

Kazakhstan Missile Chronology

Last update: May 2010

**As of May 2010, this chronology is no longer being updated.
For current developments, please see the Kazakhstan Missile Overview.**

This annotated chronology is based on the data sources that follow each entry. Public sources often provide conflicting information on classified military programs. In some cases we are unable to resolve these discrepancies, in others we have deliberately refrained from doing so to highlight the potential influence of false or misleading information as it appeared over time. In many cases, we are unable to independently verify claims. Hence in reviewing this chronology, readers should take into account the credibility of the sources employed here.

Inclusion in this chronology does not necessarily indicate that a particular development is of direct or indirect proliferation significance. Some entries provide international or domestic context for technological development and national policymaking. Moreover, some entries may refer to developments with positive consequences for nonproliferation.

2009-1947

March 2009

On 4 March 2009, Kazakhstan signed a contract to purchase S-300 air defense missile systems from Russia. According to Ministry of Defense officials, Kazakhstan plans to purchase 10 batteries of S-300PS by 2011. Kazakhstan's Air Defense Commander Aleksandr Sorokin mentioned, however, that the 10 batteries would still not be enough to shield all the most vital facilities designated earlier by a presidential decree. The export version of S-300PS (NATO designation SA-10C Grumble) has a maximum range of 75 km and can hit targets moving at up to 1200 m/s at a minimum altitude of 25 meters. The air defense systems have already been in use in Russia and will be supplied to Kazakhstan after repair and refurbishment. Air Defense Commander Sorokin denied reports that Kazakhstan is planning to purchase S-400 Triumf (NATO designation SA-20) in the near future, explaining that it would be premature to buy a system that is still being "fine-tuned."

- Kazakhstan, Russia sign contract on S-300 air defense systems," Ria Novosti, 4 March 2009; Russian S-300 Missile Systems to Be Delivered to Kazakhstan Step-by-Step until 2011," Interfax, 4 March 2009; Kazakhstan Doesn't Plant to Buy Russia's S-400 Missile Systems Thus Far " Military," Interfax, 4 March 2009.

September 2007

Kazakh military announced plans to purchase S-300 and S-400 anti-missile weapon systems from Russia. The systems, which were first used on Kazakh soil during the 2005 Combat Commonwealth military exercises, would strengthen Kazakhstan's air defense.

- "MiG Upgrades and Missiles for Kazakhstan," Defense Industry Daily, 17 September 2007, www.defenseindustrydaily.com; David Isby, "Russian units encounter problems in air-defence training exercise," Jane's Missiles and Rockets, 1 July 2005.

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June 2007

On 28 June 2007, Kazakhstan acceded to the Biological Weapons Convention, hoping to speed up consideration of its candidacy in the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). The MTCR has not accepted new members since 2004.

June 2003

The possibility of Kazakhstan joining the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) is discussed during a meeting on June 3 between Acting Chairman of the MTCR Mariusz Handzlik and representatives of the government of Kazakhstan. Out of a total of 33 member countries, Kazakhstan would be the third to join from the CIS states, after Russia and Ukraine. Joining the MTCR is necessary for Kazakhstan to have access to technologies it needs in order to cooperate with Russia in space launch operations at Baikonur, since technology used in space-launch vehicles is virtually identical to that used in a ballistic missile. Handzlik states that because Kazakhstan has legal acts concerning export controls and nonproliferation of WMD and because Kazakhstan meets all of the MTCR's requirements, there is no reason that it should not be included in the MTCR. Kazakhstan's application to the MTCR will be considered by MTCR member countries during a meeting in Buenos Aires on 22-26 September.

- Astana Kazakh TV1, 3 June 2003; in "Kazakhstan Considered for Missile Technology Control Regime," FBIS Document CEP20030603000336; "ACDA Fact Sheet on Missile Technology Control Regime," Federation of American Scientists, www.fas.org.

April 2003

Out of fear of the possibility of a stray U.S. missile from the Iraq conflict landing in the country, Kazakhstan's air defenses is on alert against possible attacks. The Kazakhstani military reportedly feels its concerns are justified after seeing reports of the number of cruise missiles that have gone astray during the fighting. Sea-based cruise missiles are reported to have a range of 1,000 kilometers, which would theoretically enable a stray launched at Iraq to reach southwestern Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, or Turkmenistan.

—Justin Burke, "Kazakhstan still concerned about possible air attacks," Kazakhstan Daily Digest, www.eurasianet.org.

10 October 2002

The Russian Strategic Rocket Forces launches a UR-100NUTTKh [NATO designation SS-19 'Stiletto'] ICBM from the Baikonur Cosmodrome. The missile is launched in full six-warhead configuration. The dummy warheads land on the Kura range on Russia's Kamchatka peninsula.

- "S kosmodroma Baykonur uspešno osushchestvlen pusk mezhkontinentalnoy ballisticheskoy rakety," ITAR-TASS, 10 December 2002; in Integrum Techno, www.integrum.com; "Uchebno-boyevoy pusk mezhkontinentalnoy rakety zavershil'sya udachno," Regions.Ru Website, 10 December 2002; in Integrum Techno, www.integrum.com.

7 October 2002

The Russian military successfully launches a "long-range" anti-ballistic missile (ABM) interceptor of unspecified type from the Sary-Shagan testing range.

—Vladislav Kuznetsov, "Ocherednoy tekhnicheskoy resurs nakhodyashchikhsya na boyevom dezhurstve rossiyskikh protivoraket prodlen do trekh let," ITAR-TASS, 7 October 2002; in Integrum Techno, www.integrum.com.

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14 February 2002: U.S. TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR FURTHER ELIMINATION OF SILOS

On 14 February 2002, U.S. Ambassador to Kazakhstan Larry C. Napper announced that the U.S. will allocate \$6 million to support further elimination of silo-based missile launchers in Kazakhstan under a 1993 U.S.-Kazakhstani treaty on eliminating ICBM launch silos. According to Kazakhstani Chief of General Staff Malik Saparov, six silos remain intact at the Leninsk test site in the Kzyl-Orda region.

- "Six ICBM Silos Remain in Kazakhstan," Interfax, 21 February 2002; "Chronicle. Kazakhstan to eliminate silo missile launchers with the money of the US," *Nezavisimaya gazeta*, 15 February 2002, p. 5; in EastView Online Database of Russian Publications, <http://news.mosinfo.ru>.

February 2002

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June 2001

On 21 June 2001, the Kazakhstani Senate unanimously ratifies the Memorandum of Understanding Relating to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems of May 26, 1972. This Memorandum establishes successors to the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM Treaty), which was originally concluded between the United States and the Soviet Union. The Memorandum was signed in New York on 26 September 1997 by the U.S. Secretary of State and Foreign Ministers of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan. After ratification by the Kazakhstani Senate, the Memorandum was sent for signature to Kazakhstani President Nursultan Nazarbayev. Once all the other signatories ratify the 1997 Memorandum, Kazakhstan will become a party to the ABM Treaty and will then be able to legalize military installations that were a part of the Soviet ABM system located in Kazakhstan, including the Sary Shagan test site and Balkhash radar station. Kazakhstan will also have the right to formally participate in negotiations on the future of the ABM Treaty. Earlier, on 21 May 2001, Nazarbayev criticized U.S. national missile defense plans in an interview with the *New York Times*.

- "Senat Kazakhstana odobril prisoyedineniye respubliki k memorandumu po PRO," Interfax-Novosti, 21 June 2001; "Kazakhstan prisoyedinilsya k sovetско-amerikanskomu dogovoru po PRO," Caspian News Agency, 25 June 2001; "Kazakhstan nameren na ravnykh uchastvovat v debatakh po PRO," Reuters; in UNIAN, No. 024 (164), 11-17 June 2001; "Prezident Kazakhstana vystupil protiv razvertyvaniya Vashingtonom sistemy PRO," Interfax-Novosti, 21 May 2001.

May 2001

On 25 May 2001, *Nezavisimoye voyennoye obozreniye* reports that Sary-Shagan, a Russian ABM testing site operating under a 10-year lease from Kazakhstan, is suffering from social support problems affecting its personnel. Sary-Shagan's facilities fell into disrepair due to a lack of funding between 1990 and 1997. In 1998, work began at

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Sary-Shagan to restore its capabilities, enabling it to resume some test activities. On 2 November 1999, a close intercept anti-ballistic missile was test-launched from Sary-Shagan. Another test of an ABM missile was reported on 2 May 2001. However, Sary-Shagan is still suffering from a range of social problems. Due to its ambiguous legal status as a Russian-controlled facility in Kazakhstan, basic services such as transportation, child support, and medical care are not being provided to personnel assigned there. According to *Nezavisimoye voyennoye obozreniye*, the absence of basic services is threatening the morale and effectiveness of personnel at Sary-Shagan. - Sergey Sokut, "Poligon boretsya s proizvolom chinovnikov: Vazhneyshiy obekt rossiyskoy PRO dlya moskovskikh byurokratov ne sushchestvuyet," *Nezavisimoye voyennoye obozreniye* online edition, nvo.ng.ru, 25 May 2001; Sergey Sokut, "Dialogue with Help of Missiles. Russia has Made Countermove to U.S. Preparations To Deploy Missile Defense System," *Nezavisimaya gazeta*, 16 November 1999, p. 6; in "Russia Test Seen as Response to US NMD," FBIS Document FTS199911117999294; "Kazakhstan-RVSN," ITAR-TASS, 2 May 2001; in Integrum Techno, www.integrum.ru.

November 2000

On 1 November 2000, the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces launches an RS-18 ICBM [NATO designation SS-19 'Stiletto'] from a silo at the Baikonur test site in Kazakhstan. The 25-year-old missile hits its training target at the Kura testing ground on the Kamchatka peninsula in Russia. This follows the launch of an RS-20 ICBM [NATO designation SS-18 'Satan'] with five satellites from Baikonur in September/October 2000.

—"Russian Strategic Rocket Forces Launch RS-18 Intercontinental Ballistic Missile," Interfax, 1 November 2000.

June 2000

On 28 June 2000, the Kazakhstani parliament ratifies a set of agreements leasing the following four military test ranges to Russia: Sary-Shagan, Emba, the 929th Flight Test Center, and facilities associated with Russia's Kapustin Yar Test Site. The agreements are valid for 10 years from ratification. Russia will pay Kazakhstan \$27.5 million in rent each year, \$24.3 million of which will be in-kind payments in the form of military training and supplies.

—"Kazakhstan Ratifies Agreements on Russia's Use of Testing Ranges," *Monitor--A Daily Briefing on the Post-Soviet States*, Vol. VI, Issue 130, 5 July 2000; Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

May 2000

Kazakhstani Minister of Defense Mukhtar Altynbaev and Commander in Chief of Russian Air Force Anatoliy Kornukov sign a protocol on delivery of a missile complex S-300 to Kazakhstan and the training of missile personnel.

—Hronika novostey stran Tsentralnoy Azii, <http://afnet.integrum.ru>.

15 June 2000

The ratification of bilateral agreements is postponed by the lower house of the Kazakhstani parliament. Deputies call for the creation of a commission to study the agreement, under which Russia must pay \$27.5 million annually to Kazakhstan for the use of the testing ranges. The agreement was signed in 1995 to allow Russia to use military ranges in Kazakhstan for testing anti-missile and anti-aircraft equipment.

—Justin Burke, "Kazakhstan's Parliament fails to ratify agreement on testing ranges," *Kazakhstan Daily Digest*, www.eurasianet.org.

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April 2000

Fired from the Russian Ashuluk military testing range in Astrakhan Oblast, a Russian test missile goes out of control and crashes on 21 April 2000 near the village of Primorye in western Kazakhstan. Luckily no one is injured by the crash. Kazakhstani Foreign Minister Yerlan Idrisov summons Russia's ambassador, Yuri Merzlyakov, on 24 April 2000 and demands an explanation of the accident. Idrisov tells journalists the same day that the Kazakhstani government will ask Moscow to freeze rocket tests at the Ashuluk range.

—Justin Burke, "Russian rocket crashes in Kazakhstan", Kazakhstan Daily Digest Website, www.eurasianet.org.

November 1999

Against the background of the ongoing U.S.-Russian dispute over possible amendments to the ABM Treaty, the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces (SRF) on 2 November 1999 launches a 53T6 [NATO name 'Gazelle'] short-range interceptor missile at the Sary-Shagan testing range in Kazakhstan. Ivan Safranchuk, an analyst with the PIR Center for Policy Studies in Russia, says that the test served as a reminder that Russia has an operational missile defense system, and that it may decide to modernize it. Yakovlev himself pointed out that the test should be viewed as illustrating a possible symmetrical and asymmetrical response by Russia to U.S. plans to deploy limited national missile defenses. According to Reuters, an anonymous U.S. State Department Official says that the United States found the test launch "distressing," and that "Russia is raising the specter of an arms competition when what we're trying to do is work cooperatively with them to focus on rogue states." In his public comments on the Russian test, U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen says that he is not sure what point Russia was trying to make with its test. "It only proves they have an Anti-Ballistic Missile system, which we do not," Cohen said. The United States briefly deployed an ABM system at Grand Forks, North Dakota, but dismantled it over 20 years ago.

- Vladimir Isachenkov, "Russia highlights its forces amid war of nerves on nuclear treaty," Associated Press, 5 November 1999; in Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe, web.lexis-nexis.com; "Unconfirmed Russian Missile Test Underscores ABM Tensions," *Monitor*, 5 November 1999.

November 1999

The Russian Strategic Rocket Forces completes the relocation of personnel, military property, and technical equipment from Emba to Kapustin Yar, Astrakhan Oblast, Russia, and ends its lease of the test site.

—"Ispytatelnyy poligon 'Emba' perekocheval iz Kazakhstana v Rossiyu," *Krasnaya zvezda*, 20 November 1999, p. 1; in WPS Oborona i bezopasnost, No. 138, 24 November 1999.

9 September 1998: MISSILE SILOS IN KAZAKHSTAN TO BE DESTROYED BY November 1998

S. Denison Keeney, contracts manager for ABB/Brown & Root, the firm contracted to demolish ICBM silos in Kazakhstan, said on 9 September 1998 that all missile silos remaining in Kazakhstan will be destroyed by November 1998.

—CNS Interview with S. Denison Keeney of ABB/Brown & Root, 9 September 1998, KAZ980909.

April 1997

The Kazakhstani parliament refuses to ratify an agreement on Russia's use of four military test sites in Kazakhstan that was signed by Kazakhstani Prime Minister Akezhan Kazhegeldin and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on 18 October 1996. Deputy Prime Minister Sharip Omarov notes that damage caused by nuclear

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testing during the Soviet era has cost the Kazakhstani government \$115 million since 1991. Omarov also says that once Kazakhstan becomes a non-nuclear state, the next step will be to ban conventional weapons testing on the country's soil.

— OMRI Daily Digest, Vol. 3, No. 25, 5 February 1997.

18 October 1996

Kazakhstani Prime Minister Akezhan Kazhegeldin and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin sign four agreements on continuing the Russian use of four military sites in Kazakhstan for a ten-year period. The test sites are Emba, Sary-Shagan, Central Military Test Site No. 4 (part of Kapustin Yar), and 929th State Test Flight Center. Russia is supposed to pay \$26.5 million annually for the lease of the sites which it wants to pay in kind, by supplying military equipment and technologies and training Kazakhstani students at Russian military schools. However, Kazakhstani opposition leaders feel that Russia might fail to pay the rent, as it has never paid its \$115 million annual payment for the use of the Baikonur cosmodrome, claiming that Kazakhstan owes more than \$400 million to Moscow.

- NISNP e-mail correspondence, 1 November 1996; OMRI Daily Digest, Vol. 3, No. 25, 5 February 1997.

29 August 1996: LAST ICBM SILO IN KAZAKHSTAN DISMANTLED

The last (104th) SS-18 missile silo on Kazakhstani soil was eliminated in Derzhavinsk on 29 August 1996. On 5 September 1996, Kazakhstani President Nursultan Nazarbayev sent a letter to Russian President Boris Yeltsin stating that, under the START I Treaty, Kazakhstan has, with Russia's assistance, fulfilled its international obligations concerning the elimination of strategic weapons on its territory. A U.S. on-site inspection team is to visit the facility in order to confirm the decommissioning of all START I treaty - accountable launchers in Kazakhstan.

- Almaty Kazakh Television First Program Network, 5 September 1996; in "Kazakhstan: Russia Completes Withdrawal of Nuclear Military Facilities," FBIS-SOV-96-174, 5 September 1996; Vladimir Ardayev and Viktor Litovkin, "Kazakhstan izbavilsya ot 'Satany'," *Izvestiya*, 13 September 1996, p. 1; Anatoliy Ladin, "Raketnaya baza obretayet grazhdanskiy status," *Krasnaya Zvezda*, 12 September 1996, p. 1; ITAR-TASS, 6 September 1996; in "Kazakhstan: Last Russian Nuclear Missile Silos Destroyed," FBIS-SOV-96-174, 6 September 1996.

19 August 1996: FINAL PROTOCOL ON WITHDRAWAL OF SRF FROM KAZAKHSTAN SIGNED

On 19 August 1996 in Almaty, Russia and Kazakhstan signed a final protocol on the withdrawal of Russian strategic rocket forces from Kazakhstan. The document was signed by First Deputy Chairman of the Kazakhstani Committee for the Defense Industry, Vladimir Kotelnikov, and First Deputy Commander of the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces, Colonel-General Nikolay Solovtsov, at a meeting of the joint Kazak-Russian commission dealing with the consequences of the operation of the Russian strategic forces in Kazakhstan. It was reported on 4 September 1996 that two Russian rocket divisions were being pulled out of the Turgay and Semipalatinsk regions. The last Russian rocket division in Derzhavinsk is scheduled to leave Kazakhstan by early October 1996. Army General Igor Sergeev, Commander of the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces, stated that since December 1994, 16 missile regiments in Kazakhstan have been disbanded; 898 warheads, 98 intercontinental ballistic missiles, and more than 18,000 MT of missile fuel components have been taken to Russia; and 104 combat silos for SS-18 ICBMs and two training silos have been dismantled. Under an inter-governmental agreement, approximately 1,000 kilometers of access roads,

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4,000 kilometers of power cable, 900 kilometers of communication cable, residential facilities, and other property have been transferred to Kazakhstan. Residential facilities at the former ICBM base in Zhangiz-Tobe have been turned into a correctional camp under the authority of the Kazakhstani Ministry of Internal Affairs. The United States is assisting Kazakhstan in the reclamation of land on the territory of former missile launching facilities.

- Interfax, 11 September 1996; in "Russia: Accord Signed on Missile Force Pullout From Kazakhstan," FBIS-SOV-96-178, 11 September 1996; Vladimir Ardayev, Viktor Litovkin, "Kazakhstan izbavilsya ot 'Satany'," *Izvestiya*, 13 September 1996, p.1; Anatoliy Ladin, "Raketnaya baza obretayet grazhdanskiy status," *Krasnaya zvezda*, 12 September 1996, p.1; Almaty Kazakh Television First Program Network, 5 September 1996; in "Kazakhstan: Russia Completes Withdrawal of Nuclear Military Facilities," FBIS-SOV-96-174, 5 September 1996; Anatoliy Ladin, "Russian Strategic Missile Forces Leaving Kazakhstan With Honor," *Krasnaya Zvezda*, 11 September 1996; in "Russia: ICBM, Silo Dismantling in Kazakhstan Virtually Complete," FBIS-SOV-96-178, 11 September 1996; ITAR-TASS, 4 September 1996; in "Russia: Russia Continues Cutbacks in Nuclear Forces in Kazakhstan," FBIS-SOV-96-173, 4 September 1996; ITAR-TASS, 6 September 1996; in "Kazakhstan: Last Russian Nuclear Missile Silos Destroyed," FBIS-SOV-96-174, 6 September 1996.

8 August 1996

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- Vladimir Ardayev and Viktor Litovkin, "Kazakhstan izbavilsya ot 'Satany'," *Izvestiya*, 13 September 1996, p. 1; Anatoliy Ladin, "Raketnaya baza obretayet grazhdanskiy status," *Krasnaya zvezda*, 12 September 1996, p. 1 ; ITAR-TASS, 6 September 1996; in "Kazakhstan: Last Russian Nuclear Missile Silos Destroyed," FBIS-SOV-96-174, 6 September 1996.

23 February 1996: BROWN & ROOT WIN CTR CONTRACT FOR SILO DESTRUCTION IN KAZAKHSTAN

A joint venture team, composed of the Swedish-Swiss multinational engineering firm ABB and the Houston-based construction company Brown and Root, won a contract to destroy 148 missile silos located in four different sites in Kazakhstan. Worth \$31 million, the contract is funded from by Nunn-Lugar project (CTR) for the elimination of strategic offensive arms. Kazakhstan has taken on itself the responsibility for destroying the command and control apparatus for the SS-18 intercontinental ballistic missiles according to a previous agreement with the United States.

— Francis Williams, "Foreign Companies Will Help Kazakhstan Dismantle Missile Silos," *Finansovyye izvestiya*, 23 February 1996, No. 20, p. 1.

26 January 1996: KAZAKHSTANI-RUSSIAN AGREEMENTS TO ADDRESS NUCLEAR WEAPONS REMOVAL

Upon concluding a two day meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstani Defense Minister Alibek Kasymov and Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev signed a series of 16 documents. Chief among the agreements was a protocol calling for the preparation and arrangement of a bilateral defense pact. Other agreements addressed the full removal of

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nuclear weapons from Kazakhstan to Russia, the use of test facilities located on Kazakhstani territory, and the deployment of Russian military forces in Kazakhstan.

- Raisa Dobraya, "The Creation Of A Military-Political Union -- The Main Goal Of The Reception The Minister Kf Defense Of Russia," *Kazakhstanskaya pravda*, 30 January 1996, p. 1. "The Visit Of Pavel Grachev To Kazakhstan Began," *Segodnya*, 26 January 1996, p. 1.

14 January 1996: RUSSIAN MISSILE UNITS IN KAZAKHSTAN TO BE DISBANDED BY May 1996

Colonel General Igor Sergeev, Commander of the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces- announced that all "Russian-commanded military units controlling nuclear missiles" on Kazakhstani territory are to be withdrawn and disbanded by 1 May 1996.

— "Russia Says Republics to Give Up Nukes," UPI, 14 January 1996, Code No. 1041.

November 1995: RUSSIA TO COMPENSATE KAZAKHSTAN FOR STRATEGIC BOMBERS

An article in Panorama reports that by the end of 1995 Russia will outfit the Kazakhstani Ministry of Defense with 43 jet airplanes, including 21 MiG-29s. The supply of jets is part of a compensatory program to make up for strategic bombers and nuclear warheads removed from Kazakhstani territory. According to Kazakhstan's First Deputy Prime Minister Nigmatzhan Isingarín, Russia will deliver an additional 30 military jets to Kazakhstan over the next two years.

— *Central Asia Monitor*, No. 6 (10-11), 1995.

13 October 1995: MISSILE SILOS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE CLOSED DOWN

U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry and Kazakhstan's Defense Minister Sagadat Nurmagambetov exchanged messages which emphasize that Washington regards Almaty as a bulwark of stability in Central Asia. According to Nurmagambetov, nuclear warheads and RS-20 (SS-18) ICBMs are being moved to Russia. The missile silos and launch control centers are scheduled to be closed down soon. Destruction of nuclear missiles was to begin in 1994.

— Interfax, 13 October 1994; in FBIS-SOV-94-199, "Government Begins Eliminating Strategic Nuclear Forces," 13 October 1994.

25 May 1995

Russia announces the complete withdrawal of nuclear warheads from Kazakhstan.

— ITAR-TASS (Moscow), 25 April 1995; in FBIS-SOV-95-080, "Kazakhstan Completes Transfer of Nuclear Warheads," 25 April 1995.

24 May 1995: ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS TRANSFERRED TO RUSSIA

The Kazakhstani Foreign Ministry confirmed that all nuclear warheads had been transferred from Kazakhstan to Russia.

— Doug Clarke, "Kazakhstan Confirms It Is Nuclear Free," OMRI Daily Digest, 25 May 1996, p. 3.

5 April 1995: MISSILE WITHDRAWAL FROM KAZAKHSTAN IS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry stated that the process of missile and nuclear material withdrawal and dismantlement from Kazakhstan is 2-3 months ahead of schedule.

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— Interfax (Moscow), 5 April 1995; in FBIS-SOV-95-066, "Reportage on US Defense Minister Perry Visit," 5 April 1995.

April 1995: KAZAKHSTAN ELIMINATING ICBM SILOS

Kazakhstan begins eliminating its ICBM silos in accordance with the START I Treaty. The destruction of the silos is carried out by the Russian strategic missile forces on the basis of an agreement between the governments of Kazakhstan and Russia; the silos are eliminated by explosions. There are two SS-18 missile fields in Kazakhstan. The first silos to be destroyed are located at the Derzhavinsk field in the Turgay regions of northern Kazakhstan.

- ITAR-TASS, 24 April 1995; in FBIS-SOV-95-078, "Kazakhstan Begins Eliminating ICBM Silos," 24 February 1995; *Krasnaya zvezda*, 20 April 1995, p.1; in FBIS-SOV-095-077, "Troops Begin Destroying ICBM Silos in Kazakhstan," 20 April 1995; Doug Clarke, OMRI Daily Digest, 25 April 1995.

17 March 1995: ZHANGIZ-TOBE ICBM BASE SITE IS BEING CLOSED

All the SS-18 (Satan) missiles deployed at Zhangiz-Tobe are being withdrawn to Russia, and the base is to be closed. Zhangiz-Tobe is also known as Solnechnyy.

— *Krasnaya zvezda*, 17 March 1995; in FBIS-SOV-95-054, "Zhangiz-Tobe ICBM Base Closure Viewed," 17 March 1995.

March 1995: WARHEADS WITHDRAWAL IN KAZAKHSTAN, UKRAINE

The Pentagon has stated that as of mid-March, 1,555 strategic warheads have been removed from missiles in the republics of the former Soviet Union, including 440 SS-18 ICBM and 370 ALCM warheads in Kazakhstan, 45 SS-25 ICBM warheads in Belarus, 240 SS-19 and 460 SS-24 ICBM warheads in Ukraine. Of these, 1,097 have been withdrawn to Russia, including 632 from Kazakhstan, 45 from Belarus, and 420 from Ukraine.

— "Belarus, Kazakhstan, Ukraine START 1 Cuts," *Arms Control Today*, April 1995.

March 1995: PROGRESS ON WARHEADS WITHDRAWAL, LAUNCHER ELIMINATION

According to Department of Defense Assistant Secretary for Atomic Energy Harold P. Smith, by 3/95, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine have withdrawn a total of 1,000 warheads to Russia and that about 575 launchers and bombers have been eliminated throughout the entire former Soviet Union.

— "Pentagon Defends Nunn-Lugar; Predicts \$1 Billion Chem-Demil Program," *Post-Soviet Nuclear and Defense Monitor*, 14 March 1995, pp. 3-4.

4 February 1995: DISMANTLING OF WARHEADS HAS BEGUN

According to a report on parliamentary hearings by Gadlet Batyrbekov, the Director General of the Kazakhstani National Nuclear Center, work on disassembly of 108 SS-18 warheads has already begun and will be finished by 3-4/95. (Disassembly of warheads is performed in Russia, not in Kazakhstan. Either the source is referring to the removal of warheads from missiles, or the progress of warhead dismantling in Russia.)

— *Panorama*, 4 February 1995, p. 2; in FBIS-SOV-45-028, "Parliament Considers Future of Nuclear Power," 4 February 1995.

1995

Kazakhstan and Russia sign an intergovernmental agreement granting Russia the right to lease the Emba test site

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for a period of 10 years.

— Vladimir Berezko, "They Should Come Up With a Red Book for Emba," *Krasnaya zvezda*, 6 September 1996, p. 2; in FBIS-SOV-96-209-S.

December 1994: ICBM COMPONENTS ARE BEING REMOVED FROM KAZAKHSTAN

Kazakhstan's First Deputy Defense Minister Major General Alibek Kasymov told Interfax that intercontinental ballistic missiles are being taken off-line in Kazakhstan and components of the strategic offensive weapons are being removed to Russia. According to Kasymov, the aviation division, previously located near Semipalatinsk, has been completely removed from Kazakhstan.

— Interfax, 14 December 1994; in FBIS-SOV-94-241, "Strategic Nuclear Missiles Taken Off Duty," 14 December 1994.

5 December 1994

The START I treaty enters into force on 5 December 1994.

— *Nuclear Successor States of the Soviet Union*, project of the MIIS and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Number 5, March 1998.

November 1994: 44 SS-18 ICBMs HAVE BEEN DEACTIVATED IN KAZAKHSTAN

According to an unclassified CIA report, as of this month 44 SS-18 ICBMs have been deactivated and their warheads have been removed. With these retirements completed, Kazakhstan now has 60 SS-18s on its territory.

— "Nuclear Weapons Deactivations Continue In FSU," *Arms Control Today*, November 1994, p. 33.

July 1994: ICBMS HAVE BEEN DETARGETED

Target coordinates reportedly have been removed from the memories of missile guidance computers in Kazakhstan as well as in Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine, as a precautionary measure in the case of an accidental launch, according to Colonel General Igor Sergeyev, commander of the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces. (This "detargeting" of ICBMs is a result of international agreements between Russia, the United States and other states to reduce the danger of accidental launch.)

— "US-Russian Strategic Missile Retargeting Complete," *Arms Control Today*, July-August 1994, p. 26.

10 May 1994: KAZAKHSTANI-U.S. NEGOTIATIONS ON A TENDER TO DISMANTLE SILOS

Kazakhstani and American governmental negotiators have not been able to agree on the terms of a tender for the contract to dismantle missile silos located on Kazakhstani territory, according to Kazakhstan's First Deputy Defense Minister Alibek Kasymov. The terms of the tender, which Kazakhstani officials agree is technically open, are such that "the participation of Kazak firms in it is problematic," said Kasymov. Kasymov confirmed that talks will continue. KATEP (the State Corporation for Atomic Power and Industry) and two holding companies, Special Installations and Construction, intend to take part in the tender.

— Interfax, 5/10/94; in FBIS-SOV-94-091, "Almaty, Washington Disagree on Missile Dismantlement," 11 May 1994, p.31.

May 1994: RUSSIA TO CONTROL THE STRATEGIC ROCKET FORCES IN KAZAKHSTAN

It was reported that Russia and Kazakhstan have reached an agreement granting control of the strategic rocket

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forces remaining on Kazakhstani territory to Russia. This announcement came from Colonel-General Igor Sergeev, Commander-in -Chief of Russia's Strategic Rocket Forces. It was further stated that Kazakhstan will be completely free of nuclear weapons by sometime in 1995.

— "Weapons," *Moscow News* (English edition), No. 18, 6-12 May 1994, p. 1.

May 1994

Russia and Kazakhstan reach an agreement granting control of the strategic rocket forces remaining on Kazakhstani territory to Russia. Russia in turn agreed to give Kazakhstan 21 MiG-29, 14 CU-25, 38 SU-27 as compensation for the HEU in the warheads.

— "Weapons," *Moscow News* (English edition), No. 18, 6-12 May 1994, p. 1.

April 1994: STATUS OF NUCLEAR WARHEADS REMOVED FROM CRUISE MISSILES

The status of the nuclear warheads removed from the ALCMs deployed in Kazakhstan in remains uncertain. The cruise missiles had been associated with the 40 Bear-H bombers recently transferred to Russia from Kazakhstan. President Nazarbayev insists that Kazakhstan receive \$1 billion of the \$11.9 billion which the United States has agreed to pay for the HEU recovered from dismantled Soviet warheads. The United States will not implement the agreement until Russia has finalized arrangements with Belarus and Kazakhstan on the disbursement of the funds.

— "Last of Bear-H Bombers Out of Kazakhstan," *Arms Control Today*, April 1994, p. 28.

28 March 1994: KAZAKHSTAN, RUSSIA AGREE ON PROVISIONS FOR THE DISPOSITION OF NUCLEAR FORCES

Presidents Nazarbayev and Yeltsin have signed a series of agreements, which include provisions for the disposition of the nuclear forces located on Kazakhstani territory. According to this report, Russia will assume full jurisdiction over the missiles, whose warheads are to be removed within 14 months. The missiles themselves and their silos are to be dismantled within three years, although details of the dismantlement process remain unclear. There is no new information about the compensation being sought by Kazakhstan for the HEU contained in the warheads.

— "Agreement on Nukes in Kazakhstan," RFE/RL News Briefs, Vol. 3, No. 19, 9-13 May 1994, p. 9.

March 1994: DETERIORATION OF MISSILE BASES IN KAZAKHSTAN REPORTED

Russian television reported that deteriorating conditions at the strategic missile bases in Kazakhstan can be attributed to strained relations between the Kazakhstani and Russian governments. Kazakhstan has renounced any claim to the missiles on its territory, and the divisions guarding the bases, paid in Russian rubles, are considered to be Russian, yet ambiguity remains over the status of these missiles, according to the report. The decision by the Kazakhstani government to suspend transfer of warheads and other missile components apparently derived from the intention to seek compensation for HEU contained in the warheads. Critics have claimed that this measure has led to an unacceptable build-up of dangerous materials at poorly-maintained storage depots.

— St. Petersburg Fifth National Television Network, 20 March 1994; in "Missiles Becoming Instruments Of Political Blackmail," JPRS-TND-94-011, 16 May 1994, p. 35.

March 1994: PRESIDENT NAZARBAYEV ASSURES THAT ALL SS-18 WILL BE DISMANTLED

President Nazarbayev gave U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry assurances that all 104 of the SS-18 ICBMs will be shipped to Russia for dismantling. Thus far, twelve SS-18s have been transported to Russia; all the strategic

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bombers have also been returned to Russia. The warheads, however, have not been transferred yet and will not be returned to Russia until Kazakhstan and Russia reach an agreement regarding compensation for the HEU in the warheads. Such an agreement may occur by the end of April.

- John Lepingwell, "Assurances on Nuclear Weapons in Kazakhstan," RFE/RL News Briefs, 21-25 March 1994 , p. 8; ITAR-TASS, 12 February 1994; in JPRS-TND-94-006, "State Advisor Counters Report on Nuclear Storage Dangers," 16 March 1994, pp. 37-38.

14 February 1994

Kazakhstan joins the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

— *Nuclear Successor States of the Soviet Union*, project of the MIIS and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Number 5, March 1998.

12 February 1994: NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN KAZAKHSTAN ARE POORLY MAINTAINED

Izvestiya, citing sources in the Russian Defense Ministry, alleged that the strategic nuclear weapons in Kazakhstan are poorly maintained and becoming dangerous. The report names the Derzhavinsk Garrison in Turgai Province and Zhangiz-Tobe Garrison in Semipalatinsk Province as being particularly dangerous because of low morale. It further claims that fire alarm systems, fire extinguishing equipment, and electrical wiring are falling apart, and that security equipment and electrical security barriers aren't working. A comment on this report notes that these charges are being leveled in the Russian press at the start of President Nazarbayev's visit to Washington, and resemble the sorts of charges the Russian military has been making against Ukraine.

- *Izvestiya*, 12 February 1994, p. 2; in Viktor Litovkin, "Nuclear Magazines In Kazakhstan Are On The Verge Of An Accident," *The Current Digest of the Post-Soviet Press*, Vol. XLVI, No. 6, 1994, p. 27; Stephen Foye, "*Izvestiya*: Kazak Nuclear Weapons Unsafe," RFE/RL News Briefs, Vol. 3, No. 8, 14-18 February 1994.

February 1993: INTERMEDIATE-RANGE MISSILES HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM KAZAKHSTAN

President Nazarbayev stated that intermediate-range missiles have been completely removed from Kazakhstani territory. He also declared that Kazakhstan was the first country to ratify START-1.

— Otto Hoermann, ORF (Vienna), 3 February 1993; in "Discusses Nuclear Arms Safety," FBIS Document SOV-93-022, 4 February 1993, p. 43.

July 1992

Kazakhstan ratifies the START I treaty on 2 July 1992.

— Otto Hoermann, ORF (Vienna), 3 February 1993; in "Discusses Nuclear Arms Safety," FBIS Document SOV-93-022, 4 February 1993, p. 43.

May 1992

Kazakhstan (as well as Ukraine and Belarus) and the United States on May 23, 1992 sign a protocol to the treaty, known as the Lisbon Protocol, solving the problem of succession of the START 1 Treaty obligations of the Soviet Union.

— *Nuclear Successor States of the Soviet Union*, project of the MIIS and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Number 5, March 1998.

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December 1991

The Soviet Union is officially dissolved. Kazakhstan inherits 1,410 nuclear warheads deployed on RS-20 [NATO designation SS-18 'Satan'] missiles and Tu-95 [Bear] heavy bombers.

- "The Politics of Renunciation: The Cases of Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine," Occasional Paper No. 22, Henry L. Stimson Center, www.stimson.org; Richard G. Lugar, Nunn-Lugar: The Past as a Guide to the Future, presentation at NISNP Conference Assessing U.S. Dismantlement and Nonproliferation Assistance Programs in the Newly Independent States, Monterey, CA, 13 December 1999.

1965

A missile division is deployed in the city of Derzhavinsk in northeastern Kazakhstan. The first commander of the division is General Vasiliy Federovich Paramonov.

— Mihael Pervov, *Mezhkontinentalnyye balisticheskiye rakety SSSR i Rossii*, Moskva, 1998.

1961

A missile division is deployed in the city of Djambul in southern Kazakhstan. The first commander of the division is General Vladimir Denisovich Morozov.

— Mihael Pervov, *Mezhkontinentalnye balisticheskie rakety SSSR i Rossii*, Moskva, 1998.

24 October 1960

A ballistic missile R-16 explodes during the launch preparation in Baikonur. Commander-in-Chief of Strategic Rocket Forces of USSR General Mitrofan Nedelin and 125 people were killed during the tragic accident.

— Aleksandr Zheleznyakov, "Baikonur'skaya tragediya," *Kosmicheskii Mir*, www.cosmoworld.ru.

1960

The Emba anti-missile and anti-aircraft defense system test site is created.

— Vladimir Berezko, "They Should Come Up With a Red Book for Emba," *Krasnaya zvezda*, 6 September 1996, p. 2; in FBIS-SOV-96-209-S.

1956-1957

Under the First Soviet ABM Project, the construction of a missile facility at Sary-Shagan begins in July 1956, west of Lake Balkhash. Long-range radar is installed on the site in 1957, and the first test launches of missile interceptors are conducted on 11 October 1957. V-1000 interceptor missiles designed in P.D. Grushin's OKB-2, equipped with a conventional fragmentation warhead, are used in the test launches.

— M. Rebrov, "Gonka za mirazhami, ili kuda vedet 'raketnyi sled'" *Krasnaya zvezda*, 5 March 1994, p. 5.

1955

The Council of Ministers of USSR takes a decision to build a new missile test range near Tyuratam (later called Baikonur), Kazakhstan in preparation for launching the R-7 ICBM. On 15 March of the same year the first team of developers arrives in Tyuratam and the construction of the Baikonur missile test range starts.

— John Rhena, ed., *Road to Space: An Oral History of the Soviet Space Program* (Aviation Week Group: A division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, 1995) pp.493.

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1947

Kapustin Yar missile test range, the Soviet Union's first rocket development center, is established in Volgograd region in Russia and Western Kazakhstan. The first test of a rocket takes place in April 1947. Shortly after the test range was established, Kapustin Yar tested V2 missiles which were captured from the Germans during World War II. The site was also used for sounding rocket launches in the early years which carried dogs and other animals up to altitudes as high as 300 miles. Kapustin Yar test range is called the Volgograd Station to those who work there. - "Space Rocket Launch Sites around World," Space Today, www.spacetoday.org; "Kapustin Yar", World Space Guide, www.fas.org.

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