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ATTACHMENT 1

Well Location Map

ATTACHMENT 2

Defense Environmental Restoration Program,
Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS)
Findings and Determination of Eligibility
for Site No. JO9CA057200.

COPY

Supplemental
FILE COPY

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES
FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Rialto Ammunition Storage Point
Rialto, California

Site No. J09CA057200

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Beginning 31 December 1941, the Department of the Army acquired 2821.75 acres from several different owners; 2814.15 acres through direct purchase or declaration of taking, 7.6 acres leased. The site was known as The Los Angeles Backup Storage Facility. This name was later changed to Rialto Ammunition Storage Point.
2. The site was developed for use as an ammunition depot. The Army constructed a complete weapons storage facility including igloo-type structures and many miles of railroad track. The Rialto Ammunition Storage Point remained active until late 1945.
3. On 13 November 1945, the Army reported 2814.15 acres fee and 7.60 acres leased as excess to the War Assets Administration. Custody was assumed by the Farm Credit Administration on 9 July 1946. This acreage was then subdivided over a number of years and sold. Much of the area is currently used for commercial activities, while portions in the north and east are single family residential homes.

DETERMINATION

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the site has been determined to have been formerly used by the Department of Defense. It is therefore eligible for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program - Formerly Used Defense Sites established under 10 USC 2701 et seq.

20 Jan '93
Date

Mark W. Toller, COL, EN
for MILTON HUNTER
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding

ATTACHMENT 3

Defense Environmental Restoration Program for
FUDS Archives Search Report,
Historical Analysis of Ordnance and Explosive
Waste/Chemical Warfare Materials Activities



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

HUNTSVILLE DIVISION

**Defense Environmental Restoration Program
for
Formerly Used Defense Sites**

**Ordnance and Explosive Waste
Chemical Warfare Materials**

ARCHIVES SEARCH REPORT

RIALTO AMMUNITION STORAGE POINT

San Bernardino County

Rialto, California

Project No. J09CA057201

August 1995

TD
181.C34
R52
1995

**Prepared by
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
ST. LOUIS DISTRICT**

USADAC 000001

3.0 Site and Site Area Description

3.1 Location

The Army acquired 2,821.75 acres in December 1941 and constructed the former **Rialto Ammunition Storage Point**. The site is located within the northern city limits of Rialto, California. The site lies west of the City of San Bernardino and north-northeast of the City of Fontana in San Bernardino County. Trapezoidal in shape, the property is bounded by Locust Street and Stonehurst Drive (East), Riverside Avenue (North), Sierra Avenue (West), and Highland Avenue (South) (Figures 1 & 2). The site is in Sections 17 (part), 20 (part), 21 (part), 28, and 29, Township 1 North (T. 1N.) Range 5 West (R. 5W.). A former railroad spur also passed through Section 27 and 34, T. 1N. R. 5W. to the Santa Fe main railroad line.

In order to reach the site from the Ontario International Airport, travel north on Vineyard to Interstate 10, proceed east on I-10 fifteen miles to Rialto and Riverside Avenue, take Riverside Avenue north about three miles to Highland Avenue, then turn west on Highland Avenue for one mile to Locust Avenue (southeast corner of the FUDS), proceed north on Locust Avenue to Stonehurst Drive, turn left and proceed to the guarded entrance of the igloo area.

3.2 Past Uses

3.2.1 General History

Before 31 December 1941, 2,300 acres of the area was uncleared brush lands, probably used as open grazing land for livestock, and 100 of the acres were in grape vineyards. The balance was cleared land planted in grain or left fallow (Fabian, 1946). After the Army bought the property, they decided to lease \pm 2,000 acres to farmers for the same purposes (War Assets Administration, 1945).

The Army constructed various types of buildings, including rail and storage facilities on the remaining acreage. The major improvements at the facility included the installation of 23.5 miles of railroad trackage; twenty (20) concrete storage igloos; twenty three (23) buildings for administration, guarding, fire prevention, and maintenance; sixteen (16) watchtowers; four (4) fuze and powder magazines; two (2) concrete underground shelters; and associated roads, improvements, and utilities (Maps M-3 & M-4). The subject **Rialto Ammunition Storage Point (Los Angeles Back-up Storage Facility)** became a backup chemical and conventional munitions storage point for the Los Angeles Port of Embarkation (LAPE)(Hemleben, 1947). This mission did not change until the end of the war. The Army declared the site as excess and transferred the entire acreage to the War Assets Administration on 13 November 1945. The Farm Credit Administration assumed custody on 9 July 1946 and subsequently subdivided and sold the facilities, buildings, igloos and land.



FIGURE 1

**RIALTO AMMUNITION STORAGE POINT
 CITY OF RIALTO, CALIFORNIA
 SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
 DERP-FUDS# J09CA57201
 PROJECT LOCATION MAP**

USADAC 000009

NOT TO SCALE

PROJECT DATE: AUGUST 1995

DATE OF MAP: 1995

14-SEP-1995 09:22

re/ocw95ab/sh42/map/35rialto.dgn



6.0 OEW/CWM Site Analysis

6.1 Historical Analysis of OEW/CWM Activities

6.1.1 OEW Activities.

Rialto Ammunition Storage Point was an intermediary storage facility for CWM and conventional munitions being shipped from various ordnance depots through the Los Angeles Port of Embarkation (LAPE), located in Wilmington, California. During 1942, twenty earth-covered igloos were constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (*Rialto Record*, 1942). The igloos were designated: T101-T105, T112-T116, T123-T126, T133-T135, and T142-T144 and were utilized for the storage of chemical and conventional ammunition. Four magazines were constructed, for the storage of fuzes and bulk explosives, and were designated: T153-T156 (War Assets Administration, 1947)(U. S. Army, 1943a).

Since the LAPE held most of the munitions going to the Pacific, the Rialto facility acted mainly as a transfer point for munitions traveling from inland ordnance depots to the port (Hemleben, 1947). Various loading docks and warehouse facilities were constructed alongside the Atcheson, Topeka and Santa Fe main inbound/outbound railroad track. The Army laid 4,735 feet of track which enabled switching and the temporary storage of 32 explosive-laden railcars. Ordnance officers scheduled the munitions to be transferred to the LAPE. Only limited information was found on the amounts of munitions shipped through the facility. It is recorded that during the period of 1 July 1943 to 1 January 1944, on 173 out of 184 days, the explosive limits for the ASP were exceeded. A daily average of 92 explosive-laden railcars were temporarily stored on site.

After May 1944, a 200-railcar holding yard, located north of the earth-covered igloos, was constructed on the site. L-shaped earthen-berms were then constructed around each end of the various railroad spurs, as a safety measure, to help minimize any accidental explosive propagation in the storage area (U. S. Army, 1943a) (Young, 1944). Civilian Ammunition Inspectors were assigned to the ASP (U.S. Army, 1943c). A railcar Inspection Pit (Bldg 28 - See Map M-3), located on the main inbound/outbound railroad track, was used primarily to inspect inbound/outbound railcars. As an example, inbound railcars would be inspected for damage-in-transit and shipping papers would be checked for accuracy. The ASP also had 25,970 square feet of open storage space for bomb dunnage, dunnage lumber, and miscellaneous chemical warfare supplies (U. S. Army, 1943a).

Civilian employees handled the everyday routine operations involved with the storage and transportation of the ordnance and munitions. The few Army personnel stationed on site were assigned to the LAPE. Small arms training for the military would have been conducted at the facilities of their main contingent and not on this FUDS site. A map of the period does not show any skeet ranges, ordnance training or small arms storage areas. No mention is made in the collected historical documentation whether or not any explosions or fire incidents occurred during the period of DOD facility use.

The following are examples of munitions shipping and storage activity during 1943. In October, 225 railcars were received, no railcars were unloaded, 225 railcars were shipped, and 15 railcars were loaded. In November, 143 railcars were received, 6 railcars were

unloaded, 184 railcars were shipped in November, and 4 railcars were loaded. In December, 218 railcars were received, 9 railcars were unloaded, 183 railcars were shipped, and 3 railcars were loaded. These munitions shipments were sent to the port facility at Wilmington, CA (Young, 1944)(U. S. Army, 1943a, 1943b, 1943c).

After 1945, the U.S. Army closed **Rialto Ammunition Storage Point**. Commercialization of the FUDS began around 1959 with B.F. Goodrich Corporation. This company manufactured solid rocket propellant under contract for the Department of Defense. Sometime during the late 1960's, Red Devil Fireworks Co. became active on the site and also manufactured fireworks and other pyrotechnics (Adams, Interview, 1995). During the 1970's, another manufacturer of fireworks and other related materials, Astro Pyrotechnics, operated on the site until after 1981. It was reported that as many as five fireworks companies were once active on property once known as the **Rialto Ammunition Storage Point**. On August 4, 1981 an explosion occurred in a building that processed special effects fireworks displays. Two workers were injured in the accident (*San Bernardino Sun*, 1981). Trojan Fireworks Company also moved on site, purchasing the fireworks manufacturing equipment and they made fireworks. On September 25, 1987, in a reported suicide, a pit containing live fireworks exploded, killing the one worker, while injuring two others. The blast from this explosion shook buildings over a mile away (*Ontario Daily Report*, 1987). It should be noted that the archives search did not uncover any evidence to indicate explosions happened during the time the FUDS was under DOD control.

6.1.2 CWM Activities.

Rialto Ammunition Storage Point (also known as the Rialto (California) Backup and Storage Area) was used as a interim storage facility for CWM. Shipments arrived, via railcar, from various depots and would be temporarily stored until the shipments could be sent to the LAPE. A sixty-day supply of CWM could be stored in the Chemical Warfare Warehouse at the LAPE to support ship-loading operations (Hemleben, 1947). A Chemical Warfare Service Officer was stationed at the ASP and his duties included ensuring the safeguarding of the CWM-laden railcars until they could be shipped to port. Civilian Ammunition Inspectors were also assigned to the ASP (U.S. Army, 1943c). An Inspection Pit (Bldg 28 - See Map M-3) was utilized to inspect inbound railcar shipments of CWM. Review of available historical records did not indicate that any CWM was off-loaded for long-term storage at the ASP (Hemleben, 1947). During the review of CWS records, there was no indication that any CWM required decontamination, due to leakage, during routine inbound railcar inspections performed at the Inspection Pit. In addition, archival research does not reveal that the small number of assigned Army personnel performed chemical warfare training at Rialto; and it is presumed that the Chemical warfare officers likely conducted chemical warfare training at the LAPE facilities. Review of historic maps did not indicate that CWS classrooms or a gas chamber existed at this facility.

6.2 Records Review

St. Louis District Corps of Engineer personnel reviewed records concerning the history of the **Rialto Ammunition Storage Point** at the following locations.

SITE SURVEY SUMMARY SHEET
FOR
DERP-FUDS SITE NO. J09CA057200
RIALTO AMMUNITION STORAGE POINT
Original: 28 September 1992
Supplemental: 23 March 1999

SITE NAME: RIALTO AMMUNITION STORAGE POINT; also known as Los Angeles Backup Storage Facility, Ammunition Backup Storage, Fontana Backup Storage, Rialto Backup Storage, Ordnance Backup Storage Depot.

LOCATION: The Rialto Ammunition Storage Point is located in San Bernardino County approximately 5 miles north of the City of Rialto and 10 miles northeast of the City of Fontana, CA.

SITE HISTORY: The 2,822.15-acre property was acquired in 1942 from several different landowners through direct purchase, declaration of taking or lease. The U.S. Army Department of Ordnance used the property to store and mobilize ammunition and high explosives. According to Army documents, no manufacturing of ordnance took place at the facility. Ordnance was stored in 20 concrete, reinforced bunkers and in railroad cars stored in earthen barricades. The site had a holding yard capable of storing 200 railroad cars. Military improvements to the property included the bunkers and various structures located in the building area of the depot (located east of the holding yard) with buildings used for administration, a kitchen, barracks, vehicle storage and maintenance, shops and a fire station. Additionally, a gas station (with a total of seven underground storage tanks), bomb shelters, a sewage plant and water supply well were constructed. The Army leased out approximately 2,000 acres of the property for crop cultivation and grazing. Several of the tracts were already improved with small dwellings and farm buildings when acquired by the army. Some of these buildings were renovated and used by the army in addition to the newly constructed military improvements. On November 13, 1945, all of the property was declared surplus and custody of the property was transferred to the Farm Credit Administration for disposal in July 1946. Most of the property is currently zoned industrial and occupied by a municipal landfill and various companies, including pyrotechnics companies. Some portions of the property, including portions of the building area, have been developed for residential use. Military improvements that have been beneficially used include the water well, concrete storage bunkers, and bomb shelters. There is no evidence that the six remaining underground storage tanks have been beneficially used.

SITE No. J09CA057200

SITE VISIT: Mr. Bud Furlong and Mr. Michael Marquis of NBS/Lowry conducted a site visit on 19 November 1991. Mr. Furlong met with Mr. Roger Thompsen of Eagle Roofing who granted permission to peruse the site and conduct the investigation. No hazards were evident.

Kurt Schmidt of Science Applications International Corporation also visited the site on 19, 24, 25 June 1997 and 16 July 1997. Mr. Kenneth Kaz, Environmental Specialist IV, Waste System Division, San Bernardino County, was the primary contact for access to most of the bunker area of the site.

CATEGORY OF HAZARD: OE, CON/HTRW

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: There are two projects proposed for this site:

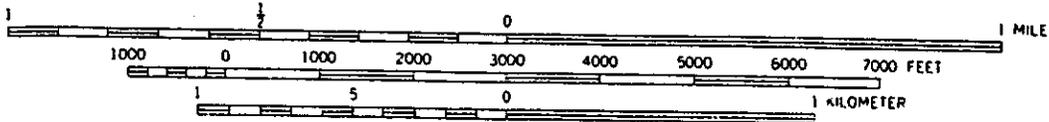
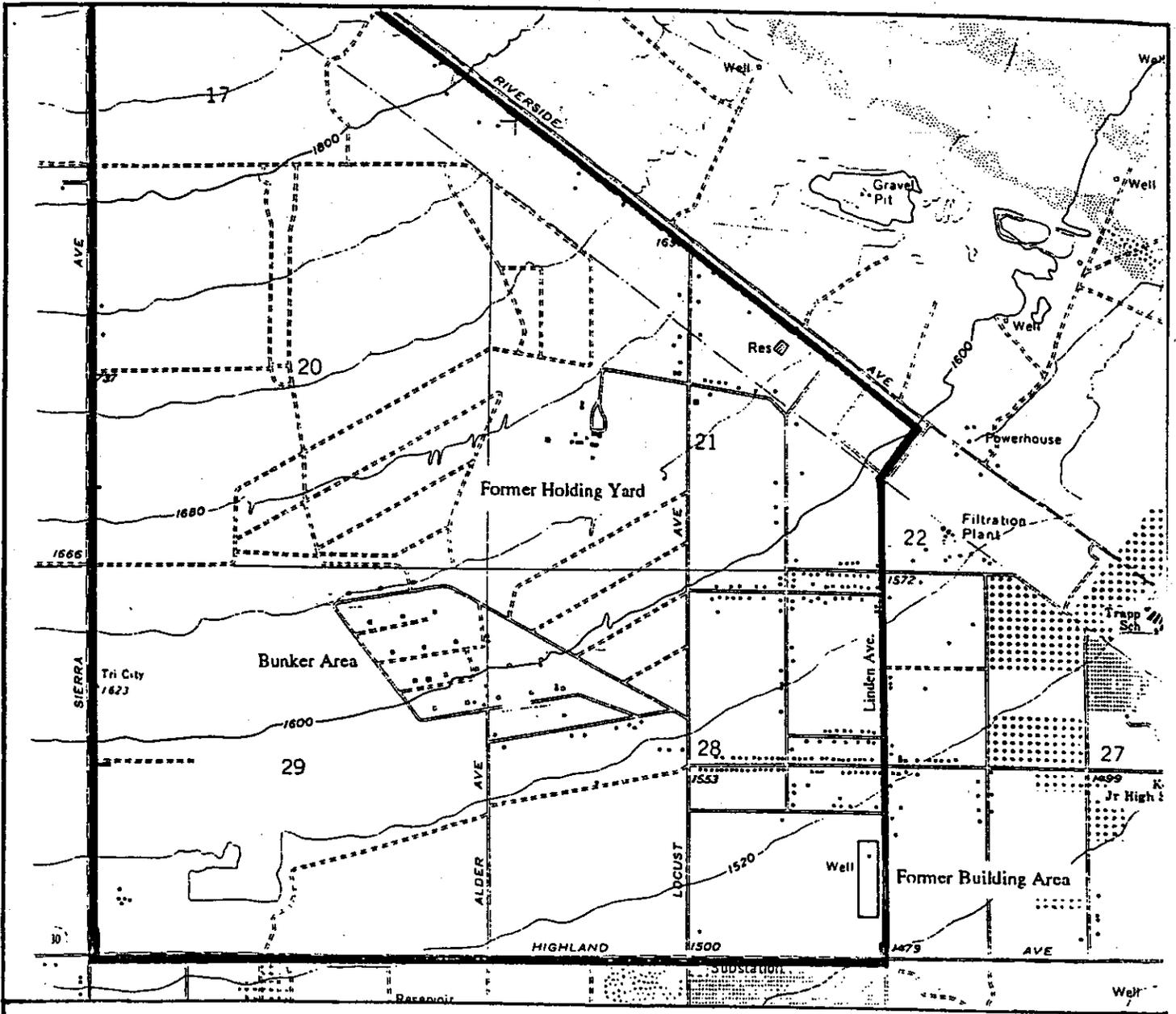
1. OE: Recommend the Huntsville Engineering and Support Center make a determination regarding further investigation at this site. This project has been completed. An Archive Search Report, dated 30 October 1995, determined a RAC 5 (No DOD Action Indicated) for this project.
2. CON/HTRW: Identify, remove and dispose of six remaining underground storage tanks and associated piping, test for soil contamination, and backfill to grade.

AVAILABLE STUDIES AND REPORTS: No known reports or studies were located.

DISTRICT POC: Jeffery B. Armentrout, Los Angeles District, (213) 452-3720.

ATTACHMENT 4

Map of Ammunitions Storage Area Layout



Reference: USGS Quadrangle Devore, Calif., 1966. Photorevised 1966.



SITE LOCATION
RIALTO AMMUNITION
STORAGE POINT
J09CA057200
Rialto, CA
Supplemental: 10 March 1998

USACE 000004

PROJECT NO. 01 - 0255 - 04 - 7379

DRAWN BY KS	CHECKED BY RS	DATE 3-98
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