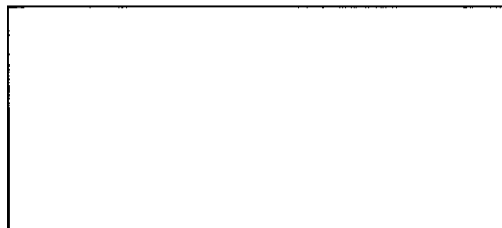
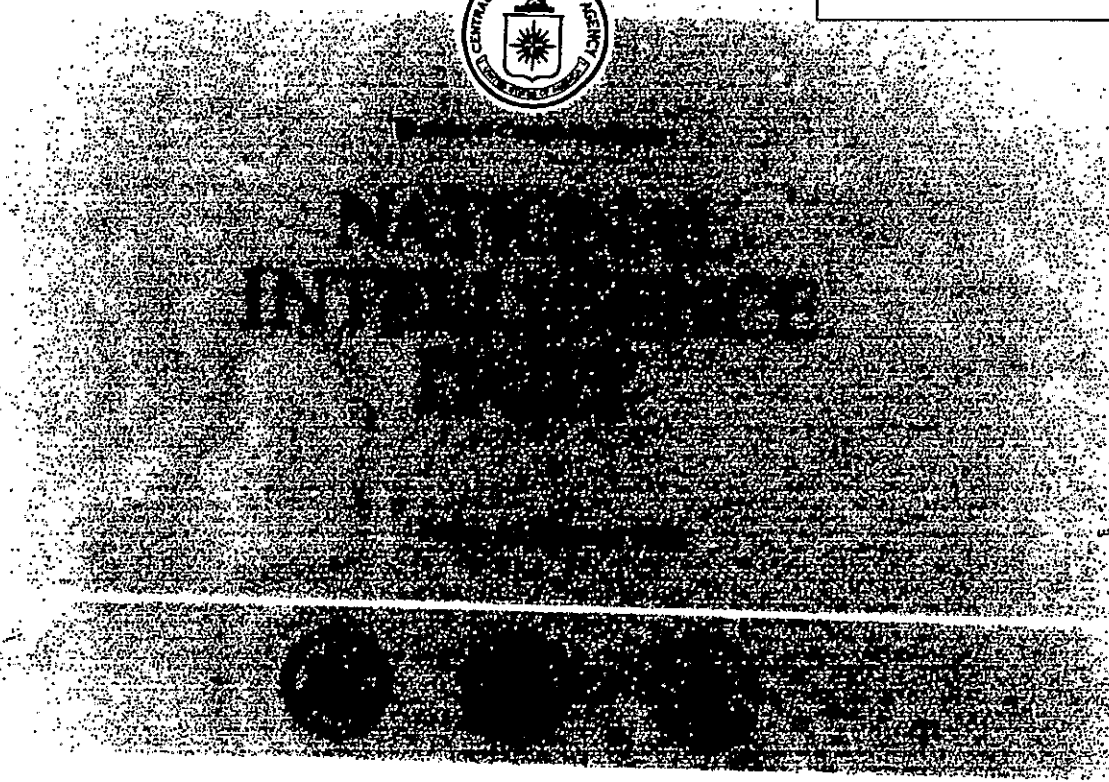
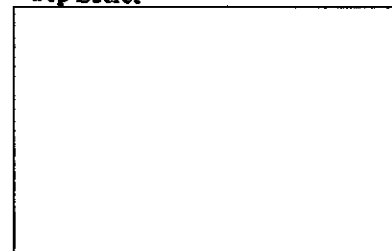


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DATE: OCT 2005

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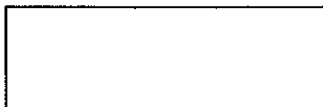
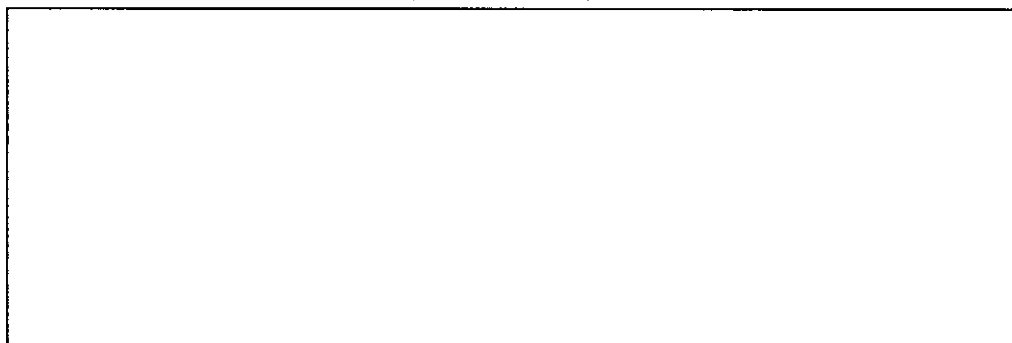
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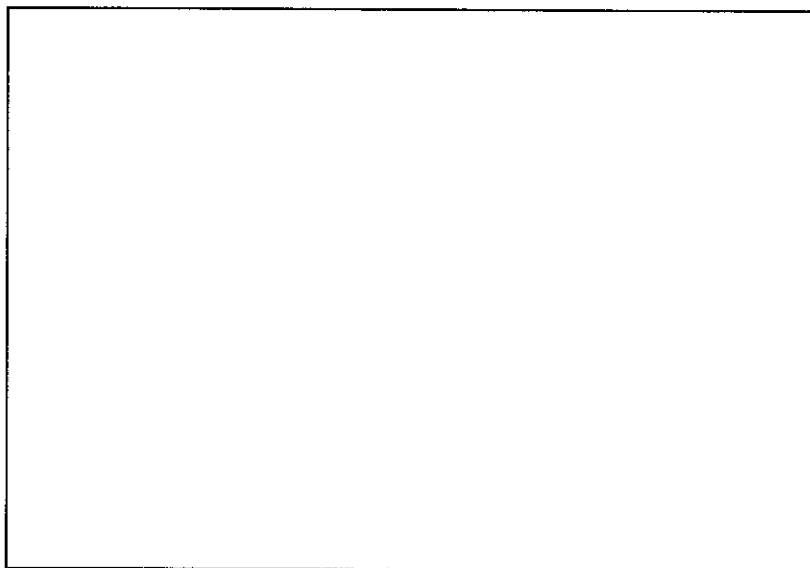


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RUSSIA: Nuclear Test Planned

Russia has officially notified Washington that it will conduct a nuclear test in August at the Novaya Zemlya nuclear test site if it does not extend its moratorium on nuclear testing. Moscow has repeatedly pledged to continue observing the moratorium as long as the US also does not test.

the US will have the right to conduct on-site verification under the terms of the Threshold Test Ban Treaty.

Comment: The Russian nuclear and military community apparently has been lobbying for resumed testing since the US notified Moscow that a nuclear device will be tested at the Nevada site in July. The notification, however, may also be intended to prod the US to enter into negotiations on a comprehensive test ban. Plans for the test are likely to draw considerable opposition from environmentalists in Europe and in Russia. Moscow's concern over previous venting of radioactive debris from tests at Novaya Zemlya may force it to limit the yield of the coming test

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12 February 1993