



Fact Sheet

February 2001

Corps seeks rights-of-entry permits for ordnance investigations on former Camp Robinson property

Personnel from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Real Estate Office are seeking right-of-entry permits from people who own property that was once part of Camp Robinson.

The Corps needs right-of-entry permission from property owners in the area so workers from Parsons Engineering Science, Inc., of Norcross, Ga., can enter or cross private lands, store or move equipment and supplies, erect and remove temporary structures or investigate and take samples as needed for the study.

Parsons was awarded a contract in March 2000 to conduct an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis study on property that was once part of Camp Robinson. The EE/CA will characterize the nature, location and concentration of ordnance and explosives. Information from the study will help officials identify hazards and evaluate reasonable risk management alternatives.

If enough right-of-entry permits are obtained, geophysical investigations to locate buried ordnance would begin in late winter and continue through spring 2001. After the geophysical data is analyzed, explosives experts would perform ordnance sampling. A draft report of the results would be made available for public review in late 2001.

The right-of-entry permit is good from the date that it is received and signed by a Corps representative until the investigations at the former Camp Robinson are complete or until a notice of termination of the project is filed in the local land records, whichever comes first. The permit will not exceed three years, and it is strictly voluntary.

The Corps' contractors are required to be bonded and

If you have received a right-of-entry request from the Corps of Engineers and have questions, contact Little Rock District's Real Estate Division at (501) 324-5652 or 1-800-531-4270.

insured. The contractor will restore the ground contour and replace any pavement or groundcover that was removed or damaged in the process of carrying out the investigation. In the unlikely event that investigations interfere with operating utility lines, every attempt will be made to repair or reconnect the lines as soon as possible.

If the contractor's work results in damage, the contractor will either repair the damage or make an appropriate settlement with the landowner. If a Corps employee causes damage to property, landowners can file a tort claim with the Corps' Little Rock District Office of Counsel. Tort claims are not dependent on project funding.

The EE/CA study will focus on 9,260 privately-owned acres located north of Highway 89, two acres that are now part of the North Little Rock airport and 4,000 acres that make up the Camp Robinson Wildlife Management area.

Information from the study will be used to help officials determine hazards at the site and determine what actions if any should be taken.

Camp Pike was established in 1917. Shortly before World War II, the name was changed to Camp Joseph T. Robinson and the camp's boundaries were expanded to include land in Pulaski and Faulkner counties. The camp was used for the basic training of troops including a variety of weapons training.

After the war, Camp Robinson was declared surplus and broken up. Most of it was transferred to the Arkansas National Guard. Some of it went to the city of North Little Rock and Central Baptist College. A small portion was retained by the federal government for use as an Army Reserve Center, now designated as Camp Pike. The remainder was sold to private owners.

The portions that are no longer owned by the military or the National Guard are eligible for environmental investigation and cleanup assistance under the Formerly Used Defense Sites program. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the agency responsible for conducting environmental restoration work under the FUDS program.

Take precautions if you find ordnance

- Assume the ordnance is dangerous.
- Don't touch or disturb it in any way.
- Note the location and leave the area immediately.



Contact local law enforcement (sheriff's office), and they will arrange to safely investigate and remove the ordnance.

Have questions or concerns?

Contact a Restoration Advisory Board member

A Restoration Advisory Board, also called a RAB, gives people who live or work close to sites that are being cleaned up under the Department of Defense's environmental cleanup program an opportunity to have input into the process.

RAB members for the former Camp Robinson property include Gary Cates, Kenny Vernon, Kevin Mathis and Franklin Pearce.

Government agency representatives on the RAB include Phillip Murphy, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality; and Margaret Morehead, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District.

RAB members hold regular meetings that are open to the public to discuss issues related to the project on the former Camp Robinson property, to review project documents and to receive training in the Formerly Used Defense Sites program and the cleanup process.

The meetings are advertised in the legal notices portion of several local newspapers and on the project web site www.swl.usace.army.mil/projmgt/cmprobinson.html.

Throughout the course of the project RAB members will review and comment on plans and reports, discuss key issues, recommend priorities, give advice on the

cleanup, act as a community spokesperson and suggest improvements.



RAB meetings are held at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Clubhouse located at the Camp Robinson Wildlife Demonstration Area about two and one-half miles off Highway 89 on Clinton Road.

Spotlight on helpful web sites

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District
<http://www.swl.usace.army.mil>

This is the homepage for the Little Rock District, the local Corps of Engineers district managing studies at the former Camp Robinson property. This site gives you a good overview of the Little Rock District.

There is a section dedicated to Formerly Used Defense Site work. From the front page, click on the Index button, then click on the letter "F." It will drop you down to the topic listing where you can select FUDS.

You can also find information on the work on former Camp Robinson property information by clicking on "C" at the index page. It will drop you down to the topic listings where you can select Camp Robinson. You also can reach it by typing in www.swl.usace.army.mil/projmgt/cmprobinson.html.

This site will change and expand as the project continues. Minutes from the RAB meeting will be posted here as well as the most up-to-date information about the project.

Questions? Contact Project Manager Margaret Morehead at (501) 324-7134

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Little Rock District
P.O. Box 867
Little Rock, AR 72203-0867