

14 August 2009

Chem-Bio News

1. GUARDING THE ANTHRAX VACCINE: *"No one thought much about anthrax until someone started sending it to people in little white envelopes. But, suddenly, not long after 9/11, national attention was focused on the companies, like Emergent BioSolutions, who deal with biological agents and the security protocols they have in place."*

2. ARMY CORPS FINDS WORLD WAR I CHEMICAL, HALTS DIG: *"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is halting its search for World War I-era chemical weapons in Washington's Spring Valley neighborhood after workers discovered an open glass flask containing the chemical agent mustard."*

3. [LEXINGTON BLUE GRASS ARMY DEPOT] MORE THAN A WARNING: *"Madison County's Emergency Operation Center is taking safety a few miles farther with the distribution of new Tone Alert Radios (TARs) in the fall."*

4. MISSING SHIP MAY HAVE SECRET CARGO: *"The only sensible answer is that the vessel was loaded secretly with something we don't know anything about."*

5. IRAN CALLS FOR BAN ON STRIKING NUKE FACILITIES: *"Iran, whose nuclear facilities are under threat of possible Israeli military strikes, proposed Wednesday that a 150-nation conference convening in the fall ban such attacks."*

CB Daily Report

Chem-Bio News

GUARDING THE ANTHRAX VACCINE

By Leischen Stelter
Security Director News
August 12, 2009

"No one thought much about anthrax until someone started sending it to people in little white envelopes. But, suddenly, not long after 9/11, national attention was focused on the companies, like Emergent BioSolutions, who deal with biological agents and the security protocols they have in place.

However, all this attention has brought nothing but good things, said Jeff Hauk, director of site risk management and protective operations at Emergent, the only biopharmaceutical company licensed to develop and manufacturer the anthrax vaccine."

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"Building a strong protective security department has been a combination of physical

security components and partnerships with law enforcement, said Hauk, who has been with Emergent for nine years. "Our first line of defense is having a closed campus," he said. "We have 12-and-a-half acres of main campus which is totally enclosed with a multitude of physical security equipment, from fencing to guard rails to intrusion detection systems." The company also has a proprietary guard force to patrol the premises as well as two canine units that screen all vehicles entering the campus."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.securitydirectornews.com/?p=article&id=sd200908NrHEVL>

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ARMY CORPS FINDS WORLD WAR I CHEMICAL, HALTS DIG

The Associated Press on Examiner.com

August 12, 2009

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is halting its search for World War I-era chemical weapons in Washington's Spring Valley neighborhood after workers discovered an open glass flask containing the chemical agent mustard.

The discovery was made last week at a vacant home behind American University's campus. The school was used as an experiment station to develop and test chemical weapons during World War I."

The full article can be found at: http://www.examiner.com/a-2164924~Army_Corps_finds_World_War_I_chemical__halts_dig.html

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[LEXINGTON BLUE GRASS ARMY DEPOT] MORE THAN A WARNING

By Ronica Shannon

The Richmond Register

August 11, 2009

"Madison County's Emergency Operation Center is taking safety a few miles farther with the distribution of new Tone Alert Radios (TARs) in the fall.

The 16,000 TARs already in homes throughout the county are located within the Immediate Response Zone (IRZ), which historically has been considered any place within 6.2 miles of the chemical weapons being stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot.

"We're expanding from 6.2 to 9 miles," said Carl Richards, director of Madison County's Emergency Operations Center. "We knew that 6.2 (miles) is a pretty small IRZ when we looked at other states with depots that had similar weapons."

Increasing the span to nine miles helps cover the majority of the county's population, he said."

The full article can be found at: http://www.richmondregister.com/localnews/local_story_223081757.html

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MISSING SHIP MAY HAVE SECRET CARGO

The Independent (UK)

August 13, 2009

"A secret cargo and not just timber may be on board a missing ship whose last known radio contact was with British Coastguards, it has been suggested.

Russia's navy fleet and two nuclear submarines have been scrambled as efforts intensified to locate the Maltese-flagged Arctic Sea and its 15-strong Russian crew.

Experts and marine authorities continue to be baffled that the 4,000-tonne vessel "disappeared" after its last official recorded positioning off northern France on July 30.

Mikhail Voitenko, editor of Russia's Sovfracht maritime bulletin, said the ship, carrying about £1 million-worth of sawn timber from Finland to Algeria, might have been targeted because it was also loaded with an unknown cargo.

He told the Russia Today news channel: "The only sensible answer is that the vessel was loaded secretly with something we don't know anything about. We have to remember that before loading in Finland the vessel stayed for two weeks in a shipyard in Kaliningrad. I'm sure it cannot be drugs or illegal criminal cargo. I think it is something much more expensive and dangerous."

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"According to reports, it was boarded by up to 10 armed men purporting to be anti-drugs police on July 24. Some 12 hours later, the intruders apparently left the ship on a high-speed inflatable boat and allowed the vessel to continue on its passage but with its communications equipment damaged."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/missing-ship-may-have-secret-cargo-1771390.html>

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IRAN CALLS FOR BAN ON STRIKING NUKE FACILITIES

By George Jahn

The Associated Press on Google News
August 13, 2009

"Iran, whose nuclear facilities are under threat of possible Israeli military strikes, proposed Wednesday that a 150-nation conference convening in the fall ban such attacks.

Iran says the proposal, revealed to The Associated Press by diplomats and confirmed by a senior Iranian envoy, is not linked to veiled threats by Israel of an attack as a last resort if the international community fails to persuade Tehran to freeze its nuclear activities.

Instead, all of the diplomats said the Iranian initiative seeks support for a generally worded document prohibiting all armed attacks against nuclear installations anywhere, when 150 nations convene for the September general conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency."

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"He said his country submitted a proposal that a resolution specifying such a ban be put forward for a vote at the meeting, which begins Sept. 14.

The IAEA's general conference already passed a resolution in September 1990 entitled "Prohibition of All Armed Attacks Against Nuclear Installations Devoted to Peaceful Purposes Whether Under Construction or in Operation."

The full article can be found at: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iijfYgMUu7W_-ZKg8BjH5QNTww5QD9A1IQUO1

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