

**General Assembly
Security Council**Distr.: General
8 April 2022

Original: English

**General Assembly
Seventy-sixth session**
Agenda item 107**Convention on the Prohibition of the Development,
Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological)
and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction****Security Council
Seventy-seventh year****Letter dated 1 April 2022 from the Permanent Representative of
the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

I would like to bring to your attention the presentation made by the Chief of Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Protection Troops of the Russian Federation Armed Forces, Lieutenant General I. A. Kirillov, during his briefing on 31 March 2022, containing additional materials regarding military biological programmes on the territory of Ukraine (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of General Assembly, under agenda item 107, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vassily **Nebenzia**



Annex to the letter dated 1 April 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Russian]

Briefing by Lieutenant General I. A. Kirillov, Chief of the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Protection Troops of the Russian Federation Armed Forces

31 March 2022

The Russian Ministry of Defence is continuing to study materials on the organization of the biological warfare programmes of the United States and its NATO allies in Ukraine.

We have previously provided information on the pattern of interaction of United States Government agencies and the current United States military and political leadership with Ukrainian biological facilities. In particular, we pointed out the involvement of the investment fund headed by Hunter Biden in funding biological programmes in Ukraine.

You have in front of you correspondence between the son of a sitting United States president, and employees of the United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) and Pentagon contractors in Ukraine. Western media outlets have confirmed the existence of this material.

The contents of the letters show that Hunter Biden played an important role in laying the financial groundwork for pathogen-related work in the territory of Ukraine by securing funds for Black and Veatch and Metabiota.

The published correspondence shows that the Pentagon's true goals in Ukraine are far from scientific. In one of the letters, the vice-president of Metabiota notes that the company's activities will be aimed at ensuring the cultural and economic independence of Ukraine from Russia, something which is quite strange for a biotech company.

We now have the opportunity to cite the names of specific officials who participated in the creation of biological weapons components on the territory of Ukraine.

One of the key figures is Robert Pope, at the time a DTRA officer and director of the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, which aimed to draw post-Soviet States into biological warfare-related activities. He is also the originator of the idea of creating the central repository of especially dangerous microorganisms in the Kiev District.

In his letter to Health Minister Ulyana Suprun (incidentally, herself a United States citizen), Pope praises the activities of the head of the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, particularly noting the provision of access for United States specialists to Ukrainian biological facilities and the initiation of work to create a repository of microorganisms.

Let me remind you how that activity ended: according to our information, all pathogenic biological materials were removed from the storage facility in early February 2022 and were transferred by military transport plane to the United States via Odessa.

Coordination of biological warfare-related projects in the territory of Ukraine, and selection of their implementers, was led by Joanna Wintrol, head of the Ukraine office of DTRA. Under her direct supervision, the American UP-4, UP-6 and UP-8 projects were implemented to study deadly pathogens including anthrax, Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever and leptospirosis.

The Ukrainian division of Black and Veatch, which was headed by Lance Lippencott, took over. He is also the main contact person for officials of the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Health of Ukraine.

The company has been working for the Pentagon since 2008 on projects to study potentially dangerous bioagents. These include the UP-1 project to study rickettsiae and the tick-borne encephalitis virus in arthropods in north-western Ukraine. For the purpose of global surveillance of the biological situation during the course of the UP-2 project, the company implemented a system of remote monitoring of tularemia and anthrax incidence at Ukrainian biological facilities.

The biomonitoring and information transfer issues were overseen by David Mustra, who is closely associated with another Pentagon contractor, Metabiota. Previously, he led biological warfare-related projects in Ukraine and Eastern Europe as part of the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program.

It should be noted that the activities of Black and Veatch raised many questions, even within the Ukrainian intelligence services.

Thus, as early as 2017, the Kherson department of the Ukrainian Security Service (SBU) indicated in a memo, I quote: “Recently, the potential threat of a worsening of the epidemic situation in our country has been brought to the fore by the intention of DTRA, through Black and Veatch, to establish control over the operation of Ukrainian microbiological laboratories conducting research relating to vectors of particularly dangerous infections, which can be used to create or upgrade new types of biological weapon ...” (end of quote).

Metabiota is known for its development work in forecasting infectious disease outbreaks. The Pentagon also involved it in modelling the epidemic situation in the post-Soviet area. In Ukraine, Metabiota was represented by Mary Guttieri, the company’s vice-president and a confidant of Hunter Biden, as evidenced by their correspondence.

Scott Thornton supervised laboratory modernization. He also advised local staff on the handling of highly dangerous pathogens in Ukrainian DTRA projects.

The information obtained demonstrates the direct involvement of the United States Department of Defense and its contractors in the planning and implementation of Pentagon projects in the territory of Ukraine. We believe that the officials named should answer questions about the true purpose of this work.

We have previously drawn attention to work on development of technical means of delivery and use of biological weapons taking place in the United States. For example, the United States Patent and Trademark Office issued patent No. 8 967 029 for an unmanned aerial vehicle for spreading infected insects in the air. The patent description states that with this device enemy troops can be destroyed or disabled without risk to United States troops.

Other patents indicated on the slide show different types of munition for delivering chemical and biological formulations. The related descriptions mention as characteristics: “... low unit cost per target and no need for physical contact with enemy ...”. This is in line with Washington’s concept of “no-contact war”. The possibility of using capsules to hold poisonous, radioactive or narcotic substances, as well as vectors of infectious diseases, has been demonstrated.

We wish to recall that these documents came to public attention in connection with the investigation of another biological project of the Pentagon – the Lugar Center in Tbilisi.

In 2018, the Russian Foreign Ministry asked the United States Department of State for a legal assessment of the development of such technical devices in terms of compliance with the Chemical (CWC) and Biological Weapons (BWC) Conventions. The United States Administration limited itself to a pro-forma reply, cynically thanking the Russian authorities for drawing attention to this issue and pointing out that “... the development and production of biological and chemical weapons are prohibited by national law, but the decision to issue a patent does not violate United States obligations under the BWC and CWC ...”.

In the light of the above, we note the request made by Ukrainian company Motor Sich to the Turkish manufacturer of Bayraktar unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). I would like to emphasize that this document was dated 15 December 2021 and in essence was asking whether the UAVs could be equipped with aerosol spraying systems and devices with a capacity of over 20 litres.

With their range (up to 300 km), and if equipped with containers filled with biological formulations, such UAVs would present a real threat of large-scale use of biological weapons on the territory of the Russian Federation.

This amounts to the development by the Kiev regime of technical means of delivery and use of biological weapons, with the possibility that they might be directed against the Russian Federation.

An important result of the special operation by the Russian armed forces was the termination of the activity of five Kiev biolaboratories that were working with anthrax, tularemia, brucellosis, cholera, leptospirosis, and African swine fever pathogens.

Part of the collection was sent to the United States, and the remaining strains were urgently destroyed in accordance with the order of the Ukrainian Ministry of Health of 24 February.

It has been confirmed that these laboratories were involved in work commissioned by the United States Department of Defense. One of these biological facilities, the Public Health Centre of the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, undertook several UP projects at once, drawing total funding of more than \$30 million.

Please note the decision signed by the head of the Centre’s ethics committee on 12 June 2019 as part of the UP-8 project. The document confirms the conduct of research with unknown risks to the life and health of participants, as well as concealment of the identity of the subjects.

We previously provided the research programme for this project, and it involves only a standard blood sampling procedure. The question arises: what kind of life-threatening tests are we talking about when the document indicates that “... minor incidents involving volunteers must be reported to the United States Bioethics Committee within 72 hours of the incident, and serious incidents, including death of test subjects, must be reported within 24 hours ...”?

We cannot rule out the official research programme being only the tip of the iceberg, and that in practice volunteers were being infected with Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever virus, hantaviruses, and leptospirosis pathogen.

Such a disdainful attitude towards Ukrainian citizens graphically illustrates the pragmatic approach of the United States to the organization of biological warfare-

related research. Developing countries are seen as proving grounds for components of biological weapons and medications.

We believe that the documents we have been receiving indicate an actual violation by the United States and Ukraine of their obligations under Article IV of the BWC and United Nations Security Council Resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) of 28 April 2004.

We will continue to analyze the documentary evidence of the violation of international agreements on the non-proliferation of biological weapons by the United States Administration and the Kiev regime, and will keep you informed.

The presentation and materials on military biological activities on the territory of Ukraine are available through the following links:

1. <https://disk.yandex.ru/d/wSzYZOWSzfJ0Vg>
 2. <https://disk.yandex.ru/d/FpC2X5a-5s8v1A>
-