

## Pentagon Issues Statement On DoD Laboratory Review Update

As part of a Department of Defense (DoD) training and proficiency-testing program developed to protect DoD personnel and the Japanese people against threats posed by biological agents, a sample of presumably inactivated *Bacillus anthracis* was sent to Camp Zama in 2005. The sample was shipped from Dugway Proving Ground, a U.S. Army facility in Utah. An ongoing Department investigation has determined that some samples shipped from Dugway Proving Ground to facilities within the United States and abroad contained low levels of live *Bacillus anthracis*.

It is impossible to determine whether the sample sent to Camp Zama contained live *Bacillus anthracis*, as it was destroyed in 2009. An inventory of the Camp Zama laboratory conducted in June 2015 verified that there were no remaining proficiency samples. There were no cases of infection related to the 2005 sample, and there is no health risk to the laboratory personnel or the general public in Japan, as it was properly transported and stored prior to destruction.