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On 09-09-81 at 5:30 pm this officer received a request from state police personnel to contact Claude Trim at the Dallas Bicknell residence in Rose township. Mr. Trim explained that he and some local residents obtained verbal permission to search for buried drums on the Luster and Lessard properties. He also stated that they found eight drums so far on the Lessard property and that they appeared to contain oily sludge material. Mr. Trim stated that he had promised the property owners that the excavations would be filled in by the end of the day and would this officer initiate an investigation and collect samples from the uncovered drums that evening.

This officer contacted Peter Olilla of the Water Quality Division and made arrangements to meet and take samples that evening. At approximately 7:00 pm this officer arrived on the Luster and Lessard properties and observed several people watching ongoing excavation in the back yards. Mr. Trim was present, and directing a large hydrolic shovel from inside the excavation. On the ground surface was observed approximately ten 55 gallon drums that appeared to have been recently excavated. The drums appeared to have been partially crushed and appeared to contain sludge type materials. One drum appeared to contain floor scrubbers from a painting booth. While on the scene this officer observed two additional drums removed from the excavation.

At approximately 7:30 pm Peter Olilla arrived. Mr. Olilla collected two samples from five different drums and this officer labeled and signed each sample bottle. The duplicate set was given to the landowner Mr. Robert Lessard. (see attached consent to search document before this officer and Mr. Olilla collected the samples.)

While on the scene Mr. Trim introduced this officer to a Mr. [redacted] who he explained had actually observed drums on the site before they were buried. Mr. [redacted] stated that in 1970 while removing gravel from what was then a gravel pit he had observed between 400 and 600 drums on the site. Mr. [redacted] stated that he did not see the drums being placed there but could testify that they were there in 1970. Mr. [redacted] also stated that he did not realize that there was any problem with the drums having been placed there at the time. Mr. [redacted] added that Demode Road was impassable for a period in 1970 and that was why the gravel pit was used to dispose of the drums. (Mr. Wilson indicated that the hauler was the same hauler that disposed of drums on Demode Road by inference.) Mr. [redacted] stated that he operated excavation equipment during the period that the Demode Road barrel dump was being operated and that he was approached by Tucker Ford to dig pits to bury drums on the site. Mr. [redacted] stated that he was too expensive for Mr. [redacted].
Mr. stated that he was on the site one day when Mr. had brought in equipment to bury the pits that paint had been dumped in. He said that dumped paint in a pit and when Mr. tried to push soil over the pit the paint simply came to the surface.

Mr. Trim stated that the wells at the residences were tested two years ago by the state and that they were found to be free of industrial contaminates. Mr. Trim pointed out that a third residence has since been constructed directly adjacent to the newly discovered site and that the owner has experienced odors and oily substances in his well water. This officer talked with the new resident identified as of Milford Road. Mr. stated that he has observed oil sheens in his water and an oily smell. Mr. stated that his water has never been tested by the state. Mr. stated that his well is screened in between 87 and 92 feet.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. This site be treated as a known industrial waste dumping site and suspected ground water contamination site.
2. Investigate possible sources of funding for monitoring and/or removal. (Any left over funds from Rose and Springfield townships cleanup.)
3. Well water analysis be initiated on the three wells adjacent to the site.
4. Investigator William Murphy coordinate any further legal investigations due to his personal knowledge of the Demode Road case.

**NAMES & ADDRESSES:**

Holly zip code 48442
CONSENT TO SEARCH

September 9, 1981
(Location)

I, __________________________, an authorized representative of __________________________, having been informed of my constitutional right not to have a search made of the premises and/or sites hereinafter mentioned without a search warrant and of my right to refuse to consent to such a search, hereby authorize ____________, the name of agent or officer, to conduct a complete search of the premises and/or sites located at __________________________.

These (officers or agents) are authorized by me to take from the above mentioned premises or sites __________________________.

This is a voluntary written permission given by me, an authorized representative of __________________________, to the above named person and/or agencies.

Witnesses: __________________________
Signed: __________________________
Date: __________________________
Dumpsite located in cemetery

Workers from the Oakland County facilities and operations department loaded solid waste into a transfer station trailer on Friday. (Special Column photo/Ken Fred)

The story of a DNR laboratory in Lansing for testing.

Meanwhile, Trim said he hopes to have well water at three homes near the dump tested for possible contamination. "Two of the homes were checked 2 years ago and no trace of chemical seepage was found. The third home has been constructed since the last round of testing," Trim said.

Peter Ollila of the DNR water quality division said the material appeared incinerated or transported to a special waste landfill."We never did any dumping there," said Doherty. "I didn't do it, I didn't know about it, and I never received any compensation for it. We never attempted to run a dump."