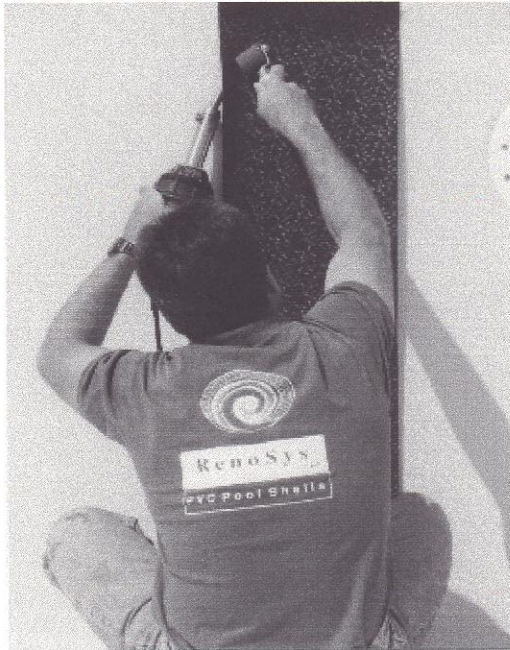


FLEXIBLE TO A FAULT

Pool shells survive L.A. earthquake

When an earthquake measuring 7.5 on the Richter Scale struck **Fort Irwin, U.S. Army Desert Training Center near Barstow, California**, a two-inch wide crack appeared across the bottom of the shallow end of the 15" thick concrete floor in the center's swimming pool. Serving a valuable training and recreation center for the multi-service military training center, the pool was completely filled when the earthquake occurred.

A year prior, Fort Irwin had installed a 60 mil thick reinforced RenoSys PVC Pool Shell system over a thick slipsheet. Although the PVC membrane system had been originally installed to eliminate paint and marcite problems, the reinforced liner provided an unexpected benefit the morning after the quake. Despite the wide fissure,



the shell had allowed the crack to move beneath the slip sheet. The liner stretched across the crack and continued to contain 100% of the pool water. In fact,, the pool didn't even need to be drained for repairs. Normally, a fissure of this size occurring this suddenly would have necessitated the immediate shutdown of the pool for extensive and expensive repairs. Also, washout from the sudden water loss in the sandy desert soil would have severely damaged many pools.

"We were delighted to have saved the United States Army money twice--once, when they stopped the paint and plaster cycle, and again when RenoSys saved the pool shell. Since RenoSys does not depend on a bond with the pool structure, it allows significant shell movement. In this case that proved to be an extremely important feature," said Jason Mart, president of Aquatic Renovation Systems. Shortly after the earthquake incident, Fort Irwin contracted to have their other base swimming pool lined with the PVC Membrane System.