...ary, for example, aren't ...included. "I doubt we have in the world not to include that ...

...Powell, predictably, had a different perspec...

...the amount the federal budget will be in ...percentage terms next fiscal year," he said. "The Treas... borrowing for things like the Export-... and what we call off-budget activities. ...to see you've got to talk about one thing or the ... The president's talking about the deficit."

...assert-range health problems of small concentrations of the chemicals, residents of Route 3, Benson, said Tuesday they and several of their neighbors had suffered eye and throat irritations, nausea and dizziness soon after spills were found near their homes.

"All we did (last Wednesday) night was ...

...ber Christine Gomez. ...But a state chemist who went door-to-door in an affected area of Alamance County said he failed to find anyone who complained of illness.

Experts consider PCBs hazardous because they build up in fatty tissues and remain there for long periods of time.

More than 1,000 Japanese developed rashes, ...

...where ...ers from ...tomic ...Our ...lyst, ...he got ...ball-i ...Walter ...drove ...."Some ...dramat... ...Alamar... ...Public ...

A-6 Raleigh News & Observer February 9, 1978

...spill leaves residents ...eeling sick, worried

BY BRUCE SICKLOFF

...acrid stench hung in the humid ...around Mitchell Langdon's ... Crossroads last ...day, everyone ...

...it to you ...would ...on your stomach," ... said Tuesday ...

...power, and if you drank ...felt like you wanted to throw it ...sure didn't want anything to eat at ...

...traced to an oily, ...that had appeared overnight in ...along the shoulder of N.C. 210.

...ials ignited the stain on a van... ...which they've never come ...before: Someone driving a tank... ...apparently spewed toxic, ...along more than 70 miles ...separate stretches ...of the highway on the night ...The cargo included PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), a known cancer-... and other chemicals.

...nearly a week later, the ... ...disappointed. But lingering ... ...Langdon's neighbors and ... were a major residue of worry, ... and anger.

... what the after-effects ... ...do to you if you're ... Christine Gomez as the ... leaves onto a convey... ... migratory farm ... she was pregnant ... ...consulted a doctor.

... workers at Lang... ... last two to three ... nausea, diarrhea, ... that struck them last Wednesday. None sought medical attention, they said. As they loaded bulk curing barns with tobacco leaves Tuesday, several said they were not fully recovered.

After Langdon complained to state officials about the toxic spill, state road crews shoveled sand onto the stain Monday — but only where it passed in front of his farm. Elsewhere along N.C. 210 between Smithfield and Angier, a brown strip of dead grass remained Tuesday, running for miles with only occasional interruptions.

The strip stops as the highway approaches the intersection with N.C. 50, and then it starts up again on the other side. At the bridge over Black Creek, the two-foot-wide stain moves onto the asphalt where the tanker driver apparently veered toward the center of the road. A faint, sweet odor remained in the air around the bridge Tuesday.

Keith Langdon, farmer Langdon's brother, pointed to the strip of fresh sand by the road that masked the spilled chemicals. A little sand wouldn't make the stuff any less dangerous, he said.

"I was going to have a birthday party here Saturday, but I'm not going to now. I don't want my friends coming around here, stepping in it," Keith Langdon said, hopping across the sandy margin.

Anne P. Stephenson said she still felt queasy and weak from her illness. "I thought it was something they were spraying on tobacco or potatoes," she said, before she learned of the deliberate chemical spill.

M.H. Coates had been driving to a hamburger stand for a milkshake when the smell hit him last Wednesday: a powerful, acrid odor that made his nose and eyes smart. He was passing near a bog farm at the time, he said Tuesday, and at first he presumed that was the source of the smell. "But I didn't know how the people who lived around there could stand it that bad."

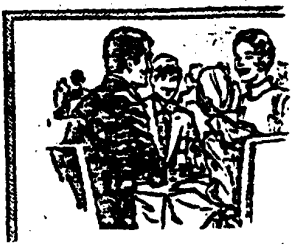


M.H. Coates

Coates didn't get sick until Thursday. He said Tuesday he still felt dizzy and weak and he was unable to help his farm hands load tobacco into bulk curers.

"I thought it was my high-blood pressure. I was weak, sick at my stomach . . . I ain't never been bothered with my stomach like that before," Coates said.

He said he had noticed the strip of dead grass beside the road, but had presumed it





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But a state chemist who went door-to-door in an affected area of Alamance County said he failed to find anyone who complained of illness.

Experts consider PCBs hazardous because they build up in fatty tissues and remain there for long periods of time.

More than 1,000 Japanese developed rashes, when they contracted the so-called Jusho Disease from eating rice oil contaminated with PCBs.

One state chemical analyst, Clyde E. Fuller, said he got a whiff of a "moth ball-like smell" last Wednesday night as he drove away from the "Sword of Peace" outdoor drama near Snow Camp in Alamance County.

Fuller, who plays colo- ...ne drama, had coincidentally been sent to check on the Johnston County spill earlier in the day.

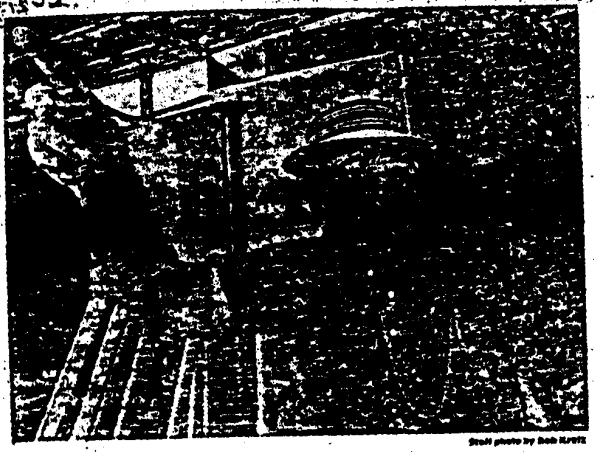
"It sort of sparkled in the moonlight, a band of the stuff about two feet wide along the highway," he said. Fuller plucked blades of grass to send to the laboratory.

Other state chemists are still trying to find out how concentrated the PCBs are and what other contaminants might have been discharged.

Howard N. Lee, state secretary of natural resources and community development, is expected to announce a strategy for cleaning up the chemicals late today. "The concentrations will be the pivotal factor in what Lee does," a department spokesman said.

But state officials are already downplaying earlier state estimates that it might take millions of dollars to purify soil in the six counties. "We're hoping that this won't cost a lot of money to correct," Hines said.

A Fort Bragg spokesman said Tuesday evening a chemical, now apparently thought to contain some PCBs, was discovered on the western portion of the military base in late June, about 30 miles from the Little River which supplies drinking water to the post.



Staff photo by Bob Krist

M.H. Coates said he still feels sick

..."I was weak, sick at my stomach"

lived around there could stand it that bad."

Coates didn't get sick until Thursday. He said Tuesday he still felt dizzy and weak, and he was unable to help his farm hands load tobacco into bulk curers.

"I thought it was my high-blood pressure. I was weak, sick at my stomach . . . I ain't never been bothered with my stomach like that before," Coates said.

He said he had noticed the strip of dead grass beside the road, but had presumed it came from the application of a fungicide spray to kill roadside grass. When he heard radio reports Tuesday afternoon about the deliberate PCB dumping, Coates said, he was worried for the first time.

"I went to school to learn about putting out poisons on my crops. But I can't understand why anybody would want to strew anything like that on the road that would kill the whole country," he said.



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