

# NZDF detonates bomb found in regional park by Paraparaumu schoolchildren

NEWS

NATIONAL

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*Children found the World War II-era artillery round during the school holidays (Image / Supplied)*

An historic bomb has been detonated by police in Paraparaumu.

Children found the World War II-era artillery round during the school holidays three weeks ago in the Belmont Regional Park.

A police spokesperson says the children then brought it to their grandparents' house, and after googling the item they thought it was safe to keep it.

"They thought it was safe to keep and clean it up to take to school for show and tell," Constable Rob Eastham said.

An adult saw the children playing with the undetonated round and alerted police this morning.

Police put a cordon in place around the property today and evacuated three nearby houses as a precaution.

The Defence Force disposal unit blew up the projectile in a controlled explosion at Winstone Quarry. They placed the item under approximately a metre of gravel in a safe part of the quarry and detonated it by remote from 300 metres away.

A quarry employee says the bang was disappointingly quiet.

Eastham said it was a reminder that anyone who finds such an item should contact police straight away and avoid touching it.

# Bomb squad called to historic military bunkers

TALIA SHADWELL

September 18, 2014 • 12:48pm

The bomb squad has been called out to Lower Hutt after members of the public reported they had found old military devices at historic bunkers.

The army's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Squadron has been called to the World War II bunkers in Belmont Regional Park, Lower Hutt.

Police say the person who reported the finding described two historic “ordnances” at the site - a term which usually describes military arsenal such as weapons or ammunition.

Judging from their original call to police the people who called in their find believed the items may be old mortar rounds, Inspector Dave Rose said.

He said the bomb disposal experts had been called out to assess and remove the items.