



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

Wilmington District

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## **Camp Butner Area 4C clean up yields crop of unexploded ordnance in back yards**

**BUTNER, North Carolina**—The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' continuing clean up of unexploded ordnance on the former Camp Butner military reservation has been yielding some major ordnance finds on local properties. The finds began on Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, when the Corps' contractor, USA Environmental, found a 105 mm projectile as they were searching a home site.

The Corps is conducting a clean up on Area 4C of the former Camp Butner military installation, where infantry and other soldiers trained during World War II. Area 4C encompasses a 126-acre tract of land along Uzzle Road that was once used for artillery training. Work in this area started in April 2007 and after an interruption this summer, re-started on October 22, 2007. The project is expected to continue through the end of this year.

"The current part of the project involves investigating the area immediately around residences to detect and remove any potential ordnance items associated with the former military installation" said Bob Keistler, the Formerly Used Defense Site Project Manager for the Wilmington District.

The weeks following the initial 105 mm round discovery have seen the unearthing and detonation or removal of several more ordnance items, including a 155 mm artillery round that weighed more than 80 pounds, a 37 mm shell, and an 81 mm mortar. In April, workers discovered a hand grenade and 2.36" practice rocket.

"All these finds have been handled safely and successfully. Property has been protected, and members of the household have been offered accommodations during the clean up and removal if they need it," Keistler said. "We encourage all homeowners who have been contacted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but have not yet granted rights of entry to check their property for unexploded ordnance to reconsider and take advantage of the opportunity to allow for this important safety measure."

Keistler emphasized, as always, that anyone in the former Camp Butner area who encounters something that looks like it could be a potentially explosive object should not touch the object, but should rather leave a marker near it so that it can be relocated, and report it immediately to local law enforcement authorities.

For more information about the Camp Butner Formerly Used Defense Site Project, visit [www.saw.usace.army.mil](http://www.saw.usace.army.mil) and choose the "Hot Topics" link to the Camp Butner Project.

***Photos are available. To get jpeg files of photos, please contact Penny Schmitt at 910-251-4626 or email [penny.schmitt@usace.army.mil](mailto:penny.schmitt@usace.army.mil)***