More from FAS

The Nuclear Weapons “Procurement Holiday”

- It has become popular among military and congressional leaders to argue that the United States has had a “procurement holiday” in nuclear force planning for the past two decades. During this “holiday,” the United States has been busy modernizing and upgrading its nuclear forces including: submarines, bombers, missiles, cruise missiles, gravity bombs, reentry vehicles, command and control satellites, warhead surveillance and production facilities. Hans Kristensen writes that with the next cycle of upgrades, there needs to be a calm and intelligent assessment by policymakers to identify how much modernization and what types of systems are needed. Read the article here.

Big Data: Stealth Control

- Everyone who uses the Internet is implicated in a web of data collection; it relies on user data to produced tailored advertising revenue to support growth and free use. This digital profiling produces "the black box society," in which basic societal functions are performed in deliberate obscurity via collection and algorithmic manipulation of personal data such as location, age and political affiliation. In a new study, law professor Frank Pasquale examines how these algorithms impact money and information, and how algorithmic decision-making is taking society to a dangerous place. Steven Aftergood, Director of the Government Secrecy Project, examines Pasquale's study and the impacts of personal data collection in a new article published in Nature; the article is available here.

Counting Nuclear Warheads in the Public Interest

- For the past 28 years, the Nuclear Notebook has provided policymakers and public with critical, unclassified estimates of worldwide nuclear arsenals. This includes research on what kind of weapons are deployed, where they are located, stockpile trends, and methods of delivery. Notebook authors Hans Kristensen, Director of the Nuclear Information Project at FAS, and Robert Norris, FAS Senior Fellow for Nuclear Policy, take a look at some of the major
accomplishments of the Notebook and the role it has played in the public debate. Read the Nuclear Notebook here.

FAS at the Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons

- The Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons was held December 8-9, 2014, in Vienna; this was the third in a series of conferences organized by a growing number of countries and humanitarian organizations to discuss the risks nuclear weapons pose to humanity. Hans Kristensen, Director of the Nuclear Information Project, participated in the conference and gave two presentations. The first was to the ICAN Civil Society Forum on the overall status of worldwide nuclear forces; presentation slides are available here. Kristensen and Matthew McKinzie from the Natural Resources Defense Council, presented on nuclear deterrence, nuclear war planning and scenarios of nuclear conflict; briefing slides are available here.

Thank You for Your Generosity

- FAS would like to extend its thanks to its generous members and donors; with your support we raised over $185,000 via our 2014 end of year campaign. Thank you again for your continued support of FAS and its work!