



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Commanding General
Marine Corps Base
PSC Box 20004
CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA 28542-0004

IN REPLY REFER TO
November 6, 2000



MC (Ret.)

Dear Major Townsend,

This is in response to your October 16 letter, which references your letters of September 11, 16 and 25, 2000, and your telephonic question asked of Capt Crouch, Camp Lejeune Public Affairs, October 19, 2000.

Your September 25 letter asks about the use of a particular commercial laboratory to test water at Camp Lejeune. Our analytical contractor, Baker Environmental, Inc. (site investigation/characterization consultant) used a laboratory called Inchape (the parent company is Intertech) on some work in 1994 at Site 35. They used the Richardson Laboratory, which was investigated. All analysis done by the lab was third-party validated by Heartland Environmental Services as a standard practice. There was no indication that any of the data provided to Baker from Intertech was inaccurate. Baker has supplied all supporting documentation to the Navy, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Dept. of Justice and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Dallas in support of their investigations. We know of no other instances of the use of this lab by Camp Lejeune. After 1994, Baker used Ceemic Laboratory and Quantara Laboratory to perform analytics.

In your September 16 letter you asked two questions: What are "areas of concern" for 902, 1202 and 1602 and what were these structures used for during the period of 1960-1985? As you correctly assess, these numbers are buildings in the Hadnot Point Industrial Area (HPIA). These buildings, as indicated in the ROD (Record of Decision) for OU (Operable Unit) 6, Site 78, HPIA, may have been adjacent to areas of contaminated soils or groundwater. Building 902 is believed to have been a combined use facility that housed a vehicle maintenance shop, small arms maintenance shop and field maintenance shop. Building 1202 is the Base Maintenance Headquarters Building. Building 1602 was used as an Electronics/Communications maintenance shop.

In response to your September 11 letter, Camp Lejeune previously answered your question regarding water quality standards from 1965-67 to the full extent that responsive information was available. Your second area of interest concerns IRD's (Installation Restoration Division) comments on LANTDIV's (Atlantic Division of Naval Facilities Engineering Command) handling of the Administrative Record (AR). LANTDIV is the appointed administrator of the AR. LANTDIV undertook the project to put this information on the Internet earlier this year. Due to the sheer volume of information contained in this record and the challenge of trying to get it uploaded and be searchable, there may be minor glitches yet to work out. Ultimately, however, the AR on the Internet will provide the greatest number of people access to documents related to industrial contamination and remediation at Camp Lejeune. I can assure you that Camp Lejeune will continue to assist LANTDIV in its efforts to ensure the AR is complete.

Your second September 11 letter requests two documents from IRD. The first document requested was prepared by the United States Geological Survey entitled "Groundwater Resources of the Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base Water Use Data, A preliminary Geohydrologic

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Framework and Water Level Data," dated 6/2/1987. Camp Lejeune does not have a copy of this document available for distribution. You may wish to contact the U.S. Geological Survey at <http://www.usgs.gov/> to obtain this document directly from USGS.

The second document requested was "Hadnot Point Characterization Study Report." Searches have disclosed no records under this title. The closest document we have been able to locate is the "Characterization Step Report For Hadnot Point Industrial Area" dated March 1988. We located this document in the Camp Lejeune Administrative Record that, as previously described, is available to you on the Internet at <http://www.bakerenv.com/camplejeune/>.

On 19 October you called to ask who provides or provided water to Knox Trailer Park. The Holcomb Boulevard Water Treatment Plant serves Knox Trailer Park. Prior to the expansion of the Holcomb Boulevard plant in 1987, Knox was primarily served by the Tarawa Terrace (TT) Water Treatment Plant. Some water was provided by the Camp Johnson Water Treatment Plant when the TT plant was undergoing maintenance. Altogether, approximately, 80% was supplied by TT and approximately 20% came from Camp Johnson.

By now, I trust that you have seen the news reports concerning this topic. Headquarters Marine Corps Public Affairs is taking the lead, with assistance from Camp Lejeune, in getting as many people as possible to participate in the ATSDR's survey.

Throughout this process, we have made a diligent effort to assist ATSDR in reaching and informing potential survey participants about this study. We have established several methods to provide information to the public and to answer questions raised by you and other interested individuals. As you are aware, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune has established a web site at <http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/watersurvey.html>, that contains specific information about this survey and our Installation Restoration Program Administrative Record is also available at <http://www.bakerenv.com/camplejeune/>. Additionally, the Marine Corps established a toll-free telephone number, (877) 261-9782, to answer questions about this issue.

At this time, our primary focus is to continue to clean up areas contaminated in the past, and to provide ATSDR assistance with their survey, as we are very concerned about the welfare of all Marines, Sailors, and their families. Specific questions regarding the survey, and concerns related to the effects of potential exposure to contaminants should be directed to ATSDR at their toll free number, (888) 42-ATSDR, extension 5132.

We encourage you in the future to use the above mechanisms to continue to track the progress of this issue. We have made every effort to provide you with the most complete and responsive answers possible.

Sincerely,



A. J. KARLE
Chief of Staff

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