

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

BUDGET

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENT AND
PUBLIC WORKS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 26, 2007

Brigadier General Todd T. Semonite, Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers North Atlantic Division
302 General Lee Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11252

Dear Brigadier General Semonite:

We contact you today regarding the unexploded munitions on the beaches of Surf City, New Jersey. This is a serious situation that requires immediate action by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has taken the position that these munitions appear to be a result of the beach replenishment project being conducted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Accordingly, the Army Corps should not delay in taking action to remedy this potentially dangerous situation.

The federal government must ensure that United States military munitions discovered on our shores are removed and disposed of properly and immediately. This responsibility includes the safe removal and disposal of these munitions, and the costs thereof, as well as a full sweep of the project area to ensure that all buried United States military ordnance and munitions have been found and disposed of properly.

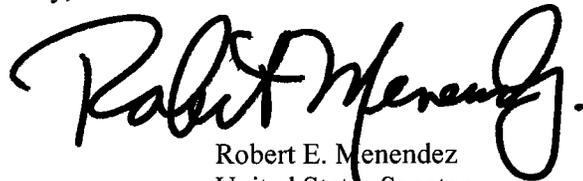
Furthermore, we are very concerned about recent reports suggesting that the Army Corps may not be able to complete this process prior to the Memorial Day weekend. The Army Corps first learned of the ordnance at Surf City two weeks ago. We believe that the Corps can and must take whatever steps necessary to ensure that the beach at Surf City is clear and safe before the start of the summer season on May 25, 2007. Any economic disruption during this critical time of year could have disastrous consequences for local businesses and the surrounding community. We urge you to devote whatever resources necessary to remedy conditions at Surf City as quickly as possible.

As we move forward with the needed beach nourishment on the rest of Long Beach Island, we look forward to working with the Army Corps to ensure that our New Jersey coastline remains safe and enjoyable for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Frank R. Lautenberg
United States Senator



Robert E. Menendez
United States Senator

CC: Honorable Governor Jon Corzine, State of New Jersey
Lisa Jackson, Commissioner, NJ State Department of Environmental Protection
Lt. Colonel Baker, US Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District