

of Engineers HUNTSVILLE ENGINEERING SUPPORT CENTER

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM FOR FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES

ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS

ARCHIVES SEARCH REPORT

FINDINGS

HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)

IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

SEPTEMBER 1996

PREPARED BY US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ST. LOUIS DISTRICT

ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVES SEARCH REPORT** FINDINGS FOR HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95) HOLTVILLE, CALIFORNIA IMPERIAL COUNTY

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ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **Archives Search Report Findings** For **Holtville Target (BT) No. 2 (#95)** Holtville, California Imperial County

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

1.0 Introduction

1.1 <u>Authority</u>

In 1986, Congress established the Defense Environmental Restoration Program at 10 U.S. C. 2701 et.seq. This program directed the Secretary of Defense to "carry out a program of environmental restoration at facilities under the jurisdiction of the secretary."

In March, 1990, the EPA issued a revised National Contingency Plan. Under 40 C.F.R. 300.120, EPA designated DoD to be the removal response authority for incidents involving DoD military weapons and munitions under the jurisdiction, custody and control of DoD.

Since the beginning of this program, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been the agency responsible for environmental restoration at Formerly-Used Defense Sites (FUDS). Since 1990, the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, has been the Mandatory Center of Expertise and Design Center for Ordnance and Explosives.

1.2 Subject

The FUDS Holtville Target (BT) No. 2 (#95) was located in the southeast 1/4 of Section 9, the southwest 1/4 of Section 10, and the northwest 1/4 of Section 15 in Township 13 South, Range 16 East. Pilots conducted low-level rocket training on a concentric circle target.

1.3 <u>Purpose</u>

This Archives Search Report (ASR) compiles information obtained through historical research at various archives and records holding facilities, interviews with individuals associated with the site or its operations, and personal visits to the site. All efforts were directed towards determining possible use or disposal of ordnance on site. Particular emphasis was placed on establishing the types, quantities and area of disposal. Information obtained during this process was used in developing recommendations for further actions at the site.

1.4 <u>Scope</u>

The entire area of the former Holtville Target No. 2, approximately 460 acres, was considered in assessing the potential for ordnance and explosives. Based on research, chemical warfare material contamination is not a concern.

2.0 Previous Site Investigations

2.1 Corps of Engineers Documents

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District (CESPL), prepared an Inventory Project Report (INPR), dated 22 September 1993, for the former Holtville Target (BT) No. 2 (#95), Project No. J09CA017001. Science Applications International (SAIC) personnel conducted a site visit on 1 May 1993. They encountered some OE hazards and calculated a RAC score of 2. Copies of this information are in APPENDIX D.

CESPL did not identify any environmental concerns other than the potential for OE.

2.2 Other Reports

...

Research did not uncover any other reports on this site.

3.0 Site Description

3.1 Land Usage

Navy planes from the Eleventh Naval District used many bombing targets in Imperial County, California, including the Holtville Target No. 2 in the southeast 1/4 of Section 9, the southwest 1/4 of Section 10, and the northwest 1/4 of Section 15 in Township 13 South, Range 16 East. The Department of Interior transferred the land to the Navy Department by letter permits on 12 May 1944 and 24 June 1945. Pilots conducted low-level rocket training on a concentric circle target. In June 1946, the Navy proposed that the range be retained, but it is not known for what period of time (Southern California Sector, Western Sea Frontier 1944; Public Works Officer, Eleventh Naval District 1946).

3.2 <u>Climatic Data</u>

The Imperial Valley of California has a desert climate and records a higher percentage of sunshine than any other place in the United States. The greatest amount of possible sunshine, as high as 97%, occurs in June. The smallest amount of possible sunshine, as high as 82%, occurs in the month of December.

The summers are long and hot with afternoon temperatures reaching 100° F and higher on the average. The highest temperature recorded at the climatological station at Yuma, Arizona was at 122° F in 1990. The highest daily average temperature of 106.6° F occurs during July.

December and January are the only two months that have an average daily high below 70° F, with temperatures of 68.5° F and 68.7° F, respectively. December through February are the only two months with an average daily low temperature below 50° F, with temperatures falling between 44° F and 45° F. The average annual daily high temperature is 87.9° F while the low is 60.5° F. The average annual monthly mean temperature is 74.2° F.

Precipitation is sparse with an annual average precipitation of only 3.17 inches. Moisture laden air from the Gulf of California frequently invades the area during the summer months. August is the month with the highest mean monthly precipitation of 0.64 inches. May and June record the lowest mean monthly precipitation at 0.04 and 0.02 inches, respectively. The maximum monthly recorded precipitation of 3.44 inches occurred in August, 1989. This event is also the maximum precipitation in a 24 hour period. The minimum monthly recorded precipitation of 0.00 inches occurred in May, 1983. The relative humidity range is approximately 30% to 50%. The relative humidity is higher in the winter and lower in the summer. On a daily basis, the relative humidity is usually higher in the early morning and lower in the early evening.

The mean annual wind speed is 7.8 mph with a mean annual prevailing direction of north. The prevailing wind direction during the summer is south southeast; during the Fall and Winter is north; and during the Spring is west northwest.

Climatological data for this area are summarized in TABLE 3-1. Data were collected at the National Weather Service meteorological station at Yuma, Arizona.

	Tempe	rature	Precipitation	Wind		
Month Minim (°F)				Average Speed Miles/ Hour	Average Direction	
January	44.2	68.7	0.35	7.3	N	
February	46.9	74.4	0.22	7.4	N	
March	50.8	78.9	0.21	7.9	WNW	
April	56.5	86.3	0.14	8.3	W	
May	63.8	94.2	0.04	8.3	WNW	
June	72.0	103.3	0.02	8.5	SSE	
July	80.7	106.6	0.26	9.5	SSE	
August	80.1	105.3	0.64	8.9	SSE	
September	73.2	100.5	0.31	7.3	SSE	
October	62.2	90.3	0.29	6.6	N	
November	50.9	77.4	0.24	6.9	N	
December	44.3	68.5	0.45	7.2	N	
Average	60.5	87.9	3.17	7.8	N	

TABLE 3-1 CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA YUMA, ARIZONA

3.3 Geology and Soils

3.3.1 Geology/Physiography

The former Holtville Target No. 2 is located in the Salton Trough section of the Basin and Range physiographic province. This section is characterized by desert alluvial slopes and deltaic plains. The site is located just over one hundred miles to the north of the northern tip of the Gulf of California. The Salton Trough is a rift valley that owes its existence to the same tectonic forces that created the gulf.

Structurally, the Salton Trough section is a complexly faulted graben. There are three major northwest-trending fault systems in the southwestern portion of Imperial County. The faults are, from northeast to southwest, the San Andreas, San Jacinto, and Elsinore faults. These faults exhibit right-lateral and vertical movement.

The site is located on ancient lake beds of Cenozoic age. The sediments are of the ancient Lake Cahuilla and playa lakes. The formation is composed of tan and gray-fossiliferous clay, silt, sand and gravel. Also found in the site area is Quaternary age alluvium. This formation consists of unconsolidated clay, silt, sand, and gravel occurring primarily as valley fill and streamwash deposits.

The site is situated between a series of irrigation canals to the west and the East Mesa to the east. The canals trend east-west and deliver water for farming. The East Mesa is a relatively flat area which is covered with the Quaternary alluvium described above. Farther to the east of the former target is the Algodones Sand Hill. This area is covered with vast amounts of sand which has been shaped into dunes by the prevailing northwesterly winds. The sand can reach thicknesses of over 400 feet (Morton 1966).

3.3.2 Soils

Soils of the Holtville Target #2 site are nearly level, somewhat excessively drained soils on flood plains and alluvial basin floors. The soils formed in alluvial sands from diverse sources. Typically the surface layer is stratified, pink and reddish yellow sand and coarse sand to a depth of 27 inches. The underlying material is pink fine sand to a depth over 60 inches. The soil may be gravelly in some layers and cobbly on the surface. In other areas the soil is reddish yellow fine sand to a depth over 60 inches. TABLE 3-2 shows a typical profile of the soil found on the site of the former target.

Permeability of the soil is rapid, and available water capacity is low. Surface runoff is slow, and hazard of erosion is slight. There is a high hazard of soil blowing and abrasion to young plants.

TABLE 3-2. Soil Profile						
DEPT H	SOIL DESCRIPTION	PERCENTAGE PASSING SIEVE NUMBER		· ·	PLAS- TICITY	
(in)		#4	#40	#200		INDEX
0-27	Sand	100	40-70	5-15		NP
27-60	Sand, fine sand	100	40-85	5-30		NP
Table modified from Soil Survey of Imperial County, CA.						

3.4 <u>Hydrology</u>

3.4.1 Surface Water

The study site is located within the Imperial Valley of California. The terrain of the Imperial Valley consists mostly of smooth plains. Approximately 50% to 80% of the local relief, which is between 100 and 300 feet, is gently sloping. A large part of the terrain of the Imperial Valley is below sea level. The elevation of the water surface for the Salton Sea, located within the Imperial Valley, is 228 feet below sea level.

The soil in the Imperial Valley of California is warm and dry, with a mean annual temperature higher than 47° F. The western and southern sections of California have very low frost penetration amounts. The average frost penetration for the study site is between zero and 3 inches while the depth of extreme frost penetration is only about 5 inches. The soil in this region is sandy and generally lacks moisture. Evaporation is high due to the plentiful amounts of sunshine and the hot, dry conditions. The vegetation that grows naturally in this area is mostly brush and shrublands. The Imperial Valley is generally vulnerable to droughts which may last several years.

The principle water use of the Imperial Valley is for irrigation. Fresh surface water is provided from an extensive network of canals for irrigation.

The average concentration of sediment in the rivers is generally high; between 15,000 and 30,000 parts per million. The prevalent type of chemicals naturally in the rivers are sodium, potassium, sulfate and chloride. The concentration of dissolved minerals in the ground water is low with less than 1000 parts per million.

Natural drainage occurs through washes, draws and gullies (trenches cut out by the natural drainage of runoff from precipitation). These trenches are dry in times of no precipitation. A wash is the largest type of trench drainage, gullies are the

smallest and draws are usually in between. These natural runoff drainage trenches empty into rivers or canals. Flooding at the site is unlikely because of the small amount of precipitation and the porous nature of the sandy soils throughout the Imperial Valley.

Imperial Valley generally drains in a southern direction. The Alamo River, New River and the Western Main Canal all originate at the Salton Sea and flow south into the All American Canal. The Coachella Canal which originates at the Colorado Aqueduct near Coachella, California also flows south, just east of and parallel to the others. These four water systems empty into the All American Canal. The All American Canal flows east along the Mexican border and empties into the Colorado River near Yuma, Arizona. The Colorado River flows south and empties into the Gulf of California.

The site of the former Holtville Target #2 is located in the East Mesa area in the foothills of the Chocolate Mountains. The elevation of Holtville Target #2 is between a high of about 100 feet above sea level and a low of about 20 feet below sea level. The site drains predominately west into the East Highland Canal, however, the far eastern section drains east into the Coachella Canal.

While no gage data is available at this site, the U.S. Geological Service (U.S. G.S.) maintains gages on some of the major rivers located within the general area. One such gage, covering 14 years of continuous record, located on the Alamo River at Calipatria, California, recorded a maximum discharge of 6770 cfs in January 1993. The minimum recorded discharge, 1080 cfs, occurred in August 1990. The maximum recorded stage, 7.20 feet, occurred in January 1993, equivalent to an elevation of 189.20 feet. Another gage, on the New River near Westmoreland, California, has 32 years of continuous record. It recorded a maximum discharge of 3000 cfs in August 1977, and its minimum recorded flow of 691 cfs occurred in January 1966. No stage data is provided for this gage site.

3.4.1 Ground Water

The site of the former Holtville Target #2 is underlain by a regionally extensive system of desert basins. These desert or drainage basins receive the majority of their recharge from precipitation runoff from the surrounding mountains and the nearby Salton Sea. The water is absorbed and held by the coarse-grained Quaternary alluvial sediments. The water is therefore unconfined. The depth to groundwater fluctuates greatly due to the surplus or lack of precipitation in the area.

The land is dry and must be irrigated to be used for pastureland or farmland. There are extensive irrigation systems throughout the surrounding areas for both domestic and farm use.

3.5 Ecology

The information provided for this site was compiled from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDB).

The following federally-listed species may occur in the vicinity of the former Holtville Target (BT) #2: desert pupfish (<u>Cyprinodon macularius</u>), endangered; flattailed horned lizard (<u>Phrynosoma mcalli</u>), proposed endangered; Aleutian Canada goose (<u>Branta canadensis leucopareia</u>), threatened; bald eagle (<u>Haliaetus</u> <u>leucocephalus</u>), endangered; peregrine falcon (<u>Falco peregrinus</u>), endangered; brown pelican (<u>Pelecanus occidentalis</u>), endangered; Yuma clapper rail (<u>Rallus longirostris</u> <u>yumanensis</u>), endangered; and Pierson's milk-vetch (<u>Astragalus magdalenae</u> var. <u>piersonii</u>), proposed endangered.

The NDDB records indicated that the following state-listed species occurs in the vicinity of the Holtville Target (BT) #2 Site: California black rail (<u>Laterallus</u> jamaicensis coturniculus), threatened; Peirson's milk-vetch, endangered; Wiggin's croton (<u>Croton wigginsii</u>), rare; and Algodones dunes sunflower (<u>Helianthus niveus</u> spp. <u>tephrodes</u>), endangered.

No additional information on the occurrence of rare or endangered species or natural communities is known at this time. This does not mean that other state or federally-listed species may not be present within the areas of interest. An on site inspection by appropriate state and federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities if remedial action is recommended as part of the final ASR.

3.6 <u>Demographics</u>

3.6.1 Center of Activity

The (former) Holtville Target #2 is located near the city of Brawley, Imperial County, California.

CITY/COUNTY	CITY: Brawley	COUNTY: Imperial
AREA (sq. mi.)	N/A*	4.173
POPULATION	18,923	109,303
POP DENSITY	N/A*	26.2

3.6.2 Population Density

NOTE: Population density is in units persons per square mile. *N/A denotes data which were not available to this study. 3.6.3 Types of Businesses and Industry

The number of business establishments in Imperial County can be broken down by type as follows: manufacturing 3.0%; agriculture 3.6%; services 28.3%; trade and financial 48.3%; and other 16.8%. Of the people employed in Imperial County, 21.6% are employed by classified businesses. Trade and financial firms employ 50% of the working population, and the service industry employs 20.5%. 7.6% of the people employed work in manufacturing businesses, and 0.3% are employed by unclassified businesses. Foregoing percentages are from March 1991.

3.6.4 Types of Housing

Housing in Brawley is composed of both single family and multi-family dwellings. The median value of 6,124 specified owner-occupied housing units in Brawley is \$95,300.

3.6.5 New Development in the Area

No new development in the area, except for residential dwellings.

3.6.6 Typical cross section of the Population

The part of the population under the age of 18 is 35.8%, and the part over the age of 65 is 8.9%. The median age is 30 years.

3.6.7 Information Sources

U.S. Census report as listed below:

- 1990 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING, Imperial County, California
- 1990 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING, Holtville, California
- 1988 COUNTY AND CITY DATA BOOK, LAND AREA AND POPULATION, Imperial County, California
- 1988 COUNTY AND CITY DATA BOOK, LAND AREA AND POPULATION, Holtville, California
- 1991 COUNTY BUSINESS PATTERNS, Imperial County

4.0 Site History

4.1 Historical Site Summary

4.1.1 General History of Naval and Marine Corps Facilities in Imperial County, California

4.1.1.1 El Centro Marine Corps Air Station

In May 1942, military construction began on the Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA) airfield at El Centro, CA. Seven months later limited operations at the base started. The Marine Corps chose this location because the flat, sandy desert floor and the climate provided an excellent opportunity for all types of pre-combat training and a large amount of flying time. Additional facilities constructed included skeet and rifle ranges, gunnery practice ranges, a rocket range, and rocket ground school. Official commissioning of the base took place on 23 July 1943 (Coletta 1985).

In October 1943, El Centro expanded its facilities due to increasing requirements for Marine Corps pilots. It moved its moving target range closer to the base for convenience, and it expanded existing runways and also built two new ones. El Centro began training heavy bomber crews at this time. By the end of 1944, the base maintained training capabilities for sixteen squadrons of fighters, bombers and transports (Office of the Chief of Naval Operations 1943; Coletta 1985).

After World War II, jurisdiction for the base switched from the Marine Corps to the Navy. For most of the post-war period, Naval Air Facility (NAF) El Centro's mission has been to support the rocket, bombing, gunnery, anti-submarine warfare, and night flying training for fleet aircraft (U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, El Centro, CA 1952a).

4.1.1.2 Holtville Naval Auxiliary Air Station

Construction on the Holtville station began in January 1943, and it was completed five months later. The official commission occurred on 4 July 1943. Naval Auxiliary Air Station (NAAS) Holtville specialized in night flying. The instruction schedule included training in dive bombing, skip bombing, low-level bombing, target strafing, and carrier landings. Later, trainees also practiced rocket firing. The Navy reduced the station to caretaker status in April 1946 and declared it surplus on 10 June 1946 (U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Holtville, CA 1945, 1946; Navy Department 1948).

4.1.1.3 Salton Sea Naval Auxiliary Air Station

In 1942, after infrequent, limited use for seaplane landings and as a bombing target, the Navy established an auxiliary facility for seaplanes on the shore of the Salton Sea. It trained seaplane crews and served as an emergency landing area when seaplanes could not land at San Diego. Eventually, the base administered ten water targets, thirteen land targets and five emergency landing fields. The Manhattan project conducted some experiments from the base during World War II, and after the war the base was owned by the Atomic Energy Commission. In the 1960's, the Navy re-acquired the land and used it as a support facility for NAF El Centro. In 1988, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommended its closure (U. S. Army Corps of Engineers-Rock Island, IL 1996).

4.1.1.4 Holtville Bombing Target No. 2

In 1944 and 1945, the Department of Interior granted the Navy permission to use the southeast 1/4 of Section 9, the southwest 1/4 of Section 10, and the northwest 1/4 of Section 15 in Township 13 South, Range 16 East for a low-level rocket range. The target consisted of concentric circles. Research uncovered no disposal information, but in June 1946, the Navy wanted to retain the range. It is not known for what period of time, however (Southern California Sector, Western Sea Frontier 1944; Public Works Officer, 11th Naval District 1946).

4.1.2 Historical Use of OE and CWM at Holtville Bombing Target No. 2

Rockets were the authorized type of ordnance to be used on this range, and the site inspection conducted by St. Louis District discovered evidence of 2.25" rockets and two prong electric connectors and nozzle closures from either 2.25" or 3.25" rockets. The site visit team also discovered remnants of M-38 100-pound practice bombs and scrap from what has been tentatively identified as 500-pound practice bombs. In addition, the following OE or CWM was stored at the El Centro Marine Corps Air Station and could have been used on its ranges:

100-pound water filled bombs 100-pound general purpose bombs 500-pound water filled bombs 500-pound general purpose bombs 1000-pound general purpose bombs 1000-pound general purpose bombs 1000-pound semi-armor piercing bombs Miniature bombs 2.25" rocket 3.5" rockets 5" rockets Tiny Tim (11.75") rockets .30 caliber tracers .30 caliber incendiary .30 caliber armor-piercing ammunition .50 caliber ammunition 20mm ammunition FS Smoke drums .45 caliber ball ammunition pyrotechnics rocket firers

Both air stations at Holtville and Salton Sea also stored some OE and CWM, but the items stored at El Centro reflect the largest, most varied arsenal (Bureau of Ordnance 1946a, 1946b, 1946c; Headquarters, Naval Air Bases 1946b, n.d.; U. S. Marine Corps Air Station 1946; United States Pacific Fleet 1946).

4.2 Review of Historical Records

Records relating to the history of the Holtville Bombing Target No. 2 were gathered from the following sources from December 1995 to February 1996. The research team consisted of Rochelle Ross and Theresa Williams-Dye, CELMS-PM-M, and David Tajkowski, and John Daly CELMS-PD-R. Decisions about which record groups to examine at the various national, state, and local archives and records centers were made by consulting finding aids, archivists and records managers. Through the use of finding aids, such as inventories and master accession lists, the researchers were able to focus on those record groups they thought would be most fruitful before calling, or visiting, various repositories.

National Archives 8th and Pennsylvania Washington, D.C. 20408

RG 72 Records of the Bureau of Aeronautics (NAVY) Box 2323, General Correspondence, 1943-45, KV 91 Et 14, Dv 39 Vol 2 (no entry number). Contained the following information: acquisition of Permit for use of land for rocket target, El Centro MCAS; lease of additional land for El Centro Bombing Target #1; El Centro MCAS Gunnery Training Facilities; access roads to El Centro Rocket Target #'s 1 & 2.

Entry 67, Box 274, Confidential Correspondence, 1922-47 (1945), Kv to Kv 58.

Entry 17A, Box 980, Confidential Correspondence, 1922-44 (1942), K7-Kv41. Contained a map showing the El Centro NAS Plot Plan (Nov 4, 1942).

RG 49 Records of the Bureau of Land Management Abandoned Military Reservations File, CA-Fort Reading to Fort Collins, Boxes 25 & 27. No information on El Centro or Holtville.

National Archives-Suitland Branch Washington National Records Center 4205 Suitland Road Suitland, MD 20409

- RG 127 Records of the United States Marine Corps Office of the Commandant, General Correspondence, Box 1845, Jan 1939-June 1950, 2785-2385. Contained a file on the El Centro MCAS, no pertinent information.
- RG 175 Records of the Chemical Warfare Service Entry 2, Box 450, Index Briefs 1918-42, Samples-Schedule. Entry 2, Box 448, Index Briefs 1918-1942, Sales-Samples Entry 2, Box 259, Index Briefs 1918-1942, Hig-Hooker Entry 2, Box 175, Index Briefs 1918-1942, Education-Electric
- RG 74 Records of the Bureau of Ordnance (Navy) Entry 1529, Box 1282, ND7-ND11, 1945. Req. disposition of 752 MK 6 Mod 1 parachute flares at NAAS Holtville.

Entry 5595, Box 209, ND10-ND12, 1947. The following information was copied from this box: request for ammunition, MCAS El Centro (2.25" Rocket SCARs, 8000 rounds); disposal officer has been acquired to effect demolitions of dud rockets and bombs on the El Centro Aviation Practice Ranges; discontinuance of target and bombing ranges (#'s 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 69, 77, 90 & 91).

Entry 25, Box 362, KV37-NA8, 1943. Monthly ammunition allotment, MCAS El Centro.

Entry 25, Box 453, KV9-LL, 1943. This box contained information on empty drums for FS Smoke Mixture and a request for ammunition and waterfillable bombs MCAS El Centro.

Entry 4444, Box 194, KV thru L1-1, 1946. Receipt for shipment of rocket firers.

Entry 4444, Box 193, KK/579 thru Kv, 1946.

Entry 1529, Box 374, F4 1-10, 1945.

Entry 4444, Box 287, ND8-ND11, 1946. Training for a four month period, 1,224 Tiny Tim's, 53,292 SCARs, 11,176 100# H2O filled, 2,500 3.5 AR'S.

Entry 1529, Boxes 373, 376 & 377, 1216 & 1283.

Entry 4444, Boxes 154-156,264 & 288.

Entry 25, Boxes 187 & 188, 248, 386 & 515.

Entry 5595, Boxes 100 & 101, 130 & 197.

- RG 72 Records of the Bureau of Aeronautics Entry 69A2454, Box 2 & 3, California. Declaration of Surplus for the -Holtville Naval Auxiliary Air Station.
- RG 143 Records of the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts (NAVY) All requests for RG 143 were unsuccessful.

Washington National Record Center 4205 Suitland Road Suitland, MD 20409

Based on the finding aids available at this repository and due to the nature of the site, no boxes were requested.

National Archives at College Park 8201 Adelphi Rd College Park, MD 20740

RG 48 Records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior Entry 748, Boxes 44, 45, 92, 142, 149, 162 & 748. Entry 749, Boxes 3218, 3219 & 3220. Entry 942, Not Found

Naval Historical Center/AR Washington Naval Yard 901 M Street S.E. Washington, D.C. 20374

Aviation History Files, 11th Naval District, Boxes 210, 212, 221, 290, 292 & 391. Information copied included: histories on El Centro MCAS and Holtville NAAS; 11th Naval District Directory of Naval Air Bases; chronologies of El Centro and Holtville NAAS; rounds expended by fleet units (El Centro NAAS).

United States Marine Corps Historical Center Washington Naval Yard 901 M Street S.E. Washington, D.C. 20374

Additional histories on El Centro were reviewed along with information on the Twenty-nine Palms Marine Corps Base. No copies were made at this repository.

Chemical and Biological Defense Agency Historical Office AMSCB-CIH Aberdeen Proving Ground Edgewood, MD 21010

All pertinent information was faxed to the St. Louis District.

National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region 24000 Avila Rd Laguna Niguel, CA 92677-6719

RG 181 Records of Naval Districts and Shore Establishments Box 38, File N1-9, 11th Naval District General Correspondence 1925-1952.

> Naval and Marine flying within Western Air Defense Zone; survey of shore activities; mission of El Centro NAAS and a historical report on Holtville NAAS.

Box 39, File N1-N3, 11th Naval District General Correspondence 1925-1952. Danger area-El Centro Gunnery Range for MCAS. Box 422, File NA-NA, 11th Naval District General Correspondence 1925-1952. Land occupied by rocket target #103; free gunnery range facilities located near El Centro; rocket stowage at El Centro NAS; permit for movable target range for El Centro MCAS and investigation of wrongful release of bombs near El Centro MCAS.

Box 57, File CF20C/SF20C/1943, 11th Naval District Formerly Classified Correspondence 1921-47. Board report of investigation of additional facilities requested at the Marine Corps Air Stations on the west coast.

Box 424, File NA(2), 11th Naval District General Correspondence 1924-1955.

Price of construction for Holtville Outdoor Gunnery Range; acquisition of land for bombing targets and rental price for Holtville Target #1.

Additional boxes viewed under RG 181 at the Pacific Southwest Archives included: Boxes 5, 56, 116, 119, 421, 423, 427, & 435.

RG 270 Records of the War Assets Administration Boxes 63 & 64, File Hollister-Holtville, Real Property Case Files.

Federal Record Center-Pacific Southwest Region 24000 Avila Rd Laguna Niguel, CA 92677-6719

Based upon the finding aids and on the opinion of the consulting archivist, no boxes were requested at this repository.

National Personnel Record Center-Military Branch 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132

Based upon the finding aids and on the opinion of the consulting archivist, no boxes were requested at this repository.

USACOE-Los Angeles District 300 Los Angeles Ave Los Angeles, CA 90053

Information gathered at the L.A. Corps of Engineers included reports of previous site visits, along with real estate data.

National Archives-Pacific Sierra Region 1000 Commodore Dr. San Bruno, CA 94066

RG 291 Records of the Property Management and Disposal Service Series 9NSS-121-90-002, Box 59, File B-Calif-730 Salton Sea Test Base. File contained regional information on El Centro.

Federal Record Center-Pacific Sierra Region 1000 Commodore Dr. San Bruno, CA 94066

Based on the consultation of the archivists and the corresponding finding aids, no documents were requested at this repository.

NAVFAC Historian's Office Seabee Museum Construction Battalion Center Port Hueneme, CA 93043

Maps of the El Centro NAAS and of Imperial County (showing bombing targets).

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest Division 1220 Pacific Hwy, Code 2421 San Diego, CA 92132-5190

A Land Acquisition Map of range 2512 (East Mesa) and a Real Estate Summary Map of Imperial County (dated 7-1-65) were available at this repository.

U.S. Department of the Navy Public Works Department (Code 341) Naval Air Facility El Centro, CA 92243-5001

A Historic and Archeological Resources Protection Plan for Naval Air Facility, El Centro (October 1994) and additional Land Acquisition Maps were copied at El Centro NAS.

U.S. Department of the Navy Base Library Naval Air Facility El Centro, CA 92243-5001

The base library contained a series of scrapbooks on the history and social activities of El Centro.

Bureau of Land Management El Centro Resource Office 1661 South Fourth St. El Centro, CA 92243

Items procured included a Desert Access Guide to Imperial Valley California and BLM jurisdiction and site access maps.

Combat Heritage Museum Holtville Airport Holtville, CA 92250

Base newspapers of the Holtville Auxiliary Naval Air Station were available for viewing.

BARSA Inc. 422 North Imperial Ave. El Centro, CA 92243

Maps on Imperial County and the State of California were available at this repository.

4.3 <u>Summary of Interviews</u>

None of the individuals interviewed, personnel from the Naval Amphibious Base, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, El Centro Naval Air Facility, EOD (Naval, Army, and Marines), and local residents, knew this range had ever existed.

4.4 Air Photo Interpretation and Map Analysis

4.4.1 Air Photo Interpretation

Photographic analysis and land-use interpretation were performed using the following photographic sources:

<u>Photography Date</u>	<u>Scale</u>	Source	Frame Identifier(s)
17 Feb 1949	1:20,000	National Archives	ABN-2F 2 thru 6 ABN-2F 79 thru 85 ABN-2F 155 thru 161 ABN-2F 210 thru 212
07 Apr 1953	1:20,000	ASCS	6M 18 thru 22 6M 104 thru 108
02 Jun 1959	1:20,000	ASCS	3W 43 thru 46
04 Jun 1959	1:20,000	ASCS	3W 78 thru 82
06 Jun 1965	1:20,000	ASCS	3FF 244 thru 248 3FF 253 thru 257
18 Nov 1978	1:30,000	BLM	10-25 2 thru 5 10-26 14 thru 18
27 Sep 1992	1:40,000	EROS	VFNI 1-128 thru 131

The photography was referenced using the 1992 edition USGS Amos, California 7.5' quadrangle.

A bombing target, containing three rings and approximately 280 feet in diameter, is identified on the 1949 photography. It is located at the bend in Schoneman Road near the irrigation ditches. No other OE activity is located on the photo.

The bombing target is not visible on the 1953, 1959, or 1965 photography. Other than a little ground scarring, there are no signs of OE disturbance on the former target.

The Navy's current bombing target #95, approximately 600 feet in diameter, is seen on the 1978 and 1992 photography. The remainder of the former target does not show any signs of disturbance.

4.4.2 Map Analysis

Map analysis was performed using the 1992 edition USGS Amos, California 7.5'; quadrangle.

Planimetric and topographic features are show on the quadrangle. The planimetric features include loose and hard surface roads. There are several manmade canals in the area. The topography of the area ranges from flat to gently rising terrain to the east. Vegetation is sparse and low lying. The bombing target identified on the 1949 photography lies in a relatively flat area.

5.0 Real Estate

5.1 Confirmed DoD Ownership

The former Holtville Target No. 2 (#95), consisting of 460 acres, was located in the southeast ¼ of Section 9, the southwest ¼ of Section 10, and the northwest ¼ of Section 15 in Township 13 South, Range 16 East. The Department of Interior transferred the land to the Naval Department by letter permits on 12 May 1944 and 24 June 1945. In June 1946, the Navy proposed that the range be retained, but it is not known for what period of time.

5.2 Potential DoD Ownership

DoD only owned that land mentioned in section 5.1.

5.3 Significant Past Ownership other than DoD

There is no significant past ownership other than DoD.

5.4 Present Ownership

The majority of the former target is owned by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Although, portions of the former target are still under DoD jurisdiction and are used by the Navy as a part of their current Target #95. However, there are discrepancies among the INPR, the 1992 Amos, CA Quad Sheet, and the BLM Desert Access Guide #20 regarding these portions. According to the INPR, the north ½ and southeast ¼ of the southwest ¼ of Section 10 and the east ½ of the northwest ¼ of Section 15 are currently maintained by the Navy. According to the Quad Sheet, the Naval Reservation southern boundary of Target #95 is located approximately one half mile from the northeast corner of the boundary of the former target. Therefore, the Navy does not maintain any of the former Holtville Target No. 2. And based on the Desert Access Guide, the east ½ of the southwest ¼ of Section 10 and the east ½ of the northwest ¼ of Section 10 and the east ½ of the Naval Reservation southern boundary of Target #95 is located approximately one half mile from the northeast corner of the boundary of the former target. Therefore, the Navy does not maintain any of the former Holtville Target No. 2. And based on the Desert Access Guide, the east ½ of the southwest ¼ of Section 10 and the east ½ of the northwest ¼ of Section 15 are within the Naval Reservation boundaries.

6.0 Site Inspection

According to a few sources, the eastern portion of Holtville Target #2 is within the Navy's current Target #95. Therefore, we were allowed to conduct the site inspection between 10:00 and 11:00 am on Wednesday, 21 February 1996 when the target was closed for maintenance. Greg Boghossian from the Los Angeles District Corps of Engineers joined us for the day.

We began our site visit just off of Schoneman Road and criss-crossed through the area covering a good portion of the property. We found several pieces of ordnance related items and scrap, inlcuding 2-prong electrical connector plugs and nozzle closures for 2.25" and/or 3.25" rocket motors scattered throughout the area. The description of these items and their location are:

Description	Location
Box fin from M38 100-lb practice bomb	N 33°1'24.5" W 115°18'32.8"
2.25" Target Rocket Motor, 2.25" diameter, 26" long	N 33°1'28.8" W 115°18'31.1"
Scrap from M38 100-lb practice bomb	N 33°1'31.0" W 115°18'29.0"
Most likely, the tail section of MK 21 500- lb practice bomb	N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"
Most likely, the nose section of MK 21 500- lb practice bomb	N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"
Most likely, the body of MK 21 500-lb practice bomb	N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"
Lanyard; top disk is 3¾" diameter; overall diameter is 4¼"; possibly from an aircraft flare	N 33°1'52.3" W 115°18'32.2"
Unidentified stem; possibly part of an aircraft flare or electronic fuze	unknown location

On our return to the jeep, we walked through the location of the circular target as identified on the aerial photos. We found scrap from M-38 practice bombs scattered throughout the area.

After we completed the site visit we met with Mr. Chuck Phillips and his daughter, Mrs. Mathews of the Combat Heritage Museum at the former Holtville Army Air Field. A previous phone call led us to believe that he and his daughter had a list of veterans names, information on the base's history, and inert ordnance. Unfortunately, we had already viewed the documents at the Pioneers Museum in Imperial. There was no other pertinent information available.

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7.0 Evaluation of Ordnance Presence

NOTE: All locations were fixed with a Trimble Scout hand-held GPS using mapping datum North American 1927.

A variety of ordnance evidence was found on this range. Two items appeared to be of fairly recent vintage, perhaps from the 1960's or newer. Pieces of practice bombs were found at several locations, including box fins from an M38 series 100-lb. practice bomb found at N 33° 01' 24.5", W 115° 18' 32.8"/PG 57927 54967, and a nose section from another M38 at N 33° 01' 31.0", W 115° 18' 29.0"/PG 58021 55169.

An expended 2.25" Target Rocket motor was located at N 33° 01' 28.8", W 115° 18' 31.1"/PG 57967 55102. The nose, tail and central bomb body section of a large practice bomb were found at N 33° 01' 39.2", W 115° 18' 32.2"/PG 57934 55420. Subsequent research and study of the available identification features leads us to believe it is most likely a MK 21 500-lb. practice bomb. This is a WWII-era Navy practice munition.

Two more recent items appear to be either parts of aircraft flares or possibly electronic fuzes. Not much was visible on one item and no attempt was made to unearth it. One item was a cap roughly four inches in diameter with a thin cable lanyard attached to it. These items are made of aluminum and are located at N 33° 01' 52.3", W 115° 18' 32.2"/PG 57928 55825 and N 33° 01' 57.3", W 115° 19' 20.4"/PG 56676 55959.

Two-prong electrical connectors and nozzle closures from either 2.25" or 3.25" rockets were also found at this site. These were probably practice or target rockets.

8.0 Technical Data of Ordnance and Explosives

8.1 Ordnance Related Mission

This was a practice bombing range in the 1940's. It is also possible that more recent aircraft, even those of today flying out of the nearby Naval Air Facility, occasionally jettison ordnance such as flares which land on this property. The only sign of rockets observed during the site visit was the electrical connectors from 2.25" or 3.25" rockets.

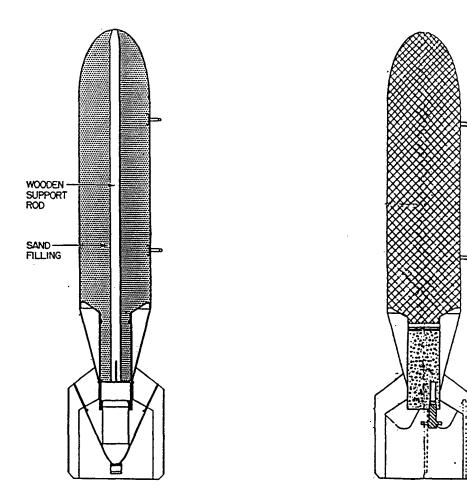
8.2 Description of Ordnance

The use of practice bombs like the 100-lb. M38 series, and apparently 500-lb. MK 21 bombs were dropped. Practice and target rockets were used to mark target locations or used as subcaliber devices. The unidentified items of more recent vintage may be evidence of aircraft flares being used.

8.3 <u>Reference</u>

TM 9-1325-200, Bombs and Bomb Components, dated 1966 TM 9-1980, Bombs for Aircraft, dated 1950 TM 9-1950, Rockets, dated 1950 NAVSEA OP 1415, Rocket Assemblies, dated 1955 NAVSEA OP 1664, U.S. Explosive Ordnance, dated 1947

BOMB, PRACTICE, 100 POUND, M38A2



With M4 spotting charge

With M3 spotting charge

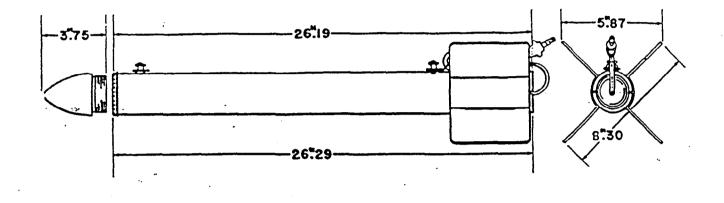
Description: This bomb simulates a General Purpose bomb of the same size. It is constructed of light sheet metal, approximately 22 gage, formed by rolling a rectangular sheet of metal into the form of a cylinder approximately 8 inches in diameter, and spot-welding the seam. The rounded nose is pressed from the same metal, as is the tail which is formed in the shape of a cone. The tail portion ends in a box type fins which is welded to the cone. Inside of the smaller end of the conical tail section is welded the spotting charge receiver. The spotting charge is assembled in a sleeve at the base of the bomb, within the fin box. Authorized spotting charges are the M1A1, M3, and M4. When using the M4 spotting charge a wooden support rod is installed in the bomb. Two suspension lugs are bolted to the bomb body during fabrication. The over-all length of the bomb body is 47½ inches. When empty, the bomb body weighs approximately 14 pounds. When completely loaded with sand and spotting charge, the weight of the bomb is approximately 100 pounds.

Over-all length	47.5 inches
Diameter	8.13 inches
Weight empty	15.7 pounds
Weight sand loaded & spotting charge	100 pounds

Reference

OP 1664 Vol 1 & 2, U.S. Explosive Ordnance February 1954 Complete Round Chart #5981, October 1944

ROCKET, 2.25 INCH PRACTICE





Description:

These rockets were used for practice firing against surface targets. The 2.25 inch practice rockets originally came in two different Marks (Mk) or models, the Mk II and

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Mk III. The acronym associated with them was SCAR, or sub-caliber aerial rocket. Other models followed. They consisted of a head, rocket motor, fins, igniter, and an electrical cable. The heads contained no fuze and were solid steel, zinc die cast, or cast iron. The item's explosive hazard was the propellant in the rocket motor and the igniter.

Purpose:

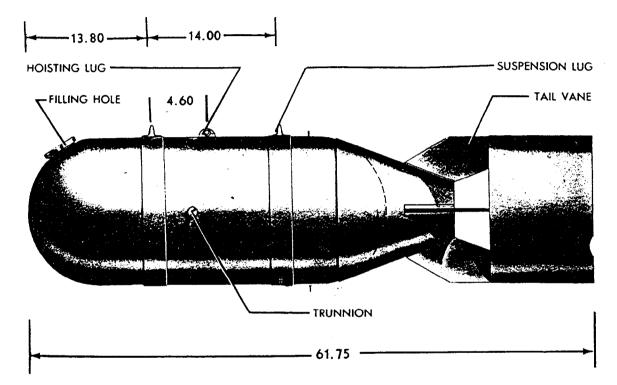
This item was forward fired from aircraft and simulated the trajectories of the 5 inch rockets.

WARREN.

AIRCRAFT BOMBS

lugs having pulled through between the hooks and the frame of the shackle. As a temporary correction, these bombs should have their laminated suspension lugs (nominal thickness $\frac{1}{8}$ in.) spread with a cold chisel to a width of approximately $\frac{5}{16}$ in. before suspending them from a bomb shackle of the Mk 3, Mk 4, or Mk 5 series. Later, lots of these bombs have thicker lugs (5/16 in. thick), and the above modification will only be necessary until the older lots are expended.

OP 1280



THE 500-POUND PRACTICE BOMB MK 21

Figure 153.—500-Lb. Practice Bomb Mk 21

The 500-pound Practice Bomb Mk 21 has the following characteristics:

Weight-water-filled273 lb.

Weight—wet-sand-filled

Body diameter-maximum 15 in.

Fin dimension-maximum 15 in.

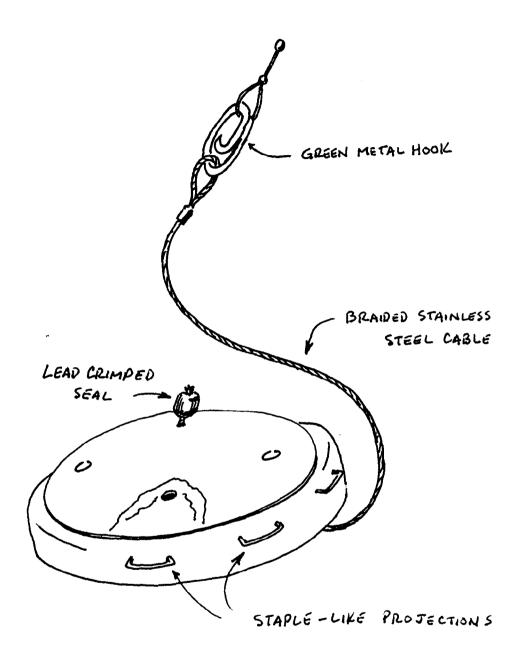
Material	Welded sheet metal
Ballistic coefficient	2.2 (Dropping weight of 500 lb.)

Auxiliary Equipment

Water or wet sand to be inserted at loading base.

Under freezing conditions anti-freeze to be added.

RESTRICTED



ALUMINUM CAP (SEE PHOTO 7) 4" IN DIAMETER

HOLTVILLE # 2

9.0 Evaluation of Other Site Information

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The archive search did not reveal any additional areas of potential environmental concern associated with DoD use.

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ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVE SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)** IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

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- **B. GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS**
- C. TEXT / MANUALS
- D. REPORTS / STUDIES
- E. LETTERS / MEMORANDA / MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
- F. REAL ESTATE DOCUMENTS (NOT USED)
- G. NEWSPAPER / JOURNALS (NOT USED)
- H. INTERVIEWS
- I. PRESENT SITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- J. HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS (NOT USED)
- K. HISTORICAL MAPS / DRAWINGS
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INVENTORY PROJECT REPORT (INPR)

Scott, Bruce K., BG, U.S. Army

1995 Letter to Commander, USACE, Washington, D.C. and Commander, USACE, Huntsville, subject: Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS), Inventory Project Report (INPR) for Kane Springs SBT (#62), Imperial County, CA, Site No. J09CA017300, dated 17 January 1995; Findings of Fact, dated 13 January 1995; Site Survey Summary Sheet, dated 16 September 1993; Site Location Map; Project Summary Sheet, n.d.; RAC Form, n.d.; Justification sheet for RAC Score, n.d.

REFERENCES

Bagley, D. W. and R. R. Smith.

1943 Correspondence to Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station, El Centro, CA, dated 27 April, regarding the Danger Area for a gunnery range at El Centro. Record Group 181; Box 39: N1-N3. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.

Bureau of Aeronautics.

- 1945a Correspondence to Bureau of Yards and Docks, dated 2 July, regarding the construction of Duck Skeet, Skeet and Trap Ranges. Record Group 72; Entry: General Correspondence 1943-45; Box 2323; File KV37. National Archives-Downtown Branch, Washington D.C.
- 1945b Correspondence to Bureau of Yards and Docks, dated 30 July, regarding gunnery training facilities. Record Group 72; Entry: General Correspondence 1943-45; Box 2323; File: KV37. National Archives-Downtown Branch, Washington D.C.

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Bureau of Docks.

1948 Routing Slip referencing correspondence to Eleventh Naval District, dated 8 April, regarding permission to use Department of Interior land for a movable target range, rifle range and pistol range. Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, Commandant's Office, General Correspondence 1924-55; Box 425. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.

Bureau of Naval Personnel.

1947 Correspondence to Commander, Eleventh Naval District, dated 19 February, regarding the cancellation of interim caretaker force allowances. Record Group 74; Entry 5595; Box 209: ND10-ND12, 1947. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

Bureau of Ordnance.

- 1943a Correspondence to Commanding Officer, Bombardier and Air Gunner School, El Centro MCAS, dated 5 May, regarding inert bombs and fuzes for Instruction. Record Group 74; Entry 25; Box 453: KV9-LL. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1943b Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 6 May, regarding Aircraft Munitions. Record Group 74; Entry 25; Box 453: KV9-LL. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1943c Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 14 July, regarding the approved capacities of Magazines. Record Group 74; Entry 25; Box 453: KV9-LL. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

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- 1943d "Cross Index: KV37," dated 5 October, for correspondence to S & A Ofcr MarCorps Air Sta. El Centro, Calif., regarding bombing trainers. Record Group 74; Entry 25; Box 362; KV37-NA 8. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1946a Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 4 January, regarding the Ammunition Stock Recording System. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1946b Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 19 April, regarding the stowage of ammunition. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1946c Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 27 June, regarding a request for rocket firers. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

Bureau of Yards and Docks.

1947 Building the Navy's Bases in World War II: History of the Bureau of Yards and Docks and the Civil Engineer Corps, 1940-1946. Volume I. United States Government Printing Office, Washington D.C.

Chief of Naval Air Technical Training.

1948 Correspondence to Chief of Naval Operations, dated 16 January, regarding Rock Mining Permit at Gunnery Range, NAS, El Centro, CA. Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, Commandant's Office, General Correspondence 1924-55; Box 425. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.

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Coletta, Paola E., ed.

1985 United States Navy and Marine Corps Bases, Domestic. Greenwood Press, Westport, CT.

Commandant, Eleventh Naval District.

- 1944 Routing Slip referencing correspondence from Bureau of Docks, dated 28 February, regarding the lease of land for Holtville Target No. 1. Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, Commandant's Office, General Correspondence 1924-55; Box 424; File: NA(2). National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.
- 1947a Correspondence to the Chief of Bureau of Yards and Docks, dated 28 February, regarding the leases and/or permits for Imperial Valley Bombing Targets. Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, Commandant's Office, General Correspondence 1924-55; Box 425. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.
- 1947b Correspondence to the Chief of Bureau of Yards and Docks, dated 24 July, regarding Free Gunnery Range Facilities near El Centro, CA. Record Group 181; Entry: Commandant's Office, General Correspondence; Box 425. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.

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- 1947c Correspondence to the Chief of Bureau of Ordnance, dated 26 September, regarding rocket stowage at Naval Air Station, El Centro, CA. Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, Commandant's Office, General Correspondence 1924-55; Box 425. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.
- 1968 United States Naval Administration in WWII, Volume 118; Part 3. Washington Navy Yard Library, Washington D.C.

Commander, Naval Air Bases, Eleventh Naval District.

- 1947 Correspondence to Chairman General Board, dated 23 June, regarding Survey of Shore Activities of the Naval Establishment. Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, District Planning Officer, General Correspondence 1925-52; Box 38; File N1-9. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.
 - 1949 Routing Slip for correspondence to Secretary of Navy, dated 5 March, regarding Board of Investigation investigating wrongful release of bombs near U. S. Naval Air Station, El Centro, California. Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, Commandant's Office, General Correspondence 1924-55; Box 425. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.

Department of the Navy, Bureau of Yards and Docks.

1965 "Real Estate Summary Map," for U. S. Naval Air Facility, El Centro, CA. Real Estate Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, San Diego, CA.

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- 1946 "Facilities Considered Excess to Needs of 11th Naval District," dated
 01 April. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; File: ND8-ND11,
 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1947 "Speedletter" to Chief of Naval Personnel, dated 12 August, regarding retaining the services of Bomb and Mine Disposal Expert until a qualified replacement arrives in Southern California. Record Group 74; Entry 5595; Box 209: BD10-ND12, 1947. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- n.d. "Directory of Naval Air Bases." Naval Historical Center and Archives, Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.

Fogg, A. K.

1943 Correspondence from officer-in-charge of construction to Commander, Marine Fleet Air West Coast, dated 27 October, regarding the expansion of facilities at MCAS El Centro, CA. Record Group 72; Entry: General Correspondence 1943-45; Box 2323; File KV37. National Archives-Downtown Branch, Washington D.C.

Gunther, E. L.

 1942 "Report of Naval and Marine Flying Within Western Air Defense Zone," dated 23 September. Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, District Planning Officer, General Correspondence 1925-52; Box 38; File N1-9. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.

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1943 Correspondence to Bureau of Ordnance, dated 10 May, regarding mil sights for free gunnery instruction. Record Group 74; Entry 25; Box 453: KV9-LL. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

Headquarters, Naval Air Bases.

- 1945 Correspondence to Commanding Officer of All Units at Naval Air Bases, dated 23 April, regarding the numbering of land and water targets. Engineering Division, Installation Support Section, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers-Los Angeles, CA.
- 1946a Speedletter; File NAB11/S78-2, dated 28 February, regarding excess ammunition at Naval Air Bases. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; ND8-ND11, 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1946b Correspondence to Chief, Bureau of Ordnance, dated 12 August, regarding a Request for Disposition of Small Arms Ammunition for Caliber .30 Aircraft Machine Gun. RG 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; ND8-ND11, 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1946c Correspondence to Commandant, Eleventh Naval District, dated 18 September, regarding land occupied by Rocket Target No. 103. Record Group 181; Entry: Commandant's Office General Correspondence; Box 422. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.
- n.d. Speedletter; File NAB11/S78-2, regarding Ordnance inventories at 11th Naval District's Air Bases. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; File ND8-ND11, 1946. National Archives- Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

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- 1943 Correspondence to Bureau of Ordnance, dated 6 August, regarding empty drums for FS smoke mixture. Record Group 74; Entry 25; Box 453: KV9-LL. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1945a Correspondence to Chief, Bureau of Ordnance, dated 26 June, regarding a Request for Ordnance Equipment for Duck Skeet, Skeet and Trap Ranges. Record Group 74; Entry 1529; Box 374: F4 1-10, 1945. National Archives, Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1945b "History of Marine Corps Air Station, El Centro, California," dated 18 December. Naval Historical Center and Archives, Washington Naval Yard, Washington D.C.

Holtville, Auxiliary Air Station.

- 1948 Legal Descriptions of Land to be disposed of by the Navy Department to Imperial County. Record Group 72; Entry 69A-2454; Box 2; File: California. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- n.d. "Structures for Use Off-Site." Record Group 72; Entry 69A-2454; Box 2; File: California. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

Marine Corps Air Station, El Centro, CA.

1946 Teletype to Bureau of Ordnance, dated 26 March, regarding the shipment of 36 Rocket Firers. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

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Marine Fighter Squadron 216.

1943 Correspondence to Bureau of Ordnance, dated 21 August, regarding a request for glide bombing monograms for F4U aircraft. Record Group 74; Entry 25; Box 453: KV9-LL. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

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- c.1946 "Status of Units of Naval Air Bases, 11th Naval District." Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, District Planning Officer, General Correspondence 1925-52; Box 38; File N1-9. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.
- 1966a Handwritten correspondence regarding disposition of NAAS Holtville, dated 21 September. Record Group 72; Entry 69A-2454; Box 2; File: California. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1966b Handwritten correspondence regarding disposition of 110 acres at NAAS Holtville, dated 16 November. Record Group 72; Entry 69A-2454; Box 2; File: California. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

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ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVE SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)**

IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

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PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

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APPENDIX B

GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

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ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVE SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)**

IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

AAAnti-AircraftAECArmy Environmental CenterAGOAdjutant General's Office	
AGO Adjutant General's Office	
AP Armor Piercing	
APDS Armor Piercing Discarding Sabot	
APERS Antipersonnel	
APT Armor Piercing with Tracer	
ASR Archives Search Report	
Aux Auxiliary	
BAR Browning Automatic Rifle	
BD Base Detonating	
BD/DR Building Demolition/Debris Removal	
BE Base Ejection	
BGR Bombing and Gunnery Range	
BLM Bureau of Land Management	
BRAC Base Realignment And Closure	
BT Bomb Target	
CAA Civil Aeronautics Administration	
CADD Computer-Aided Design/Drafting	
Cal Caliber	
CBDA Chemical and Biological Defense Agency	
CBDCOM Chemical and Biological Defense Command	
CE Corps of Engineers	
CEHND Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Division	
CELMS Corps of Engineers, St. Louis	
CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation	m
and Liability Act	
CERFA Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act	
CESPL Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District	
CFR Code of Federal Regulations	

Appendix B-1

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cfs	Cubic Feet Per Second
COE	Chief of Engineers
COMP	Composition
CTG	Cartridge
CSM	Chemical Surety Material
CSM	Command Sergeant Major
CWM	Chemical Warfare Material
CWS	Chemical Warfare Service
DA	Department of the Army
DARCOM	Development and Readiness Command
DERA	Defense Environmental Restoration Account
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program
DERP-FUDS	Defense Environmental Restoration Program-Formerly
	Used Defense Sites
DoD	Department of Defense
DOE	Department of Energy
DOI	Department of Interior
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EOD	Explosives Ordnance Disposal
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERDA	Environmental Restoration Defense Account
FDE	Findings and Determination of Eligibility
FFMC	Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation
FLCH	Flechette
FS	Feasibility Study
FWS	(U.S.) Fish and Wildlife Service
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites
GIS	Graphic Information System
GSA	General Services Administration
HE	High Explosive

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HEAT HEI HEP	High Explosive Anti-Tank High Explosive Incendiary Plastic
HE-S	Illuminating
HTRW	Hazardous Toxic and Radioactive Waste
HTW	Hazardous and Toxic Waste
IAS	Initial Assessment Study
INPR	Inventory Project Report
IRP	Installation Restoration Program
MCX	Mandatory Center of Expertise
MG	Machine Gun
MG	Major General
mm	Millimeter
\mathbf{MT}	Mechanical Time
MTSQ	Mechanical Time Super Quick
NAF	Naval Air Facility
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
NAS	Naval Air Station
NCDC	National Climatic Data Center
NCP	National Contingency Plan
NFS	National Forest Service
NG	National Guard
NGVD	National Geodetic Vertical Datum
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOFA	No Further Action
NPRC	National Personnel Records Center
NRC	National Records Center
OEW	Ordnance and Explosive Waste
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act
PA	Preliminary Assessment
PD	Point Detonating
	e e

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PIBD	Point Initiating, Base Detonating
PL	Public Law
QASAS	Quality Assurance Specialist Ammunition Surveillance
RA	Removal Action
RAC	Risk Assessment Code
RD	Remedial Design
RG	Record Group
RI	Remedial Investigation
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasability Study
SAIC	Science Application International Corporation
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
SLD	St. Louis District, Corps of Engineers
SSHO	Site Safety and Health Officer
SSHP	Site Safety and Health Plan
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Units
TECOM	Test Evaluation Command
TEU	Technical Escort Unit
TNT	Trinitrotoluene
TP	Target Practice
USA	United States of America
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USADACS	U.S. Army Defense Ammunition Center and School
USAED	U.S. Army Engineer District
USAESCH	U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center,
	Huntsville, AL
USATHMA	U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, Toxic and Hazardous
	Materials Agency
USC	United States Code
USDA	U.S. Department of Army
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
WAA	War Assets Administration
WD	War Department
WNRC	Washington National Records Center

APPENDIX C

TEXT / MANUALS

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

APPENDIX C

TEXT / MANUALS

Coletta, Paola, E.

1985 United States Navy and Marine Corps Bases, Domestic. Greenwood Press, Westport, CT.

UNITED STATES NAVY AND MARINE CORPS BASES, DOMESTIC

PAOLO E. COLETTA, Editor K. Jack Bauer, Associate Editor





Greenwood Press Westport, Connecticut • London, England EL CENTRO, CALIF. 195

called for an addition to the gasoline storage supply and various other projects that amounted to more than \$2 million, but the cancellation of various other projects reduced costs by \$600,000.

Edenton was placed in caretaker status on 1 July 1946 and inactivated and disestablished on 1 August 1946. On 2 August 1955, however, it was reestablished as a naval auxiliary air station, only to be disestablished on 31 December 1958 and decommissioned on 1 January 1959. With another turn of the wheel of fate, it was redesigned as an outlying field for MCAS Cherry Point, N.C., on 9 January 1959. Within three months, however, it was disestablished again on 31 March 1959. Given the cost of modernization, about \$48 million, it was decided to close the facility; with the laying off of 1,294 military and 138 civilians, this would account for an annual saving of \$810,000. The 3,283 acres of land on which it sat were declared surplus with the right of recapture.

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B. "Four Stations Will Close," Naval Aviation News, Mar. 1958, p. 34. Nancy Lindstrom-TAPEE2-445-457

EL CENTRO, CALIF., MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, 1943-1945, AND NAVAL AIR FACILITY, 1949-

Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the Navy approved the request of the Marine Corps for the establishment of five air stations on the West Coast. Site selection devolved upon Lt. Col. William Fox, USMCR, with directions to find sites in the Imperial Valley of California. One of the sites Fox chose was at El Centro, at the southern end of the valley not far from the Mexican border 125 miles east of San Diego, seven miles west of Imperial and El Centro, Calif., and fifty miles west of Yuma, Ariz. It was an excellent choice because the floor of the valley, at a mean elevation of minus fifty-two feet, is flat, sandy, and extends for many miles. Although summer temperatures reach 105° F, the air is dry, and winter weather runs between 75° F and 90° F. With an average wind speed of only ten mph, flying is possible 92 percent of the time. El Centro was thus ideal for all types of precombat training, for the solution of tactical problems, and for gunnery practice.

On a property acquired by the Navy (943 acres leased and 949 purchased, later expanded to 2,300 acres), the Civil Aeronautics Administration had already constructed two 4,500-by-150-foot runways. Additional construction began on 15 May 1942, and limited operations were possible only seven months later. Construction and improvement costs reached about \$11.5 million. Beyond the station area were skeet and rifle ranges, malfunction and turret ranges for gunnery practice, a rabbit range, a rocket range, and a rocket ground school. The first

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air unit to report aboard, on 1 January 1943, was Marine Air Base Defense Aircraft Group 43, soon redesignated Marine Air Group (MAG 43) and still at the base at the end of the war. Commissioning occurred on 23 July 1943, Lt. Col. Thomas J. McQuade commanding.

Many were the trained squadrons that left El Centro for forward operating areas in the Pacific, and as the desirability of the base for training purposes became increasingly evident, the construction of a second area was authorized. Work began on 10 April 1944 and was completed for occupancy in December, with MAG-35 and a transport training group the first groups to come on board. The initial allotment for construction under a cost-plus-fixed-fee contract was \$6,014,671. The final expenditure for the first area was \$8.5 million; for the second area, \$3 million. To the end of 1944, sixteen squadrons of fighter, bomber, and transport aircraft pilots and aircrewmen were trained at El Centro.

Soon after the end of World War II, El Centro was greatly reduced and on 1 May 1946 was commissioned as a naval auxiliary air station. On 15 October 1946 its status was that of modified maintenance. On 6 January 1947 the Bureau of Aeronautics established there a storage pool for TD2 Devastator torpedo aircraft and on 20 March authorized Western Air Lines to operate two flights daily. Its condition when inspected by the staff of the Commandant of the Eleventh Naval District had been found to be "good to very good." Inspected again on 3 June 1947, the report read "very good." In November 1947 the Parachute Experimental Division from NAS Lakehurst, N.J. (q.v.), moved to El Centro. On 9 June the Joint Parachute Test Facility was established; it consisted of the Naval Parachute Unit and the 6511 Parachute Development Test Group. Also, from 1947 to 1964, the Air Force cooperated as part of El Centro's test organization. The Naval Aerospace Recovery Facility commissioned in 1964 was combined with the Naval Auxiliary Air Facility on 1 July 1973 to form the National Parachute Test Range. When the last was transferred to the Naval Weapons Center, Inyokern/China Lake (q.v.), on 1 July 1979, El Centro again became a naval air facility.

Soon after the end of World War II, El Centro was used to provide support to various fleet squadrons. In 1949 there was established the Fleet Gunnery Unit, which for ten years provided support for squadrons that came to conduct gunnery, bombing, and carrier landing practice. In addition, a permanent detachment from Attack Squadron 174 beginning in 1979 provided maintenance support for East Coast A-7 pilots who fly out to use the range area. The expanded Desert Test Range is a modern inert target complex that utilizes remote TV and acoustical and laser scoring systems. The current mission of NAF El Centro is to support operational fleet units that come for bombing and gunnery practice or to use the simulated carrier deck landing area. In use are four runways, the longest of which is equipped with a permanent mirror landing system at each approach end. El Centro is the winter home for training for the Blue Angels Demonstration Team.

At the nearby town of El Centro is a general hospital, eleven public and

parochial elementary schools, two junior high schools, one high school, and two schools for higher education: Imperial Valley (two-year) Community College, and the San Diego State College extension at Imperial Valley Center, Calexico. There are two man-made lakes nearby, and mountain areas and the former site of a naval seaplane base at Salton Sea, Westmorland, Calif. (q.v.) are but an hour's drive away. The usual range of station facilities is available, with quarters for 29 officers and 141 men, and off-base housing located in three suburban areas located within two miles of El Centro. Word about station affairs is passed in part through The Sand Paper. In addition to Attack Squadron 174, a second tenant command is U.S. Air Force Space and Missile System Organization (or SAMSO), which works with NAVSTAR, a naval satellite navigation system inseful to all branches of the armed forces.

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B. Naval Air Facility, El Centro, California (N.p.; C/R Printers, 1979), courtesy Ens. Apprentice, USNR, Public Affairs Officer, NAF, El Centro, 11 Feb. 1983. f_{χ}

TE TORO (SANTA ANA), CALIF., MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, 1944-

On 15 September 1944 Col. William J. Fox, USMCR, who during World War II served as a representative with Army and Navy people on a site selection board to choose sites for air stations in southern California, became the aviation ssistant to the Commandant of the Marine Corps. In this billet his mission myolved the military direction and administrative coordination of Marine Corps econautical activities in the Eleventh Naval District. In addition to subordinate mits at Marine Corps Air Stations (MCAS) at Santa Barbara (Goleta) (q.v.), Mojave (q.v.), and El Centro (q.v.), he had charge of the Marine Corps Air Department at Miramar (q.v.); the Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Ac-Wittes, Naval Air Bases, Eleventh Naval District; and Marine auxiliary air stations at Gillespie, Ill.; Chino Field, Ontario; and Ryan Field, Hemet, Calif., Doutlying fields for El Toro.

Since Naval Air Station (LTA) Santa Ana (q.v.) is covered separately, a brief esume of El Toro's beginnings must suffice.

Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States direly needed aviation training areas. Because of the mountainous terrain and limited air space in southern California, the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps became involved in numerous conflicts. A particular problem was that the Army, responsible for coast defense, might send up aircraft to intercept naval or Marine aircraft and disrupt training schedules, and the Marines were under the pressure of mowing that their squadrons would soon be sent to engage in combat in the South Pacific. In early 1942 Marine aviation had only two wings, the First and

Defense nd still at 1943, Lt.

operating purposes ithorized.)ecember on board itract was n; for the of fighter. El Centro. i and on I 5 October the Bureau or torpedo two flights lant of the Inspected т 1947 the moved to it consisted est Group entro's tes ed in 1964 to form the) the Naval centro again

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APPENDIX D

REPORTS / STUDIES

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

APPENDIX D

REPORTS / STUDIES

INVENTORY PROJECT REPORT (INPR)

Scott, Bruce K., BG, U.S. Army

1995 Letter to Commander, USACE, Washington, D.C. and Commander, USACE, Huntsville, subject: Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS), Inventory Project Report (INPR) for Holtville Target (BT) No. 2 (#95), Imperial County, CA, Site No. J09CA017000, dated 17 January 1995; Findings of Fact, dated 17 January 1995; Site Survey Summary Sheet, dated 16 September 1993; Site Location Map; Project Summary Sheet, n.d.; RAC Form, n.d.; Justification sheet for RAC Score, n.d.

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1943 "Board Report of Investigation of Additional Facilities Requested at the Marine Corps Air Stations on the West Coast." Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, Commandant's Office, Formerly Classified Correspondence 1921-47; Box 57; File: CF20C/SF20C/1943. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District.

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1952a "Historical Report of U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, El Centro, CA for the period of 1 July to 31 December 1951." Naval Historical Center and Archives, Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

APPENDIX D

REPORTS / STUDIES

U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Holtville, CA.

- 1945 Historical Report of U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Holtville, CA. Box 221; Naval Historical Center and Archives, Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.
- 1946 "Historical Report of U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Holtville Calif" for 1 September 1945 to 15 April 1946. Box 221; Naval Historical Center and Archives, Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.

Scott, Bruce K., BG, U.S. Army

Letter to Commander, USACE, Washington, D.C. and Commander, USACE, Huntsville, subject: Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS), Inventory Project Report (INPR) for Holtville Target (BT) No. 2 (#95), Imperial County, CA, Site No. J09CA017000, dated 17 January 1995; Findings of Fact, dated 17 January 1995; Site Survey Summary Sheet, dated 16 September 1993; Site Location Map; Project Summary Sheet, n.d.; RAC Form, n.d.; Justification sheet for RAC Score, n.d. CESPD-ED-G (200-1c)

17 JAN '95

MEMORANDUM FOR

Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20314-1000

Commander, U.S. Army Engineer Division, Huntsville, P.O. Box 1600, Huntsville, AL 35807-4301

SUBJECT: Defense Environmental Restoration Program For Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS), Inventory Project Report (INPR) for Holtville Target (BT) No. 2 (#95), Imperial County, CA, Site No. J09CA017000

1. I am forwarding the INPR for Holtville Target (BT) No. 2 (#95) for appropriate action. The site is eligible for DERP-FUDS.

2. I recommend that CEHND determine the need for further investigation and action at this site regarding a potential OEW project. Los Angeles District has computed a RAC 2 on this project.

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ORIGINAL SIGNED

Encl

BRUCE K. SCOTT Brigadier General, U.S. Army Commanding

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CF: CESPL-ED-MI (HTRW)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 2711 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 2005J-2325

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

CESPL-ED-MI

22 September 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, South Pacific Division, CESPD-ED-G ATTN: Vince Del Greco

SUBJECT: DERP-FUDS Inventory Project Reports (INPR's) for Site Nos: J09CA017200, J09CA015300, J09CA016800, J09CA014500, J09CA014700, J09CA015600, J09CA017000, J09CA017300, and J09CA016700

1. Enclosed are the INPR's for:

- J09CA017200 HOLTVILLE ROCKET TARGET 1R

- J09CA015300 EL CENTRO BOMBING TARGET SITE
- J09CA016800 WINONA BT #2
- J09CA014500 BOMBING TARGET YUMA RECLAMATION PROJECT
- J09CA014700 EL CENTRO ROCKET TARGET #2
- J09CA015600 EAST BOREGO BT
- J09CA017000 HOLTVILLE TARGET #2
- J09CA017300 KANE SPRINGS SBT
- J09CA016700 WINONA BT #1

We determined that ordnance contamination eligible under DERP-FUDS may exist.

2. I recommend the following:

a) Findings and Determination of Eligibility be approved and signed.

b) Forward a copy of this report to Commander, Huntsville Division to determine if further action is appropriate.

R. L. VANANTWERP COL, EN Commanding

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DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY

HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95) IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA SITE NO. 109CA0170002

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The available information indicates that in Letter Permit(s) acquired approximately 480 acres from the Department of Interior (Suppose 1/4 of Section 9. Southwest 1/4 of Section 10. and northwest 1/4 of Section 15. Township 13 South, Range 16 East). In 1945, property for an access road to the site was also acquired (west 30 feet of southwest 1/4 of Section 15, and the west 30 feet of the west 1/2 of Section 22 (except the south 873 feet), Township 13 South, Range 16 East).

2. Une reventh Naval District used this site as a low-level. Cocket target. A "concentric circle" target was located on this property.

3. No dispused information is available for this site. Support other Imperial County bomb targets, which were acquired in the early to mid-1940s, were discontinued in approximately 1946 for 109GAIDSHUE. However, historical records indicate that, included Currently, portions of the original target site are still under DOD control. Specifically, the north 1/2 and southeast 1/4 of the southwest 1/4 of Section 10 (120 acres) and the east 1/2 of the northwest 1/4 of Section 15 (80 acres), are included in a proposed Navy withdrawal; the remaining 280 acres, as well as the access road, are withdrawn by the Bureau of Reclamation. According to a representative of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), even though the paperwork has not been completely processed, BLM considers the land involved in the Navy's proposed withdrawal to be under the Navy's "jurisdiction." The entire original site has remained largely undeveloped except for sand and gravel excavation and storage operations in portions of Section 9 and Section 15.

DETERMINATION

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, approximately 280 acres (plus an access road) have been determined to be formerly used by the Department of Defense. This acreage is therefore eligible for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program - Formerly Used Defense Sites, established under 10 USC 2701, et seq.

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Brigadier General, U.S. Army Commanding

SITE SURVEY SUMMARY SHEET FOR DERP-FUDS SITE NO. J09CA017100 HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95) 16 September 1993

SITE NAME: HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO.2 (#95); also known as Holtville 2R, Holtville BT #2, and Target #95. (Note that the Navy currently has an active "Target #95," which is located near, but not at, the subject site.)

LOCATION: Holtville Target (BT) NO.2 (#95) is located in Imperial County, California. Schoneman Road (the access road) is located adjacent to the west edges of Section 15 and Section 22. The target site is approximately 13.25 miles north from the center of Brawley at Highway 111 and Highway 78.

SITE HISTORY: Historical information indicates that in June 1943 and/or May 1944, the Eleventh Naval District acquired the southeast 1/4 of Section 9, the southwest 1/4 of Section 10, and the northwest 1/4 of Section 15, Township 13 South, Range 16 East. This property was acquired from the Department of Interior for use as a low-level rocket target site. In addition, in 1945, portions of Section 15 and the adjacent Section 22 were acquired by the Navy to provide access to the target site. No information was found concerning the disposal date of this site; however, as of 1946, the target site was to be retained. Portions of the original target site are presently under DOD control (under a proposed withdrawal to the Navy from the Department of Interior); the remaining acreage, which was the subject of the site survey, is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation. The majority of the site is undeveloped desert land. Sand and gravel excavation activities were evident in the north 1/2 of the Section 15 parcel; sand and gravel storage activities were evident in the southwest corner of the southeast 1/4 of Section 9. During the on-site survey, the following evidence of former DOD activity was observed: multiple 50-caliber shells, casings, and clips; multiple 30-caliber shells and casings; one illumination round and detonator; multiple practice bomb fragments; multiple 2-inch shells; and miscellaneous metal fragments.

SITE VISIT: The site (southeast 1/4 Section 9, southwest 1/4 of the southwest 1/4 of Section 10, and the west 1/2 of the northwest 1/4 of Section 22) was visited on May 1, 1993, by Hunter Butler and Sandra Rehfeldt of Science Applications International Corporation, San Diego, California.

CATEGORY OF HAZARDS: OEW

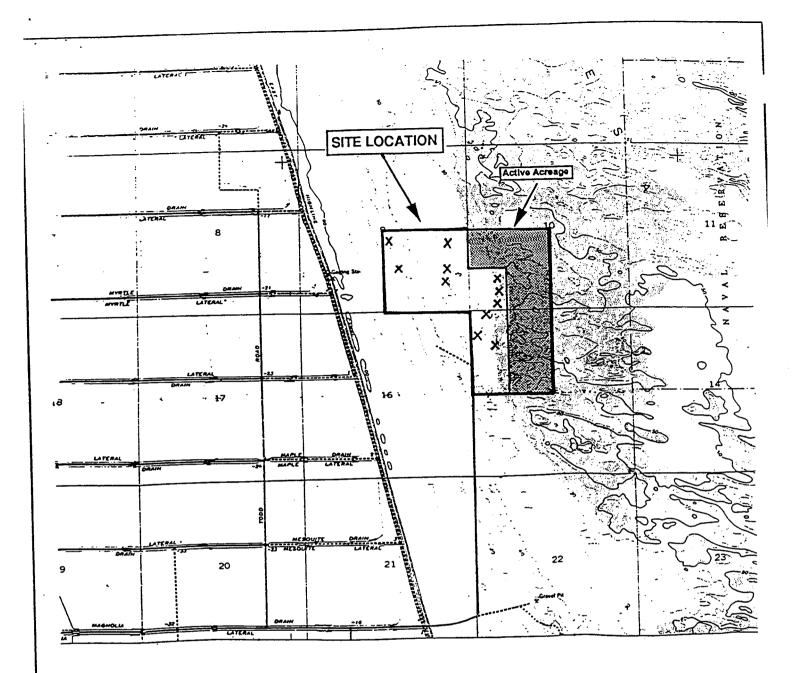
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION: OEW. Recommend MCX for OEW at Huntsville Division make a determination concerning further action at this site.

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AVAILABLE STUDIES AND REPORTS: Historical information on 11th Naval District bomb targets was obtained from the National Archives office in Laguna Niguel, California. Land acquisition and ownership records were obtained from the Bureau of Land Management, El Centro, California, and the Imperial County Assessor's Office, El Centro California. Information concerning current target areas was obtained from the Ordnance Environmental Support office, Indian Head, Maryland.

DISTRICT POC: Jatin Desai, Los Angeles District, (213) 894-6266



X Ordnance sitings Reference: USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangie, Amos, Call. (1:24 000), 1956, Photoinspected 1976. SITE LOCATION HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95) J09CA017000 33° 01' 46"N 115° 18' 23"W ® Science Applications Imperial County, CA International Corporation PROJECT NO. Approximate Scale 01-0255-04-1869 An Employee-Owned Company 1.0 Mile TCHECKED BY DATE DRAWN BY

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET FOR DERP-FUDS OEW PROJECT NO. J09CA017001 HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95) SITE NO. J09CA017000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: During World War II, this site was used by the Eleventh Naval District as a low-level rocket target. The site is currently located in desert land that is primarily undeveloped. Sand and gravel operations are currently occurring in portions of Section 9 and Section 15. Ordnance observed during the survey include: multiple 50-caliber shells, casings and clips; multiple 30-caliber shells and casings; one illumination round and detonator; multiple practice bomb fragments; multiple 2-inch shells; and miscellaneous metal fragments. Some of this ordnance was observed near the excavation operations. The presence and condition of any ordnance below the surface of the earth is not known. The site is subject to conditions (e.g., high winds) that could have concealed ordnance.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY: This site was formerly used by the Eleventh Naval District.

POLICY CONSIDERATION: No policy considerations prevent the proposal of this project.

PROPOSED PROJECT: Recommend MCX for OEW at Huntsville Division make a determination concerning further action at this site.

RAC FORM: Attached.

DISTRICT POC: Request CEHND inform Mr. Jatin Desai at (213) 894-6266 when a determination is made regarding project status.

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10 Jul 1992 Previous editions obsolete RISK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES FOR ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVE WASTE (OEW) SITES

Site	Name	HOLTVILLE TREEF (BT) NO.2 (+95)	Rater's Name	H. Butler- SAIC
Site	Location	IMPERIAL CONTEN	Organization	LA DISTRICT
DERP	Project #	J09CA017001	RAC 2	

OEW RISK ASSESSMENT:

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This risk assessment procedure was developed in accordance with HIL-STD 882B and AR 385-10.

The OEW risk assessment is based upon <u>documented</u> evidence consisting of records searches, reports of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) detachment ac tions, and field observations, interviews, and measurements. These data are used to assess the risk involved based upon the hazards identified at the site. The risk assessment is composed of two factors, hazard severity and hazard probability.

Any field activities should be made with the assistance of qualified EOI personnel.

Part I. <u>Hazard Severity</u>. Hazard severity categories are defined to provide a qualitative measure of the worst credible mishap resulting from personnel exposure to various types and quantities of unexploded ordnance items.

TYPE OF ORDNANCE

A. Conventional Ordnance and Ammunition

	<u>Yes</u> Value	<u>NQ</u> Value	VALUE
Small Arms (.22 cal50 cal)		0	
Medium/Large Caliber (20 mm and larger)	ÍO	0	10
Bombs, Explosive	10	\bigcirc	<u>O</u>
Bombs, Practice (w/spotting charges)	6	0	<u>()</u>
Grenades, Hand and Rifle, Explosive	10	0	Ω
Grenades, Practice (w/spotting charges)	4	0	0
Landmines, Explosive	10		0
Landmines, Practice (w/spotting charges)	4	0	<u>0</u>
Rockets, Guided Missiles, Explosive	10	0	0
Detonators, Blasting Caps	6	0	<u>(o</u>

B. Pyrotechnics (For munitions not described above.)

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-	<u>Yes</u> Value	NO VALUE	VALUE		
Munition (Container) Containing White Phosphorus or other Pyrophoric Haterial (i.e., Spontaneously Flammable)	10	٢	<u>0</u>	-	
Munition Containing & Flame or Incendiary Material (i.e., Napalm, Triethlaluminum Metal Incendiaries)	6	0	6		
Flares, Signals, Simulators	4	0	0		
Pyrotechnics Value (Maximum of 10).				6	

C. Bulk High Explosives (Bulk explosives not an integral part of conventiona ordnance; uncontainerized.)

		<u>Yes</u> Value	NO VALUE	VALUE	
	Primary or Initiating Explosives (Lead Styphnate, Lead Azide, Nitroglycerin, Mercury Azide, Mercury Fulminate, Tetracene, etc.)	10	٥	0	
	Demolition Charges	10	\bigcirc	0	
	Booster, Bursting or Fuze Explosives (PETN, Compositions A, B, C, Tetryl, TNT, RDX, HMX, HBX, Black Powder, etc.)	8	٢	0	
	Military Dynamite	6	0	<u>0</u>	
	Less Sensitive Explosives (Ammonium Nitrate, Explosive D, etc.	3)	0	0	·· ·
	High Explosives Value (Maximum Value	of 10)			0
D.	Propellants				
		<u>Yes</u> Value	<u>NO</u> VALUE	VALUE	
			A	\sim	\cap
	Solid or Liquid Propellants	6	(\circ)	<u>0</u>	0
x.	Solid or Liquid Propellants Radiological/Chemical Agent/Weapons	-	U	<u>0</u>	<u> </u>
X.	Radiological/Chemical Agent/Weapons	6 YES VALUE	NO ^T VALUE	VALUE	<u>0</u>
I.	Radiological/Chemical Agent/Weapons	XES	180 ⁻	<u> </u>	<u>0</u>
g .	Radiological/Chemical Agent/Weapons	XES VALUE	NO ^T VALUE	<u> </u>	<u>0</u>

Radiological/Chemical Agent/Weapons Value (Maximum 25).

Total Ordnance and Explosive Waste Characteristics Value (Total =

A + B + C + D + E with a Maximum value of 61).

Apply this value to Table 1 to determine Hazard Severity Category.

TABLE 1

HAZARD	SEVERITY

Description -	Category	Value		
CATASTROPHIC	I	<u>≥</u> 21		
CRITICAL	II	<u>></u> 13 <21		
MARGINAL	III	≥5 [`] <13		
NEGLIGIBLE	IV	<u>></u> 1 <5		
NONE		0		
* Apply Hasard Severity Category to Table 3.				

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Apply Assard Severity Category to Table 3

Part II. <u>Hazard Probability</u>. The probability that a hazard has been or will be created due to the presence and other rated factors of unexploded ordnance or explosive materials on a formerly used DOD site.

AREA, EXTEN:, ACCESSIBILITY OF CONTAMINATION

A. Locations of Contamination

- 4

	YES VALUE	<u>NQ</u> VALUB	VALUE	
On the surface	5	0	5.	
Within Tanks, Pipes, Vessels or Other confined locations.	4	\bigcirc	D_	
Inside walls, ceilings, or other parts of Buildings or Structures.	3	٥	2	
Subsurface	2	0	2	
Value for location of UXO. (Maxi Value of 5).				5

B. Distance to nearest inhabited locations or structures likely to be at ris from OEW site (roads, parks, playgrounds, and buildings).

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,	Distance to Nearest Target	VALUE
	Less than 1250 feet	s
	1250 feet to 0.5 miles	4
	0.5 miles to 1.0 mile	3
	1.0 mile to 2.0 miles	2
	Over 2 miles	1
	Distance to Persons Value (Maximum Value of 5).	

C. Numbers and types of Buildings within a 2 mile radius measured from the hazardous area, not the installation boundary.

Number of Buildings	VALUE
0	0
1 to 5	, 1
6 to 10	2
11 to 15	3
16 to 25	4
26 and over	5

D. Types of Buildings (within a 2 mile radius)

Educational, Child Care, etc.	5.
Residential, Hospitals, Hotels, etc.	5
Commercial, Shopping Centers, etc.	5
Industrial Warehouse, etc.	4
Agricultural, Forestry, etc.	3
Detention, Correctional	2
Hilitary	1
No Buildings	0
Types of Buildings Value (Maximum Value of 5).	. 5

VALUE

Assigned Value

0

1

2

3

3

5

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E. Accessibility to site refers to access by humans to ordnance and explosive wastes. Use the following guidance:

Barrier	Assigned Value
A 24-hour surveillance system (e.g.,	0
television monitoring or surveillance	
by guards or facility personnel) which	
continuously monitors and controls entry onto the facility;	

or

Barrier

An artificial or natural barrier (e.g., a fence combined with a cliff), which completely surrounds the facility; and a means to control entry, at all times, through the gates or other entrances to the facility (e.g., an attendant, television monitors, locked entrances, or controlled roadway access to the facility).

Isolated site

Security guard, but no barrier

A barrier, (any kind of fence) but no separate means to control entry

Barriers do not completely surround the facility

No barrier or security system

Accessibility Value (Maximum Value of 5).

F. Site Dynamics - This deals with site conditions that are subject to change in the future, but may be stable at the present. Examples would be excessive soil errosion by beaches or streams, increasing land development that could reduce distances from the site to inhabitated areas or otherwise increase accessability.

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None Anticipated Expected

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(Maximum Value of 5)

Total value for hazard probability. Sum of Values A through F. (Not to exceed 30). Apply this value to Hazard Probability Table 2 to determine Hazard Probability Level.

TABLE 2

HAZARD PROBABILITY			
Description	Level	Value	
FREQUENT	λ	<u>≥</u> 27 ·	
PROBABLE		<u>≥</u> 21 <27	
OCCASIONAL	C	<u>></u> 15 <21	
REMOTE	· D	<u>></u> 8 <15	
IMPROBABLE	· B	<8	

* Apply Hazard Probability Level to Table 3.

Part III. <u>Risk Assessment</u>. The risk assessment value for this site is determined using the following Table 3. Enter with the results of the hazard probability and hazard severity values.

TABLE 3

Probability Level		Prequent A	PROBABLE B	OCCASIONAL C	renote D	IMPROBABLE E
Severity Category:						
CATASTROPHIC	I	1	1	2	3	4
CRITICAL	(I)	1	(2)	3	4	5
MARGINAL	III	2	3	4	4	5
NEGLIGIBLE	IV	3	4	4	5	5

RISK ASSESSMENT CODE (RAC)

RAC 1 Imminent Hazard - Emergency action required to mitigate the hazard or protect personnel (i.e., Fencing, physical barrier, -guards, etc.).



- Action required to mitigate hazard or protect personnel. Initial project phase--phased EECA.
- RAC 3 Action required to evaluate potential threat to personnel. Initial project phase--Archives search and site investigation.
- RAC 4 Action required to evaluate potential threat to personnel. Initial project phase--Archives search.
- RAC 5 No action required.

NOTE: Other phases may be considered depending on individual site condition <u>Justification</u>. In narrative form, summarize the documented evidence that supports this risk assessment.

VISUAL EXIDENCE OF ORENANCE USE AT THIS LOCATION INDICATED DURING SITE INSPECTION, REMAINS OF PRACTICE BOM SAMUE! LARGE OAL MUNITIONS AND INCENDIALY DEVICES WE ENCOUNTERED. PORTIONS OF THE SITE ALL MOW, OR HAVE BEEN EXCANATED FOR SAND ! GRAVEL BARATIANS. EVILYENCE OF MUNITIONS WELL IDENTIFIED NELL BARATIANS. EVILYENCE BOC 2 15 APPROPRIATE.

RISK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES FOR ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVE WASTE (OEW) SITES FOR DERP-FUDS SITE NO. J09CA017000 HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)

JUSTIFICATION

The formerly-used target site consists of approximately 280 acres within Imperial County, California. The property is now primarily within vacant desert; however, some areas of the site are used for sand and gravel excavation and storage operations. The nearest municipality is Brawley, which is roughly 13.25 miles to the north.

The Eleventh Naval District used this site as a low-level rocket target during the mid-1940s, and perhaps longer. Evidence of former bombing and strafing activity was noted during the site survey. The remains of large and small munitions and incendiary devices were encountered. Evidence of these munitions was identified near the gravel excavation site. In addition, the site is subject to conditions (e.g., high winds) that could have

An OEW risk assessment code (RAC) of 2 has been calculated, based on a severity category II (critical) and a probability level B (probable). Due to the extent of ordnance viewed on this site, and to the ongoing excavation activity, this score is considered

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Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

"Board Report of Investigation of Additional Facilities Requested at the Marine Corps Air Stations on the West Coast." Record Group 181; Entry: 11th Naval District, Commandant's Office, Formerly Classified Correspondence 1921-47; Box 57; File: CF20C/SF20C/1943. National Archives-Pacific Southwest Region, Laguna Niguel, CA.



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BOARD REPORT

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LEVISTICATION OF ADDITICEAL PACIEDYLAS ADQUESTED

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THE LARINE CORPS AIR STATIONS ON THE WEST JOAST

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		Pacific Southwest Kegion
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	Aer-:::-33-: -2	
	In and Nu	NAVY DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPLRATIONS WASHINGTON 18 (ctober 1)13
	Proz: To:	Senior wender, board to Levicz Progress of Aviation Shore Facilities. Teputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air).
	∀ia :	(1) Tirector, Aviation Manning Livision. (2) Issistant Deputy Chief of Neval Operations (Air).
	30893KG.	Board seport of Investigation of Additional Facilities Sequested at the Larine Corps air Stations on the Lest losst.
	Reference:	 (a) none from director, Aviation Flanning Live to Capte 1 Legaiston, audit, dated 19 September 1943, (p-31-1-10/068.) (b) Wike Conf. Itr. dated 2 (ept. 1943, (p-311-090,60), 221-1, non. 91322. (c) Conten, Markairdest Coast conf. Itr to Condr., Fair Lest Cast, 21-9/13-1/(0118) with, dated 19 June 1943, with 1st end. cated 30 June thereto.
	nclosure:	(1) Table of xisting and countre Personnel acidities.
	additional Jacilit on September 23, 6 at El Centro, 21 diramar, and the 1 ferences were hele were present:	In accordance with instructions from the irrector of , reference (a); the Board has investigated the matter of the requested for marine Borps wir Stations on the meet Coast. 24, 25 and 26, the reard vicited the prime Corps wir Staticus Hore, and cojuve, whitfornia, the Barine Corps wir Depot at poval workhary wir Station, wath scarney, whitfornia. Con- d at the several stations at which the following officers
	Capt. I. N. M. Capt. J. C. A. Capt. J. H. C. Capt. A. K. F. Col. rank A. Col. fillan. At. Col. Aver	 Sumther, Condt., ANG, Candielo, Air Officer, 11th lav.ist. Suiston, Stak, Schier of Hoard. Sans, 10), Sta, Mirector of Svistion Lecicine, Suiss. SeBaun, Sta, Strike of MRC, Wolf. Ogg (C4C), Sta, Fublic Sorks Officer, 11th Haval Listrict. Sanson-Scribner, State, Asot. Chief of Staff, MaryairS.O. Fox, 2010, Convaning Officer, 10AS, 11 Toro, Salif. Sync. Mier, Bacd, Asst. Operations Wolfaining, FarFairs.c. Stars, Unc, Carina Corps Air Station, -1 Toro, Salif. Carney, Unc, GS, Bro p 22, Larine Fleet Air Sect Coast.

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Acr-121-33-1.2

SUBJECT:

Board Report of Investigation of Additional Facilities Enquested at the Marine Corps Air Stations on the West Coast.

Lt. Col. D. Torrey, UCLO, CXSC. Officer, Group MA, MarFair West Coast. Lt. Col. L. B. Stodman, Jr. USMCR, Exec. Officer, MCAD, Miramar. Lt. Col. Chauncey Burnatt, USMC, Commanding Officer, MCAS, Santa Barbara. Lt. Col. T. J. Schuace, SCHC, Commanding Officer, MCAS, Santa Barbara. It. Col. T. J. Schuace, SCHC, Commanding Officer, MCAS, San Diego. Condr. Crant D. Elliott, UCM (Rot), Operations Officer, MAC, San Diego. Condr. K. A. Godwin, (CDC), UCMR, Asst. SupCe, Arda VI. Condr. K. A. Godwin, (CDC), UCMR, Asst. SupCe, Arda VI. Condr. K. A. Godwin, (CDC), UCMR, Asst. SupCe, Arda VI. Lt. D. H. Askew. (CDC), UCMR, Public Jorks Officer, MCAS, El Toro. Lt. D. H. Askew. (CDC), UCMR, Public Jorks Officer, MCAS, El Toro. Lt. J. S. Mamel (CLC), UCMR, Public Jorks Officer, MCAS, El Centro. Lt. (JS) W. C. EcCluskey, (CBC), USMR, Public Jorks Officer, MCAS, Kojave. Lt. (JS) W. C. EcCluskey, (CBC), USMR, Public Jorks Officer, MCAS, Kojave. Lt. Cdr. L. C. Bench, USMR, Spec. Asst. SCA, Novy Separtment. Lt. Cdr. M. Humes, USM, Board Member, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts. It. Cdr. R. J. Hiles, (CCC), USMR, Board Lembur and Mecorder, BUAEr.

2. The additional facilities in question for the Larine Corps hir Stations on the West Coust were requested by the Commanding General, Marine Fleet Air, West Coast, by reference (b). The background of this request may be summarized briefly as follows:

There have developed in the combat areas of the South Pacific certain shortages of pilots and crews both for carrier type aircraft and for heavy boxbers. This shortage is apparently due in part to the inability of the haval Air Operational Training Courand to supply operationally trained pilots to the Marine Corps in sufficient numbers. In order to make up this deficiency, Cominch and Cincpac have directed, by correspondence of higher classification, that operational training of a considerable number of pilots for Marine Air Groups be conducted at the Marine Corps Air Stations on the West Coast. This is in addition to the normal function of the stations, which is to serve as bases for the forming and organization of Marine equadrons, preparatory to their joining the active forces of the fleet. The forming of squadrons has now expanded well beyond the planned rate for this function. The Commanding General, Marine Fleet Air West Coast has determined that in order to effect the entire program, including the operational training, the facilities at the stations will have to be expanded boyond the point directed by the Vice Chief of Haval Operations in reference (b). As a result of this, reference (c) was initiated and is now awaiting action.

3. The board has made a careful study of the conditions which have given rise to the present situation, and has inspected the stations themselves in order to determine what facilities are presently available. The following conclusions were reached:

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SUBJECTI

Board Report of Investigation of Additional Facilities Requested at the Earine Corps Air Stations on the West Coast.

(a) The present operational and training load, as far as can be seen at the present time, is a continuing and growing load. ÀS of 6 October there were 18 tactical squadrons, 5 HIDRONS, 5 SINVACES, and h training units in Marine Fleet Air West Coast. Of these organizations, 1 HIDAGH, 1 CLEVECH, and 1 tactical squadron were located at MARS, Camp learney, leaving 4 H D.ONS, 4 SERVHONS, 17 tactical squadrons and the 4 training units located at the four Marine Corps Air Stations. Squadrons are leaving for overseas duty at approximately the same rate that squadrons are returning, which would indicate a fairly steady or alightly increasing load. The operational training load is already in excess of the planned program and indications are that this load will continue. It was generally believed in the early summer that the operational training to be conducted by Marine Fleet Air Lest Coast was a temporary operation only, and that the operational training stations in the Florida area would soon absorb the training load. However, subsequent assignments of non-operationally-trained pilots have indicated that such is not the case and that the Marine Corps Air Stations on the Sest Coast must be prepared to carry on operational training for an indefinite period.

(b) resent facilities, both operational and personnel, are already severely overtaxed. This is due in part to the normal increase in mrine (orps Aviation, and in part to the operational training program. The current aviation shore facilities directive dated 2 September 1943 directs that provision be made to accommodate a total of 5 Larine Mir Croops at the Gest Coast Marine Corps Air Stations. This would mean a total of 450 operating planes. Actually there are already operating from these stations a total of 673 planes and commender Earing Fleet dir dest deart anticipates the necessity for operatin more than 1000 planes in order to test his training and operating schedule. ... comparison of the program as set up in reference (b) with that presently existing and that anticipated by arine flaet fir lest Coast is shown below.

tation	Flate Complement-Will	Present Flane	Planned Plane
	2 Yept. Lirective	Complement	Complement
1 Toro ante saroara 1 Centre Bojave	180 90 90 90 	299 138 11:7 69 673	486 203 180 154 1923

nelosure (A) chews a comparison between the existing major personnel

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SUBJECT:

Board Report of Investigation of Additional Facilities Requested at the Marine Corps Air Stations on the West Coast.

facilities and the requirements estimated by Marine Fleet Air West Coast.

(c) in view of the fact that the present load on the stations is a continuing and growing load, and that the present facilities are already severely overtaxed, it is believed that additional facilities aust be provided as quickly as possible for harine Corps air operations on the dest Coast. The possibility of using existing facilities at other locations was investigated with very little success. All aviation facilities in the southern west coast area are already congested, and there is apparently little possibility of relief by a re-distribution of operations to existing stations. Those present at the conferences, however, agreed that the possibility of conducting a limited amount of the training at one of our mid-mestern air stations should be investigated. This applies particularly to familiarization training in Februs. In any event, it will still be necessary to expand facilities at all four of the Marine Corps Air Stations in question.

h. The additional facilities requested by Jarina Fleet Air Mest woast in reference (c), are discussed in further datail below, the paragraphs lettered to conform with those in paragraph (10) of reference (c).

> (a) "Il Centro be made into a two-, roup Fase with additional facilities for a gunnery school." The beare concurs with the need for these facilities. In brief, this concurrence is based on the fact that over-all additional facilities are required and that al ventro lends itself to expansion readily.eather conditions in the imperial Valley are unfavorable durin; certain seasons of the year due to the extreme neat, but experience has shown that operations can be carried on successfully in spite of this fact, and in view of the urgent need for additional facilities, approval of this request is recommended. The sunnery school, the only one available to warine aviation units on the west Coast, is already operating, but under difficulties. marters are cramped, and it is now necessary to transport non by bus to Border Hield near can Hield Mare the present hoving target range is located. Cacilities for the gumery school should include personnel and range facilities at or near the Carine Corps Air Station, L Contro.

> (b) "Additional mond marters building we constructed for the use of station personnel." Int we size these stations were originally constructed, the plan was to have operating speadrons administer each station with a very small parament conton completent. Time that time, never, the training program has developed, the speadron complements have increased, the number of squadrons has increased, and administrative activities have therefore because a major problem. The small non-are constructed at the stations flave very limited leanted

Pacific Southwest Region

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Sector Sector Sector Sector

Marke apport of invastigation of cuitional facilities request d at the marke corps hir stations on the most (oract.

space so that administrative office space is at a promium. In view of the above, approval of the request for additional administrutive space is note ended.

(c) "erecont runnage be midened to 300"". This request was in accordance with a proposal ceased necessary in order for the stations to handle the increased operating loads placed upon them. The pard is of the opinion that maximum traffic at the Air Stations can be handled in a satisfactory manner without resorting to such an expensive procedure and one which would interfare with the continuity of operations. Alternate proposals were therefore suggested in conference, and the following recommendations were advanced.

1 Centro: Miden existing runways, now capable of supporting neavy bomber wheel loads, to 200 feet by adding 25 foot subblined shoulders. Construct two new munways 200 feet in width, with 25 foot shoulders, and parallel to the existing runways as determined by the wind rose at the station. All new construction to provide for 40 type aircraft wheel loadings. New taxiways as required plus concrete ternorounds at ands of runways and at intersections of taxiways with runways.

ojave: .iden existing runways by accing 100 feet shoulders for OV type aircraft wheel loudings. humarounes as at 1 entro.

anta

Parbara: Construct two new runways parallel to existing runways as determined by the wind rose at the station. New runways to be 200 reat in with the foot shouldars. Construction to be for UV type aircraft wheel loadings.

The above plans were arrived at taking into consideration the necessity for calntaining operations without interruption, the cost involved, and certain other conditions poculiar to individual stations. The widening of the runways at Hojave, for instance, was recommended in lieu of parallel runways because of the extremely variable winds at that location and the consequent desirability of wide runways to manimize chances of ground looping.

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Soard suport of investigation of additional facilities a passed of the same corps in stations of the sort cost.

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(d) " I Centro and 11 Toro be converted into heavy bomber fields:" The court concurs in the need for running at phose the fields capable planes of the Bu-1 type, and mate late inelfer from maion to operate them. It. this in mind, it was recommended that the proposed parallel rushay and new taniways at .1 foro be designed for hady bosiers. The leard was advised by the lintrist Pablic orks lepartment that the present runways at 1 Contro were adequate to support heavy bombers, and for this reason no change in present commers is considered necessary other than shoulders adequate for intermittent heavy bouber loads. It is not believed nucessary to build the new parallel runways at 1 Centro for planes larger than UV type, since the greater part of praffic will be by light planes, and the present runways will acconnodate any burbers assimed to the station. The runways at El fore are en havy-exact land, and these at Il Catro are on leased land which will revert to the owner after the war.

(e) "additional hard surface parking and warm-up areas for all types planes be constructed at all stations." This request was based on requirements for the large number of planes expected to be operated at the Marine corps Stations. The sureau of Abronautics has partially complied with this request and has authorized construction of additional parking areas as follows:

.043,	Li contro, Calif.	3),100 sq.7cs.
1-1C.	Pojave, Calif.	30,000 Eq.)ds.
°CAB,	anta Garbara, Calif.	30,000.sq.yds.
	1 Toro, Calif.	60,000 sq.yds.

The leard is of the opinion that adequate parking areas should be provided to accommodiate all planes to be operated of the stations as listed in paragraph (3, above.

(2) "innects tel, increase the existing facilities at the following fields to provide for additional dispersal areas: hireter, camp sillespie, and Camp rencleton". This request is not believed to be unjent at one present time. The funding field at dirawar is too small to be of much use for service type alreadt other than for practice landings, and adjacent hills impair its use for this purpose it is not believed that additional funds should be expended at dirawa for the above reasons. At Camp Pencleton the forme corps is providing facilities for the operation of one squadron of alreadt to be used in connection with training of ground troops, and the field will therefore not be available for the proposed dispersal of aircraft

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SUBJECT:

Board Report of Investigation of Additional Facilities Requested at the Marine Corps Air Stations on the West Coast.

5. Attention is invited to the fact that the operation of a thousand planes from the four Marine Corps Air Stations, as planned by Marine Fleet Air West Coast, will result in undesirable congestion of landing fields and air space. It is clear, however, that the additional facilities should be provided as soon as possible in order to permit operations at the stations to reach their maximum efficiency, and to give Marine Fleet Air West Coast every opportunity to meet its schedules. An outlying field for practice landings adjacent to El Toro should also be obtained to relieve air traffic at the main field.

6. The Marine Corps Air Tepot at Miramar was visited by the Board and a thorough inspection of facilities was made. The Depot functions as a receiving and distributing center for aviation personnel and equipment of the Larine Corps on the West Coast. - An indication of the scope of its activities may be had by the fact that it is now receiving and distributing from 5000 to 7000 officers and man about every two weeks, and that it now has on hand for distribution approximately 2500 pieces of automotive equipment. It was observed that all facilities are extremely overcrowded, and that personnel were occupying storehouses as a temporary measure. Large numbers of trucks were stored on the unpaved soil, mere they could not be properly cared for. The Board was advised that additional facilities will be requested, roughly enough to increase the capacity of the camp by 2500 men. New facilities will include barracks, bachelor officers' quarters, paved areas for storing automotive equipment, fire station, garage and public works building, and other miscellaneous items. The Board concurs in the need for facilities adequate to permit the Depot to function properly, since its presence reduces the possibility of severe overlapping at such stations as San Diego and the Marine Corps Air Stations.

7. The study conducted by the Board, revealed, in brief, that essential Marine Corps Air Operations on the Nest Coast are severely overtaxing existing facilities, and that the construction of additional facilities hould be given a high priority. Detailed recommendations are summarized below:

Recommendations:

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The Board recommends that:

(1) The WHO cirective dated 2 September 1943 be modified insofar as the Larine orps hir Stations on the lest Coast are concerned to indicate actual planned loads.

SCHELT: dince this directive is used as a basis for new construction, its modification will materially assist in the approval of additional facilities required by Marine Fleet Air est coast.

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Aer-MA-33-LER	
SUBJECT :	Board Report of Investigation of Additional Facilities Requested at the Marine Corps Air Stations on the Mest
	Coast.
(2)	Additional facilities be provided at al Centro and the other Barine Corps Air Stations to provide for the increased personnel indicated in enclosure (A).
	COMMENT: Information has been forwarded to the District Public Norks Officer for his use in preparing estimates and plans for the proposed work.
(3)	Additional administrative office space be provided at all four stations.
	COMMENT: The required amount of this space, is now under study, and recommendations will be submitted by the stations.
(4)) Improvements to the runway and taxiway systems at all four fields as described in paragraph 4(c) above be provided.
	COMMENT: Information was furnished the district Public Works Officer at the time of the Board's visit to permit preparation of plans and estimates.
(5) Additional parking areas and warn-up aprons be provided in accordance with approved plane complements.
	CONNENT: Information was furnished to the District Public Corks Officer for use in preparing plans and estimates.
(6	5) Facilities at the Larine Corps Air Depot, Miramar be expanded to permit accommodation of approximately 9000 men, and 2500 pieces of automotive equipment.
	COMPANT: Present temporary type of construction is adequate and should be used for new construction.
(7) An outlying field for practice landings be obtained in connection with training operations from Farine Corps Air Station, 21 Toro-
	COMMENT: The Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro was instructed to submit his recommendations, via the Alevent Naval District, for consideration and action by the Bureau of
	Acrenautics.
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19 Fish without	1. H. McLuiston, Captain, Bund Senior Denber

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TABLE OF SKIETI & AND RESUICED DEMONNEL FACILITI S

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Incl. A.

Additional Facilities at Il Centro - projected Program

<u>in</u>	isted	<u>offi</u>	cers
	Lonen	Len	Jonen
100	322	33	21
<u>3799</u>	342	503	0 21
200	0	140	81
3699	322	396	81
925	0	99	0
14621	322	495	81
2112	<u>376</u>	<u>240</u>	<u>26</u>
2512	0	255	0
	Lien 100 3799 3599 200 3699 925 4624 2112	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

#Based upon:	Officers	<u>en</u>
2 HERRONS 2 SERVIRCIS 7 Tact. Sqdns. 1 Gunnery School	96 20 336 51 	884 490 1926** 500 3799

** 275 used as average squadron complement.

Additional Facilities at 1 Toro - Projected ground (Without (1-2)

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Computation for	<u>Enlis</u>	ted	<u>Ofric</u>	ers
Barracks	<u>Men</u>	Forten	Len	conien
Station Complement	500	400	0ء	30
*Two Base Lefense Groups	3740	0	00و	0
Totals	4240	400	0رو	30
Living Ashore	<u>167</u>	<u> </u>	<u></u>	
Ket	40 73		518	
Plus Contingencies, 255	1018	0	124	<u> </u>
Total mequired	50 91	400	642	
Existing Facilities Facilities Required	- <u>3600</u> - <u>1491</u>	<u>400</u>	1,80	<u></u> 0

* Based Upon:	<u>Officers</u>	lien
2 HEDROUS	96	185
2 SURVICONS	20	L90
8 Tactical Squadrons	384	2 36 6
	500	37/00

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Additional Facilities at Mojave - Projected Program

Computation for		isted	0 Nen	fficers Women
Barracke	lien	t. Olien		
Station Complement *Marine Base Defense Group Totals	100 1955 2055	376 0 376	40 298 330	0
Living Ashore Net	60 1995	0 376	- 71 - 261	
Plus Contingencies, 25,.	498 2493	<u>94</u> 470	66	
xisting Facilities	1995 498	<u> </u>	240	$\frac{32}{0}$

ZBased Upon:	<u>Officers</u>	lien
1 HERON	18	442
1 SEARCHERT	10	245
LVF	192	268
1 V10 or VID	48	300
	298	1955

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Additional Facilities at Santa Barbara - rojected Program

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Computation for	Inlisted	Officers
Barracke	Len women	tien women
Station Complement Wharine Ease Defense Group OtherAlctivities Totals	209 300 2069 0 91 0 2369 300	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
living Ashore Net	118 0 2251 300	$\frac{69}{315}$ $\frac{3}{25}$
Plus Contingencies, 25,7 Total Lequired	<u> </u>	$\frac{79}{394}$ $\frac{6}{31}$
Existing Facilities Facilities Required	<u>2320 1.40</u> 481 0	<u>240</u> <u>32</u> 154 <u>0</u>

r Hased Upon:		
	liticers	i.cn
1 HEERON	43	12:2
1 SLAVEON	10	2115
2 Y.F	96	164
2 VotB	96	598
TBTU	100	300
	350	2069

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U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District.

Archives Search Report for Salton Sea Test Base. Prepared for Naval Facilities Engineering Command-Southwest Division, San Diego, CA. On File: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island, IL.



US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District



Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Base Realignment and Closure Ordnance and Explosives

Archives Search Report

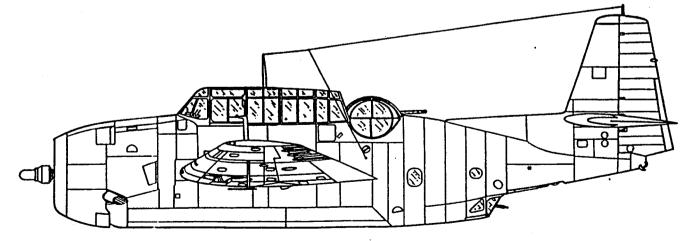
FINDINGS

for the

Salton Sea Test Base

Imperial County, California

January 1996



DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

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BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE

FINDINGS

ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES ARCHIVES SEARCH REPORT FOR SALTON SEA TEST BASE IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

January 1996

Prepared For

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest Division ATTN: Code 1832.MR 1220 Pacific Highway San Diego, CA 92132-5190

Prepared By

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District ATTN: CENCR-ED-DO P.O. Box 2004 Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004

and

U.S. Army Defense Ammunition Center and School ATTN: SIOAC-ESL Savanna, Illinois 61074-9639

4. HISTORICAL ORDNANCE PRESENCE

a. Chronological Site Summary

(1) The first known Naval activity in the Salton Sea took place in December 1939 when seaplanes from the USS Memphis used the sea for night landing operations. The first bombing target was built in July 1940. Permanent landing buoys were installed a year later in the northeastern corner of the sea. In early 1942, the Navy realized the need for additional seaplane training facilities and an emergency landing site. The Sandy Beach location was selected and the Navy began to acquire the land. In the meantime, Paramount Pictures built a clay runway and pier at the site to film the movie "Wake Island". A complete chronology of the WWII years is provided as document E-1(reference B-11 and B-12).

(2) Construction of the seaplane base began in May 1942. The site was commissioned as a Naval Air Facility (NAF) on October 8, 1942. The site's mission was to train seaplane crews and served as an alternate landing area whenever San Diego was fogged in. Training was limited, however, by the lack of paved runways (see documents E-2 and E-3). By 1944, an additional clay runway had been built and the mission was expanded to include rocket training by carrier-type aircraft and experimental work with jet-assisted take-off (JATO) bottles. The station controlled 10 water targets, 13 land targets, and 5 emergency landing fields (see documents E-4 through E-6 and H-1).

(3) While Navy training operations continued, additional personnel from the Army arrived at the station. In December 1944, B-29s from the Manhattan project began using the site for drop testing of the first atomic bomb shapes. Ground crews built extensive monitoring facilities and used a water and a land target north of the main base (reference B-124 and B-125).

(4) Navy operations were reduced when WWII ended in 1945. The regional commander recommended closing the base. The few remaining personnel maintained the facilities and removed some of the bombing targets (see documents E-7, E-8, and H-2). In October 1946, the property was transferred to the War Department and renamed the Salton Sea Test Base. It was used as a site for further Manhattan Project development of newer atomic weapons (see document G-1).

(5) From 1946 until 1961, the site was used by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) for various types of testing. In addition, aircraft of the Strategic Air Command (SAC) used the water target to practice dropping weapons shapes (see document

6

E-9). In 1962, NAF El Centro acquired the site and used it as a Joint Parachute Test Facility to test equipment for the manned space program as well as for military systems (see documents E-10 and E-11).

(6) Operations were gradually reduced in the mid-1970s, and the site was turned over to the Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake in 1979. In 1987, guard services were terminated and the site was listed as excess property. The 1988 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommended the SSTB for closure. For several years beginning about 1977, Marines and SEALs from several bases used the site for training exercises. Live ammunition was frequently used (reference B-124 and B-125).

TABLE 4-1		
	SUMMARY OF CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY	
Date	Action	
Dec 1939	Navy seaplanes use Salton Sea for night landings	
Jul 1940	First bombing target built	
Nov 1941	Permanent bouys installed in NW corner of the sea	
Apr 1942	Paramount films "Wake Island" at the site	
May 1942	Construction begins on seaplane base	
Feb 1944	Additional magazines and runway built	
Mar 1944	Rocket training begins	
Dec 1944	B-29s begin drop testing atomic shapes	
Sep 1945	Station reduced to caretaker status	
Oct 1946 to Jun 1961	Used by AEC and SAC for drops and environmental tests of atomic weapons components	
Dec 1963	Property transferred to Navy for use as a joint parachute test facility	
Circa 1977 to 1992	Site used by Marines & SEALs for training exercises	
Sep 1979	Site closed, guard service maintained	
Oct 1987	Guard service terminated	
Dec 1988	BRAC Commission recommends closure	

U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, El Centro, CA.

"Historical Report of U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, El Centro, CA for the period of 1 July to 31 December 1951." Naval Historical Center and Archives, Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.

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IN	REPLY-R	EFER TO			

H S	NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION	
	•.	EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA
		EL CENTRO, ORLIGORIA

A12/RNH/HWS:er 51 - 95 Serial:

11.59-325

FEB 20 1952

Commanding Officer From:

Chief of Naval Operations (Aviation History and Research To: Section)

Historical Report (OPNAV 575-1) Subj:

(a) OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5750.2 Ref:

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Encl: (1) Historical Report of U.S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, El Centro, California for the period of 1 July to 31 December 1951

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted herewith in accordance with reference (a).

AKELEY. Acting

Copy to: CNAB11/12 U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

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PART I - CHRONOLOGY OF THE U.S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION, EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY TO 31 DEC 1951

2 JUL 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-48-51 - Construction of concrete foundations and floor slabs for two magazine buildings. Amount: \$1,935.55. Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-54-51 - Placing 2¹/₂"

conduits at Target No. 94.

3 JUL 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-49-51 - Alterations to the air conditioning system in Bldg. No. 435.

Amount: \$1,400.00.

C) : 🚌

Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-57-51 - Construction and installation of doors in Bldg. No. 227.

- 9 JUL 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-51-51 Repairs to shower floors in Bldg. No. 409.
- 12 JUL 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-53-51 Installation of ceramic tile wainscote in lobby of Bldg. No. 313. ENS. G. BASYEY, USN, attached to VF-113, was killed in the crash of an FLU-4 BuNo. 97102, while engaged in rocket runs.
- 20 JUL 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-1-52 Removal, alterations, and reinstallation of refrigeration equipment in Bldg. No. 313.
- 23 JUL 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-2-52 Installation of fiberglass in ceiling of Bldg. No. 313.

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U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-3-52 - Repairing and replacing the air conditioning unit in Bldg. No. 227. Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-4-52 - Alterations to the air conditioning system in Bldg. No. 110. Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-5-52 - Repairs and alterations to the air conditioning system in Bldgs. No. 335 and 336.

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24 JUL 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-57-51 - Construction and installation of doors in Bldg. No. 227. Amount: \$267.50. Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-3-52 - Repairing and replacing the air conditioning unit in Bldg. No. 227. Amount: \$134.03.

> Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-4-52 - Alterations to the air conditioning system in Bldg. No. 110. Amount: \$1,485.00. Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-5-52 - Repairs and alterations to the air conditioning system in Bldgs. No. 335 and 336. Amount: \$950.00.

26 JUL 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-54-51 - Placing 2¹/₂" conduits at Target No. 94. Amount \$111.82.

31 JUL 1951 - Completed work on Project 34976-51 - Construction of TDD hangar and heavy stores warehouse building. Amount: \$3,975.00.

3 AUG 1951 - Completed work on Contract NOy-23448 - Construction of a special devices strafing target. Amount: \$12,985.00.

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U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

7 AUG 1951 - Commenced and completed work on Informal Contract ELC-10-52 -Application of flameout mastic heavy coating to Bldg. No. 542. Amount: \$1,400.00.

Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-11-52 - Application of flameout mastic heavy coating to Bldg. No. 1 at NATTU.

8 AUG 1951 - Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-9-52 - Placing wallpaper in main entrance to Bldg. No. 227.

14 AUG 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-1-52 - Removal, alterations, and reinstallation of refrigeration equipment in Bldg. No. 313. Amount: \$1,221.49. Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-2-52 - Installation of fiberglass ceiling in Bldg. No. 313. Amount: \$1,955.00.

Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-12-52 - Repairing and placing rubber tile on floor of lobby of Bldg. No. 313.

16 AUG 1951 - Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-13-52 - Construction of a Jet Drone Launching platform.

> 2nd LT P. TAYLOR, USAF, attached to 170th Fighter Bomber Squadron, George AFB Victorville, California, was killed in the crash of an F-51, Aircraft No. 45-11665A, while engaged in dive bombing and strafing at Target No. 68.

30 AUG 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-9-52 - Placing wallpaper in main entrance to Bldg. No. 227. Amount: \$129.50. Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-14-52 - Placing

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U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

ED CEMERON TYPE-DAILYN

"Formica" strips on the counter, asphalt tile behind counter, and asphalt tile baseboards in the heads and hallways in Bldg. No. 313.

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A CONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER

Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-15-52 - Placing linoleum on floors of ten (10) Homoja Apts.

31 AUG 1951 - Completed on Project 34921-51 - Construction of two (2) prefabricated steel magazines and access road. Amount: \$2,600.00.

8 SEP 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-12-52 - Repairing and

placing rubber tile on floor in lobby of Bldg. No. 313. Amount: \$435.00.

10 SEP 1951 - Pursuant to BuPers Orders Bll5-SHR-1 Serial 37669 dtd 16 May 1951. CAPT R. N. HUNTER 57613/1310, reported aboard to relieve CDR C. K. WILKINSON 60084/1310. CDR C. K. WILKINSON was Commanding Officer of U.S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, El Centro from 23 October 1949 to 10 September 1951.

11 SEP 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-14-52 - Placing "Formica" strips on the counter, asphalt tile behind the counter, and asphalt tile baseboards in the head and hallways in Bldg. No.

313. Amcunt: \$363.06.

13 SEP 1951 - Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-11-52 - Application of flameout mastic heavy coating to Bldg. No. 542. Amount: \$557.00. Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-11-52 - Application of flameout mastic heavy coating to Bldg. No. 1 at NATTU. Amount: \$557.00.

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- 17 SEP 1951 Commenced and completed on Informal Contract ELC-17-52 -Construction of roads to magazine Bldgs. Nos. 181 and 182.
- 18 SEP 1951 Commenced work on Contract NOy-27507 Construction of runway extension, taxiway, and parking aprons.
- 29 SEP 1951 Commenced work on Project 50701-52 Marking the boundaries of Chocolate Mountain Gunnery Range, Carrizzo Impact Area, landing strip at Sand Hills, Hill Top Field, South Coyote Wells, Clarks Dry Lake Field, and Occotillo Field.
 - 1 OCT 1951 Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-13-52 Construction of a jet launching platform. Amount: \$1,985.00.
 - 4 OCT 1951 Commenced work on Contract NOy-29189 Alterations and additions to Bldg. No. 118.
- 10 OCT 1951 Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-53-51 Installation of ceramic tile wainscote in lobby of Bldg. No. 313. Amount: \$1,310.20.
- 12 OCT 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-17-52 Construction of a temporary power line to the Parachute Whirl Tower.
- 17 OCT 1951 Completed work on Contract NOy-22700 Construction of a Rocket Assembly Bldg. Amount: \$66,654.00.
- 22 OCT 1951 Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-15-52 Placing linoleum on floors of ten (10) Homoja Apts. Amount: \$675.00.
- 23 OCT 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-21-52 Installation of venetian blinds in Bldg. No. 513.

- 5 -

U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION THE PALENCE CALFORNIA

U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION

- 29 OCT 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-19-52 Construction of a Septic Tank and tile drain at the Farachute Whirl Tower. Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-23-52 - Installation of a "Solex" green plate glass in the control tower at Target No. 68.
 - 2 NOV 1951 Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-51-51 Repairs to shower floors in Bldg. No. 409. Amount: \$1,859.78.
 - 8 NOV 1951 LT A. KING, USN, attached to VF-871, was killed in the crash of an F4U-4 BuNo. 81939, while engaged in air to air gunnery. Aircraft collided with tow target and crashed 13 miles Northeast of Niland, California.
- 15 NOV 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-22-52 Construction of a road and installation of clothes line in Homoja Housing.
- 23 NOV 1951 Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-19-52 Construction of a Septic Tank and tile drain line of Parachute Whirl Tower. Amount: \$920.60.
- 5 DEC 1951 Commenced work on Informal Contract ELC-24-52 Installation of glass in CO and XO offices in Bldg. No. 214. Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-21-52 - Installation of venetian blinds in Bldg. No. 513. Amount: \$194.30.
- 10 DEC 1951 Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-24-52 Installation of glass in CO and XO offices in Bldg. No. 214. Amount:\$91.20.

- 6 -

U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION EL CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

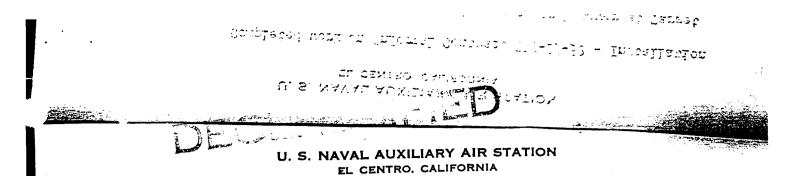
The second second

Completed work on Informal Contract ELC-25-52 - Installation of "Solex" green plate glass in the control tower at Target No. 68. Amount: \$491.20.

The second s

20 DEC 1951 - Commenced work on Contract NOy-29211 - Installation of a sprinkler system in Bldg. No. 313.

DECI



PART II - NARRATIVE OF THE NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATICH, EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY TO 31 DECEMBER 1951

The U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station has continued in its assigned mission as follows:

- Provide facilities to support fleet aircraft rocket, gunnery, bombing, ASW, and night FCLP training operations, Fleet and other major activities will include:
 - (a) Four (b) carrier air group squadrons or Marine squadrons (transient).
 - (b) Fleet Air Detachment Personnel (transient).
 - (c) Joint Parachute Test Facilities.
 - (d) Naval Air Technical Training Unit.
 - (e) Military Airways Plan 62 Facilities.
 - (f) Emergency Seadrome (Salton Sea).

In accordance with DD Directive No. 2033-1, dated 9 June 1951, a Joint Parachute Test Facility was established at NAAS, El Centro, Calif., with an effective date of 15 Sep 1951. The purpose of this facility is to assure the maximum joint utilization of trained personnel, equipment, and technology in the development, testing and evaluation of parachute and related equipment used by the Armed Forces of the United States. In implementing the DD Directive, General Order No. 26, dated 23 July 1951, was issued by Hg. AROC, which designated the Air Force activity at El Centro as Headquarters, 6502d Parachute Development Test Group. The Group was assigned to HgWADC for direct command responsibility. U.S. NAVAL PUKILPARY AR STATION EL CENTRO CALFOLNA

IS MALER ON THE SHORE THE REPORT

U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION

The detailed delineation of USAF and Navy responsibility, as well as the proposed planning for operation of the Joint Facility, are contained in the "Agreement between the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Air Force", dated 2 December 1950.

The 6502d Parachute Development Test Group conducted its first drop test mission on 24 August 1951, using a borrowed Navy PV-2 aircraft. This is the date the Group first became operational.

- 7 JUL 1951 CAPT DREW, Commanding Officer USNAS Los Alamitos, visited our station while enroute to Los Alamitos.
- 30 JUL 1951 CDR V. WILLIAMS, Chief of Staff ComNAB11/12ND, and party, arrived aboard our station for an inspection.
- 31 JUL 1951 CAPT BARWOOD, Assistant Inspector General Supply Corps (Air) arrived aboard our station for an inspection and departed for NAS Miramar 1 August.
- 1 SEP 1951 ADM BAKER and party arrived on board our station for an inspection.
- 19 SEP 1951 BRIGEN MANALY, USMC, visited our station while enroute to USMCAS El Toro.
- 30 SEP 1951 SSW Air Lines R5C N54339 enroute from El Paso to San Diego made an emergency landing at our station - starboard engine afire. The aircraft carried forty (40) passengers and a crew of three (3). There were no injuries to passengers or crew. The aircraft sustained major damage.

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U. S.	NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION
	EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

PART III - APPENDICIES OF THE NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION, EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY TO 31 DECEMBER 1951

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AVERAGE NUMBER ON BOARD FOR DUTY AND TAD:

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OFFICERS	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	58
ENLISTED	•	•	•	•	•							•	h00

NUMBER OF PERSONNEL FROM FLEET UNITS ON BOARD FOR TRAINING:

OFFICERS	
NAVY	
MARINE	
AIR FORCE	
ENLISTED	
NAVY	
MARINE	
AIR FORCE 149	
SUPPLY DEPARTMENT TONNAGE:	
RECEIVED 13,250.0 Tons	
SHIPPED 44.3 Tons	
ORDNANCE EXPENDED BY FLEET UNITS:	
ITEM WEIGHT	
50 Cal. belted 60.29	tons
20 MM belted 111.91	tons
Miniature Bombs 76.28	tons

100 lb. w/s Practice bomb (empty) 21.02 tons

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3	U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION
	EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

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500 lb. w/s Practice bomb (empty)	2.16	tons
1000 lb.w/s Practice bomb (empty)	22.95	tons
100 lb. G.P. Bombs	45.26	tons
250 lb. G.P. Bombs	9.38	tons
500 lb. G.P. Bombs	93.26	tons
1000 lb.G.P. Bombs	66.18	tons
Fuzes, Bomb, Rocket	4.47	tons
2125 SCAR	365.50	tons
3025 Aircraft Rockets	20.63	tons
510 HVAR	400.67	tons
11075 Tiney Tim Rockets	58.46	tons
NaPalm, Type, 1 Mix	1.95	tons
Parachute flares	5.98	tons
Miscellaneous Small Arms Ammunition	1.21	tons
		· ·

TOTAL TONNAGE . . .1367.56

- 11 -

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U.S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Holtville, CA.

Historical Report of U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Holtville, CA. Box 221; Naval Historical Center and Archives, Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.

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NAll-6/A9-3 KVS:1s Serial 21(5 10 U. S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION HOLTVILLE. CALIFORNIA



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20 September 1945

- To: Chief of Naval Operations, History Unit, OP-33-J-6, Aviation Training Division, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.
- Via: Commander, NAVAL AIR BASES, ELEVENTH Naval District, San Diego, Calif. Commandant, ELEVENTH Naval District, San Diego, Calif.

Subj: Historical Report - Submission of

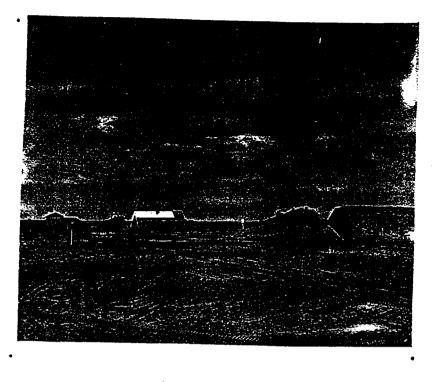
Ref: (a) Aviation Cir. Ltr. No. 74-44 of 7/25/44.

1. The Historical Report required by reference (a) is herewith submitted.

2. Copies of this report are enclosed for retention by Commander, Naval Air Bases, Eleventh Naval District and by the Commandant, Eleventh Naval District.

Commanding Officer.

Encl: (HW) 1. Subject Reports





Ordnance Magazines

OFFICIAL U S NAVY PHOTOS

U.S.NAVAL AUX. AIR STATION HOLTVILLE CALLE.

PART II: Harrative

1. Function

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a. Purpose

This Neval Auxiliary Air Station was organized as a unit of the Mayal Air Center Eleventh Naval District as part of a general plan for the training of Fleet aircraft units in the Southern California area. The sites selected were such that each station or facility could perform a specialized type of training in the syllabus of each soundron. In the case of MAAS Holtville the special type of training was night flying, the site selection in Imperial Valley being made due to the 560-day per year average of clear weather, especially under night-flying conditions. In general, the syliabus included dive bombing, low level bombing, skip bombing (at Salton Sea, about 30 miles airline northerly of Holtville), target straffing, and field carrier landing practice, as well as oross-country and round-robin flights. Originally the Composito-type squadrons were sent here for training. On 15 August 1944 a Fleet Air Training Detachment was established on the Station with primary function of rockst-firing training, and since that date a number of VP. VT and VB squadrens, plus a few VCB and VEF units, as well as streamlined VC groups have utilized the training facilities of the field. A considerable amount of Ground Training is carried on also, involving Recognition, Link Trainer, Pres Gunnery and various special devices. With the construction of a special Carrier Landing Training Field about seven miles easterly of the Station, greater concentration was placed on FCLP training.

D. Collected Lon

Original construction work was commenced in January 1943 by the misso-Kekittrick Construction Co. The original runways were 4500 ft., these being increased to 6000 ft. due to the anticipated usage of the field by larger aircraft than in the original plan. With the exception of a few sinor structures, the base as planned was completed ready for occupancy in late June 1943. Subsequently it was determined that the housing facilities for pilots and enlisted personnel, and adequate maintenance facilities were insufficient to handle the proposed increase from three to six squadrons, and SecNav authority was granted 19 May 1944 to provide additional facilities, work being started on 10 August 1944. This expansion provided additional BOQ's, double-deck enlisted personnel barracks, a WAVE's barracks, two line shacks, two nose hangers, a Training building, an Officers! Mess, three Supply warehouses, and expanded water-supply system and sewage disposal system. Started about 1 February 1945, a Homoja Hut project for 84 families will relieve the critical housing situation in the Imperial Valley.

U.S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Holtville, CA.

"Historical Report of U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Holtville Calif" for 1 September 1945 to 15 April 1946. Box 221; Naval Historical Center and Archives, Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.

50X221 NAShington Historical Cer

ADDRESS REPLY TO

TO REFLY REFER TO NO. NA11-6/A9-3 KAS: Ser 366-10 U.S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION HOLTVILLE, CALIFORNIA

11April 1946

To: Chief of Naval Operations, History Unit OP-33-J6, Aviation Training Division, Navy Department, Washington, D.C.

Via: Commander, NAVAL AIR BASES, RLEVENTH Naval District, San Diego, Calif. Commandent, ELEVENTH Naval District, San Diego, Calif.

Subj: Historical Report - Submission of

Ref: (a) Aviation Cir Ltr No. 74-44 of 7/25/44 (b) NAB11/A12/29-3 SWG:en Serial 83-95 3/26/46

1. The Historical Report required by references (a) and (b) is herewith submitted.

2. Copies of this report are enclosed for retention by Commander, Naval Air Bases, Eleventh Naval District and by the Commandant, Eleventh Naval District.

S.B.

Construction of the second states and the second second

Commanding Officer

Encl: (hw) 1. Subject reports

A HISTORICAL REPORT ON U.S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION HOLTVILLE CALIF

This Report is composed of the following parts:

I. Chronology

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II. Narrative

III. Appendices

A. List of Fleet Activities B. List of Casualties

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Information compiled from 1 September 1945 to 15 April 1946

Enclosure (1)

U.S. NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION HOLTVILLE, CALIFORNIA

PART I: Chronology

1. Construction started: January 1943 2. First station Naval personnel on board: 20 June 1943 3. Placed in Commission: 4 July 1943 4. Commanding Officers: From To 28 Dec 43 a. Lt. Cmdr. Emory B. Bronte USNR 4 July 43 b. Lt. Benoni H. McClure USNR. 28 Dec 43 3 Jan 44 0-in-C during interim 31 July 44 3 Jan 44 c. Lt. Cmdr. Henry J. White USNR d. Lt. Cmdr. David C. Parker USNR 31 July 44 27 Jan 45 e. Lt. Cmdr. Seraphin B. Perreault 27 Jan 45 USN

- 5. Criginally established as a unit of the Naval Air Center, Eleventh Naval District.
- 6. Naval Air Center 11ND disestablished 10 August 1944 and the unit became part of Naval Air Bases, 11ND.

7. Reduced to caretaker status April 1, 1946.

8. This activity has not been involved in any enemy action.

Fart II Narrative

1. Function

a. Purpose

Holtville Air Station has a past record as a training center for combat air groups scheduled for duty on the small Navy escort carrier, and became a center for strafing and bombing practice for fighters, dive bombers and torpedo bombers. Special attention was given to Rocket training. The 1397-acre station was built to serve as an operation training base for fleet units. There are two 6000 foot runways at the air station. Eight miles east of the station there is a 4000 foot strip designated and marked for practice carrier landings. Because of the all year flying weather, the station also has been used to train squadrons in the final phases of night formation flying.

Beginning with the termination of war with Japan operations at this station have steadily decreased. Squadrons continued to train on a reduced scale through 15 December 1945. On December fourth PV-2 aircraft began to arrive on station for short time preservation were kept on a flyeway status. By January 1, 1946 there were one hundred eleven of these aircraft stationed here. April 10 1946 marked the departure of the last PV-2.

This station was reduced to caretaker status April 1, 1946 and is scheduled for surplus May 1, 1946.

b. Construction There has been no construction since August 15, 1946.

APPENDIX A: DATA BAGARDING ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DATES OF FLEET AND AIRCRAFT UNITS, AND DESTINATION

	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE	DES TINATION
VT 80	17 Aug 1945	12 Sept 1945	NAAS Ream Field, Calif
VC 80	2 Aug 1945	12 Sept 1945	Decommissioned, Planes
			and Personnel going to NAAS Holtville
7f 84	28 Aug 1945	27 Sept 1945	NTB, Los Alamitos, Calif
VBF 84	23 Auz 1945	27 Sept 1945	NTB, Los Alamitos, Calif
AG 7	17 Oct 1945	6 Dec 1945	San Diego, California
VF 98	10 Dec 1945	15 Dec 1945	NTE, Los Alamitos, Calif
V BF 98	10 Dec 1945	15 Dec 1945	NTB, Los Alamitos, Calif
CASU 53	15 Aug 1944	18 Dec 1945	MCAS, El Centro, Calif

APPENDIX E

LETTERS / MEMORANDA / MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVE SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)** IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

APPENDIX E

LETTERS / MEMORANDA / MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Bureau of Ordnance.

- 1946a Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 4 January, regarding the Ammunition Stock Recording System. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1946b Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 19 April, regarding the stowage of ammunition. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- 1946c Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 27 June, regarding a request for rocket firers. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

Headquarters, Naval Air Bases.

- 1946b Correspondence to Chief, Bureau of Ordnance, dated 12 August, regarding a Request for Disposition of Small Arms Ammunition for Caliber .30 Aircraft Machine Gun. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; ND8-ND11, 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.
- n.d. Speedletter; File NAB11/S78-2, regarding Ordnance inventories at 11th Naval District's Air Bases. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; File ND8-ND11, 1946. National Archives- Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVE SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)** IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

APPENDIX E

LETTERS / MEMORANDA / MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Navy Department.

1948 Correspondence to Deputy Administrator, Office of Real Property Disposal, dated 11 February, regarding the declaration of surplus for Holtville Auxiliary Air Station. Record Group 72; Entry 69A-2454; Box 2; File: California. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

Public Works Officer, Eleventh Naval District.

1946 Correspondence to Bureau of Docks, dated 6 June, regarding Navy occupied lands in Salton Sea Area. Engineering Division, Installation Support Section, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles, CA.

Southern California Sector, Western Sea Frontier.

1944 Correspondence to AIRCRAFT, Southern California Sector, Western Sea Frontier, dated 24 August, regarding bombing targets in Southern California Sector. Engineering Division, Installation Support Section, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles, CA.

U.S. Marine Corps Air Station.

1946 Correspondence to Chief, Bureau of Ordnance, dated 10 July, regarding Rocket Firers. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 194: KV-L1-1, Jun-July 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

U. S. Pacific Fleet.

1946 "COMFAIR West Coast Service and Training Munition Requirements," dated 26 January. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; File: ND8-ND11,1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

Bureau of Ordnance.

Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 4 January 1946, regarding the Ammunition Stock Recording System. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES Rg 74, Entry 4444 BOX-193 KK /579 Thru KV MAR-APR 19

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From: To:

The Thief of the Europa of Orinance The Commanding Officer Marine Corps Air Station Ni Contro, Califernia

Subject:

Ammunition Stock Recording System,

(a) Navord 282-A for code 1175 TOI-1100-J showing balance on hand for south outing Reference

December 1945

Reference (a) reports the balance on hand for the 1. ammunition described belows.

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G. F. BUSSEY, JR.

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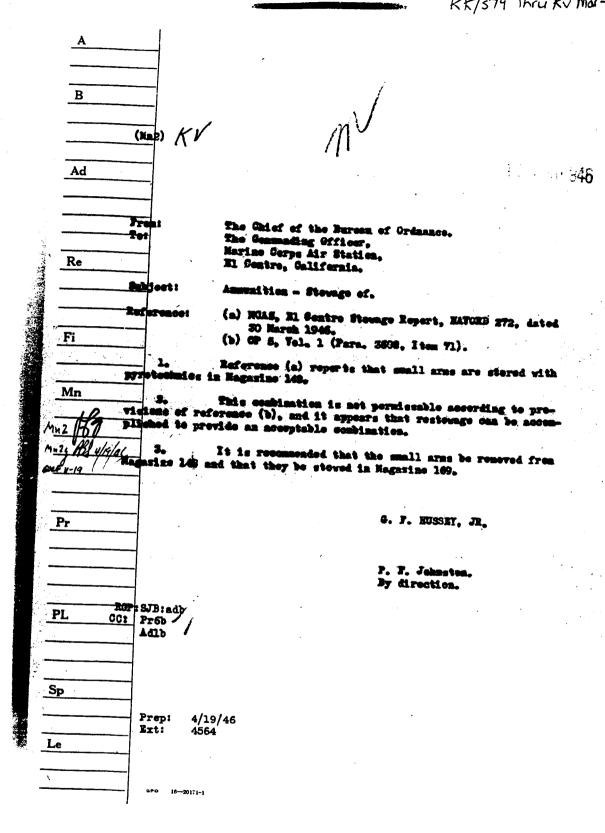
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Bureau of Ordnance.

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Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 19 April 1946, regarding the stowage of ammunition. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD. REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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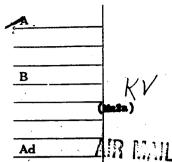


Bureau of Ordnance.

Correspondence to Commanding Officer, El Centro Marine Corps Air Station, dated 27 June 1946, regarding a request for rocket firers. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 193: KK/S79-KV Mar-Apr 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD. REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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The Chief of the Bureau of Ordennes. The Generaling Officer, Mayal Air Station Il Contro, Childraid.

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Headquarters, Naval Air Bases.

Correspondence to Chief, Bureau of Ordnance, dated 12 August 1946, regarding a Request for Disposition of Small Arms Ammunition for Caliber .30 Aircraft Machine Gun. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; ND8-ND11, 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

Suithing branch Rg-74, Entry 44441, Bux REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES ND8-ND11, 1946 DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, SECTION 3.3, NND PROJECT NUMBER NAD 917566, BY J3/CWC , DATE /2/14/95 HEADQUARTERS COMMANDER, NAVAL AIR BASES In reply address COMMANDER. NAVAL AIR BASES 11th Naval Dustrict San Disgo 35, Calif. ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT NABIV L11-3/F41-11 JEH:st ND Serial 54-90 AUG 1 2 1946 mi Chief of the Bureau of Oranance Disposition of Small Arms Ammunition for Caliber .30 To: 082046 Aircraft Machine Gun - Request for. Subj: (a) BuOrd ltr (Mn2b) 578-1(17) dtd lAug46 (b) BuOrd ltr F41-1(Mn6b) dtd 26Jul46 Ref: 1. In compliance with references (a) and (b), disposition is requested for the following .30 Caliber pircraft machine gun amounition which is surplus to the requirements of UUGU activities within Naval Air Bases. NAVAL AIR STATION, SAN DIEGO 106,550 BOSN SI775-7 Fall Burok 48,000 .30 Caliber Ball M2 35,500 .30 Caliber Incendiary Ml 2,815 .30 Caliber A.P. M2 79,678 .30 Caliber Blank 540,000 .30 Caliber Dummy .30 Celiber Link Ml NAVAL AIR STATION, EL CENTRO 180,235 375,000 BOSO SITTS .30 Caliber Tracer Ml 125,000 .30 Caliber Incendiary Ml 40,000 .30 Caliber A.P. M2 BOSN 517759 -1- to Fall Burrle 103,120 24,000 14,000 .30 Caliber Links Ml MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, EL TORO .30 Caliber Ball M2 .30 Caliber Incendiary Ml .30 Caliber Links Ml

Headquarters, Naval Air Bases.

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Speedletter; File NAB11/S78-2, regarding Ordnance inventories at 11th Naval District's Air Bases. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; File ND8-ND11, 1946. National Archives- Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

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	NAB11/578-2 Serial 02-90 JEH:st		Use in lieu of despatches, tals- grams, talstypes, and mailgrams when appropriate. Do not handle through Com- munication Offices.
			Despaich phraseology may be used.
	SPEEDLETTER TO:		Use size No. 9 window envelopes when appropriate and available.
			If used for classified matter handle as prescribed in U. S. Navy
	Page 5 of 3 Pages		Regs., Arts. 751/2 and 76.
			Upon receipt EXPEDITE HANDLING and DELIVERY as much as possible.
		W PTTT D / A 1-1	
,	NAAS REA	M FIELD (Cont'd)	
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	NAAS Brown Field NAAS Camp Kearney		
	NAAS Ream Field	H. T. WRAY, Comdr.	, USN(ret)
	NAS Santa Ana MCAS El Centro	Ordialice Officer	
	Comll	SENDER'S MARLING ABDRESS	(Including symbol or identity)
	MCAS EL Toro		
· •	ComFair WC (Ord Dept)	HEADQUARTERS SECENED	SES
ر : به از	ATTENTION ADDRESSER: Address reply exactly gradiested on right.	ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT	
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Navy Department.

Correspondence to Deputy Administrator, Office of Real Property Disposal, dated 11 February 1948, regarding the declaration of surplus for Holtville Auxiliary Air Station. Record Group 72; Entry 69A-2454; Box 2; File: California. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES Rg 72, ENTry 6942454 BOX2, CANTON NO.

11 FEB 1948

ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS

41-15 1011 15.5/DCB/WW

NAVY DEPARTMENT WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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Ru. 4889, Main Mary.

Your MARY JUNPAN

Wilfred P. Tiencken

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Public Works Officer, Eleventh Naval District.

Correspondence to Bureau of Docks, dated 6 June 1946, regarding Navy occupied lands in Salton Sea Area. Engineering Division, Installation Support Section, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles, CA.

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Hottville #32

FISTER (A District Engineering) Installation Support Sec Holtvell # Z

HD11/VPB/44-3/F36-11 (Ser. No. P-B3224)

STUDN 1946

- 101 BuDooks.
- Attn: F-5.
- Subj: Navy Occupied Lands in Salton Sea Area, California -STATUS OF.
- Refr (a) Bullocks ltr HD11/H1-15, F-5-5/TMF/gd dtd 20 May 1946.
 - (b) Comll ltr ND11/HAC11/F41-10, Ser. P-20384 to Bubocks. 1 (c) Comil Itr MD11/HAC11/F41-10, Ser. P-22834 to BuDocks, (24 April 1946.
 - (d) ComMAB, 11MD spaltr HAB11/GV 431-80 to CNO atd 15 May :
 - (e) BuDocks ltr HD11/N1-13, F5-6 to Dir., Real Estate Div. Har Dept. dtd 3 April 1946.

1. By Ref. (a) BuDocks requested that it be informed of the state of certain Government lands under the jurisdiction of the Departme of the Interior which the Havy Department has been using pursuant to Letter Fermits or Public Lond Orders. It was further requested that information he furnished concerning any damage caused by Nav. 1190.

2. The statue of the lands referred to in Par. 8 of Ref. (2) is as follows:

a. Public Lend Order Ho. 41 of September 18, 1942; We SW: Sea. 28, 211 8, 4 11 8, SBRAC. This size was a portion of the J. S. MAAS, Selton Sea. Could approved the proposed transfer to the Mar Depart-ment for use of the Manhattan Engineering District Project. By Mag. (a) Bullesks offered to transfer the use of these Lands to the Far Department. Comil has ne further information regarding the stabus of this propesed franklar.

b. Tublic Land Order No. 281 of May 29, 1948: Gertain sream within T 7, 8 and 9 8, R 12 B; T 8 and 9 5, A 18 H; T 7, 8, 9 and 10 S, R 14 E; T 7, 8, 9 and 10 S, R 15 R; T 8, 9 and 10 S, R 16 E; and T 8 and 9 B, R 17 H, SHW. These lands are adjustant to those acquired in fee simple by a condemnation proceeding (Divil 2054-Y) for the U. S. Marine Gorps Artillery & Anti-Airoraft Firing Range, Camp Dunlap, Miland, California. Both areas are now being used by sativities of ComPairWO for Air-to-Air and Ground-to-Air Gunnery Ranges. The continued use of the Public Domain Lands is necessary for an indefinite time for these training activities.

Copy for Commandant's Office

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¥011/97	5/14-3/¥36-11	γ	.17	P1.187
(Ser. No.	5/14-3/936-11 . J-23224)			
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	Bannak Mas 18	(AGAUTAAN PA	# " A	By Baf. (d)

Ho. 1 was declared surplus by Ref. (6). By Ref. 18 was prepared that Me. 2 and Me. 3 be retained.

5. All of the lands which have been declared surplus have been restored by station labor to their condition prior to Havy use.

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ar direction or the Commentation

A. K. FOGG; Public Works Officer lith Naval District.

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Copy for Commandant's Office

Southern California Sector, Western Sea Frontier.

Correspondence to AIRCRAFT, Southern California Sector, Western Sea Frontier, dated 24 August 1944, regarding bombing targets in Southern California Sector. Engineering Division, Installation Support Section, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles, CA.

Reproduced from ne holdings of the National Archive Facific Southwest Region

AIRCRAFT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTOR WESTERN SEA FRONTIER

64 August, 1944

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Eleventh Naval District San Diego, California

AIRCRAFT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTOR, WESTERN SEA FRONTIER CIRCULAR LETTER NUMBER 20-44

From: Commander Aircraft, Southern California Sector, Western bea Frontier.

To : AIRCHAFT, Southern California Sector, Western Sea Frontier.

Subj: Bombing Targets in Seuthern California Sector, Western Sea

1. Enclosure (1) contains the position and description of all bombing targets in the Southern California Sector of the Western Sea Frontier, together with a statement of the type of bombing runs pormitted and the type of ordnance permitted.

2. Cortain bombing targets listed in enclosure (1) are not in commission as yot. A notem will be issued when such targets are commissioned.

3. The targets listed in enclosure (1) shall be used solely by the units to whom they are assigned by Joint Operations Junter, San Diego (Naval Air Control Center). The unit to whom the target is assigned, however, may permit another unit to use such target. When such permission is given, Air Control Center shall be advised by teletype.

4. Where arons, targets, and landing fields are assigned by Joint Operations Center, San Diego, to more than one unit, the sonior naval aviator of the units assigned the same areas, targets and landing fields shall doordinate the schedulos except in cases where the assignments specify the hours a unit is to use such area, target or landing field.

5. It is frequently necessary to conduct cir rad surface firing and other surface operations in the same aroas. All units must exercise caution. werial gunnery above an overcast is not permitted.

6. So during runs are to be made on hay target doclared closed.

7. Water filled bombs over 100 pounds may not be used on water bombing targets or land skip hombing targets.

8. Units desiring to drop live bombs must notify Joint Operations Center, San Diego at losst 24 hours in advance.

9. The following targets can be illuminated: Otay on request to Naval Auxiliary hir Station, Brown Field, all Salton Sea targets on request to

-1-

ACC/F41-10 A2-11(wt) Serial: 98

< 24 August, 1944

Subj: Bombing Targets in Southern California Sector, Western-See Trontier. . .

Naval Auxiliary Air Station Salton Sea and Holtville one (1) and two (2) on request to Naval Auxiliary Air Station Holtville. 10. Soundrons must observe provisions of Tleet Air Detachment Circular Letters 25-45 and 22-44. By direction of ComairSoCalSec.wsF. Lac-(1) Position & Description Wall, BlaCk Deputy Commander Sound States and States

Hardelal Actor NAX L. BLACE Deputy Commander

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	• NAME	POSITION	DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF BOLBING RUN	TYPE OF ORDNANCE
	WBT A	32-32-10 117-12-30	Radar-rigged Pyramid	Bombing runs must b conducted at an alt not to exceed 700 f Actual releases at	Practice Bonber material
	WBT B	33-04-40 117-19-50	Radar Rigged Pyramid	200 feet. Low level (see W3T High Altitude and	Practice bombs
	Borego Hotel BT DCO. Borego Wash BT	33-05-30 116-06-06 33-11-45	Concentric Circles Concentric circles wi airplane silhouette	Dive Bombing	and strafe Practice bombs and strafe
		115-09-15 <u>33-26-00</u>	adjacent to target 10 strafing only Radar-rigged		Practice bombs
	VBT C Catalina BT	<u>117-41-30</u> <u>33-18-50</u> 118-26-40	Pyramid Concentric circles	High Altitude and	Practice bombs
Pact JIC 204	Clarks Dry Lake BT Cortes Bank WBT	33-20-24 116-16-48 32-28-45 119-12-50	similated submarine Radar-rigged	Dive Bombing Low-level High Altitude and	and strafe Practice bombs Practice bombs
3	Coyote Wells BT	32-56-00 115-52-30 33-37-27	Circle - similated Destroyer deck Radar-rigged	Dive bombing " Los-level (Ban HBT A)	and strate Fractice bombs
•	WBT B East Borego BT	118-04-00 34-01-00 118-36-00 33-04-00	Pyramid Radar-rigged Pyramid Circle	(see WIT A) High Altitude and	Practice bombs
	Holtville BT 1	<u>115-57-25</u> 32-56-45 115-12-30			Practice combs and strate Rocket
	Holtville BT 2	33-01-30 115-18-30 33-09-00 115-22-05	Concentric circles	Dive Bombing	Practice bombs
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- I	WBT 5	32-54-55	Pyramita	Dive Bombing 14 High Altitude and	" Practice Ben	ba
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Enc-1-to ComAirSoCulScoWSF C/L No. 20-44.

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U.S. Marine Corps Air Station.

Correspondence to Chief, Bureau of Ordnance, dated 10 July 1946, regarding Rocket Firers. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 194: KV-L1-1, Jun-July 1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD. REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

1441 & MILANCE SUITHUR Rg 74, Entry 4444, BOX KY Thru LI-1 Jun Jly 1

IN REPLY REFER TO NO.

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L21-5/MG0:dd Serial 1475-40

U.S. MARINE CORPS AIR STATION

10 July, 1946.

EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA



To: Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance (Section MN2C) Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.

mn 2

Subj: Bocket Firers (El Centro S.R. 186-46)

Ref:

(a) BuOrd.Air Mail ltr.KV(Mn2a)Serial 1519 of 27 June, 1946.
(b) NAS El Centro NEX 210045 of June.

l. After receipt of reference (a), a careful search at this station reveals the fact that subject Rocket Firers have been re-ceived from the Naval Ammunition Depot at Hawthorne. However, However, the shipment was not marked with the shipment request number, and therefore was not properly identified with the original request.

2. Material was correct as received, and the order is therefore considered complete.

OLIVER. LT(SC SupplyOfficer.

071546 0444

U.S. Pacific Fleet.

"COMFAIR West Coast Service and Training Munition Requirements," dated 26 January 1946. Record Group 74; Entry 4444; Box 287; File: ND8-ND11,1946. National Archives-Suitland Branch, Suitland, MD.

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26 Jan 1946

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<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>

	NTTLAL	SERVICE AN	D TRAINING MUN	ITION REQUIN	REMENTS
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APPENDIX F

REAL ESTATE DOCUMENTS (NOT USED)

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APPENDIX G

NEWSPAPERS / JOURNALS (NOT USED)

APPENDIX H

INTERVIEWS

TELEPHONE OR VERBAL CONVERSATION RECORDDATE 4 January 1996For use of this form, see AR340-15; the proponent agency is the Adjutant General's Office.

SUBJECT OF CONVERSATION: 2nd Quarter Sites						
	OUTGOING CALL					
PERSON CALLING	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER AND EXTENSION				
Rochelle Ross	CELMS-PM-M	314-331-8784				
PERSON CALLED	OFFICE	PHONE NUMBER AND EXTENSION				
Command Master Chief Tom Dye	Naval Amphibious Base Building 156, 2nd floor Coronado, CA	619-437-0732				

SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION:

Dick Thiel and Dave Frandsen (HFA, Inc) gave me Tom's name and number.

Theresa, Randy and I will be stopping by the 16th of January to talk to Tom and his assistant Rick Kiser regarding any other possible points of contact who may have information regarding our sites this quarter.

He did suggest we contact the El Centro Naval Facility and go through their historical files.

The EOD unit in charge out there is the EOD North Island. The POC is the Officer in Charge, Lt Martinez at 619-545-0486.

TELEPHONE OR VERBAL CONVERSATION RECORD DATE 11 January 1996 For use of this form, see AR340-15; the proponent agency is the Adjutant General's Office.

SUBJECT OF CONVERSATION: 2nd Quarter Sites						
	OUTGOING CALL					
PERSON CALLING Rochelle Ross	ADDRESS CELMS-PM-M	PHONE NUMBER AND EXTENSION				
		314-331-8784				
PERSON CALLED	OFFICE	PHONE NUMBER AND EXTENSION				
Officer in Charge, LT. Martinez and Officer Branum (used to the OIC)	Naval EOD, North Island	619-545-0486				

SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION:

Command Master Chief, Tom Dye, of the Naval Amphibious Base gave me the above name and number.

I spoke to Mr. Branum. Once Lt Martinez returns, they will review their files for UXO recovered around El Centro. He also suggested I call the Army 70th EOD located in Point Loma, 619-553-8500. This detachment maintains an historical database which contains all past recovered ordnance from all local EOD units. The Naval EOD send their info to this office.

Next Tuesday, when in San Diego, I am to call back to find out what information they were able to find. Lt. Martinez may meet us at Tom Dye's office Tuesday morning.

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Neither the Army 70th EOD or the EOD North Island had any information on any of the Imperial County Ranges for us.

APPENDIX I

PRESENT SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVE SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)** IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

APPENDIX I

PRESENT SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Page I-1

PHOTO #1 - BOX FIN FROM M38 100-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 33°1'24.5" W 115°18'32.8"; PG 57927 54967)

PHOTO #2 - 2.25" TARGET ROCKET MOTOR, 2.25" DIAMETER, 26" LONG (LOCATION: N 33°1'28.8" W 115°18'31.1"; PG 57967 55102)

Page I-2

PHOTO #3 - SCRAP FROM M38 100-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 33°1'31.0" W 115°18'29.0" PG 58021 55169)

PHOTO #4 - MOST LIKELY, THE TAIL SECTION OF MK 21 500-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 32°55'58.0" W 115°55'4.6"; PG 01162 44163)

Page I-3

PHOTO #5 - MOST LIKELY, THE NOSE SECTION OF MK 21 500-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"; PG 57934 55420)

PHOTO #6 - MOST LIKELY, THE BODY OF MK 21 500-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"; PG 57934 55420)

ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVE SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)** IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

APPENDIX I

PRESENT SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Page I-4

- PHOTO #7 LANYARD; TOP DISK IS 3-3/4" DIAMETER; OVERALL DIAMETER IS 4-1/4"; POSSIBLY FROM AN AIRCRAFT FLARE (LOCATION: N 33°1'52.3" W 115°18'32.2"; PG 57928 55825)
- PHOTO #8 VIEW FACING NORTHEAST (LOCATION: N 33°1'57.3" W 115°19'20.4")

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PHOTO #2 2.25" TARGET ROCKET MOTOR, 2.25" DIAMETER, 26" LONG (LOCATION: N 33°1'28.8" W 115°18'31.1"; PG 57967 55102)

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PHOTO #1 BOX FIN FROM M38 100-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 33°1'24.5" W 115°18'32.8"; PG 57927 54967)



MOST LIKELY, THE TAIL SECTION OF MK 21 50-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 32°55'58.0" W 115°55'4.6"; PG 01162 44163)

)



PHOTO #3 SCRAP FROM M38 100-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 33°1'31.0" W 115°18'29.0'; PG 58021 55169)





PHOTO #5 MOST LIKELY, THE NOSE SECTION OF MK 21 500-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"; PG 57934 55420)



PHOTO #6 MOST LIKELY, THE BODY OF MK 21 500-LB. PRACTICE BOMB (LOCATION: N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"; PG 57934 55420)



PHOTO #7 LANYARD; TOP DISK IS 3-3/4 " DIAMETER; OVERALL DIAMETER IS 4-1/4"; POSSIBLY FROM AN AIRCRAFT FLARE (LOCATION: N 33°1'52.3" W 115°18'32.2"; PG 57928 55825)

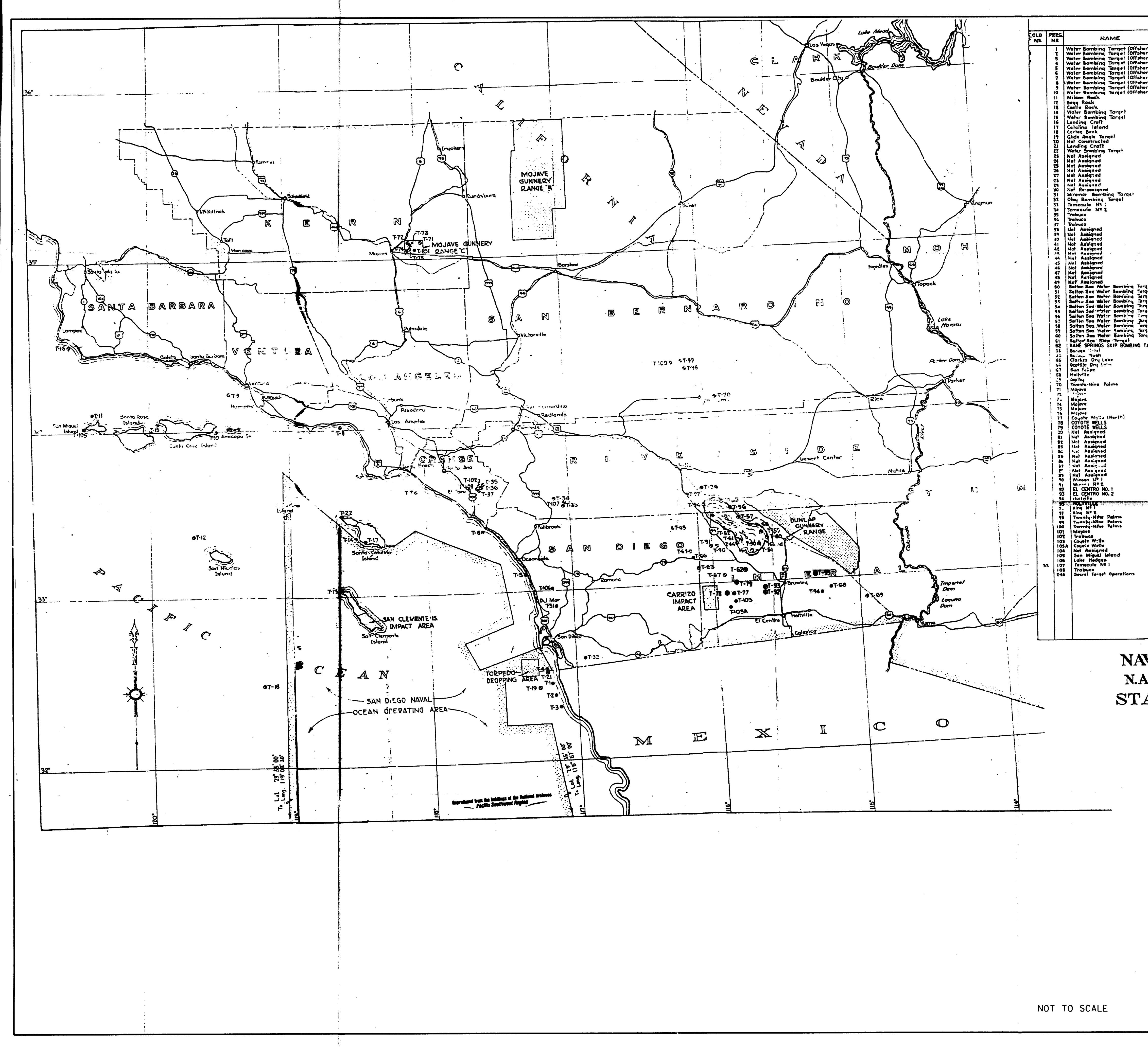


PHOTO #8 VIEW FACING NORTHEAST (LOCATION: N 33°1'57.3" W 115°19'20.4")

I-4

APPENDIX J

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS (NOT USED)

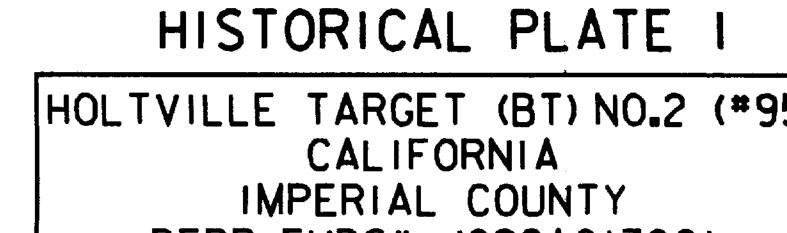


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NAVAL AIR BASES, II N.D. N.A.S. SAN DIEGO, CALIF. STATUS OF TARGETS

SHOWING CONDITIONS ON JUNE 30,1950 SCALE OF MILES

Public Works Officer



DERP-FUDS# J09CA017001

HISTORICAL MAP

PROJ. DATE: MARCH 1996

25-MAR-1996 08:31

DATE OF MAP: 1950

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APPENDIX K

HISTORICAL MAPS / DRAWINGS

APPENDIX L

SITE SAFETY AND HEALTH PLAN/ SITE INSPECTION REPORT

SITE SPECIFIC SAFETY AND HEALTH PLAN (SSHP) OE/CWM Archives Search Site Inspection Visit Holtville Target (BT) No. 2 (95) Imperial County, CA Site #J09CA017001

1. REFERENCES:

a. Safety Manual, CELMS-PM-M, 16 Sep 93 w/ Ch1.

b. SOP for Reporting Ordnance and Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), CELMS-PM-M, 19 Jan 95.

c. OEW Guidance Regarding Coordination with EOD Organizations, 10 Jan 95.

2. GENERAL: This plan prescribes the safety and health requirements for team activities and operations conducted to determine the presence of ordnance and explosive waste and /or chemical warfare materials at the specified site.

a. The Safety Officer has final authority on all matters relating to safety. The safety rules will be followed at all times. Any member of the team may stop operations if they observe a situation or activity which poses a potential hazard to any individual or to the operation. All actions must comply with the common sense rule!

b. All team members will be aware of the local emergency numbers and the location of the nearest telephone.

c. A minimum of two and a maximum of eight persons will be allowed on-site at any one time.

d. The property owner is not required to sign the SSHP, but should be politely asked to participate in the safety briefing.

3. MISSION: Reconnoiter, document, and photograph areas on Holtville Target No. 2 suspected to be contaminated with UXO and/or toxic chemical munitions.

4. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS: All team members will stay within sight of each other while

on site. A first aid kit will be on hand. The following three basic safety rules apply at all times:

a. Rule 1 - Do not touch or pick up anything at the site.

b. Rule 2 - Do not step anywhere you cannot see where you place your foot.

c. Rule 3 - There will be no eating or smoking at the site. Hands will be washed after the survey and prior to eating. Drinking fluids should be done during periodic breaks.

5. SITE COMMUNICATIONS: The primary means of communicating with other team members will be by voice. Team members will always remain within sight of each other. Cellular telephones should be carried to facilitate and expedite calling for emergency medical services.

6. NATURAL HAZARDS: Desert terrain with dry washes and desert plants like cactus. Venomous animals include rattlesnakes, scorpions and spiders.

7. ORDNANCE HAZARDS: Practice bombs, small arms ammunition, 2" projectiles, reported "illumination round and detonator".

8. HAZARD EVALUATION: Estimate the overall hazards using the following guidelines: (check appropriate item)

[] Low (small arms ammunitions)
[X] Moderate (practice bombs with spotting charge)
[] High (high explosive munitions, toxic chemicals, WP)
[X] Unknown

9. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: First aid will be rendered for any injuries. In the event of a detonation, everyone should freeze until the situation can be assessed by the team leader. Unnecessary injuries can be avoided by not panicking and planning a logical course of action, which may include retracing your steps out of an impact area. Emergency medical services will be contacted by the most expeditious means available.

10. SAFETY STATEMENT: Safety is everyone's business. No unnecessary risks will be taken to obtain photos or other data. Team members are responsible for notifying the project Manager or safety Officer of any physical conditions that may impede or prevent their

accomplishment of the mission. An example is allergic reactions to bee stings.

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency medical service: Pioneers Memorial Hospital	911	(619) 351-3333
El Centro Regional Medical	Center	(619) 339-7100
Law enforcement agency: Non-emergency number:	911	(619) 352-2111
Huntsville Safety:	(205) 895-158 (800) 627-353	82/1579 32, PIN 777-2534
Michael Dace, St. Louis District		(314) 331-8036

SSHP reviewed by: ____

HCounts Sally Spec

SSHP Compliance Statement:

I acknowledge that I have read and will comply with the provisions of this SSHP:

Jaile
<u>Ackette Poss</u>
By Bahan
- Ala Dala

MANDATORY MINIMUM SAFETY GEAR

First aid kit (individual)	
Survival kit	
Fire starter	
Space blanket	
Whistle	
Mirror	
Cellular phone	
Flash light	<u></u>
Survey tape	
Canteen	

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SITE SURVEY SAFETY BRIEFING

(check subjects discussed)

Date 21 FEB 96

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Purpose of visit
- Identify key personnel

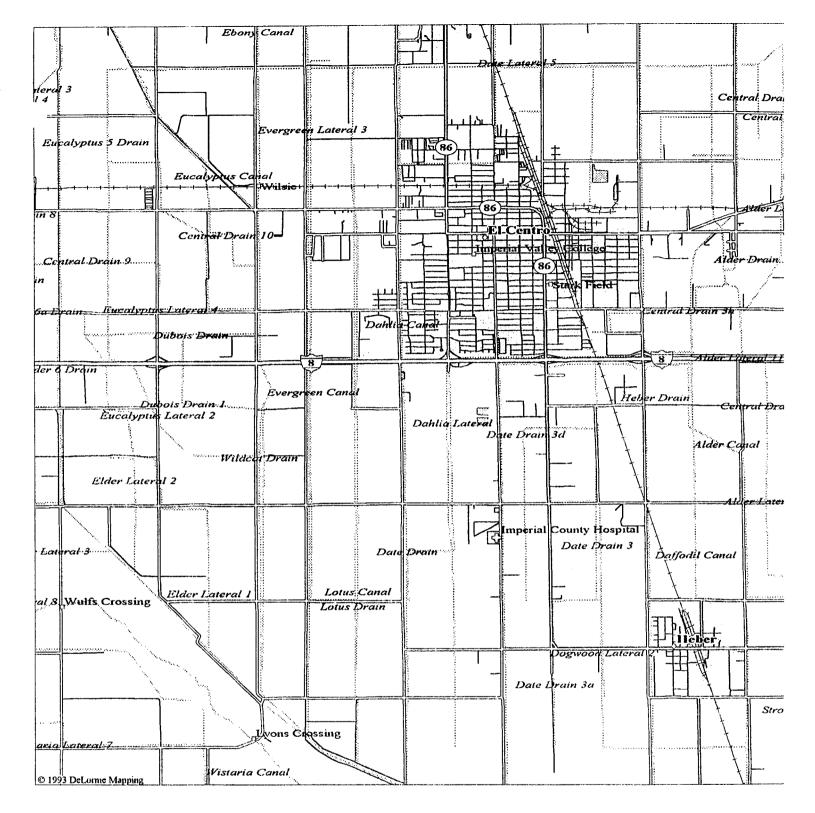
SITE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- Site description/past use
- **Results of previous studies** _____
- Potential site hazards
- _____ OE safety procedures
- Site control and communications
- **Emergency response**
 - () location of first aid kit
 - () emergency phone numbers
 - () map to hospital
 - PPE
- weather precautions
 - () cold/heat
 - () severe weather

Safety Briefing Attendance

All team members and any accompanying personell will be briefed and sign this form:

ORGANIZATION	SIGNATURE
CELMS-PM-M	man
Cams- PM-M	Roo will Gasy
CESPL-ED-MJ	Hy Byh
15/105-DA/R	John Dals
	CELMS-PM-M CELMS-PM-M



LEGEND

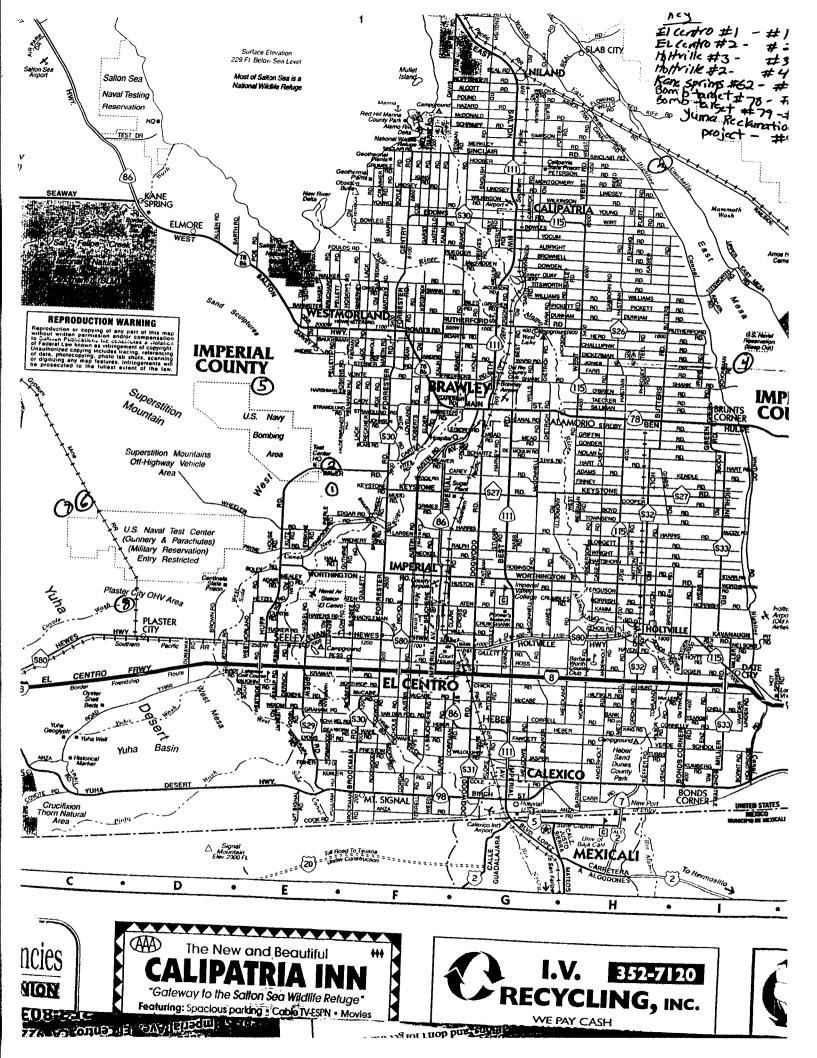
- **Population Center**
- ─ State Route
- Geo Feature
- ◊ Town, Small City
- Hospital خ
- 💭 Interstate, Turnpiko
 - Street, Road
- ----- Hwy Ramps

- Major Street/Rood
- _____ Interstate Highway
- +-++ Railroad
- _____ Airfield
- Open Water

Scale 1:62,500 (at center)

- 1 Miles
- 2 KM

Mag 13.00 Mon Feb 05 11:07:06 1996



SITE INSPECTION REPORT

MEMORANDUM FOR Mike Dace

SUBJECT: Trip Report for Site Visits to Bomb Target #78, Bomb Target #79, Holtville Target #2, Holtville Target #3, Kane Springs SBT #62, Yuma Target Reclamation Project, El Centro Rocket Target Range #1, and El Centro Rocket Target Range #2 during the week of February 19, 1996.

Personnel on the trip: Rochelle Ross (PM-M) Gregg Kocher (PM-M) C. John Daly (PD-R)

Monday, February 19, 1996:

We departed St. Louis, MO and arrived in Yuma, AZ late afternoon. Due to problems with the airline, we stayed in Yuma for the night.

Tuesday, February 20, 1996:

We departed Yuma, AZ and drove to El Centro, CA for our 8:00 am meeting with the Operations Officer for El Centro Naval Air Facility, Chief Warrant Officer Durham. We discussed our plan of action for the week. A portion of a few of our sites are within the Naval Facility's boundaries, flight lines, and/or restricted air space. Because of this, it was necessary to coordinate our site visit with their training schedule. Chief Warrant Officer Durham would call Yuma for their schedule and inform us this afternoon when we can go into Holtville Target #2, southwest of their Target #95, and the Yuma Reclamation Project, south of their Target 103A. We then provided Mr. Fred Rivera, Naval Air Facility, Public Works Department, with our research information and our schedule for site visits. Before we started our site visits, we picked up a radio from Range Control and discussed our site visit schedule with Mr. Al Wilson, Range Control Contract Supervisor.

We began on El Centro Rocket Target Range #1 in the northwest corner of the range and criss-crossed through the area, covering a good portion of the property. We found several pieces of ordnance related items and scrap, including 2-prong electrical connector plugs and nozzle closures for 2.25" and/or 3.25" rocket motors which were scattered throughout the range. The description of these items and their location are:

Description

Tail Boom from a 25-lb practice bomb, MK 76 Tail Tube Assembly from 25-lb. MK 76 Location N 32°55'31.7" W 115°40'24.9" (PG 24020 43613) N 32°5'28.3" W 115°40'30.6" Several scattered MK 76's 20mm Dummy; early 1970's manufacture, cartridge case marked Mk 5 Mod 0 and projectile marked Mk 14 Mod 0 N 32°5'28.3" W 115°40'30.6" N 32°55'17.3" W 115°41'27.6"

After completing El Centro Rocket Target Range #1, we stopped by Range Control where we were given the dates and times we could go into Holtville Target #2 and the Yuma Reclamation Project. We then drove to El Centro Rocket Target Range #2. We began on the southern boundary of the site, made a loop through the area and returned to the jeep after we found a 5" Rocket Warhead and what appeared to be the target center due to the abundance of ordnance debris. The description of items found and their location are:

Description	Location
.50-caliber casing and link	N 32°56'57.8" W 115°40'26.3"
.50-caliber tracer bullet	N 32°57'17.4" W 115°40'47.7"
5" Rocket Warhead, MK 1 series	N 32°57'16.7" W 115°40'56.3"
	(PG 23164 46837)
Possible target center; 3.25" rocket	N 32°55'25.0" W 115°40'58.3"
motor, 2.25" rocket motor, 2.25" target	
rocket, 20mm projectile, TP-T, and scrap	
from 3-lb miniature practice bombs	

We also found, scattered througout the range, 2-prong electrical connector plugs and nozzle closures for 2.25" and/or 3.25" rocket motors. We notified Range Control when we located the 5" Rocket Warhead. We marked this area and the possible target area and provided the GPS location and type of ordnance items found to the Range Control.

Wednesday, February 21, 1996:

Greg Boghossian from the Los Angeles District Corps of Engineers joined us for the day. Our first stop was at Fred Rivera's office where we informed him of yesterday's findings and provided him with Greg's security letter. Mr. Rivera would like a copy of our trip report, maps of our sites, and a copy of the pictures we took. He will receive this information in a few weeks.

We stopped by the Range Control to find out what happened with the ordnance we found on Tuesday and to pick up a radio. Since the employees at the Range Control are contractors and cannot do anything outside of their contract, we contacted Chief Warrant Officer Durham and informed him of the items found the day before. Mr. Al Wilson faxed him a map with the GPS locations. He then would have someone from his office go to the site today. An eastern portion of Holtville Target #2 is within the Navy's current Target #95. Between 10:00 am and 11:00 am, when the target is closed for maintenance, we are allowed to do our site visit. We began our site visit just off of Schoneman Road, criss-crossed through the area, covering a good portion of the property. We found several pieces of ordnance related items and scrap, including 2-prong electrical connector plugs and nozzle closures for 2.25" and/or 3.25" rocket motors scattered throughout the area. The description of these items and their location are:

Description	Location
Box fin from M38 100-lb practice	N 33°1'24.5" W 115°18'32.8"
bomb	
2.25" Target Rocket Motor, 2.25"	N 33°1'28.8" W 115°18'31.1"
diameter, 26" long	
Scrap from M38 100-lb practice bomb	N 33°1'31.0" W 115°18'29.0"
Most likely, the tail section of MK 21	N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"
500-lb practice bomb	
Most likely, the nose section of MK	N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"
21 500-lb practice bomb	
Most likely, the body of MK 21 500-lb	N 33°1'39.2" W 115°18'32.2"
practice bomb	
Lanyard; top disk is 3¾" diameter;	N 33°1'52.3" W 115°18'32.2"
overall diameter is 4¼"; possibly from	
an aircraft flare	
Unidentified stem; possibly part of	unknown location
an aircraft flare or electronic fuze	

On our return to the jeep, we walked through the location of the circular target as identified on the aerial photos. We found scrap from M-38 practice bombs scattered throughout the area.

After we completed the site visit we met with Mr. Chuck Phillips and his daughter, Mrs. Mathews of the Combat Heritage Museum at the former Holtville Army Air Field. A previous phone call led us to believe that he and his daughter had a list of veterans names, information on the base's history, and inert ordnance. Unfortunately, the documents they had were already looked at when we visited the Pioneers Museum in Imperial. There was no other pertinent information available.

We continued on to Holtville Target #3. By the time we reached the site, it was too late to begin the site visit, therefore, we returned to Range Control to turn in the radio. We spoke to Pete, Range Control contract employee, who informed us that the Marine EOD out of Yuma, AZ were called in to detonate the 5" rocket warhead we located the day before. We were also told that there were two detonations, one of the rocket and one of an item located among the scattered ordnance items at the possible target center.

Thursday, February 22, 1996:

We checked in at the Range Control. Mr. Al Wilson informed us that there wouldn't be any training on Target 103A, just north of the Yuma Reclamation Project, between 7:00 am and 11:30 am. Therefore, we could complete the site visit on this site first, Target #78 second, and Target #79 third. Target #78 is within the flight line for the Navy's current Target 103A. If the pilots become nervous about us walking on Target #78, range control would radio us and instruct us to move to Target #79.

After struggling through the sandy wash, we reached the middle of the eastern side of the Yuma Project. We began walking at this point and covered a good sampled portion of the site. We found a few pieces of ordnance related items and scrap. The description of these items and their location are:

Description	Location
.30-caliber bullet, full metal jacket	N 32°50'21.8" 115°53'47.9"
	(PG 03262 33829)
Fragment from M38 100-lb practice bomb	N 32°50'25.6" 115°53'56.3"
	(PG 03043 33946)
25-lb practice bomb, Mk 76, Mod 5,	N 32°50'31.3" 115°54'26.0"
recent vintage	(PG 02269 34113)

We next drove to Bomb Target #78. A jeep trail crosses over the Mining Railroad and through the southern half of the site. From where we parked, we walked north a short distance when we came across what appeared to have been the target area. Scrap from M-38 practice bombs was scattered throughout this area. Also found scattered throughout the area were 2-prong electrical connector plugs and nozzle closures for 2.25" and/or 3.25" rocket motors, .50-caliber casings, .50-caliber armor piercing bullets, and 20mm. The description of other items and their location are:

Description	<u>Location</u>
Scrap from M38 100-lb practice bomb	N 32°55'43.1" 115°55'32.1" (PG 00452 43695)
View of possible target, facing NE, several pieces of scrap from M38 100-lb practice bombs	N 32°55'51.3" 115°55'34.3")
25-lb practice bomb w/o tail boom 3-lb Miniature Practice Bomb, AN/MK 23 Tail Section from unknown item Unidentified item; possible target drone	N 32°55'56.6" 115°55'8.6" unknown location N 32°55'58.0" 115°55'4.6" just SW of N 32°55'58.0" 115°55'4.6"

After completing the site visit on Bomb Target #78, we continued along the jeep trail to the approximate center of Bomb Target #79. The Carizzo Wash runs through a large portion of the site. In this wash is where we located the remains of a 2.25" Rocket (location: N 32°55'7.3" W 115°57'29.9"). We also found a few pieces of HE frag and pieces from an M-38 100-lb practice bomb.

After completing the site visit on Bomb Target #79, we returned to Range Control to turn in the radio.

Friday, February 23, 1996:

Once we picked up a radio from Range Control, we drove to Holtville Target #3. We began our site walk in approximately the center of the northern boundary. We covered a good sampled area of the site while avoiding the heavy vegetation located along the southern side and the middle of the western side. No ordnance related items were discovered on this site.

We traveled to our final site visit, Kane Springs SBT #62. We began walking in the northeast corner and continued south and west through the site. We found several ordnance items, including .50-caliber and 20mm links, .50-caliber and 20mm casings, scrap from M-38 100-lb practice bombs, and .50-caliber bullets. The descriptions and locations of the items found are:

Location Description N 33°04'25.1" W 115°47'52.5" M38 100-lb Practice Bomb (PG 12205 59901) N 33°04'13.9" W 115°48'34.6" 20mm Casing and M8 links from 20mm (PG 11119 59547) N 33°03'50.9" W 115°48'36.7" Concrete blocks from possible target (PG 11073 58834) location

We completed the site visit and returned the radio to Range Control.

Saturday, February 24, 1996: We departed El Centro, CA and returned to St. Louis, MO.

Rochelle Ross

Project Manager

Ma Nal

John Dal Historiar

gg Kocher Safety Officer

APPENDIX M

REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

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ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVES SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)** IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. J09CA017001

APPENDIX M

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REPORT PLATES

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ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVES CHEMICAL WARFARE MATERIALS **ARCHIVE SEARCH REPORT FINDINGS** FOR **HOLTVILLE TARGET (BT) NO. 2 (#95)** IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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REPORT PLATES

PLATE

DESCRIPTION

- 1 LOCATION MAP
- 2 SITE MAP
- 3 LOCATION OF FOUND ORDNANCE
- 4 PHOTO LOCATIONS
- 5 AERIAL PHOTO INTERPRETATION 1949
- 6 AERIAL PHOTO INTERPRETATION 1992

