YANBARU, OKINAWA: Future World Natural Heritage and the U.S. Military's Northern Training Area le Island 5 km (3.1 miles) HENOKO district TAKAE residential district Yanbaru National Park (land area, 13,622 ha) Yanbaru National Park (coastal area, 3,670 ha) World Natural Heritage Nominated Property (7,721ha) Buffer Zone (3,398ha) Coordinates of the "northern part of Okinawa Island" or Yanbaru (N26°42'54" E128°13'47") (provided by the Japanese government in its Tentative List for World Natural Heritage Sites) U.S. Military's Northern Training Area (4,010 ha) Former Northern Training Area / Returned Land (3,987 ha) Landing Zones before SACO New Landing Zones Route for TERF (Terrain flight training at altitudes from 50 to 200 ft. above ground level) Proposed road to connect new landing zone and new coastal training area Land and water area provided to U.S. military for amphibious training in 1998

Residues of Military Activity/Training in the Northern Part of Okinawa Island: Clean Up, Decontamination, and Restoration Are Needed.

Despite the claim by the Japanese Ministry of the Environment that "the returned land (of the U.S. Military's Northern Training Area) was confirmed to be free from soil contamination and water pollution," many parts of the returned land are still littered with bullet shells, blanks, unexploded ordinance, and other discarded military materials, including toxic chemicals. The land is in need of clean up, decontamination, and restoration.

Former FBJ Landing Zone

Unused grenade-type warning flare (1) Unused parachute-type flares (2) Unused and undetonated blanks (897) Other types of used flares

Field ration bags, drums, sandbags, steal plates, concrete rubble, rubber sheets

point northeast of former Landing Zone-1

Drums containing PCB, DDT Unused training projectiles (2)

Vehicle parts, batteries, metal equipment, bottles, chains



Unused blanks (discarded after land return) (342) Unused and undetonated blanks (344)

Unused parachute-type flare (1)

Drums contaminated with PCB, ammunition boxes, batter cells, batteries, infusion bags, field ration bags, clothes, concrete rubble, rusted bolts and nuts, other daily waste materials including clothes discarded by Japanese

Former Landing Zone-2 Unused blanks (262)

Former Landing Zone-21 Unused and undetonated blanks







Drums found at former Landing Zone-1, soil surrounding the drums was found contaminated with PCB



Unused blanks shells found at former Landing Zone-1



Smoke flares found at former Landing Zone-1

Research & Photo by Akino Miyagi Research (PCB) by Dr. Yutaka Tashiro Map by Kaoru Urano

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U.S. Military Bases and Training Areas and World Natural Heritage Nomination in Okinawa

