

THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 386

Sampling begins on Main Installation

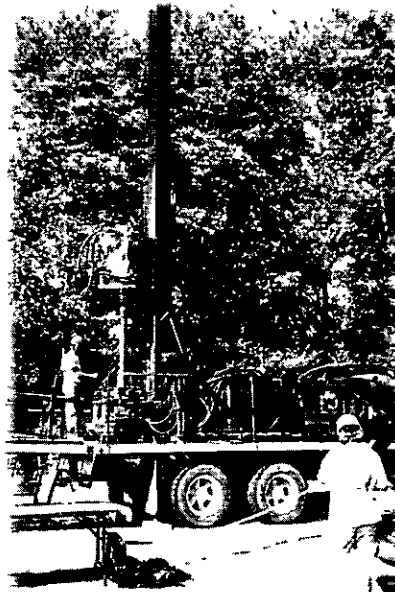
Now that the groundwater system on Dunn Field is operating, and chemical warfare materiel field sampling is completed, the Depot's environmental team is now concentrating on the next phase of the ongoing cleanup program.

Monitoring wells have been installed on the Main Installation – and at several off-site locations – so that the environmental team can determine the geology of the area as well the extent and nature of the impacted groundwater. This information will be used to evaluate alternatives for cleanup

Geological feature to be investigated

Part of the team's attention will center on a geological feature in the northwest corner of the Main Installation where there appears to be a natural underground trench.

Earlier sampling determined that compounds are present in the Fluvial aquifer, a layer of groundwater beneath the Depot. The environmental team must pay special attention to the geological feature to determine if it will allow impacted groundwater to enter Memphis' drinking water aquifer, called the Memphis Sand aquifer.



Drilling contractors Boant-Longyear install monitoring wells along the fence line at Dunn Elementary School

Off-site sampling

Groundwater is also being sampled at several off-site locations in the Depot community. Work began in late September near the intersections of Person and Rozelle, the fenceline of Dunn School, Sparks and Mallory, Sparks and Ball, Manchester and Kingsview and Ketchum and Ball.

The purpose of the off-site groundwater sampling is to provide more information to the environmental team regarding the geology of the area and to determine if impacted groundwater is moving off the Main Installation. □

UPCOMING RAB MEETINGS

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

Due to holiday schedules, there will be no Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings in November and December.

The next RAB meeting is scheduled for:

Jan. 21, 1999

Meetings are held in the Conference Room, Building 144 at the Depot, 2163 Airways Blvd., Memphis, TN. Park at Gate 1 and enter through the side doors. □

Interview with Mrs. Willie May Willet, RAB Member



Mrs. Willett is the principal of Dunn Elementary School located near Dunn Field and the Memphis

Depot. She is an alumnus of Leadership Memphis, a board member of the Memphis Urban League, and is a cluster leader appointed by Memphis City Schools Superintendent Gerry House to facilitate the work of 15 other principals in school reform. Mrs. Willett is a 32-year veteran and an award-winning educator, and has been principal of Dunn Elementary since 1972.

Q: How did you come to be involved on the RAB?

A: When the opportunity arose to learn about the cleanup operation, I became interested in learning what the process would be. Later, I learned of the subsequent closing of the Memphis Depot. We had an excellent relationship with employees of the Depot who had adopted Dunn Elementary School

and came regularly to tutor and offer their services to the school. I was concerned with what their ultimate employment status would be at the Depot.

Q: In your opinion, what concerns the community most about the environmental issues at the facility?

A: I believe the health issues, both current and future, concern the community. The distrust that is obvious among community persons is of concern to me. There needs to be more communication on the level that community persons can understand. This is improving, however, and I am most pleased with Mrs. Alma Black Moore's role in providing opportunities for community persons to learn and question the status of the procedures at the Depot. Another concern is the close proximity of the school to Dunn Field and the questions relative to issues surrounding it. We don't really have enough knowledge to say we have completely safe drinking water, for example.

Q: What methods of communicating with the community do you believe work effectively?

A: I believe that we have in place a good community relations person. I believe the newsletter is sufficient. I also believe that more persons should attend RAB meetings to get first-hand information. I have compiled all minutes and handouts at the school and they are available to community persons. It has been suggested that churches get involved because that is always an important vehicle for getting information out. Collectively, all of these are effective ways of communicating with the community.

Q: How do you think the RAB is operating? Is there anything you would like to change?

A: The RAB is operating effectively. I have always been impressed with the community persons' commitment to the efforts. Other representatives are knowledgeable and appear to be just as committed. We have by-laws that we have ratified. We have opportunities for input and sharing. I do believe we are doing fine □

Asphalt road construction begins on Dunn Field

In response to concerns from Depot neighbors about dust, the gravel road on Dunn Field is being replaced by an asphalt road.

Local minority contractor S&W Paving is constructing the new road from Dunn Avenue onto Dunn Field. Work is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Truck activity on Dunn Field has increased in recent months because of the ongoing removal of the fluorspar and bauxite piles. The Depot initiated this project on behalf of the community to minimize the dust problems at Dunn Field □

Depot Information Briefs:

Removal of Stockpiles

The removal of the remaining fluorspar and bauxite stockpiles will continue with the sale of the material to private buyers. The removal of this material is slated to be completed by the summer of 1999.

Soil gas survey expanded

The Depot has expanded the soil gas sampling program as a result of the success of a new quick, safe and cost-effective sampling technology called Gore Sorbers™.

The original program involved 300 Gore Sorbers™, which resemble a long, thin shoelace with a tiny filter pack at the tip, that were placed in the ground on Dunn Field. The filter packs in the Gore Sorbers™ detect any vapor in the soil that is being released by compounds in the soil.

Additional Gore Sorbers™ have now been placed in the ground at the northeast corner of Dunn Field and at the southeast perimeter of the fence.

Once the Gore Sorbers™ are removed, a laboratory will analyze the filter packs for evidence of soil vapors.

This analysis will help the Depot environmental team pinpoint where more in-depth sampling should be done to locate the source of the vapors.

Because Gore Sorbers™ use natural air flow and can be placed in the ground with minimum soil disturbance, any compounds that may be present won't be disturbed until the cleanup team can determine exactly what is there and how it can best be addressed.

Upcoming Activities

- The Depot's environmental team is beginning the remedial investigation of areas of concern on the Main Installation.
- With the chemical warfare materiel field sampling completed, work is now proceeding on a site safety submission. The submission – which details what is present and what safety precautions will be taken during cleanup activities – must be approved by The Pentagon before any cleanup work can begin.

These efforts are all part of the Depot's commitment to restore, reuse and revitalize this facility. If you have further questions, please call Alma Black Moore, Community Relations Specialist, at (901) 544-0613. □

Happy

Anniversary!



The Bethel Community Neighborhood Watch Association held their first anniversary

celebration on October 17 at Charjean Elementary School.

Representatives from the Memphis Police Department's Southeast Precinct, located at the Memphis Depot, and the City of Memphis Code Enforcement Division shared helpful information with Bethel Community members.

Alma Black Moore, Community Relations Specialist at the Depot, was also

invited to attend, and talked about various community outreach and cleanup activities at the Depot.

The Bethel Community Neighborhood Watch Association is dedicated to working together "in love, peace, trust and respect to bring unity." For more information, contact Bethel Community President Bobbie Lyles at (901) 544-4203. □

MIFA's RSVP teams up with Depot

The Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association's (MIFA) Retired Senior and Volunteer Program (RSVP) has established a new volunteer partnership with the Memphis Depot.

MIFA conducted an orientation luncheon in October for volunteers who will assist the Depot's Community Relations Specialist, Alma Black Moore, with community outreach programs at the Depot.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with so many skilled senior adults, and I sincerely appreciate the time that they are willing to give to the Depot community," said Ms. Moore. "It's especially significant because most of the volunteers live near the Depot and are interested in the cleanup and restoration of the Depot."

Etta Johnson, Director of RSVP, is responsible for placing more than 600 senior adults in volunteer positions

throughout the city. Active in the Memphis area for more than 23 years, the RSVP program is vital to non-profit and government agencies throughout the city.

RSVP volunteers - four of whom are retired librarians - will help Ms. Moore with many projects, most importantly updating and maintaining the Depot's Information Repositories throughout the city, including the Reading Room at the Depot. The Repositories provide the public an opportunity to view all public documents related to the Depot's cleanup projects.

Volunteers will also help distribute fact sheets to Depot neighbors to update them on ongoing cleanup activities and assemble educational materials that the environmental team can use during their visits to schools and community groups in the neighborhood. □

New BCT member joins Memphis Depot Project

The newest member of the Memphis Depot BRAC Cleanup Team is William Turpin Ballard, a Remedial Project Manager (RPM) with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Mr. Ballard was the senior RPM for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio and was based at the EPA's Chicago office before being transferred to the Atlanta, Georgia office to manage the Memphis Depot project.

Turpin has worked for the EPA since he joined the Region 5 Groundwater Protection Branch in 1987. He has been a Superfund RPM since 1989 and has managed federal facility sites as well as private sites.

Prior to joining the EPA, Turpin worked for Tenneco Oil Exploration and Production in Lafayette, Louisiana as a geological engineer. He earned a Masters Degree in geology from Indiana University.

As a member of the BCT, Turpin also sits on the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). □



Community Information Session

The Depot hosted another Community Information Session at Corry Junior High School on Saturday, September 19, 1998. The Depot's Environmental team was joined by representatives of a number of federal, state and local government agencies - along with our environmental contractors, community groups and tenants now located at the Memphis Depot - to discuss the environmental restoration and reuse programs with the community.

Members of the Memphis Depot Restoration Advisory Board cut the ribbon during a ceremony to mark the start up of the Groundwater Pumping System at Dunn Field. The system is now operational and impacted groundwater is being pumped from beneath Dunn Field to a City of Memphis water treatment facility where it will be processed through the wastewater treatment procedure.

McAuley's Potpourri staff



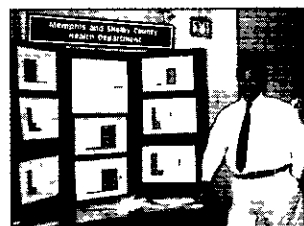
Jennifer Redden and Randy Gentry of the University of Memphis Groundwater Institute.



Karen Bell of the Depot Redevelopment Corporation



Wilson Walters, Dorothy Richards and Kim Speer of the Army Corps of Engineers



Carter Gray of the Memphis/Shelby County Health Department, and RAB Member



Alma Black Moore, Community Relations Specialist at the Memphis Depot, takes questions from students during a visit to an area school. Ms. Moore, along with Benjamin Moore, Christina Conyers and Joe Maloney of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and Katrina Hamm of the Environmental Protection Agency, spoke to students at Alcy Hamilton, Dunn and Norris Elementary Schools and Corry Middle School about preparing for careers in science, mathematics and community relations.



Greater Memphis Environmental Justice Work Group Community Meeting

Members of the Depot environmental team joined with other community and government partners to participate in the second meeting of the Greater Memphis Environmental Justice Work Group on Saturday, October 17, 1998. The working group was designed to review, discuss and distribute information on the environment and human health, which may adversely impact the quality of life of residents living near and around the Memphis Depot and other areas of environmental concern in the Memphis area.

The day-long workshop was coordinated by The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

(ATSDR) and co-chaired by ATSDR Office of Urban Affairs Associate Administrator, Dr. Rueben Warren and Defense Depot Memphis, Tennessee Concerned Citizen Committee (DDMT-CCC) President, Doris Bradshaw.

Shawn Phillips, Depot Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Environmental Coordinator and Jordan English, Tennessee Department of the Environment and Conservation Remedial Project Manager, reported together on the Depot's cleanup and decision-making process. This regulatory process is used to consider and implement effective cleanup activities while protecting human health and the environment.

Other sub-groups presented their review and

assessment of community health concerns, access to community health care, environmental health education activities, and other environmental concerns that may pose an overall community health risk.

Many follow-up tasks were identified and discussed. Participants of the work group agreed to meet again in six months to report on their subgroup findings and continue to recommend actions for issues of concern.

For further information on the Greater Memphis Environmental Justice Work Group, please contact Alma Black Moore, Depot Community Relations Specialist, at (901) 544-0613, Dr. Rueben Warren at (404) 639-5060, or Doris Bradshaw at (901) 942-0329. □

The Memphis Depot
2163 Airways Blvd.
Memphis, TN 38114

Bulk Rate
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DATED MATERIALS

FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....

The Information Repositories are at the following locations:

The Depot, 2163 Airways Blvd.,
Memphis, TN (901) 544-0613

The Community Outreach 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 Department of Defense, 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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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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