

14 August 2008

Chem-Bio News

- 1. FORMER SRI LANKAN REBEL COMMANDER SAYS LTTE MAY USE CHEMICAL WEAPONS AS LAST RESORT:** *"During the briefing, he also warned that the Tigers may use chemical weapons as their last resort. He confirmed that the Tigers have the weapons but said he was not aware about the exact substance used."*
- 2. COATED FILM IS LETHAL WEAPON AGAINST BACTERIA:** *"Its special feature is that the bacteria themselves invoke and dispense this disinfectant effect."*
- 3. NY POLS SEEK END TO URANIUM IN U.S. LABS:** *"Rep. Peter King, a Long Island Republican, and state Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat, said such use by researchers -- mostly at universities -- could allow the material for nuclear bomb-making to fall into the wrong hands."*
- 4. WMD COMMISSION MEETS EUROPEAN OFFICIALS:** *"The nine-member Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism, created by the U.S. Congress, is expected to produce a report this fall."*

CB Daily Report

Chem-Bio News

FORMER SRI LANKAN REBEL COMMANDER SAYS LTTE MAY USE CHEMICAL WEAPONS AS LAST RESORT

Colombo Page
August 12, 2008

"Former leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in the Eastern Province and the current leader of the political party TMVP, Vinayagamoorthy Muralitharan alias Karuna Amman yesterday said that military defeat is inevitable for the LTTE as it does not have a proper commander."

"During the briefing, he also warned that the Tigers may use chemical weapons as their last resort. He confirmed that the Tigers have the weapons but said he was not aware about the exact substance used. He confidently said that Prabhakaran would choose to use the chemical weapons as the last measure to avoid defeat."

The full article can be found at: http://www.colombopage.com/archive_08/August12171914JR.html

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COATED FILM IS LETHAL WEAPON AGAINST BACTERIA

ETH Zurich

August 13, 2008

"A nanoproduct made from silver and calcium phosphate and developed by ETH Zurich researchers is lethal to bacteria. Its special feature is that the bacteria themselves invoke and dispense this disinfectant effect."

"However, until now it has been impossible to use the noble metal in a specific, controlled amount. The research group led by Wendelin Stark, Assistant Professor at the Institute for Chemical and Bioengineering of ETH Zurich, has now developed a plastics film coated with silver and calcium phosphate that fulfils these conditions and, in addition, is self-disinfecting. For example, the combination of the two substances has an effect on the bacterium *Escherichia coli* that is up to 1000 times more lethal than conventional silicon-based silver preparations. One decisive factor appears to be that the bacteria use the calcium substrate for their metabolism. The calcium phosphate particles, 20 to 50 nanometres in size, are absorbed by the micro-organisms as food and are thereby disintegrated. This releases thousands of tiny silver particles measuring 1 to 2 nanometres which the researchers had coated onto the calcium nutrient."

"The product is already being manufactured by the Perlen Converting AG Company in Perlen near Lucerne, which was involved in the development. This involves coating a film with nanoparticles of silver and calcium phosphate. The film can be used in hospitals, for example, hotspots for germ transmission. Door handles, beds or sanitary equipment onto which the self-disinfecting film is stuck could protect patients from dreaded and dangerous hospital pathogens that can lead to complications, for example after surgical operations. It must be renewed from time to time because the bacteria consume and use up the calcium, so the film is not effective indefinitely."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.nano.org.uk/news/aug2008/latest1535.htm>

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NY POLS SEEK END TO URANIUM IN U.S. LABS

WCBSTV.com

August 12, 2008

"Rep. Peter King, a Long Island Republican, and state Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat, said such use by researchers -- mostly at universities -- could allow the material for nuclear bomb-making to fall into the wrong hands.

The two are asking federal regulators to step in and ban use of the material at civilian facilities. Currently, only seven civilian sites have highly enriched uranium, and four of those are planning to phase it out."

"The two New Yorkers contend universities do not need such uranium for research, and can

use substitute material.”

The full article can be found at: <http://wcbstv.com/local/uranium.new.york.2.793583.html>

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WMD COMMISSION MEETS EUROPEAN OFFICIALS

Global Security Newswire

August 14, 2008

“The nine-member Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism, created by the U.S. Congress, is expected to produce a report this fall.

Panel members are scheduled to meet this week with British officials in London before traveling to Vienna to meet with representatives from the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.”

The full article can be found at: http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/2008_8_13.html

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