



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Dec. 26, 2007

For more information contact:
Greg Mahall, gregory.mahall@us.army.mil
(410) 436-1093

U.S. Army Destroys Entire Stockpile of VX Spray Tanks

*Final VX spray tank destroyed in Umatilla marks another milestone
for the Chemical Materials Agency*

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. - The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) announced the safe destruction of the last VX nerve agent-filled spray tank in the U.S. chemical stockpile. The last of the stockpiled spray tanks were destroyed at the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) in Umatilla, Ore., on Monday, Dec. 24, 2007.

Spray tank disposal operations first began at the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) on July 23, 2004. Out of the 1,018 original stockpile spray tanks, TOCDF was responsible for the disposal of 862 tanks. On Nov. 23, 2007, the UMCDF began to safely destroy the last 156 spray tanks which were stored at the Umatilla Chemical Depot.

CMA's Acting Director, Dale Ormond said, "In June 2006, the last sarin-filled MC1 bomb in the U.S. stockpile was destroyed. The elimination of yet another deadly weapon, the VX TMU-28 spray tank, from the stockpile demonstrates the Army's commitment to ridding the country of chemical weapons; and doing it safely and efficiently."

Conrad Whyne, CMA Deputy Director added, "The Army's hard work and dedication is once again impeccable. The people at the Umatilla Chemical Depot, Desert Chemical Depot, TOCDF and UMCDF have been outstanding in eliminating the last of the VX spray tanks. This is a major accomplishment and an important milestone for CMA and for the country."

The TMU-28 VX nerve agent spray tanks were bulk agent containers designed to distribute the liquid agent in an aerosol form—as a fog or mist—from an aircraft onto battlefields. They were constructed with four major components: the agent container, aircraft suspension system, tail cone section and dissemination nozzle. Each tank could hold up to 160 gallons of VX nerve agent. The U.S. military never used the VX spray tanks, or any other chemical weapons, in combat.

Mr. Ormond stated, "CMA is committed to the continued safe destruction of the remaining U.S. Stockpile—safe for our workers, the public and the environment. We are doing it right!"

To view more information and photos on VX spray tanks, please visit the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency web site at www.cma.army.mil.

###

WWW.CMA.ARMY.MIL

C R E A T I N G A S A F E R T O M O R R O W