INTERNATIONAL EXPLORATIONISTS GROUP EVENING MEETING—JANUARY 16, 1985

GENE VAN DYKE—Biographical Sketch

Gene Van Dyke received a B.S. degree in geological engineering from the University of Oklahoma in 1950 and joined Kerr-McGee as a geologist in Oklahoma City. He was chief geologist for S. D. Johnson, an independent operator in Wichita Falls, Texas, in 1951 and then became an independent, active in North and West Central Texas. In 1958 he moved to Houston and formed the partnership of Van Dyke and Mejlaender to conduct oil and gas operations in the Gulf Coast areas of Texas and Louisiana. Van Dyke Oil Company, wholly owned by Gene Van Dyke, was formed in 1962 and continued the business of the former partnership.

In the early seventies Van Dyke Oil Company commenced a program in the North Sea and since then has concentrated its operations in that area with emphasis in the Netherlands Sector. Van Dyke's first North Sea group. In 1982 Gene Van Dyke formed Van Dyke Energy Company and continued Netherlands exploration with a second North Sea group. A third group is currently under way with participating companies from Germany, Holland, the U.S. and Canada.

Gene is a member of the A.P.I., I.P.A.A., Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, A.A.P.G. and A.A.P.L. He has presented papers on North Sea developments to various groups in recent years.

DUTCH NORTH SEA

North Sea exploration commenced with the 1958 discovery of the 70-TCF Groningen Field in northern Holland. Since then, over 20 gas fields and 5 oil fields have been discovered offshore Netherlands.

The major orogenies affecting the Netherlands are Hercynian (Carboniferous), Kimmerian (Jurassic), and Laramide (Tertiary). The London Brabant Massif, Mid-North Sea High, and TExel High have been positive tectonic elements throughout most of geological time. Platforms and basins were formed during the Kimmerian and Laramide by rifting and inversion. Traps are mainly a result of this rifting and inversion or salt movement.

Gas reservoirs range in age from Carboniferous to Triassic and are sourced by Carboniferous coal beds. Jurassic shales are the source rocks for oil produced mainly from Cretaceous sandstones.

Oil and gas are readily sold in the local Dutch market. Oil prices are not regulated and gas is equated on a BTU basis to fuel oil imported into Rotterdam.

The offshore has been divided into blocks of approximately 100,000 acres and the government has the right to acquire a working interest of 50% in new gas and oil discoveries. Bonuses and surface rentals are paid to the government on an acreage basis while a sliding scale royalty is paid on the wellhead value of produced hydrocarbons. A series of taxes, which are creditable against U.S. taxes, gives the government approximately 65% and the licensee 35% of derived income.