SUMMARY OF PIRINC'S PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES DURING 1978

In 1978 PIRINC's staff published five reports and six articles, testified at three Congressional hearings and one Interior Department hearing, presented written papers at five conferences and conventions and lectured or was a panel member at fourteen industry, governmental and academic meetings. A listing of our published reports and papers is attached.

Our major report in 1978 was "The Outlook for World Oil into the 21st Century," a 135-page document which was sponsored by the Electric Power Research Institute. The report received considerable attention in the U.S. and abroad and was widely quoted in the press. The British publication, The Economist, introduced its article on our study with this lead paragraph:

"The growing feeling that there will be no energy crisis in the 1980's, and perhaps no energy crisis at all, has received powerful support from the most respected American oil industry think-tank. The Petroleum Industry Research Foundation (known as PIRINC) argues in a report published this week that 'an oil shortage before the late 1980's is unlikely...an oil shortage before the end of the century is a possibility but not a probability.'"

Our most recent report, The Impact of Gasoline Station Divestiture On Competition, which analyzes the Maryland retail
station divestiture law and its potential consequences, is just being released. We expect it to create considerable interest in view of the current concern with the subject.

All three of our appearances before Congressional Committees were at the request of the respective Committee Chairman. Two of the testimonies dealt with aspects of the crude oil entitlement program and one with the question of exporting Alaskan crude oil.

"Whither U.S. Refineries," was in the form of a keynote address at the Annual Meeting of the National Petroleum Refiners Association.

Among the various conferences attended by our executive director, John H. Lichtblau, was a three-week United Nations seminar in New York of 13 mineral and energy experts appointed by the U.N. Secretary General to write a report on mineral and energy exploration in developing countries. The report was transmitted to the U.N. General Assembly in October.

Another major conference in which our executive director participated was the "OPEC Seminar on Downstream Operations in OPEC Member Countries" held in Vienna in October. We contributed an article on the subject for the September issue of the OPEC Review.

In addition to the various activities listed above, we spent more time in 1978 than in previous years answering requests by the media for background information, statistical and technical data,
quotable press statements and TV appearances. In the latter capacity Mr. Lichtblau participated twice in McNeil/Lehrer Report discussions on oil policies and debated the question of a gasoline shortage with a consumer advocate on NBC's Today Show.

We also continued our informal exchanges of information with government energy officials in Washington and briefed a growing stream of foreign visitors, mostly sent to us by oil companies and government, on various aspects of U.S. energy politics and problems.
REPORTS, PAPERS, ARTICLES AND STATEMENTS PUBLISHED IN 1978

REPORTS

Forecast of U.S. Oil Supply and Demand, First Half of 1978, June

Short-Term World Oil Outlook After Caracas, June

Outlook for World Oil Into the 21st Century, June

Shares of Heating Fuels in U.S. Housing, August

Impact of Gasoline Station Divestiture on Competition, December

PAPERS DELIVERED AT MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES


"The Outlook for Oil and Gas," New York State Energy Conference, New York City, September.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT GOVERNMENTAL HEARINGS

"The Question of Exporting Alaskan Crude Oil," U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, May.


"Refinery Incentives, Refined Products Imports and the Entitlement Program," U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, July.

"The Proposed California Oil and Gas Lease Sale (OCS #48)," Statement at Hearings of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, at Santa Barbara, California, October.

ARTICLES


"OPEC as Export Refiners," OPEC Review, September.
