

confirmed the possibility of effectively verifying a nuclear test ban with national technical means. In response to a question about verification in the context of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions. Mikhail Gorbachev stated that "the existing scientific and technical capability here, in the United States and in other countries provides the necessary degree of certainty that a nuclear explosion, even a low yield one, will be detected." (See "Letter dated 19 August 1985 addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament from the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics transmitting the answers by Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to a Tass correspondent published on 14 August 1985". CD/638, 20 August 1985, p. 3). Sri Lanka (CD/PV.308, 16 April 1985) suggests that current techniques for monitoring seismic waves can detect tests down to explosions of one kiloton.