

attempted to improve its capabilities in chemical weapons production by acquiring chemical plant components from Western sources. The Egyptian government has denied that the facility is related to weapons purposes.

Claims have also been made that Israel has chemical weapons and a production capacity for mustard and nerve agents at Dimona, a town in the Negev desert.

#### 6. Former Possessors of Chemical Weapons

When the Chemical Weapons Convention comes into force, there will be a requirement relating to former chemical weapons production facilities operational at any time since (1.1.1946). There will be a need to make declarations on such facilities and verification requirements. Table 7 lists countries which are reported to have produced or held stocks of chemical weapons at one time. There may well be great difficulty in reassembling the data required by the Chemical Weapons Convention.

#### 7. Proliferation

By proliferation, this paper means the attempt by nations to acquire chemical weapons, not necessarily a chemical weapons production capability. In spite of attempts by the "Australia group" and others to curb the export of key