

11 January 2010

## **Chem-Bio News**

### **1. U.S. POSTAL SERVICE TO BE IN CHARGE OF DRUG DELIVERY IN THE EVENT OF A BIOATTACK:**

*"Following an executive order released Wednesday, the U.S. Postal Service will be put in charge of delivering drugs and other medical aid to Americans in the event of a large-scale biological weapon attack."*

**2. NORTH KOREA STARTED URANIUM PROGRAM IN 1990S, SOUTH SAYS:** *"North Korea apparently began pursuing a uranium enrichment program in 1996 at the latest, the South Korean foreign minister said Wednesday, bolstering fears that the North's second route to building a nuclear bomb could be well on its way.."*

**3. [CL] FREI MONTALVA MURDER CASE IN CHILE ADVANCES:** *"An autopsy of Frei Montalva's body ordered by Judge Madrid early this year revealed traces of mustard gas and talio [thallium], a poison, in the dead president's remains. The finding contradicts a 2005 FBI autopsy that found no toxic substance in Frei's tissue samples."*

**4. TAIWAN FIRM: CHINA GOT IRAN PART WITH NUKE USES:** *"A Taiwanese company agreed to a request from a firm in China to procure sensitive components with nuclear uses, then shipped them to Iran, the firm's head said Friday. Such transactions violate U.N. sanctions imposed on the Middle Eastern nation."*

**5. BURMA TO EXECUTE TWO OVER SECRET TUNNELS LEAK:** *"The three men, one of them a major in the Burmese army, were also convicted of distributing photographs of a secret network of military tunnels which, together with the evidence of high-level contacts with North Korea, raised suspicions that Burma might be developing its own nuclear weapons."*

# **CB Daily Report**

## **Chem-Bio News**

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### **U.S. POSTAL SERVICE TO BE IN CHARGE OF DRUG DELIVERY IN THE EVENT OF A BIOATTACK**

By Nick Rees

BioPrepWatch.com

December 30, 2009

*"Following an executive order released Wednesday, the U.S. Postal Service will be put in charge of delivering drugs and other medical aid to Americans in the event of a large-scale biological weapon attack.*

President Obama's order states that the postal service will be in charge of dispensing "medical countermeasures" for biological weapons in the event of an attack because of its ability to deliver to U.S. citizens rapidly.

Federal agencies are required to develop a response plan within 180 days including possible law enforcement escorts for postal service workers under the order, which cites anthrax as a primary threat consideration. The order would see local law enforcement supplemented by local federal law enforcement officers.

The Secretaries of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services, acting in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, must develop a concept for operations and establish requirements for dispensing medical countermeasures to an affected population through a federal rapid response program."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.bioprepwatch.com/news/211476>

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## **NORTH KOREA STARTED URANIUM PROGRAM IN 1990S, SOUTH SAYS**

By Choe Sang-Hun  
New York Times  
January 07, 2010

"North Korea apparently began pursuing a uranium enrichment program in 1996 at the latest, the South Korean foreign minister said Wednesday, bolstering fears that the North's second route to building a nuclear bomb could be well on its way.

The North's nuclear program has long focused on a plutonium-making complex in Yongbyon, north of its capital. The country acknowledged for the first time last April that it intended to enrich uranium as well.

In June, it said its enrichment program was in an •experimental stage• while bitterly denouncing the United Nations for tightening sanctions after its nuclear test in May. In September, North Korea said its •experimental uranium enrichment• had entered a •completion phase.

But the South Korean minister, Yu Myung-hwan, said Wednesday, •It appears that North Korea started its uranium enrichment program at least in 1996. Speaking to the Yonhap news agency, in comments confirmed by his office, he said, •What's clear is that the North began enriched uranium development quite early."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/07/world/asia/07korea.html>

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**[CL] FREI MONTALVA MURDER CASE IN CHILE ADVANCES**

By Steve Anderson  
The Santiago Times  
December 17, 2009

"One court affirms charges, while another removes presiding judge, citing impartiality considerations.

The investigation into the alleged 1982 murder of former Chilean President Eduardo Frei Montalva took two dramatic twists on Wednesday.

Early in the day an appeals court upheld indictments brought against two of the six men accused of the crime, but just hours later a second appeals court ruled to temporarily replace the presiding judge in case.

In early December Judge Alejandro Madrid indicted six men (including four physicians) he believes killed the former president in 1982, charging that they conspired to poison Frei Montalva as he recovered from a routine hernia operation in late 1981 (ST, Dec. 8). When announcing the indictments, Madrid expressed sympathy for the Frei family."

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"An autopsy of Frei Montalva's body ordered by Judge Madrid early this year revealed traces of mustard gas and talio [thallium], a poison, in the dead president's remains. The finding contradicts a 2005 FBI autopsy that found no toxic substance in Frei's tissue samples."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.santiagotimes.cl/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=17880:frei-montalva-murder-case-in-chile-advances&catid=19:other&Itemid=142](http://www.santiagotimes.cl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=17880:frei-montalva-murder-case-in-chile-advances&catid=19:other&Itemid=142)

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## **TAIWAN FIRM: CHINA GOT IRAN PART WITH NUKE USES**

The Associated Press in The New York Times  
January 08, 2010

"A Taiwanese company agreed to a request from a firm in China to procure sensitive components with nuclear uses, then shipped them to Iran, the firm's head said Friday. Such transactions violate U.N. sanctions imposed on the Middle Eastern nation.

The admission by Steven Lin of Hsinchu-based Heli-Ocean Technology Co. Ltd. comes amid an international effort led by the United States to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons. While Lin said he didn't know whether the parts -- a vital component in the production of weapons-grade uranium -- were eventually used by Iran militarily, he did acknowledge that they have nuclear applications."

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"In a telephone interview with The Associated Press, Lin said he received an Internet order from a Chinese firm in January or February 2008 to obtain an unspecified number of pressure transducers, which convert pressure into analog electrical signals.

While pressure transducers have many commercial uses, they furnish the precise measurements needed in the production of weapons-grade uranium."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/01/08/world/AP-Iran-Nuclear.html>

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## **BURMA TO EXECUTE TWO OVER SECRET TUNNELS LEAK**

By Richard Lloyd Parry

The London Times

January 08, 2010

"A Burmese court has sentenced to death two men and imprisoned at least three others for leaking military information, including photographs of a secret visit to North Korea by one of the military junta's most senior generals.

The three men, one of them a major in the Burmese army, were also convicted of distributing photographs of a secret network of military tunnels which, together with the evidence of high-level contacts with North Korea, raised suspicions that Burma might be developing its own nuclear weapons.

The photographs and documents were published last summer after being obtained by exiled media and foreign reporters in Bangkok. They showed a visit to North Korea and to China by the third-ranking figure in the Burmese junta, General Thura Shwe Mann."

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"The photographs, taken between 2003 and 2006, did not in themselves prove anything definitive about Burma's nuclear ambitions. But they did show that the regime and its military have done a great deal of tunneling, with the help of the world's great military moles, the North Koreans.

The tunnels, believed to be close to the regime's purpose-built new capital, Naypyidaw, are more likely to be designed for the storage of weapons, ammunition and personnel as they are to be nuclear sites.

Some tunnels and subterranean meeting halls have been built near Taunggyi, in the northeast of Burma, where insurgent armies are fighting decades-old independence struggles. Pictures dating from 2006 show a group of technicians with East Asian features emerging from a hotel in Naypyidaw area — these have been identified as North Koreans, whose own million-strong army is hunkered down in massive tunnel complexes along the border with its enemy, South Korea."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/asia/article6980654.ece>

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