

**FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
16 OCTOBER 1996
TAG REVIEW DATE: 15 MAY 1997**

1. **SITE NAME:** Bomb Target #79

SITE NUMBER: J09CA017700

LOCATION:

City: El Centro
County: Imperial
State: California

PROJECT NUMBER: J09CA017701

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. **POC's:**

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3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:** Former Bomb Target #79 is located in Imperial County, California, approximately 11 miles north of Plaster City in unimproved, undeveloped, rough desert land. The Carrizo Wash runs through a large portion of the site and it was in this wash that the St. Louis Site Team found the remains of a 2.25" rocket. A jeep trail also runs through the site.

4. SITE HISTORY:

In approximately 1945, the Eleventh Naval District apparently acquired approximately 640 acres of desert land from the Department of Interior to establish Bombing Target #79 for high altitude bombing and as part of an air-to-air gunnery range. The available information suggests that the Navy discontinued use of Target #79 in 1947. Subsequently, in 1973 the Navy evidently reacquired the site as part of an agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation. A 1978 map from the Bureau of Reclamation identified the subject property as part of a Naval gunnery range. Limited information was available concerning this agreement, but apparently it was terminated in 1987. Currently, the land is owned by the Department of Interior. The Carrizo Impact Area U.S. Navy Reservation is located approximately 1.5 miles west of the site; properties immediately west of the site are designated as "contaminated military area surface use only, R-05656" on the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) MT Plat Map (April 4, 1989). A proposed San Felipe corridor is indicated as a north to south route across the site, according to the BLM Desert Access Guide #22, Imperial Valley South (November 1989). During the on-site survey done for the INPR, the following evidence of former bombing and strafing activity was observed: one 50-caliber casing, multiple 20mm casings, multiple 20mm clips, two practice rocket/bombs, and 3-inch diameter bomb. A .07 foot diameter wire cable, approximately 50 feet long, was also noted on the site.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Size, Acres:	640
Former Use:	High altitude bombing target
Present Use:	Undeveloped, desert land
Probable End Use:	Undeveloped, desert land (road is proposed)
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed: .50 cal. cartridge case, multiple 20mm casings, multiple 20mm clips, practice rockets/bombs, a 3-inch dia bomb, and an expended 2.25" rocket

6. CURRENT STATUS: A draft Archive Search Report was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in September 1996.

7. STRATEGY: EE/CA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

Site-specific information is extremely limited for Bombing Target #79. None of the research uncovered the exact location of the former target within Section 29 and Section 32 in Township 14 South, Range 10 East, nor the specific items used on the target.

In the INPR, much of the information concerning even the acquisition and disposal of this site is assumed from documents concerning overall military activity occurring in this area during the 1940s.

There are known Federally- and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities. See Paragraph 3.5 in the ASR for further information.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only