

Portions of Makua Beach Closed for Clearance

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Makua Beach, Hawaii UXO technicians are searching a 10-acre area of Makua Valley for decades-old UXO. Though residents are being warned to stay out of the area during the sweep, many are not heeding the warning.

In a statement from U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii spokesperson Stefanie Gutierrez, explained that military training activities occurred in an area that includes nearly 900 acres adjacent to Makua Valley from the 1920s to 1990. "That would have been anything from small arms fire, like a rifle bullet to something larger, like artillery or mortar fire".

Training also included mock maneuvers to include beach landings at Yokohama Bay and Makua Beach and live-fire exercises from Makua to what is now the U.S. Air Force Satellite Tracking Station. An incident occurred last year in the Makua Military Reserve during which two civilian contractors were hurt when a landscaper hit a piece of UXO a weed whacker. Clearance is scheduled to continue through April.