



Advisory #9

December 10, 2008

## Operation *Swift Solution* - Weekly Progress Update

**WHAT:** Operation *Swift Solution* is the Army initiative that started operations on Nov. 12 to destroy the contents of three steel containers commonly referred to as "ton containers," holding a corrosive mixture of the nerve agent GB and its breakdown products. This weekly progress advisory will be provided to stakeholders through the duration of the project.

**WHO:** Army teams including members from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, the Blue Grass Chemical Activity, the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) and Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) are involved in the destruction effort, with cooperation and oversight from local and state government agencies, and daily oversight from the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection.

**WHERE:** BGAD, Richmond, Ky.

**WHY:** One of the containers has leaked in the past and the others are showing signs of corrosion. Operation *Swift Solution* will safely eliminate all risks associated with the long-term storage of the steel containers and their contents.

**PROJECT UPDATE:** The third and last container, which is the container that originally leaked in August 2007, has been successfully transported from the storage igloo to the operations structure housing the Chemical Agent Transfer System, known as the CHATS. Neutralization operations are currently under way on the contents of the last container. To date, the team has successfully neutralized more than 84 gallons of the nerve agent mixture, totaling about 55 percent of the amount of the mixture estimated in the containers.

Liquid waste generated from the neutralization process of the first two containers has successfully passed regulatory requirements and has been transferred to shipping containers known as "eurotainers," located on site.

Please visit [www.pmacwa.army.mil/ky/swift\\_solution.htm](http://www.pmacwa.army.mil/ky/swift_solution.htm) for previous advisories and additional information.

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**A PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION****FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Contact the U.S. Army Element, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives  
Public Affairs Office at (410) 436-3398 or visit [www.pmacwa.army.mil](http://www.pmacwa.army.mil).

