



Advisory #17

Feb. 11, 2009

## Operation *Swift Solution* - Weekly Progress Update

**WHAT:** Operation *Swift Solution* is the Army initiative that started operations on Nov. 12, 2008 to destroy the contents of three steel containers commonly referred to as "ton containers," that held a corrosive mixture of the nerve agent GB and its breakdown products. This weekly progress advisory will be provided to stakeholders throughout the duration of the project.

**WHO:** Army teams including members from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, the Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA), the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD), the Chemical Materials Agency and the U.S. Army Element, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives 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 (KDEP).

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

**WHY:** One of the containers leaked in the past and the others showed 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:** Following a temporary halt of the *Swift Solution* mission, the Army team resumed Phase 3 operations on Feb. 9. This final phase includes treatment and packaging of all solid and liquid waste generated during several years of various maintenance operations of the steel containers and during current disposal operations. After treatment, the team will then monitor the waste to ensure that the treatment goal has been met. All generated waste will be packaged and shipped to a permitted commercial treatment facility.

After completion of Phase 3, the operations team will shut down the equipment and facilities, with concurrence with KDEP. The temporary structures and equipment will then be shipped back to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

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.

###

Program Manager Assembled  
Chemical Weapons Alternatives**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).