



THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

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HOLIDAY GREETINGS!

On behalf of the staff at the Depot, I would like to thank you for your continued interest in the environmental restoration activities at the site. The Environmental Division has enjoyed an active and productive year, and 1998 looks to be the time when we will finally see the first active step in the

process of improving the environmental quality of the soil and groundwater at the Depot.

With the publication and delivery of this newsletter, we have also begun to take a more active role in the community. Throughout the year, we will be meeting with our neighbors, local community groups and the media to update you on our progress. In fact, our Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) has recommended that we hold at least two of our monthly meetings off-site. Watch for the date and location of these meetings in the next newsletter.

In addition, we are working with our RAB, our project managers and our contractors to plan for a community information session during our February Board meeting -- February 19, 1998. The announcement and advertising of this session will begin in January, so please mark that date on your calendars.

One of the most significant accomplishments this year was the completion of the design of the groundwater control system that will be installed in Dunn Field. We anticipate that the installation of the first wells should begin by the end of the year with the system up and running by next summer. Notices will be delivered to our Dunn Field neighbors advising them of the drilling and installation of the wells.

As we approach the Holiday season, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of our entire team at the Depot, to wish you and your family much happiness and peace during this festive time.

I look forward to talking with you in the New Year.

Glenn L. Kaden

BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Installation Co-Chair

Depot Environmental Team.
(L to R) Shawn Phillips,
Denise Cooper, Glenn Kaden,
Carolyn Gains,
Jack Kallal,
Mike Lee



RAB MEETINGS IN '98 PLAN TO ATTEND

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings are open to all community members. You are invited to attend and participate in the discussions about the environmental remediation program and to raise issues of interest or concern with members of the Board.

Presentations of the technical aspects of the program are made each month. As well, this is an opportunity to discuss your interests or questions about the environmental restoration and reuse of this site.

**RAB
meetings
are scheduled
on the 3rd
Thursday of
each month**

Winter/Spring Schedule (January to May)

Mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend:

January 15, 1998, 6:00 p.m.
at the Depot

February 19, 1998

March 19, 1998

April 16, 1998

May 21, 1998

THERE'S A SPOT FOR YOU ON THE RAB

Are you interested in participating on the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)? There is one vacant position on the RAB that is available for a representative of an environmental group to fill.

The Memphis RAB consists of 20 citizens and regulatory members who actively participate and attend our monthly meetings. From time to time, positions on the Board do become available, and the RAB has asked that a file of interested individuals be kept current from which nominations can be drawn.

Nominations are to be returned to the Depot by Monday, January 12, 1998 for consideration. If there are multiple nominations, a vote by the existing RAB members will take place at the January RAB meeting.

It is important to note that substantial time will be required of RAB members. Meetings will be held whenever the members feel it is necessary. At this point, the RAB feels that it is worthwhile to hold one evening meeting a month. It is very important for anyone interested in serving on the RAB to give careful consideration to whether he or she has adequate time to devote to membership.

If you are interested in being considered for a position on the RAB, we would encourage you to call: Mr. Mondell Williams, Community Co-Chair, at (901) 946-9751 or Mr. Glenn Kaden, Facility Co-Chair, at (901) 544-0618. They would be happy to send you a nomination form. Better yet, we invite you to visit the Depot environmental division in person to pick up a nomination.

HATS OFF TO LARRY SMITH

Mr. Larry Smith stepped down from his position on the RAB earlier this year. Mr. Smith was an active member of the Board and served as our first community co-chair. The Board would like to extend its gratitude to Larry for his work with us and his interest and involvement in the restoration project.

WHAT'S UP AT THE DEPOT?

Now that the front sign to the Depot has been removed, many people have been asking if the Depot is closed. While the official duties and distribution activities were concluded on September 30, 1997, a staff of 56 remains to coordinate and manage the transfer of the lands and the environmental remediation activities.

So, while we are closed to distribution activities for the Department of Defense, we are open to you and the job of preparing this site for its eventual reuse and revitalization within our community!



More than 800 employees, past employees and neighbors attended the September 30, 1997 Depot Closure Ceremony



John Rosenthal

community decision making.

RAB members and community guests were introduced to this newest form of public participation at the October RAB meeting. John Rosenthal, Director of the Urban Environment Institute, Howard University, Washington D.C., demonstrated how computers and the Internet can help community groups better participate in environmental dialogue and decision making to protect their interests.

The Urban Environment Institute (UEI) is a non-profit center, created to benefit community groups that traditionally do not participate in environmental decision-making.

In a cooperative agreement with Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (FFRRO), the Institute has examined various base closure issues. It has developed a workshop program for use by RAB groups to educate its members and other community stakeholders on access to information through computers and the Internet.

The Internet can be a helpful tool in facilitating communication among various RAB groups around the country. It allows people to link up with each other and share experiences and data. The FFRRO/Howard University Partnership works with RABs and other community stakeholders to increase public participation in Federal facilities cleanup and reuse decision-making.

According to Mr. Rosenthal, access to information now available via the Internet

ACCESS TO INFORMATION HOW THE INTERNET CAN GET YOU STARTED

Love 'em or leave 'em, computers might be your best way to get information on governmental and

will, to a great degree, define those who will have access to economic development and power in the shaping of public policies, and those who will not. Having access to a wide variety of information helps community members participate more actively in the restoration process.



During the October RAB meeting, Mr. Rosenthal donated a 486 computer,

loaded with communications software, to the Memphis RAB. He then used America OnLine

(AOL) to demonstrate how environmental Internet websites are accessed and the extent of information offered for public use. He entered the term BRAC into the

search engine (like a telephone book of listings all containing the same key phrase) and found websites relating to base closure documentation, regulation, policy and workshops.

Another tool is the Right-To-Know (RTK) Network, a free database, that is accessible by the Internet or direct dial-up with a modem. The RTK Network was designed to provide advocacy and community groups with information relating

to restoration and clean-up programs in their own neighborhoods. The network is also linked to government sites including the Environmental Protection Agency, the Toxics Release Inventory, the Department of Defense and other Federal agencies.

What Can You Find Via the Internet? The list is virtually endless, but here are just a few examples:

- Pump and treat data from the other remediation sites;
- Emissions data by region, community and company;
- Status of Superfund sites;
- Medical databases/bulletin boards.

WHAT IF YOU DON'T HAVE A COMPUTER?

What if you don't have access to the Internet...or even a computer?

While many people have the opportunities to browse the World Wide Web through computers at work or at home, many others do not.

That's why the staff at the Depot have prepared a community reading room, equipped with three computers -- all soon to have access to the Internet. You're welcome to visit the Depot to review reports about the Memphis Depot, or use these computers to research and connect with other groups around the country that are dealing with restoration projects in their own community.

GROUNDWATER CONTROL SYSTEM

A team of environmental specialists is working together at the Memphis Depot to improve groundwater conditions at Dunn Field.

"The purpose of the groundwater pumping system is to stop the chemicals in the groundwater from moving off Dunn Field," said Greg Underberg, a hydrogeologist with CH2M HILL who is managing his company's work at The Depot. "By placing a series of pumping wells around the perimeter of Dunn Field and

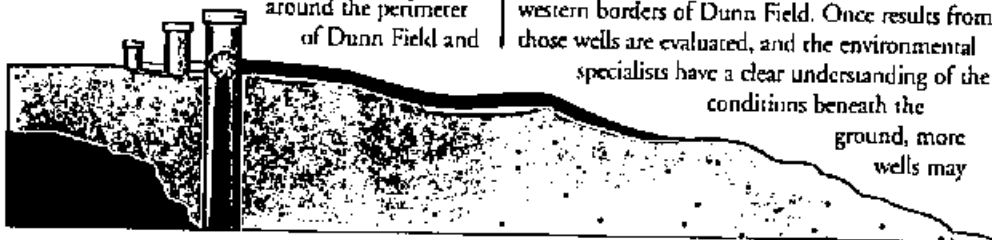
removing the water, we're preventing the compounds from leaving the area. The water that is removed is then transported through a piping system to the City of Memphis sanitary sewer system."

According to Mr. Underberg, work is currently underway on the first phase of the groundwater remediation plan. Seven pumping wells will soon be installed - by contractors OHM Remediation Services of Norcross, Georgia - in the most impacted areas around the western and north-western borders of Dunn Field. Once results from those wells are evaluated, and the environmental specialists have a clear understanding of the conditions beneath the ground, more wells may

be installed to complete the containment system.

"Initially, we'll be monitoring the groundwater weekly and eventually monthly to make sure it continues to meet the City of Memphis criteria for discharge to the sanitary sewer system," said Underberg. "The water we send into the sanitary sewer system will then be treated as normal industrial waste water at the city's sewage treatment plants."

Along with the groundwater pumping remediation work, CH2M Hill is also currently evaluating soil, sediment, and surface water samples from various waste management sites across the installation. This data will be used to determine where future remediation efforts will be necessary and will help pinpoint which areas of the Depot can be leased or transferred for other uses in the near future.



COMMUNITY READING ROOM

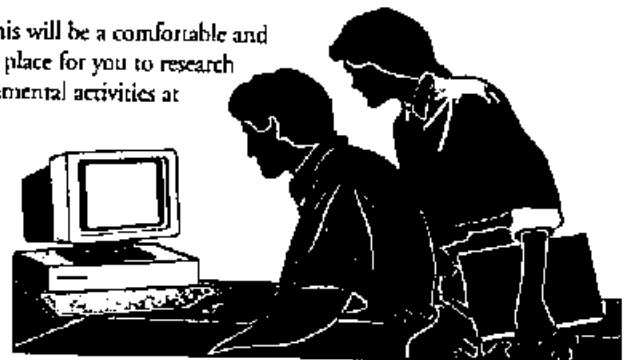
The Depot environmental staff wants to provide all community members with as much information about the base remediation activities as possible. All technical reports and environmental data are accessible in a variety of locations throughout the community, but a room at the Depot has been converted into a reading and research room specifically for use by you.

Three computers have been set up to allow you the opportunity to access Internet sites and other RAB groups across the country. Like an on-site library, all remediation reports will be filed in this room. Extra copies of this newsletter and others can be found here.

Please call ahead (901-544-0618) when planning to visit the Depot. Our staff is available to assist you in reviewing the environmental reports and

studies and to answer any questions or concerns that you may have regarding the site.

We hope this will be a comfortable and convenient place for you to research the environmental activities at the Depot.



PROFILE: DOROTHY RICHARDS

As the project manager for the restoration project at the Memphis Depot, Dorothy Richards has a very busy schedule.

An engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Huntsville, Alabama, Ms. Richards is responsible for coordinating the contractors who are currently working on the different phases involved in investigating and remediating the site.

"I am the point of contact for the different groups involved - The Depot, the BRAC Clean-up Team (BCT), the Corps of Engineers, and the contractors who have been hired to carry out the various phases of the work," said Ms. Richards. "My role is to communicate with all of these groups about what needs to be done to restore this site, and to ensure that it all gets done according to all of the regulations."

Ms. Richards, who joined the Memphis team in October, brings a wealth of experience to this project. Before joining the Huntsville Corps of Engineers, Ms. Richards was Chief of the Environmental Programs Management Branch of the Environmental Management Division at Fort

Benning, Georgia. Her work there earned her the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service - the Army's highest honor for federal civilian employees.

Before assuming the project manager's role at DDMT, she performed the same role at the Seneca Army Depot in upstate New York where she conducted several remedial investigations and feasibility studies, and developed the remedial design cleanups.

"At Seneca, we were dealing with many of the same issues we're facing here in Memphis," said Ms. Richards. "The two sites have a very similar profile. They're both on the National Priorities List (NPL) and are Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) sites."

Ms. Richards also has experience as a project manager overseeing the development of environmental policies for the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security in Washington.

In Memphis, Ms. Richards is in almost daily contact with Mr. Greg Underberg, the project manager for the environmental consultant, CH2M Hill, who is currently investigating the

site. She also participates in a weekly conference call with the consultant, attends monthly project manager meetings and BCT meetings, and will participate at RAB meetings that involve technical presentations about the site to the community.

"Our first priority is the remedial investigation and risk assessment - we are quantifying what it is we're dealing with so we can be sure actions we take will reduce the health risks created by the Depot," said Ms. Richards. "Once that work is complete, we'll be working with the EPA to determine the appropriate action."

When she's not in Memphis, Ms. Richards is at home with her husband and two children in Madison, Alabama. She's active in her church where she's a member of the choir and a frequent soloist, and she loves to play piano.

"As a mother myself, I understand how people feel who live near these sites. People are concerned because they don't know what's there and how it might affect their lives and their children," said Ms. Richards. "My job is to find that out, and to do whatever is required to remediate this site. This community can be assured that I take my job very seriously."

INTERVIEW WITH MONDELL WILLIAMS, RAB CO-CHAIRMAN



Mondell Williams has been a member of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) since 1995. He became Community Co-Chair of the RAB in January 1997. He shares his insights into the progress of the remedial activities at the Depot.

Q Why were you selected as RAB Co-Chairman?

A This Co-Chairman position was voted on by the RAB members at the beginning of the year. I believe I was selected because the other members knew of my concerns for our community and my interest in the restoration of the Defense Depot. The RAB members also recognized that I would be dedicated to this position and serious about the work we need to do on behalf of our community. I value that.

Q In your opinion, how does the RAB benefit the environmental restoration program at the Depot?

A I am interested in the RAB process because of genuine concerns about the environmental, economic, and social well-being of our community can be brought to the table and shared with the government. The community members who sit on the RAB, including myself, fill the role of the watchful eyes of the community, to monitor the process that we have a vested interest in.

Q How is the RAB group functioning? What is its value to the community?

A In my opinion, the RAB group is functioning well. The RAB committee acts as a liaison between the Federal Government and the community to provide information concerning studies, tests, and results, and to pass this on to the community to keep them informed of the process and procedures of the Restoration team of the Defense Depot.

Q What is your opinion on the progress to date of the Depot remediation?

A I feel that the remediation process is going relatively slowly. But I understand that the technical people need to do many studies and test samples to understand the condition before they proceed with the work to restore this site. Sometimes, as a community, we want things to 'hurry up and happen,' but we still don't know the bottom line conditions.

Q With one seat vacant now on the RAB, for what type of individual is the RAB looking to fill the position?

A We are really looking for someone who shares a genuine concern, a vested interest, for the future of this property, and that the remediation work is completed to the best of everyone's abilities. This person should be skillful in working with other community members to reach a community goal, rather than individual, or personal goals — only because we represent so many different community interests and we need to be mindful of those. Lastly, a RAB member should be committed to regular participation — to be present at the monthly meetings, so we can have the benefit of the best possible representation for our decision-making.

Q What concerns you the most about the environmental issues at the site?

A The biggest concern that I have with the site is Dunn Field. To be honest, I am skeptical that even with the advanced technology that we have today, we'll be able to remove all the chemicals buried in the field. I am very interested in ensuring that the impacted soils do not leach contaminants into our groundwater. With these concerns in mind, I wonder what level of reuse will be possible for this site.

Q If you could send a message to others in the community, what would it be?

A I want to let the residents of Memphis know that we, as a community, cannot be lackadaisical about the decisions that are being made for us. I want people to recognize that there is power in numbers. If there is a public hearing in our community on these issues, we must come out in large numbers to find out what is going on. Absence brings silence. If you're not there, then your silence could be a vote in favor of a position you don't agree with.

Q What are the top three things that you would like the RAB to accomplish this year?

A First, we need to hold the Corps of Engineers to a time frame on this project that is in line with the objectives we have set before them, is relevant to the site conditions, and is practical to achieve.

Secondly, I would like to see more opportunities to make the community aware of the site issues and for further public comment. The more we can engage the community, the better we will respond to their needs.

Lastly, training or workshop opportunities for RAB members would assist us in gaining a better understanding of the technical nature of the remedial work and our role as community liaisons.



Environews is published by The Depot, Memphis, TN, to update the public on the Memphis Environmental Restoration Program. If you have comments or questions, suggestions for future articles, or if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call Mr. Glenn Kaden at (901) 544-0618.



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