

Public Affairs Office Pacific Ocean Division U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858 Contact: Bill Erwin or Joe Bonfiglio Tel: (808) 438-8319/8317

For Immediate Release

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Corps of Engineers Awards Contract to Locate, Identify, Collect Propellant Grains at Ma'ili Beach, O'ahu

(FORT SHAFTER, HI - NR 01-07) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has awarded a one-year task order under a contract with Donaldson Enterprise Inc. to search Ma'ili Beach on a regular, recurring basis; collect any propellant grains that may have washed ashore; map the locations where the propellant grains are found; and identify the conditions (e.g., weather, sea state) during which propellant grains are most likely to wash ashore.

The contract includes collecting and transferring any recovered grains to qualified public safety personnel for disposal, and preparing a project summary report.

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In an effort to provide public safety support on Ma'ili Beach, O'ahu, where propellant grains are known to have washed ashore, Mr. Tad Davis, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health (DASA[ESOH]), has tasked the Corps with executing a contract that will, over a period of one year, monitor the situation to determine when (e.g., after storms, during periods of high surf) the beach area should be monitored.

This is the Department of Defense's (DoD's) initial investigation into the extent of the problem. As such, the public is encouraged to come forward with any information that may assist in the investigation by contacting the Corps' Project Manager, Chuck Streck, at (808) 438-6934 or Ordnance and Explosive Safety Specialist, Mike Mullen at (808) 438-0468. Information gathered during this process may help DoD to locate, identify and address the source of the propellant grains.

Anyone who believes they have encountered propellant grains are encouraged to follow the **3Rs** (**R**ecognize when you have encountered propellant, **R**etreat—do not touch it, and **R**eport—advise a lifeguard or responsible adult). They should also call 911 and report the location.

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For more information about the contract, contact: Bill Erwin at (808) 438-8319 or Joseph Bonfiglio at (808) 438-8317.

For more information about the overall program, contact U.S. Army, Office of the Chief of Public Affairs (OCPA) Dave Foster at the Pentagon (703) 697-5344.