

Questions for Discussion

1. Was Syria obliged to report their (supposed) reactor at the Dair Alzour site?
2. Should the USA have immediately reported to the IAEA instead of waiting until after the Israeli airstrike?
3. Was Syria in "non-compliance" with its Safeguards Agreement with the Agency?
4. Was it appropriate for the BOG to report Syria to the UN Security Council?
5. What should/could the IAEA have done differently in its handling of the Syrian Case?
6. Analysis of the environmental samples taken from the Dair Alzour site carried out by the IAEA revealed a significant number of natural uranium particles. The analysis of these particles indicates that the uranium is anthropogenic, i.e. that the material was produced as a result of chemical processing. Syria stated that the only explanation for these particles was that they were contained in the missiles used to destroy the building. What do you think is the truth?
7. Considering that Israel never provided information on the material of their "missiles" and the US report indicated that nuclear fuel was not yet introduced in the reactor, the IAEA's conclusion that the building held nuclear related activities and materials unrelated to gas cooled reactors is inconclusive. Do you agree with this statement?
8. Syria stated that the destroyed building could not have been a nuclear facility because of the unreliable and insufficient electricity supplies in the area, the limited availability of human resources in Syria and the unavailability of large quantities of treated water. Do you agree with this statement? Why?
9. Given the current domestic turmoil in the country, do you think that the IAEA or the international community should continue their investigations in Syria?
10. In your opinion, was the destroyed building at Dair Alzour actually an undeclared reactor?