

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 7, 1997
TO: OCS/ERU File
FROM: Cheryl Kelley, Collinsville OCS-ERU
SUBJECT: Marion Co/Wamac-Pryor Oil Company - Crude Oil Spill
IEMA #971314

On July 21, 1997, Erin Rednour, the Duty Officer (DO), paged Tom Powell, ERU, at 10:20 p.m. Mr. Powell immediately called the DO. The DO received a call pursuant to the above referenced incident. Prior Oil Company reported to IEMA at 9:41 p. m. that 20 bbl were released to a drainage way from a gun barrel during a lightning strike. The IEMA report stated that straw dams, absorbent materials and booms were in place in Fulton Creek. The location of the release was reported to be South of Wamac. Mr. Powell called the IEMA phone number 618/533-4152, for John Prior (3) three times at 10:25 p. m., 10:35 p. m., and 10:45 p. m. No one answered the phone.

On July 22, 1997, Mr. Powell spoke to this inspector by phone at 8:40 a. m. This author was told to call Alan Whitler with the Department of Mine and Minerals (M&M). M&M was not notified on the IEMA report. This author called M&M and left a message with the secretary. The following was discussed during a phone conversation with this inspector and Woody Myers, a M&M field inspector, at 10:15 a. m.

Mr. Myers stated that the tank farm was located in the Wamac City Park, in Wamac, Illinois. Mr. Pryor phoned the M & M Regional Office in Centralia to report the incident the evening of July 21, 1997. Mr. Myers responded to this incident that evening. The crude oil was not contained within the poorly constructed fire walls (soil berm) surrounding the tank farm. The crude oil drained down gradient 20 to 30 feet through the Wamac City Park into a small drainage way that drained to Fulton Creek to Sewer Creek. Mr. Pryor deployed straw at two bridge locations intersecting Fulton Creek in Wamac, first) near Center Street and Franklin, and second) at Irvington Road. Mr. Pryor made no attempt to recover the black crude oil in Fulton Creek on July 21, 1997. That evening, a thunderstorm increased the flow in Fulton Creek and Sewer Creek, draining the oil even farther. Mr. Myers stated that the fishes could be impacted if the oil is not recovered. Mr. Myers stated that a fishes impacted by oil taste like sweet perfume. Mr. Pryor reported to IEMA that this release was under 20 barrels. Mr. Myers estimated this release to be approximately 48 barrels.

On July 22, 1997, this inspector arrived at the Mezo Oestreich #1 tank battery crude oil spill in Wamac at 11:30 a. m., IEMA number 971159, (tanks registered to - Mr. James Mezo and

**PEOPLE'S
EXHIBIT**

11

PCB 02-177

operated by Mr. John Pryor). This tank battery did not appear to be the location of this above referenced incident. But, there was at least one foot of oil and water in the newly built up fire walls that was not there during my last inspection. The soil outside of the containment berm was still quite oily.

This inspector arrived at the Pryor Kalver Kamp #1 tank battery release at the Wamac Park at noon. The crude oil odors were very strong at the Kalver Kamp #1. Mr. John Pryor was at the scene looking at the spill. A vacuum truck was on site but at no time was this truck in operation that day. Mr. Pryor did not mention that lightning struck his tank battery as he reported to IEMA. There appeared to be no damage to the tanks that resulted in a lightning strike. Mr. Pryor stated the following to this inspector.

Children must have reached through his chain-link fence with a stick and opened the ball valve to the one tank. These tanks are not permitted by M&M to operate with a ball valve. The chain-link fence and the tanks were not locked/secured. The gun barrel's capacity were 210 barrels, the gun barrel contained in stock 59 barrels with 28 barrels remaining in the tank after the release. (This information from Mr. Pryor means that approximately 31 barrels were released to Fulton Creek. Mr. Pryor reported to IEMA that the tank contained 70 barrels (not 59 barrels) and released less than 20 barrels. This inspector has estimated this release between 31 barrels to 48 barrels of crude oil). Straw dams were in place at (2) two locations in Fulton Creek. Mr. Pryor stated that he was too busy to talk further. Mr. Pryor left the site.

The following was discussed with the inspector and Larry Green, the Wamac Mayor, at the Pryor tank battery. Mr. Green was tired of the repeated Pryor crude oil spills in town. The citizens have complained to Wamac City Hall and wanted action taken to stop future Pryor and Mezo oil spills. Mr. Green stated that Pryor oil releases have occurred too often and are not cleaned up. Children have played in the crude oil in Fulton Creek next to their homes. Mr. Myers, M & M, arrived at the tank battery shortly after. Mr. Green signed a formal M&M complaint. Mr. Myers and this inspector observed Mr. Pryor and two of his workers deploy more straw at two locations.

Mr. Myers and this inspector arrived at the tank battery and observed Mr. Pryor and one worker improving dike containment at the tank battery at 1:20 p.m. The dike containment improvements still were not constructed to maintain (1) one and a half times the capacity of the largest tank, a M&M regulation. This inspector discussed the following with Mr. Pryor in the presence of Mr. Myers.

The Agency will likely pursue this incident and the Mezo incident, IEMA # 971159, for enforcement. This inspector told Mr. Pryor that his first priority was to contain and remove the oil from the Fulton Creek in Wamac. Mr. Pryor was told that Pryor Oil was not prepare to respond to this release with only (2) two workers. Nor did he have the equipment needed to contain and remove the oil from the Creek. The improvements to the dike containment are necessary but secondary to containing and removing the oil in Fulton Creek. Mr. Pryor was told that the straw that Pryor Oil spread in the Fulton Creek was not containing the oil. Mr. Pryor was told to get chicken wire and improve the containment areas. Mr. Pryor was told that the Agency would contact USEPA, Region 5, in Chicago and have their emergency responders come to

Wamac if Mr. Pryor didn't start to take this release seriously. This inspector offered (4) four Agency sorbent booms to Mr. Pryor with the understanding that he shall repay the Agency. Mr. Pryor agreed to buy chicken wire and deploy the Agency booms in three locations in Wamac. Mr. Pryor was told to operate his vacuum truck which was not in use all day. Mr. Pryor was aware that the weather forecast was rain showers later that evening just like the night of the release. Mr. Pryor was told to remove the oily wooden debris and clean the Creek banks.

This inspector called Tom Powell, ERU staff, from the Wamac City Hall. A Wamac Police officer wanted to know how much the Agency would fine Mr. Pryor and what fines other companies had received. The following was discussed with this inspector and the officer. This Agency's enforcement was more aggressive than M&M's. A fine generally depended on the impact to the environment and the health and safety of the public, the quantity released and recovered, the measures taken to remediate the release, and the number of past releases. Mr. Pryor was told to contain and recover as much oil as possible or USEPA was going to be notified. Mr. Green, the Wamac Mayor, has complained to IEPA and M&M. The Agency has given Mr. Pryor (4) booms to deploy before the rainstorm. This inspector was asked about enforcement from (3) three different people during the day.

A couple of Wamac citizens told this inspector that many children were playing in Fulton Creek near Wabash Avenue. The citizens asked this inspector to remove the children from the Creek. This inspector told the (9) nine children not to play in the oil and to go home and wash off at 2:20 p. m. This inspector told Mr. Pryor that these children were removed from Fulton Creek. Mr. Pryor responded, only (9) nine kids.

This inspector drove out of town following Fulton Creek to Persimmon Tree Road near 19250 N and 28510 E. Oil and emulsified oil/scum drained toward Sewer Creek. Wooden debris was covered with oil (See photographs). Oil and petroleum scum was visible in Fulton Creek by this inspector (3) three miles from the Kalver Kamp #1.

This inspector left Wamac at 4:00 p. m.

On July 28, 1997, Nick Mahlandt, the Regional Water Pollution Manager, received a complaint from a unknown woman in Wamac. Oil was still draining in Fulton Creek near her home.

On July 28, 1997, this inspector conducted a site visit to Kalver Kamp #1 tank battery in the Wamac City Park. Much of the oil contained in the tank battery's dike was removed. The soil was covered with oil (See photographs). Oil was still draining in Fulton Creek. The vegetation and Creek banks were covered with oil. Pools of oil were caught in wooden debris and trash.

This inspector arrived at the Mezo/Pryor Oestreich #1 tank battery (IEMA no. 971159). Mr. Pryor and several crew were working in the production field on a production well for Oestreich #1 tank battery. This inspector spoke to Mr. Pryor at the Mezo Oestreich #1 tank battery. Mr. Pryor stated that children didn't open the release valve to the Kalver Kamp #1 tank. Mr. Pryor stated that another oil competitor sabotaged his (2) two tank batteries (IEMA #971159 and IEMA # 971314). This oil producer was angry because Mr. Pryor had purchased the Oestreich

#1 tank battery before this other competitor. This inspector told Mr. Pryor that one of his tank valves was leaking oil at the Oestreich #1 tank battery. Mr. Pryor tried to tighten the valve but the tank continued to leak oil. Mr. Pryor said that he did not have a M&M approved release valve on that Oestreich #1 tank. Mr. Pryor stated that he will replace the valve. Mr. Pryor stated that this tank battery was just drained of oil and only water remained in the tank. Mr. Pryor said he planned to empty the Kalver Kamp #1 tank battery in Wamac City Park.

MON 22:04

IEMA

FAX NO. 2177827774

CWB P.01/01

Illinois Emergency Management Agency

Incident Number

9 7 1 3 1 4

Notify: ILLINOIS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

1 - 800 / 782 - 7860 or 217 / 782 - 7860

FIELD REPORT

Date: 7 / 21 / 97

Time: 2141

Received by: TW

Caller: JOHN PRYOR

Call back phone#: 618/533-4152

3. Caller represents: PRYOR OIL CO.

4. Type of incident: ☐ Fire ☒ Leak or Spill☐ Explosion ☐ Water Involvement☐ Gas or Vapor cloud ☐ Other

5. Incident Location:

Street S. ON

City HAMAC ☐ In ☐ Near

County MARION

Milepost ☐ RR ☐ River ☐ Highway

Sec. Twp. Range

6. Area Involved: ☐ Highway ☐ Rail ☐ Fixed Facility☐ Waterway ☐ Air ☒ Other FIELD

7. Material (s) Involved: CRUDE OIL

☐ Gas ☐ Liquid ☐ Semi-Solid ☐ Solid☐ Pesticide ☐ Radioactive

CAS #:

UN/NA #:

Is this a 302 (a) Extremely Hazardous Substance?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Is this a RCRA Hazardous Waste?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

If Yes, is this a RCRA regulated facility?

☐ Yes ☐ No8. Container: ☐ Truck ☐ RR car ☐ Drum☐ Aboveground tank ☐ Pipeline☐ Underground tank ☒ Other GUN BARREL

container size: APPROX 70 BARRELS

9. Amount released: UNDER 20 BARRELS

Rate of release: / min.

10. Cause of release: LIGHTNING

11. Estimated spill extent: UNK

☐ square feet ☐ square yards12. ☐ Occurred Date: / / Time:☒ Discovered Date: 7 / 21 / 97 Time: 2000

13. Emergency units contacted

☐ Fire☐ Sheriff☐ Police☐ ESDA☒ Other INR

14. On Scene Contact:

On Scene Phone#:

15. No. injured: -0- ☐ Haz-mat related

Where taken:

16. Public health risks and/or precautions taken

including # evacuated: -0-

17. Assistance needed from State Agencies:

-0-

18. Containment/cleanup actions and plans:

RP HAS STRAW DAMS, ABSORBENT MATERIALS & ROOMS

DUE TO BEING IN A RITCH

19. Weather: ☐ sunny ☐ overcast ☐ night☐ pty. cldy. ☐ rain ☐ snow

Temp. F wind dir. speed mph

20. Responsible Party: #3

Contact person: #1

Phone # #2

Mailing address: P.O. BOX 821

CENTRALIA, IL 62801

(Notifications 2152 ADV. ERIN)

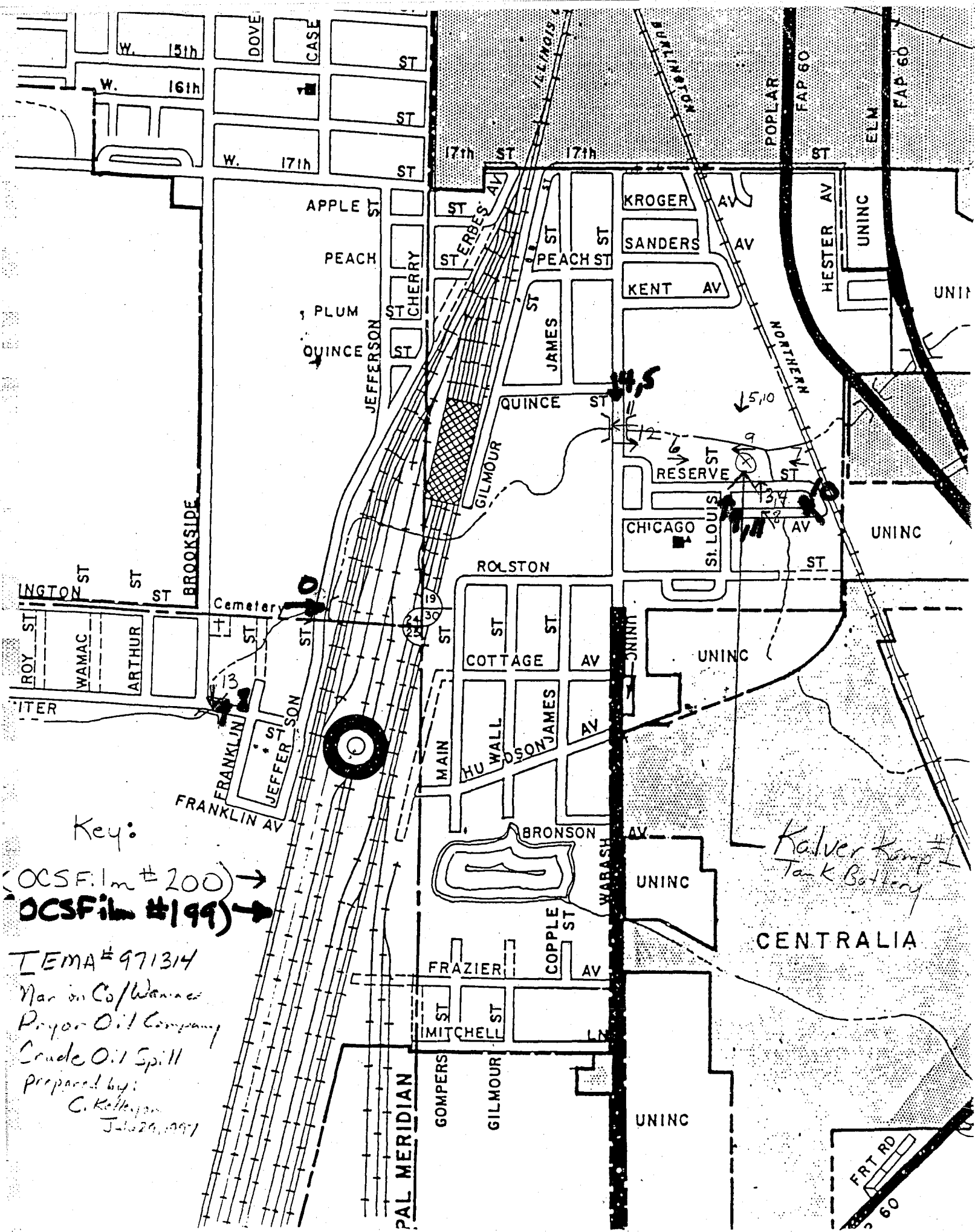
as allowed to operate well 12:00-3:00 PM

• Pryor could not get permit to drill. Mazzo did this.

large amount of work to be permitted.

On scene

☐ Fire☐ Sheriff☐ Police☐ ESDA☒ Other M & M



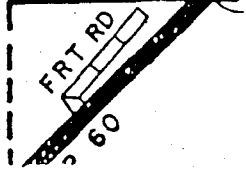
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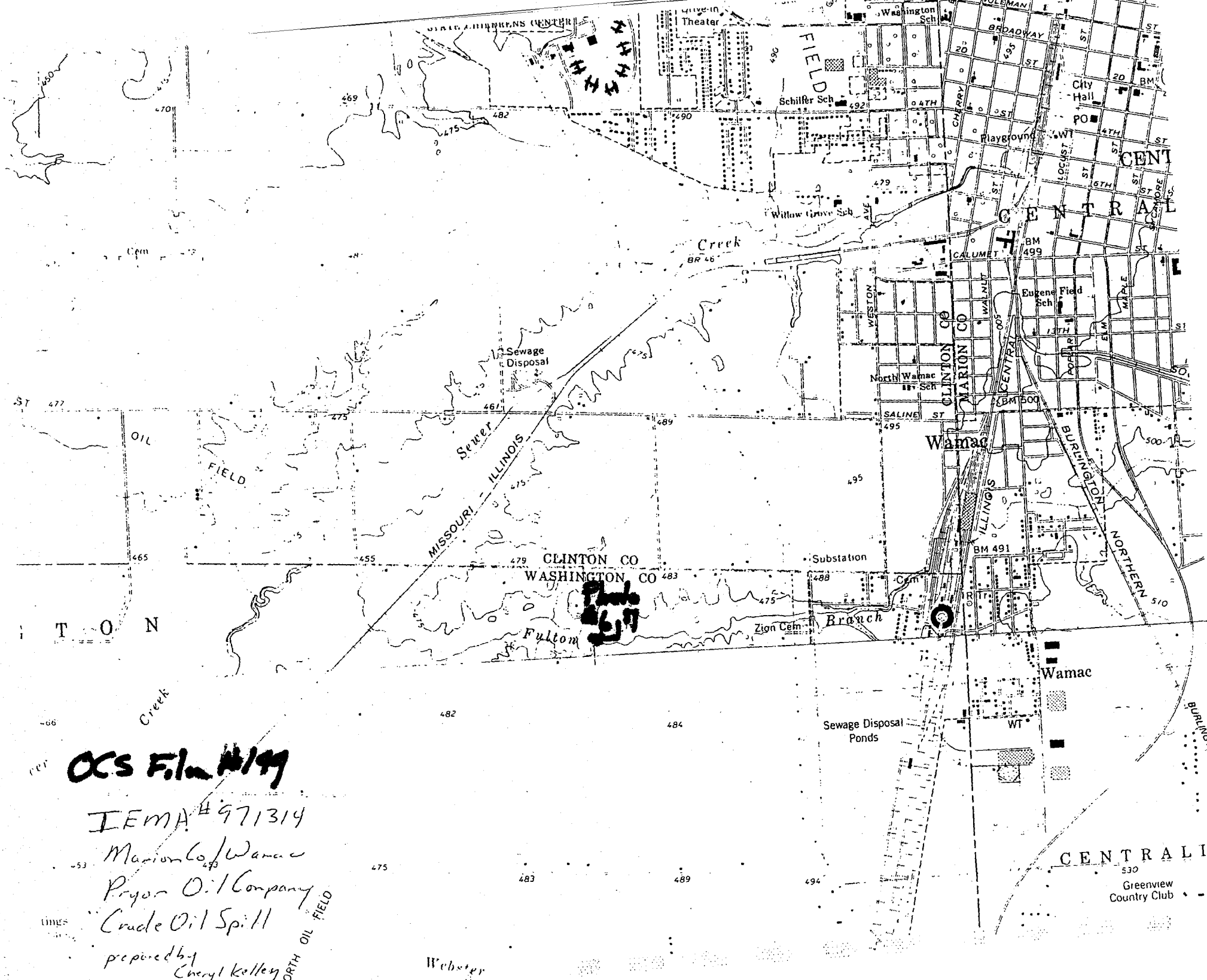
OCS Film #200 →
OCS Film #199 →

TEMA #971314
Nar in Co/Wanner
Pryor Oil Company
Crude Oil Spill
Prepared by:
C. Kellerman
July 26, 1997

Kalver Kamp
Tank Battery

CENTRALIA





OCS Film #199

ITEM #971314

Marion Co/Wamac

Pryor Oil Company

Crude Oil Spill

prepared by Cheryl Kelley

Webster



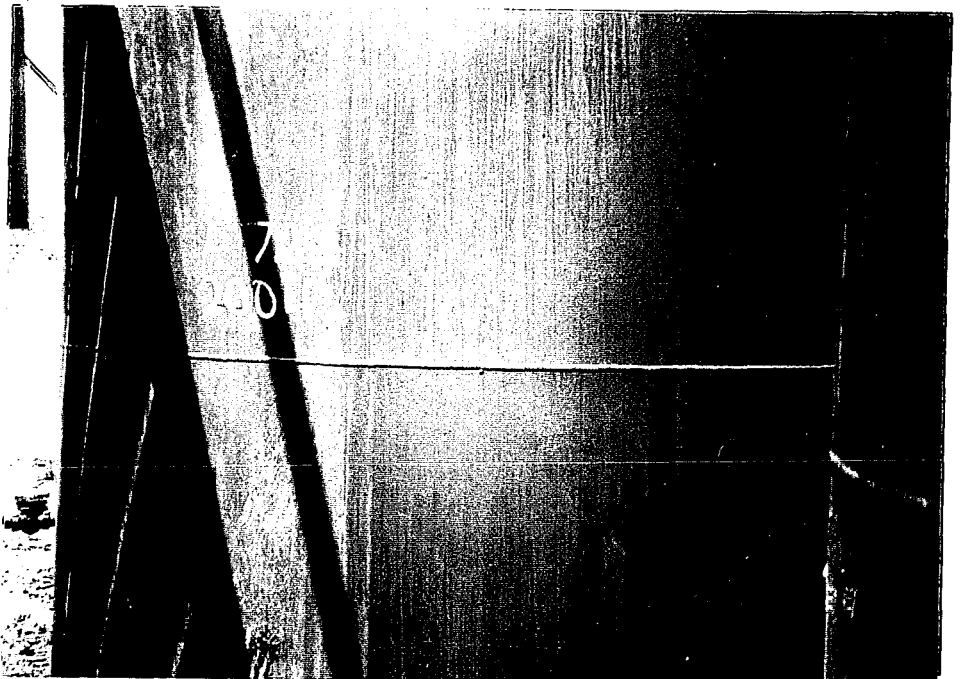
INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>	SITE #: _____ CO.: <u>Marion</u>
TIME: <u>12:10</u>	SITE NAME: <u>Wamac/John Pryor Oil Company</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: North	
_____ IEMA #971314 _____	

ROLL #: OCS200 PHOTO #: <u>3</u>	

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>
TIME: <u>12:10</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: North
_____ IEMA #971314 _____

ROLL #: OCS200 PHOTO #: <u>4</u>



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FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>	SITE #: _____ CO.: <u>Marion</u>
TIME: <u>12:10</u>	SITE NAME: <u>Wamac/John Pryor Oil Company</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: South	
_____ IEMA #971314 _____	

ROLL #: OCS200PHOTO #: <u>5</u>	

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>
TIME: <u>12:15</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: West
_____ IEMA #971314 _____

ROLL #: OCS200PHOTO #: <u>6</u>

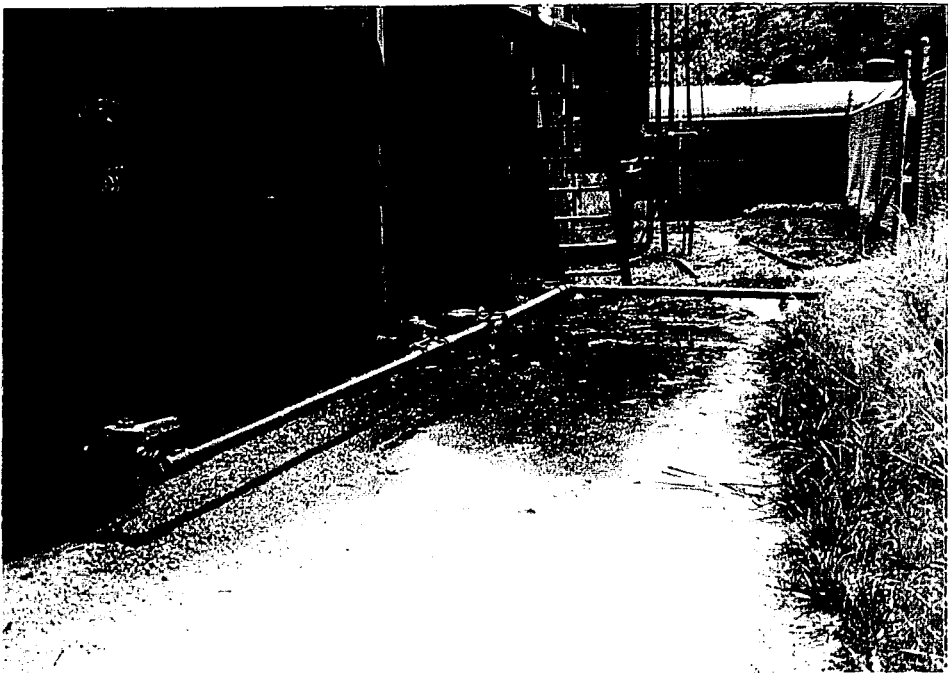


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FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>	SITE #: _____ CO.: <u>Marion</u>
TIME: <u>12:16</u>	SITE NAME: <u>Wamac/John Pryor Oil Company</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Hollings</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: East	
_____ IEMA #971314	

ROLL #:OCS200 PHOTO #: <u>7</u>	

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>
TIME: <u>12:18</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Hollings</i>
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: Northeast
_____ IEMA #971314

ROLL #:OCS200 PHOTO #: <u>8</u>



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FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>	SITE #: _____ CO.: Marion
TIME: 12:20	SITE NAME: Wamac/John Pryor Oil Company
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelling</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: West	
IEMA #971314	
ROLL #: OCS200 PHOTO #: 9	

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>
TIME: 12:25
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelling</i>
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: South
IEMA #971314
ROLL #: OCS200 PHOTO #: 10



CLK:jlb

FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>	SITE #: _____ CO.: <u>Marion</u>
TIME: <u>12:30</u>	SITE NAME: <u>Wamac/John Pryor Oil Company</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: West	
_____ IEMA #971314 _____	

ROLL #: OCS200 PHOTO #: <u>11</u>	

DATE: <u>07 / 22 / 97</u>
TIME: <u>12:35</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: East
_____ IEMA #971314 _____

ROLL #: OCS200 PHOTO #: <u>12</u>



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FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: 07 / 22 / 97	SITE #: _____ CO.: Marion
TIME: 12:40	SITE NAME: Wamac/John Pryor Oil Company
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: South	
..... IEMA #971314	
.....	
.....	
ROLL #: 0CS200 PHOTO #: 13	

DATE: __ / __ / __
TIME:
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY:
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward:
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
ROLL #: PHOTO #:

**NO
PHOTO**

CLK:j1b

FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: 07 / 22 / 97	SITE #: _____ CO.: Marion
TIME: 1:00 p.m.	SITE NAME: Wamac/Pryor Oil Company-Crude Oil Spill
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: Cheryl Kelley	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: East	
_____ IEMA 971314	

ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 0	

DATE: 07 / 22 / 97
TIME: 1:20 p.m.
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: Cheryl Kelley
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: Northwest
_____ IEMA 971314

ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 1



CLK:jlb

FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: 07__ /22__ /97__	SITE #: _____ CO.: Marion
TIME: 1:20 p.m.	SITE NAME: Wamac/Pryor Oil Company-Crude Oil Spill
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelly</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: West	
_____ IEMA 971314	

ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 2	

DATE: 07__ /22__ /97__
TIME: 1:20 p.m.
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelly</i>
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: Southeast
_____ IEMA 971314

ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 3



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FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: 07 / 22 / 97	SITE #: _____ CO.: Marion
TIME: 2:20 p.m.	SITE NAME: Wamac/Pryor Oil Company-Crude Oil Spill
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: South	
----- IEMA 971314 ----- ----- ----- -----	
ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 4	

DATE: 07 / 22 / 97
TIME: 2:20
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Kelley</i>
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: South
----- IEMA 971314 ----- ----- ----- -----
ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 5



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FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: 07 / 22 / 97	SITE #: _____ CO.: Marion
TIME: 3:10 p.m.	SITE NAME: Wamac/Pryor Oil Company-Crude Oil Spill
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Holley</i>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: West	
IEMA 971314	
ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 6	

DATE: 07 / 22 / 97
TIME: 3:10 p.m.
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <i>Cheryl Holley</i>
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: West
IEMA 971314
ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 7



FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: <u>07</u> / <u>22</u> / <u>97</u>	SITE #: _____ CO.: <u>Marion</u>
TIME: <u>3:30 p.m.</u>	SITE NAME: <u>Wamac/Pryor Oil Company-Crude Oil Spill</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <u>Cheryl Kelley</u>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: North	

ROLL #: <u>OCS199</u> PHOTO #: <u>8</u>	

DATE: ____ / ____ / ____
TIME: _____
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: _____
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: _____

ROLL #: _____ PHOTO #: _____

**NO
PHOTO**

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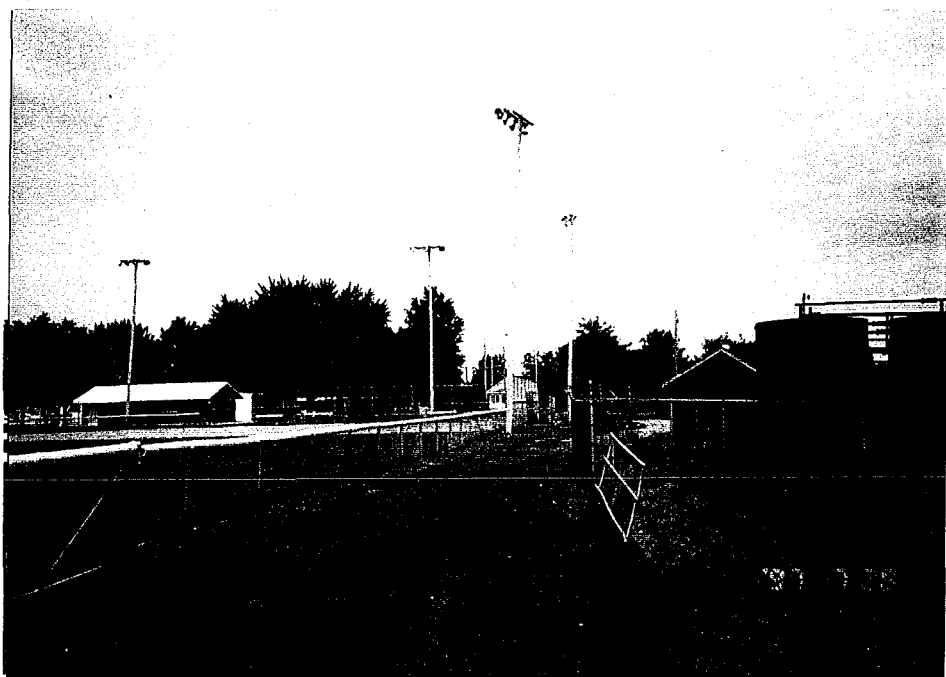
FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: 07 / 28 / 97	SITE #: _____ CO.: Marion
TIME: 1:00 p.m.	SITE NAME: Wamac/Pryor Oil Company-Crude Oil Spill
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: Cheryl Kelley	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: North	
IEMA 971314	
ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 9	

DATE: 07 / 28 / 97
TIME: 1:05 p.m.
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: Cheryl Kelley
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: Northwest
IEMA 971314
ROLL #: OCS199 PHOTO #: 10



CLK:jlb

FOS



INSPECTION PHOTOS

DATE: <u>07</u> / <u>28</u> / <u>97</u>	SITE #: _____ CO.: <u>Marion</u>
TIME: <u>1:10 p.m.</u>	SITE NAME: <u>Wamac/Pryor Oil Company-Crude Oil Spill</u>
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: <u>Cheryl Kelly</u>	
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: North	

ROLL #: <u>OCS199</u> PHOTO #: <u>11</u>	

DATE: ____ / ____ / ____
TIME: _____
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY: _____
COMMENTS: Pictures taken toward: _____

ROLL #: _____ PHOTO #: _____



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FOS