



# PRESS RELEASE

## U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

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### Media Update #6: Technical Assessment Progress

#### **Interim Analysis Assessment Brief Takes Place**

**WHAT:** The interim analysis assessment briefing that was postponed on Feb. 22, 2005, was held today Friday, March 4, 2005. At this informal meeting, the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency technical assessment team provided Department of Defense officials the current status on the team's progress in assessing alternatives to achieve 100 percent destruction of its chemical weapons stockpile by 2012. The options being considered and previously provided in Media Update # 3, to include relocation of some of the stockpile, remain a part of the team's charge.

This interim progress report was given to the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Chemical Demilitarization and Threat Reduction, who signed the Jan. 10, 2005, memo directing the Army to conduct the assessment.

**WHEN:** Originally, the Army received its direction in a memo signed Jan. 10, 2005, from the Department of Defense. That memo established reporting parameters as progress moves toward a final reporting date of March 21, 2005, to Mr. Michael W. Wynne, Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology & Logistics). At this time, the Army technical assessment team continues progress toward meeting the March deadline.

**WHO:** Mr. Kevin P. Duvall, CMA's acting director of its Cooperative Threat Reduction Support Directorate, remains the lead for the technical assessment.

**For more information,  
contact the  
Chemical Materials  
Agency Public  
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[www.cma.army.mil](http://www.cma.army.mil)

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**CMA COMMENT:** CMA Technical Lead Kevin P. Duvall said, "At this informal meeting, DoD officials directed the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency technical assessment team to continue forward with its assessment. The options that were announced earlier, to include relocation of some of the stockpile, remain a part of the team's evaluation of options. From this point forward, the assessment team will refine its assessment of alternatives in order to provide it to Mr. Michael W. Wynne, Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology & Logistics). Since the information presented to DoD is preliminary in nature, it would be inappropriate for us to discuss any specifics of the assessment at this time. We were provided a two-week extension to complete the final assessment. Taking into account this extension, we anticipate briefing Mr. Wynne in early April."

**ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS:** Components that were listed in the Media Update #3 released Feb. 17, 2005 remain current. Please consult that release for current listing. You may view the update on the CMA Web site at [www.cma.army.mil](http://www.cma.army.mil)

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** As of Feb. 16, 2005, chemical weapons disposal operations in Utah, Maryland, Alabama, Oregon, and on Johnston Island have resulted in the safe destruction of more than 35 percent of the nation's declared chemical weapons stockpile involving 42 percent of originally declared munitions. Aberdeen Proving Ground is the first of eight U.S. Army stockpile sites in the continental United States to have emptied its stockpile storage area, eliminating the risk the stored agent posed to its surrounding communities during the past six decades. Disposal operations are set to begin in Arkansas and Indiana in the next couple of months.

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*The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency is responsible for safely storing and eliminating the United States' aging chemical weapons and agent stockpiles and for the safe elimination of recovered chemical materiel.*

For more information,  
contact the  
Chemical Materials  
Agency Public  
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