

5 January 2009

## **Chem-Bio News**

### **1. U.S. AND RUSSIA COMPLETE NUCLEAR SECURITY UPGRADES UNDER**

**BRATISLAVA INITIATIVE:** *"The U.S. Department of Energy today delivered the Bratislava Nuclear Security report to the White House, which detailed the status of work agreed to by Presidents Bush and Putin in Bratislava in 2005. U.S. and Russian officials from the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), the U.S. Department of Defense, the Russian Ministry of Defense and State Atomic Energy Corporation "Rosatom" reviewed work to complete nuclear security upgrades in Russia at meetings in Moscow last week."*

### **2. A SHORT COURSE OF ANTIBIOTIC TREATMENT IS EFFECTIVE IN PREVENTING DEATH FROM EXPERIMENTAL INHALATIONAL ANTHRAX AFTER DISCONTINUING**

**ANTIBIOTICS:** *"In the treatment of inhalational anthrax, the prolonged course of antibiotics required to achieve prophylaxis may not be necessary to prevent anthrax that results from the germination of retained spores after the discontinuation of antibiotics."*

**3. TERRORISTS COULD USE 'INSECT-BASED' BIOLOGICAL WEAPON:** *"Terrorists would find it "relatively easy" to launch a devastating attack using swarms of insects to spread a deadly disease, an academic has warned."*

## **Chem-DEMIL News**

**1. ALABAMA WANTS MUSTARD AGENT DELIVERED:** *"An idea that got a cool response earlier this year was put forward again recently by two local officials in Alabama who don't want to see a weapons destruction plant shut down."*

**2. CHEM-DEMIL PLANT TAKING SHAPE; NOW EMPLOYS 417:** *"However, our most notable permitting achievement of 2008 occurred on Oct. 17, when the state health department issued the Research, Design and Development permit."*

# **CB Daily Report**

## **Chem-Bio News**

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### **U.S. AND RUSSIA COMPLETE NUCLEAR SECURITY UPGRADES UNDER BRATISLAVA INITIATIVE**

US Dept. of Energy News Release  
December 24, 2008

"The U.S. Department of Energy today delivered the Bratislava Nuclear Security report to the White House, which detailed the status of work agreed to by Presidents Bush and Putin in Bratislava in 2005. U.S. and Russian officials from the U.S. Department of Energy's

National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), the U.S. Department of Defense, the Russian Ministry of Defense and State Atomic Energy Corporation "Rosatom" reviewed work to complete nuclear security upgrades in Russia at meetings in Moscow last week. Building on this success, both countries will continue to actively pursue additional Presidential objectives."

"The Bratislava Nuclear Security Initiative was launched by President Bush and then-President Putin during their meeting in Bratislava, Slovak Republic in February 2005. Both sides agreed to enhanced cooperation in five key areas: upgrading security of nuclear facilities, expanding emergency response, enhancing nuclear security culture, accelerating research reactor conversions and fuel returns, and sharing best practices. Nuclear security upgrades were accelerated by two years and will be completed by the end of 2008.

The upgrades included in the Bratislava Nuclear Security Initiative represented the vast majority of such work in Russia. Some additional cooperative work that was agreed to after 2005 will continue until 2012. At the same time, the U.S. and Russia are putting in place the necessary elements to ensure the long-term sustainability of these upgrades.

In addition, the U.S. and Russia continue to cooperate to fulfill the Bratislava commitments to convert research reactors internationally fueled with highly enriched uranium (HEU) to low enriched uranium fuel and to return all Russian-origin HEU fresh and spent nuclear fuel stored outside research reactors to Russia by 2010. To complement the physical security upgrades at nuclear weapons storage sites, the U.S. also assisted the Russian Ministry of Defense in automating its nuclear weapons inventory management system and continues to work jointly to enhance the secure transportation of nuclear weapons from operational sites to dismantlement facilities and to centralized storage."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.energy.gov/news/6819.htm>

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## **A SHORT COURSE OF ANTIBIOTIC TREATMENT IS EFFECTIVE IN PREVENTING DEATH FROM EXPERIMENTAL INHALATIONAL ANTHRAX AFTER DISCONTINUING ANTIBIOTICS**

By Nicholas J. Vietri, Bret K. Purcell, Steven A. Tobery, Suzanne L. Rasmussen, Elizabeth K. Leffel, Nancy A. Twenhafel, **Bruce E. Ivins**, Mark D. Kellogg, Wendy M. Webster, Mary E. Wright, and Arthur M. Friedlander [emphasis added]

The Journal of Infectious Diseases

December 19, 2008

"Results. In group 1 (prophylaxis), no deaths occurred during antibiotic treatment, but only 2 (20%) of 10 animals survived after antibiotics were discontinued. In contrast, in group 2 (treatment), 3 deaths occurred during antibiotic treatment, but all 7 animals (100%) alive after 10 days of therapy survived when antibiotics were discontinued.

Conclusions. In the treatment of inhalational anthrax, the prolonged course of antibiotics required to achieve prophylaxis may not be necessary to prevent anthrax that results from

the germination of retained spores after the discontinuation of antibiotics.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/596063>

ANALYST NOTE: Readers may wish to note the highlighted researcher.

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## **TERRORISTS COULD USE 'INSECT-BASED' BIOLOGICAL WEAPON**

By Stephen Adams

The Telegraph (UK)

January 5, 2009

“Terrorists would find it “relatively easy” to launch a devastating attack using swarms of insects to spread a deadly disease, an academic has warned.”

“Jeffrey Lockwood, professor of entomology at Wyoming University and author of *Six-legged Soldiers: Using Insects as Weapons of War*, said such Rift Valley Fever or other diseases could be transported into a country by a terrorist with a suitcase.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/wildlife/4123782/Terrorists-could-use-insect-based-biological-weapon.html>

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

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### **ALABAMA WANTS MUSTARD AGENT DELIVERED**

By John Norton

The Pueblo Chieftain

December 31, 2008

“An idea that got a cool response earlier this year was put forward again recently by two local officials in Alabama who don’t want to see a weapons destruction plant shut down.

According to a story in Tuesday’s Anniston, Ala., Star, Calhoun County Commission Chairman Eli Henderson and Anniston Mayor Gene Robinson said they’d like to see mustard agent brought into their community and destroyed at an existing plant.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.chieftain.com/articles/2008/12/31/news/local/doc495b2c20336f0878771604.txt>

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## **CHEM-DEMIL PLANT TAKING SHAPE; NOW EMPLOYS 417**

By Paul Henry And Gary Anderson

The Pueblo Chieftain

January 4, 2009

“The landscape of the construction site was altered each and every day as new buildings and structures emerged from the ground. Looking back on 2008, we accomplished many milestones and we want to take a moment to share with the community how far we’ve come in just 12 short months.

In advance of issuing our construction permit, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment issued four temporary authorizations, or TAs, to the project this year.

This allowed us to begin foundation work on two key structures: the Agent Processing Building and the Enhanced Reconfiguration Building.

However, our most notable permitting achievement of 2008 occurred on Oct. 17, when the state health department issued the Research, Design and Development permit.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.chieftain.com/articles/2009/01/05/editorial/doc49605e4a005e9280407224.txt>

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