

Brig Gen Robert L. Smolen, Air Force Director of Nuclear & Counterproliferation, and Adam Hebert, Air Force Magazine, July 14, 2003

HEBERT: The Minuteman fleet itself is in a split configuration at the moment where the Warren missiles have one warhead and the other two wings have three warheads.

SMOLEN: If I could comment on the warhead piece, we cannot confirm or deny the amounts of warheads on the missiles. We could say a Minuteman missile can carry up to a certain amount, but when you say "up to," that means it could be one or it could be more. So the blend of missiles warheads will largely be determined by the targeting requirements that were given by Strategic Command. The targets ... where the targets are will have a factor on which missiles at what location might have one or more warhead. So I don't think it's ... certainly it has one, but it could have three, it could have two, it could have one.

HEBERT: The way I understand the situation at Warren, though, is that because of START obligations those are now up to one warhead missiles.

SMOLEN: According to the way we're looking at that, we're looking at eventually of 500 missiles that could be uploaded to as many as 800 warheads. So somewhere in that mix of 500 is 800. And it could be one on some, two on another, three on another.

Source: Obtained by Hans M. Kristensen from USAF, October 1, 2003