

## Declassification of the Yields of 11 Nuclear Tests Conducted as Part of the Plowshare Peaceful Uses for Nuclear Explosives Program

The Department of Energy and the Department of Defense have jointly declassified the specific yields of 11 nuclear tests conducted between 1962 and 1968 at the Nevada Test Site, including three tests that, as previously announced, leaked radioactivity. Also declassified are the yields of two detonations that, together with another detonation whose yield has already been declassified, constituted a single test. All these tests took place at the Nevada Test Site as part of the Peaceful Uses for Nuclear Explosives program. With the declassification, the United States now has declassified the yields of all 27 Plowshare tests and 35 detonations. A series of tests to explore the feasibility of using nuclear explosions for excavation, for stimulating the production of natural gas from marginal fields, and for other peaceful uses began with the detonation Gnome on December 10, 1961, in Carlsbad, New Mexico, and concluded with Rio Blanco on May 17, 1973, in Rifle, Colorado. Available today is the executive summary of a report, "Plowshare Program," to be published next year by the U.S. DOE Nevada Operations Office.

This declassification reveals the specific yields of all tests and detonations that were conducted to develop nuclear explosives specifically designed for use in civilian projects.

### **SPECIFICALLY:**

The declassification reveals the yields of the following 11 nuclear tests and 2 detonations conducted between 1962 and 1970 at the Nevada Test Site:

<u>Nuclear Test/Detonation</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Yield (kt)</u>
Anacostia	11/27/62	5.2
Kaweah	2/21/63	3
Tornillo	10/11/63	0.38
Klickitat	2/20/64	70
Ace	6/11/64	3
Dub	6/30/64	11.7
Templar	3/24/66	0.37
Saxon	7/28/66	1.2
Simms	11/05/66	2.3
Switch	6/22/67	3.1
Stoddard	9/17/68	31
Flask-Yellow*	5/26/70	0.09
Flask-Red*	5/26/70	0.04

*\*Detonation, conducted simultaneously with Flask-Green, 5/26/70, 105 kt.*