

H.W. FARREN IN THE NEWS

Rockaway is 'boom' town

Local firm aiding Kuwaitis with oil-absorbent material

By **STUART McKEEL**
Daily Record

ROCKAWAY — A family-owned business in Rockaway this week is joining the clean-up battle in the Persian Gulf.

H.W. Farren Co. is shipping nearly 19 miles of oil-absorbent booms to help contain oil slicks that are fouling the waters of the Gulf, said Glenn Wargo, manager of sales and safety for the business.

The 32-year-old company, which packages and transports large and odd-shaped machinery, contracted with Aramco — the Arab-American oil company — to crate about 1,000 booms and truck them to John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City, Wargo said.

A giant 747 cargo plane is scheduled to fly the crates and other cleanup equipment to Saudi Arabia this weekend, Wargo said.

Once in the Gulf region, the booms will help control slicks from an estimated 2 million barrels of oil supposedly released from Kuwaiti oil facilities into the Gulf by Iraqi soldiers during the Gulf War.

Coupled with black clouds of soot from hundreds of fiercely burning oil wells, the oil slicks have caused an immense environmental disaster in much of the area.

Wargo declined to specify how much

the contract was worth. But, he said while it was not large, the company was both helping people in the region and establishing what could be a new and lucrative market for H.W. Farren.

"This is our first job with them and we hope to do more," he said.

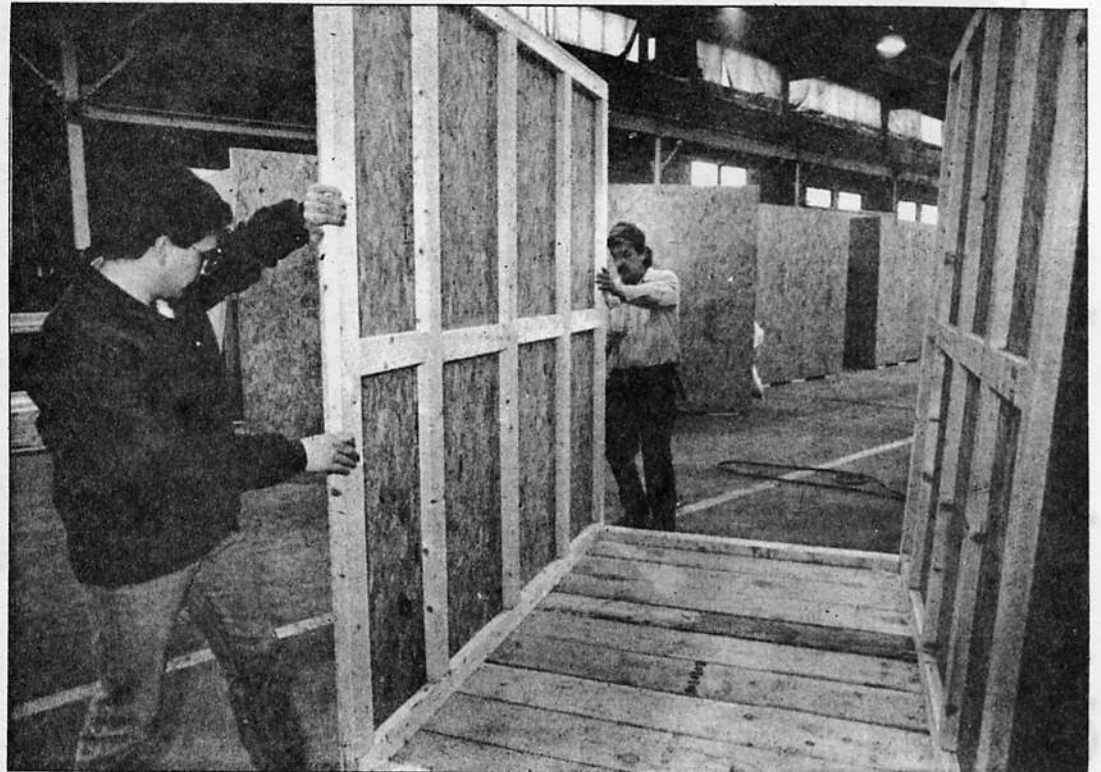
The company does more than \$1 million in business a year moving ungainly industrial machinery and other equipment from state to state and across continents.

"We move all types of unusual and out-sized equipment," Wargo said.

The company is owned and operated by Frank Antonucci and his sons, Philip and Francis of Morris County.



JOHN BELL / Daily Record
Frank Szeleski (left) and Jim Gawlowski unload the oil-absorbent booms.



JOHN BELL / Daily Record
Philip Antonucci (foreground) and Frank Szeleski construct one of the crates that will store some of the booms.

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