



ИСКРАН

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## NEWS:

### **Kevin Ryan Outlines Vision of U.S.-Russian Cooperation Against Nuclear Terrorism**

Executive director of the Belfer Center, General (Rtd.) Kevin Ryan, and member of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism (IPNT) gave a presentation on the threat of nuclear terrorism at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies' Senior Executive Seminar in Garmisch, Germany on January 24<sup>th</sup>. In his presentation – entitled “How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb: Creating Missile Defense and Preventing Nuclear Terrorism” – Ryan outlined his take on how the U.S. and Russia view missile defense



Ryan

and nuclear terrorism and how the two countries could work together in those two areas. Col. General (Rtd.) Viktor Yesin, senior fellow at the Institute for the USA and Canadian Studies, also gave a presentation on missile defense at the seminar. The Moscow-based institute participates in the Working Group of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism.



Yesin

### **Suicide Terrorist Attack on Moscow's Domodedovo Airport**

A suicide bomber blew himself up at Moscow's busiest airport on January 24<sup>th</sup>, killing 35 and injuring 180. Although no one so far has claimed responsibility for the attack, investigators suspect it was carried out by a 20-year old member of the North Caucasus-based terrorist networks, which have carried out the majority of suicide attacks in Russia in previous years. Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on January 26<sup>th</sup> that those behind the attack at Domodedovo were not linked to Chechnya. President Dmitry Medvedev fired a number of police officials following the attack and called for the introduction of “a more rigid system of checks, total control” of airport security.

### **Pakistan and Russia Consult on Counterterrorism and Non-Proliferation**

Pakistan and Russia held consultations in January on counterterrorism and global security, as well as how to tackle terrorism and nuclear proliferation.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov led the Russian side at two-day talks in Pakistan. “The main issues to be discussed at the talks will be nonproliferation, counter-terrorism as well as regional and global security,” a Pakistani Foreign Ministry official told *Reuters* on January 24<sup>th</sup>. In a State Department cable released by WikiLeaks last year, Russian Foreign Ministry official Yuriy Korolev expressed concern about the safety and fate of Pakistani nuclear facility workers ambushed by Islamic militants in the last few years. “Some were killed, and a number were abducted,



Ryabkov

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## U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

### Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

December 2010 - January 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за декабрь 2010 - январь 2011

and there has been no trace seen of them,” Korolev said during a December 2009 meeting of U.S. and Russian security officials in Washington, according to *Los Angeles Times*.

### **Counterterrorism Training Center in Russia to Be Built in Russia**

The U.S. Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and Canada’s Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade have signed an agreement to support the establishment of a new counterterrorism center in Russia. The Abramovo Counterterrorism Training Center (ACTC), located in the Nizhny Novgorod city of Abramovo, will be used by the Russian Ministry of Defense to prepare nuclear site personnel in security tactics and measures, according to a January 14<sup>th</sup> [NNSA press release](#). Personnel of Russia’s Navy, Strategic Missile Forces, and the 12<sup>th</sup> Main Directorate of the Defense Ministry will be trained in counterterrorism tactics and secure storage and transportation of nuclear weapons. Proliferation of nuclear technologies “requires Washington and Moscow to boost their cooperation” and ACTC is an example of this cooperation, Victor Kremenjuk, deputy director of the USA and Canada Studies Canada, told *Kommersant*.

### **123 Agreement in Force, U.S. and Russia to Study Russian Reactor Conversion to LEU**

President Dmitry Medvedev has called for a businesslike approach to nuclear cooperation with the U.S. after the 123 agreement cleared the way for the two countries to exchange technology and open nuclear joint ventures. “The main thing is not to politicize [cooperation], but to treat it like business,” Medvedev said, according to the *Moscow Times*. The accord entered into force after surviving a review period in the U.S. Congress that ended on January 11<sup>th</sup>. U.S. Deputy Energy Secretary Daniel Poneman said the accord will help ensure Moscow supports U.S. efforts against nuclear proliferation. The 123 agreement “reinforces our ability to work with Russia to make sure that Iran comes back into compliance with their international obligations,” he said



Kiriyenko

during his visit to Moscow on January 12<sup>th</sup>, *Reuters* reported. During his visit Poneman inked an accord with Rosatom chief Sergei Kiriyenko to study the possibility of making Russian research reactors less of a nuclear proliferation risk by converting them to use low enriched uranium (LEU) fuel.



Poneman

### **UN Secretary General: Prevention of Nuclear Terrorism a Priority**

UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon listed prevention of nuclear terrorism among the eight priorities he would like the international community to focus on in 2011. “We will build on the momentum on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation,” Ban told the UN General Assembly on January 13<sup>th</sup>, “And we will further efforts towards addressing issues of nuclear security and nuclear terrorism.” The UN chief also praised the U.S. and Russia for negotiating the New START treaty that both Russian and U.S. diplomats said would help reduce the threat of unauthorized use of nuclear weapons.

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### **Serbia Sends Rest of Its HEU to Russia**

Serbia sent 2.5 tons of its remaining nuclear waste, including 13 kilograms of highly enriched uranium (HEU), from its sole nuclear research facility near Belgrade to a disposal site in Russia, Deputy Prime Minister Bozidar Djelic said. The radioactive cargo was transported via Hungary and Slovenia to the Mayak reprocessing facility in the Urals in an operation that cost \$55 million, *Bloomberg* reported on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. The shipment is the culmination of an eight-year effort to remove all HEU from Serbia and makes it the sixth country to eliminate all of its HEU since April 2009, according to a December 22<sup>nd</sup> [press release by NNSA](#).

### **Study: Several Hours in Shelter after Nuclear Blast Boosts Survival Rate**

Scientific studies commissioned by U.S. authorities indicate that a nuclear attack is much more survivable if people instantly shield themselves from the radiation, *New York Times* reported on December 15<sup>th</sup>. A multiagency modeling effort led by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California revealed that staying in shelter for just a few hours following a nuclear blast made a huge difference in survival rates. Staying in a car would reduce casualties by more than 50 percent, while hiding in a basement would be even more effective, the U.S. government guidance says. The study looked at Washington, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and other big cities to simulate the impact of a nuclear bomb on the urban landscape.

### **Ukraine and U.S. Secure Thousands of Radiological Sources**

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and the government of Ukraine have completed consolidation of radiological sources in the former Soviet republic, NNSA announced in a [statement](#) on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The NNSA trumpeted “successful removal of more than 3,900 radiological sources” from the Electron Gaz Plant in Zholtiy Vodi as “the largest single radiological source consolidation to date” in Ukraine.

The sources, which were left behind after the company operating the plant went bankrupt, were transferred in 23 separate shipments to a new storage building at the Dnepropetrovsk Radon facility, which was built with funding from NNSA. “Today marks a major milestone in locking down radiological material that could be used by terrorists in a radiological dispersal device,” NNSA’s Deputy Administrator Anne Harrington said.

### **International Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe Organized in Moscow**

Alexei Arbatov and Vladimir Dvorkin of the Center for International Security took part in a meeting of the supervisory board of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe in Moscow on December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The Center, which is part of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations, participates in the Working Group of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism. Participants discussed the threats of nuclear proliferation and terrorism along with other issues, such as missile defense. President of the forum Vyacheslav Kantor told the meeting that the international community needs to resolve the “crises” created by the nuclear

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December 2010 - January 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за декабрь 2010 - январь 2011



Arbatov

programs of Iran and North Korea. Otherwise, “many states in the Greater Middle East and other regions, including those that are balancing on the brink of radicalization of governing regimes and civil wars, will acquire nuclear weapons. In such a case international terrorism can gain access to nuclear weapons too,” Kantor was quoted in the December 9<sup>th</sup> issue of Russia’s *RBK Daily* as saying.



Dvorkin

### **Bunn: Terrorism Would Undermine “Nuclear Contribution to the Climate Problem”**

Matthew Bunn, Associate Professor at the Harvard Kennedy School and IPNT member, made a [presentation](#) at the Belfer Center on December 7<sup>th</sup> to warn that “any major disaster, from accident or terrorism, would doom any realistic prospect for a major nuclear contribution to the climate problem.” The presentation, “Making Nuclear Energy Suitable for More of the World’s Energy Supply: Issues and Prospects,” lists actions that should be taken to strengthen protection against nuclear terrorism, including strengthening security measures for weapons and weapons-grade materials, minimizing use of HEU and plutonium, and expansion of security best practices.



### **Allison and Heinonen Urge Special Inspection of Syria’s Nuclear Facilities by IAEA**

Graham Allison, director of the Belfer Center and member of IPNT, and Olli Heinonen, Senior Fellow at the Belfer Center and member of IPNT, co-authored an [op-ed](#) in the *Wall Street Journal* on December 6<sup>th</sup> that calls to end the silence on Syria’s nuclear program. “While Syria stalls, the authority of the whole nonproliferation regime is eroding. This sets another unwelcome precedent for future proliferators,” warns the article. The authors call on IAEA to conduct a “special inspection” of the Dair Alzour site and other suspected nuclear sites in Syria.



Allison



Heinonen

### **U.S. and Russian Flag Officers Game Out Interception of Nuclear Terrorist Bomb**

The U.S.-Russia Security Program, a weeklong seminar for military officials devoted to the discussion of security issues, was held at the Harvard Kennedy School from November 28<sup>th</sup> to December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The focus of this year’s workshop was nuclear terrorism. Participants, who came from the highest echelons of the two countries’ military establishments, completed a case study – created by IPNT member and Belfer Center fellow Simon Saradzhyan – that required attendees to play out a hypothetical scenario in which terrorists deploy crude nuclear devices by sea to targets in Europe as well as in the U.S. and/or Russia. Belfer Center executive director and IPNT member Kevin Ryan and Saradzhyan acted as facilitators for the group studies, while Ryan also led the teaching of the case study.

The task was to emerge with actionable proposals that the U.S. and Russian militaries could jointly take immediately, and jointly, to intercept these loose nuclear weapons. The participants also had to recommend ways in which the U.S. and Russia could increase cooperation of other

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## U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

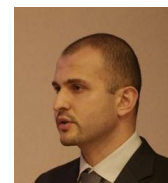
### Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

December 2010 - January 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за декабрь 2010 - январь 2011

countries in the long-term to deny terrorists access to nuclear weapons and weapons-grade materials.

In their group presentations on the final day of the program, participants unanimously settled on nuclear terrorism as a matter of urgent concern that requires both immediate and deep U.S.-Russian cooperation. They urged Moscow and Washington to work together with their allies to improve the level of security for nuclear weapons and weapons-grade materials across the globe. They also called for a permanent global capacity to effectively trace the sources of the materials that could be used in a terrorist bomb.



Saradzhyan

### **Russia Formally Announces Creation of Nuclear Fuel Bank in Angarsk**

Russia announced that it had created the world's first international atomic fuel bank in Angarsk as part of a global effort to curb the spread of nuclear weapon technologies, *AFP* reported on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Rosatom state atomic energy corporation said the Siberian fuel reserve – which will operate under the auspices of IAEA – will have enough material to refuel two civilian nuclear power plants.

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### **NOTABLE STATEMENTS ON NUCLEAR TERRORISM:**

- **Secretary General of the International Atomic Energy Agency Yukiya Amano:** “Another risk is nuclear material falling into the hands of terrorists. Some people do not believe this is a real risk. But the IAEA has a database and, on average, every two days we receive information about the illicit trafficking of nuclear materials or radioactive materials and this may only be the tip of the iceberg.” “Nowadays, with the current level of world technology, terrorists can make nuclear weapons – well, dirty bombs, at least.” (*Fox News*, January 27, 2011).
- **UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon** on the Conference on Disarmament’s deadlock: “The longer it persists, the graver the nuclear threat – from existing arsenals, from the proliferation of such weapons and from their possible acquisition by terrorists.” “The next few years will be critical. We can push forward on nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament, or risk sliding back.” (*Reuters*, January 27, 2011).
- **U.S. President Barack Obama:** “Because Republicans and Democrats approved the New START Treaty, far fewer nuclear weapons and launchers will be deployed. Because we rallied the world, nuclear materials are being locked down on every continent so they never fall into the hands of terrorists.” (*White House*, January 25, 2011).
- **Executive director of Arms Control Association Daryl Kimball** on the New START treaty: “It will also further enhance U.S.-Russian cooperation on key issues, including containing Iran's nuclear program, securing vulnerable nuclear material from terrorists and opening the way for further reductions in all types of Russian and U.S. nuclear arms - strategic and nonstrategic, deployed and nondeployed.” (*St. Petersburg Times*, December 28, 2010).
- **Former head of the Russian Defense Ministry’s 4th Central Research Institute Vladimir Dvorkin** on the New START treaty: “Despite its positive significance, it actually

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## U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

### Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

December 2010 - January 2011 Newsletter

Информационный бюллетень за декабрь 2010 - январь 2011

replicates the Cold War principles of nuclear deterrence, which relate to threats of the previous century but are incapable of deterring new threats, such as the proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear terrorism.” (*Interfax-AVN*, December 25, 2010).

- **Director of the Foreign Intelligence Service Mikhail Fradkov:** “Today we do not carry out “total” intelligence but focus attention on the Russian Federation’s sphere of interests and seek to expend our resources economically and rationally. Currently we are closely tracking the threats of international terrorism and drugs trafficking, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and the emergence of new states possessing nuclear weapons.” (*Rossiiskaya Gazeta*, December 22, 2010).
- **Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh:** “India and the Russian Federation, as responsible states, possessing advanced nuclear technologies, share the objective of preventing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, including preventing their possible acquisition by terrorist groups.” (*Indo-Asian News Service*, December 21, 2010).
- **Commander of Russia’s Strategic Missile Forces Lt. Gen. Alexander Karakayev:** “It would be incautious not to take into account proliferation of nuclear technologies and possibility of emergence of nuclear terrorism. We have to react to all of this when forming the future-oriented main attack force of RVSN.” (*Interfax*, December 17, 2010).
- **Russian President Dmitry Medvedev** to the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe: “We hold in high regard your efforts to achieve such important goals as prevention of nuclear terrorism.” (*Tribuna*, December 16, 2010).
- **Former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice:** “The real threat was that the world’s most dangerous weapons could end up in the hands of the world’s most dangerous regimes—or of terrorists who would launch attacks more devastating than 9/11.” (*Wall Street Journal*, December 7, 2010.)

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### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- February 4-6, 2011. Munich Security Conference. Attendees will include U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, and EU foreign affairs representative Catherine Ashton.
- February 5, 2011. Secretary Clinton and Foreign Minister Lavrov exchange the instruments of ratification for New START and the treaty enters into force.
- Mid-February 2011. Start of nuclear reactions in the Bushehr reactor.
- February or March, 2011. Iran resumes P5+1 talks on its nuclear program.
- March 7-11, 2010. IAEA board of governors meeting.
- March 2011. U.S Secretary of Defense Robert Gates visits Moscow.
- April 4-22, 2011. UN Disarmament Commission annual meeting
- April 9, 2011. Bushehr NPP joins Iran’s national grid.
- April 12-13, 2011. First anniversary of Nuclear Security Summit.
- May 2-6, 2011. IAEA board of governors meeting.
- June 2011. Presidents Medvedev and Obama attend the G-20 summit.
- June 2011. Annual meeting of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.

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### Американо-Российская инициатива по предотвращению ядерного терроризма

*December 2010 - January 2011 Newsletter*

*Информационный бюллетень за декабрь 2010 - январь 2011*

- June 2011. NATO-Russia Council defense ministers meeting.
- August 6, 2011. Anniversary of Hiroshima.
- August 9, 2011. Anniversary of Nagasaki.
- August 29, 2011. International Day Against Nuclear Tests and 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the closure of Semipalatinsk, main Soviet nuclear test site.
- September 11, 2011. 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.
- September 12-16, 2011. IAEA board of governors meeting.
- September 19-23, 2011. IAEA general conference.
- October 11-12, 2011. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Reykjavik Summit between President Reagan and Gorbachev on nuclear arms reductions.
- November 3-4, 2011. Presidents Medvedev and Obama attend G-20 in Cannes, France.
- November 12-13, 2011. Presidents Medvedev and Obama attend the APEC summit in Honolulu.
- November 17-18, 2011. IAEA board of governors meeting.
- December 12, 2011. 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nunn-Lugar program.

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism (IPNT) solicits papers, articles and commentary from readers for inclusion in the newsletter and publication on the Initiative's web site. Contact Belfer Center fellow Simon Saradzhyan at (phone) +1-617-496-8228, (fax) +1-617-495-8963, or [simon\\_saradzhyan@hks.harvard.edu](mailto:simon_saradzhyan@hks.harvard.edu).

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***The Working Group of the U.S.-Russia Initiative to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism includes the following institutions:***

***В рабочей группе по осуществлению Американо-Российской инициативы по предотвращению ядерного терроризма состоят следующие организации:***

- ***Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University [William Tobey, [william\\_tobey@hks.harvard.edu](mailto:william_tobey@hks.harvard.edu), 1- 617-496-0518]***

- ***Белферовский центр науки и международных отношений Института государственного управления имени Джона Ф. Кеннеди Гарвардского университета. [Уильям Тоби, [william\\_tobey@hks.harvard.edu](mailto:william_tobey@hks.harvard.edu), 1- 617-496-0518]***

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