FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE
SMALL WEAPONS STORAGE AND CLEANING COMPOUND
BUILDING 1378, PARCEL 174(7)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

MARCH 2001

U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES DECISION DOCUMENT

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcel at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.
Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7). A list of background documents for Parcel 174(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 174(7) is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING SITE

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC comprises two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 174(7)

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, ***Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama***, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2001, ***Final Site Investigation Report, Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, March.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000, ***Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summa Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, July.

IT Corporation (IT), 1998, ***Final Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan Attachment for the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama,*** November.

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), 1998, ***Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama,*** July.

Main Post, which comprises 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which comprises 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

The Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), is located in the northwest part of the Main Post on 5th Street (Figure 1). The compound was built in 1978 and was originally used for boat storage, but was redesigned for weapons cleaning in the late 1980s. The site consists of three storage buildings: a small corrugated iron shed (Building 1376), a small flammable and hazardous materials storage building (Building 1377), and a boat shed (Building 1378). The approximately 1-acre compound is covered with gravel, the entire area is fenced, and access is restricted (Figure 1). The site is managed by the Alabama Army National Guard.

The small flammable and hazardous materials storage building is located in the northwest portion of the compound. Small quantities of hazardous materials (lubricants) were stored in the building in quantities reportedly below CERCLA reportable quanitities. A small storage shed is located in the southwest part of the compound and was kept locked at all times. Small-caliber weapons were stripped and cleaned on tables were temporarily placed in Building 1378. Weapons were not cleaned anywhere else within the compound. Weapons were cleaned using Safety Kleen™ solution. The chemicals used for cleaning activities were stored in the locked corrugated iron shed on site. A subcontractor for the Army (Safety Kleen, Inc.) disposed of used chemicals. Although the environmental baseline survey states that small-caliber weapons were stored at the site, evidence during a site visit and communication with Alabama National Guard site personnel indicate that buildings at the site are not used for weapons storage. There have not been any reported releases at the site (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. [ESE], 1998).

Site elevation at the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), is approximately 750 feet above mean sea level. Surface drainage at the site follows the topography and flows to the west-northwest into man-made surface drainage features along the northern and western boundaries of the site.

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT McCLELLAN

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library
Reference Section
Anniston, Alabama 36201
Point of contact: Ms. Sunny Addison
Telephone: (256) 237-8501
Fax: (256) 238-0474
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library
9th Floor
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265
Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249
Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (ESE, 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. The Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), was categorized as a CERFA Category 7 parcel. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 174(7) is recategorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred, but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response.

SITE INVESTIGATION

A SI was conducted at the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Four surface soil samples, one depositional soil sample, four subsurface soil samples, two groundwater samples, two surface water samples, and two sediment samples were collected at the site (Figure 1). Surface and depositional soil samples were collected from the upper 1 foot of soil; subsurface soil samples were collected at depths greater than 1 foot below ground surface. Groundwater samples were collected from two temporary monitoring wells installed at the site during the SI. Surface water and sediment were collected from

man-made drainage features associated with the parcel.

Chemical analyses of samples included metals, volatile organic compounds (VOC), and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC). In addition, sediment samples were analyzed for total organic carbon and grain size. To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening values (ESV) for FTMC. The SSSLs and ESVs were developed by IT for human health and ecological risk evaluations as part of the ongoing SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally, metal concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs were compared to media-specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation [SAIC], 1998) and SVOC concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs in surface and depositional soils were compared to polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) background screening values (IT, 2000).

The potential threat to human receptors is expected to be low. Although the site is projected to be transferred to the Alabama National Guard Army, the soils and groundwater data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for possible unrestricted land reuse. In soils, the concentrations of aluminum (in two subsurface soil samples), arsenic (two surface/depositional soil samples), and iron (two surface/depositional soil samples) exceeded SSSLs and their respective background concentrations. In groundwater, the concentrations of manganese and iron at both sample locations exceeded SSSLs and their respective background concentrations. However, the concentrations of these metals were within the range of background values determined by SAIC (1998) and do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health. The PAH benzo(a)pyrene was detected in four surface/depositional soil samples at concentrations exceeding the SSSL but below the PAH background value. VOC concentrations in site media were below SSSLs.

Five metals (arsenic, iron, selenium, silver and zinc) were detected in site media at concentrations exceeding ESVs and their respective background concentrations. However, with the exception of silver and selenium in surface/depositional soils, the concentrations of these metals were within the range of background values determined by SAIC (1998). Three PAH compounds were detected in surface/depositional soil samples at concentrations exceeding ESVs but below PAH background values. The site is located within a well-developed area of the main post, consisting of buildings, gravel-covered areas, and roads, interspersed with limited grassy areas. Viable ecological habitat is presently limited and is not expected to increase in the future land use scenario. Based on the low levels of metals, VOCs, and SVOCs detected and the future land use of this site, the potential threat to ecological receptors is expected to be low.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7).

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 174(7). No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media at the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7), do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Furthermore, Parcel 174(7) is recategorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred, but a concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. The U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(3) (formerly Parcel 174[7]).

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	$0
Present Worth Cost:	$0

Months to Implement: None
Remedial Duration: None.

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DECLARATION

Remedial action is unnecessary at the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(7). The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land-use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Parcel 174(7) is recategorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred, but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Small Weapons Storage and Cleaning Compound, Building 1378, Parcel 174(3) (formerly Parcel 174[7]).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

Mr. Ron Levy
Fort McClellan BRAC
Environmental Coordinator
Tel: (256) 848-3539

ACRONYMS

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon
SAIC	Science Applications International Corporation
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
VOC	volatile organic compound

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Approved by:

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Site Manager
Fort McClellan, Alabama

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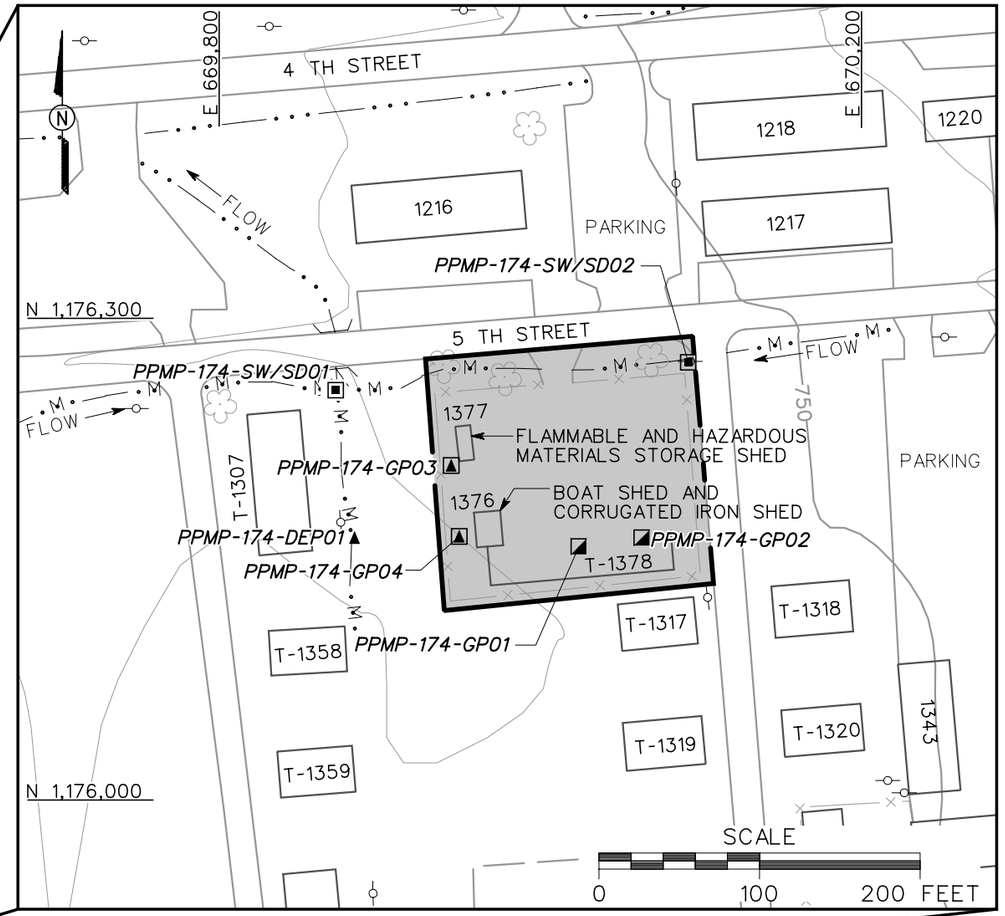

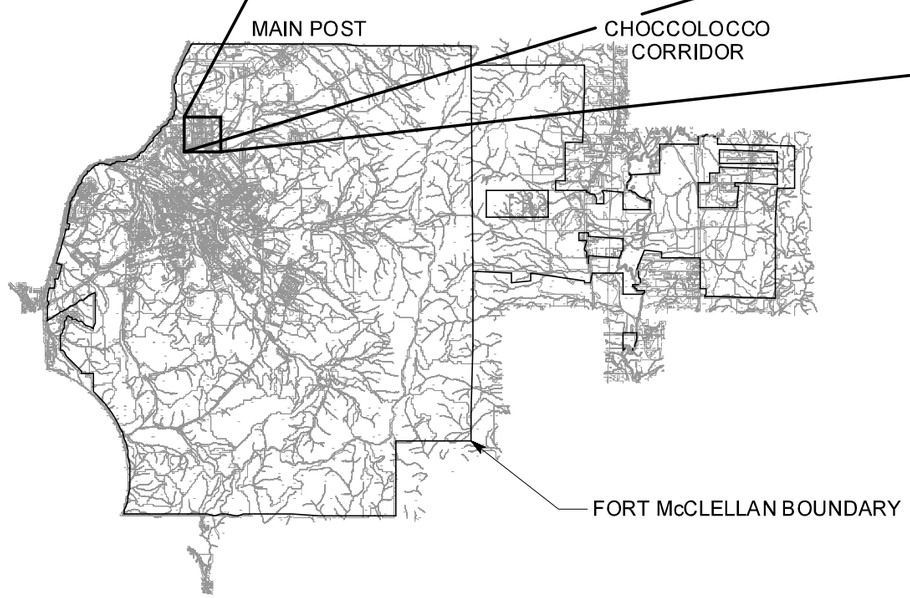

LEGEND

- UNIMPROVED ROADS AND PARKING
- PAVED ROADS AND PARKING
- BUILDING
- TOPOGRAHPIC CONTOURS (CONTOUR INTERVAL - 5 FOOT)
- TREES / TREELINE
- PARCEL BOUNDARY
- CULVERT WITH HEADWALL
- SURFACE DRAINAGE / CREEK
- MANMADE SURFACE DRAINAGE FEATURE
- FENCE
- UTILITY POLE
- SURFACE WATER/SEDIMENT SAMPLE LOCATION
- SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION
- GROUNDWATER, SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION
- DEPOSITIONAL SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION

FIGURE 1
SITE MAP
SMALL WEAPONS STORAGE AND CLEANING COMPOUND, BUILDING 1378
PARCEL 174(7)

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MOBILE DISTRICT
FORT McCLELLAN
CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA
Contract No. DACA21-96-D-0018

IT CORPORATION
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