

C108(G72)

C108(G72)

Proposal Abstract C108(G72)

1. **Arms Control Problem:**
Chemical weapons - stockpiling
2. **Verification Type:**
On-site inspection - selective
3. **Source:**
United States. "Working paper on storage of chemical agents and weapons". CCD/366, 20 June 1972.
4. **Summary:**

The paper is based on US experience in storing CWs. It describes a number of the features of such storage facilities which may help to distinguish them from facilities for storing other munitions or chemicals. Three general characteristics are discussed:

- (1) **Physical security:** Generally, there is nothing unique to CW storage facilities in this regard apart from special warning signs, guards with protective masks, and air sampling devices.
- (2) **Maintenance of stocks to prevent deterioration:** Again there is nothing peculiar to a CW facility in this regard which could not be easily hidden.
- (3) **Precautions for protection and treatment of personnel in case of accident:** This can be achieved by regulating access to facility, providing protective clothing and decontamination facilities, and ensuring quick access to medical services.

The general conclusion reached is that while some indications may be visible under certain circumstances, it is difficult even when in close proximity to the CW storage facility to distinguish it from other types of storage facilities. Those features which are unique could be readily hidden if desired. Thus, it is questionable whether any of these features will be of much help in formulating a reliable system of verification.