



Thursday, June 11, 1981

Vol. 46, No. 24

At A Department

Bricks help shutdown click

Piles and piles of brick are stacked around A Department's Mantius acid concentrator. They're waiting to play their part in piecing together a giant jigsaw puzzle as they're used to reline the inside of the unit.

Piecing together that puzzle during the unit's current shutdown, which began in late March, is no little job. By the time the project is completed late this month, it will require more than 18,000 bricks and 20,000 pounds of mortar.

But it isn't just the number of pieces that gives this project

its resemblance to a puzzle. Don Straitwell, hourly brickmason foreman, Maintenance South, explained there are many different-shaped bricks being used in the project. There are square ones, pie shapes, rectangular bricks and several others. And there may be as many as 4,000 of one shape or as few as eight.

Because they're made in so many different shapes, the bricks can't be used just anywhere. They're all numbered so they can fit into particular locations, Straitwell said.

Allen Kuliniewicz, the area engineer assigned to the project, pointed out a lot of bricks are needed in the internal walls and chimney of the Mantius (which is named after the engineer who designed it). That's because the unit is 26 feet tall and 18 feet in diameter.

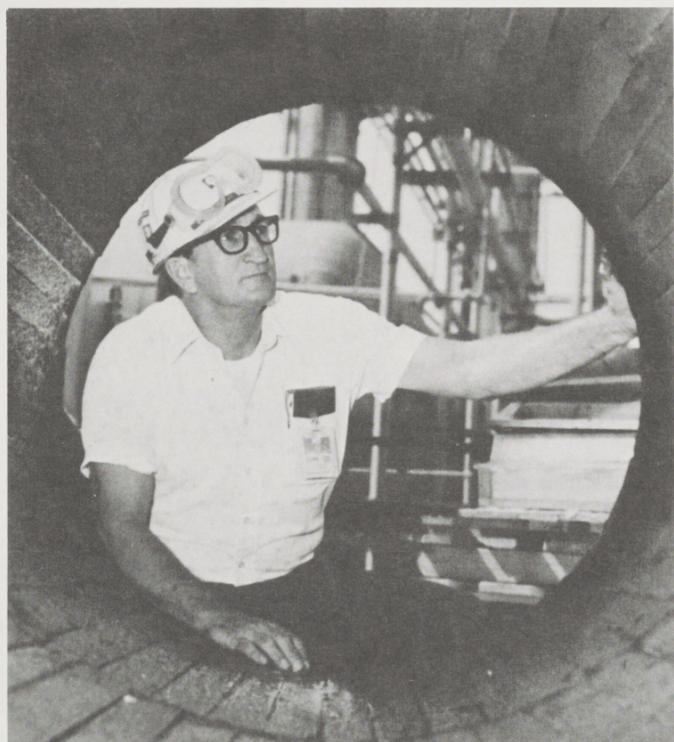
The bricks are important because they protect the unit's lead liner from corrosive sulfuric acid. The lead in turn protects the Mantius' steel shell. The acid comes to the Mantius after A Department has used it to make crude isopropyl alcohol. This is done by mixing the acid with propylene to trigger a chemical reaction.

Finished isopropyl alcohol is then sold to other firms to make such products as rubbing alcohol and shellac.

Since the production of that alcohol reduces the strength of the acid, it is the Mantius' job to boil the acid under a vacuum—a process which restores the strength of the acid. The acid is then re-used to make more isopropyl alcohol.

Kuliniewicz said that while the Mantius is down, isopropyl alcohol production capability is reduced to half of normal maximum rates. So, Mantius operations personnel worked for several weeks prior to the shutdown to produce alcohol stockpiles to help maintain alcohol sales. Other A Department units, the chemico acid concentrators, also are helping recycle acid needed to make alcohol.

Kuliniewicz noted that shutdown work is on schedule. "That's due to the excellent performance of maintenance foremen and crews and operations personnel."



Don Straitwell, hourly brickmason foreman, Maintenance South, inspects the inside of an overhead vent line before it is joined to A Department's Mantius acid concentrator. More than 18,000 bricks are being used to reline the Mantius during the unit's current shutdown which ends this month.

Extra forms are available

Do you need a form to reserve space for the June 20 SCORA Flea Market and Garage Sale? We still have plenty of them. Just call Les Cole at Extension 6301 and ask for one or send a note to the Shellegram Office, Room 151, North Administration Building.

The event will be held from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce Building on 500 West 13th.

But in order to sell items there, your form must be received by Sharyon Forest, Industrial Relations, Room 158, North Administration Building, by June 17. It's particularly important to get your forms in early because stalls will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Don't forget to include your personal check or money order with the form.

Shell employees can rent indoor 10-foot by 10-foot stalls for \$10 each (multiple stalls can be reserved). Also available are larger outdoor spaces for cars, boats and

motor homes. The larger spaces also can be rented for \$10 each and the size of these will vary according to your needs (one vehicle per space please).

You can sell such things as household articles, craft items and food and keep the profits.

Sellers should make their own provisions for display tables and seating. But a limited number of electrical outlets will be available. Any unsold items are to return home with their owners. For additional information, contact Pat Harp, 944-0820.

The flea market and garage sale opens to the public at 10 a.m. Saturday. There will be no admission charge.

However, SCORA reserves the right to refuse space reservations.

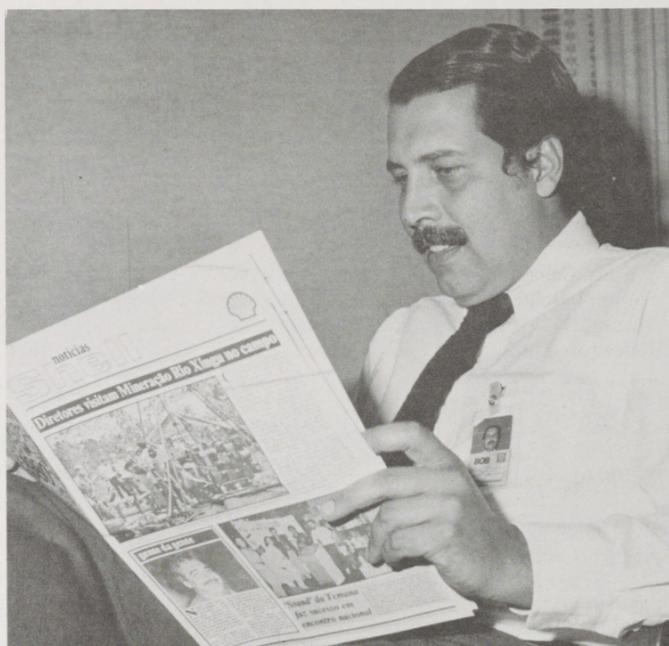
The Chamber of Commerce Building will be open at 7 a.m. on Saturday for sellers who wish to set up booths before the sale. The building won't be open Friday night as originally advertised.

Our four-pager was rained out

The Shellegram is being published as two big pages today instead of four. We're doing this because last Friday's heavy rains—the same rains that tied up traffic throughout Houston and prevented many Complex employees from getting to work—caused some technical problems for us.

This prevented us from getting access to our typesetters and photographic developers in Deer Park for the processing of all our material before the layout deadline. Some stories and photographs originally scheduled for this week will be in later Shellegrams.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our readers. However, the normal publication of the Shellegram will resume next week.



Roberto Boetger, an employee of Shell Brazil, keeps in touch with what's going on back home by reading Shell noticias—his company's version of Shell News. Boetger is working at the Complex this summer to learn about employee relations before heading to Head Office for a year and a half. He's training in this country to work in personnel management when he goes back to Brazil.

Shell Brazil's Boetger comes to DPMC to learn

One of the Complex's newest employees, Roberto Boetger, calls Houston home now. But his real hometown is a long way from here—Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.

Boetger, who works for Shell Brazil, is putting in a stint at DPMC this summer to study employee relations. After he leaves here, he will go to Head Office for about a year and a half to learn more. A former marketing manager for Shell Brazil—his employer for the last 10 years, he's going to put his American training to good use when he gets back home and starts a new job in personnel management.

After three weeks at the Complex, Boetger's impressed by what he has seen here. He said, "I didn't realize this place was so big before I got here. Shell Brazil only has 3,500 employees in all of its operations—about the same number of people you have in this one complex."

He admits Shell Brazil does not have refineries as big as the one here. As a matter of fact, the company has no refineries at all since oil refining and importation is controlled by Petrobras, the oil company owned by the Brazilian government.

But Shell Brazil does own a petrochemical plant that produces propylene and agricultural chemicals. It also has some lube oil plants. The company controls distribution of its products as well, operating a chain of service stations throughout the country.

While Shell Brazil and Shell U.S.A. are different in many ways, Boetger said both companies share one major concern—a concern about the future of energy in their respective countries. He explained, "Brazil is importing about 75 percent of the oil necessary for our needs. We are very concerned in my country because our oil bill is so big."

Research offers solutions for Brazil's energy crunch

"So, Shell Brazil is developing research to produce other energy alternatives that my nation needs badly. Some of these alternatives include using soybeans and alcohol as fuel sources. Today, there are about 400,000 cars in Brazil which use alcohol, not gasohol or with a mixture of gasoline—but straight alcohol.

"Brazilians are working very hard to solve other problems in our country as well. One of the biggest of these is the majority of our population is under 18 and we must find ways to employ and educate all of them. That is why Brazil is witnessing the formation of many new businesses—many of which are being formed in cooperation with American firms. One of the things that is helping us do this is the fact there is still much undeveloped land in Brazil—land which can be used for commercial development. We also have greatly expanded our educational facilities in the last few years to help our people learn."

As you would expect, Boetger has found life in the U.S. to be very different from living in Brazil. He said, "Your country is much bigger than I thought and the technology is much more advanced. Everything is so new. That's a marked contrast to what I've seen in Europe where you see a lot of very old things."

One thing that really surprised him was the fact that our work days start so early here. "You have traffic jams here earlier than we get up. We stay up until midnight in Brazil, but you have to go to bed much earlier here because your day starts sooner."

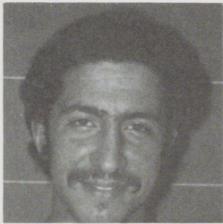
Rio's traffic is worse than Houston's

"But even your heavy traffic jams are not as bad as what we have in Brazil because Rio isn't as spread out as Houston. I drive to work through downtown Rio and it takes the same amount of time to drive 10 miles there as it does to go 35 miles here. And there is less pollution in traffic here because the cars are not as congested together."

One of the things Boetger likes best about living here is the friendliness of the people he has met—not only at the Complex, but throughout Houston. He said, "You don't feel like a foreigner here. Everybody has gone out of their way to be nice, not only to me, but to my whole family. I have a 10-year-old girl and two boys (11 and 13) and the teachers at their school have been very nice in telling them what courses to take to get ready for school this fall and in introducing them to American children."

"All of us, my wife, Lenian, and I and our children, want to learn while we are here. We knew we would have a different way of life and we want to get as much out of it as possible."

Welcome to the Deer Park Manufacturing Complex



Felix Colon
General Helper
Maint. South
Hired in April



Jimmy Davis
General Helper
Maint. South
Hired in April



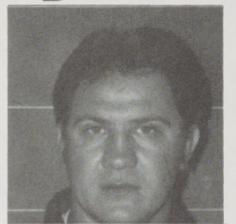
Tom Fonseca
Gateman
Security
Hired in April



Joe Gonzalez
General Helper
Maint. South
Hired in April



Donnie Hall
Carpenter
Maint. North
Hired in April



Ronnie Johnson
Pipefitter
Maint. North
Hired in April



Tom Kish
General Helper
Maint. South
Hired in April



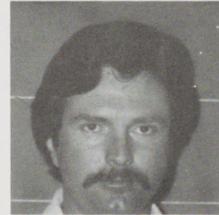
Sue Martin
Secretary
Ops. East
Hired in April



Michael Muir
General Helper
Maint. South
Hired in April



Rick Shepard
Analyst
Distribution
Hired in April



Ronnie Sims
Insulator
Maint. North
Hired in April



Fay Yarbrough
Gateman
Security
Hired in April

Classifieds

FOR SALE

1951 Dodge three-quarter-ton pickup. Standard, four forward gears and reverse. Motor, body, tires in good shape. \$1,800. Call 946-8834.

1979 Grand Prix LJ. Air, tilt wheel, stereo, AM-FM, eight-track, 23,000 miles. \$4,500. Call 476-0648.

1975 Toyota Celica. 68,000 miles. \$2,595. Call 946-0513.

1979 Mercury Capri. Four-cylinder, automatic, air. Gets 20 miles per gallon in the city, 29,000 miles. \$4,700. Call 471-8099.

1976 Ford Monarch. In need

of repair. Make offer. Call 471-3427.

1978 Honda CM-185. Electric start, windshield, crash bar, luggage rack. Has about 5,000 miles on it, gets about 70 miles per gallon. Good condition. \$700 cash. Call 477-8653.

Honda 100 street bike. \$250. Call 479-4333.

1973 Honda 500-4. \$500. Call 476-5814.

1974 Harley Davidson XLH-Sportster. 1000 cc, excellent condition. \$1,000. Call 479-8955 after 5 p.m.

65 HP Mercury motor. With controls, tach., extra prop. \$850. Call 422-5244.

Two and three-quarter acres of land. In Lomax. Call 479-

3628.

18.7-cubic-foot Frigidaire, frost-free, upright freezer. Good condition. \$250. Dayton electric motor. 1 HP, 17 RPM, 60-cycle. Paint spray kit. Pressure-fed with compressor spray gun and roller. Never been used. \$50. Call 476-4230.

New RCA video cassette VET-650 recorder. Won in contest. \$900. Call 643-2765.

Bunk beds. Like new \$100. Call 470-1411.

Custom-made patio drapes. Beige color. \$50. Call 487-8538 after 4 p.m.

Fender Jazz Master Guitar. Pro Reverb amp, 160 watts. New Make offer. Call 479-2948. 7 mm Mauser German rifle.

Excellent condition, bolt action, flip-up 2,000-yard sight. \$65. Radar detectors. Whistler long-range. Geiger counter-type alarm indicates radar range. \$50. Radio Shack XY-band detector. Also geiger counter readout. \$50. Call 474-8547.

Labrador Retriever pups. Six weeks old. Field trial-hunting lineage. \$150. Call 280-0832.

WANT TO BUY

Fourteen-foot to 16-foot aluminum johnboat. With or without trailer. Call 479-3395.

Pinto Hatchback for parts. Must have title. Will pay up to \$200. Call 479-8059.

WANTED

Summer baby-sitting job for teen-ager in Deer Park area. Available immediately. Prefer to work Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call 488-0900 after 5 p.m.

Riders for private van pool. Will travel between New Caney and DPMC on U.S. 59, working straight days from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Have new nine-passenger Suburban. Call 1-264-2569.

FOR RENT

Three-bedroom home. One

bath, one-car garage, central air conditioning and heat. One block off Southmore and Tatar in Pasadena. \$435 per month with \$250 deposit. Six-month lease required. Call 473-2170.

PERSONAL

Many thanks for the 33 years of friendship and the retirement party. My saw stays busy. Visitors are welcome at our Brooshire airport. —L.E. Milholland

Suhr retires



Suhr

Ed Suhr, 58, maintenance manager, Maintenance North, retired June 1 after 33 years of service. He will reside in Yoakum, with his wife, Flora.

Pitre, Harper, Pemberton die

Alton Pitre, operator, OP-III, died May 24. He had more than three years of company service.

Paul J. Harper died May 26. He retired in August 1961 as a senior engineer with 27 years of company service. He is survived by his wife, Mary, who resides at 4502 Rockwood Drive, Houston.

Ralph (Bub) Pemberton



Pitre



Harper



Pemberton

died April 16 at his home in Corpus Christi. He retired in February 1960 as planning coordinator, Engineering

Field, with 38 years of company service. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, who lives in Corpus Christi.

The Shellegram is published weekly to inform and entertain pensioners and employees like Joe Douglas, operator, Lube C. Douglas has been employed at DPMC since 1968.



Joe Douglas

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