

**FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: SEPTEMBER 1997
TAG REVIEW DATE: 3 FEBRUARY 1998**

1. **SITE NAME:** Courtland Army Air Field

SITE NUMBER: I04AL004900

LOCATION:

CITY: Courtland
COUNTY: Lawrence
STATE: Alabama

PROJECT NUMBER: I04AL004904

CATEGORY: OE/CWM

INPR RAC: 1

ASR RAC: 1

TAG RAC: 1

2. **POC'S:**

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3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:**

a. The former Courtland Army Air Field is located in Courtland, Alabama. The site consists of approximately 2,449 acres. The area has a temperate type climate and is located in

north central Alabama. Today, this area is utilized as a municipal airport, industrial park, and private ownership.

b. There are several species of wildlife that are considered threatened or endangered within or around the area of the former Courtland Army Air Field. The areas that are not being used for agriculture and industry are mostly forested with pine and hardwoods with dense underbrush.

c. Tuscumbia Limestone and Fort Payne Chert, of Mississippian Age, underlie CAAF. This is found under an average overburden of about 28 feet. The soil associations at the former CAAF are predominately Decatur-Cumberland-Abernathy soil. This association also includes Colbert, Dewey, Etowah and Talbot soils. The Etowah soils, which is the predominant of this association, is well drained. A large portion of the site is in farmland. This association is the most productive part of the county because the soils are smooth and well drained.

d. The Lawrence County the ground water system originates from local precipitation and occurs over the entire surface area. The Tennessee River is the northern boundary of the county and Big Nance Creek forms a portion of the southeastern boundary of the former CAAF. The quality of the ground water is considered fair.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. The area was acquired starting in 1942. An Army Air Field was constructed and Courtland Army Air Field was utilized to train pilots for B-24 bombers during WWII. Personnel were required to fire pistols or carbines for marksmanship training and practice gas attack drills. The chemical agents used during training were tear gas, mustard agent, chlorine gas, incendiary and smoke munitions.

b. The site was determined to be of no further use to War Department in 1946 and was exsessed. The site was returned to the State of Alabama by Quitclaim Deed in 1948.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area A: Size, Acres: Approximately 5
Former Use: Pistol Range
Present Use: Agriculture
Future Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: None

- Area B:** Size, Acres: Approximately 1
Former Use: Enlisted Men's Mess
Building T-630
Present Use: Industrial
Future Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: Confirmed
Type: AN-M56 Incendiary Bombs
- Area C:** Size, Acres: Approximately 9
Former Use: Ammunition Storage Area
Present Use: Industrial Park
Future Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: None
- Area D:** Size, Acres: Approximately 16
Former Use: Chemical Training Area
Present Use: Industrial Park
Future Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Type: Residue from M1 Chemical
ID Kits, Tear Gas, Chlorine
and smoke used for training
- Area E:** Size, Acres: Approximately 4
Former Use: Gas Chamber
Present Use: Industrial Park
Future Use: Same
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Type: Same as Area D
- Area F:** Size, Acres: Approximately 22
Former Use: Sewage Treatment
Present Use: Industrial
Future Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Type: Same as Area D
- Area G:** Size, Acres: Approximately 7
Former Use: Skeet Range
Present Use: Agriculture
Future Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: None
- Area H:** Size, Acres: Approximately 1
Former Use: Incinerator
Present Use: Industrial
Future Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: None

Area I: Size, Acres: Approximately 2384
Former Use: All other lands
Present Use: Industrial, Agriculture,
and private ownership
Future Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: None

6. CURRENT STATUS:

The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Courtland Army Air Field was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in September, 1997.

7. STRATEGY:

Area A: NOFA
Area B: EE/CA
Area C: NOFA
Area D: EE/CA
Area E: EE/CA
Area F: EE/CA
Area G: NOFA
Area H: NOFA
Area I: NOFA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The RCWM Team reviewed this ASR and agrees with the RAC scores indicated. One of the RCWM Team's comments is, "Document F-11 in the Archives Search Report confirms the presence of CWM with the following report from the Bomb and Shell Disposal Team #8, paragraph 14 Remarks: Small amount of poison gas buried on northeast section of base approximately 1/4 acre of land."

b. The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group reviewed this ASR and has determined that an EE/CA for Area B is required since AN-M56 Incendiary Bombs were found there in 1993 and there is a potential that other UXO may be encountered in this area. An EE/CA in is also required in Areas D, E, and F since there is a high potential that CWM residue may be encountered in these locations as a result of prior usage and lack of significant decontamination documentation. NOFA is determined for the remainder of this FUDS.

c. 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.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only