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COMMUNICATION RECEIVED FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CONCERNING ITS POLICIES REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF PLUTONIUM

1. The Secretariat has received a letter, dated 19 September 2001, from the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the IAEA in which the Government of the United States in keeping with its commitment under the Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium (contained in INFCIRC/549 of 16 March 1998 and hereinafter referred to as the "Guidelines"), and in accordance with Annexes B and C of the Guidelines, makes available an annual statement of its national holdings of civil unirradiated plutonium and of plutonium contained in spent civil reactor fuel, as of 31 December 1999.
2. The Permanent Mission of the United States has also conveyed in its letter under reference that in "Annex C, the previous year's figure for plutonium contained in spent fuel at civil reactor sites, was changed to 302 metric tons from the value of 312 metric tons reported as of December 31, 1998. Inconsistencies with the data reported in the U.S. Department of Energy's Nuclear Materials Management Safeguards and Security (NMMSS) System were identified and action was taken to correct the values reported."
3. In the light of the request expressed by the United States in its note verbale of 1 December 1997, concerning its policies regarding the management of plutonium (INFCIRC/549 of 16 March 1998), the texts of the enclosure of the letter of 19 September 2001 are attached for the information of all Member States.

**ANNUAL FIGURES FOR HOLDINGS
OF CIVIL UNIRRADIATED PLUTONIUM**

(Annex B, International Plutonium Management Guidelines)

National Totals

As of 31 December 1999
[Previous year's figures in brackets.]
Rounded to 100 kg plutonium
Quantities <500 kg reported as such

1. Unirradiated separated plutonium in product stores at reprocessing plants.	<u>0</u>	[<u>0</u>]
2. Unirradiated separated plutonium in the course of manufacture or fabrication and plutonium contained in unirradiated semi-fabricated or unfinished products at fuel or other fabricating plants or elsewhere.	<u><0.05 MT</u>	[<u><0.05 MT</u>]
3. Plutonium contained in unirradiated MOX fuel or other fabricated products at reactor sites or elsewhere.	<u>4.6 MT</u>	[<u>4.6 MT</u>]
4. Unirradiated separated plutonium held elsewhere.	<u>40.4 MT</u>	[<u>40.4 MT</u>]
(i) Plutonium in lines 1-4 belonging to foreign bodies.	<u>0</u>	[<u>0</u>]
(ii) Plutonium in lines 1-4 held in locations in other countries and therefore not included above.	<u>0</u>	[<u>0</u>]
(iii) Plutonium in lines 1-4 which is in international shipment prior to its arrival in the recipient State.	<u>0</u>	[<u>0</u>]

Lines 3 and 4 together list 45 metric tons of separated plutonium that had originally been produced or required as part of our national defense effort. Along with 7.5 metric tons of the 15 metric tons total listed on line 3 of Annex C below, this constitutes the total 52.5 metric tons of plutonium that the United States has declared excess to defense needs. Since it is no longer "military" and will never again be used in nuclear weapons, that material is listed here.

**ESTIMATED AMOUNTS OF PLUTONIUM
CONTAINED IN SPENT CIVIL REACTOR FUEL**

(Annex C, International Plutonium Management Guidelines)

National Totals

As of 31 December 1999
[Previous year's figures in brackets.]
Rounded to 1000 kg plutonium
Quantities <500 kg reported as such

1. Plutonium contained in spent fuel at civil reactor sites. ¹	<u>319 MT</u>	[<u>302 MT</u>] ²
2. Plutonium contained in spent fuel at reprocessing plants.	<u>0</u>	[<u>0</u>]
3. Plutonium contained in spent fuel held elsewhere. ³	<u>15 MT</u>	[<u>15 MT</u>]

¹ The estimated amounts reflect the total, elemental weight of plutonium calculated to be residual in spent fuel. This irradiated plutonium remains unseparated.

² The previous year's estimated amount has been revised due to a correction to the data. 312 metric tons of plutonium contained in spent fuel at civil reactor sites was reported in 1998.

³ This includes 7.5 metric tons of plutonium estimated to be remaining in spent fuel which was never reprocessed to extract the plutonium. Again, together with the amounts specified in lines 3 and 4 in Annex B above, this quantity constitutes the total amount of plutonium that has been declared excess to defense needs. Another 7.5 metric tons reflects estimated content in SNF discharged from U.S. government-owned reactors.