



Greater Sandy Run Training Area

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C. officially opened the Greater Sandy Run Area (GSRA) in October 1998.

In 1992 the Atlantic Division's Real Estate Division began the process of purchasing 41,100 acres west of U.S. Highway 17 south of Jacksonville, N.C. for expansion of training areas. The acquisition included 166 privately-owned parcels. The majority of the property was acquired from International Paper Co. in a single parcel. The \$41 million purchase was the largest real estate acquisition undertaken by LantDiv since World War II.

Follow-on military construction (MILCON) projects, worth \$35 million, have developed firing and maneuver ranges for infantry, tanks and armored vehicles, roads, utilities, and support facilities. Additional MILCON projects are underway or planned for award. Until GSRA was developed, Marines had to travel to Army facilities at Fort Bragg and Fort Knox to get training.

"In the big picture, this means Camp Lejeune is complete," said Maj. Gen. Ray Smith, Commanding General. "For the first time since shortly after the Korean War, we don't have to send any of our Marines away from here to do their fundamental required training."