

Nuclear arms control – problems and prospects

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**Ministry for Foreign
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Comments are given in a personal capacity and may not reflect official views

”I state clearly, and with conviction ...”

President Barack Obama, Prague, April 5, 2009

- America's commitment to seek the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons.
- This goal will not be reached quickly, perhaps not in my lifetime.



Concrete steps toward a world without nuclear weapons

- Reduced role of nuclear weapons in US national security strategy
- Negotiate a new strategic arms reduction treaty in 2009
- Aggressively pursue U.S. ratification of the CTBT
- Seek new treaty on fissile material cut-off (FMCT)



Reduced role of nuclear weapons in US national security strategy

New doctrine:

”The sole purpose of U.S. nuclear weapons will be to prevent the use of nuclear weapons by others”.

Ivo Daalder and Jan Lodal, *The Logic of Zero - Toward a World Without Nuclear Weapons*, (Foreign Affairs, Nov/Dec 2008)

Implications for operational planning:

- Forget about nuclear warfighting!
- Manuals and operational directives have to be rewritten, emphasis on reactive actions, not offensive pre-emptive actions



Further US goals

- Seeks dramatic comprehensive nuclear reductions:
” deployed or non-deployed, strategic or non-strategic”
(Hillary Clinton, Answer to US Congress, February 12, 2009)
- Interim goal 1000 warheads? (The Times, 4 February 2009)
- A global INF Treaty

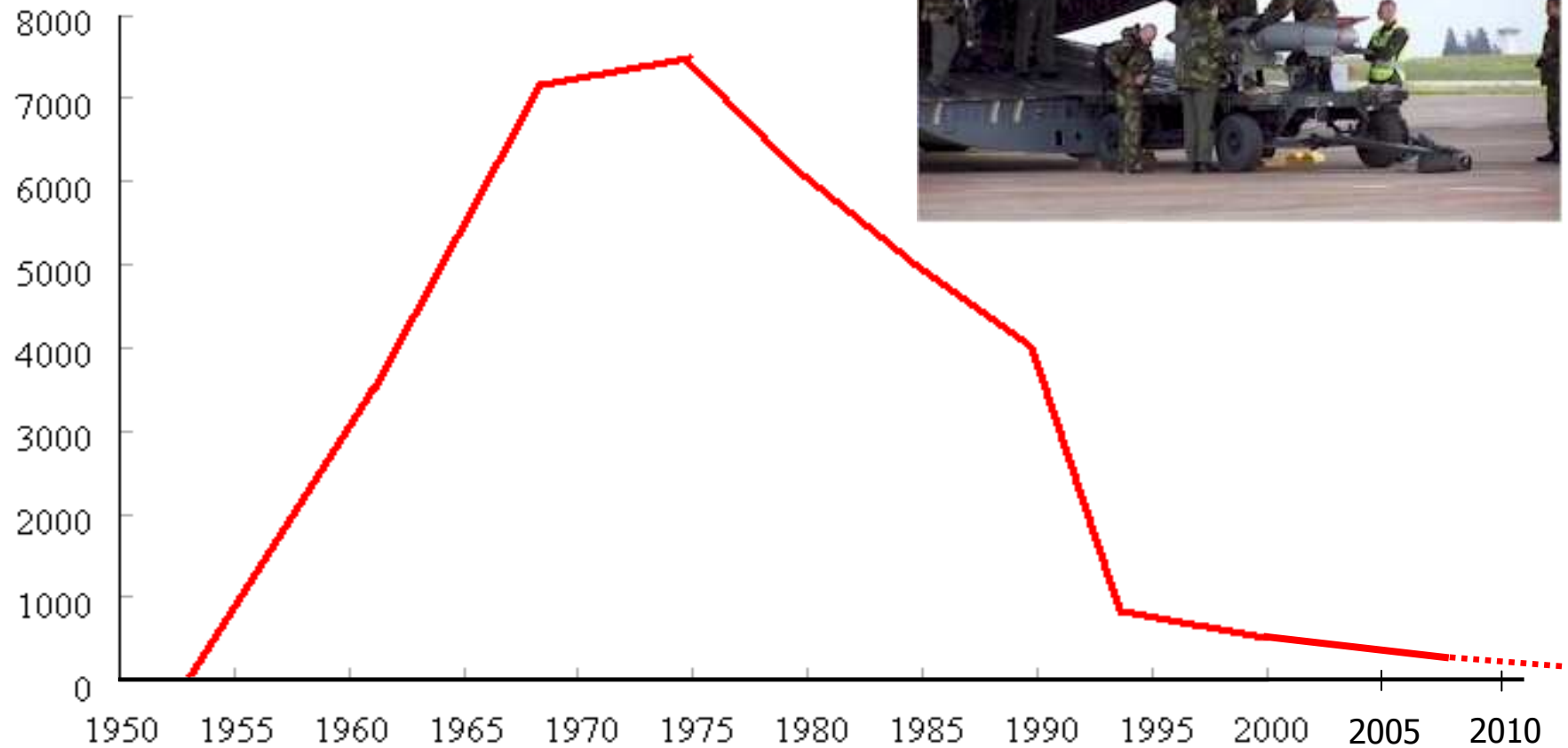


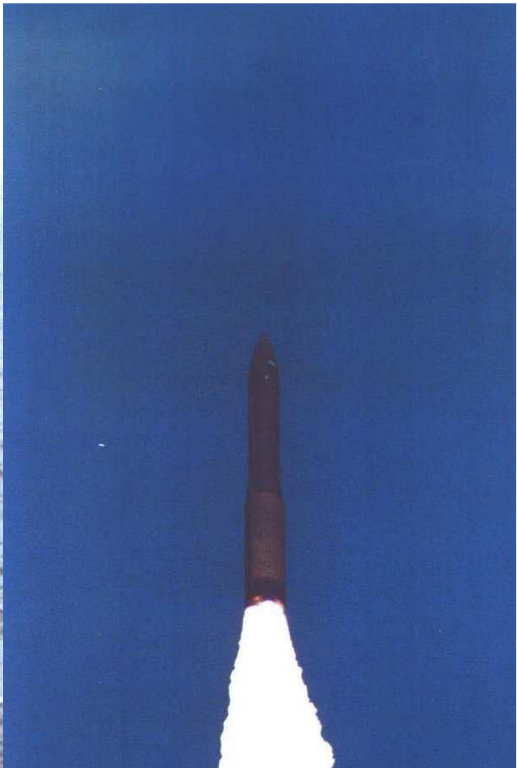
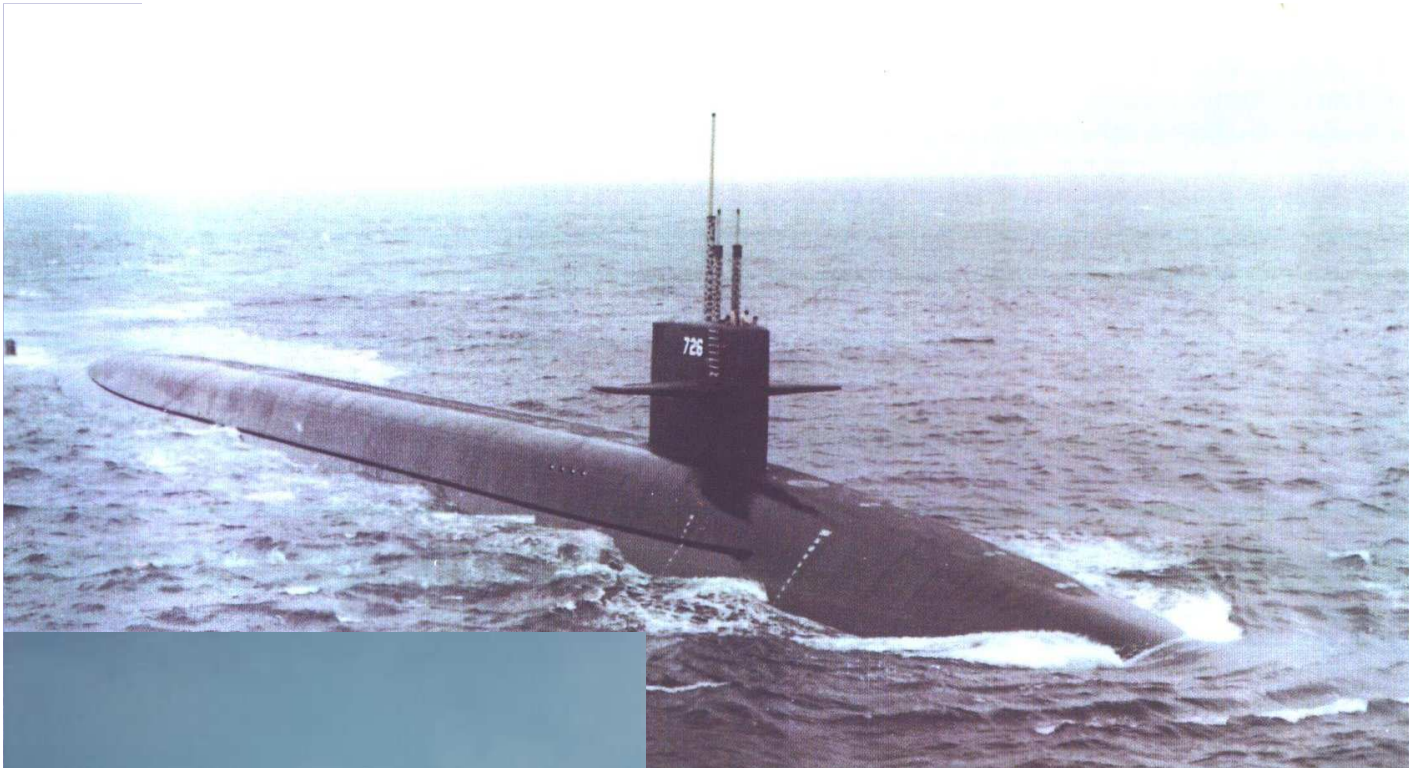


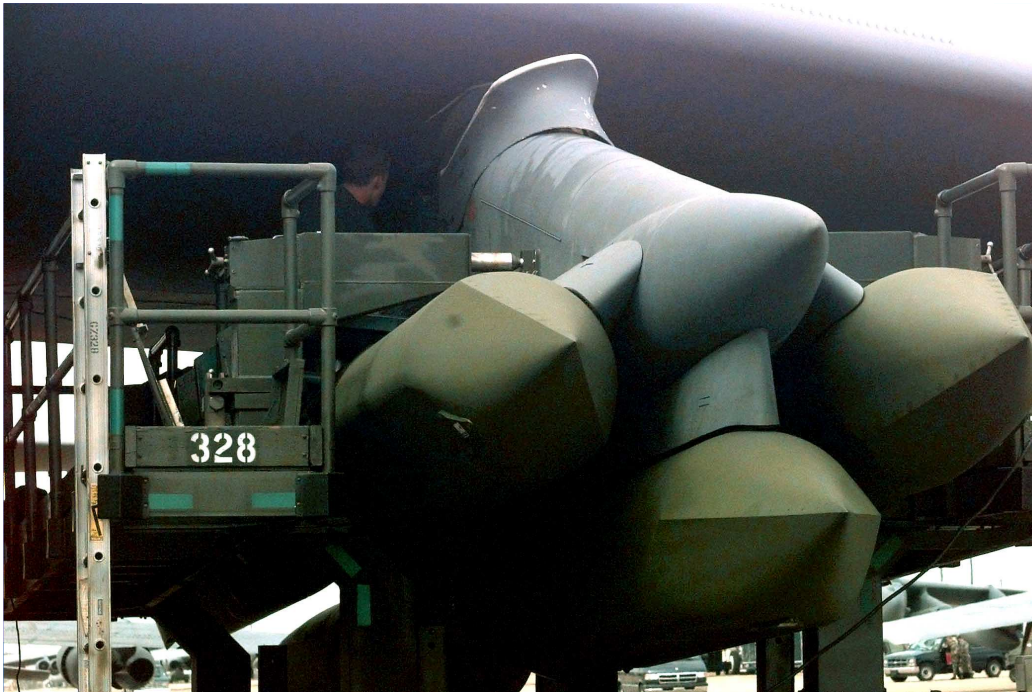
On 18 December 2007 President Bush "approved a significant reduction in the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, that took effect at the end of 2007." The decision came 5 years early. The Moscow Treaty (SORT) limits were achieved almost four years early, at the end of his term as President.



TNW in European NATO Countries







The modern AGM-129 Advanced Cruise Missile has been taken out of service.

Russia's positions on nuclear reductions

President Dmitri Medvedev, Helsinki, April 20, 2009

- Commitment to START follow-on treaty
- Limits on both launchers and warheads
- No recoverable ("uploading") capabilities
- No strategic conventional weapons
- Prevent militarization of outer space
- Missile defense concerns



Open questions:

- Validity of INF Treaty
- position on non-strategic nuclear weapons





The SS-18 heavy ICBM (10 warheads, 500 or 800 kT) is the most powerful strategic missile ever built. It will remain in service until 2019. Work on a successor is going on.

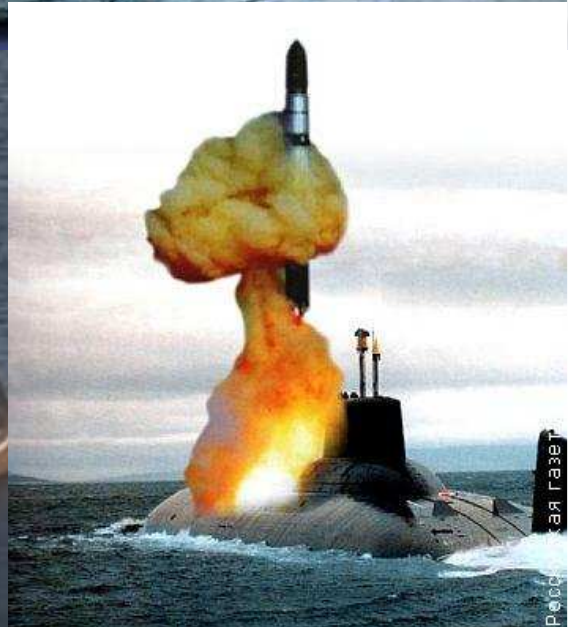


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Road-mobile Topol-M ICBM (SS-27, single 500 kT warhead);
Mirved version, the RS-24, will be deployed around 2010.



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Delfin class (Delta IV) boats K-18 *Karelia* and K-51 *Verkhoturie* in Gadzhiyevo. Testing of the new Bulava missile (below right) has so far given mixed results.



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President Putin took part in an exercise in August 2005 when a Tu-160 strategic bomber launched a long range conventional cruise missile (RKV-500 aka AS-15).



A Tu-95 MS strategic bomber carrying 12 prototypes of the new long-range Kh-101/-102 conventional or nuclear cruise missile. The range of Kh-101 is sufficient to target all of Europe from Russian territory.





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The new tactical missile Iskander (SS-26), an improvement of the Oka (SS-23), is being introduced in the Artillery and Missile Forces of the Russian army. It may carry tactical nuclear warheads.



Iskander-K launcher for R-500 cruise missiles



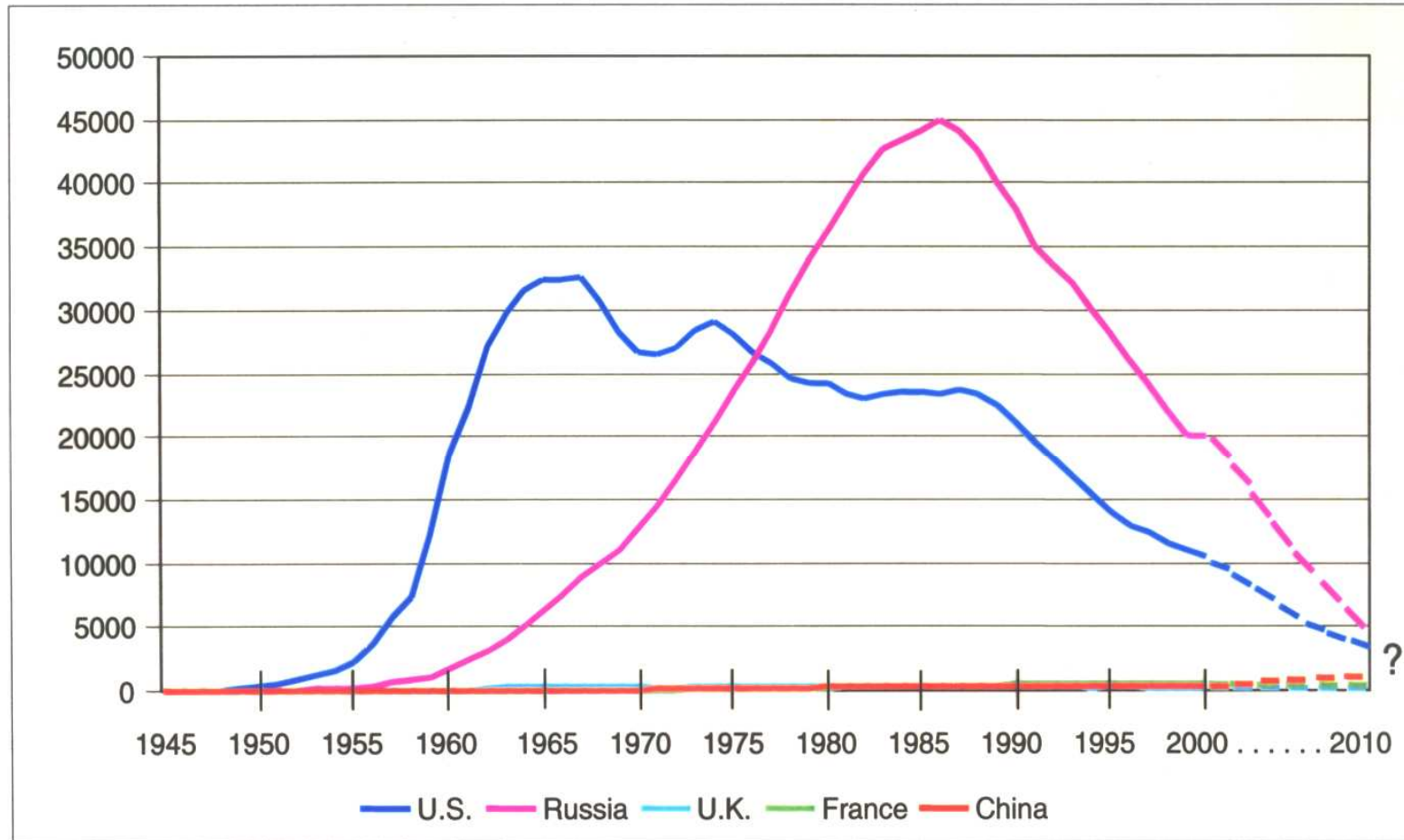
Nuclear prospects

- New momentum in the arms control process has been injected, although significant unilateral reductions have taken place during recent years
- The role of nuclear weapons in US strategy continues to diminish
- Russia will maintain a robust nuclear deterrent against conventional and nuclear threats
- Russia's vast arsenal of non-strategic (aka tactical) nuclear weapons is a problem for US friends and allies
- Other nuclear weapons states/powers are likely to adjust their own postures according to results gained by the big two
- A world free of nuclear weapons is not likely any time soon, but general nuclear war is increasingly unlikely



Global Nuclear Stockpiles, 1945 - 2000

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Source: NRDC Nuclear Notebook, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, March/April 2001