

1 February 2010

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5. [PK] CABINET GRANTED APPROVAL, IN PRINCIPLE, FOR DRAFT LEGISLATION "BIOLOGICAL & TOXIN WEAPON CONVENTION (BTWC) BILL 2009": *"Under the new law, no person shall develop, manufacture, design, produce, stockpile, transport, import, export, sell, transfer or otherwise acquire, possess, control or retain a biological weapon. No person shall knowingly manufacture, develop, design, produce, stockpile, transport, transfer or otherwise acquire or retain, any material, equipment, or technologies which are intended to be used in the preparation of a biological weapon."*

Chem-Demil News

1. UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT – OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (DEQ) WEBPAGE FOR UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT: *The site provides Oregon's DEQ demil information and documents for Umatilla Chemical Depot.*

2. [TOOELE CHEMICAL DISPOSAL FACILITY] REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF CLOSURE PLANS FOR THE TOOELE CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY AND THE CHEMICAL AGENT MUNITION DISPOSAL SYSTEM: LETTER REPORT: *"The Chemical Materials Agency (CMA), requested the National Academies' Board on Army Science and Technology to examine the current state of closure activities for the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) and the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS)."*

CB Daily Report

Chem-Bio News

ISRAEL DISCIPLINES TOP OFFICERS ON WHITE PHOSPHORUS

BBC

February 01, 2010

"Israel has revealed it has disciplined two senior army officers for using white phosphorus shells during an offensive in Gaza.

The admission is contained in the Israeli response to the Goldstone report, which concluded both Israel and Hamas had committed war crimes.

Details of any punishment given to the pair have not yet been made clear.

During the 22-day conflict last year media pictures showed incendiary shells raining down on a UN compound.

The officers' ranks have been confirmed as a Brigadier-General and a Colonel.

They were named in Israeli media reports as Gaza Division Commander Brig Gen Eyal Eisenberg and Givati Brigade Commander Col Ilan Malka.

"Several artillery shells were fired in violation of the rules of engagement prohibiting use of such artillery near populated areas," the report says.

The officers were charged with "exceeding their authority" in ordering the use of the weapons in an attack on 15 January 2009."

The full article can be found at: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/8490646.stm

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SPRING VALLEY - UNEARTHED JUGS MIGHT POINT TO LARGER ARMS CACHE

By Christopher Cottrell

The Eagle

January 31, 2010

"The Army Corps of Engineers unearthed three broken glass jugs on Monday, Jan. 25 at their "Pit 3" investigation at 4825 Glenbrook Rd. N.W., a Corps spokesman told The Eagle.

The find has generated questions as to whether a long sought-after munitions cache, known as the "Sgt. Maurer burial pit," has finally been located.

An environmental specialist for the District Department of the Environment's Toxic Substance division, Dr. Richard Albright, told The Eagle that rumors of the munitions cache have been based on aerial photography and World War I-era photos depicting Army Sergeant C. W. Maurer standing amid approximately 30 glass jugs similar to the ones found last Monday and possibly filled with the chemical agent mustard.

A hand-written caption on the back of one of the photos identifies the pictured jugs to be filled with "mustard." Maurer wrote that he was burying the jugs in "Death Valley," in this "hole called Hades," according to Albright.

Albright said nine or 10 photos exist in all, some of which show sheds in the background that are known to have been used as toxic chemical storage facilities.

When Albright and a colleague from the Environmental Photographic Interpretation Center obtained copies of Sgt. Maurer's photos in 1997, they analyzed them along with old aerial photography and determined the pit's location to be somewhere within the 4825 Glenbrook Rd. N.W. property.

This analysis played a central role in convincing the Army Corps to pursue further investigations in Spring Valley, Albright said."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.theeagleonline.com/news/story/unearthed-jugs-might-point-to-larger-arms-cache>

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NEW PANEL WILL STUDY DISPOSAL OF WASTE

By Matthew L. Wald

The New York Times
January 28, 2010

“The Energy Department plans to announce on Friday the formation of a “blue ribbon” commission to study the disposal of nuclear waste.

The commission is to be led by Lee H. Hamilton, a former member of Congress and co-chairman of the Sept. 11 commission, and Brent Scowcroft, a retired Air Force general and former presidential adviser, said a staff member of a member of Congress from Nevada.

The Obama administration promised to appoint such a study group almost a year ago, after announcing that it would cease study of Yucca Mountain, a volcanic structure about 100 miles from Las Vegas that had been chosen by Congress as the leading candidate for nuclear waste disposal.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/29/science/earth/29waste.html>
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BURMA HAS NUCLEAR AMBITIONS, SAYS US THINK TANK

By Lalit K Jha
The Irrawaddy
January 29, 2010

“The Burmese regime has nuclear ambitions, according to a leading US “think tank,” which supports its claim with photographs of what it says is construction work on a possible nuclear reactor site near Mandalay.

The junta is cooperating with North Korea on possible procurement of nuclear technology and appears to be misleading overseas suppliers in its efforts to obtain it, say two authors of the report, David Albright and Paul Brannan, well-known experts on the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Their report was published by the Washington-based Institute for Science and International Security.

Assistant US Secretary of State for Public Affairs P.J. Crowley said that although he hadn't read the report, “we do have concerns about certain activity and the potential, you know—that risk to the global nonproliferation agenda.”

The report, titled “Burma: A nuclear wannabe; suspicious links to North Korea; high-tech procurements and enigmatic facilities,” says: “Certain equipment, which could be used in a nuclear or missile program, went to isolated Burmese manufacturing compounds of unknown purpose.

“Although evidence does not exist to make a compelling case that Burma is building secret nuclear reactors or fuel cycle facilities, as has been reported, the information does warrant governments and companies taking extreme caution in any dealings with Burma.”

The full article can be found at: http://www.irrawaddy.org/highlight.php?art_id=17687
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[PK] CABINET GRANTED APPROVAL, IN PRINCIPLE, FOR DRAFT LEGISLATION “BIOLOGICAL & TOXIN WEAPON CONVENTION (BTWC) BILL 2009”

Associated Press of Pakistan
January 06, 2010

“The Cabinet granted approval, in principle, for draft legislation “Biological & Toxin Weapon Convention (BTWC) Bill 2009” for the implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). The UN

Security Council Resolution 1540 adopted in April 2004 requires all states to take necessary legislative, regulatory and administrative steps to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including biological weapons and their delivery systems and related technologies. Under the new law, no person shall develop, manufacture, design, produce, stockpile, transport, import, export, sell, transfer or otherwise acquire, possess, control or retain a biological weapon. No person shall knowingly manufacture, develop, design, produce, stockpile, transport, transfer or otherwise acquire or retain, any material, equipment, or technologies which are intended to be used in the preparation of a biological weapon. The law shall also ban delivery designed to use biological agents or toxins for hostile purposes or use in armed conflict. Violators shall be liable for punishment with imprisonment ranging from 10 to 25 years and with fine up to Rs. 10 million.”

The full article can be found at: http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=93300&Itemid=2
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UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT – OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (DEQ) WEBPAGE FOR UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT

Oregon Department Of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Accessed February 01, 2010

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) webpage for Umatilla Chemical Depot provides official documentation such as permits and activity plans for the installation.

The webpage can be found at: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/Umatilla/cdp.htm>
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[TOOELE CHEMICAL DISPOSAL FACILITY] REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF CLOSURE PLANS FOR THE TOOELE CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY AND THE CHEMICAL AGENT MUNITION DISPOSAL SYSTEM: LETTER REPORT

The National Academies
2010

“The Chemical Materials Agency (CMA), requested the National Academies' Board on Army Science and Technology to examine the current state of closure activities for the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) and the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS). In this brief interim report, the Committee on Review and Assessment of Closure Plans for the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility and the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System addresses some of the issues pertaining to closure at the TOCDF and CAMDS facilities. It also provides insights into what the committee believes are important parameters to ensure the success of the CMA's closure program for these and CMA facilities at other locations. This interim report is to be followed by another report, which will use these parameters to conduct a comprehensive assessment of closure activities and issues.

For this interim report, the committee examined the current status of closure plans for both the TOCDF and CAMDS based on presentations by key members of CMA staff and the systems contractor. It then developed a set of parameters based on this high-level evaluation to help ensure a consistently effective approach to the closures of the four currently operating CMA chemical agent disposal facilities. The committee also assessed regulatory requirements imposed by the state of Utah, where TOCDF and CAMDS are located.”

The full article can be found at: http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12838
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