

4 November 2008

Chem-Bio News

1. STAR LOCKED DOWN AFTER LETTER LABELED 'ANTHRAX' ARRIVES: *"The mailing, which had a return address under the name MK Publishing in Sacramento, Calif., was similar to anthrax hoax mailings that have been sent to newspapers across the country."*

2. TERRORISTS TRY TO INFILTRATE UK'S TOP LABS: *"The security services have intercepted up to 100 suspects posing as postgraduate students who aim to acquire weapons material and expertise."*

Chem-Demil News

1. PBA [PINE BLUFF ARSENAL] DISPOSES OF ALARMS FROM DCD [DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT]: *"Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) transferred 51 M43A1 chemical agent detector alarms to the Pine Bluff Arsenal (PBA) for removal and disposition of a radioactive material (Americium 241) and final disposal of the equipment."*

2. CMA SECURES LEADERS FOR TWO ASSIGNMENTS: *"The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) recently welcomed its newest headquarters' members. Col. Raymond L. Naworol is now the Director of Stockpile Operations, providing leadership and direction to CMA commanders responsible for safe storage and facilitating destruction of the national chemical weapons stockpile..... In addition to Col. Naworol's appointment, Mr. Robert Q. Eldringhoff was named Chief of Staff."*

3. NEWPORT CHEMICAL DEPOT CONTINUES CLOSURE EFFORTS: *"Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility work force continues closure efforts, including operating the Drum Repack Facility."*

4. UMATILLA - GROUP SEEKS REVIEW OF PLANS TO BURN MUSTARD AGENT: *"A lawsuit filed on behalf of environmental groups and several residents seeks to block the burning of mustard gas at the Umatilla Chemical Depot near Hermiston."*

CB Daily Report

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STAR LOCKED DOWN AFTER LETTER LABELED 'ANTHRAX' ARRIVES

By Francesca Jarosz
The Indianapolis Star
November 4, 2008

"Several hundred employees at The Indianapolis Star were locked down for more than two hours late Monday afternoon while police and health officials investigated a mysterious envelope that arrived at the newspaper's Downtown office.

The mailing, which had a return address under the name MK Publishing in Sacramento, Calif., was similar to anthrax hoax mailings that have been sent to newspapers across the country.

The envelope contained a CD with the image of former Secretary of State Colin Powell. The CD's plastic sleeve had a sticker with the words "anthrax sample" and a biohazard sign over what appeared to be a sugar packet, said Heidi Sims, a paraprofessional at The Star who handled the package."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081104/NEWS02/811040380>

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TERRORISTS TRY TO INFILTRATE UK'S TOP LABS

By Mark Townsend
The Guardian [UK]
November 2, 2008

"Dozens of suspected terrorists have attempted to infiltrate Britain's top laboratories in order to develop weapons of mass destruction, such as biological and nuclear devices, during the past year.

The security services, MI5 and MI6, have intercepted up to 100 potential terrorists posing as postgraduate students who they believe tried accessing laboratories to gain the materials and expertise needed to create chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons, the government has confirmed."

"Extensive background checks from the security services, using a new vetting scheme, have led to the rejection of overseas students who were believed to be intent on developing weapons of mass destruction. A Foreign Office spokesman said the students had been denied clearance to study in the UK under powers 'to stop the spread of knowledge and skills that could be used in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery'.

He added: 'There is empirical evidence of a problem with postgraduate students becoming weapons proliferators.' The overseas students, a number of whom are thought to be from 'countries of concern' such as Iran and Pakistan, were intercepted under the Academic Technology Approval Scheme, introduced by universities and the security services last November.

The findings raise questions over how many terrorist suspects may have already infiltrated the UK's laboratory network. Rihab Taha, dubbed 'Dr Germ', who worked on Saddam Hussein's biological weapons programme, studied for her PhD in plant toxins at East Anglia University's School of Biological Sciences in Norwich."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2008/nov/02/uk-security-weapons-technology>

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PBA [PINE BLUFF ARSENAL] DISPOSES OF ALARMS FROM DCD [DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT]

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release
November 2008

“Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) transferred 51 M43A1 chemical agent detector alarms to the Pine Bluff Arsenal (PBA) for removal and disposition of a radioactive material (Americium 241) and final disposal of the equipment. The alarms, which were stored in a permitted igloo at DCD, were classified as hazardous waste by the state of Utah.

This safety project, ongoing for the past seven years, culminated with the development of a decontamination plan for the alarms to meet regulatory ground shipment standards so that they could be safely shipped to PBA.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/fndocumentviewer.aspx?docid=003679365>

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CMA SECURES LEADERS FOR TWO ASSIGNMENTS

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release
November 2008

“The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) recently welcomed its newest headquarters’ members. Col. Raymond L. Naworol is now the Director of Stockpile Operations, providing leadership and direction to CMA commanders responsible for safe storage and facilitating destruction of the national chemical weapons stockpile. As a member of CMA’s senior leadership team, Col. Naworol also oversees everyday activities of the various operational elements supporting overall mission execution.

Col. Naworol’s prior assignment was Chief of Staff and Director, Chemical and Biological Defense Requirements and Operations Integration in the Office of Secretary of Defense, Special Assistant, Chemical and Biological Defense and Chemical Demilitarization Programs.

In addition to Col. Naworol’s appointment, Mr. Robert Q. Eldringhoff was named Chief of

Staff. Mr. Eldringhoff has worked within CMA for more than five years. He has dealt with all aspects of the agency including storage, demilitarization, non-stockpile and site/installation management.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Eldringhoff was the Director of Mission Support Directorate. His areas of responsibility included treaty, public works, logistics, materials management, integrated closure, transition planning, contract management and the information technology program.

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/fndocumentviewer.aspx?docid=003679365>

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NEWPORT CHEMICAL DEPOT CONTINUES CLOSURE EFFORTS

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release

November 2008

“Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility work force continues closure efforts, including operating the Drum Repack Facility. This facility safely repacks secondary waste for shipment off site.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/fndocumentviewer.aspx?docid=003679365>

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UMATILLA - GROUP SEEKS REVIEW OF PLANS TO BURN MUSTARD AGENT

Columbian.com

November 4, 2008

“A lawsuit filed on behalf of environmental groups and several residents seeks to block the burning of mustard gas at the Umatilla Chemical Depot near Hermiston.

The lawsuit was filed by the Government Accountability Project, a whistleblower protection organization, on behalf of the Oregon Wildlife Federation, the Sierra Club and several residents of Umatilla and Morrow counties.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.columbian.com/article/20081103/NEWS06/311039971>

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