



# CHANUTE AFB ILLINOIS

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## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 3360

## **Draft Agenda**

### **Chanute Restoration Advisory Board Meeting**

August 17, 2006

12:00 p.m.

1. Introductions
  - RAB members
  - Guests
  
2. Old Business
  - Approve minutes from previous meeting
  - AFRPA/COO-Chanute Office Status
  - RAB Rule Committee Report
  
3. New Business
  - New Member Elections
  
4. Environmental Cleanup Update
  - Highlights since previous RAB
    - Environmental Program Status and Schedule
    - Property Transfer
  - Discussion on Proposed Plan for No Further Action for the Suspected Demolition Disposal Area
  
5. Next Meeting Planned for November 16, 2006
  
6. Adjourn

# FINAL

## Restoration Advisory Board Meeting Former Chanute AFB August 17, 2006 Meeting Minutes

The meeting began at 12:00 p.m.

**Introductions:** Ms. Sonja Coderre, Air Force Real Property Agency public affairs officer, introduced herself and asked all who were present to introduce themselves.

**Old Business:** Ms. Coderre asked the RAB to review the June 2006 meeting minutes. Mr. Doug Rokke stated he did not receive the meeting minutes, but was willing to approve them with the review of the rest of the RAB members. Following review, Ms. Lorraine Wirges moved for acceptance of the minutes. Mr. Caryl Fothergill seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Wang stated he also did not receive the minutes, but was most likely due to the fact he was not yet voted onto the RAB. Ms. Lewis motioned for a vote on Mr. Wang's membership on the RAB. Dr. Rokke seconded the motion and all members approved Mr. Wang's RAB membership.

**Environmental Cleanup Update:** Mr. Carroll provided the environmental update (see presentation slides). Multiple questions were asked by RAB members regarding the use and background of the museum, and the status of the 300 series buildings on the base. Mr. King asked what remedial technologies were planned for the sites presented. Mr. Fothergill responded that the reason the east half of Hangar 3 was an environmental site was because they taught vehicle maintenance at Hangar 3. Mr. Hill explained the background of the investigation at Hangar 3 and the report that TCE may have been dumped at the edge of the tarmac in this location. Mr. Hill also stated the historical edge of the tarmac is different from the current edge because the tarmac was extended at some point in the past.

Dr. Rokke made several statements regarding Risk Management for the sites at Chanute and his history of supporting the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on the Formerly Utilized Defense Sites (FUDS) program. He stated that Chanute was in the middle of the community and some sites in other locations had plumes stretching for miles under people's houses, and the agencies responsible for cleaning up the areas did not clean them up to residential standards and they still pose a risk for the community. Dr. Rokke stated that the Air Force can not transfer liability for the clean-up to the community by cleaning a site up to industrial standards when someone in the future may want to build a house in that location.

Dr. Rokke stated he had participated in generating a manual for Ms. Sheri Goodman with the Office of Secretary of Defense. In his opinion, the Air Force needs to clean up all sites as if a school or residence would go anywhere on the base. Mr. Carroll explained that BRAC legislation required clean up to follow the local reuse authority's reuse plan. Dr. Rokke said the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) require cradle-to-grave management for chemicals and contaminants, and requested the Air Force and the USACE tell the Village of Rantoul all areas will not be cleaned up to unrestricted use. He stated he had real concerns about this issue and asked for Dr. Wang's opinion. Dr. Wang stated he is a physician and he realizes that we have to be realistic about the clean-up. He said he understood both the Air Force's and Dr. Rokke's position, and stated this was a dilemma and the RAB needs to focus on what is realistic and what can be achieved.

Mr. Smith asked the date of the Village of Rantoul reuse plan, and was told the date was in the 1992 – 1993 timeframe. Ms. Lewis stated that at this time, Rantoul was still in shock regarding the base closure and things had changed since that time. Mr. Smith reiterated that the agencies and the Air Force use the reuse plan to make clean-up decisions. If the property receiver wants to change land use in the future, they need to figure on paying to clean-up the area, for example, from commercial clean-up levels to residential. Mr. Smith stated the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) wants to ensure the BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT) is achieving a safe environment for everyone. Mr. Carroll seconded this statement.

Mr. Smith continued by stating that the Record of Decision for each of these sites is signed by the director of the IEPA and is not a small effort. In order to convince the director the proposed remedy for a site is adequate requires a lawyer, toxicologist, and many others to present the case, but in the end, a durable decision is achieved and if additional contamination is found in the future, the Air Force will still be responsible for further clean-up.

Ms. Wirges stated that EPA representatives have been on-board and thoroughly review all the information for the disposition of each site.

Mr. Carroll continued the environmental update by stating that the Air Force understands the nature and extent of contamination for sites adjacent to transferred property and that property currently proposed for transfer has no issues.

Mr. Hill stated that as environmental investigation reports (Remedial Investigation Reports) come in to the IEPA for Chanute, they have identified restrained releases of contaminants with no widespread contamination going anywhere.

Mr. Smith asked if there are any underground storage tanks in the ground at Chanute, and Mr. Carroll responded that all known tanks had been removed.

The Proposed Plan for the Suspected Demolition Disposal Area was discussed (see presentation slides). Dr. Rokke stated that geophysical investigation works well with the types of soils at Chanute. Mr. Mitchell asked when the geophysical investigation was completed, and Mr. Carroll responded that it took place in several steps from July 2003 to March 2004.

Action items for next meeting/proposed agenda.

1. Discussion of Final RAB Rule Operating Procedures and Selection Panel.

2. Dr. Rokke requested a review of the 'Community Reuse Plan and How it Overlaps Environmental Sites'. Mr. King responded that any changes, since the approved plan, should have been proposed by the LRA to the Air Force for approval.

**Meeting Wrap-Up:** Ms. Coderre stated that the next proposed meeting was scheduled for 16 November 2006, and asked if there was any further discussion needed. Ms. Wirges motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fothergill seconded the motion; all were in favor of the meeting adjournment. The meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting:** 16 November 2006, at noon.

**Restoration Advisory Board Meeting  
Former Chanute AFB  
August 17, 2006  
Meeting Sign-In Roster**

Dr. Ian Wang, RAB Member  
Mr. Tim Mitchell, Champaign News Gazette  
Dr. Janice Blake, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence Program Manager  
Ms. Sonja Coderre, AFRPA Public Affairs Officer  
Mr. David Johnston, Community Co chair, RAB member  
Ms. Diane Shields, Rantoul Aviation and Economic Development Office  
Mr. Paul Carroll, AFRPA BEC  
Mr. Adam Antwine, AFRPA Senior Representative  
Ms. Lorraine Wirges, RAB member  
Mr. Caryl Fothergill, RAB member  
Ms. Helen Lewis, RAB Member  
Mr. Christopher Hill, IEPA Remedial Program Manager (RPM)  
Mr. Clarence Smith, IEPA Federal Site Remediation Manager  
Mr. Pete Johnson, Community Member  
Dr. Doug Rokke, RAB Member  
Mr. David Wacker, Contractor, Booz Allen Hamilton



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**Former Chanute Air Force Base  
Environmental Update**

**Proposed Plan for Suspected Demolition  
Disposal Area**

**17 August 2006**


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**CERCLA Process for  
No Further Action (NFA) Sites**

Remedial Investigation (RI)	Feasibility Study	Proposed Plan / Public Comment Period	Record of Decision
<b>Complete</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>We Are Here</b>	<b>To Be Done</b> 
RI identifies nature and extent of contamination and potential risks.	A Feasibility Study (FS) analyzes potential remediation methods for the site. Based on RI results, potential current and future risks associated with the site discussed in this Proposed Plan indicate no action is needed. Therefore a FS is not applicable and was not conducted.	The Public has the opportunity to comment on the Air Force's recommendation for no further action. The BCT has concurred with this recommendation.	The final decision for the CERCLA site and responses to public comments will be documented in the Record of Decision.

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***Proposed Plan Document***

- Presents the path forward for site that the BCT is in agreement on
- Used to facilitate public involvement in the decision process and solicit public comments
- Public comments will be considered when preparing the Record of Decision (ROD) for the site

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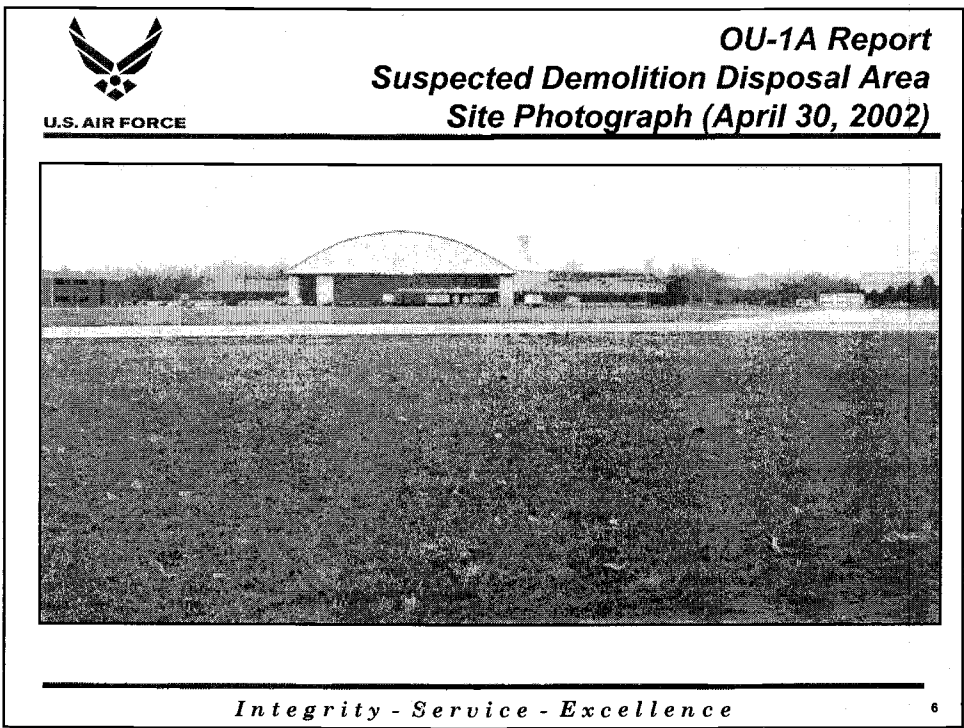
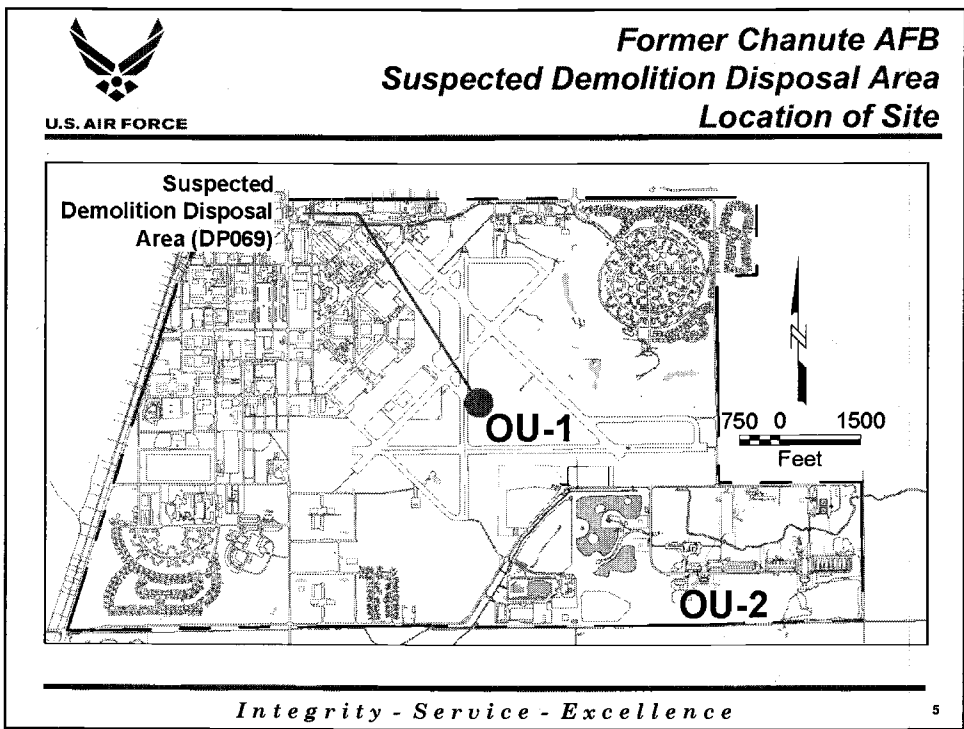
***RI Report Available at the Rantoul Public Library***

- **OU-1A Report**
  - Suspected Demolition Disposal Area (DP069)
  - Final March 2006

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**OU-1A Report**  
**Suspected Demolition Disposal Area**  
**Background**

- Area described as "Demolition Area" appears on Chanute AFB drawings dated between 1955 and 1983
- A former Chanute AFB safety manager speculated that the area may have been used to explode live ammunition, but no documentation on past use has been found
- No evidence of disturbed soil exists on historical aerial photographs
- No evidence of irregular surface features, debris, stained soil, or stressed vegetation observed at site
- Site was tilled and used for soybean and alfalfa cultivation for 8 years prior to the RI, and no metallic debris observed by farmer
- Air Force conducted an RI to assess if ordnance-related demolition activities had occurred at the site, and if so what residuals or contaminants remain

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**OU-1A Report**  
**Suspected Demolition Disposal Area**  
**Investigation**

- Investigation was performed in two phases.
  - Phase One consisted of two geophysical surveys completed over the site to map locations of buried debris
    - No substantial geophysical anomalies indicative of a trench or pit were identified
    - Identified numerous isolated geophysical anomalies associated with small buried metallic targets

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**OU-1A Report  
Suspected Demolition Disposal Area  
Investigation (cont.)**

- Phase Two consisted of a munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) investigation over entire site by a Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) team
  - Performed intrusive investigations at the geophysical anomalies at the site and in a 25-foot buffer zone around the perimeter of the site
  - Dug up all metallic anomalies by hand until the anomaly was identified or no longer registered on a metal detector

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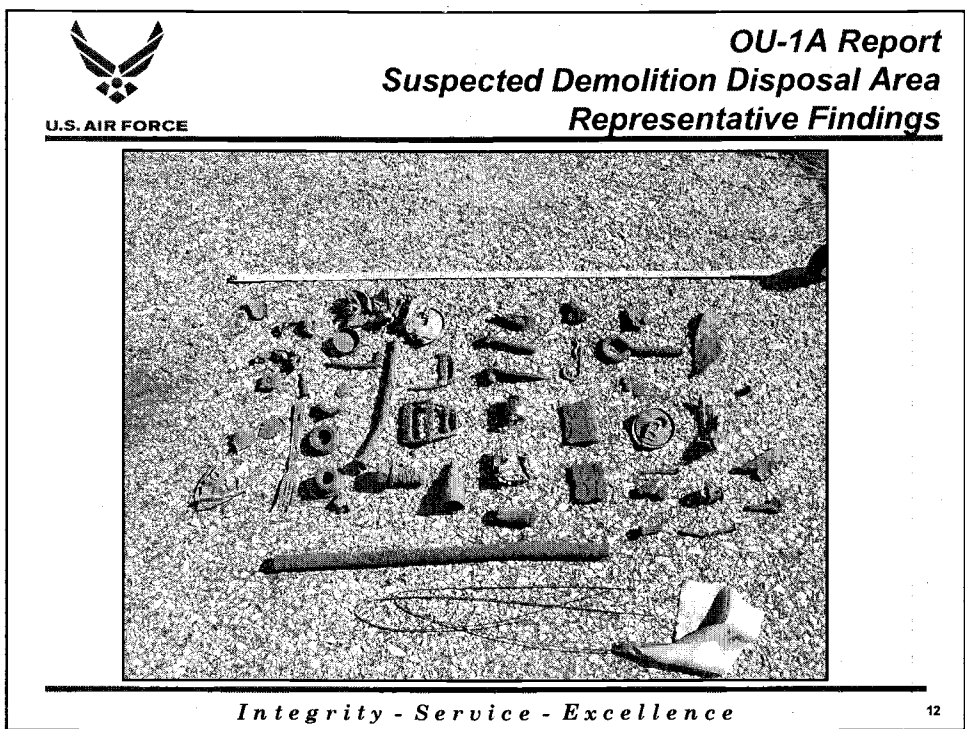
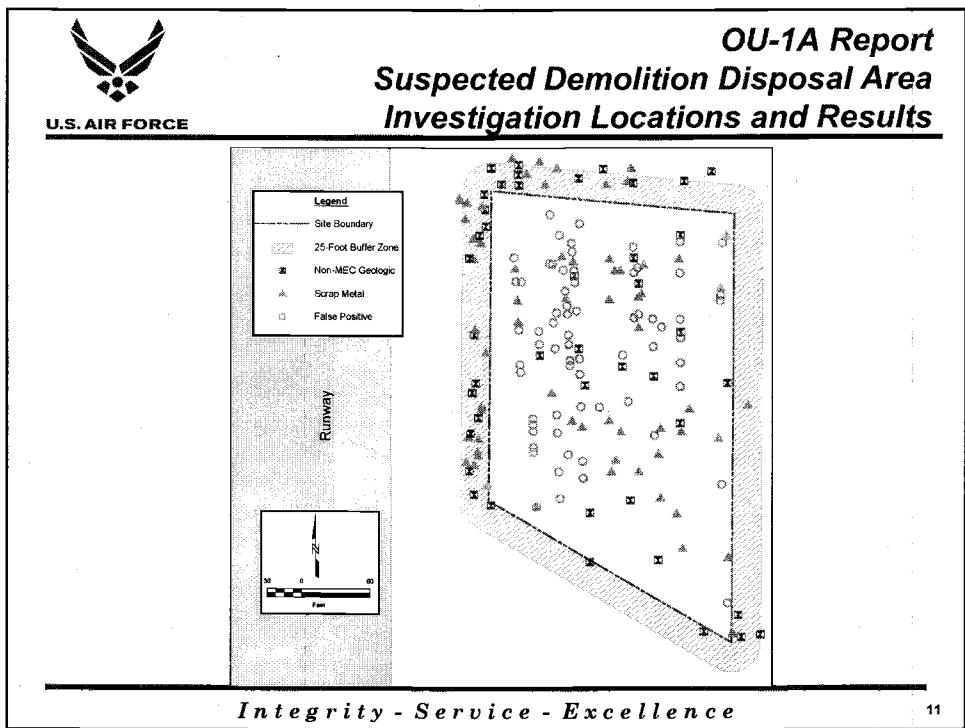
**OU-1A Report  
Suspected Demolition Disposal Area  
Results**

- No MEC or MEC-related scrap was discovered during investigation of 225 anomalies
  - 92 were metal scraps (nails, wire, pipe, and other non-MEC items)
  - 68 were false positives
  - 65 were naturally occurring ferrous soil and/or rock

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**OU-1A Report  
Suspected Demolition Disposal Area  
Conclusions**

- Historical information and data from intrusive investigations support a conclusion that no MEC hazard exists
- There is no evidence indicating any form of ordnance disposal occurred
- **No Further Action is Warranted**

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**Questions on the Proposed Plan  
for the Suspected Demolition  
Disposal Area?**

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# Air Force Real Property

## The Former Chanute Air Force Base

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

### Air Force Ready to Transfer 617 Acres of Land to Village

The Air Force is ready to transfer 617 acres of land at the former Chanute Air Force Base to the Village of Rantoul.

The draft deed for the land, which includes 33 facilities and portions of the airfield including runways, was formally presented to Village administrators in early June 2006.

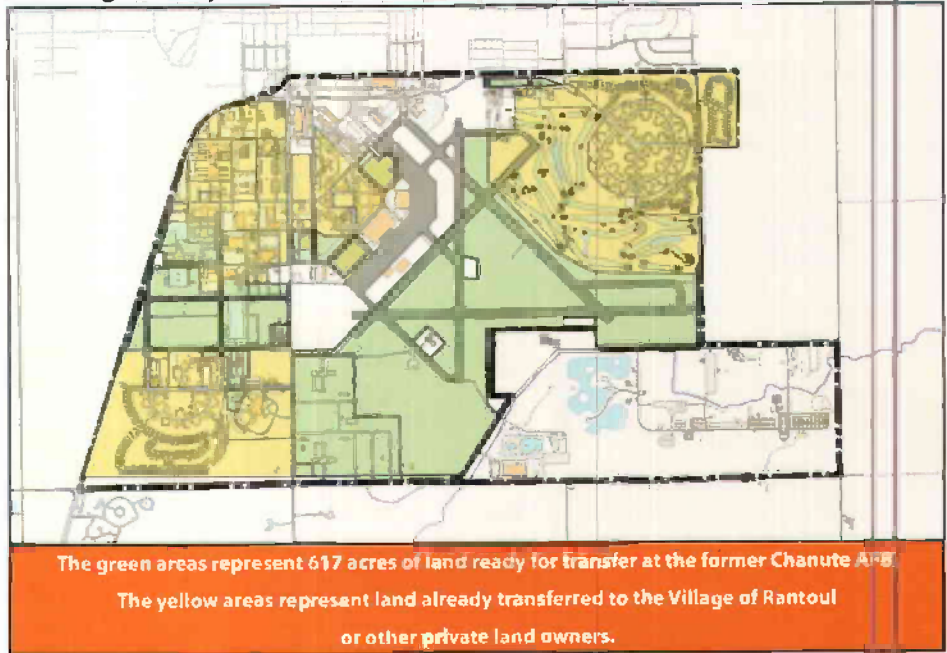
"This is a significant milestone in terms of the effort to transfer the entire property," said Paul Carroll, BRAC environmental coordinator for the former Chanute AFB.

The Air Force began the effort to transfer the 617 acres by publishing a public notice in the Rantoul Press announcing their intention to sign a Finding of Suitability to Transfer, which identifies the land to be transferred and any environmental issues associated with the land. The document along with sup-

porting environmental documentation was made available for public review. AFRPA representatives have also been discussing the Finding of Suitability to Transfer with members of the Chanute Restoration Advisory Board. The document was signed by AFRPA Director

Kathryn Halvorson in late May 2006, paving the way for the Air Force to deed the land to the Village.

To date, approximately 721 acres of land on the former Chanute AFB have been transferred to the Village of Rantoul or other private land owners.



### Management of Chanute Moves to Texas

Beginning May 2006, the Air Force started managing the environmental restoration and real estate activities of the former Chanute Air Force Base from Texas.

The Air Force Real Property Agency is in the process of closing its local office on the former Chanute AFB and moving operations to the Central Regional Execution Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Closing the local AFRPA offices at Chanute is part of the overall effort to centralize

environmental restoration and real estate activities throughout the United States. In addition to managing Chanute activities, AFRPA's San Antonio office also manages the environmental restoration and real estate activities for eight other former Air Force bases.

Although the Chanute office is closing in December 2006, the Air Force remains fully committed to its obligations to the former base. Air Force representatives will continue to work with the Village of

Rantoul, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and other local stakeholders to ensure the former Chanute AFB is cleaned up and transferred.

Additionally, the Air Force continues to host the Chanute Restoration Advisory Board, which meets quarterly on the third Thursdays of February, May, August and November at noon at the Rantoul Corporate Technology Center, 601 S. Century Blvd., Suite 1106 in Rantoul.

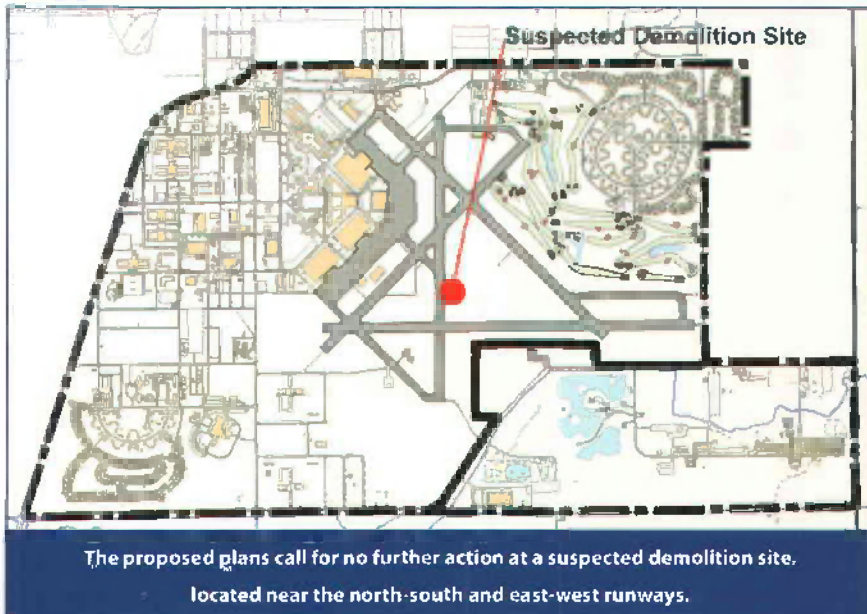
## Public Encouraged to Review Proposed Plan for Suspected Demolition Site

The Air Force encourages the public to review a recently released proposed plan to take no further action at a suspected demolition site on the former Chanute Air Force Base.

The site, located near the north-south and east-west runways, was suspected to be an explosive ordnance disposal site. Investigators excavated portions of the site where geophysical investigations identified metal beneath the ground and found nothing more than harmless debris.

The proposed plan is based on environmental site investigations. The plan is also proposed with the concurrence of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

The public is encouraged to submit written comments regarding the proposed plan. The proposed plan is available for review at the former Chanute AFB Information Repository located at the Rantoul Public Library, 106 West Flessner Avenue, Rantoul, Ill. Community members are also encouraged to at-



tend the former Chanute AFB Restoration Advisory Board meeting August 17th at noon at the Rantoul Corporate Technology Center, 601 Century Blvd., Suite 1106, Rantoul, Ill. Representatives from the Air Force, U.S. EPA and IEPA will be present to answer questions regarding the proposed plan.

### Meet Paul Carroll, Chanute BRAC Environmental Coordinator

In May 2006, Paul Carroll took the reins of the environmental cleanup at the former Chanute Air Force Base. As BRAC Environmental Coordinator for the former Chanute AFB, Carroll is responsible for managing the environmental cleanup program for the former Air Force base. Carroll is also the Air Force cochair of the former Chanute AFB Restoration Advisory Board. He replaced Bill Harris, who left in May.

Carroll, a graduate of Texas Tech University, began his career working with the Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the petroleum industry in the state. He then went to work for the Air Force at the former

Reese AFB in Lubbock, Texas when it was an active base. Reese closed in September 1997.

While he has only been the BEC for Chanute for a short time, Carroll feels

confident the cleanup program at Chanute is going well. He is especially excited about his meeting with AFRPA staff to identify planning a strategy and budget for the future cleanup program at the former base. He anticipates all environmental remedial systems will be in place to clean up the former base within the next two to three years.

"The cleanup program at Chanute is solid and realistic," Carroll said.

manages these cleanup programs from his Lubbock office, he assures he, along with the Air Force, will continue to work directly with representatives of regulatory agencies and the Village of Rantoul on environmental cleanup issues at Chanute.

"This is just the way of life for a lot of businesses," he said. "With technology, management of projects from far away is easier than it's been before."

Carroll enjoys environmental restoration work because it offers a variety of challenges. At the three bases he manages, there are varying issues, each requiring different solutions. He also takes away a sense of accomplishment with what he achieves.

"Environmental cleanup is such a long process," Carroll said. "It's quite an achievement when you finally clean up a site and close it out."



**Paul Carroll is the BRAC Environmental Coordinator for the former Chanute AFB. He is responsible for overseeing the environmental restoration effort at the former base. He also serves as the installation cochair of the former Chanute AFB Restoration Advisory Board.**

In addition to managing the cleanup program at Chanute, he continues to oversee the environmental program at the former Reese AFB, Texas and the former Lowry AFB, Colo. While he

- 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 78226-1816.

## Meet David Johnston, Chanute RAB Community Cochair

When David Johnston joined the former Chanute AFB Restoration Advisory Board a year ago, he knew he was going to face some pretty significant challenges. Almost 13 years after it closed, the former base still had some outstanding environmental cleanup issues. As the new community cochair, it was his responsibility to take these issues to the citizens.



Johnston is the village administrator for the Village of Rantoul. He oversees the day-to-day operations of the village government supporting the mayor and village trustees. Johnston, who has a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies and a Master of Arts in Public Affairs, has had experience working in state- and local-level government and nonprofit organizations.

As community cochair of the

Chanute RAB, Johnston works directly with his government counterpart Paul Carroll, the government co-chair who also serves as the BRAC environmental coordinator. Together, Johnston and Carroll set the agenda of the RAB meetings and lead discussions on environmental cleanup

issues at Chanute. He also helps ensure information presented at RAB meetings is understandable by the average citizen. Johnston replaced Gary Adams, the previous community cochair who had also been a former village administrator.

Johnston believes the RAB is an important part of the overall cleanup

effort at Chanute. It provides an opportunity for the public to become informed about the cleanup and voice their opinions.

"This is an important step for the Air Force," Johnston said. "It will help them earn and keep the public trust."

While there are outstanding environmental cleanup issues at the former Chanute AFB, Johnston feels confident they can be worked

***While there are outstanding environmental cleanup issues at the former Chanute AFB, Johnston feels confident they can be worked through as long as all parties work together.***

through as long as all parties, including the Air Force, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and community members from the Village of Rantoul, work together.

"All players need to be at the table," he said. "We all have to move forward now."



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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!

August 17, 2006 at 12:00 p.m.

Rantoul Corporate Technology Center (Former Smith Hall)

601 S. Century Blvd., Suite 1106

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

#### Property Transfer/Real Estate

Air Force Real Property Agency  
9801 Reese Blvd. North, Suite 300  
Lubbock, Texas 79416  
(217) 892-3241

### Information Repository

Rantoul Public Library  
106 West Flessner Avenue  
Rantoul, Illinois 61866  
(217) 893-3955 ext. 22

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