



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



19 October – 01 November 2010

DTRA

## CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

### **Pueblo Depot Surveying Residents about Safety**

*BioPrepWatch*, 22 October 2010, <http://www.bioprepwatch.com/>

Residents who live or work near the Pueblo Chemical Depot in Pueblo, Colorado, are being surveyed by officials about safety measures meant to keep them secure. (289 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

### **Army Begins Loosening Grip on Pueblo Depot**

*Pueblo Chieftain*, 23 October 2010, <http://www.chieftain.com/>

After nearly two years of butting up against U.S. Defense Department bureaucracies, it appears the Pentagon might be willing to start turning over much of the Pueblo Chemical Depot to other users. (418 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Pine Bluff Arsenal Nears End of Chemical Weapons Disposal**

*BioPrepWatch*, 25 October 2010, <http://www.bioprepwatch.com/>

Disposal operations for chemical weapons are nearing completion at the Pine Bluff Arsenal in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. (232 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Senator Lugar Announces Destruction of Chemical Weapons**

*BioPrepWatch*, 26 October 2010, <http://www.bioprepwatch.com/>

U.S. Senator Richard Lugar (R–Indiana) announced on October 25 the recent progress in the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, including the destruction of 68.88 metric tons of chemical weapons. (224 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **New Chem Demil Manager Says Jobs Will Come with Tough Rules**

*Pueblo Chieftain*, 28 October 2010, <http://www.chieftain.com/>

One of the best jobs in Pueblo in the coming years will be one of the hardest to get for anyone with a clouded past or to hold on to if they step out of line. (600 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

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## COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST-BAN TREATY (CTBT)

### **The Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty: The Greatest Legacy We Could Leave Future Generations [OPINION]**

*The Daily Star*, 01 November 2010, <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/>

By Sergio Duarte and Tibor Tóth

On November 1, a team of over 35 experts will launch an exercise to inspect a simulated nuclear test site near the Dead Sea in Jordan – a step forward in completing the global verification system of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). (844 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

## FISSILE MATERIALS

### **India Signs Convention of Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage**

IAEA, 27 October 2010, <http://www.iaea.org/>

In Vienna today, India signed the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC), which seeks to establish a uniform global legal regime for the compensation of victims in the event of a nuclear accident. (282 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Nuclear States Must Work to Meet Nonproliferation Standards, Report Says**

Global Security Newswire, 27 October 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>

Nations known or suspected to hold nuclear weapons must do more to live up to their obligations under the modern arms control regime, an independent nonproliferation organization said today. (992 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

## NEW STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (NEW START)

### **GENERALS: Military Gung-ho for New START**

*The Washington Times*, 22 October 2010, <http://www.securityconsensus.org/>

By Lt. Gens. John Castellaw, Arlen Jameson, Donald Kerrick and Brig. Gen. John Adams

On December 5, it will have been an entire year since we lost that ability to conduct on-site inspections and monitoring. If the Senate fails to ratify the New START treaty, those inspections will stop forever. (656 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

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## **NEW STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (NEW START) (CONT.)**

### **Lugar Concerned about Ratification of New START**

*Global Security Newswire, 28 October 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>*

Senate Foreign Relations ranking member Richard Lugar (R-Indiana) expressed concern yesterday that a lack of focus on the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty [New START] with Russia during the midterm elections season may mean the arms pact doesn't get ratified during the Senate's lame-duck session next month. (485 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Russia May Review U.S. Arms Pact Approval Plans**

*Reuters, 29 October 2010, <http://www.reuters.com/>*

A top Russian lawmaker said on Friday he would ask colleagues to reopen debate on the New START nuclear arms treaty with the United States, adding to uncertainty over the chances for approval in both nations. (409 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

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Residents who live or work near the Pueblo Chemical Depot in Pueblo, Colorado, are being surveyed by officials about safety measures meant to keep them secure.

The survey is part of the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, and is conducted every two years, the Pueblo Chieftain reports. The phone survey starts this week and runs through the end of the month, according to Carl Ballinger, coordinator of the CSEPP program.

The depot holds approximately 780,000 artillery and mortar rounds which contain a total of 2,611 tons of mustard agent.

Ballinger told the Pueblo Chieftain that the CSEPP program, which is funded by the Department of Defense, is conducted to make sure citizens have the information they need to protect themselves in case there is an emergency at the depot.

In recent months, some of those shells at the Pueblo Depot were found to have been leaking inside the earth-covered igloos where they are housed. There have been no accidents or releases of mustard vapors that could threaten the community, the Pueblo Chieftain reports. Ballinger, however, said that the weapons do have explosives in them and that there is only a slight risk that an accident could happen.

Ballinger said that many of the weapons are scheduled to be removed from the igloos to a destruction facility in 2012. If an accident ever did occur, Ballinger said residents in the immediate area would be given emergency instructions, including where to evacuate to if the need arose.

“We strive to put information about emergency preparedness in our handouts, quarterly newsletters, annual calendars and in our face-to-face conversations with citizens,” Ballinger told the Pueblo Chieftain. “Now, we’d like to know if we have been successful but also, what we can do better.”

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After nearly two years of butting up against U.S. Defense Department bureaucracies, it appears the Pentagon might be willing to start turning over much of the Pueblo Chemical Depot to other users. In early 2009, the first potential developer of a solar-power facility approached the Pueblo Depot Activity Development Authority about leasing land.

The authority is a local civilian agency that leases unused buildings, earth-covered igloos and open space from the Army and then subleases to businesses, government agencies and individuals needing a secure storage location. Because solar developers need long-term leases or to make outright purchases, the authority, whose lease runs until 2016, couldn't do that and there wasn't much encouragement from a number of government agencies that might have intervened.

In recent months, authority members made some progress on figuring out how to change that. In September, Lt. Col. Rob Wittig, the base commander, sent a letter to the authority saying that he had started a process to declare 17,000 acres, nearly 75 percent of the depot, as excess. Authority Executive Director Chuck Finley said that Wittig's recommendation had been moving up the chain of command and was on its way to the Secretary of the Army. He said he hadn't seen the recommendation but expected that it included all but the area around the mustard agent stockpile and the adjacent chemical weapons destruction plant in the northeast part of the depot and the headquarters area in the southwest.

At Wednesday's regular meeting of the authority, Wittig said that the land would go through the standard Base Realignment and Closure disposal procedures. The authority had been concerned about where the depot stood and it hasn't been clear whether it was under closing status. It was put on the BRAC list in 1988 and should have been closed quickly, had it not been for 780,000 chemical weapons stored there that can't be moved.

Wittig's move, Finley said, "doesn't necessarily mean we get the property. It's just quicker." He said there could be a decision in two to four years. Under the process, other Department of Defense agencies get first chance to acquire excess land. There also are federal programs, such as for the homeless, that can bid for land and the authority can make an offer at fair market value.

Development of the land could face some restrictions, however, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will establish land-use controls so that residential buildings aren't put in areas where pollutants have not been removed. [...]

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## **Pine Bluff Arsenal Nears End of Chemical Weapons Disposal**

*BioPrepWatch*, 25 October 2010, <http://www.bioprepwatch.com/>

Disposal operations for chemical weapons are nearing completion at the Pine Bluff Arsenal in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Arsenal officials confirmed that the last of the one ton containers that store mustard gas at the facility have been taken to the disposal site, according to USA Today.

According to Lt. Col Nathaniel Farmer, the head of the Pine Bluff Chemical Activity operation, the strictest safety and security procedures were used to transport a total of 5,879 containers of nerve and blister agents over a five-year period, USA Today reports.

Pine Bluff has been used as a weapons of mass destruction storage facility since the 1940s. The disposal of the last containers will mean the end of the mission of the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility.

The last disposal and elimination of the mustard agent is scheduled for December 2010. The munitions are being destroyed under the terms of an international treaty signed and ratified by the United States.

The Pine Bluff facility is one of only six facilities in the nation to store chemical weapons. It was established in 1941 and first used to manufacture incendiary weapons such as grenades and bombs. Its original name was the Chemical Warfare Arsenal, but that was changed four months after the facility opened.

The arsenal's entire stockpile of nerve agents were destroyed by 2008, under the direction of a civilian contractor, the Washington Demilitarization Company.

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U.S. Senator Richard Lugar (R-Indiana) announced on October 25 the recent progress in the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program [CTR], including the destruction of 68.88 metric tons of chemical weapons.

Since August, the program has also overseen the deactivation of 48 strategic warheads, the destruction of four intercontinental ballistic missiles and 16 submarine launched ballistic missiles, according to [PoliticalNews.me](http://PoliticalNews.me).

In total, the program has now eliminated 7,599 strategic nuclear warheads, 791 ballistic missiles, 651 submarine launched ballistic missiles, 32 nuclear submarines and 906 air-to-surface nuclear missiles, [PoliticalNews.me](http://PoliticalNews.me) reports. It has set up multiple biological monitoring stations and destroyed 1569.5 metric tons of Russian and Albanian chemical weapons agents.

Because of the Nunn-Lugar Act, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus are now free of nuclear weapons. Those countries had been ranked third, fourth and eighth in terms of the size of their stockpiles.

The Nunn-Lugar Act, ratified in 1991, established the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program that has provided funding and expertise to the countries of the former Soviet Union so that they can dismantle their stockpiles of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, and their delivery systems.

In 2003, Congress enacted the Nunn-Lugar Expansion Act. This act authorized the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program to operate outside of the Soviet Union to dismantle such weapons, first in Albania. The entirety of that country's chemical weaponry was eventually destroyed.

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*Pueblo Chieftain*, 28 October 2010, <http://www.chieftain.com/>

One of the best jobs in Pueblo in the coming years will be one of the hardest to get for anyone with a clouded past or to hold on to if they step out of line.

Walton Levi, named this week to take over as acting site project manager for the weapons destruction program at the Pueblo Chemical Depot, outlined Wednesday night the stringent requirements to get a job and keep it for anyone who will come in contact with the 780,000 chemical weapons stored there.

Speaking to the Colorado Chemical Demilitarization Citizens Advisory Commission, Levi outlined the tough requirements that will be in place as people are hired to work in the facility over the next few years. Actual weapons destruction is not expected to begin until 2015, but people are being hired now and trained to work the equipment that is being installed.

Of the close to 2,000 people expected to be employed in the project at its peak, Levi said that between 600 and 700 will fall under the Chemical Personnel Reliability Program. Those will be the people who will work within the buildings and grounds where the weapons are stored and where they'll be destroyed. They'll be subjected to extensive background checks before hiring and ongoing monitoring of their lives, including drug testing and other factors.

Automatic grounds for being disqualified include drug abuse while working or within the five years prior to being hired, drug dealing within 15 years of being hired and inability to meet safety standards. Other problems, including alcohol abuse, medical conditions affecting their ability to work or use safety equipment could be grounds. Bad attitudes, conduct or behavior could also cost their jobs, but at the discretion of the managers.

While the rules are strict, Levi said that the managers will work with people who come forward with problems. "The Army has a program to make sure that all the people who come in contact with those weapons use sound judgment and are good, reliable people," he said, "and standards are similar to those used to hire the civilians currently employed by the chemical depot to monitor the stockpile. "You won't see a big difference between the two sites," he said.

Levi explained that drug testing won't just be for illegal substances but also for prescription drugs. Money problems also will be watched as they could affect job performance and workers will have to be honest about what they're facing. "You might be behind on your credit card payments. You might be behind on your mortgage. You need to let your supervisor know that because it will come up on your security investigation."

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Problems also won't necessarily get people fired but could result in suspension or being moved out of the chemical weapons area. Medical conditions that impair performance, for example, could result in a transfer to a job somewhere else in the facility.

Levi takes over from Scott Susman who will return to his job as systems engineer at the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program headquarters in Aberdeen, Md. ACWA is expected to fill the local director's job soon. It's been vacant since Gary Anderson left earlier this year to take the manager's job at the Umatilla, (Ore.,) Army Depot.

Levi is one of the first top managers with regional roots. A native of Colorado Springs, he graduated from Colorado State University at Fort Collins in 1987 with a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering and went to work in the chemical weapons destruction program at the Tooele Army Depot in Utah. He came to Pueblo in October 2008.

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## The Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty: The Greatest Legacy We Could Leave Future Generations [OPINION]

*The Daily Star*, 01 November 2010, <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/>

By Sergio Duarte and Tibor Tóth

On November 1, a team of over 35 experts will launch an exercise to inspect a simulated nuclear test site near the Dead Sea in Jordan – a step forward in completing the global verification system of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

Then on November 12, the world's Nobel peace laureates will hold a summit in Hiroshima to stress the priority of nuclear disarmament and affirm their commitment to promoting it.

Countless other international initiatives are also under way that reflect a wider revolution in thinking about nuclear weapons – a revolution that is welcome and long overdue.

After all, despite much talk of nuclear disarmament when the Cold War ended 20 years ago, more than 20,000 of these weapons still exist, with many on high alert, and each much larger than the devices that devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Nine countries are known or believed to possess them, and all are improving them in various ways.

Let's be clear, the very existence of these weapons aggravates three global nuclear threats – from existing arsenals (accidents, miscalculations, unauthorized use, or willful use), from their proliferation to additional states, and from their acquisition by terrorists.

But now a new global consensus is emerging that these weapons are militarily irrelevant in dealing with emerging threats, impossible to use without violating international humanitarian law, a source of proliferation and terrorist threats, and a waste of money and scientific talent.

This helps to explain why we are seeing new demands to start good-faith negotiations on nuclear disarmament, as has long been required by the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has made a persuasive case for work to begin on a nuclear-weapons convention, or a framework of separate agreements resulting in a global ban.

Even the leaders of the nuclear-weapon states are now officially supporting the goal of global nuclear disarmament. They are joined by former statesmen, national parliaments and regional organizations, mayors, retired military experts, women's organizations, human rights activists, environmentalists, and countless other groups worldwide.

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Yes, nuclear disarmament has gone viral. It is now mainstream – a fitting subject for even die-hard realists to consider and no longer a cause promoted by peace groups alone.

We believe that this momentum is absolutely vital to international peace and security, and there are many ways to reinforce it. Achieving global nuclear disarmament will surely require new legal obligations for all states, nuclear and non-nuclear. To be blunt, the rule of law must be brought to disarmament. Commitments in this sensitive field must be made irreversible and subject to strict verification.

These tasks cannot be accomplished unilaterally – multilateral cooperation is indispensable. Of course, some progress in treaty-making by smaller groups of states is possible, particularly by those with the largest nuclear arsenals, the Russian Federation and the United States. Early ratification of the US-Russia [New] START treaty would be a step in the right direction.

Yet other advances of the rule of law in nuclear disarmament will require cooperation on a global scale. One of the most important and overdue developments in this area is the entry into force of the CTBT, which will outlaw all nuclear explosions, regardless of their size, location, or declared purpose.

The idea of outlawing such tests was first floated in 1954 by Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, who framed his proposal in the context of broader progress toward nuclear disarmament, just as we are doing today. The CTBT has now been signed by 182 states and will enter into force after being ratified by nine more: China, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan and the United States, while Indonesia has announced it will ratify it soon.

This ban on nuclear tests will be backed up with a verification regime that spans the globe. Even today, thanks to a variety of sophisticated means, we can detect very small nuclear tests in remote locations. The treaty is also fair – it includes the same rights and responsibilities for all its parties. It sets a new standard for nuclear weapons treaty obligations and verification.

The CTBT is needed because of the role of nuclear tests in the development and improvement of nuclear weapons. Such tests are also political symbols that have no place in a world determined to eliminate these abhorrent weapons of mass destruction. On an issue as important as this, voluntary promises not to test are simply not enough.

Other treaties are needed as well, especially one outlawing the production of fissile materials for use in nuclear weapons. We believe that non-nuclear-weapon states also deserve legally binding assurances against the threat or use of nuclear weapons. Moreover, there is merit in

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seeking additional treaties to outlaw weapons in space, establish agreed norms for missile defense, and make certain that nuclear materials and technologies are kept safe and secure.

Together, these steps will take us far down the road to a nuclear-weapon-free world – not as an act of faith, but as a prudent investment in the peace and security of all peoples. This would be perhaps the greatest legacy we could leave for future generations.

*Sergio Duarte is UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and Tibor Tóth is Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization [CTBTO].*

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## India Signs Convention of Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage

IAEA, 27 October 2010, <http://www.iaea.org/>

In Vienna today, India signed the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC), which seeks to establish a uniform global legal regime for the compensation of victims in the event of a nuclear accident. Indian Ambassador, Mr. Dinkar Khullar signed the CSC on behalf of his country at a brief ceremony held at IAEA headquarters.

At the moment four states have signed and ratified the convention – Argentina, Morocco, Romania and the United States. India's signing brings a total of 14 states as current signatories to the convention. The convention is set to enter into force on the ninetieth day after date of ratification by at least five states who have a minimum of 400,000 units of installed nuclear capacity.

### Background

Adopted on 12 September 1997, the Convention on Compensation for Nuclear Damage was opened for signature at the IAEA's 41<sup>st</sup> General Conference at Vienna that same month. The CSC is consistent with principles set forth in previous international agreements governing nuclear liability, including the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage and the Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy. It provides a bridge between these two regimes, is open to states that are party to neither of these two regimes, and establishes an international fund to increase the amount available to compensate victims.

The CSC also allows for compensating civil damage occurring within a state's exclusive economic zone, including loss of tourism or fisheries related income. It also sets parameters on a nuclear operator's financial liability, time limits governing possible legal action, requires that nuclear operators maintain insurance or other financial security measures and provides for a single competent court to hear claims.

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## Nuclear States Must Work to Meet Nonproliferation Standards, Report Says

*Global Security Newswire*, 27 October 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>

Nations known or suspected to hold nuclear weapons must do more to live up to their obligations under the modern arms control regime, an independent nonproliferation organization said today. The Washington-based Arms Control Association [ACA] today issued its first-ever report card assessing how a number of countries have lived up to their existing nonproliferation commitments. Unlike similar documents issued by other groups, it refrains from making concrete suggestions on how better adhere to those goals.

The organization "set out to document what constitutes the mainstream of nonproliferation and disarmament behavior expected of responsible states," Daryl Kimball, the association's executive director, said this morning during an event at the National Press Club. "Mainstream" refers to the body of obligations, standards and rules of behavior concerning nuclear weapons that has emerged and grown since the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] entered into force in 1970, he explained.

The 79-page report gives grades to the five nuclear powers recognized by the treaty: China, France, Russia, the United States and the United Kingdom. The study also provides marks to nuclear-armed states ... [those] developing weapons capability, and [those] which have come under international scrutiny for possible military atomic activities. None of the states received an overall "A" grade. [...]

The report measures the performance of the 11 nations in 10 "universally recognized" nonproliferation, disarmament and nuclear security categories over the last 18 months, lead researcher Peter Crail told the audience this morning. Those categories, which were given equal weight by researchers, measured states' movement toward:

- banning nuclear-weapon test explosions;
- ending the production of fissile material for weapons;
- lowering nuclear weapons alert levels;
- verifiably reducing nuclear force size;
- assuring non-nuclear weapons states they would not be subject to nuclear attack;
- establishing nuclear weapon-free zones;
- complying with international safeguards against the diversion of peaceful nuclear activities for weapons purposes;

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- controlling sensitive exports;
- implementing measures to improve the security of nuclear material and facilities; and
- criminalizing and preventing illicit nuclear trafficking and nuclear terrorism.

Those initiatives are recognized by a majority of governments as essential elements to the global nonproliferation regime, Kimball said. Each received a grade for its standing in each category. The categories, in turn, were combined to give the countries their overall grade.

The highest grade, "A," required full adherence to the international norm as laid out in the report; a "B" was assigned if the state has taken "significant steps" to meet that standard; a "C" meant only "limited or declaratory" measures had been taken; a "D" indicated no action taken; and a failing "F" grade was earned if the state has been "inconsistent with or has rejected" the prescribed standard. The marks "do help to give a fairly decent snapshot of where things are in the disarmament and nonproliferation regime," according to Crail.

The United States received a "B." Of the five recognized nuclear powers, Washington has undergone the most significant changes over the last 18 months, Kimball told the audience. He noted that the Obama administration had successfully negotiated a new nuclear arms control deal with Russia; hosted the April Nuclear Security Summit in Washington; and reduced the role nuclear weapons hold in national security.

However, further progress on those initiatives, including ratification of the "New START" pact and four pending nuclear weapon-free zone treaties, require congressional action, Kimball said. He said the association had shared its findings with members of the administration. A White House spokesman did not respond by press time to a request for comment.

The United Kingdom likewise received an overall "B" grade thanks to previous arms reductions that have left it with smallest arsenal of the five formal possessor states. The report card says the country is estimated to have 225 warheads. Crail said the recent release of the British "Strategic Defense Review," which calls for a reduction to roughly 200 atomic bombs, could improve the country's grade before the next report card.

France also received a "B" grade for shuttering its atomic weapons material production facilities, a step the other four nations have only pledged to make, as well as its nuclear test sites. The country's overall score was hampered by its negative security assurance policy. The strategy of "dissuasion" implies there could be unforeseen situations in which Paris uses its nuclear weapons, including against countries not possessed of such armaments, the analysis says.

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The association awarded China a "B-" overall for its nuclear weapons "low alert" posture and its "no first use" declaratory policy, according to the report card. Those strategies set Beijing apart from the other recognized nuclear-weapon states that keep their arsenals on high alert, the document states. China's grade could have been higher, but it the only recognized possessor state increasing its nuclear forces and it has not ratified the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, despite longstanding pledges to do so, it adds.

Russia, too, earned a "B-" mark. A primary concern among experts is that nuclear weapons technology is coming out of Russia to "states of concern, Crail said. "It isn't necessarily because of policies by the Russian government, but because of the lack of the capability, or will, to really enforce the laws on the books," he added.

Officials at embassies for the four other nuclear powers did not respond to requests for comment.

## *Other Nuclear States*

The association also rated the three nations that possess atomic arsenals but are not formal members to the global nuclear nonproliferation regime. Of the trio, India fared the best, garnering a "C+" overall for actions and policies related to warning time for atomic weapons use. The country is believed to keep its nuclear arms separate from their delivery systems, cutting the chance of accidental use. It also has adhered to its export controls and multilateral nuclear security commitments, the analysis states.[...]

## *"States of Concern"*

The association report also looked at "states of concern" that have a track record of breaking nonproliferation and disarmament rules. [...]

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## GENERALS: Military Gung-ho for New START

*The Washington Times*, 22 October 2010, <http://www.securityconsensus.org/>

By Lieutenant Generals John Castellaw, Arlen Jameson, and Donald Kerrick and Brigadier General John Adams

Over the course of six months of hearings and briefings, one by one, the secretary of defense, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the heads of STRATCOM and the Missile Defense Agency and former officials from the last seven administrations, Republican and Democrat alike, all told senators the same thing – the New START treaty makes us safer and should be ratified by the Senate.

Here's what it does. The New START treaty replaces a treaty negotiated under the Reagan administration and signed by President George H.W. Bush, which expired in December [2009]. It provides stability and predictability between the world's two leading nuclear powers as well as modest reductions in U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals. Most important, it replaces the previous treaty's lapsed verification regime with a state-of-the-art system that builds on 20 years of verification experience and puts U.S. inspectors back on the ground to monitor Russia's nuclear weapons.

On September 16, satisfied with the overwhelming consensus in support of the treaty among the military and national security experts, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee – in a moment of nonpartisanship rare in this era – voted 14-4 to send the treaty to the full Senate for ratification.

In recent days, however, critics have resumed making spurious claims designed to raise doubts about the treaty. A quick review of the record ought to be enough to put these claims to rest once and for all.

The treaty compromises missile defense, critics claim. Not so, according to Lt. Gen. Patrick J. O'Reilly, director of the Missile Defense Agency, who, along with Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, has repeatedly made clear that the new treaty has no implications for our missile-defense plans. On the contrary, Gen. O'Reilly told senators, the treaty “actually reduces constraints on the development of the missile defense program.”

Russia can't be trusted to comply with the terms of the treaty, critics say. This claim turns President Reagan's admonishment that we should “trust, but verify” on its head. By opposing the treaty, critics are arguing in favor of eliminating on-site surveillance and inspections of the Russian nuclear arsenal that are the only checks we have against Russian untrustworthiness.

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Here's what the current commander of STRATCOM, Gen. Kevin P. Chilton, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee about the danger involved in rejecting the treaty: "If we don't get the treaty, [the Russians] are not constrained in their development-of-force structure and ... we have no insight into what they're doing, so it's the worst of both possible worlds."

It's worth stepping back for a moment to ask the question why, if any of the things critics claim were remotely true, the treaty would have such overwhelming support among the military?

And it's not just the military that supports the treaty. The Senate heard testimony in favor of the treaty from Republican national security heavyweights like James R. Schlesinger, George Shultz, James A. Baker III, Henry Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft.

An open letter in support of the treaty was published recently from 30 former national security officials from both political parties – including Colin L. Powell, Frank C. Carlucci, Madeleine K. Albright, Chuck Hagel and John C. Danforth.

The bottom line is this – critics have no answer to the overwhelming support for this treaty among the military and national security experts, so they must resort to confusing the issue. There is real risk here, though.

For 20 years, we have had American inspectors on the ground keeping tabs on Russian nuclear weapons. On December 5, 2010, it will have been an entire year since we lost that ability to conduct on-site inspections and monitoring. If the Senate fails to ratify the New START treaty, those inspections will stop forever.

Every day we wait is a day we lose insight into Russia's arsenal, and that makes us less safe.

When the Senate reconvenes after the elections, its top priority should be taking the advice of our military leadership and ratifying the treaty.

*Lt. Gens. John Castellaw, Arlen Jameson, Donald Kerrick and Brig. Gen. John Adams, all retired, are members of Consensus for American Security, a nonpartisan group of security experts.*

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## Lugar Concerned about Ratification of New START

*Global Security Newswire*, 28 October 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>

Senate Foreign Relations ranking member Richard Lugar (R-Indiana) expressed concern yesterday that a lack of focus on the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty with Russia during the midterm elections season may mean the arms pact doesn't get ratified during the Senate's lame-duck session next month.

The New START treaty, which would reduce nuclear weapons levels in both the United States and Russia, is "just not a high priority for many Republican members," Lugar told the Council on Foreign Relations.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) will not give the arms pact any floor time during the lame duck – which already has many bills lined up on the agenda ahead of anticipated changes of party makeup – until the administration confirms they have 67 votes assured.

It's "too bad" the Republicans are either opposed or ambivalent to the treaty, Lugar said. "The conversation with Russia [on the new START] is an opportunity to pick up [relations]," he said. "It's not a 'reset,' but it's an important step."

Lugar was one of just three Republicans who voted with all committee Democrats to send the bill to the Senate, and is currently trying to work with Republicans to get the votes needed to pass the Senate. "Hope springs eternal [with me]," Lugar said of his efforts.

This Republican lack of priority is reflected in the election, Lugar said. "In Indiana [recent polls suggest] only 2 percent believed that the war in Afghanistan was a high priority," he said, noting that there were no other foreign policy issues rating higher than that – let alone the START treaty.

In order for the arms pact to be ratified in the Senate, at least five more Republicans would need to sign on – along with every Democrat – in order to achieve the 67 votes needed. "[Some critics] are saying that lame duck is not a good time to do this, saying that 'we need more time,'" Lugar said of a known congressional tactic that may delay a vote.

Prospects for ratification in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress are just as unlikely. "If we're predicting more than 50 new members in the House, and 15 to 20 more in the Senate, we're talking about the largest change in American Congress in history," Lugar said. "I don't know how they're going to look at Afghanistan, or Pakistan, or any foreign-policy prospects. This hasn't been discussed at all in the campaign."

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Lugar traveled to Moscow in 2008, where he said officials were “pleased” to receive his visit. “They were afraid that the American interest was not there,” Lugar said. “I said I was pretty sure it would be [with the new administration].”

The Obama administration did a good job setting up a negotiating team with START, “but they just ran out of time” before the Senate closed, Lugar said.

For its part, Russia can still walk away from the idea of the treaty, he added.

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### Russia May Review U.S. Arms Pact Approval Plans

Reuters, 29 October 2010, <http://www.reuters.com/>

A top Russian lawmaker said on Friday he would ask colleagues to reopen debate on the New START nuclear arms treaty with the United States, adding to uncertainty over the chances for approval in both nations.

The treaty, which would set new, lower limits on Russian and American nuclear arsenals, is the most prominent product of President Barack Obama's effort – embraced by Russian President Dmitry Medvedev – to "reset" strained relations.

Konstantin Kosachyov, Chairman of the International Affairs Committee in the State Duma, said Russian lawmakers should consider attaching conditions to ratification of the New START pact in response to similar efforts by U.S. Senate Republicans.

"I will advise my colleagues to ... return to discussion of our conditions for ratification," Kosachyov, a member of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's ruling United Russia party, said in a blog on the website of Ekho Moskvyy radio.

Kosachyov's committee had earlier advised the Duma, Russia's lower parliament house, to ratify the treaty – which requires approval by lawmakers in both countries to come into force – at about the same time the Senate does so.

But he said on Friday that conservative U.S. Republicans were jeopardizing the treaty by affixing "unilateral declarations" to a Senate ratification resolution, some of which could have legal force if the treaty is approved.

Kosachyov told Reuters that he was "not suggesting refusal to ratify the treaty" but that he would ask the Duma committee next week to return to discussions and add "its own interpretations."

"It's a shame that the current American activity in a direction away from ratification ... could block the reset button," he wrote in the blog, voicing concern that Republican gains could set back broader improvements in ties.

Kosachyov said Russia would have to "significantly refine" its own ratification bill, clearly setting out implementation guidelines, plans for the development of nuclear forces and circumstances under which Moscow could withdraw from the pact.

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He did not explain any potential conditions or declarations in detail.

U.S. backers hope for a vote in a "lame duck" session after elections on Tuesday in which Republicans could make gains, potentially making it harder for the White House to win the 67 votes needed for ratification once the new Senate convenes.

"In the new makeup of the Senate, where the seats will be divided roughly in half (between Democrats and Republicans), it will be even harder to gather the two-thirds of the votes needed for ratification," Kosachyov predicted in his blog.

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