



Captain (CPT) Euripides Rubio Junior (Jr.) U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC), Puerto Rico

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Background

The Department of Defense (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 (MC) 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. Army ORAs assess potential off-range migration of MC along surface water system and groundwater migration pathways.

Installation Overview

Captain (CPT) Euripides Rubio Junior (Jr.) U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) is 50.7-acre installation consisting of three operational ranges within the town of Puerto Nuevo in northeastern Puerto Rico. The installation is in a heavily populated area approximately 6 miles south of the city of San Juan.

Operational Range Assessment Findings (09/2020)

Based on updated data, no off-range MC release or substantial threat of an off-range MC release currently exists. The three operational ranges remain categorized as Unlikely.

Next Steps

CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC operational ranges should be included in the FY23-27 cycle of ORAs to satisfy re-assessment requirements.

Map of Range/Range Area



CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC has historically been utilized as a training area and is managed by the 81st Readiness Division (RD).

The three operational ranges on CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC consists of a driver's training area, parade grounds area, and an inactive Medevac training area. The ranges have been used for classroom training, vehicle driver training, and combat medical operations training. There has never been live-fire or non-live-fire munitions use for training on the installation.

Previous ORA Investigations

The Phase I for CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC was completed in 2008. The initial qualitative assessment consisted of collecting, evaluating and presenting available data to establish if there is an interaction between the on-range sources of MCOC and off-range receptors (source/receptor interaction).

During the Phase I assessment, the 1st Mission Support Command confirmed three operational ranges on CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC, which included:

- Driver's Training Area: 1.07-acre range located within the northern portion of the installation. The range consisted of a small parking lot and was utilized as a driving classroom area.
- Parade Grounds Area: 1.04-acre active training area located within the central portion of the installation.
- Inactive Medevac Training Area: 48.59-acre range located within the southern portion of the installation. The range was utilized for combat medical operations training.

According to the Phase I, training with live-fire and non-live-fire munitions never occurred on any of the ranges, and the ranges were found to have no known sources of MCOC from current or historical activities; therefore, the ranges were categorized as Unlikely and placed into a periodic review cycle.

The Periodic Review for CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. was completed in 2015. The purpose of the Periodic Review was to re-evaluate the 2008 Phase I and determine whether the sources, pathways and receptor evaluation completed during the initial assessment remained valid.

During the Periodic Review, it was determined that CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC had been transferred to the 81st RSC in October 2012. Additionally, it was confirmed there had been no ranges added or removed from the operational inventory, no changes to the three operational ranges, and no use of live-fire or non-live-fire munitions since the previous assessment. Therefore, there was still no source of MC and the Unlikely categorization of the three operational ranges remained valid.

ORA Basic Assessment (2020)

During the Basic Assessment, it was confirmed that there was still no munitions used on the three operational ranges at CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC. As no munitions are currently used or have historically been used on CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC, there is no source of MCOC and no potential risk to off-range human or ecological receptors. No changes to the Conceptual Site Model occurred as a result of data collection and evaluation during this assessment cycle. The three operational ranges at CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC remain categorized as Unlikely.

For more information on CPT Euripides Rubio Jr. USARC contact:

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For more information on the DoD Operational Range Assessment Program visit <https://www.denix.osd.mil/orap/home/>