



# PRESS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

## Umatilla Chemical Depot

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Sep. 7, 2004

CONTACT: Mary A. Binder or Jim Hackett

Telephone: (541) 564-5312/5418

### *MEDIA ADVISORY*

#### **Media Opportunities to Cover Umatilla Disposal Facility Start-up**

**WHO:**

News media are invited to attend a news conference coinciding with the destruction of the first chemical weapon at the U.S. Army's Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Hermiston, Ore.

**WHAT:**

The Army and its primary contractor, Washington Group International, have met all applicable environmental and regulatory requirements to begin chemical weapons disposal. The demilitarization process is scheduled to begin **Wednesday, Sept. 8**. Immediately following the destruction of the first chemical weapon – a GB-filled (sarin) M55 rocket – Army and contractor project managers will be available to discuss the destruction process and answer questions.

**WHEN:**

The depot's **Media Center will be open from 7:30 a.m. to about noon, Wednesday, Sept. 8**. Print and video information will be available, briefings will be done throughout the morning, and a press conference will begin about 30 minutes after the first rocket is processed. **Please keep in mind weather or other considerations may cause a delay in processing the first rocket.**

**WHERE:**

Main entrance, Umatilla Chemical Depot, Hermiston, Ore, Exit 177, Interstate 84. Follow "Media" sign into main parking lot. From there, you will be escorted to the depot's Media Center. Bring a photo ID and carry it at all times while on the depot. **News media will not have access to the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility on start-up day because of security requirements.**

**RSVP:**

Please call by 5 p.m. today to let us know who will be attending:

**Umatilla Chemical Depot Public Affairs Office, Mary Binder or Jim Hackett, (541) 564-5312/5418.**

[www.cma.army.mil](http://www.cma.army.mil)