

# FISSILE MATERIAL STOCKPILE DECLARATIONS AND COOPERATIVE NUCLEAR ARCHAEOLOGY

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United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research  
Palais des Nations, Geneva, June 1, 2016

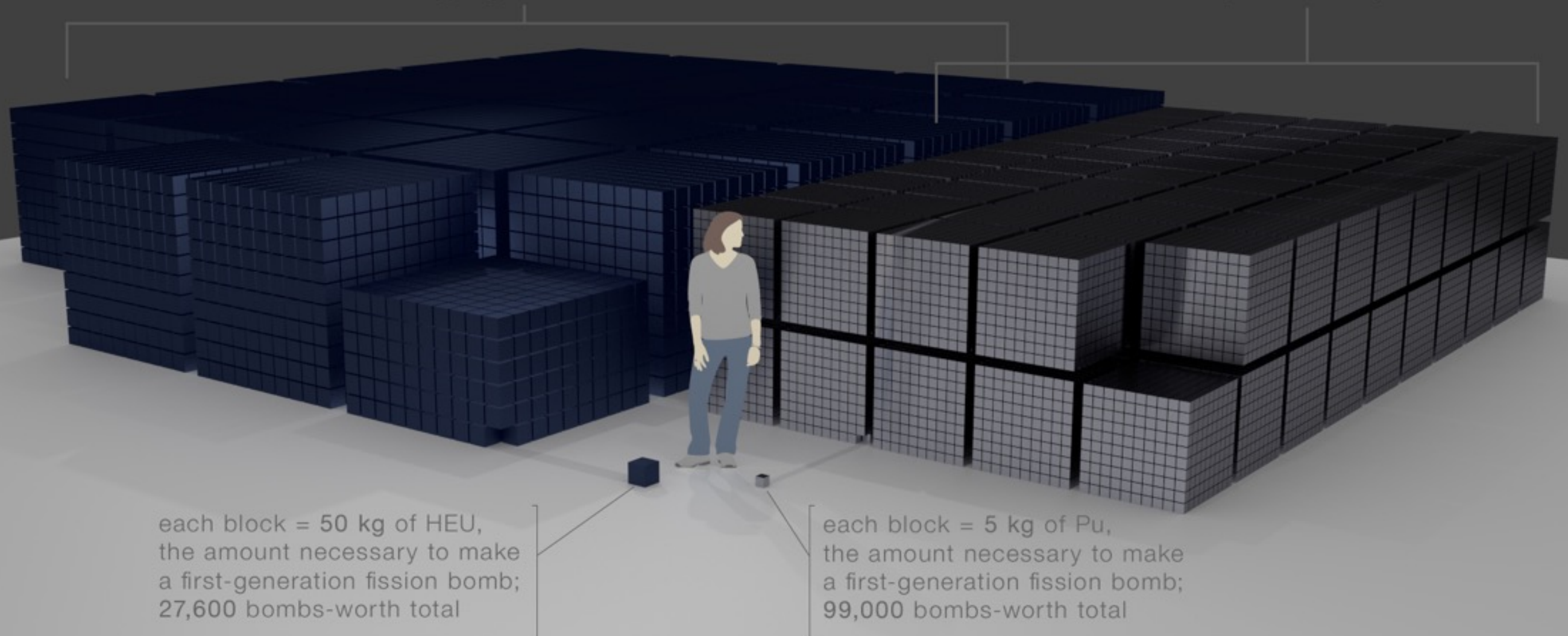
# World Stockpiles of Fissile Materials

~~1380~~ 1370

tons of highly-enriched uranium

~~505~~ 505

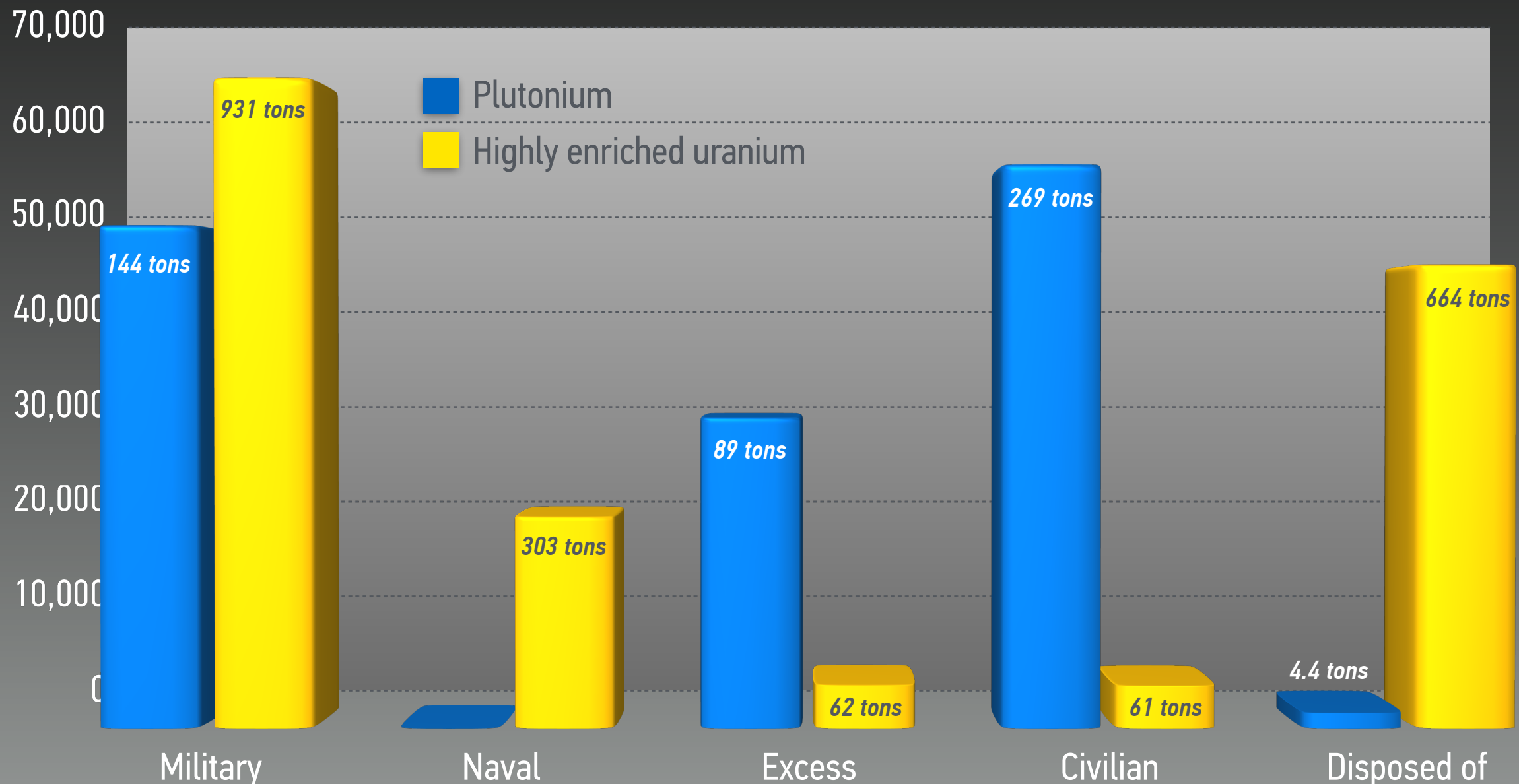
tons of separated plutonium



# FISSILE MATERIALS BY CATEGORY

## GLOBAL STOCKPILE OF PLUTONIUM AND HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM, 2015

Weapon equivalents

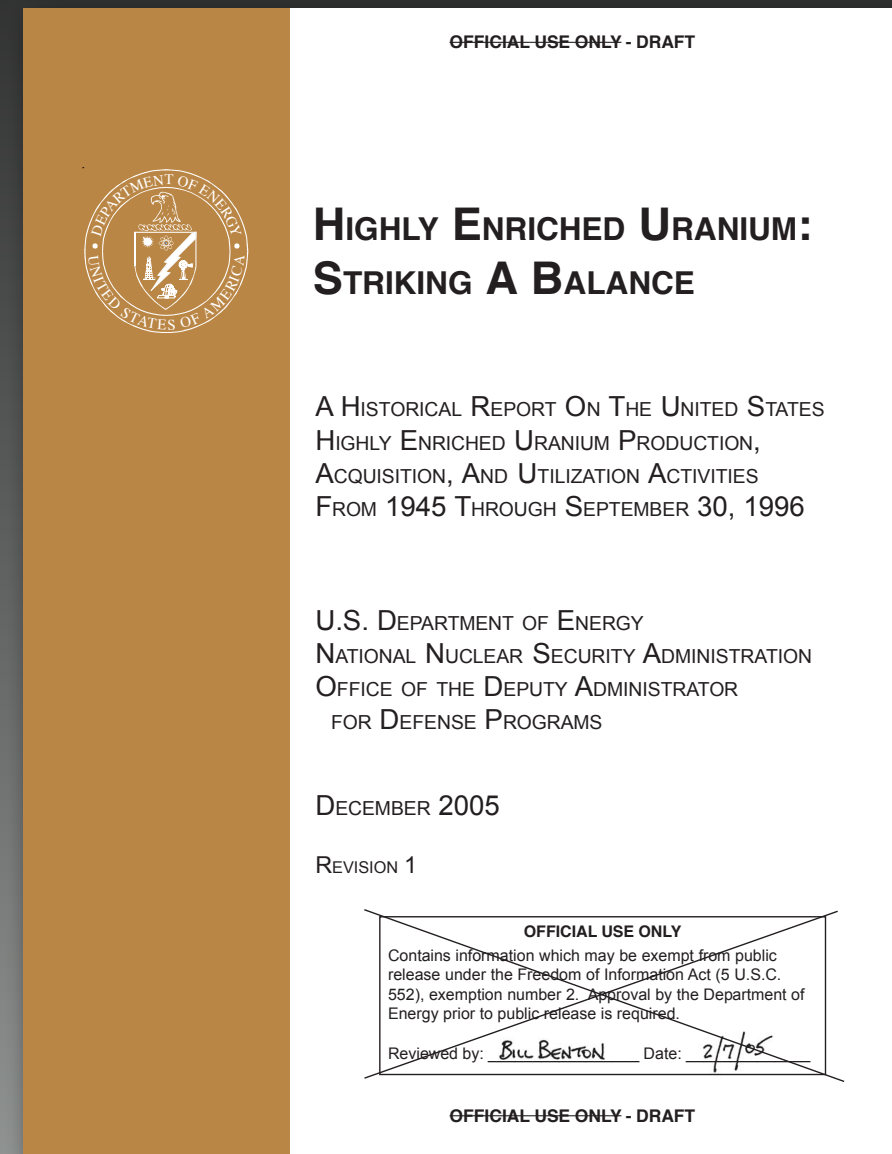
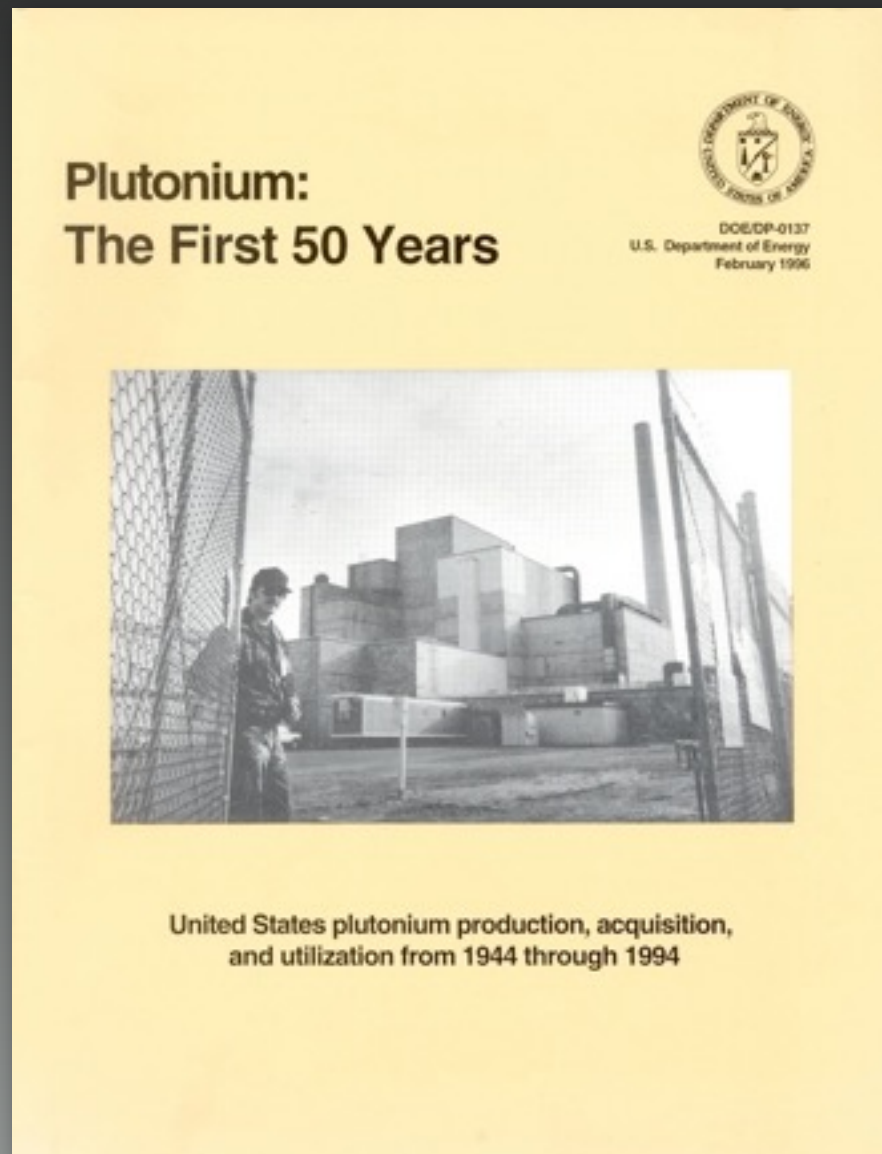


Assumptions for weapon equivalents: 3 kg of weapon-grade plutonium, 5 kg of reactor-grade plutonium, 15 kg of highly enriched uranium  
(As of 2015, more than 220,000 weapon-equivalents in the global stockpile of fissile material)

Source: *Global Fissile Material Report 2015*, International Panel on Fissile Materials, Princeton, NJ, [www.ipfmlibrary.org/gfmr15.pdf](http://www.ipfmlibrary.org/gfmr15.pdf)

# DECLARATIONS OF FISSILE MATERIAL STOCKPILES

# THE UNITED STATES HAS ALREADY MADE BASELINE DECLARATIONS (BUT COULD UPDATE THEM MORE FREQUENTLY)



1996 and 2001 U.S. Declarations on Plutonium and HEU



# POSSIBLE REPORTING FORM

## FOR A FISSILE MATERIAL (BASELINE) DECLARATION

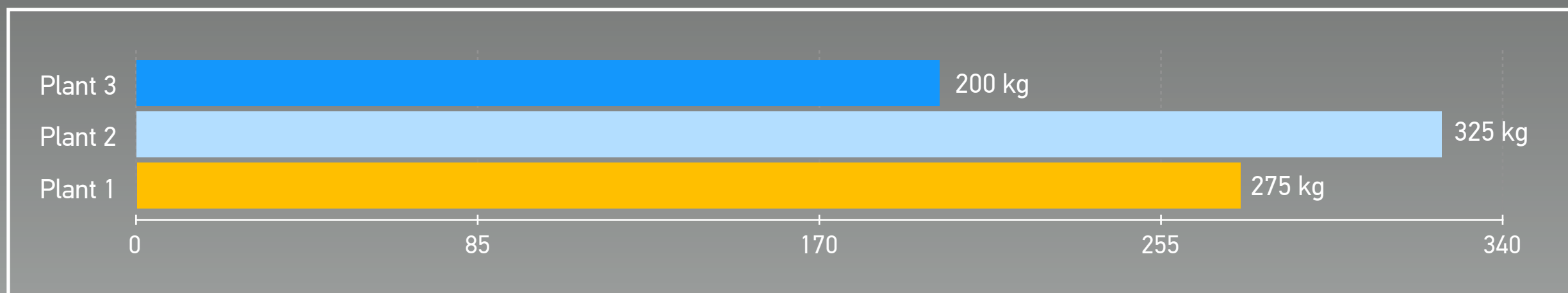
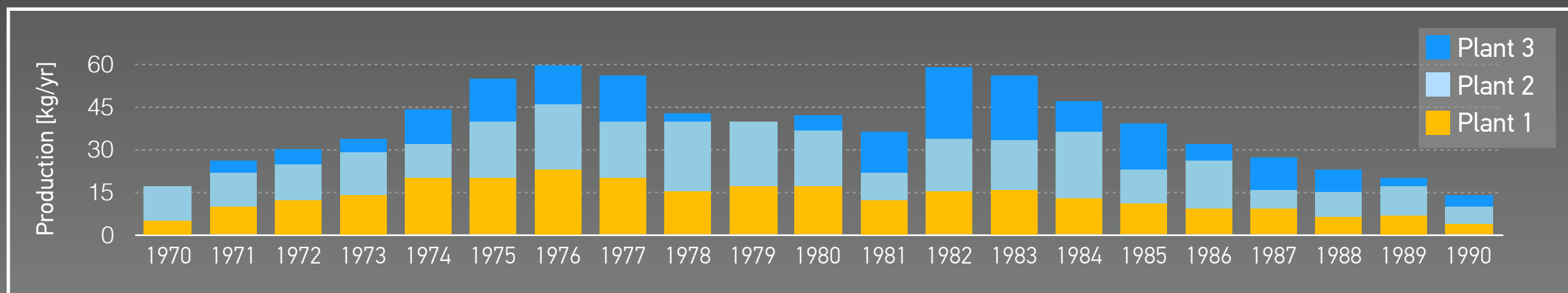
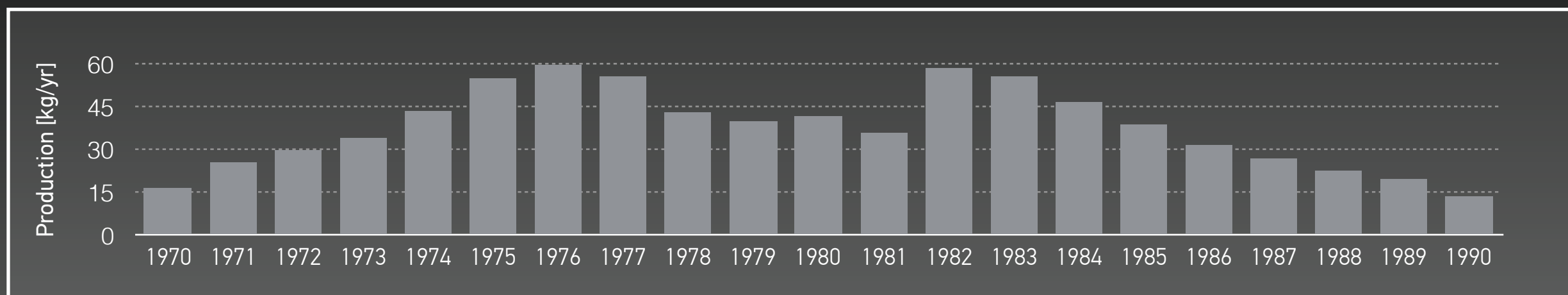
|  | HEU   | Plutonium |
|--|-------|-----------|
| <b>Inventory as of (DATE)</b>                      | ----- | -----     |
| Military, available for weapons                    | ----- | -----     |
| Military, reserved for non-weapon purposes         | ----- | -----     |
| Military, in irradiated fuel                       | ----- | -----     |
| Excess military, not available for IAEA safeguards | ----- | -----     |
| Civilian, not available for IAEA safeguards        | ----- | -----     |
| Civilian, available for IAEA safeguards            | ----- | -----     |
| Excess military, available for IAEA safeguards     | ----- | -----     |

Specifying average isotopics (uranium-235 content in HEU and plutonium-239 in plutonium)  
would enable further consistency checks of the declarations

*Global Fissile Material Report 2013*, International Panel on Fissile Materials, Princeton, October 2013, [www.ipfmlibrary.org/gfmr13.pdf](http://www.ipfmlibrary.org/gfmr13.pdf)

# NOTIONAL PRODUCTION SCENARIO

(AND ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF DECLARING HISTORIC FISSILE MATERIAL PRODUCTION)



# VERIFICATION OF BASELINE DECLARATIONS AND THE CASE FOR NUCLEAR ARCHAEOLOGY



# PUBLIC HISTORIC DOCUMENTS CAN OFTEN HELP RECONSTRUCT PRODUCTION HISTORIES

(MUCH BETTER WOULD BE FORMAL DATA EXCHANGES OF HISTORIC PRODUCTION RECORDS)

La Hague et de la Cogema a été de minimiser les faits et leurs conséquences possibles, afin de rassurer l'opinion publique française et la clientèle étrangère, faisant prendre ainsi

chaque année en séparant le combustible venant de G2 (taux de combustion compris entre 700 et 1200 MWJ/t) et le combustible EDF (taux de combustion atteignant 5000 MWJ/t.)

|                            | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967      | 1968      | 1969 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------|-----------|------|
| Tonnage G2, G3 . . . . .   | 190  | 130  | 320  | 620  | 640  | 760  | 850  | 820  | 960       | 730       | 890  |
| Tx de combustion . . . . . | 100  | 100  | 100  | 200  | 200  | 300  | 300  | 300  | 400       | 400       | 450  |
| Tonnage EDF . . . . .      | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —         | —         | —    |
|                            | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978      | 1979      | 1980 |
| Tonnage G2 G3 . . . . .    | 530  | 570  | 460  | 480  | 240  | 280  | 260  | 170  | non connu | non connu | 190  |
| Tx de combustion . . . . . | 450  | 450  | 500  | 600  | 700  | 800  | 1000 | 1200 |           |           | 1200 |
| Tonnage EDF . . . . .      |      |      |      |      | 113  | 8    | 25   | 120  | 245       | 280       | 310  |

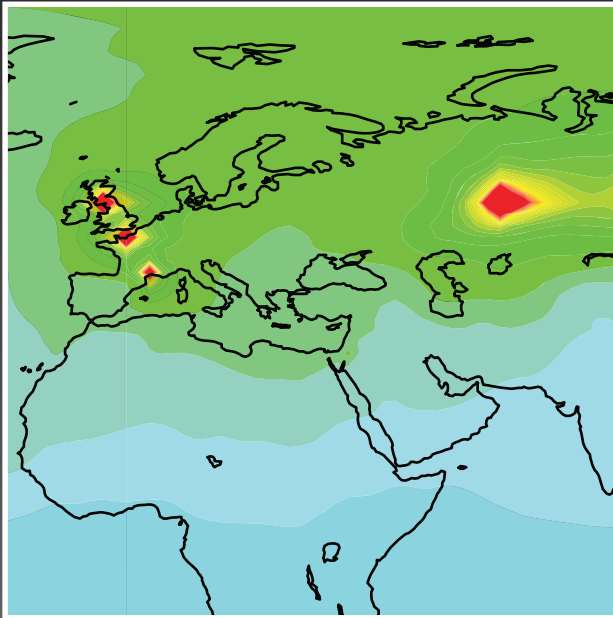
Si jusqu'aux années 1972-73 les tonnages retraités sont très élevés, une des raisons essentielles en est le faible taux de combustion des combustibles.  
Le tonnage retraité diminue ensuite sensiblement en

ne. Il est également inférieur aux prévisions faites par la Cogéma au début de l'année 1980 puisque 310 tonnes ont été retraitées alors que les prévisions étaient 365 tonnes.

LES CONDITIONS DE

Le retraitement des combustibles irradiés: La situation de la Hague et Marcoule, Analyses et positions de la CFDT  
*Rayonnement*, Syndicat National du Personnel de l'Energie Atomique, No. 92, Février 1981

# WILL WE EVER KNOW HOW MUCH FISSILE MATERIAL EXISTS WORLDWIDE?



## RECONSTRUCTING HISTORIC FISSILE MATERIAL PRODUCTION

Many aspects of declared production histories can be reviewed for consistency even without dedicated verification efforts

(for example, by comparison with historic krypton emissions)



## DATA EXCHANGE AND NUCLEAR ARCHAEOLOGY

Verification could begin with data exchanges (e.g. sharing of available operating records) and, eventually, envision onsite inspections

Nuclear archaeology is based on nuclear forensic analysis of samples taken at former production facilities

Source: Ole Ross and [www.francetnp2010.fr](http://www.francetnp2010.fr)



# Nuclear Archaeology: Verifying Declarations of Fissile-Material Production

Steve Fetter<sup>a</sup>

Steve Fetter<sup>a</sup>

Controlling the production of fissile material is an essential element of nonproliferation policy. Similarly, accounting for the past production of fissile material should be an important component of nuclear disarmament. This paper describes two promising techniques that make use of physical evidence at reactors and enrichment facilities to verify the past production of plutonium and highly enriched uranium. In the first technique, the concentrations of long-lived radionuclides in permanent components of the reactor core are used to estimate the neutron fluence in various regions of the reactor and thereby verify declarations of plutonium production in the reactor. In the second technique, the ratio of the concentrations of  $^{235}\text{U}$  to that of  $^{234}\text{U}$  in the tails is used to determine whether a given sample is highly enriched uranium, which can be used in reactors or weapons. "nuclear archaeology," ties and thereby lay a

*Science & Global Security*, 22:27–49, 2014  
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ISSN: 0892-9882 print / 1547-7800 online  
DOI: 10.1080/08929882.2014.871881

## INTRODUCTION

For the first time, tal proliferation—reduce their com than 10,000 by t South Africa, Ir nuclear thresh

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capabilities ar

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Science & Global Security, 22:27-49, 2014  
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ISSN: 0892-9882 print / 1547-7800 online  
DOI: 10.1080/08929882.2014.871881

# Nuclear Archaeology for Gaseous Diffusion Enrichment Plants

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Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA

Gaseous diffusion was historically the most widely used technology for military production of highly enriched uranium. Since June 2013, all gaseous diffusion enrichment plants worldwide are permanently shut down. The experience with decommissioning some of these plants has shown that they contain large amounts of uranium particles deposited in the cascade equipment. This article evaluates the potential for gaseous diffusion plant contamination and the impact of particle deposition on the process.

Science and Global Security, 19:223–233, 2011  
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ISSN: 0892-9882 print / 1547-7800 online  
DOI: 10.1080/08929882.2011.616124



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# Nuclear Archaeology for Heavy-Water-Moderated Plutonium Production Reactors

Alex Gasner and Alexander Glaser  
Department of Mechanical and  
ing Quadrangle, Old

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Princeton University Engineering Quadrangle, Olden Street, Princeton, NJ 08544

There is growing interest in a set of methods and tools that can be used to characterize past fissile material production activities, using measurements and sampling that have been dubbed "nuclear archaeology." The technology relies on measurements of the isotope of graphite-moderated plutonium production. The GIRM (Graphite Irradiation Ratio Method) determines the cumulative plutonium production of this particular method is that it can thereby estimate the cumulative plutonium production of this class of reactors, which represent only one class of reprocessed plutonium production. In this article, we present support structures and other core components for evaluating the robustness of the method for applications in arms-control treaty negotiations.



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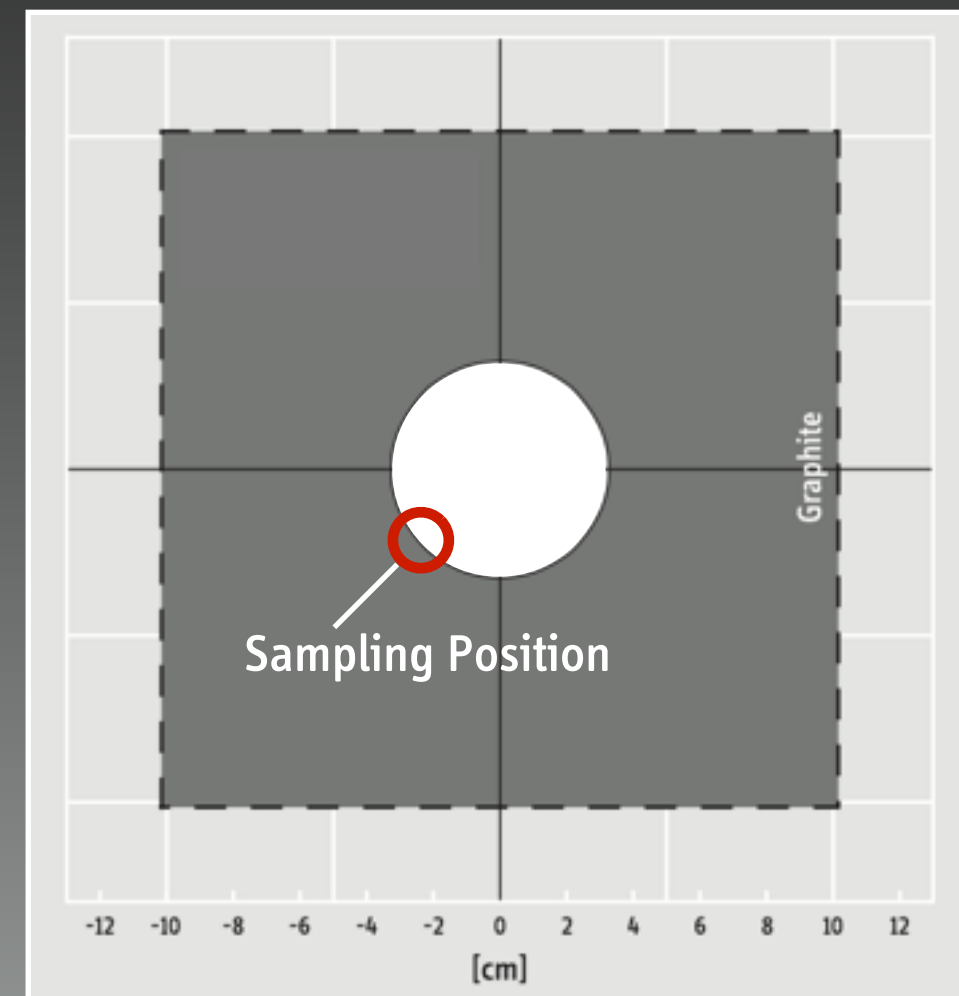
1. presented at the 51st INMM Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, July 11–15, 2010.

# NUCLEAR ARCHAEOLOGY WOULD HAVE BEEN USED TO VERIFY NORTH KOREA'S PLUTONIUM DECLARATION

FORENSIC ANALYSIS OF GRAPHITE SAMPLES COULD CONFIRM TOTAL PLUTONIUM  
PRODUCTION IN NORTH KOREA WITHIN AN UNCERTAINTY OF  $\pm 2$  KG



The banner reads: "Let's protect Dear General Kim Jong Il desperately!"  
Credit: CNN/Brian Rokus, 2008



Unit cell of the DPRK Yongbyon reactor

# PLUTONIUM PRODUCTION REACTORS

## BY TYPE AND COUNTRY

|                | Graphite moderated      |                        | Heavy-water moderated   |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                | H <sub>2</sub> O cooled | CO <sub>2</sub> cooled | H <sub>2</sub> O cooled | D <sub>2</sub> O cooled |
| United States  | Hanford                 |                        |                         | Savannah River          |
| Russia         | "Tomsk-7"               |                        |                         |                         |
| United Kingdom |                         | Calder Hall            |                         |                         |
| France         |                         | G-Series               |                         | Célestin                |
| China          | "Jiuquan"               |                        |                         |                         |
| Israel         |                         |                        |                         | Dimona                  |
| India          |                         |                        | Cirus/NRX               | Dhruva                  |
| Pakistan       |                         |                        | Khushab                 |                         |
| DPRK           |                         | Yongbyon               |                         |                         |

A. Glaser, "Isotopic Signatures of Weapon-grade Plutonium from Dedicated Natural-uranium-fueled Production Reactors and Their Relevance for Nuclear Forensic Analysis," *Nuclear Science & Engineering*, September 2009



# PREPARING FOR FUTURE VERIFICATION

MANY DIFFERENT MATERIALS, PROCESSES, AND SITES HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN FISSILE MATERIAL PRODUCTION

## THE CASE OF PLUTONIUM



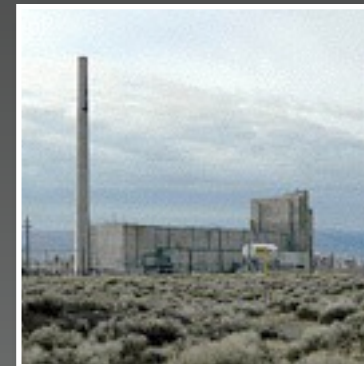
Source material  
(Uranium)



Fuel fabrication



Plutonium production



Reprocessing  
of irradiated fuel



Waste storage

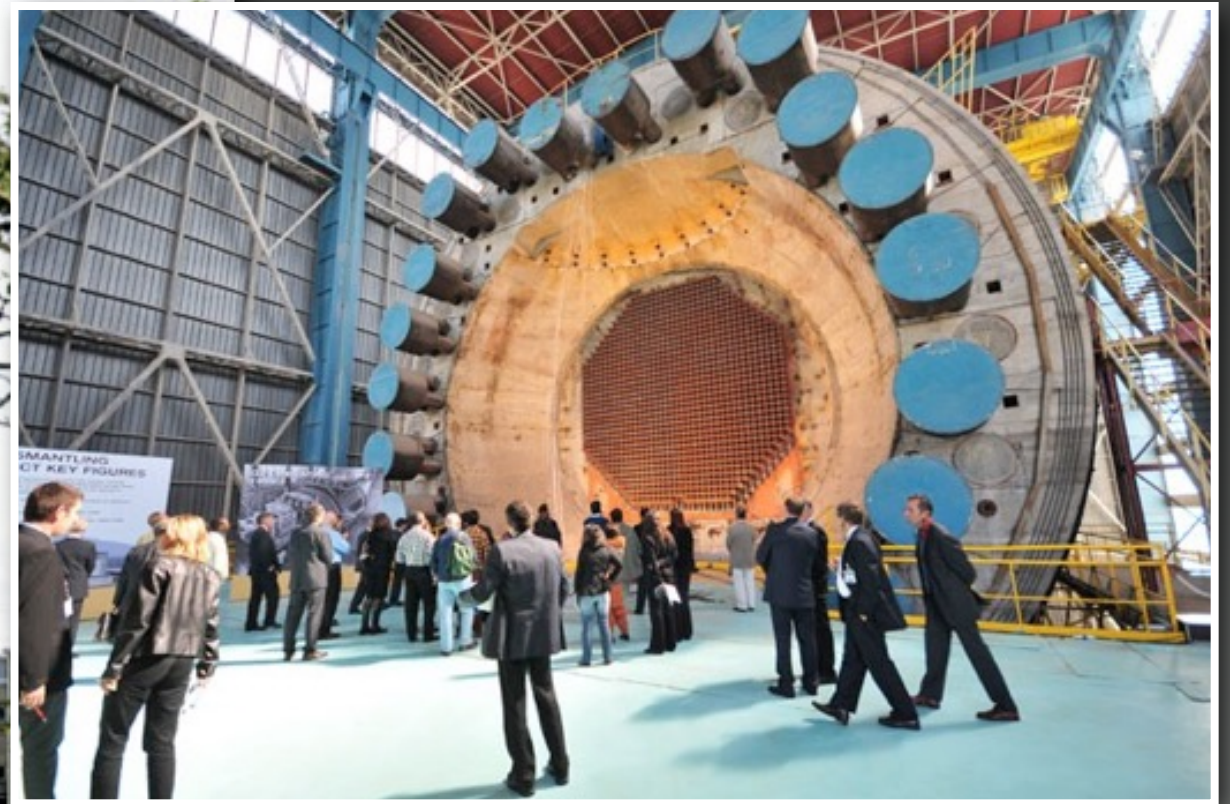
## TO ALLOW FOR FUTURE VERIFICATION, STATES COULD:

1. Agree on the most important types of operating records to be preserved
2. Catalogue, characterize, and preserve waste materials



# TEST BEDS FOR NUCLEAR ARCHAEOLOGY

To begin countries could offer single sites or facilities as test beds and invite partners with similar production facilities to engage in “site-to-site exercises” to jointly demonstrate verification approaches and measurement techniques

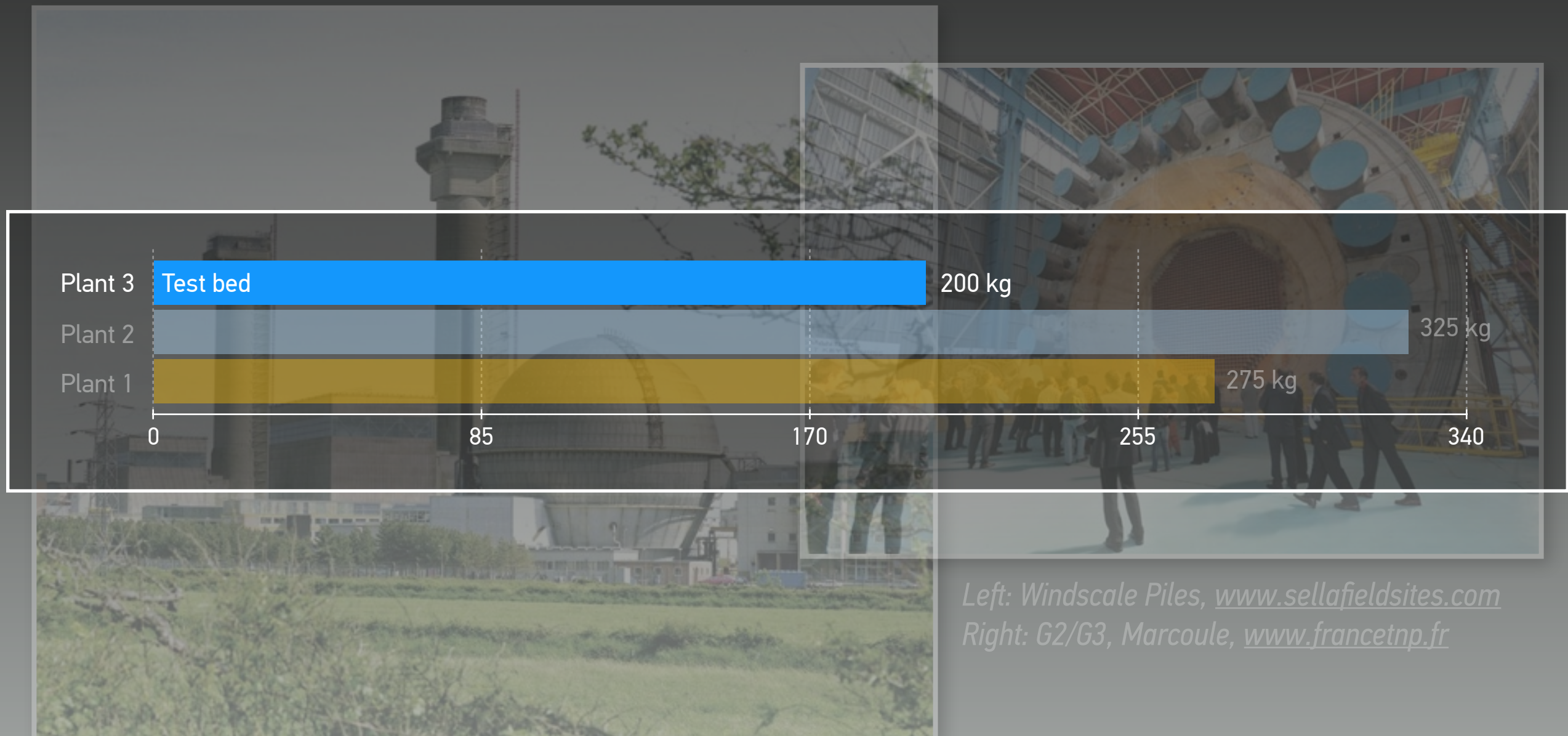


Left: Windscale Piles, [www.sellafieldsites.com](http://www.sellafieldsites.com)  
Right: G2/G3, Marcoule, [www.francetnp.fr](http://www.francetnp.fr)



# TEST BEDS FOR NUCLEAR ARCHAEOLOGY

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# MANY NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES HAVE CANDIDATE FACILITIES THAT COULD BE USED TO DEMONSTRATE METHODS REQUIRED FOR NUCLEAR ARCHAEOLOGY



*NRX, Canada*



*Ågesta Reactor (105 MWt), near Stockholm, Sweden*



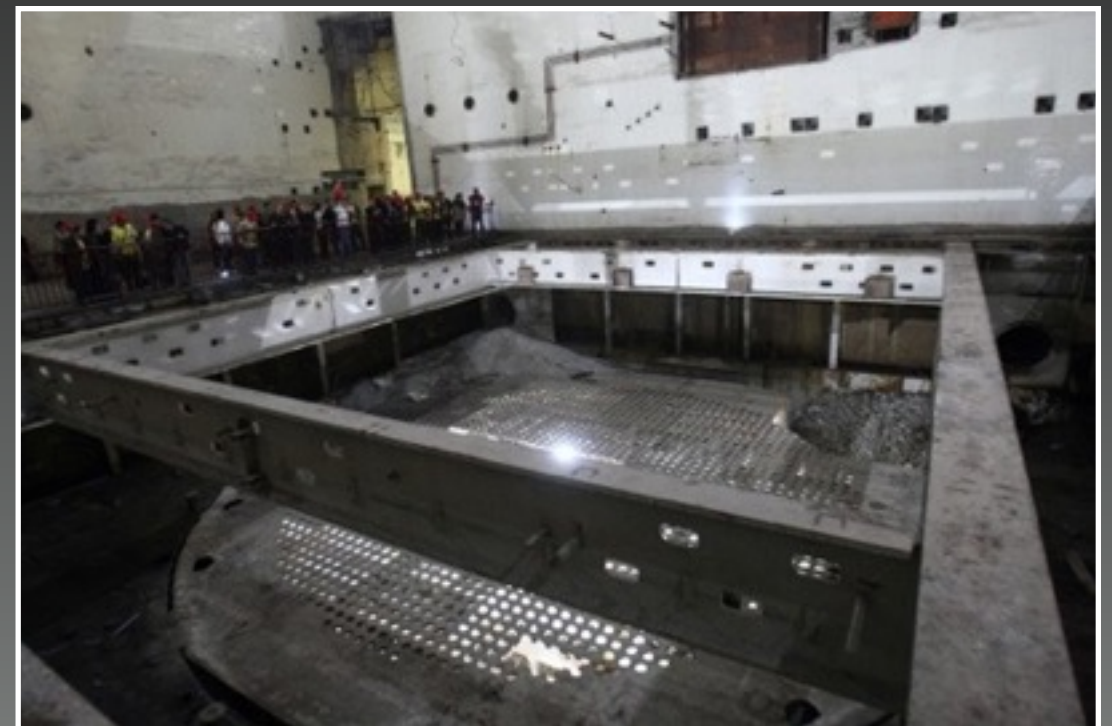
# “THE CLOCK IS TICKING”

SHUTDOWN ENRICHMENT PLANTS AND PRODUCTION REACTORS  
ARE BEING DECOMMISSIONED OR DEMOLISHED



Demolition of the K-25 uranium enrichment plant began in December 2008 and has been completed in 2012

*Source: Bechtel Jacobs*



China's unfinished underground plutonium production complex (Project 816), near Chongqing

*Source: CQTV*

