

Fact Sheet

January 2002

Corps begins sampling for ordnance, schedules meetings so public can learn more about project

The Army Corps of Engineers will start the next phase of its investigation for leftover ordnance on property that was once part of Camp Robinson when contractors mobilize at the site the week of Jan. 22. It is expected to take about three months to investigate and remove any ordnance they find on sample plots.

The Corps is sponsoring a public question and answer session from 3 to 6 p.m. Jan. 31 at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Clubhouse at the Camp Robinson Wildlife Demonstration Area northeast of Mayflower on Clinton Road. Corps officials and contractors working on the project will be on-hand to answer questions.

At 6:30, the Restoration Advisory Board, made up of volunteers from the local community, will meet at the clubhouse and be briefed on the investigation. The public is invited.

More information also can be obtained by calling the Corps' Little Rock District Real Estate Office at 1-800-531-4270.

Because the investigation involves digging suspected ordnance items, no one can be in the area while work is underway except qualified technicians. They will be working during daylight hours Monday through Thursday and will complete each day's work by 4:30 p.m., so people who are away from



their homes in the daytime should not be affected. Those who are home in an area where digging is scheduled will be asked to leave for the day. The Corps will arrange a place for them to go.

Work will begin in the Wildlife Management Area and move toward more populated areas. Because inclement weather and other factors could change the schedule, information will be updated on an answering machine at 1-877-643-5415, on a bulletin board located at Bates Field and Stream Store on Highway 89 off Interstate 40 and at www.swl.usace.army.mil (click the Camp Robinson FUDS button).

Corps officials point out that this phase of the work is not intended to remove all ordnance from former Camp Robinson lands. In this phase, experts are investigating representative samples totaling about 101 acres of the overall 13,000-acre site. From that data, they can determine what to expect throughout the remaining acreage and recommend a workable solution.

During the first phase of fieldwork in July, contractors used sophisticated metal detectors on the sample acres and located more than 2,500 magnetic signatures or anomalies, which could be anything from a magnetic rock to a piece of ordnance. Then they reviewed the anomalies and selected those that most closely resemble ordnance.

Now they are returning to dig up those items and see if they actually are ordnance left from the Army's use of the property.

Where you can get more information:

- * Public Question and Answer Session-Jan. 31 from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Clubhouse on Clinton Road.
- * Restoration Advisory Board meeting-Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the AGFC Clubhouse
- * Call Little Rock District Real Estate Division at 1-800-531-4270
- Visit the web site at www.swl.usace.army.mil and click the Camp Robinson FUDS button.
- * Call the schedule information answering machine at 1-877-643-5415 for a recorded message.
- Visit the bulletin board at Bates Field and Stream Store on Highway 89.

Results of the investigation will be available in a draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis, which will identify the type, number and location of ordnance items found and recommend what, if any, actions need to be taken. The public will get a chance to comment on the draft EE/CA. As workers discover ordnance during the investigation, they will dispose of it, but no large-scale cleanup will begin until after the EE/

(See "Investigation," on Page 2.)

Investigation

CA is complete later this year.

The property was once part of Camp Pike, later known as Camp Joseph T. Robinson. During World War II, the installation was used to train troops on a variety of weapons. After the war, it was declared surplus and broken up. Most of it was transferred to the Arkansas National Guard. A portion is used by the Army, Navy and Marine Corps Reserves and retains the name Camp Pike. The remainder was sold to private landowners, the city of North Little Rock and Central Baptist College.

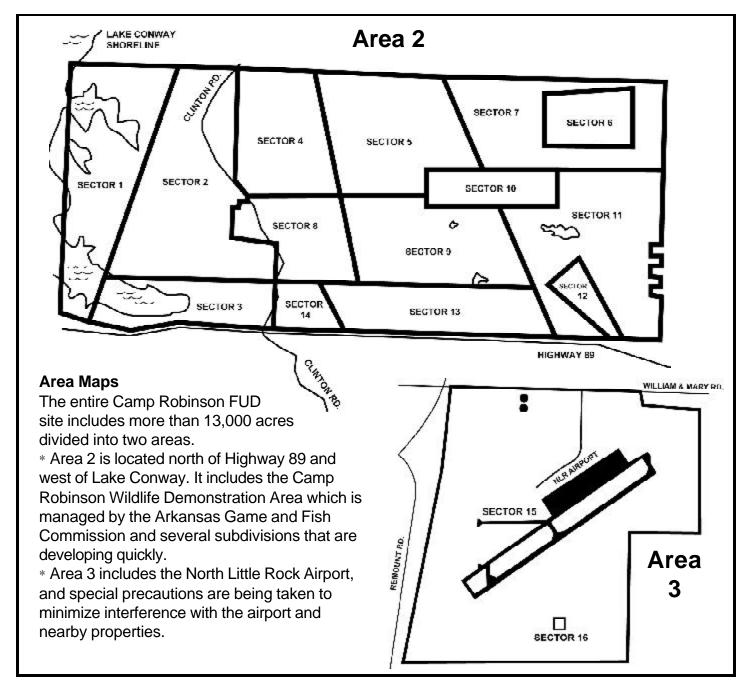
Portions that are not owned by the military are eligible for investigation and cleanup under the Formerly Used Defense Sites program. The Corps is responsible for conducting environmental restoration work.

The Corps needs your help

In December, Little Rock District's Real Estate personnel distributed an information packet to about 200 residents who live on or around the former Camp Robinson property.

That information packet included a questionnaire that helps our real estate personnel know how many people live in each home and if there are any special needs. This helps us know how to assist you in case you are asked to leave your home for the day while investigations are going on nearby.

Please fill out and return the questionnaire by Feb. 8 to Real Estate Division, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203-0867 or you can phone in your answers at 1-800-531-4270.



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