

UK nuclear weapons and the Trident programme.

Economics, Politics, Ecology, Violence ...

The Wider Role of Health Professionals in Global Health

Medact conference, 11 November 2013

Peter Burt





2010 Strategic Defence and Security Review

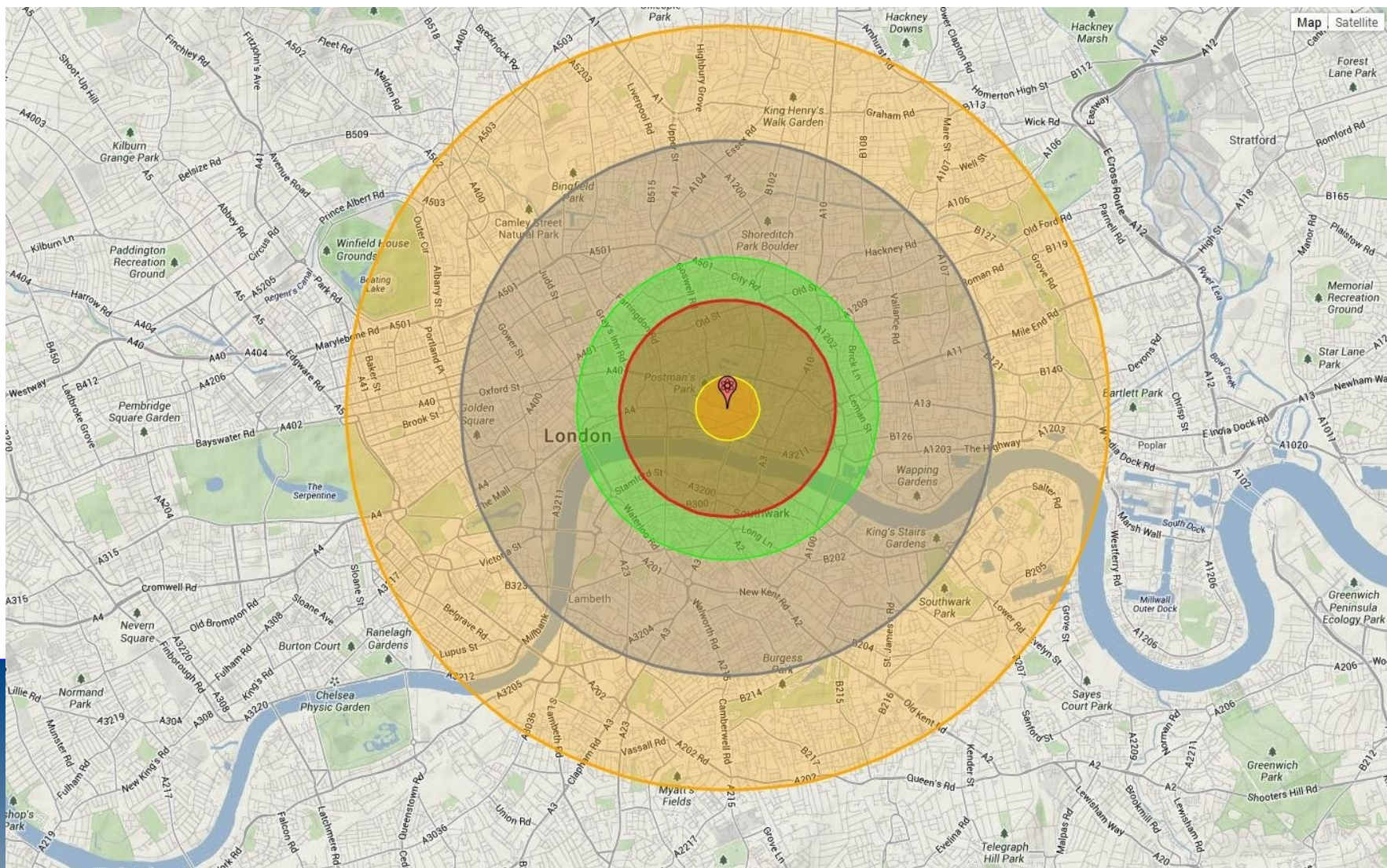
- **UK will only consider using nuclear weapons “in extreme circumstances of self defence”.**
- **UK will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).**

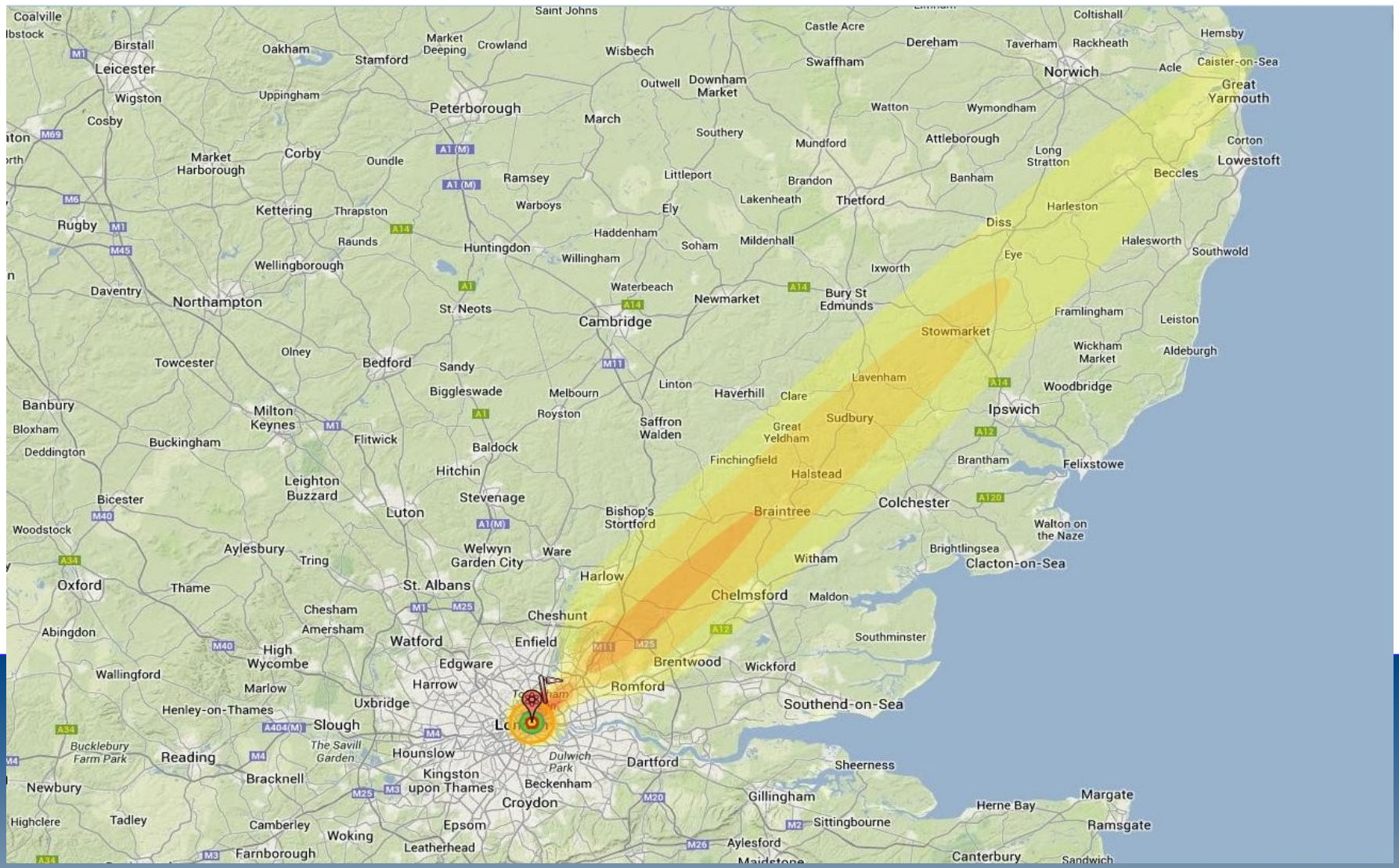
BUT

- **The assurance does not apply to “any state in material breach of these non-proliferation obligations”.**
- **The UK reserves the right to review this assurance if the future threat, development, and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction make it necessary.**

2010 Strategic Defence and Security Review

- An overall arsenal of no more than **180** nuclear weapons by the mid 2020s – down from no more than 225 warheads in 2010.
- **40** warheads on board each submarine on no more than 8 missiles.
- No more than **120** “operationally available” warheads (three submarines).





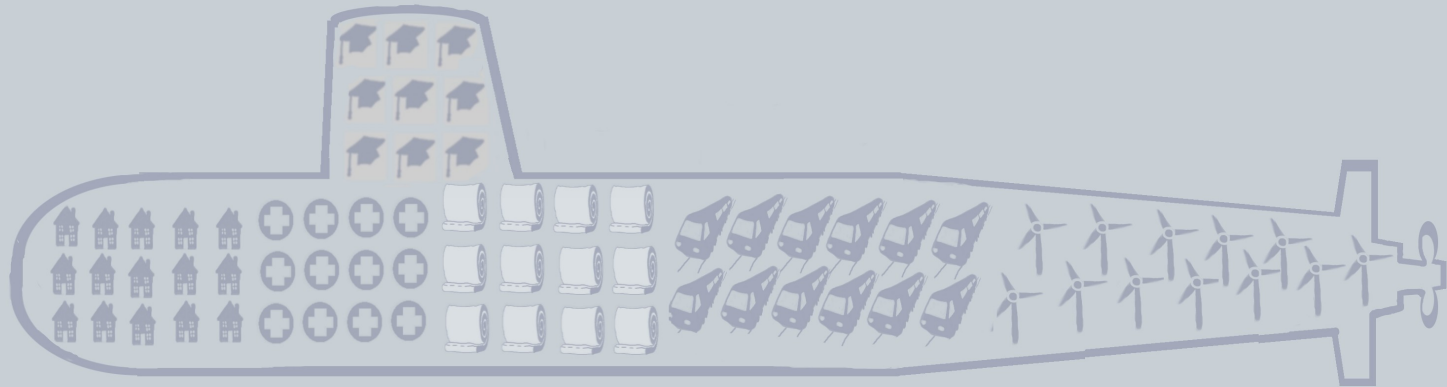








Building new Trident submarines will cost us £15-20 billion.
What else could we do with the money?



600 new schools



11,000,000 homes insulated
and made more
energy efficient



350,000 affordable homes



7,500 megawatts of
wind power



70 fully equipped
new hospitals



1,280 high speed trains



Thank you friends.

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ATOMIC BOMBS



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GAMMA RAYS AND THERMAL ENERGY

HYDROGEN BOMBS

AN ATOM BOM IS NEEDED JUST TO START A HYDROGEN BOMB'S FUSE



EXTREME
HEAT FROM
ATOMIC BOMB
EXPLOSION

+

^2H

^3H

DEUTERIUM AND TRITIUM


FUSED HYDROGEN
ISOTOPES

=


LIGHT, HEAT,
CONCUSSIVE BLAST,
EXPLOSION, SOOT
CLOUD

=


BLINDNESS FROM A
DISTANCE

=

SUPERSONIC
SHOCKWAVE
KNOCKING DOWN
BUILDINGS FOR
SEVERAL MILES
FROM THE BLAST