

HIB Number: 000708

Date/Time
Transmitted: 15/09/20 10 15:01

Subject: UXO DISPOSAL TOMORROW - HEATHCOTE ROAD, SYDNEY

Comment:

Action Area HDSO

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION - NOT TO BE FORWARDED

HOT ISSUE BRIEF

ISSUE: UXO FOUND EASTERN SIDE OF HEATHCOTE ROAD

SENSITIVITY: Medium. Media interest may occur on closure of Heathcote Road for demolition of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO).

KEY ISSUES:

- Defence has been notified of the discovery of a UXO today on the eastern side of Heathcote Road, adjacent to Holsworthy Training Area.
- This item is a 76 mm High Explosive round estimated to be at least twenty five years old.
- The area was previously known as Little Forest Training Area, possibly used by Army around 1966.
- NSW Police have been informed and have assumed control of the situation. The police have requested Defence support to dispose of the item.
- The item has been fired and is considered unsafe to move.
- Destruction of the UXO is scheduled to occur late morning/early afternoon tomorrow 14 September 2010.

•Heathcote Road will be closed tomorrow for approximately 15 minutes while Joint Logistics Command arrange for the safe disposal of the UXO.

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TALKING POINTS

UXO FOUND EASTERN SIDE OF HEATHCOTE ROAD

- A single item of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) has been found on the eastern side of Heathcote Road, adjacent to Holsworthy Training Area.
- Heathcote Road will be closed for about 15 minutes tomorrow while military technicians safely dispose of the UXO.
- The destruction of the UXO is scheduled to occur late morning/early afternoon tomorrow 14 September 2010.
- It is expected that the operation will be completed before the afternoon peak traffic to reduce traffic congestion.

IF ASKED: IS IT DANGEROUS?

- Heathcote Road will be closed for about 15 minutes tomorrow for safety reasons, while military technicians safely dispose of the UXO.

- Unless a UXO is deliberately disturbed there are no known instances in Australia, where a UXO has injured a member of the public.

IF ASKED: WHAT IF I FIND A UXO?

- If any member of the public should find a suspicious item, that may be a UXO, they should not touch or disturb it.

- They should contact the police who will arrange for military technicians to attend and dispose of it.

IF ASKED: ARE THEY DANGEROUS?

- Any UXO is potentially dangerous. However, unless the UXO was deliberately disturbed there are no known instances in Australia, where a UXO has injured a member of the public.

- If any member of the public should find a suspicious item, that may be a UXO, they should not touch or disturb it. They should contact the police who will arrange for military technicians to attend and dispose of it.

IF ASKED: WHAT TYPE OF UXO WAS FOUND?


- This item is a 76 mm High Explosive round estimated to be at least twenty five years old.

IF ASKED: HOW DID THE UXO GET THERE?

•Ammunition which has been fired, but has not gone off, is known as UXO.

•The area was previously used as a training area by Army (known as Little Forest Training Area) around 1966.

•If any member of the public should find a suspicious item, that may be a UXO, they should not touch or disturb it. They should contact the police who will arrange for military experts to attend and dispose of it.

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