

CMA OVERVIEW

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Activity (CMA) supports compliance of the chemical weapons treaty, managed the Nation's now destroyed stockpile of chemical weapons, assesses and destroys chemical warfare materiel, and protects people and the environment. CMA safely stored and eliminated chemical weapons at seven stockpile sites, completing that mission in 2012. CMA accomplished its mission of safely storing the chemical stockpiles at Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colorado, which completed destruction operations June 22, 2023, and Blue Grass Army Depot, Kentucky, which completed destruction operations July 7, 2023.

CMA headquarters management team and scientific, communications and support staff are based at Aberdeen Proving Ground-South, Maryland. Dedicated managers and staff support the stockpile sites and assess and destroy recovered chemical warfare materiel at locations across the country.

Store



CMA provided safe, secure storage of chemical weapons stockpiles in Colorado and Kentucky. The chemical munitions at both sites were housed in designated storage areas and specially designed earth-covered magazines, commonly referred to as igloos. Thorough job training and certification of personnel supported safety operations at all times.

Protect



The Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) works closely with the communities around chemical weapon stockpiles in Kentucky and Colorado. Since the program began in 1988, state and local emergency management officials have teamed

with the Army and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to improve their ability to protect communities. This partnership has supported these communities by enhancing emergency plans and providing public information, equipment and warning systems.

Comply



On April 29, 1997, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, known as the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), entered into force. At that time, the United States and 86 other nations became the first countries to sign and ratify the CWC, with 193 nations ratified as of 2022. In doing so, participating nations agreed to destroy all their chemical weapons and former chemical weapons production facilities and to abide by prohibitions from development, use, production and acquisition of chemical weapons. CWC treaty officials monitor to ensure all the activities comply with treaty requirements.

Assess and Destroy



Recovered chemical warfare materiel (RCWM) includes items recovered from range-clearing operations, chemical weapons burial sites and other locations. Upon recovery, the U.S. Army CMA Recovered Chemical Materiel Directorate (RCMD) deploys specially trained personnel and mobile assessment and treatment systems to identify and treat RCWM using the best action determined. CMA RCMD provides centralized management and direction to the Department of Defense (DOD) for assessment and destruction of RCWM in a safe, environmentally compliant manner in support of the United States' obligation under the CWC.



CMA OVERVIEW (CONTINUED)**Stockpile Storage Sites****Blue Grass Army Depot, Kentucky**

Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) ensured the safe and secure storage of the chemical weapons stockpile, delivering munitions to the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant for destruction. The stockpile was contained on 250 acres on the Blue Grass Army Depot in central Kentucky. Stockpile destruction operations were completed on July 7, 2023. The chemical weapons at BGCA were received as far back as 1944; the majority of the nerve agent weapons arrived in the mid-60s. All weapons were stored securely in igloos. In addition to a 24/7 guard force, physical and electronic safeguards protected the BGCA stockpile.

Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colorado

Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD) is located on 23,000 acres near Pueblo, Colorado. PCD's stockpile, primarily of mustard-filled munitions, comprised 7% of the Nation's original chemical materiel stockpile. Stockpile destruction operations were completed on June 22, 2023. In operation since 1942, the depot ensured the safe, secure storage of the chemical weapons stockpile, and delivered munitions to the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant for destruction.



An operator holds an identification placard above chemical munitions set to be destroyed in the Explosive Destruction System, or EDS, in Pueblo.



Blue Grass Army Depot, Kentucky



Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colorado