

J136(G72)

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Proposal Abstract J136(G72)

1. **Arms Control Problem:**
Chemical weapons - research and development
2. **Verification Type:**
Remote sensors - satellite
4. **Source:**
United Kingdom. "Working paper on remote detection of chemical weapons field tests". CCD/371, 27 June 1972.

4. **Summary:**

It is assumed in this paper that field testing would be an essential part of any development of a CW. However, this applies only with respect to new weapons. Consequently, the verification technique proposed here will not be useful for detecting CWs already in existing stocks. The paper describes the sensitivity and performance requirements of satellite sensors and gives probability estimates for detection a CW field test.

The paper comes to the conclusion that limited detection by satellite sensors of chemical field tests of known agents is technically possible. The most promising system is an infra-red sensor (photoconductive detector) mounted on a geostationary satellite. The incidence of cloud cover, however, is the major and a serious limiting factor.