

For Immediate Release: *June 16, 2009* □

Washington DC - Congressman Duncan Hunter announced today that he will be offering an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2010 Defense Authorization Act that attempts to restart recreational shooting activities at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar. The gun range at MCAS Miramar, previously operated by the San Diego Shotgun Sports Association, was closed last year when lead shot was discovered beyond range boundaries.

The Hunter amendment specifically encourages the Marine Corps to expedite its Preliminary Assessment and Site Investigation and also submit a report to Congress that includes a plan and timeline to reopen the range.

"For more than fifty years, San Diego families have enjoyed recreational shooting and received quality firearm instruction at the Miramar Gun Range," said Congressman Hunter. "Indefinitely closing the range would deny these families and our Marines one of the few locations available for trap and skeet shooting, as well as recreational marksmanship. I look forward to working with the Marine Corps to ensure the continuation of a shooting range at Miramar that accommodates anyone interested in these activities."

During its operation, the Miramar Gun Range provided free recreational shooting to Marines and their families. It also was the only Olympic training venue in the region and a favorite spot for local, state and federal law enforcement to augment their training.

The House Armed Services Committee is currently considering the Fiscal Year 2010 Defense Authorization Act, legislation that authorizes programs and funding for the Department of Defense for the upcoming fiscal year. Upon its approval by the House, the legislation will be referred to the Senate for consideration.