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Chem-Bio News

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- 2. \$37 MILLION TO EXTEND REGIONAL BIODEFENSE AND EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES RESEARCH:** *"The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has extended funding for the Midwest Regional Center for Excellence in Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases (MRCE), anchored at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis."*
- 3. DHS DEFENDS SELECTION OF KANSAS SITE FOR NBAF, SAYS CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN NOVEMBER 2010:** *"The US Department of Homeland Security has filed court papers that offer more details about its timetable for building the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility in Kansas as well as answers to arguments by a Texas consortium that is seeking to wrest the \$523 million project from the Sunflower State."*
- 4. BIO-TERRORISM DETECTION EQUIPMENT MARKET TO REACH \$1.02 BILLION BY 2012, ACCORDING TO GIA REPORT:** *"Not surprisingly, the potential for a bio-terrorism attack is the biggest single factor driving the growth of the global bio-terrorism detection equipment market, according to a new report from San Jose, CA-based Global Industry Analysts (GIA), which values the 2012 bio-terror detection market at \$10.2 billion."*
- 5. MOROCCAN ACTIVISTS SEEK DAMAGES OVER "SPANISH CHEMICAL WAR":** *"We are going to lodge a complaint at Spain's National Court in the autumn' against those responsible for 'a crime against humanity,' Raha told the German Press Agency dpa in a telephone interview."*

Chem-Demil News

- 1. PINE BLUFF ARSENAL - NO PUBLIC COMMENT OFFERED ON ARSENAL'S BURN PERMIT:** *"The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality held a meeting Monday at White Hall City Hall to give the public a chance to provide input on the Pine Bluff Arsenal's chemical weapons disposal permit renewal. Other than representatives of the arsenal's disposal facility and ADEQ, no one from the general public attended the meeting."*
- 2. DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT - TEAM PREPARES FOR AGENT SAMPLING:** *"Army technicians have constructed a temporary facility in the Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) storage area in preparation for a sampling project targeting DCD's GA nerve agent and Lewisite blister agent stockpiles."*

CB Daily Report

Chem-Bio News

BRITAIN CONSIDERED CHEMICAL ATTACK ON TOKYO IN 1944

By Deborah Haynes

TimesOnline.co.uk

June 26, 2009

“British officials considered attacking Tokyo with poison gas in 1944, more than a year before the United States dropped two atomic bombs on Japan.

Documents made public today include a memorandum written by a government academic entitled Attack on Tokyo with Gas Bombs. His report was coupled with a note from the Ministry of Supply, dated May 22, 1944.”

“In the densely built areas of Japanese-type buildings, where the streets are narrow, the flow of a gas cloud would be hindered by the narrowness of the streets,” he concluded. To get around the problem, Professor Brunt recommended using “very large numbers of small bombs”.

He also suggested phosgene in possibly a 50lb bomb. That would “undoubtedly produce casualties in considerable numbers, as would mustard sown thickly over the area, especially during intervals in the summer rains”. If people fled their houses after a gas bombing, “attacks with incendiaries should follow a few days later”.

The full article can be found at: <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article6579417.ece>

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\$37 MILLION TO EXTEND REGIONAL BIODEFENSE AND EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES RESEARCH

By Caroline Arbanas

Washington University in St. Louis Press Release

June 24, 2009

“The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has extended funding for the Midwest Regional Center for Excellence in Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases (MRCE), anchored at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. The center received a five-year, \$37 million grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to continue to support basic and translational research in biodefense and emerging infectious diseases throughout the Midwest.

The MRCE, established in 2003, is one of 11 Regional Centers of Excellence dedicated to developing new or improved ways to treat, diagnose or prevent diseases that could be used for bioterrorism, such as anthrax, or infectious diseases, like West Nile fever, plague and dengue fever. The RCEs also provide scientific expertise to first responders in an infectious disease-related emergency, whether it occurs naturally or through an act of bioterrorism.”

The full article can be found at: <http://mednews.wustl.edu/news/page/normal/14306.html>

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DHS DEFENDS SELECTION OF KANSAS SITE FOR NBAF, SAYS CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN NOVEMBER 2010

By Alex Philippidis

Genomeweb.com

June 26, 2009

"The US Department of Homeland Security has filed court papers that offer more details about its timetable for building the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility in Kansas as well as answers to arguments by a Texas consortium that is seeking to wrest the \$523 million project from the Sunflower State.

DHS said it is on track with plans to award a construction contract in September to build the biolab on the Manhattan campus of Kansas State University, immediately adjacent to the Biosecurity Research Institute, a \$54 million research/education facility that, like the one planned by NBAF, has BSL-3 and BSL-3 ag-research space and BSL-3 Enhanced space.

DHS and the US Department of Agriculture have contended they need the NBAF because the existing Plum Island Animal Disease Center in New York, which was built in the 1950s, is too small and increasingly too outdated to carry out the volume and quantity of testing needed to protect the nation's \$1 trillion agricultural industry from the potentially catastrophic results of a bioterror attack on livestock."

"TBAC — a consortium of Texas political, academic, and business leaders — filed suit against DHS on April 23, arguing that the agency's Dec. 5 decision to build NBAF in Kansas was "arbitrary, capricious, and an abuse of discretion and otherwise contrary to law" [BRN, May 8].

The 48-page lawsuit, Texas Bio- & Agro-Defense Consortium v. the United States, asserted that Kansas had unfair influence with the DHS official overseeing the NBAF review, that DHS favored the state because it promised more in incentive packages than Texas did, and that DHS failed to consider the risk that the Kansas site may experience a severe tornado.

In addition, the Texas consortium is seeking a preliminary injunction barring further federal action on developing NBAF in Manhattan, Kan., including DHS' pursuit of bidders for a construction contract to build the project, Solicitation No. HSFLBP-09-R-00001, "until such time as DHS has lawfully and properly conducted a site selection for the NBAF."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.genomeweb.com/bioregionnews/dhs-defends-selection-kansas-site-nbaf-says-construction-will-begin-november-2010>

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BIO-TERRORISM DETECTION EQUIPMENT MARKET TO REACH \$1.02 BILLION BY 2012, ACCORDING TO GIA REPORT

By Louis Chunovic

Government Security News

June 26, 2009

"Not surprisingly, the potential for a bio-terrorism attack is the biggest single factor driving the growth of the global bio-terrorism detection equipment market, according to a new report from San Jose, CA-based Global Industry Analysts (GIA), which values the 2012 bio-terror detection market at \$10.2 billion.

While the U.S. represents the single largest market for bio-terror detection equipment, followed by Europe, the Middle East, though a relatively small market now, is expected to show the fastest growth for the period between 2008 and 2015, according to GIA."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.gsnmagazine.com/cms/features/news-analysis/2230.html>

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MOROCCAN ACTIVISTS SEEK DAMAGES OVER "SPANISH CHEMICAL WAR"

M&C

Qarannews.com

June 23, 2009

"They threw something like sulphur. People went blind. Their skin turned black and fell off. Cattle became swollen and died. Plants suddenly dried up,' Mohammed Faragi recalled in 2002.

Faragi was only a boy when the then colonial power Spain used chemical weapons to quash a rebellion in Morocco's northern mountainous Rif region in the 1920s."

"We are going to lodge a complaint at Spain's National Court in the autumn' against those responsible for 'a crime against humanity,' Raha told the German Press Agency dpa in a telephone interview.

The National Court is known for pursuing human rights violations in other countries, ranging from Latin America to China.

Raha is president of the World Amazigh Congress, which represents the Imazighen, also known as Berbers."

"They now have the support of one of the main parties in Morocco's coalition government, and of several left-wing or regionalist parties in Spain."

The full article can be found at: http://www.qarannews.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5036&Itemid=59

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Chem-Demil News

PINE BLUFF ARSENAL - NO PUBLIC COMMENT OFFERED ON ARSENAL'S BURN PERMIT

By Amy Riggin
Pine Bluff Commercial
June 24, 2009

"It appears that local residents don't have much to say about continued chemical weapons incineration.

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality held a meeting Monday at White Hall City Hall to give the public a chance to provide input on the Pine Bluff Arsenal's chemical weapons disposal permit renewal. Other than representatives of the arsenal's disposal facility and ADEQ, no one from the general public attended the meeting.

In a brief presentation outlining the chemical weapons disposal process, ADEQ Deputy Director J. Ryan Benefield said the 45-day public comment period will remain open until July 7. If no comments are received, the permit will be issued as submitted. There could be modifications or even another public meeting if input is offered, he said.

Stu Soffer, a member of the arsenal's Citizens Advisory Commission, commented on "the high level of confidence we have" in those involved in the burn. They include ADEQ, the U.S. Army and the contractor hired for disposal, Washington Defense Group, EG&G Division of URS Corp.

"We've got the highest regard for their ability," he said, adding, "I believe the community also has the same high degree of confidence. I think that confidence is evident here tonight."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cwwg.org/pbc06.24.09.html>

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DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT - TEAM PREPARES FOR AGENT SAMPLING

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release
June 25, 2009

"Army technicians have constructed a temporary facility in the Deseret Chemical Depot

(DCD) storage area in preparation for a sampling project targeting DCD's GA nerve agent and Lewisite blister agent stockpiles.

The sampling operations will be performed by a team of chemical engineering technicians, who are members of the 20th Support Command Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosives Analytical and Remediation Activity, better known as CARA West. The team will also identify the contents of some so-called "transparency" ton containers (TCs) that may contain chemical agent; if any, most likely Lewisite.

Technicians will collect samples of GA nerve agent and Lewisite blister agent for characterization and analysis. The resulting data will be used for design and permitting activities. However, the primary goal of the sampling project is to identify the contents of the transparency TCs.

DCD munition handlers will deliver the TCs to the sampling facility, where the technicians will place them into ventilated glove boxes. From there, the plugs will be unscrewed, relieving any gas pressure inside and allowing samples to be removed for later analysis at an off-site laboratory. Sampling work is scheduled to begin early July and will take approximately three weeks to complete.

Design and planning activities continue for the small-scale liquid incinerator that will be used to destroy DCD's stockpile of GA and Lewisite agents. Construction is scheduled to begin this fall and will continue through summer 2010. Disposal operations are expected to be completed in time to meet the April 2012 Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty deadline.

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/fndocumentviewer.aspx?docid=003680877>

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