Daily Nebraskan

Millions will be spent to clean soil

By Eric Pfanner Senior Editor

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will spend more than \$2.5 million over the next two years as part of a program to clean up contaminants that have leaked into soil and water southeast of the NU Agricultural Research and Development Station, corps officials said Thursday.

The NU facility is located near Mead on land formerly used for the Nebraska Ordnance Plant, a World War II munitions factory operated by the U.S. Department of Defense.

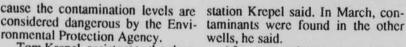
John Moylan, the corps' chief of the foundation and materials branch for the Kansas City District Office, said partial cleanup of the contami-nants will begin this fall. At the same time, the corps will do a comprehensive remedial investigation of the site

and the contaminants, he said. The corps presented a confirma-tion study last week to members of the UNL administration as well as federal, state and local government officials stating that further investigation and cleanup efforts are neces-

sary. George Hanley, chief of public affairs for the corps in Kansas City, said three contaminants have leaked into the water supply southeast of the facility.

Royal Demolition Explosive, or RDX, Trichloroethylene, or TCE, and Polychlorinated Biphenyls, or PCBs, have been found in 10 wells located on and near the university's site, Hanley said.

The owners of three of the wells are using bottled water, he said, be-



Tom Krepel, assistant to the chantions, said the university purchased investigation. 9,000 acres of the 17,000-acre World . "The corps has a well-defined War II ordnance plant in the early process" for dealing with contamina-1960s for its agricultural station.

The site has several uses, he said, including animal science and forestry research.

But "contamination tends to limit what you can do with the site," Krepel said.

In the early 1980s, the university discovered the leakage of contamina-tion and publicized it, he said.

Testing done in December 1988 indicated that the contaminants had entered a well on the agricultural

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considered dangerous by the Envi- taminants were found in the other wells, he said.

After contaminants were identicellor and director of university rela- fied, Krepel said, the corps began its

tion, he said.

First, he said, came an inventory report, which confirmed that the site used to be a Department of Defense facility.

Next came the confirmation study, completed last week. This study indicated that the third step, the remedial investigation, is necessary. The corps will then do a feasibility

study, in which corrective measures

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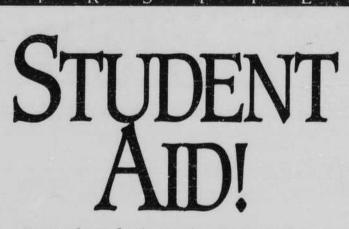
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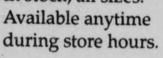
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