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Louisianians object to shipments of lead-tainted soil from Dallas

MONROE, La. (AP) — Louisiana officials scrambled to get a court order Wednesday to stop the Environmental Protection Agency from shipping tons of lead-contaminated soil from Dallas to a Monroe landfill.

"We plan to resume shipping soil to Monroe, La., tomorrow morning, unless we are stopped by legal action," EPA spokesman Roger Meacham in Dallas said Wednesday.

"Presently, there is no legal reason and no environmental reason not to resume shipments," Meacham said.

A federal judge denied the state's request to block the shipments on Monday, but the Ouachita Parish Police Jury filed a new request with a state judge.

Their first effort failed on Tuesday, but District Judge Milton Moore said he would recon-

sider if there was proof the soil was dangerous.

Lynn Tubb, attorney for the police jury, said he returned to Moore's court Wednesday with affidavits from experts in toxicology and landfill design, who said the soil could possibly contaminate drinking water supplies.

However, Moore was out of town and it was not clear whether he could review the documents by long distance.

At issue are about 1,000 yards of "nonhazardous" but contaminated soil, now stored at the RSR smelter site. Officials said the storage area has been full since March 13.

"We estimate that it would take us, at the equivalent of 55 truckloads with 22 cubic yards each, about 18 days at three trips a day" to remove that stored soil

to the Magnolia Landfill in Louisiana, Meacham said.

"And then, after that, we would ship as necessary. But one thing we don't want to do is shut down the cleanup project."

On Monday, U.S. District Judge Donald Walter denied the Louisiana attorney general's request for a temporary order prohibiting the EPA from proceeding with the shipments.

Walter's ruling was the latest involving three lawsuits filed by state and local government to keep the soil from being dumped near Monroe.

However, Meacham said the soil is more dangerous in Dallas than it is at the landfill.

"There's no reason why the soil should not go to a facility specifically designed and operated to accept this kind of waste," he said.

Alamo falls from No. 1

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Alamo has fallen from the top tourist spot among short-term American visitors, placing second behind Big Bend National Park in a new survey.

The Texas Department of Transportation Auto Visitor Survey covered December through February 1992 and based on 10,000 questionnaires completed by short-term visitors or people who come to Texas less than a month.

Big Bend National Park received 23.8 percent of the vote, and the Alamo 23.2 percent, said Milton Meharg, the transportation department's director of travel services.

"We can't remember when Alamo wasn't No. 1. The survey has been scratching its head to figure this out and finally came up with a theory," Meharg said.

"There was heavy rain in San Antonio during the survey and many people didn't get to it the Alamo."

Germans struggle during reunification

Continued from Page 1

"In the end, it will be a reconstructed economy; it will be a strong economy," Wolff said. "In my view, the problems are cultural rather than economic."

Wolff said he thinks the bigger challenge is the socialization problems eastern Germany residents face.

"There is confusion about the notions of property," he said. "These people are accus-

tomed to inactivity and passivity. They have been educated in the sense that all decisions were taken by others for them.

They will not easily adapt to the demands of the market economy."

Wolff also addressed the fact that Germany's geographical position enables them to be a major player in international affairs. He said the nation wants to avoid endangering its integration into the community.

"The temptation may exist for Germany to

act as a middle power between Eastern

Western Europe," Wolff said.

"Whatever Germany does, there is a

reaction by the neighbors."

The view the world takes on the new Germany depends on how the country deals its responsibilities, both inside and outside borders.

"In the long run, this will succeed," he said. "No doubt about it."

Clinic offers services despite funding woes

Continued from Page 1

aminations and other things," D'souza said. "It's a good method of birth control, but too many people have taken advantage of it at the same time."

D'souza said about 80 percent of Planned Parenthood clients depend on Title 20 funding, which allows low-income individuals to

receive an 80 percent discount on all Planned Parenthood services. She said these people will be left high and dry.

"The people it will hurt the most are the indigents who do not have money," D'souza said. "We feel terrible that we have to charge them the higher price."

D'souza said about half the clinic's clients are students, and

many of them use the funding.

"Although the Beutel Health center provides some of the same care, I think the wait is so long that they prefer to come here," she said. "Those that are putting themselves through college pretty much qualify for the Title 20."

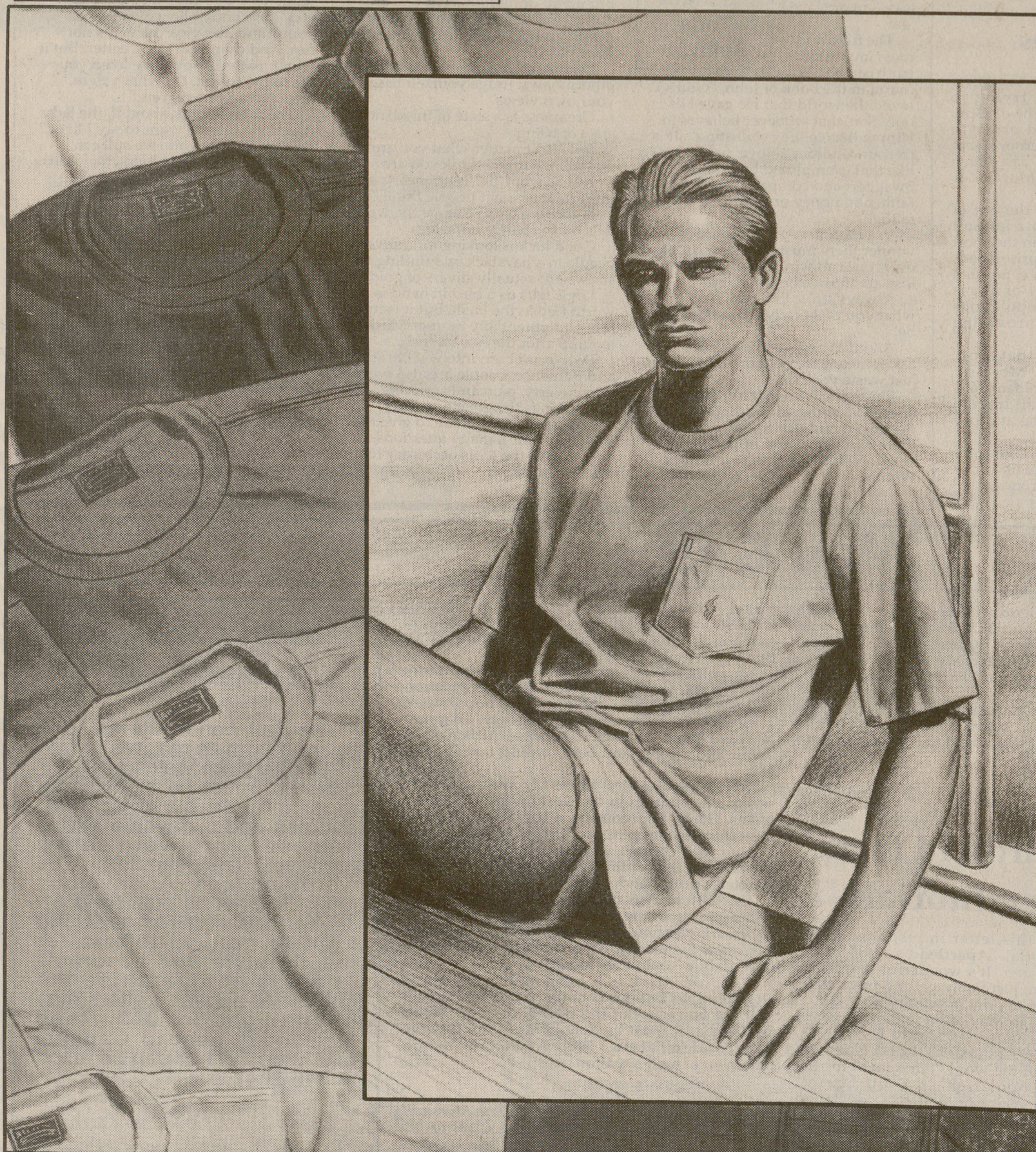
D'souza said the clinic would do whatever it took to do its job.

"We don't intend to turn any-

one away," D'souza said. "If we're going to continue to give care, it means giving them condoms and foam at cost, we'll do it."

D'souza said that a cutback in service was not an option for the clinic.

"We're not going to change the care we're providing," she said. "There will be no cutback in quantity or quality."



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