

AUKUS and the destruction of Perth.

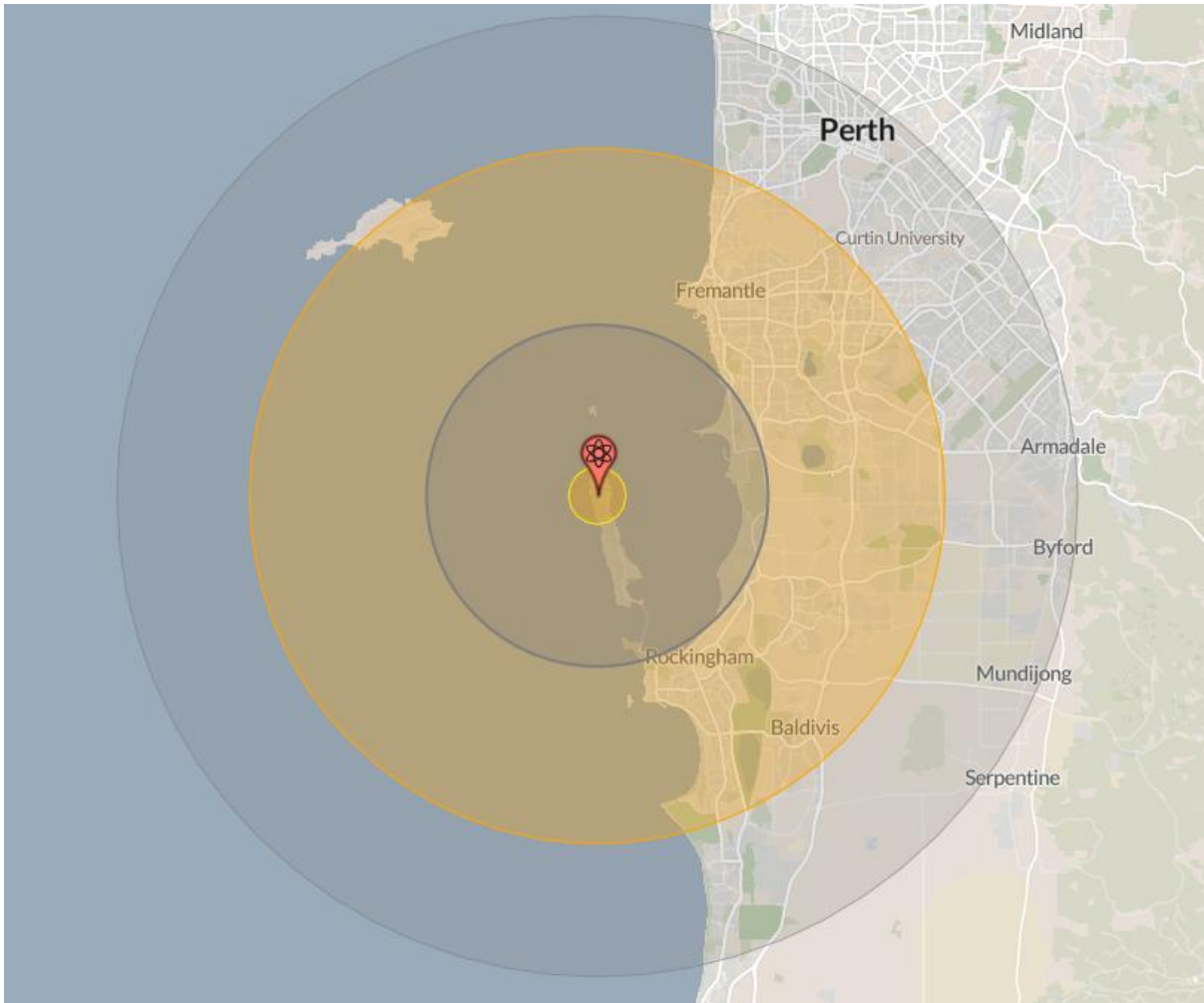
Two retired US Navy Admirals recently told their military think-tanks that the USA will be at war with China by 2025 (one Admiral), or 2027 (the other Admiral). We could simply shrug our shoulders and mutter something about the USA and its insane eternal war machine but unfortunately, due to the AUKUS agreement, this predicted war will also impact us.

The AUKUS (Australia, United Kingdom, United States) agreement was a plan that Australia will purchase nuclear powered submarines which will be built in America, fitted out in England, and based at HMAS Stirling, an Australian naval base at Garden Island in Perth's southern suburbs. The agreement also requires Australia to upgrade the base to provide facilities for US Navy nuclear submarines to use the base, at our expense.

The problem here is that if / when the USA goes to war with China, this will be a naval and aerospace war rather than a land based conflict. As China's economy is dependent on imported oil, primarily from Iran, we can expect that Chinese shipping in the Indian Ocean will be a primary target, hence China's focus will be on eliminating American submarines. Australia may not be a direct party to this conflict but as we'll be providing facilities to one of the active parties, we'll be classified as a co-belligerent and targeted accordingly.

China would most likely permanently close the HMAS Stirling naval base by using a Dong Feng 5 missile. This is a hypersonic inter-continental ballistic missile with a nuclear warhead which can't be shot down once it's launched. The destruction and loss of life this would do to Perth's southern suburbs will be immense.

According to nukemap.com, the destruction from a Dong Feng 5 missile strike on HMAS Stirling would cause damage from Swanbourne in the north, Armadale in the east, and the northern suburbs of Mandurah in the south. The outer circle (shockwave zone) includes the central business district so we can also expect that the CBD streets will be littered with shattered window panes.



The legend for the four zones from nukemap.com reads:

Effect distances for a 5 megaton airburst*: ▼

● Fireball radius: 2.02 km (12.9 km²)

Maximum size of the nuclear fireball; relevance to damage on the ground depends on the height of detonation. If it touches the ground, the amount of radioactive fallout is significantly increased. Anything inside the fireball is effectively vaporized. Minimum burst height for negligible fallout: 1.66 km.

○ Moderate blast damage radius (5 psi): 12 km (454 km²)

At 5 psi overpressure, most residential buildings collapse, injuries are universal, fatalities are widespread. The chances of a fire starting in commercial and residential damage are high, and buildings so damaged are at high risk of spreading fire. Often used as a benchmark for moderate damage in cities. Optimal height of burst to maximize this effect is 5,340 m.

● Thermal radiation radius (3rd degree burns): 24.5 km (1,880 km²)

Third degree burns extend throughout the layers of skin, and are often painless because they destroy the pain nerves. They can cause severe scarring or disablement, and can require amputation. 100% probability for 3rd degree burns at this yield is 12.4 cal/cm².

○ Light blast damage radius (1 psi): 33.8 km (3,590 km²)

At around 1 psi overpressure, glass windows can be expected to break. This can cause many injuries in a surrounding population who comes to a window after seeing the flash of a nuclear explosion (which travels faster than the pressure wave). Often used as a benchmark for light damage in cities. Optimal height of burst to maximize this effect is 7,990 m.

Boris Johnson, the former British Prime Minister, in his recently released autobiography revealed that AUKUS came into being as a result of a tit-for-tat squabble he was having with French President Emmanuel Macron. Johnson championed the Brexit movement to annoy Macron, Macron responded by allowing the massive relocation of tens of thousands of undocumented migrants to cross the English Channel to England, and Johnson responded by devising the AUKUS plan with President Biden to cancel Australia's contract to buy French submarines.

In light of this revelation, I'd suggest that the acronym be changed to USUKA, pronounced "you sucker" for that is what we are.

Shame on PM Morrison, shame on PM Albanese, and may God have mercy on us suckers.