



Information From Marine Corps Base  
**CAMP LEJEUNE**

Home of the 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Force Service Support Group  
and 6th Marine Amphibious Brigade

09.10-06/22/88-0  
221

Joint Public Affairs Office  
Box 8438, Camp Lejeune, N.C. 28542-5000

For more information call  
(919) 451-5655/5782/1607

Release Number 01-88

NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.--A 1983 study program to identify, evaluate, control and correct past deficient waste disposal sites and practices involving ground water contamination here has led the Environmental Protection Agency to place Camp Lejeune on the National Priorities List (NPL).

The NPL was set up to identify sites that, because of previous waste disposal practices, have the potential for harming the environment, according to Col. Thomas J. Dalzell, Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune.

"There is no danger of any contamination in the drinking water on or off base, and all contaminated ground water wells here have been sealed off," said Dalzell.

-more-

NPL LISTING

2/2/2/2

Sites placed on the NPL may apply for the use of the EPA's Superfund monies to clean up hazardous waste sites in the United States. In the case of military installations, however, clean-up funds come from the Defense Environmental Restoration Account.

"Basically, the NPL prioritizes the areas of concern the federal government feels need to be looked at first and makes these areas eligible for federal funds," said Dalzell.

Camp Lejeune uses and produces large quantities of hazardous materials and waste products. Although no hazardous waste is permanently stored aboard base, past hazardous waste disposal relied on burial. This disposal method was acceptable at the time, but was subsequently found to potentially cause long-term problems through release of hazardous material into the soil and ground water. As a result, these disposal practices are no longer being used, according to Dalzell.

The area at Camp Lejeune being studied most closely is the Hadnot Point industrial area where, in 1985, traces of trichloroethylene, dichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene were found in 8 of 35 wells. These chemicals are used primarily as solvents and degreasers.

-more-

3/3/3/3

Camp Lejeune realizes that the high amounts of hazardous material used aboard base present the potential for damage to the environment, and vigorously pursues hazardous waste planning and training. The base has been recognized as a Model Installation and will continue the same commitment to excellence to deal with the ground water contamination by working with the EPA to clean the sites as rapidly as possible.

Camp Lejeune continuously pursues a vigorous program of hazardous waste training, handling and management that includes annual courses of instruction for those dealing with hazardous waste. In addition, the base has minimized the use of hazardous materials by substituting non-hazardous substances for vehicle maintenance and parts cleaning.

"The base meets and exceeds all treatment standards required by the EPA and pursues a continuous water testing program," said Dalzell.

The initial steps for cleaning up the sites involve the Installation Restoration (IR) Program, a three-phase nationwide process to identify past hazardous waste sites and take necessary cleanup action.

The first phase is a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI), and was completed in April 1983 for Camp Lejeune. The study identified 76 potentially contaminated sites, and concluded that while none of the sites pose an immediate threat to human health or the environment, 22 sites warrant further investigation.

-more-

NPL-LISTING

4/4/4/4

The Base now has six months to initiate Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) action in consultation with EPA and appropriate state authorities. Time to complete the RI/FS is negotiable and must include public participation.

Within 180 days after completion of the RI/FS, Camp Lejeune must reach an agreement with EPA and state authorities for the completion of all necessary remedial actions at Camp Lejeune. Substantial continuous physical on-site remedial action must take place no later than 15 months after completion of the RI/FS.

The base has established a 24-hour hotline for questions and comments concerning the National Priorities Listing. The number is 451-5100.

384-87

## NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.—As a result of a 1985 discovery of water contamination here, the Environmental Protection Agency is likely to place Camp Lejeune, as well as other Federal installations, on the National Priorities List (NPL).

The NPL establishes priorities for the EPA's use of Superfund monies to clean up what they consider to be among the most serious toxic sites in the United States. However, federal facilities are not eligible to receive Superfund monetary assistance unless the contamination is caused by a private concern.

The area under study at Camp Lejeune is the Hadnot Point industrial area. In 1985, traces of trichloroethylene, dichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene were found in 8 of 35 wells in this area. The affected wells were immediately closed, and have remained closed since. No single contamination point has been identified as the source of contamination for the wells, and no contamination has been detected by periodic tests of drinking water aboard base.

Camp Lejeune continuously pursues a vigorous program of hazardous waste training, handling, and management that includes annual courses of instruction for those dealing with hazardous waste. In addition, the base has minimized the use of hazardous materials by substituting non-hazardous substances for vehicle maintenance and parts cleaning.

No hazardous waste is permanently disposed of aboard Camp Lejeune.

As a Model Installation and as a responsible part of the Eastern North Carolina community, Camp Lejeune is dedicated to protection and preservation of the environment in cooperation with state and national officials.

## NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.—As a result of a 1983 study program to identify, evaluate, control and correct past deficient waste disposal sites and practices involving ground water contamination here, the Environmental Protection Agency is likely to place Camp Lejeune on the National Priorities List (NPL) in late February.

The NPL establishes priorities for the EPA's use of Superfund monies to clean up hazardous waste sites in the United States.

Camp Lejeune uses and produces large quantities of hazardous materials and waste products. Although no hazardous waste is permanently stored aboard base, past hazardous waste disposal relied on burial.

This disposal method was acceptable at the time, but was subsequently found to potentially cause long-term problems through release of hazardous material into the soil and ground water.

Camp Lejeune realizes that the high amounts of hazardous material used aboard base presents the potential for damage to the environment, and vigorously pursues hazardous waste planning and training. The base has been recognized as a Model Installation, and will use the same commitment to excellence to deal with the ground water contamination, and will work with the EPA to clean the sites as rapidly as possible.

The initial steps to clean up the sites involve the Installation Restoration (IR) Program, a three-phase nationwide process to identify past hazardous waste sites and take necessary cleanup action.

NPL LISTING

Page 2/2/2/2

The first phase is a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI), and was completed in April 1983 for Camp Lejeune. The study identified 76 potentially contaminated sites, and concluded that while none of the sites pose an immediate threat to human health or the environment, 22 sites warranted further investigation.

The area primarily under study at Camp Lejeune is the Hadnot Point industrial area. In 1985, traces of trichloroethylene, dichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene were found in 8 of 35 wells in this area. The affected wells were immediately closed, and have remained closed since. No single contamination point has been identified as the source of contamination for the wells, and no contamination has been detected by periodic tests of drinking water aboard base.

The chemicals found are used primarily as solvents and degreasers.

Following the placement of Camp Lejeune on the NPL, the Base has six months to initiate Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) action in consultation with EPA and appropriate state authorities. Time to complete the RI/FS is negotiable and must include public participation.

Within 180 days after completion of the RI/FS, Camp Lejeune must reach an agreement with EPA and state authorities for the completion of all necessary remedial actions at Camp Lejeune. Substantial continuous physical on-site remedial action must take place no later than 15 months after completion of the RI/FS.

Camp Lejeune continuously pursues a vigorous program of hazardous waste training, handling and management that includes annual courses of instruction for those dealing with hazardous waste. In addition, the base has minimized the use of hazardous materials by substituting non-hazardous substances for vehicle maintenance and parts cleaning.

The base has established a 24-hour Hotline for questions and comments concerning the National Priorities Listing. The number is 451-5100.