



DESERET CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILE | *End of Operations Ceremony*

"I think we have some heroes at Desert Chemical Depot, the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility and the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal Facility. You made Level A entries on a daily basis. You overcame countless equipment failures, you tackled the destruction of the deadliest substances known to man, and you did not falter. You did your duty."

Mr. John Nerger

*Executive Deputy to the Commanding General,
U.S. Army Materiel Command*



Mr. John Nerger, Executive Deputy to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command, at the Deseret Chemical Weapons Stockpile End of Operations Ceremony on April 26, 2012.

The Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) safely completed disposal of more than 1.1 million munitions and 13,617 tons of chemical agents on Jan. 21, 2012, marking the elimination of Deseret Chemical Depot's (DCD) chemical weapons stockpile in Tooele County, Utah. Many of the weapons, which accounted for approximately 44 percent of the Nation's stockpile, had been stored at the depot since 1942. The Deseret team commemorated their achievements in a ceremony on April 26 at DCD.

Elected officials, community stakeholders, business leaders, educators and others were joined by current and former employees. The overarching theme was, "Creating a safer tomorrow, today. Together we made a difference." Notable guests included Mr. Greg Ball, Utah's Lieutenant Governor; Mr. John Nerger, Executive Deputy to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command; Mr. Dale Ormond, Director, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for the Elimination of Chemical Weapons; Mr. Conrad Whyne, Program Executive Officer, U.S. Army Element Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives and Former Director of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA); Mr. Don Barclay, Acting Director, CMA; Col. Mark Pomeroy, Commander DCD; Mr. Ted Ryba, TOCDF Project Manager; and Mr. Gary McCloskey, General Manager URS Corp.

"What you have achieved here in Utah is nearly incomprehensible for two reasons: first, it is hard to wrap one's mind around the sheer numbers involved, and second, I truly believe that few people will ever grasp the amount of inspiration, perspiration, dedication and sacrifice it took to destroy DCD's stockpile while protecting yourselves, your communities and the country."

Mr. Don Barclay
Acting Director, CMA

Construction finished on the TOCDF—designed for the sole purpose of destroying the chemical weapons stockpile stored at DCD— in 1993. Construction was followed by a facility testing phase known as "systemization"—where treatment and disposal systems were tested to ensure safe operations—until 1996. In August 1996, the Army began disposing of these weapons using high-temperature incineration at the TOCDF. DCD employees safely made more than 24,000 chemical weapons deliveries to TOCDF where the munitions were destroyed.

The Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS), also located at DCD, was instrumental in providing the research and development work that resulted in the TOCDF. During its research, CAMDS destroyed more than 350,000 pounds of chemical agent, eliminating more than 39,000 agent-filled munitions. As a result of work at CAMDS, the Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System (JACADS), located 850 miles from Hawaii, was the full-scale prototype that proved out CAMDS' designs and developments, preparing the way for the TOCDF.

Team Deseret had an excellent safety record, working more than six years straight without a lost workday due to an injury. This equates to more than 14 million safe man-hours.

The current closure operations, including demolition of the TOCDF, are expected to be completed by mid-2014.

TOCDF is CMA's final site to complete disposal operations and enter closure. It joins the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Ore., Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Ark., and Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Ala., also currently in closure operations. Three former CMA's sites—Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Ind.; Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Md., and JACADS—have already closed.

CMA continues safely storing chemical weapons at Blue Grass, Ky., and Pueblo, Colo.



The last lewisite ton container was delivered to the Area 10 Liquid Incinerator (ATLIC) for destruction on Jan. 17, 2012. The ATLIC was built in Deseret Chemical Depot's Area 10 storage yard and destroyed the depot's small stockpile of GA nerve agent and lewisite blister agent while disposal operations simultaneously continued at the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility.