

Nuclear Weapon Tests

Nuclear Explosions Treaty was negotiated. That Treaty was negotiated between October 1974 and April 1976, and was signed on 28 May 1976. Both treaties were submitted to the Senate on 29 July 1976, where they still awaited ratification by July 1988.

⁷ Sykes, L.R. and Davis, D.M., "The yields of Soviet strategic weapons", *Scientific American*, Jan. 1987 p. 34. The warheads for the first group of Soviet MIRVed ICBMs deployed between 1974 and 1976 were tested earlier.

[CIIPS Editor's note: The data presented below is based on revised information gathered after the original study was published by Oxford University Press. The tables differ slightly from those presented in the CIIPS/SIPRI book.]

Table 1. Estimated number of nuclear explosions 16 July 1945-5 August 1976 (the signing of the Partial Test Ban Treaty)

a = atmospheric
u = underground

	USA		USSR		UK		France		Total
	a	u	a	u	a	u	a	u	
1945	3	0							3
1946	2 ^a	0							2
1947	0	0							0
1948	3	0							3
1949	0	0	1	0					1
1950	0	0	0	0					0
1951	15	1	2	0					18
1952	10	0	0	0	1	0			11
1953	11	0	4	0	2	0			17
1954	6	0	7	0	0	0			13
1955	18 ^a	1	5 ^a	0	0	0			24
1956	18	0	9	0	6	0			33
1957	27	5	15 ^a	0	7	0			54
1958	62 ^b	15	29	0	5	0			111
1949-58 exact years unknown			18						18
1959	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
1960	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
1961	0	10	50 ^a	1	0	0	1	1	63
1962	39 ^a	57	43	1	0	2 ^d	0	1	143
1 Jan - 5 Aug. 1963	4	25	0	0	0	0	0	2	31
Total	218	114	183 ^c	2	21	2	4	4	548

^a At least one of these tests was carried out under water.

^b Two of these tests were carried out under water.

^c The total figure for Soviet atmospheric tests includes the 18 additional tests conducted in the period 1949-58, for which exact years are not available.

^d Conducted jointly with the USA at the Nevada Test Site.