

MONTHLY DIGEST

CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL NEWS DIGEST

Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

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ARMS CONTROL**ASEAN Regional Forum Mulls New Terrorism Defense Activities****July 22**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum is considering new initiatives aimed at helping member states work together to combat terrorism and other criminal activities, Kyodo News reported.

The group's members would organize tabletop drills and workshops and share technical expertise under the *ARF Work Plan for Counterterrorism and Transnational Crime*, a strategy paper that envoys at the ASEAN Regional Forum are expected to endorse in the last week of July.

The organization might eventually focus on countering chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear attacks, Kyodo reported.

"The future work of the (ARF on counterterrorism) must be practical, action-oriented and concrete," the paper states.

"While there are other important aspects of international counterterrorism cooperation, ARF should focus its own work on the areas where it could bring the most added value given its geographic focus, participation or past work," it adds.

The strategy calls on countries to step up their biological terrorism preparedness efforts and to better secure

materials, equipment and knowledge that could support the development of biological weapons.

"The dual-use ... nature of biological science, for both peaceful and nonpeaceful purposes must be addressed to both prevent bioterrorism and continue biological science development for peaceful purposes," the document states. "This will also build safe, secure and sustainable capacity to combat infectious diseases, thereby meshing international security and public health priorities."

The forum includes the 10 ASEAN member nations — Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam — as well as Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, China, East Timor, the European Union, India, Japan, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Russia, Sri Lanka, North Korea, South Korea and the United States.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20090722_5334.php

In This Issue

Russia destroyed its first ton of the warfare gas sarin at the chemical weapons destruction facility Maradykovsky in the Kirov region. The cabinet of Yemen approved in its meeting a draft law concerning works of the National Committee to Ban Chemical, Biological and Poisonous Arms. In addition, the various elements of a biodefense strategy are delineated.

Inspired from nature, a robot bat has been created which can be fitted with tiny cameras and other equipment to spy on enemy bases or sniff out biological weapons.

We welcome our reader's feedback.

Editor

DISARMAMENT

Russia destroys first ton of war gas sarin

29 July

KIROV, July 29 (Itar-Tass) - The first ton of the warfare gas sarin was destroyed at the chemical weapons destruction facility Maradykovsky in the Kirov region.

“The destruction of this substance, which is a nerve agent, was launched on July 27, and more than 1,100 kilograms of sarin has already been destroyed so far,” chief of the regional department for conventional problems Mikhail Manin told Itar-Tass on Wednesday.

According to him, sarin was destroyed in 26 warheads at 9 a.m. Moscow time on Wednesday, after that their hulls were decontaminated and exposed to thermal processing. “Now this metal scrap is not dangerous,” Manin said.

Manin also noted that inspectors of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, representatives from the working group of the Federal Agency for Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons and the regional ecological monitoring center are monitoring round-the-clock the sarin destruction process. “They have no claims to the operation of the technological complex and the observance of the safety rules,” Manin said.

The Maradykovsky chemical weapons destruction facility is planning to destroy 231 tons and 119 kilograms of sarin by the yearend. Some 4,833 aviation bombs and warheads of chemical missiles contain the foresaid war gas.

Maradykovsky is the third Russian complex, which had launched the full-scale destruction of chemical weapons since September 2006. Since 1953 the complex has stockpiled more than 40,000 aviation bombs and warheads of chemical missiles staffed with the mixture of nerve agents. Some 4546.7 tons of VX gases were destroyed at the end of 2008.

The Maradykovsky destruction facility is planning to launch the destruction of one more toxic agent – soman as of 2010. Russia will have destroyed the whole stock of toxic agents under Russia’s international liabilities and the federal program for the destruction of chemical weapons in Russia by 2012.

Source: <http://www.itar-tass.com/eng/level2.html?NewsID=14188752&PageNum=0>

Yemen bans chemical, biological arms

07 July

SANA’A, July 07 (Saba)- The cabinet of Yemen approved in its meeting a draft law concern works of the National Committee to Ban Chemical, Biological and Poisonous Arms.

The cabinet directed concern officials to complete necessary measures to issue the draft law, which was presented by Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The fifth item of the law defines main duties of the committee; monitoring and following up all affaires related to Yemen’s implementation of the international treaty for banning creation, production, store and use biological and poisonous weapons as well as destroying those arms issued 1979 and implementation of the international treaty to ban creation, production, storing and use chemical weapons and destroying them approved in law No 17 for 2000.

The committee also sponsors the state’s relations with concerned international agencies and the treaty’s member states. This includes revising in force legislations concerning the two treaties.

The committee is authorized to suggest draft legislations to banning trafficking and illegal use of chemicals, biological and poisonous substances as well as regulations and controls needed to organize process of importing, trafficking and use those substances ands other duties regarding the committee’s work.

Source: <http://www.sabanews.net/en/news188602.htm>

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

Obama’s meeting with Russia’s global arms merchant

July 29

One of the issues President Barack Hussein Obama made certain he avoided during his recent visit to Russia is Prime Minister Vladimir Putin’s propensity to act as arms merchant for nations ruled by despots and thugs.

As with prior liberal-left presidential administrations and many lawmakers in the US, there is more concern in the Obama Administration with how many weapons — conventional and nuclear — we have than with the threat posed by enemies of the United States, many of whom are being armed by Russia.

Just prior to the US-led invasion of Iraq, the Russian government continued to equip the Iraqi military, and a few days before the invasion, Russian military advisers maintained their presence in that renegade country.

Russia's cash-strapped defense, biotechnology, chemical, aerospace, and nuclear industries continue to be eager to raise funds via exports and transfers. Some Russian universities and scientific institutes also showed a willingness to earn much-needed funds by providing WMD or missile-related teaching and training for foreign students.

Russia continued to play a key role in constructing the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant project in Iran, while at the same time Prime Minister Vladimir Putin had insisted that all Iranian programs in the nuclear field be placed under International Atomic Energy Agency control.

Putin amended the presidential decree on nuclear exports to allow Russia in exceptional cases to export nuclear materials, technology, and equipment to countries that do not have full-scope IAEA safeguards. For example, Russia supplied India with material for its civilian nuclear program.

The Russians continue to supply a variety of ballistic missile-related goods and technical know-how to countries such as Iran, India, and China. Iran's earlier success in gaining technology and materials from Russia helped to accelerate its development of the Shahab-3 MRBM, and continuing Russian entity assistance has supported Iranian efforts to develop new missiles and increase Tehran's self-sufficiency in missile production.

The Russians also remain a key source of dual-use biotechnology equipment, chemicals and related expertise for countries of concern with active chemical and biological weapons programs. Russia's well-known biological and chemical expertise made it an attractive target for countries seeking assistance in areas with CBW (Chemical-Biological Weapons) applications.

For instance, Russia and Syria have continued their long-standing agreements on cooperation regarding nuclear energy, although specific assistance has not yet materialized. Broader access to foreign expertise provides opportunities to expand its indigenous capabilities and the CIA is looking at Syrian nuclear intentions with growing concern.

Damascus continued to seek help from abroad to establish a solid-propellant rocket motor development and production capability. Syria's liquid-propellant missile

program continued to depend on essential foreign equipment and assistance — primarily from North Korean entities. Damascus also continued to manufacture liquid-propellant Scud missiles. In addition, Syria is developing longer-range missile programs such as a Scud D and possibly other variants with assistance from North Korea and Iran.

Syria also continues to seek chemical weapons-related expertise from foreign sources and Damascus already possesses a stockpile of the nerve agent sarin, but apparently tried to develop more toxic and persistent nerve agents. Syria remains dependent on foreign sources for key elements of its CW program, including precursor chemicals and key production equipment. It is highly probable that Syria also continued to develop an offensive BW capability.

Syria reportedly continues to acquire limited quantities of CW, mainly from Russia. However, Damascus's Soviet-era debt to Moscow and inability to fund large purchases continues to hamper efforts to purchase the large quantity of equipment Syria requires to replace its aging weapons inventory.

Russia continues to be a major supplier of conventional arms, as well. Following Moscow's abrogation of the Gore-Chernomyrdin agreement in November 2000, Russian officials stated that they saw Iran as a significant source of potential revenue from arms sales and believed that Tehran could become Russia's third-largest conventional arms customer after China and India.

Russia was and is the primary source for China, Iran, Libya, and Sudan, and one of the largest sources for India. For example, Russia actively marketed its thermobaric weapons at international arms shows, which likely increases the availability of this type of weapon in the open market. Meanwhile, Russia continues to be the main supplier of technology and equipment to India's and China's naval nuclear propulsion programs.

Thermobaric weapons produce a prolonged pressure pulse that is far more destructive and lethal than standard explosives. There has been considerable concern about terrorists gaining thermobaric explosives because they can counter standard protection, such as armored vehicles (unless completely sealed) and body armor (which may amplify the blast effect). Even more disturbing is the fact that internal damage caused by thermobaric weapons are difficult for battlefield medicine to treat.

Both President Obama and his Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, continue to turn a blind eye to the mischief being

perpetrated by the Russians. While the previous President of the United States, George W. Bush, was just as guilty of ignoring the dangers posed by Russian arms merchandising, a continuation of such foolishness becomes more egregious with each passing day.

Sources: *US Department of State, US Department of Defense, Central Intelligence Agency*

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/x-2684-Law-Enforcement-Examiner~y2009m7d29-Obamas-meeting-with-Russias-global-arms-merchant>

Lessons learned from the anthrax letters *Bioattack countermeasures have dual use in disease vaccine research*

30 July, **Bob Graham and Jim Talent**

One year ago, Bruce E. Ivins, the purported perpetrator of the anthrax mailings of October 2001, died. Mr. Ivins was a senior biodefense researcher for the U.S. Army. Assuming the FBI is correct that Mr. Ivins acted alone in the production and distribution of the anthrax that infected 22, killed five and terrorized the nation, this is an appropriate time to review five important lessons from this incident.

1. Bioterrorism is not beyond the reach of non-state actors such as al Qaeda or lone-wolf domestic or international terrorists. Some have wrongly assumed that Mr. Ivins was capable of producing a weaponized version of a common animal disease only because he had access to sophisticated equipment at the Army lab. The equipment he supposedly used can be found in most state-of-the-art laboratories or purchased on various Web sites for considerably less than the cost of a used minivan, and it is available all over the world.
2. Deadly pathogens are widely accessible. Mr. Ivins' easy access to a deadly pathogen may have made it easier to obtain the starter culture, but virtually all potential bioterrorism pathogens exist in sick people, animals and in the environment all over the world. Isolating anthrax, plague, tularemia and other deadly pathogens may not be easy for an amateur, but doctors, scientists and lab technicians do this every day as they treat patients or conduct research in human and veterinary medicine.
3. It could have been much worse. If the perpetrator had selected a different method to disseminate the bioweapon — release of a small amount of anthrax

through the ventilation system in an airport, subway station or indoor sports arena — there would have been many more casualties. In addition, if he had spent a few weeks or months (not days) producing dry powder, the results would have been far more disastrous. Fortunately, according to authorities, he chose one of the least lethal scenarios — very small amounts of anthrax in a few envelopes.

4. Cleanup is an important part of biodefense. The one overlooked, underresearched and underfunded aspect of biodefense is environmental cleanup. More than \$300 million was spent cleaning buildings from just a fraction of a gram of anthrax spores that had seeped out of the letters. Without major improvements in remediation, a subway system would require billions to clean and likely would remain closed for months, if not years. Imagine New York or the District without a subway.
5. Preventing bioterrorism is far different from preventing nuclear terrorism. Preventing nuclear terrorism is actually quite simple — not easy, but simple. If we do not allow terrorists to obtain plutonium or highly enriched uranium, they will not be able to make a nuclear weapon. It is far beyond the technical and financial capabilities of any terrorist organization to enrich uranium or produce plutonium — such organizations can only buy it or steal it. Therefore, the appropriate strategy is to locate, lock down and eliminate loose nuclear materials with programs such as the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program and the Proliferation Security Initiative. Unfortunately, the same strategy does not work against the biothreat.

The proper biodefense strategy requires three elements. First, it must include continued support and investment in international treaties, such as the Biological Weapons Convention and U.N. Resolution 1540. Then it requires that U.S. labs are safe and secure and that personnel who work in them are trustworthy. However, as a recently released Defense Science Board report asserted, “A determined adversary cannot be prevented from obtaining very dangerous materials for nefarious purposes. The nation needs to recognize this reality and be prepared to mitigate the effects of a biological attack. Today, we as a nation are not prepared.”

Therefore, the third element in biodefense is to prevent an act of bioterrorism from becoming a bio-Hurricane Katrina. By developing the capability to produce vaccines

and therapeutics rapidly and less expensively, we can use technology to remove bioweapons from the category of weapons of mass destruction. That should be America's long-term goal for biodefense, but we can never reach it if we do not make the proper investments today.

Congress must provide sufficient funding for two of America's most important biodefense initiatives, both in the Department of Health and Human Services. One is the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, or BARDA, which develops an integrated, systematic approach to the development and purchase of the necessary vaccines, drugs, therapies and diagnostic tools for public-health medical emergencies. The other is Project BioShield, which funds medical countermeasures against biological, chemical, radiological and nuclear agents.

Both programs face serious funding challenges in Congress.

There are many priorities in the budget battle under way on Capitol Hill. However, congressional leaders must consider the lessons of anthrax as they make difficult choices. Furthermore, they must understand that these biodefense programs are "no-regret investments." Building defenses against man-made bioattacks will also provide protection against the most feared bioterrorist of all: Mother Nature, producer of H1N1, SARS and smallpox.

Former Sens. Bob Graham, Florida Democrat, and Jim Talent, Missouri Republican, are the chairman and vice chairman of the Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism.

Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/jul/30/lessons-learned-from-the-anthrax-letters/>

Flu is not the Biggest Danger it's the Vaccine

Farooq Hussain, (www.Daily.pk)

These are challenging times and we need to stay calm and think things through – not just panic and react. Fear, panic and emotional reaction got us into this mess and it is certainly not going to get us out of it.

We also need to realise – here, now – that we have long crossed the line into a fully-fledged fascist dictatorship. It has hidden itself to most people this far, but it is about to lift the veil.

It is no longer an option to do nothing or passively acquiesce to authority out of fear or apathy. Or, at least, it's not if we care about our freedoms and, most importantly, those of our children and grandchildren who will have to live almost their entire lives under a global jackboot of sheer, undiluted evil.

The word 'evil' is much overused and I don't say it lightly; but we are dealing with evil in the sense that the word is the reverse of 'live'. Those behind the conspiracy to cull the human population and turn the rest into little more than computer terminals are anti-life. They have no respect for it and no empathy with those who suffer the consequences of their actions, no matter how appalling.

I have been warning of what was coming for nearly 20 years and it is not 'coming' any more – it's here. No more excuses from anyone, please. We have to deal with it. We have to draw a line in the sand and say no more.

Never was this more important than with the conspiracy to force swine flu vaccination upon the global population. The swine flu virus was created in a laboratory to generate mass panic with the specific intention of forcing everyone to have the vaccine. Problem-Reaction-Solution. This 'natural' swine flu virus apparently contains genes from humans, birds and pigs from several continents.

If you concoct and release a virus and then implement a clearly long-planned mass vaccination programme, there can be only one sensible conclusion: swine flu is not the biggest danger here – it's the vaccine.

The scale and speed of the planned vaccination programme is insane given that the overwhelming majority of those who have contracted the virus have had very mild symptoms. Dr Peter Holden of the Rothschild-controlled British Medical Association said that although swine flu was not causing serious illness they were eager to start a mass vaccination campaign, beginning with 'priority groups'. This is not about public health and never was.

Those administering the vaccinations have no clue what is in them or their potential effect. They are just repeaters thinking what they are told to think and doing what they are told to do. Only those at the core of the conspiracy, and those who bother to research it, know what the game is.

The Austrian journalist, Jane Bürgermeister, has filed criminal charges with the FBI against the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations, Barack Obama, a Rockefeller, a Rothschild, and others, over a plot she uncovered to cull the population with a deadly swine flu vaccine.

She said that bird flu and swine flu have been developed in laboratories and released on the public with the aim of mass murder through vaccination. Her filed document is called *Bioterrorism Evidence*. She writes here about the United States, but what she says applies everywhere:

‘There is evidence that an international corporate criminal syndicate, which has annexed high government office at Federal and State level, is intent on carrying out a mass genocide against the people of the United States by using an artificial (genetic) flu pandemic virus and forced vaccine program to cause mass death and injury and depopulate America in order to transfer control of the United States to the United Nations and affiliated security forces (UN troops from countries such as China, Canada, the UK and Mexico).

There is proof many organisations – World Health Organisation, UN as well as vaccine companies such as Baxter and Novartis – are part of a single system under the control of a core criminal group, who give the strategic leadership, and who have also funded the development, manufacturing and release of artificial viruses in order to justify mass vaccinations with a bioweapon substance in order to eliminate the people of the USA, and so gain control of the assets, resources etc of North America.

Given this essential background, it was no surprise when I saw the list of names and organisations in the Journalist Jane Bürgermeister’s submission to the FBI:

‘Specifically, evidence is presented that Defendants President Barack Obama, President of the United States, David Nabarro, UN System Coordinator for Influenza, Margaret Chan, Director-General of World Health Organisation, Kathleen Sibelius, Secretary of Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Secretary Janet Napolitano, the Department of Homeland Security, David de Rothschild, banker, David Rockefeller, banker, George Soros, banker, and Alois Stoger, Austrian Health Minister, among others, are part of this international corporate crime syndicate which has, marching as one phalanx to carry out their plan of genocide, have developed, produced, stockpiled and used biological weapons to eliminate the population of the United States for financial and political gain.’

Bürgermeister says there is clear evidence that pharmaceutical companies and international government agencies are actively engaged in producing, developing, manufacturing and distributing biological agents classified as the most deadly bioweapons on earth.

She says the swine flu virus was created and released with help from the Rothschild/Rockefeller-controlled World Health Organisation – the very body which then said it was spreading so fast that a pandemic had to be declared.

The symptoms of ‘swine flu’ at present are pretty much the same as regular flu and it is easy to call everything ‘swine flu’ to increase the official numbers.

Jane Bürgermeister has filed bioterrorism charges against pharmaceutical giants like Novartis International AG, based in Basel, Switzerland, Baxter AG, based in Austria, and its parent company, Baxter International in Deerfield, Illinois. Guess who is providing much of the swine flu vaccine for mass inoculation – Baxter International and Novartis.

This is the same Baxter International that sent bird flu virus to European laboratories ‘by mistake’ earlier this year and it was mixed with a seasonal flu virus to create a much more dangerous strain.

‘Regulators at the European Medicines Agency said the fast-tracked procedure has involved clinical trials of a “mock-up” vaccine similar to the one that will be used for the biggest mass vaccination programme in generations. It will be introduced into the general population while regulators continue to carry out simultaneous clinical trials.’

There is no need for ‘trials’ at all, except for public consumption. They already know what is in it and its effect. The drug companies have even been given immunity from prosecution from death or injury from the vaccine in a document signed by Obama’s Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius.

Baxter International said it will be shipping swine flu vaccine worldwide by the end of July and the potential profits are fantastic; but this is not primarily about money.

It is about a long-planned mass-culling of the human population.

We are told that the drug companies and the World Health Organisation have been working at fever pitch to develop a vaccine for the ‘new’ swine flu strain known as H1N1, but ... wait for it ... Baxter International filed a patent for the H1N1 vaccine on August 28th 2008. [Click here to read ...](#)

Baxter Vaccine Patent Application US 2009/0060950 A1 says:

‘... In particular preferred embodiments the composition or vaccine comprises more than one antigen ... such as influenza A and influenza B in particular selected from one or more of the human H1N1, H2N2, H3N2, H5N1, H7N7, H1N2, H9N2, H7N2, H7N3, H10N7 subtypes, of the pig flu H1N1, H1N2, H3N1 and H3N2 subtypes, of the dog or horse flu H7N7, H3N8 subtypes or of the avian H5N1, H7N2, H1N7, H7N3, H13N6, H5N9, H11N6, H3N8, H9N2, H5N2, H4N8, H10N7, H2N2, H8N4, H14N5, H6N5, H12N5 subtypes.’

The patent was published in March 2009, a month before the virus was released in Mexico in April, but it was filed seven months before this ‘new strain’ was officially known about. It is the most blatant set-up you could ever see.

The patent includes the following ingredients and toxicity warning:

‘Suitable adjuvants can be selected from mineral gels, aluminium hydroxide, surface active substances, lysolecithin, pluronic polyols, polyanions or oil emulsions such as water in oil or oil in water, or a combination thereof. Of course, the selection of the adjuvant depends on the intended use. E.g. toxicity may depend on the destined subject organism and can vary from no toxicity to high toxicity.’

Another Big Pharma corporation involved is Novartis in Switzerland. Chief executive, Daniel Vasella, is a regular attendee of the secretive Bilderberg meetings that I have long exposed in my books. The Bilderberg Group, named in Jane Bürgermeister’s FBI submission, is the creation of the Rothschild dynasty and has been administered for decades by people like David Rockefeller and Henry Kissinger.

It answers to a Rothschild secret society in Britain called the Round Table. This was first headed by the Rothschild agent, Cecil Rhodes, who plundered southern Africa on the family’s behalf. Vasella attended the last Bilderberg meeting last May, just as the swine flu scare was being engineered, and bingo, his company comes up with the vaccine.

I am not saying that people will die in large numbers immediately. This is certainly possible, but it would hardly encourage others to continue to be inoculated. The effects may be immediate in some, probably medium or longer-term in most, to hide the true source of their problem. What we do know is that we are seeing a long-prepared

plan for mass vaccination by people who could not care less about the health of the population. That says everything about the real motivation, but only those in the shadows know what the effect is designed to be.

The excellent work of people like the American researcher and author, Patrick Jordan, have exposed the unfolding plan to kill vast numbers of people through engineered viruses and vaccines. He says that they have long perfected vaccines that switch off the human immune system and US troops have often been used as guinea pigs.

Patrick Jordan’s research uncovers a three-vaccine system that the Illuminati have developed. The first inoculation turns off white blood cells (the immune system); the second injects viruses; and the third switches the immune system on again.

In the middle period viruses are expanding around the body, but the person doesn’t feel sick because the immune system is not fighting them. When the immune system kicks in again it unleashes such an assault on the virus cocktail that it kills the body.

This is known as a cytokine storm when the immune system is so overwhelmed that it sends too many antibodies at the same time to infected areas of the body and the body kills itself.

It is also the case that the World Health Organisation has asked for live swine flu virus to be in the vaccine and it is quite possible that they will expand and maybe increase the strength of the virus through the vaccine. The WHO website says:

‘In view of the anticipated limited vaccine availability at global level and the potential need to protect against “drifted” strains of virus, SAGE recommended that promoting production and use of vaccines such as those that are formulated with oil-in-water adjuvants and live attenuated influenza vaccines was important.’

Jane Bürgermeister’s evidence has been supported by Wayne Madsen, a former US Naval Intelligence officer and now an investigative journalist. He said that a top United Nations scientist concluded that the H1N1 swine flu virus has certain transmission ‘vectors’ that suggest the new flu strain has been genetically-manufactured as a military biological warfare weapon. The UN expert believed that Ebola, HIV/AIDS, and the current A-H1N1 swine flu virus are all biological warfare agents. Madsen writes:

'Past swine flu outbreaks have been spread from pigs to humans, who then passed the flu on to other humans. However, with A-H1N1, there have been no reported infections of pigs. In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), A-H1N1 has gene segments from North American swine, bird and human flu strains and a segment from Eurasian swine flu.'

Wayne Madsen also says that his sources confirm that the Centers for Disease Control and the US army recovered the body of an Inuit woman who died in 1918 in Brevig Mission, Alaska, from an outbreak of Spanish flu that killed 100 million people worldwide in 18 months.

Madsen was told that genetic material from the corpse provided the basis for the development of the H5N1 avian, or 'bird flu', strain at the US Army Medical Institute of Infectious Diseases laboratory at Fort Detrick, Maryland. This lab was the origin of the anthrax attacks on US Congress and media targets shortly after September 11th in 2001.

Computer technology communicating with the chips has the potential to manipulate people mentally, emotionally and physically. This could be done en masse or individually through the chip's unique transmitter-receiver signal. Killing someone from a distance would be a synch.

I mention this because, as readers of my books will know, a CIA scientist told me in 1997 that microchips developed in the secret government-military research projects were even then small enough to be injected by hypodermic needles in vaccination programmes. With nanotechnology, no one would know.

The fake swine flu scare of 1976 was a trial-run for what is happening now. These events are planned way in advance and these sick people are extremely thorough in their preparations.

Now I am hearing that the virus could become more deadly in the same period and it could well be that they are planning to increase the numbers who die from swine flu to generate more panic and demands to be vaccinated.

We should not forget, however, that 'normal flu' kills hundreds of thousands of people a year worldwide. Have no doubt that large numbers of those people will now be officially designated as a death from swine flu, whether they are or not.

Most people will line up with their children like good little sheep. They will accept the blatant lies without question and the authorities will use those people to target

others who refuse. You will hear nonsense like 'You are putting my children at risk'.

In fact, it is the programmed people who stand in line who are putting all children at risk. The authorities will claim that those who decline are preventing 'herd immunity' when all they have done is withdraw from the herd mentality.

This is a time for like-minded people to come together in mutual support and to prepare a strategy of peaceful non-compliance. There is far more strength in numbers than doing this alone.

We must not succumb to compulsory vaccination, nor pressure from those who lack a mind of their own. If we concede our freedom to stop the state enforcing vaccination upon us and our children, what the hell freedom is left?

Source : <http://www.daily.pk/7471/flu-is-not-the-biggest-danger-its-the-vaccine/>

Trivial Pursuit

22 June, K P S Gill

After the Mumbai 26/11 attacks, there was unprecedented public outcry provoking the resignation of the Union home minister and the dismissal of

Maharashtra's chief minister. Many jumped to the conclusion that India would, finally, take effective action against terrorists and their state sponsors. An apparently inflexible diplomatic stance was adopted, demanding convincing Pakistani action against the 26/11 conspirators. The 'peace process' has since remained suspended. Pushed by western powers, Pakistan initiated reluctant steps against the Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) front holding some of its leaders in notional custody, and 'shutting down' a small proportion of its institutional assets. There is, however, little evidence that the organisation's operations have been undermined.

Further evidence of the trivialisation of 26/11 in Pakistan was provided by the Lahore high court's orders to release Hafiz Mohammad Saeed, head of the LeT/JuD. Islamabad promises to contest the court's order, but this is just part of an old charade. The man will be 'arrested' again, to be held in honourable custody, an entirely unconvincing case will be presented by the prosecution and the court will, again, order his release. Eventually, the international outcry will be sufficiently mild to make the release stick or the farce will simply go through another cycle.

Meanwhile, Pakistan tells the world that its slaughter of its own citizens in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA)/North West Frontier Province (NWFP) in indiscriminate aerial and artillery attacks purportedly ‘targeting’ the renegade Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan is sufficient proof of its ‘determination’ to fight ‘terrorism’. Islamabad insists the world is due to give it further instalments of augmenting aid for its efforts, and to support the deluge of refugees provoked essentially by the use of excessive force by its own army.

At the same time, establishment Islamists in Pakistan accuse India of being obstructive, arguing that the resumption of the peace process cannot be linked to the Mumbai carnage which was in any case “a very small event”, and that Pakistan has “suffered bigger incidents of terror”.

The world is fully entranced by this performance. The Obama administration has reverted to admonishing India to provide a ‘solution’ to the ‘Kashmir problem’ and do more to create ‘greater trust’, so that Pakistan can withdraw its forces from its eastern borders to focus more fully on bombing the brains out of the people of FATA and NWFP.

The trivialisation of 26/11 doesn’t end with Pakistan. In India, statements by top leaders suggest that New Delhi is simply waiting for minimal compliance to get back to the ‘peace process’. Vilasrao Deshmukh’s elevation to the Union cabinet demonstrates that 26/11 has faded into irrelevance. He was asked to relinquish his post after the 26/11 debacle and the disgraceful ‘terror tourism’ incident, when he took his actor son and another film personality around the devastated Taj Hotel.

The media and a gaggle of Page 3 personalities had pretended that 26/11 had made terrorism a core electoral issue. That little fable was set to rest by the low voter turnout in Mumbai at 43.3 per cent, a full percentage point below the 2004 elections. With Mumbai voters displaying such habitual ‘resilience’, there was obviously little political cost to rehabilitating Deshmukh.

For the chattering classes, terrorism is titillation, something to discuss breathlessly at parties. Few understand the sheer horror and dehumanisation that terrorists inflict; fewer still are aware of the tremendous capacities that are at risk of falling into the hands of the most unscrupulous enemy India could imagine.

This is the gravest risk of the trivialisation of 26/11: the trivialisation of the enveloping threats that confront India. At best, the political leadership focuses on the immediate threat, making some fitful provisions for augmented

security. The larger issue of growing disorders in the region, the spectre of a failing nuclear-armed Pakistan, the terrorists’ dogged pursuit of weapons of mass destruction all these are simply too large even to find place in the policymakers’ imagination. Pakistani defence analyst Pervez Hoodbhoy remarks, “Nuclear affairs are now being guided by wishful, delusional thinking. The most frightening delusion is India’s trivialisation of Pakistan’s nuclear capability.” There is an overwhelming proclivity to underplay this threat, or simply to assume, with little justification, that when push comes to shove the Americans will ‘neutralise’ Pakistan’s nuclear assets for us.

The tense equilibrium of mutually assured destruction cannot give us solace. Pakistan is too close and given to a calculus that does not coincide with our notions of rationality. Its nuclear arsenal is at risk, as state failure looms large. If sufficient nuclear materials were to pass into the hands of Islamist extremists to enable the fabrication even of a ‘dirty bomb’, we would be confronted with a catastrophe that would make our past history of terrorism seem trifling. But the threat of a nuclear catastrophe is dwarfed by the dangers of biological terrorism, which, experts agree, would kill far greater numbers.

In India, however, we continue to quibble over the incremental augmentation of forces and capacities to no more than ‘counter’ the ‘next 26/11’. The war against terrorism is a long war. But we remain abysmally unprepared.

Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/OPINION-Edit-Page-TOP-ARTICLE-Trivial-Pursuit/articleshow/4684072.cms>

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Flying robot bat developed for war zones

08 July



A new weapon to help armed forces in war zones is being developed - a flying robot bat.

A new weapon in the fight against terror has been developed for the army - a flying robot bat Photo: IMAGES INTERNATIONAL

The life-size “creature”, which weighs less than six grams and flaps just like a real bat, can be fitted with tiny cameras and other equipment to spy on enemy bases or sniff out biological weapons.

It was designed to overcome problems faced by existing “micro aerial vehicles” (MAVs) - scaled-down helicopters and planes which are inefficient and difficult to move around.

Scientists at North Carolina State University turned to nature for inspiration, and created a bat-style skeleton and muscle system from ultra-modern ‘smart’ materials.

Dr Stefan Seelecke, one of the researchers behind the \$10million project, said: “We have used a shape-memory metal alloy that is super-elastic for the joints. The material provides a full range of motion, but will always return to its original position - a function performed by many tiny bones, cartilage and tendons in real bats.

“The research team is also using smart materials for the muscular system. We’re using an alloy that responds to the heat from an electric current. That heat activates wires the size of a human hair, making them contract like metal muscles.

“During the contraction, the muscle wires also change their electric resistance, which can be measured to provide sensory input. This dual functionality helps cut down on the robo-bat’s weight and allows it to respond quickly to changing conditions such as a gust of wind.”

The bat is powered by a solar-powered battery and comes complete with a miniature radar, a self-guidance system and radio to send data back to troops in combat zones.

It is currently in the prototype stage and has yet to be rolled out for use on the front line.

Source: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/politics/defence/5777291/Flying-robot-bat-developed-for-war-zones.html>

Drug helps monkeys, rabbits survive anthrax -study

09 July, Julie Steenhuysen

CHICAGO, July 8 (Reuters) - An experimental antibody treatment helped rabbits and monkeys survive a deadly dose of anthrax bacteria and

proved safe in humans, too, researchers at Human Genome Sciences (HGSI.O: Quote, Profile, Research) said on Wednesday.

The treatment, ABthrax or raxibacumab, works by preventing toxins produced by anthrax bacteria from causing cell damage and death.

It is designed to work with antibiotics to improve the chances of survival in people infected with anthrax, a deadly bacteria that is a top choice as a biological weapon because it can be made into a fine, airborne powder.

“This adds an important new treatment to the arsenal of things we can use in treating anthrax,” Sally Bolmer, a company researcher whose study appears in the New England Journal of Medicine, said in a telephone interview.

Anthrax is a common disease of animals and people can catch it by inhaling the spores, getting them on the skin or ingesting them.

Quick treatment with antibiotics easily cures the infection but, by the time people develop symptoms, it is usually too late as the bacteria has pumped toxins into the body. ABthrax is designed to latch onto the toxins and disable them.

“This is a different mechanism of action than antibiotics, which have been the mainstay of treatment,” Bolmer said.

Bolmer said 44 percent of rabbits and 64 percent of monkeys that got a single shot of raxibacumab survived anthrax exposure that was 200 times the average lethal dose.

“That’s a very significant survival benefit. In other areas of medicine like cardiovascular disease, an improvement in mortality of 1 or 2 percent is considered medically important,” she said.

The company also tested the treatment in 300 healthy people who got single or double doses of raxibacumab and found it caused no serious side effects.

Bolmer said rare side effects such as headache, pain at the injection site and mild itching were about the same in people who got raxibacumab and in those who got a placebo treatment.

The company has already submitted the data to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

It is the first to seek approval under a new rule that allows drugmakers to submit effectiveness data from animal studies in infectious diseases that are difficult to study in humans.

Under the so-called animal rule, companies must show the treatment works in two animal species and must produce human studies showing it is safe.

Human Genome Sciences is developing the treatment under a 2006 contract with a special agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services called the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, which was formed to develop measures to counteract biological threats.

The company has already delivered 20,000 doses of ABthrax to the U.S. Strategic National Stockpile for emergency use in the event of an anthrax attack.

The Rockville, Maryland-based company began the research after attacks in 2001 in which anthrax-laced letters were sent to journalists and politicians, killing five people.

“A lot of passion went into this,” Bolmer said. (Editing by John O’Callaghan)

Source: <http://in.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idINN0840878920090708?sp=true>

Chemical weapons cleanup

08 July, Ned Stafford/Hamburg, Germany

Researchers have found a safe, speedy and environmentally friendly way to clean up chemical weapons such as sulfur mustard, using a hydrogen peroxide-based microemulsion decontamination system.

The UK-based research team used a number of different techniques to measure and analyse catalytic oxidative decontamination of sulfur mustard (HD, bis(2-chloroethyl) sulfide), a strictly controlled substance used in chemical warfare agents stretching back to the first world war.

One of the most practical ways to decontaminate these toxic substances is to oxidise the sulphur mustard to the sulfoxide with liquid decontaminants, but most suitable oxidants are water-soluble while sulphur mustard is water immiscible. This has been tackled in the past by using micellar or oil-in-water microemulsions, but still leaves the problem that most active liquid decontaminants are highly corrosive and not environmentally friendly.

Hydrogen peroxide solutions could provide an answer as they are stable, non-corrosive, atom efficient oxidants with low environmental impact - but uncatalysed

hydrogen peroxide reactions with organic sulfides are slow so would need a catalyst to become a viable option.

The team investigated catalysts that are oil soluble or surface active to tune selectivity and reaction rates, and achieved decontamination half-lives as fast as 18 seconds with dilute hydrogen peroxide as the oxidant.

SANS (small-angle neutron scattering), SAXS (small-angle X-ray scattering), PGSE-NMR (pulsed-gradient spin-echo NMR), fluorescence quenching, and electrospray mass spectroscopy (ESI-MS) were all employed to study the distribution of sulfur mustard, its simulants, and their oxidation/hydrolysis products in a model oil-in-water microemulsion.

Lead author Ian Fallis of Cardiff University, UK, explained the team’s approach: ‘We have used a range of modern techniques to directly measure, as opposed to merely speculating upon, where the catalysts and substrates reside within the microemulsion.’ Two of those methods, SANS and PGSE-NMR, are used in colloid chemistry, says Fallis, adding that using them to help interpret reaction rates was an ‘unusual approach.’

A prime goal of the research was to achieve high rates of selective catalytic decontamination, using a non-corrosive environmentally benign oxidant, says Fallis. One of the most effective HD oxidising systems is the basic hypochlorite (bleach)-based microemulsions, but it is now thought too corrosive and environmentally unacceptable for wide-scale use.

Microemulsions show huge potential as a ‘compartmentalised’ reaction media for decontamination, Fallis says. ‘The simultaneous presence of oil, interfacial and water regions give broad solubility for catalysts and substrates whilst the compartmentalised nature of the reaction medium offers new opportunities to precisely control rates or selectivity,’ he says, adding: ‘We show that selectivity in a reaction can be achieved by matching the loci of the catalysts and starting material - whilst mismatching those of the catalysts and product.’

He also notes that the team was able to selectively stop the oxidation at the intermediate sulfoxide level, which is of low toxicity, before it reached the sulfone levels, which is still toxic.

So-called mustard gas was first used effectively as a chemical weapon in first world war and although later banned by international treaties, continued to be used in some countries. Old weapons and stockpiles, however, were often not properly disposed of and still pose a risk. Many German shells containing sulphur mustard were

dumped into the Baltic Sea following the second world war for example, and need to be decontaminated to protect Baltic Sea fishermen.

Marc-Michael Blum, a Munich-based biochemist who works as a chemical decontamination consultant, says the research team's paper appears scientifically solid.

'I have to say that I am quite impressed by the toolkit used to tackle the problem,' says Blum. 'Although the

oxidative type of chemistry used is not new, the idea to exploit the different compartments of the emulsion - water and oil - is an interesting approach. Also it is important that it was demonstrated that oxidation could, in fact, be stopped at the sulfoxide level and stopped from proceeding to the sulfone, which is toxic again.

Source: <http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/News/2009/July/08070902.asp>

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