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For professionals in government, industry and academia in Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear protection, defense and counterterrorism; public health and emerging diseases; disarmament and nonproliferation; emergency and disaster planning; industrial health and safety; and environmental protection.

The Executive Summary CBMTS Industry VII **Zvonko Orehovec, PhD, Congress Director** **Slavko Bokan, MD, Congress Chair**

Executive Summary

The CBMTS-Industry VII, "The World Congress on CBRN Threat and Terrorism" was held from 10 to 15 April 2011 in Cavtat, Croatia under the auspices of the Government of Croatia. The CBMTS Industry VII was organized by Applied Science and Analysis, ASA, USA; the Croatian Chamber of Economy; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; National Protection and Rescue Directorate; State Office for Radiological and Nuclear Safety; and with the executive organization of Journal Protection - Tectus and Perfect Meetings Zagreb, Croatia. This extremely important seventh meeting in the CBMTS-Industry series, which provided a specific focus on the topic of chemical, biological, radiological

(cont. p.5 -- Exec CBMTS Ind VII)

Dr. Benjamin Garrett continues his well conceived and received series on our fellow professionals that have influenced the direction and course of history across the convoluted arena of chemical warfare.

Profiles in CBR History: French Biographical Series

Benjamin Garrett, Ph.D.

French scientists were active in selecting and developing chemical warfare agents during World War One (WWI). Their specific contributions appear to have been overlooked or poorly described in historical studies of chemical warfare in the English language, however. This situation might be the result of an effort on their part or on the part of their biographers to avoid calling attention to such work owing to the controversies after the war regarding the use of chemical weapons. In this series of profiles for the ASA Newsletter, I have collected some of the reports to improve our knowledge of

(cont. p.7 -- French Chem)

Dumped and abandoned munitions, whether or not they contain chemical warfare agents, endanger commerce, recreation, environment and, of course, humans and other animals. There is a history, too, often with political, legal and safety issues, for each munition. As the munitions are removed (destroyed or corroded) record keeping is careful, but hard to complete and validate. Has the residue been measured? Validated? Is it still hazardous? It may be hardest to confirm that sea-dumped munitions have been completely removed and that the area no longer presents risks.

Dumped Chemical Munitions: an Update **John Hart (SIPRI)**

Environmental, political and legal concerns regarding the fate of dumped munitions, including chemical weapons, continue. A variety of activities and frameworks exists in which such dumping has (or might be) considered. Large amounts of data (not necessarily validated) also continue to be generated. Frameworks in which dumped munitions are considered (including evaluated, enumerated, mapped, and even removed or destroyed) include: environmental research (base and applied), various

(cont. p.22 -- Dumped)

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ASA sadly reports the recent passing of several well-known and honored scientists. Although the results of their research continue, they will all be missed, in part because they were part of a history of CBW that is now lost.

In Memoriam

Dr Ronald R. Nelson (1941 - 2011) Former OPCW Director of Administration

by John Hart

Senior Researcher

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)

Dr Ronald R. Nelson retired as Director of Administration at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in December 2010. He suffered a stroke and died in his home town of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Nelson obtained his doctorate from Duke University in 1967. He served in the US Army infantry during the Vietnam War and later became a Foreign Area Officer in Tactical/Strategic Intelligence. He was the recipient of a Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart and retired with the rank of Colonel. Nelson also served on the staff of US Senator Larry Pressler before working in the Department of Defense on arms control and international security matters. He was later attached to the US delegation to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva where he assisted with the negotiation of the 1993 Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). He moved to The Hague after the CWC was opened for signature where he served in the Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) of the OPCW as a senior planning officer. His contribution to the US ratification of the convention in 1997 was essential, although not very visible.

Nelson was, perhaps, the last of the original core group of key personnel from the 1993-1997 Preparatory Commission (PrepCom). He participated in meetings to support a 2007 study on the establishment of the OPCW (co-edited by the former PTS Executive Secretary Ian Kenyon (d. 2008) and Daniel Feakes (currently with the OPCW Secretariat). Nelson also facilitated the transition between the current and previous Director-General in 2010 and was a regular participant in Pugwash meetings on chemical and biological weapons arms control.

Nelson was one of the best practitioners of (what ought to be) the fine art of consultation with delegations and the various sections of the Secretariat. Being aware of where (and how) most of the skeletons were buried, he could provide an authoritative background on the various administrative, legal and political challenges encountered by the CWC regime. His other strong point as the Director of Administration was his excellent knowledge of the treaty and understanding of the actual political and security dimensions of the various tasks performed by the OPCW.

He was thus effective in assisting the management to identify and mitigate a number of operational challenges.

Nelson was also widely read in art, literature, history and philosophy. A lifelong anglophile, who carried out part of his doctoral research in the UK, he was an expert on the subject of British peerages. He also had a particular fondness for the poetry of Keats and Shelley and visited numerous museums, including the Mauritshuis (the home of Vermeer's Girl with a Pearl Earring). In 2010 he had read with interest the work of the political philosopher John N. Gray (Gray's Anatomy, 2009). He also enjoyed visiting classical Greek and Roman archeological sites, such as Pompeii, Herculaneum and the Palace of Knossos.

Nelson was also a birding enthusiast who identified approximately 1500 birds worldwide. At the time of his stroke, he had in his luggage a copy of one of Roger Tory Peterson's bird guides. In 2008 Nelson completed the editing of the birding papers of the US author, historian and academic Herbert A. Krause. Nelson also enjoyed fine meals and good conversation and could distinguish dessert wines -- much to the chagrin of a pretentious waiter in Bath who tried to slip a lesser one by him. In the proper environment, his turn of phrase (something in the vein of a Noel Coward) was of a sort that one usually only encounters in the memoirs of bon vivants or members of European courts (and assorted hangers-on) in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

His extended relatives and friends came together in June in Sioux Falls for his memorial service. While he would have found his service rather embarrassing, he would also probably have thought that it had been done in reasonably acceptable good taste. He would also have been touched that friends and family had come together and had many pleasant and unusual tales to tell.

Elsa Reiner (1930 - 2011) Outstanding Croatian Biochemist

by Dr. Zrinka Kovarik

Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health
Zagreb, Croatia

Dr Elsa Reiner, an outstanding scientist with many contributions to the understanding of esterases, peacefully passed away in Zagreb on July 5, 2011.

Elsa Reiner was born in Osijek (in 1930), graduated at the University of Zagreb (in 1953) and obtained her PhD degree in chemistry (1962) from the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb. In 1954 she joined the Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health, where she began her studies on mechanisms of cholinesterase catalysis and interactions of esterases with organophosphorus compounds. In 1967, she founded the Laboratory of Biochemistry and headed it almost until her retirement in

2000. Her research was primarily directed towards two groups of esterases: cholinesterases and paraoxonases. She studied the mechanisms of their interactions with substrates and inhibitors. Part of her interest was also directed towards monitoring and distribution of organochlorine compounds in humans and in the environment. These studies were supported by the Croatian Ministry of Science, WHO and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). She had also been a member of the WHO Expert Panel on Vector Biology and Control for almost three decades.

During her long scientific career, Dr. Reiner was often a visiting scientist in institutes outside Croatia. At the beginning of her



Elsa Reiner

career, she spent one year as a fellow at the Medical School of the University of Ljubljana, and thereafter two years as a fellow at the University of Heidelberg, where she received a scholarship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Many years later, Dr. Elsa Reiner obtained the "Alexander von Humboldt Medaille" award from the same Foundation for her contribution to scientific and cultural collaboration between Croatia and Germany.

For almost seven years, Dr. Reiner worked with Norman Aldridge at the Medical Research Council Laboratories in Carshalton, UK. This stay resulted in a book "Enzyme Inhibitors as Substrates: Interaction of Esterases with Esters of Organophosphorus and Carbamic Acids" (North Holland Pub. Co. Amsterdam, 1972) with Norman Aldridge, which is still considered a standard textbook by many who study enzyme kinetics and interaction between cholinesterases and organophosphorus compounds, even many years after its publication.

Much of her time and effort was devoted towards the organisation of international meetings on cholinesterase and related enzymes; the first meeting being held in Split in 1975, and the latest which took place in Zibenik, 2009. At the previous one in Suzhou, China, Dr. Reiner obtained an award from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Chinese Academy of Sciences for her contribution to research of cholinesterases.

Dr. Reiner was an associate member of the Croatian

Academy of Sciences and Arts and a member of the Croatian National Research Council. She promoted the development of biochemistry in Croatia and was a key in founding the Croatian Biochemical Society. Among her many awards, the Croatian Ministry of Science honored her with the "Rudjer Bošković Award for Natural Sciences" in 1973 and in 2001 the Croatian Parliament honoured her with the "Award for Life-Long Contributions to Science".

All of us who were fortunate to work with Dr. Elsa Reiner remember her as a brilliant scientist and uniquely caring, insightful and candid human being. Persistent and meticulous in science, she was supportive and encouraging outside the lab. She worked hard and remained scientifically active until her peaceful passing; she earned every bit of respect that she enjoyed worldwide. She was a true ambassador in science never hesitating to show love for her country that she represented so flawlessly for years. She was a happy person who loved and enjoyed fully the work she excelled in. We will remember and greatly miss her for her unstoppable enthusiasm, perfection and support.

..... **Jiri Matousek (1930 - 2011)** **Respected Czech Chemist and Toxicologist**

by Pavel Castulik

External lecturer, Brno Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in Environment, Faculty of Science Masaryk University

It is with deep regret that I write the sad news that Professor Jiri Matousek, Dipl. Eng., PhD, DSc, internationally respected chemist, toxicologist and teacher, humanist and colleague, husband, father and grandfather passed away on April 12th, 2011. He left suddenly only a week after his 81st birthday, in the middle of his work at the Masaryk University in Brno, where, since 2001, he was a well-known expert in CBR defense and a professor of environmental chemistry and toxicology at the Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment at the Faculty of Science in Brno, Czech Republic. Professor Jiri Matousek was a scientist and citizen with a generous personality, sharing his extensive scientific knowledge with a wide breadth of views, culture, and deep humanity. His span of knowledge in science disciplines, philosophy and culture was enormous and he was respected by his colleagues, friends and loved by his students.

Born in Pribram, Czech Republic 4 April 1930, he was influenced by the history, music and scientific culture in the region. (The Curies used uranium ore from mines in Pribram and Antonin Dvorak lived and composed music at a nearby manor.) He graduated with a degree in chemistry from the Faculty of Chemical Technology of Czech University of Technology in Prague during 1949-1954. He