FINAL DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE FORMER PRINTING PLANT, BUILDING 143 BASEMENT, PARCEL 138(7) AND THE UST AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, BUILDING 143, PARCEL 37(7) FORT MCCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

OCTOBER 2000

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 Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), and the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(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 (EPA) 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 Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), and the underground storage tank (UST) closure assessment for the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(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 Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), and the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(7). A list of background documents for Parcels 138(7) and 37(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcels 138(7) and 37(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.

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCELS 138(7) and 37(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), 2000a, ***Final Site Investigation Report, Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7) and the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, October.

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

IT Corporation (IT), 1999, ***Final Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan and Site-Specific Safety and Health Plan Attachments for Underground Storage Tank Closure Assessments, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, September.

IT Corporation (IT), 1998, ***Final Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan Attachment for Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama,*** December.

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

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 is comprised of 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 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 Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, is located in the central part of the Main Post (Figure 1). Printing operations began at an unknown time and ended in 1969. No evidence remains of printing operations at this location (ESE, 1998). There are no sinks and/or floor drains in the basement. Potential printing materials used at the facility may have included petroleum hydrocarbons, printing fluids, solvents (including tetrachloroethene and petroleum naphtha), metals, and inks. The study area in and around Building 143 covers approximately 1 acre. The site and surrounding area is well developed. The buildings that were previously used for the Post Headquarters, Military Police Station, Personnel Office, and other administrative activities surround the study site. With base closure in September 1999, these activities stopped and the buildings were vacated.

A vaulted 4,000-gallon heating oil UST, Parcel 37(7), abutts Building 143 (Figure 1). The UST was installed in 1996 to replace a UST which was removed at that time (IT, 1998). According to the closure report prepared by Theta Technologies, Inc., product odor was not detected within the excavation and the removed tank appeared to be in good condition (IT, 1999). The depth to

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES FOR FORT MCCLELLAN

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library
Reference Section
Anniston, Alabama 36201
Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison
Tele: (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.

groundwater was estimated to be greater than 5 feet below the bottom of the tank when the tank excavation pit was extended an additional 5 feet in an attempt to verify depth to groundwater. Soil samples were collected and screened for organic vapors; no evidence of contamination was observed. Groundwater samples were not collected. The excavated soil was returned to the open tank hold upon completion of the tank removal. Presently, two shallow wells are located adjacent to the UST. The purpose of the wells is unknown but may be for leak detection monitoring. Well construction details for the two wells are not available and records for the two wells were not found at FTMC. Inspection of the wells during field investigations indicated that both wells have screens within 1 to 3.5 feet below ground surface (bgs).

Site elevation is approximately 790 to 795 feet above sea level as established by the National Geodetic Vertical Datum. The South Branch of Cane Creek is located at least 600 feet to the northeast of the site, while Remount Creek is located at least 1,250 feet west of the site. There are numerous subsurface structures, such as sanitary or storm sewers, adjacent to Building 143.

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 Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7),

and CERFA Qualified Parcels. The Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138 and the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37, was categorized as a CERFA Category 7 parcel. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

SITE INVESTIGATION

An SI was conducted at the Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), and a UST closure assessment was conducted for the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(7), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that would present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT, 2000a).

Four surface soil samples, seven subsurface soil samples, and two groundwater samples were collected at the site. Surface 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 permanent groundwater monitoring wells. Two shallow wells were previously installed during past UST replacement activities and one additional well was installed at the site during the UST closure assessment. One of the two existing wells did not contain groundwater and no sample was collected. Samples associated with the SI at Parcel 138(7) were analyzed for target analyte list (TAL) metals, target compound list (TCL) volatile organic compounds (VOC), and TCL semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC). Samples from the UST closure assessment at Parcel 37(7) were analyzed for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and total xylenes (BTEX), polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and lead.

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 (IT, 2000b). The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with site investigations 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 (SAIC, 1998), and SVOC concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs in surface and depositional soils were compared to polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) background screening values developed for FTMC (IT, 2000b).

Consistent with the anticipated reuse for Parcels 138(7) and 37(7), the analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for possible unrestricted future land use. The potential impact to human receptors is expected to be minimal. With the exception of chromium and iron in one subsurface soil sample, the metals concentrations that exceeded residential human health SSSLs were within background concentrations for all other samples and thus, do not pose an unacceptable risk to future human receptors. The concentration of benzo(a)pyrene exceeded the residential human health SSSL and were below the PAH background level at two surface soil sample locations. However, benzo(a)pyrene is a constituent of both asphalt and heating oil (which was used at the Former Printing Plant, Building 143). The compound was not detected in any of the collected subsurface samples, indicating that these sample locations may have been influenced by runoff from nearby asphalt. Given the limited impacted area, benzo(a)pyrene is not expected to pose an unacceptable risk to human health in the residential land use scenario. The concentrations of 1,4-dichlorobenzene, a compound usually used as an insecticide and 4-methylphenol, a compound usually used in manufacturing and metal parts cleaning exceeded residential human health SSSLs in one of the two groundwater samples. The groundwater sampled from the well likely represents surface water runoff that accumulated in backfill material from a removed underground storage tank. While it is possible that 1,4-dichlorobenzene and 4-methylphenol could have been used at Building 143, it was not detected in any surface or

subsurface soil samples. Because the sampled well will not serve as a potable water source, the potential for human exposure is expected to be extremely low.

Several metals and four SVOCs were detected in site media at concentrations exceeding ESVs; however, the potential impact to ecological receptors is expected to be minimal. This is based on the limited impacted area and the future land use of the Former Printing Plant, Building 143, which is expected to be residential according to the *Fort McClellan Comprehensive Reuse Plan* (November 1997). Under this land use scenario, substantial ecological habitat is not expected to be present and, consequently, is expected to be minimally impacted.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), and the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(7).

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcels 138(7) and 37(7). No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and organic compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted future land use with regard to hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW) activities. The U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), and the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(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

DECLARATION

Further remedial action is unnecessary at the Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), and the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(7). The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with federal and state regulations that are legally applicable or relevant and appropriate to this remedial action, 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 to exposure. The site is released for unrestricted future land use with regard to HTRW activities. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Former Printing Plant, Building 143 Basement, Parcel 138(7), and the UST at the Administrative Building, Building 143, Parcel 37(7).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

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

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ACRONYMS

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
BTEX	benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and total xylenes
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
HTRW	hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste
mg/kg	milligrams per kilogram
PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon
SAIC	Science Applications International Corporation
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
TAL	target analyte list
TCL	target compound list
UST	underground storage tank
VOC	volatile organic compound

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