

3. USSR

(I) Stockpile. Prior to 1987, the only information available on Soviet stocks of chemical weapons was derived from intelligence sources, and estimates of Soviet supplies ranged from 250,000 to 750,000 tons. In 1987, the USSR confirmed that it possessed chemical weapons, but stated that it had stopped production. It also stated that all such weapons were stockpiled on its own territory and that all other Warsaw Treaty countries neither produced nor stockpiled such weapons. It further announced that it was building a chemical weapons destruction facility at Chapayevsk in Kazakhstan. Subsequently, it stated that its chemical weapon stockpile did not exceed 50,000 agent tons.

In October, 1987, representatives from the Conference on Disarmament visited Shikhany to witness a demonstration of a mobile destruction facility and to be briefed on Soviet CW capabilities.* The following table, based on CD/789, gives a summary of the CW Agents in the USSR's stockpile.

*The information provided was subsequently presented to the CD by the USSR in its paper, CD/789.