

UNIQUE DESIGN PROBLEMS IN TRITIUM RESERVOIRS (U)

- *System*

- Must Deliver In Specified Time
- Must Be Consistent
- Satisfy Weight And Space Requirements
- Fire And Accident Considerations

- *Long Term Degradation*

- Subject To Hydrogen Embrittlement
- Subject To Helium Embrittlement
- Withstand Pressure Increase With Time
- Subject to Radiation Induced Effects
(Loss of Permeability, Stoichiometry)

- *Safety*

- Must Be Super Safe Against
Burst
Permeation (Walls, Welds, Stringers)

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Consequences of a stockpile tritium release:

- a. Weapon reliability
- b. Personnel safety
- c. Political/environmental ramifications

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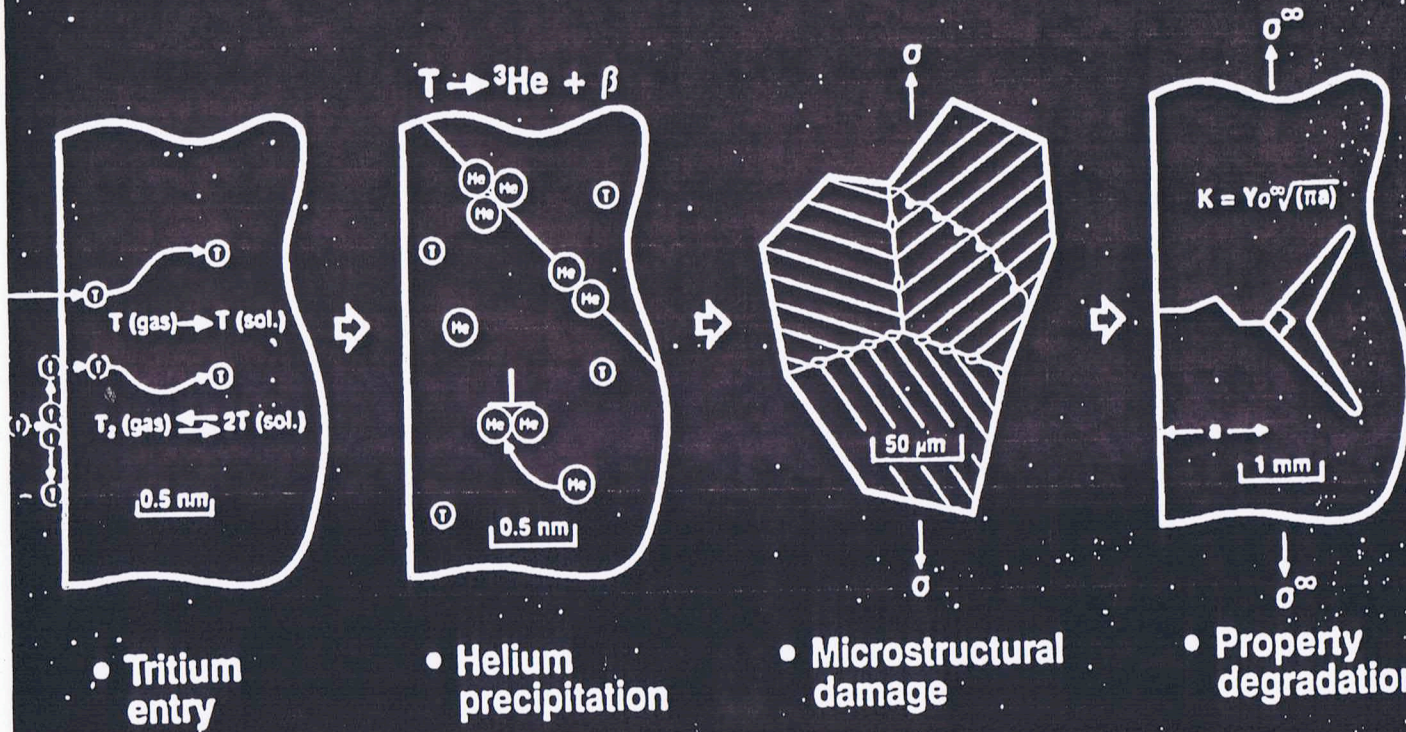
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Helium from tritium decay produces cumulative, irreversible damage in stockpile materials



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Specifications

- Narrow chemistry——promotes weldability
- Grain size——less than ASTM 5
- Vacuum—arc—remelt (VAR) material
 - Inclusions——ultraclean
 - Ferrete distribution—— < 3% minimize stringers

Acceptance

- Chemistry
- Metallography
 - Grain size
 - Ferrite distribution
 - Inclusion
- Ultrasonics——porosity

For tritium reservoirs, it is necessary to improve the material properties

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It is most important to clean all surfaces of undesirables

CLEANING

Why

- To remove residues and oxides which could interface with welding, plating, or heat treating processes
- To remove any metallic materials imbedded into the surfaces permitting the formation of a continuous protective oxide film
- To prevent sources of rusting and corrosion on the surfaces
- To remove contaminants which could react with tritium

How

- Detergent solutions agitated ultrasonically
- Nitric acid solutions for dissolving imbedded copper and iron particles
- Nitric—hydrofluoric acid solutions for dissolving oxide films and imbedded particulate matter, and to etch certain stainless steel alloys
- Freon and alcohol rinsing for removing organic contaminants
- High purity water for rinsing
- High temperature vacuum bake

We take extreme care to verify cleanliness

CLEANLINESS VERIFICATION

- Monitor the resistivity of the rinse water to verify the absence of ionizable material
- Use analytical rinses to check for organic and inorganic contaminants with infrared spectrophotometer and ion chromatography
- Perform particulate analysis on each reservoir
- Check for imbedded iron particles with a copper sulfate test
- Borescopic examination where applicable
- Visual examination for discoloration, staining, or superficial corrosive attack

Both piece parts and assemblies are cleaned prior to inspection

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Inspection and gaging costs approximate one-third of the piece part costs

INSPECTION AND GAGING

To assure:

- Interchangeability of piece parts
- Fit with next assembly
- Conformation with engineering drawings

We inspect and gage using:

- In process monitoring—feedback
- Open—set up inspection
- Dedicated gages
- Contour gages
- Air gages—non-contact
- Statistical sampling
- Control of numerical machine tapes
- Coordinate measuring machines

To minimize scrap and rework costs, we inspect early in the process

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Mechanical joints are not used for storage of tritium

ASSEMBLY AND JOINING

Joining:

Weldments

Gas-tungsten arc—autogenous and wire feed

Electron beam—autogenous and wire feed

Laser

Friction

Inertia

Resistance forge weld

Brazes

Copper

Copper-silver-tin

Inspection and Control:

Process monitor

Radiographic

Ultrasonic

Dye Penetrant

All pressure rated components are pressure tested

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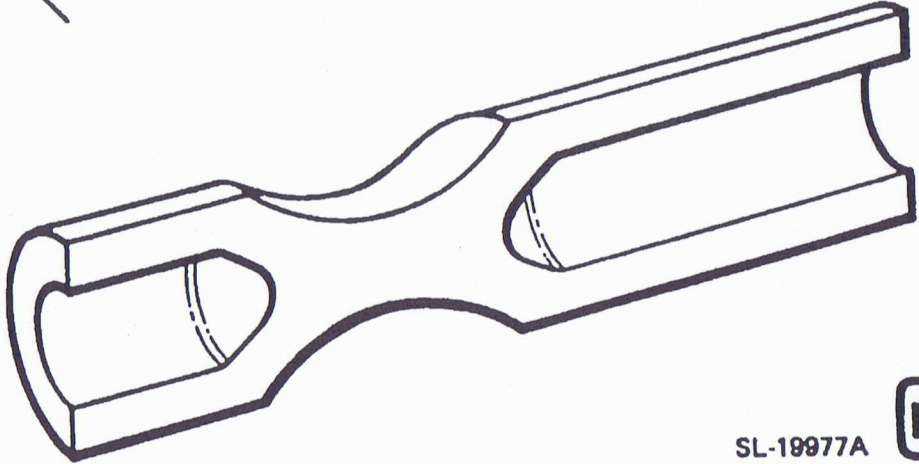
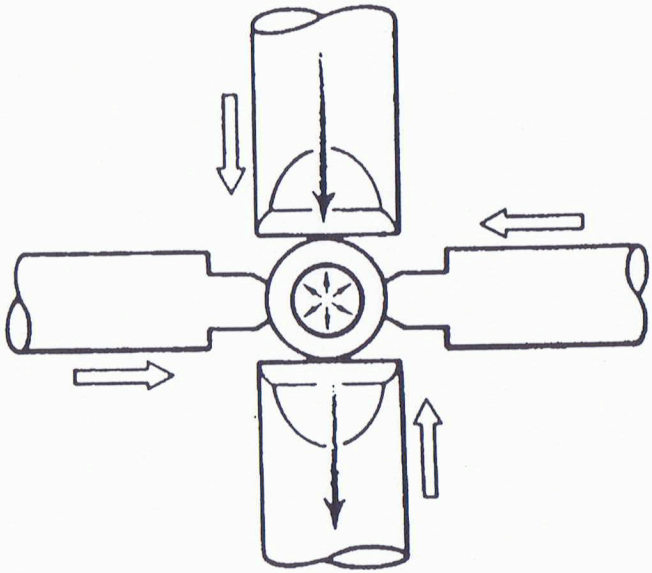
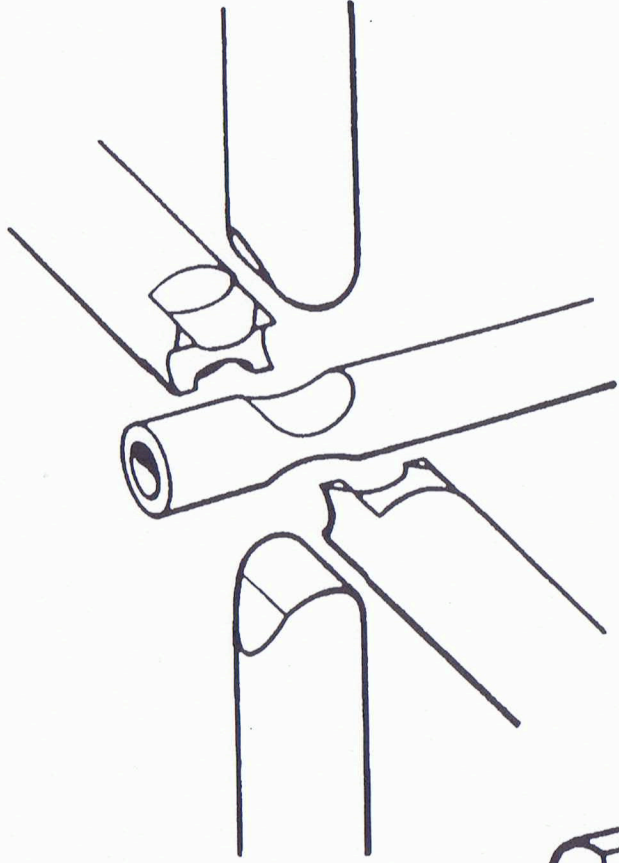
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PINCH WELDING



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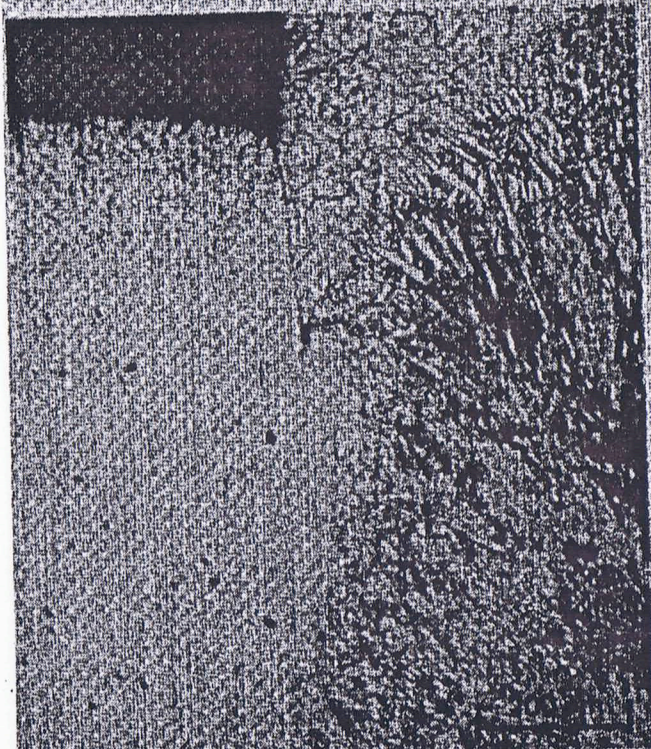
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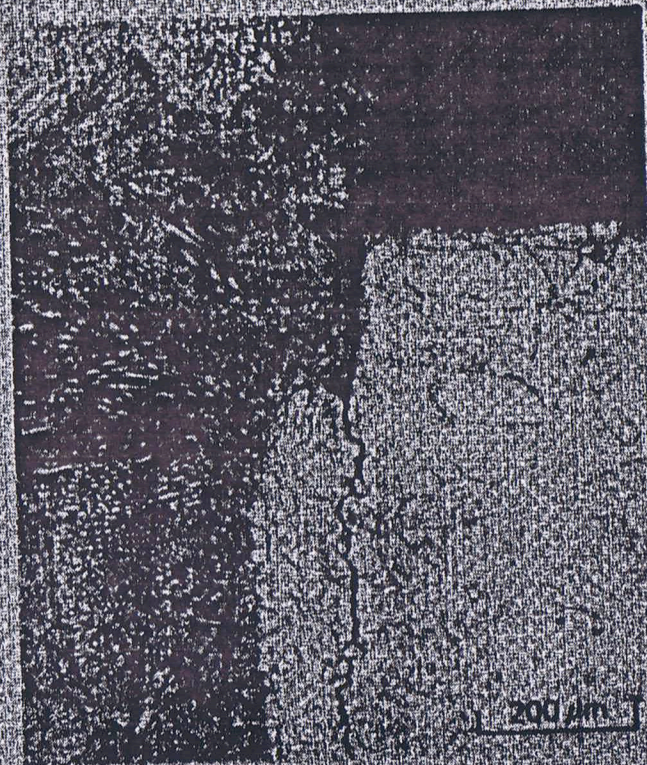
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Crack growth experiments show tritium (and helium) to be much more deleterious than hydrogen or deuterium.



No crack growth is seen in

HYDROGEN



Crack growth is seen in

TRITIUM

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PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT (U)

AT SANDIA - R&D

- MATERIALS SELECTION AND TESTING
SPECIMEN AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS
- COMPONENT DESIGN
DRAWING AND SPECIFICATIONS
- PROTOTYPE DEVELOPMENT
FABRICATION AND JOINING
- COMPONENT EVALUATION
STORAGE AND STRUCTURAL TESTING
- SYSTEMS TESTING
LABORATORY AND FLIGHT TESTS
- PRODUCT DEFINITION

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PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT (U)

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**WE HAVE NO REASON TO ASSUME WE FOUND
ALL THE TRITIUM SURPRISES**

**It is not possible to extrapolate with
adequate confidence, tritium effects on components**

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SURVEY OF WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

WR708

SESSION XIV

- RADAR FUZING TECHNOLOGY
- OTHER FUZING MODES
- ADVANCED FUZING CONCEPTS

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Nuclear Weapon Fuzing Technology

- Introduction to Fuzing Components & Systems
- Radar Fuzing
- Contact Fuzing
- Inertial, Barometric, and Timer Fuzes
- Fuzing Systems
- **Future** Fuzing Systems
 - SLBM Warhead Protection Program

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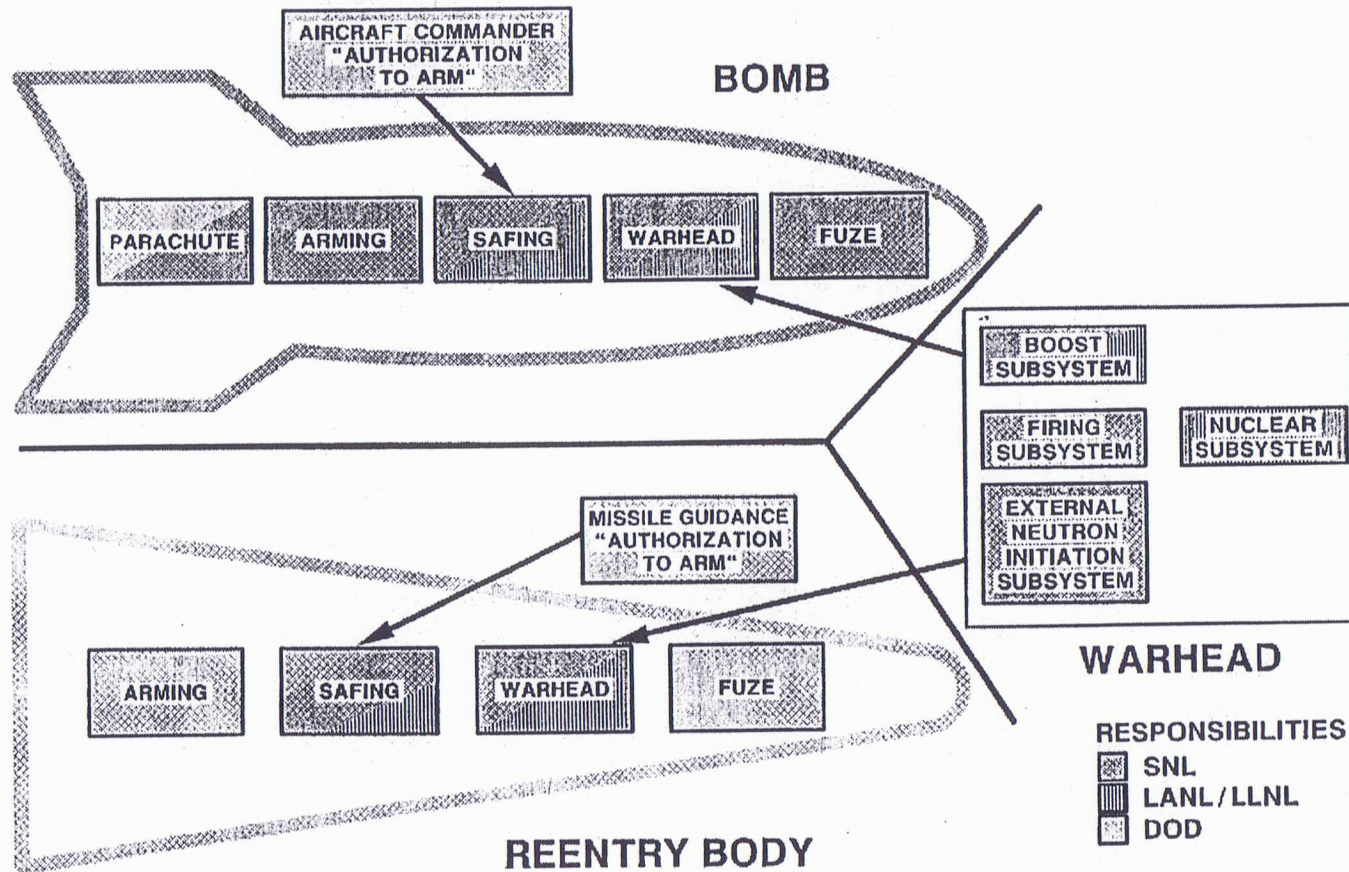
What is a Fuze ?

- Mechanism(s) within a weapon responsible for optimizing the location of weapon detonation
- Initiates the final, irreversible phase of weapon detonation
 - Follows “arming” functions, which are
 - reversible
 - time-uncritical
 - Precedes “firing”

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Fuzing System Hierarchy

Components:

Radars
(Antennas)

Clocks

G-switches

Pressure sensors
(Baro/hydro)

Accelerometers

Programmiers

Crush sensors

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Sub-Systems:

Airburst radars

Proximity radars
(prox time-down)

Timers

G-started timers

Pressure-started
timers

G-started integrating
accelerometers (FBIAs)

Path length

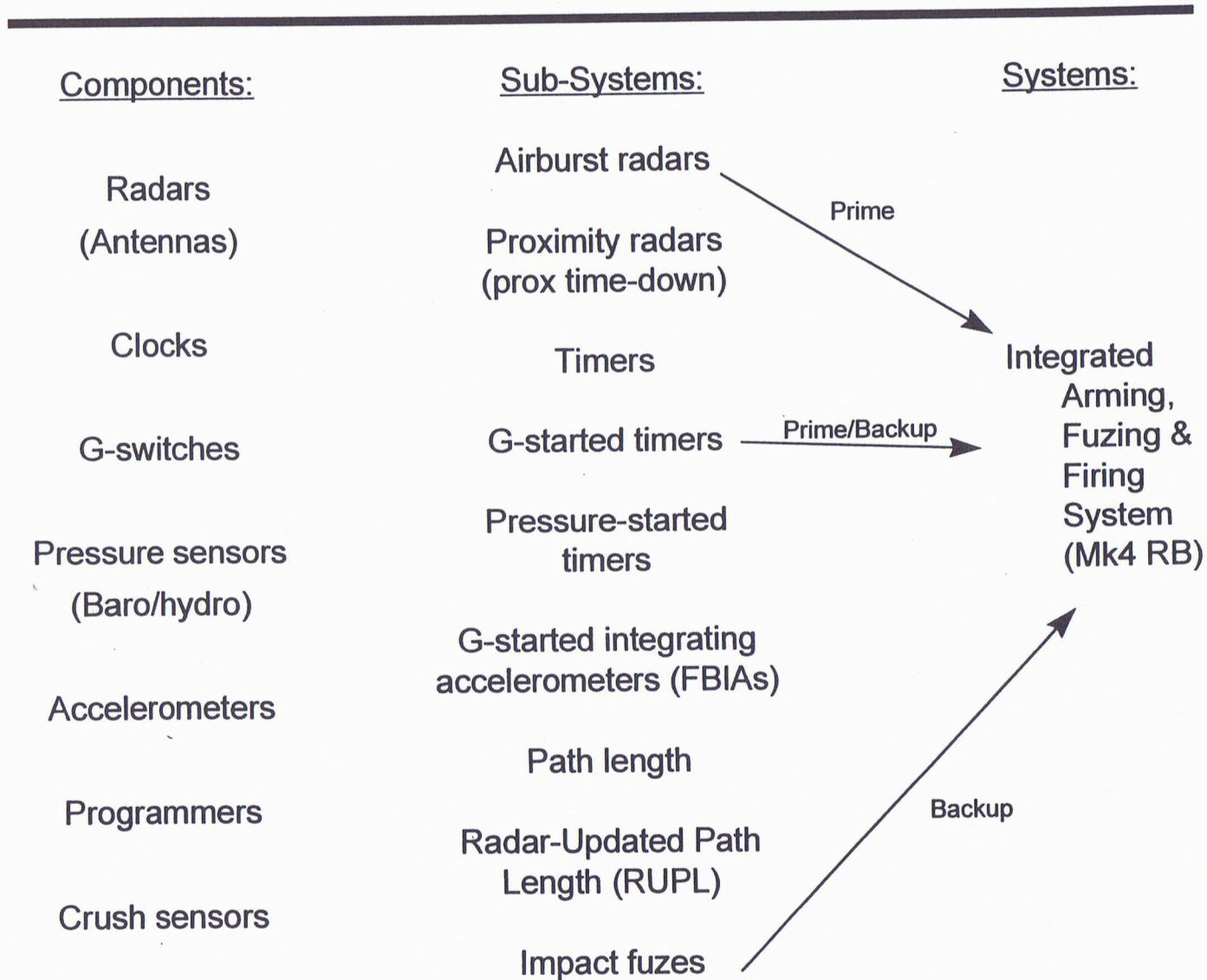
Radar-Updated Path
Length (RUPL)

Impact fuzes

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Fuzing System Hierarchy



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Fuzing System Hierarchy

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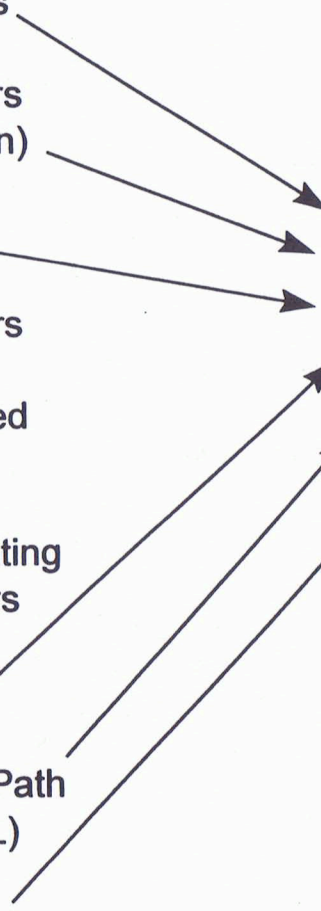
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timers
- G-started integrating
accelerometers
- Path length
- Radar-Updated Path
Length (RUPL)
- Impact fuzes

Systems:

Integrated
Arming,
Fuzing &
Firing
System
(Mk5 RB)



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How is a Fuze selected?

Traditional fuzing system priorities:

- Reliable
- Light weight (reentry body)
- Accurate
- Small (reentry body)
- Flexible
- Testable
- Producing
- Inexpensive

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How is a Fuze selected?

Future fuzing systems must be:

- Inexpensive
- Producible
- Reliable
- Accurate
- Certifiable (test & analysis)
- Flexible
- Small (reentry body)
- Light weight (reentry body)

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Radar Fuzing

- Role of radar fuzing
- Basic radar fuze operation
- Radar design issues
- Current technology

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Why use a radar ?

- Height of burst precision to maximize extent of low overpressure levels
 - setability
 - accuracy
- Height of burst control to minimize fallout
- Dependable surface fuzing
 - Ensure detonation prior to collision
- Accurate altitude reference for improving inertial fuze accuracy (radar-updated path length fuze)

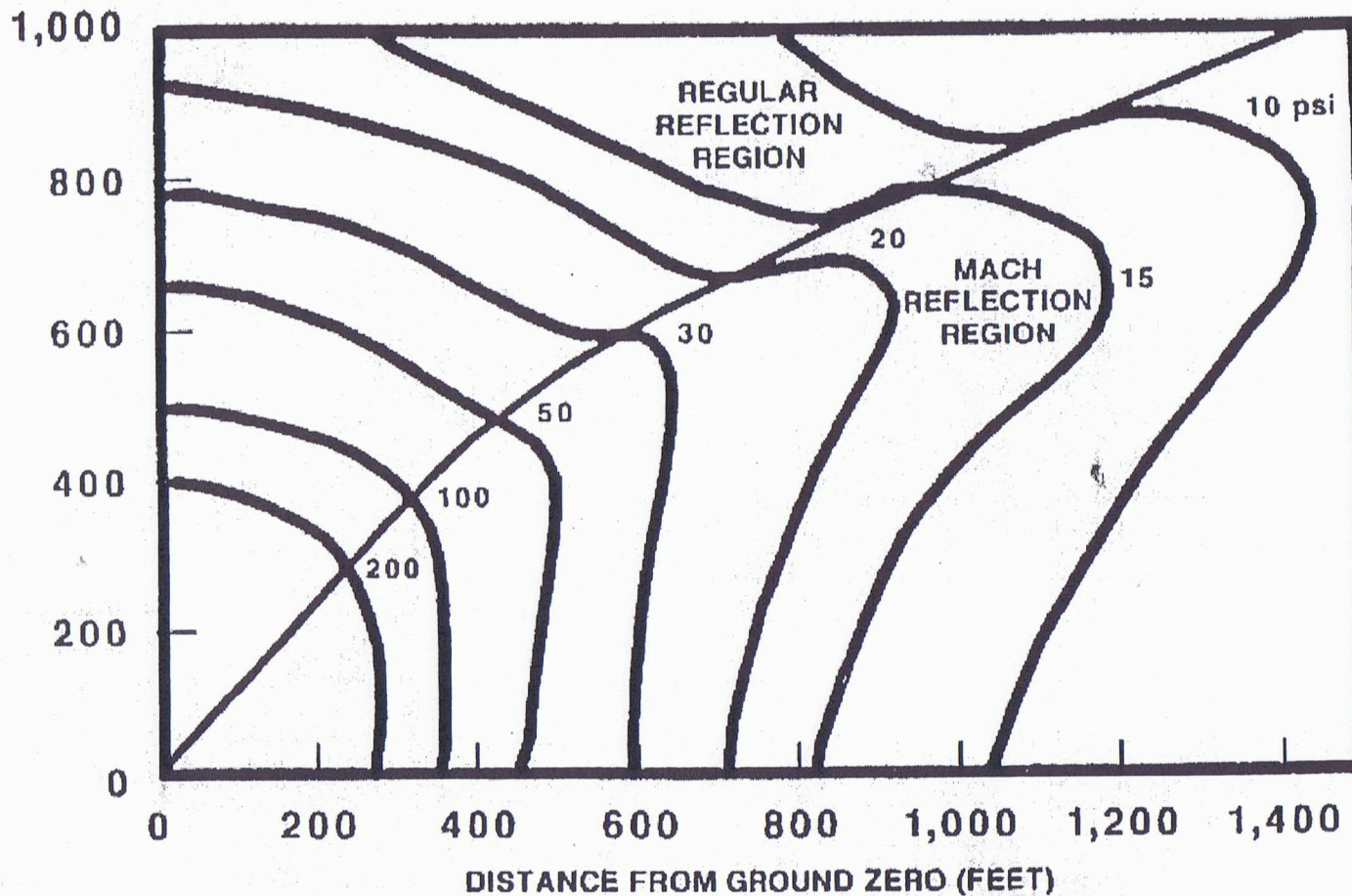
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PEAK OVERPRESSURES ON THE GROUND FOR A 1-KILOTON BURST



REFERENCE: GLASSTONE AND DOLAN, THE EFFECTS
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, 3RD EDITION US DOD AND DOE, 1977

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