

## **Chem-Bio News**

- 1. NEW LEADERSHIP PLANNED TO FIGHT WMD TERRORISM:** *"President-elect Barack Obama plans to appoint a new White House official to coordinate efforts to prevent terrorists from obtaining nuclear or biological weapons, advisers say, giving the highest priority to thwarting a catastrophic attack that a bipartisan panel warns could come in the next five years."*
- 2. LEBANON JOINS CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION:** *"Lebanon is set to become the 185th member state to the international treaty banning development, possession and use of chemical weapons, the pact's oversight body announced Friday."*
- 3. FINGER ON THE NUCLEAR BUTTON:** *"Within days of coming to power, Gordon Brown had to make a decision with potentially massive consequences for Britain and the world."*
- 4. FABRIC CAN WIPE AWAY TOXIC CHEMICALS: STUDY:** *"A new dry wipe can clean up chemical agents such as mustard gas, giving soldiers a more convenient way to deal with toxic materials on the battlefield, U.S. researchers said on Wednesday."*
- 5. GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDS KANSAS FOR BIODEFENSE LAB:** *"The Homeland Security Department's choice of Manhattan, in central Kansas, beat out intense competition from sites in Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas."*

## **Chem-Demil News**

- 1. LIQUIDATION OF SARIN AND SOMAN AT MARADYKOVSKY OBJECT WILL START AT THE END OF THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2009:** *"Personnel of Maradykovsky object in the Kirovskaya Region where the liquidation of VX gases is coming to an end is preparing for putting into operation of a new line intended for liquidation of sarin and soman."*
- 2. CHINA URGES CHEMICAL WEAPONS OWNERS TO DESTROY STOCKPILES BY 2012 DEADLINE:** *"Countries which possess chemical weapons should do their utmost to comply with the 2012 deadline for the destruction of their chemical weapons, Chinese ambassador Zhang Jun said Tuesday at an annual meeting of the states parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in The Hague."*

# **CB Daily Report**

## **Chem-Bio News**

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### **NEW LEADERSHIP PLANNED TO FIGHT WMD TERRORISM**

By Bryan Bender  
The Boston Globe  
December 3, 2008

"President-elect Barack Obama plans to appoint a new White House official to coordinate efforts to prevent terrorists from obtaining nuclear or biological weapons, advisers say, giving the highest priority to thwarting a catastrophic attack that a bipartisan panel warns could come in the next five years.

Naming a top deputy whose sole mission is to oversee the government's wide-ranging programs to stop such an attack would mark a significant break with the Bush administration, which in resisting such a post has maintained that US efforts to reduce nuclear stockpiles and safeguard deadly pathogens are adequate."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2008/12/03/new\\_leadership\\_planned\\_to\\_fight\\_wmd\\_terrorism/](http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2008/12/03/new_leadership_planned_to_fight_wmd_terrorism/)

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## **LEBANON JOINS CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

Global Security Newswire

December 1, 2008

"Lebanon is set to become the 185th member state to the international treaty banning development, possession and use of chemical weapons, the pact's oversight body announced Friday."

"The Middle Eastern state submitted its document of accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention on Nov. 20. The nation will formally become a treaty party 30 days after the United Nations confirms that it has received the document, according to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons."

The full article can be found at: [http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20081201\\_8457.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20081201_8457.php)

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## **FINGER ON THE NUCLEAR BUTTON**

By Richard Knight

BBC

December 2, 2008

"Within days of coming to power, Gordon Brown had to make a decision with potentially massive consequences for Britain and the world.

Would he, in the event of a surprise nuclear attack in which he was killed before he could react, want Britain's last line of defence - a lone Trident submarine on patrol somewhere under the Atlantic - to retaliate?

Brown wrote his answer to that question four times, in long-hand, in the form of letters addressed to the Royal Navy submarine commanders who, we must all hope, will never be required to read one of them.

The letters are sealed in a safe aboard each of Britain's four Trident submarines."

The full article can be found at: [http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid\\_7758000/7758347.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_7758000/7758347.stm)

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## **FABRIC CAN WIPE AWAY TOXIC CHEMICALS: STUDY**

By Julie Steenhuysen

Reuters

December 4, 2008

"A new dry wipe can clean up chemical agents such as mustard gas, giving soldiers a more convenient way to deal with toxic materials on the battlefield, U.S. researchers said on Wednesday.

The wipe was developed by researchers at Texas Tech University in Lubbock in response to a call by the U.S. military for better ways to decontaminate military personnel and equipment."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/technologyNews/idUSTRE4B27SO20081204>

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## **GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDS KANSAS FOR BIODEFENSE LAB**

By Sam Hananel

The Associated Press on Yahoo! News

December 4, 2008

"The government has recommended a site in Kansas for a new \$450 million laboratory to study biological threats such as anthrax and foot-and-mouth disease, officials said Wednesday.

The Homeland Security Department's choice of Manhattan, in central Kansas, beat out intense competition from sites in Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas."

"The new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility would replace an aging 24-acre research complex on Plum Island, about 1.5 miles off the eastern shore of New York's Long Island. Foot-and-mouth research has been confined to the island since 1955 to avoid an accidental outbreak that could lead to the slaughter of millions of livestock. The disease does not sicken humans."

The full article can be found at: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20081204/ap\\_on\\_go\\_ca\\_st\\_pe/biothreat\\_laboratory](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20081204/ap_on_go_ca_st_pe/biothreat_laboratory)

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## ***Chem-Demil News***

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### **LIQUIDATION OF SARIN AND SOMAN AT MARADYKOVSKY OBJECT WILL START AT THE END OF THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2009**

TASS

December 1, 2008

“Personnel of Maradykovsky object in the Kirovskaya Region where the liquidation of VX gases is coming to an end is preparing for putting into operation of a new line intended for liquidation of sarin and soman. Mikhail Manin, director of the regional department of conventional problems, reports that the liquidation of these poisonous gases is planned for the end of the first quarter of 2009. As of 1 December, Maradykovsky liquidated 4,546.7 tons of poisonous substances with which 23,473 air bombs were filled, which accounted for more than 60% of all chemical weapons stored at the object.”

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### **CHINA URGES CHEMICAL WEAPONS OWNERS TO DESTROY STOCKPILES BY 2012 DEADLINE**

Xinhua General News Service

December 3, 2008

“Countries which possess chemical weapons should do their utmost to comply with the 2012 deadline for the destruction of their chemical weapons, Chinese ambassador Zhang Jun said Tuesday at an annual meeting of the states parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in The Hague.

Zhang, China's ambassador to the Netherlands and permanent representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), said that the speedy and complete destruction of chemical weapons within the time frame stipulated by the CWC is the fundamental objective of the convention.”

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**Steve Tesko:** [Steve.Tesko@anser.org](mailto:Steve.Tesko@anser.org)

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