

# HGS Luncheon Meeting January 25, 1995 The Houston Club, Downtown

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## *Sleeping Giants*

by Toby Carleton, AAPG President

Giant hydrocarbon accumulations lie sleeping around the world, hidden by a variety of conditions that obscure their location – or even their existence. In the past, technological advances have led to the discovery of some of these giants. No doubt many others lie in wait for some creative new techniques to reveal their secrets. Some obstacles to unveiling these giants are geological masks, complicated reservoir and subsurface fluid relationships, isolated pockets of production, inaccessibility, hostile environments, human activity, reachability, reservoir conditions, and formation damage. Perhaps technology can solve most of these riddles, but the one that it cannot resolve is denial of access because of environmental or other restrictions imposed by governments.

The purpose of this paper is to look at some examples where some of these

puzzles have been solved in order to give an insight into what else might be waiting to be discovered.

### **Biographical Sketch**

A. T. (Toby) Carleton is the 1994–95 President of the AAPG. Toby has had a distinguished career since graduating in 1952 from the University of Texas with both B.S. and M.A. degrees in Geology. He began work with the Ohio Oil Company (now Marathon) and has worked for Zappa Petroleum, Structuremaps, Inc., Pogo Producing, as an independent, and, since 1989, with Tocar Exploration and Tocar Investments.

He is an expert on the petroleum geology of the Permian Basin. He has held office and received honors from many professional societies including AAPG, SEPM, Oklahoma City Geologi-

cal Society, and the southwest section of the AAPG. He was president of the West Texas Geological Society during 1981–82 and was elected to honorary life membership of that society.

Mr. Carleton has been an AAPG member since 1956. His contributions to this organization are numerous and include chairmanship of the House of Delegates, member of the Executive Committee, chairman of the Distinguished Lecture Committee, member of the Advisory Council, and a member of the 21-Century Committee. He has twice received Certificates of Merit and a Distinguished Service Award from AAPG.

