



Air Force Real Property Agency

The Former Chanute Air Force Base

Toll Free 1-866-725-7617 • www.safie.hq.af.mil/afrpa

Deed signing ceremony held to celebrate 780-acre transfer to the Village of Rantoul

The Air Force transferred more than 780 acres of the former Chanute Air Force Base to the Village of Rantoul in a deed signing ceremony Aug. 17.

This transfer marks a significant milestone for the Air Force in achieving property transfer goals, and the Village's title ownership of the Federal Aviation Administration-sponsored airport. The Air Force, with concurrence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois EPA, assessed the former base property and deemed it suitable for transfer to the Village. The FAA concurred with Air Force findings that no environmental concerns are associated with the property.

"This success is a direct result of strong partnerships," said Adam Antwine, Air Force Real Property Agency senior representative.

The Mayor of Rantoul, the Village Administrator, FAA, U.S. EPA, Illinois EPA and Illinois Department of Transportation worked together to make this transfer possible.

"This transfer is a demonstra-



Pictured from left to right: Adam Antwine, Air Force Real Property Agency senior representative looks on as Neal Williams, mayor of Rantoul, signs the deed during the ceremony. (photo courtesy of The Rantoul Press)

tion of the Air Force's commitment to complete environmental actions and transfer the former base property for productive reuse," said Antwine. "The Air Force has worked closely with the Village of Rantoul, as well as the Federal Aviation Administration and regulatory agencies to see this transfer happen."

Rantoul's near-term plans for airport improvements include installing new lighting and electrical systems. The transfer of this property will facilitate the Village receiving airport improvement grant funds from the FAA and the IDOT.

Air Force to use new contract for Chanute's cleanup program

The Air Force is using a new approach to contract the cleanup efforts at the former Chanute Air Force Base. The Air Force is combining all remaining environmental sites into one performance-based contract to achieve early, cost-effective environmental restoration of the former base.

In the past, the Air Force awarded separate contracts for specific sites and explained how to clean the site. In a PBC, the Air Force identifies the objective, but does not specify how to achieve it. The contractor has the flexibility to develop the quickest, most innovative and cost-effective approach to

achieve the Air Force objectives.

"The PBC is a win for all parties involved in cleanup. It provides incentives for contractors to be innovative, rewards results and results in significant savings in terms of time and money," said BRAC Environmental Coordinator Paul Carroll.

As the Air Force implements the new contracting method at the former Chanute AFB, it will continue to oversee cleanup activities and work closely with the Illinois EPA and EPA Region 5 to ensure they are protective of human health and the environment while also compliant with all applicable regulations.

Air Force Real Property Agency
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
San Antonio, TX 78226-1816

Chanute Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

Join us at the next RAB meeting!
November 15, 2007 at 12:00 p.m.

Rantoul Corporate Technology Center (Former Smith Hall)
601 S. Century Blvd
Rantoul, Illinois 61866-2945

Contact Information

General Questions

Air Force Real Property Agency
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
San Antonio, Texas 78226-1816
Toll Free (866) 725-7617

Information Repository

Rantoul Public Library
106 West Flessner Avenue
Rantoul, Illinois 61866
(217) 893-3955 ext. 22
<https://afrpaar.afrpa.pentagon.af.mil/ar/docsearch.aspx>

Air Force sets plans in motion to transfer 53 acres of airport property to Village of Rantoul!

The Air Force continues to make progress in transferring valuable property to the Village of Rantoul.

The Air Force Real Property Agency gave notice of intent to sign a Finding of Suitability to Transfer for property and improvements on airport-related parcels located throughout the former base. The property includes maintenance shops, warehouses, storage facilities, and offices, in addition to open land within the airfield. Most of these facilities are currently in use by the Village of Rantoul or their tenants.

Air Force officials published the notice of intent to sign the FOST in *The Rantoul Press* and *The News Gazette* Sept. 17. The public comment period was Sept. 20 through Oct. 20.

The FOST is based on extensive review of the environmental conditions of the property in consultation with federal and state environmental regulatory agencies. The property will be transferred by deed to the Village of Rantoul and will be used for commercial, industrial and aviation support.

“Now the next step in the transfer process is to obtain regulatory concurrence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois EPA. Once we receive their feedback and address any comments they may have, we can move forward with the transfer,” said BRAC Environmental Coordinator Paul Carroll.

Individuals interested in learning more about the status of environmental restoration and future property transfer are encouraged to attend the upcoming Restoration Advisory Board meeting Nov. 15 at noon in the Rantoul Corporate Technology Center or contact Paul Carroll at AFRPA/COO Reese, 9801 Reese Blvd., North, Suite 300, Lubbock, TX 78416.



View of Parcel U1, formerly used as a tennis court and parking lot.



View of Building 921, formerly used as a fire equipment storage facility.

Feedback, Comments, and More Information

- I would like more information about the environmental cleanup of the former Chanute Air Force Base.
- I would like more information about the Restoration Advisory Board for the former Chanute Air Force Base.
- I would like more information about how to join the Chanute Restoration Advisory Board.

Please let us know how we are doing. Your comments and opinions are welcome and assist the Air Force in providing the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding the cleanup of the former Chanute Air Force Base. Fill out this form and send it to the address listed below.

Name (Mr. /Mrs./Ms./____)

Phone

Organization

Street address

City

State

Zip

Additional comments

Detach and mail this section in a stamped envelope to: AFRPA/COO-Kelly, 143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1, San Antonio TX 78226

Meet Doug Rokke: Chanute Restoration Advisory Board Member

An expert in environmental education and compliance, Doug Rokke takes his duty as a Chanute RAB member very seriously. He is committed to serve on the RAB, ensuring public health and safety of the community today and for future generations.

Rokke was a member of one of the teams who wrote the environmental education and environmental compliance procedures for the military. He has been on the RAB for two years.

He enjoys sharing and discussing environmental education and oversight of cleanup activities at RAB meetings to ensure the Air Force and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in compliance with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and U.S.EPA, clean up the area in and around the base as soon as possible.



Doug Rokke

Rokke was involved with the base prior to closure, serving as a medic in the hospital emergency room. Rokke also served as a non-commissioned officer in the fire school as an instructor and a student. He sadly recalls the day Chanute closed. “I was with my boss in uniform when we lowered the flag on the last day—it was a sad day.”

He is a retired, disabled Army medical service corps major. His military career spans four decades to include combat duty during the Vietnam War and Gulf War I. He served on active duty with the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and in the Illinois Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve.

Rokke recognizes the significant success stories involving cleanup, but stresses the importance of continuing and increasing efforts at the former Chanute AFB, to more effectively ensure prompt and effective mitigation.