

## Chem-Bio News

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## CB Daily Report

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#### **URANIUM FOUND AT SECOND SYRIA SITE – IAEA**

By Bethany Bell

BBC

June 05, 2009

"The UN nuclear watchdog, the IAEA, says traces of undeclared man-made uranium have been found at a second site in Syria, at a reactor in Damascus.

The IAEA is investigating US claims that a Syrian site destroyed in a 2007 Israeli raid was a nuclear reactor that was not yet operational."

Last year, the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) found particles of man-made uranium at the al-Kibar site in Syria, which was destroyed by Israeli missiles in September 2007.

Now in a confidential report obtained by the BBC, it says it has discovered new traces of uranium of a type not included in Syria's declared nuclear material.

The traces were found at a small reactor used for teaching in Damascus.

The IAEA says it is not clear whether there is a link between the particles found at the two sites."

The full article can be found at: [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle\\_east/8086565.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/8086565.stm)

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## **HOUSE APPROVES PROVISION LETTING TSA EMPLOYEES WEAR PROTECTIVE GEAR**

By Alex M. Parker

GovernmentExecutive.com

June 05, 2009

"The House on Thursday approved legislative language giving Transportation Security Administration employees the right to wear protective gear during flu outbreaks or other emergencies.

The provision, passed by voice vote as an amendment to the TSA reauthorization bill, would allow TSA employees to wear equipment including face masks, surgical gloves and respirators during crises.

The move follows complaints from the National Treasury Employees Union, which said managers were stopping airport screeners and other TSA employees from wearing masks or respirators to protect themselves from the H1N1 virus -- commonly known as the swine flu -- in April and May.

"The justification seems to be that the airlines and transportation officials don't want to alarm the public," said Rep. Stephen Lynch, D-Mass., sponsor of the amendment. "I just want to point out that when you travel around the globe, these are not large, evil-looking devices. These are very simple dust masks that can be used, and they look fairly common."

The Homeland Security Department issued a directive requiring employees to wear protective gear if they were in contact with people they believed were infected with the swine flu. But the order did not address situations in which contact with an infected person had not been established, sparking complaints from NTEU that it didn't go far enough, because airport and border screeners wouldn't know whether someone was infected until it was too late."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=42893&dcn=todaysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=42893&dcn=todaysnews)

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## **BRITAIN'S ATOMIC TEST VETERANS WIN RIGHT TO SUE FOR COMPENSATION**

The Telegraph

June 05, 2009

"Around 1,000 servicemen who blame their ill-health on their involvement in the nuclear tests want to sue the Ministry of Defence.

The veterans, who took part in the programme on the Australian mainland, Monte Bello islands and Christmas Island, between 1952 and 1958, say that new scientific evidence has shown links between exposure to ionising radiation and their conditions, which include cancer, skin defects and fertility problems.

Many of them are terminally ill and seven have died since the hearing at London's High Court in January."

"In his 217-page judgment, Mr Justice Foskett rejected a submission by the MoD, which denies negligence, that all the cases were "doomed to fail" on the issue of causation, and refused to strike them out."

The judge recognised that it would be impossible for the MoD to call as witnesses many of those who were responsible for the planning and execution of the tests.

He had heard from its counsel, Charles Gibson QC, that over 90 per cent of the 114 essential witnesses were dead or untraceable.

Of the surviving 11, the four who were willing and able to assist - who had an average age of nearly 84

- could not fairly be expected to recall events with clarity and confidence.

But, bearing in mind that the burden of proof was upon the veterans, the judge rejected Mr Gibson's claim that there was now no reasonable prospect of a fair trial."

The full article can be found at:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/onthefrontline/5451261/Britains-atomic-test-veterans-win-right-to-sue-for-compensation.html>

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## **[UK] PAIR QUESTIONED OVER RICIN FIND**

BBC

June 06, 2009

"A father and son are being questioned by anti-terrorism officers following the discovery of the poison ricin at a house in County Durham.

The find is connected to a police inquiry into alleged extreme right-wing activity."

"The ricin, said to be 6,000 times more toxic than cyanide, will be analysed at the Porton Down government laboratory.

Police have halted their search of Mr Davison's home in Myrtle Grove, Burnopfield, until tests on the substance, found in a sealed jam jar, have been completed.'

The full article can be found at: [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/england/wear/8086701.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/wear/8086701.stm)

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## **NO MORE IAEA INSPECTIONS AT Y-12**

Knoxnews.com

June 07, 2009

"For about 15 years, international inspectors came to Oak Ridge on a monthly basis to check 10 tons of highly enriched uranium under IAEA safeguards. That came to an end April 15.

Now there is reportedly only one nuclear facility in the U.S. that receives regular inspections from the IAEA. That's a facility with 2 metric tons of plutonium at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina."

The full article can be found at:

[http://blogs.knoxnews.com/knx/munger/2009/06/no\\_more\\_iaea\\_inspections\\_at\\_y-.html](http://blogs.knoxnews.com/knx/munger/2009/06/no_more_iaea_inspections_at_y-.html)

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## **ISRAEL QUESTIONS IAEA'S MONITORING ABILITY**

Xinhua

June 07, 2009

"Israel's Foreign Ministry Sunday questioned the UN nuclear watchdog's ability to monitor Iran's nuclear program, and urged the international community to take determined action to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

The comments were made in response to the latest reports published over the weekend by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on its investigations in Iran and Syria.

The report on Iran "contains serious findings of increased uranium enrichment in Iran, in violation of Security Council resolutions, as well as other activities that could be connected to a military nuclear program," the ministry said in a statement.

"The report also emphasizes the IAEA's inability to carry out full and effective monitoring in Iran due to that country's continued lack of cooperation," said the statement."

The full article can be found at: [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-06/07/content\\_11504092.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-06/07/content_11504092.htm)

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Send subscription requests, unsubscribing requests, questions and comments to:

**Steve Tesko:** [Steve.Tesko@anser.org](mailto:Steve.Tesko@anser.org)

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