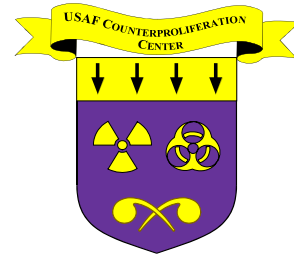


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USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER

# CPC OUTREACH JOURNAL



*Air University*

*Air War College*

*Maxwell AFB, Alabama*

*Welcome to the CPC Outreach Journal. As part of USAF Counterproliferation Center's mission to counter weapons of mass destruction through education and research, we're providing our government and civilian community a source for timely counterproliferation information. This information includes articles, papers and other documents addressing issues pertinent to US military response options for dealing with nuclear, biological and chemical threats and attacks. It's our hope this information resource will help enhance your counterproliferation issue awareness.*

*Established here at the Air War College in 1998, the USAF/CPC provides education and research to present and future leaders of the Air Force, as well as to members of other branches of the armed services and Department of Defense. Our purpose is to help those agencies better prepare to counter the threat from weapons of mass destruction. Please feel free to visit our web site at [www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/awc-cps.htm](http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/awc-cps.htm) for in-depth information and specific points of contact. Please direct any questions or comments on CPC Outreach Journal to Jo Ann Eddy, CPC Outreach Editor, at (334) 953-7538 or DSN 493-7538. To subscribe, change e-mail address, or unsubscribe to this journal or to request inclusion on the mailing list for CPC publications, please contact Mrs. Eddy. The following articles, papers or documents do not necessarily reflect official endorsement of the United States Air Force, Department of Defense, or other US government agencies. Reproduction for private use or commercial gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. All rights are reserved*

## USAF CPC PRESENTS ANG "CONFLICT 21" WEBSITE

Focusing on homeland security, weapons of mass destruction issues and future total force concepts of operations (CONOPS) and other key issues, the Air Force Counterproliferation Center (CPC) at Maxwell Air Force Base recently unveiled the Air National Guard's (ANG) new **CONFLICT 21** website <http://c21.maxwell.af.mil> to the internet world.

According to **CONFLICT 21's** chief, Colonel Michael Ritz, "This unclassified site is intended to be used not only by Air National Guard members, but by all members of the armed forces and Department of Defense." Colonel Ritz also serves as a CPC associate director and ANG Advisor to the Director, CPC. "This website provides it's user a window into the world of counterproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, as well as a forum for examining the many elements of homeland security and homeland defense," said Colonel Ritz.

A key element of CPC's mission is the promotion of research and education in countering the spread of weapons of mass destruction. Developed by Colonel Ritz and Mike McKim of Air University's Air War College, **CONFLICT 21** provides researchers, students, military and government personnel and the general public unclassified, direct information and cross-links to a multitude of sources throughout the internet. "We hope to educate and enlighten all who make use of **CONFLICT 21** on a variety of matters critical to our nation and the world in the 21st century," says Colonel Ritz. "At the same, we want to provide a continuous flow of updated information for researchers, students and writers examining issues pertinent to those being examined by the ANG and USAF CPC now, and in the future," he concluded.

## CONTENTS

[Arms Inspectors Back Tough Terms To Pressure Iraq](#)  
[Sharon: Israel Will Respond If Attacked By Iraq](#)  
[U.S. Suspects Opiate In Gas Used In Theater](#)  
[Gas Enters Counterterror Arsenal](#)  
[Russia's Use Of Gas Focuses Attention On Chemical Agents In U.S.](#)  
[Mystery Gas Use Raises Issues In The U.S., Too](#)  
[Saudi Arabia Takes Steps To Acquire Nuclear Weapons](#)  
[Japan, North Korea diplomatic talks bog down](#)  
[North Korea Rejects Demands To End Atom Bomb Program](#)  
[Powell Warns N. Korea It Must Disarm](#)  
[Russian Raid Shows Risks Of Chemical Agents](#)  
[Arms Control: Efforts to Strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention](#) (GAO Report)  
[Russia Names Drug In Raid, Defending Use](#)  
[U.S. May Speed Up Hoped-For Scud Nemesis](#)  
[Pentagon To Begin Training Journalists For Battlefield](#)  
[Russia Confirms West's Suspicions About Deadly Gas](#)  
[N. Korea Backs Away From Diplomacy](#)  
[Lawmakers Ask Bush To End Accord](#)  
[U.S.: Serbs Helped Libya Make Cruise Missiles](#)  
[EU teams train for potential attacks](#)

New York Times  
October 29, 2002  
Pg. 1

### **Arms Inspectors Back Tough Terms To Pressure Iraq**

By Julia Preston

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 28 — The leaders of the United Nations weapons inspections teams asked the Security Council today for an aggressive new mandate backed up with a threat of enforcement action, giving the United States a boost in negotiations over its draft resolution to disarm Iraq.

In a closed briefing in the Council, Hans Blix and Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei questioned some details of the inspection regime Washington has proposed. They appealed strongly to the Council to overcome its disputes and reach consensus on a clear mandate for the inspectors' work.

Speaking to reporters after the session, Mr. Blix said it was important for Iraq to understand that any lack of cooperation "will call for reactions on the part of the Council, and it has to be not only in the first month, but on a continuous basis."

In general the weapons inspections chiefs indicated today for the first time to the full 15-member Council that they accepted the inspections terms in the draft resolution offered by the United States and Britain.

Mr. Blix is the head of the United Nations biological and chemical weapons inspection team, and Dr. ElBaradei is the director of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, which is in charge of nuclear inspections.

American and British diplomats, cheered by the inspectors' remarks, said they were willing to revise their draft to incorporate their criticism. Diplomats on all sides of the tense debate over Iraq said the meeting today seemed to clear the way for broad agreement on the inspections regime, leaving negotiators to focus on the vexing question of if and when to authorize military force.

While President Bush publicly berated the Council nations for dragging out the negotiations, administration officials here at the United Nations emphasized that talks were still progressing and might extend into next week.

In painstaking discussions since Saturday, American and French officials agreed that the resolution would warn in its final paragraphs of "serious consequences" to Iraq if it failed to disarm through the inspections, diplomats said. "Serious consequences" is Council code for a military attack.

The entire debate, now nearing seven weeks, has boiled down to sharply differing interpretations of the assertion in the American draft that Iraq is in "material breach" of past Council measures.

"Council unity is of the greatest importance," Mr. Blix said, according to notes from participants in the session. "We have difficulty in acting with full strength if we feel we do not have the backing of the whole Council."

Adding some of their own fuel to the "material breach" argument, Mr. Blix and Dr. ElBaradei pointed out that Iraq had openly violated past resolutions by barring arms inspectors for the last four years.

"This is not the first time that the Security Council declares Iraq to be in material breach," Dr. ElBaradei said, noting that it had done so in a resolution as long ago as August 1991.

Mr. Blix said there would be "great practical difficulties" in removing Iraqi weapons experts and their families from their country to interview them, as the draft resolution provides. But he welcomed the authority the draft gives the inspectors to decide how, when and where to conduct the interviews.

Mr. Blix also advised that it would not be practical to expect Iraq to give a complete declaration of all its chemical and biological weapons capacities 30 days after the resolution is adopted, as the draft demands.

The arms chiefs appealed to Council nations to help them with intelligence about which sites to visit, but said they would report the results of their work only to the Council.

Mr. Blix beseeched the Council not to put him in the position where "we have war and peace in our hands."

"We report," he said. "It is the Security Council and its members who decide."

Both men sought to maintain a detached technical position regarding the debate. They did not explicitly advocate an authorization of military force, but made it clear they believed they needed a council commitment to back them up.

In the American draft, the Council declares that Iraq has been for years "in material breach of its obligations" to the United Nations. United States officials argue that these words simply repeat what the Council has stated many times before.

But with distrust smoldering here over Washington's pledges that it will not go to war against Iraq until the arms inspectors have done their work, French officials see in these words an explosive "hidden automatic trigger" that the United States can use to begin the fight.

"We want clear rules of the game," a French diplomat said.

Although the French foreign minister, Dominique de Villepin, threatened over the weekend to challenge the United States by offering a competing resolution, French diplomats made no move to do so here today and the Security Council focused entirely on the American draft.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/10/29/international/middleeast/29NATI.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Jerusalem Post  
October 29, 2002

## **Sharon: Israel Will Respond If Attacked By Iraq**

By Nina Gilbert

If attacked by Iraq with nonconventional weapons, including biological and chemical materials, Israel will "exercise its right to self-defense," Prime Minister Ariel Sharon warned yesterday.

Sharon, who was appearing before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said he clarified Israel's position to the US during his recent visit there.

He also said that unlike during the 1991 Gulf War, Israel would "not be able to restrain itself" in the event of another attack by Iraq.

Sharon also stated that Iraq has warplanes that can reach Israel, but the necessary "security steps" are being taken to provide a response to this threat. Iraq has possesses biological and chemical weapons, he noted.

He also assured that Israel would be provided sufficient warning by the US to prepare itself before an attack, noting that the two countries are in close security cooperation.

According to Sharon, the US is taking Israel's position into account while planning for its war on Iraq.

He added that if the US neutralizes the Iraqi missile threat, this would likely eliminate the need for Israel to get involved in the war.

The IDF Intelligence Branch's research chief, Brig.-Gen. Yossi Kupperwasser, told the committee that there are "certain elements" in the region that are concerned that Israel may exploit a war in Iraq to "take certain steps." He did not elaborate on the identity of the concerned parties.

Sharon also warned that Hizbullah has accelerated its weapons stockpiling via Syria, and it is liable to escalate tensions to the point of opening a "complex and difficult" front against Israel in the North.

Israel will continue to make efforts to avoid escalation in the North through diplomatic channels, he said.

As for the dispute with the Lebanon over its pumping from the Wazzani River, Sharon said that Israel "won't prevent" Lebanon from "reasonable use" of the river for drinking water. However, he said Israel will not be able to accept the use of the water for irrigation. Out of consideration for the current Iraqi situation, Sharon said he has asked the US to make efforts to prevent the Wazzani from being used for irrigation.

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=JPost/A/JPArticle/ShowFull&cid=1035817158738>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

New York Times

October 29, 2002

Pg. 1

## **U.S. Suspects Opiate In Gas Used In Theater**

By Judith Miller and William J. Broad

American officials said yesterday that they suspected the Russian security police who raided a Moscow theater early Saturday might have used an aerosol version of a powerful, fast-acting opiate called Fentanyl to knock out Chechen extremists and prevent them from killing the 750 hostages they were holding.

The gas killed 117 hostages, all but one of those who died in the Russian assault to retake the theater.

The senior administration officials said their suspicions were tentative, because Russian authorities had refused to provide American officials in Moscow with information about the drug used in the assault. Nor has the United States been able to test the gas or take samples from hostages exposed to it, they said.

But a senior American official did say intelligence sources had indicated that the Russians probably used an aerosol form of Fentanyl, "or a derivative that has a narcotic effect," by itself or in combination with another compound, in their desperate bid to free the hostages.

In interviews yesterday, senior American authorities and private experts said the agent used by the Russians was probably similar to one of a small arsenal of nonlethal weapons that the United States is quietly studying for use by soldiers and police officers against terrorists. Scientists said the United States had conducted research on Fentanyl, a well-known drug with many medical applications, as a human incapacitant for nearly a decade.

One former intelligence official theorized that the agent was developed by the Soviet Union's chemical and biological warfare program. He said Soviet scientists worked hard on "bio-regulators," agents that could alter mass behavior, and even put entire cities to sleep.

In the 1980's, the official said, American intelligence suspected that the Soviets had used chemical agents to incapacitate Afghan soldiers instantly, but could never verify such reports.

Reports yesterday from Moscow about the gray gas that was pumped into the Moscow theater bear out the assertions of American medical experts that Fentanyl is dangerous to children under 12. Survivors and relatives of victims said that at least 10 of the dead were children.

One senior law enforcement official said the use of an incapacitating agent to free hostages was unprecedented. "I'm aware of no hostage situation anywhere in the world where such an agent has been used," the official said.

But a senior administration official said that if the drug used in the incident was Fentanyl, that would probably not constitute a violation of a 1997 treaty banning the use of lethal chemical weapons. Many experts, both Russian and American, argue that the treaty permits the use of nonlethal chemicals for law enforcement and riot control purposes.

Richard A. Boucher, the State Department spokesman, said that at least four Americans were believed to have been in the theater, and that one of them had died.

Officials said the United States, through its embassy in Moscow, was pressing Russia to be forthcoming about the agent.

Russian officials are "being very Soviet," said Elisa Harris, a chemical weapons expert at the University of Maryland who served on the Clinton administration's National Security Council. "They are reverting to form and being very secretive. It is in their interest to dispel concerns about their activities and disclose the nature of the compound they used."

Alan P. Zelicoff, an expert on unconventional weapons at the Sandia National Laboratory, described Fentanyl as an "inhalable opiate" that is a "short acting, rather potent, narcotic." He said it was now used for treating chronic pain.

"The clinical utility of this drug is that it acts very quickly," he said.

Another American scientist said the compound was often used as a veterinary anesthetic, injected into animals to put them to sleep. Later, it was abused as a recreational drug.

Meanwhile, according to private experts, the incapacitating agents under investigation by the American government include sedatives that inhibit the central nervous system and derivatives of such drugs as Prozac and Valium, and the weapons under development to disperse the agents include an 81-millimeter mortar with a range of nearly two miles. The work is described in dozens of documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by the Sunshine Project, a private group in Austin, Tex., that opposes the work. "It's the U.S. equivalent of the Russian program that developed the gas that was used there," said Edward Hammond, the project's director.

Marine Corps Capt. Shawn Turner, a spokesman for the Pentagon's Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate, denied that it was conducting research on nonlethal chemical weapons. He refused to be specific but did concede that other American groups were pursuing the topic.

The military has long sought weapons, including chemical incapacitating agents, to make war more "humane." The American military did much research on them during the cold war, but judged the results unsatisfactory and scrapped the effort. As of 1997, according to "Medical Aspects of Chemical and Biological Warfare," a top military text, "incapacitating munitions are no longer in our armamentarium."

Since then, said Mr. Hammond of the Sunshine Project, government documents show that Washington has begun a new effort to master nonlethal chemicals. The current budget for them at the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate, he said, is \$1.6 million. By 2005, he added, the funding is to rise to \$3.2 million.

Some of the research, he said, is sponsored by the Department of Justice, including work on an aerosolized mixture of tranquilizing drugs and pepper spray, a commonly used crowd-control agent.

Mr. Hammond said the overall research focuses on so-called "calmatives," a military term for mind-altering or sleep-inducing chemical agents. Other agents mentioned in the documents as potentially useful, he said, are convulsants, or drugs that induce cramps, and pharmaceuticals that failed development trials because of harmful side effects.

A main contractor in the work is the Institute for Emerging Defense Technologies at Pennsylvania State University. Andrew Mazzara, the institute's director, said that nonlethal weapons "are used for peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance, noncombatant evacuation, hostage rescue, and domestic law enforcement and corrections facilities."

An October 2000 report by the Penn State researchers reviewed the medical literature and advances and concluded that "the development and use of nonlethal calmativite techniques is achievable and desirable."

The report's cover showed Fentanyl. "It's like heroin times 1,000," Mr. Hammond said. The report's text said Fentanyl might be used in combination with droperidol, an anxiety-reducing drug.

Many of the effects that Russian health officials have attributed to the gas — including slowed breathing and heartbeat — are typical of opiates. More revealing, however, is the antidote that Russian doctors were told to use on gas victims: Naloxone, a prescription drug used primarily to restore breathing to victims of heroin overdose.

Law enforcement officials in the United States, and chemical weaponry experts, said that in general the American police have a fairly limited set of chemical tools — primarily old-fashioned tear gas and an increasingly popular choice, pepper spray. The latter, they said, has become far more sophisticated and can now be delivered in a large-scale aerosol delivered from a shotgun-like device. It can temporarily blind and incapacitate at a distance.

A spokesman for the Houston Police Department, John Leggio, said that since the Sept. 11 attacks, the department had gone through extensive training and chemical education programs — both in tactics and in responding to an attack.

"We've become versed in the different tactics available for use in a worst case scenario," he said. "We maintain a dialogue with the Army and the part of the federal government that has this kind of weaponry, and we would ask for assistance should those situations develop."

Hugh McGowan, who retired earlier this year after 13 years as the commanding officer of the New York City Police Department's hostage negotiation team, said the problem with almost all of the various chemicals was dosage control. A dose that puts one person to sleep, he said, could put another in a coma.

"If somebody could come up with a wonderful drug or gas that we could use, it would solve a lot problems," he said. "But they haven't."

Mr. McGowan said that other than tear gas, he wasn't aware of any chemical agent that the New York City police could, or would, turn to in a hostage situation.

But he added, "We never faced a situation such as the Russians did."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/10/29/international/europe/29GAS.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

## Gas Enters Counterterror Arsenal

*The unprecedented use of a secret toxic gas leaves 400 still hospitalized, and starts a debate about Russian tactics.*

By Scott Peterson, Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

MOSCOW - Russia's unprecedented use of an unidentified gas – in lethal dosages – to end a hostage crisis is writing a new chapter in the counterterrorism playbook.

It also raises a host of questions about the ethics and legality of the gas, the competence of the rescue operation, and the tight cloak of secrecy the Russians are maintaining around it.

Though a chemical weapon is typically used as a battlefield tool, this time it was effective in stopping a terrorist takeover of a theater. Witnesses say that their Chechen captors were unable to detonate their explosives or fire their guns, and fumbled to put on gas masks before succumbing. But the dosage was too high, leaving 1 in 7 hostages dead. The second wave of Russian forces to enter the Moscow theater were all poisoned too, and 400 civilians remain hospitalized, some in intensive care.

"We have military chemists who think they can use this chemical weapon well, but in this case they were not very professional," says Lev Fedorov, head of Russia's Union for Chemical Safety, and a 33-year veteran of the Russian Academy of Sciences who first began working with chemicals in the Soviet military half a century ago.

Complicating life-saving efforts, officials so far refuse to name the toxic gas used, the dose deployed, or any antidote. Authorities say the rationale is that, without such information, any future terrorists or hostage-takers won't be able to defend against what may now be seen as one of the most useful weapons in Russia's arsenal. To incapacitate the hostage-takers, security services pumped the ventilator shafts full of enough gas to knock out fully healthy guerrillas – a dose that appears to have been too strong for many of the exhausted, weak, and dehydrated hostages.

When the freed hostages arrived at the hospital, treatment information was vague, say Russian media reports.

"Doctors were not told what to do, and this is a crime," says Mr. Fedorov, pointing out Russia's long tradition of keeping state secrets. "This is the consequence of our stupid, total secrecy. Our military chemists are not under society's control, or under [President] Putin's control."

But analysts say that the Kremlin – faced with the possible loss of more than 750 civilian theatergoers at the hands of Chechen rebels who boasted that they were "eager" to use their 30 explosive devices to bring down the building and become martyrs – had few choices.

"There were two ways to prevent an explosion," says Yury Mosichuk, a toxicologist at the Military Medical Academy in St. Petersburg. "Deliver an unexpected blow to the head, which was impossible. Or this narcotic way." In the absence of official information, speculation continues about the gas – which some suggest may be a product banned by the Chemical Weapons Convention, to which Russia is a signatory. Substances with a similar effect are already well known, however, and reside in a gray zone of prohibited chemical weapons. Any toxic substance that can kill or incapacitate for long periods is illegal – though exemptions exist for law enforcement.

Mr. Mosichuk insists the gas used was a "common gas" like an anaesthetic, which "has nothing to do with battle, the military, or poisonous substances." The official silence about how to treat it is "natural," he adds, because "that information might allow future terrorists to prevent such an outcome."

Already, some argue that the Russians have given up too much operational detail, simply by being forced to conduct the storming of the theater in downtown Moscow. "Even the detailed coverage of the operation on TV means terrorists will be better prepared next time, and they will have masks and they will check up all the ventilation systems," an unnamed special forces soldier told the Moskovsky Komsomolets newspaper. "Many things do have to stay secret."

The gas was created "in a KGB laboratory and their chemical substances are still considered the best in the world," the soldier was quoted as saying, adding that the decision to use gas was made "at a very high level" and required "dozens of signatures."

"If it were a usual storming, we'd have had 150 casualties among our soldiers, added to the hostages. But we're not kamikaze," the soldier said. "There was as much gas as was necessary.... As to the chemical formula, special services of the world are trying to get it."

American experts suggest that the substance used was BZ, an aerosolized hallucinogen known in the US as QNB, or 3-Quinuclidinyl Benzilate. It is sufficiently powerful that the American military created an arsenal of QNB shells for military purposes.



"There are some gray areas," says John Hart, a researcher in the Chemical Biological Warfare Project at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. "You have to consider what the intent was: The US stockpile, which the US has destroyed, was clearly designed for the battlefield. But if you are talking about a law enforcement situation, maybe there is more room for interpretation [of its legality under international law]."

Such an explanation won't answer the questions of the relatives of those killed, who wonder why the gas meant to save the hostages killed so many.

Some survivors say they had the presence of mind to breathe through moist cloth at the critical moment, they spoke of a bitter smell, and of watching how quickly the people around them appeared to drop off to sleep.

"The woman terrorist, who was guarding us, put on a mask, but she was a complete fool – she put it on upside down," dentist Modest Silin told the English-language daily The Moscow Times. "We tried to signal to her that she should turn it the right way up.... But while she was putting it the right way up, she inhaled too much of that smoke." Some of the armed Chechen captors mounted resistance from the stage, which was higher than the theater floor, and so not as affected by the heavy gas, according to the reported accounts of security officials who took part in the raid. Two out of 200 or so antiterrorist "Alpha" and "Vypel" troops attached to Russia's former KGB were affected by the gas, even though they stormed the theater 30 minutes after the gas was pumped in and were breaking windows to allow in fresh air. The Russian Interior Ministry troops who came next took no precautions against the gas, and were floored by it. "Having breathed in the air in the hall, all our detachment – as if there were a command given – began to vomit," said Alexander, a soldier quoted in the Moscow daily Kommersant.

Experts say that the Soviet Union began working on such substances in the 1920s, and in 1991 considered using gas to put down a putsch at Moscow's White House, though it was decided that the building was too large to fill uniformly.

As the theater crisis moved into its third day, and the Chechen's vowed to begin killing hostages unless Putin began withdrawing Russian troops from Chechnya, Interior Ministry officials decided that use of any normal riot control agent – irritants such as pepper spray or tear gas – might give the captors time to harm the hostages.

"So the decision was made to use the strongest," reports Komsomolskaya Pravda, which named the material as a "psycho-chemical gas" known as "Kolokol-1." Effects are felt within one to three seconds, and people can be knocked out for two to six hours. "The gas had such an influence on [Chechen siege leader Movsar] Barayev, that he couldn't get up from [his] desk," the paper reported.

The effect on the hostages was also acute, but could have been worse, says Mosichuk, the toxicologist. "One could have expected an even higher death toll," he says. "But there was no other way to prevent an explosion."

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2002/1029/p01s03-woeu.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Los Angeles Times

October 29, 2002

## **Russia's Use Of Gas Focuses Attention On Chemical Agents In U.S.**

By John Hendren and Aaron Zitner, Times Staff Writers

WASHINGTON -- Russia's use of an unspecified gas to end a Moscow hostage crisis last weekend is drawing new focus to claims that the United States is also developing chemical agents that would be illegal if used in warfare.

Bush administration officials said Monday that they suspect the gas used by Russian authorities was an opiate rather than a nerve gas, the most lethal and feared agent of chemical warfare. They said they based their view on interviews with victims conducted by nongovernmental organizations and by other nations responding to the scene. Controversy continued Monday as Russian officials persisted in their refusal to identify the gas, which is believed to have caused most of the 117 or more hostage deaths during the crisis. They said only that it was a general anesthetic, such as one used in surgery.

Bush administration officials voiced displeasure with the Russians' refusal to disclose the agent. "There is a lot of exasperation at the Russians' attitude and approach to this so far," a senior administration official said on condition of anonymity.

Arms control experts said Russia's use of the gas, regardless of its type, threatened to widen a "loophole" in a 5-year-old treaty designed to eliminate chemical warfare agents.

The treaty, the Chemical Weapons Convention, bans the development, production and stockpiling of any chemical weapon for warfare -- even such common chemicals as tear gas.

However, it allows the use of certain chemical agents for "law enforcement, including domestic riot control purposes."

The fear, arms control experts said, is that Russia and other nations are developing chemical agents for warfare under the cover of using them for law enforcement.

Moreover, they said, the Russian action raises questions about when chemical agents may be used on civilians. The experts are divided on whether the Moscow hostage standoff, which involved armed rebels in an ongoing military conflict, was a matter of law enforcement or warfare.

Other uses of military force, such as peacekeeping missions, rescue operations and aspects of the Bush administration's war on terrorism, may also fall into the gray area between police actions and warfare, arms control specialists said.

"It used to be that war was war, and now there is a whole gradation of military activities that need to be taken into account," said Elisa Harris, a member of the White House National Security Council during the Clinton administration. She said nations that signed the chemical weapons treaty may have to clarify what constitutes warfare at their next meeting, in 2003. The U.S. and Russia were among the original signatories in 1993.

Russia apparently is not the only nation to develop so-called nonlethal chemical agents. Some critics say the United States and possibly other countries are developing chemical agents for domestic and peacekeeping use that would be illegal in a full-scale war.

"The Pentagon is actively assessing different types of calmativ compounds," or narcotic materials meant to incapacitate rather than kill, said Edward Hammond of the Sunshine Project, a nonprofit group that opposes the use of chemical weapons. The group is based in Austin, Texas, and Hamburg, Germany.

In August, Science magazine reported that the National Institute of Justice, the research arm of the Department of Justice, had funded an experiment at Pennsylvania State University to gauge the effects of inhaled calmativ gases and pepper spray, a crowd-control agent. The report said the research could lead to "weaponized" Valium and other chemicals for use in crowd control.

The Sunshine Project has posted a contract on its Web site, [www.sunshine-project.org](http://www.sunshine-project.org), in which the Office of Naval Research agreed to pay Penn State \$88,750 to study the "utility of delivering nonlethal effects against personnel." Defense officials acknowledge that the Pentagon has developed "riot control agents," such as tear gas and pepper spray, that have been used in Haiti and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Pentagon office responsible for such weapons, the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate, has received "unsolicited proposals" for so-called calming agents, "but no funding has been put forward to support any of that research," a defense official said.

"Calming agents are not in the U.S. inventory, nor are there any plans to develop any," said Bryan Whitman, a senior Pentagon spokesman.

Arms control specialists said the alleged U.S. research, combined with Russia's use of gas last weekend, signals that some provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention may be deteriorating.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-gas29oct29.story>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Philadelphia Inquirer

October 29, 2002

## **Mystery Gas Use Raises Issues In The U.S., Too**

By Matt Kelley, Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Russia's fatal use of an incapacitating gas to end the hostage crisis at a Moscow theater raises questions about whether the United States should continue looking for such means to calm large crowds or abandon the research.

U.S. military and diplomatic officials said yesterday that the gas that killed more than 100 of the Moscow hostages was an opium derivative - part of a class of drugs researchers suggested two years ago that the Pentagon should investigate for development for its arsenal of nonlethal weapons.

Russian authorities have declined to identify the substance used, even to doctors treating the freed hostages. Hundreds remained hospitalized yesterday, including more than 40 in critical condition.



The United States and other countries have pressed Russia for information about the gas, but Russia has not responded, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said.

U.S. officials believe the gas was an opiate, not a nerve agent. Opiates, a class of drugs including morphine and heroin, kill pain and dull the senses but also can cause coma and death by shutting down breathing and circulation. Supporting the theory that an opiate was used is the fact that Russian doctors treating the hostages told U.S. Embassy workers they had tried atropine - an antidote to many nerve agents - and that did not work, a Bush administration official said. However, a drug that reverses the effects of opiates, Narcan, did appear to help, the official said.

Nevertheless, some medical experts questioned whether opiates were involved. Unless Russia has some secret chemical weapon, the only substance that could incapacitate people that quickly would be a form of nerve gas, said Dr. John Tinker, head of the anesthesiology department at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. The victims could have appeared to be unresponsive to atropine because the chemical is only a partial antidote and has no further effect after it reaches a certain level in the body, Tinker said.

U.S. military research into so-called calmatives agents is on hold amid worries that such weapons would violate the international treaty banning chemical weapons.

However, the Justice Department has given \$35,000 to Pennsylvania State University researchers investigating whether a calming drug could be added to pepper spray to make a better riot-control agent.

The Marine Corps, which oversees nonlethal weapons programs for the Pentagon, asked the National Research Council to study existing and potential nonlethal weapons. That report, not yet released, supports developing incapacitating chemicals, said retired Army Col. John Alexander, a member of the research panel.

"We urged that, particularly with calmatives, they renew the research, and we don't think the legal argument against them is persuasive," said Alexander, who wrote a book on nonlethal weapons, *Future War*.

The international attention to the Russian case could put pressure on the United States to drop its research into calming or incapacitating substances.

"It's one of those very stark or definitive examples that nonlethal weapons are not a panacea. It's not the silver bullet that some people think it is," said Ron Madrid, a Penn State researcher who teaches a course on nonlethal weapons at the Marine Corps Command and Staff College. Madrid works for Penn State's Applied Research Laboratory, which is studying the calmativ-pepper spray mix.

Madrid and other experts said the fact that the gas killed at least 116 hostages did not mean the hostage-rescue operation was a failure. Fifty of the Chechen rebels holding the hostages also died in the Saturday raid on the theater, including some who were shot in the head as they lay incapacitated by the gas.

"They had a situation in which they had people with large amounts of explosives that were likely to be used," Alexander said. "That's a situation that requires a very drastic response."

<http://www.philly.com/mld/philly/news/nation/4391629.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Defense & Foreign Affairs Daily

October 29, 2002

## **Saudi Arabia Takes Steps To Acquire Nuclear Weapons**

Exclusive. Highly-reliable sources indicate that the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has, since the beginning of October 2002, and possibly before, begun active efforts to acquire completed nuclear weapons.

It is known that Saudi officials had approached officials of the Government of Pakistan in this regard, on the basis that Saudi possession of such weapons would act as a deterrent to any possible Israeli threat of nuclear force against Saudi Arabia. The sources indicated that Saudi Arabia was not interested in acquiring nuclear weapons manufacturing capability, or weapons-grade raw material, but only in acquiring actual weapons, preferably for missile delivery using Saudi CSS-2 medium-range ballistic missiles (MRBMs) which had been acquired from the People's Republic of China (PRC).

It is believed that the Saudi officials had also approached one or more other states to assist in the provision of nuclear weapons, possibly including the PRC and/or the Democratic People's Republic of [North] Korea (DPRK).

There is no indication that any of the states approached have hinted that they would consider the Saudi requests, although some of the negotiations have been ongoing, with several meetings taking place.

However, GIS sources also indicated that the Saudi premise in attempting to deter an Israeli nuclear threat was flawed, based on the fact that Israeli officials fundamentally agree that the continued stability of the House of Sa'ud

was the most preferred Israeli option for Saudi Arabia, and that Israel was anxious not to disturb the status quo in the Kingdom. The collapse of Saudi Arabia and its possible break-up and/or radicalization was an undesirable strategic outcome for Israel, unless the Saudi Hejaz region could be restored to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The Hashemites — who were kings of Iraq and still are the Royal line of Jordan — were removed from their control of Mecca and Medina when the Hejaz was seized by the House of Sa'ud in the 1919-1925 timeframe.

However, Israeli sources have made it clear that a Saudi acquisition of nuclear weapons, coupled with signs of either direct Saudi hostility toward Israel or the prospect of a collapse of the House of Sa'ud in the Kingdom, would trigger pre-emptive military action by Israel against Saudi missile facilities.

[See Defense & Foreign Affairs Daily, April 2, 2002: Israel Makes a Point of Highlighting Saudi Strategic Missile Facilities, quoted in full below]

Defense & Foreign Affairs Daily noted in its April 2, 2002, report:

*There was speculation in Jerusalem and, apparently, in Middle Eastern capitals on April 1, 2002, over reports leaked into the Israeli press on March 27, 2002, with extensive details of the Saudi Arabian CSS-2 ballistic missile facilities. Details of the facilities and the CSS-2 missiles — supplied by the People's Republic of China (PRC) in 1990 — were already well-known within the intelligence and defense communities of most interested countries. The question being raised by the latest reports was why attention should be focused at this time on the facilities. The Israeli, Hebrew-language daily Yediot Aharonot reported on March 27, 2002, that the complex was built in the al-Sulayel desert about 500km south of Riyadh. The complex contains huge missile silos, residential areas and factories in King Khaled City. The newspaper published photographs from the Space Imaging Corporation's Ikonos satellite of what was identified as two missile bases and a complex of 33 buildings, eight of them capable of storing CSS-2 ballistic missiles, which have a range of 2,500 to 3,500km, depending on payload. GIS sources believe that it is almost certain that the Saudis had — failing to obtain nuclear warheads — intended to deploy the systems with chemical and/or biological warheads.*

*Virtually no purpose would be served equipping the systems with conventional warheads, while chemical or biological warheads would be able to serve as a deterrent to — particularly — Iranian threats by targeting Iranian agricultural production.*

*Saudi Arabia had expanded the missile complex since 1995, when a French Spot Image satellite photographed the area. The Government had received deliveries of the CSS-2 in 1990 as part of a deal reportedly for as many as 120 missiles and 12 launchers.*

*King Khaled Military City is located near a Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) base where Panavia Tornado fighters were deployed. The RSAF reportedly controls the CSS-2 IRBMs, and maintains two bases for the systems at al-Joffer and al-Sulayel. The al-Sulayel site was given prominence in the Israeli reporting, which drew attention to the Ikonos satellite photographs of the facility located at coordinates lat. 20°43'07"N and long. 45°35'01"E. That is approximately 27km North of the desert oasis of al-Sulayel, and consists of a site support area and two launch areas located six kilometers apart. More than 33 permanent and 36 semi-permanent buildings were visible.*

*Only eight of the buildings were believed to have been large enough to accommodate the CSS-2.*

Earlier, on March 4, 2002, Defense & Foreign Affairs Daily reported that the Israeli Government had moved to develop an offensive capability "strategic triad" of missile forces, naval and air forces to project Israeli strategic power. This development specifically included the need for Israeli forces to consider the strategic weapons use of the Saudi ballistic missile capabilities.

[See Defense & Foreign Affairs Daily, March 4, 2002: Israeli Navy Begins to Take Its Place as Part of a Strategic Force Projection Triad.]

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

10/29/2002 - Updated 04:54 AM ET

## **Japan, North Korea diplomatic talks bog down**

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — North Korea rejected demands that it give up its nuclear weapons program Tuesday, marring the country's first talks with Japan in two years on establishing diplomatic ties, Japanese officials said.

Since the North admitted earlier this month that it had a project for developing nuclear arms, Japan has insisted that scrapping the program was a precondition for normalization between the longtime rivals.

The two days of talks, which opened Tuesday, have also been overshadowed by the issue of the North's abductions of Japanese in the 1970 and 1980s. The North's negotiators on Tuesday accused Japan of breaking a promise that five surviving abductees — now on their first trip back home — would be returned to North Korea.

During the talks, the North "completely denied" calls for the country to give up its nuclear weapons program, a senior Japanese delegation official said on condition of anonymity. The North blamed the concerns over its nuclear weapons program on the United States, saying the hardline U.S. stance was the "root of the problem," he said.

North Korea's No. 2 delegation official, Pak Ryong Yeon, said Tuesday that Pyongyang wants the matter of the nuclear program dealt with as normalization talks continue, not as a precondition for normalization.

"Japan wants to focus on the abduction and security issues," he said. "But our thinking is, that if we work toward diplomatic ties, then the security issues will be solved along the way."

The ambassador-level talks continued Tuesday and were expected to go on as scheduled Wednesday. Tokyo has wavered over how tough a line to take with North Korea on the nuclear issue and has chosen to continue dialogue for the time being.

The talks are the offshoot of an unprecedented Sept. 17 summit between North Korean leader Kim Jong Il and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi.

But the nuclear issue and Japanese anger over the abductions has since soured the budding detente.

North Korea admitted to a visiting senior U.S. official this month that it was conducting a secret nuclear weapons development program in violation of a 1994 agreement. For Japan, that news was especially frightening because Pyongyang has demonstrated that it can fire missiles

well beyond Japan's main islands. And with nearly 50,000 U.S. troops stationed in Japan, it would likely be a primary target should war break out.

At a summit on the sidelines of the APEC meetings in Mexico over the weekend, Koizumi joined President Bush and South Korean President Kim Dae-jung in demanding Pyongyang end its nuclear program in a "verifiable way." As they opened Tuesday's meetings, officials from the isolated communist state and its former colonial ruler vowed to "work sincerely" to improve relations.

But North Korean delegation chief Jong Thae Hwa acknowledged the talks would not be easy.

"Though neighbors, our countries remain distant," he said in his opening remarks. "There are differences between the two countries, including public opinion."

Revelations that only five Japanese abductees have survived from the 13 kidnapped by North Korea and used to train its spies in the Japanese language caused widespread anger in Japan.

The five survivors are now in Japan on their first homecoming, but Tokyo has said it will not return them to the North as originally planned and is demanding their seven children, as well as the American husband of one, be allowed to travel to Japan as well.

In Tuesday's talks, the North Koreans accused Japan of breaking a promise to return the five, the Japanese official said.

The Japanese side reminded the North that the five were "the victims of a criminal act" and stressed that the five returnees cannot freely express whether they want to remain in Japan because their children are still in North Korea. North Korea's delegation official, Pak, played down the abduction issue, saying Pyongyang sees it as largely resolved, though some "details" still need to be worked out.

Relatives of the abductees also expressed dissatisfaction, urging Tokyo to push for a specific date for the children to return.

"We want them to set the date for their children in North Korea (to return) no matter what," Hidekazu Hasuike, whose son Kaoru was abducted in 1978, told Japanese television network NTV. Kaoru has two children in the North with fellow abductee Yukiko Okudo.

North Korean officials have criticized Japan for overreacting to the abduction issue, saying it was insignificant compared to Japan's brutal colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula from 1910 until its World War II defeat in 1945.

The two countries' track record on normalization talks is not good.

They have been held on and off for the past 10 years. The last round, held two years ago, broke off abruptly after North Korea angrily denied the abduction issue. Japan cut off its aid to the North that same year.

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2002-10-29-japan-korea\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2002-10-29-japan-korea_x.htm)

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

New York Times  
October 30, 2002

## North Korea Rejects Demands To End Atom Bomb Program

By Howard W. French

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Oct. 29 — North Korea today flatly rejected international demands that it abandon its nuclear weapons program. The statement came at the opening session of talks with Japan aimed at establishing normal relations between the two countries.

The rejection, reflected in opening remarks and repeated during the first day of talks, followed consultations in Mexico that ended two days ago, in which the United States, South Korea and Japan urged the North to end its bomb program.

"Japan expressed grave concern on nuclear issues, and we also referred to the statement issued last week by Japan, the United States and South Korea," a Japanese official here said. "To put it in one sentence, North Korea's response was they do not accept it at all."

Even before talks opened here this morning, a North Korean diplomat, Jong Thae Hwa, signaled his delegation's unwillingness to discuss security issues, saying, "We have come with no such preparations."

In a brief exchange of greetings, Mr. Jong set the tone for difficult talks, adding, "Although we gathered here for talks on normalizing ties, certainly, we are far apart."

In a statement issued in Mexico, the United States, South Korea and Japan warned that "North Korea's relations with the international community now rest on North Korea's prompt and visible actions to dismantle its program to produce highly enriched uranium for nuclear weapons."

Japanese diplomats said Mr. Jong blamed Washington's "hostile stance toward North Korea" for the region's security problems.

The heightened interest in security issues comes after the North's surprise admission during talks with the United States last month that it has been developing nuclear arms in secret, through uranium enrichment.

The admission came after the United States confronted North Korea with intelligence revealing the weapons program, which violates a 1994 agreement.

The United States has since urged Japan and South Korea, as well as China, to help it apply "maximum pressure" to force North Korea to halt the program. So far, none of those countries has shown the commitment that the Bush administration has sought on the issue.

Indeed, South Korea, which under President Kim Dae Jung has become a major supplier of aid to North Korea, has in recent days cast doubt on American characterizations of Washington's recent conversations with North Korea.

In secret discussions with the North that began more than a year ago, Japan has reportedly offered a huge amount of economic aid in exchange for normal diplomatic ties.

In the last week, though, senior Japanese officials have said normalization talks can bear fruit only if the North satisfies international concerns about nuclear weapons. Regional political analysts say that message has been substantially muddled by the issue of abductions by North Korea.

During a meeting between Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and the North Korean leader, Kim Jong Il, last month, North Korea acknowledged the kidnapping of 13 Japanese, beginning in the late 1970's, for use in the country's spy training program.

The 5 of the 13 who survive were allowed to visit Japan this month, and Tokyo extended their stay indefinitely. The visit has caused a groundswell of emotion over the stories of separated families and hardship and, significantly, fanned criticism of Mr. Koizumi's diplomacy.

On Sunday, for example, Japan's largest business daily, Nihon Keizai Shimbun, reported that the United States had informed Mr. Koizumi of North Korea's secret uranium enrichment program three weeks before his trip to Pyongyang.

The newspaper said the Bush administration, frustrated that its information had not deterred Japan from moving ahead with normalization talks, took the unusual step of contacting former Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, a rival within Mr. Koizumi's Liberal Democratic Party, to warn of the dangers of proceeding.

But Mr. Koizumi went ahead and signed a memorandum of understanding in which North Korea said it would abide by all international agreements on nuclear arms.

"The information from the United States was just that there is strong suspicion, so we didn't take it so seriously," the newspaper quoted a senior aide to Mr. Koizumi as saying.

Japanese officials have made it clear that the abduction issue is the most important topic in their talks with North Korea, though they do not seem to be making progress in winning the release of the abductees' families. "The North Koreans are playing remarkably well from a pretty weak hand," said Robyn Lim, an expert in East Asian politics at Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan. "South Korean officials are already publicly disputing Bush administration accounts of discussions with Pyongyang, and the wedge between Washington and Japan looks like it is growing too."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/10/30/international/asia/30MALA.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

USA Today  
October 30, 2002  
Pg. 6

## **Powell Warns N. Korea It Must Disarm**

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said North Korea faces a grim economic future unless it abides by growing international demands to dismantle its nuclear weapons program. "No North Korean child can eat enriched uranium," Powell said after Pyongyang insisted during talks with Japanese officials that it would not end its nuclear program. Pyongyang has long justified its weapons program by claiming that the presence of U.S. troops in Japan and South Korea is a threat against which it must defend itself.

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Philadelphia Inquirer  
October 30, 2002

## **Russian Raid Shows Risks Of Chemical Agents**

By Faye Flam, Inquirer Staff Writer

The deadly end to the hostage crisis in Moscow exposed a chief peril of using chemicals in war or crowd control: One size does not fit all.

For most chemicals and anesthetics, there's a fine line between the amount needed to incapacitate someone and that capable of killing, experts said yesterday.

Much current military research looks at the effects of a chemical agent on a typical male - not on women, children or the elderly. And most chemicals developed by the military were designed to be used in open spaces. The effects can be quite unpredictable when such a gas is pumped into a building.

Russian officials have not identified the gas that Russian special forces used in an attempt to save hundreds of people held hostage in a theater. Most of the hostages were sickened by the gas and 116 died from its effects. Experts surmise the gas was an opiate - a relative of opium and morphine. U.S. Ambassador Alexander Vershbow yesterday confirmed that American doctors had determined it was a form similar to Fentanyl, an anesthetic widely used in hospitals. Russians on the scene apparently were able to revive some victims with Fentanyl's antidote, called Naloxone. Russian special forces may have been given the antidote so they could storm the building without being affected.

The United States has pursued research on this and other "calmative" agents, said Eric Croddy, an analyst with the Center for Nonproliferation Studies in Monterey, Calif., and author of a recent book on chemical weapons.

"Incapacitating agents are notoriously hard to use," he said. "That's what they found with so many of these compounds," which include opiates such as Fentanyl as well as Valium-type drugs, mescaline derivatives and others.

Fentanyl is a narcotic, in the same family as morphine but more refined and faster-acting, said William Hanson, an anesthesiologist at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

"It's probably the most commonly used drug in anesthesia - it supplements gases in anesthesia and it's used after surgery to treat pain," he said. It's usually administered in an IV line but has been made into lollipops to calm children before they undergo medical procedures.

And like most anesthetics, it can be deadly if given in too high a dose, he said.

"If you have a strapping 25-year-old football player and a very frail or dehydrated elderly person," he said, "a dose that would barely put the one to sleep would kill the other one."

Hospitals wouldn't have an opiate in a gaseous form, but it's not implausible that Russian scientists would, experts say. A few years ago, scientists in China created an aerosolized version of the sedative Valium to help calm people with seizures, said Christopher Holstege, director of toxicology at the University of Virginia.

Holstege said that one of the biggest hazards of using an incapacitating agent was that people could stop breathing, sometimes because they vomit and block their airways.

It's not clear whether Fentanyl or other drugs used in the Russian crisis can be classified as chemical weapons. The United States and Russia signed a treaty along with more than 100 other countries promising not to make or use offensive chemical weapons.

But the treaty is meant to cover chemicals used as a means of warfare, said Croddy of the Center for Nonproliferation Studies. "If this was used in their own domestic problems - the same way you'd use tear gas - it's unclear how it falls under international law."

The situation highlights the need for more research, said Ron Madrid, a former Marine now working for Pennsylvania State University's Institute for Emerging Defense Technologies.

In 2000, Madrid and colleagues at Penn State released a report, based on a literature search, that explored Fentanyl and other drugs as nonlethal weapons, he said. They have received a \$35,000 grant from the Department of Justice to study the use of calming agents in pepper spray.

"We have not assessed chemical agents or calmative yet," he said. But he said he saw the potential usefulness of such agents.

"If I was offered a chemical agent that would put people to sleep - if I had strong confidence that I wouldn't get fatalities - it would be a wonderful arrow in my quiver," he said.

<http://www.philly.com/mld/philly/news/nation/4399581.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

## **Arms Control: Efforts to Strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention.**

GAO-02-1038, September 30.

<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-02-1038>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

New York Times

October 31, 2002

Pg. 1

## **Russia Names Drug In Raid, Defending Use**

By Michael Wines

MOSCOW, Oct. 30 — Russia acknowledged today that it pumped an aerosol version of a powerful painkiller, Fentanyl, into a Moscow theater to end a hostage crisis last Saturday, breaking a four-day silence on the drug's identity that had drawn mounting criticism in the United States and Europe.

Russia's health minister, Yuri L. Shevchenko, identified the gas. Meanwhile, the death toll of victims in the 57-hour hostage siege rose by 2 to 120. All but two of the victims apparently died from effects of the Fentanyl derivative. But at an evening news conference, Dr. Shevchenko bluntly rejected statements by some, including the United States ambassador here, that Russian secrecy over the nature of the gas may have delayed lifesaving aid to some hostages.

"I officially declare that chemical substances of the kind banned under international conventions on chemical weapons were not used in the course of the special operations," he said. "To neutralize terrorists, a compound based on Fentanyl derivatives was used."

In broadcast remarks, he repeated Russian assertions that the gas "cannot in itself be called lethal," and that hostages who succumbed to the gas died because they had been weakened by "a complex of extremely aggressive factors" including hunger, existing illnesses and two days of captivity.

Dr. Shevchenko's bristling defense of the rescue operation mirrored a new aggressiveness in the government's attack on Chechen terror suspects and opponents.



In Copenhagen, Danish officials acting on an international warrant seized Akhmed Zakayev, a former guerrilla field commander in Russia's first Chechnya war who has long served as an envoy for the Chechen rebels' political wing. Russian officials had requested his arrest on Friday, at the hostage crisis's peak, as Mr. Zakayev flew to Copenhagen to attend a World Chechen Congress. A Kremlin spokesman said Mr. Zakayev was accused of armed insurrection, organizing an illegal armed detachment and attempting to murder law enforcement officers during the first war. The spokesman, Aleksandr V. Machevsky, also said there was evidence that Mr. Zakayev was at a minimum aware of the plot by Chechen terrorists to seize hundreds of hostages in a Moscow cultural complex, but he declined to provide specific evidence.

In Moscow and elsewhere, a nationwide sweep by authorities aimed at netting Chechen terrorists and sympathizers set off complaints from ethnic Chechens who said they had suffered official harassment or worse.

Similar sweeps were conducted during the last war in Chechnya in the mid-1990's and after authorities said terrorists blew up apartment buildings in Moscow in 1999.

But the Chechen representatives said the pace of complaints this time was slower, perhaps because the Kremlin has urged Russians not to use last week's hostage siege as an excuse to condemn all Chechens.

In the aftermath of a shocking hostage crisis and the rescue raid that ended it, Russia's government clearly sought today to wield newfound recognition of its problems in Chechnya to full advantage, both here and abroad.

Dr. Shevchenko's admission that Russia had used a powerful narcotic to sedate hostages and their captors last Saturday appeared an attempt to silence growing doubts about both the conduct of the rescue operation and the secrecy that has since enveloped it.

On Tuesday, the American ambassador, Alexander R. Vershbow, called the rescue an operational success but suggested that Russian refusal to tell doctors more about the gas used in the raid had delayed medical treatment and "perhaps" led to needless death.

His remarks echoed far stronger complaints from Moscow doctors who have said that secrecy, confusion and long delays in giving gas victims an antidote to the narcotic raised the death toll.

The top health official in the Moscow city government said doctors were told of the likelihood that hostages would need treatment for a drug overdose only minutes before the pre-dawn rescue got under way.

American experts, speaking on condition of anonymity, said tonight that while Dr. Shevchenko's disclosure solves some of the mystery surrounding the gas, they believe Russian scientists melded the Fentanyl with a second disabling compound that they have yet to disclose. News services quoted some European scientists this evening as having reached the same conclusion.

Before Dr. Shevchenko revealed the use of a Fentanyl derivative, the British foreign secretary, Jack Straw, told reporters today that his government ask Russia to identify the gas, as the United States had earlier requested. At least nine foreigners were among the hostages who died during the rescue.

Dr. Shevchenko flatly contradicted the statements of Moscow city health officials, saying that "the specialists, including myself, were informed and warned" that a gas was to be used on the hostages and their captors. "And although the operation was of an urgent and forced nature," he said, "more than 1,000 doses of antidote were prepared."

In interviews, Russian doctors have previously insisted that they received little or no notice that the hostages had been gassed, and that supplies of the antidote drug, Naloxene, were either absent or in short supply.

The doctors said few hostages were treated at the scene of the rescue, a critical lapse because the worst symptoms of the overdose — circulatory and respiratory failure — could be fatal without quick treatment.

In an interview tonight, a doctor who refused to be identified said physicians treating hostages had been ordered to state on hospital discharge certificates that their patients were "victims of terrorism and violence" rather than victims of a gas overdose.

"We were told not to write words like 'toxic' or 'poisoning' in the diagnosis report — only symptoms," the doctor said. "It was completely stupid. I can't play these games. I have my doctor's reputation to protect."

That same doctor said that when hostages arrived at the hospital on Saturday, there was no warning that they had suffered drug overdoses. The evacuation was so confused that one live but deeply sedated hostage was delivered with a load of the dead, he said.

By securing the arrest in Denmark of Mr. Zakayev, a top aide to the Chechen rebel president, Aslan Maskhadov, the Kremlin appeared to be trying to isolate yet further the political movement most often mentioned as a potential partner in negotiations to end the war in Chechnya.

Mr. Maskhadov, the elected president of Chechnya when it was a quasi-independent part of Russia in the late 1990's, has supported the guerrilla war against Russian troops in the province but publicly denounced terrorism.

Russia now accuses Mr. Maskhadov of playing an unspecified role in the takeover of the Moscow theater last week, a charge underscored by Mr. Zakayev's arrest.

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Washington Post  
October 31, 2002  
Pg. 19

## U.S. May Speed Up Hoped-For Scud Nemesis

By Bradley Graham, Washington Post Staff Writer

Top Pentagon officials, worried about the vulnerability of U.S. troops to Iraqi Scuds and other short-range ballistic missiles, want to speed up production of a new anti-missile weapon despite a series of test failures earlier this year. The weapon is an advanced version of the Patriot system, first used in the Persian Gulf War in 1991 to counter Scuds fired at U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia and civilian neighborhoods in Israel. Under development since the mid-1990s, the system known as PAC-3 (Patriot Advanced Capability-3) has a more accurate interceptor as well as improvements in radar and communication links.

But the weapon performed poorly in flight tests between February and May. Interceptors failed to fire in several cases, and when they did, they missed nearly as often as they hit. As recently as last summer, program officials had expected that the test failures would force at least a year's delay in plans to double production of the interceptors from the current six per month.

Nevertheless, aides to Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld have signaled a desire in recent days to boost production without waiting for another round of tests that would confirm the latest fixes and validate performance. With only 38 of the new interceptors in the Army's inventory and just 15 more due by December, senior defense officials are concerned that U.S. stocks could be depleted quickly if war with Iraq erupts next year.

"Indeed, we are looking at ways to accelerate the production of PAC-3 out of concern for near-term vulnerability," Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz said in a speech last week to the Frontiers of Freedom, a missile defense advocacy group.

While Rumsfeld has yet to make a decision, Pentagon officials have notified Congress that there may be a request to shift about \$120 million from other missile defense programs into PAC-3. Some of this money would go toward speeding up interceptors in production, and toward sustaining a jump in the number of interceptors rolling out of Lockheed Martin's assembly facility in Camden, Ark.

Congress already has approved upping PAC-3 production by about two interceptors per month. In the 2003 defense appropriations act passed earlier this month, lawmakers added \$50 million to the \$622 million originally sought by the Bush administration for PAC-3 development and procurement. The extra funding under consideration by the Pentagon would allow for an even larger boost in production and faster turnout rate.

But support is not unanimous within the Pentagon. Officials responsible for overseeing the testing of new weapons caution that a green light to rush out more PAC-3's might take pressure off the program to continue with planned improvements and demonstrate the system can meet all its performance requirements.

Already the program has received Pentagon waivers allowing limited production of PAC-3 interceptors whose performance still lags, particularly against more advanced ballistic missiles and cruise missiles. Plans call for these shortfalls to be addressed in later versions of the interceptor.

Also questionable is the extent to which a boost in PAC-3 production now could make much difference in the number of interceptors available to U.S. troops in any war with Iraq next year. Usually about a year and a half is required to manufacture an interceptor, according to industry and congressional sources.

Still, with strong bipartisan congressional backing for the program, Pentagon officials are unlikely to encounter much, if any, opposition should they decide to move ahead more quickly. They can point to assertions by PAC-3 program managers that nothing is wrong with the weapon's design.

Nearly all the recent test glitches, program officials say, can be attributed to bad luck and rare anomalies. If the test scenarios occurred under combat conditions, these officials argue, the PAC-3 system would have fired more interceptors than were allowed in the tests, thereby improving significantly its chances of success.

During the Gulf War, the military's inability to destroy a single mobile Scud ranked as its single biggest failure. U.S. and British intelligence analysts estimate that Iraq now has only 12 to 25 mobile Scuds, and it is not clear whether any are capable of being fired. Still, among the Pentagon's biggest concerns is the prospect of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, confronted with a U.S. offensive aimed at removing him from power, launching missiles armed with chemical or biological agents.

In recent years, the Army has kept two Patriot batteries in the Persian Gulf region guarding U.S. military facilities and troops in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. But none is equipped with PAC-3 interceptors. If President Bush orders an invasion of Iraq, additional Patriot batteries armed with whatever PAC-3s are available are expected to be among the first units deployed.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A43523-2002Oct30.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Los Angeles Times  
October 31, 2002

## **Pentagon To Begin Training Journalists For Battlefield**

*It's the latest indication that war with Iraq is getting closer. Course will include instruction on protection against chemical weapons.*

WASHINGTON -- In the latest signal that war with Iraq may be looming, the Pentagon said Wednesday that it will begin offering special training--including instruction on chemical weapons protection--to journalists who cover the military.

"While no decisions have been made about future operations," Pentagon officials said in a memo to news organizations, "prudent planning demands that we prepare for embedding media with military units."

The weeklong training courses are scheduled to start as early as mid-November, at bases in Virginia, New Jersey and Georgia and at an undisclosed location abroad. Pentagon officials said they expect hundreds of U.S. and foreign journalists to take part in the program, described as the first of its kind.

Officials said the training sessions are not mandatory, and were put together in response to recent inquiries from news organizations about media access in the event of a war with Iraq.

The memo, issued by Defense Department spokeswoman Victoria Clarke, said the Pentagon is "absolutely committed to ensuring reporters have maximum access to our troops on the battlefield."

Access has long been a source of friction between the press and the Pentagon, particularly in the 1991 Persian Gulf War, when the United States expelled Iraq from Kuwait.

Correspondents covering that war complained that they faced unprecedented restrictions on where they could travel and what they were allowed to report.

Pentagon officials said many in the media were woefully uneducated about military matters and ill-equipped to cover or take part in "embedments," in which reporters accompany military units on missions.

There was also significant tension between reporters and the military early in the war in Afghanistan. In one incident, a Washington Post reporter attempting to examine the site of an allied bombing said he was barred from the scene by U.S. soldiers brandishing weapons.

Iraq poses particular concerns for correspondents because of the threat of biological and chemical weapons. A recent CIA report warned of a "high" probability that Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein would unleash such weapons if the U.S. invades.

As a result, the Pentagon said it would provide training and information about equipment to protect against chemical and biological weapons. The sessions will also offer basic survival and first-aid training, as well as instruction on major weapons systems and military procedures.

Clarke's memo also warned would-be war correspondents to be in shape. "This training will be physically challenging and will include road marches and some fitness training," it said.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-training31oct31.story>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Washington Post  
October 31, 2002  
Pg. 15

## **Russia Confirms West's Suspicions About Deadly Gas**

*Potent Anesthetic Used in Theater Raid; 2 More Hostages Die From Drug's Effects*

By Susan B. Glasser and Peter Baker, Washington Post Foreign Service

MOSCOW, Oct. 30 -- The Russian Health Ministry today belatedly identified the gas that killed more than 100 hostages at a Moscow theater during a rescue attempt last weekend as a powerful form of the opioid drug fentanyl. The official acknowledgment, days after Western experts said they suspected fentanyl was the substance used, came as the hostage death toll from the effects of the gas rose by two, to 117. Moscow health officials said two other hostages were killed by gunfire during the 58-hour standoff with Chechen guerrillas that ended with a pre-dawn raid on Saturday.

In an evening news conference, Health Minister Yuri Shevchenko acknowledged that the gas was based on "derivatives" of fentanyl, a commonly used anesthetic, which he said was deployed to "neutralize the terrorists." Despite the large number of fatalities, he denied that doctors were ill-prepared to handle the consequences for the hundreds of hostages in the theater, and stressed that Russia's use of the gas did not violate the international treaty on chemical weapons, of which Russia is a signatory.

As a grieving city laid to rest at least 43 victims in funerals today, Danish authorities in Copenhagen arrested a top aide to Chechen separatist leader Aslan Maskhadov, saying he may have been involved in the Moscow hostage crisis and other terrorist attacks. The aide, Akhmed Zakayev, was detained late Tuesday, Danish authorities said, after attending the final session of the World Chechen Congress being held in the Danish capital -- a gathering that drew outrage from Russia for being held right after the Moscow theater siege. A Danish judge ordered Zakayev held until Nov. 12, pending investigation.

In Moscow, officials said they had rounded up dozens of suspects as possible accomplices. Meanwhile, politicians from the reformist Union of Right Forces party today lost their bid to open a special parliamentary commission to determine how such a large, heavily armed group of Chechens could have mounted a terrorist attack in the center of the Russian capital.

Many questions have also surrounded the gas, with some doctors and diplomats saying Moscow medical authorities were unprepared to handle the hundreds of casualties from the theater because of the government's desire to conceal the details about substance.

On Tuesday, U.S. Ambassador Alexander Vershbow joined the widespread criticism of the official secrecy and said the failure to inform Russian doctors about the gas may have cost lives.

At the news conference, Shevchenko denied that was the case. He said 1,000 antidotes for the gas had been on hand for use by medical personnel after the raid. He did not specify the chemical compounds in the gas or the antidote. "Specialists, in particular myself, had been warned, even though the operation had to be carried out on short notice," he said. He denied reports from doctors who treated the hostages that said many more could have been saved if adequate resources had been available on the scene.

Shevchenko said the gas would not have killed the hostages had they not been weak from several days in the theater without proper food or medical care. "On their own, these substances cannot lead to a fatal outcome," he said.

At the same news conference, Moscow prosecutor Mikhail Avdyukov pledged a thorough investigation into the hostages' deaths. "We are not going to conceal anything," he said.

But for days following the Saturday raid, that is what the Russian authorities have done. They refused to provide details about the gas to doctors in Moscow hospitals treating the patients, barred hundreds of panicked relatives from seeing their surviving loved ones and maintained a steadfast silence even after Western experts identified the gas. For many observers here, such behavior has had echoes of the Soviet past. "We know the truth now, but it's too late to save the patients," said Lilia Shevtsova, a political analyst at the Carnegie Moscow Center. "It's a typical Soviet reaction, where the individual is nothing and the state is everything. Their assumption is that this is a state secret." Russian doctors treating the hostages have also spoken out, saying the failure to prepare a better rescue plan led to many of the deaths. A leading Russian chemical arms expert, Lev Fedorov, said tonight that Shevchenko was also wrong when he said fentanyl was not deadly on its own.

"With fentanyl, as specialists say, the threshold of an admissible and inadmissible dose for a human organism is very close," he told NTV television. "Any mistake may be fatal."

According to U.S. experts, fentanyl belongs to a group of medicines called narcotic analgesics that suppress breathing. A normal dose goes to the brain but then is quickly redistributed to the rest of the body, making it a short-acting anesthetic. But a larger dose is not redistributed as easily, remaining concentrated in the brain and shutting down respiratory functions. The drug naxolone counteracts its effects, but would have to have been administered by Russian rescue workers almost immediately.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A43493-2002Oct30.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

## **N. Korea Backs Away From Diplomacy**

### ***In Talks With Japan, Pyongyang Refuses to Budge on Nuclear Program***

By Doug Struck, Washington Post Foreign Service

TOKYO, Oct. 30 -- North Korea halted its recent moves toward conciliatory diplomacy at talks this week with Japan and set the stage for confrontation with the outside world over its program to develop a nuclear bomb. In two days of talks, North Korea refused to dismantle its nuclear program without direct negotiations with the United States and balked at reuniting with their parents the children of five released kidnap victims who are in Japan on a "visit."

By refusing to negotiate with Japan over its nuclear program, North Korea shunned a diplomatic route that could have defused a potential showdown with the United States. Washington has demanded that the government undertake a "complete and visible dismantling" of its efforts to process uranium into nuclear weapons fuel. Instead, Pyongyang has upped the stakes. It has demanded talks on the nuclear issue solely with the United States. The Bush administration, pursuing a hard line with a country the president has deemed part of an "axis of evil," has said it will not negotiate with Pyongyang.

Pyongyang is retreating to a familiar role of brinkmanship, said Scott Snyder, who has written about negotiating with North Korea. "We can expect some form of crisis escalation."

Japanese negotiators in the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur, where the talks took place, acknowledged disappointment in the deadlock at the end of the talks tonight.

"Although we made utmost efforts, to our regret, we failed to secure a change in their position," Japan's chief negotiator, Katsunari Suzuki, told reporters.

Washington revealed North Korea's uranium enrichment program Oct. 16 and said North Korea had admitted to the program.

In remarks to reporters in Kuala Lumpur, an official with North Korea's Foreign Ministry, Pak Ryong Yeon, defended Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions.

"As long as we are threatened by the United States, we have no need to vindicate ourselves," Pak said, according to wire service reports.

The uranium program violates a 1994 agreement made with the United States to end another crisis over North Korea's attempts to become a nuclear power. North Korea contends the United States had already broken the pact, which called for improved relations between Pyongyang and Washington and construction by next year of two power plants for the energy-starved country.

One note of optimism was Pyongyang's request to schedule more talks with Japan next week. Tokyo, under pressure from the United States to halt any diplomacy with North Korea until the uranium enrichment program is scrapped, said it would consider the request. The two sides did agree to hold lower-level "security talks" in November.

The nuclear impasse is complicating the item at the top of Tokyo's agenda: fully resolving the emotion-laden issue of Japanese citizens kidnapped by North Korea in the 1970s and '80s. And it has made the kidnap victims hostages to the bargaining.

Five of the 13 people North Korea admitted abducting came to Japan for a two-week visit on Oct. 15. The others are said to be dead. Although several of the kidnap victims have indicated their desire to return to North Korea, Japan has balked at sending them back and instead has demanded that North Korea set a date to send their families to Japan. The abductees -- two couples and a woman married to an American soldier who defected in 1965 -- have seven children among them, age 15 to 21.

According to the Japanese negotiators, North Korea has refused to send the families to Japan, saying the five abductees should first return to North Korea to discuss the matter. The North Korean Red Cross today criticized Japan for holding the five abductees in the dispute.

"This is a breach of the bilateral agreement," the Red Cross said, noting that it poses a "serious obstacle" to Pyongyang's ability to cooperate with Japan.

North Korea unexpectedly admitted to the abductions at a Sept. 17 summit meeting between Japan's prime minister, Junichiro Koizumi, and the North Korean leader, Kim Jong Il. It was part of what seemed like a new face to the long-combative and isolated government. Kim apologized to Japan and asked to resume normalization talks that had been stalled for two years. In addition, North Korea began forging closer ties with South Korea and undertook a

diplomatic opening that resulted in diplomatic recognition by most of the European Union. This week, Canada announced that North Korea would open an embassy there.

Much of that is in danger of being negated now, as the European nations and North Korea's Asian neighbors have been urged by Washington to demand that Pyongyang give up its nuclear program.

Koizumi, with some prodding by the United States, has said there can be no economic aid to Pyongyang until the nuclear issue is resolved.

Kim Dae Jung, the South Korean president, today warned of a retreat from negotiation, saying the world must avoid a new crisis with North Korea. "For our security and for North-South coexistence, North Korea must abandon its nuclear weapons development," he said in Seoul.

"Once again, I call on North Korea to show us prompt and visible action."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A43800-2002Oct30.html>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Washington Times

October 31, 2002

Pg. 17

## Lawmakers Ask Bush To End Accord

By Bill Gertz, The Washington Times

Five members of Congress yesterday urged President Bush to scrap the 1994 nuclear agreement with North Korea because of Pyongyang's recent admission that it had a covert nuclear arms program.

"First and foremost, it seems that since North Korea's covert nuclear program is a blatant violation of the Agreed Framework, the accord is nullified," the lawmakers said in a letter sent to the White House.

"In that regard, we strongly believe that the U.S. should cease support for the Korean Energy Development Organization [KEDO], and that U.S. fuel-oil shipments should be permanently terminated."

The letter was signed by Sens. Jon Kyl, Arizona Republican; Jesse Helms, North Carolina Republican; and Robert C. Smith, New Hampshire Republican. In the House, Reps. Christopher Cox, California Republican, and Edward J. Markey, Massachusetts Democrat, signed the letter.

The Bush administration has sent mixed signals about how it will respond to the North Korean government's disclosure earlier this month that it has been covertly developing nuclear weapons in violation of the 1994 agreement to freeze its arms program.

The lawmakers asked Mr. Bush if the administration had ended the energy subsidies, and whether Washington was pressing Japan and South Korea to end funding for nuclear-power facilities in North Korea.

"We hope that the United States will be able to implement the full range of economic and diplomatic sanctions to compel North Korean compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty," the letter says.

The congressmen said the United States should work aggressively with allies "to prepare for a future beyond the current Stalinist regime in Pyongyang."

"We see no viable alternative given the proven failure of subsidizing North Korea and of relying upon that country's promises," they stated.

The lawmakers called for "a change in the regime" and to that end, pushed "ending all subsidies, dramatically increasing Radio Free Asia broadcasting, and announcing a policy of temporary first asylum for people seeking to flee North Korea."

They said they would work with the president on a new strategy aimed at "bringing about the liberation of the people of this oppressed country, and ending the threat to global peace that its dangerous regime represents."

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, North Korea yesterday rebuffed demands by Japan to halt the nuclear weapons program and to permanently repatriate five Japanese citizens and their families who were abducted by North Korean agents.

North Korean officials insisted that normalization of ties and economic aide precede any resolution of issues related to Pyongyang's nuclear program and also said Pyongyang needed nuclear arms to cope with a U.S. threat and would only deal with Washington.

"Unfortunately, we saw no change in the North's position," said Katsunari Suzuki, chief of the Japanese delegation.

"We are very disappointed by this."

Early today, South Korean President Kim Dae-jung's chief spokeswoman said Seoul would proceed with diplomacy, buoyed by the unanimous backing Mr. Kim had won at an Asia-Pacific summit last weekend in Mexico.

Park Sun-sook told reporters that Mr. Kim realized that diplomacy puts "a long road ahead of us," but added that "verifiable action by North Korea is necessary."



Mr. Kim told his country yesterday that "the ball is now in North Korea's court."

<http://www.washtimes.com/world/20021031-71426150.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

Washington Times

October 31, 2002

Pg. 19

## **U.S.: Serbs Helped Libya Make Cruise Missiles**

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — A network of Yugoslav firms has been helping Libya develop long-range cruise missiles capable of reaching targets in Israel, according to a confidential U.S. complaint to Belgrade.

The three-page document, published yesterday by the Yugoslav weekly Nedeljni Telegraph, says the firms may also have helped Iraq develop its missiles — offering a new twist in a week-old scandal over sanctions-busting military aviation exports to Iraq.

<http://www.washtimes.com/world/20021031-3203152.htm>

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)

**FRANCE**

## **EU teams train for potential attacks**

**By Kim Housego, Associated Press, 10/29/2002**

CANJUERS, France - Emergency response teams from across the European Union trained yesterday as part of a drill in how to respond to terror attacks that employ chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons.

Dozens of rescue workers from Austria, Greece, Italy, Spain, and Sweden joined 800 French forces at a military base in southern France for the second day of the exercises named "Euratox 2002."

The exercises, planned months ago, sought to test the ability of the EU's new crisis center, set up in Brussels after Sept. 11, 2001, to cope with an attack in which every member state could be solicited for help.

"The events of Sept. 11, Bali, and recently the Moscow theater show that these threats are no longer fiction," said Pia Brucella, head of the Civil Protection Unit at the European Commission.

In yesterday's drill, a helicopter flew over a sports stadium, and "victims" collapsed to the ground supposedly suffering from the effects of a highly concentrated mustard gas.

Their symptoms were detailed on tags hanging around their necks - "convulsions, loss of consciousness, troubled vision, breathing difficulties, burning throat."

Rescue workers sweltering in head-to-toe biohazard suits moved in. Their first task: to decide who can be saved and who must be left for dead.

The EU crisis center is responsible for coordinating access to national stocks of vaccines and antibiotics, hospital and emergency services across Europe, or finding specialized hospital beds for victims contaminated by radioactive substances.

But in a sign of the difficulties of cooperation between different European countries, equipment is not always compatible. Hoses from Italian fire trucks generally don't fit French fire hydrants, for example.

"Every country works with different material," said Natale Inzaghi, an Italian firefighter and one of 60 EU observers at the exercises. "It's a problem that we are trying to overcome here."

Some of the drills, such as the simulated explosion of a radioactive bomb in a cinema, were hauntingly similar to a real event - the use of gas by Russian special forces in a crowded theater in order to end a hostage crisis early Saturday, in the third day of the standoff with Chechen rebels.

This story ran on page A13 of the Boston Globe on 10/29/2002.

[http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/302/nation/EU\\_teams\\_train\\_for\\_potential\\_attacks+.shtml](http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/302/nation/EU_teams_train_for_potential_attacks+.shtml)

[\(Return to Contents\)](#)