

Chem-Bio News

- 1. AP INTERVIEW: EGYPT WARNS OF MIDEAST NUCLEAR ARMS RACE IF ISRAEL AND IRAN ARE PUSUING WEAPONS:** *"Egypt's foreign minister warned Friday that a nuclear-capable Israel and an Iran pursuing nuclear weapons could trigger a nuclear arms race in the Middle East.."*
- 2. CHOPPER SEEKS RADIOACTIVE WASTE SPREAD BY ANIMALS AT HANFORD:** *"A helicopter is scheduled to fly low over the center of Hanford today looking for hot spots where animals have spread radioactive contamination in hundreds of places among the sagebrush."*
- 3. NEW CBRNIAC PRODUCT CATALOG AVAILABLE:** *"The Summer 2009 CBRNIAC Basic Products Catalog is now available for downloading."*
- 4. STUDY DETAILS PROPOSED BIODEFENSE SPENDING:** *"Of that figure, \$1.09 billion would be dedicated to programs that are strictly for biodefense, while \$4.96 billion, or 80 percent, would go to efforts with multiple goals, including basic science research, enhancing public health preparedness and improving disease surveillance, according to the study by the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Biosecurity."*

Chem-Demil News

- 1. DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT - ONGOING REMEDIATION EFFORTS POSE NEW CHALLENGES:** *"Johnson estimates that remediation of all DCD's SWMUs [Solid Waste Management Units] will cost more than \$190 million and stretch into 2020."*
- 2. ANNISTON CHEMICAL ACTIVITY - EXCESS FACILITIES TARGET OF EARLY REMOVAL:** *"Early removal of excess equipment and facilities will help site managers efficiently close the site at the end of mustard-filled munition demilitarization operations."*
- 3. NEWPORT CHEMICAL DEPOT - CHEMICAL DEPOT TO LAY OFF 150 BY OCT:** *"The Newport Chemical Depot announced by mid-October, 150 people will be laid off."*

CB Daily Report

Chem-Bio News

AP INTERVIEW: EGYPT WARNS OF MIDEAST NUCLEAR ARMS RACE IF ISRAEL AND IRAN ARE PUSUING WEAPONS

By: Edith M. Lederer

The Associated Press on WashingtonExaminer.com

September 25, 2009

"Egypt's foreign minister warned Friday that a nuclear-capable Israel and an Iran pursuing nuclear weapons could trigger a nuclear arms race in the Middle East.

Ahmed Aboul Gheit said in an interview with the Associated Press that Iran has a right to the peaceful use of nuclear energy but it must be verified.

If the existence of a new uranium plant was kept secret, he said, "that will shed doubts, of course, on the credibility of the Iranian position, no doubt about it."

Iran kept the facility hidden from weapons inspectors until a letter it sent to the International Atomic Energy Agency on Monday.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told a news conference Friday that the facility is part of its peaceful pursuit of nuclear energy, which is allowed under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

He said the facility will be operational in 18 months and his country has complied with IAEA rules that require it to inform the U.N. nuclear agency six months in advance. But the IAEA in the past has rejected Iran's contention, saying it is required to send notification at the outset of any nuclear-related project."

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"Why is it so?," he asked. "Because if we have, what we assume a nuclear capable Israel and if we see that Iran is also ... acquiring a nuclear capability, then we would have two players in that part of the world, one on the Mediterranean, Israel, and the other on the (Persian) Gulf."

"So you would see, and you would find that you have a land mass of Arab countries and Arab people that do not feel at ease with that setting," Aboul Gheit said. "I would feel that the Turks would also be uneasy like a country like Egypt."

He wouldn't speculate how Egypt might respond."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/world/ap/61502242.html>
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CHOPPER SEEKS RADIOACTIVE WASTE SPREAD BY ANIMALS AT HANFORD

By Annette Cary
TriCity Herald
September 25, 2009

"A helicopter is scheduled to fly low over the center of Hanford today looking for hot spots where animals have spread radioactive contamination in hundreds of places among the sagebrush.

CH2M Hill Plateau Remediation Co. will be conducting an aerial radiological survey of the "BC controlled area," 13.7 square miles that have had little human intrusion.

But it is just south of the BC cribs and trenches that 50 million gallons of liquid waste contaminated with radioactive salts were discharged during the Cold War. Animals attracted to the salts spread the waste across miles of the Hanford desert.

"They loved it," said Bo Wier, project manager for CH2M Hill Plateau Remediation Co., a Department of Energy contractor.

During the 10 days that a specially equipped helicopter for aerial radiological surveys will be at Hanford, it also will survey one of Hanford's other unusual contaminated areas -- a vernal lake that was at Hanford long before the U.S. government started making plutonium for its nuclear weapons program.

Although no radiological work was done at West Lake near Gable Mountain, contaminated ground water rose to fill the lake during the Cold War and left behind slightly radioactive salts.

The helicopter, which has pods of equipment mounted on each side, will do work in a few days that would take crews walking the rugged shrub steppe land with hand instruments six to eight months, Wier said."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.tri->

NEW CBRNIAC PRODUCT CATALOG AVAILABLE

CBRNIAC Announcement

September 24, 2009

“The Summer 2009 CBRNIAC Basic Products Catalog is now available for downloading at https://www.cbrniac.apgea.army.mil/Documents/Product%20Catalogs/Summer09_Catalog.pdf. Newly listed items include:

CBRNIAC Forum: CBRN Scientific Information Collaboration

U.S. Government Agencies and Their Contractors Only; For Official Use Only

CR-09-21 \$10.00 February 2009

CBRNIAC Forum: CBRN Field Analytics

U.S. Government Agencies and Their Contractors Only; For Official Use Only

CR-09-20 \$10.00 December 2008

BACWORTH2: Version 7.1

U.S. Government Agencies and their Contractors Only; Unclassified; For Official Use Only

HB-09-05 \$75.00 April 2009

As always, please pay close attention to the distribution statements when ordering CBRNIAC products.”

Link not available.

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STUDY DETAILS PROPOSED BIODEFENSE SPENDING

Global Security Newswire

September 25, 2009

“President Obama's fiscal 2010 budget request for civilian biodefense totals \$6.05 billion, an increase of \$330.9 million over the previous year's estimate, a new analysis shows.

Of that figure, \$1.09 billion would be dedicated to programs that are strictly for biodefense, while \$4.96 billion, or 80 percent, would go to efforts with multiple goals, including basic science research, enhancing public health preparedness and improving disease surveillance, according to the study by the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Biosecurity.

The U.S. Health and Human Services Department would see the largest share of new revenue with roughly \$4.5 billion for biodefense programs, a proposed increase of \$215 million, or five percent, the study shows.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which operates within HHS, would receive a proposed \$14 million increase for "upgrading state and local capacity" to support preparedness efforts, according to the analysis.

The fiscal 2010 blueprint also includes a proposed \$26 million increase for CDC's Strategic National Stockpile Program, which works to store medical countermeasures and other supplies in the event of a bioterrorism attack or other health emergency, and \$305 million for advanced research and development of medical countermeasures, a \$30 million increase from last year, the study says.

The Defense Department's proposed total biodefense budget would be nearly \$686.8 million, an increase of \$63 million from fiscal 2009, the analysis states. However, both the Biological Threat Reduction and the Biological Warfare Defense programs face proposed budget cuts, with decreases of \$33.3 million and \$15.5 million, respectively.

The Medical Biological Defense effort represents the bulk of the Pentagon's biodefense activities and would receive \$441.5 million, an increase of \$93.9 million, under the proposed budget, the analysis shows.

The Homeland Security Department's request totals \$396.1 million, an increase of \$28.9 million, the document says. It would eliminate funding for the Metropolitan Medical Response System and replace it with the Medical Surge Grant Program, funded at a "similar level" of \$40 million, according to the analysis. The department's BioWatch program would receive \$94.5 million, a decrease of \$17.1 million from the last fiscal year.

The Agriculture Department would be granted \$15 million over last year's figure, for a total of \$233 million. The fiscal 2010 budget is a "departure" from previous budgets in that it does not propose funding of its Food Defense and Agricultural Defense Initiatives, the analysis says."

The full article can be found at: http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20090925_5440.php
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Chem-Demil News

DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT - ONGOING REMEDIATION EFFORTS POSE NEW CHALLENGES

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release
September 24, 2009

"Along with the safe storage and destruction of its chemical weapons, DCD has another vital mission on its plate: to leave DCD in the best environmental shape possible. Not an easy task considering the old-fashioned way of doing things—burying, burning and detonating chemical and conventional weapons. As a result, there's a lot of cleaning to do.

Spread out among the depot's nearly 20,000 acres are a number of Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs), areas that have been used for the treatment, storage or disposal of solid waste. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) requires DCD to assess and remediate its SWMUs. While the depot is making some progress (out of 29 SWMUs, 14 require no further action and three more will be completed this year), it also faces some major challenges, particularly SWMUs 1 and 25, which were used for demil operations between 1945 and 1980. Located along DCD's southern boundaries, SWMUs 1 and 25 are the most heavily contaminated, said Troy Johnson, DCD's Environmental Program Manager, who addressed DCD's remediation plans at the August town hall.

SWMU 1 encompasses approximately 373 acres and has 130 areas where demil activities—burning and detonating of conventional munitions, as well as burying chemical munitions—took place. Johnson said there are approximately 59,000 empty 4.2 inch mustard mortars sitting on SWMU 1's surface, and one GA bomb was also disposed there.

"We have quite a challenge ahead in the cleanup of this area," he acknowledged. Johnson also confirmed that soil samples from SWMU 1 indicate trace amounts of GA nerve agent and mustard agent, but stressed the low levels to employees. "We're talking nanograms," Johnson said, "well below levels that are immediately dangerous to anyone. The area is safe and people can travel to the area without worry of exposure to chemical agents."

Johnson said a work plan, explosive and chemical safety plans and health and ecological risk assessments must be completed for SWMU 1 before surface cleanup can start in 2012.

SWMU 25, located next to SWMU 1, is 1,120 acres and includes M50 Thermite bombs (some with live charges), 50 clusters of high-explosive detonation craters (3.5 acres each) and ash piles from the cluster bomb activities. Carbon tetrachloride has been detected in the groundwater; soil sampling will be conducted in the spring. Clean up of SWMU 25 is expected to start in 2012.

Johnson estimates that remediation of all DCD's SWMUs will cost more than \$190 million and stretch into 2020.

"The Army's commitment to be good stewards of the land and clean up past practices will no doubt be costly and take a substantial amount of time and resources," Johnson said. "Yet it will leave this unique desert ecosystem a legacy for the flora and fauna that share the land with us."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/include/docrendition.asp?DocID=003681522>
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ANNISTON CHEMICAL ACTIVITY - EXCESS FACILITIES TARGET OF EARLY REMOVAL

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release

September 24, 2009

"The Pollution Abatement System of the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Brine Reduction Area is being removed from the site. Early removal of excess equipment and facilities will help site managers efficiently close the site at the end of mustard-filled munition demilitarization operations. The work is being done under a contract with Farr Contracting and Cleveland Wrecking."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/include/docrendition.asp?DocID=003681535>
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NEWPORT CHEMICAL DEPOT - CHEMICAL DEPOT TO LAY OFF 150 BY OCT

WTHITV.com

September 23, 2009

"The Newport Chemical Depot announced by mid-October, 150 people will be laid off."

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"This moment for me means that we are finishing our mission. And anytime a military officer can finish their mission is a proud moment... We focused on getting the job done, getting the job done well and taking care of people at the same time," Lt. Colonel William Hibner of the Newport Chemical Depot said."

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"The Newport Chemical Depot plans on closing for good by next summer."

The full article can be found at:

http://www.wthitv.com/dpp/news/news_wthi_terrehaute_chemical_depot_to_lay_off_150_by_oct_200909221702

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