

Collection #  
P0110

## NEWPORT ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT COLOR PHOTOGRAPHS, 1977

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Processed by

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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 folder of color photographs

COLLECTION DATES: 1977

PROVENANCE: unknown

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT: Publication or commercial use of this photograph requires release by a U.S. Army information officer. Credit "U.S. Army Photograph."

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1995.0823X

NOTES:

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The **Newport Chemical Depot**, formerly known as the **Wabash River Ordnance Works** and the **Newport Army Ammunition Plant**, was a bulk chemical storage and destruction facility located thirty miles north of Terre Haute near the Wabash River in Vermillion County, Indiana. The facility was founded during World War II and operated by the United States Army as a production site for RDX, TNT, and heavy water. By the 1960s it was the entire production site for VX in the United States.

The plant was mothballed after World War II but the RDX production was reactivated for the Korean War in 1951. During the 1950s, it produced heavy water for the U.S. nuclear weapons program. In 1959, the Army built a VX facility at the site known as the Newport Army Chemical Plant. In 1964, the Wabash River Ordnance Works and the Newport Army Chemical Plant were combined and renamed the Newport Army Ammunition Plant. When the U.S. chemical weapon program was halted the sole purpose of the facility was the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons stored there. The site was officially closed in January 2010.

The Wabash Valley Interstate Commission is authorized by a compact formed between Illinois and Indiana to promote and coordinate the planning for conservation and development of water, land, and related natural resources in the Wabash River Valley.

Sources:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newport\\_Army\\_Ammunition\\_Plant](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newport_Army_Ammunition_Plant)

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/lru/descriptions.pdf>

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains 30 color photographs showing the installations and grounds at the Newport Army Ammunition plant at Newport in Vermillion, County Indiana. A note found with the photographs indicated that the photographs may have come from the Wabash Valley Interstate Commission. It is assumed the photographs were used by the commission when studying the environmental hazards of the plant to the Wabash River valley during the 1970s.

The photographs are stamped on the verso with the following: **Publication or commercial use of this photograph requires release by a U.S. Army information officer. Credit "U.S. Army Photograph."** On the verso of each photo is a handwritten Identification number. The photographs are also stamped with the dates February and March 1977. Descriptions of the images in square brackets [ ] were provided by the processors.

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### CONTENTS

NAAP2.1446.1 / AMC.73

[Aerial view of production facilities] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.1 / DRC-77

[Tower by the river] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.2 / DRC-77

[Processing building, tower and exterior pipes] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.3 / DRC-77

[Processing buildings, tower and exterior pipes] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.4 / DRC-77

[Newport Army Ammunition Plant sign] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.5 / DRC-77

[Bunker entrance and earth mound around sides] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.6 / DRC-77

[Interior of production facility] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.7 / DRC-77

[Interior of production facility-lathe] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.8 / DRC-77

[Interior of production facility-electric saws] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.9 / DRC-77

[Administrative and storage buildings exteriors] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.10 / DRC-77

[Processing building, tower and exterior pipes] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.11 / DRC-77

[Garages, storage and production buildings] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.12 / DRC-77

[Interior of production facility] (2 copies)

NAAP3.U0103.13 / DRC-77

[Main administration building and parking lot] (2 copies)

### CONTAINER

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NAAP3.U0103.14 / DRC-77  
[Bunkers and surrounding field] (2 copies)

Color Photographs:  
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NAAP3.U0103.15 / DRC-77  
[Storage tanks and pipes] (2 copies)

Color Photographs:  
Folder 1

## CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:  
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, P0110).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.