



### CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

#### as of October 20 2010:

- Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.:** Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) continues to safely process 4.2-inch mustard-filled mortars. ANCDF has emptied 123 storage igloos, reducing Anniston Chemical Activity's stockpile by 87 percent. Overall, ANCDF has safely processed more than 402,200 gallons of chemical nerve agent and mustard blister agent, as well as more than 577,600 chemical munitions.
- Blue Grass Chemical Activity, Ky.:** Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) continues the safe storage of 523 tons of chemical weapons. BGCA is storing the remaining U.S. inventory of M55 rockets that contain nerve agents GB and VX. BGCA is also storing projectiles with mustard agent H and nerve agents GB and VX. Construction of the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) is progressing and demilitarization operations are expected to begin in 2018. BGCAPP will use neutralization followed by supercritical water oxidation to destroy the chemical material. BGCA will continue to provide maximum protection to the community until demilitarization is complete.
- Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah:** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) continues to safely process mustard agent-filled ton containers (TCs). Currently, TOCDF has successfully destroyed 5,463 mustard agent-filled TCs, 54,453 mustard agent-filled 155 mm projectiles and 63,274 4.2-inch mortars. Overall, TOCDF has processed more than 86 percent of the Deseret Chemical Depot's mustard agent stockpile, and nearly 94 percent of the original agent tonnage.
- Pine Bluff Chemical Activity, Ark.:** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) has safely destroyed 3,605 mustard agent-filled TCs containing 22,493 pounds of mustard agent. The PBCDF project has processed 62,581 pounds of blister agent and the mustard agent-filled TC campaign is nearly 97 percent complete.
- Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colo.:** Pueblo Chemical Depot stores mustard-filled munitions, 105 mm projectiles and cartridges, 155 mm projectiles and 4.2-inch mortar cartridges. Current operations include leaker isolation operations and the installation of filters on all storage igloo doors and stacks within the Chemical Limited Area.
- Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.:** Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) has safely eliminated 917 TCs of mustard agent and has destroyed 58 percent of their original chemical agent stockpile. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality approved UMCDF's Temporary Authorization Request (TAR) to install a Rinsate Feed Collection System. Approval of the TAR keeps UMCDF on schedule to have the system ready for operations early next year, pending a state decision of UMCDF's rinsate permit modification request. If approved, the system could cut several months off the mustard campaign by pumping rinsate from donor TCs to the liquid incinerators, greatly reducing the number of recipient TCs that must be fed through the Metal Parts Furnace.

### CMA Holds Annual Achievement Open House



CMA Director Conrad Whyne speaks to employees at the Annual Achievement Open House on Oct. 28, 2010.

On Thursday, Oct. 28, the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) held an open house to recognize achievements made throughout the past fiscal year. Held at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility at Aberdeen Proving Ground – Edgewood Area, Md. – the event was attended by more than 100 current and former CMA employees and stakeholders, including former CMA Directors BG (R) David Nydam and Mr. Dale Ormond and former Technical Director of Chemical Demilitarization, Mr. Charles Baronian.

The open house highlighted CMA's achievements from 2010, but also allowed past and present employees to gather and discuss lessons learned and goals for the organization's path forward.

CMA Director Conrad Whyne, emcee for the event, welcomed everyone saying, "I would like to thank everyone for taking time out of their busy schedules to be here today. I know you have busy schedules because you are doing all the hard work that makes this a successful organization. 2010 has been a year of great accomplishments." He then introduced a video highlighting 2010 achievements.

The video featured key achievements during 2010, including outstanding safety achievements, 75 percent

stockpile destruction completion, Newport Chemical Depot deactivation and handover to the Department of the Army, Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project's (NSCMP) treaty obligation success, transition offices opening, and successful chemical surety inspections. The video included interviews with the Director of Stockpile Operations, Col. John J. Megnia; the project manager for NSCMP, Mr. Laurence Gottschalk; Lead Human Capitol Advisor Ms. Kim Krauer; project manager for Chemical Stockpile Elimination, Col. Robert Billington; and Mr. Whyne.

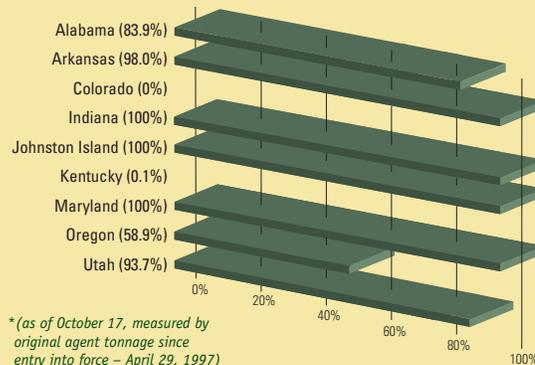
"During FY 2010 we set a new record for destruction of chemical agent – over 4,000 tons," Whyne continued.

CMA collaborated with many agencies and contractors to safely and efficiently destroy the stockpile while protecting the work force, public and the environment.

The highlights from the past year show CMA's dedication to a common goal of destroying the nation's chemical agent stockpile and providing safe storage at all our facilities to include Blue Grass, Ky., and Pueblo, Colo.

The video of 2010 achievements can be found at CMA's public website, [www.cma.army.mil](http://www.cma.army.mil)

### CMA - U.S. CHEMICAL AGENT STOCKPILE DESTROYED



**80.1%**  
of U.S. Chemical Agent  
stockpile destroyed\*

\* (as of October 17, measured by original agent tonnage since entry into force – April 29, 1997)



## NSCMP Completes Assessment Operations in Australia

The Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP) has extended its expertise to other countries.

This summer the Australian government requested assistance from the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) NSCMP for the assessment of 144 recovered U.S. munitions in the town of Columboola, located within the state of Queensland.

On Oct. 3, 2010, the successful repackaging and non-intrusive assessment of the rounds was completed. The operation required three steps to safely assess the munitions. Operators first packaged the munitions inside of propellant charge containers (PCC) for safe handling and storage. Next, using NSCMP's Digital Radiography and Computed Tomography System (DRCT), operators X-rayed each munition inside the PCC to determine the presence of explosives, fuze configuration, and liquid fill. Finally, operators used the Portable Isotopic Neutron Spectroscopy (PINS) to identify the contents by using neutron particles to produce a unique energy spectrum emitted by chemicals inside the munition.

Using the DRCT and PINS technologies, NSCMP operators have assessed and identified thousands of suspect chemical munitions around the world. This latest assessment accomplishment reflects highly upon CMA and its supporting



*As a kangaroo observes from a safe distance at left, an operator prepares a chemical-filled munition for packaging in Columboola, Australia.*

agencies, which include the 20<sup>th</sup> Support Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High Yield Explosives), CBRNE Analytical Remediation Activity and the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center.

## Umatilla Chemical Depot Helps the Tribal Native Plant Nursery

The Umatilla Chemical Depot is helping the Tribal Native Plant Nursery near Pendleton, Ore. preserve and restore plants native to the shrub-steppe areas in northeast Oregon, including land on the depot scorched by a wildfire last summer.

Ruth Whittaker, manager of the nursery located on the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), visited the depot recently with two nursery employees to "harvest" bitterbrush seeds that will be germinated at the nursery and then planted in areas earmarked for restoration. Last summer fire swept across hundreds of acres at the depot burning so hot in some areas, thanks to the oils in the bitterbrush bushes, that it sterilized the ground, prohibiting re-growth, Whittaker explained. CTUIR wants to give nature a hand with the recovery process.

The nursery's website – [www.tribalnativeplants.com](http://www.tribalnativeplants.com) – prominently displays this credo: "We embrace the challenge of propagating native plants." The website also notes that they support the resurrection of healthy anadromous fish runs and clean wild waterways.

Bitterbrush, also known as Antelope Bitterbrush, is a yellow-flowering, many-branched shrub with a rounded crown, usually growing two to six feet tall. It is popular with cattle, sheep, deer and antelope.

The bitterbrush seed harvest entailed holding plastic sheets under and around bushes ready to lose their seeds, then gently shaking the limbs to encourage the collection. It didn't take long for the group, with the support of a couple depot employees, to collect in excess of 100,000 seeds, according to Whittaker's estimate.

The restoration effort on the depot is particularly important because the 20,000 acres include some of the best shrub-steppe land in the northwest. When the Army completes its mission of destroying the chemical munitions stored there, on pace for sometime in 2012, the land will revert back to DA and potential public use. The CTUIR is eager to see a healthy chunk of that shrub-steppe protected in the process.

## Deep Fried Turkey Safety

At the end of this month, turkey will be on the menu for many households. There are dozens of ways to prepare a turkey (*not to mention all those leftovers*) – but deep frying has become increasingly popular. While deep frying results in a decadently rich turkey, the process can be very dangerous. It is important to always deep fry a turkey outdoors and away from buildings and flammable materials. Follow these safety tips to ensure a safe and delicious Thanksgiving dinner:

- Never use fryers on wooden decks or in enclosed spaces like garages.
- Keep children and pets away from the deep fryer at all times.
- Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby. Do not use water to put out a grease fire.
- Do not overfill the fryer; always place the fryer on a flat surface to avoid spillover.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed before frying. Extra water from ice or marinades can cause splattering or even spill over.
- Do not leave the fryer unattended while in use.



*If you decide to use a deep fryer to cook your turkey this Thanksgiving, please remember to take the proper precautions to ensure your safety.*

## DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT



Since June, when the concrete foundation for the Process Containment Base was poured, construction of the Area Ten Liquid Incinerator (ATLIC) and its various support facilities has made significant progress. Several key components are already in place, including the furnace, the Electrical Equipment Enclosure, the Environmental Control System, the collection and storage tanks and the glove boxes which will be used to drain and decontaminate the ton containers. The ATLIC is located within Deseret Chemical Depot's (DCD) Area Ten storage yard and will be used to destroy DCD's small stockpile of GA nerve and Lewisite blister agents.