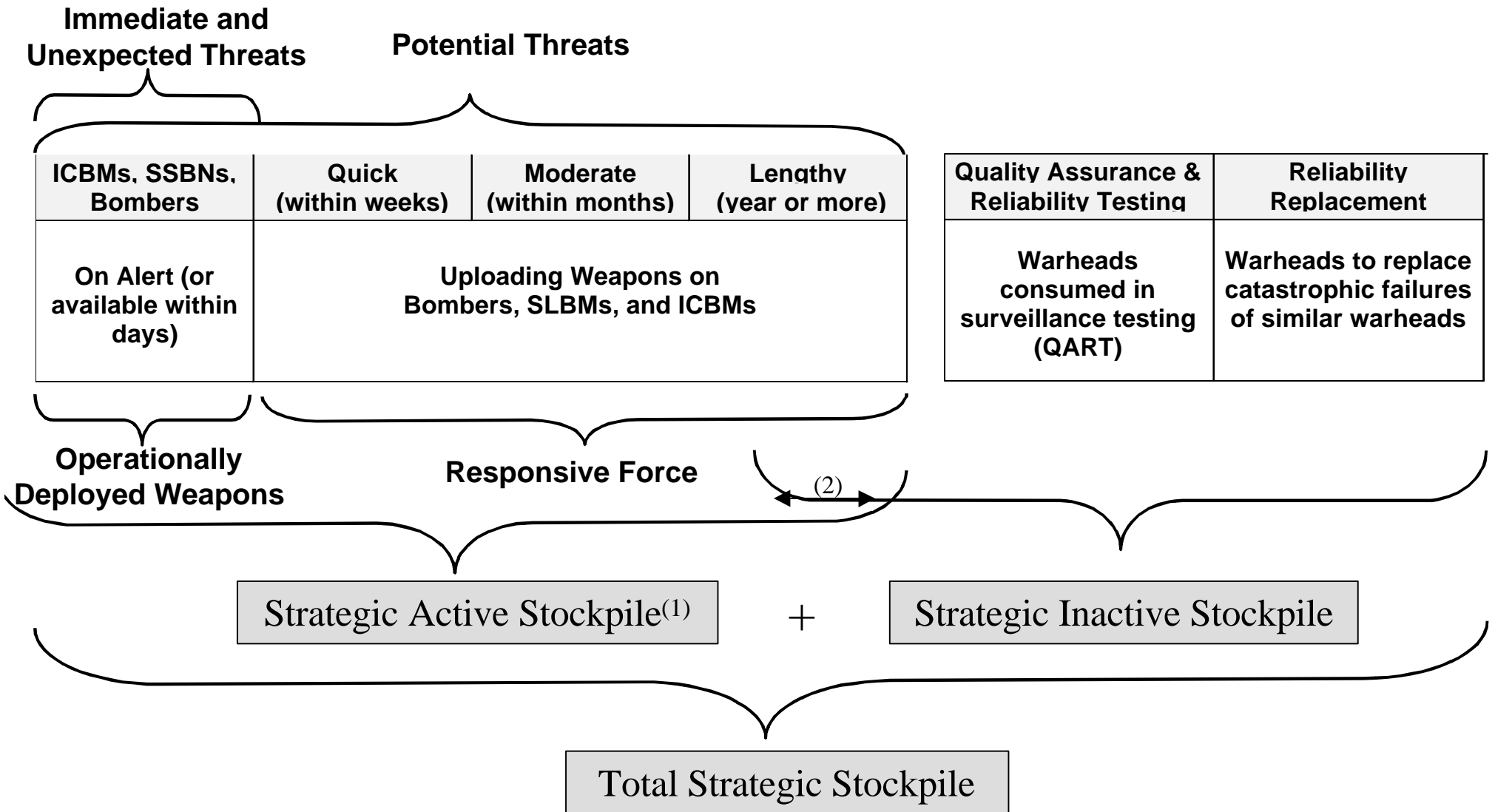


STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS

“Work in Progress”



Basic Terminology of the Nuclear Posture Review

- **Strategic Nuclear Forces (Strategic Weapon Systems)**: *Strategic nuclear platforms* with their associated *strategic nuclear weapons*.
 - **Strategic nuclear platforms**: (retained in the NPR)
 - 14 SSBNs
 - 500 MMIII
 - 76 B-52s & 21 B-2s
 - **Strategic nuclear platform reductions**:
 - 50 Peacekeeper missiles
 - 4 Trident submarines
 - All B-1s (nuclear re-role requirement eliminated)
- **Strategic Nuclear Weapon**: A *nuclear warhead* and its necessary arming, fuzing and firing components necessary to produce a nuclear yield that can be loaded on a *strategic platform*.
- **Nuclear Warhead**: A device that contains the nuclear or thermonuclear system.
- **Strategic Active Stockpile**: *Operationally Deployed Weapons*, the *responsive force* and *logistic spares*.
 - **Operationally Deployed Weapons**: *Strategic nuclear weapons* that are on operational ballistic missiles or on bombers or in bomber base weapon storage areas (*logistic spares* in bomber weapon storage areas would not be counted). *Operationally Deployed Weapons* are for immediate and unexpected threats.
 - **Responsive Force**: *Strategic nuclear weapons* available for uploading on existing *strategic nuclear platforms*. (Note: Some weapons may be in inactive stockpile.)
 - **Logistic Spares**: *Strategic nuclear weapons* required to meet *Operationally Deployed Strategic Nuclear Weapons* maintenance requirements.
- **Strategic Inactive Stockpile**: *Strategic nuclear warheads* reserved for DOE's *Quality Assurance and Reliability Testing (QART)* and *Reliability Replacement* requirements. These warheads have certain limited life components removed, but are otherwise maintained to the same standards as weapons in the active stockpile.
 - **Quality Assurance and Reliability Testing (QART)**: *Nuclear warheads* retained in the inactive stockpile to replace weapons in the active stockpile withdrawn for DOE's surveillance program.
 - **Reliability Replacement**: *Nuclear warheads* retained in the inactive stockpile to replace similar weapons in the stockpile that suffer a catastrophic failure.
- **Total Strategic Stockpile**: The summation of the *strategic active stockpile* and *strategic inactive stockpile*

The following are not part of the stockpile.

- **Retired Warheads**: Warheads no longer required for military use and are not part of the active and inactive stockpiles. These warheads are awaiting *dismantlement* by DOE.
- **Dismantlement**: The physical separation of high explosives from special nuclear material. Usually critical nuclear components are retained and non-nuclear components are placed in a demilitarization program.