

US to Test Nukes on same Day UN Holds Nuke Disarmament Meeting

By Press TV

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The United States is planning to test nuclear missiles next week on the same day that heads of states and foreign ministers from around the world are to hold a high-level meeting on nuclear disarmament at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

"Instead of honoring the significance of these dates and working in good faith to achieve nuclear disarmament, the United States has chosen to schedule two tests of its Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile on September 22 and September 26," Rick Wayman of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation told the *Daily Times*. "We are disappointed that a test launch is scheduled for the same day as the High-Level Meeting on nuclear disarmament at the UN in New York," Wayman said.

"These missiles are designed to carry nuclear warheads capable of killing thousands of times more people than the chemical weapons used in Syria," he pointed out.

Mushroom cloud from Castle Bravo, the largest nuclear test conducted by the US in the Marshall Islands

Washington has accused the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad of using chemical weapons in an attack near capital Damascus on August 21.

Damascus has categorically rejected the allegations and even Obama's top aide, White House chief of staff Denis McDonough, admitted that Washington's claims were based on a "common-sense test" not any "irrefutable" evidence.

Meanwhile, Russia has said it has evidence which shows militant groups operating in Syria staged the August 21 attack to incriminate the Syrian government.

As Washington plans to go ahead with its plans to test nuclear missiles next week, UN spokesperson Farhan Haq cited the UN Secretary General's statement on the issue which said, "We should all remember the terrible toll of nuclear tests."

The US is the only country in the world that has used atomic bombs in war. US atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan in August 1945.

Last year in September, it was reported that the US government was planning to undertake the costliest modernization of its nuclear arsenal in history.

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