
Subject: U.S. Building new nukes

Posted by [Sir Phoenixx](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 14:21:16 GMT

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Quote:http://www.sfasu.edu/pubaffairs/Feb2003/Shuttle-debris-path_1.jpg

That's the debris path of the Columbia when it exploded as it re-entered. Shuttles launched from Cape Canaveral are launched towards the east over the ocean, and the only shuttle that blew up on launch was the Challenger, which blew up over the Atlantic, where the vast majority (if not all) of it's debris fell. Since the smaller Challenger debris fell into the water, then something as heavy as a warhead with uranium, which would be much heavier would also fall into the water.

Quote:And what if instead of exploding high in the troposphere, instead it malfunctions 5 seconds after liftoff and drops a nice big contaminated wreckage in a populated area? Who gets the blame then?

No one... Unless someone tries to colonize the Atlantic near Cape Canaveral.

Quote:How many would die that day?

None, besides the shuttle crew.

Quote:How many would die the next week after succumbing to radiation poisoning? How many decades would that area be uninhabitable?

Since everyone would be shielded from the radiation by hundreds of feet of water, none. And I wasn't aware that the Atlantic was inhabitable to begin with...
