

Public Affairs Office Honolulu District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858 Contact: Joseph Bonfiglio or Dino Buchanan Tel: (808) 438-9862 / 8317

For Immediate Release

**September 30, 2008** 

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

(FORT SHAFTER, HI - NR 34-08) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has awarded a follow-on one-year task order under an existing contract with Donaldson Enterprise Inc. to continue to search Ma'ili Beach on a regular, recurring basis and collect any propellant grains that wash ashore.

The project area for this follow on contract will be expanded to include the beach parks that are north and south of Ma'ili Beach Park. The Corps awarded the first contact to Donaldson in Aug. 2007.

Since the first contract was awarded last year, Donaldson Enterprises Inc has recovered approximately 200 propellant grains.

As part of the contract, Donaldson will continue to 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.

## **GRAINS 2-2-2**

The contract includes the collection and transfer of any recovered grains to qualified public safety personnel for disposal, and preparing a project summary report.

This is part of the Department of Defense's (DOD's) ongoing investigation into this issue. As such, the public is encouraged to come forward with any information that may assist in the investigation by contacting the Corps' Project Manager, Lori Wong, 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 ( $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$ ecognize when you have encountered a propellant grain,  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$ etreat—do not touch it, and  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$ eport—advise a lifeguard or responsible adult). They should also call 911 and report the location.

Mr. Tad Davis, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health (DASA [ESOH], has spearheaded efforts to address this issue.

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For more information about the contract, contact: Joseph Bonfiglio at  $(808)\ 438-9862\ /\ 8317$ 

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.