

DON'T FORGET

Munitions are dangerous, and may not be easily recognizable!

Avoid military and former military ranges and disposal areas!

Never touch, move or disturb a munition!

REMEMBER THE 3RS

RECOGNIZE: Recognize when you may have encountered a munition.

RETREAT: Do not touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.

REPORT: Immediately notify the police if on land, or the U.S. Coast Guard, if at sea. Emergency contacts:

- On land: Call 911
- At sea: Use Channel 16 (156.800 MHz)

For additional information on this and related issues see the US Army's UXO Safety Education Website www.denix.osd.mil/UXOSafety



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Explosives Safety Guide for Hawaii



Hawaii's rich culture and natural history offer native Hawaiians and their guests a variety of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Hiking, camping, sightseeing, gardening, hunting, fishing, snorkeling and scuba diving are only some of the reasons that Hawaiians and their guests treasure the islands.

While a reservoir of natural beauty, Hawaii has also played a vital role in our national defense, since 1913. During World War II, the military conducted extensive training to prepare our Nation's forces for combat and to protect Hawaii from outside attacks. This role continues even today.

Key to meeting this national defense role was the military's conduct of live-fire training and testing with military munitions. Because of this training and for other reasons (e.g., the attack on Pearl Harbor, family members bringing home military souvenirs), it is possible to encounter munitions both on land and in the sea. When encountered by the public, these

munitions present a potential hazard that can easily end in tragedy.

Unfortunately, this happened in 1954 on Parker Ranch, on the Island of Hawaii, where two cowboys disturbed a munition, which detonated and resulted in their deaths.



Projectile in the Forest

Munitions discovered on land or in the ocean are called unexploded ordnance (UXO) or duds. Regardless of what you call them, you should know that these munitions are dangerous, and can explode if you disturb or handle them.

To protect yourself, your family, your friends and your neighbors learn and follow the 3Rs (Recognize, Retreat, Report).



Mortar on a Training Range

Never Touch, Tamper With, or Clean a Munition in Any Way

On land, call 911 (local law enforcement) as soon as possible. If you encounter a munition while swimming at the beach or snorkeling near the beach, or SCUBA diving from shore, you should also call 911.

When you report the encounter, provide:

- A landmark near the munition
- The name or location of the area where you saw the munition

If you marked the area near the suspect munition, provide a description of how you marked it (e.g., with a piece of clothing).

At sea, notify the U.S. Coast Guard as soon as possible and provide:

- Your boat's exact position (use the World Geodetic System 1984 [WGS-84], if known)
- If your exact position is unknown, give its "popular" name or approximate coordinates, or a range and bearing from a charted feature
- The activity (e.g., fishing, SCUBA diving) you were conducting
- The approximate depth of the water in the vicinity of the munition, if known

Just as on land, the best thing to do is leave a munition where it lies.



Munition on the Sea bed¹

¹Photographs courtesy of NOAA.

- Throw anything at a munition (it can become unstable over time and explode with the slightest touch)
- Explore areas where munitions are present



Munition on a Training Range

If you encounter what you believe to be a munition, do not touch, move or disturb it. Instead, immediately and carefully leave, retracing your steps out of the area in the same direction by which you entered it. Once safely out of the area, mark the path with a piece of clothing if possible.

Never touch munitions



Flag Marking Near a Munition

Report

Protect yourself, your family, your friends and your neighbors by immediately reporting munitions or suspect munitions to the police. Tell children to immediately report any discovery of a munition or suspect munition to the police, a teacher, their parents or an adult.

Provide as much information as possible about what you saw and where you saw it. This will help the police and explosive ordnance disposal personnel (usually referred to as EOD personnel) find, evaluate and destroy the munition.

If you believe you have encountered a munition, report the following:

- The area where you encountered it
- A general description of the munition, to include:
 - Its size
 - Its shape
 - Visible markings

Recognize

You should recognize that munitions, which come in a variety of sizes and shapes and may be found on land or in the sea, might be easy or hard to recognize.

You should consider any munition or suspect munition encountered as dangerous. If you come across or even suspect that you have encountered a munition, do not touch, move or disturb it (e.g., throw anything at it).

NEVER TOUCH, DISTURB OR MOVE A MUNITION

Recognizing that you may have encountered a munition is one of the most important steps in reducing the risk of injury or death. Munitions present a risk to anyone in the vicinity and should never be touched, moved or disturbed.

You should recognize that munitions:

- Come in many sizes and shapes:
 - Some look new, while others look old and rusty

- Some look like bullets or bombs; others look like pointed pipes, soda cans, balls, or even an old car muffler

- May be easy or hard to identify
- Are dangerous regardless of size or age



Munition Uncovered by Erosion on a Training Range

Munitions and their components (e.g., fuzes, rocket motors) may contain high explosives, propellants, or pyrotechnics and, in some cases, chemical agents. The military designs munitions to injure, maim, or kill people, and to destroy equipment in times of war. All munitions and suspect munitions, whether whole or in pieces, should be considered extremely dangerous.

Munitions Are Designed to Be Dangerous

Munitions may be:

- Found almost anywhere
- Clearly visible on the surface
- Partially or completely hidden by dirt or vegetation
- Underwater, in lakes, streams, or the ocean
- Exposed by erosion after heavy rains
- Difficult to recognize because they can be covered with coral or other sea life



Munition in the Sea Near Hawaii¹

Although munitions can be encountered anywhere, they are most often encountered in areas the military once used or still uses for training or disposal, and where combat occurred.

- On land, warning signs often mark these areas

- At sea, places where the military disposed of munitions are normally charted as restricted areas



A simple way to avoid an accident is to stay out of areas marked with warning signs or charted as restricted areas. By doing so, you will avoid areas known or suspected to contain munitions.

Hiking or sightseeing on or near battlegrounds or training areas can lead to an encounter with munitions that, depending on your actions, can prove deadly.

The waters around the islands are also known to contain munitions. In 1956, while spear fishing in shallow waters off Ala Moana Park, a man found two rockets left over from military training conducted between the 1930s and 1950s.



Munitions Found by Diver

As recreational dives reach depths once only possible with commercial equipment, and as former military areas are returned to the public, encounters with munitions in the sea are likely to increase.

Munitions make potentially deadly souvenirs. They generally do not become safer with age—they often become more dangerous. Therefore, retrieving a munition for a keepsake presents a real danger to you and/or your family. Should you or your family have a souvenir that is or may be a munition, even if it has been kept for years, remember it may still be a real danger. Call 911 and report it before someone gets hurt.



Land mine souvenir

Collecting Munitions as Souvenirs is Dangerous and Has Caused Serious Injury and Death

Retreat

Avoid death or injury by recognizing when you may have encountered a munition and carefully retreating from the area by retracing your steps.

Never:

- Touch, move or disturb a munition
- Go near munitions—some fuzes are sensitive to changes in temperature, movement or pressure, and could explode if you come too close