

NEXUS FOLLOW UP TRIAL STATEMENT

March 23, 2017

Bernie Meyer

I believe it is critical to update my statement for the 2016 Mother's Day action at Sub Base Bangor. Events are moving quickly. Time is of the essence. My Mother's Day statement stipulated that there was a connection between nuclear abolition and reducing the threats from our changing climate, either one of which has the real potential of ending life on earth necessary for civilization. *The fundamental condition for human action to realistically address the threats is trust.* Trust among the leaders of the nations is what is quickly eroding, making the risks much greater. This addendum will elaborate on the need for trust, identify the warnings by credible people about the dangers underlying the threats, and identify the technological developments making the threats even more salient.

My "Nuke Climate Nexus: our response" statement says that "Long term goals and cooperation require conditions of trust and communication between nations on a world wide basis. How can the US work towards nuclear abolition or work on the climate crisis while surrounding Russia and China with bases and using NATO to participate?" *Trust and communication* are key to any progress in relationships. Over the last three years the US/Russia breakdown over the Ukraine has eroded the relationship which created the Start Treaty leading to the reducing of nuclear weapons. Now at this moment in time, events in Korea also make that region a "hot spot" which could lead to nuclear war. (Also, there is an ongoing red hot concern about nuclear armed Pakistan and India hostilities over Kashmir.)

I cite the work of former Secretary of Defense, William Perry, because he led the way to the nuclear weapons reductions in the 1990s and because he firmly believes that establishing trust is the only way to pursue a way to nuclear disarmament, which he continues to dedicate his life to seeking at the age of 89. At this time he states that he is "terrified" by the dangers we find ourselves in. He is using every "trust" relationship he possesses to turn things around. Perry believes that, while it will take a long time to achieve a "secure world" from nuclear weapons, the ultimate goal must be a world free of nuclear weapons. He believes that the process must be based on a United States population who are aware of the dangers. Our population is ignorant of the dangers since the end of the Cold War. Many of my sources believe that a new Cold War is now underway, some that the war began with Syria.

I quote Perry's autobiography to elaborate on this critical issue.¹

"This failure of governments arises in the first instance because they are not getting sufficient pressure from their constituents to act. To reiterate a fundamentally important point: people in the United States and around the world simply do not effectively understand the dangers they are facing from today's nuclear weapons arsenals. A considerable part of the general public apparently believes that nuclear dangers ended with the Cold War. ... the lack of awareness and concern of citizens about such a transcendental problem renders it very difficult for democratic governments to take costly and inconvenient actions."

Public ignorance must be addressed. I have and will continue to do my part to counteract the misinformation and outright deception of the public. Perry's book and actions give a good summary of the rise of nuclear weapons during the Cold War since he began his Army career in Hiroshima just after

1 Perry, William J., *MY JOURNEY at the NUCLEAR BRINK*. Stanford Security Studies, 2015, 195

the end of WWII. The dangers now in 2017 must be identified to point out how communication is breaking down.

The situation in Korea is succinctly summarized on Democracy Now, March 13:

“AMY GOODMAN: The political upheaval in South Korea comes days after North Korea test-fired several ballistic missiles. In response, the Trump administration announced it would deploy a missile defense system to South Korea. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of South Korean and U.S. troops, backed by warships and warplanes, are currently engaging in a massive military exercise. Last week, Chinese officials called for both an end to North Korea’s nuclear program and an end to joint U.S.-South Korea military drills. This is the Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

WANG YI: [translated] As a first step, North Korea should suspend nuclear activity, and the U.S. and South Korea should also suspend large-scale military drills, and, with both sides stopping, avoid the current security dilemma and make all sides to return to the negotiating table. Later, based on a dual-track strategy, we will realize denuclearization and establish a peace mechanism on the peninsula to simultaneously and equally resolve the concerns of all parties.”

Wang Yi's remarks point to the solution of talks as a method to resolve the issue. Again, talks require trust and communication. What is not identified here is the installation of the THAAD anti-missile system during this escalation by the United States in South Korea. The rationale used states that THAAD is needed to defend against North Korea's missiles. The perception is that the anti-missile system is to continue surrounding China with bases. The same actions are being taken in Europe where anti-missile systems are being installed surrounding Russia causing breakdowns in communication and trust.

China's concerns followed Russia's over the last three years. Here, Hans Kristensen concludes his report about the United States significantly increasing the targeting ability of the nuclear weaponry with comments by Vladimir Putin:

“We end this article with quotes from Vladimir Putin, talking impromptu to a group of journalists during the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum in June 2016. His unrehearsed remarks are clear and candid predictors of how he will assess the implications of the super-fuze (As Kristensen shows, the super-fuze is a new escalation in very precise targeting of nuclear weapons.):

No matter what we said to our American partners [to curb the production of weaponry], they refused to cooperate with us, they rejected our offers, and continue to do their own thing.

... They rejected everything we had to offer.

... the Iranian threat does not exist, but missile defense systems are continuing to be positioned...

That means we were right when we said that they are lying to us.

Their reasons were not genuine, in reference to the 'Iranian nuclear threat.'

Your people [the populations of the Western alliance] ... do not feel a sense of the impending danger—this is what worries me.

A missile defense system is one element of the whole system of offensive military potential.

It works as part of a whole that includes offensive missile launchers.

One complex blocks, the other launches high precision weapons, the third blocks a potential nuclear strike, and the fourth sends out its own nuclear weapon in response.

This is all designed to be part of one system.

I don't know how this is all going to end.

What I do know is that we will need to defend ourselves.”

These comments take from “How US nuclear force modernization is undermining strategic stability: The burst-height compensating super-fuze”²

The Union of Concerned Scientists published this article by Hans M. Kristensen, Matthew McKinzie, and Theodore A. Postol on March 1, 2017. This was just two plus months after moving the Doomsday Clock from three minutes to midnight to two minutes and thirty seconds on January 27, 2017. Here are the opening paragraphs of the analysis. The entire article needs to be studied to understand the working and effectiveness of the “super-fuze.”

“The US nuclear forces modernization program has been portrayed to the public as an effort to ensure the reliability and safety of warheads in the US nuclear arsenal, rather than to enhance their military capabilities. In reality, however, that program has implemented revolutionary new technologies that will vastly increase the targeting capability of the US ballistic missile arsenal. This increase in capability is astonishing—boosting the overall killing power of existing US ballistic missile forces by a factor of roughly three—and it creates exactly what one would expect to see, if a nuclear-armed state were planning to have the capacity to fight and win a nuclear war by disarming enemies with a surprise first strike.

Because of improvements in the killing power of US submarine-launched ballistic missiles, those submarines now patrol with more than three times the number of warheads needed to destroy the entire fleet of Russian land-based missiles in their silos. US submarine-based missiles can carry multiple warheads, so hundreds of others, now in storage, could be added to the submarine-based missile force, making it all the more lethal.

The revolutionary increase in the lethality of submarine-borne US nuclear forces comes from a

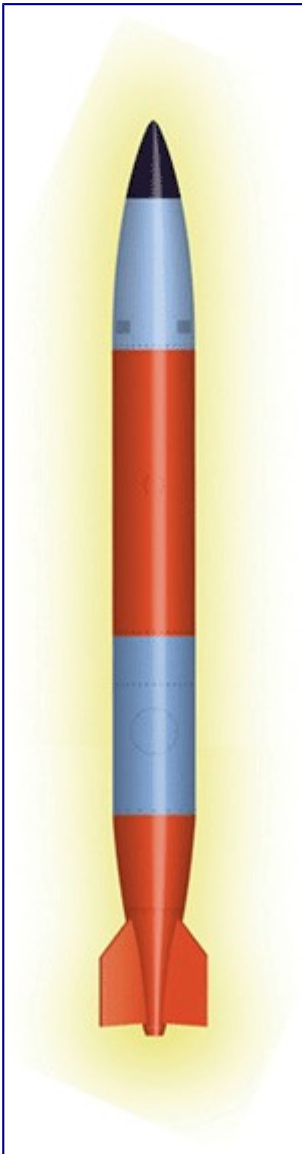
2 <http://thebulletin.org/how-us-nuclear-force-modernization-undermining-strategic-stability-burst-height-compensating-super10578>

“super-fuze” device that since 2009 has been incorporated into the Navy’s W76-1/Mk4A warhead as part of a decade-long life-extension program. We estimate that all warheads deployed on US ballistic missile submarines now have this fuzing capability. Because the innovations in the super-fuze appear, to the non-technical eye, to be minor, policymakers outside of the US government (and probably inside the government as well) have completely missed its revolutionary impact on military capabilities and its important implications for global security.”

These warnings by former Secretary of Defense William Perry and the Union of Concerned Scientists are representative of similar warnings by other experienced officials or former officials, as are the concerns of China’s Wang Yi and Russia’s Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. The following are a listing of articles and concerns expressed by these warnings.

One warning is that of a new missile with a smart bomb which can be dialed for size:

USA's National Nuclear Security Administration approves controversial B61-12 nuclear bomb



Controversial New U.S. Nuclear Bomb Moves Closer to Full-Scale

Production <http://inewsnetwork.org/2016/08/23/controversial-new-u-s-nuclear-bomb-moves-closer-to-full-scale-production/> By: **LEN ACKLAND** The most controversial nuclear bomb ever



planned for the U.S. arsenal – some say the most dangerous, too – has received the go ahead from the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration.

The [agency announced](#) on Aug. 1 that the B61-12 – the nation's first guided, or "smart," nuclear bomb

– had completed a four-year development and testing phase and is now in production engineering, the final phase before full-scale production slated for 2020.

This announcement comes in the face of repeated warnings from civilian experts and some former high-ranking military officers that the bomb, which will be carried by fighter jets, could tempt use during a conflict because of its precision. The bomb pairs high accuracy with explosive force that can be regulated. ...

The lead editorial in *The Nation* March 2/9, 2015 signals the issue:

“The likely result of arming Kiev will be not only more lives lost but the very real possibility of another arms race between the United States and Russia. It could also end the last remnants of cooperation between the two on containing the spread of nuclear weapons. That’s why some of those most familiar with the threat are sounding the alarm. According to Jack Matlock Jr., ambassador to the Soviet Union under Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, the situation “has begun to resemble a renewal of the Cold War with exchanges of harsh accusations, and --- most dangerous --- military muscle-flexing.” Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader *with whom Reagan and Bush worked to build trust* (my italics) and ultimately end the Cold War, is similarly troubled. “I can no longer say that this Cold War will not lead to a ‘Hot War,’” he said. “I fear that [that Russia and the United States] could risk it.”

Gorbachev states his present sense in *Time* Magazine:

“Mikhail Gorbachev: 'It All Looks as if the World Is Preparing for War'”

Jan 26, 2017

Mikhail Gorbachev was the president of the Soviet Union and is the author of [The New Russia](#).

The world today is overwhelmed with problems. Policymakers seem to be confused and at a loss.

But no problem is more urgent today than the militarization of politics and the new arms race. Stopping and reversing [this ruinous race](#) must be our top priority.

The current situation is too dangerous.

More troops, tanks and armored personnel carriers are being brought to Europe. [NATO](#) and [Russian](#) forces and weapons that used to be deployed at a distance are now placed closer to each other, as if to shoot point-blank.

While state budgets are struggling to fund people’s essential social needs, military spending is growing. Money is easily found for sophisticated weapons whose destructive power is comparable to that of the weapons of mass destruction; for submarines whose single salvo is capable of devastating half a continent; for missile defense systems that undermine strategic stability.”

At the roots of the the treats between the US, Russia, and China, Paul Craig Roberts identifies the Wolfowitz Doctrine set in 1992 after the end of the Cold War:

“Our first objective is to prevent the re-emergence of a new rival, either on the territory of the former Soviet Union or elsewhere, that poses a threat on the order of that posed formerly by the Soviet Union. This is a dominant consideration underlying the new regional defense strategy and requires that we endeavor to prevent any hostile power from dominating a region whose resources would, under consolidated control, be sufficient to generate global power.”

“In March of this year (2015) the Council on Foreign Relations extended this doctrine to China.”³

Roberts concludes his summary of the economic and military factors resulting from the Wolfowitz Doctrine:

“As the years have passed without Washington hearing, Russia and China have finally realized that their choice is vassalage or war. Had there been any intelligent, qualified people in the National Security Council, the State Department, or the Pentagon, Washington would have been warned away from the neocon policy of *sowing distrust*. (my italics) But with only neocon hubris present in the government, Washington made the mistake that could be fateful for humanity.”

Perry's View

In the July 6, 2016 issue of The New York Review of Books California governor reviews William J. Perry's memoir cited above under the headline, “A Stark Nuclear Warning.” “I know of no person who understands the science and politics of modern weaponry better than William J. Perry, the US Secretary of Defense from 1994 to 1997. When a man of such unquestioned experience and intelligence issues the stark nuclear warning that is central to his recent memoir, we should take heed, Perry is forthright when he says: 'Today, the danger of some sort of a nuclear catastrophe is greater than it was during the Cold War and most people are blissfully unaware of this danger.' He also tells us that the nuclear danger is 'growing greater every year' and that even a single nuclear detonation 'could destroy our way of life.'”

The World Socialist Website published the potential consequences of a nuclear exchange:

“Nuclear winter—the long-suppressed reality of nuclear war

An interview with scientist and anti-nuclear activist Steven Starr

By Bryan Dyne
19 January 2017

For more than three decades, the United States political and media establishment has conducted a coordinated campaign to whitewash the dangers of nuclear war. Using discredited science

3 Roberts, Paul Craig, “War Threat Rises As Economy Declines,” May 11, 2015, Paulcraigroberts.org. Dr. Paul Craig Roberts was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy and associate editor of the Wall Street Journal. He was columnist for Business Week, Scripps Howard News Service, and Creators Syndicate. He has had many university appointments.

from the 1980s, US officials have adopted the policy that a nuclear first-strike against Russia could be “successful” and that the environmental dangers posed by multiple atomic or thermonuclear detonations—so-called nuclear winter—have been “disproven.”

Such attitudes toward the use of nuclear weapons take on a new and ominous light when one considers the neo-McCarthyite rhetoric being used by congressional Republicans and top Democratic officials against Russia and Russian President Vladimir Putin, as well as provocations like the deployment of 4,000 US troops and accompanying tanks, artillery and armored vehicles in Poland along Russia’s border. As significant sections of the United States government are preparing for war with nuclear-armed Russia, they simultaneously reject 34 years of peer-reviewed scientific research showing that a nuclear exchange threatens humanity’s extinction.”

Thursday, 18 August 2016 08:02

Anti-Nuclear Advocate Helen Caldicott: "America Still Thinks It Can Win a Nuclear War" <http://www.truth-out.org/buzzflash/commentary/helen-caldecott-america-still-thinks-it-can-win-a-nuclear-war>

And:

“World War Three, by Mistake, *The New Yorker*

Harsh political rhetoric, combined with the vulnerability of the nuclear command-and-control system, has made the risk of global catastrophe greater than ever.

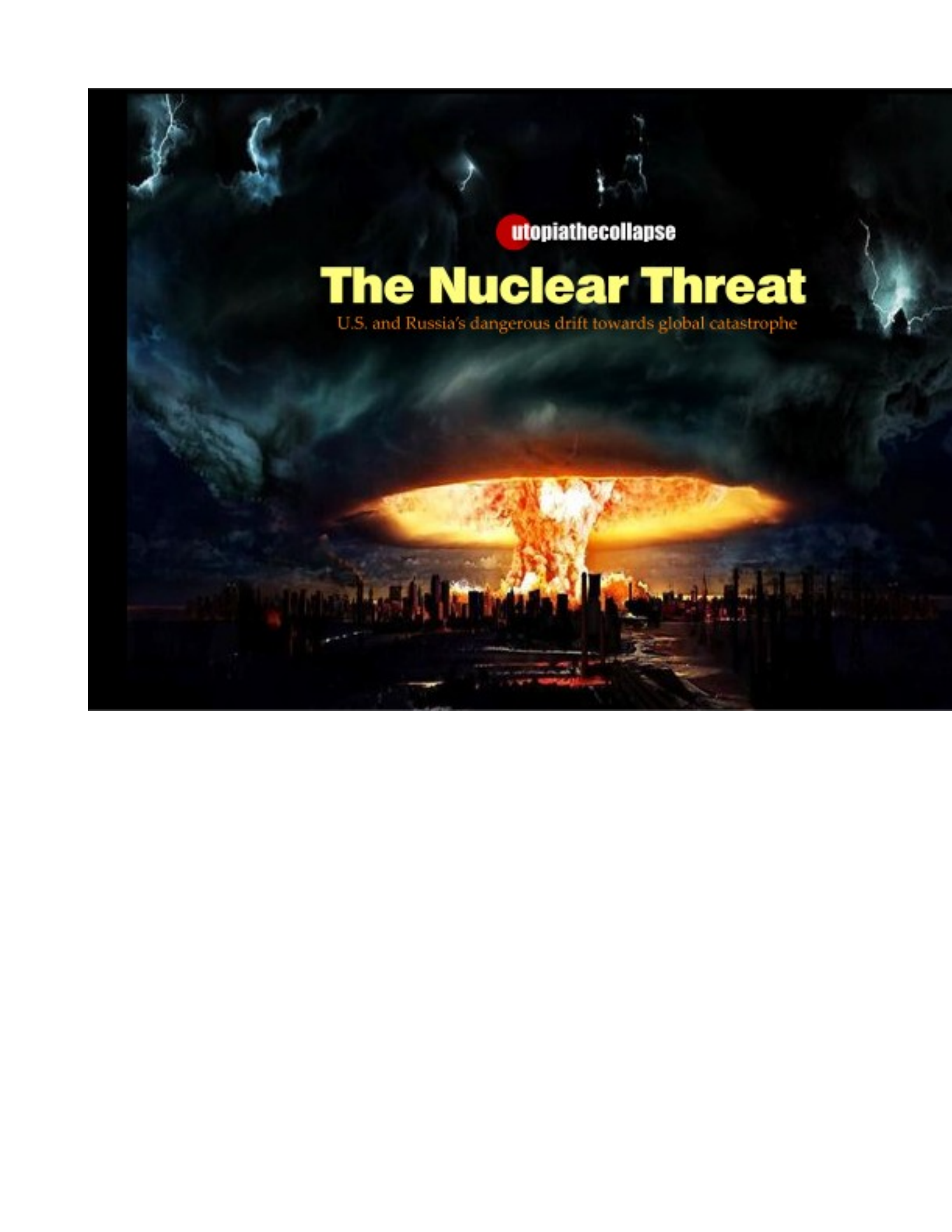
By [Eric Schlosser](#)

Eric Schlosser is the author of “Command and Control: Nuclear Weapons, the Damascus Accident, and the Illusion of Safety,” from 2013, and a producer of the documentary “Command and Control,” from 2016.”

And:

[German think tank warns of growing ‘nuclear war’ danger between the U.S. and Russia](#)

Posted on [October 17, 2016](#) by [Utopia: the Collapse](#) :



utopiathecollapse

The Nuclear Threat

U.S. and Russia's dangerous drift towards global catastrophe

“October 2016 – MOSCOW/WASHINGTON – In September, the German pro-government think tank “*Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik*” (SWP) published a study on the implications of US policy towards Russia and European security. The 28-page document is aimed at a professional audience and is written in political and military jargon that couches the annihilation of millions of human lives in matter-of-fact terms, as if dealing with the solution to a technical problem. But this prosaic language conceals a nightmare scenario. American policy towards Russia, as described by the SWP study, focuses primarily on preparation for a nuclear war, which would involve large parts of Europe. If the results of the study are to be taken seriously, then the risk for the present generation of dying in a violent atomic storm is alarmingly high.

At its very beginning, the study stresses that the nuclear war danger is not an abstract, hypothetical risk. As “the first and most important structural feature” of US-Russian relations, the study names the “mutual nuclear annihilation capability.”

The nations without nuclear weapons are organizing for nuclear abolition. They know the dangers of the weapons. They know that the weapons know no boundaries when used on any target. They see the threats. In the December UN vote the US and Russia did not concur with the negotiations. At this time the United Nations Working Group is beginning a three session process in pursuit of nuclear abolition due to conclude in July attended by 123 national representatives including to nuclear powers, India and China, but without Russia and the United States.

“UN commences nuclear abolition negotiations”

<http://www.abolition2000.org/en/news/2017/02/24/un-commences-nuclear-abolition-negotiations/>

Feb 24, 2017 |

These summary highlights conclude my brief analysis of the nuclear threat humanity faces. Many others exist and could be cited.



by Alyn Ware, Member of the Abolition 2000 Coordinating Committee.

On 16 February, approximately 100 countries gathered at the United Nations for the first session of [negotiations on a legal agreement to prohibit nuclear weapons](#). The participants included two nuclear-armed States (China and India) and one NATO country (Netherlands) with the remaining being non-nuclear countries. (See the list of states participating below).

The negotiations are being undertaken in accordance with UN General Assembly [Resolution 71/258 Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations](#), adopted on December 23

by a vote of 113 in favour, 35 opposed and 13 abstaining.