



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 December 2010 – 10 January 2011

**DTRA**

## CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

### **Plant to Destroy Old Chemical Weapons Rises in Kentucky**

*Lexington Herald-Leader, 27 December 2010, <http://www.kentucky.com>*

Slowly but surely, the pilot plant that will destroy 523 tons of chemical agent in Madison County continues to take shape. (415 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **ANCDF Munitions Disposal Operations Pause for Changeover**

*Chemical Materials Agency, 06 January 2011, <http://www.cma.army.mil/>*

The Anniston Chemical Disposal Facility (ANCDF) concluded its mustard-filled mortar disposal campaign yesterday. (376 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Now Operating At Full Capability**

*Chemical Materials Agency, 10 January 2011, <http://www.cma.army.mil/>*

The Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility received approval from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to increase the destruction of chemical mustard agent from a 75 percent processing rate to 100 percent, effective today. (230 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

## FISSILE MATERIALS

### **NNSA Achieves Milestone in Removal of HEU from Ukraine**

*NNSA, 31 December 2010, <http://nnsa.energy.gov>*

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) today announced the removal of 50 kilograms (111 pounds) of highly enriched uranium (HEU) fresh fuel from three sites in Ukraine. (544 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

## NEW STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (NEW START)

### **Arms Treaty Would Not Affect Nuke Plans, Russia Says**

*Global Security Newswire, 04 January 2011, <http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/>*

A new U.S.-Russian nuclear arms control treaty would not alter Moscow's plans for updating its nuclear deterrent, Interfax yesterday quoted a spokesman for Russia's strategic missile forces as saying. (304 words) [Click here for full text.](#)



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**DTRA**

## **NEW STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (NEW START)(CONT.)**

### **Russian Parliament Drafts Five Amendments to New Arms Pact**

*RIA Novosti, 06 January 2011, <http://en.rian.ru>*

The lower house of the Russian parliament has prepared five amendments and two draft statements on a new strategic arms reduction treaty with the United States, a senior lawmaker said on Thursday. (204 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Senior Russian MP Says New START Better for Russia than United States**

*RIA Novosti, 07 January 2011, <http://en.rian.ru>*

The New START agreement with the United States on strategic nuclear arms cuts favors Russia more than the now-expired START 1 deal did, a top Russian lawmaker said on Friday. (326 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Russian Nuclear Treaty Ratification Expected this Month**

*Global Security Newswire, 10 January 2011, <http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/>*

A senior Russian lawmaker last week said his nation appeared set in January to ratify a new nuclear arms control treaty with the United States, Agence France-Presse reported. (549 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

## **TREATY ON OPEN SKIES**

### **Robins AFB Hosts Open Skies Treaty Exercise**

*Targeted News Service, 07 January 2011, accessed via Lexis Nexis*

In late December, the base played host to an exercise for the Open Skies Treaty. To promote trust, the treaty allows signatory nations to, upon request, fly over and photograph each other's military installations. (204 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

## **FULL TEXT OF BI-WEEKLY ARTICLES FOLLOWS:**

 [back to top](#)

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*Lexington Herald-Leader*, 27 December 2010, <http://www.kentucky.com>

Slowly but surely, the pilot plant that will destroy 523 tons of chemical agent in Madison County continues to take shape.

Site construction is more than 25 percent complete at Blue Grass Army Depot south of Richmond, but the plant won't be finished until 2016. The reinforced concrete walls are more than 2 feet thick and 60 feet tall in some places, and the foundations are nearly 4 feet thick in some spots – all to withstand any explosion of the rockets and projectiles scheduled for destruction starting in 2018.

"That's not something that goes up very quickly," site project manager Jeff Brubaker said during a tour in early December. Once the structural steel and concrete is finished, mechanical piping and electrical lines must be installed.

"With all the instrumentation and controls, we're going to be installing about 7 million linear feet of wire and cable," Brubaker said. "That, in and of itself, is going to take between about 2½ and 3 years to complete. It is on par with a large chemical-processing or nuclear facility."

During 2010, the last of the plant's design packages were completed; the foundation for the munitions demilitarization building – the 90,000-square-foot space where the munitions will be taken apart, the agent drained, and the explosives removed and neutralized – was finished; and six of the seven blast-containment walls were erected, with the seventh to be up by the end of the year.

Craig Williams, executive director of the Chemical Weapons Working Group, the Berea-based group that monitors weapons destruction, said 2010 was a year "of a tremendous amount of progress." "I can tell you that they're making excellent progress on the main facility," Williams said.

Looking ahead, the coming year will see continued installation of structural steel. The foundation will be completed for the place designated for supercritical water oxidation, the process that will neutralize the liquid waste stream.

2011 might be the year a decision is made on whether to explode mustard rounds inside containment vessels. That's under consideration because some solidified residue inside the rounds could complicate removal of the mustard agent and could pose a greater risk to worker safety.

 [back to top](#)

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No decision to explode the mustard rounds would be made until an X-ray assessment of a sample 96 non-leaking rounds and another 79 projectiles that had previously leaked. The movement of the non-leaking rounds into an igloo could take place in February and March, and the assessment would be conducted from May through July, according to a tentative schedule.

 [back to top](#)

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## ANCDF Munitions Disposal Operations Pause for Changeover

Chemical Materials Agency, 06 January 2011, <http://www.cma.army.mil/>

The Anniston Chemical Disposal Facility (ANCDF) concluded its mustard-filled mortar disposal campaign yesterday. With the end of the mortar campaign comes a two-three week pause in disposal operations as the work force methodically conducts a series of changeover activities to prepare to demilitarize Anniston's stockpile of mustard-filled 155mm projectiles.

Managers point out a relatively small number of mortars will not be processed in the ANCDF. The leftover mortars, which cannot be readily processed by the automated equipment in the ANCDF, are scheduled to be disposed of at the Static Detonation Chamber. The SDC was purchased, delivered, and assembled last year. It is being tested according to Alabama environmental permit requirements prior to it being put into service to handle Anniston's leftover mustard munitions. Changeover activities two years ago came after the last nerve agent-filled munitions were processed on Christmas Eve 2008. With the ANCDF properly set and the work force trained and prepared, the first 32 mustard agent-filled 4.2-inch mortars were demilitarized on July 6, 2009.

Since then, more than 258,300 mortars have been safely processed within the ANCDF. Less than 14 percent of Anniston's mustard agent stockpile remains to be demilitarized. The next disposal campaign at the ANCDF is expected to begin later this month. Demilitarization operations will resume when the changeover activities have been completed and Anniston Chemical Activity (ANCA) employees have delivered the first 155mm projectiles. Each 155mm artillery shell weighs approximately 100 pounds and contains about seven quarts of mustard agent.

Besides 155mm projectiles, the Anniston chemical munitions stockpile still includes 105mm projectiles and large ton containers, which hold approximately 170 gallons of mustard agent. Based upon current processing rates, Anniston managers believe the local chemical munitions stockpile will be completely demilitarized by this summer.

"Since August of 2003," Timothy K. Garrett, ANCDF government site project manager, said, "our professional and well-trained team has safely reduced the Anniston stockpile by almost 94 percent. I am confident we will be just as safe down the home stretch."

Safe demilitarization of the Anniston chemical munitions stockpile began in August 2003. During the past seven and a half years, ANCDF operators demilitarized all 361,802 nerve agent munitions and 258,300 mustard agent munitions. To date, 93.7 percent of the munitions have been eliminated from Anniston's stockpile.

 [back to top](#)

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The Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility received approval from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to increase the destruction of chemical mustard agent from a 75 percent processing rate to 100 percent, effective today.

“We have completed the required steps to safely ramp up the destruction of the remaining chemical mustard agent stored at the Umatilla Chemical Depot,” said Gary Anderson, U.S. Army site project manager at the UMCDF. “With this increase in processing we anticipate destruction of the last of the remaining 1,200 tons of chemical agent within a year.”

The UMCDF began destroying mustard in June 2009. Umatilla had a stockpile of 2,339 tons of mustard agent in large steel containers with no explosives, allowing larger volumes of agent to be processed on a daily basis through the facility’s two liquid incinerators.

“We appreciate the opportunity to increase our processing rate to the level we demonstrated in the agent trial burn and look forward to safely and compliantly completing our mission of destroying the rest of the mustard agent,” said Steve Warren, Project General Manager for URS, the company that build and operates the demilitarization plant.

UMCDF has completed more than 7.7 million man-hours without a lost-time injury.

The United States is a party to the Chemical Weapons Convention, a treaty signed by 178 countries that calls for the destruction of all chemical agents by April 29, 2012.

 [back to top](#)

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NNSA, 31 December 2010, [nnsa.energy.gov](http://nnsa.energy.gov)

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) today announced the removal of 50 kilograms (111 pounds) of highly enriched uranium (HEU) fresh fuel from three sites in Ukraine. The shipments were completed in a joint effort with counterparts in Ukraine and are an important step in implementing President Yanukovich's commitment at the April 2010 Nuclear Security Summit to remove all of Ukraine's HEU by 2012, with a substantial portion removed by the end of this year.

"The removal of this highly enriched uranium from Ukraine is a major milestone that brings us one step closer to achieving President Obama's goal of securing all nuclear material around the world within four years," said NNSA Administrator Thomas D'Agostino. "At the Nuclear Security Summit in April, world leaders pledged to take action and make nuclear security a global effort. Ukraine's contributions are a key part of that effort. These shipments were completed in close partnership with Ukraine, which has demonstrated leadership in the global effort to secure and consolidate highly enriched uranium to prevent it from falling into the wrong hands."

Through its Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI), NNSA worked closely with Ukrainian authorities, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom to complete this very complicated operation. It required five flights of uranium during the last half of December.

Prior to removing the HEU, NNSA completed two air shipments of low enriched uranium (LEU) to replace the HEU located at the Kiev Institute for Nuclear Research and the Kharkiv Institute for Physics and Technology. The remaining three flights removed fresh HEU from the facilities in Kiev and Kharkiv as well as the Sevastopol National University of Nuclear Industry and Energy.

In addition to replacing the HEU that was returned to Russia with LEU that cannot be used for nuclear weapons, NNSA also provided the Ukrainians with new safety equipment and agreed to work with Ukraine and Russia to build a state-of-the-art neutron source facility at the Kharkiv Institute. The fresh HEU removed from Ukraine was transported by plane in specially-designed casks to Russia for secure storage and disposition. In addition to these shipments, NNSA and Ukrainian authorities successfully removed 56 kilograms of Russian-origin HEU spent fuel in May 2010. That material was transported to Russia by train for secure storage and disposition. Joint efforts are underway to remove all remaining HEU from Ukraine before the next Nuclear Security Summit in 2012.

 [back to top](#)

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Ukraine has a long and significant history in supporting nuclear nonproliferation. In the early 1990s, following the breakup of the Soviet Union, Ukraine voluntarily gave up the nuclear weapons left on its territory and joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear weapon state. More recently, Ukraine was one of the first nations to join the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.

In a speech in Prague in April 2009, President Obama called for an international effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear material around the world within four years. Shipments like these recently completed from Ukraine result in permanent threat reduction because they eliminate weapons-usable nuclear material at civilian sites. With the successful completion of these shipments, NNSA has now removed or assisted with the disposition of 3,085 kilograms of HEU and plutonium – enough material to make more than 120 nuclear weapons.

 [back to top](#)

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## Arms Treaty Would Not Affect Nuke Plans, Russia Says

*Global Security Newswire*, 04 January 2011, <http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/>

A new U.S.-Russian nuclear arms control treaty would not alter Moscow's plans for updating its nuclear deterrent, Interfax yesterday quoted a spokesman for Russia's strategic missile forces as saying.

"The New START does not ban the modernization or replacement of strategic offensive armaments, including the development of new types of arms for the strategic [missile] forces," Col. Vadim Koval said.

President Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev signed New START last April. The pact would require Russia and the United States to each cap their deployed strategic nuclear warheads at 1,550, down from a limit of 2,200 required by 2012 under an earlier treaty. It also would set a ceiling of 700 deployed warhead delivery systems, with another 100 allowed in reserve.

The U.S. Senate voted on December 22 to ratify the treaty, and the Russian Duma two days later completed the first of three votes required for the pact's endorsement by Moscow.

Russia would meet its nuclear modernization goals within the pact's limitations on warhead deployments, Koval said.

"The grouping of the forces is being reduced through the decommissioning of ICBMs with an expired service life and the reduction to the minimum of the existing missile systems. The grouping is being modernized through the adoption of missile regiments equipped with new missile systems," he said.

Russia's draft defense plan for the next decade "implies the rearmament of strategic nuclear forces," Koval quoted Russian Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov as saying.

"The plan is that the strategic nuclear forces would be 70 percent armed with modern types of weapons. In the strategic rocket forces – the most combat capable component of the nuclear deterrence force – their share will exceed 90 percent," the spokesman said.

Russia's nuclear forces would meet the standards of the new treaty within seven years of the pact entering into force, he said.

 [back to top](#)

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## Russian Parliament Drafts Five Amendments to New Arms Pact

RIA Novosti, 06 January 2011, <http://en.rian.ru>

The lower house of the Russian parliament has prepared five amendments and two draft statements on a new strategic arms reduction treaty with the United States, a senior lawmaker said on Thursday.

Konstantin Kosachyov, head of the State Duma International Affairs Committee, said the amendments set conditions for the treaty's ratification, specify the prerogatives of Russia's executive and legislative branches of government and spell out conditions that could compel Russia to withdraw from the treaty. He did not elaborate.

The amendments also provide for further negotiations on other types of weapons.

They will be submitted for the second reading of the bill, which could take place in mid-January, he said.

The United States Senate [voted to ratify] the new arms deal with Russia on December 22. The agreement will come into force after ratification by both houses of the Russian parliament.

The Duma approved the agreement in its first reading on December 24.

The new treaty replacing the START 1 that expired in December 2009 was signed in Prague in April by Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and U.S. President Barack Obama. The document slashes the Russian and U.S. nuclear arsenals to a maximum of 1,550 nuclear warheads, down from the current ceiling of 2,200.

 [back to top](#)

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## Senior Russian MP Says New START Better for Russia than United States

RIA Novosti, 07 January 2011, <http://en.rian.ru>

The New START agreement with the United States on strategic nuclear arms cuts favors Russia more than the now-expired START 1 deal did, a top Russian lawmaker said on Friday.

Konstantin Kosachyov, the chairman of the State Duma's International Affairs Committee, called the fact of the agreement a breakthrough, and said the U.S. Senate's [vote in favor of] ratification of the treaty had not changed anything within the document.

"Russia is once again perceived as an equal partner with whom you can and should negotiate," he said on Ekho Moskvyy radio. "This is, to emphasize once again, a breakthrough, not a compromise."

"Everything else laid out in the agreement in fact represents very substantial progress, I would say in ours and not in the Americans' favor compared with the 1991 START 1 treaty that just recently passed into history," he added.

He said that the Duma, parliament's lower house, would likely consider the ratification bill on second reading on January 14. The third and final reading, he added, would probably wait until after the upper house Federation Council returned to full session on January 26.

Kosachyov said the Duma bill would state where its interpretation of New START differed from the U.S. Senate's, but he stressed that U.S. senators had done nothing to change the text of the treaty and neither would Russian lawmakers.

"In December, a number of amendments were voted on there [in the Senate] that went to the text of the treaty itself. Fortunately, they were voted down by the Senate, common sense prevailed, and the agreement we have is in the form in which it was signed by the presidents in April last year," he said. [...]

The major areas where the Russian and U.S. views of the document differ include missile defense and the use of non-nuclear warheads on delivery systems covered by the agreement.

The treaty [...] will come into force after ratification by both houses of the Russian parliament.

 [back to top](#)

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A senior Russian lawmaker last week said his nation appeared set in January to ratify a new nuclear arms control treaty with the United States.

Since Russia's State Duma approved New START in a preliminary vote on December 24, legislators have revised their approval text to include around 20 new pages that respond to unilateral statements in Washington's ratification resolution. The U.S. Senate voted on December 22 to endorse the pact.

The updated ratification document would easily receive backing from the State Duma and the Federation Council, Russia's upper house of parliament, State Duma International Affairs Committee Chairman Konstantin Kosachyov said in a radio interview.

The State Duma could complete a second reading of the ratification text on Friday, he told the Associated Press. "I think that our third [and final] reading will happen on January 25," Kosachyov said. "In all respects ... this agreement is necessary, important, useful and advantageous to Russia."

While lawmakers in Moscow and Washington would offer different takes on the pact, the language of the act treaty would not be amended, he said.

"We don't accept certain interpretations from the American side, they will definitely not accept certain interpretations from the Russian side and then we will have to live with the existing treaty," Kosachyov said.

The State Duma would prepare one document for "our American colleagues and partners," and another for Russian leaders about the status of the nation's existing nuclear deterrent, the lawmaker said, providing no further details.

President Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev signed New START in April. The pact would require Russia and the United States to cap their deployed strategic nuclear warheads at 1,550, down from a limit of 2,200 required by 2012 under an earlier treaty. It also would set a ceiling of 700 deployed warhead delivery systems, with another 100 allowed in reserve.

Moscow has demanded that any non-nuclear warheads deployed on U.S. strategic delivery vehicles count toward the limit on deployed nuclear warheads.

 [back to top](#)

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"Should we take the Americans at their word when they tell us that those carriers are armed with conventional warheads?" Kosachyov asked. "Of course not."

Russia's amended ratification text stresses the potential for Moscow to cut short participation in the agreement if it deems future U.S. missile shield deployments to pose an unacceptable strategic risk.

The Obama administration's missile defense proposal "does not threaten our capabilities in the matter in which it is being announced (by the United States) today," Kosachyov said. "But what follows ... are exceptional circumstances under which the treaty may cease to exist."

"We have honestly warned the Americans that one of the exceptional circumstances includes qualitative change in the nature of the U.S. antimissile defenses," the lawmaker said, noting Obama was under pressure from some U.S. senators "not to give in to the Russians and to develop these systems in full."

"Russia is once again perceived as an equal partner with whom you can and should negotiate," RIA Novosti quoted him as telling the Russian radio outlet. "This is, to emphasize once again, a breakthrough, not a compromise."

"Everything else laid out in the agreement in fact represents very substantial progress, I would say [it is] in ours and not in the Americans' favor compared with the 1991 START 1 treaty that just recently passed into history."

 [back to top](#)

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## **Robins AFB Hosts Open Skies Treaty Exercise**

*Targeted News Service, 07 January 2011, accessed via Lexis Nexis*

Robins Air Force Base issued the following news release:

The "Russians" recently visited Robins, sort of.

In late December, the base played host to an exercise for the Open Skies Treaty. To promote trust, the treaty allows signatory nations to, upon request, fly over and photograph each other's military installations.

The exercise involved U.S. military members – including Navy, Army and Air Force personnel – from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. The unit works to counter the threat of weapons of mass destruction around the world, and escorts Open Skies visitors to U.S. installations. Also participating were aircraft maintainers from Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

Some members of the team played the role of Russians on an Open Skies visit. It allowed those who escort delegations to test their knowledge of the protocol and negotiations involved, said Maj. Keith Oki, deputy mission commander.

The group of about 32 – including the maintainers, escorts and the "Russians" – arrived at Robins one day and travelled the next to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Robins serves as a refueling point for Open Skies visits. While stopovers here are less frequent today, at one time Robins hosted as many as two or three Russian visits a year.

 [back to top](#)

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