

## Chem-Bio News

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**2. RUSSIA'S STRATEGIC MISSILE FORCE TO MARK 50TH ANNIVERSARY SOON:** *"The Russian Strategic Missile Force which became an independent service of the Soviet Armed Forces on December 17, 1959 will soon mark its 50th anniversary."*

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# CB Daily Report

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### **OBAMA TOLD CHINA: I CAN'T STOP ISRAEL STRIKE ON IRAN INDEFINITELY**

By Barak Ravid and Natasha Mozgovaya  
Ha'aretz Daily – Israel  
December 17, 2009

"U.S. President Barack Obama has warned his Chinese counterpart that the United States would not be able to keep Israel from attacking Iranian nuclear installations for much longer, senior officials in Jerusalem told Haaretz.

They said Obama warned President Hu Jintao during the American's visit to Beijing a month ago as part of the U.S. attempt to convince the Chinese to support strict sanctions on Tehran if it does not accept Western proposals for its nuclear program.

The Israeli officials, who asked to remain anonymous due to the sensitivity of the matter, said the United States had informed Israel on Obama's meetings in Beijing on Iran. They said Obama made it clear to Hu that at some point the United States would no longer be able to prevent Israel from acting

as it saw fit in response to the perceived Iranian threat.

After the Beijing summit, the U.S. administration thought the Chinese had understood the message; Beijing agreed to join the condemnation of Iran by the International Atomic Energy Agency only a week after Obama's visit. But in the past two weeks the Chinese have maintained their hard stance regarding the West's wishes to impose sanctions on the Islamic Republic.

The Israeli officials say the Americans now understand that the Chinese agreed to join the condemnation announcement only because Obama made a personal request to Hu, not as part of a policy change.

The full article can be found at: <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1135730.html>

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## **RUSSIA'S STRATEGIC MISSILE FORCE TO MARK 50TH ANNIVERSARY SOON**

By Ilya Kramnik

RIA Novosti – Russian Information Agency

December 16, 2009

“The Russian Strategic Missile Force which became an independent service of the Soviet Armed Forces on December 17, 1959 will soon mark its 50th anniversary.

The creation of the Strategic Missile Force was preceded by the lengthy work of developing Soviet long-range ballistic missiles that began right after World War II.

The R-1 (SS-1 Scunner) with a range of 270 km, developed by leading Soviet rocket engineer and designer Sergei Korolyov (1906-1966) on the basis of the German V-2 rocket became the first such missile. The R-1 was first launched in the autumn of 1948 and entered service in 1950.

Experience gained during R-1 missile tests and operations made it possible to launch production and to train military units to operate and maintain them.

The R-1 was followed by the R-2 (SS-2 Sibling) and the R-5 (SS-3 Shyster). The R-2 with a range of over 500 km was tested in 1949 and adopted in 1951, respectively. The R-5 which had a range of over 1,200 km was adopted in 1956.

At that time, the Soviet Union also moved to develop an intercontinental ballistic missile because the Kremlin realized that strategic bombers could not launch an effective counterstrike against the United States.

The R-7 (SS-6 Sapwood) became the first Soviet intercontinental ballistic missile, also developed by Korolyov, and was initially tested at the new Tyura-Tam range, now called the Baikonur Space Center, in 1957. The Baikonur Space Center is currently located in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Although the new ICBM R-7A was in service from 1960 until 1963, it remained the main Soviet/Russian launch vehicle for a long time.

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“Since the late 1950s, the Strategic Missile Force formed the mainstay of Soviet strategic nuclear forces, accounting for the bulk of the 10,000-plus nuclear warheads wielded by Moscow by early 1991.

The Strategic Missile Force was the hardest hit by strategic offensive arms cuts.

The planned decommissioning of Soviet-era ICBMs, namely, all R-36M2 (SS-18 Satan) missiles, most UR-100N UTKh (SS-19 mod.2 Stiletto) and Topol (SS-25 Sickle) missiles is the main problem now facing the Strategic Missile Force.

Considering feasible missile-production volumes, by 2020 the Strategic Missile Force will have about 200 ICBMs manufactured in 1997-2020 with a total of 500 to 700 warheads.

Measures to extend the service life of the "youngest" Soviet-era missiles will make it possible to deploy 300 to 350 missiles with a total of 800-1,000 warheads.

Consequently, Russia's strategic nuclear forces will have 500 to 550 delivery vehicles and 1,500-1,600 warheads under a new strategic arms reduction treaty (START), now being prepared for signing.

The extended service life of Soviet-era missiles will enable Russia to hold out until its industry is able to manufacture the required number of delivery vehicles for replacing missiles in accordance with preset deadlines.

The full article can be found at: <http://en.rian.ru/analysis/20091216/157261431.html>

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## **B REACTOR BACKERS TO FIGHT FOR INCLUSION AS NATIONAL PARK**

By Annette Carey

TriCity Herald

January 06, 2010

"Supporters of Hanford's historic B Reactor are preparing to fight to have it reconsidered as a national park.

A draft study released by the National Park Service in December concluded that only part of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory National Landmark District in New Mexico should be considered for a Manhattan Project National Historical Park.

It excluded Hanford's B Reactor and historic facilities at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge, Tenn., site, although the park service might be willing to play a limited role at the sites.

But the draft study's arguments for excluding B Reactor from a possible national park "are very, very weak," said Maynard Plahuta, president of the B Reactor Museum Association.

On Tuesday, representatives of the museum association, the Tri-City Development Council, the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau and the Hanford Communities -- which includes Hanford-area cities, counties and ports -- agreed that the best course for B Reactor's future is to continue to push for inclusion in a national park.

There seems to be some support for that at Department of Energy headquarters.

"Los Alamos, Oak Ridge and Hanford should be considered and treated as co-equals," said F.G. (Skip) Gosling, the DOE federal preservation officer and chief historian, in comments included in the draft study's appendix.

"Manhattan Project activities came together at Los Alamos, which has perhaps the greatest public recognition, but Oak Ridge and Hanford are equally significant and indispensable, both in the development and deployment of the atomic bomb and for a balanced public interpretation of the Manhattan Project," he said.

He called B Reactor and two facilities at Oak Ridge -- the X-10 Graphite Reactor and the Y-12 Beta-3 Racetracks -- "undoubtedly the crown jewels of the Manhattan Project historic assets."

He supported making all three sites part of a Manhattan Project National Historical Park, but having DOE continue to own and maintain certain facilities -- including B Reactor -- and ensure safety and security.

B Reactor, which looks much as it did during World War II, was the world's first production-scale reactor. It produced plutonium for the first nuclear explosion and for the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, helping to end the war.”

The full article can be found at: [http://www.tri-cityherald.com/kennewick\\_pasco\\_richland/story/852057.html](http://www.tri-cityherald.com/kennewick_pasco_richland/story/852057.html)  
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## ***Chem-Demil News***

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### **UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT - DEPOT RECEIVES APPROVAL FOR CLOSURE OF I-BLOCK STORAGE FACILITY**

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release  
December 29, 2009

“The Umatilla Chemical Depot has received approval from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) for the closure of the I-block storage facility. The closure went into effect Dec. 7, 2009. The approval confirms that the closure process has met ODEQ’s agent free determination requirements.

Mustard (HD) ton containers were stored in the I-Block area from 2001 to 2006, when they were safely transferred to the depot’s Chemical Limited Area.

The approval marks a first for the depot and the Chemical Materials Agency in closure of permitted chemical weapons agent storage igloos. Closure of the remaining igloos used to store chemical agent munitions will be conducted using the same planning as the closure activities for I-block. The igloos that store chemical munitions at the depot are regulated according to requirements of the state of Oregon and federal government regulations.

UMCD and ODEQ worked closely during the process. Personnel from the UMCD Environmental Division, Chemical Operations Directorate and contractors from Vista Engineering and RMCI contributed to the successful planning, execution and completion of the closure project.

“Teamwork along with a focus on safety and protection of the environment facilitated this major accomplishment for the depot in its progress toward closure. The planning and proven methods used to close I-Block will form the backbone for eventual closure of the Chemical Limited Area,” said Lt. Col. Kris Perkins, depot commander.

The I-Block contains 30 hazardous waste chemical agent storage units or igloos. The closure resulted from three years of closure planning under the depot’s Hazardous Waste Storage Permit.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/include/docrendition.asp?DocID=003682111>  
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### **ANNISTON CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY (ANCDF) - ANNISTON DISPOSAL FACILITY BEGINS SHORT MAINTENANCE PHASE**

US Army Chemical Materials Agency News Release  
January 05, 2010

“Officials at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) announced today the start of a scheduled maintenance phase. Chemical munition demilitarization operations will likely resume in 10 to 14 days.

“Just as I have regular maintenance performed every 3,000 to 5,000 miles on the vehicle I drive,

ANCDF employees have to stop periodically to tune up and adjust our equipment,” said Timothy K. Garrett, site government project manager.

Since the mustard agent disposal campaign began last July (2009), ANCDF employees have safely processed 83,112 mortars and 41,098 gallons (433,171 pounds) of mustard agent. That accounts for 32.1 percent of the mortars, 27.7 percent of all mustard munitions, and 21.9 percent of the mustard agent.

Site officials point out that scheduled maintenance allows the Anniston Team to keep equipment running efficiently and to help ensure the continued safety of the community, the environment, and the work force.

ANCDF employees will begin cooling the Deactivation Furnace System today to perform inspections and equipment calibration. They will also clean the Pollution Filtration System (PFS) for the furnace. The Liquid Incinerator will remain in operation but also will undergo inspection and calibration.

During the first five days of the outage, the Waste Management Department will use the Metal Parts Furnace to destroy some used site filters that had been changed earlier. The furnace will be cooled for inspection and calibration once the filters have been processed.

While ANCDF employees perform maintenance related activities at the facility, the other half of the Anniston team, that is Anniston Chemical Activity (ANCA) employees, will also be in a maintenance mode. ANCA employees will take care of munition storage-related equipment and vehicles. They will also continue to conduct normal permit-required storage igloo inspections and participate in employee training.

Besides equipment maintenance activities, ANCDF employees also plan to complete pre-operational testing of new Burster Well Punch Stations. Once demilitarization operations resume later this month, some of the remaining 4.2-inch HD mortars will be processed through the punch stations because the munitions cannot be fully disassembled or because the mustard agent has changed from a liquid to a thickened substance while in storage. Managers believe the modifications will make ANCDF operations safer for employees by reducing the number of required entries.

A mechanical punch in the stations will be employed by remote control to push the burster well down a little into the agent cavity area. That will create an opening at the top of the munition. The opening will facilitate the destruction of mustard agent when the mortars pass through the Metal Parts Furnace.

Since demilitarization operations began in August 2003, a total of 444,914 nerve agent and mustard munitions (67.2 percent) and 334,101 (65.7 percent) chemical agent gallons have been safely processed.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/include/docrendition.asp?DocID=003682119>  
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## **UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT - PORT OF UMATILLA WANTS DEPOT LAND 'AS A PLACEHOLDER'**

By Dean Brickey  
The East Oregonian  
December 31, 2009

“Kim Puzey thinks the Umatilla Chemical Depot has some potential for future use, but not much, and not immediately.

Puzey, general manager of the Port of Umatilla, submitted a notice of interest in mid-November for a public benefit conveyance of all depot land in Umatilla County. That involves about 40 percent of the 20,000-acre depot, or 8,000 acres.

The public benefit conveyance provides former federal property at little or no cost to the recipient.

The Port of Umatilla's notice asked for the property for "anticipated expansion of services."

Puzey said the port has a large water right on the Columbia River that could serve industrial water needs associated with development.

The port's notice is one of 15 the Umatilla Army Depot Reuse Authority will consider as it develops a plan for the future of the property. The U.S. Army is expected to disperse the property after it finishes destroying chemical weapons in 2011. This is the third in a series of stories about those with ideas for the depot's future.

"We put in (a notice) mostly as a placeholder, more of an insurance policy," Puzey said Tuesday. "We didn't want to get left out."

The full article can be found at: <http://eastoregonian.com/main.asp?SectionID=13&SubSectionID=48&ArticleID=101989&TM=79277.45>  
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