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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "BURNING OF TOXIN TO LAST UNTIL MAY" NCBC GULFPORT MS
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Air Force disposing of Agent Orange



DAVID PURDY/SON HERALD PHOTOGRAPH

Air Force Maj. Terry Stoddart explains that steam coming from the furnace in the background contains no toxin.

Burning of toxin to last until May

By W. ROBERT PADGETT
STAFF WRITER

The Air Force has started burning dioxin-contaminated soil at the Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, and an Air Force spokesman said the process to purify 15,000 tons of dirt should be finished by May.

Maj. Terry Stoddart, the Air Force's project manager, said Monday air quality will be tested regularly during the five months

it will take to decontaminate the soil.

"We have an ambient air-monitoring program that will measure anything that may be released by what we do," said Stoddart, from Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida. "We'll be monitoring [air quality] 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

Stoddart said the dioxin incinerator began burning the contaminated soil at about 11:30 p.m. Wednesday.

He said the incinerator has had to

be shut down temporarily a few times since Wednesday because of minor mechanical problems. These included problems with computer software and oyster shells in the soil, which when burned create limestone, which must be chipped from the machine.

The Seabee Base has about 18 acres of dioxin-laced soil. The dioxin leaked into the ground from more than 17,000 barrels of the defoliant Agent Orange that were stored at the base in the late 1960s

and early 1970s.

Dioxin is a byproduct of Agent Orange, which some medical experts have linked to skin diseases, birth defects, cancer and other health problems.

More than 18 million gallons of Agent Orange were sprayed in and around combat areas in South Vietnam until the defoliant was banned

Please see **BURNING**, A-4

Biloxi man beats odds

AT A REYNOLDS RECYCLING CENTER

Biloxi ca

\$100,000 prize

MORGAN FALKNER

which reach a certain size becomes a target of major firms. Ours has reached that size. We think the sale is appropriate for the times."

The family business was started in 1926 by John Mavar Sr. and his wife, Olivia, as a small fuel oil dock termi-

nal. Within a few years, the company expanded into the seafood business.

In 1958 Mavar began manufacturing canned cat food, and in 1980 the company ventured into the dry cat-food area.

King said, "Well, I already spent most of it doing some land improvements." He planned to finish building a fence around his property to safe-keep his two pet goats, Newby and Matilda.

"They clean the bushes and everything; they even fertilize the lawn," King said. "It's nice to have a lawn and not worry about it."

Next summer King plans to buy a small boat so he can ride to the barrier islands — his old boat exploded July 4 in the Back Bay. He also plans to stash away most of his winnings when he receives each year's check.

"I didn't think this would happen to me; this is new to me," King said. "I think it's worth recycling cans — you don't see them on the roads like you used to, and look what's happened to me."

Stoddart said the incinerator will burn about 100 tons of soil per day. When dirt is treated, it is first placed into a rotating furnace and then to a second furnace where it is cooked at 2,200 degrees Fahrenheit.

Stoddart said the process requires 70,000 gallons of water a day. When the water is heated by the waste heat, it produces the steam that is sent billowing from stacks into the air.

"We haven't detected any contaminants in the steam after incineration," Stoddart said.

No evacuation of nearby residents has been necessary.

After the soil is treated, it is sampled and sent to one of three laboratories to ensure purity. If the soil is pure, it will be placed back into the area where it was taken.

O'Keefe Funeral Home in Biloxi. Graveside services will follow at 1 at Biloxi National Cemetery.

Anthony Rodriguez

■ BILOXI — Anthony M. Rodriguez, 41, of Chickasaw, Ala., died Sunday, Nov. 29, 1987, in Biloxi.

The body was sent from Riemann Memorial Funeral Home, Beauvoir Road, Biloxi, to Radney Funeral Home in Saraland, Ala., for services and burial.

Frederick Lopez

■ GULFPORT — Frederick G. Lopez, 88, 01800 E. Beach Blvd., Gulfport, died Sunday, Nov. 29, 1987, in Biloxi.

Arrangements are incomplete at Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home in Gulfport.

Mrs. Betty Little

■ GULFPORT — Mrs. Betty Louisa Little, 83, 941 22nd St., Gulfport, died Saturday, Nov. 28, 1987, in Gulfport.

The body was sent from Riemann Funeral Home in Gulfport to Coleman Funeral Home in Corinth.

Mrs. Lillie Love

■ GULFPORT — Mrs. Lillie Bailey Love, 89, 1900 Switzer Road, Gulfport, died Sunday, Nov. 29, 1987, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Love, a native of Mathiston, was a retired secretary with the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission. She was a member of Central Methodist Church in Meridian. She was preceded in death by her husband, M.P.L. Love; a daughter, Mrs. Florence D. Patton; and a brother, former Mississippi Gov. Thomas L. Bailey.

Survivors include a son, Shepherd L. Hamner of Gulfport; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be held Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Riemann Funeral Home in Gulfport, where friends may call from noon until service time. Burial will follow in Hills Memorial

Church. The funeral will be held Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the church, followed by burial in Monroe Memorial Park.

Lockett's Mortuary in Gulfport is in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Mattie Bennett

■ LONG BEACH — Mrs. Mattie Lou Bennett, 86, 126 Oak Gardens, Long Beach, died Sunday, Nov. 29, 1987, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Bennett was a native of Gates, Tenn., and a member of Long Beach First United Methodist Church. She was a charter member of the Long Beach Garden Club and was preceded in death by her husband, C. Paul Bennett.

Visitation will be held tonight from 7 until 9 at Riemann Funeral Home in Long Beach. The funeral will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the funeral home chapel, followed by burial in Long Beach Cemetery.

Louis Foret

■ LONG BEACH — Louis Nolan Foret, 62, of Long Beach died Monday, Nov. 30, 1987, in Gulfport.

Mr. Foret, a native of New Orleans, was a retired chief petty officer in the Navy. He was a veteran of World War II and was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Beryl Henriques Foret of New Orleans and Lafayette, La.; a son, Wayne Douglas Foret of Dallas; three daughters, Mrs. Judith Foret Scott of New Orleans, Mrs. Patricia Ann Katterhenry and Miss Darlene Ruth Foret, both of Jacksonville, Fla.; his mother, Mrs. Benson P. Foret of New Orleans; one brother, Norman P. Foret of Lafayette; a sister, Mrs. Ivy J. Leroux Sr. of New Orleans; and seven grandchildren.

The funeral will be held Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at Riemann Funeral Home in Pass Christian, where friends may call from 11:30 a.m. until service time. Burial will follow in Biloxi National Cemetery.

all of Bay St. Louis, and I (Tracy) Clay of Little Rock, Ark.; mother, Mrs. Margaret; cas of Hamilton, Ont., Canada; two brothers, John Lucas Hamilton and Richard Lucas Caladonia, Ontario, Canada; two sisters, Mrs. Robert Hulburt and I William Waterous, both of Kamlo British Columbia, Canada; and grandchildren.

Visitation will be held tonight 7 until 10 at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. The funeral will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Christ Episcopal Church in Bay St. Louis, followed by burial in Wave Cemetery.

The family prefers memorial Christ Episcopal Church.

William Jordan

■ OCEAN SPRINGS — William Jordan, 86, of Ocean Springs, died Sunday, Nov. 29, 1987, in Biloxi.

Mr. Jordan was born in Baltimore and had lived in Ocean Springs more than 50 years. He was a Catholic and a veteran of World Wars I and II.

Survivors include his wife, Adele Bauer Jordan; two daughters, Mrs. Donna Kelley and Mrs. Carol Diaz, all of Ocean Springs; a son, Jordan of Miami Beach, Fla.; grandchildren; and one grandchild.

Visitation will be held tonight 6 until 9 at the Howard Avenue of Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home

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For more information

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