

## **THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS SHOULD WE WORRY CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND TERRORIST OUTFITS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The Chemical weapons' are the weapons of mass destruction which can inflict gruesome injuries to the humans to large extent. The enormous use of chemical weapons has been the concern in the contemporary world. The utilization of toxic chemicals to inflict damage deliberately to the humans or animals. Chemical weapons had been first of all used on a large scale during the First World War, causing humongous 90,000 deaths and 1.3 million casualties. They are prohibited by the Chemical Weapons Convention which finally came into force in 1997. Around 193 states have signed the chemical weapons convention. There has been a report of using chemical weapons all around the world.

### **KEYWORDS**

Chemical, Weapons, Destruction, Casualties

### **OBJECTIVES**

This paper will analyze the

1. The background of the use of the chemical weapons
2. The destruction caused by the chemical weapons
3. Access of chemical weapons to terrorist outfits
4. How to combat to this new catastrophe

### **INTRODUCTION**

The present world is the world full of uncertainty and vulnerability. In the context of weapons we are witnessing some drastic changes and happenings around the world. The conventional weapons have been replaced by lethal weapons and the worst part is that these weapons are still emerging and becoming more potent. How destroys these weapons

can be we have already experienced that. By taking one of the most recent examples of Syria. Onslaught of Chemical weapons can occur in different forms and contexts, including the armed conflict, assassinations and terrorist attacks. There are assumptions that many states possess chemical weapons and never declare about these huge stockpiles. The use of the chemical weapons by the terrorist organisation is causing a huge threat. The prospect of terrorist usage of chemical agents is really a concern that has been taken in consideration by the Tokyo 1995 sarin gas attacks of September 11, 2001, have got attention to the majority of the stakeholders towards the vulnerability. The possibility that terrorist might obtain chemical that is insecure led to increased scrutiny of declared Libyan chemical weapon stockpiles following the regime of Qadhafi. Many Specialists expressed their concern about the safety and make use of of Syrian chemical tools, apparently including neurological and blister agents. Military planners generally organize chemical agents under different domains, such as for example chemical weapons and toxic commercial chemical substances, into four groups: neurological agents (such as for example sarin and VX), blister agents, choking agents, and bloodstream agents. As the general hazard that is military by the different chemical types has diverse with time, terrorist usage of these chemical compounds against civilian goals can be considered a minimal likelihood, high consequence.

Those Chemical and toxic chemical compounds which are used for commercial leads to a variety of symptoms in the victims of those who had been exposed. These symptoms be determined by the chemical agent that has been put to use, and a victim of chemical exposure experience and display a variety of symptoms. Some chemical agents which are highly toxic results in death. Many high toxic chemical can result in breathing disorders and result in asphyxiation. Some chemical agents have other effects. As a result, effective chemical attack treatment is dependent on determining at the very least the kind of chemical agent that was used. Furthermore, chemical agents trapped in the human body or garments of victims may put responders in vulnerable situation and definitely at high a risk. The protection of civilians from and detection of chemical agents is a specific area of concern. Whether terrorist teams are capable of utilizing agents that are chemical weapons of mass destruction is still under veil and unclear. Some professionals have asserted that the amount of chemicals necessary to cause mass casualties makes that situation more

unlikely. They declare that chemical terrorism is almost certainly going to be little in scale. Some of professionals in this field have given clear indication that there has been a rise in terrorist interest regarding chemical weapons, and that this interest can lead to their used in terrorist attacks. Some professionals assert that stockpiles of chemical weapons of military-grade would reduce the barrier in contrast empower the terrorists and these chemical weapons will be within the reach these terrorist groups and will be threat to the peace For them. However most of the experts are of the opinion that usage of these terrorist usage of chemical weapons is rare and there is very less probability but it can't be completely ruled out also, While terrorist teams may or may not have a showed their interest The domestic issue of United States to chemical weapons has remained an issue and will continue to be an issue if not dealt with properly. Both America and Russia have ratified and have signed the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), and therefore are at the process of reducing, and vanishing out their chemical weapons.

## **DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHEMICAL AGENTS**

Some chemical agents are toxic chemical compounds which are used commercially, while others are chemicals mainly developed for the purpose to use as weapons. It's important to mention here that different chemical weapons cause different symptoms. The symptoms' differ and the injuries show different symptoms completely the array of prospective results, distinguishing the chemical agent is the key in determining the most effective treatment. Also, chemical weapons may prove potent and show results by numerous ways, for example by skin contact or by inhalation. As a result, different chemical that is encountered those impacted must employ different protective strategies and approaches; as an example, a gasoline mask alone does not offer security that is enough chemical substances that may damage through skin contact.

### **THE NERVE AGENT**

This Chemical is categorized as nerve agents. This chemical disrupts the normal functioning of the nervous system and cause drastic changes in the nervous system. Neurological agents are not naturally occurring thing. Instead, they are manmade that require different techniques of manufacture for high toxicity and purity isolation is requires. Many neurological agents are part of a group of chemicals called

organophosphates. Organophosphates have a wide range and high level of toxicity. Some insecticides have organophosphates, but they are these are very less in quantity in comparison to the manmade which are toxic those developed as chemical weapons. Nerve agents are mainly in liquid form. First nerve that was, tabun or GA, was manufactured in Germany during 1930s. Following this finding, many new neurological agents just like tabun were made. This series was known as the G-series, which includes the weapons sarin (GB) and soman (GD). Another group of nerve series was known as the V-series was invented and manufactured in England. The chemical is roofed by this series gun VX. In today's world many nations, such as the united states of America and also the Soviet Union, manufactured and have very high stockpiles of neurological agents. As they were also the signatories to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)

### **PRODUCTION AND ITS DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS**

The chemical weapons programme known as the national chemical weapon programme have been producing nerve agents since a long time. The manufacturing of the nerve agents the use of very high toxic chemicals during its making and these chemicals needs special equipments to contain the agents.

The nerve agents are the most dangerous chemical agents in contrast to other chemical agents. They can enter body through respiration and by skin. Some nerve agents are much toxic when they are inhaled contrast to the dermal contact like sarin some are more danger when it is contacted with skin. Some Nerve agents can permanently cause damage to the nervous system and some can be cured. The main symptoms of the nerve agents are nausea, tiredness, loss of muscle control, balance issues. If exposed at higher concentrations certainly causes death. The one thing that should be kept in mind that the nerve agents if not corrected immediately can be irreversible

### **THE BLISTER AGENTS**

Chemicals which are classified as blister agents are also known as vesicants, because blistering that is painful of epidermis. Such blistering just isn't generally speaking is not life-threatening. Militarily, blister agents can only produce relatively low casualties and decrease the combating effectiveness of opposing groups by requiring them to wear the special protective gears. The most blisters that are common are called mustard agents, due to their foul smell. Mustard agents are in liquids only mainly in yellow color. Blister agents are not naturally occurring. Both these agents were in popular use during the First World

War. Mustard-type blister agents produced the amount that is best of chemical casualties during World War I, though fewer than 5% among these casualties passed away. Nations have stockpiled blister agents in large amount in their chemical weapon inventories

## **PRODUCTION AND ITS EFFECTS**

The Production of blister agents is relatively easier than that of nerve agents. Compare and contrast to manufacture of neurological agents, it takes the application of toxic chemical compounds and equipment that is specialized contains the agent produced. Probably the most blister that is common have numerous various options for their manufacturing posted within the literary works that is available. Blister agents can enter in the body by inhalation or touching of skin or eyes. Some agents can penetrate through normal clothes material, causing burns even yet in cloth-covered areas. While blister agents respond quickly upon epidermis contact, their signs might be delayed. In the situation of mustard agent, damage does occur within few minutes after exposure, but signs never manifest for hours. As even low concentrations of vaporized blister agents cause quick damage, it is very unlikely that person who is exposed can remove these agents from the skin prior to injury.

## **CHOKING AGENTS**

Chemicals classified as choking agents effects in the lungs and cause severe trouble in breathing and, possibly, permanent and irreversible lung damage. Types of choking agents consist of chlorine, ammonia, and phosgene. Choking agents are in gaseous form, have marked smells that can color the encompassing atmosphere. Choking agents had been manufactured for wartime use, and were extensively utilized during World War

## **PRODUCTION AND EFFECTS**

Choking agents are not used for military purposes, instead used for industrial purposes. Commercial applications use chlorine and ammonia in large quantities for water disinfection and food refrigeration. Methods in producing choking agents are simple and well-known, but may be challenging at times. Choking agents require specialty in manufacturing, and contain them. Choking agents injure their victims through respiration process and have a comparatively very little effect on the skin. Exposure to low chemical concentrations can cause chest discomfort or shortness of breath, nose irritation and teary eyes.

## **BLOOD AGENTS**

Chemicals categorized as blood agents alter oxygen levels. This category includes hydrogen cyanide and cyanide salts. Hydrogen cyanide is a very gaseous and is volatile smelling of almonds, while cyanide salts are don't have smell at all. Militaries have extensively considered and used hydrogen cyanide during a warfare that is chemical, but it has put in very less use within armed forces situations since it quickly disperses. France manufactured hydrogen cyanide in the World War I

## **PRODUCTION AND ITS EFFECTS**

Both of them Hydrogen cyanide and cyanide salts are used for commercial purposes have industrial applications in the chemical, electroplating, and mining industries. As with choking agents, methods for producing blood agents are relatively well-known. However, the gaseous nature of hydrogen cyanide complicates production and storage. Blood agents act through inhalation or ingestion and impair air usage that is cellular. The central nervous system is especially vulnerable to this effect. The observable symptoms of blood agent Depend upon the agent duration and concentration of its exposure. In moderate cases, frustration, dizziness, and nausea may possibly occur for many hours

## **PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICAL AGENTS**

The Protection against chemical weapons are mainly physical, in nature. Physical protections is out most important and the only way to limit its exposure by wearing the proper gear protecting the eyes, lungs and skin from chemical exposure.

## **PHYSICAL**

Physical security against chemical agents includes specialized masks and special clothing that is protective. mask filters equipped with chemical filters work well against inhaled chemical agents but might not provide enough security against chemical agents active on epidermis contact, such as for instance VX or mustard agents, or high concentrations of other neurological agents. Special apparel that is protective against those chemical weapons that cause impact upon epidermis contact. These clothes vary in complexity and that is protective. Hazardous materials suits are suits manufactured from layered rubber containing activated charcoal. The plastic is also most protective equipment is impermeable to chemicals

## **MEDICAL**

Very few types of medical prophylaxis against chemical weapons exist. Contrasts to biological weapons, vaccines don't offer resistance from the ramifications of chemical weapons. Nevertheless, before exposure utilization of pyridostigmine bromide provides some security contrary to the nerve agent soman. Pyridostigmine bromide acts to augment administration that is post-exposure of nerve Agent antidotes pralidoxime and atropine chloride. Usage of pyridostigmine bromide prevents.

U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense developed as an added protection against skin contact, a chemical resistant skin cream. The Skin Exposure Reduction Paste Against Chemical Warfare Agents, also known as SERPACWA, complement chemical protective equipment provided to soldiers in the battle field.

#### **CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION:**

**Chemical weapons convention** It is a multilateral treaty banning chemical weapons and requiring their destruction within the stipulated time. Negotiations for the CWC began in 1980 at the United Nations Conference on Disarmament. The convention was drafted in September 1992 and opened for signature in January 1993. It became effective from April 1997. It makes it mandatory to destroy old and abandoned chemical weapons. Members should also declare the riot-control agents (sometimes referred to as 'tear gas') in possession of them.

**Membership:** It has 192 state parties and 165 signatories. India signed the treaty in January 1993.

**Convention Prohibits:** The development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, or retention of chemical weapons.

- Transferring of chemical weapons.
- Using chemical weapons.
- Assisting other States to indulge in activities that are prohibited by the CWC.
- Using riot-control devices as 'warfare methods'.

- Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons:



About: It is an international organization established by the CWC in 1997 to implement and enforce the terms of the CWC. By the 2001 Relationship Agreement between the OPCW and the UN, the OPCW reports on its inspections and other activities to the UN through the office of the Secretary General.

## **CONCLUSION**

### **CHEMICAL AGENTS AS WEAPONS OF TERROR RATHER THAN AS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION**

In 2012, the Director of Defense Intelligence Agency identified that “terrorist organizations are working in order to obtain and employ chemical, biological, and radiological weapons.” Some experts being are cynical about the fact that it is problematic for terrorist groups to use chemical weapons as weapons of huge mass destruction. In 1993, the office of technology assessment figured out that VX, the most lethal of neurological agents, spread uniformly and effectively would require huge quantity of Material to kill 50% in an affected particular area. On the other hand, chemical agents might be efficiently used as a terror tool in circumstances where restricted or enclosed space may decrease the necessary levels of chemical. That is, the use of the weapon itself, even though casualties might be very few and could cause fear beyond exactly what could be anticipated Based solely on wide range of casualties Terrorist attack on industrial setup is supply that is potential of. In order to deal with the concern of security at chemical facilities with large amounts of dangerous chemical compounds. In 2007, DHS issued regulations, called chemical center anti-terrorism standards (CFATS), but compliance with one of these laws is incomplete. The 113th Congress has held hearings which can be oversight CFATS and considered its reauthorization. Terrorists may find bloodstream agents tough to employ because weapons of mass destruction for all of exactly the same reasons that apply to agents are being choking. The dispersal that is quick of agents combined using the amounts that are big to cause mass casualties, make such agents difficult to use on a big scale. Some blood agents that are industrially manufactured are used on-



site without being shipped. Nonetheless, terrorist teams continue their interest in these agents, perhaps because of a belief that they may cause mass casualties.

The weapons of mass destruction such as chemical weapons have every capability to create havoc on a large scale. But at the same time it is not that easy for the terrorist organisation to procure it and cause huge destruction. But we should be well prepared for any catastrophe that might happen anytime because as the name itself suggests weapons of mass destruction can vanish any populated area, city state, country or the whole world.

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