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and an estimate of the amount of timber sold.

§ 644.511 Certificate of competency by SBA.

Section 8(b)(7) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(7)) authorizes the SBA to certify the competency of a small business concern as to capacity and credit. In any case where timber is being sold on a credit basis, if the bid is being questioned solely on the financial ability of the bidder and the bidder is a small business concern, the DE will notify the appropriate SBA field office immediately and follow the other procedures provided by Section III of the DOD-SBA Agreement. A certificate of competency issued by SBA will be honored in such cases.

§ 644.512 DA-SBA joint set-aside determination.

Section 15 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644), provides that where certain joint determinations are made by the SBA and a disposal agency, the award of a contract for the sale of Government property shall be made to a small business concern. Section IV, Joint Set-Aside Determination of the DOD-SBA Agreement implements Section 15 of the Small Business Act. It is not anticipated that SBA will recommend that Army timber be reserved or set aside for sale to small business concerns on an exclusive or preferential basis. In the event recommendations on set asides of Army timber are received from SBA field offices, the SBA recommendations will be forwarded promptly to HQDA (DAEN-REM) WASH DC 20314 with DE comments and recommendation.

§§ 644.513–644.515 [Reserved]

Clearance of Explosive Hazards and Other Contamination From Proposed Excess Land and Improvements

§ 644.516 Clearance of Air Force lands.

The Chief of Engineers has no responsibility for inspecting or clearing excess Air Force land of explosives or chemical/biological contaminants. When a target or bombing range, or other land under the control of the Department of the Air Force, which might be contaminated with explosives or other harmful or dangerous substances, becomes excess to Defense requirements, the appropriate DE will obtain a certificate as to the extent of contamination and clearance thereof from the Commander, Air Force Logistics Command (AFLC), Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 45433. The Corps of Engineers will continue to be the agency with which the disposal agencies, purchasers, and former lessors will communicate when explosives or objects resembling explosives, are discovered on the land after dispostion has been effected. The AFLC, upon request of the DE, will neutralize or remove such objects or substances and make a report to the requesting agency or person. See § 644.535 for support required of the Corps.

§ 644.517 Clearance of Army lands.

The responsibility for performing clearance of ordnance contaminated excess Army military real property is placed upon and remains with the using command. That command, after completion of the clearance work, will furnish the DE a ''Statement of Clearance'' (Appendix E, AR 405–90) and a record of the clearance work performed. In addition to the Statement of Clearance, the following information will be furnished to the DE upon completion of the neutralization:

(a) Records of the neutralization work performed, including statement of methods employed.

(b) List of dangerous and explosive materials removed.

(c) Number and names of demolition technicians employed.

(d) Other data that may be pertinent in the defense of any suit or claim that might subsequently arise as a result of civilian occupancy.

§ 644.518 Determination of categories.

Prior to making a recommendation for excess, the state of contamination of the property must be determined by the installation commander as either of the following:

(a) *Category One.* Those lands such as ammunition plants, storage, test, impact and training areas, bombing or target ranges, which may contain explosives or unexploded ordnance. The

report will include proposed methods of neutralization and the costs thereof.

(b) *Category Two*. Those lands or buildings which are suspected of being contaminated with radiological, industrial-military chemicals, or explosives. The U.S. Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency (USATHAMA), Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21010, will be requested to determine if the land contains any of the above contaminants, to determine the extent of the contamination, and to decontaminate, if necessary before such property is reported for disposal.

§ 644.519 Responsibilities.

(a) *Category One*. The DE, as designee of the Chief of Engineers, will satisfy himself that the clearance work, as certified in the Statement of Clearance, has been performed and that such clearance complies with the requirements of this section. If the DE determines that the completed clearance work is not sufficient, he will request the using command to perform the necessary additional clearance. The Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB), has responsibility for reviewing and approving, from an explosive safety veiwpoint, clearance reports for real property declared excess and offered for disposal. DDESB should be consulted for review and analysis of accomplished clearance work for Category One property when determinations of adequacy are not within the capacities of the DE. Requests, fully documented, for review and/or analysis by the Board may be forwarded to DAEN-REM for submission to the Board. Department of Defense procedures include staff study of all proposed excess reports by the Board before grant of ''Prior Approval'' for those disposals requiring reports to the Armed Services Committees (10 U.S.C. 2662). When the clearance work has been satisfactorily performed, disposal action will be continued as set forth in this subpart F. If the DE determines that further clearance work is necessary to render the land safe for use but that such further clearance work is not economically justified, he will make a report to DAEN-REM with his recommendations and pertinent supporting data. The report will include a statement of the current status of the excess action.

(b) *Category Two*. The U.S. Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency (USATHAMA) is responsible for the identification and containment and elimination of all toxic and hazardous materials, and related contamination on all and/or buildings where an excessing action is planned. USATHAMA will conduct the survey and assessments of all proposed excess property to establish the type and quantities of contaminants and then plan, direct and control the program to decontaminate and clean up the property. Following the completion of the decontamination clean up program, USATHAMA will prepare a clearance statement stating the property has been cleared of all toxic and hazardous materials reasonably possible to detect using present state-of-the-art methodology, and it will provide any exceptions or restriction for utilization of the property. Clearance statements which identify contaminations of ammunition and explosives will be submitted to the DDESB for review. Category Two items may include chemical munitions or agents, liquid propellants and pyrotechnics. The clearance statement will be forwarded through the Major Army Command (MACOM) to DAEN-REM.

(1) Decontamination of Category Two real property will comply with the requirements of TB 700–4 (Decontamination of Facilities and Equipment). The Bulletin provides general policies, responsibilities and procedures applicable whenever potentially contaminated facilities are disposed of to other Government agencies, qualified users in industry, or to the general public.

(2) The degrees of decontamination are designated in TB 700–4. Contaminated real and personal property excessed for disposal shall be decontaminated to XXXXX before it can be removed from the Government premises, or transferred to nonqualified Government or industry users.

§ 644.520 Contaminated industrial property.

(a) GSA may arrange to sell contaminated chemical or other industrial plants to a purchaser whose operations

will result in the same type of contamination, or who agrees to perform the necessary decontamination. Any decontamination work required will be monitored by USATHAMA who will also review the completed program for adequacy of decontamination. If these arrangements cannot be worked out, USATHAMA will decontaminate the property at the request of the Office, Chief of Engineers (OCE), or the property may be withdrawn from excess and returned to the using command for care and custody.

(b) A Statement of Clearance is required for industrial property to be declared excess in order to establish a qualitative and quantitative base line for the contaminants present. In the Statement, USATHAMA will provide an adequate description of the nature and extent of the contamination. The description furnished to the DE should include the following information:

(1) Name and location of installation.

(2) Date of final clearance.

(3) Reference to attached real estate map showing locations of contaminated, cleared and restricted areas. The map(s) will be attached to the description of contamination.

(4) Statement that the area has been cleared of toxic and hazardous materials reasonably possible to detect either by present state-of-the-art methodology or by a visual inspection.

(5) Recommendation as to whether the land or structures may be used for any purpose for which it is suited, clearly identifying any areas recommended for restricted use and listing restricted tract and building numbers.

§ 644.521 Limitations on clearance cost.

The following principles are established for determination of the financial limit of clearance operations at excess installations:

(a) *Government-owned land.* Clearance work will not be undertaken where the estimated cost thereof exceeds the value of the land after decontamination plus the estimated cost of keeping it security-fenced and posted for a period of 25 years.

(b) *Leased land.* Clearance will not be undertaken where the estimated cost, plus the cost of any other required land restoration work, exceeds the value of the land after clearance and restoration plus the estimated cost of keeping it security-fenced and posted for a period of 25 years.

§ 644.522 Clearance of military scrap.

Military scrap can contain or be contaminated with explosives, chemicals, and other hazardous materials. The primary consideration in determining whether scrap metal will be removed should be the safety of persons coming on the land in question and, secondarily, the prevention of accidents resulting from the sale and/or use of the scrap metal subsequent to the land passing from the jurisdiction of the Department. The DE will insure the removal or destruction, by using command, of all military scrap and scrap metal from lands suitable for cultivation or other subsurface operations. In the case of land unsuitable for cultivation or other subsurface operations, all military scrap will be removed or destroyed and scrap metal removed, if it is reasonably possible to do so. Cases where it is considered impracticable to remove the scrap metal, will be reported to DAEN-REM for final decision. In such instances, pertinent data and the recommendation of the DE will be furnished. Disposition of military scrap or scrap metal by dumping into inland waters or by land burial in other than an approved landfill is prohibited.

§ 644.523 Restricting future of artillery and other ranges.

Experience indicates that, on ranges where high explosive projectiles have been fired or dropped, such as artillery, bombs, mortars, rockets, grenades, and the like, it is impossible to make certain that land in impact areas is absolutely safe for unrestricted use. Such impact areas receive a high concentration of fire, and the properties of these projectiles are such that many duds are deeply buried. Depth of burial, as well as the concentration of fragments or components, will affect the dependability of mine detectors. Since there is no known definite period within which such projectiles will become inert through weathering and corrosion, such contaminated areas can be

safely released for restricted use only, even after decontamination work has been carried to its practicable limit. Such restrictions will usually be in the form of a recommendation that the land be restricted to surface use only. Restrictions will be based solely on the type and/or extent of contamination. If land is contaminated to such a degree that it is considered it cannot be rendered safe for any use, disposal action will be suspended and the facts will be reported to DAEN-REM-C with the DE recommendations.

§ 644.524 Reporting contaminated land to the General Services Administration.

Contaminated areas, except industrial properties as covered by § 644.520 will not be included in a Report of Excess to GSA until such time as the affected areas have been cleared by the using command to the satisfaction of the DE and a Statement of Clearance has been received. If an exception is granted and the Department of the Army, with the concurrence of GSA, reports contaminated nonindustrial property excess, the report of excess will include statements concerning:

(a) The extent and type of such contamination;

(b) Plans for decontamination, if any; and

(c) The extent to which the property may be excessed without future decontamination.

§ 644.525 Statement of clearance in reporting excess property to GSA.

The Report of Excess will include the Statement of Clearance furnished by the using command (§ 644.517). The record of the clearance work performed by the using command will not be included in the Report of Excess but will be preserved in the permanent records of the DE. It is anticipated in these cases that the disposal agency (GSA) will, at the time the land is offered for sale of lease, give public notice of the circumstances surrounding its past and future restricted use. Included in such notice will be the statement that the Department of the Army is willing to remove or destory any potentially dangerous materials discovered at any time in the future, subject to the availability of funds for this purpose.

§ 644.526 Reporting target ranges.

All Reports of Excess to GSA covering lands which have been used as target ranges of any kind will contain an affirmative or negative statement in regard to contamination. This will be by appropriate schedule and reference thereto in the following manner:

(a) If the statement is negative, it will declare that no explosive or other contaminating materials were used or stored on any portion of the installation.

(b) If the statement is affirmative, reference will be made to appropriate schedules of the Report of Excess containing statements of clearance on the installation, or portions thereof.

§ 644.527 Recording Statements of Clearance.

On property disposals for which the Corps of Engineers is the disposal agency, the DE will have the Statement of Clearance recorded, if possible, as part of the permanent history of the property involved, with the proper county land record office. A copy of the report of clearance work performed will be furnished DAEN-REM and DAEN-REP.

§ 644.528 Return of contaminated leased land to owners.

Where leased land has been contaminated, whether excess to military requirements or being used, it may often prove advisable and economical to acquire the fee to such properties. Prior to considering the return of contaminated leased land to owners, District Engineers will assist installation commanders in preparing an analysis as a basis for recommendation to acquire or not acquire such areas. In the case of recommended restriction of use, notice should be given the lessor as described in § 644.525.

(a) Where such a restriction reduces the value of the land, the Department will, if consistent with the terms of the lease, pay damages equal to the reduction in value as of the effective date of termination.

(b) As stated in § 644.525, the owner should be advised that the Department

is willing to remove or destory any potentially dangerous materials that may be discovered in the future, subject to the availability of funds.

§ 644.529 Supplemental agreement with owner of contaminated leased land.

In the event that it becomes necessary to pay damages to a lessor in lieu of restoration *i.e.*, decontamination, the following clause, appropriately modified to fit the circumstances, will be made a part of the supplemental agreement terminating the lease and effecting monetary settlement in lieu of restoration. Additionally, in order to protect the Government from possible claims for damages from future purchasers, the executed supplemental agreement will, in those jurisdictions permitting recordation, be recorded by the DE thus providing legal notice to subsequent purchasers of the condition of the premises.

SUGGESTED CLAUSES FOR USE IN SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT

Whereas, by reason of the use made of the premises by the Government it is impossible to ascertain after completion of decontamination operations by the Government that the following described portion of land is safe for unrestricted use by the lessor (or state because of use made by Government that use of land must be restricted to grazing, etc.):

(Legal Description; utilize hachured/annotated map(s) as attachment plus legal description.)

Now, therefore, in consideration of the payment by the Government of the United States to the lessor, (Name of Lessor), of dollars ($), representing the estimated compensation to which the lessor is entitled by reason of the loss of the unrestricted use of the above described property, the lessor hereby releases the Government from all claims for damages to property and/or injury to persons which may arise out of the existence on the premises of unexploded ammunition or chemical/biological agents. It is mutually understood, however, that for a period of 25 years from the date hereof, the Government shall, upon request of the lessor, remove or destroy any potentially dangerous materials that may be discovered on the land, provided that adequate appropriations are available to cover the cost of such service. (If use of the land is restricted to surface use, the lessor should agree and convenant, in consideration of the payment, to use the land for such purposes only.)

§ 644.530 Conditions in conveying land suspected of contamination.

The following conditions, appropriately modified to conform to local law, will be included in deeds conveying land which is, or is suspected of being, contaminated with explosive or toxic materials and is restricted to surface use: (GSA should be requested to include these conditions in deeds that they prepare.)

Whereas, said property was a part of (Name of Installation) , a military installation used for , and portions of this property were subject to contamination by the introduction into the said installation of bombs, shells and other charges (insert reference to toxic chemical/biological agents, if applicable) either below or upon the surface thereof; and

Whereas, the grantor has caused the property to be inspected and has decontaminated the said property to the extent deemed reasonably necessary, and, to the extent deemed consistent with sound economic limitations, has cleared the property of all dangerous and explosive materials and/or chemical/biological agents, reasonably possible to detect, and has made certain recommendations pertaining to the use to which the land may be devoted, and the said recommendations are contained in a statement, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

Whereas, the grantor, by attaching such statement, does not intend to make, nor shall it be construed to have made, any representations or warranties pertaining to the condition of the land; and

Whereas, the hereinafter-designated grantee has entered into a contract to purchase said property with full knowledge of, and notwithstanding the foregoing recitals which are incorporated for the purpose of disclosing the former use made of the property hereinafter described; and

Whereas, by acceptance of this instrument, the grantee admits and confesses to full knowledge with respect to the facts contained in the foregoing recitals as to possible contaminated condition of the property;

Now, therefore, by acceptance of this instrument, and as a further consideration for this conveyance, the grantee here convenants and agrees for himself, his heirs, successors, or assigns, to assume all risk for all personal injuries and property damages arising out of ownership, maintanance, use, and occupation of the foregoing property; and further covenants and agrees to indemnify and save harmless the United States of America, its servants, agents, officers, and employees, against any and all liability,

claims, causes of action, or suits, due to, arising out of, or resulting from, immediately or remotely, the possible contaminated condition, ownership, use, occupation, or presence of the grantee, or any other person, upon the property, lawfully or otherwise.

§ 644.531 Warning to public of danger in handling explosive missiles.

When any land which has been contaminated with explosive objects, or chemical/biological agents, is released for disposal to, or use by, the general public in addition to the clearance statement furnished to the disposal agency, the DE will publicize, to the fullest extent practicable, the possibility of contaminants remaining on the land and the inherent danger of handling explosives or other contaminants. Such publication should be in the form of articles in official news media, or posting of the premises whenever the later is considered most feasible. Such publicity should include instructions that, in the event of the discovery of an explosive missile, or an object resembling an explosive missile, or other contaminant, or in the event of an injury caused by an explosion or exposure to toxic agents, such discovery or injury should be reported immediately to the DE. An effort should be made to obtain the cooperation of local law enforcing agencies to insure the prompt reporting of an accident, or the discovery of an explosive missile. The majority of accidents are the result of the removal of explosive missiles by individuals for sale to scrap dealers. Scrap dealers in the vicinity of contaminated lands should be informed of the inherent dangers and asked to cooperate by refusing to buy military scrap from private parties.

§ 644.532 Reporting accidents.

Immediately upon receipt of information of an accident involving, or appearing to involve, explosive or chemical/biological elements remaining on, or carried from an excess or surplus installation, whether under the jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers, other Government agency, or sold or returned to public or private owners, the DE will institute an investigation and prepare a report prescribed by AR 385–40 and OCE Supplement thereto. Further, upon determination that an accident has occurred, the former using command should be requested to send qualified explosive, chemical or biological specialists to the scene of the accident immediately, in order that proper corrective measures to eliminate future accidents may be instituted. HQDA (DAEN-REM) will be immediately informed, by teletype, of any accidents due to explosives on lands which have been used by the Department involving injuries to persons and/or animals, or damages to private property.

§ 644.533 Contamination discovered after return of land to owner, or sale.

When land has been previously declared clear of explosives or other dangerous material so as to be safe for all uses and disposed of, but is later found to have been contaminated to such an extent that, in his opinion, it is dangerous to the public, the DE will request the former using command to reexamine the land for the purpose of determining the extent to which the original Statement of Clearance should be revised and to determine the kind and cost of any further clearance work by the using command which would be required to place the property in the condition set forth in the original Statement of Clearance. If further clearance work is necessary and considered economically justified, the DE will request the using command to perform such work and furnish a new Statement of Clearance and record of the further clearance effected. If further clearance work is not considered economically justified, he will make a report thereof to DAEN-REM with his recommendations and pertinent supporting data. Recommendation for reacquisition of contaminated lands will be limited to those which involve full restrictions of both surface and subsurface uses. Where subsurface use of lands only is to be restricted, it is preferable to make compensation to the owners through claim procedure, when and if instituted by the owner on his own initiative.

§ 644.534 Return of public domain land.

(a) *General.* The procedures described elsewhere in §§ 644.516 through 644.539 to carry out the continuing responsibility of the Department of the Army to assist and advise the land holder and protect the public from dangerous substances on or in the land after release are equally applicable to public domain lands. Air Force policy and procedures are generally comparable.

(b) *Congressional.* A provision has been added to several laws enacted by Congress that upon request of the Secretary of the Interior at the time of final termination of the reservation effected by the Act, the Department of the Army shall make safe for nonmilitary uses the land withdrawn and reserved, or such portions thereof as may be specified by the Secretary of the Interior, by neutralizing unexploded ammunition, bombs, artillery projectiles, or other explosive objects and chemical agents. The intent of the provision is explained by a statement of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, in Report No. 279, 87th Congress, 1st Session: The committee concluded that it would be appropriate to amend the bill to designate the Secretary of the Interior to act on behalf of the Federal Government in delineating the areas to be made safe for nonmilitary use when the lands are no longer required for defense purposes. ''It is expected that the Secretary of the Interior will not require the Department of the Army to proceed with expensive cleanup work in areas where there would be no direct benefit. On the other hand, it is anticipated that when potential resources or use values are such as to make dedudding or decontamination advisable, the Secretary of the Interior will identify those resources and values for the Secretary of the Army. This will permit a full and complete justification in the event that a separate appropriation therefor is required.'' Report No. 279 also quoted the following policy statement by the then Bureau of the Budget:

> . . . requirement for decontamination should be related to a standard not only of practicability, but also to one of economic feasibility that takes into account the desired future use and value of the land to be decontaminated.

(c) *Army.* The congressional policy outlined above does not change the existing Army policy. Its principal effect is to make it clear that the Secretary of the Interior has an equal interest with the Secretary of the Army in the final decision on whether it is practicable or feasible to clear lands for return to the public domain, and the extent of clearance. No difficulties in reaching agreement with Interior in these matters are anticipated. Where large expenditures are involved it will usually be necessary to request a special appropriation, leaving the final decision to Congress. In any instance, if difficulty in reaching agreement with officials of the Bureau of Land Management (or the Secretary of the Interior) should occur, it will be reported promptly to DAEN-REM with complete background data for review and instructions.

§ 644.535 Support in clearance of Air Force lands.

Where Air Force range lands are proposed for disposal, the AFLC, in most cases, will make an economic study to determine the extent of clearance that is justified by the relative values of the property before and after decontamination. For this purpose, AF commands declaring range lands excess will submit a copy of the excess recommendation to the AFLC. Upon request, the DE will prepare and furnish a disposal planning report to the AF Logistics Command for assistance in making the economic study. The disposal planning report will include, but need not be limited to, the following:

(a) A map which depicts and annotates differing areas according to their estimated highest and best use.

(b) An appraisal report reflecting the fair market value of each of the differing areas based on their highest and best use, and based on the assumption that the lands are entirely free of dangerous materials or other contamination. AFLC will compare such evaluation with cost of decontamination work. While needed primarily in connection with the return of AF range lands to the public domain, economic

studies may be made and disposal planning reports requested by the AF in other areas.

§§ 644.536–644.539 [Reserved]

SALE PROCEDURE

§ 644.540 Advertising.

(a) *Definition and purposes.* GSA regulations require that disposal agencies shall widely publicize all surplus real property which becomes available for sale. Sales will be made to the highest responsible bidder after advertising. Advertising consists of the preparation of Invitation for Bids, the posting of copies thereof in public places, their distribution to interested persons or prospective bidders, and publication of notice of sale in newspapers where such publication is deemed advisable or is required by this subpart F. The purpose of advertising and obtaining competition in selling Government property is:

(1) To give all qualified persons equal opportunity to bid for the property.

(2) To secure for the Government the benefits which flow from competition.

(3) To prevent criticism that favortism has been shown by officers or employees of the Government in making sales of public property.

(b) *Notice to Department of Commerce.* A condensed statement of proposed sales of surplus real property by advertising for competitive bids, except where the estimated fair market value of all the property included in the advertisement is less than $5,000, shall be prepared for publication in the U.S. Department of Commerce publications, ''Commerce Business Daily.'' Guideline is contained in the Defense Acquisition Regulation (DAR) 1–1005.1, (formerly the Armed Services Procurement Regulation). Forward statement to: U.S. Department of Commerce, Commerce Business Daily, P.O. Box 5999, Chicago, Illinois 60680.

(c) *Procedure.* Whether newspaper advertising in addition to distribution and posting of Invitation for Bids is desirable will depend upon the value of the property and in some instances the anticipated interest in the property. The ever-changing market requires different methods or efforts to obtain the best price for the Government. The time allowed for submission of bids will depend upon the time available, usually 30 days. If available, a longer period may be desirable based on value and other factors. A shorter period may be necessary and, in an emergency, a period of less than 10 days may be allowed. However, the contracting officer should make a record of written findings to support such a decision. If the emergency is based on requirements of the using command that appear questionable, a report with recommendations should be forwarded to DAEN-REM by the most expeditious means.

(d) *Bidders mailing lists.* Instructions contained in procurement regulations are applicable generally for establishing, maintaining, and controlling bidders mailing lists (DAR 2–205). Generally, all proposed sales should be preceded by an advance notice, to eliminate disinterested bidders and as a measure of economy in printing and distributing voluminous Invitation for Bids. Notice to bidders will provide that their failure to respond to two successive sales offerings will result in the removal of their names from the bidders list. When time does not permit an advance notice, one copy of the Invitation may be sent to the potential bidder, which contains the following notice: ''*Attention Bidders.* If interested in bidding on any or all items, three (3) additional copies will be furnished on request.'' The advance notice will describe the property offered and ordinarily provide that Invitation for Bids will be mailed on request or may be picked up at the installation or project at the time the property is inspected.

(e) *Inspection of the property.* Upon request, interested persons should be permitted to make appropriate inspection of the property, including inventory records, plans, specifications, and engineering reports, subject to any restrictions necessary in the interest of national security and to such reasonable rules as may be prescribed by the using command or the DE.

§ 644.541 Award of contract.

(a) *Opening of bids.* All bids shall be opened and publicly disclosed by a duly authorized representative of the responsible DE at the time and place