

25 January 2010

Chem-Bio News

1. OFFICIALS FEAR TOXIC INGREDIENT IN BOTOX COULD BECOME TERRORIST

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2. MINISTER VOWS PREEMPTIVE STRIKE AGAINST NK NUCLEAR ATTACK:

"Defense Minister Kim Tae-young said Wednesday the military could conduct a preemptive strike against North Korean nuclear facilities, should signs of a nuclear attack by the North emerge in the event of war."

3. PAK GOVT. RE-IMPOSES SECURITY RESTRICTIONS ON A Q KHAN: *"The Pakistan government has re-imposed security restrictions on Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan, father of the country's nuclear programme, saying his life is under risk."*

4. DYNAMIC CHAMBER PUTS CHEMICAL WEAPONS SENSORS TO THE TEST: *"It operates over a wide range of temperature, humidity and simulated altitude while exposing the chemical agent detectors to interferents such as dust, smoke and diesel exhaust...."*

5. IRAN CROSSES RED LINE, CAN ENRICH URANIUM UP TO 20PC GRADE: *"Attaining the ability to enrich uranium up to 20 percent grade brings Iran dangerously close to "break-out" point for a nuclear weapon capability, DEBKAfile's intelligence sources report."*

CB Daily Report

Chem-Bio News

OFFICIALS FEAR TOXIC INGREDIENT IN BOTOX COULD BECOME TERRORIST TOOL

By Joby Warrick

The Washington Post

January 25, 2010

"In early 2006, a mysterious cosmetics trader named Rakhman began showing up at salons in St. Petersburg, Russia, hawking a popular anti-aging drug at suspiciously low prices. He flashed a briefcase filled with vials and promised he could deliver more -- "as many as you want," he told buyers -- from a supplier somewhere in Chechnya.

Rakhman's "Botox" was found to be a potent clone of the real thing, but investigators soon turned to a far bigger worry: the prospect of an illegal factory in Chechnya churning out raw botulinum toxin, the key ingredient in the beauty drug and one of world's deadliest poisons. A speck of toxin smaller than a grain of sand can kill a 150-pound adult.

No Chechen factory has been found, but a search for the maker of the highly lethal toxin in Rakhman's vials continues across a widening swath of Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Asia. U.S. officials and security experts say they know the lab exists, and probably dozens of other such labs, judging from the surging black market for the drug."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/24/AR2010012403013.html>

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MINISTER VOWS PREEMPTIVE STRIKE AGAINST NK NUCLEAR ATTACK

By Jung Sung-ki

Korea Times – South Korea

January 20, 2010

"Defense Minister Kim Tae-young said Wednesday the military could conduct a preemptive strike against North Korean nuclear facilities, should signs of a nuclear attack by the North emerge in the event of war.

"A significant amount of damage could be sustained if we were to respond after a nuclear attack by North Korea, so we would have to hit North Korean targets as soon as clear signs of such an attack are detected," Kim said in a defense forum in Seoul."

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"The remarks came just days after North Korea threatened to break off all dialogue and negotiations with South Korea, attacking Seoul for drawing up a new contingency plan to cope with possible internal instability, such as a regime collapse, in the reclusive state.

In a statement carried by the North's Korean Central News Agency, its National Defense Commission warned that it would initiate a "sacred retaliatory battle" against the South, cut off all dialogue and exclude it from all negotiations related to the security of the Korean Peninsula. The commission, headed by North Korean leader Kim Jong-il, is the highest ruling agency in the Stalinist state."

The full article can be found at: http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2010/01/205_59389.html

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PAK GOVT. RE-IMPOSES SECURITY RESTRICTIONS ON A Q KHAN

Yahoo! India News

January 22, 2010

"The Pakistan government has re-imposed security restrictions on Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan, father of the country's nuclear programme, saying his life is under risk."

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"Meanwhile, Khan has objected to the restrictions, saying the move is a clear violation of court's verdict, as the Lahore High Court had asked the government not to stop him from moving outside his house."

The full article can be found at: <http://in.news.yahoo.com/139/20100122/874/twl-pak-govt-re-imposes-security-restric.html>

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DYNAMIC CHAMBER PUTS CHEMICAL WEAPONS SENSORS TO THE TEST

By Paulette Campbell

The JHU Gazette

January 25, 2010

"In 2006, the Defense Department's Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense—the focal point for research, development, acquisition, fielding and life-cycle support for chemical and biological defense equipment and medical countermeasures—asked APL to design and build a chamber to evaluate technologies and systems to detect, protect against and decontaminate hazards from chemical warfare agents.

By November 2007, Lab engineers had come up with the framework for the techniques and methods that would be employed in the Dynamic Test Chamber, or DTC. Now, two years later, the complete chamber is mounted in an APL high bay. Once engineers are certain that it works as intended, it will be disassembled and moved to its permanent home at Dugway Proving Ground in Utah."

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"The chamber provides realistic test conditions for evaluating how quickly military detectors pick up trace level amounts of chemical warfare agents, Buckley says. "It operates over a wide range of temperature, humidity and simulated altitude while exposing the chemical agent detectors to interferents such as dust, smoke and diesel exhaust," he says. "Its control systems will allow the monitoring, displaying and recording of data from the systems under test [SUTs] in conjunction with the DTC challenge conditions to allow analysis of the response of the SUT in real time."

The full article can be found at: <http://gazette.jhu.edu/2010/01/25/dynamic-chamber-puts-chemical-weapons-sensors-to-the-test/>

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IRAN CROSSES RED LINE, CAN ENRICH URANIUM UP TO 20PC GRADE

DEBKAFfile

January 25, 2010

"Attaining the ability to enrich uranium up to 20 percent grade brings Iran dangerously close to "break-out" point for a nuclear weapon capability, DEBKAFfile's intelligence sources report. President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad promised the "good news" would be announced during the Feb. 1-11 celebrations of the Islamic Revolution. The "news" also prompted an urgent cabinet meeting in Jerusalem last week.

Ahmadinejad's announcement is a provocative demonstration of contempt for the six world powers and their offer to trade Iran's low-grade uranium for 20 pc enriched product overseas. By going public on the banned process and abandoning concealment, Iran's rulers are throwing down the gauntlet to them and Israel."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.debka.com/headline.php?hid=6474>

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