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## Army Reaches Chemical Weapons Convention Milestone

**Army News Service, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, 19 June 2007**—The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) has announced the safe destruction of 45 percent of the U.S. chemical stockpile. This major Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) milestone was accomplished well ahead of the other signatory nations with major stockpiles.

The United States came under the provisions of the CWC in April 1997. The treaty includes a destruction schedule for chemical weapons stockpiles and a system of regular inspections. A total of 182 nations signed the treaty. Thus far, a large percentage of the chemical weapons materiel destroyed in the world has been destroyed in the United States.

“We successfully met the 1, 20, and 45 percent destruction milestones specified by the treaty while maintaining an outstanding safety record,” said CMA Acting Director, Dale Ormond, “It is a tribute to the United States’ leadership in developing and implementing chemical demilitarization technology.”

“I couldn’t be prouder of the men and women of CMA and their hard work, dedication, and commitment to safety and environmental compliance. Their outstanding efforts to eliminate our chemical munitions stockpile will result in a safer environment for our citizens and people around the world,” said U.S. Army Materiel Command Commanding General, General Benjamin S. Griffin.

“Each disposal operation has made an important contribution; and together, they have made the process more efficient by sharing their lessons learned. I am extremely proud of CMA and the government/industry team—a world-class team performing a world-class job,” added Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology, Claude Bolton.

Reaching the 45 percent destruction milestone brings the Army closer to its final chemical demilitarization goal of 100 percent destruction of the Nation’s chemical weapons materiel. The deadline for complete destruction of the chemical stockpile is April 2012. 🗨️

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**Note:** *This article was edited and reprinted.*