

A total of 19 standard chemical munitions were displayed: 10 types of munitions for tube and rocket artillery; 2 warheads for tactical missiles; 6 types of aerial bomb and spray tank; and 1 type of munition, a chemical hand-grenade, for close combat.

For each type of munition the participants were informed of its military purpose, its calibre, the name of the CW agent with which it was filled, the method of dispersion of the agent, the type of fuse and the type of explosive, the weight of the projectile and the weight of the CW agent, the filling coefficient, and the materials from which the projectile was made.

Staff at the facility submitted a report on "The Soviet Army's chemical warfare agents" (text attached).

The report sets out the physical and chemical characteristics of blister agents, nerve agents and lung irritants, including the agents' chemical formula, molecular weight, physical state, boiling and freezing points, density, volatility, viscosity, surface tension, heat capacity, latent heat of evaporation and diffusion co-efficient. It also gives the agents' toxicity characteristics.

Those attending the presentation also heard a report on "Standard methods for determining the toxicity of CW agents" (text attached).

The report proposed a method for the categorization of super-toxic lethal chemicals that could be used in elaborating appropriate methods for inclusion in a convention.

As regards the technology for the destruction of chemical weapons, those attending the presentation were shown a mobile chemical weapon destruction unit and given an opportunity to thoroughly examine each of the machines comprising the unit as well as to acquaint themselves with their technical characteristics. They were informed of the purpose of the unit, its composition, process path, deployment time, staffing and energy supply requirements, weight and power specifications.

These points were dealt with in four reports by specialists on:

The purpose, design specifications and principles for use of the mobile chemical weapon destruction unit;

The technology for the destruction of chemical munitions at the mobile unit;

Safety arrangements during the destruction of chemical munitions at the mobile unit and their application;

Verification of the completeness of the destruction of chemical weapons at the mobile unit, and environmental protection measures.

Copies of these reports are attached.

The actual process of destruction of chemical munitions was demonstrated at the Shikhany facility's proving ground through the destruction of a 250-kilogram aerial bomb filled with the CW agent sarin.