### Strategic Nuclear Weapons

**“Work in Progress”**

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#### Immediate and Unexpected Threats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICBMs, SSBNs, Bombers</th>
<th>Quick (within weeks)</th>
<th>Moderate (within months)</th>
<th>Lengthy (year or more)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Alert (or available within days)</td>
<td>Uploading Weapons on Bombers, SLBMs, and ICBMs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Responsive Force

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Assurance &amp; Reliability Testing</th>
<th>Reliability Replacement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warheads consumed in surveillance testing (QART)</td>
<td>Warheads to replace catastrophic failures of similar warheads</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Strategic Active Stockpile

+ Strategic Inactive Stockpile

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#### Total Strategic Stockpile

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**Note 1:** Includes Logistic spares that are physically located at operational bases but are not included in the operationally deployed weapons

**Note 2:** Some Responsive Force weapon stockpile categories (active & inactive) to be determined
Basic Terminology of the Nuclear Posture Review

- **Strategic Nuclear Forces (Strategic Weapon Systems):** Strategic nuclear platforms with their associated strategic nuclear weapons.
  - **Strategic nuclear platforms:** (retained in the NPR)
    - 14 SSBNs
    - 500 MMIII
    - 76 B-52s & 21 B-2s
  - **Strategic nuclear platform reductions:**
    - 50 Peacekeeper missiles
    - 4 Trident submarines
    - All B-1s (nuclear re-role requirement eliminated)

- **Strategic Nuclear Weapon:** A nuclear warhead and its necessary arming, fuzing and firing components necessary to produce a nuclear yield that can be loaded on a strategic platform.

- **Nuclear Warhead:** A device that contains the nuclear or thermonuclear system.

- **Strategic Active Stockpile:** Operationally Deployed Weapons, the responsive force and logistic spares.
  - **Operationally Deployed Weapons:** Strategic nuclear weapons that are on operational ballistic missiles or on bombers or in bomber base weapon storage areas (logistic spares in bomber weapon storage areas would not be counted). Operationally Deployed Weapons are for immediate and unexpected threats.
  - **Responsive Force:** Strategic nuclear weapons available for uploading on existing strategic nuclear platforms. (Note: Some weapons may be in inactive stockpile.)
  - **Logistic Spares:** Strategic nuclear weapons required to meet Operationally Deployed Strategic Nuclear Weapons maintenance requirements.

- **Strategic Inactive Stockpile:** Strategic nuclear warheads reserved for DOE’s Quality Assurance and Reliability Testing (QART) and Reliability Replacement requirements. These warheads have certain limited life components removed, but are otherwise maintained to the same standards as weapons in the active stockpile.
  - **Quality Assurance and Reliability Testing (QART):** Nuclear warheads retained in the inactive stockpile to replace weapons in the active stockpile withdrawn for DOE’s surveillance program.
  - **Reliability Replacement:** Nuclear warheads retained in the inactive stockpile to replace similar weapons in the stockpile that suffer a catastrophic failure.

- **Total Strategic Stockpile:** The summation of the strategic active stockpile and strategic inactive stockpile

The following are not part of the stockpile.

- **Retired Warheads:** Warheads no longer required for military use and are not part of the active and inactive stockpiles. These warheads are awaiting dismantlement by DOE.

- **Dismantlement:** The physical separation of high explosives from special nuclear material. Usually critical nuclear components are retained and non-nuclear components are placed in a demilitarization program.