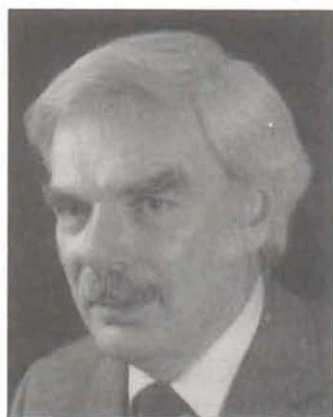


HGS INTERNATIONAL EXPLORATIONISTS GROUP—JANUARY 18, 1984

ROBERT L. MABY, JR.—Biographical Sketch



Robert L. Maby, Jr. is a consulting geologist who has spent most of his professional life in the Middle East. In 1982, he retired from Aramco after 28 years in Saudi Arabia, London and New York. He received a B.S. degree in geology from the University of Wisconsin in 1947 and went on to do graduate work there as well. He left graduate school to accept his first job in the oil industry with Mid-Continent

Petroleum (now Sun Oil) in Oklahoma. In 1954 he resigned from Mid-Continent to join Aramco and has been involved in Middle East exploration and development since that time.

Bob has worked as field geologist, well-site geologist, stratigrapher, reservoir geologist, regional geologist, drilling superintendent, petroleum engineer and geophysicist. He spent five years in the field covering areas of central and northwestern Arabia and the Rub' al-Khali. The experience gave him a thorough overview of Arabian geology and allowed him the opportunity to develop in considerable depth some of his other interests — the archaeology, languages and culture of the peoples of Arabia. Bob traveled extensively throughout the Middle East and added the entire region to his area of geological and archaeological expertise. From field work, he moved into drilling operations, then to a temporary assignment in the New York headquarters, then back to Saudi Arabia as a petroleum engineer. In this capacity he made numerous contributions to the correlation of carbonate stratigraphy using log analyses, to instrumentation and measurements of bottom hole temperatures and pressures, to porosity and permeability studies and, most significantly, to the discovery of multi-billion barrel oil fields. In 1971, Bob was transferred to the London office to investigate and develop a method for integrating seismic, magnetic and gravity data into a comprehensive geological framework. Upon completion

of this assignment, Bob returned to Saudi Arabia as regional geologist for the Middle East. In this responsibility he dealt not only with oil exploration, but also with production and processing operations. He remained in Saudi Arabia until his retirement from Aramco in 1982. Since that time, he has been active as a consultant in Houston and has also been deeply involved in the design and construction of a sophisticated oil industry museum in Saudi Arabia in which visitors can get "hands on" experience in performing many experiments related to petroleum technology.

Bob is a fellow of the Geological Society of America and the Geological Society of London, and is a member of AAPG, SEPM, the International Association of Sedimentologists and the Society of Petroleum Engineers. He is a 1982-1983 Distinguished Lecturer for the Society of Petroleum Engineers in the United States and Europe.

MIDDLE EAST OIL AND GAS ACTIVITIES

A review of Middle East oil and gas developments is presented through an analysis of oil and gas production history and a broad review of recent activities. In addition to establishing the overwhelming potential of Middle East reserves, changes in routing and magnitude of oil shipments between nations and trouble spots of supplies are focused on.

Recent exploration activities show that increasing emphasis is being placed on prospecting for non-associated Permian Khuff gas, with attendant development of gas-related industries. There is continued interest in deeper wildcat drilling and evaluation of older Paleozoic and, in some cases, Infracambrian sediments. A resurgence of interest in gravity and magnetic investigations is developing. A natural, perhaps irreversible, decrease in oil production is taking place in many fields, and secondary recovery mechanisms are receiving wider attention and application.

The trend for greater government involvement through formation of government owned companies to provide management direction for statewide petroleum development continues, with the established companies serving as technical operators. Firmer government control is being established by the use of many-tiered and interlocking overseeing agencies, and there is increased participation by geographically broader based groups of smaller companies. Placement of these activities and trends within the present political climate reveals many areas for concern to the U.S.
