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01 CAMP CROFT RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
01 *****
02
02 PLACE: SC School for the Deaf and the Blind
03 Swearingen Conference Center
03
04 DATE: Tuesday, July 14, 1998
04
05 TIME: 7:05 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.
05
06 PRESENTATION
06 GIVEN BY: Jim Truelove
07 Project Manager
07 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
08 Charleston District
08
09 Karl Blankinship
09 Corps of Engineers
10 Engineering and Design Center
10 Huntsville District
11
11 BOARD MEMBERS
12 PRESENT: Joseph L. Crissinger
12 Ed Y. Hall
13 Gary Hayes
13 William B. Littlejohn, Jr.
14 W. Brownlee Lowry
14 George D. Mullinax
15 Gerard Perry
15 Robert W. Powell, Jr.
16 Stonewall J. Stewart, Jr.
16 James B. Thompson
17 Sherry Wheeler
17 Darwin J. Wilson
18 BOARD MEMBER
18 NOT PRESENT: Conley McIntyre, Sr.
19 David Mullinax
19 Clary H. Smith
20 Sanford N. Smith
20
21 ALSO PRESENT: Suzy Cantor-McKinney
21 Project Manager
22 Zapata Engineering, P.A.
22 1100 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 104
23 Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
23
24 REPORTED BY: Sandy Satterwhite Reporting
24 (864)574-1455

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01 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
02 Good evening. I'd like to welcome you to our
03 meeting this evening. I'm Suzy McKinney with Zapata
04 Engineering. David Mullinax, our chair, is absent
05 this evening, so I will do my best to stand in for
06 him.
07 BY MR. THOMPSON:

08 He just drove up.
09 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
10 I thought he was ---
11 BY MR. THOMPSON:
12 Maybe it wasn't him.
13 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
14 Well, I'll go ahead and give him a break this
15 evening.
16 First of all, I'd like to introduce Karl
17 Blankinship who is with us. He's with the US Army
18 Engineering and Support Center out of Huntsville.
19 He's been involved with this project essentially since
20 it started many years ago, and we also have Alonzo
21 Andrews with us from Huntsville this evening and Jim
22 Truelove, our project manager, from Charleston.
23 Does everybody have an agenda? We have those
24 available up front.
25 Our first item on the agenda is the nomination

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01 and election of a new chair. Our chair serves one
02 year terms. Dave has served, actually, two years back
03 to back, so his term is up. He had an option to serve
04 a second year.
05 So this evening I would like to solicit
06 nominations for the chair for the upcoming year. Just
07 a reminder, the chair's responsibility is to keep our
08 meetings rolling and maintain order during our
09 meetings.
10 As far as preparation of correspondence and
11 logistics and any other support, that's what my role
12 is and Patti with Zapata Engineering.
13 So their role, essentially, is for the next four
14 meetings to be here and to keep us all in order. So I
15 would like to open it up to the Board for any
16 nominations for chair for the upcoming year.
17 Don't all speak at once.
18 BY DR. LOWRY:
19 I nominate Mr. Thompson.
20 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
21 Second.
22 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
23 Mr. Thompson, do you accept?
24 BY MR. THOMPSON:
25 Okay. Yeah, I'll do it.

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01 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
02 Yeah. Any other nominations?
03 (NO RESPONSE)
04 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
05 Do we want to have any discussion on Mr.
06 Thompson's nomination or shall we just vote? Any
07 discussion?
08 BY MR. THOMPSON:
09 Sounds like a railroad to me.
10 BY DR. POWELL:
11 Suzy, has he got to agree to that?
12 BY DR. LOWRY:
13 He just did.
14 BY DR. POWELL:
15 He did?
16 BY MR. THOMPSON:
17 He's twisting my legs down here.
18 BY DR. POWELL:
19 Oh, there he is. I didn't think you were here.
20 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

21 I'll make it easy for you.
22 BY MR. STEWART:
23 Who are the nominees? I don't know.
24 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
25 Mr. Jim Thompson. He's been on the Board ---

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01 BY DR. POWELL:
02 Green shirt.
03 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
04 --- the past two years.
05 BY MR. THOMPSON:
06 Yes, ma'am.
07 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
08 All in favor of Mr. Thompson being our new
09 chair?
10 (ALL IN FAVOR)
11 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
12 Welcome.
13 BY MR. THOMPSON:
14 Thank you.
15 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
16 Congratulations. Anybody opposed?
17 (NONE OPPOSED)
18 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
19 Looking at their faces, I don't think so.
20 Okay. You will begin to chair at the next
21 meeting and our next meeting will be in October.
22 BY MR. THOMPSON:
23 Thank you.
24 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
25 And I'll turn it over to you this quickly.

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01 All right. With that taken care of, I'd like to
02 now turn the meeting over to Jim, who will give us a
03 status report on the removal actions at OOU6, Dr.
04 Lowry's property and some of the final reports that
05 have been completed.
06 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
07 Just real quickly, we're somewhere between 75
08 and 80 percent complete with the removal actions out
09 on OOU6. We found approximately 9 -- 90 -- excuse me
10 -- 90 live items, and 250 inert items. That's about
11 all that I was planning to give, unless someone has
12 got some questions.
13 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
14 Give me the range and type of ordnance that were
15 live?
16 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
17 60s, 81s and 105s.
18 BY DR. LOWRY:
19 Some phosphorus?
20 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
21 Yes, sir, some quite phosphorus also. Either
22 two or three of those, and just a little -- a tidbit
23 to add to help understand what we've done, we've dug,
24 if I'm not mistaken, there were 80,000 holes that we
25 had to dig, so there are a lot of items that are the

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01 size and shape of ordnance but aren't live ordnance
02 but they are ordnance scrap.
03 BY MR. CRISSINGER:
04 What's the general condition of the ordnance, of
05 the live ordnance? Deteriorated? Slightly
06 deteriorated?
07 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

08 I really -- I couldn't say. It's -- it's of the
09 condition you would expect if it's been buried in the
10 ground 30 or 40 years. It's not of a condition that
11 would detonate by just moving it if you know what
12 you're doing, but -- but it has all been fired, and
13 it's all -- it's live, the live items are live. So if
14 they were mishandled, they could easily detonate.

15 BY DR. LOWRY:

16 May I interrupt? The two that I found myself
17 looked pretty good. In fact, some 30 caliber
18 ammunition, just the little bullets, some of them
19 still have a back on them. So this is phosphorus.

20 BY MR. HAYES:

21 What was probably the deepest that you found
22 them?

23 BY DR. POWELL:

24 That was my question.

25 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

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01 If I'm mistaken, around two feet is the normal
02 for the deepest. I think they found a couple of
03 things deeper than two feet, but most of it has been
04 frag.

05 A lot of times when one of those items will hit
06 the ground and detonate in the ground, it will blow
07 down, so there's substantial pieces of frag below two
08 feet. Most of the live items have been at around two
09 feet or above.

10 BY MR. HALL:

11 Was there a mix of 105 millimeter?

12 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

13 I'm sorry?

14 BY MR. HALL:

15 Was there a mix? Was it high explosive or did
16 you have any -- any other type?

17 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

18 Yes, sir. Most of what we found were base
19 ejection illumination rounds, smoke rounds or
20 illumination rounds. We found hundreds of those, but
21 -- but if you look at the item itself laying on the
22 ground or buried in the ground, you can't tell it from
23 a high explosive round. So a large part of the 250
24 that we found were the smoke rounds or the base
25 ejection illumination. Several of them have been high

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01 explosive 105 rounds.

02 BY MR. CRISSINGER:

03 Were these findings primarily concentrated in
04 one area or where they just sparsely located
05 throughout the area?

06 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

07 They -- if I can, let me get this -- this map,
08 and then I think that will help. Okay. (Retrieving
09 map).

10 Can most everyone see that at least a little
11 bit?

12 (NO RESPONSE)

13 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

14 The square here -- (indicating) -- inside here
15 is the grid 87 area, the primary area we're clearing.
16 Most of the 105s and the 80s and 61s -- or 81s and
17 60s, rather -- have been sort of concentrated in this
18 area right here, which is right up the top of the hill
19 and where we expected that the target was probably
20 located.

21 I will say, though, that we found the
22 illumination rounds up in here. We found things down
23 in this ravine. So, essentially, there's frag --
24 heavy fragment all over this area, the entire area,
25 but most of the full up rounds that we found have been

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01 concentrated right here around the top of the hill
02 where we expected the target was.

03 BY DR. POWELL:

04 Is there any best guess of how much you might
05 find beyond Dr. Lowry's property line?

06 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

07 No, sir. I don't have any idea. Within 00U6,
08 the only landowner, as far as I understand who gave us
09 permission to look, was Dr. Lowry.

10 We do -- and this is talking based on what I've
11 seen out there. I think the majority of what's in
12 00U6 is right here on Grid 87 and specifically right
13 around the top of the hill.

14 We found -- I think you all -- you all know that
15 when we cleared the area for one of the -- one of the
16 other areas there, over to the west over in here, we
17 found some of the illumination rounds, but that's the
18 only place where we found any full up 105s or full --
19 full shells is back over in here.

20 BY DR. LOWRY:

21 You found one over there right at the pond site.
22 Parsons. Parsons found that.

23 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

24 That's right. They did find one HE over there.

25 BY DR. LOWRY:

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01 Which was right at that line.

02 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

03 Yes, sir.

04 BY MR. CRISSINGER:

05 And what do you base your supposition that
06 that's not clear and you didn't find anything?

07 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

08 We did the year before -- well, that's from last
09 year. We did what we call an Engineering Design. We
10 looked at all of the -- all of the property within
11 00U6 that we could get right-of-entry to. We went
12 through there and laid out a systematic grid pattern
13 and actually did intrusive sampling across all of --
14 all of Dr. Lowry's property, and we were prepared to
15 do it on the other landowners but couldn't get a
16 right-of-entry. So in doing that, what we did is try
17 to isolate the area that we felt like was the target
18 and the most likely place to find ordnance.

19 BY MR. CRISSINGER:

20 This is -- do I understand you correctly in
21 saying that this is based on random sampling?

22 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

23 Yes, sir.

24 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

25 Mr. Blankinship, this would have been the

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01 primary target area for the training facility?

02 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

03 No, sir. This is for this specific range only.
04 This was a target for a specific range, and some of
05 the -- I don't see it. I don't think we have it up
06 right now, but if you look in the documentation for
07 the Camp Croft itself, all of this area in here was

08 impact area also, so most of the Camp Croft Park
09 itself.
10 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
11 Basically, south of Dairy Ridge Road?
12 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
13 Yes, sir.
14 BY DR. LOWRY:
15 This is the only place, though, that you found
16 105 HES?
17 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
18 Yes, sir.
19 BY DR. LOWRY:
20 And the only place you found phosphorus?
21 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
22 Yes, sir, as far as I know.
23 BY MR. HALL:
24 Were most of the illuminating rounds 105 or were
25 they 81 millimeter?

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01 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
02 They were all 105.
03 BY MR. HALL:
04 105?
05 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
06 Yes, sir.
07 BY MR. HALL:
08 And how are unstable are they?
09 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
10 Um, ---
11 BY MR. HALL:
12 Well, how did you -- how did you neutralize your
13 105 illuminating rounds?
14 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
15 The -- the canister itself that's in -- within
16 the 105, we didn't find any of them that still had the
17 cannister inside the hole, if you call it a hole.
18 All of the -- all of the cannisters were
19 partially spent. We found them separate from the
20 round itself, and they were handled as hazardous
21 waste.
22 They're -- they're not an explosive hazard. So
23 we packed them and shipped them to a hazardous waste
24 landfill.
25 BY DR. LOWRY:

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01 Anybody else have any other comment?
02 I'd like to say that I really appreciate all
03 that you all have done. It's been a long -- not only
04 did I say you could come on my land, I begged you to
05 come on my land, but I think you've done a great job.
06 I think it's been hard for both of you all for
07 doing what you've done. I've been through three
08 project managers in Charleston and two in Huntsville.
09 I -- I'm very pleased with what's done, and I thank
10 you all very much for your help.
11 Take all the time in the world to finish, but
12 I'm glad you're that close to being finished.
13 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
14 You're very welcome. You know -- you know how I
15 am. I push them hard to get done. I don't like to
16 stay in one place too long, so ---
17 BY DR. LOWRY:
18 But I'm pleased that nobody has been hurt.
19 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
20 Yes, sir, I agree.

21 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
22 Okay.
23 If there are not any more questions on that
24 subject, ---
25 BY MR. DUBEAU:

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01 Yes, sir, I've got one.
02 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
03 All right.
04 BY MR. DUBEAU:
05 I want to know if he only found one shell.
06 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
07 If you only found one shell?
08 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
09 No, sir. We found 300. In round numbers, 300.
10 BY MR. DUBEAU:
11 That's right. Now, tell them where it is.
12 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
13 I'm sorry, sir. I don't understand your
14 question.
15 BY MR. DUBEAU:
16 Well, I was at Camp Croft.
17 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
18 Yes, sir.
19 BY MR. DUBEAU:
20 As an instructor, and I want some answers.
21 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
22 All right.
23 BY MR. DUBEAU:
24 Okay.
25 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

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01 I'll be glad to answer your questions, sir.
02 BY MR. DUBEAU:
03 Well, I just asked you one. I want to know
04 where they're at and where you're finding them.
05 Nobody seems to think there's anything out there, you
06 know.
07 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
08 Mr. DuBeau, when did you leave Camp Croft?
09 BY MR. DUBEAU:
10 The first time was in early '43.
11 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
12 Then you came back?
13 BY MR. DUBEAU:
14 Yes, sir.
15 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
16 And when?
17 BY MR. DUBEAU:
18 '40 -- early '46.
19 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
20 And the camp was in the process of being -- were
21 you still in the military in '46?
22 BY MR. DUBEAU:
23 Well, they were getting ready to tear it up.
24 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
25 Were you still in the military?

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01 BY MR. DUBEAU:
02 Yes, sir.
03 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
04 Were you stationed at Camp Croft in '46?
05 BY MR. DUBEAU:
06 Temporarily for about 80 days.
07 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

08 So, really, from '43 to '46 you don't know what
09 happened out at Camp Croft?

10 BY MR. DUBEAU:

11 No, but I know what happened while I was there.

12 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

13 Yes, sir.

14 BY MR. DUBEAU:

15 I was an instructor. Okay?

16 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

17 I'm not questioning that.

18 BY MR. DUBEAU:

19 No, you question it any way you want to ask it,
20 but I'm going to tell you something, the stuff that's
21 up there that's been there, it was powerful and
22 somebody -- I'm not asking anybody to hide anything,
23 but there was stuff that was rough, real rough.

24 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

25 I don't think anyone here is trying to hide

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01 anything or cover it up. It's very obvious that ---

02 BY MR. DUBEAU:

03 Well, there seems to be a one way street.

04 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

05 In what way, Mr. DuBeau?

06 BY MR. DUBEAU:

07 Well, I think this -- and, seriously, and I
08 appreciate what the doctor has to say, and, I mean,
09 I'm not arguing with that. I'm just -- I want them to
10 find some stuff that they say never happened here in
11 the training period. Okay?

12 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

13 I'm confused. What -- what do you -- what are
14 you saying that happened here that they haven't found?

15 BY MR. DUBEAU:

16 Well, they had anti-tank training out here.

17 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

18 They didn't have any anti-tank explosives.
19 Sanford Smith looked that up in the Aberdeen Proving
20 Ground. They fired no 57 anti-tank explosive shells
21 at Camp Croft.

22 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

23 Excuse me, sir. I'll have to disagree with you
24 on that. I've lived out here all my life, and I've
25 found hundreds of those things.

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01 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

02 Explosives?

03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

04 You better believe it.

05 BY WOMAN IN AUDIENCE:

06 All right.

07 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

08 Detonated myself out here a cherry bomb.

09 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

10 Well, that means ---

11 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

12 Excuse me. Excuse me.

13 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

14 And I proved it.

15 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

16 I've got ---

17 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

18 Excuse me. Order. Sir. And one at a time so
19 we can have all of this recorded. Thank you.

20 BY DR. LOWRY:

21 Yeah, I'd like to comment about my land, if I
22 could. Now, there's a stack of 105s out there that
23 are inactive that are illumination rounds that are as
24 high as this table that go from here to Suzy. I don't
25 think they found but seven live 105s, and they did on
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01 one of the EE/CAs find one illumination rounds that
02 still haven't charged.

03 I don't know how many 81s they found, but the
04 ones that I was afraid of most were the phosphorus
05 rounds and they found those, and I'm very pleased with
06 the results and not near as afraid to get on my
07 tractor as I used to be. And I believe before it's
08 all done that at least my area will be cleaned up, and
09 which they tried to do for people surrounding me
10 without permission.

11 So you're welcome to come see what's on my
12 property. I'll be glad to take you there. I don't
13 believe there's anything there that they have --
14 that's live and has not been blown up in the areas
15 that they have searched.

16 But, as you know, if you all are half familiar
17 with the 105, you can be a considerable distance and
18 you'll miss that one. So there might be some stray
19 rounds anywhere.

20 Like I say, we found them all the way from
21 almost the highway on 176 to mostly what used to be on
22 this Lake Road, but I believe they've been -- I
23 believe all of those have been found, but you're
24 welcome to come with me anytime you wish. I can ---
25 BY MR. DUBEAU:

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01 No. No. No, what I was saying, Doctor,
02 seriously, I'm not contradicting this man.

03 BY DR. LOWRY:

04 Yes, sir.

05 BY MR. DUBEAU:

06 And I'm not contradicting you. I'm just saying
07 that a lot of different arms were trusted, were used
08 out there to teach people what they were going to run
09 into, and I've heard comments where they say, you
10 know, "Nothing like this was fired." Now, that --
11 that's -- that's all my question is.

12 BY DR. LOWRY:

13 Well, I don't think there were any records of
14 105s being fired in Camp Croft.

15 BY MR. DUBEAU:

16 Well, you know, there was two tanks out there
17 firing and nobody knows where the tanks are.

18 BY DR. LOWRY:

19 I hope, you know, you all would have found them.
20 I'm not sure.

21 BY MR. DUBEAU:

22 I guarantee they knew they where they were being
23 fired.

24 BY MR. HALL:

25 Were they firing solid shot or were they firing

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01 HE or 76 millimeter, 9 millimeter?

02 BY MR. DUBEAU:

03 Well, a little bit of everything. They fired a
04 round to let you know what it -- what it was going to
05 look like, and then they fire a round to hit something
06 and let you know what it was going to do.

07 BY MR. HALL:

08 They had tank gunnery here?
09 BY MR. DUBEAU:
10 They didn't teach it. They had a team that came
11 here.
12 BY MR. HALL:
13 Demonstrate?
14 BY MR. DUBEAU:
15 To show them what was going to happen if you
16 were in combat.
17 BY MR. HALL:
18 They used German to capture German equipment?
19 Is there any German ---
20 BY MR. DUBEAU:
21 I'm talking about our own tanks.
22 BY MR. HALL:
23 I know, but they were doing -- you were talking
24 about demonstrating what they were going to be up
25 against. I'm thinking were they firing any German --

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01 my point being it's a different caliber.
02 BY MR. DUBEAU:
03 I hope to God they weren't, because I'll never
04 forget an 88 as long as I live.
05 BY MR. HALL:
06 Well, you wouldn't want to find any 88s out
07 there.
08 BY MR. DUBEAU:
09 They fired one in my leg. Do what?
10 BY MR. HALL:
11 You wouldn't want to dig up any 88s either.
12 BY MR. DUBEAU:
13 Well, there's nothing like that in this country.
14 BY MR. HALL:
15 Well, when you say a demonstration, I thought
16 you might have been referring to ---
17 BY MR. DUBEAU:
18 No, they were just -- they have to show you what
19 an explosion would be. Now, when they -- when they
20 used to give the 60 mortar, then they bring in an 80
21 just to explain when this went off so that you'd
22 understand it, you know.
23 And I'm not -- I'm not contradicting the doctor
24 at all, and I don't want to -- I'm not saying that.
25 I'm just saying that a lot of things were tried here

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01 that probably weren't even added to come here or
02 anything, you know.
03 I'm not saying that there's anything on his
04 property that should be wrong, but, you know, you can't
05 cover everything. They've had a tremendous job to
06 take place here, a serious job.
07 Matter of fact, I'm amazed, because there was 13
08 camps just like this camp that were put together at
09 the beginning of World War II all over this country,
10 and this is the second one that they're trying to
11 clean up. Now, you're -- you've got to think about
12 this.
13 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
14 Okay. And I'll try to respond. We're --
15 there's no intention to cover up anything.
16 BY MR. DUBEAU:
17 I didn't say that, sir.
18 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
19 I'm not -- I'm just trying -- so the purpose --
20 the way we've gone about this, and we've been through

21 this several different times, ---

22 BY MR. HAROLD OSBORNE:

23 It's getting deep in here.

24 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

25 --- is we've looked, based on the history from

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01 where the explosives would be, where we can determine,
02 based on history researches, as to where the
03 explosives could be.

04 If there's other information out there, we're
05 ready to accept that information and try to evaluate
06 it as to how best go look for those substances, but we
07 have to have something to go by other than, "There was
08 a tank here, and they fired some shells."

09 We have to have something that tells us where
10 they were, where the target was and what they were
11 doing.

12 Now, some people are trying to give us some of
13 that information through maps, and we're going to try
14 evaluate that information and make some determinations
15 as to how is the best way is to evaluate that.

16 BY MR. DUBEAU:

17 One question, sir.

18 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

19 Yes, sir.

20 BY MR. DUBEAU:

21 How many people do you think's alive that was
22 out there when the training took place? I will be 75
23 on September 20th.

24 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

25 I ---

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01 BY MR. DUBEAU:

02 I'm ---

03 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

04 I don't believe there's a lot of them alive.

05 That's why we're using ---

06 BY MR. DUBEAU:

07 And there is, but where are they?

08 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

09 But I -- I can't do anything about that.

10 BY MR. DUBEAU:

11 Come on. Come on. Let's get with the ball
12 game.

13 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

14 All right, sir. I'm willing to get with the
15 ball game. I'm just trying to tell you that this is
16 the way we're trying to go about it. If you've got
17 some other concerns, I'm willing to listen and try to
18 handle those concerns.

19 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

20 I want to form and respond to this gentleman's
21 -- someone added an assertion awhile ago, but on a
22 higher point, steel point, you said, and ---

23 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

24 Solid steel.

25 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

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01 Solid steel.

02 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

03 Six pound.

04 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

05 I've seen papers in the National Archives in
06 Atlanta where originally that was on the schedule to
07 be here. Lieutenant Colonel Kumsey was the first

08 commandant out here.

09 When General Griswold came in, the first thing
10 he did, he ordered live ammunition. I've got the
11 papers on the National Archives of Atlanta that
12 specify that they brought in six train loads of live
13 75 millimeters, 105 millimeters, 57 millimeters, 37
14 millimeters, 60 millimeters, 81 millimeter, bridge 12
15 pounders, and, to top it all off, four of these
16 mortars.

17 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

18 What do you call live ammunition?

19 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

20 Live ammunition that will go off, blow up, high
21 explosive.

22 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

23 That's explosive rounds.

24 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

25 That's live ammunition.

00029

01 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

02 You need to listen to the report Sanford Smith
03 gave to this group. He was in ordnance during the
04 Korean War. When he got on this committee, he was one
05 of the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

06 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

07 Well, they're not -- they don't have accurate
08 records at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, because that was
09 General George C. Marshall back then.

10 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

11 Well, you show me one of those shells that he
12 blew up and I'll believe you.

13 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

14 Well, I'll be glad to show you.

15 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

16 Show it to me.

17 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

18 I'll be glad to show it to you. Right off
19 Whitestone Road.

20 BY MR. CRISSINGER:

21 What was the last name?

22 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

23 Right off Whitestone Road.

24 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

25 They didn't shoot 57s down there.

00030

01 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

02 There's enough buried down there, sir, that we
03 used to blow up all kinds.

04 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

05 They weren't 57s.

06 BY DR. LOWRY:

07 I've got some live 57s.

08 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

09 They were 57s, 37s and 75 millimeter pineapple
10 shells.

11 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

12 Mr. Zimmerman, have you shared that with the
13 Corps that you know where those are buried?

14 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

15 Many times, sir. Many times.

16 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

17 We're in the process -- Mr. Zimmerman and I are
18 working together now to look back and see what
19 happened on some of the occasions when -- on some of
20 the stuff that he had to go by and to determine if

21 there's any new areas that we haven't checked out. So
22 we are evaluating them, Mr. Zimmerman.

23 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

24 And at the same time, I have done considerable
25 research on this all of my life. I have lists, as Mr.

00031

01 DuBeau says, of names of gentlemen who are still alive
02 who participated in firing live ammunition out here.
03 The same type they fired at Anzio or anywhere else.
04 The records at Aberdeen were deliberately falsified
05 about the training camp. I say deliberately
06 falsified. I don't mean that in saying that the US
07 government is lying. I know General George C.
08 Marshall didn't think it was the general public's
09 business to know what type of ammo is fired in
10 training camps. Now that's documented in the National
11 Archives in Washington, DC.

12 What business did the general public have
13 knowing what they were doing at the training camps?
14 That would be like sending the mail around saying,
15 "Hey, we're out here firing."

16 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

17 All during the camps I watched them shoot the 57
18 anti-tank. I live a quarter of a mile from the 57
19 anti-tank range.

20 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

21 Well, good for you.

22 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

23 And as a teen-ager, we would go down there and
24 watch them shoot. We never saw an exploded shell
25 where a 57 anti-tank range exploded.

00032

01 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

02 For how long did you do that?

03 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

04 From '41 when it started until it finished.
05 They run us out of Camp Croft, and we own -- my daddy
06 and his four -- three brothers owns Dairy -- on down
07 the Dairy Ridge Road.

08 We had to move out of Camp Croft. We moved on
09 56. The anti-tank range was a quarter mile below my
10 house. We would go down there after we get out of
11 school and watch. After the soldiers left, we would
12 go down there and dig the bullets up. Do you think we
13 would go down and dig them up if they used explosives?
14 No.

15 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

16 Then you were in the wrong place. They didn't
17 fire them on Dairy Ridge Road. They didn't fire them
18 that far.

19 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

20 You find another range with a 57, and I want to
21 see it.

22 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

23 I've got plenty of maps at home.

24 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

25 Okay. I want to see it.

00033

01 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

02 Well ---

03 BY MR. COLEMAN:

04 Hey, Russell, you're talking about me and this
05 guy.

06 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

07 I know.

08 BY MR. COLEMAN:
09 We were in the Army out here along with this
10 guy, and Leo buried them all while this was going on.
11 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:
12 Have you shot a 57?
13 BY MR. COLEMAN:
14 No, I didn't.
15 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:
16 Okay.
17 BY MR. COLEMAN:
18 Where was the 37 millimeter range.
19 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
20 Gentlemen.
21 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:
22 That same place.
23 BY MR. COLEMAN:
24 Where?
25 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

00034

01 Right there on 56.
02 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
03 I like to call order, please.
04 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:
05 Where you turn off to go on Dairy Ridge Road
06 before you turn off to go to ---
07 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
08 Sir.
09 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:
10 --- the camp.
11 BY MR. OSBORNE:
12 You might get some information of what they're
13 talking about.
14 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
15 Not back and forth this way.
16 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
17 Turn right there on that ---
18 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
19 Excuse me.
20 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
21 Mr. Zimmerman.
22 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:
23 But they were not explosive.
24 BY MR. COLEMAN:
25 There weren't 57s -- there weren't 57s out here.

00035

01 I never saw -- but I saw ---
02 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:
03 But they were not explosive.
04 BY MR. COLEMAN:
05 I saw many ---
06 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
07 I'd like to call order, please. Thank you. If
08 we want to continue this discussion afterwards, we
09 can. I don't think we're getting anywhere with the
10 back and forth at this time.
11 Would anybody else from the Board like to
12 comment on Dr. Lowry's property and just the removal
13 actions to date?
14 Mr. Littlejohn.
15 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
16 It's not important whether -- what was fired.
17 It's important we identify areas that are suspected of
18 containing ordnance.
19 Let's not lose sight of what the objective is.
20 We don't need to argue among ourselves the question of

21 what was fired, nor the type of shells. I'm sure
22 there were many things that happened at Camp Croft
23 that, due to the nature of war time, that were issues
24 that were not available to the general public; but if
25 there is anyone in this room or in the community or in
00036

01 this country who has knowledge of where ordnance was
02 shot, buried or whatever, then, as we have done
03 repeatedly for the last three years or two years, then
04 you need to identify that with the Corps of Engineers.

05 This Board can't help you. You all talking
06 among yourselves is not going to solve your problem.
07 You have to identify those areas with the Corps of
08 Engineers so that they can -- they can pursue it. It
09 may be there. It may not. It's not up to us to
10 determine that. It's up to the experts, and that's
11 the important thing is not to lose sight of that
12 objective.

13 BY DR. LOWRY:

14 I think that what you say is very important, and
15 I'd like to tell you all how I approached it since my
16 piece of land is the one that's being cleaned up and
17 the only one that's been cleaned up.

18 It's the only one that's been cleaned up that's
19 private, and that is I found these shells. I turned
20 them over to proper authorities. I continued to find
21 these shells. I continued to ask people to come help
22 and do this.

23 It wasn't -- it was not easy in any way, shape
24 or form, but the process I had to go through was to
25 convince them that this property truly was

00037

01 contaminated with this ordnance and that it wasn't
02 just something somebody had carried on. And I think
03 after they did a few studies, they became convinced of
04 this.

05 Now I own land on Whitestone Road. I'd like to
06 know if that's contaminated, and if it is, I'd like
07 for them to come clean it up, which I think they will,
08 but you have to go through a process. You have to
09 show that what you got is dangerous and they have to
10 be able to put the finger on where it is, and so I do
11 think that it's important to know where these spots
12 are.

13 There may be all kind of conjecture about other
14 kind of ordnance that was here, but a 105 will kill
15 you dead as you want to be. So if anybody knows of
16 anything else, especially if it's on Whitestone Road
17 close to my land, I'd appreciate knowing it myself.

18 But if you'll show them the stuff, I think
19 they'll come get it.

20 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:

21 Well, that's good and fine, but if you don't
22 live in Spartanburg or you are not able to get out and
23 work the land yourself but you own land there, you
24 know, who is going -- who is going to look after those
25 people who -- who -- who don't see and can't get up

00038

01 into their land to figure out what they've got; and if
02 it's buried, that, again, applies?

03 BY DR. LOWRY:

04 Well, ---

05 BY MR. THOMPSON:

06 Have you asked them to check it out?

07 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:

08 I have not been dealing with this personally,
09 but I believe so, but, I mean, I'm just saying for --
10 not even just for my own sake but for other people in
11 the area.

12 BY DR. LOWRY:

13 If there's -- if there's ordnance on your
14 property, all you have to do is use it. They have
15 rights-of-entry that you sign. It's an orderly
16 process that I've gone through each time they've come
17 on my property.

18 There's a certain amount of trust that you have
19 to go through because this thing that you sign gives
20 them the right to do about anything they want to on
21 your property. But if you're willing to get by those
22 -- those sticky points, that shouldn't be a problem,
23 and I think I can say that pretty convincingly since
24 I'm the one who has been the beneficiary of their
25 efforts, and I'm very pleased with what they've done.

00039

01 It's a big piece of land, and it was a very
02 dangerous piece of land. Now I think I can -- I can
03 approach it safely. I wouldn't mind my grandchildren
04 going out digging in most areas.

05 BY MR. HAYES:

06 Do you all have a completion date for Dr.
07 Lowry's property estimated?

08 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

09 We have a target date at the end of October. At
10 this time that's -- that's our target.

11 BY DR. LOWRY:

12 But if it takes them until next January,
13 then ---

14 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

15 Keep in mind, our targets move as we -- as we've
16 gone through, and, really, based on the amount of
17 fragment and amount of contamination, we've -- we've
18 grown substantially in schedule, but everybody up here
19 is working as hard as they can as fast as they can and
20 safely to get done, and that will be -- that's our
21 approach on any land out here whoever it belongs to.
22 It's the same thing. As quickly as we can get it
23 done, that's best for everyone.

24 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

25 Yes, sir.

00040

01 BY MR. COLEMAN:

02 May I comment on what Dr. Lowry just said?

03 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

04 Yes, sir.

05 BY MR. COLEMAN:

06 He's got property across the road from mine, and
07 I don't mean no harm, but I'm saying what I told.

08 Dr. Lowry, I'm glad you got your place cleaned
09 up. I've asked you to help me. You're on the Board.
10 It's been going on two and a half years, but there's
11 gas down there, and I have got the run around for two
12 and a half years, and I am not satisfied whatsoever.
13 That gas has been down there.

14 Now, this -- I'm not saying it's there. I'm
15 saying that the Army -- what the sign said up there,
16 but now they're saying there's no evidence there, no
17 evidence of it ever being there, "but, please, don't
18 dig through here." But, now, that don't tell us
19 nothing.

20 Well, I'll wait up. When you finish, then I'll

21 start over, and that will give me time and I'll tell
22 you the rest of it.

23 BY DR. LOWRY:

24 Karl, is there any -- any way that you can give
25 him a record of what you all have done and possibly a

00041

01 piece of paper saying that is land is safe?

02 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

03 Yes, sir. We're -- I'm not personally satisfied
04 with what we've done there either at this point.

05 BY DR. LOWRY:

06 Okay.

07 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

08 My plan is to take the geophysical mapping crews
09 over to his -- his pasture as soon as we get done.

10 We're going -- I know it doesn't help everyone's
11 feelings a lot, but we try to go about what we're
12 doing in a systematic way.

13 If we start in one place, it's a lot easier if
14 we do what we have to do on that piece of ground, then
15 move to the next piece. That's -- that's what we did
16 on the State Park. All the areas we cleared, we
17 finished those.

18 The next phase was to move to Dr. Lowry's
19 property, finish it. We will be moving for, my guess
20 is, the next five years around to other pieces of
21 property.

22 The plan is, when we have the mapping crew back
23 in here, is to do some additional mapping, then Mr.
24 Coleman's pasture down there, and truly try to
25 determine what's there, because, like I say, I was not

00042

01 personally satisfied with what's been done.

02 BY DR. LOWRY:

03 So Mr. Coleman can be assured that you all are
04 going to come back and search that area?

05 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

06 Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

07 BY DR. LOWRY:

08 Mr. Coleman, does that suit you?

09 BY MR. COLEMAN:

10 Well, yes, that suits me fine if they'll do it,
11 but, listen, I've been told this twice before.

12 BY DR. LOWRY:

13 Yes, sir.

14 BY MR. COLEMAN:

15 When I have the time, I'd like to tell you.
16 When they started out before, they told me if I would
17 let them count it as ammunition, while they had the
18 funds, they would go ahead and get it up, dig it up.
19 There would be no question about it.

20 But I don't care what you call it, get it up.

21 Well, they assured me that they would be back
22 and dig it up. Okay. All I've got since then is the
23 run around.

24 They sent the grid work in there. They done
25 that, but I've heard all kinds of stories about the

00043

01 gas. They first said there was never no gas at Camp
02 Croft. Then they come back and says there were. Then
03 I think that something about research or paper in
04 1946, I believe it was, County Council was going to
05 open it up the rail at the old chain gang on
06 Whitestone Road and bury some of that gas there and
07 cap it over. But that as -- they were burning that

08 from teaching the people, but, yes, sir, "There's
09 never been no gas in Camp Croft."

10 They had been down there. They searched. They
11 know where a lot -- heavy hit hard, but they avoided
12 that, and I showed them right where the sign was at
13 saying that the cannister of gas is buried there, but,
14 yet, Truelove, says there ain't no evidence of nothing
15 ever being there.

16 And Mr. -- this man up here said they would be
17 back the first of January. Okay. It come, and I
18 didn't see nobody, so I asked Mr. Truelove up there,
19 and he said, "There's no evidence of nothing." That
20 he said it was told to him to come back if there's
21 anything there, and he didn't have no evidence.

22 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

23 Sir, I -- we can get into a lot of discussions
24 about the conversations. I - I don't remember ever
25 telling you we weren't coming back. Karl and I have

00044

01 talked about this.

02 We came out and visited with you, and we told
03 you we would be back in the area starting January.
04 And when we got to a point where we could, we would
05 come to your property and do some further testing.

06 There was some discussion about what was found
07 at that point, and you had some reluctance as to what
08 the results were and what you were told by some of the
09 crew as to what was there versus what the results
10 actually yielded, and we wanted to settle those
11 concerns because we didn't feel it was appropriate.

12 If the crew was telling you one thing and we
13 were getting something else, that wasn't appropriate.
14 So that was the basis under which we were going to
15 come back and test again, confirm the results or to
16 confirm what the crew had told you.

17 BY MR. COLEMAN:

18 But they told me they was going to go ahead and
19 get it before the money ran out. That -- that
20 allotment has done run out and it started over again.
21 They still haven't come.

22 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

23 We -- as of right now, there's been nothing
24 identified on your property for removal. Unless this
25 second look tells us that there's something there,

00045

01 there is nothing for us to come get.

02 BY MR. COLEMAN:

03 Well, in other words, I'm standing up here
04 telling you a lie, when they put the sign there saying
05 there's gas?

06 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

07 No, sir, you're telling me what you saw, and if
08 the results of this test indicate that what you saw
09 was accurate and what you saw was truly something down
10 there, then we will try to get it.

11 BY MR. COLEMAN:

12 Well, that's what I told you all along.

13 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

14 But we have to come back with a test to confirm
15 it. Our initial test, the results of our initial test
16 did not find anything on your property. That's what I
17 told you, and that's what I'm telling you now. The
18 results of those initial tests did not indicate there
19 was any cannisters or any type of drums down there for
20 us to dig up.

21 We weren't satisfied with that because you were
22 -- you were told other things by the crew, and
23 therefore, we were going to come back and test it
24 again.
25 BY MR. COLEMAN:

00046

01 Yeah, and he belongs to the Corps just like you
02 do. But all three of you, when I say something to
03 you, all you want to tell me is, "Bogan said this.
04 Bogan said that." He was with the crew telling me all
05 this.

06 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

07 Yes, sir. I go by what Mr. Bogan said because
08 he was there and he was with the crew and he talked to
09 the crew, but I haven't told you that we were trying
10 to ignore your concerns. I have told you that we will
11 try to address your concerns.

12 BY MR. COLEMAN:

13 But your actions tells me so.

14 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

15 I'm not sure how that is. I'm telling you that
16 when we get through with Dr. Lowry's property, we will
17 come back and test your property. We will do another
18 grid and see what we find.

19 BY MR. COLEMAN:

20 Well, I've been through this before, and then
21 they come to me and told me the funds had run out, but
22 they had already told me they were going to get it
23 before the funds run out.

24 Yes, Dr. Lowry, I -- it has, too.

25 BY DR. LOWRY:

00047

01 I realize that life is precious, and I deal with
02 it every day, and I realize that good Lord has
03 promised us forever, and it seemed like forever that I
04 was waiting to have my land cleaned up.

05 In fact, it took four and a half years or
06 something like this to do, but you have a promise now
07 that it's on public record that the minute they finish
08 mine, they're going to come look at yours again, and I
09 would take this promise and be comforted with it,
10 because that's, I think, all that you're going to get.

11 They've already told you, as a matter of public
12 record, and it's a public record, that as soon as they
13 finish mine, they're going to come look at yours
14 again, and if I were you, I would sign that
15 right-of-entry.

16 BY MR. COLEMAN:

17 I already have a long time ago.

18 BY DR. LOWRY:

19 Well, it's going to take another one. It seems
20 like a long time, and I share your frustration because
21 I went through four years of it is what I'm trying to
22 tell you. It took me a long time to get them to pay
23 attention to me.

24 They now have told you, as a matter of public
25 record, they are going to go search your land again.

00048

01 If they are not satisfied with their initial -- sir,
02 I'm not taking up for them at all, believe me, but I
03 don't know what else they can do. I've been through
04 this.

05 BY MR. COLEMAN:

06 I hope you'll understand my situation. I've
07 been before this Board before, but I didn't get

08 elaborate as much as I have today, but I live there.
09 I don't want that gas down there if there's any there.
10 I don't know if there's any there. All I know is what
11 the sign said, and I'm sure I didn't put that sign
12 there.

13 BY MR. MULLINAX:

14 Mr. Truelove.

15 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

16 Yes, sir.

17 BY MR. MULLINAX:

18 Make another statement that you are going on his
19 property as soon as you finish Dr. Lowry's property.

20 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

21 As soon as we finish ---

22 BY MR. COLEMAN:

23 I have been told this before is what I'm telling
24 you.

25 BY MR. MULLINAX:

00049

01 Well, we want to hear it again as a Board, and
02 we'll see that they follow through on it.

03 BY DR. LOWRY:

04 This is public record.

05 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

06 As soon as we finish Dr. Lowry's property, we
07 plan to take the crew over there and do another grid
08 to determine what, if anything, is on Mr. Coleman's
09 property to the best of our capabilities.

10 BY MR. HAYES:

11 The one grid wasn't big enough, so you're making
12 another grid this time for testing?

13 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

14 Mr. Coleman has some concern. When we look at
15 the results of the grid that was done, it does not
16 indicate any explosives or any other type of materials
17 that we would be concerned about.

18 Mr. Coleman indicates that he had conversations
19 with some of the workers out there that indicated to
20 him that he shouldn't believe that, that we were not
21 telling him the truth.

22 BY MR. COLEMAN:

23 That's exactly what he told me.

24 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

25 He has -- he has said that he knows of a sign

00050

01 that was there and indicated that there was mustard
02 gas there.

03 BY MR. COLEMAN:

04 Just canister gas. I didn't say what.

05 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

06 Yes, sir. Excuse me. Canister gas. We have
07 determined that it would be appropriate, since there
08 was some confusion about what was found there and what
09 was there, to go back and sample one more time to see
10 if the results are the same.

11 I've asked Mr. Coleman that if anyone approaches
12 him at anytime and tells him something different than
13 what I am telling him, then he should contact me
14 immediately because I want to go face to face with
15 that person.

16 The Corps is not here to hide what it finds. It
17 is not here to do that. I want to know if someone is
18 telling someone a different story than what we are
19 because we want to find out what the situation really
20 is and to tell the truth.

21 BY MR. COLEMAN:

22 Since you're bringing that up, the men that were
23 doing the talking to me, the day they left told me
24 they were ordered to get out of there when DHEC
25 arrived.

00051

01 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

02 There was a -- some confusion with DHEC as to a
03 prior notification. I've discussed this same event
04 with DHEC. The only reason they were told to stop was
05 until DHEC got some proper notification about the
06 operation that was going on.

07 We've always told DHEC that we would tell them
08 what operations we were performing. This was a
09 different operation. We moved on to their property
10 without that notification. It was an oversight, and
11 when DHEC found out, we stopped the operation until we
12 could make the proper notification up to DHEC.

13 It was not because we had anything to hide. It
14 was not because DHEC knew of something that we didn't
15 know about. It was strictly a notification situation.

16 BY MR. COLEMAN:

17 Let me ask you this: I've been told some of
18 this stuff would be buried four to six feet, and when
19 they're digging, I understand you all only go about
20 six or eight inches.

21 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

22 We go in and sample and do the testing to
23 identify where things are. It depends on where those
24 things -- how deep those things are when we go in to
25 do the digging as to how deep we actually dig.

00052

01 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

02 Mr. Truelove, about that, rather more of a
03 question for Mr. Blankinship. Do you use the latest
04 molecular resonators when you go over that area.

05 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

06 We use a rather wide range of equipment. I
07 don't know anything about molecular or anything, but
08 commercially available equipment is what we use for
09 detection.

10 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

11 They have just come out, sir, with a molecular
12 -- molecular. It can distinguish anything from a
13 Chinese gait to a pack of fragment. It costs about
14 \$12,000.

15 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

16 Yes, sir. There are -- I'll make sure that
17 everybody understands there are hundreds of thousands
18 of pieces of equipment that people claim ---

19 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

20 Yes, sir.

21 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

22 --- will find any range of everything, and tell
23 you exactly what it is.

24 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

25 Yes, sir.

00053

01 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

02 We test the equipment before we put it in the
03 field to make sure that it will do what the salesmen
04 claim that it will do.

05 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

06 Yes, sir.

07 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

08 And if it doesn't do it, we don't use it.

09 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

10 I was just wondering. I mean, if that's what it
11 is, sir. I subscribe to the Research Quarterly that
12 tells about that. I was just wondering if -- I didn't
13 know if you secured one.

14 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

15 No, we have not. We make a -- we make a site
16 available at Jefferson Proving Grounds for all the
17 latest innovations and technology in locating any type
18 items that's buried to a varied depth below the
19 ground.

20 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

21 Yes, sir.

22 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

23 There's a demonstration project done up there
24 about every one to two years that allows all the
25 vendors to come in, show what they can do and show how

00054

01 effective it is, and that one hasn't been to it that I
02 know of.

03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

04 All right. Thank you.

05 BY MR. COLEMAN:

06 One comment.

07 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

08 One more comment, Mr. Coleman.

09 BY MR. COLEMAN:

10 For the Board. For the Board to understand,
11 there's a spot there with the gas sign said there's
12 cannister of gas. Now, they checked on that, and I
13 don't know whether they did that or not. They said
14 they just checked 20 percent of what they -- the hits
15 in that area they had, they had 191 hits.

16 Now there's something in there, but what I want
17 you all to understand, to the right of that, I say at
18 least a hundred foot long. There were three heavy
19 hits and about three long troughs of stuff parallel to
20 each other that the metal detectors just raised sand
21 out of all three of those. They haven't checked that
22 yet.

23 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

24 When we come ---

25 BY MR. COLEMAN:

00055

01 They have been there and they know that the
02 metal detectors going off, but they have avoided that
03 area.

04 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

05 When we come back, we will get you to help us
06 let -- identify the area you would like for us to
07 check.

08 BY MR. COLEMAN:

09 Well ---

10 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

11 And it will be -- it's a grid and it's a sample,
12 so we're not going to be looking over your entire
13 property, but we will get with you and let you help
14 identify the area that you would like for us to check.
15 This area that you're talking about, we will be glad
16 to include.

17 BY MR. COLEMAN:

18 Let me tell the Board this. They have been
19 there before. They walked right through there with
20 this big canisters, and when they come back the second

21 time, there is one that said to the other one, "I
22 thought we was getting reading off of that fence," but
23 says, "I'm wrong."
24 He said, "Well, what do you think is there?"
25 He said, "It's here."

00056

01 He didn't say what, but they went on off.
02 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
03 Again, I cannot say what the workers said in
04 front of you. All I can ---
05 BY MR. COLEMAN:
06 I'm not talking about the workers now.
07 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
08 Okay. If there's anyone that tells you a
09 different story than what Karl Blankinship and I are
10 telling you or if Karl and I sometime tell you a
11 different story from each other, you need to come to
12 me. I am the project manager on this job. I need to
13 know that the story that you're being told does not
14 agree with what I understand to be the truth.
15 BY MR. COLEMAN:
16 Well, Board members, let me say this, I'm not a
17 wealthy man. I'm not a doctor, but I've got some
18 stuff down there. I'd like to see some attention to
19 it. The people in the community would like to see it
20 done, and we were a part of Camp Croft, and, yes, I
21 lived there during the Camp Croft era, and I worked in
22 Camp Croft when it was there, so I do have a little
23 idea about what went on around in that area while Camp
24 Croft was here. Thank you.
25 BY DR. LOWRY:

00057

01 For the record, I'd like to state that being a
02 doctor does not make you wealthy.
03 BY MR. COLEMAN:
04 I didn't hear you.
05 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
06 Okay. We can move back to the agenda now.
07 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
08 Moving on to -- we have an item of old business.
09 BY MR. OSBORNE:
10 No, I wanted to say something on what he was
11 talking about.
12 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
13 Relative to this conversation?
14 BY MR. OSBORNE:
15 Yes.
16 I'm Harold Osborne, and I reported to Wayne
17 Bogan at anywhere from 15 to 20 items of things that
18 should be brought to their attention to where even to
19 the people that could show them some bunkers. I was
20 told to go out and find the old gas tanks, which
21 I did, on certain properties and reported them to
22 them, and at this time nobody has ever done anything.
23 And getting back to what we're talking about. I
24 went on record with about 15 or so items that was put
25 through on paper work. You have never contacted me

00058

01 whatsoever to ask me anything on what I know and the
02 people that I got the information from. Now, if you
03 don't need to know or you don't want to know, why?
04 BY MR. THOMPSON:
05 Harold, don't point your finger.
06 BY MR. OSBORNE:
07 No. Why?

08 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

09 Why what, sir?

10 BY MR. OSBORNE:

11 Don't you want to know what there is there? I
12 even know where one tunnel is, but you're not
13 interested, are you? I have property that other
14 people wants inspected, but you guys won't go and
15 inspect it.

16 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

17 Sir, as with Mr. Osborne, we have to determine
18 these, go through these and do the searches as we can
19 do them.

20 BY MR. OSBORNE:

21 How many years is it going to take? This is
22 going on almost two and a half years that I reported
23 all this information to Mr. Bogan.

24 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

25 To Mr. Bogan, yes, sir, and I've talked to Mr.

00059

01 Bogan, and he feels that he has researched some of
02 yours, but I haven't ruled anything out and I haven't
03 shut down any of the options that you've brought on
04 the table.

05 BY MR. OSBORNE:

06 Also, some of the items that he was talking
07 about on equipment, I went down to Fort Jackson and
08 talked to some people down there, and I was referred
09 to Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

10 I got in the car and I drove to Fort Campbell
11 and talked to the people up there that has the point
12 of things that the people go and do this, and they
13 said they don't have a training area to go.

14 They would be glad to come down if the Corps of
15 Engineers would contact them. There's even new
16 developments in helicopters that have certain deals
17 that will find this stuff that's on the ground, too.

18 BY MR. CRISSINGER:

19 Perhaps the public would like to know how the
20 priorities are set on how the Corps of Engineers are
21 going to go about selecting whose property is going to
22 be cleared. Apparently, there has been a lot of
23 information that's been exchanged between the Corps
24 and the public over a number of years, and the Corps
25 has established some sort of a priority. Maybe they

00060

01 would like to know, maybe it would be helpful to know
02 how this priority was established.

03 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

04 The -- the system that was used was to identify
05 areas of concern, and that was open to the public and
06 from that Camp Croft was designated as a project.

07 Then we went in and we did Archive Search
08 Report. The Archive Search Report goes and looks up
09 the documents, and they're on file as to what was done
10 at Croft, and any of the records, as far as maps and
11 anything that would identify how a land was used.
12 From that, it's determined areas that had potential
13 ordnance located. These would be target areas, areas
14 will be ammunition was stored, those types of areas.

15 Based on those findings, sampled areas were
16 looked at. Now, they were either looked at or, you
17 know, by visually checked out or they -- and if
18 something was appropriate, then sample -- then a
19 sample grid was done in those areas.

20 BY MR. OSBORNE:

21 I read the reports at the library and all. You
22 have so many windshield surveys that don't really make
23 good sense. Now, how can you drive down this road and
24 look over there in all this kudzu, which is listed in
25 the reference, "That there is so much kudzu over there

00061

01 we couldn't get in there to check it"?

02 Then go on down there, there's another
03 windshield survey. Windshield surveys one right after
04 another, areas that you can't believe. Then you've
05 also got in these reports down at the library the ones
06 that are really, really bad that you guys have not
07 done anything on whatsoever, and we're talking one
08 back down there at Pacolet that's up there behind the
09 rest home. What have you done about it? Nothing. I
10 reported it to you. It's in your archives or in your
11 reports over there. You guys don't even go do it.

12 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

13 Many of the windshield surveys you're talking
14 about were initial surveys prior to any of the
15 investigation being done as to what was even here at
16 Croft. Part of those windshield surveys are done to
17 determine whether or not there is a potential project.

18 That doesn't necessarily mean that you need to
19 get out and investigate those. The level of
20 investigation there is just to determine if there's
21 reasonable expectations that ordnances will be found
22 on this facility. That was determined.

23 BY MR. OSBORNE:

24 The reports state ---

25 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

00062

01 It's a potential project.

02 BY MR. OSBORNE:

03 The reports state, "We had a report there is
04 excessive amount of drums buried in certain places."
05 Windshield survey said, "There's too much kudzu for us
06 to go down there to try to find out."

07 Now do you want me to go and get this and make
08 copies of all of this? It's in your records up at the
09 library, and we'll send them out to make sure that all
10 the Board members get them. I know they don't go up
11 there and read them, because the last time I was up
12 there there's only three or four Board members that
13 ever even went up there and looked at them.

14 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

15 Mr. Osborne, if there is a survey that says that
16 the reason we haven't checked out a potential site was
17 because we did a windshield survey, and that's the
18 only reason we didn't check out that site, yes, sir, I
19 would be very interested in that one. If I could find
20 it, I would check it myself. If you can locate it,
21 then that will help me find it and we will double
22 check it.

23 BY MR. OSBORNE:

24 Well, I have no problem on going back to the
25 library and getting it for you if they don't disappear

00063

01 before the time I get up there.

02 BY MR. JOHNSON:

03 Well, I would like to ask a question, please.

04 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

05 Yes, sir.

06 BY MR. JOHNSON:

07 If I wanted to buy a piece of property down

08 there and the bulldozers come in and run on some of
09 this stuff and go over it and hurt somebody or kill
10 somebody, what happens then?

11 BY FEMALE IN AUDIENCE:

12 Nothing.

13 BY MR. JOHNSON:

14 If all this is supposed to be cleaned up?

15 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

16 When you say, "All of this is cleaned up," the
17 government is trying to eliminate the hazards that we
18 know about in the area for the land use that we know
19 about.

20 BY MR. JOHNSON:

21 Well, see, the White Stone area really is not
22 that big. I've been there for 61 years, and I have
23 walked all over. All that area down there where you
24 all are talking about now, we -- we have dug bullets
25 down there to sell to melt down lead to make a living,

00064

01 and we didn't know how dangerous it was down there
02 because nobody told us, and I don't have to tell you
03 what else happened.

04 So, now, if I wanted to buy a piece of property
05 down there and to build a house on it, would it be
06 safe to have somebody come in there with a bulldozer
07 or would we get some good land?

08 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:

09 Or better yet, would you get on a bulldozer and
10 go do it?

11 BY MR. JOHNSON:

12 Sir?

13 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:

14 Or better yet, would ---

15 BY MR. OSBORNE:

16 Mr. Truelove get on a bulldozer and go do it?

17 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:

18 Would Mr. Truelove get on the bulldozer?

19 BY FEMALE VOICE:

20 No. No.

21 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

22 And I ---

23 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:

24 I mean, I say that as I grew up playing in that
25 land in that area as well. We had a farm out there.

00065

01 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

02 And I don't which area -- I really don't know
03 which area.

04 BY MR. JOHNSON:

05 I mean, any of it. Any of it.

06 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

07 But let me tell you this.

08 BY MR. JOHNSON:

09 Any of it.

10 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

11 If we came in and did a search and we removed or
12 if someone did a search and I had a piece of property
13 there, is there a potential for something to be there?
14 Yes. I cannot tell you there's not.

15 Is there likelihood that it's there? I don't
16 believe so.

17 When this is complete and we removed all the
18 areas that I believe that we've identified, yes, I
19 would get on the bulldozer and do the bulldozing.

20 Now is there still a potential -- things got

21 moved around this camp, and I cannot -- we cannot
22 possibly account for everything that was moved around
23 this camp.

24 BY MR. JOHNSON:

25 I can understand that.

00066

01 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

02 Is there still a potential when I get on that
03 bulldozer that something might happen to me? Yes.

04 Would I do it if I had determined that it was
05 safe enough for me to buy that piece of property,
06 which would be a judgment when I bought the piece of
07 property? Yes, I would get on the bulldozer.

08 Now, whether you would or not, I don't know.
09 That's a personal risk that you take. That would be
10 the risk I would take.

11 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

12 Mr. Truelove, not to stir from the agenda, but
13 has anybody ever really done any research, similar to
14 what Mr. Littlejohn said awhile ago, about how many
15 trains were run into Camp Croft on the old Southern
16 Railroad from May the 20th, 1945, until December 31st,
17 1946?

18 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

19 The archive searches that we have done have not
20 -- have been targeted towards whatever we could find
21 on Camp Croft or how it was used or things that were
22 brought in. Yes.

23 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

24 Yes, sir. There were 78,816 freight cars during
25 that period of time. Everything they had on those

00067

01 cars was unloaded. Now, I -- I got that from the
02 National Archives and from the Southern Railroad
03 Archives in Norfolk.

04 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

05 I'll be glad to look at what you've got.

06 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

07 78,816.

08 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

09 I'll be glad to take it back and see why we
10 didn't find it if that's true that we didn't find it.

11 BY MALE VOICE:

12 Where did he say that was from?

13 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

14 I think we're ---

15 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

16 Let me try to bring closure to some of this.
17 I've got to stand up, though. I detect a great deal
18 of frustration, and also a lot of this is an emotional
19 issue because it is property owners that are involved.
20 And the first thing I have to preface what I'm going
21 to say with is my grandmother was basically evicted
22 from her home place in order for Camp Croft to exist.

23 Now understand this, ladies and gentlemen, Camp
24 Croft was built and the arms and the leaders of this
25 community basically welcomed that facility, not only

00068

01 just for economic reasons, but just like you, Mr.
02 DuBeau, you chose to relocate back here, and there are
03 many men throughout this community who made that same
04 decision.

05 BY MR. DUBEAU:

06 And I'm glad I did. Thank you.

07 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

08 Yes, sir, and we're glad that you did, but the
09 exposure that Camp Croft got when the camp was closed,
10 there was a very conservative effort to keep it open
11 as a regular military base as a fort, and, of course,
12 that fell through. But the important thing is that
13 facility was welcome in this community.

14 We're now 50 years later. We can't clean up in
15 two years what happened 50 years ago. It might take
16 10 years. It might take 20. Again, as long as the
17 funding is left.

18 Many of you have individual instances. You know
19 of things just like your windshield surveys, Harold.
20 Those are issues that you need to be addressing with
21 Mr. Truelove, but this is not necessarily the forum to
22 do it.

23 If they're not responding to you, then you need
24 to put it in writing and you need to put it in
25 registered or certified mail, and that applies to any

00069

01 of you all who have issues with the Corps of
02 Engineers.

03 They can only do what their funding allows, what
04 their standard operating procedure allows. That's all
05 they can do. Making a trip to Fort Campbell, Kentucky
06 is not going to solve any of the problems with the
07 Corps of Engineers, because the Corps of Engineers has
08 been charged with cleaning up this facility.

09 Fort Campbell, Kentucky, whoever is stationed
10 there, whoever you visited with, they're charged with
11 making more, not with cleaning up Camp Croft.

12 Do you take exception to that, Mr. Osborne?

13 BY MR. OSBORNE:

14 Yes, I do.

15 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

16 Did you speak with the commanding general of
17 that facility?

18 BY MR. OSBORNE:

19 Not the commanding general. I spoke with the
20 commanding colonel that was running the outfit that
21 cleans up.

22 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

23 Okay. Well, this ---

24 BY MR. OSBORNE:

25 The ones that goes out to Bosnia and goes

00070

01 through and cleans up and so forth.

02 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

03 Again, they're working on munitions that are
04 current modern day, not 50 years old.

05 But, gentlemen, I ask you to not let emotions
06 and frustration play such a part in what we're trying
07 to accomplish.

08 BY MR. COLEMAN:

09 All we're asking them to do is what they said
10 and all they're doing ---

11 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

12 I agree with you, Mr. Coleman, 100 percent, and
13 understand this Board has no authority other than an
14 advisory capacity.

15 If you have a problem, you know, we can help
16 resolve through that.

17 I have the floor right now.

18 BY MR. OSBORNE:

19 Well, I want to ask a question.

20 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

21 You're going to have to address it to Suzy when
22 I get through, Mr. Osborne.
23 BY MR. OSBORNE:
24 I figured as much.
25 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

00071

01 And, Mr. Zimmerman, 78,000 rail cars is a lot of
02 rail cars.
03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
04 Well, if you consider those already here, they
05 ran them in here 24 hours a day.
06 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
07 All right.
08 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
09 But, now, that is in print in the records.
10 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
11 I understand that, but could be -- they could
12 have been hauling coal out here or anything.
13 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
14 No, they were hauling ammunitions from Camp
15 Crowder, Camp Forrest in Tennessee, Camp Wheeler in
16 Macon, and this was, basically, a dumping ground. I
17 mean, we got people on record that have said that one
18 -- two gentlemen drove big dump trucks and pickup
19 trucks down in the holes where they were burying stuff
20 at the camp.
21 A colonel said, "Dump everything in there."
22 He said, "well, what about my trucks?"
23 Two weeks later they got checks from the
24 government to pay for them.
25 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

00072

01 I'm sure. At the end of the war there was a lot
02 of surplus material that was dumped.
03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
04 Yes, sir.
05 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
06 Not just here but throughout the world.
07 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
08 Yes, sir. This happened to be the third army
09 headquarters ---
10 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
11 I understand.
12 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
13 And the CCC did build some underground
14 structures out here in the '30s.
15 BY MR. THOMPSON:
16 Before the -- before the camp was built here.
17 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
18 They built some large ones. I've done
19 considerable research in the past in this place and
20 there's tubes in the underground, and that is where
21 this stuff is buried. A lot of it is buried.
22 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
23 Then I ask you to share that with Mr. Truelove,
24 and if you're not getting a response from Mr.
25 Truelove, ---

00073

01 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
02 Yeah.
03 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
04 Then I suggest you put it in writing in a
05 certified or registered mail. We've got to work
06 within the organization of the Corps of Engineers, and
07 there may be things they do we don't like, but, again,

08 we're dealing with a department of the Army. It's
09 part of the government, and they certainly don't move
10 as fast as we like to in some private aspects, but the
11 Corps is the answer to our problems.

12 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

13 Yes, sir.

14 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

15 And that's what we've got to work through. We
16 can beat Mr. Truelove. You can beat us to death, but
17 we're not going to solve your problems.

18 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

19 Right, I understand that part. I mean, that's
20 just -- I understand.

21 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

22 Thank you.

23 BY MR. COLEMAN:

24 Then are we just to sit back and give up?

25 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

00074

01 No, sir, that's not what I'm saying. Just
02 follow a procedure. Mr. Coleman, if you're unhappy,
03 then I suggest that you put things in writing and have
04 it either in a certified or registered mail to Mr.
05 Truelove to where you force a response.

06 BY DR. LOWRY:

07 But he's already got a promise here.

08 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

09 You already have a promise here tonight from Mr.
10 Truelove.

11 BY MR. MULLINAX:

12 On record.

13 BY MR. COLEMAN:

14 I've been to every meeting here the last two
15 years ---

16 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

17 I understand that.

18 BY MR. COLEMAN:

19 --- trying to get something done.

20 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

21 I understand that, but it can't be done
22 overnight.

23 BY MR. COLEMAN:

24 I see it can't.

25 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

00075

01 All right. Mr. Osborne.

02 BY MR. MULLINAX:

03 But, Mr. Coleman, you're next on the list. They
04 better not go somewhere else until they come to your
05 property because it -- like Dr. Lowry said, it's on
06 record that yours is the next project.

07 BY MR. COLEMAN:

08 I ---

09 BY MR. MULLINAX:

10 Of Camp Croft, so that's all we can do. We can
11 sit here and argue and talk about it, but the next
12 project is yours.

13 BY MR. THOMPSON:

14 And everything goes according to order, it
15 should be by October.

16 BY DR. LOWRY:

17 May I say something?

18 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

19 Dr. Lowry and Mr. Osborne.

20 BY DR. LOWRY:

21 I know how frustrating all this can be because
22 I've been through every bit of it, but Mr. Truelove
23 and Karl here are people who work with the Corps. The
24 people above them don't always do things the way they
25 want to do them.

00076

01 If you all remember, they wanted to buy my land
02 because it was going to cost less money to buy my land
03 and fence it off than it was to clean it up, and that
04 was the recommendation of the local people, and it was
05 accepted by me, and as far as I'm concerned, you know,
06 they could have bought my land for the price they
07 asked. That was their recommendation. When it got
08 Washington, it was nixed. They said, "No. We're in
09 the process of buying back land. We're going to spend
10 more money to clean it up."

11 So these two gentlemen are doing what they think
12 is right as fast as they can, but they're working
13 within a system, and I must say, that is slow at best,
14 but they can't help it.

15 They're doing the best they can, and I'm
16 convinced of that. I wasn't at first. I thought they
17 were hiding stuff from me, too -- not these two, but
18 the ones that preceded them, but they've done a good
19 job. They have persisted and worked against a whole
20 bunch of other people who were trying to get the same
21 money. They've gotten a lot done, and I think that if
22 we're patient with them and if we live long enough,
23 again, it's not their fault, everything will get done,
24 but it is a matter of public record now that your
25 place is going to be searched, Mr. Coleman, and you

00077

01 can't get much better than that.

02 BY MR. COLEMAN:

03 Well, I thought it was public record the first
04 time I told them.

05 BY DR. LOWRY:

06 Well, you may have thought that, but I don't
07 believe it was. You better take what you've got now
08 and be thankful for it, and I'm thankful for what I've
09 got, and I appreciate what they have done. But these
10 two men, there's no need to get mad at them. If you
11 want to get mad at somebody, call General Ballenger.
12 He's the head of the Corps, and that's my suggestion,
13 because that's -- that's where it all stops right up
14 there.

15 These people are doing as much as they can, and,
16 like I say, I didn't believe at first. They weren't
17 the ones there a long time ago, but I'm convinced
18 they've done everything within their power to get my
19 property cleaned up, and they'll be on yours.

20 BY MR. COLEMAN:

21 Dr. Lowry, I got on to them about mine before
22 they even known about your property.

23 BY DR. LOWRY:

24 Yes, sir, and I produced a 105 that was live and
25 convinced them that my property was dangerous, and so

00078

01 far nothing has surfaced on yours, and I don't want to
02 get in a fuss with you. I'm just trying to tell you
03 they're going to be there. It's in the -- and the
04 news media is here. This is public record. I don't
05 know what better promise you can get, but you have to
06 do it in an orderly process. I'm just trying to back
07 up what was said before. It has to be an orderly

08 process, and they're doing everything they can within
09 the system that they have to work.

10 I've been in the military before. I was a major
11 in the Air Force, and everything that I wanted to
12 happen in that hospital didn't happen, and the patient
13 care that we wanted to give wasn't always available to
14 us; but if you were patient enough, you usually got
15 what you asked for, and you have to work in a system
16 and that's what these people are doing.

17 And so, really, nobody -- everybody can be as
18 mad as hell if they want to, but don't be mad at them.
19 These two are not the ones to blame.

20 BY MR. COLEMAN:

21 Well, I've got to meet the one that is to blame.

22 BY DR. LOWRY:

23 Call General Ballenger.

24 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

25 Mr. Osborne first and then we'll move ahead.

00079

01 BY MR. OSBORNE:

02 One deal like Mr. Littlejohn stated, why should
03 I have to write a letter to the Corps on information
04 that is in -- already in the books down in the library
05 that they have researched and done already?

06 Now, when I sat on the Board I was told that
07 certain things were down at the library. You go down
08 there and you can read it, this, and as a Board
09 member, you were allowed to take things home. I took
10 a lot of the books home. I studied them. I worked on
11 them. I found out what was in there.

12 I will be glad at this point to ask for a hand
13 of all the Board members that's went down and read all
14 of these reports that's down at the library. Is that
15 asking to much?

16 There's one.

17 BY MR. HAYES:

18 I've read some of them. I haven't read some of
19 them.

20 BY MR. OSBORNE:

21 There's a whole stack of them. You can take
22 them home with you. You learn what's going on. Just
23 like what I mentioned on certain things. This is in
24 there. They have said it. It is highly contagious,
25 especially down on certain places on State Park

00080

01 property that it is still highly contagious and kids
02 go down there.

03 You want to bring up the hand grenade deal?
04 It's in the report. All of that stream down there by
05 East Croft Circle down there is highly contagious.
06 It's got all kinds of hand grenades in it, and if you
07 had gone down and read that you would know it.
08 Nothing has been done. There is nothing down there
09 that says, "Nobody go in."

10 You drive on down there with a jeep or whatever,
11 and these kids go down there on their bicycles.

12 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

13 Mr. Osborne, if you have a genuine concern for
14 the general population of this community and you have
15 read that in those reports, then you have a
16 responsibility to report that to the Corps.

17 BY MR. OSBORNE:

18 That's maybe so. I'll do that, but as a Board
19 member, it is your responsibility to make sure that
20 this is done, all of you.

21 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
22 No, sir.
23 BY MR. OSBORNE:
24 Period.
25 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:

00081

01 No, sir.
02 BY MR. OSBORNE:
03 Then why are you sitting up there?
04 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
05 I'll read for you the charge to the Board, our
06 responsibility is to be in an advisory capacity
07 between the community and the Corps of Engineers.
08 BY MR. OSBORNE:
09 It's hard to be advisory if you don't know what
10 you're talking about.
11 BY FEMALE IN AUDIENCE :
12 To give advice.
13 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
14 I'd like to call to order.
15 BY MR. OSBORNE:
16 Thank you.
17 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
18 Ma'am, you had a comment?
19 BY FEMALE IN AUDIENCE:
20 Oh, I was just going to say I think I know why
21 people get so frustrated with the attitude because you
22 don't listen to them. If you sit, you learn by
23 listening.
24 These old people was here. These old people
25 know what happened here. They know where all this

00082

01 stuff is. You should listen to these old people, let
02 them tell you what they know, and you take it from
03 there. But when the old people try to explain to you
04 what happened, where it was, where this is at, you all
05 come on. Everybody, and you look on the expression on
06 everybody's face. You turn your heads. You look all
07 up in the sky and all this good stuff. Listen to
08 these old people. These old people know what they're
09 talking about, and it will probably save you some
10 time, some money and some effort, but you all won't
11 listen to them.
12 When people come in and try to tell you what you
13 know -- what they know, nobody wants to hear that.
14 You all wants to talk about something way on somewhere
15 out there that don't make sense, you know.
16 We've lived here all our lives. We know what's
17 here. We know what happened. These people, like you,
18 you don't know what happened because you wasn't here.
19 You wasn't -- you wasn't old enough or you wasn't even
20 around here, so you can't sit here and say, "Yeah, we
21 know blah, blah, blah." No, that's not true.
22 These people lived here, raised up here,
23 children raised up here. They know. We know. So you
24 need to listen to these old people. You know, that's
25 why they get so frustrated. That's why they want to

00083

01 argue about everything because you won't listen.
02 BY MR. OSBORNE:
03 One little thing, Mr. Truelove. Can you define
04 to me what a sergeant major of the Army is?
05 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
06 No, sir.
07 BY MR. OSBORNE:

08 You mean, "No, sir"? You don't have the
09 slightest idea.

10 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

11 I have a general ---

12 BY MR. OSBORNE:

13 I would get into it and check it out.

14 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

15 I have a general idea, but I would not pretend
16 to be able to define to you what a sergeant major is.

17 BY MR. OSBORNE:

18 Well, as being a former sergeant major myself in
19 the Army and the sergeant major back here, in a sense,
20 not trying to be out or outspoken or whatever, but
21 it's about as close to being God as you can get in the
22 military.

23 It is a highly important position. In fact, the
24 sergeant major probably sat in the more general
25 meetings than any other person or even colonels or

00084

01 whatever because that is his job and nobody listens to
02 the first sergeant back -- or a sergeant major back
03 there.

04 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

05 Okay. Now, I do want to respond. It is not
06 that we're not interested in what people have to tell
07 us. We do need to take that information in a
08 assimilated and some orderly fashion so that we can
09 investigate that.

10 Telling -- when someone comes to me and says,
11 "I was told by someone that there's a lot of
12 ammunition buried over here in this general area,"
13 that is not assimilating the information in a way that
14 we can accurately go and test certain areas.

15 We have to get the information specifically so
16 that we can locate those positions on the map and pick
17 -- if you want to say it, pick the areas that will
18 most probably produce something to go test first, and
19 that's our effort. That's what we want to do is
20 assimilate this information that you people have.
21 That's one of the reasons to have these types of
22 meetings so that we can gather that information.

23 We had an open house today for that purpose. We
24 need to be able to assimilate the information so that
25 we can productively and without spending your tax

00085

01 paying dollars falsely to go look at things that we
02 shouldn't be looking at. We need to assemble them and
03 look at the things that we need to look at.

04 That's the purpose to assimilate this
05 information so that we can -- we don't want to go
06 check the same area three times. We want to do the
07 areas that are most likely to have something so that
08 we can find the stuff so that we can remove it.

09 It's not that we don't believe people. It's not
10 that we don't want to listen to them. We do, but we
11 need that information presented to us in some type of
12 orderly manner that we can accurately check it.

13 Now, I realize that there have been changes
14 within the Corps and some of these things you've told
15 people you feel haven't been checked out. Maybe they
16 weren't response -- maybe the response didn't come
17 back to you as accurately as it should. I don't know.
18 What I need to know is the areas that you think are a
19 concern so that I can try to determine whether they
20 have been checked and what the results were, or, if

21 they have not been checked, should we be going and
22 checking them.

23 BY MR. OSBORNE:

24 At that point, the areas that I found where they
25 shouldn't have been years -- a couple of years ago, I
00086

01 took pictures. When I went up there and started
02 taking pictures, they ran. Is -- is that ever going
03 to be answered? Just like on Mr. Ramantanin's
04 property when we were down there during the
05 explosions, ---

06 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

07 It was my understanding ---

08 BY MR. OSBORNE:

09 --- when we showed up, they got in the vehicles
10 and ran. Now, I'm serious. I've got pictures of all
11 of this.

12 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

13 It was my understanding -- and I don't mean to
14 interrupt you, but it was my understanding that it was
15 responded to you that their instructions were that if
16 any citizens came up into those areas for any reason,
17 including taking pictures, that they were to stop
18 their actions, and as part of that, they may well have
19 picked up and left.

20 BY MR. OSBORNE:

21 I told them exactly who I was. I was on the
22 Board at the time.

23 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

24 It doesn't matter. You're a private citizen and
25 being out in an area where they are doing ordnance

00087

01 removal. They were told to stop their actions, and,
02 if necessary, leave.

03 BY MR. THOMPSON:

04 As a sergeant major, I'm sure you went through
05 that through the military. They told you that.

06 BY MR. OSBORNE:

07 I understand. I look at the logic on both
08 sides.

09 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

10 Now ---

11 BY MR. OSBORNE:

12 And I met with Dr. Lowry on certain things, and
13 we discussed an awful lot, and I don't think that Dr.
14 Lowry knows that I don't pinpoint and look right
15 straight ahead because it don't work.

16 I look at the whole broad system. That's why
17 him and I and one other decided that certain things
18 should be done, and we voiced our opinion and it was
19 done; but if it hadn't been done, there's a
20 possibility something really bad could have happened,
21 and I have no regrets for what myself and Dr. Lowry
22 and what we did.

23 BY DR. LOWRY:

24 But what anybody who is worried about a place
25 needs to do is try to talk them about these bunkers

00088

01 underground, find one of them show them to these
02 people. If you know where 57s are, find one. Leave
03 it there. We've got a good ordnance man in
04 Spartanburg.

05 They found a live 105 in a backyard of an old
06 lady last month, and they found a couple more live
07 things on people's masterpieces in the past six

08 months. So there's stuff all over this community, and
09 those weren't necessarily impact zones.

10 What I have is an impact zone, and it's got
11 1,200 pounds of shrapnel per acre, and that's an awful
12 lot of 105s going off. I don't know what an 105
13 weighs when it's full, but when it's empty, it weighs
14 about 28 pounds or 30 pounds. And isn't that right?
15 Don't we have an ordnance fellow back here?

16 What does one of the those luminary 105s weigh?

17 BY MR. COUNTS:

18 About 41.97 pounds give or take an ounce or two.

19 BY DR. LOWRY:

20 Well, they're heavy is all I can say because we
21 -- but I've got 1,200 pounds of shrapnel per acre, so
22 I know that I've got a pretty major impact zone.

23 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

24 Yes, sir.

25 BY DR. LOWRY:

00089

01 It wasn't any trouble finding 105s or 60
02 millimeter mortars, and I found them. So if anybody
03 -- most of these things, instead of talking about
04 them, show them to these people, and I think something
05 will get done.

06 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

07 Well, just to make a point, Dr. Lowry. You
08 know, they a maneuver area one, which is where your
09 place is, maneuver area two and maneuver area three
10 and maneuver area four, then they had night school,
11 night tact training, and they used company and
12 battalion size tanks with the live ammunition, whether
13 or not -- believe it or not.

14 BY DR. LOWRY:

15 I've got some of those.

16 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

17 Yes, sir.

18 BY DR. LOWRY:

19 I wish you told me that before I bought this
20 land.

21 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

22 I want to make one other point, because I don't
23 think anybody here is mad with Mr. Truelove or Mr.
24 Blankinship. I know I'm not. It's just the
25 bureaucratic process that gets in a ---

00090

01 BY DR. LOWRY:

02 They're not responsible for the process.

03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

04 They're -- no, they're not. I mean, every time
05 -- I've written thousands of letters, and I'll get
06 five back saying, "Write somebody else."

07 BY DR. LOWRY:

08 Yes, sir.

09 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

10 I've had generals show up on my father's
11 property and everything else, and, you know, you just
12 never get, "Well, we're going to do this."

13 BY MR. COLEMAN:

14 Dr. Lowry's property ----

15 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

16 Mr. Coleman.

17 BY MR. COLEMAN:

18 You said somebody to tell you, a year before
19 they checked your property, I notified them that there
20 was some shells on your property, stated it was next

21 back down at the creek, and it was a year and a half
22 before they got to it. I told them that personally.

23 BY DR. LOWRY:

24 I wish you told me.

25 BY MR. COLEMAN:

00091

01 Because it don't do no good is what I'm telling
02 you.

03 BY DR. LOWRY:

04 Yes, sir.

05 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

06 Mr. Stewart.

07 BY MR. STEWART:

08 What I'm hearing or what I think I'm hearing is
09 Mr. Truelove and his staff are definitely trying to do
10 their job, and it appears that they're under staffed.
11 They don't have the personnel to meet the demand.

12 This is what I'm hearing. There are so many people
13 that have certain things. They need to be down there,
14 and it might be very important, but you're operating
15 with under staff, and it's going to take some time.

16 So if the Board has any clout, I would think
17 probably we should go on record and see whether more
18 additional staff could be staff additional to what he
19 has; because he has a heavy load here, and it's going
20 to take an awful long time from what I'm hearing, but
21 I don't know if it can be done or not, but I'm asking
22 if the Board can go on record in recommending that you
23 have additional help.

24 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

25 I personally would always welcome additional

00092

01 help. However, I don't really believe staffing is the
02 restriction. Funding is probably more of a
03 restriction. Funding is what approved by -- it comes
04 down from Congress through the channels and gets set
05 aside to do any of this work. Without the additional
06 funds that would come down through those channels,
07 putting more people trying to do it, you couldn't pay
08 for those people, and, therefore, you cannot do more
09 work.

10 BY DR. LOWRY:

11 Can this Board, though, Jim, through Suzy, write
12 a letter, as we've done before, to Congressman Inglis
13 and Senator Thurmond and Senator Hollings suggesting
14 that funding be provided?

15 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

16 Additional funding.

17 BY MR. THOMPSON:

18 For more funding.

19 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

20 Would you like to set that in a motion?

21 BY DR. LOWRY:

22 I make that motion, then.

23 BY MR. HAYES:

24 Second.

25 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

00093

01 We have a motion that the Board issues and sets
02 -- puts forth the resolution requesting additional
03 funds from the delegation to support the ongoing
04 efforts of Camp Croft. Is that the motion?

05 BY DR. LOWRY:

06 That's it.

07 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

08 We have a motion. Is there a second?
09 BY MR. HAYES:
10 Second.
11 BY MR. THOMPSON:
12 Second right here.
13 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
14 Is there any discussion?
15 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:
16 Now, can I just ask a question? What -- what
17 kind of funding are you dealing with, and what kind of
18 funding does the government put aside to clean up
19 places like Bosnia?
20 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
21 I could not tell you what the government has set
22 aside to clean up Bosnia, but the funding here at Camp
23 Croft for this year was ---
24 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
25 Around a million to million and a half, in that

00094

01 range.
02 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
03 So by the end of this fiscal year we will have
04 spent about 1.2 Million Dollars on Camp Croft.
05 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:
06 By the end of this fiscal year starting when?
07 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
08 Starting in October. This fiscal year is about
09 over.
10 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:
11 So you're talking one year ago.
12 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
13 That was the budget for this year.
14 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:
15 That's the fiscal budget for one year.
16 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
17 It was actually -- actually we increased that.
18 It was a little bit less than that, but we got some
19 additional money because the density of material that
20 was found on Dr. Lowry's property was heavier than we
21 expected, therefore it's taking a little longer to do
22 it than we expected, and therefore we've got some
23 more.
24 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:
25 And can you tell us what an acre costs to clean

00095

01 up?
02 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:
03 To help you understand what we're faced with
04 here and all across the country, we work on ordnance
05 sites over the entire United States. There -- there
06 are sites in essentially every state of the United
07 States containing ordnance to some extent.
08 The funding for the overall program for the
09 entire United States has been fairly level at
10 approximately 30 Million Dollars per year for the last
11 four years. Camp Croft has gotten between 1 and 2
12 Million Dollars every year for the last three years,
13 if I'm not mistaken, out of that \$30 Million. So
14 that's where this installation fits in with the other
15 programs.
16 The way it's divided up is by division. Each
17 division of the Corps of Engineers gets a certain
18 amount. So, Camp Croft is by far getting a good
19 share, I think, of what's available nationwide.
20 BY MR. RAMANTANIN:

21 It's just not a lot of money when put in
22 reference to the national defense budget is here?

23 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

24 No, it's not. It's ---

25 BY MR. OSBORNE:

00096

01 And what company do you represent, sir?

02 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

03 I represent the United States Army Corps of
04 Engineers.

05 BY MR. OSBORNE:

06 Okay. The -- what about the private outfit
07 that's out there cleaning up Dr. Lowry's property?

08 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

09 They work for me.

10 BY MR. OSBORNE:

11 What's the name of the company?

12 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

13 HFA.

14 BY MR. OSBORNE:

15 HFA.

16 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

17 There have been several ordnance companies
18 working over here. Most of the ordnance companies
19 within the United States work directly for the Corps
20 of Engineers, Huntsville.

21 BY MR. OSBORNE:

22 You should see some of their budget. You ought
23 to see some of their gas bills.

24 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

25 I just told you what they are here.

00097

01 BY MR. OSBORNE:

02 You ought to see them. I've got copies of them.

03 BY MR. HAYES:

04 Well, do we have enough money in place now to
05 finish Dr. Lowry's and to look at Mr. Coleman's.

06 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

07 Not this fiscal year.

08 BY MR. COLEMAN:

09 Just a little louder. We can't hear it back
10 here.

11 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

12 I said not this fiscal year. That's best I can
13 tell you right now.

14 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

15 This fiscal year ends September the 30th.

16 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

17 Right.

18 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

19 We do not at this time have the 1999 budget for
20 the removal.

21 BY DR. LOWRY:

22 Well, this is a good time to write ---

23 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

24 It is done on a yearly basis. So, now, all we
25 can tell is that based on past history we've been --

00098

01 we have about 1 Million Dollars into Camp Croft.

02 BY MR. COLEMAN:

03 If it's according to past history, then I'm out
04 of luck, because they've told me that three times
05 already.

06 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

07 Well, ---

08 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

09 No, sir. If you'll remember what I just said,
10 we've gotten for Camp Croft every year for at least
11 the last three years between 1 and 2 Million Dollars.
12 The reason I said, no, we don't have the money that I
13 can say for sure to finish Dr. Lowry's and yours this
14 fiscal year is because this fiscal year ends the end
15 of September.

16 The first of October, we have money programmed
17 for Croft for next year. So it's another year's worth
18 of money. I'm not saying there's not money there.
19 I'm saying this fiscal year we do not have it.

20 BY MR. COLEMAN:

21 I'm not mad at you or anything.

22 BY MR. BLANKINSHIP:

23 Oh, I'm not -- I don't -- it's ---

24 BY MR. COLEMAN:

25 I want them to understand what's going on. They

00099

01 have told me before they was going to get to mine
02 before the money run out, but I've been pushed back,
03 back, back, and it gets tiresome and old.

04 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

05 Any further discussion on funding as far as the
06 Board wanting to set forth the resolution to request
07 additional funds to carry on the removal action? Any
08 further discussion from the Board first?

09 (NO RESPONSE)

10 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

11 No further discussion. Mr. Osborne, one brief?

12 BY MR. OSBORNE:

13 One brief thing. This might help the whole
14 community, the whole Board or whatever. As of today,
15 I asked for a Congressional investigation, so that
16 should help.

17 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

18 Harold, I requested that about a year ago.

19 BY MR. OSBORNE:

20 Well, it's set now.

21 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

22 No, really. I really did.

23 BY MR. OSBORNE:

24 We're going to get one.

25 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

00100

01 I didn't ---

02 BY DR. LOWRY:

03 Call the question, please.

04 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

05 Okay.

06 BY MR. OSBORNE:

07 Okay.

08 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

09 Everybody for a vote on the motion.

10 BY DR. LOWRY:

11 Yes, I call the questions.

12 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

13 Oh, Dr. Lowry.

14 BY DR. LOWRY:

15 I called a question so we've got to vote on it.

16 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

17 Okay. All in favor?

18 (ALL RESPOND)

19 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

20 All opposed?

21 (NO RESPONSE)

22 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

23 Okay. The motion is passed that the Board will
24 prepare a resolution requesting additional funds. I,
25 as the supporting contractor, will draft that and give

00101

01 each of you a copy. If any of you would like to help
02 me with the language up front, feel free to E-mail me
03 or fax me. Otherwise, I will draft that within the
04 next week to two weeks to have that for your review to
05 set forth to the Congressional delegation.

06 Let's move on as we're getting late in the
07 evening. The next agenda item, and we still have one
08 item of old business that I would like to briefly
09 address and to document for the record. Mr. Osborne
10 in the past has raised his concerns about his removal
11 from the Board and his opportunity for a hearing, and
12 our, as a Board, following Robert's Rules of Order, a
13 letter was prepared on behalf of the Board and
14 submitted to him on June 1st that outlines the actions
15 and our following -- the Board following the By-Laws
16 and the procedures of Robert's Rules of Order as far
17 as his removal, and, at this point, that cannot be
18 again raised by Mr. Osborne, and I wanted to bring
19 that to closure on his behalf.

20 BY MR. OSBORNE:

21 Through the Board, but legally it's ---

22 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

23 Through the Board.

24 I think we've had plenty of opportunity for new
25 business. I'd like to one more time, is there any new

00102

01 business that relates to the items that have been
02 discussed this evening that need to be briefly stated?

03 BY MR. MULLINAX:

04 Suzy, I've got still some old business.

05 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

06 Yes, sir.

07 BY MR. MULLINAX:

08 Mr. Truelove, do you have anything about that
09 Jerry Williams in our last meeting?

10 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

11 Yes, I do. I investigated the reports that Mr.
12 Williams quoted from. Those were some preliminary
13 reports that identified that were set up the scope of
14 what the project could be, not what the project was or
15 has been found. Those are the preliminary documents
16 that go forward to say we need a project at Camp Croft
17 to investigate and determine what the situation is.

18 Most of his topics that he brought out had to do
19 with chemical weapons, chemical materials, and that
20 they were buried in wells. We have not found to this
21 day anything that supports that chemical weapons were
22 buried in wells. We welcome anyone who can identify
23 that well or identify those wells or where it was
24 done. We will then take actions to go, but the
25 archive search reports and things that have been

00103

01 determined where the ordnance is and the other things
02 are have not identified them to this date. Therefore,
03 at this time, there's no removal -- chemical removal
04 actions scheduled at Camp Croft.

05 BY MR. THOMPSON:

06 Hey, Harold, you got red on your face. Do you
07 know where they are? If you do, you're going to help

08 the Board.
09 BY MR. OSBORNE:
10 Like I said, Congressional inquiries come up
11 with a lot of things.
12 BY MR. THOMPSON:
13 Do you know where they are?
14 BY MR. OSBORNE:
15 No, I don't know where the chemicals are.
16 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
17 Mr. Thompson.
18 BY MR. THOMPSON:
19 Yes, sir.
20 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
21 I know where some of them are.
22 BY MR. THOMPSON:
23 Would you be willing to show us?
24 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
25 Anytime you want to.

00104

01 BY MR. THOMPSON:
02 There you go.
03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
04 I said some of them. I'll have -- there's more
05 that I don't know where they are.
06 BY MR. THOMPSON:
07 Yeah, well, if you can just show us one. I
08 would like to see one. We've heard this for three
09 years. That's the reason we react the way that you
10 are talking about a few minutes ago. We've heard this
11 information for three years but nobody can show us.
12 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
13 Well, what they did when they put them in this
14 old wells and then they covered them slam full of
15 various type of coarse soap stone rock and bulldozed
16 it over, and now you don't even know if there's a well
17 there.
18 But that's not to say that what is on Mr.
19 Coleman's property, he'll just have talk to you about
20 gas and a few other things that will kill a human
21 being in a few seconds. You know, if you've got some
22 type of metal canister, who is to say it's not leaking
23 in our water supply? Now, most the gas, you know,
24 they keep that in metal. It eats right through the
25 seal, but I think we're ---

00105

01 BY MR. THOMPSON:
02 You know where they are?
03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
04 I know where the six wells are that are loaded
05 with stuff.
06 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
07 Okay. Now, I will say that the only report that
08 we have where samples were taken was a DHEC report.
09 It was down around the commercial landfill. I think
10 it's the one that just got closed up. It did not --
11 it did not identify any contaminants in the ground
12 water that could be contributed in any way to Camp
13 Croft.
14 Now, we welcome the opportunity to locate these
15 wells, but, again, the determination will have to be
16 what kind of hazards do they present, and then they
17 get a priority as to how the cleanup goes.
18 We will determine that based on where the
19 locations are and what we can determine as far as what
20 is leaking and has been leaking, but are they -- let

21 me ask you one quick question before we move on.
22 Are they part of what you providing in the maps
23 and the things that you're identifying or are those
24 separate?
25 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

00106

01 Some of the things, yes, sir. Some of the
02 things that I sent Mr. Bogan over a year ago on those
03 county maps. I marked them on there, and Jimmy
04 Lancaster and Jerry Williams and myself had that
05 private meeting for about four hours with Mr. Bogan
06 back in May of 19 ---

07 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

08 How about the more recent maps that you were
09 marking up? Were any of them on there?

10 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

11 Some of them are on there, too. Yes, sir.

12 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

13 So we -- the ones that -- are you able to
14 establish anything that you believe is a priority so
15 that we know what priority you think should be
16 investigated in that?

17 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

18 I just know there are full cannisters of various
19 types of gas they used in the gas chambers over here
20 at Kohler. They were buried there and ---

21 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

22 And this was from conversations with people who
23 were here on ---

24 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

25 In the gas chambers that were over there. You

00107

01 know, that was near the Kohler. The ones they used
02 for -- they ran the soldiers ran through it.

03 BY MR. THOMPSON:

04 That's where I work out.

05 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

06 Yes, sir. They were -- they were just dumped in
07 July of 1946, and they were covered with about 14 feet
08 of soap stone granite coarse rock.

09 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

10 And this -- was this determined by your research
11 where you done the record search?

12 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

13 Yes, sir, I talked with a gentleman who lives in
14 Joplin, Missouri, who was on that detail.

15 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

16 So this is from conversation with people who did
17 the actual -- do you want it call dumping?

18 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

19 Mr. DuBeau may know this gentleman. He's -- he
20 was in a something called 517 Financial Recovery
21 Battalion, and he brought a lot of stuff back from
22 Germany and threw that here. After he got through
23 doing that, they cleaned out the gas chambers, a
24 company from Hyles (phonetic spelling) bought the gas
25 chambers, and they carted them and took them out here.

00108

01 BY MR. HALL:

02 Is that CS gas?

03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

04 87 chemical.

05 BY MR. HALL:

06 Tear gas?

07 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

08 Same stuff. Some of it was more lethal than CS
09 gas. They did use that out here. People I know at
10 Spartan Green and Mill tested gas out off Port Bridge
11 Road and just blew one up in the air in a balloon like
12 substance and it filtered down in the water. They
13 had something like, I believe, 14 different types of
14 gas and substances out there.

15 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

16 Okay.

17 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

18 I was a lieutenant in Okinawa in '51 and '52,
19 and I was CBR off of the battalion that killed the
20 biological and radiological losses. You don't use
21 poison gas in a gas chamber. You use tear gas and
22 that's all.

23 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

24 Well, ---

25 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

00109

01 Now, they might have had cannisters to show them
02 what a cannister of a mustard gas was, but you don't
03 use poison gas in a gas chamber to test the soldiers.

04 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

05 And that was in 1951.

06 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

07 1951 and '52.

08 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

09 All right. This was out here at Camp Croft in
10 1941, '42 and '43 when we were against the Nazis,
11 Germans.

12 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

13 Yeah, but you don't ---

14 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

15 Okay. We will ---

16 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

17 --- expose them to poison gas.

18 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

19 As I told you prior to the meeting, we're in the
20 process of looking at the information that you've
21 given us, laying it on top of that and seeing what the
22 best approach is to investigate different areas that
23 you put down.

24 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

25 One other question. Again, I'm not trying to

00110

01 pick an argument with this gentleman, because I've
02 never seen him before in my life. They took 47
03 soldiers out of here who suffered burns and bronchial
04 damage from the gas they used in this gas chamber, and
05 tear gas wouldn't do that harm. They had to be using
06 something else. That, too, is on record in the
07 National Archives.

08 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

09 It will burn you if it's thick enough.

10 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

11 It will burn if it's thick enough, but it's not
12 going to get -- it won't eat up your upper respiratory
13 system. It won't -- it won't make skin patches.

14 BY MR. TRUELOVE:

15 Okay.

16 BY MR. RUSSELL SMITH:

17 I was in the battalion with chemical, biological
18 and radiological warfare.

19 BY MS. MCKINNEY:

20 Any other ---

21 BY MR. HAYES:

22 Robin, do you have where you researched this?
23 Do you have the category numbers or anything that we
24 can read?

25 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

00111

01 Yes, sir. It's in the National Archives, Gary,
02 in Atlanta and Washington, D.C., Aberdeen. That's
03 where I found out that one.

04 BY MR. HAYES:

05 But what I'm saying is is there a certain
06 number, document number or something that you've
07 written down in your research that ---

08 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

09 You go to the National Archives in Atlanta, Dr.
10 Charles Reeves down there, and they've got everything
11 on Camp Croft, Gary, in cardboard boxes, and I'm not
12 exaggerating when I tell you it's about, you cut this
13 part of this room full. I've been down there several
14 times to just sift through all this, and that's how I
15 got all this stuff.

16 BY MR. HAYES:

17 But you didn't take notes as to what ---

18 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

19 Yes, I did. I've got copies of these papers.

20 BY MR. HAYES:

21 But that ---

22 BY MR. THOMPSON:

23 You made copies of them?

24 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

25 Sir?

00112

01 BY MR. THOMPSON:

02 You made copies of them?

03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

04 They'll let you make copies of anything down
05 there, including company vault gas chamber, the 78,816
06 cars came in here. The fact that the only thing that
07 was removed from this camp here were 24 105 millimeter
08 howitzers and 12 self propelled millimeter howitzers.
09 Everything else, trucks, jeeps, half tracks,
10 everything else was buried. Buried. B-u-r-i-e-d. I
11 mean, along with thousands and thousands cases of
12 rocks.

13 BY DR. LOWRY:

14 Were there any 155s?

15 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

16 No, sir. They did not use that in this camp.
17 This camp wasn't really big enough for a long range
18 155.

19 BY MR. DUBEAU:

20 It didn't have the range, sir.

21 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

22 It didn't have the range.

23 BY MR. DUBEAU:

24 The 105 was as big as you could go.

25 BY DR. LOWRY:

00113

01 Well, they found a 155 on my property.

02 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

03 Yes, sir.

04 BY DR. LOWRY:

05 That's why I was asking.

06 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:

07 They did store 155 and 8 inch or 240 millimeter

08 shells out here because Camp Croft is part of Blue
09 Ribbon project.
10 BY DR. LOWRY:
11 But they didn't fire them?
12 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
13 I don't know. Unless the one you found, they
14 might have fired one, but they didn't.
15 In fact, Camp Croft was part of the war plan
16 blue fort. That's exactly what it's designated under.
17 That was the plan to defend the United States from a
18 European Nazi attack. That's on record, too.
19 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
20 And follow-ups with you when we're identified, I
21 will probably get with you personally, and I would
22 like to if we could meet so that I could make copies
23 of those records that -- I'm not trying to -- we
24 appreciate your research, but it prevents us from
25 having to go back and spend our time going back

00114

01 through to find something that you've already
02 identified.
03 BY MR. ZIMMERMAN:
04 All right.
05 BY MR. THOMPSON:
06 Motion.
07 BY DR. LOWRY:
08 Motion to adjourn.
09 BY MR. THOMPSON:
10 Second.
11 BY MR. LITTLEJOHN:
12 Second.
13 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
14 We've got a motion to adjourn.
15 BY MR. OSBORNE:
16 That's fine. I just want to say one thing
17 before you do.
18 BY DR. LOWRY:
19 We've got to vote on this, Harold.
20 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
21 All in favor?
22 (ALL RESPOND)
23 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
24 Opposed?
25 (NO RESPONSE)

00115

01 BY MR. OSBORNE:
02 I request under the Freedom of Information Act a
03 copy of everything that was said here tonight from
04 her, please.
05 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
06 Requests for Freedom of Information are written
07 to our legal organization.
08 BY MR. OSBORNE:
09 I want it on record I am now asking you.
10 BY MR. TRUELOVE:
11 And I am telling you the process of the Freedom
12 of Information, although I have no problem with you
13 getting a copy. The process under which you request
14 under the Freedom of Information is to our counsel's
15 office located in Charleston, South Carolina.
16 BY MR. OSBORNE:
17 I can get a copy, and I'll make it available to
18 anyone.
19 BY MS. MCKINNEY:
20 We bring copies of the transcripts from the

21 previous meetings are available and all subsequent
22 meetings and copies of all transcripts are available
23 in the library. They are public record.
24 (MEETING CONCLUDED AT APPROXIMATELY 8:45 P.M.)

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01 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
01) CERTIFICATE
02 COUNTY OF SPARTANBURG)

02
03
04

05 This is to certify that the within meeting was
06 taken on the 14th day of July, 1998;

07 That the foregoing is an accurate transcript of
08 the meeting given;

09 That copies of all exhibits, if any, entered
10 herein are made a part of this record;

11 That the undersigned court reporter, a Notary
12 Public for the State of South Carolina, is not an
13 employee or relative of any of the parties, counsel or
14 witness and is in no manner interested in the outcome
15 of this action.

16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my Hand
17 and Seal at Spartanburg, South Carolina, this 20th day
18 of August, 1998.

19
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21
22
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23

Notary Public for South Carolina
Commission Expires: 3/24/07

24
25 (SEAL)