



Mississippi Columbus AFB

Facility and Location

Columbus Air Force Base (AFB) is in northeastern Mississippi, in the northwest portion of Lowndes County. The base is located in a lightly urbanized area, ten miles north of Columbus. The base also owns 915 acres at an auxiliary airfield located 50 miles to the south in Shuqualak.

The base was activated in 1942 and trained more than 8,000 student pilots during World War II. It was inactive from 1946 to 1951 before reopening as a contract flying school. In 1955, the base became part of the Strategic Air Command and operated B-52 and KC-135 aircraft. In 1969, the base rejoined Air Training Command (now Air Education and Training Command), resuming its original mission of training pilots.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — In 2007, 12 samples reported no detection.

Soil — In 2007, six samples reported no detection.

Appropriate Actions

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.