

WHAT IS UXO?

Unexploded ordnance (UXO) is a term used for old military training ammunition. Training ammunition was intended to explode upon impact with the ground or with targets; however, a significant number of ammunition items did not explode as intended. UXO items or certain pieces of UXO are still dangerous and could explode with the slightest movement. Military personnel were extensively trained to handle these dangerous UXO items. **Do not touch them.** Some of these items found on Culebra Island and the surrounding cays include 5-inch to 16-inch naval projectiles, aerial bombs up to 2,000 pounds, 60mm and 81mm mortars, hand grenades, rockets, and many more items.



HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Culebra Island area played an important role in the preparation, training, and readiness of the armed forces.

In 1901, the U.S. Navy began using the island and cays for fleet exercises. In later years, multi-national forces trained in the area.

Targets were initially placed on the 600-acre Flamenco Peninsula for shore bombardment centered on whitewashed rocks along the shoreline, simulated gun emplacement, whitewashed Sherman tanks, and white-painted fuel drums. This area was later used for the practice delivery of live bombs and rockets.



Other areas are also known to have been used for training exercises, including live mortar fire toward the west flank of Cerro Balcon.

In 1975, surface and aerial bombing of Flamenco Peninsula and surrounding cays ended. Although, the peninsula has been swept for UXO, a substantial amount of dangerous UXO still exists in all former target areas.



Unexploded Ordnance Detonation

RECOGNIZE THE DANGERS!

Remember that any piece of metal found partially buried or on the ground may be dangerous and should not be touched or removed from the ground. It may no longer look like ammunition as shown here.



RETREAT

Move away from the area

REPORT

Call the local police at (787) 742-3501

SAFETY AWARENESS ON CULEBRA TODAY

It is important that residents and guests of Culebra Island are educated about the potential dangers of UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE. Most of Flamenco Peninsula has restricted access, but unrestricted locations such as Flamenco Beach or the campgrounds may potentially contain unexploded ordnance. In addition, boaters should use mooring buoys whenever possible to avoid dropping an anchor on unexploded ordnance in the water.

**For more information regarding
unexploded ordnance, visit:
www.hnd.usace.army.mil**



Points of Contact

Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
Office of the Governor
Environmental Quality Board
(787) 767-8056

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District
Attn: CESAJ-DP (FUDES Program Manager)
701 San Marco Boulevard
Jacksonville, FL 32207
(904) 232-3085

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Antilles Office
Attn: CESAJ-DE (Corporate Communications)
400 Fernandez Juncos Avenue
San Juan, PR 00901-3299
(787) 729-6876



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District, 2004

Unexploded Military Ammunition

*on Culebra Island and
Surrounding Cays, Puerto Rico*

***“What you should know
and what to do!”***



BE AWARE OF THE DANGERS

***If you see unexploded ordnance,
DO NOT TOUCH IT!
Immediately report it to the
police in Dewey!***

CALL (787) 742-3501



POSSIBLE UNEXPLODED MILITARY MUNITIONS
IF YOU SEE A SUSPECT ITEM **DO NOT TOUCH!**
CALL THE LOCAL POLICE AT: (787)742-3501