

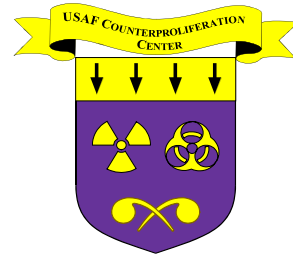
#26

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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 Lt. Col. Michael W. Ritz, CPC Intelligence/Public Affairs or JoAnn Eddy, CPC Outreach Editor, at (334) 953-7538 or DSN 493-7538.*

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## **Upcoming Event**

**The USAF Counterproliferation Center Conference**

# **"Countering the NBC Threat: Military Operations in a Weapons of Mass Destruction Storm"**

November 28-30, 2000

Maxwell AFB AL 36112-6427

Target Audience: Planners, Intelligence Officers, Counterforce Targeting Specialists, Force Protection Personnel, Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological (NBC) Specialists, and Medical Officers from USAF major commands, the Joint Staff, the Air Staff, and CINC headquarters.

Look for messages to be sent from OSD and USAF/XONP.

Intelligence:

9/26/00

## **Pak Set to Test-Fire Shaheen-II**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is all set to test-fire intermediate range ballistic missile (IRBM) Shaheen- II with a suggested range of 2,500 kms that could target major Indian cities.

"It (Shaheen-II) is ready for testing and we are waiting for the orders only," Pakistan nuclear scientist Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan was quoted as saying by the media here on Monday. Pakistan had test fired Shaheen-I, a medium-range missile with a firing range of up to 750 kms on April 15 last year and has undertaken its serial production after its induction in the army.

Qadir said Pakistan has "stockpile of missiles and atom bombs and can hit almost all the major Indian cities. I can even name the cities but that would not be proper."

Claiming that Pakistan has fool-proof and flawless system in place for delivery of nuclear weapons, Khan said "our nuclear facilities are at par with any other similar facilities in any part of the world."

Khan, father of Pakistan's nuclear programme, said: "We have crossed the nuclear threshold in 1985 but we had to defer tests on one pretext or the other till we were provoked by our neighbour to go nuclear."

Pakistan's clandestine missile programme, according to western reports, is an extension of Chinese and North Korean missile technologies.

Shaheen-I, a surface-to-surface missile, is road-mobile and can also be fired from a static platform, Pakistani media reports said. PTI

21 September 2000

## **Intelligence Official Testifies on Threats from Iran's WMD Program**

The United States "most likely will face ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile) threats from North Korea, probably from Iran, and possibly from Iraq" in the next 15 years, a U.S. intelligence official told a subcommittee of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee September 21.

The potential threat by 2015 from these countries, as well as from Russia and China, "will depend on our evolving relations with foreign countries, the political situation and economic issues in those countries, and numerous other factors that we cannot predict with confidence," according to Robert Walpole, national intelligence officer for strategic and nuclear programs....

<http://usinfo.state.gov/topical/pol/arms/stories/00092803.htm>

21 September 2000

## **Intelligence Official Schindler Says Iran Seeks Nuclear-Related Info from Foreign Sources**

Iran goes to great lengths to hide its Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) programs from the U.S. intelligence community and is actively pursuing the acquisition of fissile material and the wherewithal to form the material into nuclear weapons, a U.S. intelligence official told a Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee September 21.

A. Norman Schindler, deputy director of the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) Nonproliferation Center, told the International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee that Iran is seeking nuclear-related material

and expertise from several foreign sources, including Russia. He said that although the government in Tehran says it is concentrating on civilian research and nuclear energy programs, in that guise it is developing whole facilities "that could be used to support the production of fissile material for a nuclear weapon." ...

<http://usinfo.state.gov/topical/pol/arms/stories/00092802.htm>

## Return of a Vanished Virus

*By H.R. Shepherd and Peter J. Hotez*

Wednesday, September 27, 2000; Page A23

**We just completed a century that saw more than 65 million people die in two world wars. This toll pales, however, compared with the carnage caused by the smallpox virus. Best estimates indicate that 300 million to 500 million people died from smallpox in the 20th century--several times the number of deaths from all wars combined.**

Humankind's greatest single accomplishment of the last century arguably was the eradication of smallpox. Thanks to the smallpox vaccine and a global immunization campaign, the World Health Organization certified the world smallpox-free in 1980. So vanished a virus that caused disfiguring pustular rash, internal hemorrhage and excruciating death.

Now, smallpox is back....

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A24424-2000Sep26.html>

## Nuclear rivals to test fire missiles

Special report: India and Pakistan

Luke Harding in New Delhi and Rory McCarthy in Islamabad

Wednesday September 27, 2000

The nuclear arms race between India and Pakistan took a dangerous twist last night after both sides pledged to test fire their latest intercontinental ballistic missiles "soon".

Pakistan's leading nuclear scientist, Abdul Khan, said his country was in a position to "hit almost all the major Indian cities" and had a "stockpile of missiles and atom bombs".

They include Shaheen-II, a missile with a 1,550-mile range, capable of striking deep into southern India. "It is ready for testing. We are waiting for orders only," he said.

His comments followed a claim by the Indian defence minister, George Fernandes, that New Delhi's newest intercontinental weapon, Agni III, would be test fired "sooner than expected".

The missile, which has a range of more than 1,860 miles, enough to reach targets in central China, had almost completed the development stage, he said.

The international community imposed sanctions on India and Pakistan after they carried out tit for tat nuclear tests in 1998.

During a visit to Washington last week, India's prime minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, said that New Delhi would exercise nuclear restraint. But it has refused to sign up to the comprehensive test ban treaty.

India is about to sign a \$3bn (£2bn) arms deal with Russia during a visit to New Delhi by President Vladimir Putin next week. It is poised to buy a Russian aircraft carrier, several squadrons of Su-30 MKI aircraft and 310 T-90 tanks.

The deal is part of a massive arms buying spree by India following last year's escalation of the Kashmir conflict with Pakistan. The Indian government is expected to confirm on October 8 the purchase of 60-80 Hawk jets from Britain.

"You are seeing a further escalation in the arms race between India and Pakistan. The race has acquired a particularly dangerous dimension because both countries have passed the nuclear threshold," an Indian nuclear analyst, Praful Bidwai, said last night.

"Naturally, there is a lot of grandstanding and extravagant claims. But the situation is very, very dangerous. We appear to be slipping into a new circle of rivalry."

Most defence experts believe Pakistan's nuclear programme is now more advanced than India's - though its conventional army is much smaller.

According to US intelligence and military sources, Pakistan has stockpiled a "substantially larger" nuclear and missile arsenal because of help from China and North Korea.

India defended its nuclear tests two years ago by pointing to a Chinese nuclear threat.

Pakistan increased defence spending by 11% this year to £2bn. Defence expenditure in India rose by 28% to £8.4bn.

"This rhetoric and aggressive posturing probably has to do with the fact that the India-Pakistan relationship is really in very, very bad shape," said Rifaat Hussein, professor of political science at Islamabad's Quaid-I-Azam university.

Wall Street Journal  
September 27, 2000  
Pg. 17

## **Energy Department Report Details Weapons Problems**

By A Wall Street Journal Reporter

WASHINGTON—Leaky roofs, fire hazards and other symptoms of deferred maintenance at U.S. weapons plants have delayed reliability tests and repairs of major nuclear weapons, according to the Energy Department's inspector general. Maintenance problems have also set back the schedule for disassembling some of the nation's older warheads, the IG's office said.

A report released yesterday blames the problem on budget cutting. It estimates the agency will need an additional \$5 billion to \$8 billion over 10 years to cope with the backlogs in its "Stockpile Stewardship" program, designed to keep the U.S. nuclear-weapons force effective without testing warheads.

In a written response to the inspector general's findings, Madelyn R. Creedon, deputy administrator for defense programs at the Energy Department, said the agency agrees. She said that while the problems haven't harmed the reliability of U.S. nuclear weapons, "we face a number of challenges if we are to meet future requirements."

The report said the reliability of several weapons systems is "at risk because component surveillance testing has been delayed." According to the report, needed modifications for warheads in two of the nation's premier long-range missile systems—the land-based MX and submarine-based Trident I—have been delayed for years because of budgeting and maintenance problems at two weapons facilities: Pantex, near Amarillo, Texas, and Y-12, at Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Wednesday September 27, 10:53 am Eastern Time

### **Press Release**

*SOURCE: EluSys Therapeutics, Inc.*

## **EluSys Enters Collaborative Research Agreement With the U.S. Army; Focus Is On Agents to Treat Troops and Civilians Exposed to Anthrax**

PINE BROOK, N.J., Sept. 27 /PRNewswire/ -- EluSys Therapeutics, Inc. today announced a collaboration with the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) to develop treatments for anthrax and other potential biowarfare agents. Under the agreement, EluSys and USAMRIID will develop antibodies to principal anthrax toxins that will be incorporated in EluSys' proprietary Heteropolymer (HP) technology. EluSys and USAMRIID hope to develop compounds that will prevent disease before exposure to anthrax as well as treat those who have been exposed.

"We are pleased to be working with USAMRIID to help the Army combat the threat of biowarfare and bioterrorism," commented Stephen Sudovar, president and chief executive officer of EluSys. "These threats are unfortunately real, since the ability to produce and deliver dangerous quantities of a number of toxic biological

agents does not require sophisticated technology. EluSys' patented HP technology shows tremendous promise for treating and possibly preventing sickness from exposure to biological toxins."...  
[http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/000927/nj\\_elusys\\_.html](http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/000927/nj_elusys_.html)

## Russia Tests New Nuclear-Capable Missile

MOSCOW, Sep 28, 2000 -- (Reuters) Russia on Wednesday conducted a second new test of its Topol-M intercontinental ballistic missile, heralded by the military as the country's nuclear deterrent for the 21st century.

The Topol-M, referred to as SS-27 by NATO, was fired from a mobile missile launcher from Plesetsk in northern Russia to a target on the distant Kamchatka peninsula in the far east, Interfax news agency reported.

The test, the twelfth in total, was carried out a day after a Topol-M was successfully fired on the same trajectory out of a silo. The Topol-M was given final approval earlier this year as part of Russia's arsenal.

Russia says the missile, with a range of 10,000 kilometers (6,200 miles) can break through any system such as the missile shield Washington is proposing to build, over Moscow's objections, to protect it against attacks by "rogue" states.

The test launches came as Russia debated how to reform its cash-strapped military, a sprawling colossus of 1.2 million troops and a lot of underused hardware.

President Vladimir Putin chaired a meeting of the advisory Security Council on Wednesday and reiterated his calls for the army to be reorganized to be more efficient.

"We spend colossal sums of money on the military," he said in televised comments. "And we also allow the military budget to be blurred by questions which have no direct link to military readiness of the army or to providing for its needs.

"Our army must be modern and flexible and mobile, battle ready."

Defence Minister Igor Sergeyev has proposed cutting the armed forces by almost a third by 2003, to around 800,000.

The sinking last month of the nuclear submarine Kursk highlighted the sorry state of the military's equipment and infrastructure.

Plans to downgrade the role of the Strategic Rocket Forces, which control Russia's land-based nuclear arsenal, have sparked a row between Sergeyev, their former commander, and his chief of staff, Anatoly Kvashnin, who wants to give priority and more money to conventional forces.

Boston Globe  
September 29, 2000  
Pg. 2

## Vaccine Probed In Death

By Charles Aldinger, Reuters

WASHINGTON - The Pentagon said yesterday that it is investigating a report that an anthrax vaccination may have contributed to the death of a worker at a Michigan plant that could soon begin producing the vaccine for the military.

"Obviously, this is something that we take very seriously. We have set out to find more facts," Defense Department spokesman Ken Bacon told reporters in response to questions about a report yesterday in the Lansing State Journal. The newspaper said that Richard Dunn, 61, a worker at BioPort Corp. in Lansing, died in July, three months after receiving his 11th shot of the vaccine designed to protect humans against the deadly biological warfare agent. It quoted Ionia County Medical Examiner Robert Joyce as saying that an autopsy indicated that Dunn had an "inflammatory response" to the vaccine throughout his body.

"Even though they didn't find any anthrax in the man's system ... his body's reaction to the vaccine contributed to his death," Joyce said.

The military is inoculating all 2.4 million active and reserve troops against anthrax, but has slowed the process because of a shortage of the vaccine and the fact that the Food and Drug Administration has not given final approval to a new BioPort plant in Lansing.

Bacon said that the Defense Department had talked to officials in Lansing about the autopsy on Dunn but that the department had not received a copy of the autopsy and was not halting its vaccination program.

"We know that the autopsy ... suggests that he may have had some heart problem - that the cause of death may have been associated with his heart," Bacon said.

In Michigan, BioPort expressed shock at the medical examiner's comments to the newspaper, saying that the death certificate for Dunn listed ventricular arrhythmia as the cause of death and made no mention of anthrax or any underlying cause.

Joyce could not be reached directly for comment. He said through a spokeswoman that the article accurately reflected his comments to the newspaper.

Bacon told reporters that it was premature for the Pentagon to consider halting its own program of vaccinations of troops going to high-risk areas such as the Korean peninsula and the Persian Gulf, where North Korea and Iraq respectively are suspected to have produced and stored anthrax biological agent.

"We can't act just on the basis of a newspaper report. We need more facts and that's what we've set out to do - find more facts," he said.

The troop vaccinations, and the shots that were given to Dunn, are from stored stocks of thousands of doses produced by BioPort and the former state-owned Michigan Biologic Products Institute. BioPort bought the institute in 1998.

BioPort, which is currently the sole producer of the vaccine for the US military, is awaiting FDA approval of its new plant in Lansing to begin producing hundreds of thousands of doses of the vaccine.

Baltimore Sun  
September 29, 2000

## **Attempted Nuclear Thefts Have Fallen, Russians Say**

MOSCOW -- Russian officials said yesterday that attempted thefts of fissile nuclear materials had fallen in recent years but also complained that funds were short to establish a proper accounting system for them.

Deputy Atomic Energy Minister Valentin Ivanov told a news conference after a Cabinet meeting that only two attempted thefts of such materials had been recorded between 1995 and 1999, compared with 21 over the four previous years. Ivanov, quoted by Russian news agencies, said Western reports of 90 such instances were false.

Atomic Energy Minister Yevgeny Adamov later told ORT public television that thefts were theoretically possible. But it was difficult to dispose of nuclear materials and turn a profit.

Washington Times  
September 29, 2000  
Washington Times  
September 29, 2000

## **Inside The Ring**

By Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough  
**North Korea deal**

A week after the Pentagon issued a report warning that North Korea is building up its military forces and remains a major danger, the Clinton administration is set to make concessions to the communist regime.

Talks between U.S. and North Korean officials kicked off this week in New York. The main topics, we are told, include problems with adherence to the 1994 Agreed Framework that was supposed to halt North Korea's nuclear arms program, and North Korea's continued development of long-range missiles.

The U.S. side also is planning to remove North Korea from the State Department's list of state sponsors of international terrorism, even though Pyongyang continues to harbor terrorists and has been linked to a past terror bombing in Southeast Asia.

Diplomatic sources said they hope to coax the North Koreans into inviting State's new coordinator for North Korean policy, Wendy Sherman, to visit Pyongyang early next month. In exchange, North Korea will be taken off the terrorism list. There's a problem, however. Japanese officials are not on board. Tokyo is demanding Pyongyang resolve cases of Japanese citizens abducted by North Korean agents and taken to the peninsula.

New York Times  
September 30, 2000

## Missile Sale To Taiwan Has Unusual Clause

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29 — A United States missile sale to Taiwan announced late this week includes a highly unusual condition: that the missiles will not be turned over to the island nation unless China introduces a similar weapons system, a senior American defense official said today.

The unusual arrangement was not mentioned when the Pentagon announced on Thursday that it planned to sell 200 Amraam missiles to Taiwan as part of a \$1.3 billion arms package. The Pentagon said the sale would increase and improve Taiwan's air-defense capacity without upsetting regional military balance.

The arrangement is meant to meet an American arms export pledge not to introduce new offensive military capacities into Asia.

Taiwanese pilots will train with the missiles, designated the AIM-120C Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (or Amraam), at Air Force training ranges in the United States, the defense official said.

The official said this was "a way for them to train up and be ready should the threat occur," without provoking China into accelerating its pursuit of a similar capacity. China's air-to-air missiles are far less advanced.

New York Times Magazine  
October 1, 2000

## Saddam's Bomb

*Khidhir Hamza, once Iraq's leading nuclear physicist, defected five years ago and, so far, has lived to tell about it. In his new memoir, he recounts the inside story of how Saddam almost built an atomic weapon.*

By Jonathan Broder

The Wal-Mart on Route 3 in Spotsylvania County, Va., about 50 miles south of Washington, is not the sort of place where you would expect even a whiff of Middle Eastern intrigue. Yet one humid morning in August, Khidhir Hamza, once a high-ranking Iraqi nuclear physicist and now a defector, experienced a moment there as chilling as anything out of a Hitchcock movie. As he picked through a stack of shirts, Hamza looked up to see before him two people he knew from Baghdad, the wife and daughter of a senior official on the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission. The 61-year-old Hamza is not a man who believes in coincidence. As the wife expressed her delight at bumping into him after so many years, Hamza pretended not to recognize her. He also carefully maneuvered his shopping cart between them, fearing she might draw close enough to prick him with a poison-tipped instrument - a technique favored by Saddam's assassins.

"It was terrifying," Hamza says in his accented English, which he speaks slowly, with a deep voice. "What were they doing there? I couldn't ask them. So I pretended they had confused me for someone else. Then I asked them who they thought I was, but they wouldn't answer. I could see from the sarcastic smiles on their faces that they didn't believe me." Hamza excused himself and hurried out of the store. A few weeks later, as he pulled his car into the Wal-Mart parking lot, Hamza saw the woman again, this time with her husband. Shaken, he kept driving. The episodes at Wal-Mart keep Hamza awake at night because he knows from long experience how Saddam Hussein operates. He knows, for example, that when Saddam wants someone eliminated, he often chooses a friend or relative of the victim to perform the task - not only to get inside the defenses of his target but also to test the loyalty of his designated assassin. Hamza has seen friends liquidate friends under Saddam's orders to kill or be killed.

"They always send someone you know," Hamza told me a few weeks after the incident. "With Saddam, no one can be sure who somebody really is. You can never know who is who."

Hamza also knows that Saddam has good reason to want him dead. Before he defected to the United States in 1995, Hamza was the director general of Saddam's secret program to build a nuclear bomb, a three-decade effort that nearly succeeded. When he fled, Hamza took the secrets of the weapons program with him, disclosing them to the Central Intelligence Agency in detailed briefings and later going public with his story in interviews, lectures and TV appearances. For now, Hamza has the unusual distinction of being the highest-ranking Iraqi scientist ever to defect and live to tell about it.

But he may be pushing his luck. Next month, Scribner will publish Hamza's memoir, "Saddam's Bombmaker." The book not only recounts how he and a team of scientists secretly designed and nearly built a nuclear device; it also provides a rare glimpse of life in the presidential palace. There are firsthand descriptions of Saddam's impulsive murder and torture of subordinates, his drunken rages, his sexual exploitation of women and his paranoia about germs. There are new charges about Saddam's use of human guinea pigs in biological-warfare experiments. And Hamza alleges that during the Persian Gulf war the Iraqi leader deliberately positioned stockpiles of chemical and biological agents in the path of advancing American troops. Hamza also warns that Saddam remains determined to reconstitute his nuclear bomb program and still has the scientists to do so.

In the shadowy world of intelligence organizations and defectors, it is often difficult to know what is really going on. Were the people Hamza encountered at the Wal-Mart assassins or merely innocent shoppers? You can't know. But those who worry about Hamza's safety say that an incident in McLean, Va., last year provides a cautionary tale. There, a 63-year-old Iraqi businessman named Fuad Taima was found professionally murdered in his home, along with his American wife and their 16-year-old son. After 18 months, the crimes still remain unsolved. What the lead investigator, Bradley Garrett, of the F.B.I., can confirm is this: the assassin was a Middle Easterner and a skilled killer; the Taima family knew him and let him into the house; and the murder of Taima's wife and son was a pointed message to others.

"There is a very important fact about Saddam that people do not tend to take into account, and that is his need for revenge," says Rend Rahim Francke, the Baghdad-born executive director of the Iraq Foundation, a democracy and human rights group in Washington. "You don't know what we're dealing with here. It's pretty beastly."

Hamza lives south of Washington in one of the many new subdivisions that have homogenized the communities along Interstate 95 heading toward Richmond. When I arranged to visit him at his home recently, it was only a few days after the second Wal-Mart episode, and he insisted that an associate drive me while I wore a blindfold. He apologized for the inconvenience but said he couldn't take the chance that I might reveal where he lived. "They read, you know," he told me on the telephone, referring to Saddam's security men. "They look for clues."

When I arrive a few days later, Hamza is waiting outside his house, wearing dark slacks and a white shirt. He is a short, stocky man, with black hair and dark, intense eyes. He suggests we drive to a restaurant nearby for lunch. There I begin to sense the loneliness of a defector's life. As we enter the restaurant, Hamza stops briefly to chat in Arabic with the owner, who is Palestinian. When he returns to the table, I ask Hamza if the owner ever asks him about his past. "They don't really ask questions," he says quietly. "If they do, I tell them I'm an ex-college professor from Iraq."

Hamza shuns any contact with Iraqi opposition groups, convinced that they are thoroughly infiltrated by Saddam's agents. He is also leery of Iraqis working at gas stations and convenience stores; he fears they might serve as lookouts for Saddam. For the same reason, he stays away when Iraqi entertainers come to the Washington area. After lunch, Hamza takes me back to his house, a modest white rambler, where he introduces me to his wife, Souham, a composed, rather formal woman. She sets out coffee and a creme caramel she has prepared, then excuses herself, apologizing for a bad back.

As Hamza tells it, he gave little thought to returning to Iraq after receiving his doctorate in physics from Florida State in 1968. But that was before an Iraqi agent came calling at tiny Fort Valley State College in Georgia, where



Hamza was teaching in 1970. The agent made it clear that Hamza was expected to pay back government loans by working for the regime, increasingly dominated by Saddam, then Iraq's vice president. In a foretaste of Saddam's heavy-handed methods, the agent warned Hamza that his refusal could mean the arrest and torture of his father. At first, Hamza said, he was seduced by well-paid employment at a civilian center in Baghdad that researched the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. But after a year on the job, government agents presented him with another offer he couldn't refuse: a senior post on the secret team working to build a nuclear bomb. Refusal was never an option, as he understood after his first face-to-face encounter with Saddam. During an unannounced inspection of his new office, Saddam suddenly exploded in anger at Hamza for a seemingly harmless oversight - not framing some pictures of eminent scientists that had been tacked up on a wall outside his office.

"Hours later, when my shakes finally went away, I figured it out," Hamza writes. "He'd sensed some independence in me, and made the only point he wanted to make: he was in charge. Anyone who challenged him did so at the risk of his life. It had nothing to do with the pictures. For months, at a distance, I had assessed him as rather clever. But now I saw he was a killer."

Hamza says he and his fellow scientists were unwilling participants in the clandestine bomb program, kept in line by Saddam's punishments and rewards. He says Saddam ordered colleague after colleague dragged off to jail and severely beaten for failing to produce results. After their release, they would be placated with gifts of cash, cars and houses, "as if nothing had happened."

In July 1979, just days after Saddam seized complete power from President Ahmed al-Bakr, a friendly official of the ruling Baath Party invited Hamza to watch a video. "He said I would find it interesting," Hamza says. The opening scene showed a smiling Saddam, surrounded by top party leaders, sitting in a large conference room at the Presidential Palace. Standing at a lectern, one of Saddam's aides read out a list of names of "conspirators." Saddam ordered them to stand, and armed guards pushed them through a side door. Though Hamza didn't know it at the time, he was watching Saddam's first major purge.

"The next scene was in a courtyard," Hamza says. "All those who had been taken out of the conference room were there. Some were standing against the wall. Others were kneeling with their eyes blindfolded. Then the shooting started." The camera focused on those who were doing the shooting. "This was not a regular execution squad," Hamza says. "The shooters were party members, people I know. One of them was my own boss. People were being forced to shoot their own friends, people they had eaten with, gone out with, people they had known all their lives. Men were weeping."

When the video was finished, Hamza says, the party official turned to him in disgust and said: "We are now cannibalizing ourselves. These are not people you don't know. These are your friends. One day, I might be asked to shoot you. And I would, because my own head would be on the line."

With those grim images in his mind, Hamza focused all his energies on developing the bomb. He led secret missions to Europe and the former Soviet Union to acquire bomb technology, carefully covering his tracks to avoid assassination by Israeli agents. On trips to the United States, he was able to glean invaluable guidance by studying scientific journals and technical accounts of America's bomb effort, all of which were open to scholars. Even Israel's 1981 bombing of Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor failed to halt the program. If anything, Hamza says, it moved it into high gear as Saddam defiantly poured billions of dollars into the effort and threatened more torture for any scientist who faltered.

Over the next decade, Hamza says, he reaped lavish rewards - new cars, money, membership in Baghdad's exclusive Hunting Club - as he climbed the ranks to director of weaponization. Thanks to Hamza's efforts, Iraq stood only a few months away from building a nuclear device when the allies began bombing during the gulf war.

Finally, in 1993, two years after the war ended, the body of a senior nuclear procurement officer was found in a ditch, prompting Hamza to begin to plot his escape. But it was not until 1994 that he was able to slip out of Baghdad into the "no-fly zone" in northern Iraq, controlled by opposition groups with connections to the C.I.A. There, using an opposition leader's encrypted telephone, he contacted C.I.A. headquarters outside Washington to announce his readiness to defect. To Hamza's utter dismay, however, the C.I.A. turned down his offer. Now he was stranded, the clock ticking on how soon Saddam would notice his absence.

Warren Marik, one C.I.A. officer who spoke to Hamza that day, told me, "We had no idea of his importance." But Marik, now retired from the agency, added that Hamza had another mark against him: the opposition figure who put him in contact with the C.I.A. - Ahmed Chalabi, leader of the Iraqi National Congress, had fallen out of favor with the White House. Marik says the C.I.A. essentially dismissed Hamza as "unacceptable by association." Later, the C.I.A., realizing its mistake, brought him in from the cold, and later still arranged for the clandestine exfiltration of his family from Baghdad.

As a matter of policy, the C.I.A. does not comment one way or the other on defectors. But a United States official, speaking on condition of anonymity, opened the door a crack to say that Hamza was "helpful to the community's

understanding of weapons of mass destruction programs, specifically nuclear issues, and what Iraq was up to in the period he was there."

A happy ending, of sorts. But like many defectors, Hamza remains tethered to his past, and the book is his attempt at redemption. "I did a tremendous amount of evil," he says. "Now I'm making up for it. It's one thing to know things from the inside. But it's another thing to say the things you know."

In his book, Hamza is particularly critical of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which monitors nuclear programs around the world. He describes how Saddam's spies easily infiltrated the agency, enabling the regime to stay a step ahead of the inspectors. In the late 1970's, he says, Baghdad quietly cultivated a close relationship with the late Maurizio Zifferero, who represented Italian companies that built Iraq's plutonium separation plants. Later, Zifferero became the leader of the I.A.E.A.'s inspection team for Iraq. Hamza says that Saddam's top lieutenants referred to Zifferero as "our man at the I.A.E.A."

Hamza maintains that it was only after his defection, and that of his former boss, Gen. Hussein Kamel, Saddam's son-in-law, that inspectors learned the full extent of the nuclear program. (Promised amnesty by Saddam, Kamel returned to Iraq, where he was killed in a shootout with Iraqi security forces in 1996.) Hamza says it was his information that helped inspectors uncover Saddam's sprawling secret nuclear weapons center at Al Altheer, outside Baghdad, and other sites. Most important, Hamza says he was the first to identify Iraq's senior nuclear scientists and tell the C.I.A. where to find them. More than anything else, he asserts, it was the demands of the United Nations Special Commission's inspectors to know what these scientists were doing, as opposed to where weapons were hidden, that led Saddam to abort international inspections in late 1998.

"For a while, it was successful," Hamza says of the inspectors' efforts after his briefings. "But it was probably too successful."

The International Atomic Energy Agency won't comment on the specifics of Hamza's criticism. It denies that its inspectors were soft on Iraq before the war, saying that under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty they were allowed to inspect only those installations that Iraq had declared. As for Hamza's role in exposing Iraq's duplicity after the war, the organization says that he has exaggerated his importance.

Meanwhile, there are signs that Saddam has resumed his nuclear weapons program, just as Hamza warned. Over the past six months, says Richard Butler, the former chief United Nations weapons inspector, credible reports have been received indicating the movement of Iraqi atomic scientists and technicians to a site outside Baghdad. "They're domiciled there," Butler told me. "They sleep and eat there and work there. And that raises the question of whether they are back in the business of seeking to design and build a nuclear explosive device."

Given that there is little prospect of resuming international inspections, Hamza, with the help of David Albright, an arms control specialist in Washington, has put together his own proposal for blocking Saddam: lift all sanctions against Iraq - provided Baghdad permits its senior nuclear scientists and their families to immigrate to the West. Hamza believes the resulting brain drain would thwart Saddam's nuclear aspirations for years to come. "Lifting of sanctions would be a big reward for Saddam," he argues. "At the same time, the loss of his scientists would be irreplaceable. He can replace equipment, but he can't replace scientists."

As long as Saddam is in power, Hamza will face the question of whether the Iraqi leader will stand by while he speaks out - especially as Saddam shows new confidence over the end of weapons inspections and the failure of economic sanctions. "I worry a little more," says Albright, president of the Institute for Science and International Security. "Right now I don't think they would do anything. He's so public that it would be obvious that they assassinated him. What he has to worry about is what looks like an accidental death, and I think he should protect himself carefully."

Hamza says he has been receiving anonymous and untraceable calls on his unlisted telephone number from people speaking Iraqi-accented Arabic. "They say things like, We know you are an American agent' or just, You're dead," he says. Hamza is reluctant to seek F.B.I. protection, fearful that it might draw attention to him.

Hamza says he'll probably move soon, a change he and his wife have been considering for some time. His plans to promote his memoir with advertised bookstore appearances and lectures might have to be altered or shelved entirely. Hamza's situation now resembles that of another author, Salman Rushdie, whose book "The Satanic Verses" earned him a public death sentence from Iranian religious authorities, who considered it blasphemous.

As much as he hates Saddam, Hamza still sees the wisdom in a remark the dictator made in one of their meetings. "He once told me: If you are a believer in God, and you get killed following a certain path, then you are rewarded with heaven and you are a great man. But you are a greater man if you are not a believer. Because then you do it out of personal commitment. You know there is no reward on the other side."

"I do what I do not because I expect some reward in heaven," Hamza insists. He smiles confidently. He is not a very religious man. Nevertheless, for Khidhir Hamza, the price of redemption seems to be rising.

*Jonathan Broder is a Washington-based correspondent for FoxNews.com and a senior writer for The Jerusalem Report.*

## **India, Russia to Sign Defense and Nuclear Agreements**

By Suryamurthy Ramachandran

CNS Correspondent

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New Delhi (CNSNews.com) - India and Russia are expected to sign agreements on defense cooperation, including the peaceful use of nuclear technology, during the visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin to India beginning Monday.

"We have had a special relationship with Russia, and we will continue with it," said Indian Foreign Secretary Lalit Mansingh ahead of Putin's four-day state visit to New Delhi beginning October 2.

"We shall continue to cement strategic partnership with India," Putin was recently quoted as saying. "We are interested in India being a strong and defense-capable nation, for this corresponds to Russia's strategic and national interests."

Asked whether the recent upswing in Indo-US relations would have an impact on India's ties with Russia, Mansingh made it clear that New Delhi's close bonds with Washington "is not at the cost of" its relationship with Moscow.

"Our relations (with one country) do not preclude relations with other countries," Mansingh said.

"While building closer links with the United States...India cannot neglect Russia," said foreign policy analyst Brahma Chellaney. "Despite Russia's present fragility, its strategic importance for India has not declined," he said

"Rather, the growing imbalance of power in Asia has only reinforced the value of a close Indo-Russian partnership for Asian stability," Chellaney added.

"Prospects of cooperation are most optimistic. I believe that during the president's visit, a document on the peaceful uses of nuclear technology will be signed," said Russian Deputy Prime Minister Ilya Klebanov, who was here to prepare the grounds for Putin's visit.

Russia is currently helping India build two 1,000-megawatt nuclear power plants in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

Russia was one of the few countries that did not condemn India's nuclear tests in May 1998.

The tests created outrage in the international community and many countries, including the US, imposed economic sanctions on India.

Though Russia has expressed optimism that India would sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) soon, Moscow has not made it a precondition, like Washington or other western nations have, for cooperation in nuclear technology.

India says that the treaty is discriminatory and lacked a time-bound frame for disarmament.

Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, has, however, stated that New Delhi could sign up soon on the CTBT after a national consensus is reached.

India and Russia expect to sign major defense agreements during Putin's visit, including the purchase of 140 Sukhoi-30 fighter jets to strengthen its air force and about 100 T-90 battle tanks for its army.

Russia has offered an aircraft carrier "Admiral Gorshkov," for free, but India will pay about \$700 million to have it fitted with new equipment.

India has only one aircraft carrier, INS Viraat, which will be refitted and become operational soon.

India hiked its defense spending by 28 percent this year after an 11-week skirmish with neighboring Pakistan in the mountains of Kashmir last summer.

Defense deals worth billions of dollars presumably will be signed during the Russian President's visit. Putin reportedly will hold discussions with Indian leaders for the sale of other weapons systems that New Delhi needs.

Russian military equipment still provides the backbone of India's armed forces, and Putin's visit is expected to accelerate plans for Russian weaponry and spare parts to be manufactured in India.

Russia, like Israel, is keen to sell an Airborne Warning and Control System to the Indian Air Force.

India has active defense ties with Russia, its main supplier of weapons since the Soviet Union broke apart in 1991.

"With the establishment of democracy in Russia and the introduction of market reforms ... new dimensions have been opened in the relationship," said Mansingh.

"We had a defense agreement with the Soviet Union. Now, we will have a strategic partnership with Russia," he said.

"We are not going to see a return to the close bonds of the Cold War, but the fact is that some of the underlying interests of both countries have not changed," said Chellaney.

The visit by the Russian leader gives a chance for both countries to redefine a relationship that has seemed to have lost its way since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Both India and Russia have sought to forge new diplomatic paths in the emerging multi-polar world.

It will be the first Russian presidential visit to India since Boris Yeltsin's tour more than seven years ago.

Washington Times

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## **Army Being Trained For A Nuclear War**

### ***New leader says preparation is vital***

NEW DELHI (Agence France-Presse) — The Indian army will be trained to prepare for a nuclear war with an emphasis on weapons, tactics and war games, the new army chief, Gen. Sunderrajan Padmanabhan, was quoted as saying yesterday.

Gen. Padmanabhan, who took charge on Saturday, said India's military force needs to be ready for a nuclear war, "even if it is unlikely to take place," according to the Times of India.

"Nuclear weapons are weapons of tremendous power.... We have to war game, evolve, assess, internalize tactics and work out a series of approximations," he said.

India staged nuclear tests two years ago, sparking a matching riposte from archrival Pakistan. The tests earned both countries international condemnation and sanctions.

Gen. Padmanabhan is the first army chief since now-deceased Gen. K. Sundarji in 1986 to openly talk about nuclear war.

He explained that being ready for a nuclear war is vital.

"If we have a capability, it is necessary that we should be prepared with our doctrines, tactics and plans. A certain amount of work has already been done in this regard which I would not like to go into. But we need to fine-tune it further."

Gen. Padmanabhan also vowed to defeat the Muslim separatist insurgency in Kashmir, which has claimed more than 30,000 lives since 1989.

"Though there may be the odd hiccup, we have got a good grip on the situation. We will defeat the nefarious aims of these mercenaries," he said.

Gen. Padmanabhan said there had been a spurt of militant activity in Kashmir and accused Pakistan of sending new fighters across the disputed Kashmir border.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since their 1947 independence from British colonial rule and engaged in a border conflict in Kashmir last year.

Gen. Padmanabhan said a conflict last year in the mountain stronghold of Kargil showed that future conflicts between India and Pakistan are possible.

He said there is "space for conventional conflict between a low intensity conflict and an all-out nuclear war."