

## Background

The Mojave Gunnery Range "C" Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) is located in Kern County, California, and overlaps the southwestern portion of California City. Most of the land is privately owned and undeveloped, and the remainder is publicly managed.

In August 1944, the Department of the Navy acquired approximately 22,400 acres of desert land to be used for training in aerial bombing, air-to-ground rocketry and strafing (firing of automatic weapons from aircraft onto ground targets). The range was primarily used by aircrews stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Mojave.

The range consisted of seven targets, one mobile and six stationary targets. Following World War II, the gunnery range was used for testing and evaluating pilot-less aircraft by both the Navy and the Army.

Because explosive hazards associated with military munitions from past military training may remain on the Mojave Gunnery Range "C" FUDS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends that landowners and visitors follow the **3Rs of Explosives Safety – Recognize, Retreat and Report.**



## Mojave Gunnery Range "C" FUDS

### Emergency Contacts:

Call 911 - and let local law enforcement know where you encountered a potential old military munitions item

For more information about the FUDS, contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Public Affairs Office at:  
(213) 452-3921  
[publicaffairs.spl@usace.army.mil](mailto:publicaffairs.spl@usace.army.mil)

### Learn and follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety



Visit the US Army's Explosive Safety Education website: <https://3Rs.mil>

## Mojave Gunnery Range "C"

Formerly Used Defense Site

## 3Rs Safety Guide



U.S. Marine Corps flight and ground crew in front of an F4U Corsair airplane in 1943  
Source: Land-Sea Discovery Group collection via Mojave Virtual Museum, [www.mojave.ca.us](http://www.mojave.ca.us)

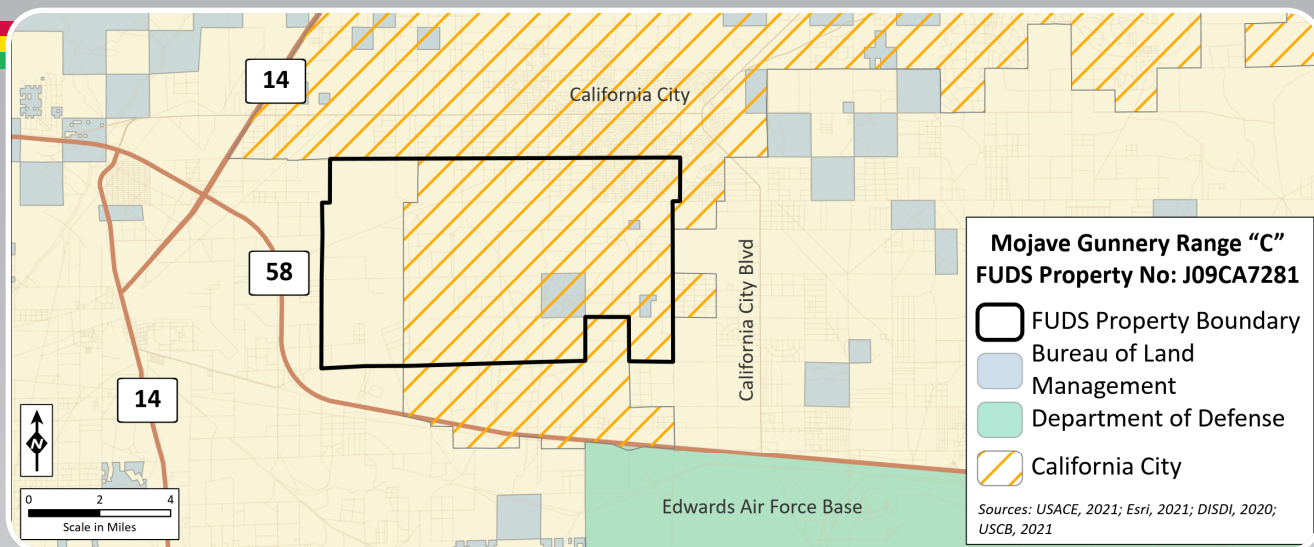


**US Army Corps  
of Engineers.**  
Los Angeles District





F4U Corsair airplane in flight from Marine Corps Air Station Mojave  
Source: Mojave Transportation Museum Foundation



## Site Information

In 1999, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began investigating the Mojave Gunner Range "C" as part of the Formerly Used Defense Sites Program. During the investigations, the property was divided into smaller project areas where munitions were suspected to remain.

Investigations at most of the project areas are complete. Remediation activities have been conducted or will be conducted at the project areas with completed investigations. Some of those remediation activities include educating landowners, the surrounding community and visitors about the possibility for munitions to remain on the site, especially below the ground's surface.

Although the likelihood of encountering an old military munitions item is low, it is important to follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety (shown on the right) if you believe an item may be an old military munitions item. These steps will protect you, your family and other land users.

# Follow the 3Rs

**Recognize** - When you may have come across a munition, and that munitions are dangerous.

*Munitions come in many sizes, shapes and colors. Some may look like bullets or bombs while others look like pipes, small cans or even a car muffler. Whether whole or in parts, new or old, shiny or rusty, munitions can still explode.*

**Retreat** - Do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.

*Immediately and carefully leave the area by following the same path which you entered. Once safely away from the munition, mark the path (e.g., with a piece of clothing) so response personnel can find the munition.*

**Report** - Call 911 and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it.

*Protect yourself, your family, your friends and the community by calling 911 to immediately report munitions or suspected munitions to the police.*