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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "SNOWDEN SAYS BOARD SHOULD TAKE NEEDED STEPS FOR  
DEFOLIANT REMOVAL" NCBC GULFPORT MS  
1/19/1976  
DAILY HERALD

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# Snowden says board should take needed steps for defoliant removal

DAILY HERALD - 1-19-70

DAVID BEAN

Herald Staff Writer

Harrison County Beat 4 Supervisor Hue Snowden said Tuesday he felt the board should take whatever steps are necessary to see that 15,000 barrels of Herbicide Orange being stored at the Gulfport Seabee Center are removed from the area.

The chemical defoliant, according to Snowden, is "more dangerous than Mustard Gas or nerve gas. I think the Navy is having a hard time handling it ... It came in by rail. Let them take it out the same way ... those drums are going to deteriorate."

County tax assessor Jim Wetzel told the board the assessed value of the Global Conception, being held at the port of Gulfport in lieu of county property tax, has been lowered to \$8 million.

He said owners will post

a \$90,000 bond for the oil drilling vessel's release pending a hearing as to whether the ship is taxable by law.

Ernest Melvin, board president, announced that the laying of the cornerstone of the new First Judicial District Courthouse will be on Jan. 28, at 2 p.m.

The supervisors turned down a request by Reichhold Chemicals Inc., Gulfport, for a tax break on manufactured goods which the company had on hand at the beginning of 1975.

The supervisors ruled a blanket order eliminating county tax on manufactured goods on hand.

The supervisors ruled that a blanket order passed by that board in 1975 eliminating county tax on manufactured goods on hand at the beginning of each year is not applicable to that year.

The board also delayed

ruling on Reichhold's request for tax exempt status in 1976 until more information has been given to the tax collector.

In other business, the board listened to a request from Charles Gillis, chairman of the Harrison County Election Commission, that four precincts are divided because each contains more than 2,000 voters.

The four precincts are Gulfport No. 7, West Long Beach, Outside Long Beach, and each Orange Grove.

Gillis told the board that West Ward Elementary School, North Central School, Pass Road Elementary School, West Mississippi City Elementary School and the Central Fire Station in Gulfport will not be available for use as polling places in the 1978 elections.

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