

# THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

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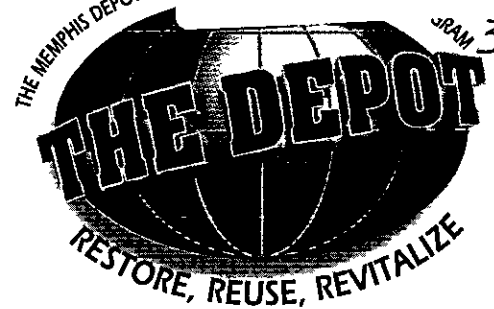
## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 372

MEMPHIS DEPOT

# EnviroNews

Jan./Feb. 1999



## Interview with:

**Terri Gray,  
RAB Member**

**Q: Why did you want to become involved with the RAB?**

A: In 1994, I saw an article in the newspaper about the formation of a Restoration Advisory Board for the closing of the Memphis Depot. This group was to be made up of concerned citizens who would be involved in the cleanup efforts at the Depot in an advisory capacity. Having lived on Philmore Street when I was a very young child, I was interested in what had gone on in the Depot area years ago. As an adult, being an environmental chemist, I am interested in the procedures used to evaluate this facility for reuse and the cleanup methods implemented. I applied during the first selection round, but was not chosen. On April 8, 1996, I received a letter from the Depot. It was one of notification of membership to the RAB. My first meeting with the group was April 18, 1996.

**Q: What would you like to see the community doing towards the cleanup efforts at the Depot?**

A: I agree with several of the RAB members interviewed before me — I would like to see more community attendance at the meetings. I would like for the community members to come to the meetings with open minds to evaluate the information given them about the work being done at the Depot. It is easy for



rumors to get started and incorrect information to be passed on if you do not hear statements firsthand. I would like for citizens to hear the reports firsthand, to ask more questions relevant to their own ideas, and hear what is being planned for the use of the land. As far as I have seen, at each meeting there are officials present that should be able to answer any questions that should arise.

**Q: In your opinion, how will the community benefit from the restoration activities at the Depot?**

A: It is sad when any area loses its major employer. The Depot employed a lot of people from the surrounding area. Employers that can be relocated to the Depot area can possibly hire some of the people previously employed by the Depot. This would benefit the immediate community as well as the employers.

**Q: What concerns you most about the environmental activities at the site?**

A: My biggest concern is that this will be an "us against them" situation. That type of situation becomes "lose/lose" for all involved. To be successful, everyone has to work together — the community and all governmental agencies (local, state and federal). The project needs to be completed in a timely and cost-efficient manner which provides a complete picture of past use and what has been and is being done to ensure a safe environment for the future. □

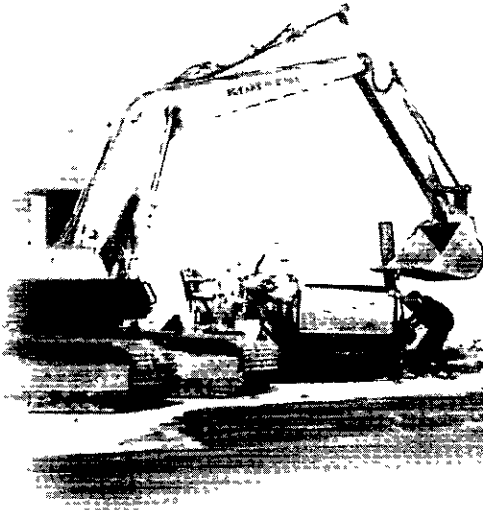


**The Memphis Depot  
Environmental Team  
wishes you and  
yours a very**

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR!  
1999**

**We look forward  
to your input and  
comments at our RAB  
meetings. The next  
meetings will be held  
Jan. 21/99 and  
Feb. 18/99**

S&W Paving began work on an asphalt road at Dunn Field in December. The construction of the road will minimize dust at Dunn Field and should be completed in early 1999.



Jordan English (left), Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), Shawn Phillips, The Memphis Depot, and Turpin Ballard (far right), Environmental Protection Agency, present a certificate of appreciation to RAB member Elizabeth Young. All RAB members received a certificate thanking them for their service.

## Past Achievements. . . .

- ★ The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met monthly to review cleanup progress.
- ★ The Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team worked closely with the Depot Redevelopment Corporation to coordinate cleanup activities in relation to the planned reuse of the property.
- ★ The Dunn Field groundwater pumping system was installed and is now operating.
- ★ Chemical warfare materiel characterization fieldwork was completed.
- ★ Preliminary data from every sub-parcel of the Main Installation was reviewed by the BRAC Cleanup Team.
- ★ A Community Reading Room was established at the Depot and documents added to the Information Repositories at local library branches to provide the community access to technical reports and environmental data relating to the on-going cleanup.
- ★ Completed Findings of Suitability to Lease (FOSLs) for 50% of the Depot property, enabling the City of Memphis to lease specific areas for reuse. The FOSL for the remainder of the Main Installation will be completed early in the new year.
- ★ The Depot Redevelopment Corporation (DRC) leased Depot property to McAuley's Potpourri, the Memphis Police Department, the Memphis Leadership Foundation and the Memphis Fire Department.
- ★ Completed soil removal projects at the former military housing area and the cafeteria on the Main Installation.
- ★ Two underground storage tanks (diesel and gasoline) were removed from the Depot's gas station.
- ★ The BRAC Cleanup Team began reviewing the updated Remedial Investigation (RI) and groundwater characterization sampling plans for Dunn Field.
- ★ Conducted a preliminary risk evaluation.
- ★ Installed additional monitoring wells on the Main Installation and at off-site locations to determine extent and nature of impacted groundwater.
- ★ More of the fluorspar and bauxite stockpiles were removed, and will continue to be removed in the new year.
- ★ Installed soil vapor survey equipment at Dunn Field to help pinpoint the location of buried compounds.
- ★ Began construction of an asphalt road at Dunn Field to minimize dust. The road will be completed the first of the new year.
- ★ Two Community Information Sessions were held (February and September) at Corry Middle School to discuss the Depot's environmental restoration program and the DRC's reuse plans with the community.
- ★ Hired a full-time Community Relations Specialist, Alma Black Moore, who works with the community sharing information on all environmental cleanup activities. □

# Looking ahead in 1999 . . . .

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The Environmental Team has scheduled a number of cleanup initiatives throughout 1999 as part of the ongoing environmental program. Watch for more detailed information on these initiatives in future issues of EnviroNews.

★ The Site Safety Submission, to guide the safe removal of buried chemical warfare material at Dunn Field, is currently being developed. A Public Information Plan is also being developed to guide the effective flow of information regarding the chemical warfare material removal project to the public. Both documents will be presented to the public for review and comment.

★ Now that the pumping system is installed and operating at Dunn Field, the Environmental Team can concentrate on locating possible sources of the compounds found in the groundwater. This year, the team will begin a comprehensive soil sampling program to determine the nature and extent of impacted soil. The information will then be used to determine the best method of cleanup.

★ The RI for the Main Installation is expected to be completed by September. It will compile sampling data and provide a clearer picture of areas that must be cleaned up. The RI will also give the Environmental Team the information they need to determine appropriate cleanup alternatives.

★ The Depot will remove impacted soil at the former spray paint booths and sand blast facility in the southwest corner of the Main Installation.

★ The abatement program to remove lead based paint from the former military housing area will be completed.

★ The Environmental Team will install another monitoring well northwest of the facility to gather more information about a unique geological feature, which appears to be a natural underground trench. The team will pay special attention to the feature to determine if a connection exists between the layer of groundwater containing compounds and the much deeper layer of groundwater where Memphis' drinking water comes from.

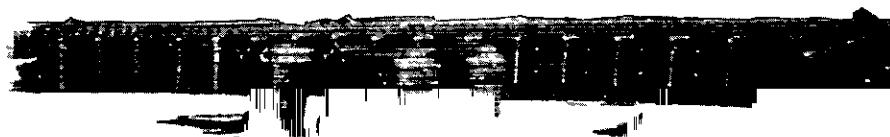
★ The last FOST for the Main Installation will be completed early in 1999. Once it has been approved by the Department of Army, all property on the Main Installation will be leased to the DRC. The Environmental Team will then begin working on Findings of Suitability to Transfer (FOST). Once a FOST has been completed and approved, that area of the Depot will be transferred to the DRC and will no longer be managed by the federal government. The first FOST will include buildings and property that did not require any environmental cleanup or where the cleanup has been completed and approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). All environmental cleanup activities must be complete, or must be working properly, and approved by EPA and TDEC before property can be transferred to the DRC. □



Ken Bradshaw of the DDMT-CCC (Defense Depot Memphis Tennessee Concerned Citizens Committee) recently attended the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He participated in several sessions and addressed the conference during the public comment period. RAB member Doris Bradshaw and the Depot's Community Relations Specialist, Alma Black Moore, also attended the NEJAC conference.

The Memphis Depot Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) attended a seminar on Basic Parliamentary Procedures. Inetta Rogers of Time Warner Communications provided an enlightening refresher session on the basic rules for conducting meetings.

The Memphis Depot and the City of Memphis formed a partnership. The Memphis Depot provided space for the City to store trash receptacles before being distributed to residents in the Hickory Hills area, which was recently annexed to the City.



The Memphis Depot  
Bldg. 144, Suite 137  
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## DATED MATERIALS

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....

The Information Repositories are at the following locations:

The Depot, 2163 Airways Blvd., Bldg. 144,  
Suite 137 Memphis, TN (901) 544-0613  
The Community Reading Room is located in Building  
144 within the Environmental Division offices. Park at  
Gate 1 and enter through the front door. Hours are from  
8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please call ahead to ensure we are  
available to help you.

Memphis/Shelby County Health  
Department, Pollution Control Division  
814 Jefferson Ave., Memphis, TN  
(901) 576-7775  
The Pollution Control Division is open Monday  
to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Memphis/Shelby County Public Library,  
Cherokee Branch, 3300 Sharpe Ave.,  
Memphis, TN (901) 743-3655  
The Cherokee Branch is open Monday to Wednesday  
from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Thursday from noon to  
6:30 p.m., and Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

Memphis/Shelby County Public Library,  
Main Branch, 1850 Peabody,  
Memphis, TN (901) 725-8877  
The Main Branch is open Monday to Thursday from  
9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m.  
to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

### HOW TO REACH US....

If you have any questions or comments about the Depot's environmental restoration program, please feel free to contact any one of the following representatives from the Memphis Depot, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB):

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Protection Agency  
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Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404) 562-8553

Jordan English  
Tennessee Department  
of Environment and  
Conservation  
2510 Mt. Moriah,  
Suite E-645  
Memphis, TN 38115  
(901) 368-7953

Mondell Williams  
RAB Community  
Co-Chair  
667 Mallory Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38106  
(901) 946-9751



EnviroNews is published by the Memphis Depot to update the public on the environmental restoration program. If you have comments, questions, or suggestions for future articles, please call Ms. Alma Black Moore at (901) 544-0613.



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**ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

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