

Chem-Bio News

1. NRC TO DISTRIBUTE 9 MILLION POTASSIUM IODIDE TABLETS AROUND U.S. NUCLEAR PLANTS: "The tablets will be stockpiled for populations living within a "10-mile emergency planning zone" surrounding commercial nuclear power plants across the country."

2. NYPD MOVES TO CLOAK MIDTOWN WITH CAMERA LICENSE PLATE READERS, AND RADIATION AND BIO SCANNERS: "The NYPD wants \$21 million in federal homeland security dollars to put toward the midtown project, estimated to cost \$58 million."

3. CARGO SCANNING REQUIREMENT SHOULD BE RECONSIDERED, U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS: "A senior U.S. Homeland Security Department official told lawmakers yesterday it is time for Congress to reconsider a legal mandate created by Democratic lawmakers that requires all cargo containers to be scanned for weapons of mass destruction at foreign ports before they are shipped to the United States."

Chem-Demil News

1. TOOELE CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY (TOCDF)- DISPOSAL FACILITY BEGINS DESTROYING MUSTARD AGENT-FILLED MORTARS: "Workers began processing HT mustard agent-filled 4.2-inch cartridges (mortars) today as part of ongoing mustard disposal operations at the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF)."

2. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TO BECOME 187TH STATE PARTY TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION: "The Dominican Republic has deposited its instrument of ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) with the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Convention will enter into force for the country on 26 April 2009, making the Dominican Republic the 187th State Party to the CWC. "

3. RUSSIAN DISPOSAL SITE ELIMINATES LEWISITE STOCKPILE: "A Russian chemical weapons disposal facility has eliminated the 6.4-metric-ton stockpile of lewisite stored in bulk containers at the Kambarka depot in Udmurtia."

CB Daily Report

Chem-Bio News

NRC TO DISTRIBUTE 9 MILLION POTASSIUM IODIDE TABLETS AROUND U.S. NUCLEAR PLANTS

By James Goodwin
Government Security News
March 30, 2009

"The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is planning to distribute approximately nine million potassium iodide tablets to state and local governments and Native-American tribes. The tablets will be stockpiled for populations living within a "10-mile emergency planning zone" surrounding commercial nuclear power plants across the country.

Revised rules issued by the NRC in 2001 require that state, local and tribal governments "consider including potassium iodide (KI) as a protective measure for the general public to supplement sheltering and evacuation in the unlikely event of a severe nuclear power plant accident," according to a solicitation released by the NRC earlier this month."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.gsnmagazine.com/cms/features/news-analysis/1757.html>
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NYPD MOVES TO CLOAK MIDTOWN WITH CAMERA LICENSE PLATE READERS, AND RADIATION AND BIO SCANNERS

By Alison Gendar
NY Daily News
April 1, 2009

“The NYPD wants to cloak midtown with the same security blanket it rolled out for lower Manhattan: camera license plate readers, and radiation and bio scanners.

Those measures covering Manhattan south of Canal St. will slowly be applied to midtown, from 34th to 59th Sts., river to river, Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly told the City Council Public Safety Committee.”

“The NYPD wants \$21 million in federal homeland security dollars to put toward the midtown project, estimated to cost \$58 million.”

The full article can be found at: http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2009/04/01/2009-04-01_nypd_moves_to_cloak_midtown_with_camera_.html
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CARGO SCANNING REQUIREMENT SHOULD BE RECONSIDERED, U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS

By Chris Strohm
CongressDaily on Global Security Newswire
April 2, 2009

A senior U.S. Homeland Security Department official told lawmakers yesterday it is time for Congress to reconsider a legal mandate created by Democratic lawmakers that requires all cargo containers to be scanned for weapons of mass destruction at foreign ports before they are shipped to the United States.

The mandate, which Democrats put in a massive 2007 homeland security bill with much fanfare, requires the department to ensure that all U.S.-bound containers are scanned abroad by 2012. At the time, critics complained that the mandate was a "bumper-sticker" security solution that was unrealistic.”

The full article can be found at: http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20090402_8315.php
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Chem-Demil News

TOOELE CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY (TOCDF)- DISPOSAL FACILITY BEGINS DESTROYING MUSTARD AGENT-FILLED MORTARS

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release
April 1, 2009

“Workers began processing HT mustard agent-filled 4.2-inch cartridges (mortars) today as part of ongoing mustard disposal operations at the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF).

There are two types of mustard agent filled 4.2-inch mortars at Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) – HT mustard, which has a lower freezing point and makes up the majority of these munitions and HD, or distilled mustard. All munitions were reconfigured to remove their explosive propellant charges several years ago at the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS).

Utah state regulatory authorities are observing the sampling and analysis of the HT mortars prior to disposal processing to verify regulatory compliance with mercury emission standards. HT mortar destruction is expected to be completed late this year.

Because DCD's HD mortars are likely to contain elevated concentrations of mercury, they will not be processed until the TOCDF's new mercury filtration and capture system is operational. The system is currently being installed and is expected to be ready for testing this fall. The equipment will use sulfur-impregnated charcoal filters, which will capture mercury from furnace flue gases, ensuring environmental protection.

More than 50 percent of the original mustard agent stockpile (by agent weight) has been eliminated. Planning for the elimination of DCD's relatively small remaining stockpile of GA (Tabun) nerve and Lewisite blister agent is in progress. Chemical weapons destruction operations at DCD are scheduled to be completed by fall 2011 followed by TOCDF decommissioning and closure."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/fndocumentviewer.aspx?docid=003680376>
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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TO BECOME 187TH STATE PARTY TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Press Release
April 1, 2009

"The Dominican Republic has deposited its instrument of ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) with the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Convention will enter into force for the country on 26 April 2009, making the Dominican Republic the 187th State Party to the CWC. This will reduce to eight the number of countries that still remain outside the Convention*."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.opcw.org/news/news/article/dominican-republic-to-become-187th-state-party-to-the-chemical-weapons-convention/>
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RUSSIAN DISPOSAL SITE ELIMINATES LEWISITE STOCKPILE

Global Security Newswire
April 2, 2009

"A Russian chemical weapons disposal facility has eliminated the 6.4-metric-ton stockpile of lewisite stored in bulk containers at the Kambarka depot in Udmurtia, ITAR-Tass reported yesterday.

Waste produced through chemical neutralization of the blister agent is being processed to produce dry salts that will be stored at Kambarka and later reprocessed at another location. Workers are also decontaminating 80 containers that once held the warfare material."

The full article can be found at: http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20090402_4822.php
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Steve Tesko: Steve.Tesko@anser.org

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