy with the UK.

Although an independent Scotland would be seen as a new state and required to apply as a new member, in principle it could be possible for the Scottish government in Edinburgh to start talks about joining Nato while those bilateral discussions were going on.

That would boost Salmond's case that it is in Nato's interests for Scotland to be a full member of the alliance, because of its strategic position in the north-east Atlantic and its oil reserves.

The Guardian revealed last month that Ministry of Defence officials were studying plans to force Scotland to designate Faslane and the nearby nuclear warhead base at Coulport as sovereign UK territory, provoking a furious reaction from nationalists and anti-nuclear campaigners.

During the lengthy meetings, Nato officials added that in the event of a yes vote, the UK and Scotland would have a large number of significant defence issues to resolve in the 18 months before independence day — set by Salmond as taking place in March 2016, and before Scotland applied to join Nato.

Professor Malcolm Chalmers, director of UK defence policy studies at the Royal United Services Institute think tank, who has analysed the Scottish government's defence strategy, said Trident's future would be of critical importance.

Chalmers said other Nato members would expect London to take the lead in settling the Trident issue and all other defence questions before they seriously entertained Scottish membership.



He said that pragmatists in the SNP accepted that would likely involve a long-term basing deal with the UK to keep Trident on the Clyde, but that would not be as dramatic as a sovereign basing agreement which would see Faslane declared to be UK territory.

Although Nato members would be keen for Scotland to join quickly and smoothly, "people would want Scotland to be a member but it would be in terms of not wanting any problems to be imported [into the alliance], but the main judge of the importing problems question would be London.

"I can't see a scenario with Scotland being a problem for Nato, provided it had sorted out any bilateral problems with England." He said no-one in Nato wanted to see Scotland being left outside the alliance.

http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/aug/14/nato-blow-snp-nuclear-strategy

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

**Bloomberg News** 

## Texas Nuclear Weapons Plant to Build 11.5MW Wind Farm

By Ehren Goossens August 13, 2013

Siemens AG, Europe's largest engineering company, broke ground today on a 11.5 megawatt wind farm at the U.S. Energy Department's Pantex Plant near Amarillo, Texas, the main site for the country's nuclear weapons stockpile.

Pantex will get about 65 percent of its power from the five 2.3 megawatt Siemens turbines that will be the largest federally-owned wind farm when completed in July 2014, the Washington, D.C.-based department said today in a statement.

The project is expected to generate an average of \$2.8 million annually in energy savings that will be used to fund its cost through an 18-year performance-based contract, the department said. Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital Inc. is providing upfront financing.

The wind farm is expected to generate about 47 million kilowatt hours of energy, enough to power about 3,500 homes.

The U.S. federal government aims to get 20 percent of its electricity from renewable energy by 2020, up from the current 7.5 percent.

http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-08-13/texas-nuclear-weapons-plant-to-build-11-5mw-wind-farm.html (Return to Articles and Documents List)

Great Falls Tribune - Great Falls, MT

## What's at Stake After Failed Nuclear Inspection at Malmstrom?

Colonel: Citizens should not lose confidence; wing can do its job

August 13, 2013

By Jenn Rowell, Tribune Staff Writer

The 341st Missile Wing at Malmstrom Air Force Base received an unsatisfactory rating during its nuclear inspection this month.

The trouble came from two related areas that were tied to the same incident during the exercise, said Col. Rob Stanley, the 341st Missile Wing commander. He said he couldn't give more details for security reasons.

Stanley said even though he couldn't share specifically what part of the inspection the wing failed, he said the American people should be confident the wing can do its job.

"I wish I could talk about it, then people would understand. It's being portrayed as something it's not," Stanley said.



Of the 13 areas being inspected, the wing received 10 exceptional ratings and one satisfactory in addition to the failed areas.

The inspection, called a Nuclear Surety Inspection, happens every two years for units that handle nuclear weapons.

According to Air Force Global Strike Command, which oversees the 341st, the NSI is designed to evaluate safe, secure and effective unit nuclear mission capability.

Overall, the 341st wing "did well," Lt. Gen. James Kowalski told The Associated Press on Tuesday. He's commander of the Air Force Global Strike Command. He said the wing earned ratings of excellent or outstanding in the majority of the 13 areas in which it was graded by inspectors. Those areas include management, administration, safety, security, emergency exercises, worker reliability and other facets of a mission that relies on teams of officers and enlisted personnel.

Kowalski's command was created in late 2009 after a series of nuclear missteps in 2008, including the transport of six nuclear-tipped missiles on a B-52 bomber, whose pilot didn't know they were onboard during a flight from Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. The top two Air Force officials were fired after several other incidents followed.

Since then, the inspections have changed from having several possible ratings to a pass/fail inspection.

"Perfection is our standard, and I wouldn't have it any other way," Stanley said. "This is like no other mission."

The wing will continue to operate as normal, and its overall certification to handle the 150 intercontinental ballistic missiles has not changed.

The small group of individuals involved in the event who received an unsatisfactory rating will be decertified, retrained and then recertified, Stanley said.

In 90 days, the inspection teams from Global Strike and Defense Threat Reduction Agency will return and re-evaluate the single area that received the unsatisfactory rating, Stanley said. He said that the DTRA team would likely be small since it was satisfied with the performance it saw during the inspection last week.

About 120 inspectors were at Malmstrom during the inspection last week, he said.

Stanley said that even with the "flawless" performance in all other areas, he plans to bring in teams from Global Strike and 20th Air Force, which falls above the 341st in the chain of command, to observe and evaluate internal exercises in the next 90 days to continue to strengthen their capabilities.

Stanley said that though the NSI is a pass/fail inspection, each is an opportunity to improve and to implement ideas from the inspectors who have seen how units nationwide fulfill their missions.

He added that the inspectors were taking some ideas they got from Malmstrom airmen back to Global Strike Command to share with other wings.

But the big challenge for base leadership is now to keep morale up among airmen in the wing.

"We have a good bunch of people, they feel as though they've got something to prove," Stanley said. "They are family, we'll all get through this arm and arm."

The 341st failed the NSI in 2008 and 2010 but passed in 2011. Stanley said the areas that were unsatisfactory in 2008 and 2010 were rated excellent this year.

Stanley was the vice commander of the 341st during the 2011 inspection.

"I can't tell you how disappointed we are," Stanley said. "This will just make us a lot stronger."

Nuclear units like the one at Malmstrom are inspected on an almost constant basis, and the 341st just had a different kind of inspection in December.



"The American people would have tremendous confidence if they saw the behind-the-scenes work," Stanley said, but the classified nature of most of that work doesn't allow him to share more of the story.

On Monday night, Stanley sent an email to airmen in the wing to let them know the outcome of the inspection before they heard the official report from the inspectors Tuesday morning and the news media picked up the story.

"I didn't want them to find out through the grapevine," he said. "I thought they should hear it from their commander."

Stanley said despite the unsatisfactory rating, a number of airmen were recognized by the inspectors for setting records, for peak performance and that during a Tuesday morning briefing, the applause lasted for more than 10 minutes as the names of airmen were read for specific recognition.

Stanley said if any airmen had cut corners, been lazy or slack in any area, the consequences would be much different. Instead, he said they now have a chance to retrain airmen and improve the overall wing capability.

Over the summer, about 200 new airmen arrived and there were seven changes of command.

With ICBMs and nuclear reductions being a hotly debated topic in Congress in recent months and the subject of a presidential speech, the inspection failure could be viewed by some as more trouble for the nuclear triad. The NEW START treaty also requires nuclear reductions over the next five years.

But Montana's Congressional delegation doesn't think it will impact the need for the ICBM force.

Republican Rep. Steve Daines and Democratic Sens. Max Baucus and Jon Tester have introduced legislation in recent months to maintain the ICBM force at its current level of 450 for the next year. An amendment was proposed to cut funding for ICBMs to 300, but it failed. The delegation has also passed legislation in the House and added it to the defense appropriations bill that will go before the full Senate soon, to prohibit the Department of Defense from conducting an environmental study related to ICBMs.

Daines is on a congressional trip to Israel this week, but was briefed on the failed safety and security inspection at Malmstrom's nuclear unit. He said in a phone interview from Jerusalem on Tuesday that he wasn't concerned.

He said he read the audit and noted that the base "scored very, very well — with outstanding marks — in many areas." He said that the problem areas are fixable.

"That's the purpose of audits, to be stronger in the future," he said. "I'm confident that they'll pull together a plan and resolve these issues very quickly."

A Baucus spokeswoman said that regular inspections are critical to safety and security and that appropriate action will be taken to ensure a satisfactory rating on the redo in 90 days, as well as future inspections.

"We do not expect today's news to impact Max's ongoing work to fight for a robust ICBM force that supports American security and Montana jobs. Nuclear deterrence is critical to keeping America safe, and we know our ICBM force, including Malmstrom's mission, provides the most deterrence at the least cost to taxpayers," according to Baucus' office.

Tester's office echoed those comments.

"Frequent and demanding training of our armed forces ensures that our men and women in uniform are at the top of their game," Andrea Helling, Tester's spokeswoman, said. "Malmstrom's nuclear missiles are the most cost-effective part of our nuclear defense, and Jon will do everything he can to make sure Montana's Airmen are ready to maintain and secure this cornerstone of our nation's security."

Malia Rulon Herman in the Tribune Washington Bureau and the Associated Press contributed to this report.

 $\frac{\text{http://www.greatfallstribune.com/article/20130813/NEWS01/308130011/What-s-stake-after-failed-nuclear-inspection-Malmstrom-}{\text{Malmstrom-}}$ 



### (Return to Articles and Documents List)

U.S. News & World Report

### Report: All U.S. Nuclear Facilities Vulnerable to Terrorism

University of Texas report finds facilities will not protect against numerous types of large-scale attacks By Ethan Rosenberg August 15, 2013

More than a decade removed from the 9/11 attacks, all 107 nuclear reactors in the U.S. are vulnerable to acts of terrorism, according to a new report from the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Project at the University of Texas—Austin.

The report states that the combined private and public security operations at facilities licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission would not be able to defend against a "maximum, credible, non-state adversary."

Nuclear reactors are not required to defend against numerous types of attacks because they are deemed to be beyond the "design-basis threat," which draws a line between small-scale and large-scale attacks.

Threats that meet the design-basis threat involve multiple groups attacking from multiple entry points, the willingness to kill or be killed, knowledge about target selection and a broad range of weapons and equipment, including ground and water vehicles, according to the report.

Airborne attacks, for instance, are excluded "because the weaponry needed to defend against such a threat, surface-to-air missiles or fighter aircraft, cannot be possessed by the private security forces that protect commercial nuclear plants."

The NRC finds the government responsible for protecting nuclear reactors from such attacks.

"Less than two dozen miles from the White House and Capitol Hill, a nuclear reactor contains bomb-grade uranium, but it is not required to protect against even the lesser 'design basis threat' of terrorism," said Alan Kuperman, report coauthor and coordinator of the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Project, in a news release.

That facility, located in Gaithersburg, Md., along with two other civilian reactors at the University of Missouri—Columbia and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are supposed to convert to non-weapons-grade, low-enriched uranium fuel, but will continue to be fueled by bomb-grade uranium for the next decade, according to the report.

"We know where the weak spots are when it comes to nuclear facilities, so it would be at the height of irresponsibility to fail to take action now," Kuperman said.

Coastal nuclear facilities in at least eight states are vulnerable to nautical attacks but are not required to protect against them because the NRC deems airborne and seaborne attacks beyond the design-basis threat.

The 9/11 Commission Report suggests that al-Qaida considered flying a commercial airline into a nuclear reactor in the New York City metropolitan area. They rejected the idea because they mistakenly believed that the airspace surrounding such a facility was restricted and any aircraft would be shot down before impact.

The report states that although there have not been any recent major acts of terrorism on nuclear facilities, there have been reported attempts to blow up reactors in Argentina, Russia, Lithuania, Western Europe, South Africa and South Korea.

http://www.usnews.com/news/newsgram/articles/2013/08/15/report-all-us-nuclear-facilities-vulnerable-to-terrorism (Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Hindustan Times – India OPINION/Column



## It's a Force Multiplier

By Sreeram Chaulia, Hindustan Times August 12, 2013

The launch of the 40,000-tonne INS Vikrant, India's first indigenously manufactured aircraft carrier, is a milestone in the nation's military history and a key addition to our force projection capabilities on the high seas.

Together with aircraft carriers — the Russian-built INS Vikramaditya and the British-origin INS Viraat — INS Vikrant will spearhead the Indian Navy that has long reach, great firepower and deterrence capabilities.

One reason for celebrating the dedication of INS Vikrant to the nation is the scientific achievement of the Directorate of Naval Design (DND) and its partners at the Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL).

The lack of a robust and world-class domestic defence production paraphernalia and our dependence on imports of most hi-tech weaponry have been huge hurdles that held back India's national security choices and freedom for decades.

The bureaucratic failures of our indigenous defence industry, time and cost overruns, and the less-than-perfect war-fighting quality of its end products have been agonising.

That only 30% India's total defence procurement in terms of value comes from local companies has created an unenvious image of our country as a bonanza market for foreign suppliers, and drained our foreign exchange reserves.

Since advanced weapons affect the geostrategic balance of power, dependence on outside suppliers is an Achilles' heel that constricts our foreign policy options.

Stifling end-user agreements, fears of suppliers upsetting their allies who are opposed to India's growing power, as well as blackmail are the negative consequences of not having a homebred defence manufacturing base.

INS Vikrant is a role model for reversing the pathetic history of a 'wannabe' great power like India lacking domestic means to compete with the best in the world.

It can inspire other landmark projects for the navy, army and air force. Being open to foreign trade in the civilian sector makes eminent economic sense, but dependence on whims and calculations of foreigners for military needs is a political deficiency that India needs to overcome through technological breakthroughs like INS Vikrant.

Another reason for celebrating INS Vikrant and the recently activated indigenously-built nuclear reactor aboard the submarine, INS Arihant, is that they are transforming the global security environment for the better.

The fact that India will have multiple aircraft carriers in service by 2018, as well as nuclear triad abilities to launch unconventional weapons from land, sea and air, is being noted with reassurance in the Asia Pacific by many countries fretful about China's bullying behaviour.

News about INS Vikrant is making headlines in Japan, whose Izumo-class helicopter destroyer is being touted as a new aircraft carrier in disguise. If India propels forward in its ambitious naval modernisation, it brings relief to Japan and smaller Southeast Asian players like the Philippines which are struggling under intense Chinese military pressure.

The Chinese State media has interpreted the inauguration of INS Vikrant as an omen that would "disrupt the military balance in South Asia" (ie give India's navy a reach-out capacity beyond patrolling its backyard of the Indian Ocean) and "quicken India's pace to steer eastward to the Pacific."

The landing and take-off options for fighter jets from an aircraft carrier of the size of INS Vikrant is such that India will begin walking the talk of being an actor, if not a major power, in the Asia Pacific region.

Should a maritime contingency arise in East Asia — say a direct threat to our energy infrastructure or commercial vessels, or even to the territorial integrity of friendly countries — India can soon field its complete aircraft carrier battle group.



This compelling demonstration of Indian might will be beneficial for maritime security in the western Pacific theatre, where China has built up a scary military lead.

On the eve of Independence Day, we should congratulate the makers of INS Vikrant for steering the nation towards self-sufficiency and stabilising Asia.

Sreeram Chaulia is Dean of the Jindal School of International Affairs, Haryana

The views expressed by the author are personal.

http://www.hindustantimes.com/editorial-views-on/ColumnsOthers/It-s-a-force-multiplier/Article1-1107237.aspx (Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Hill OPINION/Congress Blog

### The Continuing Iranian Threat in the Americas

By Rep. Matt Salmon (R-Ariz.) August 12, 2013

Two weeks ago, in the U.S. House of Representatives, two important events took place. First, in a strong, bipartisan vote of 400-20 the House voted to further apply sanctions on Iran in a bid to increase pressure on the regime amid its continued attempt to acquire a nuclear weapons capability. Secondly, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, led by the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere which I chair, held a hearing on the recently released State Department Report on Iran's activities in the Americas.

Each of these events brought together a rare thing these days in Congress: Republicans and Democrats joining forces in a strong bipartisan showing of Americans united against an enemy that still means to do us, our neighbors and our staunchest allies, harm.

And all of this is occurring just days before the inauguration of the newly elected, and supposedly moderate, Iranian President-elect Hassan Rouhani. Although his style may be less brash than his predecessor, I think it's important to keep in mind that he has made it clear that he shares a worldview that is very similar to Supreme Leader Khamenei and the other more radical elements in Iran.

With Iran, we truly find ourselves at a crossroads. Experts differ on when, but not if, Iran will attain a deliverable nuclear weapon. Our best ally in the Middle East, Israel, certainly cannot afford to wait for that moment to arrive as this poses for them an existential threat. But keep in mind, in the eyes of the mullahs and the more radical elements in Iran and her proxies, Israel is the "little Satan" but America is the "great Satan." Do we really think that Iran would not, through their slow but steady infiltration of the anti-American elements in such undemocratic countries in our region as Cuba, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Bolivia, attempt to do us harm as well?

Our hearing was convened to examine that very question. The "Countering Iran in the Western Hemisphere Act" was passed in December of last year, and at that time there was reasonable expectation that the State Department would draft a thorough and thoughtful report in response to legitimate concerns that Iran and its proxies maintain influence and a growing presence throughout the Western Hemisphere.

Unfortunately, the State Department issued a dismissive report that lacked the depth and seriousness warranted by this very important national security issue. The unclassified State Department Annex to the report concluded that Iran's influence in the region is "waning," and based that assessment on several unfulfilled economic agreements between Iran and some of the hemisphere's anti-American (Bolivarian) aligned countries. Nowhere did the report consider what most security experts agree is Iran and its proxy Hezbollah's ability to slowly and methodically establish inroads necessary to launch acts of terrorism, as they did in Argentina while planning the 1994 bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) building. Therefore, citing the lack of an imminent Iranian or Hezbollah threat



provides little comfort to those of us who are dedicated to our nation's security and the wider hemispheric security concerns.

Moreover, both Republican and Democrat members of the committee expressed their concerns that the report failed to give proper consideration to the fact that the ALBA-bloc countries that have welcomed increased Iranian diplomatic presence over the past several years - Nicaragua, Bolivia, Ecuador and Venezuela -- have been undermining democratic institutions in their respective countries - creating exactly the type of environment, complete with vitriolic anti-Americanism and a stranglehold on liberty, that makes for an ideal breeding ground for Iranian adventurism.

ALBA is a Spanish acronym that, in English, means the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America.

Indeed, previous similar hearings have confirmed concerns that through S'hia mosques and cultural centers, Iran and Hezbollah use their dupes and allies in the ALBA-aligned countries in our hemisphere to launder money and finance their terrorism operations all over the globe. So, their operations here don't just endanger us but also threaten our allies and our diplomatic efforts worldwide.

Recently I asked officials at the State Department responsible for the report to come to the Congress to answer the many questions my colleagues and I have about their dismissive report. I convened this hearing jointly with the Middle East Subcommittee to continue digging deeper into the nature of the threat posed by Iran and its proxies' presence so close to our homeland. The American people rightfully expect their representatives to take the security of our nation seriously. I believe the threat from Iran in our hemisphere is real and current, and our hearing along with passage of the bill deepening the sanctions on Iran, are important steps in countering that threat.

Salmon is chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere.

http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/homeland-security/316423-the-continuing-iranian-threat-in-the-americas (Return to Articles and Documents List)

Global Times – China OPINION/Editorial

# **Aircraft Carriers Key to Strategic Deterrence**

August 13, 2013 By Global Times

India has launched its first home-built aircraft carrier, the Vikrant. The new aircraft carrier which entered the waters on Monday will likely be commissioned sometime in 2018, while Indian media have hailed the milestone as "remarkable."

The waves caused by India's aircraft carrier launch haven't been as sensational as those caused by Japan's light carrier the Izumo among Chinese.

India has adopted a different attitude than Japan toward territorial disputes with China. Meanwhile, India's overall national strength lags behind that of China. Therefore, China perceives Japan rather than India as its biggest neighboring threat

The fact that India is moving faster in terms of developing armaments such as aircraft carriers provides China with a more favorable international opinion environment in terms of the development of its own advanced armaments.

However, there is no arms race between China and India.

China should speed up its construction of domestic aircraft carriers. India's actions remind us that the strategic significance of developing aircraft carriers in Asia is not declining. Rather, they are one of the most effective strategic tools in maintaining national maritime interests. The earlier China establishes its own aircraft carrier capabilities, the earlier it will gain the strategic initiative.



We need not worry that the "China threat" theory may gain ground with the proliferation of aircraft carriers. Past experiences have taught us that this theory can do little harm to China.

Recent theories which state that aircraft carriers are useless in the 21st century are not empty rhetoric. Aircraft carriers may not be the final means which major powers resort to using during confrontations.

But international politics is full of frictions of varying intensity. Not all conflicts begin with arms.

Alongside information wars, which don't consume many resources, and nuclear deterrence, the strategic deterrence provided by aircraft carriers is still significant.

China is a latecomer among big powers in terms of developing domestic aircraft carriers. Even India has moved ahead of us. China has acquired technologies relating to nuclear weapons, missiles and nuclear-powered submarines, though with limited scales. China has proved itself as a defensive country, strategically speaking.

However, the current strategic strength has gradually been hard pressed in maintaining national security and interests. As China's international status rises rapidly, world powers are adjusting their strategies toward China. Their decisions to do so must have included evaluations of China's strategic strength.

Russia has never resorted to using its nuclear weapons which are said to be ageing and out of date. But the huge stock of nuclear weapons is still a pillar of the country's strength.

If the US' aircraft carriers cruise into the first island chain at sensitive time, it could still create some waves. China's DF-21D "carrier-killer" missile wouldn't yet be a factor to consider in that situation, given the fact it has not yet been tested.

China still has a long way to go to build up reliable strategic deterrence. It will also cost a huge sum of money. Those who will benefit from such strategic deterrence include every single Chinese, including the ones who claim China's strength or weakness has nothing to do with them. We hope China will launch its own aircraft carriers soon.

http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/803420.shtml#.UgvuoYAo5Dx

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Diplomat – Japan OPINION/Flashpoints

# No, Pakistan Won't Sell Saudi Arabia Nukes

By Zachary Keck August 14, 2013

Over at *Defense One*, Prince Turki Al Faisal, the former chief of Saudi Arabia's intelligence agency and a member of the al-Saud royal family, has a commentary piece calling for the establishment of a weapons of mass destruction free zone (WMDFZ) in the Middle East region. The piece is based off a larger Harvard report he has written on the same subject.

Prince Turki is hardly the only one arguing for a WMDFZ for the region, and I have no reason to doubt his sincerity in proposing one. Indeed, as he notes in the piece, the Arab states have been leading the charge for a Middle East WMDFZ for some time now.

Nonetheless, the messenger of the piece, as well as its timing, will no doubt reignite fears in the West that an Iranian nuclear weapon would spark a nuclear arms race in the volatile region.

This fear is nothing new. As I've noted elsewhere, since the dawn of the nuclear era the U.S. in particular has regularly feared that the world was approaching a nuclear tipping point. The fact that a nuclear cascade has failed to materialize has done little to dampen these fears.



Indeed, U.S. and Western officials have repeatedly stated that a nuclear arms race in the Middle East is one of their gravest concerns about Iran acquiring the bomb. Saudi Arabia tops nearly everyone's list of countries that are most likely to acquire a nuclear weapon should Iran do so.

Saudi leaders have often tried to stoke these fears. Prince Turki, who's a well-known personality in London and a card-carrying member of "This Town" owing to his previous stints as Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the UK to the U.S., has himself repeatedly threatened that Riyadh will pursue its own atomic weaponry should Tehran go nuclear.

Riyadh's advocacy for U.S. airstrikes on Iran's nuclear facilities makes it difficult to take Prince Turki and other Saudi officials at their word on this point. Nonetheless, the Kingdom's prolonged rivalry with Iran makes it reasonable to think Saudi Arabia would want a nuclear weapon if Iran had one.

Where the argument falters is when discussion turns to how Saudi Arabia would go about acting on its atomic desires. Sure, Riyadh is currently pursuing a civilian nuclear energy program through foreign assistance, but it has limited indigenous human and industrial capital to transform this civilian program into a nuclear weapon.

At best, it would, like most recent nuclear proliferators, take a few decades or more to build a bomb. Yet many Saudi Arabia experts don't believe the current regime will stay in power for decades. Even if it did, acquiring a nuclear weapon by mid-century would hardly be sufficient if a nuclear-armed Iran is as detrimental to the Kingdom's interests as its leaders claim. In other words, by the time Riyadh could build its own nuclear arsenal, Iran's nuclear acquisition would be a moot point.

For these reasons, those who fear a Saudi bomb don't contend that Riyadh will build one itself, but rather argue it would buy a ready-made arsenal from Pakistan.

Islamabad's willingness to take the unprecedented step of supplying Saudi Arabia with a nuclear arsenal is based largely on the testimony of Mohammed Khilewi, a former Saudi UN diplomat who tried to defect to the United States in the early 1990s.

In his efforts to win asylum in the West, Khilwei told government officials and the media that Saudi Arabia had been trying to acquire a nuclear weapon since the mid 1970s. As part of these alleged efforts, Khilwei claims Saudi Arabia helped finance Pakistan's nuclear weapons program during the 1970s and 1980s under the agreement that Islamabad would furnish Riyadh with some of the finished product should Saudi Arabia ever deem it necessary. Augmenting Khilwei's testimony are rumors that Pakistan gave visiting Saudi officials a tour of its secret nuclear facilities in the late 1990s.

Khilwei had obvious motives for fabricating his story, and Saudi Arabia has little interest in trying to dispel the notion that it can acquire nuclear weapons in short order.

But even assuming a Saudi-Pakistan nuclear pact was made in the 1980s, there's little reason to believe Pakistan would uphold it. After all, the United States has given Islamabad billions of dollars to fight terrorism since 9/11, and Washington found Osama bin Laden living in an off-campus mansion near Pakistan's military academy. Furthermore, Saudi Arabia pressured Pakistan in the late 1990s and early 2000s to get the Taliban to hand over bin Laden, and this too came to naught.

In contrast to forcing the Taliban to hand over bin Laden, Pakistan has compelling strategic reasons for not giving Riyadh nuclear weapons. For one thing, Islamabad is deathly paranoid that its current arsenal is too small to survive an American or Indian first strike, and is rapidly expanding its arsenal and trying to conceal existing warheads as a result. It is therefore farfetched to think current Pakistani leaders would voluntarily part with some of their nuclear warheads in order to uphold a deal their predecessors made in the 1980s.

Giving Saudi Arabia nuclear weapons would also have an immediate and significant diplomatic backlash for Islamabad. This is of course true with the U.S. and the West, who control the International Monetary Fund, which is helping keep Pakistan afloat. Additionally, Pakistan's "all-weather" friend China would be none-too-happy with it given Beijing's heavy reliance on Saudi crude.



Iran would be even more infuriated by the move, and it has numerous ways to retaliate against Islamabad. For starters, Tehran would cancel plans to sell energy-starved Pakistan some badly needed natural gas. Iran also has the ability to stir up trouble in Pakistan's independent-minded Baluchistan Province as well as Afghanistan, especially with the help of Islamabad's archenemy India, with whom Tehran would undoubtedly vastly expand relations in response to Pakistan selling Saudi Arabia a nuclear weapon.

For all these reasons, Pakistan would not sell Saudi Arabia a nuclear weapon.

Zachary Keck is Assistant Editor of The Diplomat. He has previously served as a Deputy Editor for E-IR and as an Editorial Assistant for The Diplomat.

 $\underline{\text{http://thediplomat.com/flashpoints-blog/2013/08/14/no-pakistan-wont-sell-saudi-arabia-nukes/}}$ 

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Washington Times OPINION/Analysis

### **HEINRICHS: As Others Advance, U.S. Retreats on Nuclear Stage**

By Rebeccah Heinrichs Wednesday, August 14, 2013

President Obama has said the U.S. will help take the world to zero nuclear weapons by shrinking our own force. Defying logic and evidence, he thinks this would inspire others to do the same. What is more confounding, Mr. Obama also has seen fit to scale back U.S. defensive systems designed to intercept incoming missiles.

Unsurprisingly, while the U.S. neglects and shrinks its nuclear force and fails to beef up its defensive forces, America's foes are taking the opportunity to do the opposite.

Just last week, Jane's Intelligence Review reported that Iran had completed yet another rocket-launching facility. It already has put a satellite into orbit, proving it is mastering the technology needed to launch a missile capable of hitting America's East Coast. Intelligence estimates show Iran may have this capability in just two years.

As for its nuclear program, Tehran operates three times the number of centrifuges it did before Mr. Obama took office, and the International Atomic Energy Association reports that Iran could begin plutonium production as soon as next year.

While Iran moves full speed ahead on nukes and missiles, the U.S. is moving backward. In 2010, Mr. Obama negotiated a nuclear arms agreement with Russia that committed the U.S. to cutting its deployed strategic nuclear weapons, even as it allowed Moscow to increase its stockpiles. Before we have even seen the effects of these cuts, Mr. Obama announced he plans to bring those numbers down even further.

This administration is no fan of robust defenses either. The past four fiscal years have seen dramatic cuts to missile defense to the tune of \$6 billion less than what the George W. Bush administration estimated would be required. Moreover, Mr. Obama canceled plans for a missile defense site in Europe and recently canceled development of an advanced missile his administration said was needed.

This year, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel said the administration would consider a third missile defense site on the homeland. Yet to date, the Pentagon has shown no evidence it is serious about deploying one and appears poised to "study options" for building one until this president's term runs out.

Such backtracking and dithering is incredibly dangerous. The National Air and Space Intelligence Center recently reported that missiles and missile technology are proliferating worldwide, with no slowdown in sight.



China, the intelligence center reports, has "the most active and diverse ballistic missile development program in the world." It is testing new missiles and new techniques to counter missile defenses: mobile missiles that can be hidden and then easily deployed with little warning, as well as long-range missiles able to carry multiple warheads.

North Korea continues to test its long-range missile. Last December, just like Iran, whom it cooperates with, it placed a satellite in orbit.

Russia is investing heavily in missile defense technology. A radar station near the Black Sea is nearing completion, one of four highly advanced missile defense facilities built by Russia in recent years.

On June 6, Moscow tested a new mobile missile. Reports indicate it was likely an intermediate-range missile, which would put Russia in violation of the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces treaty.

So, while Moscow aggressively opposes U.S. missile defense and demands a legally binding agreement that we limit ours, it is ramping up its own missile defenses and testing offensive missiles in violation of an existing treaty.

Some in Congress would have us keep backpedaling while our enemies and competitors press forward. Right before the August recess, Congress defeated two amendments that would have scaled back defenses against the more-limited threats from countries like Iran or North Korea.

But other countries are developing more sophisticated missiles and against some of those threats, the U.S. is utterly undefended. The U.S. must take a new look at its strategic posture. By decreasing its nuclear forces and failing to build robust defenses, the U.S. is not leading the world to peace. It is putting itself in grave danger.

Rebeccah Heinrichs, a scholar on nuclear deterrence and missile defense, is a visiting fellow at the Heritage Foundation.

http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/aug/14/heinrichs-as-others-advance-us-retreats-on-nuclear/?page=all#pagebreak

(Return to Articles and Documents List)

The Heritage Foundation
OPINION/Issue Brief #4016 on Missile Defense

# **EMP Awareness Day: The First Step to Averting Disaster**

By Michaela Dodge and Jessica Zuckerman August 15, 2013

In June, Maine became the first state to require a study of threats to the electric grid from weapons causing an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) effect and solar storms. The catastrophic consequences of an EMP or massive solar storm are too great to ignore. Indeed, massive power outages and the loss of nearly all electronic devices in the affected areas would cause the U.S. economy to grind to a halt. Such devastation would last for years if not decades and could lead to millions of lost American lives.

Despite multiple warnings from respected congressionally mandated commissions and organizations, however, the federal government has not acted, and the U.S. remains vulnerable. Washington should follow Maine's example and raise awareness of this threat. Congress should establish August 15, the anniversary of the largest blackout in North American history, as EMP Awareness Day to strengthen the national dialogue of what should be done to address this threat.

#### An EMP Could Cripple the U.S.

An EMP is a torrent of electromagnetic energy that disrupts and destroys electronic devices within an affected area. As a result of such an event, most electrical devices would fail, most cars would cease functioning, airplanes would fall from the sky, and critical infrastructure—such as water and sewers, banking, energy, transportation, information technology, and others—would shut down.



Importantly, the electrical components and transmission systems would be permanently destroyed, requiring enormous levels of repair and rebuilding. Huge swaths of the U.S. would be without even the most basic of services for years, and it could take decades to fully recover. The economic and human losses would be catastrophic.

#### **EMP Threats Are Real**

One way a major EMP event could occur is by a nuclear detonation high in the atmosphere. Such a detonation over North America could impact all of the continental United States.

This means that a potential enemy does not have to have accurate missiles. A bad actor could use long-range ballistic missiles—or even short-range ballistic missiles launched from a ship off the U.S. coast. Iran and North Korea already possess significant ballistic missile capabilities. North Korea also possesses nuclear weapons, and Iran is well on its way to obtaining them soon.

But a severe solar storm can also generate an EMP-like effect and shut down the electrical grid. In 1859, British astronomer Richard Carrington spotted a remarkably large solar flare, and within minutes, electromagnetic particles reached earth and affected the first widespread electrical device, the telegraph. Operators were shocked unconscious, and machines caught on fire. Today, with electronics in far greater use, a similar Carrington event would have far more destructive consequences.

### **U.S. Fails to Heed Multiple Warnings**

None of this is new information. The U.S. first became aware of the threat of EMPs during its 1962 nuclear weapons test called Starfish Prime. Since then, several commissions and well-respected organizations and panels—such as the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from EMP attack, the Quadrennial Defense Review Panel, NASA, the National Academy of Science, and the U.S. National Laboratories—have warned of the danger of EMPs from nuclear weapons or space storms.

Despite these warnings, comprehensive threat assessments and planning for EMP events remains minimal. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which is charged with preparing for, mitigating, and recovering from major catastrophes, does not have a National Recovery Plan or a National Planning Scenario for an EMP event. U.S. state and local governments are also poorly prepared, although Maine has taken the first step to mitigate its vulnerability. Given the damage that an EMP event could cause, it is well past time for the U.S. to take action.

### **EMP Awareness and Preparedness Is Worth Having**

The EMP threat is too serious to ignore. It is time for the government to engage with the U.S. people on the dangers of an EMP and to make August 15 National EMP Awareness Day. The day should be a stark reminder of how even the brief blackout of August 2003 affected millions of Americans and how much worse it would be if an EMP event occurred.

EMP Awareness Day should lead to real efforts to protect the U.S. from an EMP. Congress and the Administration should:

- Mandate additional research into mitigating EMP threats. Similar to what Maine is doing, the U.S. should
  undertake additional research into how an EMP would affect electronics and electrical systems and how these
  vulnerabilities can be removed or lessened.
- Determine which countries could undertake EMP attacks. The U.S. should understand where potential EMP
  attacks could come from and produce intelligence estimates on nations that are pursuing or already have
  weapons capable of producing an EMP. This information can then be used to better inform policymakers on
  how best to respond to potential threats and prevent EMP attacks from occurring.
- Improve and fully fund U.S. missile defense. Ballistic missiles are one of the most effective means of delivering an EMP. U.S. missile defense should be advanced to address the threat, especially as the East Coast remains less protected than the West Coast. Improved command-and-control features and interceptors tied to forward-deployed radar would give the Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) interceptor the ability to counter long-range ballistic missiles in the late midcourse stage of flight. The government should improve the SM-3's ability to intercept



short-range ballistic missiles in the ascent phase of flight. Ultimately, the U.S. should develop and deploy space-based missile defense, the best way to protect the U.S. and its allies from ballistic missiles.

- Develop a National Recovery Plan and National Planning Scenario for EMP. The catastrophic cost of an EMP event means that it deserves careful preparation and planning. Such plans should take the advice of the EMP commission and employ a risk-based approach that recognizes that certain infrastructure—particularly electrical and telecommunication systems upon which all other sectors depend—is most important in preparing for and recovering from an EMP event. Additionally, DHS should have a National Planning Scenario dedicated to EMP so that local, state, and federal authorities understand what would happen in an EMP event and what their respective responsibilities are in terms of both response and recovery.
- Prepare and protect critical cyber infrastructure. Cyber infrastructure is completely and uniquely dependent
  on the power grid, which makes it particularly vulnerable to an EMP. The U.S. should explore ways to protect
  and shield the circuit boards of critical networks. Additionally, the U.S. should consider the interdependency
  between the nation's cyber infrastructure and the other critical infrastructures and take actions to prevent
  cascading failures.

### The Risk Is Too Great to Ignore

The U.S. is vulnerable to an EMP event, whether caused by a nuclear weapon or by solar storms. Despite many warnings, the U.S. has done little to mitigate or prepare for an EMP event, which could cause widespread power and critical infrastructure failures, potentially leading to the deaths of millions of Americans. Now is the time to act; the U.S. should prepare for the possibility of an EMP.

**Michaela Dodge** is Policy Analyst for Defense and Strategic Policy and **Jessica Zuckerman** is Policy Analyst for the Western Hemisphere in the Douglas and Sarah Allison Center for Foreign Policy Studies, a division of the Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for International Studies, at The Heritage Foundation.

http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2013/08/emp-awareness-day-the-first-step-to-averting-disaster (Return to Articles and Documents List)