

# **Report the discovery of a bomb / eliminate explosive ordnance**

Even decades after the end of the Second World War, many explosive ordnance and found ammunition are still lying undiscovered underground. Weather influences, chemical decomposition, corrosion or deformations due to an impact increase the sensitivity and thus the danger of found ammunition / explosive ordnance considerably.

## **Competent Department**

- [Polizei Bremen](#)

## **Basic information**

If a private person, company or official institution wishes to carry out construction work on the property, there is an obligation to apply for an inspection of the property. Military explosives can remain effective almost indefinitely. In addition, security elements may have been rendered ineffective by firing or dropping them. A change of position, mechanical action or even the picking up of a warfare agent can trigger a detonation. There is therefore danger to life when handling explosive ordnance / found ammunition.

## **Requirements**

- Application for the inspection of the land
- Ensuring the explosive ordnance disposal service within the scope of its possibilities that safe work can be carried out in the civil engineering segment during construction projects
- In areas classified as suspected contaminated sites, where interventions in the subsoil (this can also be the case with demolitions!) are to be carried out or where backfilling or sealing of areas is planned, there is an obligation to have these areas examined. Only the police are responsible for this classification of "suspected areas".

These inquiries are legally binding.

## **Procedure**

### **Legal bases**

- [Gesetz zur Verhütung von Schäden durch Kampfmittel](#)

## **More information**

Fines of up to € 20,000 are foreseen for disregarding the law.

## **How long does it take to process**

6 weeks The processing of an application usually takes 4 to 6 weeks

## **What are the costs?**

If, for example, a grenade is accidentally found in the garden of a plot of land, it will be removed free of charge for the landowner. This also includes the destruction of the explosive ordnance (so-called accidental finds).

If, for the construction of a single-family dwelling, a site is searched by a general contracting firm and a unexploded bomb is discovered and recovered, the work to uncover the unexploded bomb is chargeable to the owner.

The costs for defusing, if necessary for detonation, as well as for the destruction and removal of the explosive ordnance are borne by the state of Bremen. These measures are part of the state's hazard prevention duties.

## **Frequently asked Questions**

### **• What are explosive ordnance?**

- Bodies containing a powder, primer or explosive charge,
- Bodies containing a propelling, detonating, incendiary, smoke, illuminating, signaling, or light-tracking charge,
- Projectiles terminated or discharged from small arms, launchers, guns, slides, terminating or dropping devices,
- Ignition devices designed to detonate explosive, propelling, and expelling charges or fragmentation charges,
- Proof ammunition, practice ammunition and drill ammunition of any kind,
- Fragments and substantial parts of the aforementioned bodies and projectiles or of their contents,
- Military objects intended for warfare and which have become uncustodial.