**Red Mercury? Evidence for the use by Israel of a novel uranium warhead in Palestine and Lebanon**

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**Abstract**

Since 2003, analysis carried out by Green Audit on samples from Fallujah Iraq 2003, Lebanon 2006 and Gaza 2008 provided unequivocal evidence of Uranium residues with anomalous Uranium U-238/U235 isotope signature ratios. Results from independent laboratories in Europe and the UK, using different techniques, revealed the presence of enriched Uranium in biological materials and environmental samples including soil, bomb craters and air (as recorded in vehicle air filter dust). In 2021 results published in the Journal Nature, show that Uranium enrichment levels in background samples from Gaza have been increasing markedly since 2008. Since enriched Uranium is an anthropogenic substance which does not exist in nature, the question arises as to the source, in the weapons employed by the USA (Fallujah) and Israel (Lebanon, Gaza). It has been suggested that a new Uranium-based weapon exists and has been deployed, one which either contains or produces U-235 by neutron activation. Such a weapon is a nuclear weapon and may involve cold fusion to produce neutrons and gamma rays. The likely environmental footprint of such a weapon is discussed.

**1. Background**

The issue of the health effects of Depleted Uranium (DU) munitions continues to be an area of significant scientific differences of opinion since the weapons began to be employed by the USA in Iraq in 1991, and later in the Balkans. The authorities in the West, employing the risk model of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) moved to deny the health effects which quickly emerged in Iraqi populations in the 1990s, including cancer increases and birth defects, by arguing that owing to its very low radioactivity, DU could not be considered as a cause [1, 2, 3, 4]. However, similar increases in cancer were reported from the Balkans (Serbia), and later with reports of cancer and leukemia increasing in UN Italian and Portuguese KFOR peacekeeping soldiers stationed in areas of Kosovo where DU had been conceded by the USA to have been deployed. A survey by Green Audit of Kosovo in 2001 revealed the existence of DU particles in Djakove, Kosovo, and samples were analysed in the UK [5]. The isotope ratio, Uranium 238/Uranium-235, which in natural soils is 137.88, showed Depleted ratios greater than 300. Following complaints of US and UK Gulf War veterans of a range of conditions (termed Gulf War Syndrome) which they blamed on their exposure to DU dust (created when the penetrator weapons struck their target and burned) significant scientific interest turned to the issue. This resulted in searches for DU residues in war zones and in soldiers, resulting in surveys which confirmed the natural Uranium isotopic ratio U238/U235 as being 137.88. This contribution will not, however, rehearse the arguments about DU and health. It is concerned with a different investigation.

**2. Lebanon 2006**

In 2006, Israel bombed the Lebanon, the author was contacted by Prof Ali Al Khobeisi, a physicist and member of the Lebanese Academy of Sciences. He was aware that Green Audit, Christopher Busby, was a member of the UK Ministry of Defence Depleted Uranium Oversight Board (DUOB) and part-author of the DUOB Minority Report [6]. He was concerned about gamma radiation measurements which he had made of a weapon crater in Khiam, Lebanon, which revealed an approximate 20-fold excess in gamma radiation dose rate, relative to background. Green Audit asked a colleague (D. Williams) to fly to the Lebanon, and obtain samples from the crater soil and later obtained a filter from an ambulance operating in Beirut, where some very large bombs had been dropped. Samples were brought back and analysed, using both alpha spectrometry in one laboratory and Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICPMS) in a separate one. Later Prof Khobeisi came to the UK with further samples to discuss the issue at the Green Audit laboratory in Aberystwyth, Wales. The presence of Enriched Uranium in the Lebanon in 2006 became a Media issue when it was reported by the late Robert Fisk in the Independent: “Israel’s secret Uranium bomb” [7]. The United Nations sent a team to the Lebanon to take samples and Williams returned to also take samples so that split samples could be analysed. The issue has never been resolved. The Green Audit results are summarised in Table 1.

**3. Gaza 2008**

The issue of the enriched Uranium in the Lebanon had, by the time of the 2008 bombing of Gaza, been widely covered by media. In 2009, Green Audit was contacted by doctors in Gaza who were concerned about unusual weapon effects seen in individuals exposed to the flash from Israeli bombs and missiles. Busby arranged to visit Egypt to obtain samples, including vehicle filter samples. Samples showed presence of enriched Uranium with values significantly lower than the natural 137.88 (see Table 1).

**4. Fallujah Iraq, 2003**

In 2010, a series of epidemiological and environmental studies were carried out to investigate reports of high levels of cancer and birth defects being reported by doctors in Fallujah, where there had been very concentrated bombardment of the town by the US forces in 2003 [8,9,10]. Following a questionnaire epidemiology study [10] which found alarming levels of genetic damage (cancer, birth defects, sex ratio perturbation) samples of hair from the parents of the birth defect children were obtained and analysed for 52 elements using ICPMS. Results showed significantly raised levels of Uranium (relative to published and control values) but more important, indicated enriched Uranium signatures. The authors pointed out this anomalous finding and speculated that some new weapons had been deployed in the Fallujah bombardment [9].

**5. Gaza 2021**

A recent study of samples of soil, sand, recycled building material from Gaza and sand from Sinai was published in 2021 [11]. Results indicated enriched Uranium in all the Gaza samples except those from Sinai. The method employed was gamma spectrometry which is arguably more accurate than alpha spectrometry or ICPMS since it is a whole specimen method and does not rely on pre-measurement chemistry which is known to lose up to 40% of the Uranium in the sample. The degree of enrichment found by the authors was very much greater than found in Gaza after the 2008 bombing. Gaza had also been bombed by Israel in 2014.

**Table 1.** Summary of Uranium Enrichment (atom Ratio) in all samples from Iraq and Palestine 2003-2021.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event/ Date** | **Sample** | **Method/**  **Laboratory** | **U238/**  **U235** | **Reference** |
| Fallujah 2003 | hair | ICPMS/Germany/Blaurock Busch | 132-135 | Busby [9] |
| Fallujah 2010 | soil | ICPMS/ Germany/ Braunschweig | 138 | Busby [9] |
| Lebanon 2006  1st trip | Soil crater, | ICPMS/ Harwell | 108  116 | Busby/ Williams [12] |
| Lebanon 2006  2nd samples | Ambulance filter | ICPMS/ Harwell  Alpha / Bangor | 123  117 | Busby/ Williams [13] |
| Lebanon 2006  2nd samples | Soil | U-234/U238 = 1.6 | U235 also U234 excess | Busby/ Williams [13] |
| Lebanon 2006  1st samples | Crater  After explosion. | Geiger counter | 20 x local  background | Al Khobeisi [12] |
| Lebanon 2006  2nd samples | Crater | CR39 alpha | 2.4x alpha + hot particles | Busby/ Williams [13] |
| UN 2006 | Soil/crater | ICPMS/ Spietz | No anomaly | UNEP [15] |
| Gaza 2008 | Ambulance filter | ICPMS/ Harwell | 133 | Busby/Williams [13] |
| Gaza 2008 | Soil near crater | ICPMS/ Harwell | 116 | Busby/Williams [13] |
| Gaza 2021 | Demolition debris | Gamma Spec./Germany | 109 | Abd El-Kader et al [11] |
| Gaza 2021 | Recycled plaster | Gamma Spec./Germany | 96 | Abd El-Kader et al  [11] |
| Gaza 2021 | Recycled concrete | Gamma Spec./Germany | 103 | Abd El-Kader et al  [11] |
| Gaza 2021 | Soil | Gamma Spec./Germany | 83 | Abd El-Kader et al  [11] |
| Gaza 2021 | Sand | Gamma Spec./Germany | 83 | Abd El-Kader et al  [11] |
| Sinai 2021 | Sand | Gamma Spec./Germany | 126 | Abd El-Kader et al  [11] |
| Natural uranium | Soil etc |  | 137.88 | Royal Society 2001 [1, 2], IAEA [4]  DUOB [6] |

\* Note: Isotope Ratio U238/U235 calculated from activity ratio reported assuming natural ratio in activity is 21.5

**6. Natural Uranium in the environment.**

Uranium in the environment, as mined, has three isotopes, U-238, U-235 and U-234. Once the importance for A-Bomb development of the fissile isotope U-235 was realised, various methods were employed from 1943 on to create massive projects to separate the U-235 from the natural Uranium. It was employed in the Atomic bomb in 1945 at Hiroshima. In passing it is of interest that in separating the U-235 using centrifuges, or methods relying on mass differences, the resulting enriched Uranium also had large quantities of the even lighter U-234, which is a decay product of U-238 (via two short lived isotopes, Thorium-234 and Protoactinium-234m) present in natural Uranium in activity equilibrium with the U-238. Thus, every decay of natural Uranium has the same activity of U-238 and U-234. After separation of the U-235, the resulting Uranium is termed Depleted Uranium, or DU. It is, of course, radioactive, and so must be disposed of by law as a radioactive substance. Its activity is considered low, 12.4 million decays per second (Becquerel) per kilogram (of U238) and the same activity of U-234, and since these decays are alpha particle decays which cannot penetrate skin, molecular (or ionic) Uranium only represents a health hazard if internalised by ingestion or inhalation.

It must be stressed: if enriched Uranium is found in environmental samples, the origin has to be from an enrichment plant or some anthropogenic process. It is not natural. Since enriched Uranium has been turning up in the Middle East, and increasingly so in Gaza, the question arises, where is it from?

**7. Enriched Uranium in Gaza, the Lebanon and Iraq.**

*Reports that say that something hasn't happened are always interesting to me, because as we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns—the ones we don't know we don't know. And if one looks throughout the history of our country and other free countries, it is the latter category that tends to be the difficult ones.*

Donald Rumsfeld, Pentagon News Briefing, Feb 2002

There are many questions relating to the findings of Enriched Uranium in Lebanon, Gaza and Fallujah. But logic points to only one overall conclusion, in Rumsfeld terms, a thing we know we know. This is that U-235 is in clear and statistically significant excess: it is present in the samples. In the case of the recent 2021 Gaza study, it is definitely there in 55 of 69 samples. The only samples where it is not clearly present are the 14 samples from Sinai, that is, not from Gaza, and the Sinai results may therefore be employed as a control group tro show clearly that there is enriched Uranium in Gaza.

We also know that U-235 in excess can only come from anthropogenic sources:

* It can be separated from natural Uranium by employing centrifuges or other technical means, on the basis of its slightly lower atomic mass.
* It can be produced by neutron activation. That is the irradiation of U-234 with neutrons. Such a production occurs in a nuclear explosion, or in a nuclear reactor.
* According to the late Prof Del Guidice (see below [16]) it can also be produced by the irradiation of U-238 with neutrons, leading to the formation of U-239 which may lose an alpha particle and produce U-235. The normal decay product of U-239 is Plutonium-239.

Following logical questions, if U-235 is found in the three locations in the Middle East shown in Table 1, there are few possibilities:

1. The Israelis dropped U-235dust, enriched Uranium.
2. There is a new nuclear weapon which employs slightly enriched Uranium but produces no fission fallout which would be easily detectable.
3. The Israelis employed a weapon which contained U-238 but which produced U-235 as part of a nuclear explosion. Such a weapon must produce neutrons, and would be designated a neutron bomb.

The first of these possibilities can be discarded: to drop enriched Uranium on your enemy is absurd. It is expensive. It is like killing your enemy by dropping diamonds. Enriched Uranium reportedly was valued at £250,000 a kilogram in the 1990s [17]. This leaves result (2) or (3), which is that the source of the U-235 is a novel nuclear warhead.

**8. New weapon**

***The known knowns***

This contribution will not provide a review of what is known about neutron bombs. The Rumsfeld known known here is that they were apparently invented by Sam Cohen who worked for the Rand Corporation and argued that the employment of an Enhanced Radiation Weapon which killed with neutrons was an efficient war method. It killed enemy personnel who were sheltering behind concrete walls or in bunkers without destroying the buildings or infrastructure providing shelter. Cohen argued for the use of neutron bombs in Vietnam, but was sacked by the Rand Corporation which employed him. Later in the Reagan period, Cohen returned to work under Reagan and the USA began to manufacture neutron warheads for anti-ballistic missile systems. By the 1990s it was generally conceded that all the major nuclear States had neutron bombs in their stockpiles. This included Israel which, according to whistle-blowers like Mordecai Vanunu had tested a neutron bomb in South Africa [18]. However, the design of the Cohen type warhead was fairly conventional. It was merely a conventional U-235 warhead of low yield without a Uranium-238 DU tamper case to reflect the initial neutron burst back into the system and thus increase the yield. It contained Tritium and Deuterium in some form (Lithium deuteride?) and relied upon a fusion reaction to create Heliu-4 and release neutrons. In this case, the yield (kT TNT) was not the object. The creation of lethal neutron exposures is what is aimed for. In passing, neutrons have between 10-fold and 100-fold biological effectiveness, and so would also be a perfect weapon for those wishing to destroy the genetic integrity, fertility, and longevity (cancer etc) of an enemy civilian population.

***The known unknowns: the Cold Fusion warhead—Red Mercury***

There are things we know that we don’t know. But there are pieces of evidence that suggest strongly that there is a new weapon that involves Uranium, which creates or employs enriched Uranium. Such a weapon was reportedly invented by the Soviet Union at some time in the 1980s and produced in the 1990s. In the 1990s there were widely discussed reports and statements about a new radioactive weapon based on a material called Red Mercury. The UK Channel 4 produced a documentary about this weapon in which they consulted with Dr Frank Barnaby to see if there could be some explanation. Did Red Mercury exist? What was it? Could it form the basis for a bomb (which one Russian expert told them was the size of a ball point pen cap but could destroy Moscow) [17]. Apparently Red Mercury was a chemical compound, Mercury Antimony Oxide, or antimonate, (Hg2­ Sb2 O7 ) that had been placed in a reactor for some weeks, was radioactive, and potentially could explode with the level of energy that could destroy Moscow and so forth. Later, after this documentary, the idea that such a weapon was likely or possible was dismissed by the scientific community. Perhaps rightly so. Nevertheless, Cohen stated that he believed it possible. But there were some interesting pieces of information about Red Mercury that emerged for those who knew what was important.

Interestingly, Cohen referred to a “ballotechnic” mechanism for Red Mercury. This is an explosive that releases energy on impact purely as a result of impact pressure.

These included:

* The material was being sold at £250,000 a kilogram, and the Soviets were selling it: there were orders and other documents seen by Channel 4.
* The material was very dense, the density was 20g/cc.
* The Soviet code word for Enriched Uranium in the 1940s was “Red Mercury”.
* Cohen, who would know, referred to an impact initiation weapon, a “ballotechnic”.

It is not difficult to conclude from this that Red Mercury was, in fact, some kind of Uranium which had been processed in some way. Mercury has a density of 13.5, Antimony 6.7 and it is hard to see how a compound of the two could have a density of 20 after irradiation with neutrons for 3 weeks. It is chemically impossible. Uranium does have a density of around 20. In which case, why was this Red Mercury idea started? It is easy to speculate that it was a cover for a real weapon, a novel and very small nuclear weapon based on what was already known, indeed what Cohen is unlikely not to have known.

***A Cold Fusion Neutron Bomb***

Fusion of Deuterium to give Helium-3, a neutron and huge amounts of energy has been, and remains, the Holy Grail of Physics. The energy of fusion produces enormous temperatures, no nuclear waste in the form of fission products like Strontium-90 and Caesium-137 and the reaction is the one which powers the Sun. But the temperatures involved are so great that the problem is how to constrain the reaction. Normal materials will vaporise and so the reaction must either be very short and/or constrained in a magnetic field. Unless constraint is not the object.

In the 1980s Fleischmann at Southampton (UK) and Pons in USA claimed to have brought about fusion by electrolysing Deuterium Oxide with Palladium electrodes [19]. The experiment was repeated by the Harwell laboratory in Oxford (the UK government Atomic Energy Authority laboratory) and reported to not occur. Since then, the question of cold fusion has continued to exercise the scientific community [19].

Shortly after the Green Audit report on Enriched Uranium in Lebanon, the author was contacted by a Italian physicist, Emilio Del Guidice [16] who travelled to London to discuss his ideas about the finding.

The bomb, he suggested, is a version of cold fusion discovered by Fleischmann. This author worked with Fleischmann in 1979 on the Raman spectrum of adsorbed water and got to know him slightly. Del Guidice said that Uranium dissolves hydrogen (or Deuterium or Tritium) which then becomes trapped in the matrix. Del Guidice believed that if the Uranium laced with deuterium, or a mix of deuterium and tritium hit a target and deformed whilst also burning at a very high temperature, there would be fusion. In this case (he said) the 14MeV neutron produced would knock the U-238 up to a metastable U-239 and this would decay to U-235 with emission of an alpha particle. The reaction he referred to is

T2 + D2 ===>n(0) + He4 + 14MeV

U-239 normally decays to Plutonium-239. Plutonium-239 decays to U-235 with an alpha decay, but with a long half life. But what is certainly in the Uranium is U-234. This would take up a neutron to give U-235. This reaction is a likely source of U-235 but the quantity of U234 is too low to cause the levels of U235 found in samples.

If you heat Uranium metal to 300 degrees it *reacts* with hydrogen to give Uranium hydride UH3. Presumably then also Deuterium and Tritium. When the system is heated above about 700 degrees the hydrides decompose back to Uranium and hydrogen. This is the basis for a nuclear power system which cannot melt down as the neutron moderator, hydrogen, reversibly leaves the Uranium and stops the reactor. It was also the basis for the Teller Uranium Hydride bombs, which were discarded as having too low a explosive yield. Neutrons are stopped by low atomic number elements, Lithium, Beryllium, Boron, Hydrogen. They pass through high atomic number elements (e.g. in concrete). They are stopped ballistically not ionically as they carry no charge. Their relative biological effectiveness (ionisation) results from the kinetic energy they impart to hydrogen in water. As already stated, it is about 100 (alpha is 20).

So a plausible method may be: a mix of Depleted Uranium is made with varying quantities of UT3 and UD3. When these are heated up, by explosive or just by impact they produce fusion, as Del Guidice believed, producing a massive neutron release of 14MeV and to a lesser extent 3.5MeV plus an alpha particle. There is no tamper, as with thermonuclear, so the neutrons are not reflected back into the bomb but are allowed to escape. The device is very small and low yield. It is reported that countries like Israel and USA had neutron land mines and shells. The key is the very low yield explosion (tons of TNT).

If the neutron activation of U-238 is the case, or partly the case, then there will be Plutonium-239. In the Depleted Uranium Oversight Board (DUOB) it was reported that Pu-239 was measured in DU residues, also U236, but this was explained away as due to contamination in the source material. However, no Plutonium was found in the Lebanon samples [13].

This weapon is arguably the fabled Red Mercury. It would be small, there is no initiator as it is an impact weapon. Though versions with initiators might also exist. It would be produced from Uranium reacted with Tritium and Deuterium in some ratio, and possibly alloying substance like Niobium (found in excess by Green Audit in the Gaza samples). It could be tunable, the proportion of UT3 and UD3 in the mix is decided in the manufacturing process.

Del Guidice himself later wrote a book about this weapon, together with an Italian reporter Maurizio Torrealta [14]. It was published in 2014, shortly after del Guidice died at his home. In the book, the authors questioned the way in which the experiments on cold fusion of Deuterium had been dismissed.

***Unknown Unknowns***

For obvious reasons, little can be listed here. However, the Del Guidice outline neutron bomb may be only one version of the system. There may be other initiator processes. It is pointless speculating further here. It is hoped that someone in the military will provide or be forced to provide further details. It is suggested that analysis of samples from where the weapon has been employed, and analysis of gamma radiation spectra from samples produced immediately after the explosions would show evidence enabling some identification of the weapon.

**9. How might this issue be investigated?**

Of course, if this is a neutron producing weapon. there will be activation products in local materials, soil concrete etc. Green Audit obtained some concrete from the Baghdad airport after the US killed the Republican Guard who were defending it. Green Audit was told by Iraqis that there was a big flash and the airport defenders were all found dead in their bunkers the next day. The US would not permit the International Atomic Energy Agency in to measure anything for 6 months and fenced the site off and removed the debris into the desert. Note that Cobalt-60 is an activation product which would have been in the steel, metal guns, metal shielding, reinforcing rods etc. There would be residual gamma radiation at the impact site. There could be residual Tritiated water and Carbon-14 contamination.

The late Prof Ali Khobeisi measured residual gamma in the Khiam Lebanon crater in 2006, radiation which disappeared over 6 weeks. About 20 times background. That is a reasonable decay period for the immediate neutron activation products in soil (except Co-60 in steel).

Table 2 gives a list of methods that can be employed to identify the use of a neutron bomb.

**Table 2.** What methods can be employed to investigate the use of a neutron weapon?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Residue/ investigation** | **Measured by** | **Note** |
| Geiger Counter shows excess gamma dose rate | Geiger Counter, portable scintillation counter | A simple cheap Geiger counter will do this, Compare with background away from crater. |
| Tritium oxide (Tritiated water in pool in crater | Beta scintillation counting | Requires dedicated lab/ expensive |
| Carbon-14 excess in water in pool in crater | Beta scintillation counting | Requires dedicated lab/ expensive |
| U-235 excess in soil at impact site/ in vehicle air filters | Alpha spectrometry, gamma spectrometry, ICPMS | Requires dedicated lab/ expensive. But already done. |
| Cobalt-60 in steel near crater | Gamma spectrometry  Strong emissions at 1173 and 1332 keV are easily detected. Half life 2.6y. | A good portable gamma spectrometry NaI crystal is good enough, or else a laboratory with cooled detectors. |
| Other activation products, e.g. Zn-65, Ca-45. | Gamma spectrometry will find Zn-65 | Requires dedicated lab/ expensive |
| Pu-239, U-236 | Alpha and gamma spectrometry | Requires dedicated lab/ expensive |

**10. Health effects**

This contribution would not be complete without touching on the health effects seen in populations where these weapons were deployed. If the weapons caused exposures to (a) neutrons and (b) Uranium aerosol particles, then it would be expected that there would be genetic effects and immediate effects involving severe burns or even vapourised limbs of humans. Some reports of unusual flash burns have been see by Green Auditfor the Lebanon bombing, and including recently in Gaza. For Fallujah the genetic effects found were profound, and included congenital malformations, high rates of cancer and leukemia, and a skewed birth sex ratio [8,10].

For Gaza, there have been several reports of excess birth defects together with measurements of elements in hair, including Uranium [20,21]. The authors did not single out Uranium as a cause, but rather seemed to believe that the effects were due to some “heavy metal” effect. It is reasonable from the Fallujah results and other studies of the Iraq and Balkan populations, that these weapons are effectively genetic destruction weapons.

**Conclusion and further investigation.**

An inevitable deduction from the consistent findings of enriched Uranium in samples from Gaza, Lebanon and Iraq, is that a nuclear weapon of some kind has been employed since the second Gulf War, and possible before then. This is an Israeli (and USA) secret weapon, as reported by Robert Fisk in the Independent in 2006 [7]. The increases in congenital effects seen in the Fallujah population [8,9,10] and also in Gaza [20,21] can plausibly have resulted from exposure to neutrons as well as the Uranium particulate aerosols. The weapon is ideal for armies employed in methodological destruction both of fighters hidden in urban environments (where neutrons pass through walls) and for any State that has the aim to destroy the civilian population using a genetic mutation weapon (cancer, fertility loss, birth defects). It is, however, a nuclear weapon and those deploying it are using a nuclear weapon against civilian populations and this may be categorised as a war crime.

**Some anticipated problems**

***Fake News***

The problem that exists is that the laboratories where samples are measured, using the very expensive equipment necessary to obtain relevant results are mostly funded directly or indirectly by government and the nuclear military complex. Furthermore, as this author found in the case of the UN investigation of the Lebanon craters, the laboratories used by the UN, which measured the split samples obtained by Green Audit in 2006 do not tell the truth.

Furthermore, Scientific Journals often either refuse to publish contributions that address such politically sensitive topics, or their reviewers dismiss results. In the case of a recent paper by this author which reported increases in Uranium from the Ukraine war in February March 2022, found in High Volume Air Samplers deployed at the Atomic Weapons Establishment Aldermaston, UK which was sent to two journals, the first Journal flatly refused to accept it, the second sent it to a reviewer and then dismissed it. Yet the raw data showing the significant increase in Uranium particles in the air were supplied to the journals: a child would have seen the increases.

***False narratives***

It is anticipated that the military and governments deploying such a weapon will have to explain the findings of Enriched Uranium in areas where weapons have been used. The most likely, and indeed the only option, will be for scientists employed by these organisations to falsely claim that Enriched Uranium is a common material in environmental samples. This is plainly untrue. Uranium isotope ratios have been reported from thousands of sites, and when either Depleted or Enriched signatures are found there is always an anthropogenic origin. Indeed the constancy of the natural isotope ratio of 137.88 was the basis of a 5-years study of urine samples among Gulf War veterans exposed to DU. It was the need to reassure the veterans that they had not been exposed to DU, that results above 140 were chosen as an indicator of exposure [6]. Other sites where slightly enriched Uranium isotope ratios can be found are near nuclear reprocessing and nuclear materials production plants. If they are found in Gaza and Lebanon samples, there is only one explanation.

***IAEA cover-up.***

A recent interesting example of the response to this issue of enriched Uranium in the environment is the recently published IAEA report on Uranium in the Environment [14].

This report gives information on Uranium isotope ratios and the reasons for the variation of U238/U234 ratios. There are 224 pages discussing the reasons for variation in U238/U235 ratios. However, a search of the term “U-235” results in a single hit; the table listing the three isotopes of Uranium, presented at the beginning of the report. When one of the authors was asked why this was, he replied that the IAEA did not have sufficient funds to look at the issue of variation of U-235 ratios.

***The public***

The public have access to simple methodology, to inexpensive Geiger Counters, and at minimum can record radiation increases near any impact site and now report this on videos that they can upload to the internet. This development, the possible use of a secret neutron weapon, is a very serious ethical and public health issue.

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18. Wikipedia entry for Neutron Bomb has considerable information relevant to the discussion. See: https://en.wikipedia.org>wiki>Neutron

19. See: https://en.wikipedia.org>wiki>cold\_fusion and *loc.cit.*

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