

Iraq's uranium enrichment network



Natural uranium contains 0.7% of the isotope uranium-235. This must be enriched to above 90% to make an atomic weapon

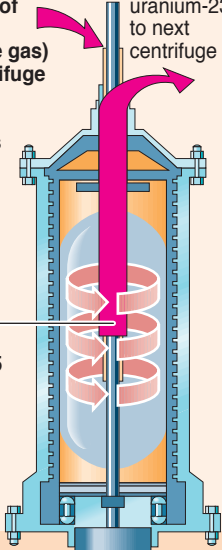
1. Uranium (in the form of uranium hexafluoride gas) enters centrifuge

Enriched uranium-235 to next centrifuge

2. Gas spins forcing heavier uranium isotope to outside of centrifuge

3. Lighter uranium-235 is extracted from centre of cylinder and passed to next centrifuge

4. Uranium passes through many hundreds of centrifuges before it is rich enough to fuel a bomb



United Nations inspectors have listed 13 foreign companies which supplied Iraq with the equipment which could be used to make gas centrifuges to enrich uranium. U.N. inspectors claim that Iraq could have built four atomic bombs, each the size of the bomb dropped on Nagasaki in 1945

UNITED STATES

1. DuPont

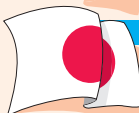
Supplied Krytox vacuum pump oil for use in a gas centrifuge to enrich uranium



JAPAN

2. Hamamatsu

Supplied two 'streak video cameras'



GERMANY

3. H&H Metallform Maschinenbau und Vertriebs GmbH, 4. Leybold Heraeus AG, 5. Degussa, 6. Neue Magdeburger Werkzeugmaschinenfabrik GmbH, 7. Dr Reutlinger & Sohne KG 8. Arthur Pfeiffer Vakuum Technik GmbH, 9. NUPRO, 10. Balzer AG, 11. VAT AG



Supplied valves, high-temperature furnaces, balancing machines, electron beam welders and computer-controlled metal lathes

SWITZERLAND

12. Acomel GmbH & Co KG
Supplied high frequency converters capable of operating several centrifuges



SWEDEN

13. Asea Brown Boveri
Supplied a large cold isostatic press

