

***“When racing toward
a precipice, it is
progress to stop.”***

***—Drs. Bernard Lown
and Evgueni Chazov,
IPPNW Co-Presidents,
1986***

A Comprehensive Test Ban (CTB) is a vital and achievable step that would enhance the security of the United States and the world. A verifiable, global ban on all nuclear test explosions would dramatically slow the nuclear arms race, help contain the spread of nuclear weapons, and reduce U.S.-Soviet tensions. A CTB would improve the chances of negotiating arms reductions, and would help shift the flow of world resources away from weapons development. The current annual budget for nuclear testing in the United States is approximately \$650 million. When the critical needs of people are going unmet, continued nuclear testing does not add to our national security.

Nuclear testing is essential to the development of new weapons which push the arms race in destabilizing new directions. For this reason a CTB is a necessary step to take in halting the arms race of the 1990s.

The immediate health effects of nuclear testing have been greatly reduced by confining most tests underground. But roughly

Nuclear Tests 1945-89

as of August 1, 1989

