US Army Corps of Engineers
Honolulu District

Heeia Combat Training Area

Oahu, Hawaii

August 2011

FACT SHEET

Under the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) program, the Department of Defense (DoD) cleans up DoD-generated contamination at properties formerly owned, leased, possessed, or used by the United States. Only properties transferred from DoD control before 17 October 1986 are eligible for inclusion in the FUDS program. These properties can range from privately-owned residential property to National Parks. A major component of the FUDS program in Hawaii is the military munitions response program (MMRP). MMRP response actions address munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) or munitions constituents (MC) at a FUDS property. MEC includes unexploded ordnance (UXO), discarded military munitions, and MC present in high enough concentrations to pose an explosive hazard, and are considered a safety hazard that present a serious danger to human health MC are chemical components of munitions that may have been released into the environment.

Background

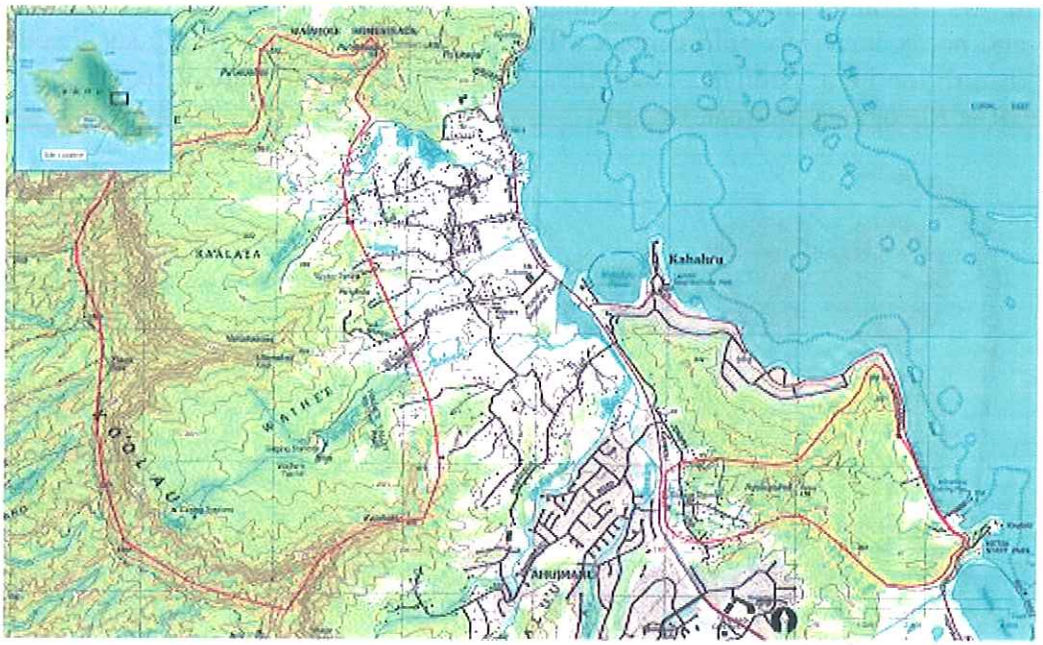
Heeia Combat Training Area, also known as Heeia Regimental Combat Training Area, Heeia Training Camp and Areas, Heeia Training Camp, and Heeia Range, is located on the eastern side of the island of Oahu, Hawaii at Heeia Kea and Kahaluu (Waihee and Kaalaea Valleys) in the District of Koolaupoko.

The Heeia Combat Training Area consisted of two non-contiguous parcels (Kahaluu parcel to the west and Heeia Kea parcel to the east) comprising approximately 2,458 acres acquired in 1943 by lease or license with the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Estate, Sing Chong Company, Ltd., and numerous other private land owners.

An encampment supporting as many as 4,500 enlisted personnel and officers of the 98th Regimental Combat Team was constructed at the Heeia Kea parcel in October 1943. Site improvements included barracks, roads, a mess hall, an open air theater, a motor pool, ammunition storage facilities, pistol and rifle firing ranges, hand grenade ranges, and obstacle and bayonet courses.

The Kahaluu parcel was utilized as maneuver and impact areas for jungle and assault training.

Following the end of World War II, the camp was dismantled, the impact area was cleared of ordnance, and land leases were terminated by the Army after October 1945.



Previous Investigations

In 1989, several M9A1 practice rifle grenades and M7A1 bazooka rounds were discovered at the Heeia Kea parcel during an archaeological survey and ordnance investigation of the site.

An Engineering Evaluation/ Cost Analysis (EE/CA) completed in June 2008 performed a qualitative risk evaluation to determine the

most appropriate munitions response action for the site. No munitions and explosives of concerns (MEC) were found at either the Heeia Kea site or the Kahaluu site. However, munition debris (MD) indicating practice and live ordnance use as discovered at the Heeia Kea site, which covers approximately 204 acres. MD from practice munitions only was found at the Kahaluu site, which covers approximately 2,254 acres.

Based on current and future land use, the EE/CA Report recommended Clearance to Detectable Depth with Institutional Controls, including warning signs and literature, within both the Heeia Kea and the Kahaluu parcel.

In 2009, as part of an abbreviated Site Investigation, soil sampling was conducted in four areas within the Heeia Kea site and two areas within the Kahaluu site. Analytical results did not identify any explosives as contaminants of potential concern (COPC) at the sites. Lead, however, was identified as a COPC in the Heeia Kea site.

Project Description

Removal Action

A Removal Action (RA) is being conducted at a 70-acre portion of the Heeia Kea Training Area located approximately 0.25 miles inland from the Kaneohe Bay shoreline. The contractor will perform instrument-aided, surface and subsurface clearance of MEC to a depth of 24 inches. Standard procedures for removal of MEC may include the relocation of MEC items for consolidated detonation. In instances where the MEC cannot be safely moved, the contractor will conduct a blow-in-place (BIP). In order to minimize the scatter of debris from the BIP, the contractor will contain the blast by surrounding the MEC items with sand bags or earthen berms or other appropriate engineering controls .Both an archaeologist and a biologist will be on site with the contractor to monitor all phases of the RA including pre- and post-BIP, and consolidated detonation activities.

Public Involvement

Public involvement is an important part of the Corps' FUDS Program. The Corps may host public meetings, distribute news releases, print public notices, host a website, and mail fact sheets and other information to interested citizens.

Questions?

If you have questions about this site and/or the FUDS Program, contact the Corps' Honolulu District Public Affairs Office at (808) 438-8317. For questions of a more technical nature, you may contact the Corps' Honolulu District Project Manager, Major Sally Hannan, at (808) 438-0470 or e-mail: Sally.Hannan@usace.army.mil.

Ordnance Finds

If you find any item you suspect might be ordnance, immediately leave the area, warning others in the vicinity, and notify local law enforcement officials. Note the location of the suspicious item, but *never* touch, move or disturb the item. Ordnance, regardless of age or physical shape or condition can be dangerous. Remember the 3R's: Recognize, Retreat, Report.

RECOGNIZE
Military items can be DANGEROUS

RETREAT
DO NOT TOUCH IT!
Move away from the area

REPORT
Call 911