

CECA

HQ-RIN-03351-97

Due: 10/10/97.

BH 249-23

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] on March 2, 1989, in Birmingham, Alabama.

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[REDACTED] On March 2, 1989, STEVE WAY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA), Enforcement Officer, National Enforcement Investigations Center, Denver, Colorado, provided the following information concerning his contact with RANDY KIPIN, KIPIN INDUSTRIES (KI).

[REDACTED] WAY provided information that KIPIN had an employee named ART COUGHENOUR who may have written down something in his personal log concerning a two man operation out of a pickup truck which was dismantling tanks for WADE SAND AND GRAVEL (WSG) at the site of the OLD REPUBLIC STEEL PLANT. Information was obtained which indicates the man that was injured in a tank explosion on site was out of Texas and the other man was a local man.

[REDACTED] WAY provided information that KIPIN stands behind the environmental survey report furnished to both LTV and WSG. KIPIN dipped material out of the storage tanks and conducted a field flash test to determine if the material was hazardous in characteristic. Every sample KIPIN removed from the tank proved to be hazardous by way of the flash test. KIPIN also dipped the material with a stick to determine approximate quantities of material in the tanks.

[REDACTED] KIPIN had access to the OLD REPUBLIC STEEL SITE on October 1, 1987 even though the property was not officially purchased until the end of October.

[REDACTED] Tar tanks located on site all had tar in them and an ammonia liquor tank was also full. One particular tar tank had approximately 52,000 gallons in it, approximately 1,300 gallons/or per foot and had tar laying about on the ground which had leaked out of an access port which had been removed.

[REDACTED] KIPIN sampled the equipment in the by products area and determined the equipment still had hazardous material remaining in it, such as the Agitator Tank had corrosive materials in it.

knew about it's location and his pointing it out to them. ]

WAY also confirmed that KIPIN was aware and knew the sump located in the by products area connected to the sump located near the treatment lagoon, by means of underground piping and channels. KIPIN also confirmed the location of a pump, pumping the hazardous liquid from the sump into the treatment lagoon which empties to Village Creek. KIPIN said the "sump was filling up as fast as WADE could pump it to the treatment lagoon."

KIPIN is forwarding a copy of the blue prints to the OLD REPUBLIC STEEL site which shows how the sumps are connected to the Birmingham Office of the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ]

KIPIN was informed by WAY that he may need to be called to testify before the Grand Jury or make a statement for an affidavit. KIPIN indicated he was willing to testify to what he saw and remembered about the site and the activities of WSG concerning environmental problems at the site. ]

WAY provided the following names that he received from KIPIN that knew about the condition of the OLD REPUBLIC STEEL site when WSG bought it. KIPIN also indicated to WAY that many of the people were present during meetings with himself, WSG and LTV steel:

PHIL DALTON

Environmental Manager for LTV

BUSTER STEWART

Environmental Manager for LTV

STAN BEAVERS

Plant Manager for LTV

STEPHEN GREENE

LTV, now working for WESTINGHOUSE in Pittsburg.