

**FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE
FORMER PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT DECONTAMINATION STATION,
PARCEL 206(7)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

MARCH 2002

**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 Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(7), at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. Parcel 206(7) is located on Pelham Range, as shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision with regard to hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW). Issues related to unexploded ordnance (UXO) may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army.

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 consists 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 Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(7), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. 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 Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(7). A list of background documents for Parcel 206(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 206(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 PARCEL 206(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), 2002, *Final Site Investigation Report, Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, March.

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

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

U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine (CHPPM), 1999, *Draft Preliminary Assessment No. 38-EH-1775-99, Fort McClellan Army National Guard Training Center, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, June.

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 consists 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 occupies 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 occupies 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 Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(7), is located in the north-central portion of Pelham Range (Figure 1). The site was reportedly used during the 1950s and 1960s as a decontamination area for outer garments and equipment potentially contaminated by mustard, distilled mustard, and lewisite. According to the environmental baseline survey (EBS), the equipment and outer garments were decontaminated using supertropical bleach (STB), decontamination agent (noncorrosive) (DANC), and/or decontamination solution number two (DS2) (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. [ESE], 1998).

An individual interviewed during the EBS reported that the Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station was a secondary decontamination station and

stated that only soap and water were used at this site (U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine [CHPPM], 1999). The individual also reported that outer garments and equipment were decontaminated at an area near Rideout Hall prior to moving personnel and equipment to the Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station. The interview notes contained in the EBS do not provide information indicating the use of STB, DANC, and/or DS2 at this site. During the interview, the only chemical agent referred to in conjunction with this site was lewisite (CHPPM, 1999).

Parcel 206(7) is approximately 3 acres in size (Figure 1). A small pond (approximately one-half acre) is located in the northern portion of the parcel. Smoke pots were floated on the pond

**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.

during training exercises, and some unburned smoke pots were reportedly disposed of in the pond (CHPPM, 1999).

**SCOPE AND ROLE OF
PARCEL**

Information developed from the EBS 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.

Parcel 206(7) was categorized as a CERFA Category 7 parcel in the EBS. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or that require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 206(7) is re-categorized 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

IT Corporation completed an SI at the Former Personnel and

Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(7), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT, 2002). Environmental sampling conducted during the SI consisted of collecting three surface soil samples, two depositional soil samples, three subsurface soil samples, three surface water samples, and one sediment sample.

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. Surface water

and sediment samples were collected from the pond in the northern part of the parcel. Samples were analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds, semivolatile organic compounds, explosives, and chemical warfare material breakdown products.

To evaluate whether detected constituents pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL), ecological screening values (ESV), and background screening values for FTMC. The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. In addition, a preliminary risk assessment was performed to further characterize the potential threat to human health.

Although the Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(7), is under control of the Alabama Army National Guard and is projected for continued use in military training operations, the SI analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for unrestricted land reuse. The preliminary risk assessment concluded that exposure to site media is unlikely to pose an unacceptable threat to human health in either the proposed reuse scenario or the residential (i.e., unrestricted) reuse scenario.

Four metals (antimony, barium, beryllium, and copper) in surface soils and one polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) compound (benzo[a]pyrene) in the sediment sample were identified as constituents of potential ecological concern at the site. The metals exceedances, however, were within the same order of magnitude as their respective ESVs and/or background concentrations, except for one estimated barium result (364 milligrams per kilogram [mg/kg]) that exceeded its ESV (165 mg/kg) and upper background range (288 mg/kg). Barium concentrations in all other soil samples were below background. Similarly, benzo(a)pyrene was detected at an estimated concentration (0.42 mg/kg) marginally exceeding its ESV (0.33 mg/kg) in the sediment sample. Given the conservatism inherent in the ESVs and the relatively small magnitude of the exceedances, the aforementioned metals and the PAH compound are not expected to pose a significant threat to ecological receptors.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(7).

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 206(7). No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human

health and the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army.

Furthermore, Parcel 206(7) is re-categorized 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. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. With regard to HTRW, the U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(3) (formerly Parcel 206[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

Remedial action is unnecessary at the Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(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 with regard to HTRW.

UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Former Personnel and Equipment Decontamination Station, Parcel 206(3) (formerly Parcel 206[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
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
CHPPM	U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine
DANC	decontamination agent (noncorrosive)
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
DS2	decontamination solution number two
EBS	environmental baseline survey
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
HTRW	hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste
IT	IT Corporation
mg/kg	milligrams per kilogram
PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
STB	supertropical bleach
UXO	unexploded ordnance

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