

14 December 2009

## Chem-Bio News

**1. HOUTHIS: RIYADH KEEPS DROPPING PHOSPHORUS BOMBS:** *“Yemen's Houthi fighters say Saudi Arabia continues to strike Yemeni villages using phosphorus bombs, as the fight between security forces and fighters goes on in northern Yemen.”*

**2. SECRET DOCUMENT EXPOSES IRAN'S NUCLEAR TRIGGER:** *“Confidential intelligence documents obtained by The Times show that Iran is working on testing a key final component of a nuclear bomb.”*

**3. COLD RECEPTION FOR NEW EU CHEMICAL SECURITY DRIVE:** *“The CBRN Action Plan contains a range of measures to be put into practice by the member states over the next three years. Many of the recommendations are already common practice in the chemical industry - for example advising the sector to develop and implement security plans, identify good practice at high-risk facilities and keep up to date lists of high-risk chemical agents. However, a number of the 124 actions concern industry specialists.”*

**4. IRAN SAYS UN OBSERVATORY NEAR BORDER IS FOR SPYING:** *“Construction was completed last week on the seismic monitoring station in neighboring Turkmenistan, a few miles from the Iranian border. It is one of roughly 275 such facilities operating around the world to detect seismic activity set off by blasts from nuclear tests — such as ones in recent years by North Korea.”*

**5. LAB BEGINS DEMOLITION OF COLD WAR-ERA BUILDINGS:** *“Los Alamos National Laboratory today began full-scale demolition of a Cold War-era complex of buildings that once housed plutonium production and historic, nonweapons research.”*

**6. THE CBMTS VIII, THE 16 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL MEDICAL TREATMENT SYMPOSIA (CBMTS):** *“CBMTS VIII will explore the scientific, medical and policy aspects of chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) warfare and terrorism. It will consider the effects of CBR agents wrongly used or abused, intentional or accidental, on the community and individuals, military and civilian, and on the infrastructure of government. CBMTS VIII will further build on the base of knowledge established in the CBMTS Industry series, i.e., an area still not fully addressed by convention, agreement or treaty: the terrorist or combat threat to the chemical, petrochemical, oil, pharmaceutical, biochemical, and other industries. We will also explore the increasingly recognized area of agroterrorism.”*

# CB Daily Report

## Chem-Bio News

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**HOUTHIS: RIYADH KEEPS DROPPING PHOSPHORUS BOMBS**

PressTV

December 13, 2009

"Yemen's Houthi fighters say Saudi Arabia continues to strike Yemeni villages using phosphorus bombs, as the fight between security forces and fighters goes on in northern Yemen.

The Houthis have reported that at least two women and a child were killed in the latest raids.

The attacks targeted a refugee camp as well as different neighborhoods in the northwestern province of Sa'ada.

The Houthi fighters say Saudi forces launched over 230 rockets into Yemeni territory on Saturday night alone.

The Yemeni military has launched a major offensive, dubbed 'Operation Scorched Earth', against Houthi Shias in the northern sector of the country."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=113616&sectionid=351020206>

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## **SECRET DOCUMENT EXPOSES IRAN'S NUCLEAR TRIGGER**

By Catherine Philp

The Times (UK)

December 14, 2009

"Confidential intelligence documents obtained by The Times show that Iran is working on testing a key final component of a nuclear bomb.

The notes, from Iran's most sensitive military nuclear project, describe a four-year plan to test a neutron initiator, the component of a nuclear bomb that triggers an explosion. Foreign intelligence agencies date them to early 2007, four years after Iran was thought to have suspended its weapons programme.

An Asian intelligence source last week confirmed to The Times that his country also believed that weapons work was being carried out as recently as 2007 — specifically, work on a neutron initiator.

The technical document describes the use of a neutron source, uranium deuteride, which independent experts confirm has no possible civilian or military use other than in a nuclear weapon. Uranium deuteride is the material used in Pakistan's bomb, from where Iran obtained its blueprint."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/middle\\_east/article6955351.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/middle_east/article6955351.ece)

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## **COLD RECEPTION FOR NEW EU CHEMICAL SECURITY DRIVE**

By Leila Sattary

Chemistry World

December 07, 2009

"The Council of the European Union has adopted an action plan to strengthen chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) security in the EU. By committing to an 'all-hazard' policy package, the council hopes to reduce the risk of high risk materials being used as weapons."

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"The CBRN Action Plan contains a range of measures to be put into practice by the member states over the next three years. Many of the recommendations are already common practice in the chemical industry - for example advising the sector to develop and implement security plans, identify good practice at high-risk facilities and keep up to date lists of high-risk chemical agents. However, a number of the 124 actions concern industry specialists."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/News/2009/December/07120902.asp>

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## **IRAN SAYS UN OBSERVATORY NEAR BORDER IS FOR SPYING**

By Ali Akbar Dareini

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

December 09, 2009

"Iran claimed Wednesday that a newly built U.N. station to detect nuclear explosions was set up near its border so that world powers could spy on the country, an accusation that underscored the growing bitterness in Tehran's relations with the West.

Construction was completed last week on the seismic monitoring station in neighboring Turkmenistan, a few miles from the Iranian border. It is one of roughly 275 such facilities operating around the world to detect seismic activity set off by blasts from nuclear tests — such as ones in recent years by North Korea.

Iran protested the facility even though it asserts it is not trying to produce nuclear arms. Tehran has been resisting heavy pressure in recent months to sign on to a U.N.-backed plan aimed at thwarting any attempt to build atomic weapons."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/iran-says-un-observatory-233737.html>

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## **LAB BEGINS DEMOLITION OF COLD WAR-ERA BUILDINGS**

Los Alamos National Laboratory News Release

December 01, 2009

“Los Alamos National Laboratory today began full-scale demolition of a Cold War-era complex of buildings that once housed plutonium production and historic, nonweapons research.”

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“The Laboratory was able to accelerate demolition and cleanup of this complex, known as Technical Area 21, thanks to a \$212 million award from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. More than 165, 000 square feet of former research, production, and office buildings will be demolished.

“This was the second generation of Lab buildings,” said George Rael, manager of Environmental Projects at the Department of Energy’s Los Alamos Site Office.

In the fingerlike mesas upon which the Lab and the town site rest, “TA-21 was the pointer finger. Everything was happening here,” Rael said.

Historic achievements at TA-21 included production of nuclear weapons components used in tests in the Pacific and at the Nevada Test Site, isolation of the first gram of americium-241 —later used in smoke detectors, and development of the plutonium heat sources now aboard the Galileo and Cassini space probes.”

The full article can be found at: [http://www.lanl.gov/news/releases/ta\\_21\\_demolition.html](http://www.lanl.gov/news/releases/ta_21_demolition.html)

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## **THE CBMTS VIII, THE 16 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL MEDICAL TREATMENT SYMPOSIA (CBMTS)**

ASA Newsletter – CBMTS VIII

“CBMTS VIII will explore the scientific, medical and policy aspects of chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) warfare and terrorism. It will consider the effects of CBR agents wrongly used or abused, intentional or accidental, on the community and individuals, military and civilian, and on the infrastructure of government. CBMTS VIII will further build on the base of knowledge established in the CBMTS Industry series, i.e., an area still not fully addressed by convention, agreement or treaty: the terrorist or combat threat to the chemical, petrochemical, oil, pharmaceutical, biochemical, and other industries. We will also explore the increasingly recognized area of agroterrorism.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.asanltr.com/cbmts/cbmts/VIII/CBMTSVIII.htm>

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