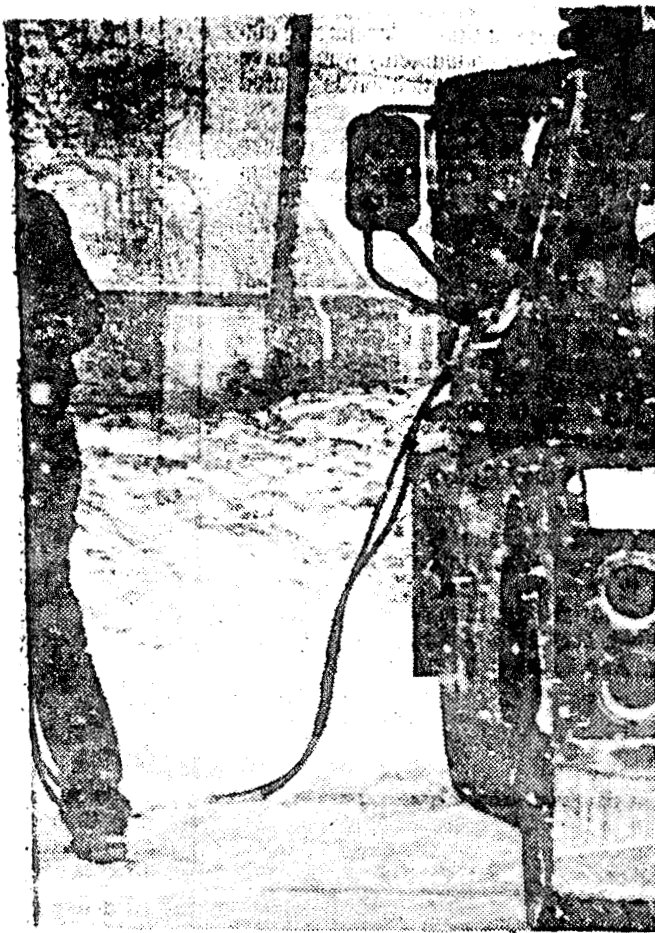


NIAGARA GAZETTE 01-28-86



RON SCHIFFERLE — Niagara Gazette

RECEIVED JAN 10 1986

pt busy Monday jump-starting stranded automobiles.
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nan said.

Meanwhile, Norstar's proposed acquisition of Niagara County Savings Bank — the agreement was announced Jan. 2 — is expected to be completed by early March. Directors of the Niagara Falls-based bank unanimously approved the agreement earlier this month. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

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Norstar Bank, N.A., reported assets of \$1.03 billion as of September 1985 while the Niagara County Savings Bank reported assets of \$275 million.

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Golonka testified Monday that he had heard Capt. Henry Newman read Ninham his Miranda rights.

"(Newman) asked if he would give

Radioactivity test on LOOW site soil proves negative

By CAROLYN KUMA
Niagara Gazette

Tests on clay taken to the Love Canal chemical dump from the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works in Lewiston did not indicate radioactivity, officials said Monday.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation and the state Health Department conducted the tests after receiving an anonymous telephone call alerting them to the possibility of radioactivity, Nelson Walter said. Walter is the DEC's site coordinator for Love Canal sewer cleanup.

Walter said more than 200 truckloads — about 2,000 cubic yards — of clay were taken to the dump between Dec. 23 and Jan. 2. The clay will be used as fill around the dewatering facility under construction at the site.

The facility will separate liquids from the sewer sediments once sewer cleanup begins.

The Severson Containment Corporation is the contractor for sewer cleanup. Walter said it was the company's responsibility to bring the clay to the site.

"When we heard it might be radioactive, we went out with Geiger counters and measured it," Walter said. "We also contacted the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works and they were sure it wasn't radioactive. We contacted the contractor and they had checked and had documentation that it was not radioactive."

The Geiger counter tests were conducted by Walter and by a state Health Department official based in Buffalo. The tests showed background levels of radiation, which Nelson said are low levels naturally found in the earth.

William O'Brien of the health department's Buffalo office agreed. "We did a test of the soil supposedly contaminated and didn't find any radioactivity beyond background levels. There was no indication of radioactivity," he said.

The Lake Ontario Ordnance Works on Pletcher Road was a 7,500-acre site owned by the U.S. Army. In 1944, it became the dumping ground for waste from the Manhattan Project atomic bomb research. Between 1955 and 1968, the government sold all but 190 acres of contaminated property on the site.

In 1983, the energy department began excavating thousands of cubic yards of radioactively-contaminated soil from the site.

answer another inmate who asked why he was there.

"He said, 'I just killed a man, I used a blade to do it,'" Golonka said.

Ramon Centeno of South Street was in a city holding cell when Ninham was brought in and testified that he also heard Ninham

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