

each element of a given missile system. Finally, the Protocol Regarding Inspections outlines the procedural guidelines to be followed during the inspection process.

All elimination of missiles, launchers and equipment occurs at elimination facilities which have been designated in the MOU. Because of the intrusiveness of the inspection process, the nuclear warhead and guidance system of the missile are removed before being transferred to the facility, in order to protect the secrecy of warhead design. Support structures are eliminated *in situ*.

The elimination protocol outlines specific methods of destruction for each type of missile and launcher. For example, cruise missiles are sliced in half lengthwise, their tails and wings are removed from the body, and their front sections crushed. Ballistic missiles are destroyed by explosive demolition or burning. For the first six months of the Treaty both parties were also permitted to destroy up to one hundred missiles by launching them from elimination facilities. All elimination procedures are subject to on-site inspection.

## VERIFICATION

### *National Technical Means (NTM)*

A series of verification measures which interact with and support each other are established in the INF Treaty. At the core of this structure is national technical means of verification (NTM). NTM consist of satellite reconnaissance and other forms of monitoring which do not require the assistance or consent of the other party. In the past NTM has been the primary means of monitoring the SALT agreements and the ABM Treaty.

Under the terms of the INF Treaty, NTM are facilitated by requirements which limit Treaty activities to designated areas. Missiles and launchers can be destroyed only in certain specified locations or at an elimination facility. Within thirty days after the Treaty entered into force, all missiles and launchers were required to be at one of these designated areas. Missiles, launchers and equipment that were found at a non-designated area constituted a violation.

### *Exchange of Data*

Under the Treaty, NTM are supplemented by a regular exchange of data between the two parties. The MOU includes data on the numbers, types, location, and technical characteristics of the missiles and launchers valid as of 1 November 1987. An update on this data was provided thirty days after the Treaty entered into force, and further updates are provided at six-month intervals. The data contained in these updates is organized into agreed categories. This information is provided through

the Nuclear Risk Reduction Centres (NRRC) which were established by the superpowers in an earlier 1987 agreement.

## INSPECTIONS

### *Inspection Procedures*

Inspection is a vital part of the verification structure established in the INF Treaty. The general terms of inspection are set out in detail in the Protocol on Inspection. Each side uses its own aircraft and equipment for inspection. A flight-plan must be filed with the NRRC, and the designated points of entry must be used to enter each country. Upon arrival, the equipment brought in by the visiting country is subject to inspection by the host country to ensure that the imported materials are not capable of carrying out non-treaty-related activities. Inspections are carried out by teams whose numbers vary depending on the type of inspection. Each team must have at least two members who can speak the language of the inspected country.

### *Types of Inspection*

There are six different types of inspection included in the Treaty:

- baseline inspections
- inspections of the elimination process
- inspections to confirm elimination of missiles, launchers, etc.
- inspections to confirm elimination of support facilities, etc.
- short-notice inspections
- permanent portal monitoring.

The purpose of baseline inspections is to verify the accuracy of the initial data. These inspections began thirty days after the Treaty entered into force and lasted sixty days. Within that period, each side visited all the facilities and installations of the other, in order to confirm the accuracy of the information given in the initial data exchange. Regular updates, exchanged at six-month intervals, provide an ongoing check on the elimination proceedings as the Treaty is implemented. These data exchanges are verified through inspections of the elimination process, or by short-notice inspections.

On-site inspections of the elimination process monitor the destruction of missiles, launchers and equipment. Inspectors watch the elimination process, make sure that it is carried out according to the terms of the Treaty, and keep track of what is destroyed.

Inspections to confirm elimination simply ensure that the destruction process for missiles, launchers and associated equipment has been completed. Likewise,