

# THE • EAST HAMPTON INDEPENDENT

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**At Camp Hero:  
Bombs Away!**  
(See Page 3.)

**PROPERTY OF  
STATE OF NEW YORK**  
**AREA NOT OPENED  
TO PUBLIC**  
**NO** CAMPING  
PICNICKING  
HUNTING  
FIRES  
FOR INFORMATION CALL  
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LONG ISLAND STATE PARKS  
& RECREATION COMMISSION  
Independent / James J. Maston

The federal government has awarded a contract to search for and remove ordnance left over from when the Air Force base operated.

**Contaminated Soil Found At Senior-Citizen Housing Site. (Page 7.)**

**New Bistran  
Course Conflict**  
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**Jacob's Farm  
Deal Done**  
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**Bonac Bowling  
Strikes First**  
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Latest Mystery:

# Search For Camp Hero Explosives

By NANCY HYDEN WOODWARD

The Army Corps of Engineers has contracted to search and recover any possible explosives remaining somewhere under Camp Hero State Park. Prior to the project's start, the Corps will hold a public hearing at the Montauk Firehouse next Tuesday.

The show-and-tell evening is bound to elicit some questions that may not get answers that people want to accept. Those questions will have less to do with inspect weaponry or liquid chemicals in danger of exploding than with secret underground tunnels, radioactive chemicals, and other weird happenings that fall and fell under the alleged infamous "Montauk Project."

Just south of Montauk Light, Camp Hero served as a fire control and 37mm anti-aircraft artillery station during the coastal defense era. It also was used to practice firing of coastal defense guns and artillery. Its later use by Army anti-aircraft artillery units led to additional land and ocean coverage of 756,536 acres. Most of the acreage was an off-shore ordnance area; 44.88 acres were a near shore ordnance area. According to official records, the Air Force occupied the property and some 14 buildings in the 1950s and '60s, ceasing operations in 1969.

#### Safety Policies

The investigation by the Corps' Huntsville, Alabama Center of Expertise for Ordnance and Explosives includes determining the extent of residual explosives and, should any be found, how to remove them without harm to the community.

Last December, the Corps awarded a \$550,000 contract to Parsons Engineering Inc. to undertake the investi-

gation. A Parsons representative will attend the hearing. A spokesman for the Corps said that Parsons is well experienced in such work and will follow "strict safety policies and procedures."

Corps project manager Luz Span said that the empty, rotting wooden buildings left standing since 1969 were demolished last summer. The survey includes staking and color-flagging parts of the property to mark sampling points. Some brush around the sampling points will be removed to enable detection equipment. Span emphasized that property disturbance will be minimal. No conifer trees will be damaged and no three-inch or larger diameter trees will be cleared.

Span said that the federal government waited until now to investigate the land because of the cost and an emergency situation does not exist. She hopes work will be completed before the estimated December finish date.

The government deeded much of the former Montauk Air Force Station, alias Camp Hero, to the state for a park. However, the 1984 deed specifies that the government retains all rights to sub-surface land and, at any time, can reclaim the park land for security reasons. At present, a locked gate and "off-limits" warning signs keep the public out. But that has not stopped a few from trespassing and spreading the word that they were met by armed in-

dividuals who threatened them with arrest.

#### Secret Research?

Span said that the state has had "a lot of problems" with trespassers. She said that they vandalized some of the buildings and tear down fencing and gates as soon as they go up. Reams of gossip, rumors, legends, "undisputed fact," alleged true personal experiences, and what "doubting Thomases" would call plain hogwash keep the Camp Hero cauldron boiling.

Asked about rumors of multi-layered

# Camp Hero

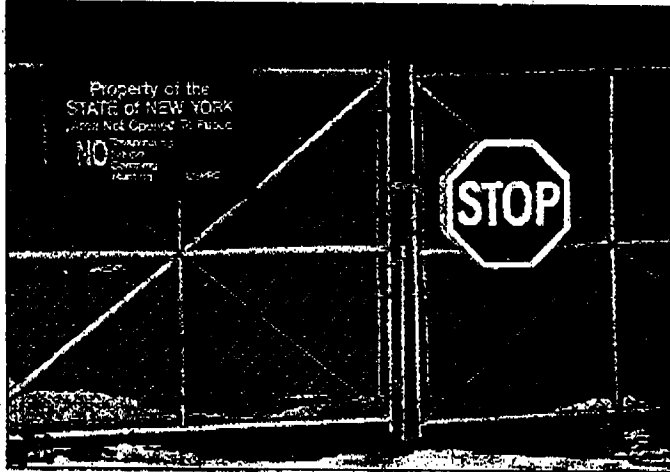
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tunnels — one of which is said to lead to the lighthouse — secret government research and experimentation (Phoenix Project) and other mind-boggling activity, Span replied. "If there was military activity there, the property would not qualify for our program, FUDS."

FUDS is the acronym for Formally Utilized Defense Site. Qualifying for FUDS does not mean that covert activity did not take place underground. Neither does it mean that the federal government did not fund it.

Span acknowledged the existence of several bunkers, now sealed, which she said were used in the 1940s. She said she has no knowledge of four tiers of tunnels that allegedly were augmented by three tiers in the 1990s. Montauk has plenty of bedrock through which to tunnel. It is on top of an undersea mountain.

If one is to believe one lota of what has been published on top-secret nefarious activities at Camp Hero, the subterranean passageways are still used for the 'Montauk Project.' The underground cavities may have been the sites for High Frequency Active Antral Research Program, beaming extremely powerful radio signals into tar-



Independent / James J. Mackin

geted regions of the ionosphere, and controlled warping of the time-space continuum (a la "Star Trek").

John A. Quinn is one of several who have written at length on the entire Montauk Project. He is convinced that some of the experiments had such devastating results and "almost inconceivably awesome potential consequences" that several people working on the project "conspired to sabotage the proceedings in August 1983."

Quinn claimed the stoppage was only temporary. He wrote that for at least five months of 1994, a "highly advanced" Cardion Corp. particle beam radar unit was seen to operate on the bluffs. Quinn further backs up his claims by citing the existence of an installed electric meter with gigawatt capability at one of the now-demolished buildings. He said that LILCO (now LIPA) workers told him that "a tremendous amount of electricity [was] utilized by this power and recorded by the meter."

East Hampton Town Supervisor Jay Schneiderman believes that covert activity may have taken place, but not in the last 25 years. He believes it was related to the radar station. "Do I think aliens are involved and time has been traveled?" he asked. "No."