

# Fahrenheit 7232. Scott Ritter

By Scott Ritter

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In-depth Report: <u>Nuclear War</u>

"The sun burned every day. It burned Time. The world rushed in a circle and turned on its axis and time was busy burning the years and the people anyway, without any help from him. So if he burned things with the firemen and the sun burned Time, that meant that everything burned!" —Ray Bradbury, Fahrenheit 451

Annie Jacobson, in her book "Nuclear War: A Scenario," describes the first few seconds of a one-megaton thermonuclear weapon detonating over an American city as beginning "with a flash of light and heat so tremendous it is impossible for the human mind to comprehend. 180 degrees Fahrenheit is four or five times hotter than the temperature that occurs at the center of the sun." The fireball produced by this explosion is so intense "that concrete surfaces explode, metal objects melt or evaporate, stone shatters, humans instantaneously convert into combusting carbon."

Russian **President Vladimir Putin**, addressing the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) at a meeting held in the Kazakh capital of Astana this past Thursday, declared that Russia's new intermediate-range ballistic missile, Oreshnik, which was used to strike a Ukrainian military production facility near the city of Dnipropetrovsk, possessed destructive power comparable to that of a nuclear weapon.

"Dozens of warheads, self-guided units attack the target at a speed of 10 Mach (ten times the speed of sound)," Putin said. "This is about three kilometers per second. The temperature of the striking elements reaches 4000 degrees. If my memory serves me right," Putin noted, "the temperature on the surface of the Sun is 5,500-6000 degrees. Therefore, everything that is in the epicenter of the explosion is divided into fractions, into elementary particles, everything turns essentially into dust."

In short, the Russian President declared the use of several Oreshnik missiles in one strike would be comparable in destructive power to a nuclear weapon.

The imagery presented in Annie Jacobson's book is so utterly horrific as to surpass the ability of most humans to comprehend, let alone apply real-life examples that allow for a modicum of intellectual comprehension. As such, when Vladimir Putin made his analogous claim regarding the comparative destructive power of a hydrogen bomb and the Oreshnik missiles conventional warhead, one's brain is deflected away from the unthinkable and toward the practical.

The Oreshnik missile attack against the Yuzmash factory outside Dnipropetrovsk produced stunning visual images of six separate impact "events," each comprised of six luminescent "rods" impacting the factory grounds. The Russian government had alluded to the

destruction caused by this attack as being devastating; the Ukrainians, on the other hand, have minimized the damage done as negligible.

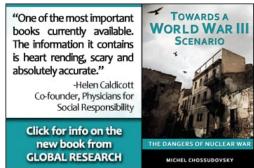
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"Towards a World War III Scenario: The

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#### by Michel Chossudovsky

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<u>Michel Chossudovsky</u> is Professor of Economics at the University of Ottawa and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), which hosts the critically acclaimed website <u>www.globalresearch.ca</u>. He is a contributor to the Encyclopedia Britannica. His writings have been translated into more than 20 languages.

## **Reviews**

"This book is a 'must' resource – a richly documented and systematic diagnosis of the supremely pathological geo-strategic planning of US wars since '9-11' against non-nuclear countries to seize their oil fields and resources under cover of 'freedom and democracy'."

-John McMurtry, Professor of Philosophy, Guelph University

"In a world where engineered, pre-emptive, or more fashionably "humanitarian" wars of aggression have become the norm, this challenging book may be our final wake-up call."

-Denis Halliday, Former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations

Michel Chossudovsky exposes the insanity of our privatized war machine. Iran is being targeted with nuclear weapons as part of a war agenda built on distortions and lies for the purpose of private profit. The real aims are oil, financial hegemony and global control. The price could be nuclear holocaust. When weapons become the hottest export of the world's only superpower, and diplomats work as salesmen for the defense industry, the whole world is recklessly endangered. If we must have a military, it belongs entirely in the public sector. No one should profit from mass death and destruction.

-Ellen Brown, author of 'Web of Debt' and president of the Public Banking Institute

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