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NCBC GULFPORT
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FACT SHEET NUMBER 13 SITE 8 FORMER HERBICIDE STORAGE SITE PREVIOUS
INVESTIGATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS AND FUTURE ENVIRONMENTAL
INVESTIGATIONS NCBC GULFPORT MS
4/1/1995
NAVFAC SOUTHERN

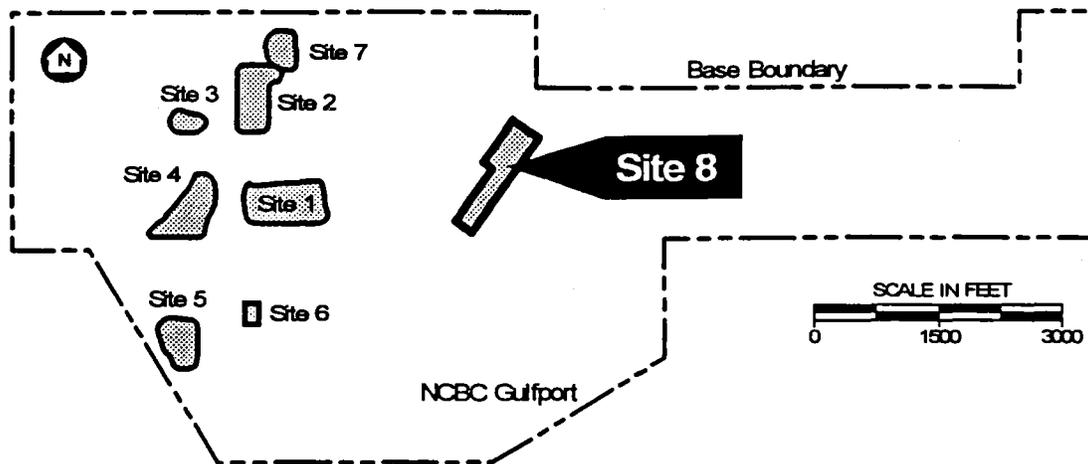


NAVAL CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION CENTER
Gulfport, Mississippi
Installation Restoration Program

13

The Installation Restoration (IR) program is an environmental program conducted nationwide by the Department of Defense to identify and address contamination from past practices that do not meet today's environmental standards. This fact sheet is the 13th in a series informing interested citizens about the IR program at NCBC Gulfport. Fact sheets will be produced at program milestones and in response to other items of public interest. Distribution is coordinated through the Public Affairs Office at NCBC Gulfport, telephone: (601) 871-2393.

FACT SHEET 13: Site 8, Former Herbicide Storage Site



Site 8 is located in an open storage area between Goodier and Lee Avenues.

DESCRIPTION OF SITE 8

Site 8, located in the middle of the Seabee Center, was used by the Air Force for the storage of Herbicide Orange during the Vietnam War (1968-77). Approximately 15,400 drums of Herbicide Orange were stored in an open area on the site. The drums were removed in 1977 and burned on an incinerator ship at sea.

CLEANUP OF CONTAMINATED SOIL

In 1986 the Air Force began operations to clean up dioxin-contaminated soils at the site. Contaminated soil was burned from 1986 to 1988. Ash from burning the soil has been stored at the site.

CURRENT GROUNDWATER MONITORING

Samples of the groundwater at Site 8 have been taken every 3 months as part of an ongoing program to monitor the groundwater at the site. Samples were collected and analyzed in May, August, and November 1994 and in February 1995.

The results of groundwater sampling show concentrations of dioxin at or below Federal standards. Technical Memoranda summarizing the results of the May and August 1994 sampling rounds are available in the Information Repository.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR SITE 8?

Continued groundwater monitoring: The Seabee Center will continue to sample the groundwater at Site 8 through August 1995. The results of these analysis will be used to evaluate the appropriate next steps for the site.

Placement of sediment traps: To address the potential for movement of sediment off-base, sediment traps will be placed around Site 8 (see Fact Sheet No. 5).

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT DIOXIN?

A recent USEPA study found a surprising fact—dioxins are everywhere. These compounds are byproducts of industrial processes such as some paper mills, coal- or oil-burning power plants, and incinerators. Laboratory tests have proven some forms of dioxin cause health effects in animals. Studies of humans are less clear.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information about Site 8, including reports discussed in this fact sheet, are available at the NCBC Gulfport IR program **Information Repository** located at the:

Gulfport Harrison County Library
Reference Section
21st Avenue (HW 90)
Gulfport, MS 39501
Telephone: (601) 863-6411