

Timeline of world's nuclear tests

In 2006, North Korea became the world's eighth nuclear power. Since 1945, over 2,000 nuclear tests have been conducted at more than a dozen different sites around the globe

Nuclear powers

Countries used by nuclear powers for tests (includes ex-Soviet Union)

☢ Sites with over 100 tests

TESTS ■ Atmospheric ■ Underground

U.S. 1,030

USSR 496

210 France

UK 45

China 45

India 3

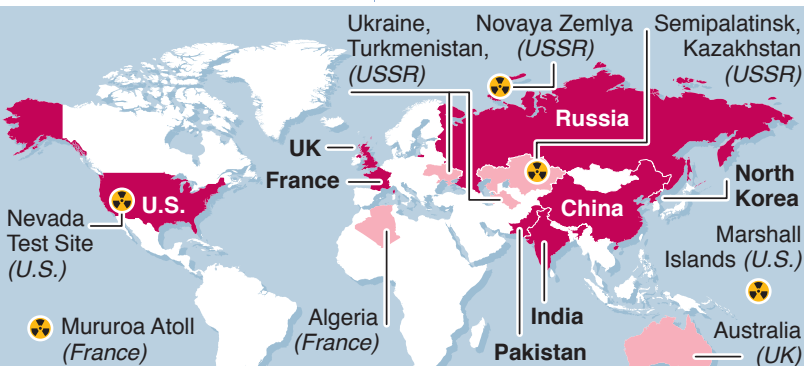
Pakistan 2

North Korea 2

Vela Incident:

Explosion in Indian Ocean in 1979

suspected to be joint Israeli-South African nuclear test



NUMBER OF TESTS 1945-2009

1945: First atomic test by U.S. and bombings of **Hiroshima** and **Nagasaki**, Japan

1952: U.S. tests first hydrogen bomb

1961: USSR tests largest ever nuclear bomb – 50-megaton thermonuclear **Tsar Bomba**

1962: Nuclear tests reach 178

1963: **Limited Test Ban Treaty** bans all but underground testing

1996: **Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty** signed by 71 nations

1998: Pakistan and India carry out tests

2006: North Korea carries out first underground test

May 25, 2009: N. Korea carries out second nuclear test

