
DR. TOM RAMOS



Dr. Tom Ramos was a physicist at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where he was a member of the nuclear team. Tom, is a graduate of West Point Military Academy, where he commanded combat engineers before entering MIT to earn a degree in High Energy Physics. At LLNL, he joined the a nuclear weapons design team and, in the 1980s, he became a designer of the X-ray Laser, one of the premier programs of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative. As a weapons designer, he participated in numerous nuclear weapons tests conducted at the Nevada Test Site, where he gained valuable experience learning how America developed its nuclear weapons. After a decade of design work, Tom switched careers to supporting arms control negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union. He helped prepare the Secretary of Energy for National Security Council meetings to determine the US position in START Treaty talks with the Soviets. Just prior to the outbreak of Operation Desert Storm, Tom was assigned to the Pentagon as the Senior Nuclear Weapons Advisor to the Secretary of Defense. When he returned to Livermore, he channeled his energy into thinking of ways that the country could face the growing global threat of nuclear proliferation. He gathered together a group of scientists and engineers and he established a counterproliferation program with the goal to establish a means for the country to thwart efforts of rogue nations hostile to the United States from producing weapons of mass destruction. His program was declared to be the most important counterproliferation program within the country's defense establishment by the Secretary of Defense, and it was used by officials at the highest levels of government to make counterproliferation plans for the country.