

Corps awards three military clean up contracts

Three Anchorage contractors received contracts from the Army Corps of Engineers on September 30 to remove abandoned military debris from Amchitka and Atka, St. Lawrence Island and Whittier.

On Amchitka Island the contractor will remove 343 Quonset huts, 1,178 Pacific huts, 417 frame buildings, 3,300 barrels, 129 tanks, 400 wood poles and 37,000 cubic yards of wood and metal debris. Two hangars will be cleaned up and all asbestos in the buildings will be removed.

On Atka Island the contractor will remove 184 Quonset huts, 32 Pacific huts, 50 frame buildings, one dock, 100 wood poles, 1,700 barrels, 16 tanks and 500 cubic yards of wood and metal debris. Debris sites on both islands will be reseeded. The project will be completed on July 1, 1987.

On St. Lawrence Island the contractor will cleanup 42 old military sites at Northeast Cape and Gambell. The contractor will remove 55 gallon barrels, metal

landing mat, fuel storage tanks, collapsed Quonset huts, wood frame buildings, and equipment. Some debris to be removed has been buried or partially buried.

Materials to be removed include wood products; metals; concrete; petroleum products; oils and lubricants; asbestos-containing materials; chemical wastes such as corrosives, oxidizers, paints, solvents, and pesticides; electronics; sanitary wastes; electrical equipment, dielectric fluids, soils and other materials contaminated by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

Landowners on St. Lawrence Island are Sivuqaq, Inc. and Savoonga Native Corporation. The project will be completed in 700 days.

The Whittier project includes removing a concrete power plant building; a small concrete building used to heat ship fuel; a catwalk; dock pumphouse and sawmill debris; two wood shacks; an electrical transformer building; two wood shacks; an electrical transformer building; three concrete manholes; Billings Glacier debris; and a concrete block building on Shotgun Cove Road. Landowners include the City of Whittier, the State of Alaska, the Alaska Railroad and private owners. The project will be completed in one year.

The projects are part of the Defense Environmental Restoration Account (DERA) created by Congress in 1983.