

Enhancing National Security

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AP Images/Greg Baker

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice meets with Chinese State Councilor Tang Jiaxuan in Beijing in October 2006 for discussions of the North Korean nuclear weapons program. Reducing the threat of weapons of mass destruction is among the key responsibilities of the Office of the Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

The under secretary of state for arms control and international security advises the president and the secretary of state concerning policies and actions to enhance U.S. national security, with a special emphasis on reducing the threat of weapons of mass destruction to the United States, our allies, and friends. The under secretary oversees the Bureaus of International Security and Nonproliferation; Political-Military Affairs; and Verification, Compliance, and Implementation. The “T-family” covers a wide range of responsibilities critical to U.S. national security, including, inter alia:

- Preventing the spread of nuclear weapons, with particular emphasis on countering the nuclear weapons programs of Iran and North Korea.
- Implementing and verifying agreements in force.
- Developing new tools, such as the Proliferation Security Initiative and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, to deal with today’s threats.
- Removing landmines from post-conflict arenas.
- Protecting sensitive U.S. technologies and training other countries to control sensitive technologies. ■

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