ISLAND TIMES

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AND CLEANUP NEWS

Former Naval Station Treasure Island

Summer 2011, Newsletter No. 17

www.bracpmo.navy.mil

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

The Navy continues environmental investigation and cleanup work at the former Naval Station Treasure Island (NAVSTA TI). NAVSTA TI encompasses both Treasure Island (TI) and Yerba Buena Island (YBI). The ultimate goal is to transfer ownership of the land to the Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA), and this newsletter provides updates on the progress of the Navy's cleanup and transfer work. Please share this information with anyone else who may be interested. Use the coupon on the back page of this newsletter to be added by name to the mailing or email list. We welcome your comments and suggestions for future editions of the Island Times and encourage you to contact the Navy with any questions.

DEMOLITION OF BUILDING 233 ON TI

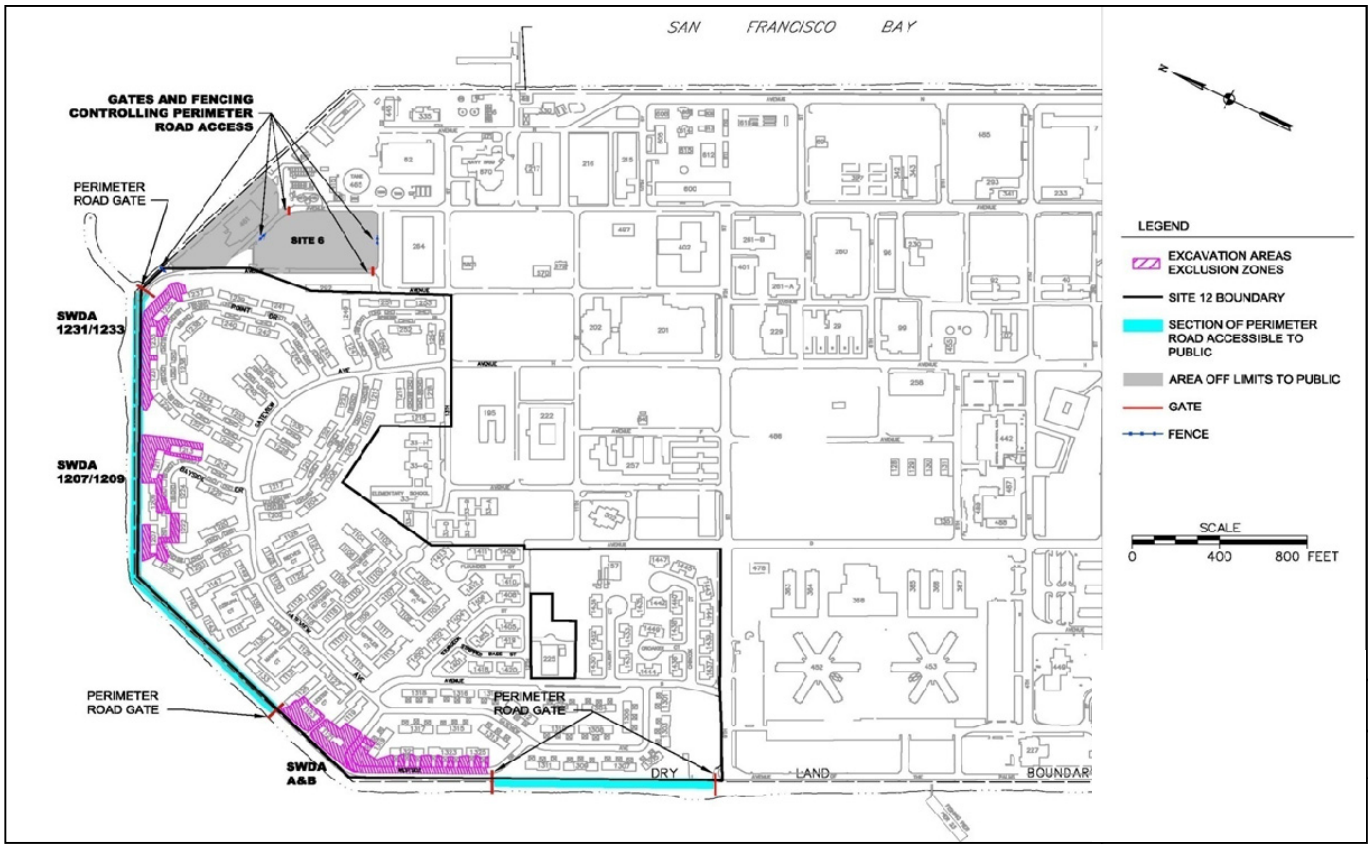
On January 6, 2011, the Navy and their contractors Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure Inc. successfully demolished Building 233. Building 233 was located at Avenue M & 4th Street on TI. Building 233 housed the Navy's Radiation Safety School Training beginning in 1947. It has been vacant since the base closed in 1997.

Based on a basewide Historical Radiological Assessment document, it was decided Building 233 should be scanned for potential radiological contamination because it was used for radiation training. Thorough radiological scans were conducted, and all asbestos and other hazardous materials were removed from the building before it was demolished. An excavator was used to carefully pull the building down, starting at the north end and working toward the south end of the building. The building debris will be loaded into trucks and will ultimately be transported off the island for disposal at an appropriate licensed landfill. A radiological final status survey of the area beneath the building will be conducted so the site can be officially closed and the property transferred.

Demolition of Building 233 on Treasure Island

UPDATE ON THE WORK IN THE TI HOUSING AREA

The cleanup is continuing in the TI Housing Area (also referred to as Site 12). As previously reported, the purpose of the current work is to excavate the soil in the areas primarily behind the green fences, referred to as the Solid Waste Disposal Areas (SWDA). Previous investigations identified three SWDAs where the contaminants of concern are lead, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), and dioxins. That contamination is largely from historic disposal and burning of waste when the Naval Station was active. In addition, the Navy is conducting cleanup in the same areas to address discarded items that contain low



Demolition of Building 233 on Treasure Island

levels of radium 226. The items consisted of buttons, markers and other items that were self luminescent to glow in the dark or were used for training. They were likely discarded, along with other debris, at these three locations before the housing was constructed in the 1960s. Excavation was completed at two of the three areas, at SWDA's 1207/1209 on Bayside Drive, and 1231/1233 on Northpoint Drive. The Navy is currently doing excavation work at the third area, known at SWDA A/B at Westside Drive and Lester Court.

The Navy is also working on plans to demolish Buildings 1123, 1319, and 1321 within SWDA A/B. The buildings are unoccupied. Because there is contamination beneath the buildings the Navy, Regulatory Agencies and TIDA agreed they should be demolished. The Navy will provide updates on that work and work notices to local residents. Little to no disruption to neighbors is expected, and the Navy and their contractors will take all precautions to protect workers and the public during field work.

If you would like more information on the cleanup work in the Housing Area, or any other area of NAVSTA TI, you are encouraged to contact the Navy or attend the regularly scheduled RAB Meetings. See the contact information on page 7.

Navy Contractor Wins Award for Safety:

Congratulations to Navy contractor Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure Inc. for its outstanding safety record. The Shaw team at NAVSTA TI, lead by Project Manager Pete Bourgeois, has achieved their fourth consecutive 1,000 days without incident, for a total of **4,000 calendar days without a lost time incident**. Safety is important to the Navy and its contractors, and a Health and Safety Plan, as well as an Accident Prevention Plan are prepared for each project to ensure the workers, residents, and the public are kept safe. Congratulations to the Shaw team for this outstanding record!

TEAM MEMBER PROFILE: MELINDA GARVEY, US EPA

(left to right) Melinda Garvey, Jane Diamond, Nancy Pelosi, and Teddy Ryerson

This article introduces the newest member of the NAVSTA TI cleanup team, Melinda Garvey.

Island Times: Welcome to the team Melinda. How long have you been with EPA and what are your responsibilities?

Garvey: I've been at EPA for two years now. I'm a Remedial Project Manager. At Treasure Island, EPA is not the lead regulatory agency, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is. However, that does not mean we are not involved. My role is to review documents and attend meetings in order to stay up-to-speed on the project and give EPA's comments. I work with a team of people at EPA including lawyers, toxicologists, and other support teams to review documents and plans. I also work on the Former Naval Air Station Alameda project, and the Former Concord Naval Weapons Station project. Prior to joining EPA, I worked as a consultant in the environmental field, focusing primarily on groundwater remediation.

Island Times: Where did you go to school, and what did you study?

Garvey: I have my Bachelors degree in Earth Sciences from UC Santa Cruz, and my Masters degree in Environmental Engineering from Stanford. I guess you could say I'm part Geologist, part Environmental Engineer. I would encourage anyone interested in science to study geology or engineering in college. Even though I am a project manager with varied responsibilities, it is invaluable to have a technical background.

Island Times: What do you like best about the TI project?

Garvey: I've been working on the TI project for almost a year now. I'm impressed with how well the team works together, and how far along we are in the transfer process. This team especially works collaboratively with the City of San Francisco to address their concerns. This is also a unique project for me as a US EPA employee, because the state is the lead regulatory agency for this installation instead of the federal government.

Island Times: What do you like to do in your free time?

Garvey: I enjoy the outdoors, and especially love swimming. I also enjoy painting, shopping for vintage jewelry, and spoiling my dog and my cat.

Welcome to the team Melinda!

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AND MAYOR

On August 17, 2010, then- Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi along with the Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and then- Mayor of the City of San Francisco Gavin Newsom signed an endorsement agreement of terms for the transfer of NAVSTA TI from the Navy to TIDA. This is a significant milestone, marking the beginning of the Navy reaching its ultimate goal of transferring the former Naval Station. The signing was done during an endorsement ceremony, held on TI, outside of Building One near the main entrance. All three

HISTORICAL QUESTION

What is the history of women in the Navy at NAVSTA TI? Did women ever train at or command NAVSTA TI?
See page 5 for answer.

From left to right, Secretary of the Navy Signs Agreement with Speaker of the House and Mayor

dignitaries spoke to the crowd of about 100 representatives from the community, the Navy, the regulatory agencies, and the City. The ceremony culminated in the document signing. During the event, former Speaker Pelosi stated "… once again [I] want to salute the Navy for keeping Treasure Island safe for us so that we could come to this day of transition to civilian use that is also a sign of the strength of our country."

The document they signed is an agreement on the general terms of transfer, and does not officially transfer the property. The environmental investigations at NAVSTA TI are split into sites, with some sites closed and ready for transfer, and other sites still undergoing investigation or cleanup. The Navy's environmental cleanup program at NAVSTA TI is moving forward in support of transfer, and there are several milestones the Navy and TIDA are working to complete in order to achieve transfer.

The terms of the agreement signed by Secretary Mabus, then-Speaker Pelosi, and then- Mayor Newsom include a guaranteed payment to the Navy of $55 million over the next 10 years, followed by an interim payment of another $50 million, plus an additional share of potential further profits if the Navy meets the transfer milestones. At the agreement ceremony, Secretary Mabus said, "The Navy's charge in the BRAC process is to dispose of property in a manner that promotes economic development…The transfer of Treasure Island is a win for San Francisco, it is a win for the state of California, a win for the United States Navy, and a win for the American taxpayer…"

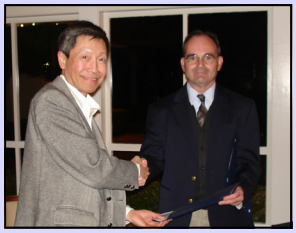
NAVY'S RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD REACHES 150TH MEETING

RAB Community Co-Chair Alice Pilram with Navy Co-Chair James Sullivan

Have you heard of the RAB? That stands for Restoration Advisory Board, and it's a group of community members who work with the Navy and regulatory agencies to provide input on the environmental restoration of NAVSTA TI.

James Sullivan with RAB Member Dale Smith

The Navy's RAB held its first meeting in 1994. On October 19, 2010 the RAB held its 150th meeting. The Navy presented long-standing RAB members with a certificate of appreciation. The purpose of the RAB is to allow for two-way communication between the community and the cleanup decision makers. RAB members donate their time to attend meetings, where they receive presentations and discuss the environmental cleanup with the Navy and their contractors as well as members from the regulatory agencies. They also review technical documents and make comments, and share cleanup information with other community members. The Navy would like to thank all of the RAB members, current and past, for their dedication, service, and contributions to the overall environmental restoration of NAVSTA TI.



James Sullivan with RAB Member John Gee

We hope to see you at a future RAB meeting! They are open to the public, and you do not have to be a member to attend. RAB meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every even-numbered month (February, April, June, August, October, and December) at the Casa de la Vista on TI. For more information, call James Sullivan at (619) 532-0966 or send an e-mail to james.b.sullivan2@navy.mil. You can also check out the schedule on the Navy's website at www.bracpmo.navy.mil.

James Sullivan with RAB Member Nathan Brennan

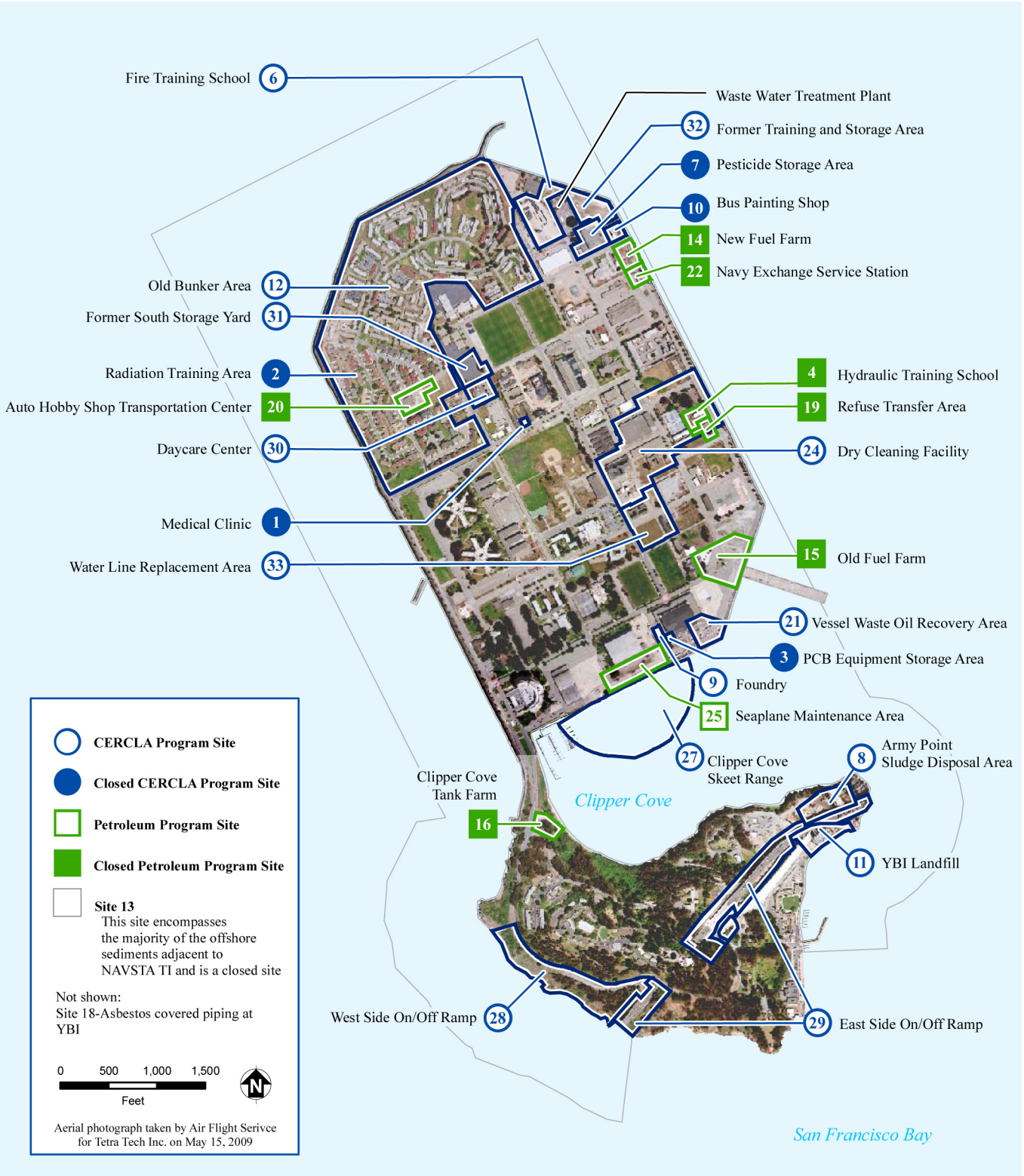
HISTORICAL ANSWER

Yes, women did train on NAVSTA TI. Women in uniform, known as WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service), first arrived on NAVSTA TI in November 1942, during World War II.

At the left is a photo of Hospitalman Elena J. Peckenpaugh as she prepares to advance on a simulated shipboard fire during a training session at the Fire Fighting School on NAVSTA TI in November 1972. After her training, she was assigned to the first ship with a mixed male-female crew: Hospital ship USS Sanctuary (AH-17). *(photo courtesy www.history.navy.mil)*

In addition, the first woman ever to command a Naval Station was Rear Admiral Marsha J. Evans, USN Retired. Evans assumed command of NAVSTA TI in 1990, when she was a Captain.

Basewide Map



Environmental Cleanup Team Contacts

Name/Title	Organization	Address	Email	Phone/Fax
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Ross Steenson Project Manager	Regional Water Board	1515 Clay St., Suite 1400 Oakland, CA 94612	rsteenson @waterboards.ca.gov	**Phone:** (510) 622-2445 **Fax:** (510) 622-2460
Melinda Garvey Project Manager	US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	75 Hawthorne St., SFD-8-3 San Francisco, CA 94105-3901	garvey.melinda@epa.gov	**Phone:** (415) 947-4184 **Fax:** (415) 947-3520

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

Would you like to review a report or other documentation about the Navy's cleanup program? The Navy has set up two conveniently located Information Repositories housing environmental documents related to NAVSTA TI. They are located here:

Navy BRAC PMO Office
410 Palm Avenue, Building 1, Room 161
Treasure Island, San Francisco, CA 94130
(415) 743-4729
Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

AND

San Francisco Public Library
Government Publications Section, 5th Floor
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 557-4400 Call for hours

NAVSTA TI Mailing Coupon

If you would like to be added to the NAVSTA TI mailing list and receive copies of future newsletters and fact sheets, please fill out the coupon below and mail it to:

James B. Sullivan
Navy BRAC PMO West
1 Avenue Of The Palms
Suite 161
San Francisco, CA 94130-1807

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