

SSP Participation in Compliance Activities

A significant part of SSP's role in START is ensuring that the Navy remains compliant with all aspects of the Treaty, including inspections at Navy facilities, SLBM flight-testing practices, and data exchanges. As the Navy's strategic missile technical experts, SSP personnel augment the Joint Staff component of the U.S. delegation to the Joint Compliance and Inspection

Commission (JCIC). The START I Treaty signatories meet regularly at the JCIC in Geneva, Switzerland to



resolve verification and compliance issues. Within the U.S. Government, SSP interacts extensively with Executive Branch agencies that make up the arms control community, e.g., the State Department, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Department of Energy. SSP also participates in meetings of the Department of Defense Compliance Review Group (CRG) when Navy issues are under review.



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START Treaty Regime

The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), signed by the United States and the former Soviet Union in July, 1991, has been in force since December, 1994. START will reduce the levels of nuclear warheads deployed on ballistic missiles (both land- and sea-based) and long-range bombers from Cold War levels of more than 10,000 to 6,000 by the end of 2001. It is a Treaty unprecedented in length, complexity, and the extent of its verification regime. START I will remain in force through at least 2009, and may be amended to unlimited duration. A second, bilateral treaty, START II, which will reduce deployed warheads by an additional 50%, has been negotiated by the U.S. and Russia. START II will enter into force following ratification by both parties. Finally, a general framework for a third strategic arms reduction agreement has been accepted by the two parties, but has not yet been negotiated.

START I Treaty Signatories

United States of America

Belarus

Kazakhstan

Russia

Ukraine



Strategic Systems Programs as Navy Executive Agent

Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) is the U.S. Navy's program office for submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) which are subject to START Treaty requirements. SSP is responsible for **implementing** and **complying** with all aspects of the Treaty's complex verification regime. Two types of operational U.S. SLBMs – the Trident I (C4) and Trident II (D5) – and their launchers on Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) are captured by START provisions. In its role as executive agent, SSP provides data on these SLBMs, including their numbers, basing locations, certain technical information and missile flight test telemetry. An additional component of compliance is preparation for, and conduct of, short notice on-site inspections at Navy facilities.



Trident II (D5)



Ohio-class SSBN

Implementation at Navy Facilities

As part of the START verification regime, inspectors from the signatory nations and U.S. escorts from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency visit declared facilities for short notice inspections. Data Update Inspections are intended to confirm the number and type of SLBMs at a declared facility. Reentry Vehicle



Preparing stored missiles for a Data Update Inspection

On-Site Inspections confirm that deployed SLBMs have no more warheads than the number attributed to Trident I and Trident II in the Treaty. The Navy maintains and practices inspection readiness at Strategic Weapons Facilities in Kings Bay, Georgia and Bangor, Washington and at other facilities in Arizona, California, South Carolina and Utah.



Preparing for a Reentry Vehicle On-Site Inspection aboard an Ohio-class SSBN