

C. INSTALLATION SUMMARY

This section provides a brief summary of the history of Fort McClellan and a summary of the data collection portion of the CTT inventory for the BRAC and non-FUDS transferred property, including the types of records reviewed and personnel contacted.

Installation Overview and Description

Fort McClellan [Federal Facility Identification (FFID): AL213720187] is in Calhoun County, adjacent to the City of Anniston, in east central Alabama. It is cupped within the curve of the south end of Choccolocco Mountain, a ridge that forms an ideal backstop for artillery and other projectile weapons fire.

When active, Fort McClellan consisted of three land units:

- Main Post, which includes the cantonment and a large number of training ranges, and covers 18,929 acres;
- The Choccolocco Corridor, an irregularly shaped, 4,488-acre area leased from the state of Alabama that linked the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest; and
- Pelham Range, a roughly square 22,245-acre area 6 miles west of the Main Post that contains numerous artillery ranges and maneuver areas.

This inventory addresses Fort McClellan and the Choccolocco Corridor, covering an area of 23,417 acres. Pelham Range was transferred to the Alabama National Guard as part of the 1995 BRAC round, and has been addressed by a separate range inventory. The lease on the Choccolocco Corridor was not renewed, and the land reverted to state ownership in 1998.

Fort McClellan, first used for military purposes in 1898, was included in the 1995 BRAC round, and was officially closed in 1999. During its long history, it was used for artillery and infantry training, and to train troops for chemical and biological warfare. It has over 100 known ranges or sites.

Fort McClellan was informally established in 1898, when parts of what is now the Main Post were used by the Alabama National Guard for artillery training for the Spanish American War. The Alabama Guard used the Choccolocco Mountains as a backstop for artillery fire.

The first formal military use of the area began when the Alabama National Guard used the area for artillery training and as a maneuver area between 1912 and 1916. President Wilson authorized the creation of the 1,160-acre Anniston Field Artillery Range in 1915. Congress authorized the creation of Camp McClellan in 1917 and purchased an additional 17,837 acres to bring the total to 18,997 acres.

Camp McClellan began training troops for World War I in July 1917. Ordnance used included rifle grenades; 37mm (1 pounder), 75mm (3-in.), and 155mm (6-in.) howitzers; 3 in. and 6-in. Stokes mortars; heavy machine guns; and other small arms. Artillery firing points and troop drill areas coincided during this period. Troops may also have been trained in chemical warfare techniques during this time.

Camp McClellan was largely inactive in the early post-war years, but began to be used for unit training in the early 1920s. In 1929 it was made a permanent installation and was officially renamed Fort McClellan. Units stationed at Fort McClellan during this time included anti-aircraft artillery brigades, a tank company, artillery units, and infantry units. Ordnance used during the inter-war period include small arms (rifle and pistol); 37mm, 75mm, and 155mm artillery; 3-in. Stokes mortars; and tank guns (tube size unknown). Chemical warfare munitions stored and used at the installation between 1922 and 1940 included tear gas grenades and candles, white phosphorous (WP) grenades, smoke grenades, and gas identification sets.

Fort McClellan was a major troop training and indoctrination center during World War II, but was deactivated in 1947. Artillery training shifted to the more isolated Pelham Range after it was purchased in 1941–1942. Nevertheless, weapons used at the Main Post during World War II included small arms, hand and rifle grenades, 37mm and 57mm antitank guns, 2.36-in. rockets, and 60mm and 81mm mortars. Troop training was carried out on maneuver ranges, infiltration courses, and in mocked-up villages. Chemical warfare munitions were not heavily used at Fort McClellan during the World War II era, and only two gas chambers were used.

Fort McClellan was placed in inactive (custodial) status in 1947, but was reactivated in January 1951. It remained active from then until closure in 1999. The primary mission of Fort McClellan between 1951 and 1962 was to host the Chemical Corps Training Command, including the Chemical Corps School. The Women's Army Corps Center was also located at Fort McClellan in 1951. In 1962, the Army Combat Developments Command Chemical Biological-Radiological Agency relocated to Fort McClellan. An Infantry Advance Individual Training unit was activated in 1966 to supply troop training for the Vietnam War.

The Chemical Corps School closed in 1973, as did the Army Combat Developments Command Chemical Biological-Radiological Agency. The Women's Army Corps was disestablished in 1978. The Military Police School moved to Fort McClellan, and the Army Chemical Corps School was reestablished at Fort McClellan in 1979. A basic training mission was also established at Fort McClellan in 1979.

Ordnance and munitions used at Fort McClellan between 1951 and closure in 1999 include small arms; 60mm and 81mm mortars; 2.36-in. rockets (bazookas); and hand, 40mm, and rifle grenades. Additionally, infiltration, military operations in urban terrain (MOUTs), and maneuver and training ranges (including four maneuver ranges in the Choccolocco Corridor) were in use during this period. Chemical

warfare training included mustard, phosgene, tear, chlorine, and Lewisite gases; VX, GB, BZ, HD, H, CK, CG, CS, and AC agents; WP; various smokes and smoke generators; flamethrowers, napalm mines, and fougasses; and flares, igniters, and conventional explosives. Twenty-one biological warfare tests were carried out in 1952 using *Serriata marcesens* (SM) and *Bacillus globigil* (BG) organisms.

Over the century or so of its history, Fort McClellan developed and redeveloped over 100 ranges, training areas, and maneuver areas. Most firing ranges have their firing points northeast, east, or south of the cantonment area and are oriented to fire against the west side of Choccolocco Mountain. Choccolocco Mountain is a serrated ridge that trends north-south where it enters Fort McClellan, then turns west in a sweeping curve along the southern boundary of the installation. Choccolocco Mountain, with elevations of over 1,800 ft (about 1,000 ft above the cantonment area), makes an excellent backstop for weapons fire. As a result, Fort McClellan possesses a confusing welter of ranges with overlapping fans and sharing common impact areas along Choccolocco Mountain.

From World War II onward, firing points and ranges were concentrated in four general areas. Defendum Area ranges, located in the north-central part of the Main Post, were oriented to fire south and south-southeast. The Bandholtz Area was southeast of the cantonment area, and fired generally southeastward. The Washington Area was located in the west central part of the Main Post, and fired generally eastward. Finally, the Choccolocco firing ranges in the northwest corner of the Choccolocco Corridor were oriented to fire west against the east flank of Choccolocco Mountain.

Fort McClellan's IRP is designed to address both hazardous and petroleum chemical contaminants and munitions. The IRP recognized that the large array of overlapping ranges at Fort McClellan cannot be dealt with piecemeal. The installation BRAC environmental staff have therefore structured the IRP, as it addresses munitions, to cover large areas, rather than discrete ranges, and addresses UXO-DMM-MC in each area using the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) process. Each EE/CA area has a separate DSERTS number, as listed in Table C-1. The major EE/CA areas are shown on Figure C-1.

BRAC land transfers have been to DoD (Alabama National Guard), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), State of Alabama, the Joint Powers Authority (the local redevelopment agency), and private concerns. Much of the cantonment and a large area along the south side of the Main Post, as well as the Choccolocco Corridor, have transferred.

The Alabama National Guard has assumed ownership of 290 acres in the cantonment area of the Main Post, in addition to complete ownership of Pelham Range. Within the 290 acres on the Main Post are six active ranges, including one at Trench Hill near the north end of the cantonment, and the other at a MOUT site in the north-central part of the Main Post. Visiting Guard troops are allowed to conduct

Table C-1: Munitions-Related DSERTS Areas at Fort McClellan, Alabama

EE/CA	DSERTS No	Location	Status
Alpha	FTMC-244	Area immediately east of the cantonment. This area is expected to be the first to be used for industrial development, and is thus first to enter the EE/CA process.	EE/CA Report is in final draft, Fort McClellan is responding to state and public comments. Draft Action Memorandum in preparation.
Bravo	FTMC-245	Area immediately south and southeast of the cantonment. Area is planned for industrial development after the Alpha area.	Draft EE/CA is in preparation.
Charlie	FTMC-242	Area covered is roughly the eastern third of the Main Post, and includes noncontiguous range areas in the Choccolocco Corridor.	Draft EE/CA is in preparation. This Army-owned portion of Charlie EE/CA area transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in June 2003.
CWM Ranges	FTMC-246	Addresses all chemical and biological warfare ranges.	EE/CA completed, response complete [no further action (NFA)]
Eastern Bypass OES 1, 2, and 3	FTMC-240	Corridor extending from south boundary of installation north and west to western boundary of Main Post.	Completed field removals, removal report is in preparation.
Historic Small Arms Ranges	FTMC-144	Addresses lead/metals contamination on small arms ranges used in past.	Slated for future action (HTRW).
M1.01 Area	FTMC-241	Area adjacent to west boundary of Main Post and the M2 area.	EE/CA is complete, letter of clearance issued 17 April 2003; Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) is in preparation .
M2 Area	FTMC-241	Area adjacent to west boundary of Main Post and to land transferred to city of Anniston in 1978.	EE/CA is complete. Tract sold to private firm 6 February 2001.
Sandell Flamethrower Range	FTMC-068	Addresses EE/CA for former flamethrower range located beside 11 th Avenue on the southern end of the cantonment area.	Response complete (NFA approved 12 October 2001). Pending transfer.
Small Arms Ranges	FTMC-140	Addresses lead/metals contamination on small arms ranges in use at time of BRAC closure, including those on Bains Gap Road, Baby Bains Gap Road, Iron Mountain Road, Parcels 103Q and 88Q, and near Training Area T-24A.	Slated for future action [Hazardous, Toxic, and Radiological Waste (HTRW)].

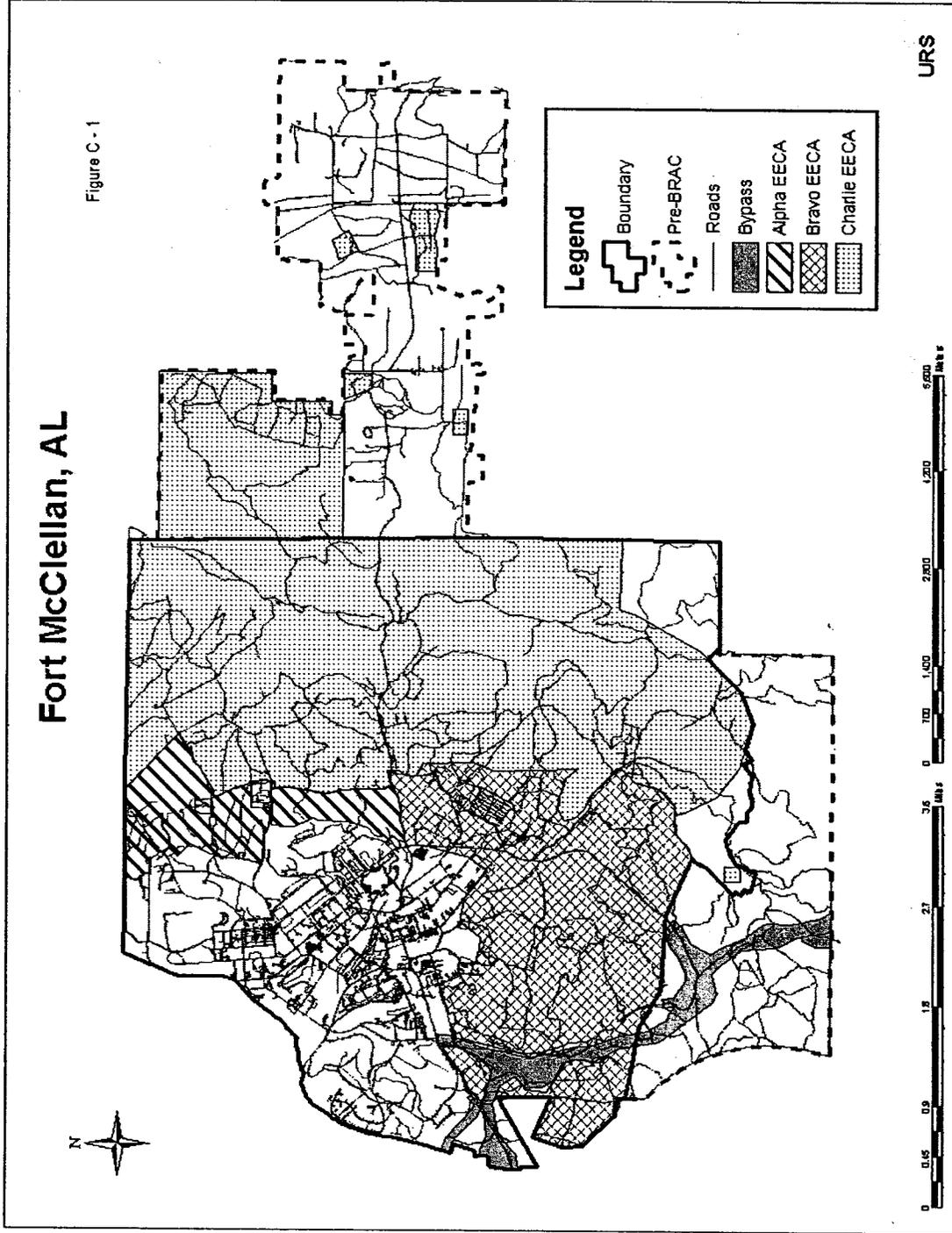


Figure C-1. Major EE/CA Areas

exercises using pyrotechnics, simulators, and blank small arms ammunition at these sites. Additionally, a small area within this 290-acre National Guard site is used as a bivouac area for visiting troops, and another area is used as a helicopter landing zone.

All EE/CA projects include UXO-DMM-MC in their CTC because this is a BRAC facility, and land control is expected to eventually pass out of DoD control.

It should also be noted here that the Archives Search Report (ASR) mentions that the Choccolocco Corridor, leased from the state of Alabama during World War II, was used by troops moving from the Main Post to the Talladega National Forest. No detail of this use was presented in the ASR; however, a brief history of Fort McClellan (copy included in Army ASR, 1942) notes that the Choccolocco Corridor was acquired from the State of Alabama for use by troops transiting from the Main Post to the Talladega National Forest for training because it had every kind of terrain likely to be encountered by troops in World War II. The Army (1942) goes on to state that basic training was increased from 10 weeks to "17 weeks with the utilization of Talladega National Forest." The Talladega National Forest historian and archaeologist were questioned on use of the area by troops. They were unaware that the Talladega National Forest had been used by troops, and further stated that no UXO-DMM or military gear or equipment had ever been found in the forest. It is possible that the national forest was used for maneuver and bivouac without weapons or firing exercises.

Contractor Team Composition

The CTT inventory team for Fort McClellan was represented by URS. The CTT inventory team leader for Fort McClellan was Mr. Christopher Wieland. Team members included Mr. Matt Weakley, Mrs. Susie Brooks, and Mr. Brent Collier.

Installation Points of Contact

The primary CTT inventory point of contact for Fort McClellan was Mr. Ronald M. Levy, BRAC Environmental Coordinator. His address and contact information is:

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Nature of Data Collection and Coordination

Specific records and maps reviewed are listed in the document log (see Section I).

Summary of Critical Data Sources

The CTT inventory team, with the assistance of Mr. Paul James, had access to many installation documents and maps. The ASR Conclusions and Recommendations and the various ASR maps served as the primary references for range identification. Numerous geographic information system (GIS) files containing range fans were obtained; however, many of the fans/files were not labeled so that the ranges could be clearly identified. Therefore, the ASR maps and interviews with installation personnel were used as the primary references for range identification and placement. The GIS files were used as secondary information to confirm range placement or identify ranges not included on the ASR maps.