

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 5
ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP
() Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.
Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).
() Form 3 Holdings Reported
() Form 4 Transactions Reported
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
Kirchner, King P
1000 Kensington Tower
7130 South Lewis
Tulsa, OK 74136
USA
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Unit Corporation
UNT
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
4. Statement for Month/Year
December 31, 1996
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
(X) Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other
(specify below)
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check Applicable Line)
(X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
() Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned									
1. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date	3. Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)				5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
			Amount	A/ D	Price				
Common Stock							7,594 (1)	I	401(K) Plan
Common Stock							1,251,998	I	By Trust
Common Stock							2,108	I*	By wife
Common Stock							6,720	I*	By wife as Trustee

Explanation of Responses:
(1) Between 1/1/96 and 12/31/96, the reporting person acquired 1,661 shares of Unit common stock under the Unit 401(k) plan.
* The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares and this report should not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of such shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
/s/ King P. Kirchner
DATE
February 14, 1997