

Monday, March 6, 1989

Waste incinerators will help TI dispose of toxic by-products

SHERMAN (AP) — For Mariquita Patterson, an environmental engineer for Texas Instruments, Inc., the future is hot. About 2,200 degrees Fahrenheit hot, twice as hot as the planet Venus.

Temperatures that high are required in modern hazardous waste incinerators such as one Texas Instruments plans to build in Sherman, 60 miles north of Dallas.

Patterson is among those working on the design of the proposed facility for the Dallas-based electronics firm.

TI said it wants to build the waste disposal and storage plant at its sprawling facility three miles south of Sherman so it can have so-called "cradle-to-grave" control over the toxic and hazardous wastes used by the firm.

Wastes such as solvents, acids, plating solutions and other toxic materials now are shipped by TI to commercial disposal facilities. When opens in 1991, the company's proposed \$15 million plant is designed to process nearly 15 million pounds of waste a year from nine of TI's

Texas manufacturing plants, Patterson said.

The firm unveiled plans for the 15-acre facility, officially known as the Integrated Waste Treatment Facility, on Feb. 8 and, for the most part, community response in Sherman has been favorable.

The site would add up to 30 jobs in Sherman, where TI is already the largest employer, and Sherman mayor Dean Gilbert described the expansion as the equivalent of a new industry coming to town.

Some environmentalists have expressed concerns about the proposal, particularly about what will be coming out of the incinerator's 80-foot smokestack. They also want to know what will happen to the plant's waste water.

"A couple of things would be of concern to us," said Connie Adams, conservation chairman of the Audubon Society's chapter in McKinney.

"One is the air blowing into town and the other is the waste water treatment. Obviously, dumping waste water into the streams for pub-

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Newspaper: Agents bent rules in undercover drug operations

HOUSTON (AP) — Federal agents conducting risky undercover operations have bent rules and lost control of tons of cocaine and marijuana in an escalating, multibillion-dollar drug war, the *Houston Chronicle* reported Sunday.

The government's recent focus on seizure of drug trade assets has enriched the anti-drug war chest, but also has encouraged overzealousness and sometimes casual regard for rules governing seizures and forfeitures, the newspaper said in a copy-right story.

And despite enforcement efforts, most smuggling attempts succeed and the war on drugs is, even according to the most optimistic views, only holding its ground.

A two-month *Chronicle* investigation has revealed that tons of cocaine and marijuana smuggled into the country by operatives of the U.S. Customs Service and the federal Drug Enforcement Administration have ended up on the street because of botched undercover operatives.

Federal officials also have violated

departmental policies and possibly federal law by taking shortcuts in the seizure of millions of dollars of personal property suspected of being used in drug-related transactions, the newspaper said.

David Westrate, the DEA assistant administrator of operations, denied that his agency conducts its business improperly and said the criminal justice system provides the ultimate in oversight to detect governmental abuse — review by a federal judge and jury.

"I can guarantee that if we were doing things improperly, we would be hearing from the federal judges about it, and we're not," Westrate said. "We have an extremely high conviction rate and extremely high sentences. So I think the record shows that we're being quite successful."

But the *Chronicle's* investigation found that seizures of drug assets — much touted as a means of gutting high-level drug traffickers — sometimes may have violated federal policy and law.

At a media event in Houston last July, for example, U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm presented the Texas Department of Public Safety with a \$1.2 million plane seized by U.S. Customs in a drug operation. But the court action required to forfeit the plane wasn't filed until three weeks later. A federal judge awarded the plane to the state in December.

Between 5,000 and 7,000 pounds of marijuana got away from agents and operatives last year in a plot to gain the confidence of reputed Colombian drug lord Bernardo-Londono Quintero. The pot was part of a 26,000-pound shipment DEA operatives brought into the country for Quintero's associate, Saul Hernandez Rivera.

The DEA flew the marijuana to Phoenix, Ariz., in July 1984, but Hernandez became suspicious and refused to send his U.S. contacts to pick it up. The DEA sought other buyers for the marijuana and eventually agreed to sell the dope for \$3.2 million to two groups in Michigan. The DEA delivered the pot in

August 1984, split it up among the buyers and then moved in to seize it, but lost track of at least 5,000 pounds, agents testified.

The investigation failed to nab either of the original targets. Top federal officials acknowledge that dope occasionally has reached the marketplace as agents and informants assumed the role of drug importers in undercover investigations.

In fact, the DEA agent's manual sets out rules and guidelines for extraordinary circumstances in which drugs may be furnished by the DEA or in which known drug shipments may get through without being seized.

Such action requires consultation with a U.S. attorney and a determination that it is necessary to avoid compromising an operation, to protect agents or informants, to prosecute top-level drug traffickers or to interrupt drug traffic.

Conferences restrict parking near stadium

Parking Area 62 west of Kyle Field will close to all but conference participants through Thursday.

Because of construction elsewhere on campus, it has been necessary to use part or all of Lot 62 for conference parking during certain meetings this semester, said Tom Williams, director of parking, transit and traffic.

Williams said PA 62 will be closed to students because of the large number of individuals attending the Texas Water Utilities

Association Conference and the Texas Engineering Extension Service's Basic City Managers Course.

PA 62 will reopen Friday with all but 60 spaces available to student permit holders.

Students who usually park in PA 62 should park west of the railroad tracks in any lot that is valid for their sticker or in the lot adjacent to the University Police Department on the site of the old Southside Apartments, Williams said.

Food drive nets 20,000 pounds, \$12,000 for Brazos Valley poor

By Sherri Roberts

STAFF WRITER

More than 20,000 pounds of food were collected for the Brazos County Food Bank Saturday during a food drive to benefit the needy of the Brazos Valley.

In addition, a campus food drive coordinated by health sciences honor fraternity Eta Sigma Gamma collected 1,200 pounds of food Thursday and Friday to be donated to the Brazos County Food Bank.

Cash donations of \$12,000 collected during the Saturday food drive, which was sponsored by the Brazos County Food Bank and KBTX-TV, will allow the food bank to purchase an additional 5,000 pounds of food, said Barbara Reiley, a member of the food bank's board of directors.

Donations will be stored at the Brazos County Food Bank warehouse and distributed by various charitable organizations and churches in the area.

Reiley said that although the event did not meet its theme goal, "100,000 pounds of food from 100,000 people," she was pleased with the quantity of food gathered.

"All the Aggies came out in force," Reiley said.

The cold weather conditions on Saturday probably deterred many from driving to the food drive, which took place at various locations in the Brazos Valley, she added.

Since this was the first year for the event, organizers were pleased that food and cash donations reached one-fourth of their goal.

Coordinators of the event are planning to organize a similar food drive next year.

Texas Avenue maintenance starts today

Drivers on Texas Avenue this week should be aware that alternate routes and/or extreme caution may be necessary in two areas where Bryan city maintenance crews will be working.

Waste Water Collection employees will be adjusting manholes in the 3800 block of South Texas Avenue (between North Avenue and Broadmoor) and also in the 200 block of North Texas (between William Joel Bryan Parkway and 24th Street).

In both cases, one southbound lane will be closed during the day and possibly at night.

The maintenance work is scheduled to begin today and should be complete by Friday.

SPRING BREAK 89

GALVESTON ISLAND

Galveston Spring Break '89

- March 9
 - 5K Fun Run (409) 763-4607
 - KRBE's Giant Boom Box
 - Galveston Film Festival (409) 763-2403
- March 10
 - Galveston College Tennis Tournament
 - Galveston Film Festival
- March 11
 - Surf Spring Break '89 (409) 740-4422
 - Mascot and Sand Sculpture Contest (409) 763-6564
 - Galveston College Tennis Tournament
- March 12
 - Live Entertainment
 - Galveston Film Festival
- March 17
 - Live Bands - Big Fun
- March 18
 - Jammin Sportswear/Coors Light Volleyball Tournament (713) 541-3323
 - KRBE's Giant Boom Box on the beach
 - Pepsi Challenge Tug-O-War on the Beach
- March 19
 - Jammin Sportswear/Coors Light Volleyball Tournament
 - Live Bands
 - Killer Bees

Texas A&M University at Galveston presents:

Surf Spring Break '89

DATE: Saturday, March 11, 1989, 8 AM.
 SITE: 25th and Seawall Blvd., Galveston, Texas.
 ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 before March 3rd, \$15.00 after March 3rd. \$5.00 to also compete in bodyboards. Entry includes custom T-shirt and other goodies. No refunds.
 CHECK IN: 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Friday, March 10th at Sunrise Surfshop, 4702 Seawall Blvd., or 7:00 AM Saturday, March 11th at the site.
 INFORMATION: Call (409)740-4422 for more information until March 10th. March 10th, call (409)762-SURF.

Galveston Spring Break '89 is hosted by KRBE and Pepsi.

Spring Break Special KODACOLOR GOLD Film!

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KODACOLOR GOLD 100 Film
 New and improved, for better flesh tones. 35 mm, 24 exp.

KODACOLOR GOLD 200 Film
 Indoor/outdoor versatility with rich color and sharp detail. 35 mm, 24 exp.

KODACOLOR GOLD 400 Film
 This fast-action film brings you unsurpassed color accuracy in a 400-speed film and fine-grain enlargements. 35 mm, 24 exp.

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