DRMO-ZWH (N. Hensley/5652/srs)

23 January 1989

SUBJECT: Past Chemical Disposal Practices at DRMO Lot 203

70:

Commanding Officer

ATTN: Base Safety Officer

Marine Corps Base

Camp Lejeune, NC 28542

- 1. Reference: NREAD letter, dated 17 Jan 89 (copy enclosed)
- 2. In an effort to clean up an area in Low 203 where two durms were inadvertently unearthed several other drums were discovered. One of the drums was labeled DDT. It is unknown at this time what the other drums contain. Natural Resources has taken soil samples for analizing. This area has all been covered over with plastic and cordoned off at the present time.
- 3. Enclosure 1 to the enclosure shows a map with annotated areas which reflect where various waste had been buried at Lot 203 prior to 1980. Request your office inspect these areas to ensure there is no threat to the employees who work there.

1 Encl

Nadine Hensley Chief, Defense Reutilization

Yedina Hipp

and Marketing Office

To the state of th

6249/3 NREAD 17 Jan 89

From: Director, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

Division

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Pacilities

subj: PAST CHEMICAL DISPOSAL PRACTICES AT DRMO LOT 203

Ref: (a) Onsite visit by LtCol Wellington, SJA, Nadine Hipp, DRMO, Mr. Joe Poliotti, Retired DRMO Civil Service, Sammy Gwynn and J. I. Wooten, NRSAD on 13 Jan 89 at 1299 hours

Encl: (1) DRMO Lot 293 may with chemical disposal information

- 1. During the reference, Mr. Poliotti pointed out several different spots both within and outside the Lot 263 fence where various chemical i.e. PCB, electrolyte from used battery, cleaning solvents and waste oil disposal occurred by DRMO employees during the period 1963 to 1986 (approximately 17 years). Mr. Poliotti advised that pesticides were stored in a trailer at Lot 263 and he was not aware of any pesticides being buried at Lot 263. Enclosure (1) provides general Lot 263 chemical disposal locations which were pointed out by Mr. Poliotti during the reference.
- 2. Mr. Poliotti mentioned that four each former DRMO Lot 293 employees had died and at least one died of cancer.
- 3. It is recommended Base Safety and PMU be tasked with investigating the DRMO Lot 203 work site in light of the 9 Jan 89 discovery of buried DDT and the information provided by Mr. poliotti during the reference alleging indiscriminate disposal of several chemicals mentioned in paragraph one above. Base Safety and PMU should provide recommendation relative to any immediate threat to humans ASAP but no later than 1 February 89 as civilian employees are assigned to Lot 203 daily and are performing official duties throughout the fenced complex.

J. I. WOOTEN

Copy to: → DRMO
SJA

