

## Explosions, Fires Rack Dock Area

There was an explosion and then a large, mushroom cloud arose over part of the DPMC reported an eyewitness just minutes after the occurrence of the September 1 incident, which left two dead, one missing and 12 injured. According to another eyewitness, the initial explosion occurred aboard the Chevron Hawaii after it was struck by lightning at about 2:15 p.m. Saturday. At about the same time, there was another explosion and fire in a nearby storage tank containing some 30,000 barrels of ethyl alcohol. The fire subsequently spread to dock No. 1, the acid dock and to four nearby barges.

Immediately after the explosions, the fire alarm sounded and complex fire crew members promptly moved to the scene and deployed cooling water streams on tankage in the vicinity of the burning tank. Alert I was activated by the refinery main gate to notify Safety personnel of the emergency. The refinery supervisor on duty, Bill Grove, assessed the magnitude of the situation and then had Alerts II and III activated and put the Channel Industries Mutual Aid (CIMA) on standby.

A field command post was established to coordinate fire control and suppression activity. CIMA units began arriving around four o'clock and were dispatched from a control center under the direction of Dick Frutiger, superintendent, Safety and Industrial Hygiene. Once CIMA units arrived at the scene, they provided fire control support as directed by refinery fire chief Jim Repp.

In addition to the CIMA units who responded, volunteer firemen from Deer Park, Galena Park and Clover Leaf arrived and offered their assistance, as did members of several other fire fighting groups.

Employees going off work at shift change reported to the scene and offered their help. And, employees at home, who heard about the emergency on the news, came out to assist. Mike Anderson, manager, Safety-Refinery, reports that some 350 employees, CIMA mem-

bers and volunteers assisted in fighting the giant ship, tank and dock fires. Yet, no one was injured after the initial explosion and fire aboard the Chevron Hawaii.

Equipment damage was minimized and the extensive fire involvement was brought under control and extinguished in a professional manner and in a relatively short period of time noted Mike. He then went on to state that the overall effort was an outstanding demonstration of our own employees' willingness and ability to respond to an

emergency and the cooperative spirit of the community through CIMA and area volunteer fire departments.

Dick Frutiger agrees completely. He feels the response was fantastic. "It's difficult to see how it could have been handled any better." He credits the overall coordination of our employees, CIMA and the area volunteer fire departments for this response, stating that he had nothing but praise for all of them. "Everyone maintained their cool and delivered assistance in an efficient and effective manner."



Safety inspectors Geary Hancock, Hank Craddock, Van T. Little and Chuck Vasek were four of the six DPMC safety inspectors to complete three days of first aid training. The other two were Larry Riley and Albert Rodriguez.

## Safety Inspectors Trained

Six DPMC safety inspectors spent 32 hours over a three-day period studying cardiopulmonary resuscitation modular (CPRM), multimedia standard first aid, vital signs and basic first aid. The course, held at the University of Houston, was conducted by the American Red Cross.

Those receiving an instructor's certi-

ficate for having successfully completed the 32 hours of instruction were: Hank Craddock, Geary Hancock, Van T. Little, Larry Riley, Albert Rodriguez and Chuck Vasek of the DPMC and H. M. "Hubie" Miller, Head Office staff safety representative; Diane Wilson, Anacortes nurse; and Gene Taylor, Ciniza safety inspector.

# Masked Bandits Close Eyes To Loss

Several Masked Bandits, members of DPMC's losing beepball team, pose in the bright red T-shirts worn in their game against the Lighthouse for the Blind's Bayou Bombers. Lined up behind Paul Davis are Pete Garner, Melba Hall, Paula Littles, Linda Jenkins and Chester Guidry. The star of the game was left-handed Larry Riley, who turned his back to the pitcher and faced the catcher after being placed on the batter's spot.

Beepball is game played without the use of one's eyes when batting or running. This particular game was played in conjunction with the DPMC's United Way campaign.



# Hurricanes Do Hurt

Although Hurricane Bob was considered mild-mannered, tiptoeing his way through the Gulf of Mexico, he still deferred Shell Oil Company's production of half a million barrels of liquids, along with 2.3 billion cubic feet of gas, and caused \$2.2 million of storm-related expenses.

Had he been a much more determined hurricane, like Camille in 1969, the cost would have been much greater.

Whether a hurricane is a horror or simply a rambunctious tropical depression, it costs Shell, and the rest of the petroleum industry, time and money.

Great care is taken in the design, construction and installation of offshore platforms. Every platform in the Gulf is designed as a separate structure. Wave conditions, water depth and soil conditions in the specific location where the platform is to be located are taken into consideration when the platform is designed. Every platform is, therefore, tailor-made for its location.

Besides investing in platform de-

signs, which are certified by a registered professional engineer, oil companies have hurricane contingency plans. While not all companies have the same plan, Shell's five-phased hurricane procedure is typical.

Phase I, or Preparation, covers actions taken prior to June 1 of each year to prepare for the hurricane season. In Phase I, a critical inspection of life-saving equipment is made and all operating equipment is reinspected. Communications and hurricane contingency plans are reviewed and updated annually.

Phase II, or Warning Time, goes into effect when a hurricane enters the Gulf of Mexico. Phase II is primarily a monitoring of the hurricane and alerting possibly affected locations.

Phase III, or Hurricane Alert, goes into effect when a hurricane approaches within 72 hours of a particular offshore operation. Under Phase III, an around-the-clock radio watch is begun by possibly affected locations. Special

weather advisories are relayed directly to field supervisors.

Phase IV, or Secure and Evacuate, goes into effect not later than 12 hours before the hurricane is scheduled to pass the location. By this time, non-essential personnel would have been removed from the platform. Therefore, by the time a hurricane gets to a platform, it will have been evacuated for about 12 hours. The primary reason for this is not concern for platform safety, but the inability to get personnel to shore after a hurricane hits.

Phase V, or Return to Work, begins as soon as possible after the hurricane has passed.

By the time Shell platforms are evacuated and a storm reaches the platform, everything will have been secured, all oil and gas wells will have been shut-in, and pressure bled off equipment such as tanks, separators, etc. Even if a hurricane should damage, or even destroy the platform, no oil or gas would flow to the surface because sub-surface safety valves, some 500 to 3,000 feet below the ocean floor, will have been activated to keep oil and gas from rising.

How effective have special designs and procedures been?

No lives have been lost as a result of platform failure during a hurricane. According to the National Science Foundation's review of the offshore oil industry. "The great success to date of fixed platforms in withstanding hurricane-generated wave forces and ocean currents, attests to the reliability of the past and present design criteria and the adequacy of the data on which they are based."

## Service Anniv.



30 Years  
F. H. Trathen  
Maint. South



25 Years  
E. C. Savell  
Inspection



25 Years  
L. H. Trammell  
Utilities North

# United Way Kick-off Meetings Set

In a joint effort, the company and Local 4-387 OCAW will conduct the DPMC's annual United Way campaign. This year's drive will be kicked off Monday, September 10, with several meetings designed and scheduled throughout the day so that each employee will have an opportunity to obtain first-hand information about the United Way programs.

Chemical's kick-off meetings will featured the film, **People Helping People**, and one or more of the following guest speakers: the mayor of Deer Park, Katrina Packard of the Bay Area Committee on Drug Abuse, Sergeant Davis of the Deer Park Police Department Crime Prevention Unit, Billy Holcomb of the First Pasadena State Bank, Dr. Alan Gugenheim of the Center for the Retarded, a representative from the Child Abuse Center, the president of the Fire Fighters Association and Mr. Whitcomb of the Houston United Way office.

Tomorrow, September 7, a Houston area Red Cross representative, Renee Cottingham, will be in the chemical cafeteria from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and in the chemical main shops from 12:40 p.m. to 1:10 p.m. to answer any questions employees may have in reference to Red Cross policies and procedures.

The refinery's kick-off meetings also will featured **People Helping People** and **Beepball Highlights**, along with a

speaker from one of the following organizations: School for the Deaf, Salvation Army, Lighthouse for the Blind, Sickle Cell Association and the Center for the Retarded.

Check with your supervisor for the time and location of the meeting for your area.

Co-chairmen for the chemical UW drive are Mike Collins and Hugh Jenkins. Assistant co-chairmen are Smokey Mather and Rod Walsh.

Co-chairmen for the refinery are Paul Davis and Irv Skaar. Assistant co-chairmen are Linda Jenkins and Ted Queener.



Committee members of the chemical plant's United Way drive include: (front row) Ed Bealle, Dolores Miller, Doug Johnson, Sharon Brown, Don Mather and L. Q. Black, Jr.; (middle row) Carolyn Fyler, Ynes Castenada, Martina Martinez, Mike Martin, Sherri Hartley and Cindy Hodge; (top row) Hugh Jenkins, Sandy Womack, Berry Scott, Jim Newlin, Mike Collins, Wilbur Peques and Rod Walsh. Members not present for the photograph were: Karl Hansen, George Johnson, Ken Lominac, John Schubert, Dawn Buckles and W. Siewert.



**People Helping People  
The United Way**



Committee members of the refinery's United Way drive include: (kneeling) Paula Littles, Dave Boatman, Linda Jenkins, Paul Davis, Billy Parnell, Troy Finch and John Carlson; (standing) Pete Garner, Bill Polson, Jack Mitchell, Joe Hernandez, Irv Skaar, Charlotte Rice, Roy Whitley, Mike Ashen, Dale Cooper and Jack Miller.

## Retiree Dies



Retired Thermal Cracking operations foreman R. L. "Bob" Hardin, 74, died August 28.

At the time of Bob's retirement in September 1970, he had 40½ years of company service.

He is survived by his wife, Imogene, who resides at 7430 Erath in Houston.

# Classifieds

## FOR SALE

Gold King Cleveland trombone, F attachment, excellent condition, case included. 424-1086

Whirlpool dishwasher, avocado, excellent condition. \$120. 475-8254

1974 Gremlin, 6 cyl., excellent condition, bucket seats, X-package, new wide oval tires, air, auto, radio, tinted glass, P-S, 56,000 miles, original owner. \$1,495. 497-6934

1972 Chevy pickup, 6 cyl., std., cabover camper that sleeps 3. \$1,700. 479-9854

Aluminum camper cover for SWB pickups, jalousie windows, good condition. \$65. 472-5446

1972 Winnibago, 24', loaded, new tires, 4 KW gen., sleeps 6, rear bath, 54,000 miles. 455-3726

1975 Monte Carlo, 50,000 miles, Landau vinyl top, AM-FM, Rally wheels, P-S-B, air, good tires, excellent condition. \$2,850. 479-8391

2-1-1 home in Deer Park near Shell. \$12,000 equity and assumption of \$16,000 balance with CU or \$29,000 on a new loan. 476-4280

## FOR RENT

3-1-1, backyard fenced, quiet street, Pasadena School District. \$340 per month. First and last months' rent plus \$100 deposit. 473-1137

3-1½-1, large fenced backyard, big trees, good neighborhood, Pasadena School District. \$380 per month. First and last months' rent plus \$100 deposit. 473-1137

## PERSONAL

I would like to thank my friends for the party, gifts and especially for your fellowship and best wishes upon my retirement.

- C. L. Ivy

# Gasoline Book Available

Today, everyone wants to know more about gasoline. Rising prices, shortages, the variety of motor fuels and energy conservation goals are making motorists increasingly gasoline conscious.

The Gasoline Book, the latest in the "Come to Shell for Answers" series of consumer information booklets, answers these questions and many others. The book goes on to discuss the differences between leaded and unleaded gasolines, how motorists may choose the best gasoline for their need and what factors affect gasoline prices.

Unleaded gasoline is made with more expensive, high-quality components than leaded regular gasolines and thus costs more to make. These unleaded are designed for use in cars equipped with catalytic converters to reduce exhaust emissions. It is unlawful to pump

gasoline with lead into these cars. Motorists may choose from premium and regular unleaded grades, according to Shell gasoline expert John Bame, author of *The Gasoline Book*. He points out that about 70 percent of the cars requiring unleaded will run satisfactorily on regular unleaded fuel.

Explaining the effect of octane ratings on gasoline performance and the cost a motorist pays for using higher octane, Bame says that if a driver finds his car runs well using a lower-octane, lower-cost grade of gasoline, that's the right gasoline for his motoring needs.

More than 32 million copies of the new booklet are available, chiefly through national magazines and participating Shell service stations. Copies may also be obtained by writing Answer Books, Shell Oil Company, P. O. Box 2463, Room 1535-D, Houston, Texas 77001.

## Rules For Submitting Ads

Readers are reminded of the rules for submitting ads for free publication in the *Shellegram*.

—Ads are published for complex employees, pensioners and families only. Advertiser must be owner and not agent or dealer.

—All ads must be submitted in writing stating item, advertiser's name and home telephone number. Forms are available at the receptionist's desk and the *Shellegram* office.

—Deadline for submitting ads is Monday.

—Mail ads to the *Shellegram* or bring them to room 151, Refinery Administration.



# Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

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.

**Dotti West - Editor**