



NEWS RELEASE

Pueblo Chemical Depot



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Mustard agent detected in depot chemical storage igloo

PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT, Colo.— A chemical monitoring crew today detected and confirmed the presence of mustard agent vapor inside a chemical storage igloo containing 105mm projectiles during routine chemical operations.

Passive carbon filters prevent contaminated air from leaving the structure. Crews will now begin a process of installing 1,000 cubic ft./minute air filters to lower the levels of contaminated air inside the igloo prior to sending crews into the storage structure in personal protective equipment to look for leaking munitions. Crews will not enter the storage structure today.

Federal, State and Pueblo County officials were notified immediately and will continue to be updated. All operations associated with finding the leaking munitions will be completed under strict engineering controls, protecting the environment and safety of all depot employees and surrounding communities.

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The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) with headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., stores the nation's aging chemical weapons and develops programs aimed at effectively treating and ultimately eliminating chemical warfare materiel. For more information about CMA and its programs, visit www.cma.army.mil.