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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "HERBICIDE MOVES ABOARD VULCANUS" NCBC GULFPORT MS  
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DAILY HERALD

# DAILY HERALD

Gulfport and the Mississippi Gulf Coast for 92 years

Mississippi Coast, Thursday Afternoon May 26, 1977

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## Inside report

### Herbicide arrives at port

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The first rail shipment of toxic Herbicide Orange arrived at the State Port of Gulfport early Thursday to be pumped aboard the Dutch ship Vulcanus. There were no reported incidents in the rail shipment. A-2.

## Herbicide moves aboard Vulcanus

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The first shipment of toxic Herbicide Orange arrived under heavy security at the State Port at Gulfport early Thursday to be pumped aboard the Dutch ship Vulcanus.

A string of eight tank cars — six which contained the banished defoliant — moved at creep speed along Illinois Gulf Central railroad lines past blocked off roadways to the port.

The shipment arrived at 6 a.m.

There were no reported incidents in the rail movement.

Operation Pacer Ho, the designated name for the military project shuttling the herbicide out of the state, Thursday included pumping the defoliant from tank cars into the cargo tanks of the special-

ized incinerator ship.

Pumping operations reportedly began minutes after the rail cars arrived as hoses were installed aboard the tank cars and connected to the tanks of the Vulcanus.

Moving the herbicide aboard the Vulcanus began without a contract signed between the Air Force and the ship's owners.

A \$4 million agreement is expected to be signed soon for the incineration duty, the Air Force said.

Tank cars will be moved each morning to the port until all of the 15,000 55-gallon drums of herbicide are pumped aboard the ship.

Once loaded, the Vulcanus is scheduled to steam to a site in the Pacific to burn the substance.