J120(T63) J120(T63)

Proposal Abstract J120(T63)

Arms Control Problem:
Nuclear weapons - partial test ban

2. Verification Type:

Remote sensors - satellite

- ground-based
- sampling

3. Source:

Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space, and Under Water. (The Limited Test Ban Treaty).

Concluded: 5 August 1963.

Signed by Canada: 8 August 1963.

Entered into force for Canada: 28 January 1964.

Number of parties as of 31 December 1979: 115.

4. Summary:

No verification provision is explicitly included in the Treaty. It is implicit that national means are to be used. These techniques mainly involve surveillance by satellite, air sampling at ground stations to detect radioactive fallout, and other ground-based sensors.*

5. Selected Comments of States:

In CD/PV.97 (5 August 1980) Sweden referred to the fact that current CTB Treaty negotiations had concentrated entirely on verification of underground nuclear explosions. Since the Limited Test Ban Treaty contains no express verification procedures, Sweden suggested it might be appropriate to consider international verification arrangements for atmospheric explosions as part of a CTB Treaty.

^{*} See Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Yearbook of Armaments and Disarmament: 1972, Stockholm Almqvist and Wiksell, 1973, pp. 453-55.