



# Camp Varnum, Rhode Island

July 2018

## Background

DoD uses and manages operational ranges to support national security objectives and maintain the high state of operational readiness essential to its mission requirements. The Department conducts non-regulatory, proactive, and comprehensive operational range assessments (ORAs) to support the long-term sustainability of these ranges while protecting human health and the environment. The purpose of an ORA is to determine if there is a release or substantial threat of a release of munitions constituents from an operational range to an off-range area that exceeds an applicable regulatory standard or creates a potential unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

The Army ORA effort was developed to address DoD requirements detailed in DoD Directive 4715.11 (10 May 2004) and DoD Instruction 4715.14 (15 November 2018). The overall objective of the ORA is to assess operational ranges/range complexes to determine if an off-range MC release or substantial threat of an off-range MC release exists; if an off-range MC release exists, does it exceed an applicable regulatory reporting standard; and if an MC release or substantial threat of a release exists, determine whether it creates a potentially unacceptable risk to off-range human health or the environment.

## Range Overview

Camp Varnum is located approximately 1 mile east of Narragansett, Rhode Island.

Historically, Camp Varnum was used during World War II as a coastal defense center. In 1947, the RIARNG began leasing the property; the property was ultimately deeded to the RIARNG in 1958. The two operational range areas were used for maneuver training. According to installation personnel interviewed during the Phase I, the operational ranges at Camp Varnum have never been used (currently or

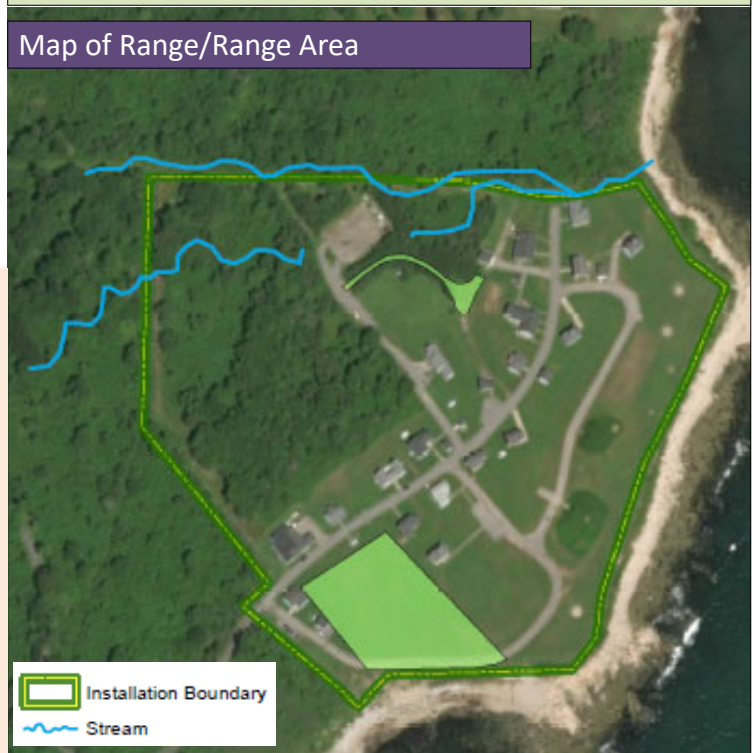
## Operational Range Assessment Findings (07/2018)

No sources of MC were identified at Camp Varnum. As such, MC are not migrating from the installation at concentrations that pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

## Next Steps

Camp Varnum should be placed into the Periodic Review cycle to be re-assessed in five years.

Map of Range/Range Area



Range overview continued (if necessary)

historically) for training using live-fire or non-live-fire military munitions.

Camp Varnum is currently included in the Planning Resource for Infrastructure Development and Evaluation (PRIDE) database under PRIDE Code 44A30. There are no current plans to acquire additional acreage for the installation. The only tenant on Camp Varnum is the 243rd Regional Training Institute. The current mission of Camp Varnum is to provide support facilities dedicated to individual soldier training, including Officer Candidate School, Non-commissioned Officer courses, and Military Occupational Specialty certification.

Camp Varnum is currently comprised of two operational range areas encompassing 2.2 acres and 26.14 acres of other than operational area. The operational areas consist of two maneuver training areas: 1) a 2.03-acre Parade Field; and 2) a 0.17-acre Combat Landing Strip Litter Course.

Previous Investigations

A Phase I Qualitative Assessment was conducted in 2008. Based on available expenditure data, no live-fire munitions have been used at the installation, and there was no source of MC. Based on a lack of MC, a source-pathway-receptor interaction was determined to be incomplete. Camp Varnum's 2 operational ranges were categorized as Unlikely and recommended to be placed into a Periodic Review cycle.

The installation underwent an ORA Periodic Review in 2016 to re-evaluate the findings of the previous assessment. The Periodic Review determined that no changes to the installation's sources, pathways, or receptors had occurred. As such, the 2 operational ranges were categorized as Unlikely and recommended to be placed into a Periodic Review cycle.

Periodic Review (2018)

In 2018, a Periodic Review was conducted at Camp

Varnum. Based on the completion of the CSM, it continues to be unlikely, because of the lack of a source, that there could be migration off-installation via surface water or groundwater to create an unacceptable risk to human health and/or the environment. No source is present on Camp Varnum due to the lack of current and historical military munitions use (both live- and non-live-fire) on the installation.

For more information on Camp Varnum, contact <https://ri.ng.mil/Contact-Us-FAQ/>  
For more information on the DoD Operational Range Assessment Program visit <https://www.denix.osd.mil/orap/home/>