



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL  
MATERIALS AGENCY

# U.S. Army Umatilla Chemical Depot

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## News Release

**DATE:** July 21, 2004  
**TIME:** 4 p.m.  
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Public Affairs Office  
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### Trace amount of chemical agent vapor detected

**Umatilla Chemical Depot, Hermiston, Ore.** – A depot chemical agent monitoring crew detected a trace amount of GB Sarin chemical agent vapor today inside a depot storage structure storing 155mm projectiles.

The crew was conducting routine monitoring operations at the storage structure, also called an “igloo,” with standard mobile air-monitoring equipment. The structure has a “passive” filter system, which prevents chemical agent vapor from escaping to the outside atmosphere. However, as a further protective measure, a powered filter system was installed.

At no time was there danger to the public or the environment.

As is standard procedure, depot officials notify the public when such incidents occur. Also, off-post emergency operations centers in Umatilla and Morrow counties, Ore., Benton County, Wash., those in Oregon and Washington states, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation have been notified.

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