



**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region**

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Notice No .006

September 17, 1973

Geological Survey

Gulf of Mexico Area

Office of the Oil and Gas Supervisor

OCS Operations Safety Alert

Barrels of Deadly Poisonous Cyanide Adrift in the Gulf

The U.S. Coast Guard has advised this office of a ship collision on August 5, 1973, 90 miles off the Yucatan Peninsula which resulted in the loss of 390 barrels of highly poisonous sodium and potassium cyanide.

These barrels are two and one half feet high and sixteen inches in diameter, painted blue with white stenciling. Hurricane Delia has widely scattered these barrels throughout the Gulf.

Please advise all offshore personnel of the following:

1. If a barrel is sighted - do not try and recover, but note the time, location, and direction of drift.
2. Notify all sightings immediately to the Commander Eighth Coast Guard District at A/C 504 527-6225.

These barrels are extremely dangerous and your help in locating them is greatly appreciated.

[signed] J.B. Lowenhaupt Oil and Gas Supervisor

Field Operations

Gulf of Mexico Area