

This is an official
CDC HEALTH ADVISORY

Distributed via Health Alert Network
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Possible Anthrax Incident at Fort McPherson Army Base, Atlanta, Georgia

On February 22, 2002, at 5:30 PM EST, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was notified of a possible anthrax incident at Fort McPherson Army Base, Atlanta, Georgia. HAZMAT responded and reported the presence of a package containing a white powder. Initial field tests (Guardian BTA Strips) were positive for *Bacillus anthracis*. Law enforcement transported the sample to CDC's laboratory facilities in Atlanta for further testing.

Preliminary CDC laboratory results are as follows:

- PCR: Negative
- Culture: No growth at 12 hours

Definitive results are pending culture status at 24 hours (approximately 09:30 PM EST, February 23, 2002). When these results are available, another Health Alert message will be issued.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protects people's health and safety by preventing and controlling diseases and injuries; enhances health decisions by providing credible information on critical health issues; and promotes healthy living through strong partnerships with local, national and international organizations.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES