



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

U.S. Army Completes Chemical Stockpile Destruction at Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility

U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA), 15 November 2010; www.cma.army.mil

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) announces the disposal of the last mustard agent-filled ton container in the chemical weapons stockpile of the Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas. Disposal was completed safely the evening of Friday, November 12, marking the end of chemical weapons storage at the Arsenal after nearly seven decades. (579 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

Russia to Open Sixth Chemical Agent Disposal Plant

Global Security Newswire, 16 November 2010; www.globalsecuritynewswire.org

Russia's sixth chemical agent destruction plant is to be brought online at the end of the month in the Bryansk region, where the nation's biggest chemical weapons stockpile is housed at Pochep, Interfax reported yesterday. (152 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

Commission Denies Soman Leakage at Chemical Weapons Disposal Plant

ITAR-TASS (Russia), 17 November 2010; www.itar-tass.com

The incident at the Maradykovsky chemical weapons disposal plant in the Kirov region on September 11 did not lead to a soman leakage. Four workers were poisoned not by soman, but by the less harmful reaction masses from its detoxification. (467 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

Clean-Up Begins for Australian Chemical Weapons

BioPrepWatch, 24 November 2010, www.bioprepwatch.com

A \$35 million clean-up is currently underway at a former World War II U.S. military depot in Columboola on the Western Downs in Australia as experts search for dumped chemical weapons, many of which may contain mustard gas. (249 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

Table Top Exercise on Preparedness to Prevent Terrorist Attacks Involving Chemicals Held in Poland

OPCW, 26 November 2010; www.opcw.org

The Table Top Exercise, the first of its kind organized by the OPCW, was held on November 22-23, 2010 in Warsaw with 150 participants, including over 70 international representatives from 27 countries.... (163 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC) (CONT.)

Blue Grass to Receive Containers for Chemical Weapons

Associated Press, 29 November 2010, www.kentucky.com

A chemical weapons destruction program in central Kentucky is set to receive shipments of storage containers used to transport chemical weapons to processing facilities. (244 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

CONVENTION ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS (CCW)

Opening Statement for the United States Delegation at the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)

Remarks by Head of Delegation Melanie Khanna, Legal Adviser, in Geneva, Switzerland

Federal News Service, 25 November 2010, accessed via Lexis Nexis

During the course of this week, we have already had productive discussions on this year's work regarding the Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War and Amended Protocol II on Landmines. This year, we have also engaged in serious negotiations of a Protocol on Cluster Munitions. (701 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

FISSILE MATERIALS

NNSA Secures 775 Nuclear Weapons Worth of Weapons-Grade Nuclear Material from BN-350 Fast Reactor in Kazakhstan

NNSA, 18 November 2010, nnsa.energy.gov

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) joined its international partners in celebrating completion of a large-scale campaign to provide secure long-term storage for more than 10 metric tons of highly enriched uranium and three metric tons of weapons-grade plutonium in Kazakhstan – enough material to make 775 nuclear weapons. (626 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

NEW STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (NEW START)

Gates Says START a Centerpiece of Ties with Russia

Reuters, 21 November 2010, www.reuters.com

Defense Secretary Robert Gates said on Sunday the New START nuclear treaty was a centerpiece of improved U.S. ties with Russia and failure to ratify the accord could pose "real problems for the relationship." (509 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

On Arms Treaty, White House Seeks a Republican's Ear

New York Times, 26 November 2010, global.nytimes.com

The White House might as well install a red-telephone hot line in Senator Jon Kyl's house. President Obama called last week. Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. phoned this week. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates have been on the line. Other officials dispensed with the phone to fly to Arizona to talk in person. (1,135 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

Arms-Control Arguments Heat Up

Wall Street Journal, 29 November 2010, online.wsj.com

White House officials and Senate Republicans are shifting their arms-control arguments from politics to more substantive disagreements over treaty verification and nuclear weapons modernization ahead of what both sides say is a critical week for President Barack Obama's nuclear-arms treaty with Russia. (916 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

Republicans Hint at Hope for Russia Pact

Washington Post, 01 December 2010, www.thewashingtonpost.com

President Obama's hopes of winning Senate approval for a new arms control treaty with Russia by the end of the year were encouraged on Tuesday by two Republican senators, including John McCain. (1,135 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

FULL TEXT OF BI-WEEKLY ARTICLES FOLLOWS:

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

U.S. Army Completes Chemical Stockpile Destruction at Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility

U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA), 15 November 2010; www.cma.army.mil

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) announces the disposal of the last mustard agent-filled ton container in the chemical weapons stockpile of the Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas. Disposal was completed safely the evening of Friday, November 12, marking the end of chemical weapons storage at the Arsenal after nearly seven decades.

Pine Bluff Chemical Activity (PBCA) provided the safe and secure maintenance, storage and transport of approximately 12 percent of the nation's original chemical weapons stockpile, while ensuring maximum protection of the installation and community population and providing treaty compliance. PBCA personnel safely transported the original inventory of chemical weapons in 5,879 Enhanced On-Site Container deliveries from storage to the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF). That inventory included 90,409 M55 GB rockets, 19,608 M55 VX rockets, 9,378 M23 VX landmines and 3,703 mustard ton containers.

The PBCDF provided safe and environmentally compliant chemical agent destruction operations, which began March 28, 2005. Workers destroyed the agent using incineration technology, following recommendations made by the National Research Council.

"For more than 60 years, the Pine Bluff team stored approximately 3,850 tons of the nation's original chemical agent stockpile. Today, the Pine Bluff stockpile has been safely disposed of," said CMA Director Conrad Whyne. "From the very beginning, employees at Pine Bluff and throughout the CMA made safety the cornerstone of our chemical weapons stockpile storage and destruction missions. Today we reap the benefits of their dedication and vigilance."

The PBCA and PBCDF will now begin closure operations, which will continue for approximately two years. Closure operations include official termination of surety status, closeout of treaty requirements, management and disposal of wastes through safe and environmentally acceptable methods, transfer of property, closeout of related permits, records archiving, budget requirements processing, contract closeout and management of human resources. Closure operations will be conducted in accordance with facility and storage area end-states as agreed upon with state regulators.

"The elimination of the chemical weapons stockpile at Pine Bluff Arsenal has truly been a team effort," said Carmen Spencer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for the Elimination of Chemical Weapons. "Thanks to the efforts of CMA and Pine Bluff Arsenal, and the support of the local community and the State of Arkansas, our world is a safer place and our Nation is one

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

step closer to meeting its international commitment to dispose of its chemical weapons stockpile under the Chemical Weapons Convention.”

The United States established the Chemical Demilitarization Program in 1986 to remove the threat posed by continued storage of outdated chemical weapons; meet international treaty requirements; and inspire a worldwide commitment to the elimination of an entire class of weapons of mass destruction. In April 1997 the United States came under the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention, thereby requiring the safe destruction of 100 percent of the nation’s chemical weapons by April 2007. The United States petitioned to have the original deadline extended to April 2012 (an extension allowed by the treaty) and was granted this five-year extension.

CMA has safely completed disposal operations and closed facilities in Edgewood, Md.; Newport, Ind.; and Johnston Atoll, located 800 miles southwest of Hawaii. CMA continues to safely store and destroy chemical weapons stockpiles in Anniston, Ala.; Tooele, Utah; and Umatilla, Ore. CMA also oversees the safe storage of chemical weapons stockpiles in Blue Grass, Ky., and Pueblo, Colorado. The disposal of these munitions falls under the purview of the Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives, a Department of Defense program.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Russia to Open Sixth Chemical Agent Disposal Plant

Global Security Newswire, 16 November 2010; www.globalsecuritynewswire.org

Russia's sixth chemical agent destruction plant is to be brought online at the end of the month in the Bryansk region, where the nation's biggest chemical weapons stockpile is housed at Pochep, Interfax reported yesterday.

"The Pochep facility is meant to play an important role in Russia's completion of the fourth stage of its international obligations under the [Chemical Weapons Convention]," read a statement from the Federal Directorate for Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons.

"The facility construction is a bright example of international cooperation," the statement said. Switzerland and Germany supplied financial aid and technical assistance for the plant's construction.

The Pochep arsenal houses aerial chemical shells and roughly 7,500 metric tons of organophosphates, nearly 20 percent of Russia's total chemical arms stockpile.

The total elimination of the nation's chemical arms is not anticipated until 2015 – three years past the deadline set by the Chemical Weapons Convention (Interfax, November 15).

[back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Commission Denies Soman Leakage at Chemical Weapons Disposal Plant

ITAR-TASS (Russia), 17 November 2010; www.itar-tass.com

The incident at the Maradykovsky chemical weapons disposal plant in the Kirov region on September 11 did not lead to a soman leakage. Four workers were poisoned not by soman, but by the less harmful reaction masses from its detoxification.

The incident was investigated by a special commission. “The commission determined that during the start-up work on the reaction mass burning facility, four Khimmashstart workers were poisoned with substances resulting from the detoxification of viscous soman,” the head of the Federal Department for Safe Storage and Disposal of Chemical Weapons, Valery Kapashin, said on Wednesday, November 17.

“The commission did not detect any soman leakage. It was determined that all works had been performed in strict compliance with the effective technical regulations that require the personnel to wear individual means of protection but not gas masks. In order to avoid such incidents, the facility will be serviced in gas masks,” he said, adding that appropriate amendments had been made to the technical regulations. Khimmashstart personnel resumed work at the facility on October 1.

This past summer, Maradykovsky finished destroying more than 150 tonnes of yperite-lewisite mixtures and started to dispose of aerial bombs with soman, one of the most dangerous nerve agents. Maradykovsky has already destroyed more than 70 percent of chemical weapons stored at its depots since the 1950s, including 232,599 kilograms of sarin and 99.4 percent of V-x gases.

The Maradykovsky chemical weapons disposal plant in the Kirov region is now in Phase Four of the federal chemical disarmament program. By the end of Phase Four, the plant will have disposed of over 6,900 tonnes of toxic agents kept in its arsenals since the middle of the 20th century.

Maradykovsky is the third Russian facility that began full-scale disposal of chemical weapons in September 2006, and the second-largest by the amount of toxic agents stored in it. Over 40,000 aerial bombs and warheads stuffed with mixtures of toxic agents had been stored in its arsenals since 1953.

Maradykovsky became operational on September 8, 2006 and became Russia's third chemical weapons disposal plant. Over 6,900 combat nerve gases – VX, sarin, soman and mixtures of

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

yperite and lewisite – in over 40,000 aerial bombs and warheads had been kept there since 1953. The plant started destroying V-x gases first.

The Maradykovsky chemical weapons disposal plant has no negative impact on the health of the people in the Kirov region where it is located, experts from Moscow and St. Petersburg said.

For a year medics and environmentalists from the Federal Medial and Biological Agency and the St. Petersburg Research Institute of Hygiene, occupational Pathology and Human Ecology monitored the environment and the health of adults and children in two districts of the Kirov region that are within the area covered by the chemical weapons disposal plant's protection measures.

[back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Clean-Up Begins for Australian Chemical Weapons

BioPrepWatch, 24 November 2010, www.bioprepwatch.com

A \$35 million clean-up is currently underway at a former World War II U.S. military depot in Columboola on the Western Downs in Australia as experts search for dumped chemical weapons, many of which may contain mustard gas.

According to Colin Trinder, director of environmental impact management for Australia's Department of Defense, many of the 144 shells that were found at the Columboola site in 2009 were found to be carrying active agent of mustard gas, "Mustard H," *The Chronicle* reports.

"They are all still as dangerous as they ever were and they were designed to kill," Trinder said, according to *The Chronicle*. "We are dealing with a higher level of risk than we had previously been aware of."

While specialist contractors from the Australian Millsearch company continue the task of searching the 160-hectare area with metal detectors, a team of U.S. experts on chemical weapons has been repackaging the shells in steel tubes and sealing them in containers to avoid risk to the people on the site.

"Nobody has touched this stuff since World War II," Trinder said, according to *The Chronicle*. "We have had 4,000 hits on the ground with metal detectors. Most will be scrap metal but some may well be burial pits. It is very likely there are other pits that contain high explosive and chemical rounds."

According to Trinder, records show that there may have been as many as 500,000 chemical rounds stored at the Columboola site at a time during World War II.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Table Top Exercise on Preparedness to Prevent Terrorist Attacks Involving Chemicals Held in Poland

OPCW, 26 November 2010; www.opcw.org

The Table Top Exercise, the first of its kind organized by the OPCW, was held on November 22-23, 2010 in Warsaw with 150 participants, including over 70 international representatives from 27 countries, 16 international and regional organizations, and relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The exercise was designed as a practical response to the growing threat of proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and terrorism. It was developed within the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention as a non-proliferation regime and as an input to support OPCW Member States in meeting the challenge of WMD terrorism.

In his opening statement the OPCW Director-General, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü, stated that the Table Top Exercise is the beginning of a sustained initiative to promote the OPCW as a platform for consultation and cooperation – both bilateral and regional – on ways to prevent terrorists from acquiring and/or using chemical weapons and to promote chemical security. He said the results of the exercise will be reported by the OPCW Technical Secretariat to the Member States, and that a model environment will be developed for planning and implementing activities to prepare for, prevent, and respond to a release of toxic chemicals by a malicious act. He further noted that Member States in different regions have already expressed an interest in organizing similar table top exercises.

Joining the Director-General in opening the exercise were Mr. Jacek Najder, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Wojciech Lubiewa-Wielezyski, President of the Polish Chamber of Chemical Industry; and other senior Polish officials.

During his visit the Director-General met with Mr. Najder and Mr. Lubiewa-Wielezyski; with Mr. Dariusz Bogdan, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Economy; with Mr. Zbigniew Włosowicz, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of National Defense; with Mr. Zdzisław Lachowski, Deputy Head of the National Security Bureau; inter alia. In the meetings he discussed a variety of issues, including the contribution of comprehensive CWC implementation to non-proliferation and global counter-terrorism efforts. He commended Poland for its firm commitment to the Convention and support for the work of the OPCW, and was assured of Poland's continuing collaboration with the Organization.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Blue Grass to Receive Containers for Chemical Weapons

Associated Press, 29 November 2010, www.kentucky.com

A chemical weapons destruction program in central Kentucky is set to receive shipments of storage containers used to transport chemical weapons to processing facilities.

The containers are expected to arrive at the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant in Richmond in December from closing chemical stockpile disposal facilities in Arkansas and Alabama. The pilot program is designed to destroy a 523-ton stockpile of chemical weapons that has been stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot.

Site project manager Jeff Brubaker said the containers are designed to prevent the release of chemical agents if any munitions leak. Brubaker said the containers have previously been used to transport munitions at U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) sites in Tooele, Utah; Umatilla, Ore.; Anniston, Ala.; and Pine Bluff, Ark.

The initial shipment of containers is set to arrive from the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Arkansas, which recently completed its chemical demilitarization mission. The Alabama facility will begin shipping units once it completes its mission in 2011.

Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant is set to take more than 50 containers, which officials say will be emptied and cleaned before shipping to Kentucky. Brubaker said reusing the containers, rather than buying new ones, will save the pilot program more than \$10 million.

The depot in central Kentucky each month makes about 10,000 aluminum fin housing assemblies for 81mm mortars. Since 1941, the depot's primary mission has been to receive, store, issue and maintain conventional ammunition.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Opening Statement for the United States Delegation at the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)

*Remarks by Head of Delegation Melanie Khanna, Legal Adviser, in Geneva, Switzerland
Federal News Service, 25 November 2010, accessed via Lexis Nexis*

Thank you Mr. President. I would like to start by congratulating you on your selection as President of the Meeting of the States Party to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. We are confident that you will lead us to a very conclusion of an important year, and I want to assure you that you have our full support and we are at your disposal.

During the course of this week, we have already had productive discussions on this year's work regarding the Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War and Amended Protocol II on Landmines. This year, we have also engaged in serious negotiations of a Protocol on Cluster Munitions.

The United States remains fully committed to reaching an agreement on a legally binding protocol on Cluster Munitions in the CCW to mitigate the humanitarian impact to civilian populations resulting from their use. We have made important progress during this past year, and are now much closer to reaching a successful outcome to our admittedly difficult negotiations. Under the guidance of the Chairperson of the GGE, Gary Domingo, and the very able Friends of the Chair, we have a draft text before us that balances military utility and humanitarian objectives, and that would - if subscribed to by major users and producers of cluster munitions - immediately upon entry into force prohibit the use and transfer of a very large proportion of the world's cluster munitions - a much larger proportion, in fact, than are currently covered by the Oslo Convention.

We recognize, especially with the Convention on Cluster Munitions' recent entry into force, that some delegations and NGOs may view these negotiations as being unnecessary. We strongly disagree. A CCW Protocol that imposes meaningful requirements on approximately 90% of the world's stockpiles would be an important step forward from a humanitarian standpoint.

The current Chairman's text incorporates an immediate ban on a specific group of cluster munitions, namely those that have been produced before 1980 that do not incorporate any safeguards. This ban would include a large portion of those weapons that have been cited as being the most likely to have unacceptable humanitarian effects. For the United States, accepting a protocol with this provision would require us to permanently set aside from use, and to ultimately destroy, approximately 50 % of our cluster munitions stocks. Other provisions of the Protocol that become effective after optional deferral periods would cover an even higher percentage of the U.S. arsenal.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

I am not suggesting that the current text constitutes our final document. There are still difficult discussions ahead. But we now have a text that genuinely reflects some of the persistent concerns of both sides, and provides an immediate and significant humanitarian impact. The standards incorporated in the current text would be subject to evolution over time by agreement. The current text also includes exemptions deemed critical by various states - some by Oslo states and some by major users and producers.

We have truly reached an important juncture. We have the possibility of agreement within our grasp. Both sides have been presented with a draft which may be difficult for them to accept. For the Oslo States who want to see a complete ban on most types of cluster munitions (namely those defined as cluster munitions in the CCM), this agreement will not fully satisfy. For the major "users and producers," many provisions in the current draft are very far reaching indeed. We must move ahead deliberately, taking into account each other's genuine efforts and concerns.

We are convinced that an agreement is possible in the next year. With continued cooperation and political will, these negotiations can come to a conclusion that will change the reality on the ground in a meaningful way. I urge all states here to support continuation next year of our negotiating mandate, updated to include reference to the Chair's most recent text. Proposals to alter the substance of our mandate are likely to meet with counterproposals and bog us down. I would therefore strongly encourage us all to avoid prolonged debate about changing the substance of our mandate in favor of an approach that will carry us forward efficiently and cooperatively.

Thank you, Mr. President.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

NNSA Secures 775 Nuclear Weapons Worth of Weapons-Grade Nuclear Material from BN-350 Fast Reactor in Kazakhstan

NNSA, 18 November 2010, nnsa.energy.gov

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) joined its international partners in celebrating completion of a large-scale campaign to provide secure long-term storage for more than 10 metric tons of highly enriched uranium and three metric tons of weapons-grade plutonium in Kazakhstan – enough material to make 775 nuclear weapons.

NNSA Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation Anne Harrington joined Kazakhstan's Deputy Foreign Minister Kairat Umarov, the United Kingdom's Ambassador David Moran and U.S. Ambassador Richard Hoagland in announcing the accomplishment at a secure storage facility in Eastern Kazakhstan. The ceremony also featured senior-level officials from the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Kingdom, both of which played important roles in the successful completion of the shipments.

Over the course of 12 shipments during the last year, the nuclear material was transported from the BN-350 reactor in Aktau to a new secure storage facility in Eastern Kazakhstan. The material was packaged into 60 specially-designed casks – each weighing 100 metric tons – which were transported by train and road over 3,000 kilometers (more than 1,800 miles).

“Moving the BN-350 fuel to a new facility for secure long-term storage is a critical nuclear nonproliferation milestone and an important contribution to global security,” said NNSA Administrator Thomas D’Agostino. “Through our close partnership with Kazakhstan, we were able to finish the challenging series of shipments ahead of schedule. Our partners in Kazakhstan once again demonstrated their commitment to international nonproliferation efforts, and together we have taken a major step forward in meeting President Obama’s goal of securing all nuclear material within four years.”

The shipments were conducted by NNSA’s Global Threat Reduction Initiative in close cooperation with Kazakhstan’s Ministry of Industry and New Technology and other government agencies.

Located on the eastern shore of the Caspian Sea, the BN-350 fast reactor was designed to both generate electric power and to breed plutonium for the former Soviet Union’s nuclear weapons program. In 1997, the United States and Kazakhstan signed an agreement that established a joint program for the long-term, secure storage of the fuel from the BN-350 reactor, which stopped weapons material production in the 1980s, and was completely shut down in 1999.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

The United States and Kazakhstan share a long history of cooperation on nuclear nonproliferation issues. This cooperation has included the return of Russian-origin highly-enriched uranium (HEU) from the Institute of Nuclear Physics and technical cooperation to convert the research reactor there, improvement of security for nuclear and radiological materials, development of a workshop to share ideas and tools for improving the nuclear security culture, equipping Kazakhstan ports of entry with radiation detection equipment, bilateral cooperation on safeguards implementation, training for Kazakhstani officials on export controls, and working to apply the expertise of former nuclear weapons scientists to civil pursuits that advance global nonproliferation and security efforts.

In his Prague speech in April 2009, President Obama said the danger of a terrorist acquiring nuclear weapons "the most immediate and extreme threat to global security" and called for an international effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear material around the world within four years. The transfer of BN-350 fuel to the secure long-term storage facility is an important component of this effort and demonstrates the strong partnership of the United States and Kazakhstan on this issue.

To complete the shipments, NNSA worked with its counterparts in Kazakhstan, the IAEA, Russia, and other international partners to design and fabricate 61 "dual-use" casks that could be used to transport and store the fuel in a safe and secure manner. To transport the casks, NNSA helped design special rail cars and construct additional rail lines.

The project also involved the construction of three separate facilities – the Aktau Temporary Cask Storage Site, the Kurchatov Rail Transfer Site, and the long term Cask Storage Facility in Eastern Kazakhstan.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Gates Says START a Centerpiece of Ties with Russia

Reuters, 21 November 2010, www.reuters.com

Defense Secretary Robert Gates said on Sunday the New START nuclear treaty was a centerpiece of improved U.S. ties with Russia and failure to ratify the accord could pose "real problems for the relationship."

"I think that there are potentially serious consequences for failure to ratify the New START agreement," Gates told reporters in Bolivia, where he was attending the Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas.

On the key sticking point of spending to modernize U.S. nuclear forces, Gates said he did not know what more the Republicans wanted because the Obama administration had agreed to the additions they had requested.

"I don't know what they're looking for frankly because we have essentially, in terms of the adds that they thought were needed, we have made those adds," he said.

President Barack Obama is headed toward a showdown with Senate Republicans over the START treaty and has made it one of his key legislative objectives for the final weeks of the current Congress, whose term expires in early January.

Democrats fear the treaty may face even greater hurdles when the new Congress takes office because their Senate majority will be considerably smaller after the losses they suffered in the November elections.

Treaties require approval by two-thirds of the 100-member Senate. Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev signed the new treaty in April, committing the two former Cold War foes to reducing deployed nuclear warheads by about 30 percent, to no more than 1,550, within seven years.

Gates said Senate failure to ratify the agreement could have political consequences for the bilateral relationship, which has improved since Obama began trying to "reset" ties with Moscow after they soured during the administration of President

George W. Bush. Gates, a Republican who was Bush's defense secretary and was asked to stay on by Obama, noted the Russians had cooperated with the United States on developing the northern supply route for Afghanistan and the U.N. Security Council resolution imposing sanctions on Iran.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Over the weekend, Moscow agreed to begin working with NATO on missile defenses. "So some positive things have been happening in this relationship. If the START treaty isn't ratified, I think all of that is potentially at risk," Gates said.

"I'm not trying to scaremonger. I just think you have to be realistic that the New START treaty is a centerpiece of the relationship and for that not to be ratified, I think, poses real potential problems for the relationship."

One of the main Republican demands for supporting the treaty is ensuring funds are available to modernize U.S. nuclear weapons systems to make sure they work effectively.

The Obama administration has agreed to commit \$80 billion over the next decade to upgrade U.S. nuclear weapons. In negotiations with Republicans, the administration pledged to spend an additional \$4.1 billion over five years.

Gates said failure to ratify START would jeopardize those funds. "If there is no New START agreement, I think the additional funds that the administration has asked for modernizing our nuclear enterprise are very much at risk," he said.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

On Arms Treaty, White House Seeks a Republican's Ear

New York Times, 26 November 2010, global.nytimes.com

The White House might as well install a red-telephone hot line in Senator Jon Kyl's house. President Obama called last week. Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. phoned this week. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates have been on the line. Other officials dispensed with the phone to fly to Arizona to talk in person.

Suffice it to say, Mr. Kyl has the attention of the Oval Office these days. More than any other Republican in Congress, Mr. Kyl has become the target of administration energy as it seeks to persuade him to support a new arms control treaty with Russia – or figure out how to circumvent him if he does not. “They are much more focused now,” Mr. Kyl said in an interview.

Rarely has a single member of the minority party become so crucial to a president's top foreign policy priority. By most accounts, Mr. Kyl, a burly, sober-minded lawyer and frustrated would-be scientist who has made himself into a nuclear expert, holds the key to whether the so-called New START treaty will be approved this year as the president has demanded.

Mr. Kyl has played close to the vest since a statement last week declaring there was not enough time to consider the treaty in the lame-duck session of Congress. In his first interview since then, Mr. Kyl credited the administration with meeting many of his concerns, but said he was still not sure he could trust it to follow through.

He did not rule out a vote this year, but set conditions that might be hard for the administration to meet, including a long floor debate. “If they try to jam us, if they try to bring this up the week before Christmas, it'll be defeated,” he said. “If they allow plenty of time for it, and I think it will take two weeks, then it's a different matter.” The attention represents a turnabout of sorts for Mr. Kyl, who has been overshadowed for years by his Arizona colleague, John McCain. A Nebraska native who moved to Arizona for college and law school, Mr. Kyl first won a House seat in 1986 and was elected to the Senate in 1994.

He has been a Senate workhorse and earned his way up to Republican whip, while compiling a more conservative voting record than all but four other senators, according to the American Conservative Union. By dint of his interest in nuclear issues, his caucus has deferred to his judgment on the New START treaty and the nuclear modernization program he wants as a trade-off.

“He's made it a passion of his, so when he talks, we listen,” said Senator Lamar Alexander, Republican of Tennessee. “That doesn't mean he persuades everybody. But he certainly has

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

the attention of his Republican colleagues.” The White House has been careful to treat him with respect. When some treaty advocates at a Nixon Center forum accused Mr. Kyl of playing politics, Gary Samore, the top White House arms control official, defended him, saying the senator was a “great American” who genuinely cared about the issue. At a news conference where he warned against partisanship, Mr. Obama exempted Mr. Kyl. “I believe that Senator Kyl wants a safe and secure America, just like I do, and is well motivated,” Mr. Obama said.

Privately, administration officials expressed anger and bewilderment at Mr. Kyl, contending that they had given him virtually everything he had sought. Arms control advocates have been more vocal. “My conclusion is he’s acting in bad faith,” said Daryl G. Kimball, executive director of the Arms Control Association. “He asked for more earlier in the fall and they have delivered.” Mr. Kyl became interested in nuclear issues decades ago when one of his best college friends became a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. “It was always just fascinating to me,” Mr. Kyl said. “I’m an amateur scientist – I’m no good at it, but I’ve always been very interested.”

In Congress, he delved into arms control and made himself a resource for fellow Republicans. In 1997, he voted against the Chemical Weapons Convention. Two years later, President Bill Clinton wanted the Senate to approve the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Senator Byron L. Dorgan, a North Dakota Democrat, vowed to “plant myself on the floor like a potted plant” until the Republican majority allowed a vote.

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Dorgan underestimated Mr. Kyl, who had quietly rounded up votes against the treaty.

Republicans called Mr. Dorgan’s bluff, brought the treaty to a vote and defeated it decisively, with just 48 senators supporting it, far from the 67 required. It was the first time since the Treaty of Versailles in 1920 that the Senate had formally rejected a major international security treaty.

“They played on people’s insecurities and they were able to get a pretty big vote,” Mr. Dorgan said in an interview. Mr. Dorgan said that he liked Mr. Kyl personally and that he must be taken seriously. “He’s very smart and very relentless and determined,” Mr. Dorgan said.

Underlying Mr. Kyl’s views is a deep skepticism of Mr. Obama’s goal of eventually ridding the world of nuclear weapons, which he termed “not realistic, not achievable and not wise.” He expressed concern that the New START treaty would constrain missile defense and long-range conventional missiles, concerns the White House and Pentagon call unfounded.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Mr. Kyl finds unpersuasive Mr. Obama's warnings that defeating the treaty would undercut the warming relationship with Russia while preventing nuclear inspections, calling it a conflicting argument since it presumes Russia is a partner and untrustworthy at the same time. Passing a nuclear treaty to secure cooperation on other issues is "wrongheaded and foolish," he said.

His priority, though, has been modernizing nuclear facilities at Los Alamos and elsewhere. The administration committed \$80 billion over 10 years, but Mr. Kyl said most was not new money. After feeling "essentially stonewalled" for months, the senator said the administration became more serious after Labor Day. This month, it increased the plan to at least \$85 billion.

Mr. Kyl expressed satisfaction. "We've probably got all we're going to get out of them in terms of dollar commitments," he said. But he listed other concerns, including timing of construction and the composition of forces. "I've come to the conclusion that the administration is intellectually committed to modernization now. No sane person could not reach that conclusion," he said.

"Whether they're committed in the heart is another matter. Suppose START is ratified, and they no longer have to worry about that? Will they continue to press for the money?" The White House says yes, and will keep calling in hopes of convincing him.

[back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Arms-Control Arguments Heat Up

Wall Street Journal, 29 November 2010, online.wsj.com

White House officials and Senate Republicans are shifting their arms-control arguments from politics to more substantive disagreements over treaty verification and nuclear weapons modernization ahead of what both sides say is a critical week for President Barack Obama's nuclear-arms treaty with Russia.

The new focus is on whether the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty contains robust enough verification measures to catch potential Russian cheating and whether the remaining nuclear arsenal can be modernized and maintained. Two key Republicans, Sens. Jon Kyl of Arizona and Bob Corker of Tennessee, circulated a seven-page memo to senators last week questioning the White House's commitment to modernizing the arsenal and the nuclear-weapons plants and laboratories needed to maintain them.

White House officials had committed \$80 billion over a decade to modernize the remaining arsenal and nuclear weapons complex, then added a further \$4 billion to address Mr. Kyl's concerns.

This week, Mr. Obama and Vice President Joseph Biden plan a robust, public push for a vote on the treaty before the end of the year. The vice president spoke last Monday with Mr. Kyl, who is leading efforts to delay treaty consideration, and spoke on Nov. 19 with Sen. Lindsey Graham (R., S.C.), a potential ally.

Russian officials support the treaty and have said they would abide by it.

Some Republicans, who had been calling for a delay in the treaty's consideration, have become more aggressive. "I think the treaty just needs to be scrapped," Sen. Christopher Bond (R., Mo.), the vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, said in an interview.

The New START accord, which would cap the Russian and U.S. deployed strategic arsenals at 1,550 apiece, would also resume on-site inspections of U.S. and Russian nuclear weapons facilities that were suspended a year ago, when the original START expired. But Mr. Bond said the new treaty's verification measures are inadequate to catch Russian cheating, which he said has been prevalent under all previous arms control accords, binding and nonbinding.

Under the original START, completed in 1991, each side had the right to conduct 28 inspections a year of opposing nuclear facilities.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Under the new accord, 18 inspections a year are allowed, a reduction Russia sought. Mr. Bond said Russia could secretly build up its moth-balled arsenal of warheads, then "break out" of the treaty in a rush of deployments on missiles armed for treaty purposes with just one nuclear warhead, but capable of carrying several.

Moscow could pursue this strategy to overwhelm missile defense systems being installed in Eastern Europe, he said.

The White House pushed back on the Bond argument.

Under the new verification rules, the 18 annual inspections can be longer and more thorough, administration officials said. The original START was negotiated to cover 70 nuclear facilities in Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus. All but Russia has since been "denuclearized," and Russia is down to 35 facilities, the officials said.

"We've learned a tremendous amount through 15 years of inspections under START," one official said.

"We know which facilities were closed down or consolidated. We know they're not hiding anything." The new treaty's delivery-system limits are based on the number of deployed missiles, not the capacity of those missiles, but administration officials say that works to the U.S.'s advantage, allowing two more nuclear submarines to stay in the fleet and maintaining U.S. technological superiority.

"We were surprised they didn't complain about our capability more strongly," a treaty negotiator said. "They tried, but we pushed back." The officials also argued that Mr. Bond's "break-out" scenario would happen only if U.S.-Russian relations deteriorated sharply, a shift more likely to happen if Senate Republicans block START ratification and freeze U.S.-Russian cooperation on issues from Iran to more complicated arms-control negotiations.

For the White House, Republican arguments over nuclear modernization may be more difficult to counter because it isn't clear how the administration can satisfy its critics, who appear to be angling for a resumption of nuclear-weapons development and testing.

In their memo, Sens. Kyl and Corker likened the U.S.'s current nuclear weapons complex to a mechanic in a leaky, decrepit garage with outdated tools, tasked with maintaining a fleet of racing Ferraris without being allowed to take them out of the garage and see if they run.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

"This is the state of our nuclear deterrent today, except, we're dealing not with cars, but with the most sophisticated and dangerous weapons ever devised by man," the senators wrote.

The U.S. has abided by the still-unratified nuclear test ban treaty since 1992, and the Obama administration has stopped development of a new "replacement warhead" that the nuclear weapons laboratories had planned to update the arsenal.

Mr. Kyl, appearing on NBC's "Meet the Press" Sunday, said he saw no chance of treaty ratification this year.

"It's more a view of reality rather than policy," he said. "If the leader of the Senate, Senator [Harry] Reid, were to allow a couple of weeks for full debate and amendment of the resolution of ratification, then theoretically there would be time. He's made it clear he has a different agenda in mind."

Richard Durbin of Illinois, the second-ranking Senate Democrat, said there was time, if Republicans stopped filibustering every measure that reaches the Senate floor.

"Senator Kyl has raised legitimate issues," he said. The Senate "can ... debate them and vote on them in a responsible way before we break for Christmas. To do otherwise is really to create a dangerous.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Republicans Hint at Hope for Russia Pact

Washington Post, 01 December 2010 www.thewashingtonpost.com

President Obama's hopes of winning Senate approval for a new arms control treaty with Russia by the end of the year were encouraged on Tuesday by two Republican senators, including John McCain.

Mr. McCain, one of his party's leading voices on national security, said he thought that Republican concerns over missile defense and nuclear modernization could be resolved in time to vote on the so-called New START treaty during the lame-duck session of Congress this month, as Mr. Obama has sought.

President Dmitri A. Medvedev of Russia warned Tuesday that a failure by Russia and the West to reach agreement on missile defense cooperation could provoke a new arms race. In the absence of such cooperation, Mr. Medvedev said, Russia would be prepared to deploy "new means of attack."

Missile defense has been among Republicans' concerns with the treaty, which Mr. Obama has called his top foreign policy priority for the Congressional session. Mr. McCain and others have expressed concern that the treaty would limit deployment of a missile shield in Europe, although the pact would not directly restrict any current plans. During a NATO summit meeting in Lisbon this month, Mr. Obama invited Mr. Medvedev to explore participating in the missile defense system.

The treaty has also been stalled by Senator Jon Kyl, Mr. McCain's colleague from Arizona and the lead Republican negotiator, who has sought assurances that the Obama administration is sufficiently committed to modernizing the nation's aging nuclear complex even as it reduces the arsenal. Mr. McCain's comments on Tuesday seemed to signal that a deal should be made in the coming weeks.

"I believe that we could move forward with the START treaty and satisfy Senator Kyl's concerns and mine about missile defense and others, and I hope that we can do that," Mr. McCain said on "Good Morning America" on ABC. Asked if he meant this year, he added: "I would hope so. But Senator Kyl's concerns are very legitimate, and I think that attempts are being made to address them." Another Senate Republican, George V. Voinovich of Ohio, also indicated for the first time that he might vote for the treaty.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Mr. Voinovich told The Wall Street Journal that his concerns about Russia's dominance of its neighbors were assuaged by statements of support for the treaty by Eastern European leaders at the NATO summit meeting.

"There seems to be a lot of coming together there and a lot more comfort among our friends and allies in Europe," Mr. Voinovich said. "I think I'd be supportive." Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts, the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, also suggested that the treaty's chances were improving. "I believe personally that we can do it," he said on Tuesday at a forum sponsored by Foreign Policy magazine. "I think we will get it done, providing a few small pieces come together in the next few days."

Mr. Obama brought up the treaty on Tuesday during a White House meeting with Congressional leaders, pressing them to vote this month to strengthen the relationship with Russia. "It's absolutely essential to our national security," the president said.

"We need to get it done." Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader, did not rule out a vote on the treaty, but said it could be called only after the parties agreed on tax cuts and a temporary spending measure.

To have enough time for the treaty, he said, Democratic priorities for the lame-duck session would have to be tabled, like legislation on immigration and gays in the military.

Further complicating the debate over the arms control treaty was a report in The Wall Street Journal about Russia's having moved short-range tactical nuclear warheads to sites near NATO allies last spring in response to the deployment of American and NATO missile defense installations close to its territory. The moves had been reported before, but the new attention could embolden critics of the treaty. Mr. Kyl's office sent a copy of the article to reporters on Tuesday, and Mr. McCain cited it in his television interview.

"I'm a little disturbed at the news this morning that tactical nuclear weapons have been moved closer to Europe by the Russians," Mr. McCain said. "That is not directly related to the START treaty, but certainly is an indication of the need to have verification."

Two years ago, Mr. Medvedev warned the United States against plans for a missile defense system in Eastern Europe, threatening to place short-range Iskander missiles in the Kaliningrad region, which is sandwiched between Poland and Lithuania, both NATO members.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



16 November– 29 November 2010

DTRA

Responding to the article in The Journal, Nikolai Makarov, chief of the Russian military's general staff, said Moscow had not moved missiles into Kaliningrad, but he left it unclear whether they had been moved to other border regions.

The New START treaty covers long-range strategic nuclear weapons, not shorter-range tactical nuclear weapons. American and Russian officials have long planned to talk about limits on tactical weapons in a treaty that would follow the New START pact.

Tommy Vietor, a White House spokesman, said the report in The Journal showed that the United States needed the treaty ratified "precisely because we want to begin negotiating to reduce tactical nuclear weapons." He added, "The Russians have refused to engage in a negotiation over these tactical nuclear weapons until we have a ratified, legally binding treaty that limits strategic nuclear weapons." Mr. Medvedev made his remarks on a potential new arms race during his annual state of the nation address.

"The following alternatives await us in the next 10 years," he said at the Kremlin. "Either we reach an agreement on missile defense and create a joint mechanism for cooperation, or, if we do not succeed in entering into a constructive understanding, there will begin a new arms race."

The remarks were applauded by the audience, which included Prime Minister Vladimir V. Putin, Russia's paramount leader. At the Lisbon meeting, Mr. Medvedev had accepted NATO's invitation to consider participating in a European missile defense system, but it was unclear what role Russia might play. His remarks, delivered in the clipped, aggressive style typically favored by the more hawkish Mr. Putin, appeared to signal that Russia's participation was not unconditional.

[back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.