



Advisory #27

April 22, 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, completed Operation *Swift Solution* site demobilization last week. All of the mission equipment and structures, previously decontaminated and cleaned as part of the closure phase, were disassembled, packed and loaded onto trucks for transport to Maryland.

Now that the *Swift Solution* site has been cleared of all mission facilities and equipment, KDEP will begin its closure certification process. This includes finalization of mission documents, a site inspection and ultimately the generation of a "clean closure" letter to BGAD, the permit holder.

This will be the last Operation *Swift Solution* Weekly Progress Update.

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**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).

