



Advisory #26

April 15, 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 (ECBC), the Blue Grass Chemical Activity, 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: ECBC, the Army team responsible for safely destroying the nerve agent mixture and its breakdown products, returned to the depot on April 13 for site demobilization, which should take about a week. This involves removing and crating equipment, preparing the site trailers for travel, disassembling and packing the structures, and removing all of the materials from the site to a holding area on the depot in preparation for return transport to Maryland.

Once all of the material is removed from the site, KDEP will verify clean closure and the Operation *Swift Solution* mission will be complete.

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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.