



# PRESS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

## Umatilla Chemical Depot

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 1, 2004  
TIME: 4:15 p.m.

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### Trace amount of GB chemical agent vapor detected

**Umatilla Chemical Depot, Hermiston, Ore.** – A depot chemical operations crew detected GB (sarin) chemical agent vapor today while conducting routine surveillance and monitoring inside a chemical storage igloo.

The chemical agent vapor was detected inside an M55 rocket shipping and firing tube.

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

Depot storage structures have a “passive” filter system, which prevents chemical vapor from escaping to the outside atmosphere. However, as a further protective measure an additional powered filter system has been installed.

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, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality have been notified.

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