

Date	Jul 25 2002
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Title	People still don't get the idea of the threat
Event	Meeting of builders, architects
Event Sponsor	Sloan Conference on Air Handling
Event location	Washington DC
Notes	Title is from DA's desk diary
Publ as	

Pleasure to be with you tonight -

Intro - couldn't keep a job

No longer Director of Office of Public Health Emergency Management.

Question which I am frequently asked -

Should we really be concerned about biological weapons?

Why now? "I don't recall anyone speaking about this ¹⁰/₂ years ago - or even 5 years ago."

10 years ago - as Science Advisor to Bush I - I did not consider bio weapons - or, more generally, terrorism to be a known threat.

Perceptions and realities have changed. My concerns / my preoccupation throughout my professional life had been disease prevention, primarily via vaccines - Salk vaccine - Sabin vaccine - measles - smallpox eradication - a global program of vaccination - polio eradication -

More recently - resources & strategies for vaccines AIDS / TB / Malaria.

Some 6-7 years ago - my professional preoccupation changed.

Why and what role the Sloan Foundation played in facilitating this is

germane to why this ~~meeting~~ ^{conference} is being held / why the budget of DAST ^{#2 million in 98 est.} ↑ this year to \$3 billion from \$300 x 10 ⁶ last year ~~1998~~ —

~~estimated~~ ^{it} is slated for a further 50% increase next year.

It now that some of you are aware of ~~the recent history that led up to this point~~ ^{the recent history that led up to this point} 1998 - but because I find so few ~~have~~ ^{have} the background - that is so important I would ask that you deal with me as I briefly recapitulate events of the past few years. Threat of biological weapons - came abruptly to the fore 1995

Acum / IRAQ / ANBER.

ANBER - an especially disturbing surprise.

1989 - PASECHNIK - Soviet program

1992 - ANBER deserted.

1995 P.D.D. -

News by America - 1st responders
concern about "chemicals" -

Baltimore meeting - 97

~~X~~ Medicine / ph. / hospo.

Comparative importance of chemical / bio / nuclear weapons -
1993 - Colin Powell

bio a threat agent

Most recently - V.P.

Senator Frist - anthrax > hydrogen bomb.

~~Sept. 11~~ Our efforts to promote understanding of risk $\leftarrow$ ^{preparation} 97 $\leftarrow$ medical
public health
exercises.
Foundations - ph. / med. - NO.
- arms control - NO

Scan $\rightarrow$ find to lay a foundation of understanding.

Sept. 9/11 -

- Saturday meeting
- Office of P. H. Preparedness.
- Jan. 10 Appropriation. -

What has been done? ~~Smallpox & anthrax~~

- local + state programs - #1 concern / the basis.
#1 battle $\rightarrow$ strengthen ph.

SURVEILLANCE^{24/7} / LAB NETWORK / HAN

best of VACCINES / ANTIBIOTICS

HOSP - SURG CAPACITY

GOOD FOR ANY ETHNIC

- Vaccines -

Smallpox - 9000 $\rightarrow$ 150×10^6

Anthrax - PINK PACKAGES / not vaccine.

• Funds for ~~training~~ / planning.

Good JVB

(3)

Unfortunately - ^{his} ~~there's~~ ~~not~~ something that will go away -

Broader capabilities

Subnet

New & Emerging infections.

Need ~~to~~ ^{to} think to the future - What can we build in to systems & lessen the risk? & to respond rapidly to mitigate the effects.

The genie is out of the bottle. And virus / new & emerging.

"Reduction quote"