

FORMER CAMP FANNIN

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

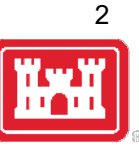
SEPTEMBER, 2023



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION



OBJECTIVES

- **Objective 1**: To inform the community and first responders of the site boundaries for the Former Camp Fannin and its military training use during World War II.
- **Objective 2**: To explain the potential risks associated with remaining WWII ordnance.
- **Objective 3**: To promote the use of the '3 Rs' of explosives safety: Recognize, Retreat, Report.



FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION



AGENDA

- A. Introduction
- B. **Background Information** – Formerly Used Defense Site (**FUDS**) Program
- C. **Objective 1:** Site Boundaries, Use, and Clean-Up
 - History of Former Camp Fannin, Current FUDS Site boundaries
 - Remedial Action (**RA**) performed and in progress
- D. **Objective 2:** Potential Ordnance Risks
 - Types of ordnance that may remain at Former Camp Fannin and Safety Concerns
- E. **Objective 3:** Ordnance Safety and the “3Rs”
- F. **Future Information / Contact Us**
- G. **Questions/Comments**



A. INTRODUCTION



FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

5



- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (**USACE**) executes the Formerly Used Defense Sites (**FUDS**) Program on behalf of the U.S. Army and the Department of Defense (**DoD**)
- The Southwest Division of the USACE maintains a team to address and manage FUDS sites within Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana
- Introductions from today's presentation team:



B. THE FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES PROGRAM



Cardboard Decoy Tank, Camp Fannin, 15 Jun 1945



FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

- A FUDS is a facility or site (property) that was under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense and owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States at the time of actions leading to contamination by hazardous substances.
- The FUDS sites must be located within the 50 States, District of Columbia, Territories, Commonwealths, and possessions of the United States, and have been transferred from DoD control prior to 17 October 1986.
- Congress authorized USACE, through the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (**CERCLA**), to analyze, restore, and report on FUDS properties each year.
- Public involvement and community participation are important components of the program. USACE partners with stakeholders throughout the process, including congressional representatives, state and local governments, regulatory and environmental agencies, and affected property owners.
- For more information, please see: <https://www.usace.army.mil/missions/environmental/formerly-used-defense-sites/>



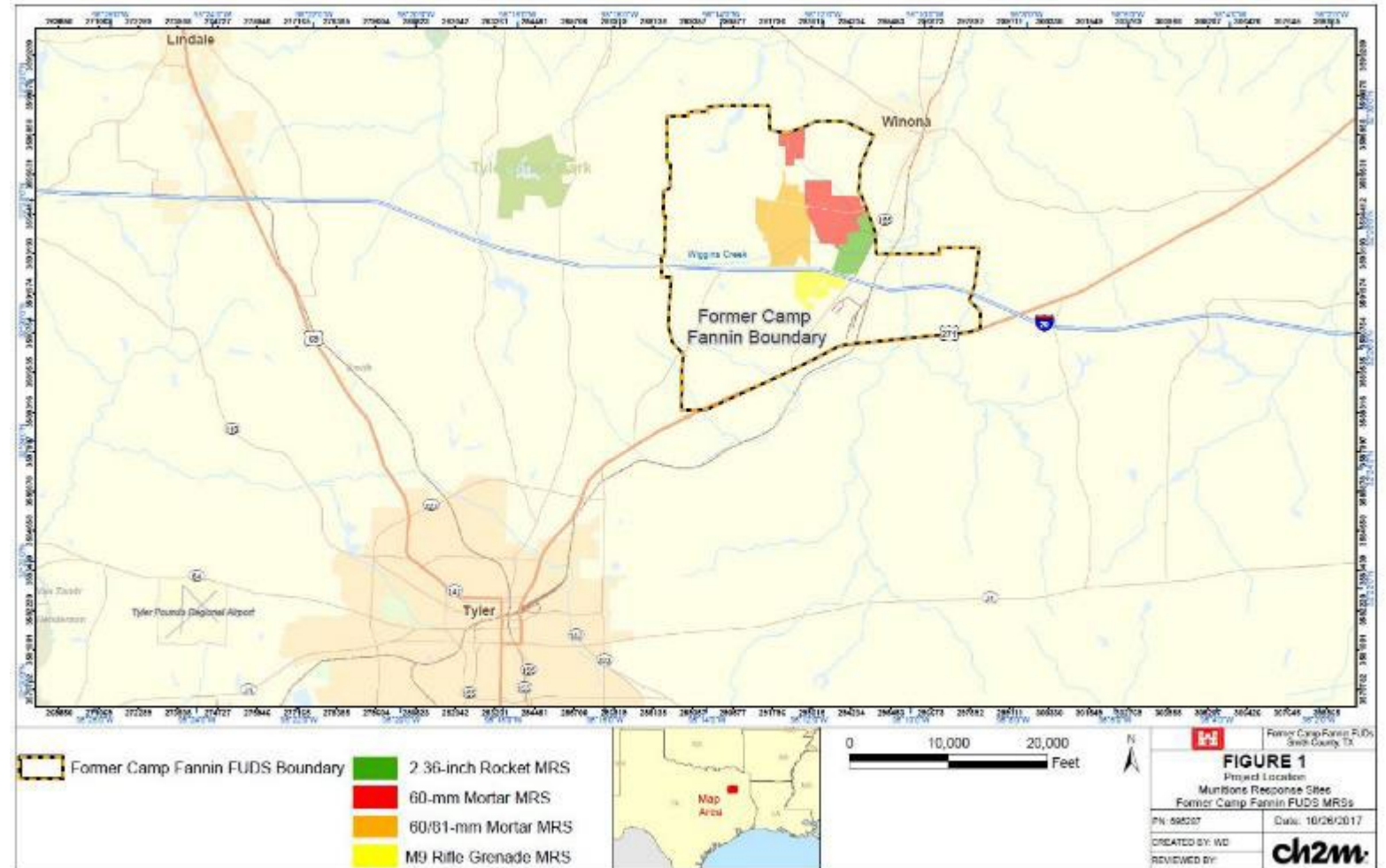
C. OBJECTIVE 1: SITE BOUNDARIES, USE, AND CLEAN-UP

Waiting in Line for Chow, Camp Fannin, Oct 1943

FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

Former Camp Fannin Site Information

- Located approximately six (6) miles northeast of Tyler, Texas
- With the exception of public roads, all property parcels within the former artillery training areas for former Camp Fannin are privately owned. Current land use for these areas includes a mix of residential, agricultural, and light commercial/industrial purposes.





FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION



Former Camp Fannin Site Information

- Approximately 14,100 acres were leased from 1942 to 1946 by the U.S. Army for infantry, small arms, artillery, and tank gunnery training. Soldiers trained at Camp Fannin fought on many fronts during World War II (**WWII**). Many artillery and weapons training areas were utilized. The Camp was declared surplus in 1946 and the land returned to the original private landowners.
- Approximately 200,000 personnel were trained at Camp Fannin.
- Not all munitions that were intended to detonate functioned correctly. As a result, many pieces of hazardous ordnance remained on the surface and in the soil in these areas.



Gunner Training, Camp Fannin, 1943

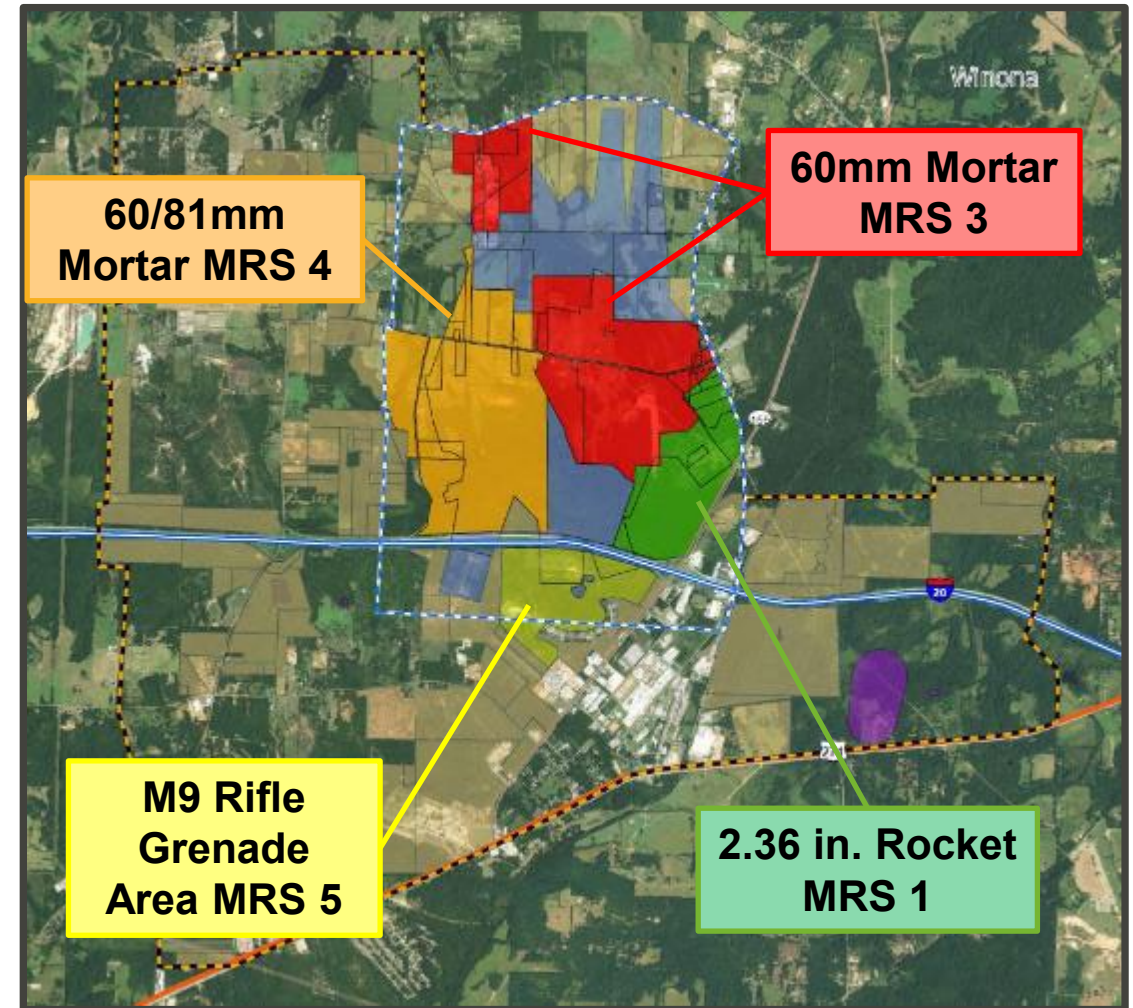


FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION



Former Camp Fannin Site Information

- A Remedial Investigation (**RI**) was completed in 2011 to assess the potential for the presence of munitions and explosives of concern (**MEC**) and to document the nature and extent of the hazard.
- Four Munitions Response Sites (**MRSs**) were identified for further consideration and the search for, and removal of, MEC was initiated in 2018 and completed in 2023:
 - 60mm Mortar MRS (610 acres)
 - 60/81mm Mortar MRS (784 acres)
 - M9 Rifle Grenade Area MRS (274 acres)
 - 2.36-inch Rocket MRS (326 acres)
- Educational Awareness Initiatives will be ongoing to inform the public of the safety risk from MEC.





FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

Brief Summary of Planned Remedial Activities

MRS	Surface Removal of MEC	Subsurface Removal of MEC	Other Remedial Activities	Educational Awareness Initiatives
2.36-in Rocket Area	326 acres	47 acres to two feet depth	Search for and removal of MEC from a WWII waste pit and in stockpiled soil	Yes
60-mm Mortar Area	775 acres	392 acres to one foot depth	NA	Yes
60/81-mm Mortar Area	784 acres	141 to two feet depth	NA	Yes
M9 Rifle Grenade Area	NA	NA	NA	Yes



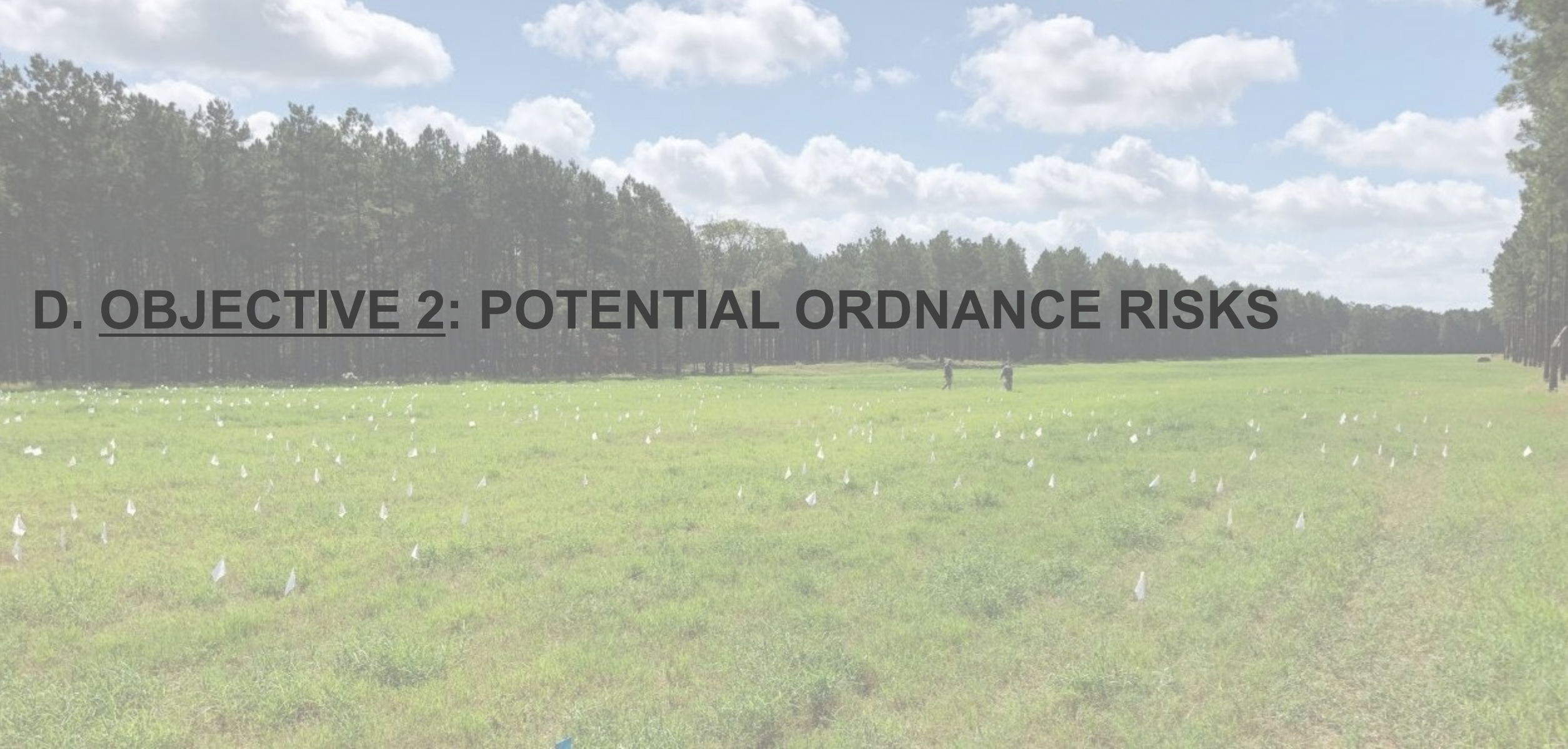
FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

Brief Summary of Completed Remedial Activities

MRS	Surface Removal of MEC	Subsurface Removal of MEC	Other Remedial Activities	Educational Awareness Initiatives
2.36-in Rocket Area	194 acres	23 acres to two feet depth	Sifted 9,691 cubic yards of target berm/stockpiled soil for and removal of MEC	Yes
60-mm Mortar Area	624 acres	205 acres to one foot depth	NA	Yes
60/81-mm Mortar Area	378 acres	119 to two feet depth	NA	Yes
M9 Rifle Grenade Area	NA	NA	NA	Yes

Much more information on the completion of the Remedial Action can be found in the Tyler Public Library and at the webpage at the end of this presentation.

D. OBJECTIVE 2: POTENTIAL ORDNANCE RISKS



FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

Risk of Remaining Ordnance

Key ideas to remember when using lands within the former Camp Fannin:

1. Despite the Army's best effort, ordnance may remain with the area or vicinity of former Camp Fannin for many years to come.
2. Ordnance may be buried or on the surface of the ground.
3. Ordnance may be difficult to see and unrecognizable in appearance.
4. Ordnance may be attractive to the unaware to collect and keep.
5. **Ordnance is considered highly hazardous and may blind, maim, or kill.**



Risk of Remaining Ordnance – Property Owners

What activities could present a risk of exposure to ordnance? Some examples include:

- Planting a tree or a garden;
- Burying a deceased pet;
- Removing a slab or hard driveway;
- Installing a pond;
- Leveling a foundation;
- Installing a new slab or foundation;
- Laying new utility or service lines or repairing existing lines;
- Close-mowing or land leveling;
- Installing or repairing a culvert;
- Installing fenceposts, light posts, or utility posts.



Risk of Remaining Ordnance – Construction/Development

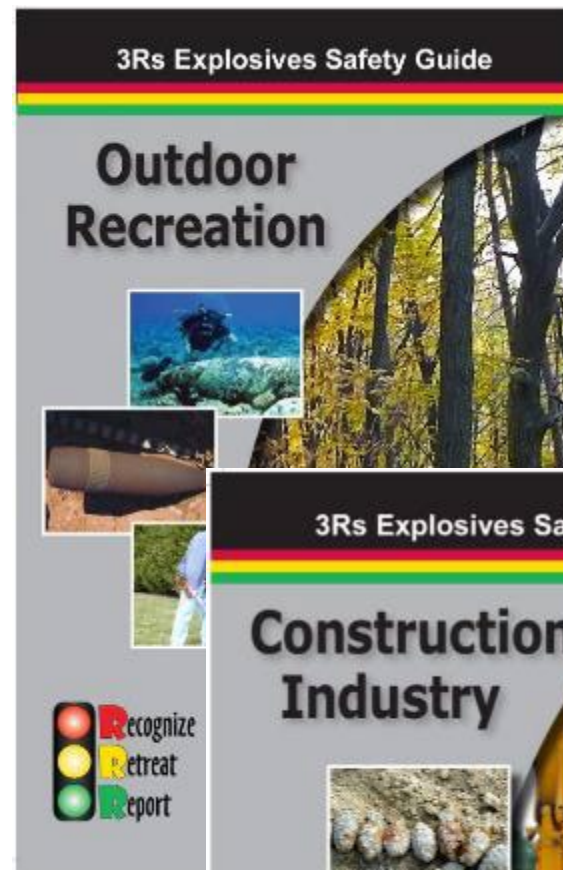
Activities presenting a risk of exposure to ordnance:

- Demolition of structures including removing slabs or hard driveways;
- Installing retention ponds, swales, or other drainage features;
- Excavation for new construction including footings and foundations;
- Excavating for new utility or service lines;
- Repair or replacement of existing utility lines;
- Earthwork;
- Installation or repair of culverts;
- Installation of utility posts or fencing;
- Installation or repair of roads.
- Installation or repair of subsurface transmission lines.





E. OBJECTIVE 3: EXPLOSIVES SAFETY &THE “3Rs”





FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

19



SAFETY – 3Rs VIDEO



Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HEHRI6L35Y>





FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION



SAFETY – The 3Rs

- **(Prepare):** Familiarize yourself and others accessing your property with the potential risks present in the Camp Fannin area. Plan your activities accordingly.
- **Recognize:** If you encounter or suspect you may have encountered ammunition, consider it extremely dangerous. Remember, munitions are sometimes hard to identify.
- **Retreat:** If you encounter or suspect you may have encountered a munition, **do not approach**, touch, move, or disturb it, but immediately and carefully - do not run - leave the area following the same path on which you entered. If you can, mark the general area, not the munition, in some manner (e.g., with a hat, piece of cloth, or by tying a piece of plastic to a tree branch).
- **Report:** Call 911 to report the item and receive further instructions.





FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

SAFETY – More Information

The Department of Defense Environment, Safety, & Occupational Health Network and Information Exchange (DENIX) 3Rs Safety Information and Materials

WHO can encounter ammo, including UXO? Anyone! Learn about Explosives Safety





FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

22



SAFETY – More Information

The Department of Defense Environment, Safety, & Occupational Health Network and Information Exchange (DENIX) 3Rs Safety Information and Materials

<https://www.denix.osd.mil/uxo/>





F. FUTURE INFORMATION, **CONTACT US**



WAC Cpl. Alma Bradley, 13 Jul 1945





FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

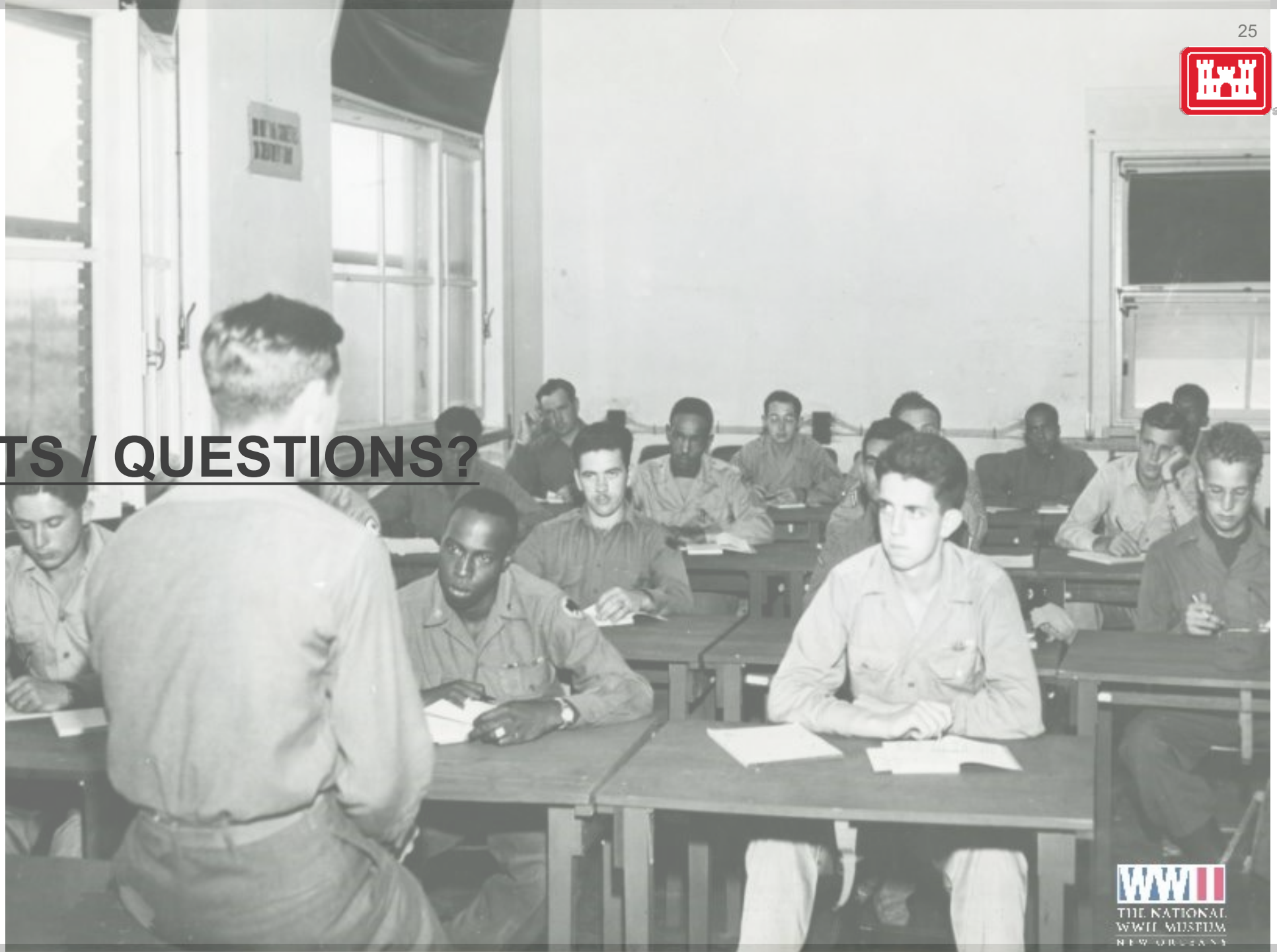
USACE Fort Worth District Contacts and Information

- **FUDS Program Manager – Dennis Myers:** 817-609-5014
- **Public Affairs – Clay Church:** 817-886-1314
- **Former Camp Fannin Website:**
<https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Formerly-Used-Defense-Sites/Fannin/>
- **Formerly Used Defense Sites Website:**
<https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Formerly-Used-Defense-Sites/>





G. COMMENTS / QUESTIONS?





FORMER CAMP FANNIN PUBLIC INFORMATION

APPENDIX – List of Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
DENIX	Department of Defense Environment, Safety, & Occupational Health Network and Information Exchange
DoD	Department of Defense
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites
in	Inches
MEC	Munitions and Explosives of Concern
mm	Millimeter
MRS	Munition Response Site
RA	Remedial Action
RI	Remedial Investigation