

Select online resources concerning nuclear terrorism

compiled by Rachel WILLIAMS

General references

- Council of Foreign Relations in Cooperation with Markle Foundation, *Terrorism: Questions and Answers*. Briefly answers common questions concerning nuclear attacks, radiation attacks and nuclear facilities. <http://www.cfrterrorism.org/security/>
- International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, 2001, *Threats of Nuclear Terrorism: A Briefing Paper*. Covers many facets of nuclear terrorism, such as nuclear material controls, nuclear reactor safety, and the potential of terrorists to make or acquire nuclear weapons. <http://www.ippnw.org/NukeTerrorism01.html>
- Managing the Atom, 2003, *The Project on Managing the Atom*, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Links to several nuclear terrorism related papers. <http://ksgnotes1.harvard.edu/BCSIA/MTA.nsf/web/Home/>
- Monterey Institute for International Studies, 2002, *Introduction to the Technology of Arms Control: Part 1*. Provides a tutorial on technological concepts and terms. <http://cns.miis.edu/cns/projects/eanp/training/ttt/lessons/english/le04.pdf>
- Nuclear Terrorism—How To Prevent It <http://www.nci.org/nuketerror.htm>
Contains a wealth of links to articles and sites relating to questions about nuclear terrorism. Site also contains information regarding transport of nuclear materials.
- United Kingdom, Parliamentary Office, 2002, *Nuclear Terrorism*. Offers background information on nuclear terrorist means, risks and precautions. <http://www.parliament.uk/post/pn179.pdf>

HEALTH CONCERNS

- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/ToxProfiles/>
Presents toxicological profiles of hazardous substances, including plutonium and uranium.
- Sutcliffe, W.G., et al., 1995, *A Perspective on the Dangers of Plutonium*, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, 14 April. Brief analysis of the uses and health consequences of plutonium in a terrorist attack. <http://www.llnl.gov/csts/publications/sutcliffe/>
- United States, Center for Disease Control, 2003, *Radiation Studies*, National Center for Environmental Health. Contains pages on health information in the event for a radiological attack, in a question and answer format. <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/radiation>

LOOSE NUKES

Council of Foreign Relations in Cooperation with the Markle Foundation, *Loose Nukes*. Defines 'loose nukes', focusing on the Russian Federation and the Former Soviet Union as primary sources of loose nukes. Contains a good bibliography and links to other sites.

<http://www.terrorismanswers.com/weapons/loosenukes.html>

RADIOLOGICAL DEVICES / DIRTY BOMBS

Council of Foreign Relations in Cooperation with the Markle Foundation, *Dirty Bombs*. Defines 'dirty bomb', offers basic facts and figures.

<http://www.terrorismanswers.com/weapons/dirtybomb.html>

Levi, Michael A., *Radiological Weapons: Myths and Realities*, Federation of American Scientists. Debunks myths concerning 'dirty bombs'.

http://www.house.gov/markey/iss_nonproliferation_st2_030303.pdf

The threat posed by terrorists

Albright, David, Kathryn Buehler and Holly Higgins, 2002, Bin Laden and the Bomb, *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, vol. 58, no. 1 (January/February), pp. 23–24. Examines the possibility of Osama bin Laden obtaining nuclear materials to create a nuclear weapon, and suggests ways to strengthen materials management and security.

<http://www.thebulletin.org/issues/2002/jf02/jf02albright.html>

Albright, David and Holly Higgins, 2003, A Bomb for the Ummah, *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, vol. 59, no. 2 (March/April), pp. 49–55. Explores the case of two Pakistani scientists accused of helping Al-Qaeda in its quest to acquire nuclear weapons.

<http://www.thebulletin.org/issues/2003/ma03/ma03albright.html>

Albright, David, Kevin O'Neill and Corey Hinderstein, 2001, *Nuclear Terrorism: The Unthinkable Nightmare*, ISIS Issue Brief, Institute for Security and International Studies. Questions whether terrorists can make nuclear weapons, and the likelihood of their use.

<http://www.isis-online.org/publications/terrorism/nightmare.pdf>

Arnesen, Ingrid and Mike Boettcher, 2002, *Al Qaeda Documents Outline Serious Weapons Program*, Institute for Security and International Studies. Review of documents found in Afghanistan concerning a possible weapons programme.

<http://www.isis-online.org/publications/terrorism/cnnstory.html>

Blair, Bruce G., 2001, *What if the Terrorists Go Nuclear?*, Center for Defense Information, Terrorism Project. Discusses possible nuclear terrorism threat scenarios.

<http://www.cdi.org/terrorism/nuclear.cfm>

Stober, Dan, 2003, No Experience Necessary, *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist*, vol. 59, no. 2 (March/April), pp. 56–63. Relates an American experiment from the 1960s in which three post-doctoral physicists were asked to design a nuclear weapon without access to any classified documents—and succeeded.

<http://www.thebulletin.org/issues/2003/ma03/ma03stober.html>

Nuclear materials

TRAFFICKING

Arnold, Sandi, et al., 1999, *Reported Nuclear Trafficking Incidents Involving Turkey, Selected Abstracts: 1993–1999*, Center for Non-proliferation Studies, Monterey Institute for International Studies. Summarizes reported cases of nuclear material trafficking in Turkey.

<http://cns.miis.edu/research/wmdme/flow/turkey/abslist.htm>

Guinnessy, Paul, 2001, *Nations Tackle Nuclear Terrorist Threat: Lax controls on nuclear materials and a thriving black market are alarming officials*, American Institute of Physics. Investigates the rise of nuclear material trafficking since 1996. <http://www.physicstoday.org/pt/vol-54/iss-7/p29.html>

Lee, Rennselaer, 1997, Smuggling Update, *The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*, vol. 53, no. 3 (May/June), pp. 11–14. Examines smuggling attempts in the Former Soviet Union and Germany.

<http://www.thebulletin.org/issues/1997/mj97/mj97lee.html>

NIS Nuclear Trafficking Database <http://nti.org/db/nistraff/update.htm>
Links to reports of nuclear material trafficking incidents in the Russian Federation and Newly Independent States since 1999.

Parrish, Scott, 2002, *Illicit Nuclear Trafficking in the NIS*, Nuclear Threat Initiative. Examines the need to tighten controls on HEU and plutonium in the Newly Independent States, and support programmes funding the security of these materials. http://www.nti.org/e_research/e3_8a.html

Roe, Sam, 2002, Trafficking in stolen nuclear material on the rise: Experts cite cases since mid-1990s as cause for concern, *Chicago Tribune*, 31 January. Discusses the increase in nuclear material smuggling, especially from the Russian Federation and the Former Soviet Union, and the difficulty of securing nuclear materials. <http://www.cdi.org/russia/191-4.cfm>

SECURING MATERIALS

Ferguson, Charles D., Tahseen Kazi and Judith Perera, 2003, *Commercial Radioactive Sources: Surveying the Security Risks*, Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Monterey Institute for International Studies. Investigates the danger posed by commercially available radioactive sources.

http://www.house.gov/markey/iss_nonproliferation_st030303.pdf

National Sources Defense Council, 2002, *The ABC News Nuclear Smuggling Experiment: The journey of NRDC's uranium slug and the potential consequences*. Describes investigation to test customs security in the United States and Europe concerning smuggling of nuclear materials.

<http://www.nrdc.org/nuclear/furanium.asp>

Potter, William C. and Nikolai Sokov, 2002, *'Suitcase Nukes': A Reassessment*, Monterey Institute for International Studies. Discusses the threat of portable nuclear devices, 'suitcase nukes', from the Former Soviet Union. <http://cns.miis.edu/pubs/week/020923.htm>

Scheinman, Lawrence, 2001, *Transcending Sovereignty in the Management and Control of Nuclear Material*, address to the IAEA International Symposium on Safeguards: Verification and Nuclear Material Security. Describes verification-related measures to strengthen the IAEA and other measures related to physical protection of nuclear material.

http://www.iaea.org/worldatom/Press/Focus/Nuclear_Terrorism/scheinman.pdf

- Sevcik, Margerita, 2002, *Kazakhstan's Proposal to Initiate Commercial Imports of Radioactive Waste*, Nuclear Threat Initiative. Reports on the plans of Kazakhstan to import low- and medium-level radioactive waste from around the world. http://www.nti.org/e_research/e3_22a.html
- Von Hippel, Frank, 2001, *Recommendations for Preventing Nuclear Terrorism*, Public Interest Report, November/December, vol. 54, no. 6. Indicates that the security of nuclear material in the United States and the Russian Federation is not impenetrable, nuclear material is at risk of falling into terrorist hands, and suggests means to dispose of HEU and plutonium. <http://fas.org/faspir/2001/v54n6/prevent.htm>

TRANSPORTATION

- Currie, Duncan E.J., 1995, *The Right to Control Passage of Nuclear Transport Vessels Under International Law*, Greenpeace, 7 April. Discusses the legal basis of some countries' refusal to allow nuclear material to be transported through their territory. <http://archive.greenpeace.org/~intlawnuk-law.html>
- Greenpeace, 2001, *Transport*. Links to ongoing campaign against the transport of nuclear materials. <http://archive.greenpeace.org/~nuclear/transport.html>
- Llanos, Miguel, 2002, *The Perils of Nuclear Transport*, 6 June. Reports on the preparations to transport nuclear materials to Yucca Mountain in Nevada (USA). <http://www.msnbc.com/news/743451.asp?cp1=1>
- World Nuclear Transport Institute <http://www.wnti.co.uk/pages/nucitrans.html>
Provides information on what types of material is transported and why, and what safety regulations are in place to safeguard these materials.

Nuclear facilities

- Bunn, George and Matthew Bunn, 2002, *Strengthening Nuclear Security Against Post-September 11 Threats of Theft and Sabotage*, *Journal of Nuclear Materials Management*, Spring. Recommends specific steps to upgrade security at individual facilities and strengthen national and international standards. http://bcsia.ksg.harvard.edu/publication.cfm?program= CORE&ctype= article&item_id= 521
- Bunn, George and Lyudmila Zaitseya, 2001, *Guarding Nuclear Reactors and Materials from Terrorists and Thieves*. Urges amendment of the Convention of the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material to raise national physical protection standards and the immediate strengthening of national practices in light of the 11 September attacks. http://www.iaea.org/worldatom/Press/Focus/Nuclear_Terrorism/bunn.pdf
- Burgess, Mark, 2003, *A Nuclear 9/11: Imminent or Inflated Threat*. Analyses the consequences of an airliner attack on a nuclear power plant. <http://www.cdi.org/nuclear/nuclear-terror.cfm>
- Hirsch, Helmut, 2001, *Danger to German Nuclear Power Plants from Crashes by Passenger Aircraft*, Greenpeace. Discusses the protection of German nuclear facilities against an airliner attack. <http://www.antenna.nl/wise/terrorism/112001gre.html>
- Project on Government Oversight, 2001, *U.S. Nuclear Weapons Complex: Security At Risk*. Suggests ways to increase security at American nuclear facilities. <http://www.pogo.org/p/environment/eo-011003-nuclear.htm>

United States, House of Representatives, 2001, *A Review of Security Issues at Nuclear Power Plants*, Testimony by Paul Leventhal, President, Nuclear Control Institute. Raises concerns regarding the security of nuclear power plants in the United States.
<http://energycommerce.house.gov/107/hearings/12052001Hearing435/Leventhal746.htm>

Proposals for strengthening controls

Bukharin, Oleg, Matthew Bunn and Kenneth N. Luongo, 2000, *Recommendations for Accelerated Action to Secure Nuclear Materials in the Former Soviet Union*, Russian American Nuclear Safety Advisory Council. Focuses on the Material Protection, Control and Accounting Program run by the United States Department of Energy.

<http://www.ransac.org/new-web site/pub/reports/mpca2000-exec.pdf>

Bunn, George and Matthew Bunn, 2002, *Reducing the Threat of Nuclear Theft and Sabotage*. Outlines priorities for strengthening security for nuclear materials and facilities worldwide.

http://www.iaea.org/worldatom/Press/Focus/Nuclear_Terrorism/bunn02.pdf

Bunn, Matthew, et al., 2002, *Securing Nuclear Weapons and Materials: Seven Steps for Immediate Action*, Nuclear Threat Initiative and the Kennedy School of Government. Investigates current measures to deter nuclear terrorism, and recommends seven steps to prevent such acts.

http://www.nti.org/e_research/securing_nuclear_weapons_and_materials_May2002.pdf

Butler, Kenley, 2003, *G8 10 Plus 10 Over 10*. Nuclear Threat Initiative, Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. Offers background on the G8 initiative to raise up to \$20 billion dollars for projects pertaining to disarmament, non-proliferation, counter-terrorism, and nuclear safety over the next ten years.

http://www.nti.org/e_research/e3_21a.html

Cardash, Sharon L., et al., 2000, *Combating Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Terrorism: A Comprehensive Strategy*, CSIS CBRN Terrorism Task Force Report, Center for Strategic and International Studies. Examines America's vulnerability to a terrorist WMD or radiological attack, and possible steps to reduce this vulnerability.

<http://www.csis.org/homeland/reports/combatchembiorad.pdf>

Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material

http://www.undcp.org/odccp/terrorism_convention_nuclear_material.html

Federation of American Scientists, *Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty*. Outlines the FMCT, including history, documents and news articles.

<http://www.fas.org/nuke/control/fmct/>

Fissile Materials: Scope, Stocks and Verification, *Disarmament Forum*, 1999, no. 2. Issue of *Disarmament Forum* dedicated to the topic of fissile materials.

http://www.unidir.org/bdd/fiche-periodique.php?ref_periodique=1020-7287-1999-2-en

International Atomic Energy Agency, 2002, *IAEA Board of Governors Approves Action Plan to Combat Nuclear Terrorism*, April, IAEA Press Release. Summarizes the plan approved by the IAEA Board of Governors designed to upgrade worldwide protection against acts of terrorism involving nuclear and other radioactive materials.

http://www.iaea.or.at/worldatom/Press/Focus/Nuclear_Terrorism/

Shea, Thomas E., 2001, *Report on the Trilateral Initiative: IAEA Verification Process on Weapon Origin Material in the Russian Federation and United States*, IAEA Bulletin, vol. 43, no. 4. Provides a summary and analysis of the initiative.

<http://www.iaea.or.at/worldatom/Periodicals/Bulletin/Bull434/article9.pdf>

