

**The original documents are located in Box 134, folder “Zarb, Frank” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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Q. What about the Jack Andersen story this morning on Zarb's work in the securities industry?

A. That is not a new story. The same issue was raised when Frank was appointed Assistant Secretary of Labor in 1971. It was thoroughly looked into then as it was again during the most recent background investigations. Zarb was an official of the firm mentioned in the Andersen column. He left that firm in March of 1969 to take a post as top operating officer for another investment company which, in 1970, acquired Hayden, Stone and became known as CBWL-Hayden, Stone. I think you should also be aware of the following:

- 1- The FBI has fully investigated this man's background several times in recent years as part of his clearance process for various government posts. The period Andersen refers to has been part of the investigation. Zarb has been given a clean bill of health each time.
- 2- He has a clear demonstrated track record of management achievement both in and out of government.

The firm he was with before joining the federal government in 1971, Hayden, Stone, ultimately elected him to a very senior executive post on the basis of merit and achievement.

The government people he has worked with including Cabinet members and career officials during Frank's three years of public service have had nothing but praise for

his integrity and management ability. You may recall that he was the man called on to organize and run the national allocation system during the embargo. He was the man sent to New England to manage the aftermath of our 1973 base closings and he was the man assigned to pulling together the government's Indian programs when that area became a small crisis. In each case, he has won the praise of people in and out of government for his honest, open style and his ability to get a job done.

His record stands on its own and the President has confidence in him.

How come the first biography you released on Zarb did not show his affiliation with Goodbody & Co.

The material first released covered the last five years of his background. There were some questions raised about his oil company background going back to 1957-62. An expansion of that was added last Monday night. Then a more complete biography was prepared by Wednesday. You should know that the material sent to the Senate on Wednesday covers his background going back to 1935 when he was born.

Date JY 29 1975

Office of the Administrator

To: Ron Nessen

For Your Information

Frank Zarb

Federal Energy Administration

Room 3400

Ext. 6081

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION  
Week Ending May 23, 1975

Petroleum

- The U.S. petroleum industry will spend \$1.02 billion for air and water pollution control in 1975, a 76 percent increase over these expenditures in 1974, according to a McGraw-Hill economics department survey.
- U.S. dependence on Arab OPEC oil continued to increase in the first quarter of this year, rising to 22.7 percent of total imports from 12.7 percent in 1974.

Natural Gas

- Although industrial sales of gas by utility companies were down 14.7 percent for the 1974-1975 heating season (November-March), residential sales increased by 5.7 percent and commercial sales were up by 6.3 percent.
- The Indonesian national petroleum company, Pertamina, has agreed to deliver liquified natural gas to California in 1982 at a price of \$2.51 per million Btu. Alaskan LNG to be delivered to the same gas company in 1980 is estimated to cost \$2.47 per million Btu. Western Gasification Company proposes to deliver synthetic natural gas made from coal to another California company in 1980 at \$2.38 per million Btu.
- The American Natural Gas System has filed an application with the FPC to construct and operate a coal - gasification (SNG) plant in North Dakota. A favorable ruling by the agency and success in obtaining necessary financial commitments would allow construction to begin in early 1977. The plant is estimated to cost \$778 million and it is designed to produce 911 billion cubic feet of gas per year. Coal facilities will cost about \$126 million. The estimated cost of the SNG at the tailgate of the plant is \$2.52 in 1974 dollars.

Coal

- The Natural Resources Committee of the Texas State Senate has blocked construction of a coal slurry pipeline which would run from Colorado to the Gulf coast. The committee rejected a bill which would have authorized condemnation of land for the right-of-way. Legislation is required because the pipeline would cross the property of railroad companies, who do not want the competition in coal transportation. The railroads argued that an increase in revenues from hauling coal would result in overall improvement in the state's train services, and in the case of one railroad, remedy its financial trouble. An increase in coal usage is expected if Texas phases out natural gas as a boiler fuel.

Nuclear

- Firm plans to increase nuclear generating capacity in other parts of the free world outpace growth in the U.S. through 1980. During this period the U.S. portion of total free world capacity will fall from 57 percent to 45%, after which time it will increase to 55 percent in 1985.
- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a meeting on May 27th so that industry representatives, principally the Atomic Industrial Forum, could ask questions concerning NRC's "provisional decision" of May 8th on plutonium recycle. It was reemphasized in this meeting that NRC intends to conduct a full cost-benefit analysis of the safeguard alternatives for plutonium recycle. The initial draft Environmental Impact Statement on plutonium recycle did not properly consider safeguards according to NRC. In order to rectify this situation, an extended decision-making schedule is anticipated. During the remainder of 1975, existing safeguard studies will be completed; in 1976 an impact statement on safeguards will be prepared; in 1977 public hearings will be held; and sometime in 1978 a final decision will be reached.
- The nuclear industry thinks this delay will further aggravate the "stagnation in the backend" of the nuclear fuel cycle. In this regard, ERDA has just published a task force report recommending "prompt resolution of the question of plutonium recycle." Industry does not view 1978 as "prompt."

Electric Power

- Electric utilities in Texas--still 90 percent dependent on natural gas for electricity generation--are "nervous and skeptical" about upcoming Texas Railroad Commission hearings on the use of natural gas as a boiler fuel. Utility officials are convinced that the hearings were ordered by the Commission to forestall Federal regulation of intrastate natural gas use. The utilities fear the Commission will next impose rigid timetables for the conversion to coal and oil in an effort to free large volumes of natural gas to alleviate shortages on the interstate market and thus defuse Congressional momentum toward increased regulation of this fuel.

Re: 6/18/75

Office of the Administrator

To: Ron Nessen

For your information.

Frank Zarb

Federal Energy Administration

Room 3400

Ext. 6081



SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION  
Week Ending June 13, 1975

Petroleum

- The governors of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia have endorsed drilling in the Atlantic. They are also inviting companies to build refineries in their states.
- Atlantic Richfield is seeking buyers for its marketing operations in 14 central and southern states as well as for its refinery in East Chicago, Indiana. Only service stations in metropolitan Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee, and Toledo will be retained by Arco. Sales of Arco's units must be approved by FEA.
- OPEC ministers have reached a basic agreement on pricing of oil exports in IMF's Special Drawing Rights (SDR) instead of U.S. dollars. The SDR is an IMF-created accounting unit based on a weighted basket of 16 currencies with the U.S. dollar providing one-third the weight. OPEC hopes this action will soften the impact of the dollar's daily fluctuation on the oil revenues they receive. The official communique stated that particulars of the conversion will be announced at OPEC's September meeting and that oil prices will not change until October 1. It was also announced that OPEC will create a special commission to study the future possibility of OPEC setting the export price for natural gas.
- After six consecutive months of decline, Saudi Arabia's major producer, Arabian American Oil Co., increased May crude oil production by slightly more than 1.1 million barrels per day to an average of 6.3 million barrels per day. According to the Wall Street Journal the increase reflects the beginning of inventory replenishment in Western Europe. Tanks which had been full earlier in the year have been drawn down in recent months to prevent product deterioration and because of the need to reduce surplus heating oil stocks. This tends to support the belief of officials of the Royal Dutch Shell Group that actual petroleum consumption in the non-Communist world has been running about four million barrels per day higher than production.

- The West German government seems to be having second thoughts about a proposed tax on "windfall profits" from domestically-produced oil and natural gas. Instead it appears to be favoring a "profit reinvestment" measure. The government is now seeking a way for oil and gas industry profits to be plowed back into bigger oil stockpiles and possibly a natural gas pipeline from the North Sea. Despite a recent law raising mandatory stockpiles for major refiners from 65- to 90-days supply, the EEC is thinking of requiring 120 days supply in the near future.

#### Natural Gas

- The FPC has released a staff report that shows that 1974 imports of pipeline natural gas were 959.3 billion cubic feet -- the first decrease since 1966. Pipeline receipts of gas from Canada and Mexico declined for the third consecutive year and net imports (imports less exports) dropped to 882.5 Bcf.
- An FPC staff report indicates that natural gas supply deficiencies for major interstate gas pipeline companies from April 1975 through March 1976 will be 45 percent higher than for the preceeding 12 months. Net curtailments from April 1974 through March 1975 were 2,013 billion cubic feet while the projection for April 1975 through March 1976 is 2,916 Bcf.

#### Solar

- At this time, a private individual, capable and prepared to install solar equipment and appropriate demonstration instrumentation, cannot obtain aid from any Federal agency. This has been brought to the Office of Data's attention by an individual who has requested aid through his Congressman from FEA, DOI, NASA, ERDA and HUD. All correspondence ended up in ERDA, and was then sent to HUD. The director of the solar program at HUD told this individual that a proposal involving a private party, or a builder with a buyer, would not be eligible for HUD aid. Since the funding of qualified individuals could expand the number of demonstrations, this situation is being highlighted.

## Electric Power

- Construction cutbacks for financial reasons may be declining as the financial positions of electric utilities improve and load-growth resumes after the pause in 1974. Last week the F. W. Dodge (McGraw-Hill) construction survey reported that in April construction of electric generating plants was the strongest sector of nonresidential building. A Dodge official cited better financing terms and liberalized investment tax credit as reasons for the improvement.

July 17, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PAUL THEIS  
DICK CHENEY  
FRANK ZARB ✓

FROM: RON NESSEN

Attached find a copy of a letter I recently received from a friend at Gulf Oil. It outlines the enormous amount of money Gulf spent for drilling on the off-shore rig "New Era" which the President visited. As you see, that huge expense produced no oil.

Perhaps this experience of large expenditure and no result could be worked into a Presidential energy speech sometime as an example of how much it costs the oil companies to search for new sources of energy and how often that search is futile.

RN/cg



5+6

# Gulf Oil Corporation

Robert Goralski  
DIRECTOR - PUBLIC RELATIONS  
WASHINGTON OFFICE

1025 Connecticut Ave., N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

July 14, 1975

Mr. Ron Nessen  
Press Secretary  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ron:


This is not the least of your worries, but you might be interested in one of the most serious of ours. The exploratory rig which President Ford visited off the Gulf of Mexico in late April turned out to be a bummer. After nearly three months of digging at that site, it turned out dry.

Because of Mr. Ford's visit to the rig, you might like to know that rig -- which cost \$28,000,000 -- still has not uncovered any oil. While it was on the location visited by Mr. Ford, Gulf spent \$36,000 a day to keep that rig going.

That's the bad news. The good news is that Gulf has moved the "New Era" rig to another area in the Gulf of Mexico. We will again dig down to more than two miles in the hope that oil is indeed there. So much for obscene profits.

Thanks for the autographed pictures of the President on "New Era."

Cordially,

  
Robert Goralski



D 7/23/75

Office of the Administrator

To: Ron Nessen

For your information

Frank Zarb

Federal Energy Administration

Room 3400

Ext. 6081

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION  
Week Ending July 18, 1975

Petroleum

- The estimated percentages of total production accounted for by new oil and released oil during February were 18 and 10 percent, respectively. Controlled oil accounted for 60 percent, up from the January level of 58 percent (and stripper oil made up the remainder). Controlled oil in both January and February 1975 accounted for 2 percent less than during the corresponding months of 1974.
- "New" oil prices continue to rise. During May, the average domestic "new" oil price was \$11.70 per barrel, 6 cents above the revised April price of \$11.64 per barrel.
- Dramatic gasoline price increases have overshadowed moderate heating oil price increases by refiners. FEA's monthly survey of 21 major refiners indicated that 10 companies increased their heating oil prices. These price increases represent costs to distributors which can be later passed on to consumers during the heating oil season.
- Shell Oil and ERDA will share the cost of a project to test a polymer waterflood technique in East Coalinga field, Fresno County, California. The \$7.3 million, 3-year project could lead to the ultimate recovery of over two million barrels.

Coal

- The Shell Oil Company is making a substantial commitment to mining low-sulfur western coal on the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana. However, the Crows are considering the cancellation of all existing leases on the reservation because they feel that the Bureau of Indian Affairs improperly leased lands to coal companies.
- March 1975 was the first month since July 1973 that both average contract and spot prices of coal delivered to steam-electric utility plants decreased simultaneously. Contract prices had previously increased continuously since July 1973. According to FPC data, the contract price during March 1975 was \$15.68 per ton, whereas the spot price was \$25.02 per ton.

### Natural Gas

- Eight New York State gas utilities have formed a consortium to develop new gas sources in five Southern states. These companies expect to invest almost \$16 million, working in conjunction with a small producer (Weaver Oil & Gas), to search for gas in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. Weaver will invest an additional \$3 million.
- The General Accounting Office has concluded that the FPC's proposed Form 40, "Annual Report of Proved Domestic Gas Reserves" cannot be cleared at the present time because of duplication and burden on the industry. GAO stated that it will give prompt consideration to a revised form which meets statutory requirements regarding duplication and burden.

### Nuclear

- Westinghouse recently corroborated rumors that the company has not made provisions for fulfilling all of its uranium delivery commitments to utilities past 1978. Westinghouse said it has "nearly completed" an "in-depth legal and economic review of its obligations in light of market conditions." Because of the sharp increase in recent uranium prices, if the company has to purchase uranium on the open market, Westinghouse says it could suffer "unfavorable financial impact".
- Data compiled by the Atomic Industrial Forum for the first quarter of 1975 indicates that significant cost savings have been achieved by the nuclear-fueled sector of the U.S. electrical generating system. The survey, covering 22 utilities with varying nuclear and fossil-fuel generating capacities, shows a mean generating cost of 11.59 mills/kwh for nuclear, 16.61 mills/kwh for coal, and 41.48 mills/kwh for oil-fired plants, including costs of fuel and amortization of capital.
- Atomic Industrial Forum claims that the nuclear plants accounted for 8.5 percent of all electricity sold in the quarter, representing savings of nearly 60 million barrels of oil or 15 million tons of coal.

### Electric Power

- Scientists at the Battelle Memorial Institute have developed a new process for removing sulfur from high-sulfur coal to make



Electric Power (Continued)

it an economically competitive and environmentally acceptable fuel. The Battelle Hydrothermal Coal Process produces a clean solid fuel by removing up to 99 percent of the pyritic sulfur and up to 70 percent of the organic sulfur. This degree of coal cleanup currently requires use of more expensive processes or of scrubbers, which have problems of reliability, cost, and disposal of the effluent. The effluent of the Battelle process is elemental sulfur which can be sold commercially or easily stored.

- The owners of 20 of the 74 generating plants ordered by FEA to convert to coal say they may go to court to stop FEA. The utilities argue that the conversions would be too costly, and that in some cases expensive anti-pollution devices would also be required.

**FEDERAL ENERGY ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20461**

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**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

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Honorable Ronald H. Nessen  
Press Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

**POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
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**FEA-350**



Date: 9/10/75

Office of the Administrator

To: Ron Nessen

For your information.

Frank Zarb

Federal Energy Administration

Room 3400

Ext. 6081

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION  
Week Ending September 5, 1975

Petroleum

- Apparent demand for all petroleum products for the four weeks ending August 29 averaged 15.83 million b/d, 5.8 percent below the same period in 1974. Demand for residual fuel oil was down 17.3 percent and distillate was off 4.2 percent while motor gasoline was practically the same as the year before. Imports were 4.3 percent below 1974 and crude production was down 6.3 percent.
- Packed ice and gale-force winds in the Arctic Ocean continued late last week to prevent the annual North Slope sealift from moving past Point Barrow with its Prudhoe Bay production cargo. With time running out, the possibility is growing that for the first time this century the seasonal passage may be blocked.
- Crown Central Petroleum will convert all its Virginia service stations to company-operated status. Crown says reluctance of its lessee operators to abide by its high-volume, low-per-gallon concept has prompted the move. According to Crown, many of its dealers refuse to pass on to motorists the benefit of the cost reductions inherent in the multi-pump approach.
- The Chase Manhattan Bank reporting group of oil companies (mostly majors) drilled nearly 3,300 exploratory and development wells during the first half of 1975, accounting for about 19 percent of all wells drilled in the U.S. The average depth of wells drilled by the group was 5,544 feet vs. 4,402 feet for all other operators; and the average cost per well, \$218.5 thousand vs. \$103.3 thousand for other companies.
- According to BLS, in the period January 1974-June 1975, OPEC revenue per barrel increased by 9.6% while the prices OPEC countries paid for American goods increased by between 7.2% and 9.7%.
- Final FEA August reports indicated that the national average selling price of regular gasoline increased 0.5 cents per gallon to 59.2 cents per gallon.
- FEA's August survey of 21 of the nation's largest gasoline marketers indicated fewer companies increased prices than in June and July. Thirteen companies increased prices, three reduced prices, and five held prices constant in August. In comparison, in June, all 21 companies increased prices, and in July, 20 companies increased prices and one held prices constant.

Petroleum (Continued)

- FEA's August survey of 21 of the nation's largest heating oil producers found more major refiners increasing their prices than in previous months. During August, 15 companies increased prices and the remainder held prices constant; during July, nine companies increased prices and the remainder held prices constant.

Natural Gas

- The Delaware Basin of West Texas continues to be one of the Nation's most active gas areas. Free market intrastate prices and the high deliverability of the wells are incentives for operators to invest up to \$2.5 million per well and drill to depths of 22,500 feet. Current activity is almost evenly split between wildcatting and development drilling.

Nuclear

- A survey on energy questions conducted by the Opinion Research Corporation of Princeton for C&E has yielded quite different results than the recent Louis Harris survey. The sharpest contrast is found in public assessment of nuclear power plant problems. Some 48% of the ORC "public" saw waste disposal as the greatest problem, while only 3% in the Harris survey contended that waste disposal problems made nuclear plants "unsafe." Radiation discharge (25%), nuclear accident (23%), and thermal pollution (17%), rounded out the ORC responses, while discharge, accident, and pollution were cited by 10%, 8%, and 3%, respectively, in the Harris study.

Coal

- The West Virginia Coal Association has reported that as of Monday morning 7,500 miners in West Virginia were still idled by the wildcat strike. The return to work is near normal in all counties but Boone and Logan, the origin of the strike. This situation represents a substantial improvement over the end of last week when 37,000 miners were out in West Virginia and 2,000 in Pennsylvania.

Electric Power

- The Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association of Denver is building a small-load, direct current facility which will provide the first permanent closed link between the Eastern and Western power grids of the United States. The direct current link will eliminate the need to maintain synchronization between grids which is a problem in long-distance transmission of alternating current.

Date: 10/8/75

Office of the Administrator

To: Ron Nessen

For your information.

Frank Zarb

Federal Energy Administration

Room 3400

Ext. 6081

*P. Lee*

National Energy  
Information Center

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION  
Week Ending October 3, 1975

Petroleum

- Indonesia's Minister of Mines announced that "OPEC's 10 percent increase is too steep for his country to risk during its current drive to increase production in face of a declining market" and that their export price increase would be less than 10 percent. Iraq, Algeria, and Iran are believed to consider their crude oil to be priced too high compared with the Saudi Arabian marker crude.
- Motor Gasoline. During September, the monthly average retail selling price for regular gasoline was 59.3 cents per gallon, a slight increase of .1 cent over August. This increase reflects price changes by retailers prior to the anticipated expiration of price controls on August 31 and after FEA's regular monthly survey on August 22. FEA's monthly survey of 21 of the nation's largest refiners indicated that during September, five refiners decreased prices and the remainder held prices constant.
- Heating oil prices continued to show upward pressure. During September, eight of 21 refiners raised prices while the remainder held prices constant. In comparison, in August, 15 refiners raised prices and the remainder held them constant.

Natural Gas

- The Governor's Energy Council of Pennsylvania has adopted a resolution supporting exploration for natural gas in Lake Erie. Governor Shapp had previously stated that he would lift a moratorium on drilling in the lake in effect since 1969 if recommended by the Council.
- The Canadian and Alberta Governments have completed an agreement which will sharply increase natural gas prices. Domestic prices will increase 52 percent to \$1.25 Mcf at Toronto effective November 1. Export prices will go to \$1.60 on the same date. This will increase U.S. natural gas imports costs by an estimated \$33 million for the remainder of 1975.

Natural Gas (Continued)

- Texas Eastern, Columbia Gas, and Transcontinental gas pipeline have filed plans to allow certain industrial customers to take advantage of the new FPC rule regarding purchases of gas at unregulated prices in the intrastate market. FPC authorization is required for transportation of the gas through interstate pipelines for delivery to the customers. Lukens Steel will buy 20 million cubic feet per day (MMCFd) and a fertilizer plant in Ohio, 40 MMCFd. The sales will run from November 1 to April 1, 1976, with Mobil Oil Corp. receiving \$1.90 per MCF for the Texas produced gas. Dan River Mills is buying 1 MMCFd for five years at \$1.50 per MCF and Owens-Corning in South Carolina is purchasing 600 MCFd at \$1.85 per MCF for 15 months.

Nuclear

- The Canadian Government has insisted upon retaining control over spent fuel in the proposed 600 MWE CANDU unit for Argentina. This represents a reaction to India's use of plutonium from a CANDU reactor for a nuclear detonation. Canada intends to demand similar safeguards in future sales beginning with a South Korean contract.
- ERDA is increasing efforts to increase Congressional support for the Administration's Nuclear Fuel Assurance Act which would underwrite a \$3.16 billion plant of 9 million SWU capacity as a private project. Congress is thought to be waiting for the GAO assessment which it is believed will recommend continued government control of enrichment.

Solar

- Loudon County, Virginia, is planning a school that will provide hot water utilizing solar energy. A performance specification will require solar collectors to deliver 550 Btu's per sq ft per day as a minimum monthly average. Minimum collector efficiency would be 43% based on January solar radiation, a performance figure within current state-of-the-art.



SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION (Continued)  
Week Ending October 3, 1975 (Continued)

3

Electric Power

- House and Senate subcommittees have approved draft amendments to the Clean Air Act which EPA officials believe would require scrubbers on virtually all large new coal-fired plants, whether or not they burn low-sulfur coal. The extra cost to utilities could be billions of dollars. The legislation would bar significant deterioration of air quality in so-called "clean air regions"--areas where the air is cleaner than required by Federal ambient standards. The EPA will file formal comments on the legislation and is expected to urge that the more lenient existing EPA standards be given time to work.
- The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) has released a study that attempts to measure the efficiency of state-regulated utilities. Entitled "The Measurement of Electric Utility Efficiency," the report examines 213 utilities representing 98 percent of all investor-owned electricity producers in the nation. Con Ed's was rated worst in its class while Indiana and Michigan Electric, along with another AEP subsidiary, ranked very high. The Edison Electric Institute opposes the study, asserting that comparisons of performance are not meaningful because of the different conditions under which the company is operating.

Coal

- TRW has proposed constructing sea-based coal-fired 400 MW power plants beyond the state's jurisdiction off the California coast. EPA would be the only regulatory authority involved. Alaskan low-sulfur coal, strip mined near Anchorage, would be mine mouth processed, pipelined to converted oil barges, and shipped to the sea-based power station.

October 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR FRANK ZARB ✓

FROM: RON NESSEN

I believe you are the most appropriate person  
to respond to the editorial criticizing the EIA.

Let me know what you decide to respond.

Attachment: Letter from Larry Harding, Jefferson  
Pilot Broadcasting Co.

RN/cg



**January 19, 1976**

**MEMORANDUM FOR FRANK ZARB**

**FROM: RON NESSEN**

**When I was returning from Florida last week, an independent oil man who I talked with on the airplane, gave me this brochure.**

**I thought you might be interested in it.**

**Attachment: Annual Report to the Members  
Independent Petroleum Association of America**

**RN/CG/cg**

