

the state

Calm seas aid crude spill cleanup in Gulf

United Press International
GALVESTON — Calmer seas enabled anti-pollution equipment working around a burning oil tanker to pick up 25,000 gallons of spilled crude during the past two days, a Coast Guard spokesman said Wednesday.

"Sea conditions have improved. They are estimated at 2-4 feet today (Wednesday). This has enabled our skimming operation to continue and be much more effective," a Coast Guard spokesman said.

However, a 4-mile-long broken ribbon of oil that spilled from the 772-foot *Burmah Agate* before cleanup operations began washed ashore Tuesday near Port Mansfield Cut on southern Padre Island, 225 miles to the southwest.

"The impact was minor. The widest patch was about 10 inches," Baker said. "Scientists have recommended no cleanup of the area, feeling cleanup would be more damaging than just allowing natural breakdown of the oil."

It was the farthest reach of pollution since the tanker, carrying 16 million gallons of crude bound for Houston refineries, collided Nov. 1 in clear, pre-dawn weather with the outbound 482-foot freighter *Mimosa*. Thirty-two crewmen died.

A spokesman for the Liberian Bureau of Maritime Affairs in Reston, Va., said preparation continued for

a formal board of inquiry into the accident 5 miles outside the entrance to Galveston Bay.

Liberia is investigating the collision because it occurred outside the 3-mile limit of U.S. jurisdiction and because both ships were Liberian-registered.

Liberian Investigations Chief William E. Chadwick said no date, no board and no site had been chosen for the board of inquiry. He said it likely would convene in New York City or Reston.

Although the owners of the tanker have filed a \$10 million suit blaming the freighter owners and operators for negligence in the collision, Chadwick declined to discuss any preliminary findings.

"I obviously am restrained in discussing any of the findings of fact that have developed so far, and obviously, I would be remiss if I were to offer any opinions," Chadwick said.

Baker said the Coast Guard estimated more than one-third of the tanker's cargo had burned or been dumped into the Gulf of Mexico. He said an estimated 120,000 gallons had entered the water as pollution.

Some of the spilled oil had washed ashore along scattered portions of more than 250 miles of Texas beach, but Baker said most of the heavily traveled areas had been cleaned up and some oil had washed back out to sea.

Charged with drunk driving

Police chief found innocent

United Press International
CORPUS CHRISTI — A jury of four women and two men deliberated an hour Wednesday to find Selman police chief-city manager Henry Holland innocent of a drunken driving charge.

Selman, listed by syndicated columnist Jack Anderson as among the nation's top 10 speed traps, is known as "The Valley of the Bears" among citizen's band operators driving along I-35 between San Antonio and Austin.

Holland, 29, was tried in a Corpus Christi County court on a charge of venue after receiving three delays since he was arrested on Dec. 7, 1978, by police in the neighboring San Antonio suburb of Live Oak.

His jury, Jimmy Parks, told the jury in final arguments Wednesday that Holland's arrest resulted from "a bitter rivalry between the Selma and Live Oak police forces" and Holland was not drunk at the time of his arrest.

Assistant District Attorney Ed Coffey argued that Holland's defense amounted to "nothing more than a character attack" on Gary Selman, the former Live Oak officer who arrested Holland in the Bexar County town.

Three weeks before Selman charged Holland with driving while intoxicated, the same officer had issued Holland tickets for driving 85 mph in a 55 mph zone and failing to

drive in a single lane in the city of Live Oak. Holland appealed \$82 in fines.

Coffey told the jurors Holland admitted on the witness stand that he drank beer before his arrest last Dec. 7.

Head prosecutor Mike Sawyer asked jurors why the defense did not raise the issue of "jealousy and rivalry" between Selma and Live Oak police during testimony in the trial, which lasted one day.

Sawyer said it was "sad and unfortunate that a police chief with a long distinguished career gets arrested, but there was no malice or personal vendetta on the part of Live Oak authorities."

Houston disco discriminates, two men say

United Press International
HOUSTON — White and black assistants to a federal judge have filed suit accusing a discotheque of racial discrimination in refusing to admit them.

Charles K. Barber and Arthur H. Bryant, both 25, who work for U.S. District Judge Gabrielle McDonald, charge The Ritz disco violated their rights Nov. 2 by turning them away for failure to have membership cards.

"The real reason was that plain-

tiff Barber is black," Bryant said.

According to the lawsuit, a doorman told them they could not be admitted on Friday or Saturday nights without a membership card, but the lawsuit said other persons who arrived without cards were admitted.

"The entire incident angered and frustrated me," Barber said. "I had never experienced direct racial discrimination before, and I was greatly distressed."



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Austin desegregation gets Jan. 21 deadline

United Press International
AUSTIN — The Austin Independent School District was ordered Wednesday to come up with a desegregation plan by Dec. 17, and to have the plan implemented in city schools by Jan. 21.

The U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals concurred with arguments presented in Fort Worth Tuesday by the NAACP that black students have a right to immediate relief from segregation.

The court ordered the school district in a longstanding suit to submit its desegregation plan to U.S. District Judge Jack Roberts and also ordered Roberts to rule on the plan by Jan. 2 and ordered "a plan to re-

medy constitutional violations implemented by Jan. 21," the beginning of the spring semester.

Superintendent Jack Davidson predicted attempting to implement any plan that soon would cause chaos in the public schools.

"If a plan is submitted to the court that approaches ethnic balance in all schools, it will require the busing of at least 10,000 to 20,000 students," Davidson said.

"There is no question that there will need to be a rather extensive movement of students."

The school board had voted earlier this week to develop a plan to present to Roberts by Jan. 15 to be implemented in the fall of 1980.

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