



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



09 March – 22 March 2010

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GENERAL ARMS CONTROL

Report Cites U.S. Budget Increase for WMD Security

Global Security Newswire, 11 March 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/>

The Obama administration's \$3.1 billion fiscal 2011 budget request for worldwide WMD security activities would provide a "significant boost" for efforts in the nuclear and biological sectors, the Partnership for Global Security said in an analysis issued this week. (358 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

DoD Has Not Made Decision about Weapons: CDCAB Hears Clarification of Detonation Chamber Option

Richmond Register, 10 March 2010, <http://richmondregister.com/>

Contrary to an Associated Press news story published by the Richmond Register and many other newspapers around the county, the defense department has made no final decision to destroy problematic mustard agent artillery projectiles stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot, said Jeff Brubaker, the government's site manager for the project to destroy the chemical weapons stored there. (614 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

Colorado, Army at Impasse over Weapons

The Pueblo Chieftain, 18 March 2010, <http://www.chieftain.com/>

State and Army officials say they've reached an impasse in negotiations on monitoring chemical weapons stored at the Pueblo Chemical Depot. (288 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

FISSILE MATERIAL CUT-OFF TREATY (FMCT)

Conference on Disarmament Discusses Proposal for a Program of Work

UN Office at Geneva, 11 March 2010, <http://www.unog.ch/>

The Conference on Disarmament today discussed document CD/WP.559, containing a proposed program of work for the Conference's 2010 session, which was presented by the President of the Conference at its last meeting. (590 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

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INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS

Russia Aims to Supply Planned Fuel Bank in 2010

Global Security Newswire, 09 March 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/>

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IAEA Could Acquire Russian Uranium for Fuel Bank

Global Security Newswire, 16 March 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/>

Russia and the International Atomic Energy Agency last week discussed finalizing a transfer of 120 metric tons of Russian low-enriched uranium to the agency for operating a planned nuclear fuel enrichment center. (198 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT)

India to Examine its NPT Options Ahead of Nuclear Summit

Indo-Asian News Service, 21 March 2010, <http://www.hindustantimes.com/>

Ahead of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to the United States to attend the Nuclear Security Summit, a two-day conference will start in New Delhi on Monday to debate India's options in view of the growing global pressure to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). (296 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (START)

Clinton to Meet with Russian Leaders on Arms Control Talks

New York Times, 17 March 2010, <http://www.nytimes.com/>

With the United States and Russia still haggling over the fine print of a long-delayed arms control pact, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton arrived in Moscow on Thursday to meet Russian leaders as the Obama administration tried to push the negotiations across the finish line. (475 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

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STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (START)(CONT.)

Nuclear Review Nears Completion

Defense Media Activity, 17 March 2010, <http://www.dma.mil/>

Several conclusions drawn from a nearly complete review of the nation's nuclear posture already have been incorporated into the Defense Department's fiscal 2011 budget request, a senior Pentagon official told Congress yesterday. (511 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

Russia, U.S. Close To Signing Arms Treaty—Top Diplomats

RIA Novosti, 19 March 2010, <http://en.rian.ru/>

Russia and the United States are close to signing a new arms reduction treaty, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said on Friday. (205 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

TREATY ON OPEN SKIES

NATO Forces Conduct Open Skies Flights at Baltic Fleet

Interfax, 12 March 2010, accessed via Open Source Center

The international military mission called Open Skies is performing flights over the Baltic Fleet facilities in the Kaliningrad region, the Baltic Fleet said in a statement on Friday. (168 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

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The funding proposal "corrects some of the shortfalls of the FY10 budget," the nongovernmental organization said. "These included a decline in overall National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) program funding and limited growth in the budget and mission of the Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction [CTR] program."

In keeping with U.S. President's Barack Obama's April 2009 pledge to secure all loose nuclear materials within four years, the budget would provide an additional \$320 million in security funds from this fiscal year. The NNSA Global Threat Reduction Initiative and International Material Protection and Cooperation program would receive an extra \$240 million, while the new Global Nuclear Lockdown within the Pentagon's CTR program would receive more than \$74 million.

The Global Threat Reduction Initiative was established to safeguard civilian nuclear and radiological materials and reduce their usage around the world. More money for the nuclear side of its operation would mean less for the radiological sector, according to the analysis.

Total funding for the CTR program, established nearly two decades ago to secure and eliminate WMD materials in the former Soviet Union, would rise 23 percent to \$522 million in the budget year that begins October 1st. Forty percent of that amount, \$209 million, would be directed toward biosecurity initiatives.

The budget proposes a 5 percent cut in State Department threat reduction efforts, to \$194 million. It would slash spending for the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund by 24 percent to \$57 million.

Finally, proposed spending for the Homeland Security Department's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office would change little at \$305 million, according to the analysis. That takes into account, though, a "program transfer" to the Science and Technology Directorate, which is assuming management of applied research on radiological and nuclear detection systems.

A 94 percent boost in funding, to \$173.5 million, is planned for the agency's Biowatch program to allow for programs including acquisition of more sophisticated biological agent detectors for major U.S. cities.

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He spoke during a break in the quarterly meeting Tuesday of the Chemical Destruction Citizens Advisory Board (CDCAB) at Eastern Kentucky University.

Given the problems that other depots have encountered with destroying similar mustard weapons, some from the same production lot as those stored here, destroying them in detonation chambers, a long-proven technology, likely will be the most practical alternative, Brubaker said.

The denotation chambers are relatively small, mobile devices in which an explosive charge would be set off to consume a single artillery round containing mustard, a blister agent, said Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair, who briefed the panel on the issue. The local project could use one of four types of detonation chambers, he said. Depots in Toole, Utah, and Anniston, Ala., where chemical agent weapons are being destroyed by incineration are each using a different EDT technology to destroy problematic mustard-agent shells, he said.

Because the Blue Grass Army Depot will be the last to have its chemical weapons destroyed, the local project will have the benefit of the other depots' experience with the technology, if and when a choice is made to use it here, Williams said.

Although the Defense Department is considering EDT to destroy the few nerve-agent artillery rounds now packed in individual air-tight cylinders to contain leaks, some members of the CDCAB committee examining the issue oppose it, Williams said.

If the purpose of the Associated Press editors who used sensational wording, such as "blowing up" chemical weapons in a widely published news story that also referenced nerve agent weapons was to garner attention, they succeeded, Williams said.

While the story by a Louisville-based AP writer was "on-point and accurate," Williams said, AP editors apparently decided language in his article was not "sexy or catastrophic enough." They

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made revisions that were used as the basis for some startling headlines in many newspapers around the country and abroad that gave the impression nerve-agent would be exploded “out in an open field,” Williams said.

Williams said he was contacted by military veterans of the first Gulf War who may have been exposed to nerve agent when the U.S. military exploded an Iraqi facility that likely contained chemical weapons.

Williams said he and Brubaker launched “a very intentional media campaign” in central Kentucky to clarify the issue.

If there is a lack of bi-partisanship in Washington, D.C., it does not apply to the Kentucky Congressional delegation when it comes to chemical weapons destruction, Williams said, moving on to other topics. Senator Mitch McConnell, R-KY, and Representative Ben Chandler, D-KY, and other members of the delegation are in agreement that the Madison County depot’s chemical weapons must be safely destroyed as soon as possible, Williams said.

In the past, “It has been a struggle” for the depot to get adequate funding for chemical weapons destruction,” Williams said.

McConnell, the leader of Senate Republicans, had to use the full force of his seniority and leadership position to secure funding, Williams said. However, since 2008, the Defense Department has remained committed to full funding, and more than \$200 million has been appropriated for the current year and is committed for next year to Kentucky operations of the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) program to destroy the weapons by chemical neutralization. To date, about \$800 million has been spent on the project.

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The Pueblo Chieftain, 18 March 2010, <http://www.chieftain.com/>

State and Army officials say they've reached an impasse in negotiations on monitoring chemical weapons stored at the Pueblo Chemical Depot. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment sued the Army in August, seeking stepped-up monitoring of the 2,600 tons of mustard agent here, and a settlement was announced in January.

Since then, the two sides have been discussing how to implement it. Earlier this month, they told a federal magistrate they had agreed on most issues but were at an impasse on two.

The state says the sticking points are whether the munitions should be classified as waste and the level of protection workers get against chemicals other than mustard.

Meanwhile, the state has appealed U.S. District Court Judge Richard Matsch's ruling last year saying that Colorado has no authority to set a deadline for destruction of the weapons.

Colorado officials say Matsch was wrong when he ruled they cannot require the Army to set a legally binding deadline to destroy chemical weapons stored in the state.

State attorneys have filed written arguments with a federal appeals court in Denver seeking to overturn Matsch's ruling.

At issue is how much regulatory power the state has over the mustard agent awaiting destruction at Pueblo Chemical Depot.

A plant is under construction to accomplish that. Congress has set a deadline of 2017 but state officials, acting as Colorado's Environmental Protection Agency enforcer, want to set the same terms.

The district judge ruled that the Colorado health department's attempt to require a deadline conflicts with federal law, and that federal law prevails.

In its appeal, the state says the Army can comply with both federal law and state regulations.

The Army has until April 12 to file a response.

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Conference on Disarmament Discusses Proposal for a Program of Work

UN Office at Geneva, 11 March 2010, <http://www.unog.ch/>

The Conference on Disarmament (CD) today discussed document CD/WP.559, containing a proposed program of work for the Conference's 2010 session, which was presented by the President of the Conference at its last meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, Ambassador Mikhail Khvostov of Belarus, President of the Conference on Disarmament, said he had presented document CD/WP.559 last Tuesday because as President he had a legal and moral obligation to the Conference in implementing rule 29 of its Rules of Procedure. That rule obliged the President to compile a draft program of work and to present it to the Conference on Disarmament for its consideration. It was then up to the Conference to decide whether to adopt the draft or not. By doing so, he had also followed a political aim, which stemmed from the need to get the Conference back to substantive work.

Over three dozen country representatives and two representatives of regional groups took the floor in the ensuing debate. A vast majority of the countries speaking expressed support for and welcomed the proposed program of work, as contained in document CD/WP.559. States said that the draft was a balanced and comprehensive document. It provided a draft on the basis of which the Conference could hold further discussions. It was a realistic compromise. While it was far from being an ideal document it provided them with an ideal tool to address the current situation. Also, any proposed amendment by delegations should enhance the draft so as to move towards consensus.

Other States, however, felt that the draft could be improved. The program of work should provide for a negotiations mandate on the issue of nuclear disarmament. A fissile material treaty should also cover the issue of stocks and verifications. Any negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, which did not address existing stocks, would be worthless. The fissile material treaty should be transformed into a disarmament treaty.

Several countries also highlighted the statement made by the Group of 21 last February and the important elements contained in that declaration, which covered all their concerns. The President should take the content of those considerations into account, such as the establishment of an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament.

Document CD/WP.559 is a Presidential proposal for a program of work for the Conference's 2010 session. It specifically references the program of work for 2009 (CD/1864), as well as recommendations to the Conference by the General Assembly (which encourage the Conference to begin work on an FMCT). It envisages the establishment of four working groups:

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- [a working group] on cessation of a nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, to exchange views and information, including on approaches toward potential future work of multilateral character;
- a working group to negotiate an FMCT, on the basis of CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein;
- a working group to discuss substantively, without limitation, all issues related to prevention of an arms race in outer space; and
- a working group on negative security assurances to discuss substantively, without limitation, with a view to elaborating recommendations, "... not excluding those related to an internationally legally binding instrument".

It also appoints three coordinators—on new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; on a comprehensive program of disarmament; and on transparency in armaments—to seek views of members on the most appropriate way to deal with questions related to those issues. The proposal also sets out or highlights a number of basic principles, including that rotation and equitable geographic representation will apply to the working groups and special coordinators.

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Russia Aims to Supply Planned Fuel Bank in 2010

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Russia yesterday indicated it hopes by the end of this year to supply an initial quantity of low-enriched uranium for a nuclear fuel enrichment center to be overseen by the International Atomic Energy Agency, RIA Novosti reported.

The fuel bank would enable countries to purchase nuclear power plant fuel on an apolitical basis as an alternative to developing fuel production capabilities that could also generate nuclear-weapon material. The UN nuclear watchdog's 35-nation governing board last year backed creation of the facility, which Moscow has proposed to establish at its Angarsk complex in Siberia.

"I believe that the first part of these reserves could be formed by the end of this year," Russian atomic energy chief Sergei Kiriyyenko said during a nuclear power conference in Paris. "We want to initially build LEU reserves that would ensure the operation of at least one 1,000-megawatt reactor."

Moscow has indicated the bank would provide nuclear fuel "to any IAEA member country that honors its nonproliferation commitments".

"If the fuel is of Russian origin, we are ready to propose leasing solutions over the entire lifespan of the nuclear plant," Agence France-Presse quoted Kiriyyenko as saying. "We would take the spent nuclear fuel for treatment. ... I think many countries will propose leasing solutions. It's essential to ensure nonproliferation and safety".

Moscow could sign a comprehensive deal with the UN nuclear watchdog on the planned fuel bank in April or May, according to Kiriyyenko.

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Planning of the fuel bank is in its "final stages," and the sides could soon sign off on the uranium transfer, IAEA Deputy Director General Yury Sokolov said yesterday.

"After the signature, it will take about six months for it to be fully established," Sokolov said. "Russia will deliver the amount of fuel to the port, and at that moment it will become the agency's. The agency will make other arrangements to take this fuel to fuel fabrication (plants)."

Moscow last week indicated it hoped to supply an initial quantity of uranium for the fuel bank by the end of 2010.

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India to Examine its NPT Options Ahead of Nuclear Summit

Indo-Asian News Service, 21 March 2010, <http://www.hindustantimes.com/>

Ahead of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to the United States to attend the Nuclear Security Summit, a two-day conference will start in New Delhi on Monday to debate India's options in view of the growing global pressure to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

The conference, organized by the Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses (IDSA), a leading think tank, is being held ahead of the May review conference of the NPT.

Prominent nuclear experts and diplomats like Shyam Saran, former special envoy on nuclear deal, Lalit Mansingh, former foreign secretary, Anil Kakodkar, former chairman of Atomic Energy Commission, nuclear and strategic expert K. Subrahmanyam and Arundhati Ghose will participate in the conference.

The conference will explore issues and complexities surrounding the 2010 NPT review conference and examine India's policy option vis-a-vis the nonproliferation regime, said a concept note by the IDSA.

Manmohan Singh is among over 40 world leaders invited by U.S. President Barack Obama to attend the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington that will focus on saving the world from the scourge of nuclear terrorism and give a push to efforts towards nuclear disarmament.

In view of the forthcoming NPT review conference and Obama's declared commitment to rid the world of all nuclear weapons, India may have to face U.S. pressure to sign the NPT and the CTBT.

India has made it clear many a time recently that it remains opposed to the NPT and the CTBT in their present form as it regards these as discriminatory regimes that divide the world into the nuclear haves and have-nots.

New Delhi has, however, kept its options open vis-a-vis CTBT, saying if other countries—read the United States, China, and Pakistan—go along, it will re-examine its stance.

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Clinton to Meet with Russian Leaders on Arms Control Talks

New York Times, 17 March 2010, <http://www.nytimes.com/>

With the United States and Russia still haggling over the fine print of a long-delayed arms control pact, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton arrived in Moscow on Thursday to meet Russian leaders as the Obama administration tried to push the negotiations across the finish line.

Mrs. Clinton planned to meet President Dmitri A. Medvedev and the foreign minister, Sergey V. Lavrov, who expressed confidence last week that a deal could be reached by the end of the month.

That would allow President Obama to present the agreement, which would make deep cuts in the nuclear arsenals of both countries, at an international summit meeting on nuclear nonproliferation next month in Washington.

“Certainly this is a moment when we’ve made a lot of progress, and we certainly hope to make more, and the secretary’s involvement is extremely important,” the under secretary of state for political affairs, William J. Burns, told reporters traveling on Mrs. Clinton’s plane. “We want to move ahead to finish the agreement,” he said.

... Although an arms deal could theoretically be announced while Mrs. Clinton is in Moscow, the months of tortuous negotiations have made administration officials extremely leery of predicting the end of a process they had once claimed would be wrapped up by the end of last year.

In recent weeks, Mr. Obama has thrust himself into the negotiations, speaking twice by phone with Mr. Medvedev in the last three weeks. In the first call, Mr. Obama was surprised to hear the Russian president raise several fresh hurdles, including the revised American plan for a missile-defense system, which Mr. Obama believed had been settled by negotiators in Geneva.

“Every time you think you’re done, new issues pop up in Geneva, and what seemed like trivia become major political issues,” said another senior administration official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly.

Now, both sides said the talks were back on track, though administration officials conceded that there were still differences over a handful of issues like transparency and the missile-defense system. Russia reacted badly to an announcement in January that Romania would host part of the system, and reintroduced a demand that the treaty contain language limiting the system.

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Mr. Obama held a second, more upbeat call with Mr. Medvedev last Saturday, and the White House hopes that Mrs. Clinton's meeting with the Russian president at his dacha will build on that momentum. "Otherwise, it does not get done," the official said. "Otherwise, it drags on like the last Start treaty, which I think took nine years."

The agreement, which would replace the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty of 1991, or Start, would be a symbol of the new relationship Mr. Obama is trying to forge with Russia. It would reduce deployed strategic warheads and delivery systems by at least 25 percent. ...

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Nuclear Review Nears Completion

Defense Media Activity, 17 March 2010, <http://www.dma.mil/>

Several conclusions drawn from a nearly complete review of the nation's nuclear posture already have been incorporated into the Defense Department's fiscal 2011 budget request, a senior Pentagon official told Congress yesterday.

The 2010 Nuclear Posture Review will be presented to Congress within a month, James N. Miller, principal deputy undersecretary of defense for policy, told the House Armed Services Committee's subcommittee on strategic forces.

"The Nuclear Posture Review will be a foundational document for this administration," Miller said in a hearing on the status of U.S. strategic forces. It's intended to be a practical work plan for the agenda laid out by President Barack Obama, he added.

The congressionally mandated review establishes U.S. nuclear policy, strategy, capabilities and force posture for the next five to 10 years. It's conducted by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Staff, with representation from the military services and combatant commands. It is written in collaboration with the Energy and State departments and in coordination with the National Security Council.

The process was done concurrently with the Quadrennial Defense Review and the Ballistic Missile Defense Review, both published last month. The Nuclear Posture Review originally was scheduled to be released this month, Miller said, but defense officials concluded that additional time was needed to address the range of issues under consideration in the report.

Obama has sought to minimize the role of nuclear weapons in defense policy, with the ultimate goal of ridding the world of nuclear weapons. The report will provide concrete steps outlining how the United States will carry out this process while still maintaining a secure and effective nuclear arsenal as long as other nuclear states remain, Miller said.

The nuclear review also was valuable for the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty negotiations with Russia, he said, helping to refine several U.S. negotiating positions, particularly on the treaty's limitations of nuclear warheads and delivery vehicles. The talks are ongoing in Switzerland and could prove historic, Miller told the panel.

"U.S. and Russian negotiators are now meeting in Geneva to complete an agreement that will reduce operationally deployed strategic nuclear weapons to their lowest levels in decades," he said in a prepared statement.

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The fiscal 2011 defense budget submission already reflects several conclusions drawn from the review, Miller said. The United States will retain a “nuclear triad” under the new START, composed of land-based missiles, submarine-launched missiles, and bomber aircraft.

Budget submissions for added infrastructure investment, such as in nuclear facilities at Los Alamos National Laboratory in California and Oak Ridge, Tennessee, also were determined based on the review. The Defense Department also requested a 13-percent increase for the National Nuclear Security Administration, in part to support life-extension program research to maintain the usefulness of aging warheads.

Miller said it’s essential that the United States continues to invest in its nuclear arsenal and infrastructure while pursuing a nuclear-free world.

“Guaranteeing the safety, security, and effectiveness of our stockpile, coupled with broader research and development efforts, will allow us to pursue nuclear reductions without compromising our security,” he said.

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Russia, U.S. Close To Signing Arms Treaty—Top Diplomats

RIA Novosti, 19 March 2010, <http://en.rian.ru/>

Russia and the United States are close to signing a new arms reduction treaty, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said on Friday.

After Friday's meeting with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, Clinton said Russian and U.S. negotiators had come to an agreement on all the main issues of the new treaty.

However she did not specify when the deal would be signed.

Russia and the United States have been negotiating a replacement to START 1 since the two countries' presidents met in April last year, but finalizing a document has dragged on, with U.S. plans for missile defense in Europe a particular sticking point.

During their April meeting, Medvedev and U.S. President Barack Obama agreed that the link between offensive and defensive weapons should be taken into account and Lavrov said on Friday that the issue was being discussed.

"During their work in Geneva, our delegations took into account these instructions from the presidents, among other things," Lavrov said.

Russia has repeatedly said that a new nuclear arms cuts deal should be linked to Washington's missile defense plans in Europe.

The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START 1), the backbone of post-Cold War arms control, expired on December 5, 2009.

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NATO Forces Conduct Open Skies Flights at Baltic Fleet

Interfax, 12 March 2010, accessed via Open Source Center

The international military mission called Open Skies is performing flights over the Baltic Fleet facilities in the Kaliningrad region, the Baltic Fleet said in a statement on Friday.

"Military specialists from Germany, Latvia, and the United Kingdom, that participate in the Open Skies international mission, have arrived at the Baltic Fleet on a visit. Here their work is to conduct surveillance flights over military facilities," the press release said.

The flights are conducted in order to control armaments under existing agreements on crisis prevention and regulation.

Observation flights have been conducted in the Kaliningrad region since 2001. Previous missions to the Baltic Fleet included representatives from Poland, the United States, Norway, Sweden, Canada, Lithuania, Italy, and other countries.

During flights organized under the Treaty on Open Skies experts are allowed to observe from the air how current arms control agreements are being implemented. The goal of the Open Skies Treaty is to increase confidence and mutual understanding between the parties that signed the treaty in Helsinki in 1992.

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