

US Has 150 Nuclear Weapons in Five NATO Countries: Turkish Parliament Report

By <u>Prof Michel Chossudovsky</u> and <u>Hurriyet Daily News</u> Global Research, November 02, 2017 **31 October 2017** Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> Theme: <u>Intelligence</u>, <u>Militarization and</u> <u>WMD</u>, <u>US NATO War Agenda</u> In-depth Report: <u>Nuclear War</u>

It took the Turkish parliament more than ten years to acknowledge something which is known and carefully documented: Five so-called non-nuclear states including Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Italy and Turkey have stockpiled and deployed in their various military bases 150 tactical B61 nuclear weapons directed at Russia, Iran and countries in the Middle East. Nobody seems to be concerned and the matter has not been the object of media coverage.

Belgium is reported to have 20 B61 nuclear weapons under national command, Turkey has 50.

US Nuclear Weapons In Europe 2014			
<u>Country</u>	Base	<u>Vaults</u>	<u>B61s</u>
Belgium	Kleine Brogel	11	20
Germany	Buchel	11	20
Italy	Aviano	18	50
	Ghedi Torre	11	20
Netherlands	Volkel	11	20
Turkey	Incirlik	25	50
Total		87	180

- Current deployment at six bases in five countries
- 4 national bases for delivery by national aircraft;
 2 US bases for delivery by US aircraft
- 87 underground storage vaults (348 capacity); additional vaults at other bases in caretaker status
- Despite reduced readiness compared with Cold War, weapons are stored near delivery aircraft
- Additional weapons stored in the United States

Double standards. Compare that to the DPRK's 10 nuclear weapons, heralded as a "threat" to the security of the Western World.

While the nuclear warheads are made in America, they are entirely under national command.

In other words, these five European countries including Turkey are de facto "Undeclared Nuclear Weapons States".

Michel Chossudovsky, November 1, 2017

The United States has a total of 150 nuclear weapons in five NATO member countries, including Turkey, according to a report on worldwide nuclear arms prepared by the Turkish

Parliament.

The report, titled "Data on Nuclear Weapons," said there were around 15,000 nuclear weapons at 107 sites in 14 countries as of July this year, daily Milliyet reported on Oct. 31.

"Nearly 9,400 of these weapons are in arsenals for military use and the rest are standing idle to be destroyed," the report read.

It added that some 4,150 of the weapons in arsenals are ready to be used at any minute, while 1,800 are in "high alarm" status, which means they can be prepared for use in a short period of time.

According to the report, 93 percent of the world's nuclear weapons belong to Russia and the U.S.

The report also said that nuclear weapons belonging to the U.S. are present in five NATO countries that do not themselves have nuclear weapons.

Saying there are nuclear weapons belonging to the U.S. in five NATO countries that do not have nuclear weapons.

"There are nearly 150 U.S. nuclear weapons in six air bases in Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Turkey, which are NATO countries that don't themselves own nuclear weapons," it added.

The U.S., China, Russia, France and Britain are nuclear-armed state parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, while India, Pakistan and Israel never became parties even though they own nuclear weapons.

According to the data in parliament's report, Russia has 7,000 nuclear weapons, the U.S. has 6,800, France has 300, China has 260, Britain has 215, Pakistan has 130, India has 120, Israel has 80 and North Korea has 10 nuclear weapons.

During the Cold War, the U.S. placed nuclear weapons in NATO countries, including Turkey, as part of the organization's nuclear sharing program. Some of the nuclear weapons placed in the 1960s are still in Turkey today.

At the time, negotiations were carried out between Ankara and Washington in the 1950s and they were concluded at the beginning of the 1960s.

Among those weapons, B61 type bombs are still in the İncirlik air base in the southern Turkish province of Adana. Nuclear warhead Jupiter missiles that were sent to the country during the same time period were only kept in the country between 1961 and 1963.

According to data from the Federation of American Scientists (FAS), the number of B61s in Turkey is estimated to be nearly 50.

Hurriyet Daily News

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