



Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

Thursday, March 4, 1982

Vol. 47, No. 9

Quick response prevents oil spill damage



Dan Moore, crane operator, digs a hole near the spill so a DPMC maintenance crew can mend the ruptured oil line.

Tommy Tomlinson left the Tank Farm Control House about 10 p.m. on Feb. 4, an hour or so before he would end his shift. He headed for the Dock pump house to close a valve. On his way back, he came over a rise in the road, and skidded to a stop in "a river of oil."

Within 15 minutes, a 2,000 barrel oil leak would be controlled, and emergency response teams would begin the clean-up. Thanks to a little luck, and Tomlinson's quick reactions once he discovered the leak, the effects of the oil spill were lessened.

When he found the leak, Tomlinson called Bill Oakes, the oncoming shift foreman, who in turn notified Complex Security. "By discovering this leak so early," he said, "we minimized the impact of the spill."

The oil ran into a drainage ditch that flowed into a dam, a runoff system designed for accidents just like this. The oil was trapped at the dam, and only eight to 10 barrels escaped into the large drainage ditch inside the Complex. Spill booms quickly caught this leakage.

Murl Milburn, a senior process engineer in Dispatching Operations, said the drainage dam worked like a charm in its first test. "The oil flowed down the ditch and was caught at the dam, where it was held until we could get it out. That's the beauty of the dam," he said.

To prevent a backwash of oil in the drainage ditch, valves up the line were closed by hand. Earl Malkie, a Tank Farm gauger, helped isolate the spill by closing the fire wall drains to the ditch which would keep the water level in the dam low.

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The drainage dam, located near the Tank Farm, contained nearly all the oil from the 2,000 barrel spill, working perfectly the first time it was needed.

"Take Stock" in March with U.S. Savings Bonds

The annual U.S. Savings Bond Campaign for all Shell employees began March 1 and will continue through the end of the month. This is your opportunity to "Take Stock in America" by purchasing Savings Bonds through the Shell Payroll Deduction Plan.

The U.S. Treasury Department states that the Series EE Bond is an appreciation-type security that has a maturity of eight years. Its purchase price is 50 percent of its face value; for example, a \$100 bond costs \$50. Denominations available include \$50, \$75, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000.

Savings Bonds are guaranteed by the U.S. Government as to principal and interest. If lost, stolen, mutilated or destroyed, they will be replaced without charge upon application — and they will bear the original issue dates.

Savings Bonds are an ideal way to provide for your child's education in the future. By placing the child's name on the bond, and naming the parents beneficiaries, a possible tax-free college fund will grow with your child. Bonds can also be used as a retirement supplement. By exchanging Series EE Bonds for Series HH Bonds, which pay interest

semi-annually, you can keep deferring the interest so no taxes are due until later, when you might find yourself in a lower tax bracket following retirement.

Furthermore, the Payroll Savings Plan allows bonds to be purchased through regular payroll deductions. Bonds purchased through the plan will be mailed directly to the employee.

Best of all, U.S. Savings Bonds provide you an easy and convenient way to save. By joining the March campaign, you can add to your future security and the strength of the nation. For more information, call extension 6648.

Classifieds

FOR SALE

1972 Ford LTD Brougham. Air conditioning, power steering, power brakes. Good work car. \$895. Call 476-4542.

1980 Pontiac Trans Am. T-top, blue with blue velour interior. 301 Turbo — loaded. 8,300 miles. \$8,500 or best offer. Call 479-0452.

1975 Pinto Hatchback. Four speed, air conditioning, other extras. Excellent condition. 44,000 miles. \$1,800. Call 444-7281.

1926 Model-T. Two-door. 1929 Model A Sport Coupe. 1929 Buick. Four-door. Call 692-1698.

1977 Datsun B210 two-door Sedan. Air conditioning, tinted glass, stereo cassette. Four speed, radial tires. 41,000 actual miles. Fresh tune-up. Sell for \$300 below book value. \$2,750. Call 479-9809.

1980 Chevrolet Monte Carlo Sports Coupe. Excellent condition. \$6,395. Call 480-2212 after 6 p.m.

1973 Olds 98. 69,000 actual miles. As is, where is — in my driveway. \$400 or best offer. Call 455-0805.

1981 Toyota Long-Bed Truck. Four speed, 9,000 miles. Whirlpool Harvest Gold electric cooktop. Black and white cabinet TV set. Living room furniture. Call 470-1425.

1979 Chevy Luv Truck. AM-FM cassette. Air conditioning, four speed. 16,000 miles. Perfect condition. \$4,995. Call 479-0233.

1980 Honda XL 185S. Like new. Call 428-1820.

1977 Honda 750 Automatic. 6,000 miles. Plexi-fairing, luggage rack, crash bar. Like new. \$1,500 or best offer. Call 643-7563 after 3 p.m.

1975 Honda 750 cc. \$700. Call 487-7059.

1969 Ford Tractor. Low HRS, good condition. Must sell \$4,600. Call 489-7708.

"Budge" Car Cover. Water repellent, mildew resistant. Canvas-type material, elastic edges with grommet holes at front and sides for tie-down, two tie-down cords. Approximately three months old. Fits cars approximately 17 feet long. \$65. Call 422-9604.

House in Nassau Bay. Four bedrooms, two and one-half bathrooms. Call 333-3439.

House for sale. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, two-car garage. Large den with fireplace, wood fence. Four years old. Call 479-3212 after 5 p.m.

House in Pasadena. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, one-car garage. Lot is 160 feet long, 60 feet wide front, 80 feet wide back. Equity and assume 9½ percent interest loan of \$345 per month, including insurance and taxes. Call 473-5694.

Two acres in Lomax. Two barns on the land. \$31,000. Call 472-0458 or 472-5970.

Property in downtown New Braunfels. Includes garage and filling station, used cars. \$85,000. Call 512-625-6663.

Fargo fiberglass camper top. Long wheel base, sliding front window. Blue. \$250. Call 477-1948.

Wall and attic insulation. Call 476-4934.

Solid Walnut Executive Desk. 72 inches by 36 inches. Excellent condition. Must sell. Call 280-9725.

Dog House for medium-size dog. Excellent shape. \$25. Call 996-0551.

25 inch Color TV. Perfect condition. Must sell. \$450. Call 476-4542.

Gibson ES335TD Electric guitar. Cherry mahogany finish. Beautiful condition. \$450. Call 477-0328.

WANTED

Babysitter wanted for part-time nights

in Clear Lake area. Call Debbie at 480-7411 after 4:30 p.m.

PERSONALS

H. R. Hallie Pyle, special tester in the Refinery Lab retired Feb. 1, 1982. If you are interested in contributing toward a gift for her, please call Pat Denman, Refinery Lab, at extension 6808.

Oil spill . . .

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Once the oil was controlled at the dam, vacuum trucks skimmed it from the ditch. By dawn, 80 percent of the oil had been cleaned up. Throughout the day, the sides of the ditch were hosed down to rinse the oil from the soil, which was scooped from the ditch.

Alan Reidland, an environmental supervisor, rushed to the Tank Farm when he received word of the spill. "I think everybody involved did a remarkable job," said Reidland, who has 30 years of experience at the Complex.

Reidland spent the night helping with the clean-up, and overseeing the work of the vacuum trucks. Although it went smoothly, the situation could have been very different. "If Tomlinson hadn't found the spill when he did, I doubt seriously it would have been discovered for another hour. There's no telling how much oil would have been lost."

The spill occurred when a 10-inch line four feet underground ruptured, and the oil bubbled to the surface. The oil was being recirculated through DU-1, which was starting up its operations. Fortunately, the unit was "cold," allowing a quick shutdown. If DU-1 had been operating at full steam, it would have taken much longer to shut down, and more oil would have escaped.



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Published weekly by Shell's Deer Park Manufacturing Complex for its employees and pensioners. All inquiries should be addressed to Shellegram, Shell Oil Company, P. O. 100, Deer Park, Texas 77536.

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