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10 October 2002

### Community protection from nuclear, biological and chemical attacks to be discussed at Jane's WMD conference

The networked and interdependent nature of developed society offers the terrorist a perfect target for radiological, biological or chemical Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). This year's Jane's WMD conference, "WMD 2002: Protecting the Community," examines the urban community from the point of view of potential terrorist users of WMD, and looks at the countermeasures that can be used to prevent WMD attacks. The event will be held in Washington, DC, on November 4-5, 2002.

"There are three key features which make us more vulnerable than ever to the use of WMDs," says John Eldridge, Editor of *Jane's Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defence* and Advisor/Moderator of the Jane's WMD 2002 Conference. "The first is the clever way that the 'new terrorism' has turned the complex technology of our urban society against itself. The second is the martyrdom issue, where the terrorist doesn't need to bother with an escape plan. Thirdly, the terrorist's aim now appears to have changed from the desire for attention to the desire to kill all his enemies. These features all make WMD use now more likely than a year ago."

The conference speakers, drawn from the public and private sectors, will give the audience a greater understanding of the hazard to our citizens from WMDs. They will also provide information on the steps that can be taken to minimise the impact of WMD use, and an overview of the problems and experiences generated by actual or exercised incidents. Discretionary FREE PRESS ATTENDANCE IS AVAILABLE.

**Panel subjects include:** The nature of the WMD developer; The new terrorism--suicide warfare; Targeting the urban environment; What's new in WMD countermeasures; WMD and public confidence; Equipment under development by the biotechnology industry; Training first responders; and the Washington, DC, anthrax attacks.

**Among the confirmed speakers are:** **Ken Alibek**, George Mason University; **Tamara Makarenko**, Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Glamorgan (UK) and Correspondent, *Jane's Intelligence Review*; **Col. Randall Larsen**, Director, ANSER Institute for Homeland Security; **Docteur Lucie-Andree Roy**, Public Health Emergencies Coordinator, Direction de Sante Publique de Montreal; **Sal Lifrieri**, former Director of Security under New York City Mayor Rudy Guiliani; **Charles Vidich**, US Postal Service, Northeast Region; **W. Curtis White**, CEO and Director of Research and Development, Aegis Environmental Management, Inc.; **Professor C.J. Davis, OBE**, Chief Scientist and Director, Office of Science and Technology Information Systems Sector, Veridian Corporation; and **Stephen L. Caldwell**, National Security and International Affairs Division, US General Accounting Office. (END)

**About Jane's:** Founded in 1897 by Fred T. Jane, Jane's Information Group is the premier electronic information provider for military, government and corporate decision makers in areas related to risk and security worldwide. Jane's is headquartered in London, and also has offices in Alexandria, Virginia; California; Ottawa; Singapore; Tokyo; New Delhi; and Sydney, Australia. For more information, please visit the award-winning Jane's Web site, [www.janes.com](http://www.janes.com).

**EDITOR'S NOTES:** If you would like to know more about the Jane's WMD 2002 Conference, please contact Alexa Thomas on +1 703 683 3700. To discuss discretionary free journalist participation, please contact Melissa Golding, Jane's US Public Relations Executive, on +1 703 236 2467 or [melissa.golding@janes.com](mailto:melissa.golding@janes.com). Further details can be found on the Jane's Conferences Web site at: <http://conference.janes.com>.

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