



PRESS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

Umatilla Chemical Depot

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Depot's last 500-pound bomb destroyed

Umatilla Chemical Depot, Hermiston, Ore. – The Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility reached another milestone when it completed the destruction of the Umatilla Chemical Depot's supply of 500-pound MK94 bombs containing GB (Sarin) chemical agent last Thursday, May 18.

Although the MK94 stockpile at Umatilla totaled just 27 bombs, its destruction was particularly significant because it represented the end of the entire U.S. stockpile of that munition. The bombs had previously been stored at Umatilla and on Johnston Atoll, about 825 miles southwest of Hawaii. The Johnson Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System (JACADS) completed its mission in 2003 and the facility was dismantled.

UMCDF began its MK94 campaign on May 15, when it punched and drained two bombs. It completed the campaign Friday, May 19, when the last five bombs were processed through the Metal Parts Furnace. The total of 27 bombs included two "overpack" bombs that had been identified as "leakers" earlier and been placed in overpack cases to prevent any agent from escaping. The overpacks were handled manually by the same overpack team that processed 116 overpack GB (Sarin) M55 rockets earlier this month.

UMCDF expects to resume processing GB (Sarin) 750-pound MC1 bombs soon and expects to finish that campaign next month. About 550 remain to be destroyed.

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