

J133(A80)

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Proposal Abstract J133(A80)

1. Arms Control Problem:

Chemical weapons - destruction of facilities

2. Verification Type:

- (a) Remote sensors
- (b) On-site inspection - selective

3. Source:

Mikulak, R. "Destruction of US chemical weapons production and filling facilities". In Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Chemical Weapons: Destruction and Conversion, pp. 57-66. London: Taylor and Francis, 1980.

4. Summary:

After facilities have been declared as CW production plants, the first step is to verify that this is true. The simplest and most reliable way to do this is through on-site inspection by technical experts.

In the initial phases of actual destruction of the plant the following might be observed:

- (1) delivery and storage of large quantities of decontaminant chemicals,
- (2) disposal in open ponds of liquid wastes,
- (3) installation and operation of equipment for spray-drying of liquid wastes.
- (4) installation and operation of a metal parts furnace, and
- (5) accumulation of piles of scrap metal.

If much of the process equipment were located in the open, destruction could be observed directly. However, for facilities where equipment is housed indoors most of the destruction could only be monitored indirectly. If scrap piles were observed remotely, they could be compared with the equipment noted on previous on-site visits. But even for indoor equipment, some dismantling might be observable directly such as removal of external storage tanks. Demolition of buildings could be easily monitored from a distance and would provide the simplest and most conclusive evidence that the facility had been destroyed. Remote monitoring might be facilitated by prior agreement on the procedures to be employed in destruction and dismantling.