

Weapons Watch

The U.S. Moved Bunker Busters: “Hundreds of powerful U.S. ‘bunker-buster’ bombs are being shipped from California to the British island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean in preparation for a possible attack on Iran,” according to a March report in *The Sunday Herald Scotland*. Leading U.K. opposition lawmakers are demanding answers from Foreign Minister David Milliband who isn’t talking, a follow-up report says.

Prompt Global Strike Warheads: In April, the *New York Times* described these weapons as “capable of destroying an Iranian nuclear site without crossing the nuclear threshold. In theory, the weapon will hurl a conventional warhead of enormous weight at high speed and with pinpoint accuracy, generating the localized destructive power of a nuclear warhead.” Secretary of Defense Robert Gates was reported to have said that the weapons are embraced by the Obama administration and will be ready in 2014 or 2015.

Drone Use Increases: The U.S. military plans to more than triple its 7,000 inventory of drones. During Obama's first year there were 51 drone attacks as compared to 45 during the eight years of the Bush regime. According to many sources, extensive CIA and military use of drones is against international law because they violate human rights standards. ---- informationclearinghouse.info

Depleted Uranium: U.S. and British militaries used more than 1,700 tons of depleted uranium (DU) in the 2003 invasion of Iraq. DU may cause leukemia, kidney, neurological and other problems including an increase in birth defects, miscarriages, still births and infant mortality. In Fallujah as many as 25% of newborn infants have serious physical abnormalities. Cancer rates in Babil, south of Baghdad, rose from 500 cases in 2004 to over 9,000 in 2009.----globalresearch.ca
For more information on depleted uranium, see DU 101 online at www.du101.org

Nuclear Weapons

Nuclear Weapons: The U.S. made public that it maintains an arsenal of 9,000 nuclear weapons with 5,100 ready to be activated. Transparency is good, but at the same time Washington refuses to admit Israel has 200 nuclear weapons and threatens Iran regarding further development of nuclear power while Obama advocates for more civilian nuclear power in the U.S.