



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER  
AND FORT POLK  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



***Press Release***

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**Hunters asked to keep an eye out for Space Shuttle Columbia debris.**

Fort Polk, La.--- As the hunting season gets underway, hikers, hunters and anyone using Fort Polk land are asked to keep a look out for suspected Space Shuttle debris. Craters caused by the impact of shuttle debris are similar to those from mortar or field artillery rounds. Some craters associated with the shuttle have been as wide as 14 feet in diameter.

Due to the magnitude of the search area, collection of shuttle debris has been on going since the February 1, 2003 accident. In order to assist NASA in its recovery, all personal utilizing training areas on Fort Polk will notify proper authorities and mark and record any suspected space shuttle debris or craters.

If suspected debris is found, please take the following actions:

- Do not pick up or touch debris.
- Mark the object or area.
- Record the grid coordinates or be prepared to guide the Military Police to the object.
- Call the Fort Polk Command Information Center at (337) 531-4916.

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