

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

FORT McCLELLAN, ALABAMA

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Taken before SAMANTHA E. NOBLE, a Court
Reporter and Commissioner for Alabama at Large, at
Fairview Heights Baptist Church, Saks, Alabama, on the
8th day of February, 1999, commencing at approximately
6:30 p.m.

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1 MR. PETE CONROY: Can I have
2 everybody's attention, please. My name is Pete
3 Conroy, and this is the Fort McClellan Restoration
4 Advisory Board Meeting. And I believe this is a
5 record. We've never had this many people in our
6 audience. And this is terrific. It's a sign that
7 more and more people are caring about what's happening
8 out there. And we've predicted this, and so this is
9 delightful. I'm sorry that we don't have anymore
10 board members around the table.

11 First, what I would like to do is call
12 the roll of board members and then I would like folks
13 from the audience to real briefly introduce themselves
14 so we know who is here.

15 Do I have a checklist? Lisa, do we have
16 the checklist?

17 MS. JOAN McKINNEY: Yes. I hope I
18 have a list. I apologize for that.

19 MR. PETE CONROY: Thank you, ma'am.
20 Ron Levy?

21 MR. RON LEVY: Here.

22 MR. PETE CONROY: Mark Anderson?
23 Ike Brown?

1 MR. IKE BROWN: Here.

2 MR. PETE CONROY: James Buford?

3 Barry Cox?

4 DR. BARRY COX: Here.

5 MR. PETE CONROY: Don Cunningham?

6 Jerome Elser?

7 MR. JEROME ELSER: Here.

8 MR. PETE CONROY: Alan Faust?

9 MR. ALAN FAUST: Here.

10 MR. PETE CONROY: Mary Harrington?

11 DR. MARY HARRINGTON: I'm here.

12 MR. PETE CONROY: Ronald Hood?

13 John Johnson? Ed Kimbrough? Margaret Longstreth?

14 James Miller? Jimmy Parks?

15 MR. JIMMY PARKS: Here.

16 MR. PETE CONROY: Fern Thomassy?

17 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Here.

18 MR. PETE CONROY: Charles Turner?

19 MR. CHARLES TURNER: I'm here.

20 MR. PETE CONROY: And Bart Reedy?

21 MR. BART REEDY: Here.

22 MR. PETE CONROY: And Chris

23 Johnson?

1 MR. CHRIS JOHNSON: I'm here.

2 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Ron, you want
3 to introduce our topics for this evening?

4 MR. RON LEVY: We don't have a
5 quorum for the minutes, do we? Would y'all take a
6 quick look at the minutes, and if there is any
7 corrections to them, please, let us know.

8 MR. PETE CONROY: And while you're
9 doing that, I would like to go around the room real
10 quickly, and if y'all can introduce yourselves. If
11 you'll start right here, please.

12 MR. MAT KAY: I'm Mat Kay with EOD
13 Technology.

14 MR. JIM BURGER: My name is Jim
15 Burger. I'm with EOD Technology, also.

16 MR. DAVID SKRIDULIS: David
17 Skridulis, with the Huntsville Corps.

18 MR. JOHN BRENT: John Brent, Fort
19 Benning.

20 MR. ALVIN CRAWFORD: Alvin Crawford
21 with Reece Engineering.

22 MS. BRIDGETTE MINIARD: Bridgette
23 Miniard with Reece Engineering.

1 MS. MELISSA CANNON: Melissa Cannon
2 with Reece Engineering.

3 MR. KEN STOCKWELL: Ken Stockwell
4 with Parsons.

5 MR. SCOTT ROWDEN: I'm Scott
6 Rowden. I'm with Parsons, also.

7 MR. ROBIN BOYD: Robin Boyd with
8 Parsons.

9 MR. WAYMON PENCE: Waymon Pence
10 with Fort McClellan Directorate of Environment.

11 MS. LISA KINGSBURY: Lisa
12 Kingsbury, Fort McClellan Environmental.

13 MR. PAUL JAMES: Paul James,
14 Directorate of Environment, Fort McClellan.

15 MR. PAUL MCGUIRE: Paul McGuire,
16 Fort McClellan Public Affairs.

17 MR. HARRY THOMAS: Harry Thomas,
18 Fort McClellan Environmental Office.

19 MR. PETE CONROY: Here, please.

20 MR. BILL PIERCE: I'm Bill Pierce,
21 EOD Technology.

22 MR. MICHAEL SHORT: Michael Short,
23 EOD Technology.

1 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: Herschal
2 Chapman, Fort McClellan Public Affairs Office.

3 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Bob DiMichael,
4 Huntsville Corps of Engineers.

5 MR. DALE LONG: Bill Long,
6 Sudhakar.

7 MR. DOUG LaMonthe: Doug LaMonthe,
8 Sudhakar.

9 MR. MONTY MATHEWS: Monty Mathews
10 with Roy W. Weston.

11 MR. WAYNE WRIGHT: Wayne Wright
12 with Roy F. Weston.

13 COLONEL ROBERT LINDSAY: Robert
14 Lindsay with Roy W. Weston.

15 MR. FRANK COBB: Frank Cobb, Fort
16 McClellan Transition Office.

17 MR. FLOYD NEWMAN: Floyd Newman,
18 I'm just a member of the church.

19 MS. JOAN MCKINNEY: He also made
20 the coffee.

21 MR. PETE CONROY: Mr. Newman,
22 really, this meeting is all for you this evening. Has
23 everyone had a chance to look at the minutes? We

1 don't have a quorum, yet.

2 MR. RON LEVY: What, we got eight
3 people? No, it's nine.

4 MR. PETE CONROY: Okay, one short.
5 Well --

6 MR. RON LEVY: Still, we would like
7 to take an account. Is there any changes in the
8 minutes? Okay, we'll get right into the program.

9 MR. PETE CONROY: Yes, if you want
10 to review what we're going to do tonight.

11 MR. RON LEVY: Most of you know me.
12 In fact, since we've got so many contractors or
13 potential contractors in the room, the meeting
14 tonight's focus was on the roles that the public
15 affairs piece plays in the restoration process. And
16 we've invited some folks here. One is Hershal Chapman
17 from the public affairs office here. He is the
18 community -- help me out here, Hershal.

19 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: Media
20 relations.

21 MR. RON LEVY: -- media relations
22 chief for Fort McClellan. And Bob DiMichael from
23 Huntsville Corps who is handling the piece that deals

1 with unexploded ordnance, which has a whole separate
2 issue related to public involvement in the cleanup of
3 ordnance, OE is -- your title, Bob is?

4 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Public affairs
5 officer.

6 MR. RON LEVY: Public affairs
7 officer at Huntsville. And they're going to speak,
8 hopefully, briefly, then we can get to questions and
9 answers as to how they interact with the community
10 down here and what their mission is, you know, what it
11 is that we can get from them. And I guess we'll take
12 it from there after that. Hershhal, do you want to be
13 the first to come up and talk?

14 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: Here?
15 There?

16 MR. RON LEVY: Either way.

17 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: I'll stand
18 here. It's as good as any. My name is Hershhal
19 Chapman, and I am from the public affairs office here
20 at Fort McClellan. And the main thing I do there is
21 kind of -- my boss, Lieutenant Colonel Rick Thomas,
22 who would like to be here tonight, he was asked to be
23 here and he likes doing these things a whole lot. He

1 asked me to fill in for him. I guess I don't need to
2 start at the beginning. I'm just going to talk very
3 briefly, because you all have got an idea of what a
4 public affairs office is responsible for. It's much
5 like public relations in the civilian field. So, I'm
6 sure you're all aware of that.

7 We at Fort McClellan don't look at
8 ourselves as the experts in the restoration business.
9 We can't possibly be. We here at Fort McClellan, we
10 serve the MP school, the training brigade, the
11 chemical school, and we sort of look at ourselves as
12 masters of none of these, but we certainly try to
13 bridge the gap between the public to be more or less
14 an honest broker. That's what I look at my job as.
15 If I have a watch word, that's openness. And
16 everything we do, hopefully, is on the table there and
17 -- because we know what we do, especially in terms of
18 closure and restoration of the environment is of
19 critical importance to many people around here. And
20 if I can't get you the answer, we can certainly, you
21 know, get in touch with Ron and his people or Mr.
22 DiMichael and his people and we'll find you the
23 experts, because we look at Mr. Levy and Mr. DiMichael

1 as the experts in their field.

2 The press will write what the press
3 will write, and that's good. I wouldn't want it any
4 other way and I don't think anybody else would,
5 either. So, regardless of what, you know, some people
6 may think about the federal government and the Army
7 and their attitudes towards openness, I can assure you
8 that my bosses from General Wooten on down are very
9 open. They're very willing and eager to share
10 whatever we do with the community.

11 We have dealt with several issues
12 currently and in the recent past that those of you who
13 live in this community are aware of. There was an
14 issue with the waste water treatment plant not too
15 long ago that we dealt with. And that was an issue.
16 We're dealing currently with UXOs and, of course, with
17 the Eastern bypass and all of the things that are
18 commensurate with that. And those -- as I said, those
19 things, we don't know, we seek to find answers for.
20 And I'm helped by Mr. McGuire, who attends these RAB
21 meetings here as our community relations liaison.

22 And as I said, I'll just take just
23 a couple of minutes here and maybe I'll let Bob go

1 ahead and speak. And then, if you've got any
2 questions for us, well, that's what we're here for,
3 just to sort of introduce ourselves and to let you
4 know that we're part of the process here. Bob.

5 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Thanks. Again,
6 I'm Bob DiMichael, I'm the public affairs officer from
7 the Corps of Engineers in Huntsville. And what I
8 really wanted to do was just talk to you a little bit
9 about what we do in Huntsville Center, why we're here,
10 and how we're going to help this process. I can only
11 reiterate what Hershhal said about openness, about
12 public involvement, about our support for your
13 organization, the restoration advisory board. We
14 support these things all across the country. Our job
15 in the Huntsville Corps of Engineers, those of you who
16 might be familiar with the Corps of Engineers is
17 probably familiar with the concept that the Corps
18 works in geographic districts, you know, water basin
19 boundaries, Tennessee River, whatever. We don't
20 operate that way. We're very much like a business.
21 As a matter of fact, we're probably more like a
22 business than many businesses are. The President's
23 quality team was in Huntsville, oh, last month, to

1 look at us. We've been recognized as one of the top
2 five federal agencies in all of the federal
3 government. That's not just in the Army, that's not
4 in the Department of Defense, that's in all of the
5 federal government, our little group up in Huntsville.
6 We're very proud of that, but we operate very much
7 like a business. And we operate all across the
8 country. I'm sure you'll recognize some of the things
9 we do.

10 Huntsville Center is the
11 construction manager for the chemical demilitarization
12 facility at the Anniston Depot. And given whether or
13 not you are pro or against incineration, Huntsville
14 Center is pro construction. We'll manage the
15 construction. We'll make sure it's safe. We'll make
16 sure it's done right. We'll keep an eye on the
17 contractor that builds it and the contractor who
18 builds it to make sure the plan will fit right in your
19 communities with the best possible plan. Again,
20 whether or not it's incineration or neutralization or
21 whatever technology is inside that plant, our job is
22 to make sure it's built right. And we're going to
23 make sure that it is.

1 We've got about thirty people that
2 actually live here in the community in Anniston that
3 are part of our resident engineer shop. Now, David
4 Skridulis is your project manager. He's up in
5 Huntsville with me. We come down as often as
6 necessary to support whatever information needs you
7 have. David is the smart guy. I'm just sort of the
8 mouthpiece. But I take my role very seriously and
9 almost as -- almost as an ombudsman. The Army doesn't
10 like to hear the word ombudsman too much, but I try to
11 do that role sometimes, take the information, provide
12 it to you. My job is to think about the questions you
13 might have, sometimes even before you think about
14 them, so that we can get the right answers for you at
15 the right time. Again, we take that job very
16 seriously. We are the experts quite frankly in
17 unexploded ordnance and in chemical weapons.

18 So, in that particular aspect of this
19 cleanup, that's where the information is really going
20 to come from, from the Huntsville Center. We've got
21 about six hundred folks up there, lots of expertise in
22 unexploded ordnance. You can see a lot of the
23 contractors are here. All of our folks in unexploded

1 ordnance have a tremendous amount of experience. They
2 have done Presidential protection. They've done just
3 about every aspect of unexploded ordnance that you can
4 find.

5 The Department of Defense
6 recognizes us as basically the smart guys on cleaning
7 up bombs, leftover bombs, either chemical or
8 conventional. We're working right now, as a matter of
9 fact, up in Washington D.C. In the Korean ambassador's
10 residence in his backyard. The South Korean
11 ambassador's residence might have a couple of chemical
12 warfare weapons left behind from World War I in his
13 garden, and so they called upon us to go up there and
14 see if we can find -- see whether or not the Korean
15 ambassador -- to see if we have to dig up the Korean
16 ambassador's garden to see if we have to clean that
17 up.

18 Our projects are all across the
19 country, coast to coast, Alaska to Florida, California
20 to Maine, base closures, any number of places. Fort
21 Ord, for example, is obviously a major Army
22 installation like Fort McClellan.

23 We worked with the Wall Street

1 Journal over the past six months to do a story about
2 the cleanup of Fort Ord. As you might -- may not have
3 actually known, in a little box there in the Wall
4 Street Journal that talked about base closure sites,
5 there was Fort McClellan and eastern bypass as one of
6 the Army's priorities. So, again, the Wall Street
7 Journal came to us because California Department of
8 Environmental Quality said, if you want to know about
9 cleaning up bombs, call Huntsville Center. So, we're
10 very proud of our expertise and we're very proud of
11 the fact we want to work with communities all across
12 the country to keep you informed.

13 To us, it's all about public
14 safety. You know, you got to clean the land up right
15 in order for you folks to redevelop it and use it as
16 you need it. So, with that, I'll answer any questions
17 that I can about how we do it. Or, of course, David
18 is here, we can answer questions, whatever you may
19 have.

20 MR. ANDERSON: Colonel Cunningham
21 still the boss?

22 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Colonel
23 Cunningham is still the boss. Colonel Cunningham's

1 been there about four years. He's put a very strong
2 business emphasis on it and he's very strong in terms
3 of openness, public involvement, and making the
4 process work for you. He gives me -- he gives you his
5 personal assurance that that's true. He'll be there
6 another, I guess, four or five months through the
7 summer. And -- but I have no doubt that the next
8 commander will carry that same philosophy on through.

9 Is there anything else I can answer
10 for you? In terms of public involvement process,
11 there are some certain things in the ordnance world.
12 For example, when we do something called an
13 engineering evaluation cost analysis, part of that
14 process is what we call, you know, CERCLA. If you're
15 familiar with CERCLA, the cleanup law, the
16 environmental law, part of that process requires
17 public involvement. Now, we tried to expand upon that
18 and make it as full as possible. But for example,
19 when we come up with recommendations for a cleanup
20 specifically to Fort McClellan, there will be a
21 public, formal public comment period, which formal
22 public hearing or public meeting, rather. I wouldn't
23 necessarily call it a hearing, but meeting, which we

1 take public comments on, after thirty, forty-five
2 days, whatever you might need to provide us input on
3 our suggested alternatives, cleanup for example. So,
4 there is a mechanism actually built into the process
5 that allows your input. And, of course, in your forum
6 here, that input's available at any time that
7 provides.

8 MR. RON LEVY: That's in addition
9 to what information is put before the RAB, as well.

10 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Exactly.

11 MR. RON LEVY: This is just another
12 means to get it out to the public.

13 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Yes, just
14 another mechanism to make sure that your comments are
15 heard in our cleanup plan.

16 MR. PETE CONROY: A question that's
17 often asked of us is a tough one to answer, but I want
18 to hear how you answer it, and that is: After the
19 base is closed, what's the likelihood of our local
20 community being able to use the mountain property for
21 hunting and hiking and recreational use?

22 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Well, once the
23 cleanup is done -- I will tell you, without any

1 hesitation, we can't guarantee you one hundred percent
2 that every piece of ordnance is going to be picked up
3 and cleaned up. We just don't have that -- we don't
4 have the level of technology to give you one hundred
5 percent clearance guaranteed. Now, what we do tell
6 you is we do the best job that we have with the money
7 and the resources and the technology that's available
8 to you. The best answer I can give to you is that you
9 need to make sure that land use and what we come up
10 with from our investigation for ordnance is
11 compatible. Not every type of land use is compatible
12 with unexploded ordnance. That's just a matter of
13 fact. I mean, that's not just here, but that's
14 anywhere. What we want to do, of course, is preclude
15 the case of -- much that we're doing now, in terms of
16 formerly used defense sites, sites that were cleaned
17 up fifty years ago, and now we're back cleaning them
18 up because there was unforeseen land use, land use
19 changes that are incompatible with the safety of the
20 public.

21 David, do you have anything else
22 you want to add about the mountain? You know, if
23 you're talking about non-intrusive activities,

1 activities such as hunting or hiking, that don't, you
2 know, intrude upon the surface of the ground, that's a
3 great -- human behavior is a great savior in this
4 program.

5 And I'll tell you, we've got a
6 perfect safety record. That's hard to believe, but we
7 do. Over the past ten years we've had this program,
8 as the center of expertise, not a single person has
9 been hurt by an explosive safety accident after we've
10 been on site. Again, we're very, very proud of that
11 record.

12 Now, some of that also takes into
13 account personal responsibility. If you know that
14 there is the potential of unexploded ordnances there
15 and you educate people somewhat, give them some
16 awareness so that they don't pick up an item off the
17 ground, oh, this is neat, why don't we just pluck it
18 in my backpack and take it back home with me and put
19 it in my house, that kind of stuff. If you avoid that
20 kind of stuff, the safety level is extremely high.
21 Now, sometimes human behavior, you just can't -- you
22 know, you just can't stop some foolishness. But for
23 the most part, that, along with a legitimate plan of

1 action and land use, is going to pretty much guarantee
2 you safety, from our experience.

3 Now, you know, I don't know. We'd
4 have to -- we'd have to do the study on it, right,
5 David?

6 MR. DAVID SKRIDULIS: Yeah, I mean,
7 right now, I don't see that, you know, the types of
8 things that -- the uses that you're going to have in
9 the mountain areas are going to be -- when we're done
10 there, it should be consistent with what's gone on
11 there in the past. I don't see us going in and
12 restricting it or, you know, making it more
13 restrictive, unless we do find something that we're
14 not aware of right now.

15 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Exactly. Once
16 the investigation is done, we're going to lay that out
17 at different levels of alternatives, based upon
18 potential land use that you see fit to, you know, set
19 the plans for. Again, not everything can be
20 compatible with unexploded ordnance.

21 But again, public safety being our
22 primary concern, that and a little bit of education
23 and awareness. Sometimes we do brochures. I mean,

1 there are parks of all sorts, national parks, state
2 parks, etcetera, that have contamination that people
3 are still, you know, very safe, because unless you go
4 up and, you know -- if you're a hunter and blast that
5 boy with your shotgun, it's not going to bother you.
6 It's not really going to be a danger to you based upon
7 your behavior.

8 So, that's the kind of thing we try to
9 instill, also, as part of a community awareness
10 process. You know, if you take that -- again, you
11 take it home -- and we've had instances, very
12 recently, where kids have gone out into impact areas
13 in California, as a matter of fact, in the past month,
14 found some grenades, picked them up from an impact
15 area, took them back with them, started throwing them
16 in the school. Turned out, fortunately, that they
17 were practice rounds and so they didn't explode. But
18 they could well have been high explosive and killed
19 them or done, you know, whatever damage there was to
20 the school, killed themselves. The Army's explosive
21 ordnance detachment had to go to their homes, you
22 know, and basically go through their homes and take
23 the stuff out of their homes, out of their bedrooms.

1 You know, again that's the kind of behavior that is
2 hard to foresee, but with a little educational
3 awareness, we can work that. We're very active that
4 way actually at Fort Ord right now as a matter of fact
5 with community awareness programs.

6 So, we'd like to, you know, as that
7 progresses, I think that has to be left behind, the
8 thought that community awareness is always going to be
9 necessary in some of those areas so that people just
10 don't forget to have that little bit of common sense
11 and safety.

12 I hope I answered your question
13 without rattling too long. Anybody else with any
14 questions?

15 I have a little fact sheet about
16 what we do. Yeah, we do all sorts of things.
17 Intrusion detection systems for Anniston Army Depot;
18 the intrusion detection systems that protect the
19 chemical weapons storage at Anniston Army Depot
20 developed at the Huntsville Center. The FBI's
21 headquarters building has intrusion detection systems
22 developed by the Corps of Engineers in Huntsville.
23 We're very proud of our expertise. We think we've got

1 a lot of good stuff and we're more than willing to
2 apply both our commitment to you and our technology to
3 clean up the location.

4 MR. RON LEVY: One of the things
5 that recently happened is that the JPA passed a
6 resolution agreeing to certain property being part of
7 the proposed wildlife refuge. In fact, it's not what
8 we originally understood it to be, it's a lot less,
9 about sixty-five hundred acres, with the caveat that,
10 you know, depending upon cleanup, you know, there may
11 be some additional property available.

12 Are we going to be able to give the
13 community -- this is the question I've been asked
14 before -- a hundred percent assurances on those pieces
15 of property that have been cleaned up that there is no
16 additional ordnance there?

17 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: To the best
18 technology that we can apply, the best process and the
19 best technology we can apply to the site, at the time.
20 But again, I cannot give you a one hundred percent
21 guarantee that you're not going to find a one'zie or
22 two'zie at some -- at some point. It's just
23 impossible for us to do.

1 MR. RON LEVY: And what people need
2 to understand that goes along with those lines, if I
3 -- if we cannot give a hundred percent assurances on
4 property that has been cleaned up, it's going to be
5 difficult from a land use standpoint for the Army to
6 agree for full development. So, if somebody wanted to
7 go in and dig a foundation for a house --

8 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: There are
9 options -- there are options. I mean, there are
10 things like construction supports that we can provide
11 through the Corps of Engineers where, if you come
12 across that one item that might be found ten feet
13 down, for whatever, you know -- it's almost impossible
14 without the investigation be done, to speculate
15 completely. But again, technology has its limits.
16 But the process also provides support to needs, as
17 well. I mean, there is a way to work some of that
18 stuff out. We've actually gotten some commitments at
19 several sites where land owners can -- will actually
20 develop their land and will be back. You know, the
21 Corps' an institution that's been around for as long
22 as the Army, you know, two hundred and however many
23 years. And as far as we hope, we're not going

1 anywhere. So, you know, there are ways and mechanisms
2 to assure safety. And again, that's our primary
3 concern, safety. But, no, the bottom line answer is:
4 As much as we would like to guarantee one hundred
5 percent assurance, that is not possible, yet, based
6 upon the technology.

7 Now, of course, we want to apply
8 the best technology possible and we're going to do a
9 technology demonstration here actually on site like a
10 test grid that we would certainly be more than willing
11 to invite you out so that you could see for yourself
12 some of the processes that we're going to be applying
13 to the cleanup of the installation. And I would
14 certainly encourage you to do that. We don't have an
15 exact time or place set up for that, but that's going
16 to be part of the selection process for the
17 contractor. And I would encourage you guys and ladies
18 to come out and take a look at that so you see for
19 yourself what it is that we have available to us, what
20 it is that we have around the bend to apply to it, and
21 exactly what limitations we may be facing. That would
22 be interesting to see what we're able to come up with,
23 to tell you the truth.

1 Sometimes, you know, it's very
2 labor intensive. I'll tell you very truthfully that
3 there may be some of the guys here that probably know
4 better than I exactly what these percentages are, but,
5 you know, when you're digging up for a piece of
6 unexploded ordnance, you can tell that there is
7 something underneath the ground, but to a large
8 extent, you don't know what that something is, a
9 hubcap, a piece of shrapnel, or a high explosive
10 round. You have to dig it up and find out exactly
11 what that is. So, most of our digs, you know, and
12 actually going in there and digging the stuff up, is
13 actually trying to figure out what it is that's
14 underneath there. The vast majority -- I'd say 80 --
15 again, I don't know the number off the top of my head.
16 I apologize -- 80, 90 percent of the holes we dig turn
17 up scrap, traditionally, across all our projects
18 across the country. But we treat every one of those
19 holes as if they have a bomb in them, because that's
20 the only way that you're safe, because that 10 percent
21 or whatever that actually produces an explosive
22 ordnance round is the ones that could really bite you.
23 So, you always treat them all the same way. And we

1 have very stringent safety procedures. But again, the
2 bottom line is: You've got a limitation on
3 technology. What we're trying to do is develop the
4 better discrimination type of capability so that --
5 through software and computer technology, so that you
6 can tell through characteristics of the readings that
7 you get what it is. You know, nine out of ten times,
8 this reading gives you a Coke can and nine out of ten
9 times this other reading might give you a, you know,
10 mortar round. So, that's the kind of way we're trying
11 to develop a more discriminating type of capability.
12 Yes, sir?

13 MR. BART REEDY: My name is Bart
14 Reedy, I'm with EPA in Atlanta.

15 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Yes, sir.

16 MR. BART REEDY: Awhile ago you
17 were talking about one of the key components is
18 behavior modification. And certainly, we, you know,
19 the BCT, recognize that to be a reality. The question
20 I would have for you, in your mind's eye, where do you
21 see the Army, specifically the Corps - was it your --
22 where are you going to be three or four, five years
23 from now when the base is closed and it's, you know,

1 turned over for secondary use, whatever that may be,
2 and, you know, the sixty-five hundred acres is sitting
3 out there under the stewardship of, fill in the blank,
4 how is it the Corps is going to assist in behavior
5 modification? I'm a little fuzzy there.

6 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Well, all
7 across the country we respond to people's needs
8 through our geographic districts, generally is how the
9 process generally goes, through geographic districts,
10 we support them with brochures, videos, any number of
11 types of information devices. And we have people that
12 could work with whatever authority it is that owns
13 that property to establish institutional controls,
14 whether it be anything from deed restrictions to signs
15 that just give awareness information. State parks,
16 for example, one comes to mind, South Carolina, a very
17 large state park in South Carolina, we provide them --

18 MR. PETE CONROY: What was that?

19 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Camp Croft,
20 South Carolina. We provide them a variety of
21 brochures. They've produced a video product, as a
22 matter of fact. The park rangers have these things
23 and have them as an information resource just as you

1 would a brochure about hiking trails, you know, an
2 awareness brochure. Right now we're working with the
3 State of California and I guess it's the Navy to do
4 some bilingual products for a former Naval facility
5 out there to -- again, to increase awareness. The
6 Aleutian Islands, even, bird watchers that might go to
7 extreme island up in the Aleutians, the number of
8 people that might actually be up there in the year is
9 less than a couple of dozen, but the extreme nature of
10 the contamination from a World War II battle with the
11 Japanese leaves it extremely contaminated. And
12 varying from the given path, frankly, could be
13 dangerous there. But the number of people that have
14 access to it, plus the type of controls -- which is
15 extreme there, it's an extreme example -- allows us to
16 be relatively safe, given the nature of what the
17 danger is there.

18 What we can do is just help you
19 provide whatever authority there is to provide them
20 with the information and education and the background
21 materials or the actual materials, themselves, if
22 necessary, to help educate the public who are users,
23 you know, the intended audience, whether it be

1 hunters, hikers. I mean, we're doing that fairly
2 regularly with the formally used defense sites across
3 the country.

4 MR. BART REEDY: Thank you.

5 MR. JIMMY PARKS: When are you
6 going to conduct your test? I'm assuming you're going
7 out and burying ordnance and let the contractors come
8 and find it. When are you going to do that?

9 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: This spring,
10 right, David?

11 MR. DAVID SKRIDULIS: Yes, that's
12 about -- we can't really tell you now until we get
13 approval from our headquarters to go ahead. But it
14 should be this spring when we get out there.

15 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Have you
16 picked a site for your test?

17 MR. DAVID SKRIDULIS: Yes, we have.

18 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Does it
19 exemplify our terrain here, rocky and hilly and --

20 MR. DAVID SKRIDULIS: It's very
21 representative of terrain just about anywhere around
22 there. I mean, it's not representative of the very,
23 very extreme, but it is rocky and hilly and lots of

1 trees. And so, we think it's a pretty good spot.

2 MR. PETE CONROY: Have you done
3 much work where there has been so much naturally
4 occurring ferrous material?

5 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Yes. Our sites
6 are -- come across, I can't imagine anymore varied
7 geographic -- as I say, we're working everywhere from
8 Alaska to the Virgin Islands and from California all
9 the way up to the coast of Maine. I mean, it takes a
10 -- I'm sure many of these folks in the room right now
11 probably have great examples of it. But, yes, there
12 is tremendous amounts of variation in our -- and
13 that's why we want to do, frankly, the technology
14 demonstration, because not all technologies work as
15 well in all terrains and climates and circumstances.
16 So, what you want to do and what we try to do in any
17 of these sites is apply the best technology and the
18 best process and the best mechanism to the particular
19 location in which we're dealing with. So, you know,
20 what we might use out in the Salt Desert in Utah isn't
21 the same thing we're going to use here at the -- in
22 Alabama. I'm not misspeaking, am I, gentlemen?

23 MR. PETE CONROY: Thank you.

1 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: My pleasure.

2 And again, we've got a little fact sheet here. I'll
3 leave my cards. We're there to answer your questions.
4 You got them. You can call us and we're here to
5 support Ron and his staff.

6 MR. FLOYD NEWMAN: I was raised in
7 this area. November, I think, 24th, 1945, we had two
8 boys in our community, one of them got killed, right
9 over here behind the reserve center. We called it the
10 (inaudible), but now boys didn't have nowhere to go
11 like they do now but the woods, you know, just on a
12 Sunday evening. Now, that area, at the time was a lot
13 of duds in there. And I just wondered if that will be
14 on the western side of the eastern bypass. I don't
15 know how dangerous it is now. They was supposed to
16 have went in and cleaned up, but that's been
17 fifty-four year ago.

18 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Well, when I
19 was fifteen, we used to go in over behind Donoho
20 School, and I can't tell you all the stuff I brought
21 out through a tree house that was still there.

22 MR. ALAN FAUST: Bart, there is the
23 poster child right there.

1 MR. BART REEDY: Before and after.

2 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Do you still
3 have all your fingers, sir?

4 MR. CHARLES TURNER: (Nods head.)

5 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: I don't know
6 the answer to your question, sir, except to say that
7 if it were an impact area where there would be a lot
8 of duds and they would have cleaned it up -- again,
9 what we found is, quite truthfully, that the level of
10 capability fifty years ago is nowhere near the level
11 of capability that we have now and the potential --
12 does the potential still exist to find unexploded
13 ordnance there? Absolutely. If you found it there
14 before and you know it's a range of some type where
15 they had impact of explosive munitions then, sure, I
16 would say that there is still a possibility that there
17 could be some rounds out there, if they hadn't been
18 picked up by folks over the years themselves. But --

19 MR. CHARLES TURNER: We left some
20 for you.

21 MR. FLOYD NEWMAN: (Inaudible).

22 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Well, yeah.

23 And again, they're dangerous. So, you said somebody

1 was killed picking stuff up there?

2 MR. FLOYD NEWMAN: Yes, there was
3 one boy, Herman Mosely, he got killed. He died that
4 night. It happened one day about 1:00 o'clock on
5 Sunday, beautiful day, beautiful Sunday. And the guy
6 Storey, they carried him to the hospital at the Fort,
7 and he lived. His stomach was just tore up. Herman's
8 leg was blowed (sic) off.

9 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: Well, I could
10 tell you, sir, that kind of stuff still happens.
11 Again, we have a perfect safety record at our sites
12 after we get there. But I can tell you that there are
13 things that happen. We've had a young airman, one of
14 the bases in the southwest get killed. What did he
15 do? He picked up a munition he shouldn't have been
16 playing with. He was doing environmental sampling, as
17 a matter of fact, thought he found something kind of
18 neat and picked it up, killed himself. Shouldn't have
19 been playing with it. Should have known better, but
20 even the trained military, service member, knowing
21 that he's in a dangerous area, still picked it up to
22 play with it. He's dead, unfortunately. We had a
23 gentleman recycling scrap from out in California,

1 cutting through what he thought was a piece of scrap
2 munitions. Turned out to be a live round. He's dead,
3 as well.

4 And so that's, you know -- again, it's
5 very -- that kind of thing happens. What we want to
6 do is preclude it. We want to be as safe as possible
7 in all our processes for the gentlemen such as here in
8 the room who have to be out there actually managing it
9 and for those of you who use the land later.

10 MR. RON LEVY: Let me see if I can
11 also take a shot at this man's question. And I didn't
12 bring my slides, so we can't do show-and-tell, but you
13 all know -- and I've briefed this before -- we've got
14 a three-phased program. In this particular area,
15 which is basically right here that you're talking
16 about, sir, is in our program to go after. It's in
17 our phase two under our strategy and it involves that
18 area that you talked about right behind the Nichols
19 Reserve Center.

20 MR. FLOYD NEWMAN: Yes, right
21 behind the Reserve Center.

22 MR. RON LEVY: We do have an EECA
23 scheduled for that area.

1 MR. BOB DiMICHAEL: And what an
2 EECA is is an engineering evaluation where we go study
3 the area to see what we think is actually found there,
4 do an analysis of what we find, you know, do a
5 sampling, for example, perhaps of the land to
6 determine what the extent of the contamination might
7 be, then make some recommendations that the public
8 will have a chance to comment on how we're going to
9 clean it up.

10 MR. PETE CONROY: Straight to old
11 business?

12 MR. RON LEVY: Just a quick thing
13 on community relations from Joan. Joan, do you want
14 to talk --

15 MR. PETE CONROY: I tell you what,
16 before we do, we do have a quorum now. Did anyone
17 find anything they would like to look at in the
18 minutes?

19 MR. CHARLES TURNER: There is a --
20 I think there is a typo under new business, the fourth
21 line down, that says, graphic smoke training, I think
22 that's graphite smoke training.

23 MR. BART REEDY: Under

1 presentation, about eight lines down, the line starts,
2 therefore, did not require -- if you keep on going,
3 the sentence starts, they knew -- I think that's know.

4 MR. PETE CONROY: Any other
5 changes? All in favor of approving the minutes?
6 Opposed? Approved.

7 MR. RON LEVY: All right. Joan, if
8 you would like to get up for just a moment, we talked
9 about -- under old business last time, we talked about
10 membership. Where is Joan?

11 MR. JOAN McKINNEY: Yes, thanks. I
12 wanted to remind the RAB that we did -- about this
13 time last year, we discussed going out into the
14 community and getting some new applicants and we went
15 through that process and it was completed with the
16 mailings and everything by about the end of summer. I
17 would ask that perhaps it might be time for us to take
18 a look at some of those applicants and see if we want
19 to add some to our board or maybe re-assign some
20 members. We have eight who have applied and so we
21 have a nomination pool that you all can look at. But
22 I think that it's been months since we've had a
23 quorum, except tonight. And so, I -- this next year,

1 the next two years, I think are going to be very
2 important for us to have very active RAB members. So,
3 I would suggest that you think about that and maybe
4 let me know what you'd like to do with that. I can
5 bring them in at the next meeting. We can examine the
6 bylaws. We can reconfirm that we know what we want to
7 do and then you can kind of let me get started on it
8 so that we have more folks around the table.

9 MR. RON LEVY: Charles, I think our
10 bylaws called for membership committee, right? I
11 didn't bring a copy.

12 MR. CHARLES TURNER: I don't have a
13 copy of the bylaws with me.

14 MR. RON LEVY: Yeah. We looked.
15 And we didn't bring them with us, as well. But I
16 believe our bylaws called for a membership committee.
17 Do we want to get another membership committee
18 together or do we want to just bring the applicants
19 that we have on file directly to the RAB and look at
20 maybe making selection from those applicants?

21 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Yeah, yeah. I
22 don't see why -- if all we've got is eight
23 applications to go through, we certainly don't really

1 need a committee to screen them.

2 MR. RON LEVY: What would you
3 suggest? How would you suggest we do this then?

4 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Make copies
5 for everybody, just maybe make it the topic at the
6 next RAB meeting.

7 MR. PETE CONROY: Sounds good.

8 MR. RON LEVY: Would we attempt at
9 the next RAB meeting to make selection, too, based
10 upon the seats that we've got empty.

11 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Are we going
12 to make some vacancies?

13 MR. RON LEVY: Mark, let me ask you
14 a question. Are you --

15 MR. ANDERSON: You can make one
16 tonight.

17 MR. RON LEVY: Is this your last
18 meeting?

19 MR. MARK ANDERSON: Yes, this is my
20 last meeting. I got my letter right here for you,
21 Pete.

22 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Are we going
23 to make others?

1 MR. RON LEVY: Yes, we've got
2 another open seat, too, I believe, besides Mark's.
3 There is at least two.

4 MR. JOAN McKINNEY: We may have,
5 yes.

6 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Is there a
7 record of the attendance record? Why don't we make a
8 copy of that and circulate it? I mean, and have a
9 copy for everybody and we can look at it and vote it
10 out.

11 MR. RON LEVY: Would you like us to
12 mail it out prior to the meeting or just bring it to
13 the meeting?

14 DR. MARY HARRINGTON: Mail it out
15 prior.

16 MR. PETE CONROY: Prior.

17 MR. RON LEVY: Let's do that.

18 MS. JOAN McKINNEY: Okay.

19 MR. RON LEVY: Let's put those in
20 with the rest of the mailings and mail it out to
21 everybody. Also, a copy of the attendance records,
22 you want to see that, too?

23 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Yes.

1 MR. PETE CONROY: Was it helpful to
2 get the reminder phone call for this meeting?

3 DR. MARY HARRINGTON: It was.

4 MR. PETE CONROY: You didn't get
5 one. That was on purpose. He got one, right?

6 MR. JOAN MCKINNEY: He got one.
7 Maybe his secretary didn't tell him.

8 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Oh, yeah, I
9 guess she did. It was on my calendar. I haven't been
10 forgetting to come, I've just been busy.

11 DR. MARY HARRINGTON: When we
12 change the date, that ought to -- some of the times
13 that we can come. And what I do is so seasonal,
14 unfortunately, if Richardson doesn't take into
15 consideration that I need to be somewhere else, if
16 it's my time to go to Montgomery, I have to go.

17 MR. RON LEVY: What we put in front
18 of you is the copy of the upcoming dates. And besides
19 the mailings that you're going to get from Joan with
20 the minutes, if you want something to refer to or if
21 you want to mark your calendar up for -- up through
22 December of next year of this year, you can do that,
23 because we usually don't hold the meeting in December

1 but we've got one listed for tentative.

2 MR. JOAN MCKINNEY: Those are just
3 the scheduled dates that we usually do, so, I put them
4 in there and it helps.

5 MR. PETE CONROY: Any other old
6 business?

7 MR. RON LEVY: No, I think we can
8 go into new business.

9 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Since we're on
10 that subject, let me ask: How long has it been since
11 we've had a quorum?

12 MR. PETE CONROY: This is the first
13 time for -- this is the first meeting I've chaired
14 that had a quorum.

15 MR. RON LEVY: I want to say about
16 four meetings, at least.

17 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Is our quorum
18 requirement too high?

19 MR. RON LEVY: Well, I guess it is,
20 because we're not getting it.

21 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Well, I mean,
22 it's either that or we've got -- we've got -- our
23 membership isn't attending, regularly.

1 MR. RON LEVY: Can we consider
2 changing the bylaws next meeting?

3 MR. CHARLES TURNER: We can do
4 whatever you want.

5 MR. PETE CONROY: What's quorum
6 right now?

7 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Is it eleven
8 members?

9 MR. PETE CONROY: What percent is
10 that?

11 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Eleven out of
12 seventeen.

13 MR. RON LEVY: Seventeen.

14 MR. CHARLES TURNER: We've got a
15 room full of engineers, I bet somebody --

16 MR. BART REEDY: I'm a geologist.

17 MR. PETE CONROY: Back off.

18 MR. CHRIS JOHNSON: Give or take,
19 sixty-five percent.

20 MR. CHARLES TURNER: I don't know,
21 if we just maybe, you know, identify a quorum, what a
22 quorum is and then a majority of that to take action.
23 So --

1 MR. RON LEVY: I would suggest then
2 we vote on that next meeting and attempt to change the
3 bylaws. We have a quorum now, we could vote on it
4 this time.

5 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Yeah.

6 MR. RON LEVY: Do it while we've
7 got a quorum.

8 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Yeah, let's
9 eliminate the quorum requirement.

10 MR. PETE CONROY: While we got a
11 chance, right?

12 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Yeah. I'd
13 move that we eliminate the quorum, the high quorum
14 number, and that we just operate on a quorum and then
15 a majority of that, votes carry. I can rephrase that.

16 DR. COX: What now? You are a
17 lawyer.

18 MR. CHARLES TURNER: So, we've got
19 seventeen voting members.

20 MR. RON LEVY: That's right.

21 MR. CHARLES TURNER: So, nine is a
22 quorum. Do we agree on that?

23 COLONEL ROBERT LINDSAY: Eleven

1 members is slightly under 70 percent.

2 MR. PETE CONROY: Your name, sir?

3 COLONEL ROBERT LINDSAY: Robert
4 Lindsay.

5 MR. PETE CONROY: For the sake of
6 our minutes, sir.

7 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Thank you.

8 COLONEL ROBERT LINDSAY: You're
9 welcome.

10 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Nine would
11 ordinarily be a quorum, right? That's more than half.

12 MR. RON LEVY: Right.

13 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Y'all noddin'.
14 So, five votes, if we've got a quorum, would be enough
15 for us to take action. The fear before was that five
16 people would come in and --

17 MR. PETE CONROY: Direct the RAB.

18 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Right.

19 DR. MARY HARRINGTON: That was
20 before we knew each other.

21 MR. CHARLES TURNER: That's right.
22 That's when we didn't trust each other. Now we know
23 the danger is that people weren't going to show up and

1 convert the RAB into some heinous --

2 COLONEL ROBERT LINDSAY: If I might
3 make a suggestion, please, as a sort of interested
4 outsider. What you're talking about is not a quorum.
5 Why don't you just have a simple majority? Because if
6 you're going to have nine members as your quorum, that
7 in itself is a simple majority.

8 MR. PETE CONROY: That's exactly
9 what you're talking about Charles, right?

10 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Well, what I'm
11 saying is that nine -- if we've got nine folks here,
12 that's enough to do business. And then all it takes
13 is five votes to carry any action. It takes five
14 votes to approve the minutes. But you got to have
15 nine here.

16 MR. MARK ANDERSON: Simple majority
17 of those --

18 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Yes, simple
19 majority, just go to a simple majority.

20 MR. PETE CONROY: Everybody
21 understand? Do you want to rephrase that in the form
22 of your motion?

23 MR. CHARLES TURNER: I've tried

1 three times.

2 MR. PETE CONROY: Does anybody
3 understand it well enough to second it?

4 MR. CHARLES TURNER: I would move
5 that we suspend the quorum requirements contained in
6 the bylaws and that we instead impose a simple
7 majority system as to quorum and vote -- quorums and
8 voting.

9 MR. MARK ANDERSON: Second.

10 MR. PETE CONROY: Discussion? You
11 get it?

12 MR. ALAN FAUST: Simple majority of
13 a simple majority.

14 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Simple
15 majority of a simple majority.

16 MR. PETE CONROY: All in favor?
17 Opposed? Unanimous.

18 MR. ALAN FAUST: It's already
19 working, Charles.

20 MR. RON LEVY: We will take that
21 motion and its approval and put it out for the next
22 meeting. I will also put out copies of the bylaws for
23 everybody, as well, with the changes to it.

1 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Do we want to
2 consider that an amendment to the bylaws, a change to
3 the bylaws? I've still got them on my computer, I can
4 change it.

5 MR. PETE CONROY: Yes.

6 MR. RON LEVY: Yes.

7 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Okay.

8 MR. RON LEVY: If you can change it
9 or e-mail it to me --

10 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Sure.

11 MR. PETE CONROY: Any other old
12 business? Ron brought to my attention earlier today a
13 change regarding our funding situation. And, Ron, do
14 you want to talk about that?

15 MR. RON LEVY: In front of you I
16 put some slides, and I need to talk to you about
17 something that's -- I talked briefly about funding
18 last -- during the last meeting. In fact I -- it's in
19 the minutes. And I stated that -- that the Army, the
20 Department of Defense has the ability to move dollars
21 around that could affect our program. I think Barry
22 Cox asked me, you know, what is the -- what is the
23 status of our dollars and whether or not we had

1 adequate dollars for the future was okay as well,
2 something along those lines, if I'm right. And I said
3 we did have adequate dollars, at the time, we did.
4 And I also stated that there was no guarantees and
5 that funding in fact could be impacted based upon
6 decisions above my level.

7 And I'm going to point out to you that
8 funding is being impacted. There is a deferral right
9 now that is being considered. If some of you will
10 remember -- I don't know if you watch CNN or not --
11 the Joint Chiefs of Staff went in front of Congress to
12 talk about readiness. And one of the things that came
13 out of that was that readiness was at a low and that
14 there wasn't adequate funding for readiness, which is
15 its primary mission to go to war. I think General
16 Reimer specifically talked about it in his testimony.

17 And one of the things that came out
18 of that was that we needed to do something to fund
19 readiness better. So, there was a proposal within DoD
20 -- and this affects all DoD -- that there would be a
21 deferral. And I want you to make sure you understand
22 this: This is a deferral, this is not a cut, this is
23 a deferral of funds in the fiscal year 2000 budget to

1 go into readiness for the services. And this is all
2 services. And where that money was to come out of was
3 the military construction appropriations. And most of
4 you know that is construction that goes on on military
5 installations, when they build facilities. And under
6 the military appropriations falls BRAC and BRAC
7 environmental. So, what they've essentially done is
8 they've made the bill payer for the '00 deferral as
9 MILCON, which means that the BRAC accounts were also
10 going to be impacted.

11 So, we are going to see at
12 McClellan, a deferral. And I can't tell you exactly
13 what that deferral is going to look like, because I
14 don't know. There is going to be a deferral in 2000
15 of dollars associated with the cleanup at Fort
16 McClellan. What you got on this first slide that's in
17 front of you is that -- and this is Army-wide. These
18 are the dollars that were going into environmental
19 restoration Army wide for BRAC, for BRAC cleanup. And
20 in ending '00, it shows eighty-five million. And I
21 think what was originally in there was about -- was
22 about three hundred million. This is what they're
23 proposing. There is a total of -- no, there was a

1 little less than three hundred million. But there was
2 a total of a hundred and forty-six million that's
3 going to be affected, Army BRAC environmental as a
4 deferral.

5 And again, when I say "deferral",
6 the money is supposed to be back in '01. In other
7 words, the total budget for BRAC cleanup wasn't to be
8 impacted, it was just a deferral of pushing money into
9 the next year. And I'm not an expert and I won't
10 profess to be one as to how the budget works. I do
11 know that what I've been told is we need to expect
12 that deferral to impact our '00 budget. And you can
13 see it on my next slide what Fort McClellan had
14 programmed. And this is -- this is public knowledge,
15 guys. As I told you, the total budget is public
16 knowledge. We had thirty-two million programmed in
17 '00 and there is -- we don't know what the decrease is
18 going to be or the deferral is going to be, but you
19 can see that we've got some expectation of the plus up
20 way beyond the ten million that we had programmed in
21 '01. And then I don't show the out years here, but
22 there is other dollars in out years, as well.

23 One thing I also want to point out

1 in that slide is that in '99, we are going to defer
2 some work. I don't know if that's the right word to
3 say. We had in our UXO program an inability to
4 execute some work because of the way we're working
5 through this new contracting initiative that we're
6 doing. It wasn't that -- that the money is going
7 away, it's just that we can't execute it and
8 therefore, the work is going to be pushed out into the
9 further years. And I don't know if I can get -- where
10 is David? Is he here? David, did you want to say
11 anything about that?

12 MR. DAVID SKRIDULIS: Well, I guess
13 what I want to say is that the -- it's not so much
14 that the UXO is being -- cannot be executed, it's
15 there was more money in the budget early on for the
16 UXO than was required. That everything that we need
17 to do to meet Ron's priorities is still on track and
18 there should not be any slow down in the work we're
19 going to do, even with the cut in '00.

20 MR. MARK ANDERSON: Does that
21 include if you lose proportionate dollars in '00? I
22 take it, these are not two year dollars, you have no
23 ability to obligate them this year to carry over for

1 next year's work?

2 MR. RON LEVY: They're not --
3 they're not -- let me see if I can't answer this
4 right.

5 MR. MARK ANDERSON: You know what
6 I'm saying? If you're going to lose money next year,
7 is it prudent to give the money up this year?

8 MR. RON LEVY: Well, I understand
9 what you're saying. I don't really have a choice in
10 giving the money up this year because there's other
11 programs around the Army DoD that are in need of the
12 dollars, themselves. So, because we couldn't execute
13 this year, essentially, it went to another -- it's
14 gone to another program.

15 MR. MARK ANDERSON: No way to step
16 up the priorities?

17 MR. RON LEVY: Well, Mark, I -- all
18 I can tell you is that we didn't have a choice in
19 that. That's the best answer I could give you.

20 MR. MARK ANDERSON: Okay.

21 MR. RON LEVY: The money was
22 reprogrammed or will be reprogrammed.

23 MR. CHARLES TURNER: That's in this

1 year's budget?

2 MR. RON LEVY: Yeah.

3 MR. CHARLES TURNER: On what level
4 are we talking about? I mean, was it done, locally?

5 MR. RON LEVY: No. It was done --

6 MR. CHARLES TURNER: TRADOC?

7 MR. RON LEVY: Higher than that.

8 DA level.

9 MR. ALAN FAUST: Did I hear -- what
10 I hear you saying is that it was meant for work that
11 we couldn't or not going to perform, but I heard over
12 here it was work that isn't going to -- I mean, I
13 think I'm getting two different messages.

14 MR. RON LEVY: No, it's not work
15 that isn't going to be performed. All of the UXO work
16 will be performed. We had too much money identified,
17 really couldn't be executed in this fiscal year. And
18 our program is still out there, it's just that the
19 dollars that we had defined for --

20 MR. ALAN FAUST: For '99, we can't
21 spend it all. And instead of being able to roll it
22 over to 2000, we're having to roll it further out.

23 MR. RON LEVY: Well, given the fact

1 that there is going to be this deferral into 2000, it
2 would essentially push things into 2001, yes.

3 MR. CHARLES TURNER: So, we had
4 twenty-five percent too much money?

5 MR. RON LEVY: Yeah.

6 MR. DAVID SKRIDULIS: Yeah, you
7 have to realize that a lot of those budget numbers
8 were -- you know, they work on about a five year
9 cycle, and a lot of the numbers -- you know,
10 Huntsville has been involved with UXO since February
11 of last year, okay. So, a lot of those numbers that
12 went into the budget were prior year numbers that were
13 put in before anybody got to sit down and lay the
14 plans down and start making some kind of reasonable
15 estimates of what the work would require. So, I guess
16 what I was pointing out was that essentially, the UXO
17 work being when we started it last year, it was
18 overfunded for when we started and what we've got to
19 do between now and the --

20 MR. PETE CONROY: So, from a
21 practical point of view, what I'm hearing is that this
22 is really no big deal?

23 MR. ALAN FAUST: We're still going

1 to get the work done to meet our requirements.

2 MR. RON LEVY: In terms of the
3 work, the work, it's still out there, it's still
4 programmed and we fully expect it to be adequately
5 funded, other than the fact that we may see ourselves
6 stretching out a little further because of the
7 deferral.

8 MR. PETE CONROY: So again, from a
9 practical point of view, what will the impact of this
10 be?

11 MR. RON LEVY: On this year's
12 funding, it shouldn't.

13 MR. CHARLES TURNER: On next year's
14 we're likely to see, how much, another twenty-five
15 percent?

16 MR. RON LEVY: I can't tell you.

17 DR. MARY HARRINGTON: We don't
18 know.

19 MR. RON LEVY: I can't tell you. I
20 really cannot tell you what we'll get. And the reason
21 I can't tell you is because this is still going to be
22 a budget item before Congress. And Congress could
23 still decide to change that and fund it, adequately.

1 So, you know, even as we look at the deferrals that
2 we're being told -- and I've been told to put this out
3 to the community, that still could change and it still
4 could go back to what we originally had pending what
5 comes out of the budget process with Congress.

6 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Ron, is that
7 nine million then a result of schedule slippage, as
8 well, in the fact that it's exceeded?

9 MR. RON LEVY: I don't know that
10 it's schedule slippage as much as it is that we -- we
11 -- we overestimated what we actually needed in our
12 fiscal year '99 requirements.

13 MR. FERN THOMASSY: But that money
14 is going to be needed, eventually.

15 MR. RON LEVY: Yeah. And it will
16 be reflected in our out years, in terms of --

17 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Which have
18 already been cut. And since this money has not been
19 transferred to the out years, it's going to be a
20 battle to get it when it's needed.

21 MR. RON LEVY: It's not going to be
22 a cut, Fern. And I've been told this several times.
23 It's not a cut, it's a deferral. What it will do is

1 -- it will do, it will push things out --

2 MR. FERN THOMASSY: I hear it, but
3 what I see is a greater than 50 percent cut for the
4 Army in year 2000, we're going to take a proportion of
5 that, at least.

6 MR. RON LEVY: Absolutely.

7 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Most likely.

8 MR. RON LEVY: And I will tell you,
9 Fort McClellan --

10 MR. FERN THOMASSY: That nine
11 million that is going, some of that was required in
12 year 2000, and we're not going to have that, as well.

13 MR. RON LEVY: I'm sure that's --

14 MR. FERN THOMASSY: And so that
15 adds up --

16 MR. PETE CONROY: It appears to me
17 --

18 MR. FERN THOMASSY: -- in my view.

19 MR. PETE CONROY: Yeah, I think so,
20 too. If this is my personal household budget, this
21 would be something I would be concerned about.

22 MR. FERN THOMASSY: I don't want to
23 get a good spin on it, I want to get a good, clear

1 picture of it.

2 MR. MARK ANDERSON: The biggest
3 thing that concerns me is if we defer all this stuff
4 to '01, which is the last year for BRAC funding, the
5 ability to execute that kind of an enormous budget in
6 that final year.

7 MR. RON LEVY: There has been a
8 change in the law, as I understand it, related to BRAC
9 funding, to go beyond '01, so that funds that are
10 still out there can still be used past '01.

11 MR. MARK ANDERSON: So, we could
12 theoretically drag this out for another several years
13 and not be able to turn over property. Is that part
14 of it?

15 MR. RON LEVY: We could find our
16 program going longer, yes.

17 MR. FERN THOMASSY: And I think
18 that's probably, Pete, the next step we need to take,
19 as soon as we can find out what the budget cuts are,
20 get from Ron where they're going to take place, what
21 that does to the phases that have been put in place by
22 the JPA and begin to tell the community what the
23 impact is and allow the community leaders and the

1 politicians to get informed as soon as possible --

2 MR. PETE CONROY: Right.

3 MR. FERN THOMASSY: -- about what's
4 happening to us. This has never made the papers, for
5 instance, and this needs to get out in the paper.

6 MR. PETE CONROY: Well, I would
7 like to go ahead and as soon as it's practical draft a
8 letter to our legislative delegation on behalf of the
9 RAB, if it's permissible.

10 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Yeah.

11 MR. PETE CONROY: Make sure that we
12 bring attention to this.

13 MR. CHRIS JOHNSON: When will these
14 numbers be known, Ron, where you can give them an idea
15 of when we will know the FY '00 and '01 dollars being
16 cut?

17 MR. RON LEVY: I can't tell you
18 that.

19 MS. LISA KINGSBURY: May.

20 MR. RON LEVY: May?

21 MS. LISA KINGSBURY: May.

22 MR. RON LEVY: I was going to say
23 spring time.

1 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Do we have the
2 Fort McClellan PAO office here? Are you going to make
3 a press release on this?

4 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: I found out
5 about what we're talking about here. Ron and I
6 discussed it shortly after Ron found out about it,
7 which was a couple of days ago. And the reason there
8 hasn't been a press release out is because we're in
9 the information gathering stage, ourselves.

10 MR. FERN THOMASSY: There is enough
11 here to make the press release. Do you intend to make
12 one any time soon, within the next few days?

13 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: Probably now,
14 because we have to --

15 MR. PETE CONROY: Jeff is here.

16 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: I mean, what
17 I said, Mr. Thomassy, when I said, we're all for
18 openness and we are.

19 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Yeah. I
20 really, from my standpoint, I think, there needs to be
21 one. This impacts the community, the community needs
22 to be told. There are some inferences that could be
23 made right here if the percentages flow down as they

1 are in May, that's going to be well over a fifty
2 percent cut in restoration at Fort McClellan in the
3 year 2000.

4 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: Let me --
5 we're not putting a spin, and that's not our --

6 MR. RON LEVY: At this level, I
7 just don't know.

8 MR. HERSHAL CHAPMAN: We're trying
9 to be open with what we've got.

10 MR. RON LEVY: All we know is that
11 there is a deferral coming and it's pushing things
12 into '01. And then will impact out years and, yes, it
13 probably will have an impact on reuse and then getting
14 things done, because obviously, the long pole in the
15 tent on the transfer is the environmental piece in the
16 cleanup.

17 MR. CHARLES TURNER: So, you
18 brought up the idea of writing a letter to, I guess,
19 several letters. I would move that we -- that the RAB
20 endorses that idea and that you do it forthwith
21 without bringing it before us.

22 MR. PETE CONROY: Posthaste.

23 MR. ALAN FAUST: Ron, how well

1 defined is our thirty-two million dollar budget? Is
2 that a swag or --

3 MR. RON LEVY: It's based on the
4 best engineering estimates that we have. There is
5 some assumptions, guys, gentlemen. As we go through
6 and look at -- look at our program, we have -- we have
7 to make assumptions that worst case -- because we
8 really don't know what contamination is out there
9 until we get through some of this SI phase. So, we
10 make assumptions that the program will carry from the
11 SI to the RI phase and then maybe to a remedial action
12 or remedial design and then to a remedial action.
13 Which in worst casing that out, it becomes real
14 expensive. However, you know, if we get at the end of
15 these SIs and we have not completed those, so we don't
16 know what our analytical is like, we don't know what
17 -- you know, what we're going to see, we probably
18 won't know that until the summer, the summer sometime,
19 into the summer sometime, we can't tell you what
20 percentage of those are actually going to move
21 through. So, some of the work and some of the dollars
22 may in fact drop out, just based on the fact that we
23 -- you know, we didn't find anything.

1 MR. BART REEDY: We took a best
2 guess of what we were going to find in an SI, and
3 that's really the money that Ron and Lisa asked for.
4 And we overshot that. We, intentionally, you know, we
5 estimated high, knowing that stuff happens and budgets
6 get cut. And to restate what Ron said, I fully
7 anticipate that a lot of the SIs that we're doing
8 right now are going to come back and say, no problem.
9 And that I would anticipate, that I -- in fact, I do
10 anticipate, as far as just non-UXO kinds of issues,
11 pure chemical contamination kinds of issues, I don't
12 think we're going to find big smoking holes in the
13 ground.

14 MR. PETE CONROY: There is a motion
15 on the floor. Is there a second?

16 MR. MARK ANDERSON: There was a
17 second.

18 MR. PETE CONROY: Any other
19 discussion regarding Charles' motion? Does everybody
20 remember what it is?

21 MR. RON LEVY: Would you restate it
22 again?

23 DR. BARRY COX: You write the

1 letter.

2 MR. PETE CONROY: I write a letter.

3 MR. CHARLES TURNER: To both
4 senators, Congressman Riley, Governor. Who else?

5 MR. CHRIS JOHNSON: President.

6 MR. CHARLES TURNER: President.

7 General --

8 MR. CHRIS JOHNSON: Pope, don't
9 leave him out.

10 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Pope.

11 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Santa Clause.

12 MR. PETE CONROY: Charles, how
13 about you and I collaborate just a little bit on this
14 letter? I'll draft something and we'll formalize
15 something in the next couple of days.

16 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Sure. Just
17 call me.

18 MR. PETE CONROY: All in favor?
19 Opposed? We write a letter.

20 MR. ALAN FAUST: How well defined
21 do they think their needs for readiness are? This is
22 just their first shot at it and --

23 MR. RON LEVY: I'm just an

1 environmental guy.

2 MR. ALAN FAUST: It looks like a
3 trend.

4 MR. PETE CONROY: Any other
5 comments relating to this?

6 MR. RON LEVY: No. It's pretty
7 significant. I know it's a big issue.

8 MR. PETE CONROY: Yeah, I think
9 this is definitely a red flag to the RAB and I think
10 we need to take action just as soon as possible. I
11 appreciate the discussion.

12 I like to keep these meetings to
13 about an hour, and we have passed the witching hour.
14 Any other new business?

15 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Move to
16 adjourn.

17 MR. PETE CONROY: Any audience
18 commentary? Hearing none --

19 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Before we
20 adjourn, what about the next meeting? Do we have any
21 particular issues? I reiterate, I think the first
22 issue at the next meeting ought to be an analysis of
23 whatever Ron might have on what the cuts are going to

1 be and how those will impact in the year 2000, and if
2 we can, get a comparison to what they're going to do
3 to the plans that the JPA has in place.

4 MR. RON LEVY: If I have numbers, I
5 will be glad to talk to you about them, but I don't
6 believe I'm going to have numbers next month.

7 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Okay.

8 MR. RON LEVY: But if I've got
9 something, yes, this audience will be the first to
10 know.

11 MR. PETE CONROY: We still don't
12 have a topic, then.

13 MR. CHARLES TURNER: For next
14 month, membership.

15 MR. PETE CONROY: That's the sole
16 interest?

17 MR. CHARLES TURNER: I bet it will
18 take us an hour to fire two or three and hire two or
19 three.

20 MR. PETE CONROY: And if Ron has
21 any extra information about the budget, we'll add to
22 it. But that sounds like enough.

23 MR. CHARLES TURNER: Our chamber

1 will reconvene.

2 MR. PETE CONROY: We're going to be
3 back on base?

4 MR. RON LEVY: Yes, next RAB
5 meeting is the 15th of March, Monday night, and it
6 will be at our conference room in building 141.

7 MR. PETE CONROY: We'll see you on
8 March 15th. Thanks everyone for being here.

9 (WHEREUPON, the meeting was adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ALABAMA)
CALHOUN COUNTY)

I, SAMANTHA E. NOBLE, a Court
Reporter and Notary Public in and for The State of
Alabama at Large, duly commissioned and qualified,
HEREBY CERTIFY that this proceeding was taken before
me, then was by me reduced to shorthand, afterwards
transcribed upon a computer, and that the foregoing is
a true and correct transcript of the proceeding to the
best of my ability.

I FURTHER CERTIFY this proceeding
was taken at the time and place and was concluded
without adjournment.

1 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
2 set my hand and affixed my seal at Anniston, Alabama,
3 on this the 13th day of February, 1999.

4

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SAMANTHA E. NOBLE

10

Notary Public in and for

11

Alabama at Large

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14 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 11-14-2001.

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