

U.S. Petroleum Needs Said Mounting Rapidly

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex. (AP) — A petroleum economist says the United States will use more oil and gas in the next 15 years than in the last century.

Dr. Richard J. Gonzalez said proven U.S. petroleum reserves will be exhausted in 10 to 12 years if no other deposits are discovered. But he said he is confident the industry can meet oil and gas needs even though requirements are growing daily.

In addition to domestic production, the United States now imports significant quantities of oil from Venezuela and Canada.

In an interview here after a speech to the annual meeting of the Interstate Oil Compact Commission, Gonzalez said the U.S. oil industry has several ways to increase production.

"In this period of 15 years, we are going to learn how to re-

cover more oil from the fields that are already producing. No one can tell you what that is because we don't know how fast technology will improve.

MAKES PREDICTION

"The second thing is that new fields are going to be found. Some of these are going to be found in the well-established producing areas and some of them are going to be found in the newer areas, such as Alaska and the offshore areas of the Gulf of Mexico and the West Coast."

Gonzalez said the U.S. government estimates there are 300,000,000,000 to 300,000,000,000 barrels of petroleum liquids in place in the shale of the Rocky Mountains.

"The question," he said, "is can we learn how to extract this economically. . . . Why does the United States

need so much more petroleum now?"

"The first thing is the normal population growth," Gonzalez replied.

"Second in importance is that the rising standard of living is increasing consumption in a per capita basis. There are more cars and other factors are contributing to the increased need. For example air conditioning and central heating."

Gonzalez, 55, was a member of the Humble Oil Co. board of directors and in charge of the company's economic and finance departments until he resigned last spring to become a private consultant.

FOUND BY AMATEURS

The Kodachrome color photography process was discovered by two American musicians who experimented in their hotel rooms while on tour.

North Star Aircraft Retired With Honors

TRENTON, Ont. (CP)—A big, noisy bird has been retired from RCAF service with full military honors.

The air force staged a nostalgic farewell for the North Star, retiring with a record among planes in military service—18 years on the job around the world without one fatal accident.

A Air Transport command paraded the fat log book of North Star No. 15 between the ranks of a guard of honor and into retirement in a ceremony at the plane's long-time home base here.

Retired Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, chief of the air staff when the decision was to build the plane in Canada for the RCAF and Trans-Canada Air Lines, accepted the log book of No. 15 from Flt. Lt. John A. (Bud) McNair.

It was 1947 when the plane, an American fuselage and British engine, started service with the RCAF.

Flt. Lt. McNair during 21 years has spent 3,500 hours of his 9,700 hours total flying time

in the business seat of a North Star.

In an interview after the ceremony, the New Mills, N.B., native was asked whether he had ever had a really frightening moment in the North Star.

"I never had any doubt in my own mind that the plane would always come through," he replied.

His hours were piled up guiding the plane on Arctic supply runs, on the United Nations Korean, Suez and Congo operations and on a round-the-world trip.

Retired Sqdn. Ldr. Bob Brown of Kitchener, Ont., one of the first pilots to fly North Stars after they were delivered said they were "the most reliable airplane I have ever flown."

The remaining North Stars of the 26 the RCAF got between 1947 and 1950 are destined for sale as surplus.

British Role In Defence Due For Discussion

LONDON (Reuters) — Authoritative sources predicted Britain's global defence role in the next decade will be shaped by Prime Minister Wilson's talks with President Johnson in the U.S. next week.

The sources said the talks may settle the scope of Britain's defence commitments, especially in the critical area east of Suez.

Johnson's views and his ideas of how the economic burden of these commitments could be eased, will largely determine the British government's final decision on the Nation's new defence policies scheduled to be announced early next year.

The Labor government plans to cut defence spending and put a £2,000,000,000 (\$6,000,000,000) annual ceiling on the defence budget by 1969-70.

The two leaders also are expected to discuss NATO nuclear-sharing problems, East-West relations—especially the prospect of a treaty to ban the spread of nuclear weapons, Viet Nam, Malaysia, the Rhodesian independence problem and international economic and trading problems.

Wilson opens his talks with Johnson Dec. 17, the day after his maiden address to the United Nations in New York. His speech to the UN was expected to deal mostly with the Rhodesian problem and will come 24 hours after a deadline imposed by 36 members of the Organization of African Unity for breaking relations with Britain—unless the break-away Rhodesian regime has crumbled by then.

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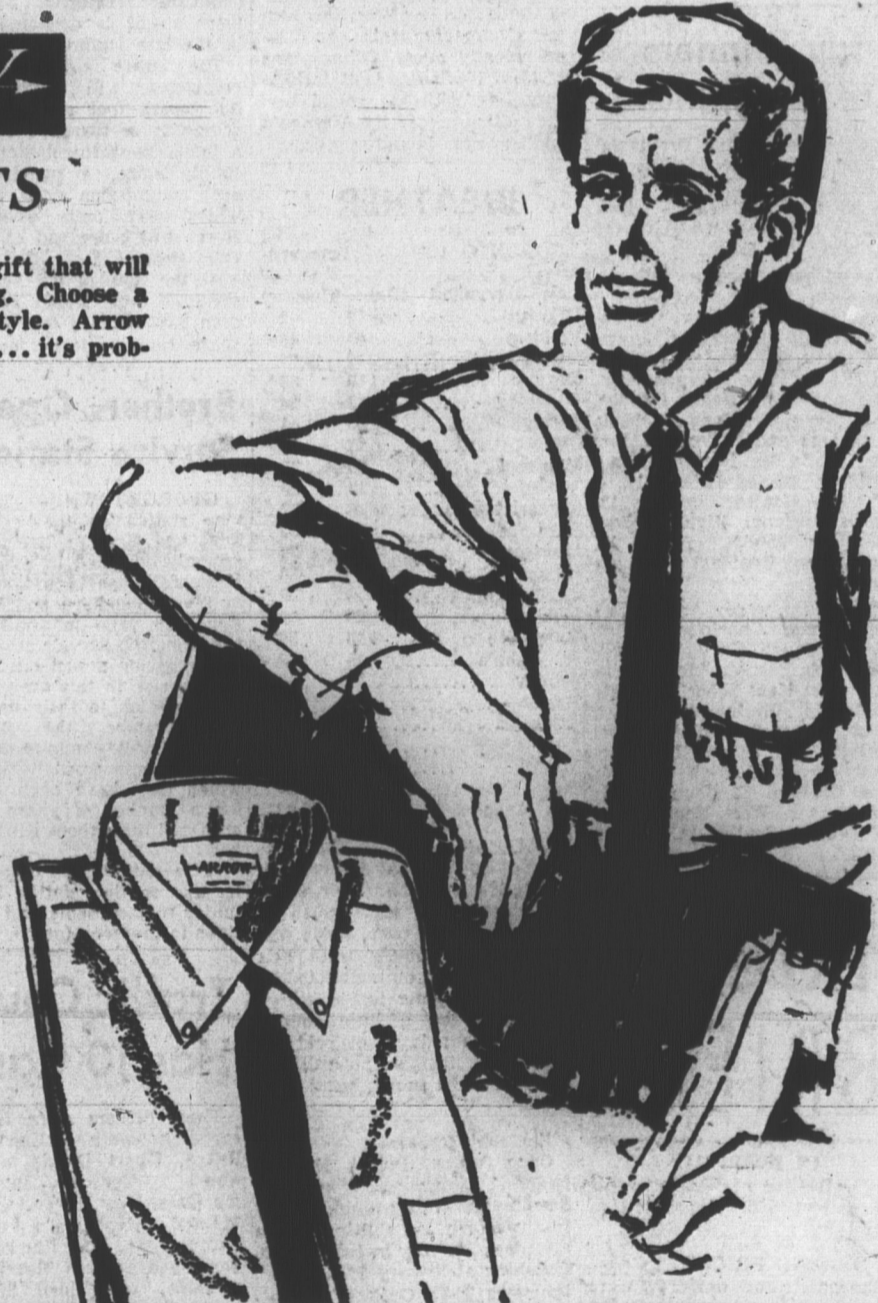
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