

## Chem-Bio News

- 1. FORT DETRICK LAB EMPLOYEE RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL:** *"Tests have confirmed that the unidentified employee has tularemia (too-lah-REE'-mee-ah), a respiratory illness that can cause life-threatening pneumonia but is not spread person to person."*
- 2. IRAN SEEKS NUCLEAR PARTS THROUGH TAIWAN:** *"UN officials are investigating claims that Iran has established a new smuggling network using companies based in Taiwan to acquire specialised equipment that could be used to make nuclear weapons."*
- 3. IRANIAN SCIENTIST WHO VANISHED 'GAVE NUCLEAR SECRETS' TO UN INSPECTORS SENT TO QOM SITE:** *"An Iranian scientist who vanished six months ago has revealed secrets of his country's nuclear programme with international weapons inspectors, The Sunday Telegraph has learned."*

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- 2. [UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT] DEPOT: MUSTARD CHEMICAL WEAPON VAPOR DETECTED:** *"Traces of mustard chemical weapon vapor were detected today inside a storage igloo at the Umatilla Chemical Depot."*
- 3. ARMY OFFICIALS: MUSTARD ROUNDS COULD BE TRICKY:** *"However, officials said they've hit an expected road bump; some of the 4.2 inch mortars containing HD mustard agent cannot be easily drained before destruction, lengthening the processing time for those mortars."*

# CB Daily Report

## Chem-Bio News

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### FORT DETRICK LAB EMPLOYEE RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL

NewsChannel8.net  
December 15, 2009

"Fort Detrick says a biodefense worker who may have contracted a disease in a base laboratory has been released from a military hospital."

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"Tests have confirmed that the unidentified employee has tularemia (too-lah-REE'-mee-ah), a respiratory illness that can cause life-threatening pneumonia but is not spread person to person."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.news8.net/news/stories/1209/687682.html>

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## **IRAN SEEKS NUCLEAR PARTS THROUGH TAIWAN**

By Con Coughlin

London Daily Telegraph

December 11, 2009

"UN officials are investigating claims that Iran has established a new smuggling network using companies based in Taiwan to acquire specialised equipment that could be used to make nuclear weapons."

"Tehran is reported to have intensified its efforts to import sophisticated technology in response to the mounting international pressure it is facing to freeze its uranium enrichment programme, which many Western governments believe is aimed at building nuclear weapons."

Recent intelligence reports have revealed that officials from Iran's Ministry of Defence have held a series of meetings with companies based in Taiwan to buy hundreds of pressure transducers, which can be used to produce weapons-grade uranium.

Iran has been desperately trying to acquire the equipment for more than a year, but has been frustrated by the refusal of European and American companies to sell it material that might be used for its nuclear programme.

Even China, which in the past has been prepared to sell its specialist technology, is proving reluctant to do business after Beijing supported a censure motion passed by the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna last month following the revelation that Iran was building a second uranium enrichment facility at Qom.

Western intelligence officials say Iran has responded by concentrating its efforts on Taiwan, and has already managed to acquire a 100 transducers which have been secretly shipped to Tehran. The transducers were originally manufactured in Europe and then sold to a company in Taiwan, which then sold them on to Iran's defence ministry.

UN officials are now investigating whether the European companies are undertaking proper checks of end-user certificates for their equipment."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/iran/6780229/Iran-seeks-nuclear-parts-through-Taiwan.html>

## **IRANIAN SCIENTIST WHO VANISHED 'GAVE NUCLEAR SECRETS' TO UN INSPECTORS SENT TO QOM SITE**

By Philip Sherwell in New York and Peter Allen

London Daily Telegraph

December 12, 2009

"An Iranian scientist who vanished six months ago has revealed secrets of his country's nuclear programme with international weapons inspectors, The Sunday Telegraph has learned.

Shahram Amiri briefed United Nations nuclear monitors in a clandestine meeting at Frankfurt airport just hours before they flew to Iran to inspect a hidden uranium enrichment plant, according to French intelligence sources.

An award-winning atomic physicist, Mr Amiri had worked at the heavily-guarded underground site at Qom. He was attached to a Tehran university named by the EU last year as part of the regime's nuclear-proliferation operations.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was told of the existence of the Qom facility by the US and its European allies in September. But the meeting with Mr Amiri in October would have provided inspectors with key insider knowledge before they made the sensitive trip.

The scientist is the focus of an extraordinary international row stretching from the Gulf to Washington after Iran last week accused Saudi Arabia and the US of "terrorist behaviour" for allegedly colluding in his abduction.

The nuclear scientist, who is in his 30s, disappeared after arriving in Saudi Arabia for a pilgrimage in late May, leaving behind his wife and extended family. The Saudi authorities say they do not know where he is.

But contrary to Iranian claims, Mr Amiri actually defected after an elaborate international cloak-and-dagger co-ordinated by the CIA, according to a well-connected French intelligence analysis website.

"The agency made contact with the scientist last year when Amiri visited Frankfurt in connection with his research work," Intelligence Online reported. "A German businessman acted as go-between. A final contact was made in Vienna when Amiri travelled to Austria to assist the Iranian representative at the IAEA. Shortly afterwards, the scientist went on pilgrimage to Mecca and hasn't been seen since."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/iran/6797860/Iranian-scientist-who-vanished-gave-nuclear-secrets-to-UN-inspectors-sent-to-Qom-site.html>

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

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### **[UMATILLA CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY] DEPOT MUSTARD TRIAL BURNS PUT OFF UNTIL JANUARY**

By Karen Hutchinson-Talaski  
The Hermiston Herald  
December 12, 2009

"Work at the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility is on hold while the Department of Environmental Quality looks at a revised burn plan.

A trial burn plan must be sent to DEQ before Dec. 24. After that, DEQ officials have 30 days to act on the plan, which pushes trial burns to late January or early February. In order to ensure that all the destruction processes work properly, the facility is required to test the equipment by conducting trials using similar materials to the HD mustard ton containers.

The plant stopped work Oct. 27 after DEQ raised concerns over carbon-monoxide leaks from the metal parts furnace. Eight boilovers of HD mustard ton containers caused spikes of carbon monoxide from the metal parts furnace since June off this year.

"If we are out of compliance, it's a violation of the permit," protocol officer Hal McCune said. "DEQ does acknowledge that there wasn't a danger."

The full article can be found at: <http://hermistonherald.com/Main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=12444>

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### **[UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT] DEPOT: MUSTARD CHEMICAL WEAPON VAPOR DETECTED**

TriCity Herald  
December 15, 2009

"Traces of mustard chemical weapon vapor were detected today inside a storage igloo at the Umatilla Chemical Depot.

The vapor was detected during routine monitoring of an igloo that was being heated to prepare for the incineration of mustard agent, likely next month.

The vapor is suspected of leaking from a bulk container holding more than a ton of the agent as it thawed. Mustard agent freezes below 59 degrees.

Usually vapors only are detected during the warm summer months as the chemical agent thaws, but the containers of mustard are so large that the containers are being warmed before being taken to the incineration facility.

There was no danger to the public or environment, according to the Umatilla Chemical Depot."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/945/story/831454.html>

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## **ARMY OFFICIALS: MUSTARD ROUNDS COULD BE TRICKY**

By Rebecca Walker

The Anniston Star

December 11, 2009

"Army officials say deteriorating mortar shells could slow down chemical weapons destruction but should not have an impact on destroying all weapons by a 2012 deadline."

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"However, officials said they've hit an expected road bump; some of the 4.2 inch mortars containing HD mustard agent cannot be easily drained before destruction, lengthening the processing time for those mortars. While conducting a test run of 24 HD and HT mustard mortars last week, workers found "gunk and goo" inside some of the HD munitions, and some of the 10 to 100 millimeter rounds frothed, said the Army's project site manager Tim Garrett.

"They're harder to process because of their age and condition," he said.

The delay was expected because the same issue had arisen at other incineration sites around the country, he said.

Typically, drained 4.2 inch mortars spend 80 minutes in the incinerator's furnace. Those which cannot be drained must stay in the furnace for 152 minutes, according to Army spokesman Mike Abrams."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cwwg.org/as12.11.09.html>

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