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radiation expert Rosalie Bertell said depleted uranium is highly toxic to humans. Bertell, president of the International Institute of Concern for Public Health, called its use in Yugoslavia radiation and toxic chemical warfare that must be denounced.

Some experts also warned of the environmental hazards posed by depleted uranium, which has a half-life of 4.5 billion years. "In Yugoslavia, it's expected that depleted uranium will be fired in agricultural areas, places

where livestock graze and where crops are grown, thereby introducing the specter of possible contamination of the food chain," said Paul Sullivan, executive director of the National Gulf War Resource Center.

Last year, Iraqi doctors said they feared a disturbing rise in leukemia and stomach cancer among civilians who live near the war zone may be linked to depleted uranium contamination of Iraqi farmland.

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