

18th WING

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The Discovery and Excavation of Barrels on the Okinawa City Soccer Field



Brig Gen James Hecker
28 January 2014

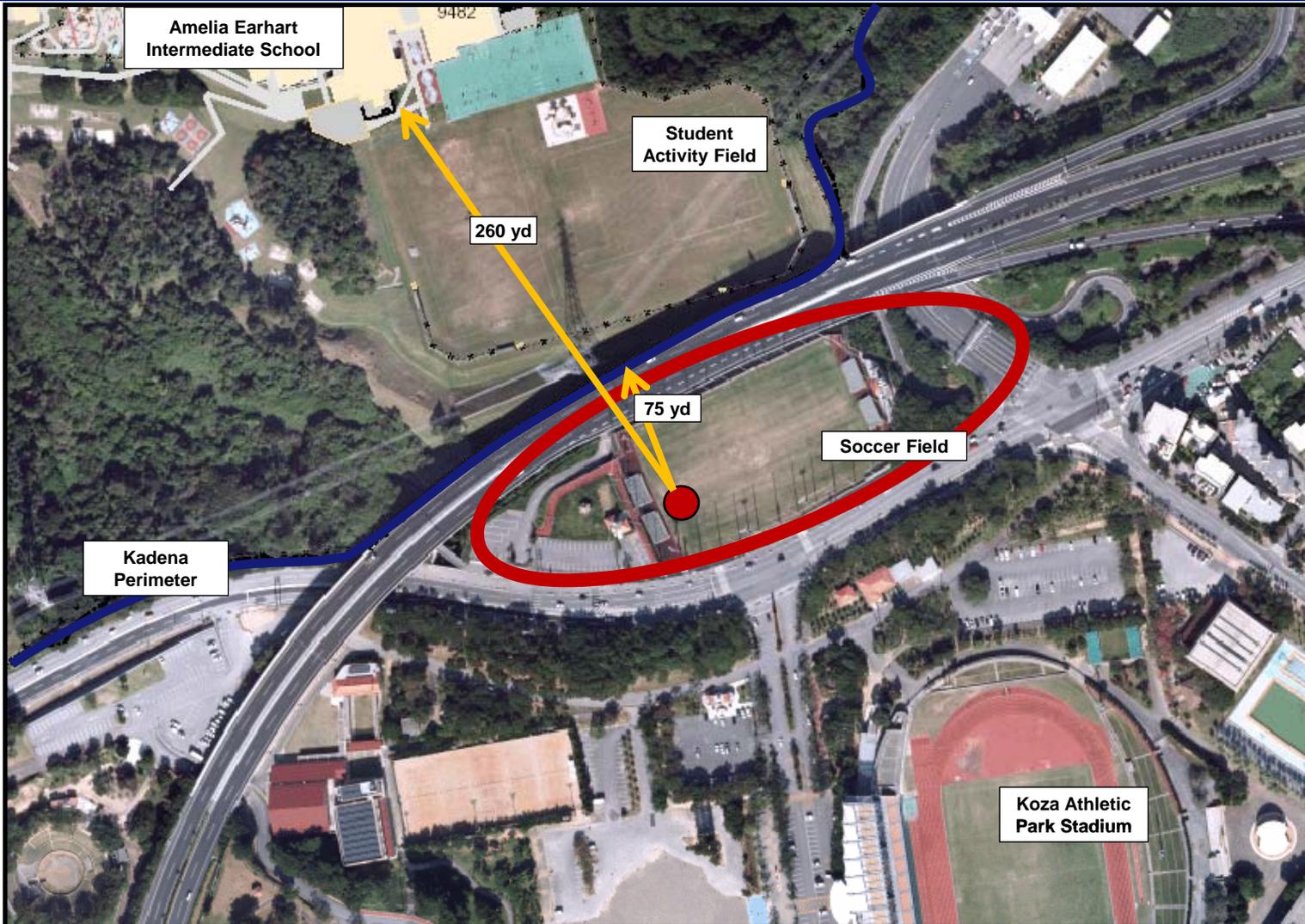


Agenda

- **Background of the Site**
- **Discovery and Testing of the Barrels**
- **Spatial Orientation to the Area**
- **Precautionary Sampling Around Schools**
- **Kadena Air Base Drinking Water**
- **Future Actions**



Overview



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1945



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1962



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1977



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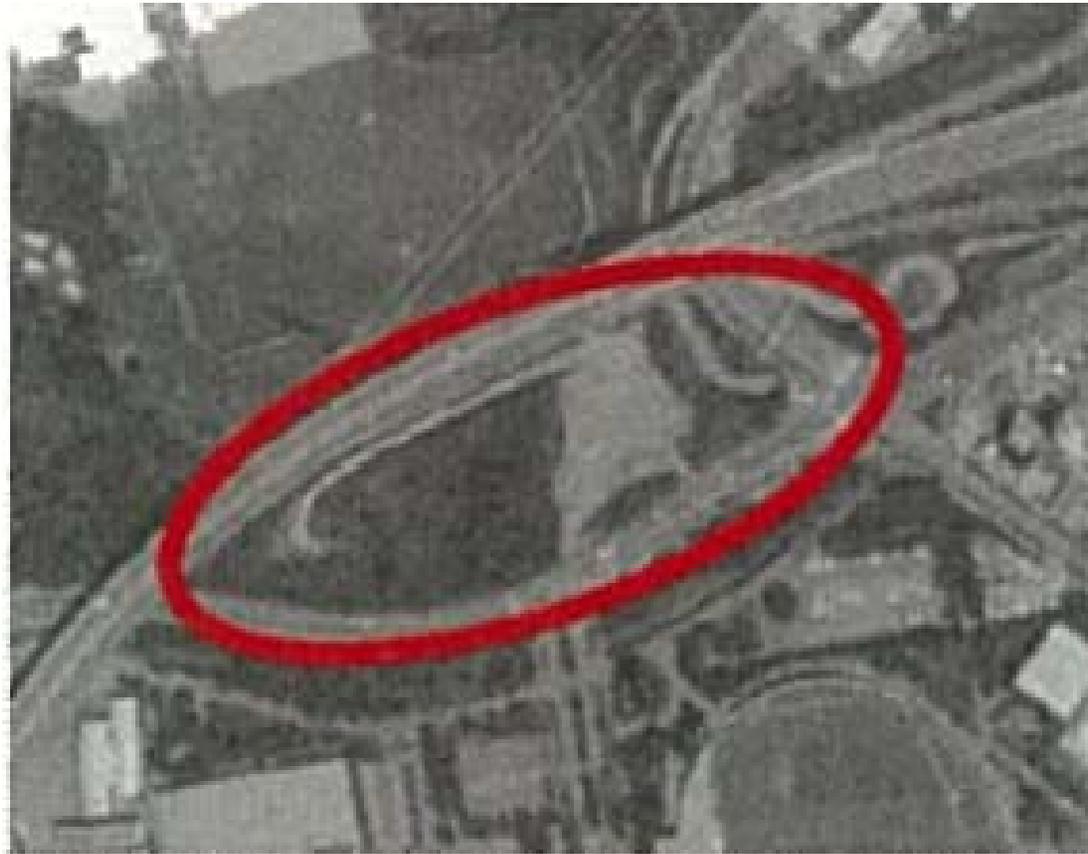
1986



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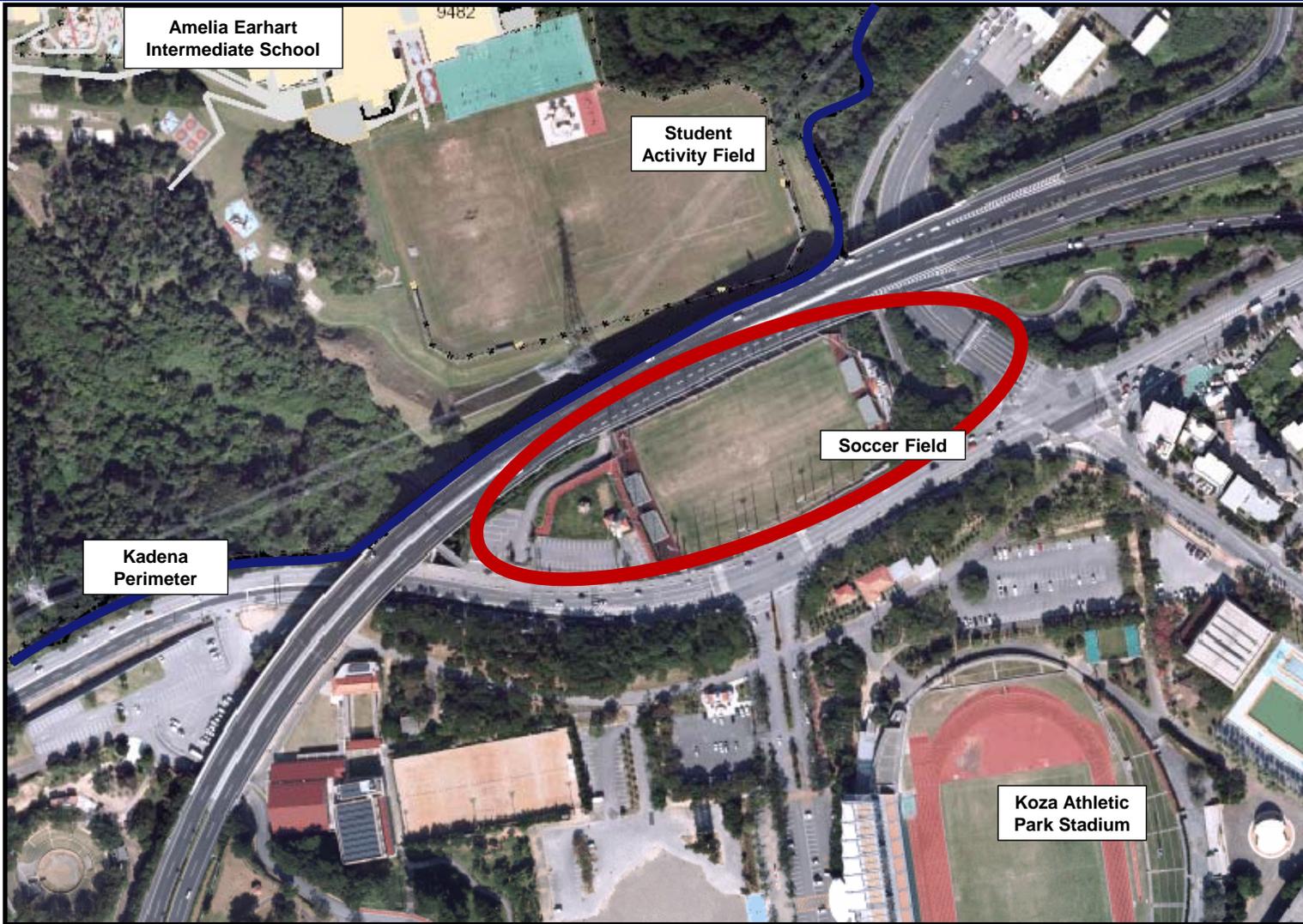
1993



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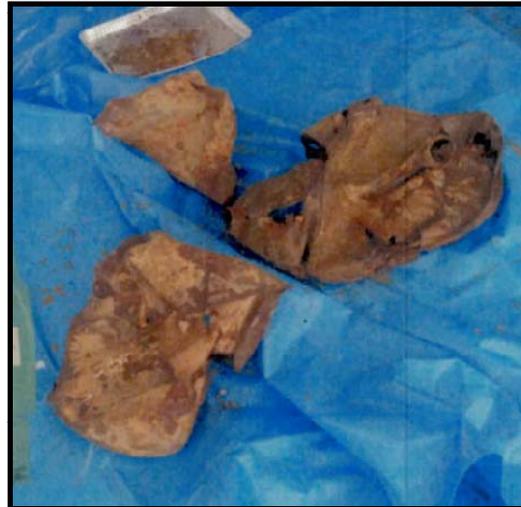
Overview



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33 drums have been found



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What else is there?

- **Magnetic survey yielded 56 locations to investigate**
 - Reinforced concrete debris, steel reinforcements, street lamp post, tires, piping, curbing, shovel, bottles, etc
- **Some of unearthed items have identifying marks**
 - Tires, manufactured in 1989
 - Metal cans; manufactured in 1992
 - Plastic bottles; dates range from 1981 to 1994



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First-round testing

- **Material scraped from inside drums**
 - 40 of 44 samples above soil standard for petroleum oils
 - 11 of 44 samples above soil standard for heat-resistant oils
 - 4 of 44 samples above soil standard for dioxins
 - 31 of 44 samples found low levels of the herbicide 2,4,5-T
- **Soil on the soccer field**
 - Entire field surveyed by two orgs/labs – consistent sampling
 - No results above Japanese soil standards
- **Water collected from under two buried drums**
 - 2 of 2 samples above drinking water standard for dioxins
- **Storm water sampling**
 - Collected from the site and drainage outfall in East China Sea
 - No results above Japanese storm water standards



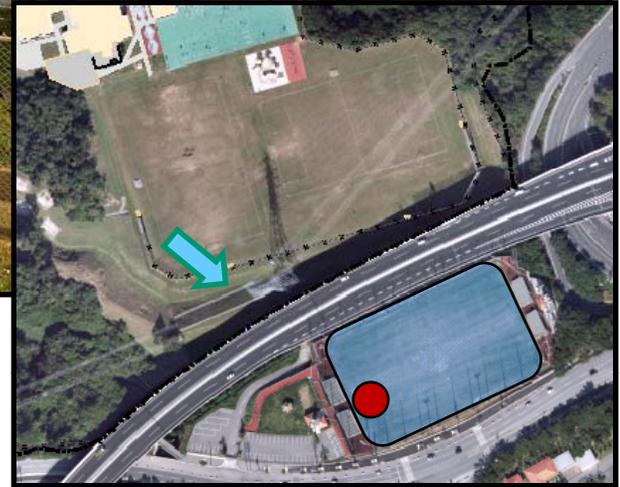
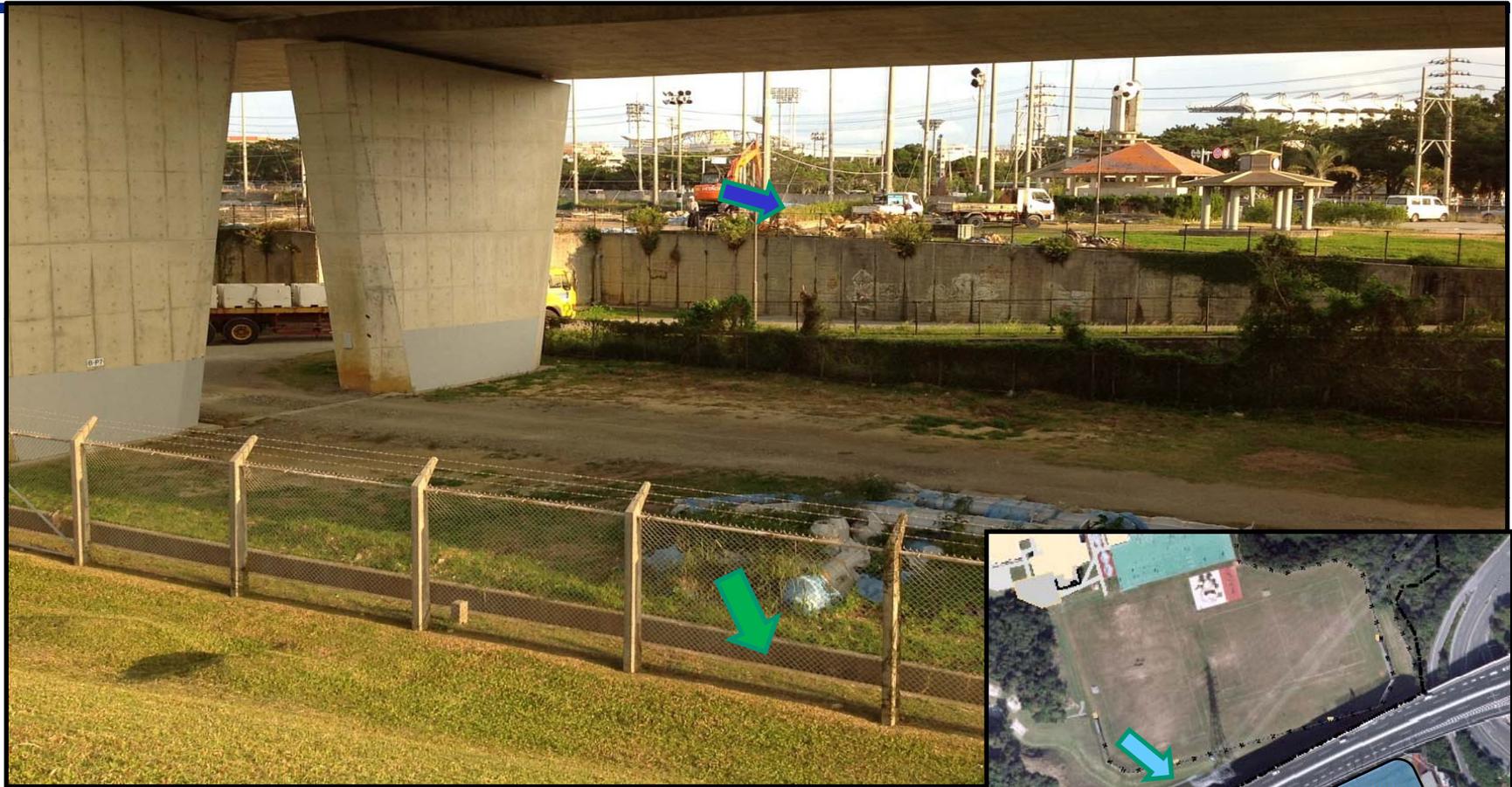
Spatial Orientation



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View from the other side



-  Location and Direction of photo
-  Construction /Excavation Site
-  Concrete drainage between site and perimeter fence

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Overview



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Precautionary Sampling & Testing

- **No evidence of migration, whatsoever**
- **Cement ditch diverts all soccer field run-off away from the base and schools**
- **Because of public concern, ordered survey samples of soil and air on school playing fields**
 - **15 Soil samples – No results above soil standards**
 - **12 Air samples – No results above air standards**
- **For additional assurance, ordered another round – more stringent compliance samples**



Kadena's Drinking Water

- **All base water drawn from commercial sources**
 - **Ishikawa Water Treatment Plant**
 - **Chatan Water Treatment Plant**
- **Strict compliance water-sampling program**
 - **Equivalent or more stringent than US EPA standards**
 - **Over 100 contaminants are monitored including: Constituents of Oils, Dioxins and Herbicides**
 - **Community notification provided through annual Consumer Confidence Reports and Notices of non-compliance**

<http://www.kadena.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-130610-056.pdf>



Future Actions

- **Host nation officials continue investigation**
- **We stay in touch every step of the way**
- **This week**
 - **Final 11 barrels excavated by hand**
 - **Horizontal magnetic survey complete**
- **March: Additional, deeper magnetic survey**
- **May: Final host-nation report expected**
- **ONGOING: Base provides updated information ASAP**



Questions?



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Timeline

