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Sent:

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Subject: update

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Di

NUKEWATCH UPDATE

Trident

- 1.Can confirm that there are more than enough Trident warheads in Scotland to meet 144 + spares commitment in SDR
- 2.One a year is returned to AWE for stockpile check. This is destructive so a replacement is sent back (regardless of 1.) Expected 26/27 Nov. 1999
- 3. There has been a delay in producing one warhead component for 10 months but now back on track except not in time to rescue Hunting Brae contract bid.
- 4. One Trident production line working but at very slow pace
- 5. Life of Trident extended to 16 years therefore mid-life attention will not start until 2001 for deliveries made in 1993 onwards. Probable that Nov 92 delivery already looked at or will be done in 2000.
- 6. In 2001 warheads will return to AWE at the rate they went up in 1993, 2002 as in '94 etc.

Chevaline

- 7.Two out of three Chevaline decommissioning lines working. Third coming on next year. Completion of decom. Expected 2001.
- 8. Honington expected to close once all Chevalines out of store there. This is considered a very secret store for Chevs.!
- 9. Tritium still coming from Chapelcross

USA

10. Main task of NIF at Livermore Lab. is to produce tritium. US managing without any as warheads come out of service, but current ones will need Tr in next few years. No other source in US so the race is on. (Why is UK funding this little prob?)

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