



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

News Release

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Corps to host public meetings on Camp Wolters ordnance

FORT WORTH, TX -- On September 16th, 2003, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will host a public meeting about the Corps' upcoming ordnance investigation on property formally known variously as Camp Wolters, Fort Wolters, and Wolters Air Force Base in Parker and Palo Pinto Counties. The meeting will be at the Mineral Wells Women's Club for the convenience of Palo Pinto County residents. The Corps will host a second meeting on September 17th in Weatherford at the LaQuinta Hotel for the convenience of Parker County residents. Both meetings will provide attendees with the same information. The sign-in for these meetings will be from 6:30 to 7 p.m., and the meetings will begin at 7 p.m.

In 1940, the U.S. Government purchased approximately 23,000 acres in Palo Pinto and Parker Counties for an Army Infantry training facility. The U.S. Army used the site during 1951-1956, and the U.S. Air Force used it during from 1956 to 1974.

In 1974, the Department of Defense deactivated the camp and much of the property became Weatherford College and Lake Mineral Wells State Park. Private interests now use the major portion of the former Camp area for ranching, agricultural, light industrial, commercial and residential uses. The Texas National Guard has retained approximately 4,000 acres for use as a headquarters and maneuver area.

In May of 2001, local residents found some live hand grenades in a farmer's field located within the former camp boundaries. The Corps performed a Time Critical Removal Action on 4+ acres of land, and located and destroyed over 100 live grenades.

The Corps' Fort Worth District, the Corps' Engineering and Support Center in Huntsville, Ala., and EOD Technology, Inc., a private contractor, are working together on the ordnance investigation known as an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis, or EE/CA. The Corps team is conducting the EE/CA in accordance with all state and federal laws and regulations and is working with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

To collect data for the EE/CA, the Corps will need access to private property. The Corps will be asking landowners to sign voluntary "right-of-entry" agreements to allow the Corps and its contractors onto their property during the investigation. The Corps and its contractors will not enter land parcels without a signed right-of-entry agreement.

When completed, the EE/CA will include recommendations for future actions at the site. The EE/CA will include input from the public.

For more information about the meetings or the project, contact the Public Affairs Office at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, at (817) 886-1517 or visit <http://www.formercampwolters.com>.