

Adak Island UPDATE

Adak UXO Awareness Fact Sheet

EFA Northwest



June 2004

Background

In the past, the Navy has provided response for encounters with suspected munitions of concern (MEC) or unexploded ordnance (UXO) through the Navy's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 11 Detachment (EOD MU 11), stationed

at Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Washington. To provide quicker response mechanism for potential future encounters, the Navy plans to use the services provided by the 716th Ordnance Company Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit (716th EOD

Unit), stationed at Fort Richardson, Alaska. The 716th EOD Unit has responsibilities for responding to MEC encounters for all communities in the State of Alaska. This transition should simplify the process of reporting incidents and produce a more timely response.

New Reporting Procedure

The steps for reporting encounters with MEC/UXO and initiating a response from the 716th EOD Unit are:

- 1 Once a suspected UXO item is discovered, contact the on-island law enforcement official in person or by calling 911.
- 2 Once the law enforcement official has been contacted, provide as much information about the UXO item as possible (such as location of item, size, shape, etc.).

DO NOT TOUCH, DISTURB OR REMOVE THE ITEM FROM THE LOCATION AT WHICH IT WAS DISCOVERED.

A tri-fold pamphlet discussing the 716th EOD Unit's capabilities is included with this fact sheet. Classes and services are discussed in the pamphlet, and the relevant contact phone and FAX numbers are provided.

Navy UXO Awareness Materials

The Navy is required to provide continued UXO Awareness education. The Navy has provided this education, over time, to their own employees, as well as island residents, visitors and contractors.

Even though much of the island is now under the ownership of the Aleut Corporation (TAC), the Navy is providing the training materials, and committed to updating them for the current population of the island

UXO clean-up efforts on Adak have been occurring since 1997. Early efforts involved geophysical surveys of the downtown areas, to detect possible UXO items. Later efforts

focused on digging up potential UXO items and safely disposing of these items. As more remote sites are cleaned up over the coming years, educational materials will be revised to document this progress.

During 2003 - 2004, the Navy substantially revised the Ordnance Awareness materials that constitute the primary portion of the UXO program on Adak. Changes were made, with input from community members, regulators, and interested stakeholders, to allow the educational materials to reflect the changing population on Adak – away from a military base to a new Alaskan community. The children's coloring books,

posters and DVD used Grandfather and Grandmother figures created by school children on Adak. The logo-imprinted small footballs and tri-color markers (to be distributed in summer 2004) feature "Boomer the Otter". The adult-focused DVD, posters, information brochures, laminated safety cards and refrigerator magnets used Adak landscape photos as a common backdrop. A photo of the variety of Adak Ordnance Awareness materials currently available is displayed in the figure on the back.

Adak Ordnance Awareness materials were distributed periodically throughout 2003 and 2004. Children- and adult-focused DVDs were provided to

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island residents in June 2003. UXO Awareness brochures and laminated/carabineer-clipped safety cards were distributed on Adak during the

summer of 2003. The coloring books, posters, and hiking trail maps were delivered to Adak Island in September 2003 for distribution to island residents and visitors. The magnets and

highlight markers will be sent in June 2004. Logo-imprinted coffee mugs are scheduled for distribution to island residents in late summer 2004.



716th Ordnance Company Explosive Ordnance Disposal



“ Initial Success Or Total Failure “

**Fort Richardson, AK 99505
24hr Emergency (907) 384-7603
Additional phone (907) 384-7600/01/02
FAX: (907) 384-0068**

GENERAL

The 716th Ord Co (EOD) is organized and equipped to support the entire state of Alaska. We will respond to any military ordnance (UXO), military explosives, military chemicals and Improvised Explosive Devices (IED).

SUMMARY OF SUPPORT CAPABILITIES

An EOD Response Team can assist in the detection, identification, field evaluation, rendering safe, recovery and final disposal of all found UXO to include conventional explosives, chemical/biological, nuclear and improvised explosive devices, both foreign and domestic. Travel and additional equipment requirements may delay response. We can provide technical advice on many civilian/commercial explosive situations.

We can provide Explosive Ordnance Recognition (EOR), bomb threat and search techniques, suspicious package identification and incident reporting training. This training will provide personnel with a basic level of knowledge to be able to recognize UXO, associated hazards

and reporting requirements. Due to the lack of knowledge and familiarity in this subject matter, this training, can be a definite asset when it comes to accident prevention.

SPECIFIC CAPABILITIES

Conventional Ordnance: U.S. Army EOD is the primary responder for all conventional explosive ordnance in the United States. No other agency (including municipal or federal bomb technicians) should handle, conduct render safe procedures, or dispose of any item of military ordnance. These items can come from many sources, including items stolen from federal installations, items recovered from military firing ranges, and items retained as war souvenirs.

Improvised Explosive Devices: We provide immediate response to all devices of this nature (pipe bombs, letter bombs, etc...). We have diagnostic and robotic capabilities to remedy these situations. During these incidents we may be required to obtain air transport from Army or law enforcement sources occasionally we need to utilize law enforcement air assets. These incidents are of immediate priority for this organization.

Weapons of Mass Destruction: This unit may provide limited access, immediate action, field testing / sampling, contamination monitoring, and technical assistance support for any WMD (Chemical, Biological, Nuclear or Radiological) incident / accident.

Commercial Explosives and Fireworks: While these items are not normally within our scope of operations, we are capable of disposing of limited quantities of these items if it is in the interest of preserving public safety.

Special Circumstances: In the event of a situation where your agency feels that there is an explosive hazard (booby-traps, warrant service, hostage situation, drug lab raids, etc...), it is possible for you to request that an EOD team be present for this operation in the interest of preserving public safety. This requires an official request to our higher command from the lead agency present.

Approval may require processing time before the team can depart, but with prior planning and liaison this time can be kept to a minimum.

Education/Joint Exercises: Education is the key to preparedness. Education will keep you alive in an explosive related situation. This unit will provide, upon your request, classes on various explosive safety related subjects. The following are examples of courses that are available:

1. Explosive Ordnance Recognition: This class will familiarize you with the basic types of ordnance. You will have a basic understanding of the effects of explosives and the safety precautions that should be taken.

2. Bomb Threat / Bomb Search: This class will familiarize you with the actions to take in response to a bomb threat, including information collection and evacuation. It will also instruct you in the basics of searching for bombs and who should perform these searches.

3. IED Recognition: This class is for law enforcement, fire department or civil service personnel only. You will learn basic identification features of Improvised Explosive Devices, and will include various historical profiles of bombings.

4. Terrorism / WMD Awareness: This class is for law enforcement, fire department or civil support personnel only. The premise of this class is to discuss domestic and international terrorism as a whole. It will also attempt to heighten awareness of the effects and handling of WMD related incidents.

5. Other: Our office is flexible. If you feel that an explosive related class not listed here will be beneficial to your agency, please contact us. We will most certainly entertain all requests.

These classes are available to any city, county, state or federal law enforcement or emergency services agency. Certain classes are available to anyone else, provided that they have a valid requirement. It is suggested that schools, municipal services and those who work in high threat areas take advantage of these courses. We will also provide teams for Safety, DARE, and Career days with prior coordination. Joint training

operations are beneficial to all parties. If your agency wishes to hold a joint exercise, consider our capabilities and coordinate for our participation. These operations increase the understanding between your agency and ours, reduce miscommunications and save time in critical situations.

WHEN REPORTING INFORMATION, WE REQUIRE

	Agency requesting support
	Agency point of contact and phone number
	Agency address
	Incident site point of contact
	Item(s) reported
	Exact location of the item(s)
	Directions from known point to Site
	Brief explanation on who found item and how
	Description of any protective works taken
	If area has been evacuated and how far
	Was anybody injured
	Are there news media present

716th Ordnance Company (EOD)
(907) 384-7603

WARNING

UXO/DUDs and IEDs should never be disturbed. The slightest movement could cause the item to detonate. Clearly mark the area to alert personnel to stay clear of the evacuated area. Report information through command channels and follow instructions provided.

EVACUATION DISTANCE GUIDE

Size of Device	Radius from UXO	
	Meters	Feet
Lunch box	250	812
Briefcase	350	1137
Backpack (Medium)	450	1462
Suitcase (large)	550	1787
Weight of explosives		
5	171	556
10	215	699
50	368	1196
100	465	1511
1000	1000	3250

REPORTING AND SAFETY PROCEDURES

Any civilian law enforcement, fire department, constable or other type public official may call directly to report an incident.

If private citizens call the EOD unit directly, we will record the incident information and direct them to inform the local law enforcement of the incident. We will place an EOD team on standby pending notification from local law enforcement. After local law enforcement verifies that a threat exists we will respond to the incident site. We can not respond directly to a private citizen, and a law enforcement representative needs to be on-scene when we arrive.

Agencies must be aware of information that needs reported and steps to take to maximize personnel safety. This will assist the EOD team in responding promptly.

Evacuate and keep nonessential personnel at least 300 yards (three football fields), in all directions, from the item and make sure essential personnel are under cover and wearing, at a minimum, a flak vest and ballistic helmet. There are very few instances where essential personnel should be closer than 300 yards. Limit radio transmissions within 100 yards of the item.

Gather as much information about the UXO/IED as possible without wasting time or endangering personnel. Do NOT go back for a second look. Keep a good lookout for trip wires, dead animals and anything else that is odd in the area. Leave the area immediately using the same route as you approached the item.

Mark the site around the UXO/IED and direct personnel to stay clear of the area.

Be prepared to provide a guide and the security support required by the supporting EOD team. We will also need access to the individual who located the item and got a "good" look at it. Report the incident to the 716th Ord Co (EOD) as soon as possible.