

18 December 2009

*PLEASE NOTE: The CB Dailies will be published on an intermittent basis over the holidays. Normal publication will resume on 04 January 2010.*

## **Chem-Bio News**

### **1. LEAKED MEMO IDENTIFIES MAN AT HEAD OF IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAMME:**

*"Mohsen Fakhrizadeh is the man everyone would like to reach to learn the secrets of Iran's nuclear programme. No one outside Iran has succeeded so far. The Times has seen a memo signed by Mr Fakhrizadeh, identifying him for the first time as the chairman of the Field for the Expansion of Deployment of Advance Technology (Fedat). Intelligence sources say that this is the most recent cover name for the organisation running Iran's nuclear weapons programme."*

**2. EX-HIGH SECURITY PLUTONIUM PLANT OPEN TO GUESTS:** *"And there's no one left behind the thick bullet-proof glass of the security center keeping an eye on those arriving at the plant. Instead, the glass has been plastered with stick-on Christmas decorations."*

**3. IRAN TO INTRODUCE NEW NUCLEAR CENTRIFUGES BY 03/11:** *"Iran plans to introduce its new generation of uranium enrichment centrifuges by March 2011, the head of its Atomic Energy Organization told the Fars news agency on Friday."*

**4. IRAN 'ARRESTED' FOREIGN SPY IN FORDO NUCLEAR PLANT:** *"Iran reportedly arrested a Western spy seeking to gather information on a nascent Iranian nuclear enrichment facility in central parts of the country."*

## **Chem-Demil News**

**1. TOOELE CHEMICAL AGENT DESTRUCTION FACILITY [TOCDF] - NEW CARBON FILTRATION SYSTEM READY:** *"The TOCDF's Pollution Abatement System (PAS) Filtration System (PFS) has successfully completed performance testing and has the official go-ahead from state regulators."*

**2. PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT - CHEMICAL WEAPONS SAFETY DISPUTE NEARING THE END:** *"The health authorities seemingly have, in essence, put in abeyance their request for a preliminary injunction, pending the outcome of the lawsuit."*

# **CB Daily Report**

## **Chem-Bio News**

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### **LEAKED MEMO IDENTIFIES MAN AT HEAD OF IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAMME**

By Catherine Philp

London Times

December 14, 2009

“Mohsen Fakhrizadeh is the man everyone would like to reach to learn the secrets of Iran’s nuclear programme. No one outside Iran has succeeded so far. The Times has seen a memo signed by Mr Fakhrizadeh, identifying him for the first time as the chairman of the Field for the Expansion of Deployment of Advance Technology (Fedat).

Intelligence sources say that this is the most recent cover name for the organisation running Iran’s nuclear weapons programme.

The United Nations’ atomic watchdog has long believed him to be the head of Iran’s clandestine nuclear weapons programme, but Tehran, which jealously guards his secrets, has repeatedly rejected attempts to interview him.

Mr Fakhrizadeh, a physics professor and a former officer in the elite Revolutionary Guard, is no longer able to leave Iran because the UN Security Council imposed travel sanctions and an assets freeze on him. However, he is regarded as one of the regime’s most loyal servants.

The memo from Mr Fakhrizadeh, dated December 29, 2005, is addressed to the heads of 12 different departments that make up Fedat. Experts say that the grouping together of all these disciplines under a single military command points to nothing other than a weapons programme.”

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“Western diplomats believe it to be little more than a front for a clandestine military programme, justifying the production of nuclear fuel despite the absence of a single home-grown nuclear power plant. The memo bears a close resemblance to documents presented at an extraordinary board meeting at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna at the beginning of last year. Those documents included letters — to the same department heads as mentioned in the memo seen by The Times — that chastised staff for using the real names of military scientists. The Times’s document, which comes later, uses only their titles.

Fedat’s obsession with secrecy is evident in The Times’s other key document, an internal report from 2007 that was drawn up within the Centre for Preparedness at the Institute of Applied Physics, one of the organisation’s 12 departments, and lays out a four-year plan for the testing of a neutron initiator, which is a key component in a nuclear weapon. It also offers an insight into the structure of a programme that ensures as few people as possible gain a complete overview of it.

In one section, it discusses the outsourcing of some work to military-affiliated university departments. •In view of Iran’s situation . . we consider that for the moment the work should be carried out at other research centres, the report says.

Some work is apparently too secret to be farmed out. •Work cannot usually be defined and performed by other research centres, so usually needs to be carried out by trustworthy personnel within the organisation, the authors note. •The most appropriate way of obtaining the required personnel is to employ individuals who were involved in the relevant calculation projects in the past.”

The full article can be found at: [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/middle\\_east/article6955236.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/middle_east/article6955236.ece)

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## **EX-HIGH SECURITY PLUTONIUM PLANT OPEN TO GUESTS**

By Annette Cary

TriCity Herald

December 18, 2009

"A tall double fence topped with loops of lethal razor wire still surrounds key portions of Hanford's Plutonium Finishing Plant.

But guards toting automatic weapons are gone. The X-ray machines and metal detectors more powerful than those used at airports have been ripped out of the building's entrance.

And there's no one left behind the thick bullet-proof glass of the security center keeping an eye on those arriving at the plant. Instead, the glass has been plastered with stick-on Christmas decorations.

Until recently the Plutonium Finishing Plant was one of the most secure places in the nation, said Matt McCormick, Department of Energy assistant manager for central Hanford.

But Thursday, media and community leaders were invited inside for a rare look at the vaults where plutonium was once stored. At the same time, employees of the plant celebrated shipping out the last of the high-security material stored at the plant, including plutonium, for storage or disposal elsewhere.

About two-thirds of the plutonium for the nation's nuclear weapons program passed through the plant during the Cold War.

Fuel was irradiated at Hanford reactors, the plutonium was separated from the fuel at the nuclear reservation's processing plants and then it was formed into metal buttons the size of hockey pucks at the Plutonium Finishing Plant to be shipped off-site for conversion to weapons use."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.tri-cityherald.com/kennewick\\_pasco\\_richland/story/834634.html](http://www.tri-cityherald.com/kennewick_pasco_richland/story/834634.html)

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## **IRAN TO INTRODUCE NEW NUCLEAR CENTRIFUGES BY 03/11**

Agence France-Presse on ynetnews.com

December 18, 2009

"Iran plans to introduce its new generation of uranium enrichment centrifuges by March 2011, the head of its Atomic Energy Organization told the Fars news agency on Friday.

Ali Akbar Salehi said that Iran "hopes to be able to use the new generation of centrifuges by the end of the next Iranian year (March 2011) after removing all problems and defects."

"At the moment we are installing sample cascades to evaluate any problems in these new generations... But we are not in a rush to enter the industrial production stage," Salehi told Fars, adding that the new generations are named IR3 and IR4.

The nuclear chief put the number of centrifuges in operation in Iran's nuclear facilities at "more than 6,000."

Salehi said in late September that Iran was testing a new generation of centrifuges in cascades of 10 centrifuges each.

He said that the new centrifuges could enrich uranium with more than five times the output capacity of the earlier ones, and that Iran planned to raise that capacity to 10 times the previous ones."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3821860,00.html>

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## **IRAN 'ARRESTED' FOREIGN SPY IN FORDO NUCLEAR PLANT**

PressTV

December 16, 2009

"Iran reportedly arrested a Western spy seeking to gather information on a nascent Iranian nuclear enrichment facility in central parts of the country.

According to a report by Israel's Channel 2, the spy operated undercover within Iran's new nuclear enrichment plant in Fordo when he was arrested two months ago.

The Israeli channel's report did not specify the nationality of the alleged secret agent."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=113884&sectionid=351020104>

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## **TOOELE CHEMICAL AGENT DESTRUCTION FACILITY [TOCDF] - NEW CARBON FILTRATION SYSTEM READY**

US Army Chemical Materials Agency Monthly Update  
December 17, 2009

"The TOCDF's Pollution Abatement System (PAS) Filtration System (PFS) has successfully completed performance testing and has the official go-ahead from state regulators. The PFS consists of three separate carbon filter units—one for the metal parts furnace (MPF) and one for each liquid incinerator (LIC). Each filter unit is designed to capture mercury from contaminated exhaust gases, allowing the TOCDF to safely destroy those mustard munitions with high levels of mercury.

Since October 14, the PFS has been in "shakedown"—a period that includes a series of planned performance tests, including the Alternative Monitoring Request-Relative Accuracy Test Audit (AMR-RATA). The AMR-RATA tests demonstrate the TOCDF's capability and accuracy in monitoring exhaust gases for mercury. Each furnace and its associated carbon filtration unit—the MPF and both LICs—successfully completed the AMR-RATA.

Another shakedown test is a "mini-burn," which consists of processing mercury contaminated mustard agent-filled ton containers and measuring mercury levels at the inlet and at the outlet of the PFS to ensure levels are well within permitted limits. A mini-burn is the same kind of demonstration test that is done for state regulators, only shorter. Both the MPF/PFS and LIC/PFS mini-burns were successfully completed before Thanksgiving. A report on the mini-burn test results was submitted to state regulators so that processing could continue at full rates once the demo tests were complete.

State regulators were on site to observe the MPF/PFS and LIC/PFS demonstration tests. Both tests have been successfully completed and the results will be formally submitted to state regulators. At the last minute, the LIC/PFS demonstration test had to be switched from LIC-1 to LIC-2 after the discovery of a crack in the LIC1/PFS expansion joint. Since LIC-1 and LIC-2 are identical in design, tests on one LIC are representative of either LIC.

Meanwhile, TOCDF workers are getting ready for the 4.2 inch mustard mortar campaign, which is expected to restart in late January. The mortar campaign kicked off back in April, but was quickly halted when higher-than-expected levels of mercury were detected in the MPF exhaust gases (the PFS was not up and running at the time). TOCDF officials suspect the silver solder used to assemble the weapons is the culprit behind the high mercury levels.

Before the 4.2 inch mortar campaign can start, an Operational Readiness Review (ORR) must be completed. An ORR includes a thorough document/operational review, including a demonstration using 4.2 inch practice munitions that do not contain chemical agent. That demonstration is scheduled for mid-December."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/include/docrendition.asp?DocID=003682031>

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## **PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT - CHEMICAL WEAPONS SAFETY DISPUTE NEARING THE END**

By Robert Boczkiewicz

The Pueblo Chieftain

December 18, 2009

"A Colorado state attorney said Thursday state authorities and the Army are close to resolving a dispute about protecting Pueblo Chemical Depot employees and the public from chemical weapons danger.

State health department authorities claimed in a lawsuit in August that court action against the Army was needed to ensure there is sufficient monitoring and safe storage of chemical warfare weapons at the depot.

The state authorities contended the Army needed to take more steps to protect depot workers and the Pueblo public from possible danger, citing the possible accidental release of deadly chemical agents in the weapons.

Both sides have been negotiating since then to settle the lawsuit of the State Department of Public Health and Environment against the Army. "The matter is close to being resolved," Colorado Assistant Attorney General Hannah Naumoff-Dulski said during a brief U.S. District Court status conference. She said only one issue, an unspecified matter about a compliance schedule, remains in dispute."

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"The health authorities seemingly have, in essence, put in abeyance their request for a preliminary injunction, pending the outcome of the lawsuit."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.chieftain.com/articles/2009/12/18/news/local/doc4b2b329e606e5134219856.txt>

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