

19 September 2008

## **Chem-Bio News**

**1. SRI LANKA ORDERS TAMILS IN COLOMBO TO REGISTER [REPORTS OF TAMIL USE OF CS OR A "BURN AGENT"]:** *"With the Tamil Tigers growing increasingly desperate in the face of a new government offensive, military officials said Thursday that some rebel fighters had attacked troops with CS gas, a type of tear gas."*

**2. U.S. ARMY GARRISON - MIAMI ANTI-TERRORISM EXERCISE INVOLVES LOCAL POLICE, FIRE FIGHTERS:** *"Under the glaring summer sun, local police, bomb squads and fire departments practiced their interoperability with each other and the garrison Directorate of Emergency Services recently in a recent exercise that simulated a hazardous material spill and chemical exposure at U.S. Southern Command headquarters."*

**3. FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION AND READINESS LAUNCHES CHEMICAL-BIOLOGICAL WARFARE EXPOSURES WEB SITE:** *"The Department of Defense Force Health Protection and Readiness Directorate (FHP&R) has launched the Chemical-Biological (CB) Warfare Exposures Web site to provide Service members, veterans, their families and the public with information on the testing of chemical and biological warfare agents from 1942 to 1975."*

**4. ISRAELI GENERAL: WAR WITH SYRIA WILL INCLUDE CHEMICAL, GUERRILLA WARFARE:** *"Any future military conflict with Syria would include chemical warfare and fighting against guerrilla and regular army forces, said Major-General Avi Mizrahi, head of the GOC Army Headquarters."*

**5. UK HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS FIGHT HAIs [HUMAN AVIAN INFLUENZAS?] THROUGH NEW TECHNOLOGIES:** *"The technologies being trialed include a vapor decontaminating robot that works by measuring the dimensions of a sealed room and then emitting hydrogen peroxide vapor, which is proven to kill antibiotic-resistant organisms such as MRSA on surfaces including monitors and ventilators."*

**6. TENSIONS RAISE RISK TO WMD ARSENALS:** *"The authors of a U.S. program designed to secure weapons of mass destruction in the former Soviet Union say they worry that deteriorating relations between the United States and Russia could undermine efforts to keep the weapons out of the hands of terrorists."*

## **Chem-Demil News**

**1. LEXINGTON BLUE GRASS CHEMICAL DEPOT AND PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT - REQUEST ISSUED FOR EXTRA \$20M FOR WEAPONS DESTRUCTION:** *"The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee approved the 2009 president's budget request Friday that includes an additional \$47 million in funding for chemical weapons destruction at the Blue Grass Army Depot here and the destruction site in Pueblo, Colo."*

# **CB Daily Report**

## ***Chem-Bio News***

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### **SRI LANKA ORDERS TAMILS IN COLOMBO TO REGISTER [REPORTS OF TAMIL USE OF CS OR A "BURN AGENT"]**

Sulekha.com

September 18, 2008

"Meanwhile, the military said fresh fighting along the northern front lines killed 25 rebels and one soldier, while brushing off reports the Tamil Tigers had unleashed deadly chemical weapons against advancing troops."

"With the Tamil Tigers growing increasingly desperate in the face of a new government offensive, military officials said Thursday that some rebel fighters had attacked troops with CS gas, a type of tear gas.

Military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara said six troops were hit with the gas and hospitalized with minor breathing problems.

However, a Special Forces soldier in the northern war zone told The Associated Press on Wednesday that a group of his comrades were hit by what appeared to be a burn agent loaded into a shoulder-fired rocket during a battle in the Kilinochchi district Monday.

The soldier, who refused to be identified because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said he had seen the bodies of several of his comrades who were killed in the battle and they looked as if they had melted. Many of them were so badly disfigured they had to be buried in closed-casket funerals, he said.

Nanayakkara denied the account, saying that rebels had experimented with using chemical weapons, but had never employed them in battle.

"There was no burn agent," he said."

The full article can be found at: <http://newshopper.sulekha.com/newsitem/apnews/2008/09/sri-lanka-orders-tamils-in-colombo-to-register.htm>

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### **U.S. ARMY GARRISON - MIAMI ANTI-TERRORISM EXERCISE INVOLVES LOCAL POLICE, FIRE FIGHTERS**

By Arthur McQueen

Army.mil

September 15, 2008

"Under the glaring summer sun, local police, bomb squads and fire departments practiced their interoperability with each other and the garrison Directorate of Emergency Services

recently in a recent exercise that simulated a hazardous material spill and chemical exposure at U.S. Southern Command headquarters."

"The ball is vapor and radiation tight, according to Bomb Squad Officer Sean Klahm, who said he appreciates the electrically operated door of the new device.

"A lot of thought went into this, the previous (containment vessel) had a submarine-style door, and I've closed one while wearing a bomb-suit and HAZMAT gear," he said. The effort used up a bottle of water in the process.

The exercise scenario given to the commanders on the scene was that the guards handling the package had developed blisters, indicating a chemical agent of some kind.

Miami-Dade firefighters suited up while colleagues erected a decontamination station.

Meanwhile, city, county, and Department of Defense police forces kept traffic and onlookers at bay. The firefighters then took samples of the chemical residue for analysis before going through the decontamination procedure."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.army.mil/-news/2008/09/15/12449-us-army-garrison---miami-anti-terrorism-exercise-involves-local-police-fire-fighters/>

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## **FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION AND READINESS LAUNCHES CHEMICAL-BIOLOGICAL WARFARE EXPOSURES WEB SITE**

US Department of Defense  
September 17, 2008

"The Department of Defense Force Health Protection and Readiness Directorate (FHP&R) has launched the Chemical-Biological (CB) Warfare Exposures Web site to provide Service members, veterans, their families and the public with information on the testing of chemical and biological warfare agents from 1942 to 1975. The Web site presents sections on World War II, Project 112/SHAD (Shipboard Hazard and Defense), and the Cold War.

To evaluate the ability of U.S. forces to fight on a chemical and biological battlefield, DoD conducted testing programs. In some programs Service members were present but not test subjects and in other programs they were volunteer human subjects. This testing ended in 1975. DoD has been actively engaged in an extensive search of official records to find the names of veterans who may have been exposed to the chemical or biological agents. DoD plans to complete the search in 2011, but will pursue any leads from veterans or others who may have information.

The Service member names identified by DoD, along with specific exposure information, are provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The VA then notifies the individuals of their potential exposure, provides treatment if necessary, and adjudicates any claim for compensation. For privacy reasons, the Web site does not contain the names of the veterans

exposed.

Veterans who believe that they may have been exposed or who would like more information are advised to contact DoD via e-mail at: [FHPWebmaster@tma.osd.mil](mailto:FHPWebmaster@tma.osd.mil), or call DoD's contact managers at (800) 497-6261, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time. Veterans call also write to DoD at: Force Health Protection and Readiness, ATTN: CB Exposure Manager, 5113 Leesburg Pike, Suite 901, Falls Church, VA 22041.

The Chemical-Biological Warfare Exposures Web Site: <http://fhp.osd.mil/CBexposures>

Force Health Protection and Readiness: <http://fhp.osd.mil>

Department of Veterans Affairs: <http://www.va.gov>"

The full article can be found at: <http://deploymentlink.osd.mil/new.jsp?newsID=52>

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## **ISRAELI GENERAL: WAR WITH SYRIA WILL INCLUDE CHEMICAL, GUERILLA WARFARE**

By Hanan Greenberg

YNetNews.com

September 18, 2008

"Any future military conflict with Syria may include chemical warfare and fighting against guerrilla and regular army forces, said Major-General Avi Mizrahi, head of the GOC Army Headquarters.

Speaking at the Land Maneuver in the 21st Century conference, held in Latrun on Wednesday, Mizrahi said: "Syria has a large, equipped and trained regular army, and lately we have identified some guerilla activity in its ranks."

"The general added that a future military confrontation with Syria may include chemical warfare. "We are taking this possibility into account," he said."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3598494,00.html>

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## **UK HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS FIGHT HAIs [HUMAN AVIAN INFLUENZAS?] THROUGH NEW TECHNOLOGIES**

Infection Control Today Magazine

September 16, 2008

"In its role as a designated showcase trust it will test the effectiveness, practicality and patient experience of six new technologies that have been designed to reduce levels of infection, especially methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) bloodstream infections and Clostridium difficile."

"The technologies being trialed include a vapor decontaminating robot that works by measuring the dimensions of a sealed room and then emitting hydrogen peroxide vapor, which is proven to kill antibiotic-resistant organisms such as MRSA on surfaces including monitors and ventilators."

"The other devices and cleaning-related technologies being evaluated are: a special silver-alloy catheter, a new skin decontaminant, two bowel management systems and a new bacteria-monitoring system."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.infectioncontrolday.com/hotnews/infection-fighting-technologies,p2.html>

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## **TENSIONS RAISE RISK TO WMD ARSENALS**

By Desmond Butler

Associated Press in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution

September 19, 2008

"The authors of a U.S. program designed to secure weapons of mass destruction in the former Soviet Union say they worry that deteriorating relations between the United States and Russia could undermine efforts to keep the weapons out of the hands of terrorists.

Former Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) and Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) say the two countries have continued working together to secure nuclear, chemical and biological weapons despite growing hostility after Russia's invasion of Georgia last month.

They said in separate interviews, however, that the spike in tensions heightens the risks of a breakdown in the arrangement under which the United States pays for the program."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/printedition/2008/09/19/nunn.html>

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***Chem-Demil News***

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## LEXINGTON BLUE GRASS CHEMICAL DEPOT AND PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT - REQUEST ISSUED FOR EXTRA \$20M FOR WEAPONS DESTRUCTION

By Ronica Shannon  
Richmond Register  
September 17, 2008

"The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee approved the 2009 president's budget request Friday that includes an additional \$47 million in funding for chemical weapons destruction at the Blue Grass Army Depot here and the destruction site in Pueblo, Colo.

However, the request issued by Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., in February also included an extra \$20 million that is only to be used at the Richmond site."

"The \$47 million in funding can be applied to either (the Kentucky or Colorado) site at whatever increment is required based on how things are proceeding at that particular site, said Craig Williams, director of the Berea-based Chemical Weapons Working Group."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.richmondregister.com/localnews/local\\_story\\_261073645.html](http://www.richmondregister.com/localnews/local_story_261073645.html)

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