



President Donald Trump has proposed to boost federal spending on the production of nuclear weapons by more than \$1 billion in 2018 while slashing or eliminating spending on many federal programs related to diplomacy, foreign aid, and social needs, in a budget proposal that reflects the first tangible expression of his defense priorities. The Center For Public Integrity

PEACE ACTION BAY RIDGE

A NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD FOR OUR CHILDREN

ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Destroy the Environment

Nuclear weapons are the only devices ever created that have the capacity to destroy all complex life forms on Earth. It would take less than 0.1% of the explosive yield of the current global nuclear arsenal to bring about devastating agricultural collapse and widespread famine. But the environmental damage isn't just caused by the use of nuclear weapons – but by keeping them stored. Nuclear reactors, which create the energy for nuclear weapons, make massive amounts of radioactive waste and there is no known way to permanently contain, dispose or neutralize it. Coastal reactors have been shown to kill sea mammals and threaten the endangered sea turtle.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Threaten Our Security

Nuclear weapons pose an immediate and overwhelming threat to people everywhere. They are the ultimate weapons of terror and mass destruction, and with the immense collateral damage caused by even one weapon being used, they serve no legitimate military or strategic purpose. Their only outcome is immeasurable disaster, and when it comes to nuclear weapons, there are no “safe hands” – instead, there are dozens of instances of the near-use of nuclear weapons due to miscalculation or accidents. The only security, when it comes to nuclear weapons, is their complete abolition.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Hazardous to our Health

The radioactive waste produced by nuclear reactors is deadly, causing cancer and genetic mutations – and there is no known way to contain or dispose of that waste. Every radiation exposure increases our risks of cancer. These public health consequences cannot be ignored. When the Chernobyl nuclear power station exploded, tens of thousands of people have died and the explosion caused the permanent

contamination of food and water in the area. The costs of the Chernobyl explosion is over \$350 billion dollars, and the financial and human costs of the disaster will increase over time.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Really Expensive to Maintain

That's just a little over 100 million less than the entire discretionary spending of the U.S. government in 2016 – about 4 times as much as the U.S. spends on science, energy and the environment, veteran's benefits, international affairs, housing, transportation, education, and food and agriculture... **combined.**

“Just as we stood for freedom in the 20th century, we must stand together for the right of people everywhere to live free from fear in the 21st century. And as the only nuclear power to have used a nuclear weapon, the United States has a moral responsibility to act. We cannot succeed in this endeavor alone, but we can lead it, we can start it. So today, I state clearly and with conviction America's commitment to seek the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons. “

~ *President Barack Obama, April 5, 2009, Prague*

“We simply cannot allow the 21st century to be darkened by the worst weapons of the 20th century.”

~ *President Barack Obama, Nov 29, 2012, National Defense University, Washington, DC*

“Nine nations still cling firmly to these ghastly instruments of terror, believing, paradoxically, that by threatening to obliterate others they are maintaining the peace. Quite unaccountably, all are squandering precious resources, human and material, on programs to modernize and upgrade their arsenals — an egregious theft from the world's poor.”

~ *Desmond Tutu, CNN editorial, Feb 13, 2014*

“Today, every inhabitant of this planet must contemplate the day when this planet may no longer be habitable. Every man, woman and child lives under a nuclear sword of Damocles, hanging by the slenderest of threads, capable of being cut at any moment by accident or miscalculation or by madness. The weapons of war must be abolished before they abolish us.”

~ *President John F. Kennedy, Address Before the General Assembly of the United Nations, New York City, September 25, 1961*

“A nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. And no matter how great the obstacles may seem, we must never stop our efforts to reduce the weapons of war. We must never stop at all until we see the day when nuclear arms have been banished from the face of the Earth.”

~ *President Ronald Reagan, 1984 State of the Union Address*

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