

NASA AUTOMATIC WEATHER STATION LOCATED ON SHELL OFFSHORE PLATFORM ABOUT 25 MILES IN GULF TO TRANSMIT DATA SUCH AS WIND SPEED AND DIRECTION, HUMIDITY, AND AIR AND WATER TEMPERATURE

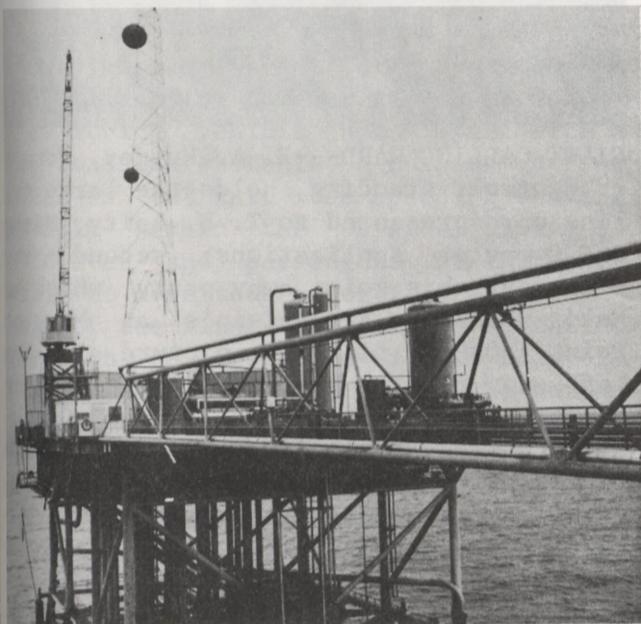
A new facility recently installed in the Gulf of Mexico by the Manned Spacecraft Center's Landing and Recovery Division, as an aid to test schedules for qualifying spacecraft and supporting recovery equipment, will no doubt be of interest to area boating enthusiasts and fishermen.

The installation, located about 25 miles south of Galveston on a Shell Oil offshore production platform, is an automatic weather station which measures and transmits wave height, wind speed and direction, relative humidity, air and water temperature.

This information is transmitted to the U.S. Weather Bureau Office at Galveston, where the data are recorded and the information is then supplied to the Spaceflight Meteorology Group at MSC as required to support LRD test programs in the Gulf.

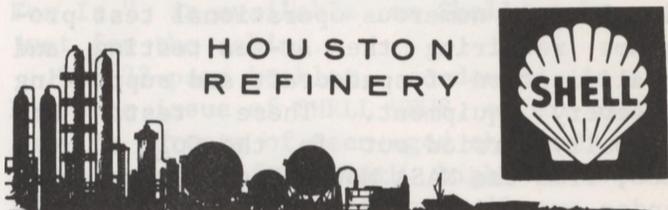
The U.S. Weather Bureau at Galveston will also make this information available to the public. Initially, the data will include wind direction, velocity and wave height and later temperature and relative humidity will be added. This information will be available every three hours and if weather conditions should warrant, will be disseminated hourly.

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AUTOMATIC WEATHER STATION --- The NASA Landing and Recovery Division's automatic weather station telemetry and transmitter equipment is housed in a building at the base of the microwave tower on the Shell Oil Buccaneer Platform A in the Gulf of Mexico, Offshore, Texas. An antenna on the tower transmits the data to the U. S. Weather Bureau at Galveston.

SHELLEGRAPH



No. 300

Friday, August 2, 1968

CREDIT CARD AGREEMENT WITH TRAVELODGE TO AID SHELL CREDIT CARD HOLDERS

Shell credit card holders now can charge motel accommodations, services, food and beverages at all motels operated by Travelodge, Incorporated. All charges will be billed on their monthly statements.

The Shell-Travelodge agreement, which went into effect July 1, covers more than 400 Travelodge motels operating in 38 states and in Canada. Travelodges feature clean, comfortable, quality accommodations at moderate prices.

In addition to Travelodge, Shell has credit agreements with Master Hosts and Sheraton Hotel chains, as well as with Hertz, Avis, and National car rental companies. These agreements have been designed to boost the value of the Shell credit card to its holder.

The Travelodge program is being announced to all Shell credit card holders in the July billing. This billing will also contain notification of Shell's new liability protection for credit card holders. In the event of a lost or stolen card, a customer is protected for all unauthorized charges made to his account in excess of \$100. If Shell is notified before any charges are made, the holder has no responsibility.



NOW SHELL FRESHENS THE AIR---Gay Plant, Typist, Treasury, holds a can of a new Shell product--Shell Air Freshner. The pressurized cans of Air Freshner are available at most Houston area Shell Service Stations and sell for about a dollar. The scent is a spearmint flavor, and it is suggested that for an average size room the product be sprayed for two to three seconds. The Shell concentrated Air Freshner is a highly concentrated interior air freshner that removes objectionable odors and smoke from car or home.



PARTING REMARKS---J. B. Harkness, Process Superintendent, standing, recalls some incidents in the career of T. H. Laity, seated, who has been transferred to New York. Harkness was one of the people on the program at Laity's going away party.

WEATHER - Continued from Page 1

MSC's Landing and Recovery Division is involved in numerous operational test programs requiring the at-sea testing and qualification of spacecraft and supporting recovery equipment. These tests are normally carried out in the Gulf of Mexico, from the NASA Motor Vessel Retriever, under operating conditions which closely simulate the actual ocean environment in spacecraft recovery operations.

The majority of the LRD tests are performed subject to specific minimum and maximum weather constraints and some tests require an accurate knowledge of the actual wave heights and periods. Initially, the tests were conducted on weather forecasts with visual observation and estimations during the actual test.

To facilitate this type of testing and to improve test schedules and quality of information, it was decided to install a weather transmission site onboard an offshore oil platform in close proximity to the area where testing is normally carried out. The Shell Oil Company authorized MSC to install this equipment on its Buccaneer Platform A, located approximately 25 miles south of Galveston. Shell has provided this, as well as other assistances in the past, at no cost to the government.

The weather station is automatic in operation and normally transmits for 21 minutes every three hours. Provision is made to transmit on a continuous mode if required, and also from external battery packs if power is lost aboard the Shell platform.

By utilizing electronic equipment on hand in the Electronics System Section of the LRD Recovery Electronics Branch, the cost for the weather recording and transmission facility was kept to a minimum. Actual cost was less than \$7,000.



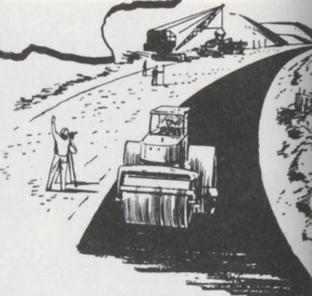
GIANT CALLING CARD---B. A. Hugger, Computer Control, standing, holds the large calling card presented to T. H. Laity, Manager Computer Applications, second from right, at his going away party which was held recently at Zeisig's at Morgan's Point. Others in the picture are, from left to right, L. T. Wilson, Refinery Manager, and R. K. Hartig, Manager Catalytic Cracking. Laity was recently transferred to the Company's Head Office in New York, where he will work with the Transportation and Supplies organization.

HIGHWAY HIGHLIGHTS

COAST-TO-COAST DRIVING WITHOUT A TRAFFIC LIGHT OR STOP SIGN WILL BE POSSIBLE WHEN THE 41,000-MILE INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM IS COMPLETED IN 1974.



THE SUPERHIGHWAYS WILL LINK 90 PER CENT OF THE NATION'S MAJOR CITIES. ALREADY, ALMOST 60 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL MILEAGE IS OPEN TO TRAFFIC, AND THE REMAINING 40 PER CENT IS IN PROGRESS.



HIGHWAY USERS ARE PAYING THE ENTIRE COST OF THE PROJECT, NOW ESTIMATED AT \$47 BILLION. STATE AND FEDERAL GASOLINE TAXES, WHICH NOW AVERAGE 10½¢ PER GALLON, ARE THE MAJOR SOURCE OF REVENUE.

SHELLEGRAPH

Published by Shell Oil Company for its Houston Refinery and Houston Research employees at Deer Park, Texas, 77536.

P. H. FISCHER---Editor

Reprints allowed only by request. To submit news and photographs, call extension 541 or send material to Room 103, Old P & IR Building.

NEW MOTORING SAFETY DEVICES PLANNED FOR INSTALLATION ON LOOP 610 IN HOUSTON

The Texas Highway Commission recently approved three Harris County construction projects in another pioneering step toward motoring safety.

The Commission directed the State Highway Engineer to proceed with initial installation of a newly-developed safety device described as a "vehicle impact attenuator."

The VIAs are, in effect, applications of an engineering concept to absorb energy of a moving vehicle upon impact with a fixed roadside obstacle. Purpose of the device is to halt the speeding vehicle gradually within the physical limits of the driver and passengers so that they sustain no more than minor injuries.

All of the first VIAs will be installed in Houston on Interstate Highway Loop 610 at the interchange of IH 10 and the north- and southbound exits of the US 59 interchange. Installation will be in the gores between the main and exit lanes.

The V-shaped gores divide traffic into two lanes crossing separate interchange structures (bridges), one carrying the main-lane traffic and the other the exiting traffic. A concrete parapet or retaining wall spans the gap between the structures to prevent wayward vehicles from plunging through to a lower level.

In recent months Texas Highway Department engineers in Houston have been concerned by a rash of fatal accidents in which vehicles have jumped the curb at the "V" of the gores and smashed into the parapets.

Studies were initiated by research engineers of the Texas Transportation Institute of Texas A&M University at College Station. The vehicle impact attenuator installations are a result of cooperation between the Texas Highway Department and Texas Transportation Institute.

The VIAs are relatively simple in design, and they have been subjected to exhaustive tests at TTI. They will consist of a group of 38 to 40 interlocked steel barrels placed in the gore in front of the parapets. Specially cut tops and bottoms form a honeycomb effect. Energy of a moving vehicle gradually is attenuated -- or decreased -- upon impact by successive crushing of the barrels.

Future VIA installations will depend upon their performance under day-to-day traffic conditions, which will be subject to continuing study.

The Highway Department and TTI, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads, also pioneered in development of the "breakaway signs," which are now required on all federal-aid highway construction in the United States. In Texas approximately 140 accidents have been documented in which breakaway signs have been involved. There have been no major injuries reported in these accidents and only one fatality.



PARTING GIFT---Mrs. P. B. Webb, Personnel and Industrial Relations, at left, admires the picture tree she received at a farewell gathering. She is expecting a baby and members of the P & IR Department gathered to wish her well. At right is Mrs. S. I. Catoe, and in left background is Mrs. S. K. Cassidy and, at right, is G. T. Herren.

FREE BOOKLET ON COLLEGE AVAILABLE NOW OFFERING COUNSEL TO "COLLEGE" PARENTS

"How to Get Into College and How to Pay For It," is available to Shell employees just for the asking.

The 33-page booklet, condensed in the May/June issue of SHELL NEWS, offers counsel to parents of teen-aged children coming face to face with high admission standards and high costs of college.

Author of the booklet is Max Farrington, Assistant to the President of George Washington University, Washington, D. C. Subjects covered include: scholarships and loan programs, working through college, junior colleges, how to get readmitted after flunking, and pointers for two representative careers--engineering and nursing.

Employees wishing the booklet may write: Publications Division, Shell Oil Company, 50 W. 50th Street, New York, N.Y. 10020.

Travel Tips by

CAROL LANE

BRING ALL THE CHILDREN

- It saves you worries because you know where they are
- It can be less costly than having them cared for at home
- It welds the family together
- They'll learn about their country firsthand
- Their enthusiasm is contagious

INSTRUMENT MAN PERRY WELLS JOINS STAFF
AS ENGINEERING FOREMAN



P. S.
WELLS

Perry S. Wells, Instrument Man No. 1, has been appointed an Engineering Foreman in the Engineering Field Department, effective August 1, 1968.

Perry joined Shell in August, 1941, as a General Helper in the Engineering Field Department. He entered the Instrument Craft in March, 1944, and became an Instrument Man No. 1 in February, 1946.

He was born in Cartersville, Oklahoma, where he also attended public school. He was graduated from high school in Keota, Oklahoma. Wells is married and has two children and presently lives in La Porte.

NEED A RIDE

Need a ride to and from work. Will pay. Live on Sprague Street - Corner of Red Bluff and Spencer.
Telephone - GR-9-3201

FOR SALE

1960 4-door Rambler. Stick shift with overdrive. 6 cylinder. Good work car.
\$150.00
Telephone - 487-2845

WANTED

Used Fiberglas sail boat, 12 to 14 feet; portable electric piano.
Telephone - HO-5-1847



"From now on we're all going to have
to squeeze a little closer together."

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

13 wooded acres with 8 rooms and kitchen, frame house, cyclone fenced yard, deep well, stock pond. 45 minutes from San Augustine Park/Sam Rayburn Dam.
\$9,000.00
Telephone - HU-7-0144

14' Glass Magic boat. 75 hp Johnson motor, 3 props, 1 brass, 2 aluminum; 2 gas tanks.
\$1,100.00
Telephone - GR-2-6089

Rogers drums, complete set. Ludwig snare, Zildjian cymbals and high hat. Cases.
\$350.00
Telephone - GR-9-2425

Single wheel utility trailer with hinged top, tail lights, turn signals, and back up lights.
\$50.00
Telephone - HU-7-0742

1968 Cadillac. Beat the rumored price hikes and warranty cutbacks on the 1969 models and treat yourself to this only recently titled motorcar. Fleetwood Sixty Special Sedan. Loaded - Gray - 3200 Actual Miles, Estate Settlement, 5 year/50,000 mile Warranty Transferable.
Telephone - MI-9-7000 after 5:30 p.m.

House located in Glenbrook Valley. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, pleasantly livable. Double garage and car port. All year swimming pool. On quiet street.
Telephone - MI-9-2628

1 tangerine color lounge chair - \$25; 1 cigarette table brass tray - \$15; 19" Philco Briefcase TV - new picture tube - \$30.
Telephone - MI-5-7464

Registered female Beagle puppies, field stock champion blood line - \$35; self-propelled reel type power mower - \$20.
Telephone - HO-5-1847

16' Hollywood boat, 60 h.p. V-4 motor, and large-wheel, heavy-duty tilt trailer. Boat has bait-well and does 31 m.p.h. Suitable for family fishing or skiing. Three pairs skis, life preservers, etc., also included. \$300.00.
Telephone - 944-2618

TRADE

Two 750 x 16 white wall tubeless tires. Good condition. Trade for 600 x 16 or 650 x 16.
Telephone - MI-3-1140

1½ ton Wellbilt air-conditioner for a 5 to 10 h.p. outboard motor.
Telephone - GR-2-8667