

INVESTIGATION

The informant and I visited the location where the soil/sludge was disposed. This site is located on the south side of Dallas at the intersection of Dallas & South Maple (see map). I observed several mounds of soil/sludge lying in the center of a field (see photo's #1, #2, #3, #4). The field was fenced and the gate was closed and locked. This area is also the location of several storage buildings and is partially residential (see photo's #5, #6, #7, #8).

The informant and I also visited the site of the former pesticide plant located at the intersection of East Iowa and S. Locust (see map). The informant pointed the location of the pesticide disposal pit that had been filled in and sodded. The grass covering the pit and the surrounding area was brown in color yet the grassy area outside the pit was green (see photo's #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14). This parcel of land is in the middle of a residential area (see photo's #15, #16, #17, #18, #19). While taking photographs, a dark colored cadillac pulled up at the corner of East Iowa and S. Locust and stopped for a short period of time. The informant stated that the vehicle belonged to Dave Christensen, a lawyer who was an officer in the Lenox Development Corporation. The confidential informant and I left the area as did the vehicle in question.

The informant supplied the names of the officers of the Lenox Development Corporation as follows:

George Reynolds, (Mayor of Lenox) City Hall, 200 S. Main,
Lenox, Iowa 50851
Richard Wilson, (Lawyer)
Dave Christensen (Lawyer)
Ralph Zabel (Banker)
Gary Zabel (Banker)
Michael Cheese (Grocery Store Owner)

The informant stated that Precision Idler Company and J. T. Industries Limited have locations in Lenox, Iowa. The land occupied by these businesses is owned by Lenox Development Corporation. Precision Idler Company #IAD984568477 and J. T. Industries Limited #IAD981727654 are Small Quantity Generators.

The informant stated further that in 1970 Hoover Ball Bearings Company was located on East Van Buran in Lenox, Iowa. When Hoover Ball Bearings Company closed in 1970, numerous 55-gallon drums containing waste paint were buried at this location. This is the site where Precision Idler Company is presently located.

FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

The informant stated the following:

In 1975, Raymond Brown, 402 E. Temple, Lenox, Iowa, leased a 4 acre parcel of land located at the NW corner of East Iowa and S. Locust in Lenox, Iowa. This parcel was owned by Ken Riley, 401 N. Main, Lenox, Iowa. At this time the parcel only contained a large cattle barn. Raymond Brown and a Mr. Dodson (given name and address unknown) built a pesticide plant at this location known as Lenox Ag. Service. This plant manufactured pesticides, herbicides and insecticides. In addition to this pesticide plant a 20'square 6'deep concrete pit was constructed next to the plant. This pit was utilized for the washing of the trucks that transported these pesticides and was also used to contain or dispose of any spilled pesticides. The manufacturing and distribution of the pesticides, herbicides and insecticides from this plant continued until approximately 1988 at which time the plant was closed, the equipment was sold, the lease canceled, and the buildings and concrete pit reverted to the owner Ken Riley.

In 1988, Ken Riley sold the land and buildings to Gary Swabb, Lenox, Iowa. Gary Swabb bought and sold cattle out of the cattle barn located on this property till 1991 at which time the land and the buildings were sold to Lenox Development Corporation, Lenox, Iowa. Gary Swabb presently lives in Lamoni, Iowa where he is the owner of a livestock sale barn (address unknown).

In 1991, the Lenox Development Corporation sold the pesticide plant building. The building was removed from the property. The buyer and location of the building is unknown.

In spring 1993, the Lenox Development Corporation removed the concrete from the pesticide pit to an unknown location. In addition, the Lenox Development Corporation removed the soil/sludge from the 20' square pit and disposed of this waste on land owned by Lenox Development Corporation located on south side of Dallas at the intersection of Dallas & South Maple, Lenox, Iowa. The soil/sludge from the pit was transported by Sweeney Bros. a local trucking business in Lenox, Iowa. After excavation the pit was filled in with dirt and sodded.

