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NAS FORT WORTH
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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "CHEMICAL REMOVAL CONTINUES AT LOCKHEED" NAS FORT
WORTH TX
2/8/1994
FORT WORTH STAR TELEGRAM

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**NAVAL AIR STATION
FORT WORTH JRB
CARSWELL FIELD
TEXAS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD
COVER SHEET**

AR File Number 58



Chemical removal continues at Lockheed

BY ANITA BAJER
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

WHITE SETTLEMENT — By the end of the month, a second set of pumping stations will begin removing contaminated ground water under Lockheed in a cleanup process officials say might take 20 years.

In the second in a series of information meetings, Air Force officials updated residents last night on efforts to remove trichloroethylene, or TCE, which for a number of years seeped into shallow ground water.

TCE is a colorless liquid used for years as a degreaser by General Dynamics, now Lockheed. It has been shown to cause tumors in mice, but no evidence has linked it to human cancer.

The new pumping station is similar to one that has been in operation several months at Carswell Air Force Base, which is adjacent to Lockheed.

The Carswell pumps have removed about 4 gallons of TCE from more than 2 million gallons of ground water pumped from beneath the ground, said Fred Oelrich, Air Force remedial project manager at the site. When cleaned, the water is sent into the Fort Worth sewage system.

Oelrich spoke to about 30 people at the White Settlement municipal building, most representing various

city, state and federal agencies involved in the cleanup.

No one knows how much TCE is in the ground water, but the contamination has spread over 2.5 acres beneath Carswell and Lockheed, Oelrich said.

None has been discovered in nearby Lake Worth, the Trinity River or wells that supply water to White Settlement.

A third cleanup operation under

Lockheed buildings is extracting TCE from the soil.

The current removal system is a slow process, Oelrich said, but the Air Force is investigating new technologies that could cut the time.

One of the systems would dissolve the TCE and make it easier to retrieve. Another uses sound waves to break up the solvent. A third would call for inserting barrier walls in the underground aquifer to ab-

orb the TCE and a fourth would use microbes, he said.

The next meeting is scheduled May 12 at a location to be announced.

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