

16 September 2008

## Chem-Bio News

**1. DISEASE LAB OPERATORS CONSIDER SECURITY CHANGE:** *"The U.S. Defense Department and civilian biodefense contractors are considering security changes that could require researchers at some laboratories to work in pairs to ensure there is no diversion of potentially deadly disease material, the Associated Press reported Friday."*

**2. NUCLEAR WATCHDOG ACCUSES IRAN OF STONEWALLING:** *"The conclusion was contained in an IAEA report released Monday to the 35-nation IAEA board and the U.N. Security Council, which has already imposed three sets of sanctions because of Tehran's nuclear defiance."*

**3. NUCLEAR DETECTORS SET FOR DEPLOYMENT IN ROMANIA:** *"The U.S. National Nuclear Security Administration announced today that it would help install radiation detectors at border crossings, airports and seaports in Romania."*

**4. FORMER ANTHRAX SUSPECT FIGHTS JOURNALIST'S APPEAL, MAY REQUEST ATTORNEY FEES:** *"Lawyers for Hatfill returned to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on Sept. 11 seeking dismissal of journalist Toni Locy's appeal of the contempt citation slapped on her for refusing to reveal her sources for stories in USA Today relating to the Hatfill case."*

**5. ANTHRAX FEARS OVER ANIMAL BURIAL SITES:** *"Russia may face a deadly outbreak of anthrax, according to the country's health watchdog."*

**6. BULGARIA TO EXTEND MARKOV 'POISONED UMBRELLA' PROBE:** *"Boyko Naidenov, head of the National Investigation Service (NIS), said the case would remain open even though the 30-year statute of limitations expires on Thursday."*

**7. OFFICIALS: TEXAS LAB WITH DANGEROUS PATHOGENS SECURED:** *"Workers at a Galveston, Texas, laboratory said to contain dangerous biological agents secured the pathogens Friday ahead of Hurricane Ike, officials said."*

# CB Daily Report

## Chem-Bio News

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### **DISEASE LAB OPERATORS CONSIDER SECURITY CHANGE**

Global Security Newswire

September 16, 2008

"The U.S. Defense Department and civilian biodefense contractors are considering security changes that could require researchers at some laboratories to work in pairs to ensure there is no diversion of potentially deadly disease material, the Associated Press reported Friday.

The proposal follows the Justice Department's assertion that U.S. Army microbiologist Bruce

Ivins used material from his laboratory to carry out the 2001 anthrax attacks that killed five people. Ivins committed suicide in July as federal prosecutors were reportedly preparing to file charges in the case.

Scientists at Biosafety Level 4 facilities, which handle Ebola and other lethal diseases for which there are no countermeasures, are already required to observe the "two-person" rule. The new proposal would expand that requirement to hundreds of scientists at Biosafety Level 3 sites that conduct research on diseases such as anthrax and West Nile virus."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.nti.org/d\\_newswire/issues/2008\\_9\\_15.html](http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/2008_9_15.html)

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## **NUCLEAR WATCHDOG ACCUSES IRAN OF STONEWALLING**

The Associated Press in the International Herald Tribune  
September 15, 2008

"U.N. efforts to investigate allegations that Iran tried to make nuclear arms have run into a dead end, with Tehran steadfastly blocking efforts to probe the accusations, the International Atomic Energy Agency said Monday.

The conclusion was contained in an IAEA report released Monday to the 35-nation IAEA board and the U.N. Security Council, which has already imposed three sets of sanctions because of Tehran's nuclear defiance."

"The six-page report confirmed that Iran continues to expand its uranium enrichment program in defiance of three sets of U.N. Security Council sanctions imposed in attempts to force Tehran to mothball such activities.

The document said Iran was now either fully or partially operating 6,000 centrifuges at its cavernous underground facility at Natanz. Beyond those machines, which spin uranium gas into enriched uranium, it was testing 12 more advanced prototypes at its aboveground experimental site at Natanz, a city about 500 kilometers (300 miles) south of Tehran."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/09/15/europe/EU-Nuclear-Agency-Iran.php>

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## **NUCLEAR DETECTORS SET FOR DEPLOYMENT IN ROMANIA**

Global Security Newswire  
September 16, 2008

"The U.S. National Nuclear Security Administration announced today that it would help

install radiation detectors at border crossings, airports and seaports in Romania."

"The agency to date has deployed detection technology and provided operations training at more than 160 sites in other nations through its Second Line of Defense Program. This effort is a collaborative effort with the Romanian Frontier Police."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.nti.org/d\\_newswire/issues/2008\\_9\\_15.html](http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/2008_9_15.html)

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## **FORMER ANTHRAX SUSPECT FIGHTS JOURNALIST'S APPEAL, MAY REQUEST ATTORNEY FEES**

By Tony Mauro

Legal Times on Law.com

September 16, 2008

"Lawyers for Hatfill returned to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on Sept. 11 seeking dismissal of journalist Toni Locy's appeal of the contempt citation slapped on her for refusing to reveal her sources for stories in USA Today relating to the Hatfill case."

"In Hatfill's motion, Wright says that once the district court regains jurisdiction over the Locy case, Hatfill will seek attorney fees from Locy. No amount was mentioned, but Locy told Legal Times she anticipates that the lawyer bills will be "far greater than the fines I faced under Judge Walton's contempt finding."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.law.com/jsp/article.jsp?id=1202424539216>

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## **ANTHRAX FEARS OVER ANIMAL BURIAL SITES**

Russia Today

September 16, 2008

"Russia may face a deadly outbreak of anthrax, according to the country's health watchdog. Hundreds of old burial places throughout the country where diseased animals were dumped are posing a major threat. Many of the sites are unmarked and have been sold to property developers.

The Tver region north of Moscow is one of the areas affected. Large-scale construction work is in full swing near the burial sites of anthrax-infected animals, which were disposed of a century ago."

"This cemetery dates from 1882. Fifteen years ago the construction of summer houses started near it, expanding the village. Although the safety zone is one kilometre away from the cemetery, every house drills a well," Sharapov said.

The diseased animals were usually burnt and buried two metres deep. But the spores of anthrax can live in the soil for decades. If mixed with dust they can be inhaled by humans and animals. But the fact doesn't seem to bother Russia's rich, who are ready to pay up to \$US 300,000 an acre at what has become Moscow's Riviera."

The full article can be found at: <http://russiatoday.com/features/news/30486>

ANALYST NOTE: Tver was known as Kalinin during the Communist era.

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## **BULGARIA TO EXTEND MARKOV 'POISONED UMBRELLA' PROBE**

Javno

September 15, 2008

"Bulgaria has decided to extend its investigation into the murder in 1978 of dissident Georgi Markov in London with a poison-tipped umbrella, a top investigator said on Wednesday.

Boyko Naidenov, head of the National Investigation Service (NIS), said the case would remain open even though the 30-year statute of limitations expires on Thursday."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.javno.com/en/world/clanak.php?id=182377>

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## **OFFICIALS: TEXAS LAB WITH DANGEROUS PATHOGENS SECURED**

By Jeanne Meserve

CNN.com

September 12, 2008

"Workers at a Galveston, Texas, laboratory said to contain dangerous biological agents secured the pathogens Friday ahead of Hurricane Ike, officials said.

The pathogens, which include the deadly ebola virus, were purposely destroyed before the staff left the facility in advance of the hurricane, said Gov. Rick Perry's spokesman, Andrew Barlow."

The full article can be found at: <http://edition.cnn.com/2008/US/weather/09/12/ike.biological.agents/index.html>

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