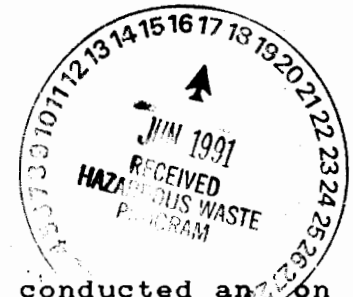




DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 1606TH AIR BASE WING (MAC)  
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO 87117 - 5000

FILE KAFB  
RLY 91  
ENTERED

18 JUN 1991



REPLY TO  
ATTN OF:

EMC

SUBJECT:

Elephant Butte Site Inspection Trip

TO:

1551 FTS (MSgt Dixon)

1. The Environmental Management Division conducted an on site visit of Elephant Butte 90-day accumulation site. Our staff members, Mr Walter Darr, Ms Marsha Carra, Mr Efren Medrano and MSgt Dixon (1551 FTS) Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) met with Mr Dean Tolstedt on 4 June 1991 at the Pro Shop, Truth or Consequence, NM.

2. Findings:

a. The Conex box used to store the flares was found to be marked properly, in both English and Spanish on all four sides. An orange placard with a black number three was located on the north side of the conex.

b. Flares are properly containerized with hazardous waste labels stating all pertinent information, including a start date.

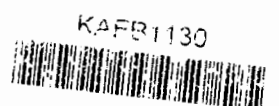
c. Flares that are partially burned are containerized in 55 gallon drums filled with water. Flares that are not burned (duds) are also stored in different 55 gallon drums.

d. The location of the conex box was verified by MSgt Dixon (Doppler radar system) to be the correct coordinates specified on the contract.

3. CORRECTIVE ACTION:

a. Mr Medrano from Environmental Management Training Branch conducted training (90-day storage procedures) for the contractor Mr Dean Tolstedt and his employee, Mr Warren T. Cottle on 4 June 1991.

b. Collection Point procedures, forms and labels were provided to the contractor and explained in detail.



c. A copy of the Hazardous Waste Operations Plan (195-90) and Accumulation Site Procedures were reviewed with the contractor.

d. The contractor was instructed not to transport flares in any vehicle, trailer or boat in a trailer from the lake shore to the conex. The flares are to be hand carried from the boat to the conex box only.

e. Certified non-leaking drums were provided to the contractor for proper storage of the flares.

f. The contractor was informed that the Explosive Ordnance Division (EOD) will pick up spent flares every 80 days instead of every 89 days.

g. As the flares are thrown out of the aircraft, the quantity is given to the contractor. The contractor is to record all flares picked up from the lake and compare that amount to the quantity thrown out of the aircraft. Any flares not accounted for will be reported to Environmental Management within two (2) hours so proper notification can be made to the appropriate agencies.

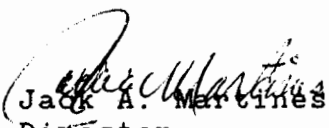
4. The 1551 FTS, according to MSgt Dixon has requested permission to perform future training with inert mark 25 mod 3 and mark 6 flares. These flares contain no hazardous materials, therefore not generating any hazardous waste. The Mark 6 flares will be blocks of wood painted bright orange. The Mark 25 flares will be emptied of all hazardous material and stuffed with Styrofoam and painted a bright orange. The flares will be retrieved from the lake and tracked (quantity dropped from aircraft) so there will be no floating debris remaining in the lake. The flare will be labeled "dud and contains no hazardous material."

5. The new procedures will eliminate all health, disposal, transportation, and environmental concerns. This information has also been provided to Dr. Bruce Swanton of New Mexico Environment Division (NMED).

6. Conclusion:

- a. Present procedures are in compliance with operations for a 90 day or less accumulation site.
- b. The conex box is painted and properly marked.
- c. There was no evidence of any camping next to the conex box.
- d. Location of the conex box is correct.
- e. All corrective actions are completed.

7. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Mr Walter Darr at (505) 846-2774.

  
Jack A. Martinez, Col, USAF  
Director  
Environmental Management Division

cc: 1550 CCTW/CC  
1551 FTS/CC  
NMED (Dr. Swanton)