



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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USACE dredges up cannonballs in Texas City Ship Channel

TEXAS CITY, Texas (Jan. 18, 2011) – Contractors working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, discovered four cannonballs in the Texas City Ship Channel while performing dredging operations Monday.

The cannonballs were removed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to be turned over to the U.S. Navy. Members of the U.S. Coast Guard's Marine Safety Unit Texas City assisted in the investigation.

On Nov. 22, 2009, a 10,000-pound Dahlgren cannon was brought to the surface from the Texas City Channel by the Corps. The cannon was part of the USS Westfield, a Civil War-era gunboat blown up by its crew during the Battle of Galveston in 1863.

Dredging efforts are part of a \$71 million deepening project that will deepen nearly seven miles of the Texas City Ship channel from 40 feet to 45 feet. Larger vessels will be able to navigate the channel to provide products to the various industries as a result of this project.

For more information about the Galveston District, visit www.swg.usace.army.mil. Find us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/GalvestonDistrict, or follow us on Twitter, www.twitter.com/USACEgalveston.

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