

The Big Oil Spill Spreads ---Ocean Beaches Are Hit



by Peter Breinig

Volunteer wildlife rescuers waded into the surf at a Bolinas beach to bring in some of the oil-soaked birds

A Frantic Effort to Save Birds

By George Murphy

Moving as irrevocably as wind, wave and tide, the oil from the Standard Oil Co. spill stained the Pacific coastline from Bolinas to Pacifica yesterday.

Birds died from the oil, and from the well-meant efforts of volunteers.

Bolinas Lagoon, a 1500-acre natural wildlife sanctuary, sustained only slight damage.

Volunteers strung booms across the channel and were aided by a north wind and a high tide that crested lower than expected. However, they faced another onslaught at 2 a.m. today when the tide came in again.

NIXON

Assemblyman March K. Fong (Dem.-Oakland) wired President Nixon, urging him to declare San Francisco Bay a disaster area and to send a presidential envoy here to investigate.

She called on the oil industry in the Bay Area to concentrate on cleanup operations.

"Other than essential maintenance, I am calling for a complete halt of production and a shift of every available man and every available piece of equipment to cleanup duty," she said.

SCHOOLS

Schools along the coast closed yesterday to allow their students to help rescue oil-soaked waterfowl.

This, in some instances, proved counter-productive.

Craig Hansen of the Marin Biology Laboratory at Bolinas said so many volunteers showed up that many were catching birds that didn't want to be caught.

What that meant was that eager volunteers would actually go into the water after birds, frightening the weary fowl away from shore so that they would drown.

The Coast Guard set 9:30

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Thousands Join the Rescue

By Scott Thurber

Thousands of volunteers immersed themselves yesterday in an arduous, messy and sometimes hopeless effort to save the countless waterfowl drenched with gooey oil after Monday's big spill.

Singly or in organized patrols, they stalked the beaches, coves and precipitous

shoreline areas of San Francisco Bay and nearby ocean-front areas in search of oil-soaked birds.

Then they took them to the many receiving stations which sprang up overnight around the bay — stations where the birds were given intensive treatment, or held for transfer to a treatment center.

Despite efforts to the contrary, the campaign still was largely uncoordinated yesterday.

And helpful volunteers far outnumbered oily birds in hand.

It was impossible to estimate the number of birds coated with oil, fatally or otherwise.

Those involved in the

collection and treatment process would only estimate the soaked birds "in the hundreds."

A major effort to coordinate the bird-rescue effort was being made by a team of officials of the State Department of Fish and Game — veterans of the 1969 Santa Barbara disaster — headed

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Reagan Is Hopeful For Tax Reform

By Earl C. Behrens
Political Editor

said he already has talked with some Democratic lead-

Housing Cops Bombed

The San Francisco Housing Authority police station at Hunters Point was blasted by a bomb and peppered by sniper fire last night.

Neither of the two officers

Talk of Foul Play In Varda's Death

By George Draper

Berkeley architect Judd Paz in Baja California. Boynton said yesterday he is convinced foul play Varda was mugged and

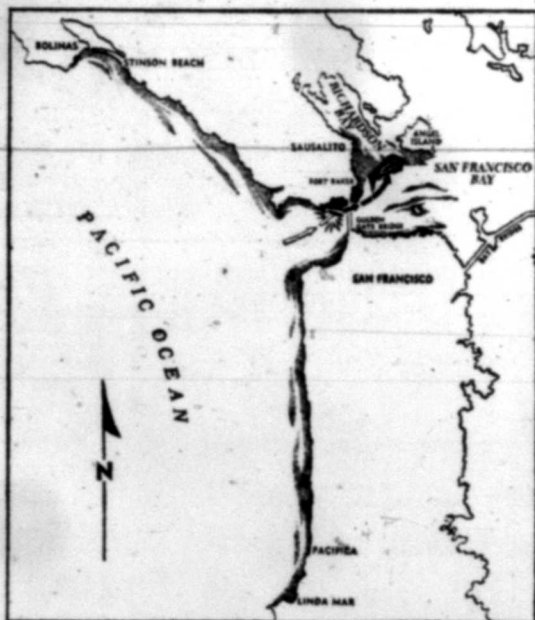
Oil Spill Spreads to Sea Beaches

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a.m. today for a formal investigation into the collision of the two Standard Oil Co. tankers off the Golden Gate Bridge early Monday.

Lieutenant Commander Roy E. Nichols Jr., senior investigator for the Coast Guard's San Francisco Marine Inspection Bureau, will sit as a one-man board on the hearing.

The hearing will aim at determining the cause of the collision — at 1:45 a.m. on



**More oil slick news
on Pages 2 and 3.**

The collision site and the oil spread

Monday, in a zero-visibility fog — between the tankers Arizona Standard and Oregon Standard.

CLEANUP

Standard Oil Co. of California is financing the cleanup operation of the spill, utilizing 500 workers, ten tugboats, 25 charter boats, seven oil-skimming barges, 30 vacuum trucks, 13 tank trucks, 20 dump trucks, four tractors and four "scoopmobiles."

If the oil company were not to pay for the cleanup, and it were left to the federal government to do so, the company could be fined \$100 a gross ton for each ton of the offending vessel. If this vessel were found to be the Oregon Standard, the cost could be more than \$1 million, but since the company is in fact doing the cleanup itself, the point is moot.

Within the bay, the area of the oil spillage was no more—even somewhat less—than it had been on Monday.

Angel Island and Alcatraz had oil lapping at their beaches, but there were no reports of oil south of the Bay Bridge, and none whatsoever on East Bay shores.

But on the San Mateo coastside, oil hit Devil's slide, and moved even further south to Linda Mar beach, to stain about half a mile of sand there. Pacifica Fire Chief Ken Donohue said the oil damage to the beach went as far south as Pedro Point.

About 200 persons, mostly

volunteers, but including city employees and a city bulldozer and trucks, took part in the cleanup activities.

Pacific Director of Parks and Beaches Dick Burton said there were "occasional" slicks visible on the ocean, and that the movement was "slightly to the south."

Off the Baker Beach area in San Francisco, SPCA humane officer Bud Bischoff reported from a small boat, where he was collecting oil-covered birds, that there was "no evidence of death or illness" among seals he had observed.

STENCH

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board formally ordered Standard Oil Co. of California to clean up all floating and deposited oil. The board is also in charge of selecting sites for the dumping of straw used in soaking up the oil and is "surveying the area for sites," the Coast Guard said.

The oil hit Marin county's Stinson Beach early in the morning, and one resident, Bob Dietrick, told The Chronicle he was awakened at 2:30 a.m. "by the stench. I felt we couldn't breathe."

Fire warden George White said "all of the beach is covered with thick oil. It's gone up the beach about 30 feet from low water."

VOLUNTEERS

A Standard Oil spokesman said the company had reports that "there are so many volunteers (for the cleanup and bird care) that

agencies are swamped."

Radio station KSAN which had volunteers manning its special phone line (+986-6244) to answer calls from persons offering to help, had an "overwhelming response," a spokesman said.

An appeal was issued in San Francisco for supplies and people to help clean up the oil residue and to help save wildlife. They are needed at the Marina Yacht Harbor.

Items needed include sleeping bags, flashlights, extension cords, large tubs and basins, electric lights, rags, food, corn meal, mineral oil, cotton swabs, cotton, stove, pots, boats, rakes, pitchforks, hay, sawdust, eye-drops, gasoline, nets and 100 milligrams of vitamin E-1. For further information, call 563-3730 or 563-3731.

In Washington, U.S. Senator Alan Cranston (Dem-Calif.) urged that Congress "act quickly to improve the safety of ships traveling in inland waters."

"The law should also insist that radar be kept in good working order and be operated by qualified license personnel," Cranston said. No such federal requirement now exists, he added.

He urged swift action on two pending bills, one giving the Coast Guard authority to guide ships in harbors, the other requiring ship-to-ship radio-telephone communications be installed and manned on all inland shipping.

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