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# CASPIAN ENERGY

ЕЖЕКВАРТАЛЬНЫЙ АНАЛИТИЧЕСКИЙ ЖУРНАЛ ОКТЯБРЬ-ДЕКАБРЬ №3(2), 1999

The azerbaijan oil and gas industry in the 1949-1999 period

Нефтегазовая промышленность Азербайджана - 1949-1999 гг.

Старые месторождения Азербайджана требуют привлечения инвестиций Azerbaijan oil fields sportlight investments

Caspian Rig Clubs drilling challenges of Caspian

Photo picture gallery over the 1940-1999 period on Caspian Energy's pages



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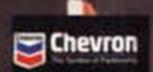


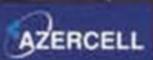




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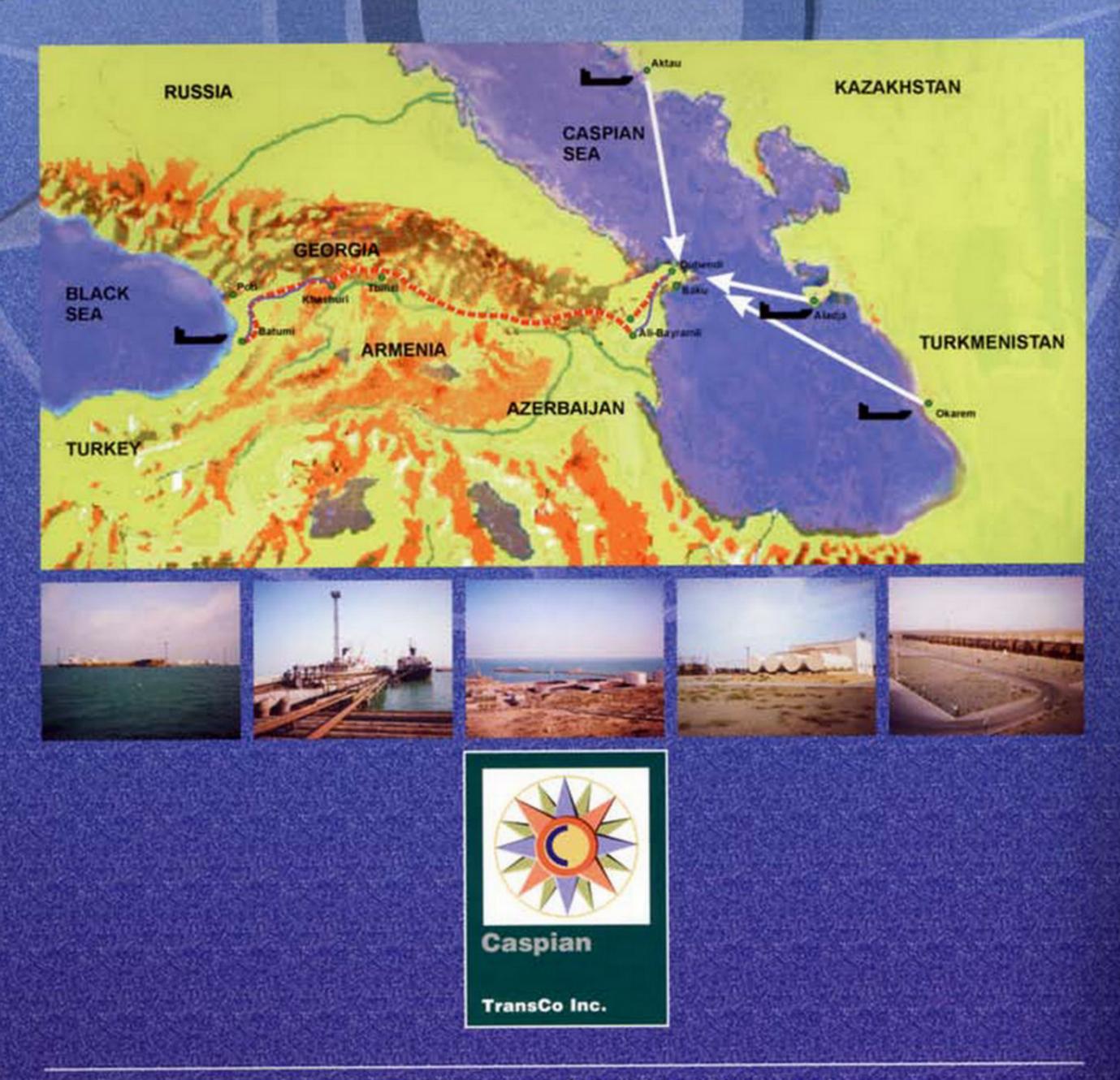






# Caspian TransCo Inc.

Система транспортировки сырой нефти из Центральной Азии к Черному морю





KİFAYƏT QƏDƏR UZAĞA BAXSANIZ, GƏLƏCƏYİ GÖRƏ BİLƏRSİNİZ.

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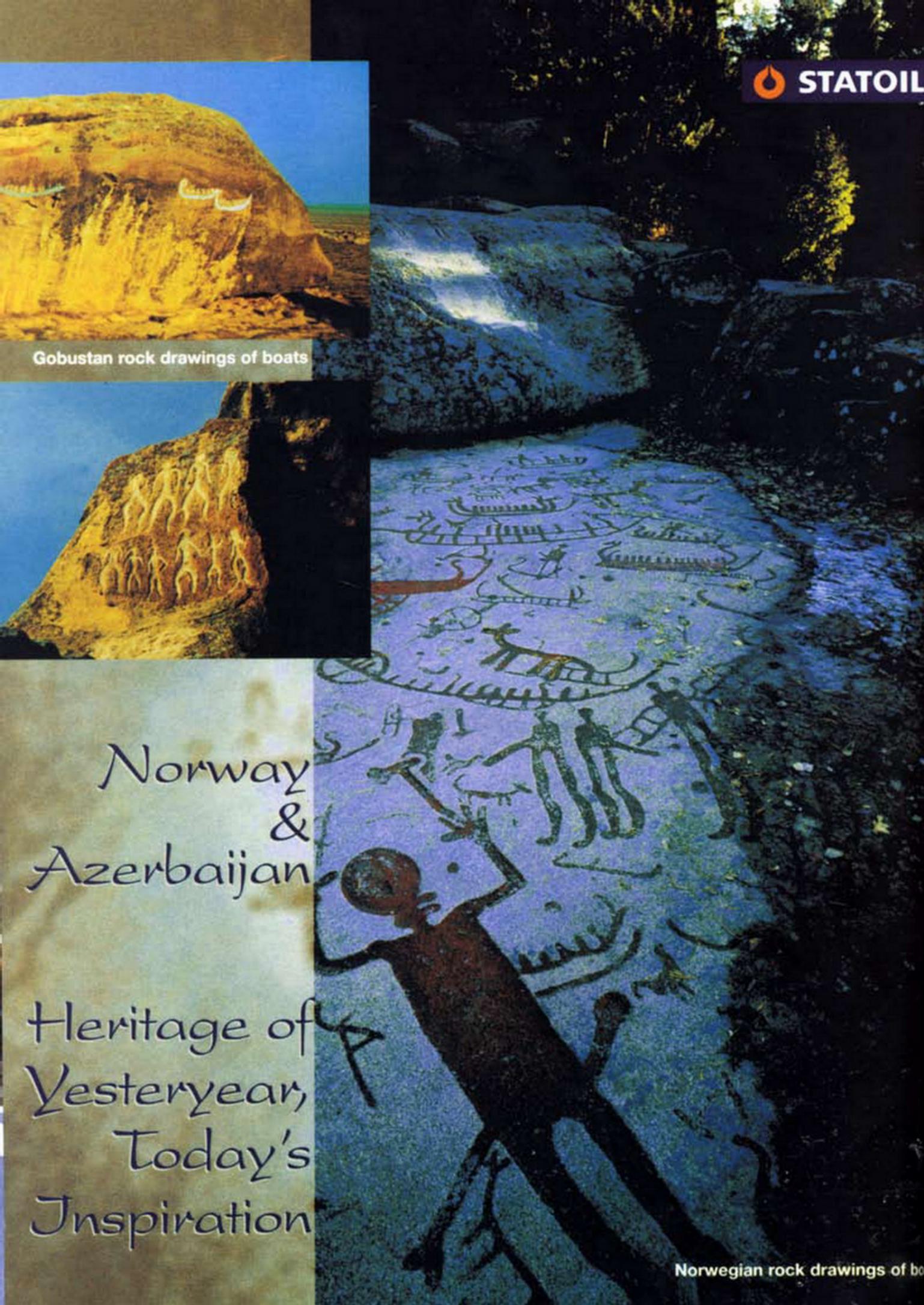






#### THE EDITORIAL OFFICE ADDRESS

6-th floor, International Trade Centre, 95, H.Aliyev ave., Az1033, Baku, Azerbaijan Tel./Fax: (+99412) 447-21-86/87, 447-02-36/38, 447-22-71 E-mail: arg@caspenergy.com, pr@caspenergy.com





"Стамбульский саммит - одно из величайших событий в истории мира XX века. Проведение его в Стамбуле, безусловно, имеет очень большое значение для Турции и для нас, как дружественной для нее страны. Потому что принятые там документы будут называться стамбульскими. Но это - чисто внешняя сторона, а внутренняя заключается в том, что состоялся очень содержательный саммит - и по обсуждению вопросов, и по количеству принятых документов, и по их мировому значению и смыслу...

Для нас, для Турции и всего мира самое историческое событие, произошедшее здесь, - это церемония подписания договора о нефтепроводе Баку-Джейхан. Проведение этой церемонии на таком высоком уровне, так величественно, в столь пышных условиях, без сомнения, говорит о том, насколько значителен нефтепровод Баку-Джейхан".

#### Президент Азербайджанской Республики Гейдар Алиев

"The Istanbul summit meeting is one of the greatest landmarks in the world's history of the 20th century. The event held in Istanbul is certainly of very great importance to Turkey and Azerbaijan as a country friendly toward it. Because the documents accepted there will be called the Istanbul ones. But it is a purely outside aspect but an internal side is that a top meeting rich in content - with regard to the issues discussed and the number of adopted documents and their global value and sense - took place...

It is an event of historic significance to us, Turkey and all people around the world, the event occurred here. It was the ceremony of signing a contract on the Baku-Ceyhan oil pipeline. The solemn ceremony of signing at a so high level was so a sublime occurrence and took place in so magnificent conditions. No doubt, all this is indicative of how much the Baku-Ceyhan oil pipeline matters to everyone".

#### Heidar Aliyev, President of the Azerbaijan Republic





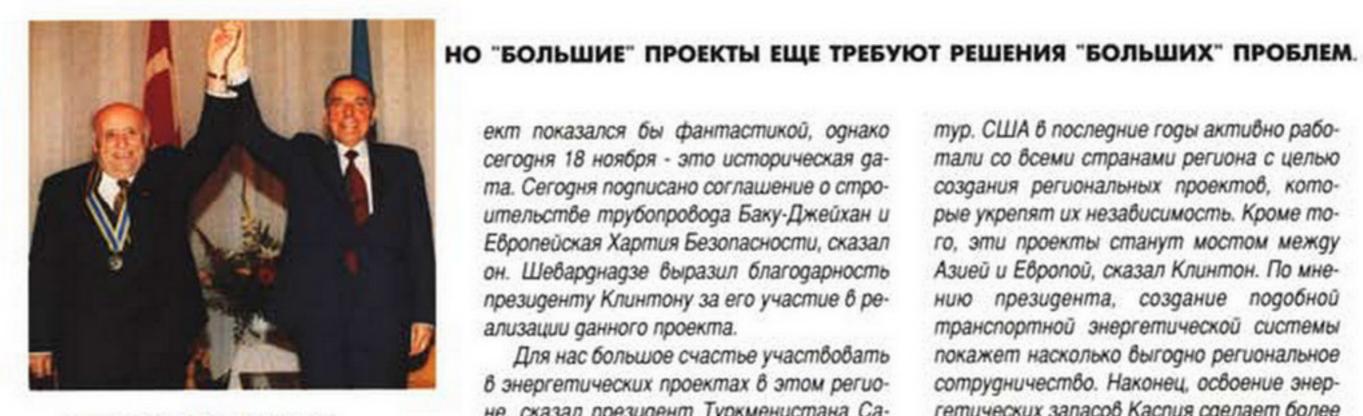






# ВОРОТА НА МИРОВЫЕ РЫНКИ ДЛЯ

# "БОЛЬШОЙ" КАСПИЙСКОЙ НЕФТИ ОТКРЫТЫ,



#### "ТРУБОПРОВОД Г.АЛИЕВА"

Выступая в Стамбуле после церемонии подписания пакета соглашений по ОЭТ, президент Гейдар Алиев отметил, что испытывает чувство гордости за пройденный пятилетний путь от подписания контракта века до сегодняшнего подписания соглашения о строительстве стратегического нефтепровода Баку-Джейхан. На пути реализации этого проекта были серьезные трудности, однако, мы их преодолели вместе с нашими партнерами - Грузией, Турцией и США. Алиев выразил личную благодарность президенту Клинтону. Если бы не поддержка США и лично президента Клинтона реализация данного проекта была бы невозможна, подчеркнул Алиев.

Президент Грузии Эдуард Шеварднадзе сказал, что еще 10 лет назад этот про-

ект показался бы фантастикой, однако сегодня 18 ноября - это историческая дата. Сегодня подписано соглашение о строительстве трубопровода Баку-Джейхан и Европейская Хартия Безопасности, сказал он. Шеварднадзе выразил благодарность президенту Клинтону за его участие в ре-

Для нас большое счастье участвовать в энергетических проектах в этом регионе, сказал президент Туркменистана Сапармурат Ниязов.

ализации данного проекта.

Вот уже 8 лет Туркменистан пытается пробиться на турецкие и ебропейские рынки. Мы имеем 30% мировых энергетических запасов, однако не имели альтернативных путей выхода на мировые рынки. Мы просим президента Клинтона оказать содействие в транспортировке нашей нефти в Китай, далее в Японию, сказал Ниязов.

Президент Турции Сулейман Демирель поздрабил участников церемонии с историческим событием. Он также отметил, что реализация транскаспийского трубопробода может серьезно улучшить экологическую ситуацию в Стамбуле.

Президент США Билл Клинтон назвал Каспий историческим перекрестком транспортных путей и различных культур. США в последние годы активно работали со всеми странами региона с целью создания региональных проектов, которые укрепят их независимость. Кроме того, эти проекты станут мостом между Азией и Европой, сказал Клинтон. По мнению президента, создание подобной транспортной энергетической системы покажет насколько быгодно региональное сотрудничество. Наконец, освоение энергетических запасов Каспия сделает более устойчивой нашу глобальную безопасность, и снимет монополию на транспортировку энергоресурсов лишь в определенном направлении. Это очень важно и поэтому мы быступаем за строительство много линейных нефтепроводов с 1995 года. Мы продолжаем эту политику и хотим воблечь в подобные проекты все прикаспийские страны. В ближайшее время мы усилим нашу финансовую деятельностью, и в скором времени наш Эксим банк и другие структуры начнут работу по созданию пакета коммерческого финансирования, сообщил Клинтон.

700 лет назад один из посетителей Баку сказал, что "этот город блестит в огнях всю ночь". Сегодня этот регион получает возможность стать процветающим. Он имеет не только нефть, но и независимость и безопасность. Сегодня лидеры стран региона показали, что они объединились с целью, чтобы сделать этот дальний перекресток регионом процветания и мира. Отныне этот регион будет освещать не только себя, но и весь мир.

Для Основного Экспортного Трубопровода (ОЭТ) Азербайджана, как и для всех глобальных проектов, главное состояло не в том, чтобы создать сам проект, а в том, как обеспечить все условия для его реализации. Поспешность в данном случае по своему губительному воздействию была бы равносильна медлительности.

Если придерживаться выжидательной позиции, то напрашивалась известная пословица - тише едешь, - дальше будешь, но...от того места, куда едешь. Неоправданно ускоренные темпы приведут к появлению дополнительных препятствий - в виде подводных айсбергов.

Поэтому для успешного воплощения в жизнь проекта Баку-Джейхан требуется сочетание как минимум трех факторов - взве-

Пакет соглашений ОЭТ определяет и регулирует права, интересы и обязанности каждой из стран, по чьей территории будет проложен нефтепровод. Этот документ также регулирует взаимоотношения между акционерами проекта и правительствами Азербайджана, Грузии с учетом их прав, интересов и обязанностей, в течение периода проектирования, строительства и эксплуатации трубопровода. Подготовленные к подписанию, данные документы соответствуют нормам международного права и защищают политические, экономические и коммерческие интересы как Азербайджана, так и компаний и стран-пользователей будущего трубопровода.

Трубопровод протяженностью 1730 км. должен вступить в строй в 2004 году. К 2008 году по нему планируется транспортировать 50 млн. тонн нефти в год. Первый танкер с нефтью ОЭТ выйдет из порта Джейхан в начале 2005 года.

Подписаны также 3 очень важных документа, предусматривающие перспективы экспорта природного газа на турецкий рынок:

- 1) Стамбульская декларация, предусматривающая поддержку ОЭТ Баку-Тбилиси-Джейхан, а также привлечение к данному проекту нефтяных объемов в Казахстане и Туркменистане, которая подписана при свидетельстве США между представителями Азербайджана, Турции, Грузии, Казахстана и Туркменистана;
- 2) Меморандум о взаимопонимании, предусматривающий развитие газовых проектов Азербайджана и поддержку экспорта азербайджанского природного газа на турецкий и международные рынки, который подписан между Азербайджаном, Грузией и Турцией;
- 3) Межправительственная декларация о транскаспийском газопроводе, которая подписана между Туркменистаном, Азербайджаном, Грузией и Турцией.

Документы подписали президенты Азербайджана, Грузии, Казахстана, Турции, Туркменистана.

0.6

0.4

0.2

шенность политических решений, региональный подход, плюс точный экономический расчет. Все эти качества нужно было проявить Азербайджану, чтобы показать всему миру жизнеспособность предлагаемого им проекта и подвести логическую черту под более чем полутора годовым переговорным процессом по ОЭТ.

Начиная с мая 1998 года по сегодняшний день, Азербайджану удалось придать импульс и свести воедино три проекта: ОЭТ (Баку-Джейхан), транскаспийский газопровод (который свяжет Туркменистан и Азербайджан со Средиземным рынком), транспортный проект (Великий Шелковый Путь). Все вместе эти проекты призваны заложить прочную инвестиционную основу под каждый в отдельности.

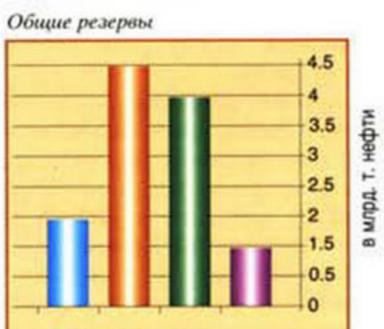
Таковы планы и только так их можно реализовать небольшой стране, стремящейся к упрочению своей независимости, географически зажатой между Европой и Азией, и находящейся в эпицентре политико-экономических интересов Востока и Запада.

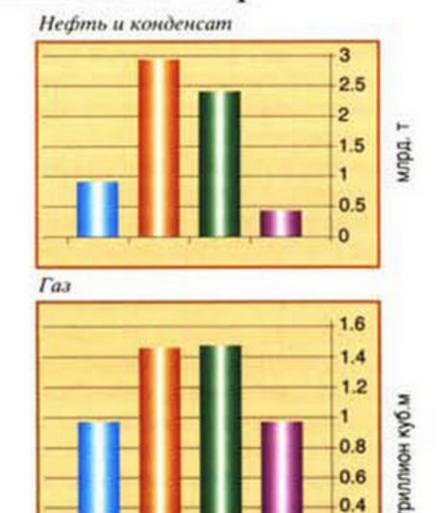
Энергетические экспортные проекты должны будут прочным трубопроводным узлом связать как минимум три крупнейшие нефтегазодобывающие страны Каспия -Казахстан, Туркменистан и Азербайджан.

Поскольку Азербайджан на сегодняшний день имеет самую развитую инфраструктуру и договорно-правовую практику реализации международных проектов, экспортная инициатива исходит именно от этого государства. Все ключевые решения по региональным транспортным и инвестиционным проектам сегодня не могут быть приняты без Азербайджана - гаранта политической и экономической стабильности для инвестиционных проектов на всем пространстве Прикаспия.

#### Резервы Каспийского моря







Источник: Московский Международный Центр исследований нефтяного бизнеса

Как известно, на официальном уровне переговоры по ОЭТ были начаты 15 мая 1998 года, когда президент Азербайджана издал специальный Указ. К этому времени Азербайджан, в отличие от своих турецких и западных партнеров, уже имел базовое экономическое и политическое видение проекта, предстояло только твердо отстаивать позиции и быть готовым к неизбежным компромиссам.

#### БАЗОВЫЕ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ

- С самого начала Азербайджан строго придерживался концепции по ОЭТ, которая включает в себя следующие пункты:
- 50% плюс 1 акция долевого участия в трубопроводной компании будут принадле-

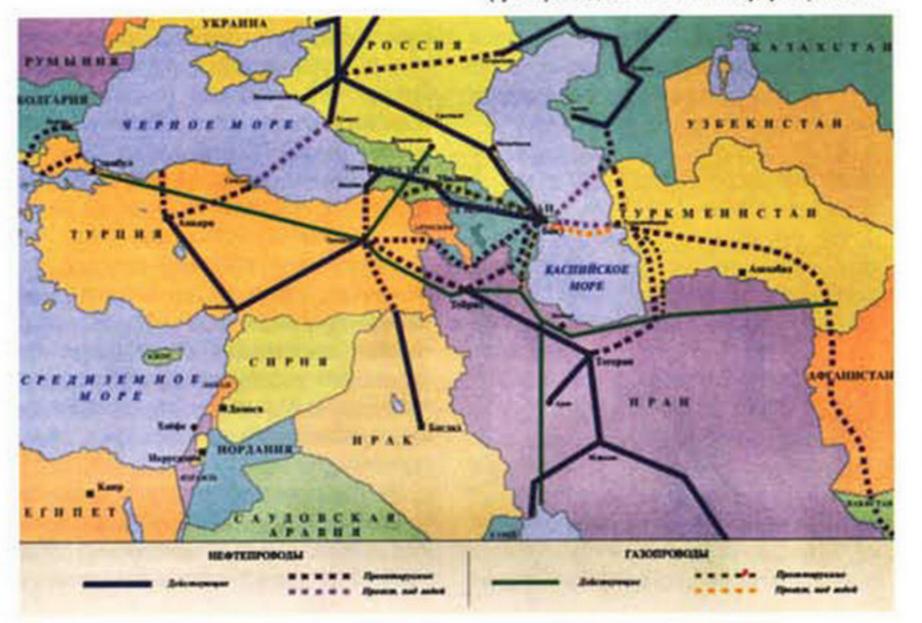
- жать Азербайджану
- схема возврата затрат на проект ОЭТ включает их полную компенсацию;
- после достижения нулевого баланса нефтепровод полностью переводится под контроль и управление Азербайджанской Республики;
- трубопровод не должен быть источником прибыли;
- АМОК будет предоставлен льготный тариф пользования ОЭТ.

Сегодняшние преимущества и недостатки проекта Баку-Джейхан выглядят следующим образом:

\* Баку-Грузия-Джейхан (Турция) - протяженность трассы 1710 километров, стоимость 2,4 миллиарда долларов США.

#### ПРЕИМУЩЕСТВА

- Повышается шанс на скорейшее решение армяно-азербайджанского конфликта в рамках формирования кавказского экономического пространства.
- \* Гарантии Турции по не превышению объема финансирования строительства ОЭТ на территории этого государства - \$1,4 млрд. USD.
- Гарантии крупнейших западных нефтекомпаний по не превышению суммы затрат на прокладку трубопровода по территории Азербайджана и Грузии - около \$1 млрд. USD.
- 1. Трубопроводный вариант напрямую свяжет прикаспийский терминал в Сангачалах с уже построенными терминалами в Джейхане на средиземноморском рынке.
  - 2. Поддержка правительства Турции.



- Прецедент доставки азербайджанской нефти, а в последующем и казахстанской на средиземноморские рынки.
- Долгосрочная перспектива использования этого стратегического нефтепровода для транспортировки нефти с других каспийских месторождений
- Возможность ГНКАР и ее партнеров влиять на процесс транспортировки.
- Стоимость транспортировки нефти из Джейхана в Роттердам вдвое дешевле альтернативного пути с Черного моря.

#### **НЕДОСТАТКИ**

- Негативная реакция российского правительства, вероятность обострения армяно-азербайджанского, а также абхазского конфликтов.
- Безопасность: близость азербайджано-армянской границы, конфликтная зона иракского Курдистана.

#### 1997 - ПРЕДСТАРТОВЫЙ-ГОД

В ходе июньского (1997 г.) заседания Руководящего комитета АМОК была утверждена исследовательская группа специалистов консорциума по оценке вариантов прокладки основного экспортного трубопровода.

Наиболее привлекательной с коммерческой точки зрения была признана перекачка крупных партий азербайджанской нефти к нефтеперерабатывающим заводам средиземноморья. Исходя из этого, акционерам АМОК было предложено рассмотрение трех возможных вариантов прокладки стратегического нефтепровода:

- Баку-Супса,
- Баку-Новороссийск,
- Баку-Джейхан.

Ввиду того, что первые два маршрута выводят каспийскую нефть не к району Средиземноморья, а в бассейн Черного моря, и находятся, следовательно, в постоянной зависимости от прохождения через Босфорский пролив, специалисты консорциума провели изучение обходного варианта - с использованием строящегося нефтепровода Бургас-Александрополис (Болгария-Греция).

Акционерами консорциума была рассмотрена и сравнительная стоимость каждого из предложенных маршрутов. Наиболее дорогостоящим тогда был признан трубопровод Баку-Джейхан, который, по оценкам экспертов АМОК, потребует капиталовложений в объеме не менее 3,3 млрд. долларов. Использование северного варианта (Баку-Новороссийск) обойдется приблизительно в 2,3 млрд. долларов. И, наконец, самым дешевым является трубопровод Баку-Супса - 1,2 млрд. долларов.

Ключевым моментом мероприятий по основному экспортному трубопроводу, безусловно, являлось проведение переговоров с правительствами России, Грузии и Турции с целью определения технических и юридических аспектов прохождения стратегического трубопровода по территориям этих стран, в том числе определения транзитных тарифов. Перего-

воры планировалось завершить к сентябрю 1998 года, после чего должен был быть выбран самый коммерчески эффективный вариант прохождения трубопровода.

Предполагалось, что на строительство основного экспортного трубопровода потребуется не менее 5 лет. Следовательно, его эксплуатация начнется не ранее 2004-2005 годов.

Процесс достижения согласия в вопросах строительства ОЭТ между ГНКАР и АМОК будет нелегким. Госнефтекомпания Азербайджана чрезвычайно недовольна действиями Консорциума иностранных нефтекомпаний, связанными с переговорами по прокладке основного экспортного трубопровода (ОЭТ) для экспорта "большой" каспийской нефти.

"Судя по тому, как действует АМОК, не верится, что к октябрю 1998 года, - как было оговорено в июне 1997 года, - будут завершены переговоры по определению маршрута ОЭТ", - считает тогда первый вицепрезидент ГНКАР Ильхам Алиев. По его мнению, нет ясности в том, какие цели преследует АМОК, затягивая решение этого вопроса.

АМОК же, отмалчиваясь, прекрасно осознает, что проект Баку-Джейхан, в политическом аспекте важнее для Баку, нежели в экономическом для ее акционеров, не желает строить на тех условиях, которые предлагает Баку. Этот вариант не устраивает АМОК из-за падения мировых цен на нефть, поэтому консорциум не может определить, какой же из рынков сбыта окажется самым предпочтительным.

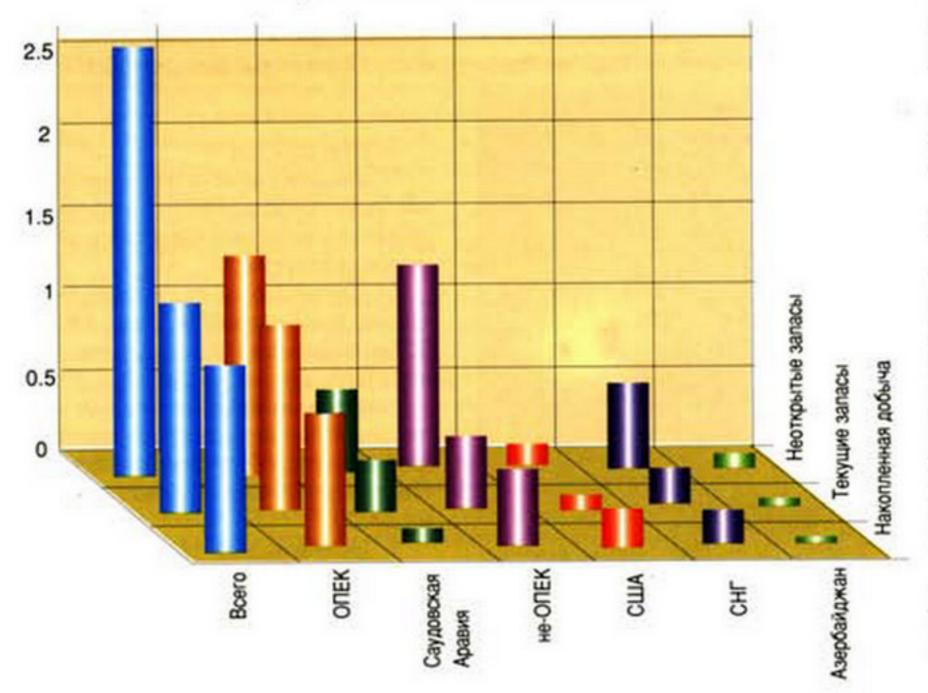
Что касается глобальных экспортных направлений, то их, по мнению вице-президента АМОК по ОЭТ Робина Бранагана, два.

- Первое две нефтепроводные линии, выводящие через Черное, Средиземное моря и Персидский залив - в Атлантический бассейн.
- Второе через Иран в бассейн Тихого океана.

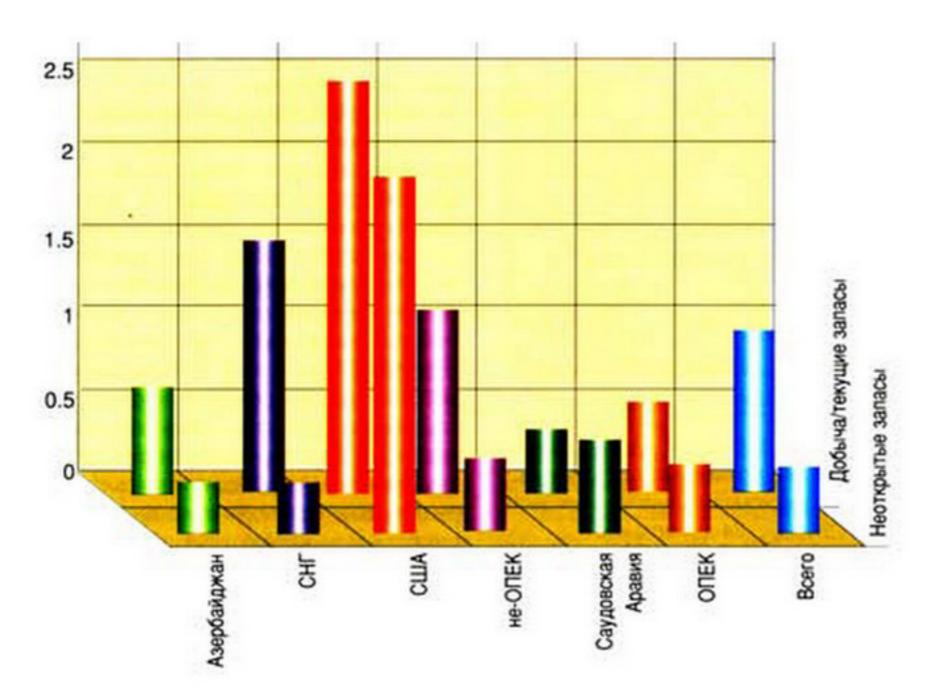
Сегодня нет простого ответа на вопрос куда из этих двух рынков выгоднее вывозить каспийскую нефть - все зависит от долгосрочных перспектив и прогнозов. Если на Тихоокеанском рынке вероятными конкурентами каспийской нефти будут: канадская, американская, колумбийская, австралийская, иранская и саудовская сорта нефти, то на Атлантике - основные конкуренты: североморская, нигерийская, венесуэльская.

На этих рынках соблюдается тонкое соотношение между спросом и предложением. Спрос зависит от экономического роста стран-потребителей нефти, а предложение

#### Мировой баланс нефти



#### Коэффициенты перспективности мировой нефтяной индустрии



 от масштабов разработки месторождений в мире.

Исходя из этих аспектов, для Азербайджана сегодня на первом месте по всем экономическим показателям стоял - Черноморский рынок, на втором - Средиземноморский и на третьем - Атлантика и Тихий океан.

#### 1998 - ГОД БОЛЬШИХ НАДЕЖД

Пожалуй, главным событием 1998 года по ОЭТ стало подписание 29 октября 1998 года президентами Азербайджана, Грузии, Казахстана, Турции и Узбекистана Анкарской Декларации, в которой страны каспийского региона подтвердили свою заинтересованность в строительстве ОЭТ. В ней также была дана оценка возможностей добычи и производства нефтяных и газовых ресурсов и их безопасной транспортировки на мировые рынки (полный текст Анкарской Декларации чит. в №2 "CASPIAN ENER-GY").

Однако позиция АМОК, продиктованная экономической раскладкой проекта на тот момент времени, дала повод руководителям переговорного процесса со стороны Азербайджана делать достаточно резкие заявления в адрес операционной компании. Так, вице-премьер правительства Абид Шарифов отмечает, если АМОК откажется от реализации проекта ОЭТ до Джейхана, Азербайджан сам займется реализацией этого проекта, так как уже располагает значительным пакетом предложений от зарубежных компаний и международных банковских структур. Так что возможные разногласия между ГНКАР и АМОК не станут серьезным препятствием для реализации Азербайджаном проекта ОЭТ.

Касаясь финансовых условий реализации данного проекта, Шарифов говорил, что схема его финансирования достаточно проста, но одной из проблем, является то, что предложения по финансированию долевого участия Азербайджана (50% плюс 1 акция, что составляет \$1 млрд. 250 млн.) находятся в увязке с уступкой Азербайджаном определенного пакета акций, таковы предложения японских компаний. Это не устраивает Азербайджан и поэтому ведутся поиски дополнительных источников финансирования доли государства.

 Уже по ходу ведения переговоров выявились первые результаты.

Так, в Стамбуле согласованы с турецким правительством основные положения будущего межправительственного Соглашения по основному экспортному трубопроводу, и ГНКАР готова к подписанию этого документа, сообщает президент ГНКАР Натиг Алиев.

В нем отражены гарантированные права и обязательства Азербайджана и Турции по обеспечению надежного и безопасного экспорта основной нефти по территории Турции. Азербайджану, согласно этим договоренностям будет предоставлен льготный тариф перекачки нефти. Аналогичный документ планировалось заключить между правительствами Азербайджана и Грузии.

США предлагают подписание межправительственного рамочного соглашения по экспорту каспийских ресурсов на международные рынки. Вашингтон выступил с этой инициативой на состоявшемся 17 сентября в Хьюстоне заседании турецко-американской совместной рабочей группы.

Советник Министерства природных ресурсов Юрдакул Егибгюден сообщил, что США предлагает подписать межправительственное соглашение, которое будет охватывать не только нефтепровод Баку-Джейхан, но и все углеводородные резервы, и нефтепроводы в регионе.

\* США и Турция инициируют создание трубопроводной компании, в которой будут представлены интересы всех нефтедобывающих прикаспийских государств, которые в свою очередь должны предоставить соответствующие экспортные гарантии. Однако, учитывая то, что как в Туркменистане, так и в Казахстане разведочные работы на каспийских шельфах только начинаются, понятно, что гарантии не будут столь твердыми, каких хотелось бы сегодня Азербайджану и, прежде всего акционерам АМОК.

Но с другой стороны, это не может стать причиной задержки проекта ОЭТ, о чем говорят высказывания азербайджанских представителей. А это значит, что определенный финансовый риск должны взять на себя именно государства, лоббирующие сегодня проект Баку-Джейхан.

Если учитывать то, что американские компании и турецкая ТРАО в АМОК в большинстве, уже тогда можно было утверждать, что определенную часть риска Азербайджана в проекте по ОЭТ должны взять на себя акционеры АМОК.

Исходными данными для первоначальной оценки экономической эффективности проекта экспорта ранней нефти были приняты цена нефти в Роттердаме - 16.5 долларов за 1 тонну, в Новороссийске - 14,65 долларов за 1 тонну, в Супсе - 15,3 доллара за тонну. Транспортные расходы: Баку-Супса - 0.43 доллара за 1 баррель, Баку-Новороссийск - 2.12 USD/баррель, Супса-Роттердам - 1.2 USD/баррель, Новороссийск-Роттердам - 1.85 USD/баррель.

Причем транзитные условия Грузии наиболее выгодные, так как ставки сохраняются на протяжении 30 лет эксплуатации трубопроводной системы.

В вышеуказанные показатели на тот момент времени должны быть внесены коррективы с учетом низких цен сорта Brent на мировом рынке, которые упали по сравнению с ценами начала 1997 года примерно на одну треть. Исходя из стоимости аренды

Месторождение	Остаточные извлекаемые запасы	
	Нефть и конденсат (млн. баррелей)	Газ (млн. куб футов)
"Гюнешли"	650	2000
НГДУ им Нариманова	100	330
Булла-дениз	73	2300
Палчыг тепеси	108	63
Нефт Дашлары	147	33
Бахар	30	650

трубопроводной инфраструктуры, терминалов и нефтеналивных причалов в Джейхане, а также стоимости охраны трубопровода с учетом страховых обязательств, тарифная ставка транзита азербайджанской основной нефти по территории Турции составит чуть выше \$2 за 1 баррель. Объем операционных и капитальных затрат для эффективности проекта не должен превышать \$2,5 млрд.

Пожалуй, главным препятствием к реализации этого маршрута является неоправданно высокая цена трубопровода, установленная АМОК на уровне 3,3 млрд. USD.

\* В ответ на это Турция предлагает несколько альтернативных вариантов этого маршрута. Максимальная стоимость строительства трубопровода, по оценке специалистов турецкой компании "BOTAS", составляет 3,5 млрд. долларов США при потенциальной возможности снизить эту цифру до 1,8-1,9 млрд. долларов. Все зависит от объема транспортировки нефти по нефтепроводу, а также от его направления (турецкая компания разработала 4 альтернативных коридора, один из которых - Баку-Грузия-Эрзерум-Джейхан), а также от сроков перекачки азербайджанской нефти. По мнению главного менеджера "BOTAS" Надира Беюкоглу, наиболее реальным сроком транспортировки азербайджанской нефти является 2004-2005 гг.

Особое внимание при подготовке ТЭО турецкой компанией было сосредоточено на вопросах охраны окружающей среды. Как выяснилось, самая возвышенная точка прохождения нефтепровода через территорию Азербайджана составляет 900 метров над уровнем моря, в Грузии и Турции - 2 300 метров.

На всей протяженности трубопровода необходимо установить 10 насосных станций, причем 3 - в Азербайджане (в том числе - одна на Сангачальском терминале), 3 на территории Грузии и 4 - в Турции.

Общая протяженность магистрального

трубопровода составляет 1 730 километров, причем 1 618 км, от сангачальского терминала - 42-дюймовыми трубами и 112 км, (к джейханскому терминалу - на подъем южнее Тбилиси) - 34-дюймовыми.

Минимальная пропускная способность -300 тыс. баррелей при средней мощности 1,2 млн. баррелей в сутки. Годовая пропускная способность предположительно - от 40 до 55 млн. тонн нефти, так как по нему предполагается перекачивать казахстанскую нефть, а также, возможно, и углеводородное сырье из Туркменистана.

Стоимость проекта, по разным оценкам, колеблется в пределах 2-3,5 млрд. долларов (в зависимости от маршрута).

Пуск в эксплуатацию стратегического нефтепровода ожидается в 2004-2005 гг. Строительные работы будет проводить трубопроводная компания.

Всего в 2002-2004 гг. с Каспийского бассейна, по прогнозам, планируется получать от 80-90 млн. тонн до 150 млн. тонн нефти, что приведет к полной загрузке ОЭТ.

1999 ГОД - ПОСТАВИТ ВСЕ ТОЧКИ НАД Т?

Несколько событий, которые так или иначе способствовали продвижению регионального проекта Баку-Джейхан произошли уже в начале года:

- 16 18 января завершился очередной раунд переговоров по ОЭТ в Анкаре.
- Министерство энергетики Турции и министерство энергетики, индустрии и торговли Казахстана сделали заявление о своем намерении подписать Протокол о сотрудничестве в нефтегазовой отрасли.
- 25-26 января между азербайджанским правительством и казахстанской нефтедобывающей компанией Казахойл обсуждались вопросы увеличения объемов экспорта казахстанской нефти по территории Азербайджана в Грузию.
- Все шаги прикаспийских стран в отношении проекта ОЭТ обеспечиваются под-

держкой американской администрации.

Под знаком вот-вот согласования всех финансовых аспектов и подписания межправительственных договоров по будущему ОЭТ прошла первая половина нынешнего года.

Несмотря на кажущуюся невооруженным глазом не результативность, азербайджанской переговорной группе в ходе многочисленных переговорных раутов удалось убедить своих главных партнеров - Турцию и ВР Атосо в целесообразности строительства трубопровода Баку-Джейхан в нынешних политико-экономических условиях региона.

За это время удалось не только снизить стоимость ОЭТ с 3,3 млрд. USD до 2,4 млрд. USD, но и гарантировать не превышение этой суммы. Получив гарантии стабильных партнеров, при поддержке американского правительства, Азербайджан теперь может рассчитывать на относительно легкий заем средств у международных финансовых структур (или еще лучше нефтекомпаний) для финансирования своего долевого участия (51% плюс 1 акция) в будущей трубопроводной компании.

В поддержку этого проекта Азербайджану потребуется обеспечить нужный объем нефтедобычи, который уже с момента пуска в эксплуатацию ОЭТ позволит его полностью заполнить, то есть в 2005 году добыча нефти на "Азери", "Чираг" и "Гюнешли" должна составить как минимум 30 млн. тонн в год. К этому времени в азербайджанском секторе будут открыты новые месторождения - "Кюрдаши", "Ленкорань дениз" и "Талыш дениз", "Ялама", затем и глубоководные месторождения. При этом если хотя бы на трети из них будут обнаружены коммерческие запасы нефти, можно будет говорить о задействовании Азербайджаном всех трех своих трубопроводов, выводящих как на Средиземноморский, так и Черноморский рынки.

С учетом проектов доразработки старых месторождений - "Гюнешли", "Нефт Дашлары", "Палчыг Тяпяси" и ряда других, можно будет говорить о дополнительных 10 млн. тонн ежегодно уже в ближайшие 7 лет, если конечно в 2000 году будут подписаны контракты по этим месторождениям.

#### "+" ТРАНСКАСПИЙСКИЙ НЕФТЕПРОВОД.

Президент Казахстана Нурсултан Назарбаев после церемонии подписания пакета соглашений по ОЭТ в Стамбуле заявил, что Казахстан намерен участвовать не только в реализации проекта Баку-Джейхан, но и в реализации проекта Баку-Супса. По его словам, по этому нефтепроводу только в этом году Казахстан транспортировал 2 млн. тонн нефти. Мы намерены транспортировать по трубопроводу Баку-Джейхан значительную часть нашей нефти, и Казахстан намерен участвовать в реализации транспортной структуры для транспортировки нефти по транскаспийскому подводному нефтепроводу. Реализация таких проектов сыграет важную роль в укреплении независимости и безопасности стран нашего региона, отметил Назарбаев. Он призвал США оказать содействие в реализации проекта транскаспийского трубопровода.

Что касается транспортировки казахстанской нефти по ОЭТ, главное - общее в экспортной стратегии двух стран, как заявил премьер-министр Казахстана Касымжомарт Токаев, является то, что Казахстан и Азербайджан придерживаются принципа многовариантности в вопросе строительства экспортных нефтепроводов. На октябрьской пресс-конференции Токаев отметил, что Казахстан "позитивно" относится к проекту строительства нефтепровода Баку-Джейхан. "Чем больше нефтепроводов, тем лучше для Казахстана - с учетом потенциала страны", сказал премьер.

По его словам, на переговорах с азербайджанской стороной во второй половине октября была достигнута договоренность о проведении консультаций по вопросу коммерческой целесообразности, подготовки техникоэкономического обоснования данного проекта.

Говоря о сотрудничестве двух государств в области транспортировки нефти, глава казахстанского правительства также сообщил, что на сегодняшний день через казахстанский порт Актау танкерами по Каспийскому морю в Азербайджан доставлено 1,5 млн. тонн нефти. В будущем, добавил он, планируется довести данный объем транспортировки до 10 млн. тонн в год.

Таким образом, чтобы построить транскаспийский ОЭТ, Казахстану и Азербайджану с учетом привлечения западных инвестиций при сегодняшнем раскладе геополитического равновесия необходимо следующее:

#### Казахстану на ближайшие 5 лет

- Интенсифицировать нефтегазодобычу на своем морском шельфе, то есть необходимо приложить новые усилия на поисково-разведочные работы.
- Обеспечить конкуренцию между странами, желающими привлечь иностранные инвестиции в регион.
- Определить ранжир объема экспорта нефти по будущему ОЭТ, определяющий порог рентабельности экспорта.
- Обеспечить гарантированность и беспрепятственность экспорта своей нефти как с политической, так и с коммерческой точек

зрения.

- Гарантировать стабильность вложения инвестиций на территории Казахстана, то есть в сфере снижения факторов риска, в основном в области финансового законодательства и обеспечения долговременных обязательств по договорам.
- Урегулировать отношения с Россией, которая стремится задействовать КТК, таким образом, обеспечить безотказный принцип многополярности нефтяной стратегии.
- Исследовать коммерческую возможность реализации глобального проекта экспорта нефти и газа в страны Азиатско-Тихоокеанского региона

Азербайджану на ближайшие 5 лет:

- 1. Построить ОЭТ.
- Укрепить политико-экономическую ось сотрудничества блока ГУУАМ.
- Создать все внешнеполитические условия для разрешения армяно-азербайджанского конфликта в пользу Азербайджана.
- Заручиться действительным (а не просто видимым) нейтралитетом России в этом самом больном для Азербайджана вопросе путем умеренного содействия удовлетворению экономических амбиций РФ в регионе.

Для Казахстана и Азербайджана в течение ближайших 5 лет:

- Добиться разрешения проблемы юридического статуса Каспия, все еще отпугивающей в ряде случаев основных инвесторов.
- Заручиться максимальной поддержкой американской администрации.
- Максимально обеспечить присутствие в регионе инвестиций заокеанской державы.
- Обеспечить максимальную экономическую интеграцию двух государств в транспортной сфере (реализации проекта Великий Шелковый Путь).

Таким образом, приоритеты ясны и не исключено, что при удачном раскладе в течение пяти лет будет построен не только ОЭТ, но и транскаспийский нефтепровод.

Как уже отмечалось ранее в этой статье, базой для привлечения инвестиций под каждый из трех взаимосвязанных проектов -ОЭТ, транскаспийский нефте- и газопровод, Великий Шелковый Путь послужит комплексный подход к решению задач того или иного проекта.

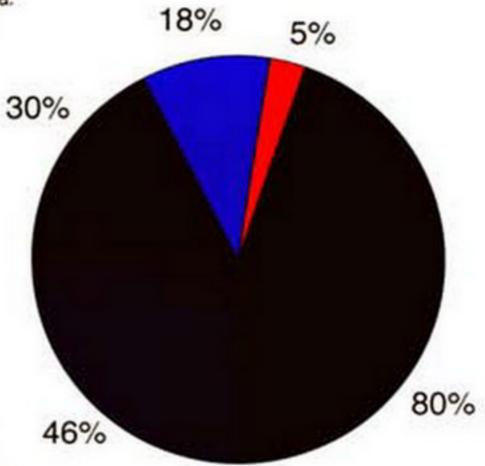
#### ЭКСПОРТНЫЕ ВОЗМОЖНОСТИ АЗЕР-БАЙДЖАНА И МИРОВОЙ БАЛАНС.

По экспортным возможностям страны можно условно разделить на четыре группы:

- Страны, экспортирующие до 100 млн. тонн нефти в год - Саудовская Аравия, Иран, Норвегия, Арабские Эмираты;
- Страны, экспортирующие от 50 до 100 млн. т. нефти ежегодно Россия, Нигерия, Венесуэла, Кувейт, Мексика, Великобритания, Ливия;
- Страны, экспортирующие от 10 до 50 млн. т. нефти в год Канада, Индонезия, Оман, Малайзия, Ангола, Египет, Катар, Сирия, Китай, Алжир, Габон, Эквадор;
- Страны, экспортирующие до 10 млн. т. нефти в год.

На долю первой группы стран приходится 656 млн.т. нефти в год, или 46% мирового экспорта, на долю второй - 433 млн. т. нефти ежегодно, или 30% мирового экспорта, на третью группу - 260 млн. т. нефти в год или 18%.

Наконец, четвертая группа экспортирует 72 млн. т. нефти в год, или 5%. Как видно из



приведенных данных, первая и вторая группы безраздельно властвуют на мировом рынке, имея в общей сложности около 80% мирового экспорта.

Согласно подписанным контрактам и сложившейся ситуации в нефтяной промышленности, в ближайшие 5 лет республика может рассчитывать лишь на вхождение в четвертую группу, и, только доведя ежегодную добычу до 40 млн. т., может рассчитывать на стабильное вхождение в третью группу. С позиций сегодняшнего дня реальная перспектива для Азербайджана на обозримое будущее такова.

В статье использовались данные из книги Ч.А. Султанов "Большая Нефть Азербайджана"

# WORLD MARKET GATEWAYS ARE OPEN TO BIG CASPIAN OIL

#### BUT LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS STILL HAVE CHALLENGES TO BE RESOLVED



#### THE HALIYEV PIPELINE

When making a speech in Istanbul after the solemn ceremony of signing a package of agreements on MEP, President Heydar Aliyev announced he experienced a feeling of pride for a five-year way passed from the signing of the contract of the century to today's conclusion of an agreement on the strategic Baku - Ceyhan oil pipeline construction. On the way to delivering the project we were faced with serious difficulties. However, we have overcome them in tandem with our partners - Georgia, Turkey and the USA.

Aliyev expressed his personal gratitude to President Clinton. If there were not back-up of the USA and President Clinton personally, the project execution would be impossible, Aliyev emphasized.

The Georgian President Edward Shevarnadze said as far back as 10 years the project would be seen as a fancy. However today, on November 18, 1999 it is historic date.

An agreement on the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline construction and the European Security Chart were signed today, he said. Shevarnadze expressed his gratitude to President Clinton for his participation in putting the project into practice.

It is great happiness for us to participate in energy projects in the region, Turkmenistan President Saparmurat Niyazov said. This is the eighth successive year when Turkmenistan tries to tap into Turkish and European markets. We have 30 percent of the world's energy reserves, however did not have alternative accesses to world markets. We ask President Clinton to assist in transporting our oil to China and further Japan, Niyazov said.

The Turkish President Suleiman Demirel congratulated the ceremony's participants on the occasion of this historic event. He also noted that the trans-Caspian pipeline would be able to seriously improve the environmental situation in Istanbul.

The USA President Bill Clinton called the Caspian Sea a historic crossroads of transport ways and various cultures. In recent years the USA worked closely together with all the countries of the region to create regional projects that will reinforce their independency. In addition, the projects will bridge the gap between Asia and Europe, Clinton said. In President's opinion, the formation of the transport energy system like this will show how much the regional cooperation is profitable. At last, the tapping of Caspian energy reserves will make our global security more sustainable and wipes out a monopoly to transport energy resources only in one direction. It is very important and therefore we have been taking a stand for the construction of multi oil pipelines since 1995. We are pursuing the policy and want to involve all of the Caspian countries in similar projects. In the near future we will boost our financing activities and shortly our Eximbank and other lending organizations will get down to work on drawing up a packet of commercial funding, Clinton posted.

700 years ago one of the visitors of Baku said "the town shines in fires all night along". Today the region gets the opportunity to become prosperous. It has not only oil but independency and security.

Today the leaders of the region's countries

another to make the remote crossroads the region of prosperity and well-being and a peace. From now on, the region will light not only itself but all the world.

For Azerbaijan in both Main Export Pipeline (MEP) and all of the world-scale projects the main matter was how to provide all conditions for putting it into practice rather than to create the project itself. A hurry in this event could have more disastrous repercussions than a slowdown.

famous proverb suggests itself - the furthest way about is the nearest way home, but from the place where you come. If one quickens his pace, it will result in additional snags in the form of underwater icebergs.

So, to successfully carry the Baku-Ceyhan project into effect, it is needed to combine at least three factors: a thorough analysis of political decisions, the regional approach plus an exact economic account. Azerbaijan had to display all the qualities to show the commercial viability of the project proposed to all the world and for more than 1.5 years' negotiating process on the MEP to be finalized successfully.

From May 1998 to the present day, Azerbaijan has managed to give the impact to the matter and to unite the world-scale projects: the Baku-Ceyhan MEP; the subsea Caspian gas pipeline which will links Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan to the Mediterranean marketplace; transport project (the Great Silk Way). All of the projects taken together are designed to lay a firm investment foundation under each of them singly.

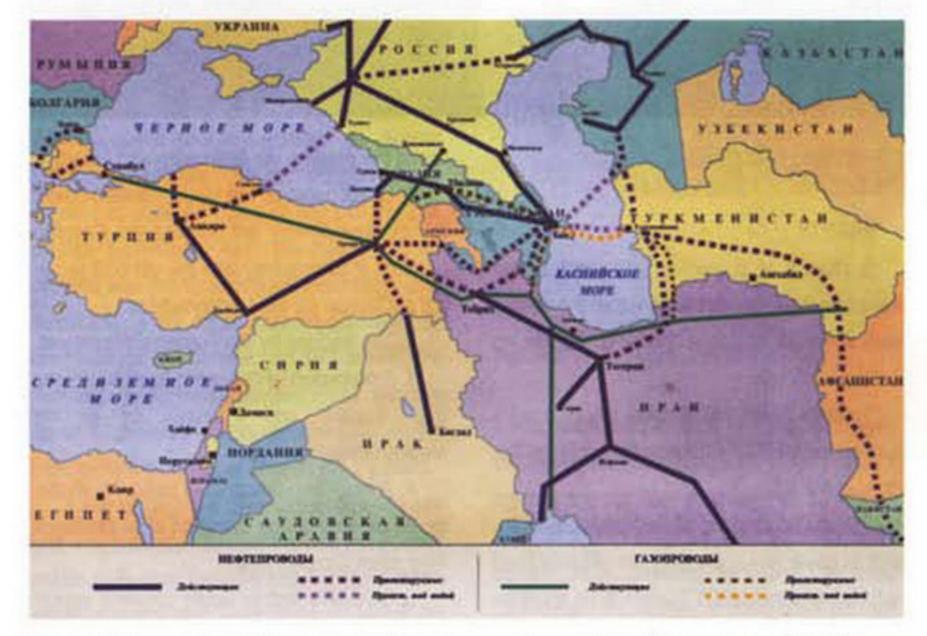
Such are blueprints, and a small country like Azerbaijan aiming to strengthen its independency and edged between Europe and Asia and being at the center of the interests the West and East may bring them into effect only so.

Energy export projects must be a firm pipeline junction to couple at least three largest oil and gas producing countries surrounding the Caspian Sea - Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan.

As Azerbaijan has the most developed infrastructure and contractual and legal practice in delivering international projects, it is from the state that an export initiative proceeds. All key decisions on regional and investment projects cannot be made today not involving Azerbaijan - the guarantor of political and economic stability for investment projects throughout the territory of the Caspian region.

#### THE NEWEST HISTORY OF MEP

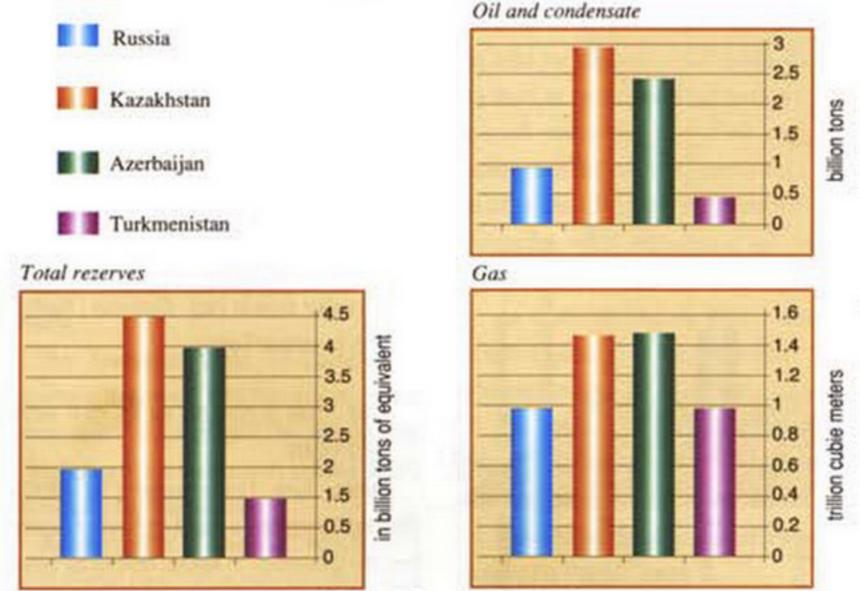
As it is known, official negotiations on MEP were begun on May 15, 1998 at a time when



showed that now they had teamed up with one

If one takes the see-and-wait position, a

### The Caspian Sea rezerves



Source: The Moscow international Center for studies of oil business

Azerbaijan President issued a special Decree. By that time, unlike its Turkish and western partners, Azerbaijan has already got a basic economic and political idea of the project. It had only to stand up for its position and to be ready to settle for inevitable compromises.

#### BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

From the start, Azerbaijan firmly abided by a conception on MEP, which includes following points:

- a controlling stake (50 percent plus one share) in a pipeline company will belong to Azerbaijan;
- a procedure of reimbursing expenses on the MEP project includes their full compensation;
- after reaching a null-balance, the pipeline will come under the entire control and authority of the Azerbaijan Republic;
- the pipeline must be the not-making-profit entity.
- AIOC will be granted a preferential fee for the use of the MEP.

The current advantages and faults of the Baku-Ceyhan project look as follow:

- Baku-Georgia-Ceyhan (Turkey) route



1710km long costs USD2.4 billion.

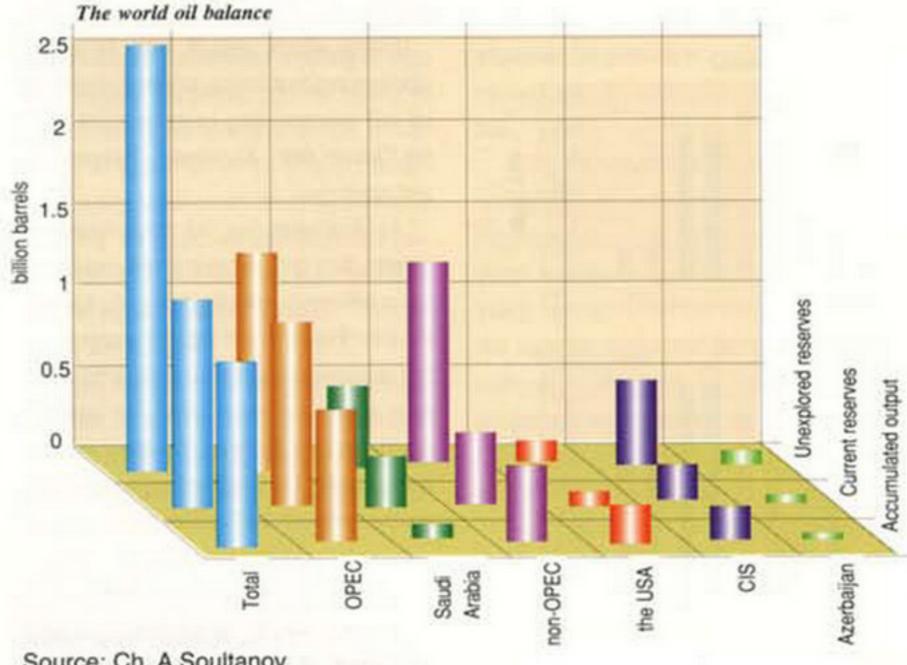
#### ASSETS

A chance of a quicker settlement of the Armenian-Azeri conflict rises within the framework of the Caucasian economic territory being formed.

Turkey's guarantee to cover any cost overruns on the MEP construction project in the territory of the state.

The major western oil companies' guarantees to cover any costs over the officially fixed estimate of about USD1.2 billion to be spent on laying the pipeline via Azerbaijan and Georgia.

- Direct outlet on the Mediterranean coast: the pipeline directly will couples the Caspian terminal at Sangachaly with the yet built terminal at Ceyhan on the Mediterranean.
  - The backing by the Turkish Government.
- 3. A precedent of delivering Azeri crude and then Kazakh and Turkmen oil to the Mediterranean markets.
- A long-term prospect of using the strategic oil pipeline for the transport of oil produced from other Caspian fields.
- 5. SOCAR's and its equity partners' opportunity to sway the process of shipping oil.
- 6. The cost of shipping oil from Ceyhan to Rotterdam twice cheaper than an alternative way from the Black Sea.



Outlooks for oil production worldwide

Source: Ch. A.Soultanov

#### LIABILITIES

- 1. Opposition from Russia; unresolved conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia and a probability of the conflict becoming acute, including the Abkhaz wrangle.
- Security: proximity of Azeri-Armenian border, a conflict zone in Iraqi Kurdistan ; Kurdish militants in eastern Turkey.

#### 1997 - THE BUSINESS KICKS OFF WITH THIS YEAR

During June 1997's session of AIOC's Steering Committee, a research panel of experts from the consortium to assess options for laying the main exportpipeline has been set up.

It was recognized that it was most commercially viable and economically sound to pump large cargoes of Azeri oil to oil refineries on the Mediterranean. On this basis, AIOC's shareholders were offered to consider three potential options for laying the strategic oil pipeline:

Baku-Supsa,

Baku-Novorossiysk,

Baku-Ceyhan.

In view of the former two routes moving Caspian oil to the Black Sea rather than outlets on the Mediterranean and, consequently, permanently depend on the passage via the Bosporus, the experts studied a way overcoming the difficulty with using the Burgas-Alexandropolic (Bulgaria-Turkey) oil pipeline under construction. The consortium's shareholders considered costs of each of the proposed pathways. And the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline was then founded the most costly one. According to the AIOC experts' estimates, its cost was put at not less than \$3.3 billion. The northern (Baku-Novorossiysk) route will cost about \$2.3 billion. And at last, the Baku-Supsa pipeline is the cheapest conduit (\$1.2 billion).

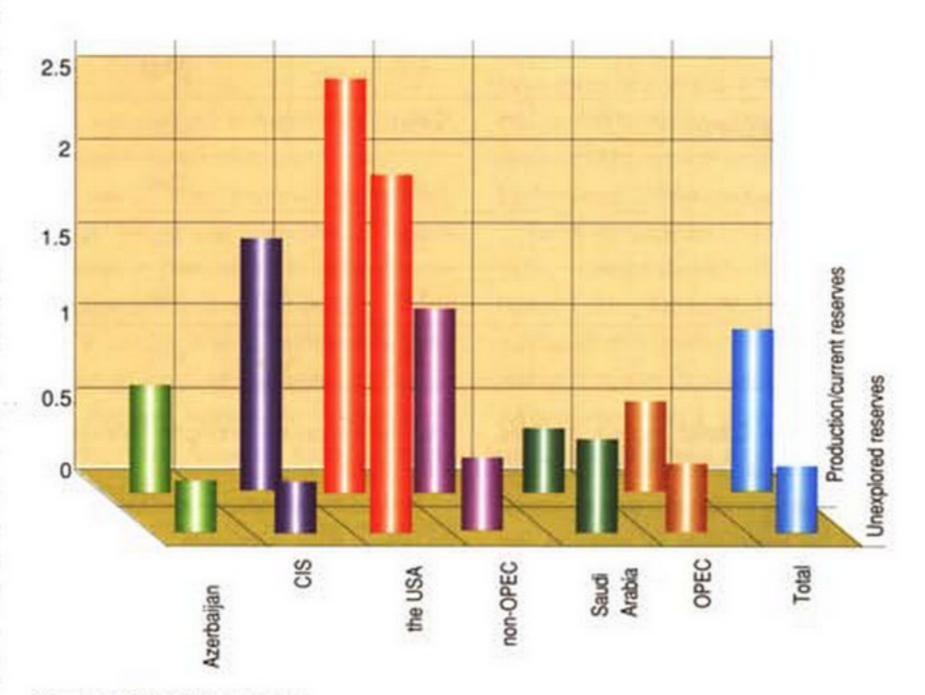
A key point in the main export pipeline project was certainly negotiations with the governments of Russia, Georgia and Turkey to determine technical and legal sides of laying the strategic pipeline via the countries, including the settling of transit fees. The talks were to be completed by September 1998. After they are over, the most economically sound route for passing the conduit was slated to be selected.

It is contemplated that the main export pipeline construction will take not less than 5 years. Consequently, its use will start not earlier than in 2004 or 2005. The process of reaching an accord in the problems of the MEP construction between SOCAR and AIOC will be uneasy.

The Azerbaijan State Oil Company is extremely discontent with the actions of the Consortium's oil companies. The sticking point is the laying of the main export pipeline (MEP) for shipping big Caspian oil.

Judging by that of how AIOC acts, it is not belief in what negotiations over selecting route for MEP will be completed by October 1998, as

#### Factor of prospectivity in the world oil industry



Source: Ch. A.Soultanov

it was determined in June 1997, Ilkham Aliyev, the first vice president for SOCAR, thinks. In his opinion, it is not clear what aims AIOC pursues while procrastinating the determination of the AIOC realizes well that the Baku-Ceyhan project matters to Baku more politically than economically. The AIOC shareholders think that when pipeline routes are selected for construction, the decisions must be based on commercial considerations. They do not want to build the pipeline on the conditions offered by Baku as comprehend that there is little commercial momentum behind the project. The option does not suit AIOC because of a decline in oil prices. Therefore the consortium cannot determine what marketplace will be more preferable.

As to the world-scale export route, there are, in the opinion of Robin Branagan, the vice President of MEP for AIOC, two options.

The first run is two oil lines going across the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf toward the Atlantic Ocean.

The second direction passes through Iran toward the Pacific Ocean.

Now there is no simple answer to a ques-

tion what of the two markets is the most profitable for exporting Caspian oil. Everything depends on long-term outlooks and forecasts. Caspian oil will be in competition with the Canadian, US, Columbian, Australian, Iranian and Saudi sorts of crude oil for the Pacific Ocean market. Among the main competitors in the Atlantic Ocean marketplace are the North Sea Brent benchmark crude and the Nigerian, Venezuelan sorts of oil.

In the markets there is a subtle relationship between demand and supply. Demand is contingent upon economic growth of the countries consuming oil and supply depends on the scope of developing offshore fields.

On the basis of the aspects, for Azerbaijan the Black Sea market looks the most preferable judging by all economic indicators. It is followed by the Mediterranean market and then the Pacific Ocean one.

#### 1998 - YEAR OF BIG HOPES

It seems that the main event in 1999 on MEP was the signing on October 29, 1998 of the Ankara declaration by Presidents of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkey and

Field	Residue recoverable reserves	
	Oil and condensate (in mil. Barrels)	Gas (in mil. cu ft.)
Guneshli	650	2000
The Narimanov OGPD	100	330
Bulla-deniz	73	2300
Palchy tepes	108	63
Neft Dashlary	147	33
Bakhar	30	650

Uzbekistan. The Caspian region's countries confirmed in it their interest in the MEP construction. The declaration also gave an assessment of the opportunities for producing and harnessing the oil and gas resources and their safe shipping to world markets (the full text of the Ankara Declaration read in number No 2 of CASPIAN ENERGY).

However, AIOC's position conditioned by economic considerations of the project at the moment, gives Azerbaijan as a participant of the negotiating process the ground for making sharp statements against the operating company. For example, Abid Sharifov, vice Prime Minister of the Azerbaijani Government, says that if AIOC refuses to deliver the MEP project stretching to Ceyhan, Azerbaijan itself will be engaged in putting the project into practice as it has already got a portfolio of many proposals from foreign companies and international financial organizations. Thus, maybe the disagreements between SOCAR and AIOC will not become a serious snag for delivering by Azerbaijan the MEP project.

Touching upon financial terms for the project fulfillment, Sharifov notes that the procedure of its financing is rather simple, but there is a problem. For instance, Japanese companies reconcile their proposals to finance Azerbaijan's equity participation (50 percent plus one share, which makes up \$1 billion and \$250 million) in the project, with Azerbaijan having to assign a part of its shares to the Japanese companies. It does not suit Azerbaijan and therefore it is in searches for

additional sources of financing the state's stake in the project.

First results have already been appearing in the process of the negotiations

For example, in Istanbul the basic provisions of the proposed intergovernmental Agreement on MEP have already been dovetailed and SOCAR is ready to sign the document, the SOCAR president reports. The document sets down the rights and obligations of Azerbaijan and Turkey to ensure safe and reliable export of main oil via Turkey and Azerbaijan. Under the deals, favorable tax incentives will be granted to producers transporting their oil to world markets.

A document like this will be sealed between the governments of Azerbaijan and Georgia.

The USA offer to sign an intergovernmental frame agreement on exporting

Caspian resources to world markets. Washington provided the initiative in Houston's Sept.17 session of the joint Turkish-US joint commission.

Yurdakul Egibgyuden, an adviser to the Natural Resources Ministry, said the USA offered to sign an intergovernmental agreement, which will apply to not only the Baku-Ceyhan oil pipeline but all hydrocarbon reserves and oil pipelines in the region.

The USA and Turkey urge to establish a pipeline company, which will represent the interests of all the Caspian states producing oil. In turn, the states will give appropriate export guarantees. However, given both Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan only start

prospecting oil and gas off their Caspian shores, the guarantees are understood not to be so firm as Azerbaijan and, above all, AlOC's shareholders would want to have. But on the other hand, it cannot bring about delays in the MEP project, which Azeri officials talk about. And it means that it is the states that lobbying the Baku-Ceyhan project at the moment are due to commit themselves to some business risk. Given that US companies and TPAO of Turkey have a majority of shares in AlOC, one can confirm that the AlOC shareholders are obliged to take some risk of Azerbaijan in the MEP project upon themselves.

The following oil prices were accepted as the terms of reference for a primary assessment of the cost effectiveness of a project for exporting early oil:

\$16.5 for a ton of oil in Rotterdam, \$14.65 in Novorossiysk, \$15.3 in Supsa,

Transport costs are \$0.43 for delivery of one barrel of oil in the Baku-Supsa direction, \$2.12 a barrel for Baku-Novorossiysk, \$1.2 for Supsa-Rotterdam, \$1.85 for Novorossiysk-Rotterdam.

Georgia's transit terms are the most profitable as the transit fees are retained for 30 years' use of the pipeline system.

Some corrections are due to be made for the above figures at that time, following low prices for Brent benchmark crude in world market, which fell by an about third against prices of early 1997. If one allows for a rental rate for the pipeline infrastructure, the terminals and oil loading points on the quays at Ceyhan as well as the pipeline safeguarding costs and insurance payments, a transit fee for shipping main Azeri oil via Turkey will total a bit little more than \$2 a barrel.

To make the project cost-effective, the operating and capital expenditures are not to exceed \$2.5 billion.

A chief hassle standing in the way of carrying the route into effect appeared to be an extremely high price of \$3.3 billion for the pipeline construction. It was set by AIOC.

In return for it, Turkey suggests some alternative options for the route. By preliminary calculations of experts from Turkey's BOTAS company, the maximum pipeline construction cost is USD3.5 billion. However, there is an opportunity to minimize it to \$1.8-\$1.9 billion. Everything is contingent upon the volume of oil to be transported through the pipeline and its direction (the Turkish party worked out four alternative corridors, one of which is Baku - Georgia - Erzurum - Ceyhan as well as fixed the start date of pumping Azeri oil. In the opinion of BOTAS' general manager Nadir Beyukogly, the most real date of shipping Azeri oil is 2004-2005 year.

When a feasibility study was being carried out by the Turkish party, special attention was focused on the environment protection. As it has emerged, the highest point through which the pipeline passes within Azerbaijan is 900 meters over sea level and in Georgia and Turkey the appropriate points are located at levels of 2300 meters. 10 pump stations are to be installed along the pipeline route, three ones being in the territory of Azerbaijan (one of them is on the terminal at Sangachaly), three ones in Georgia and four ones within Turkey.

The total length of the trunk pipeline is 1730km. A 1618km way from the Sangachaly terminal will be covered with a 42-inch pipe and a 112km pathway from near Tbilisi to the Ceyhan terminal will be made of a 34-inch pipe. A minimum throughput is 300,000 bpd while the line runs at a middle capacity and is 1.2 million bpd when the pipeline is fully stretched. An annual capacity is suggested to be between 40 to 55 million tons of oil as Kazakh and Turkmen oil are likely to be moved through the conduit. According to different estimates, the project cost ranges from \$2.0 to \$3.5 billion depending on the kind of route.

The strategic pipeline is expected to come on stream in the year 2004 to 2005. The construction will be operated by the pipeline company. During the 2002-2004 period from 80-90 to 150 million tons of oil are planned to be produced from the Caspian basin. Thus, the pipeline will be working to capacity.

#### WILL 1999 DOT ITS "I's" ?

Several events, which furthered moving forward the regional Baku-Ceyhan project somehow or other, have already occurred earlier this year.

A regular round of negotiations on MEP was held in Ankara on January 16-18.

Turkey's Energy Ministry and Kazakhstan's Energy, Industry and Trade Minister made a statement of their intention to sign a Protocol on cooperation in oil and gas sector.

On January 25-26 a question of boosting Kazakh oil export via Azerbaijan and Georgia was discussed between the Government of Azerbaijan and Kazakhoil, Kazakh company producing oil.

All the moves of the Caspian states' towards the MEP project are favored by the USA administration. The first half of this year has passed pending the quickest dovetailing all the financial issues and the rapidest signing of an intergovernmental agreement on the prospective MEP.

In spite of no effect, in the run of numerous negotiating rounds Azeri negotiating group succeeded in persuading its chief equity partners -Turkey and BP Amoco - in commercial and political viability of building the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline under the current political and economic conditions of the region. For this time it has been a success not only to reduce the MEP construction cost from USD3.3 to USD2.4 billion but to ensure to cover any cost overruns over the re-arranged official estimate of the project. Buoyed by the USA Government and guaranteed by stable equity partners, now Azerbaijan can rely on mitigation of terms and conditions in borrowing a loan from international financial organizations (or better from oil companies). It is essential to finance Azerbaijan's stake (50 percent plus one share) in the prospective pipeline company. To bolster the project, Azerbaijan will need to provide the needed volume of oil produced, which will enable to fill the MEP fully by the start of its commissioning, i.e., in 2005 annual oil production in the Azeri, Chirag and Guneshli fields is due to reach at least 30 million tons. By this

time, in Azeri sector of the Caspian Sea new fields - Kurdashi, Lenkoran-deniz and Talysh-deniz, Yalama and then deepwater fields - will be discovered. In doing so, if commercial oil levels are found in at least a third of them, one may say that Azerbaijan will operate all of three pipelines, which move oil to outlets on both the Mediterranean and the Black sea.

Given the projects for redeveloping old fields - Guneshli (Sunny), Neft Dashlary (Oil Rocks), Palchyg Tepesi (Mud Summit) - and a number of other fields, one may say about additional 10 million tons per year as early as the next seven years if, of course, in 2000 the contracts for these fields are awarded.

#### SUBSEA CASPIAN OIL PIPELINE

After the ceremony of signing a package of agreements on the MEP in Istanbul, Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev announced Kazakhstan had an intention of taking a concern in not only the Baku-Ceyhan project but the Baku-Supsa project. According to him, this year alone Kazakhstan shipped 2 million tons of crude oil via the pipeline. We intend to transport significant part of our oil through the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline and Kazakhstan plans to participate in creating transport infrastructure for shipping oil via a subsea Caspian oil pipeline. The projects' execution will play great role in reinforcing the independency and security of our region's countries, Nazarbayev emphasized. He called upon the USA to assist in bringing the trans-Caspian pipeline project into effect.

As to the transport of Kazakh oil via the MEP, the main common thing in the export strategy of the two countries, as Kasymjomart Tokayev, Prime Minister of the Kazakh Government, claimed, is that Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan stand by a principle of multi solutions to the construction of export pipelines. In the October's news briefing Tokayev noted that Kazakhstan took a positive altitude to the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline construction project. "The more pipelines, the better for Kazakhstan if one takes the country's potential into consideration", Prime Minister said.

Judging by what he said, at the negotiations with Azery party in the second half of this October an agreement was reached to conduct some consultations about commercial viability of the project and to work out a feasibility study of the project. Speaking about cooperation of the two states in the transport of oil, the head of the Kazakh government also posted that 1.5 million tons of oil had up to today been shipped by tankers from the Kazakh port of Aktau to Azerbaijan. In future, he added, it is slated to bring the volume to 10 million tons per year.

Thus, to build the subsea Caspian MEP, given attracting western investments and the current line-on of geopolitical forces, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan have to do the following:

Kazakhstan's tasks in the next five years

- To intensify oil and gas production from fields off its Caspian coast, i.e., it is essential to put new efforts into boosting exploration of oil and gas.
- To provide the rivalry between the countries wanting to attract foreign investments in the region.
- To determine the volume of the oil to be exported via the prospective MEP, which defines a break even point of export.
- To guarantee a hassle-free oil export from both an economic and political point of view.
- To ensure sustained investments within Kazakhstan by way of reducing risks. It can be done by improving its financial framework and providing the fulfillment of long-term obligations under contracts.
- To regulate its relations with Russia with regard to the commissioning of the Caspian Pipeline Consortium, thus, providing a reliable principle of multi-solution approach to oil strategy.
- To study a commercial opportunity to deliver a world-scale project for exporting oil and gas to the Asian and Pacific Ocean region.

Azerbaijan's tasks for the next five years:

- To build the MEP to get the cost-effective project.
- To strengthen the political and economical cooperation between the countries belong-

ing to the GUUAM.

- To create all conditions for immediate settlement of Armenian-Azeri conflicts in favor of Azerbaijan.
- 4. To enlist Russia's real (but not apparent) neutrality in the sorest matter for Azerbaijan by moderate assistance in satisfaction of Russia's economic ambitions in the region.

The tasks of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan for the next five years:

 To resolve the problem of the legal status of the Caspian Sea.

Failure to solve the problem scares main investors away from putting up their money for oil projects.

- To enlist the USA administration's maximum back-up.
- To maximize the power's investments in the region.
- To provide a maximum economic integration of the two states in the transport sector ( the fulfillment of the Great Silk Route project)

Thus, priorities are clear and it is unlikely that with any luck within five years not only the MEP but the subsea Caspian oil pipeline will be built.

As it has been noted above in the present paper, a comprehensive approach to solving problems of any project will serve as a basis for attracting investments in each of the three projects - MEP, subsea Caspian oil and gas pipeline projects, the Great Sulk Way.

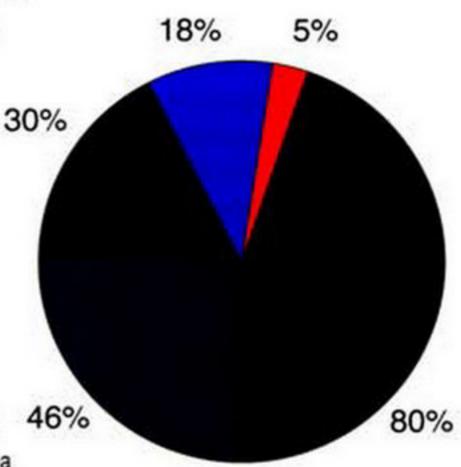
#### AZERBAIJAN'S EXPORT OPPORTUNI-TIES AND WORLD EQUILIBRIM

On the basis of their export opportunities, the countries can be divided into four groups:

- The countries exporting over 100 million tons of oil per year - Saudi Arabia, Iran, Norway, the Arabian Emirates;
- The countries exporting between 50 to 100 million tons of oil per year - Russia, Nigeria, Venezuela, Kuwait, Mexico, the Great Britain, Libya;
- The countries exporting from 10 to 50 million tons of oil per year Canada, Indonesia,
   Oman, Malaysia, Angola, Egypt, Catarrh,
   Syria, China, Algeria, Gabon, Equator;

 The countries exporting up to 10 million tons of oil per year;

The first group of the countries' oil sales accounts for 46 percent of the world's export or 656 million tons of crude oil per year. The second group exports 30 percent of export worldwide or 433 million tons of oil per year. The third group's contribution is 18 percent or 260 million tons per year. At last, the fourth group exports 5 percent or 72 million tons of crude per year. As it is seen from the indicated data,



the first and second group dominate the world market, and their export stake totals 80 percent of world export.

According to the yet signed contracts and the present developments in the Azerbaijan upstream oil industry, in the next five years the republic can rely on being included in the fourth group. After it brings its annual output to 40 million tons, the republic can count on its inclusion in the third group. From the position of today's realities, such is the real outlook for the perspective development in the foreseen future for Azerbaijan.

The data from the book Big Oil of Azerbaijan by Ch.A.Sultanov were used in the story.

# НЕФТЕГАЗОВАЯ ПРОМЫШЛЕННОСТЬ АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНА - 1949-1999 ГГ.



Президент ГНКАР, кандидат геологоминералогических наук, Академик Восточной Нефтяной Академии Натиг Алиев.

Азербайджан отметил знаменательное событие в истории нефти - 50- летие морской нефтедобычи в открытом море. Но если говорить об истории морской нефтедобычи, то, конечно, эта история восходит к началу нынешнего века. Когда впервые в бакинской бухте была отвоевана небольшая территория у моря путем ее засыпки. Впоследствии отвоеванный участок моря стал называться "Бухтой Ильича". На этом участке и была получена первая нефть, а затем создан морской нефтепромысел.

Со временем появились другие методы освоения морских нефтеносных участков с насыпных островов, индивидуальных морских стационарных оснований, с полузатопленных кораблей, барж, киржимов. Потом наступила эра строительства эстакад, способствующая широкому наступлению на море. Оснований для этого было достаточно.

Известно, что современная береговая линия Каспия не может являться границей распространения сухопутных нефтяных месторождений и перспективных структур. Исследования показали, что многие из них имеют продолжение, образуя в море протяженные антиклинальные зоны, скажем, как в Бакинском архипелаге, на подводных склонах Дагестана, полуострове Чалекен в Туркменистане, Беке - Бешкудунском валу в западном Казахстане. Все это давало основание для разворота геолого-поисковых работ на акватории Каспийского моря.

С этой точки зрения добыча морской нефти имеет более древнюю историю. Однако получение первой тонны морской нефти действительно произошло 50 лет назад, а именно 7 ноября 1949 г. на месторождении "Нефтяные Камни". Для нас это имеет огромное значение, так как Азербайджан стал пионером в освоении морских месторождений, а именно в открытой части Каспия.

ЭСТАКАДНЫЙ МЕТОД РАЗРАБОТКИ МЕСТОРОЖДЕНИЯ "НЕФТЯНЫЕ КАМ-НИ" ДО СИХ ПОР НЕ ИМЕЕТ АНАЛО-ГОВ.

Уникальность разработки месторождения "Нефтяные Камни" заключается в том, что на примере этого месторождения были применены совершенно новые подходы, которые ранее нигде не применялись.

Достаточно сказать, что эстакадный метод разработки месторождения "Нефтяные Камни" до сих пор считается первым в мире и не имеет аналогов.

Морские условия продиктовали применение кустового бурения - прокладывания нескольких наклонно-направленных скважин с одного основания. Со временем на Каспии развились мощные комплексы по строительству гидротехнических сооружений - Бакинский завод глубоководных оснопереросший в объединение "Шельфпроектстрой". Ныне это предприятие является флагманом строительства глубоководных морских платформ, самоподъемных плавучих буровых установок. Обслуживание этих гидротехнических сооружений потребовало и создания мобильного специализированного морского нефтегазового флота "Каспморнефтегазпром", на балансе которого находятся морские трубоукладчики, катера, пассажирские суда. Это на сегодняшний день целая инженерно-морская индустрия.

Неслучайно после "Нефтяных Камней" начался новый этап открытия и освоения нефтегазовых месторождений - с помощью самоподъемных и полупогружных плавучих буровых установок. С их помощью еще в советское время были открыты месторождения "Азери", "Чираг", "Гюнешли", "Кяпаз" в азербайджанском секторе Каспия, банка Ливаново-Восточная - в туркменском секторе моря, "Скалистое море" у казахстанских берегов.

Сейчас, как Вам известно, в Баку строится СПБУ "TRIDENT-20", с которой будет начато бурение разведочных скважин глубиной до 7500 метров. Все это дает основание думать, что в скором времени Баку станет одним из мощных центров по строительству плавучих установок.

#### МИНИСТЕРСТВО НЕФТЯНОЙ ПРОМЫ-ШЛЕННОСТИ АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНА.

Действительно, до 1969 года в Азербайджане существовало Министерство нефтяной промышленности, которое в СССР составляло основу экономики и полностью управлялось централизовано из Москвы. Это министерство было как бы в двойном подчинении. С одной стороны оно подчинялось Кабинету Министров Азербайджанской ССР, с другой - Министерству нефтяной промышленности СССР.

Разумеется, держать такую структуру в условиях, когда в Азербайджане зародилась морская нефтедобыча, которая развивалась быстрыми темпами и наблюдалось падение уровня нефтедобычи на суше республики, со временем стало нецелесообразно. Поэтому, было решено вместо Министерства нефтяной промышленности Азербайджана, создать два производственных объединения, функции которых отличались бы друг от друга. Этими ПО стали "Азнефть", которое вело работы на суше и ПО "Касморнефть", переименованное в ВПО "Каспморнефтегазпром". Последнее занималось поиском, разведкой и разработкой нефтяных месторождений по всей акватории Каспийского моря. Словом, с изменением задач и систем управления ликвидировалось лишнее производственное звено, которым в данном случае оказалось Министерство нефтяной промышленности Азербайджана.

Однако следует отметить, что ПО "Азнефть" и ВПО "Касморнефтегазпром" продолжали оставаться как бы в ранге министерства.

Авторитет и полномочия генеральных директоров этих объединений были весьма высокими, и они никогда не были обделены вниманием центра.

ПРОИЗВОДИТСЯ РАСЧЕТ ЭКОНОМИ-ЧЕСКОЙ ЭФФЕКТИВНОСТИ ПРОЕК-ТОВ РЕАБИЛИТАЦИИ СТАРЫХ МЕС-ТОРОЖДЕНИЙ.

Должен сказать, что морская нефтедобыча всегда была рентабельна. Могу подкрепить сказанное цифрами. Если в 1980 году тонна нефти по Азербайджану стоила 55 рублей, то нефть, добытая с месторождения "Гюнешли" обходилась в сумме от 3х до 7 рублей.

И это несмотря на то, что капитальные вложения в морские месторождения были выше, чем на суше.

Конечно, рентабельность добычи морской нефти была высокой благодаря дебитам нефтедобывающих скважин, с другой стороны, рентабельность морской нефти обеспечивалась постоянным вводом в разработку новых месторождений. Эффективность добычи морской нефти подтверждена и мировой практикой.

Как известно, мы заключили 19 контрактов с иностранными компаниями. Многие из этих проектов, за исключением "Азери", "Чираг", "Гюнешли", касаются освоения новых морских перспективных структур, где по прогнозам имеются значительные запасы углеводородов.

Открытие нефтяных залежей на этих структурах дело будущего. Но наряду с этим, мы своими силами разрабатываем около 17 месторождений, многие из которых дают нефть не одно десятилетие. Конечно, эти месторождения со временем опускаются до грани рентабельности их эксплуатации.

Кроме того, затраты, вкладываемые на поддержку в техническом состоянии инфраструктуры в условиях агрессивной морской среды (с точки зрения коррозии), и падение нефтедобычи способствуют понижению рентабельности добываемой здесь нефти.

Сегодня идет поиск путей для сохранения таких месторождений. Иначе говоря, производится точный экономический расчет предполагаемой суммарной добычи нефти, ремонта оборудования, определяются капитальные вложения, которые покрыли бы стоимость этих работ, плюс давали бы прибыль.

Такую работу мы проводим по многим месторождениям, в том числе и по "Нефт Дашлары", "Бахар", "Сангачалы-Дуванный", "Пираллахи" др. Мы подготовили пакет геолого-геофизических данных, характеризующих сегодняшнее состояние этих месторождений. В Хьюстоне и Лондоне мы провели презентацию этого пакета данных, которым заинтересовались зарубежные компании. Эти данные изучаются сейчас иностранными экспертами.

Задача состоит в том, чтобы месторождения, находящиеся на грани рентабельности, с помощью иностранных инвестиций были подняты на качественно новый уровень их разработки. Думаю, что в скором времени нам будут представлены проекты иностранных компаний, и если они окажутся выгодными для ГНКАР и иностранных компаний, то будут подписаны и соответствующие соглашения.

#### ГНКАР ЧЕРЕЗ 10 ЛЕТ

Несколько лет назад в ГНКАР было создано Управление иностранных инвестиций, которое укомплектовано опытными специалистами. Оно занимается расчетами, разработками основных принципов взаимоотношений между инвесторами и ГНКАР, ведет соответствующие переговоры. Думаю, что это управление и будет заниматься заключением контрактов, их реализацией и контролем, а также подсчетом поступающих доходов. Это - одна из наиболее важных структур Госнефтекомпании.

В будущем, я думаю, это управление будет расширяться. С заключением каждого контракта мы создаем аффилированные компании ГНКАР, которые являются представителями ГНКАР в консорциумах, они участвуют в проектах и сами их финансируют.

Структура ГНКАР с течением времени усовершенствуется, перейдет на качественно новый уровень. Сейчас эта структура состоит из восьми производственных объединений. Два по добыче нефти на суше и на море, объединение магистральных трубопроводов, два по переработке нефти одно по светлым нефтепродуктам ПО "Азернефтянаджаг", другое по маслам - ПО "Азернефтяг", ПО "Шельфпроектстрой", ПО "Геология и Геофизика".

Эти объединения созданы с целью охвата всего направления и сферы сегодняшнего нефтяного бизнеса и практики.

Кроме этого, мы создали самостоятельное управление внешнеэкономических связей, которое занимается реализацией сырой нефти и нефтепродуктов зарубеж.

За ближайшие 10 лет, скорее всего, появится новое направление в работе ГНКАР, требующее гибкого изменения существующей структуры управления. По ходу дела мы будем вносить коррективы в работу Госнефтекомпании.

С 2005 ГОДА ПРИБЫЛЬ АЗЕРБАЙД-ЖАНА ОТ "КОНТРАКТА ВЕКА" БУДЕТ СОСТАВЛЯТЬ ЕЖЕГОДНО ОДИН МИЛЛИАРД ДОЛЛАРОВ США.

Мы говорили, что все наши предложения направлены на то, чтобы обеспечить валютные резервы нашей страны за счет продажи нефти, поступающей от разработки нефтяных месторождений.

Начиная с 2000 года Азербайджан получит прибыль порядка 100 миллионов долларов США от разработки месторождений "Азери", Чираг", "Гюнешли". В дальнейшем эта прибыль будет иметь тенденцию к увеличению.

Мы приступаем к осуществлению полномасштабной программы разработки - "Фаза





LUKOIL expanding for the future



1" на месторождениях "Азери", "Чираг", Гюнешли", и с 2005 года прибыль будет составлять ежегодно один миллиард долларов США. Это огромные средства для нашей республики, и поэтому уже сейчас возникает вопрос о том, каким образом использовать эти средства.

Для этого надо изучить опыт других стран, в которых бурно развивалась нефтяная промышленность и обеспечить непрерывный поток возможных поступлений. Главное - правильно расходовать эти средства. Для этого работает правительство Азербайджана, которому и будут принадлежать эти средства. ГНКАР не вправе распоряжаться валютными поступлениями. Видимо, будет подготовлена специальная программа реинвестиций. На что будет направлена эта программа, какие охватит отрасли экономики покажет время. Ясно одно, программа должна быть направлена на такие отрасли промышленности, предприятия которых могут не только поглотить эти инвестиции, но и быстро обеспечить отдачу, приносить прибыль. Такие области в республике имеются. Я имею в виду машиностроение, нефтяную, химическую промышленности и сельское хозяйство.

Международный банк рекомендует создать специальный фонд или счет, куда будут поступать все валютные средства от продажи нефти и разработки месторождений. Я думаю, это здоровая идея, потому что если эти финансы будут поступать в бюджет, там они могут быть завуалированы, распылены, и никто не сумеет ответить сколько валютных средств поступило и на какие нужды они были потрачены.

Наверное, надо будет создать комиссию или совет по использованию валютных средств, что является прерогативой государства. ГНКАР не вправе вмешиваться или давать какие-либо советы.

#### ИНОСТРАННЫЕ КОМПАНИИ ОБЯЗА-НЫ УЛОЖИТЬСЯ В СРОКИ РАЗВЕ-ДОЧНОГО ПЕРИОДА.

Я не думаю, что какие-либо задержки в ходе реализации проектов по площадям "Нахчыван" ("Exxon") и "Тагиева" ("Chevron") могут иметь место. Сейчас на указанных структурах ведутся подготовительные работы, то есть изучаются инженерно-геологические особенности морского дна. В дальнейшем предстоит провести трехмерную сейсмосъемку. После обработки данных сейсмики будет определено месторасположение первых оценочных скважин.

Для бурения скважин будут использованы плавучие буровые установки " Истиглал" и "Деде Горгуд". В любом случае иностранные компании обязаны уложиться в сроки разведочного периода, иначе они потеряют право на контракт.

#### МАСШТАБЫ ПРОЕКТА ОЭТ НЕ СОИЗ-МЕРИМЫ С ЭКСПОРТОМ "РАННЕЙ НЕФТИ".

В настоящее время рабочая переговорная группа Азербайджана завершает переговоры с Турцией. По моим сведениям, идет процесс завершения согласования правительственных документов. Положительным моментом является то, что наконец-то иностранные компании, в том числе ВР Атосо, приняли решение о своем участии в проекте ОЭТ Баку-Джейхан.

Если в течение последних двух лет были какие-то разногласия между ГНКАР и иностранными компаниями по ОЭТ, и многие акционеры первого проекта склонялись к тому, что проект Баку-Джейхан очень дорогой, и его нельзя положить в основу стратегии экспорта азербайджанской нефти, то сегодня наблюдаются положительные сдвиги во взглядах этих компаний. Все они сегодня считают, что трубопровод Баку-Джейхан является стратегическим проектом не только для Азербайджана, но и для всего Прикаспийского региона, и что ОЭТ сможет содействовать обеспечению энергетической независимости этого региона.

Думаю, что все же вопрос по ОЭТ Баку-Джейхан мы доведем до логического конца. Что же касается подписания пакета соглашений, он будет подписан тогда, когда все вопросы будут разрешены и доложены Президенту Азербайджанской Республики Гейдару Алиеву. Они охватывают условия финансирования и другие особенности проекта. Документы по форме аналогичны тем, которые мы подписывали по ранней нефти с Грузией и Россией.

Однако документы по ОЭТ более объем-

ны, потому что здесь масштабы несоизмеримы с проектом экспорта ранней нефти.

Если проекты ранней нефти финансировались за счет консорциума АМОК, то в данном случае совершенно другая ситуация, т.е. здесь предусматривается создание нового трубопроводного консорциума, который и будет формировать финансы. Это первое отличие.

Каждый из учредителей трубопроводной компании должен будет внести свою долю финансирования самостоятельным путем. Это второе отличие.

Третье - самое большое отличие в том, что будет заключен договор строительства ОЭТ под ключ с фиксированной стоимостью.

Четвертое отличие заключается в предоставлении турецким правительством гарантии в том, что эта фиксированная стоимость не будет завышена. В случае завышения фиксированной стоимости, Турция обязана возместить эти расходы.

Таким образом, по масштабу, характеру и условию реализации контракт по ОЭТ значительно отличается от контрактов по экспорту ранней нефти.

#### ВОСТОЧНЫЙ БЕРЕГ КАСПИЯ ДОЛ-ЖЕН ПРОЯВИТЬ АКТИВНОСТЬ.

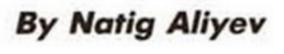
Отмечу, что все компании, работающие на восточном побережье Каспия заинтересованы в строительстве ОЭТ Баку-Джейхан. Они неоднократно заявляли о готовности участвовать в реализации ОЭТ.

Однако переговоры с ними могут происходить только тогда, когда будут решены все вопросы по формированию документов и задач, поставленных перед нами Президентом Азербайджанской Республики Г.Алиевым.

Конечно, после того, как будет образован Трубопроводный консорциум и определена его концепция, компании Chevron, Exxon/Mobil и другие смогут войти в его состав. Такие предложения имеются, но пока они не рассматриваются. Наверное, спустя какое-то время мы сможем рассмотреть этот вопрос.

# THE AZERBAIJAN OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

# IN THE 1949-1999 PERIOD





The SOCAR President Natig Aliyev, Doctor of Geology and Mineralogy, Academician of East Oil Academy

On November 12, 1999 Azerbaijan marked a milestone in the history of oil - the 50th anniversary of oil production in the fields off the Caspian coast. But if we have in view of the history of only offshore oil production, of course, the history dates back to the beginning of this century.

At this time for the first time at the Bay of Baku a small territory was taken away from the sea by pouring loose materials on a site. The area of the sea was called the Bay of Il'ich after V.I.Lenin (Il'ich is his patronymic) afterwards. First oil was produced in the area and then an offshore oilfield was based on the plot. As time has gone on, different methods of tapping offshore oil bearing areas appeared - the artificial islands conquered from the sea, offshore stationary isolated platforms carved out, semisunk ships, barges. Then the era came to construct tubular trestleworks by which oil people have toed into Caspian waters and thus strengthened their foothold. There were enough grounds for this.

It is known that the present shoreline of the Caspian Sea cannot set limits on the extension of onshore oil fields and highly promising structures seaward. The investigations showed that many of them extend farther seaward beyond the edge of the Caspian to form lengthy anticlinal zones like the Baku archipelago, on underwater slopes of Dagestan, the Chelecken

peninsula in Turkmenistan, the Beke-Bushkudan embankment in western Kazakhstan. All this acted as a spur to oilmen's ambitions, making them to expand geological prospecting surveys in the Caspian Sea and to break into offshore fields in Azerbaijan.

From this view of point, oil production from the fields off the Caspian coast has an older history. However, as a matter of fact, first ton of oil was produced 50 years away, namely, at the Neftyanye Kamni (Oil Rocks) on November 7, 1949. It is of great importance to us, as Azerbaijan became a first-mover in developing offshore fields, namely, in the Caspian Sea offshore Azerbaijan.

# DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEFTYANYE KAMNI FIELD FROM TRESTLEWORK DOES NOT HAVE LOOKALIKES WORLDWIDE AS YET

An unique peculiarity of developing the Neftyanye Kamni field consists in what quite innovative techniques were used in the field, which have never and nowhere been employed earlier. It is enough to say that the trestlework method of developing the Neftyanye Kamni field is so far considered to be for the first time applied in offshore upstream oil industry worldwide and does not have any lookalikes so far. Offshore conditions have had to lead to the need to develop innovative and technical solutions to deal with many challenges.

One of the solutions is the drilling non-monobore wells - the drilling of several directional wells laterally situated and going out of a monobore well. It has found widespread application in the Caspian Sea now as dramatically reduces well intervention costs. As the years went on, on the Caspian the powerful complexes for building offshore facilities have been developed. Among them is the Baku plant mak-

ing offshore platforms. It was transformed into the Shelfprojectstroy corporation afterwards. The enterprise is the flagship of the offshore deepwater platforms and floating jack-up rigs construction industry.

The need for their maintenance and repair resulted in establishing a fleet consisting of vessels rigged out with special equipment providing services to upstream operations. The fleet has pipes laying vessels, specially equipped boats, passenger ships. By now it is a whole offshore engineering industry. It is no more chance that after Neftyanye Kamni a new phase was begun in discovering and tapping oil and gas fields through jack-up rigs and semisubmersible drilling rigs. With their help, as early as Soviet era there were discovered the Azeri, Chirag, Guneshli, Kyapaz fields in the Caspian Sea offshore Azerbaijan, the Livanovo-Eastern Gorge in Turkmen sector of the Caspian Sea, the Rocky Sea near Kazakh coast.

Now, as it is known, the TRIDENT-20 semisubmersible drilling rig is under construction in Baku. Test wells can be drilled from it to a vertical depth of 7,500 meters below sea level. All this gives a ground for thinking that in the near future Baku will become one of the powerful hubs of building floating rigs.

#### THE AZERBAIJAN OIL INDUSTRY

Indeed, the Oil Industry existed in Azerbaijan until 1969. It was the mainstay of the former USSR's energy supply. It was entirely controlled by Moscow that pulled the strings of it. The Ministry was as if under double rule. On the one hand, it was subordinate to Azerbaijan's Cabinet of Ministers, on the other hand, it did the USSR Oil Industry Ministry's bidding. Of course, it made no sense of retaining the authority body in the republic when in

Azerbaijan offshore oil production had been generated, which was developed at a great rate and the republic's oil production on land started to decline. Therefore, Moscow was set on setting up two production associations, the functions of which would be different from each other, instead of the Azerbaijan Oil Industry Ministry. These production associations were Azneft, which was engaged in oil production on land, and Caspmorneft, the all-union production association, which was then renamed Caspmorneftegasprom. It was involved in exploring, prospecting and developing oil fields throughout the Caspian Sea. In short, as tasks and a system of management changed, extra production entities, among which turned to be Azerbaijan's Oil Industry Ministry, were wound up. However, it should be noted that Azneft, the production association. Caspmorneftegasprom, the all-union production association, continued to reserve the status of the ministry. The authority and empowers of the associations' general directors were rather high and they were always the people to be reckoned with.

# ECONOMIC EFFECTIVENESS OF OLD FIELDS REHABILITATION PROJECTS

I must say that offshore oil production was always profitable. I can reinforce what I said with some figures. If in 1980 the production cost of a ton of oil was 55 rubles on average throughout Azerbaijan, the oil produced from the Guneshli field cost from 3 to 7 rubles. And it was so despite what capital investments in offshore fields were more than the ones contributed to onshore fields. Of course, the cost effectiveness of offshore oil production was high owing to the high rates of output at oil production wells. On the other hand, the cost-benefit of offshore oil production was provided by permanent addition of new fields to the yet up and running deposits. The cost-benefit of offshore oil production has always been confirmed by the world experience.

As it is known, we afforded 19 contracts with foreign companies. Many of the projects, except for Azeri, Chirag, Guneshli, have rele-

vance to tapping new offshore perspective structures, where, according to forecasts, significant hydrocarbon reserves are available. Discovery of oil deposits on these structures is the cause of the future. We are developing about 17 fields on our own, many of which have been yielding oil for more than a decade. Of course, over time the fields fell to a break even point when their exploitation to stop bringing in a profit. In addition, expenses spent on technical maintenance of infrastructure under conditions of aggressive marine medium resulting in quick corrosion and a decline in oil production make for reducing a cost-benefit level of crude oil produced here. Oilmen are currently in their search for ways for retaining such oil fields.

In other words, a more exact economic count of the proposed total oil production, repair of equipment is performed. Capital investments, which might have covered the quotation, are determined. And, in addition to this, they have to yield a profit. We are at work on such calculations of many fields to maximize return on investment. Among them are Neft Dashlary (Neftyanye Kamni), Bakhar, Sangachalu-Duvanny, Pirallahi and other fields.

We prepared a package of geological and geophysical data characterizing the present state of the fields. In Houston and London we conducted a presentation of this package of data, which foreign companies were interested in. The data is being studied by foreign experts. A task is that the fields, which fell to a break even point, were raised to a qualitatively new level of their development with help of foreign investments. I think that the projects of foreign companies will be submitted to us in the near future. And if they are of benefit to SOCAR and foreign companies, appropriate agreements will be signed.

#### SOCAR AFTER 10 YEARS

A few years earlier at SOCAR, its Foreign Investments Department staffed with trained specialists was formed. It is engaged in various calculations and working out the underlying principles of mutual relationships between investors and SOCAR and has appropriate talks with them. I think that the department will be involved in entering into contracts, putting them into practice and keeping a control over the deals. Its duties also will include the calculations of revenues coming to SOCAR's coffers. It is one of the most important divisions of SOCAR. In future, I think, the department will be expanded. After affording every contract, we establish an affiliated company of SOCAR, which are SOCAR's representatives to consortia. They take a share in projects and themselves finance for them. SOCAR's administrative structure is improved over time and its management quality enhances.

Now SOCAR consists of eight offshore and onshore oil production associations - that of trunk pipelines, two oil downstream associations (one refines crude oil into light oil products and it is called Azernweftyanajag, other group is Azerneftyag that processes crude to produce luboils). There are also the following production groups - Shelfprojectstroy, Geology and Geophysics. The production associations were set up to cover all lines and spheres of today's oil business and practice.

In addition, we founded an independent department for foreign relations, which is engaged in exporting crude oil and refined products. In the next ten years it is likely to appear a new tendency in SOCAR's activities requiring more flexible changes in the existing management system. In the run of doing our business we will make changes to SOCAR's activities.

FROM 2005 AZERBAIJAN'S ANNUAL OPERATING EARNINGS FROM THE CONTRACT OF THE CENTURE WILL SURGE UP TO US\$1 BILLION

We said all of our suggestions had aimed to replenish our country's foreign exchange reserves by selling oil produced from oil fields. As from the year-2000, Azerbaijan will earn about US\$100 million in operating revenues from oil produced from the Azeri, Chirag, Guneshli fields. The profit will further have a

tendency to increasing. We launch to fulfill the Phase-1 large-scale development program of the Azeri, Chirag, Guneshli fields, and from the year-2005 they will bear US\$1 billion per year. It is huge money for our republic. So, as early as today a question arises of how to use the funds. For this, it is essential to study the experience of other countries, in which oil industry was developed very quickly, and to provide a continuous cash flow. The main thing is that to correctly spend the funds. The Azerbaijani government, which will own the money, works on the problem. SOCAR is not entitled to use the foreign exchange revenues to its discretion. In connection with the issue of great importance, a special program of reinvestments will be developed. Time will tell what sectors of the country's economy will be covered by the program, what the program will aim at. It is clear that the program will cover the sectors of industry, of which enterprises can not only absorb the investments but maximize and quicken return on investment and yield a profit. There are such sectors in the republic. I have in view of machinery construction, oil industry and chemicals production and agriculture.

The World Bank recommends to form a special fund or account to which foreign exchange revenues gained from oil sales and development of fields will be transferred. I think it is a sound idea because if these revenues come to the state's budget, they can be veiled and dispersed or scattered and none will be unable to answer how much foreign exchange arrived and what they were spent on. One is likely to have to set up a commission on the use of foreign exchange, which is a prerogative of the state. SOCAR is not entitled to intervene or give any advices.

# TO COMPLETE THEIR EXPLORATION PERIODS ON SCHEDULE

I do not think that any delays will take place during the fulfillment of the projects for developing the Nakhichevan area operated by Exxon and the Tagiyev field operated by Chevron. A groundwork is being done for the indicated structures now, i.e., the engineering and geological features of the seabed are under study. Further the experts will have to carry out a 3D seismic survey. After date processing, the locations for the first appraisal wells will be selected. To drill the wells, the Istiglal amd Dede Gorgud semi-submersible drilling rigs will be used. In any case, foreign companies are obliged to complete exploration on schedule. Otherwise, they will lose their right to a contract.

#### THE SCOPE OF MEP PROJECT IS INCOMPARABLE WITH EARLY OIL EXPORT

At the moment, a working negotiating group of Azerbaijan is in talks with Turkey. As far as I know, the process of dovetailing governmental documents comes to an end. A positive element is that at last foreign companies, including BP Amoco, have already got a more favorable attitude to the Baku-Ceyhan MEP. And if many shareholders of BP Amoco were previously inclined to consider the Baku-Ceyhan project to be expensive, today there are positive upheavals in views of these companies.

All of them think the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline is a project of strategic value not only to Azerbaijan but all the Caspian region and that the MEP can assist in providing energetic independency of the region. I think we still will follow through a matter of the Baku-Ceyhan project. As to signing a package of agreements, it will be sealed at a time when all issues are resolved and submitted to Azerbaijan President Heydar Aliyev. They cover the terms of finding for the project and other its features.

The documents in form are similar to the papers we signed on early oil with Georgia and Russia. However, the volume of the documents on MEP is more because here the scope is much more than that of the early oil export project.

If early oil projects were sponsored by the AIOC consortium, in this case it is quite a different matter, i.e., it is expected to form a new pipeline consortium and the financial aspect of the project falls under its jurisdiction.

- It is the first difference.
- Each of the pipeline company's father founders must contribute its stake to the project on its own. It is the second difference.
- Third difference is the largest one. It is what the contract for building "turnkey" MEP has the fix sum of its construction.
- The fourth difference is that the Turkish government gives guarantees for the construction having to be completed within the budget.

  If the real cost exceeds the fix sum, all cost overruns will have to be covered by Turkey.
- The scope, nature, and terms of delivering the project for MEP are significantly different from the early oil export contracts.

#### CASPIAN EASTERN COAST MUST SHOW ITS BUSINESS ACTIVITY

I would like to note that all of companies operating on the eastern coast of the Caspian Sea are interested in the Baku-Ceyhan MEP construction. The companies repeatedly announced their willingness to participate in bringing MEP project into effect. However, negotiations with them cannot be held until all the issues of drawing up appropriate papers and tasks are posed by Azerbaijan President Heydar Aliyev for us to fulfill.

Of course, after the Pipeline Consortium has been formed and its conception has been determined, the companies - Chevron, Exxon/Mobil and others - will be able to be incorporated into it. Such suggestions are available but so far they are not under consideration. After a while, the matter might be considered by us.



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E-mail argrating@hotmail.com caspenergy@artel.net.az

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# МОРСКАЯ НЕФТЕГАЗОДОБЫЧА И ЕЕ ПРОБЛЕМЫ



РАХМАН КУРБАНОВ, генеральный директор Производственного Объединения "По добыче нефти и газа на море" ГНКАР.

Начало добычи нефти на побережье Каспийского моря датируется 16 веком. Интерес к морской добыче нефти с тех времен был и есть приоритетным направлением для развития производственных сил и инфраструктуры промышленности.

Район Апшеронского порога является огромным потенциальным источником углеводородных ресурсов для Азербайджанской Республики. Оценочные извлекаемые запасы неразработанных глубоководных месторождений "Гюнешли", "Азери" и "Кяпаз" превышают 500 млн. тонн нефти и содержат около 125 млрд. куб. природного газа.

Нелегким было освоение морских нефтегазовых месторождений в начале и середине 20 века.

Однако решение многих сложных задач морской добычи нефти и газа отечественными учеными и инженерно-техническими работниками позволило открыть в 1949 году легендарный "Нефт Дашлары".

"Нефт Дашлары" сыграло огромную роль в развитии азербайджанской нефтяной промышленности. У "Нефт Дашлары" появились новые богатейшие спутники такие, как месторождения "Гум Адасы", "Бахар", "Дуванны", "Булла Дениз", "Сангачалы-море" и "Гюнешли".

Среди открытых месторождений особое место занимает "Гюнешли", промышленная разработка которого начата в апреле 1980 года. За истекший период на месторождении установлено 12 глубоководных платформ, пробурено свыше 160 эксплуатационных и нагнетательных скважин, проложены сотни километров подводных нефтегазопроводов, построены различные инженерные сооружения для обустройства месторождения.

С 1986 года месторождение разрабатывается с применением водного воздействия. В настоящее время текущий коэффициент нефтеотдачи составляет 0,29, коэффициент использования начальных извлекаемых запасов равен 0,63 и темп отбора извлекаемых запасов составляет 25,5%.

Опыт эксплуатации старых морских месторождений Каспия показал, что широкое применение вторичных методов добычи нефти и уплотнение сетки скважин позволяет достичь высоких показателей нефтегазодобычи. С этой точки зрения особое внимание уделяется внедрению прогрессивных методов и форм доразработки месторождения "Гюнешли". Научно обоснованный подход к проблемам добычи нефти и газа позволил остановить темп падения и стабилизировать в истекшем году добычу нефти на уровне 101 тыс. баррель/сутки на месторождении "Гюнешли".

Как известно, морская нефтедобыча в производственном объединении охватывает, в основном, старые месторождения, которые разрабатываются с применением технологий 60-х годов для суши, приспособленных к морским условиям. Наиболее проблематичным является то, что более 60% нефтепромыслового и бурового оборудования отработали свои нормативные сроки службы. Кроме того, часть скважин общего фонда простаивает по причине непригодности для эксплуатации гидротехнических сооружений.

Период централизованной системы управления экономикой способствовал истощению пластов, резкому падению пластового давления при полном отсутствии реставрационных работ по продуктивным скважинам. С этой точки зрения мы считаем, что привлечение иностранных инвестиций в топливно-энергетический комплекс имеет особое значение.

Морская нефтегазодобывающая промышленность органически связана с другими отраслями, включая нефтехимическую, строительную, энергетическую, транспортную и другие сферы. Поэтому целесообразным является параллельное вложение иностранных инвестиций в отрасли, тесно связанные с топливно-энергетическим комплексом с целью их интенсивного развития.

Целесообразность интенсификации добычи нефти и газа на каспийском шельфе Азербайджана поставила задачу перед коллективом ПО о коренном пересмотре проблем разработки и эксплуатации старых месторождений, что откроет новую эпоху в развитии нефтяной промышленности.

Комплексная организационная, техническая, геологическая и научная работы были проведены над эксплуатационным, бездействующим и переходящим фондами скважин. В результате чего начиная с 1997 года уровень добычи нефти в основном стабилизировался, а в 1999 году достигнут значительный рост по истощенным месторождениям НГДУ "Апшероннефт" и "Гум Адасы". Среди проведенных работ особое место занимают геологотехнические мероприятия, внедрение вторичных и третичных методов воздействия на залежи, регулирование притока к забою скважин, применение прогрессивно-акустических, физико-химических методов воздействия на пласт, пуск бездействующих и простаивающих скважин в эксплуатацию.

Таким образом, указанные направления работ позволяют объединению завершить в 1999 году поставленные задачи в области добычи нефти и газа с перевыполнением плана.

Особое внимание уделяется реабилитации нефтегазодобычи на старых месторожновании совместной разработки и эксплуа-

тации месторождений "Зых" и "Говсаны" с компанией ЛУКОЙЛ и ГосНИПИ "Гипроморнефтегаз", и в будущем работа с иностранными компаниями по реабилитации разрабатываемых месторождений будет продолжена.

Особое внимание уделяется реабилитации нефтегазодобычи на старых месторождениях "Зых", "Говсаны", "Нефт Дашлары", "Пираллахи" и "Грязевая сопка".

дениях "Зых", "Говсаны", "Нефт Дашлары", "Пираллахи" и "Грязевая сопка". С этой целью была развернута работа для бурения скважин на месторождении "Пираллахи". Детальное изучение данных по добыче нефти по блокам и горизонтам показало, что на месторождении "Нефт Дашлары" имеются достаточные извлекаемые запасы нефти.

С целью осуществления доразработки подготовлена программа реабилитации месторождения "Нефт Дашлары" совместно с компанией "МАИ Консалтантс ЛТД" (Великобритания), в которой предусматривается бурение более 300 эксплуатационных и нагнетательных скважин. Также подписано соглашение о технико-экономическом обос-

Важнейшей задачей морской нефтегазобычи является удовлетворение потребностей страны в газоснабжении и обеспечении технологических процессов природным и попутным газом.

Открытие месторождения "Шах-Дениз" с запасами около 1 трлн. куб. газа поставило перед Объединением задачу строительства нового завода по переработке природного газа.

Анализ работы морских месторождений нефти и газа показывает, что только путем внедрения последних достижений науки и техники в области разработки морских месторождений возможно решение многих проблемных задач, поставленных перед ПО. С этой целью специалистами объединения при участии ученых более 40 научных институтов, университетов, научных центров Академии наук и др. обсуждаются пути решения проблемных вопросов по всем направлениям морской добычи нефти и газа.

В результате проведенной работы в производственном объединении разработана комплексная программа "Научно-технических мероприятий на 2000-2001 годы", и этот период объявлен годом внедрения мероприятий научно-технического прогресса в морской нефтяной промышленности.

Главной отличительной чертой морской разработки нефтегазовых месторождений является то, что все работы, связанные с организацией добычи углеводородов, ведутся в водной среде.

Начало своей деятельности наше производственное объединение берет в 1963 году, когда было создано главное управление "Главморнефть", на базе которого затем и было образовано сегодняшнее ПО по добыче нефти и газа на море:

Создание первого в мире морского города в открытом море на сваях "Нефт Дашлары" является самым знаменательным событием в истории существования нашего производственного объединения.

# OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION



The beginning of oil production on the coast of the Caspian Sea dates back to the 16th century. Since then an interest in oil production from fields off the Caspian coast has always RAKHMAN KURBANOV, general director of Production Association for offshore oil and gas pro-

duction for SOCAR.

had and having a priority in development of productive forces and infrastructure of industry. The Absheron region threshold is a huge potential source of hydrocarbon resources for the Azerbaijan Republic. Estimated recoverable reserves of undeveloped deepwater fields - Guneshli, Azeri and Kyapaz - exceed 500 million tons of oil and contain about 125 billion cubic meters of natural gas. The development

of offshore oil and gas fields at the beginning and mid of the 20th century was not easy.

However, countless solutions by domestic scientists and engineers to the ever-increasing challenges of finding and producing oil and gas in Caspian fields offshore Azerbaijan enabled in 1949 to discover legendary Neft Dashlary (Oil Rocks). The tapping and developing of Neft Dashlary played a great role in the developMew richest adjacent fields such as Gum Adasy, Bakhar, Duvanny, Bulla Deniz, Sangachalymore and Guneshli. Guneshli, which of development on large scale was begun in April 1980, is highlighted among other fields discovered. Over the past period, 12 deepwater platforms were installed, over 160 production and injection wells were drilled, hundreds of kilometers of underwater oil and gas pipelines were laid, a variety of engineering facilities were built to construct the fields. From 1986 the field has been developed

tive horizons and a sharp fall in reservoir pressure. Rehabilitation of productive wells was lacking completely. From this point of view, we think attracting foreign investments to the upstream oil and gas industry is of special value.

The offshore upstream oil and gas industry is closely related to other sectors, including the downstream oil and gas industry, petrochemicals manufacture, power generation, transport ans other sectors. It is therefore commercially viable at the same time to put up the foreign investments for the sectors closely related to

Dashlary field was worked out in conjunction with MAI Consultancy Ltd (UK).

Under the program, it is provided to drill more than 300 production and injection wells. An agreement on feasibility study of joint development and use of the Zykh and Govsany fields with LUKOIL and Gipromorneft (the State Research and Designing Institute for development of offshore oil and gas fields) was signed. A joint work together with foreign companies on rehabilitation of oil fields under development will continue in the future.

The most important problem of offshore oil and gas production is to satisfy the country's needs for gas and to supply technological processes with natural and casinghead gas. The discovery of the Shah-deniz field containing about 1 trillion of gas set the Association a task to build a new plant processing natural gas. Analyze of offshore oil and gas upstream operations shows that the set tasks could be solved if only the latest achievements of engineering and science are used. For this purpose, the ways of solving many problems pertaining offshore oil and gas production are under discussion by specialists from the Association and scientists from more than 40 research institutes, universities, scientific centers of the Academy of the Sciences and others. After the work has been done, in the Production Association a comprehensive program was developed - Scientific and Technical Measures of the 2000-2001 years.

The period was called a year of application of scientific results in offshore oil production. A main feature of developing offshore oil and gas fields is that all the works related to organization of hydrocarbons production are carried out in the aqueous medium. Our Association started its activities in 1963 at a time when Glavmorneft Head Office was founded, on the ground of which today's production association for offshore oil and gas production was then established.

The foundation of the world's first town, Neft Dashalary, off the sea coast on piles is the most landmark in the history of the existence of our production association.

Special emphasis is laid upon oil and gas redevelopment in old fields -Zykh, Govsany, Neft Dashlary, Pirallahi and Gryazevaya Sopka

with application of water injections. At the moment, the current recovery is 0.29, a factor of using initial recoverable reserves is 0.63 and a rate of recovery of recoverable reserves is 25.5 percent.

Experience of using old Caspian fields offshore Azerbaijan showed that a wide application of secondary recovery and a more condensed net of well distribution over a field allows to reach more higher performance. From this point of view, special attention is focused on introduction of innovative methods and forms of redevelopment of the Guneshli field. A scientifically founded approach to oil and gas production enabled to halt a slowdown in the pace of oil production and reach a plateau output of 101,000 bpd in the Guneshli field.

As it is known, offshore oil production by the Production Association covers mainly old fields which are being developed by outmoded technologies dating from the 60s and designed for onshore oilfields and currently adapted to offshore conditions. What 60 percent of oilfield and drilling equipment exceeded their a life service makes cost-effectiveness of the field more challenging. In addition, a part of the total number of wells is at a standstill because of offshore facilities being not fit for upstream operations. It is widely acknowledged that operating in Soviet times was very difficult and can be very frustrating. The period of the centralized economy management system furthered depletion of producfuel and energy complex and power generation to intensify their development. Commercial viability of intensifying oil and gas production offshore Azerbaijan set the production association's staff a task to radically reconsider the challenges of development and use of old fields. It will open a whole epoch in development of the upstream oil industry.

Production, inactive and disused wells were subjected to technical test, geological survey and scientific research. As a result, since 1997 plateau output has been reached and in 1999 a significant growth was achieved in depleted fields of the Absheronneft and Gum Adasy Oil and Gas Resources Producing Directory. Geological and technical actions, application of secondary and tertiary recoveries, regulation of an oil flow to bottomhole, application of acoustic and other physico-chemical methods of affecting a reservoir, re-entering inactive wells and the wells that are at a standstill for various reasons. So, the indicated operations allow the Association to deside the set tasks in oil and gas production and even to surpass the production targets. The Association focuses on rehabilitation on oil and gas production in old fields -Zykh, Govsany, Neft Dashlary, Pirallahi and Gryazevaya Sopka (Mud Hill). A thorough study of data on oil production over blocks and horizons showed that in the Neft Dashlary field there were sufficient recoverable oil fields. To redevelop the field, a rehabilitation program for the Neft

# HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT OF DRILLING OFFSHORE AZERBAIJAN

By Gasan Nurali ogly Medjidov



Gasan Nurali ogly Medjidov was born in 1947. In 1970 he graduated from the Azerbaijan Oil and Gas Institute after M.Azizbekov (the Azerbaijan Academy). Trained as a mining engineer geologist. In the year 1993 to 1997 worked as a senior reviewer of the oil and chemistry department in the Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan. From September 1997 up to the present time he has been occupying the post of deputy general director of drilling and marine transport for SOCAR's Production Association of Offshore Oil and Gas Production.

Marine oilmen of Azerbaijan have written not a few interesting pages in development of the country's national economy One of the brightest pages is the foundation of the legendary town - Neftyanye Kamni, the oilfields situated on steel tubular trestleworks in the Caspian Sea offshore Azerbaijan. What development of oil field off the Caspian coast is a promising business was established as early as the beginning of the century at a time when a project for building an artificial earthen embankment was delivered. It was called the Bibieybat bay and was renamed the Ilich Bay afterwards. To concentrate oil exploration on the promising areas of the Caspian Sea, in 1947 the

Aznefterazvedka (Exploration of Azeri Oil) association was organized. Its duties were to put main efforts into finding new fields and to establish oil-bearing features of the structure, which is now known as Neftyanye Kamni and on the ground to fulfil a program of tapping other offshore areas which promise to be oil bearing.

An exploratory well No 1 was installed in February 1949. It is the first-discoverer of the Neftyanye Kamni field. The drilling operations were carried out under severe conditions. M.P.Kaverochkin was charged with drilling the well. On November 7, 1949 oil gushed from the well at a rate of about 100 tons of oil per day. As the structure was proven to be promising, on December 1, 1949 in Baku the Association for exploration of offshore fields, oil production and construction of offshore oilfields in the Azerbaijan SSR was founded. It was named Azmorneft (Offshore Azeri Oil),

Production Association for offshore oil and gas production. This year it will mark its 50th anniversary. Platforms fabricated from large modules under a design offered by S.A. Orudjev played an important role in tapping the oil fields of the Absheron threshold. With help of stationary offshore platforms, the offshore oil fields of Gurgany-more were discovered ostrov Zhiloy (the Zhiloy island), Darwin bank, Gryazevaya Sopks (Mud Hill), Sangachalymore, Karadag-more, Bakhar, Bulla-more, ostrocv Bulla (the Bulla island) Alyat-more and others. Experts from Azerbaijan accumulated great experience in drilling deep and superdeep wells, including the drilling of non-monobore wells and directional wells. The history of directional drilling of oil wells, which found application for the first time in the former Soviet Union, has not a few achievements. For example, a drilling team headed by I.S.Guseinov spudded an unique test well to a depth of 2531

meters with a record deviation of a borehole from a vertical. In the total well depth of 3183 meters, the deviation from vertical was 2040 meters. Such a deviation became possible due to a skilful use of technical and technological innovations developed and pioneered by highly skilled experts and engineers. The water depth is one of limiting factors. So, in the direct proximity of Neftyanye Kamni, where the sea depth is 50-60 meters, on the Guneshli structure in 1977 the first deepwater stationary platform was installed. It was designed for drilling ten non-monobore wells in a water depth of 64 meters. On August 29, 1979 oil gushed from the 10th horizon of the Balakhany Suite PT when well No4 was being tested. The well was drilled from the platform. The success opened great prospects to marine oil people.

At the moment, 12 deepwater platforms are in production. Oil production is operational in a water depth of up to 140 meters. More than 160 wells at a high rate of oil flow were drilled from them. To boost the pace of drilling, a platform No3 was fabricated and installed. It is being rigged out with oilfield equipment.

It is widely acknowledged that floating drilling rigs are most suitable for drilling appraisal wells in the oil and gas fields offshore. As from 1967 Production Association for offshore oil and gas production has acquired jack-up rigs and semisubmersible drilling rigs. Heydar Aliyev, the then first secretary of Central Committee of the Communistic Party of the Azerbaijan SSR, now Azerbaijan President, made a significant contribution to acquiring the rigs. With help of 14 floating rigs, 107 exploratory wells were drilled in 56 areas. Out of them the deepest well (6715 meters) was drilled in the Ymid area. The Azerbaijan Republic takes one of the world's leading positions in hydrocarbon resources off shore. Oil contracts entered into in the 1994-1999 years are indicative of it. To carry the contracts into effect, to date, few drilling companies show an interest in conducting upstream drilling operations in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea. Deutag, ny6, CDC should be noted among them.

Deutag drilling company had drilled one injection well and 14 production wells by now for AIOC from the Chirah-1 platform. US company Santa Fe and Socar set up joint venture CDC, which drills appraisal wells from the upgraded semi-submersible drilling rigs - Dada Gorgud and Istiglal.

As a result of the modernization, the Dada Gorgud rig is able to drill in a water depth of up to 475 meters and to a vertical depth of 7650 meters below sea level. Appropriate performance of Istiglal, semi-submersible drilling rig, are 700 meters and 7650 meters. Over 10 wells have already been drilled. Among them is a well drilled to a depth of 6300 meters and discovered a new gas field in the Shah-deniz area. Some steps has been taken to prevent the sea from contaminating during drilling and well testing. As a result, discharges to water of

drill cuttings and water based drilling muds were sharply reduced. A comprehensive program to fully prevent the Caspian Sea from polluting is being fulfilled. More effective anti-corrosion compounds and techniques are applied to protect offshore oil and gas oilfield facilities. Development of offshore oil and gas fields is impossible without naval transport vehicles. To date, the Production Association has the largest fleet in the Caspian region. It consists of 300 vessels. The oil fleet has 25 crane vessels. including the Azerbaijan crane vessel of which the dead weight tonnage is 2500 tons. In addition, there is a tow-boat that provides supply services. Its power is 7000-8000 h.p. The fleet includes three passenger ships, which can carry 600 people. We must remember of the ships that lay pipes - C. Vezirov and I. Guseinov. The I.Guseinov vessel can lay an oil pipeline in a water depth of 300 meters. The Tofik Ismailov ship furnished with special diving equipment and system. It is operational during hash waters (at height of 3.5 meters) and high winds (at rate of 17.5 m/s) and in waters depths of up

of three floating docks (one of them is a 15000 dwt one). In addition, the fleet's staff is composed of engineers, geologists. It also has fire protection ships, water supply boats, small tonnage vessels and other kinds of vessels at its disposal. As it has already been mentioned above, the 50th anniversary of the Production Association for offshore oil and gas production is celebrated this year.

Off-shore oil fields' output account for 75 percent of oil and 85 percent of gas of domestic production in the republic. Over the years more than 7000 wells were drilled and over 3000 wells were brought on stream. That is common knowledge that today's drilling is tomorrow's production.

Marine drillers and oil people remember what Azerbaijan President Heydar Aliyev said on February 20, 1973: "Marine oilmen always should keep in mind that not only the target production fulfillment but outlooks for development all the Azerbaijan upstream oil and gas industry depends on their work".

Turan-Energy has tapped into information market since 1997. The news agency runs information on the events that are occurring in oil and gas industry and electrical power generation sector of the countries in the Caspian region.

Turan-Energy prepares annual reviews on Azerbaijan's upstream, downstream and power activities and analytical reviews as well as conducts poll-supported surveys of oil companies to canvass their opinion on a subject under study and report news about their activities in the republic.

Apart from newsletters, Turan-Energy's web-page contains diagram materials on oil contracts signed by and between SOCAR and foreign petroleum companies. On our web page, you also can find maps and photo pictures pertaining to the upstream and downstrem business.

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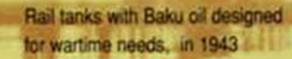
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# 1941-1945 гг.

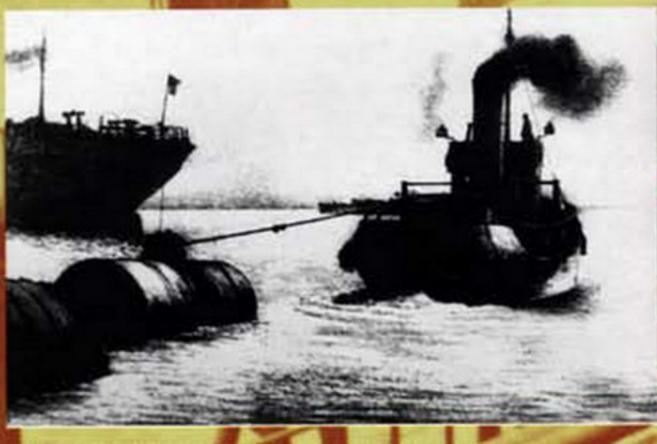


German warplanes' attack on the Agamali ogly tanker, in 1942

Налет немецких самолетов на танкер "Агамали оглы" - 1942 г.



Цистерны с бакинской нефтью фронту - 1943 г.



Oil carriage in cisterns by the Caspian Sea during the Great Patriotic War in 1943

Перевозка нефти в цистернах по Каспию в годы Великой Отвчественной войны - 1943 год

> G.Guseinova, a metalworker from a mechanical workshop of the Kirovneft trust's drilling operations management office, awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor, in 1942

Слесары механической мастерской конторы бурения треста "Кировнефть" Гусейнова Г., награжденная орденом Трудового Красного Знамени 1942 г.



A cake with a picture of the Caspian Sea and Baku, which was presented to Hitler on his birthday in 1942

Торт с изображением Каспийского моря и Баку, преподнесенный Гитлеру в день рождения - 1942 год





#### PHOTO PICTURE GALLERY OVER THE 1949-1999 PERIOD ON CASPIAN ENERGY'S PAGES

## 1949-1960 г г.



The first oil gush at a well in the Nettyanye Kamni field, the year-1949

Первый нефтяной фонтан из буровой на "Нефт Дашпары" "Нефтяные Камии") - 1949 г.



M.P.Kaverochkin, Hero of Socialist Labor, with his friends at the moment when oil gushed from a well in the Nett Dashlary (Nettaynye Kamni) field

Каверочкин М.П. - Герой Социалистического Труда с товарищами при первом фонтане нефти на "Нефт Дашлары"





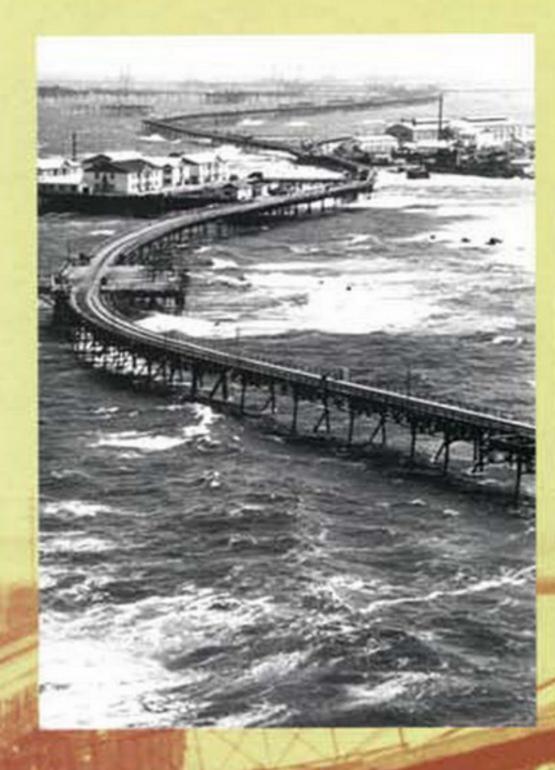
Первый нефтесборный пункт на "Нефтяных-Камиях 1952г



N.G.Balbakov, Oil Minister of Southern and Western Regions of the USSR, at the Nettyanya Kamni lield, among other people, the year 1951

Министр нефтиной громышленности Южных и Заладных разонов СССР Байбаков Н.Г. на "Нефтяных Кемнях" в группе - 1951 год

### PHOTO PICTURE GALLERY OVER THE 1949-1999 PERIOD ON CASPIAN ENERGY'S PAGES

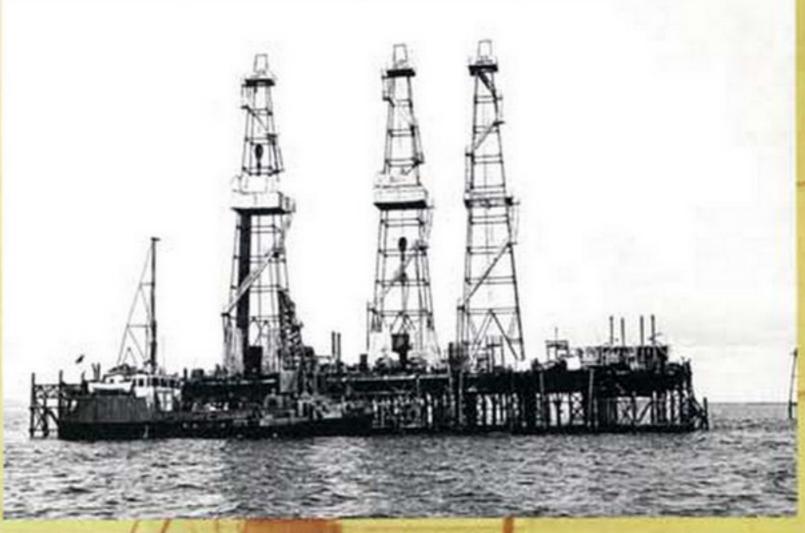


General view Neltyanye Kamni (OII Rocks) in 1959

Общий вид "Нефтяных Камней" - 1959 г

A storage unit of all tanks at-Nativanya Kamrii, 1959

Парк товарных резервуаров на "Нефтяных Камиях" - 1959 г.



General view of one of the Peschanyi Neft field's sites in 1958

Общий вид одного из участкое "Песчаный нефть" - 1958 г.



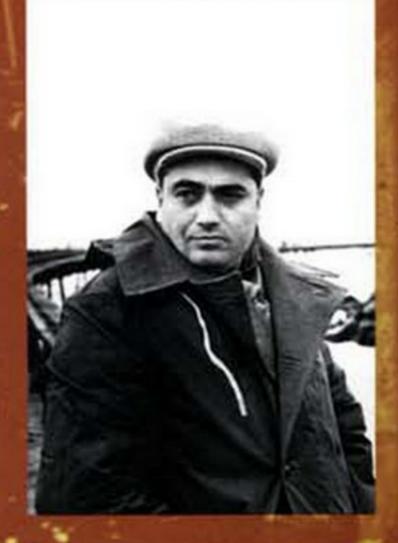
K.A.Abbasov, a:notable of man from the Gurgannett Oil & Gas Producing Directory, Hero of Socialist Labor, 1959

Аббасов К.А. - знатный нефтяник НПУ "Гюргяннефть", Герой Социалистического Труда - 1959



B.Gadiyev, the general engineer of the Gurgannelt Oil & Gas Producing Directory, 1961

Главный инженер НПУ "Гюргяннефть" Гаджиев Б. - 1961 г.





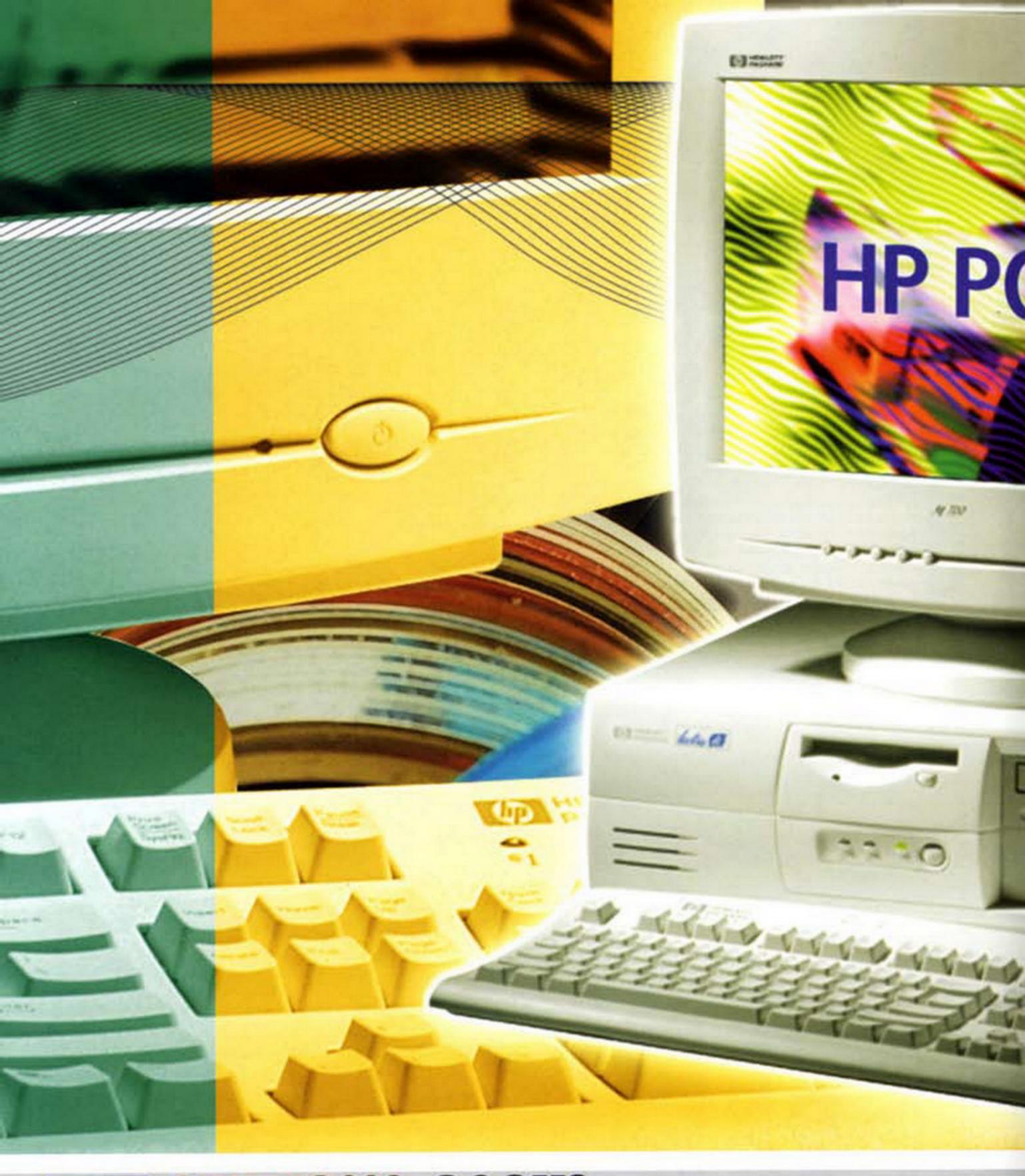


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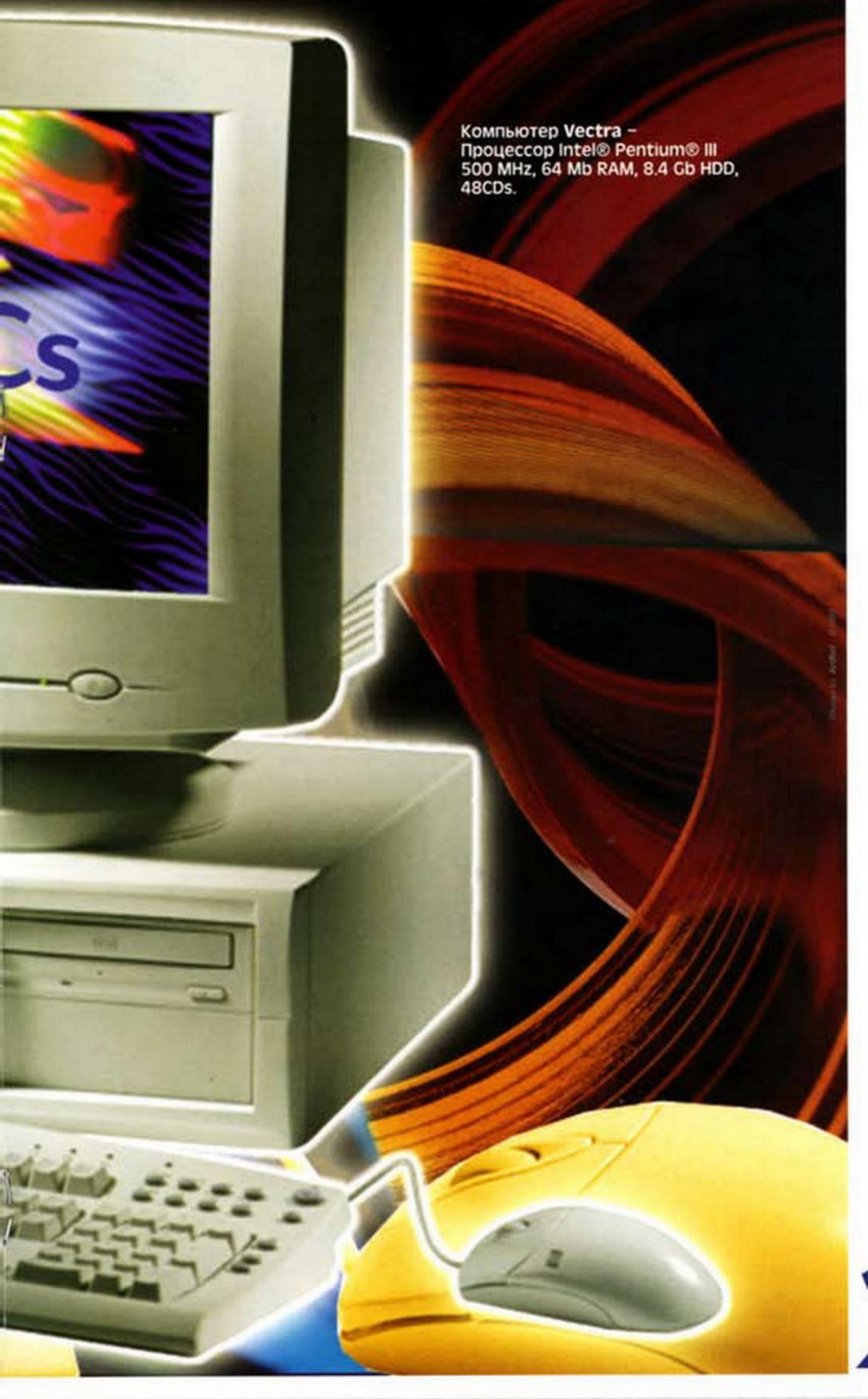




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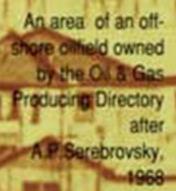
### 1961-1980 г г.



The construction of Europe's first offshore frestlework

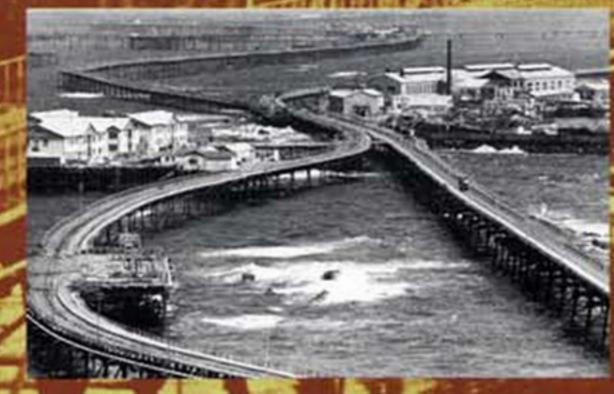
made of concrete
near a settlement.

Строительство первой в Европе железобетонной морской эстакады 1961 г.



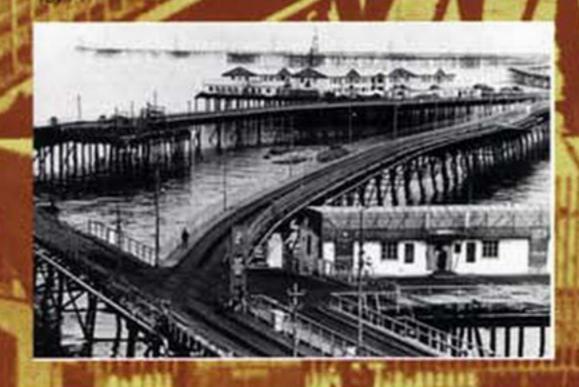
Участок морского промыело НПУ им А.П





View of Nettaynye Kamni, 1968

Вид на "Нефтяные Камни" 1968

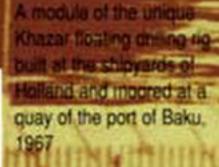


Общий вид НГДУ тим. ХХІІ снезда КПСС" Г Нефтяных Камне

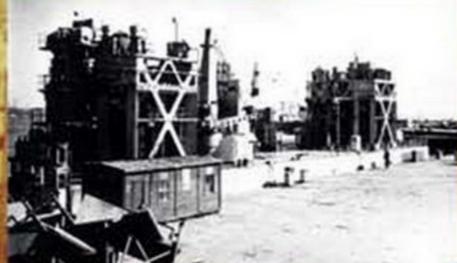
General view of the Oil & Gas Producing Directory after the

Congress of the Communist Party of the USSR, 19

year of tvestaying Karinii, 1200



бакция основания уникальной ПБУ "Хавар", построенной на верфях Голландии, – у причала Бакинского порта - 1987 г.



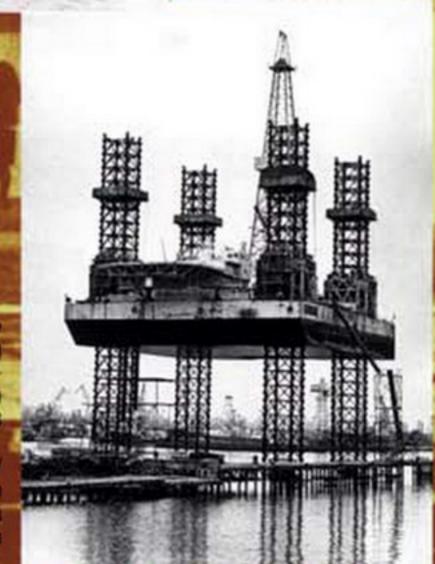
Floating drilling rig at Sangachaly more (Sangachaly Sea field), 1966

Плавучая буровая установка на акватории Сангачалы-море - 1966.



General view of the Khazar floating drilling rig for spudding offshore wells to a depth of 6000 meters, 1968

Общий вид ПБУ
"Хазар" для проходки
морских саважин на
глубину 6000 метров



### PHOTO PICTURE GALLERY OVER THE 1949-1999 PERIOD ON CASPIAN ENERGY'S PAGES



Haydar Aliyev, the First Secretary of Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party, farming early made unit able to do offshore deliting rig. the first domestically made unit able to do offshore wells to a depth of up to 6000 meters and in a water depth of up to 60 meters, 1975.

Первый секретарь ЦК КП Азербайджана Гейдар Алиев знакомится с ПБУ - первой отечественной установиси расслитанной на проходку морских сиважин глубиной до 6000 м, при тольше воды до 60 м, 1975 г.

The floating drilling und inter Azerbaijan is being tested, 1972.

Педауная буровая установка "Азербанджан" чамегытаниях, 1972 г





K.A. Abbasov, marganized the surreineflarazaedka (Azen oli exploration off Caspian anoie) must, a subsidiary of the Caspiannelt (Caspian oil production moves, as on board of a custor, 1974



Participants of Jubilee festivities devoted to the 25th anniversary of the commencement of large-scale development of Neftyanye Kamru - H.A.Akyev, the First Secretary of Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party, and V.D.Shashin, Minutes of Oil Industry of the USSR; are at the parter, 1975

Участники юбилейных торженте, посвященных 25-летню начила промышленного освоения "Нефтинки Камных" в центре - посвый сехретарь ЦК КП Азербилджана Г.А.Алиев, министр. нефтиней промышленности СССР Шашин В П - 1975 г.



Тушение пожара на месторожения "Бахар" и Бусто Ильна. 1974 г.

Evaluations in the Baknar field at the that Bay, 1974

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H.A. Aliyev, the First Secretary of Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party, during his visit to the Oil & Gas Producing Directory after N.Narimanov, 1981

Первый секретарь ЦК КЛ Азербайджана Алиев Г.А. на НГДУ "им. Н.Нариманова" 1981 год

> H.A. Aliyav, the first Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, is at a well of the Oreionstozenet O. & Gas Producing Directory, 1984

> Первый заместитель председателя Совета министров СССР Алиев Г.А. на буровой НГДУ Орджоникидзенефть 1984 г



H.A. Aliyav, the First Secretary of Central Committee of the Azerbalian Communist Party is at the Ot & Gas Producing Directory after 26 Baku Commissars, 1981

Порежно секротерь ЦК КП Арербай джана Г А.Алько - на НЕДУ Чил. 25-ти овыческих комиссанов - 1981 г.

"Neft Dashlari" 1999

"Нефт Дишпары" - 1999 г





First oil priduction of the "Azen", "Chirag", "Guneshli" fields

Добыча первой нефти "Азбри" "Тыраг", Поняшли

# СТАРЫЕ МЕСТОРОЖДЕНИЯ АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНА ТРЕБУЮТ ПРИВЛЕЧЕНИЯ ИНВЕСТИЦИЙ



Рзабеков Идрис Ибрагим оглы начальник Нефтегазодобывающего Управления "28 мая" производственного объединения по добыче нефти и газа на море ГНКАР.

Родился в 1938 году, в 1961 году окончил Азербайджанский институт нефти и химии им. Азизбекова по специальности геолог, в этом же году был направлен на "Нефт Дашлары", где проработал до 1 января 1990 года. После того, как было создано НГДУ "28 мая", работал там главным геологом этого НГДУ. С февраля 1994 года по сегодняшний день возглавляет это управление.

НГДУ "28 мая" как самостоятельная единица было образовано 1 января 1990-го года. В подчинение вновь созданного управления вошли, кроме "Гюнешли", несколько мелких месторождений - "Чилов", "Южная", "Ази Асланова". "Гюнешли", как известно, делится на две части - мелководная с глубиной моря до 200 метров и глубоководная - глубина моря от 200 до 350 метров.

Само месторождение "Гюнешли" было открыто в конце 70-х годов, первая нефть была добыта в 1978 году, промышленная разработка ведется с апреля 80-го года. На сегодняшний день - "Гюнешли" - единственное месторождение, часть которого находится в глубоководной части азербайджанского сектора Каспия. Поэтому требует особого подхода с точки зрения разработки и обустройства - от строительства платформ и гидротехнических сооружений до сбора и транспортировки нефти и газа по трубопроводам.

НГДУ "28 мая" в настоящее время обеспечивает 65% всей нефтедобычи республики и свыше 82% морской нефти, доля добычи газа в республиканском объеме составляет 35%.

В последнее время, в связи с уменьшением объема буровых работ, для поддержки стабильной нефтегазодобычи основной упор делается на поддержании в строю всего действующего фонда и вводе в эксплуатацию простаивающих и бездействующих скважин. Благодаря этому в 1994-95 гг. удалось не только приостановить падение добычи по месторождению, но и добиться определенного роста добычи нефти на "Гюнешли".

В течение последних 5-6 лет динамика нефтегазодобычи по НГДУ находится практически на одном уровне, что способствует сохранению стабильного производства углеводородного сырья не только на "28 мая", но и по всему производственному объединению по добыче нефти и газа на море ГНКАР.

Что касается прогнозов, то они не очень утешительны, сегодняшняя стабильность достигнута благодаря использованию внутренних ресурсов коллектива. И если мы в ближайшее время не возобновим и расширим буровые работы, то поддерживать сегодняшний уровень нефтегазодобычи будет очень трудно. Для предотвращения дестабилизации добычи нефти необходимо обновление техники и технологий, применяемых на промыслах, что потребует привлечения иностранных инвестиций. Поэтому, когда был подписан "контракт века", в его состав была включена глубоководная часть "Гюнешли", которая будет разрабатываться с применением новейших технологий.

Сегодня бытует мнение, в основном среди западных специалистов, о перетоке нефти из глубоководной части "Гюнешли" в мелководную. Однако, согласно проведенным ГНКАР специальным исследованиям гидродинамических связей, было доказано, что перетока нефти не существует вообще.

НГДУ долгое время имело проблемы со сбором попутного газа и его транспортировкой на берег, газ просто сжигался. Собрать и транспортировать его удалось только в сентябре 1994 года с пуском в эксплуатацию газокомпрессорной станции на "Нефт Дашлары", которая была построена при помощи американской компании "Pennzoil". Благодаря этому смесь поступала на сепарационные установки, после чего выделенная газовая фракция направлялась на станцию, где дожималась до определенного давления и транспортировалась на азербайджанский газоперерабатывающий завод.

Так, по мере стабилизации добычи нефти, увеличивалась добыча газа. Одновременно прилагались колоссальные усилия коллектива для проведения эффективных технических, технологических и организационных мероприятий по улавливанию всего извлекаемого на "Гюнешли" газа и его транспортировки на ГКС. В результате чего выяснилось, что мощность станции недостаточна для сбора и дожима всего газа, поступающего с месторождений.

Усилиями производственного объединения и руководства ГНКАР станция была модернизирована, в итоге мощность компрессоров удалось увеличить в 1,5 раза. Если раньше ГКС перекачивала 4,2 млн. куб. метров газа в сутки, то после модернизации этот объем увеличился до 5,8-6 млн. куб. метров ежесуточно.

Однако на этом проблемы со сбором и транспортировкой газа не завершились, ведь к этому времени на ГКС уже стал поступать газ с контрактной площади "Чираг", попутный газ с этого месторождения также должен быть принят станцией, обработан и отправлен в систему "Азеригаз". Для решения этого вопроса специалистами НГДУ были проведены дополнительные строительные работы и пущена в эксплуатацию новая газовая линия, которая позволила собирать дополнительно 1 млн. куб метров газа в сутки. Благодаря этим мероприятиям, сегодня объем газа, выбрасываемого в атмосферу, сведен до минимума.

Как уже отмечалось, на долю нашего НГДУ приходится сегодня самый большой объем нефти, добываемой на нужды республики. Поэтому если раньше все внимание специалистов было сосредоточенно на "Нефт Дашлары", то сегодня именно на НГДУ "28 мая" освоены все нюансы разработки глубоководных месторождений, а специалисты готовы к освоению других месторождений, залегающих в глубоководных зонах каспийского шельфа.

## AZERBAIJAN OLD FIELDS SPOTLIGHT INVESTMENTS

By Idris Ibragim ogly Rzabekov

Idris Ibragim ogly Rzabekov, the manager of the 28 May Oil & Gas Resources Producing Directory from SOCAR's Production Association for Offshore Oil & Gas Production. Born in 1938. In 1961 graduated from the Azerbaijan Institute for Oil and Gas after M.Azizbekov. Trained as a geologist. After leaving the Institute, he started working in the same year in the Neft Dashlary field and left it on January 1, 1990. After the May 28 Oil & Gas Resources Producing Directory has been set up, he worked as general geologist in it. From February 1994 to the present time he has been heading the May 28 Oil & Gas Resources Producing Directory.

The May 28 Oil & Gas Resources Producing Directory was established as an independent entity on January 1, 1990. Apart from Guneshli, a few small-scale fields - Chilov, Yuzhnaya (Southern), Azi Aslanov, - come under the newly founded Directory. As it is known, Guneshli is divided into two sectors the shallow-water portion where the depth of the sea reaches 200 meters, and the deepwater portion located in waters of depths ranging 200 to 350 meters. The Guneshli field itself was discovered in the end 70s, first oil was produced in 1978. Oilmen have been producing oil on large scale at the field since April 1980. To date, Guneshli is the only field, the part of which is in the deepwater portion of the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea.

Therefore it requires a special approach from a standpoint of development and well intervention, starting from the platforms and offshore facilities construction and ending the collection and transport of oil and gas via pipelines. At the moment, the May 28 Oil & Gas Resources Producing Directory's output accounts for 65 percent of all domestic oil production and over 82.0 percent of oil produced off shore. Gas production contribution to the total volume of the republic is 35.0 percent. For some time past, the scope of the drilling operations was decreased. To maintain a plateau oil and gas production, special emphasis is laid upon maintaining all running wells in a good

condition and bring the wells currently not in production on stream.

Owing to it, in the year 1994 to 1995 the Directory succeeded in not only holding up a decline in oil production throughout the field but getting some growth in oil production at Guneshli. The Directory's profile shows that in the past 5-6 years it reached plateau output. It makes for retaining sustained levels of hydrocarbon production not only at the May 28 Directory but all over areas owned by the Socar's Production

Association for offshore oil and gas production. As for forecasts, but they are not encouraging. Current stability was reached by using internal reserves. And if in the near future we resume and expand upstream drilling operations, it will be very difficult to maintain the current oil and gas production levels. To prevent a fall in oil production, it is essential renovate and refurbish equipment and technologies applied at oilfields. It will require attracting foreign investments. Therefore, when the contract of the century was signed, the deepwater portion of Guneshli was included in it. It will be developed by using the latest technologies. There is now a widespread opinion, greatly among western experts, on an oil flow from the deepwater portion of Guneshli to its shallow-water's. However, SOCAR has not carried any special study on the matter, so it is difficult to say something about hydrodynamic links between the two portions of the field. According to Azeri experts' opinion, there is no oil flow generally. For a long time, the Directory has faced problems connected with collection of casinghead and its transporting on to the shore.

The gas was simply subjected to flaring. The Directory managed to collect and transport it only in September 1994 after commissioning a gas compressor station at the offshore Neft Dashlary field. It was built with help of US company Pennzoil. Thank to it, the gas mixture came to separators. After separating, a gas fraction separated was directed to the compressor station, where gas was compressed to some pressure and transported to the Azerbaijani gas processing plant.

Thus, as oil production reached a plateau,



gas production was boosted. At the same time, the Directory's staff have put great efforts into enhancing performance to catch all the casinghead at Guneshli and transport it to the gas compressor station. As a result, it has emerged that the station capacity is not enough to collect and to compress the gas flowing from fields to the needed pressure. By the efforts of Production Association and SOCAR's management team, the station was modernized. As a result, the compressors capacity was increased 1.5 times. If 4.2 million cubic meters of gas per day used to flow to the gas compressor station, after its upgrade the daily volume rose to 5.8-6.0 million cubic meters.

However, the problem with gas collection and transport was not resolved entirely because by the present time, casinghead started to flow to the the gas compressor station from the Chirag license area. The casinghead from the AIOC-operated field had to be accepted and handled by the station and sent to the Azerigas system. To solve the challenge, yet another compressor station, which enabled to additionally collect one million cubic meters per day, was brought on stream by experts from the Directory. Owing to the actions, the amount of gas emitted to air is currently minimized. As it has already noted, our Directory's contribution to today's output of the republic is the largest one produced for meeting the republic's needs. So, if experts used to focus all attention on Neft Dashlary, now they highlight the May 28 Directory where all details of developing deepwater fields were studied. And experts are set to tap another fields off the Caspian coast.

### ПОСЛЕДНИЕ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЯ ПОДТВЕРДИЛИ

### НАЛИЧИЕ КОММЕРЧЕСКИХ ЗАПАСОВ НА "НЕФТ ДАШЛАРЫ"



Алчин Ширинзаде, начальник НГДУ "Нефт Дашлары", доктор технических наук.

Родился в 1951 году, в 1973 году после окончания Азербайджанского института нефти и химии им. Азизбекова (ныне Азербайджанская Государстбенная Нефтяная Академия) напраблен на "Нефт Дашлары". В 1981 году работал главным технологом в производственном объединении "Каспморнефтегазпром", в 1990 году - начальник технического отдела ПО "Каспморнефть", 6 1992 году назначен начальником отдела добычи нефти этого ПО. С августа 1996 года по сегодняшний день - начальник НГДУ "Нефт Дашлары".

Месторождение "Нефт Дашлары" расположено в открытом море в 105 км от берега, общая протяженность промысла первоначально составляла 300 км. Однако под влиянием времени функциональная часть месторождения значительно сократилась примерно до 170 км. "Нефт Дашлары" уникально не только с точки зрения того, что оно является первым азербайджанским месторождением в открытом море и своеобразным полюсом Азербайджана, но и тем, что построено оно более 50 лет назад усилиями всего бывшего СССР. Этому предшествовали долгие дискуссии с Москвой, в течение 2-3 лет азербайджанскими нефтяниками было доказано, что на месторождении есть нефть, в 1948-49 гг. были построены первые вышки.

Первая нефть "Нефт Дашлары" была добыта 7 ноября 1949 года. Для того чтобы как-то обустроить месторождение затопили 7 кораблей, на этом месте было организовано первое место жительства нефтяников. Первая добыча на месторождении составила около 100 тонн нефти ежесуточно, после чего было решено построить эстакаду. Первая эстакада строилась с расчетом на 20 лет эксплуатации, однако, практика показала выносливость таких сооружений на срок до 25 лет. Сегодня подобные эстакады строят с расчетом на 45-50 лет эксплуатации. Если раньше поверхность эстакады была выложена деревянным настилом, то сегодня кладется бетонное покрытие и крепится сооружение на оцинкованных сваях. Влияние коррозии и погоды сделали свое дело, после сильного урагана в 1942 году под водой оказалось 15 площадок, практически все трубопроводы вышли из строя, в течение 10 дней на берег не было переправлено ни одной тонны нефти. Если до урагана добывалось 2200 тонн нефти в сутки, то после этого бедствия нефтедобычу с трудом удалось довести до 2000 тонн.

В 90-м году в связи с дороговизной гидротехнических сооружений и ремонта скважин, появилась необходимость в дополнительных инвестициях. Было решено провести первую международную выставку, в которой приняли участие такие компании, как BP, Amoco, Unocal, Pennzoil. Ha paccmorpeние компаний был представлен пакет предложений, разработанный совместно со специалистами института Гипроморнефтегаз. Затем начались первые переговоры по месторождению "Азери", позднее в состав будущей контрактной площади было включено месторождение "Чираг" и глубоководная часть "Гюнешли".

Сегодня, после того, как в 1994 году был подписан "контракт века", Азербайджан имеет уже 19 международных контрактов.

Однако, наряду с разработкой новых месторождений, необходимо уделить внимание реабилитации нефтегазодобычи старых морских месторождений Азербайджана. Для этого нужно создать группу специалистов, которая была бы ответственна за подготовку этих проектов. Подобные переговоры уже проводились, начиная с 1995 года, однако, пока они не привели к ощутимым результатам.

Например, НГДУ "Нефт Дашлары" включает в себя два месторождения - само "Нефт Дашлары" с остаточными извлекаемыми запасами свыше 17 млн. тонн нефти и "Грязевая Сопка" - 9 млн. т. Последние анализы показывают перспективность доразработки месторождения, поскольку прогнозируются значительные коммерческие запасы углеводородного сырья. Ежегодно с двух месторождений добывается 760 тысяч тонн, это значит, что для того, чтобы добыть всю нефть с этих месторождений потребуется 35 лет. Однако изношенность инфраструктуры промысла не позволит столь долгое время разрабатывать эти месторождения сегодняшними темпами. Поэтому для того, чтобы увеличить дебит месторождений НГДУ, необходимы новые технологии, а значит иностранные инвестиции. Даже, в случае если на "Нефт Дашлары" прекратится добыча нефти, этот промысел еще очень долго будет оставаться перевалочной базой для взаимодействия с другими месторождениями, находящимися в разработке. Сегодня "Нефт Дашлары" обладает своей базой, инфраструктурой, работает электростанция, действуют три строительных управления, построены общежития для 5000 нефтяников и их семей, больница "Нефт Дашлары" обслуживает более 7000 человек, работающих на морских промыслах.

Начиная с 1996 года, построено две эстакады, строится еще одна. Благодаря этому удалось увеличить дебит нефти на 100 тонн в сутки, а также оперативно обеспечить промыслы нужными материалами. Ведутся работы по обновлению нефте и газопроводов. За 9 месяцев этого года НГДУ удалось добыть 4600 тонн сверхплановой нефти. Однако, на месторождении, находящемся в эксплуатации 50 лет трудно поддерживать стабильный дебит нефти без дополнительных капвложений.

Что касается месторождения "Грязевая Сопка", на нем с пяти искусственных платформ добывается около 270 тонн ежесуточно против 180 тонн в 1998 году. На этом месторождении продолжаются буровые работы, что очень важно для поддержания стабильного уровня дебита нефти.

Большое внимание уделяется социальным вопросам. Так, в течение последних трех лет построены управления для автотранспортного цеха, строительно-монтажного участка, строятся помещения для цеха текущего ремонта скважин. На "Нефт Дашлары" полностью решены проблемы с водообеспечением, на одного человека приходится объем воды в два раза больший, чем в Баку, полностью налажена связь. Благодаря этому на промысле живут и работают 3500 человек.

Управление НГДУ "Нефт Дашлары" активно работает над проблемой подготовки кадров. В течение трех лет было принято на работу 300 человек, всего на промысле работают 520 инженеров, из них 150 человек молодые специалисты. В основном, для работы на промысле привлекаются высококвалифицированные кадры. И, сегодня управление может гордиться молодыми специалистами широкого профиля, воспитанными на НГДУ. Ведется подготовка и научных кадров, пятеро специалистов НГДУ сегодня являются аспирантами. Поэтому, мы уверены, что и в будущем наши промыслы не останутся без надежного управления, а значит стабильной и эффективной работы на благо нашей республики.

# RECENT STUDIES CORROBORATED COMMERCIAL LEVELS OF OIL IN THE NEFT DASHLARY FIELD

Alchin Shirinzadeh, Doctor of Technical Science, chief of the Neft Dashlary Oil and Gas Producing Directory.

Born in 1951. He graduated in 1973 from the Oil & Chemistry Institute of Azerbaijan after M.Azizbekov. He was referred to the Neft Dashlary field to work. In 1981 he worked as a general technologist for Production Association Caspmorneft (the Caspian Offshore Oil Production Group), in 1990 he was in charge of technology for PA Caspmorneft. In 1992 he was appointed a chief of oil production department for the same PA. From August 1996 up to the present he heads the Neft Dashlary Oil & Gas Producing Directory.

The Neft Dashlary field is situated about 105km off the coast of Azerbaijan in the Caspian Sea. Originally, the total extension of the oilfield was 300 km. However, the ravages of time are seen throughout it: a functional part of the field was significantly reduced to about 170km. Neft Dashlary is an unique field not only because it is the first Azeri field in the Caspian Sea offshore Azerbaijan and is the original benchmark of Azerbaijan but it was built more than 50 years ago by efforts of all the former USSR. It was preceded by lasting debates with Moscow, for 2-3 years it has been proved by Azeri oilmen that there are commercial levels of oil in the exploration block in the Caspian Sea. In 1948-1949 years the first derricks have been erected.

First oil at Neft Dashlary was produced on November 7, 1949. To construct the field, seven ships were sunk. The first flotel was arranged for oil people. The rate of first oil in the field averaged about 100 tons per day. Then oilmen were set on building a tubular trestlework. The first trestlework was designed to run for 20 years. However, the practice showed the facilities' 25-year production life. Now the trestleworks are built to have a service life of 45-50 years. The trestlework surface was paved with wooden planks. But today a con-



on the zinc-coated piles. However. The Caspian Sea, with its harsh waters and high winds, create very hostile environment for oil and gas offshore production facilities, in particular, the trestlework and tubular constructions were corroded. After a strong hurricane in 1952, 15 production grounds found themselves under waters, virtually all the pipelines were out of order and for 10 days none of ton of oil were pumped on to the shore. If before the hurricane, 2200 tons of oil a day were produced, after the natural calamity oilmen could hardly bring oil production to 2000 tons per day.

In 1990 a high cost of offshore facilities and well workover made additional investments essential. It was determined to take place the first international exhibition, which so companies as BP, Amoco, Unocal, Pennzoil participated in. A packet of proposals developed in conjunction with the experts from Gipromornett (the Azerbaijan State Research and Designing Institute for developing offshore oil and gas fields) was submitted to the companies for con-

sideration. The first talks over the Azeri oil field were then launched. On later, the Chirag field and the deepwater portion of the Guneshli oil field were incorporated into the proposed contract area. After the contract of the century was sealed in 1994, Azerbaijan has already afforded 19 international contracts, However, alongside with development of new fields, it is essential to focus attention on redeveloping and re-entering old fields offshore. For this it is necessary to set up a panel of experts, which would have been responsible for working out these projects. Similar negotiations have already been carried on since 1995. However, so far they are of no effect.

For example, the Neft Dashlary Oil and Gas Producing Directory includes two fields - Neft Daslary itself with recoverable oil reserves of over 17 million tons and Gryazevaya Sopka (Mud Hill) with 9 million tons. The recent rates of oil discovered prove profitable for redevelopment of the field as the proven oil reserves are sufficient to make the project viable.

760,000 tons of crude are produced from the two oil fields. It means it will take 35 years to wring all the oil from the fields. However, what the oilfield fell into disrepair and became outmoded will not allow to develop the fields at the present rates for so a long time. Therefore innovative technologies and, consequently, foreign investments will be required to increase oil production from the oil fields operated by the Oil and Gas Producing Directory. If even oil production stops, the oilfield will remain for a long time an important base for interaction with other fields under development. Today Neft Dashlary has its own base and infrastructure, a power plant generates electricity, three construction departments operate. A few hostels were built to accommodate 5000 oilmen (working in oilfields) with their families. Neft Dashaly's hospital serving the health care needs of more than 7000 oil people working in the offshore oilfields.

As from 1996, two trestleworks have been built. One more facility is under construction. Thank to the efforts, oilmen succeeded in step-

ping up oil production by 100 tons per day as well as supplying quickly the necessary materials. Refurbishment of oil and gas pipelines is under way. Over the past nine months this year, the Oil & Gas Producing Directory has managed to produce 4600 tons. It is more than expected. However, it is difficult to maintain plateau output without additional investments.

As for Gryazevaya Sopka (the Mud Hill), at the field about 270 tons of crude per day are produced from five artificial platforms against 180 tons in 1998. At the field the upstream drilling operations are in progress. It is of great importance to maintaining plateau output in the field. Great attention is turned to social problems. For example, over the past three years, departments for managing a motor vehicle workshop, a construction/installation operations, the buildings for running repairs of oil wells are under construction. At Neft Dashlary a problem of water supply has been solved entirely. One person consumes a water volume here twice more than a resident of Baku. The telecommunications services are of good qual-

> ity. Thanks to the conditions, 3500 oilmen live and work at the oilfield. The Oil & Gas Producing Directory is actively engaged on a problem of training.

The Directory focuses on training its employees. Within three years, the Directory has employed 300 people. Its staff is 520 engineers, including 150 young specialists. Highly skilled employees, who have diversified background and qualification, are mainly employed by the Directory. Now the Directory can take the pride of the young specialists who acquired their hands on operational experience at the Directory. Researchers are also trained at the Directory. Five specialists from the Directory being post-graduated. Therefore we are sure that in future our oilfields will not remain without reliable management and, consequently, permanent upstream operations for the welfare of our republic.





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6-th floor, International Trade Centre, 95, H.Aliyev ave., Az1033, Baku, Azerbaijan Tel./Fax: (+99412) 447-21-86/87, 447-02-36/38, 447-22-71 E-mail: arg@caspenergy.com, pr@caspenergy.com

# AGIP STARTS EXPLORATION DRILLING AND SEEKS TO EXPAND ITS PRESENCE IN AZERBAIJAN



-Mr. Agostinelli, what are the plans of Agip concerning exploration performance in Kur Dashi, Araz Deniz Contract Block?

-As you know, the contract on Kur Dashi was signed on the 2nd June 1998 and came into force on the 30th July of the same year. The project's operator is Agip, our partners in the present contract are Mitsui (Japan), TPAO (Turkey), Repsol (Spain) and SOCAR companies. From December 1998 until April of 1999 Caspian Geophysical JV conducted a 3D seismic survey, which showed the presence of elements of interest in the contact area. The question is whether the volume of possible reserves will be commercial, and only the exploration drilling will show it.

Following the previously carried out studies by the results of seismic survey data interpretation we chose a drilling location and in September 1999 we received from our shareholders a confirmation to drill a new wildcat in Araz Deniz structure included in the contract block. For this we reached an agreement with BP-Amoco on utilization of the semi-submersible drilling rig Istiglal - the rig shifts to Agip after the second well drilling in Shah-Deniz.

Today it's very critical for us that Agip is the first company operating in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea, which will transport synthetic base drilling cuttings to shore: up to date such cuttings were discharged into the sea by other operators. The wastes will be treated and disposed on shore. For that it's necessary to create the required infrastructure: we are resolving today these tasks in close contact with the Azerbaijan State Committee on Ecology.

Agip will begin drilling operations probably between the end of December 1999 and early year 2000, i.e. just in one year and a half after signing of the contract, having left behind other companies. And we are proud of this achievement.

- So, Agip can become the second company after AIOC, that will obtain oil in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea?  Rapid rates of operations testify that we are seeking for success, and, certainly, the drilling itself and time will show results.

We are starting to drill in the southern part of the Caspian and results of these operations will allow to collect geological information which will also be important for other operators in the same area.

 Did the failure in Karabah have an influence on Agip plans in Azerbaijan and in the Caspian on the whole?

- What happened in Karabakh is just business as usual for an oil company. The fact that this did not have any big impact on our plans in the area is testified by our current activities. We have expanded our presence in Azerbaijan. We are continuing to study, evaluate new opportunities in Azerbaijan. I cannot exclude that in the future Agip will apply to SOCAR with new proposals of cooperation.

Our activity in the Caspian applies to Kazakhstan as well. Agip participates in the development project for the very large gas and condensate field of Karachaganak and also is one of shareholders of the OKIOC consortium that is engaged in exploration and development of the Kazakhstan shelf of the Caspian. There are large opportunities there for investment into oil and gas producing projects.

For the present time we are not operating in Turkmenistan, but our plans could change in any time.

- What are Agip plans on participation in the project of the main export pipeline (MEP) of Azerbaijan with the consequent connection to the future pipeline of the Kazakhstan oil exporters?

- In Kazakhstan we participate in the Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC), in future the Karachaganak field will be connected to this oil pipeline. Time will show through which pipeline any oil possibly found in the OKIOC area will be exported. If this consortium finds large reserves, it means that construction of a big export pipeline will be necessary.

Since OKIOC has just started to drill the first wildcat well and presence of commercial reserves are not yet proven, it is also too early to speak about export of this oil. We will know only later how attractive it will be to export it through this or that pipeline.

Concerning Azerbaijan, the situation is analogous: we haven't oil here to export yet, so today we are not involved directly into the negotiation process on the Main Export Pipeline which, anyway, we follow with interest. If drilling of the new wildcat in Kur Dashi, Araz Deniz block shows presence of oil reserves, we'll start analyzing the situation concerning pipelines.

- What is your attitude to the possibility of construction of the Export Pipeline towards the south, i.e. to Iran?

Only after a possible discovery of commercial reserves in Kur Dashi we will then evaluate the situation and the various available options for export. Commercial parametres will have to be evaluated as well as the feasibility of the various options. Any final decision naturally will have to be taken with the agreement of the Azerbaijan Government.

- Is the uncertainty of the Caspian's legal status an obstacle for Agip operations?

- The legal solution of the Caspian Sea's status is an issue to be resolved by common agreement of the Caspian littoral states and we can't interfere in this process. We can observe attentively which agreements are reached on this issue. The only thing we can ask is that, whatever decision on the legal status of the Caspian Sea is reached, the investments made by the various oil companies in the area must be safeguarded.

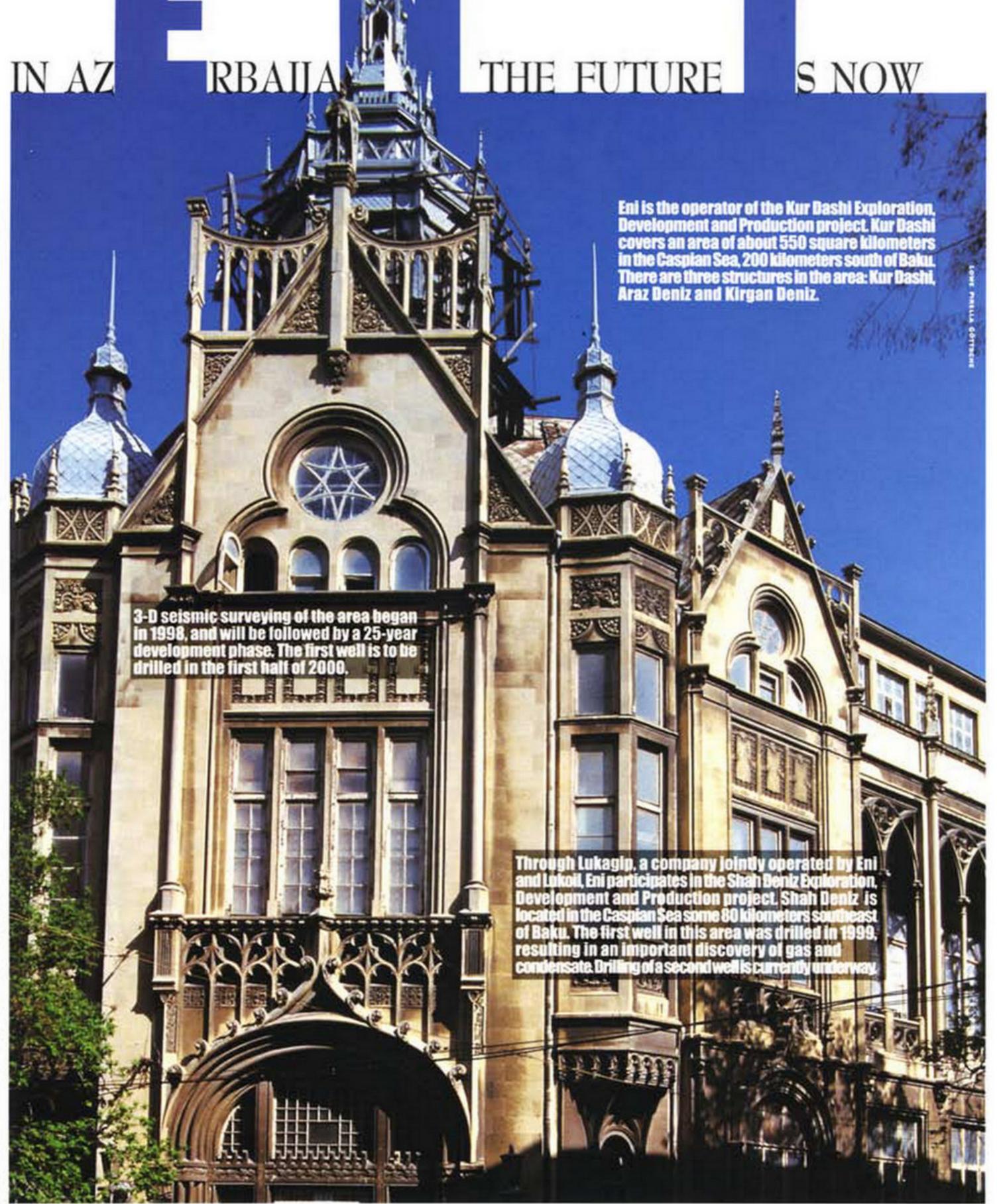
Azerbaijan is a country where it is to do business. When I say that it's possible it means that contracts are respected in this country and are a reliable instrument for our business operations.

There is also a right attitude to solve problems by negotiation between the parties. The oil industry makes huge investments at the beginning of its operations, which are only recovered after so many years: that is why the stability of commercial conditions observed in Azerbaijan is very important to us.

The dimension of investments that a company is willing to make also depends directly on the perceived stability of commercial conditions in that country. Today this stability is observed in Azerbaijan: this is a merit that must be given to the Government of this country.

This is demonstrated by the presence in Azerbaijan of almost all the large oil companies.

I must also say that I enjoy my assignment in Azerbaijan and I look forward to some more years of work in this beautiful country.



#### Eni and Azerbaijan: Partnership and Development.

Partnership with Azerbaijan in the oil and gas sector allows Eni to actively contribute to the welfare of the Azerbaijani population. Eni, for example, supports the World Health Organization's three-year program to control malaria inside the country. It also provides scholarships and seminars in oil and gas studies for Azerbaijani students and technical experts. Eni works with Unicel in providing hospitality at its summer camps in Italy for Azerbaijani children and it is also one of the major contributors to the Foundation for the State Opera and Ballet Theatre in Baku. Eni plans to implement other important social and cultural initiatives in the near future, further strengthening its partnership with the country and with the Azerbaijani population.



# Caspian TransCo Inc.

Caspian TransCo Inc. was established in 1996 to transport crude oil from the Caspian Sea basin and Central Asia to the Black Sea and from there to world markets.

Initiated as a partnership between R Okan Tapan and Halliburton's engineering company Brown & Root, Mr. Tapan subsequently acquired all the company's shares and is its major shareholder.

A prominent Turkish businessman, Mr. Tapan has been active in the Caucasus since the early 1990s. Through a partnership, he constructed a 60 MW power plant in the Azerbaijani enclave of Nakhchevan, and a 120-km power line from Agri. Turkey to Nakhchevan. In addition, he transported 400,000 MT of diesel oil from Baku to Batumi during Georgia's civil war. Mr. Tapan previously managed the Social Security Fund of the Turkish Republic, served as a board member of leading commercial banks in Turkey and was vice president of the Turkish Organization for the Protection of Wild Life.

Caspian TransCo Inc. has representative offices in Baku, Tbilisi, Batumi, London, and Istanbul and multilingual staff experienced in the oil, transportation, and engineering business.

Caspian TransCo Inc. successfully utilizes local manpower for the rehabilitation, construction, and operation of the current crude oil transportation system linking Central Asia to the Black Sea.

In its short history, Caspian TransCo Inc. has financed and completed to Western standards multi-million dollar infra-structure development projects is the energy sector. These projects have a significant economic and geopolitical impact in the region. Parallel to these accomplishments, Caspian TransCo Inc. has established sister companies in investments and banking, engineering and construction, and shipping.

Caspian TransCo's crude oil transportation system is an integrated, multi-phased system. On the route from the Eastern Caspian Sea ports of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan to Batumi on the Black Sea coast of Georgia, Caspian Transco co-operates with an array of institution in Azerbaijan and Georgia;

Caspian Sea Ports
Caspian Shipping Company
SOCAR
Azer-Rail
Georgian Rail
Batumi Terminal

In its day to day operations, Caspian TransCo manages over twenty contracts with international and local private company as well as local authorities. The transportation system starts with Caspian TransCo's free on board reception of crude oil in an Eastern Caspian port. After a day's journey across the Caspian, the crude is then discharged at the Dubendi terminal.

An internationally recognized independent inspector carries out all measurements and inspections, as the crude oil is stored in tanks on shore. The cargo is then transported further along one of two routes: the Dubendi – Batumi rail link or the Dubendi – Ali Bayramli pipeline.

The rail link begins at the Caspian TransCo loading gantry in Dubendi. Completed in late 1997, the gantry is connected to storage thanks by two 20 inch, 4 km pipelines. Caspian TransCo personnel can inspect, load and dispatch up to five trains a day at the Dubendi terminal. Each train carries some 2,000 MT of crude oil to Batumi.

The Dubendi – Ali Bayramli pipeline passes through the Puta booster station, where Caspian TransCo has additional storage capacity for operational contingencies. The pipeline, which has a safe operating capacity of 5,000 MT per day terminates at the Ali Bayramli tank farm.

The pipeline like other components in the transportation system, is patrolled around the clock, for safety and security. A radio communication system enables patrols to be in continuous touch with terminals, pump stations, as well as the operations center in Baku.

The Ali-Bayramli tank farm houses Caspian TransCo cargoes and on-shore Azeri production before they are loaded into rail tank ears in the gantry has a capacity of 10,000 MT (5 tains) per day.

The trains dispatched from Dubendi and Ali Bayramli go through Buyuk Kesik before entering Georgian territory, where Caspian TransCo carries out a visual inspection of the passing trains and finalizes the necessary paperwork. Trains dispatched from Azerbaijan reach Batumi within three days. At the Batumi terminal, cargo is unloaded into buffer tanks by Caspian TransCo, in conjunction with the Batumi terminal authorities. An independent inspector certifies the quality of the cargo prior to collection in the storage tanks.

The final leg of the journey starts at the port of Batumi, where Caspian TransCo supervises the loading and inspection of vessels from 10,000 DWT to 60,000 DWT, before their sea passage to a Mediterranean Port.

Caspian TransCo has put together an efficient transportation system through renovation of existing facilities in Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Parallel to the development of the corridor, the Company has acquired additional storage capacity in order to facilitate



### **DEUTAG DRILLING**



#### **Baku Division**

With a drilling history dating back to 1888, DEUTAG Drilling has grown to become one of the most respected drilling companies worldwide with the technical and logistical experience to enable the provision of a comprehensive service.

DEUTAG is characterized by its commitment to new technologies and by a team approach with its customers to deliver continuous improvement in efficiency and cost effectiveness. With over 2,100 employees worldwide, it is owned and supported by the PREUSSAG Group.

DEUTAG Drilling Baku Division is successfully operating in the Caspian Region for BP-AMOCO-AIOC since 1996. With Deutag Rig T-105 on Chirag-1 platform, 14 wells have been successfully drilled. During that period of time a World Record has also been achieved. The World Record is for an open hole Gravel pack performed using "Shunt Tube" gravel pack screens. The previous record was 1000 ft. The Gravel Packed interval was the entire open hole interval. This open hole section which is 393 m or 1289 ft was gravel packed by using "Shunt Tube" gravel pack screens. The rig also holds the Caspian record for horizontal drilling and is among the top performing rigs under contract to BP Amoco worldwide.

DEUTAG Technical Training Center (DTTC) in Baku, Azerbaijan was established to provide training and development support to the oil and gas industry in the Caspian Region. DTTC is capable of developing and producing customized generic and specific program packages to meet all requirements. These can support training plans, careers development/guidance and routes through to competence assurance. All programs provide the essential knowledge and practical skills for the industry's occupational standards of competence. The instructors are fully conversant and experienced for over 20 years with the design and implementation of overseas apprentice programs covering Maintenance, Operational and Safety related areas.



Aberdeen, UK Tel:+44 1224 295800; Fax: +44 1224 295801; E-mail: nigel.thom@deutag.co.uk 5 th floor, ISR Plaza, 340 Nizami str., Baku, Azerbaijan, 370000 Tel.: +99412 923470, Fax: +996990, E-mail: deutagbaku@fzeri.com

the segregated transportation of greater volumes of different types of crude oil. Total storage capacity of the system increased from 73,000 MT in late 1996 to 363,000 MT in 1998.

In the initial stages of the operation Caspian TransCo utilized a 4,000 MT daily loading capacity of Ali Bayramli terminal. With the refurbishment of the facilities, the company could dispatch five trains a day. In late 1997 the Dubendi loading gantry was put into service. This increased Caspian TransCo's rail loading capacity to 20,000 MT per day.

Caspian TransCo's train unloading capacity developed in a similar way. Its 10,000 MT unloading capacity increased to 20,000 MT with completion of the Sloboda terminal rehabili tation.

In addition, Caspian TransCo has continuously and loading rates in order to increase efficiency. Dubendi's vessel unloading rate has increased from 12,000 tons to 24,000 tons per day. Similarly, the loading rate at Batumi terminal has risen from 650 tons per hour to 1,100 tons per hour.

As a consequence, Caspian TransCo's capacity has in early 1996 to 6.5 MTA in late 1997. The transportation system has the potential in increase capacity to approximately 12 MTA. Caspian TransCo's Baku-Batumi route is the only proven corridor in the short-term, and a strong alternative for the medium and long term.

Caspian TransCo's throughput volumes have followed a continuous up-ward trend since the beginning of the operation.

The company's management is confident that this will continue in an accelerated form following the completion of future development projects that will enable the company to handle other grades of crude oil. Caspian TransCo Inc. is currently providing a transportation service to major oil companies producing in Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan as well as to traders in the region, through its operations offices in Baku, Tbilisi, and Batumi.

The company is continuously investing in the infrastructure of the transportation system and training of its personnel.

In-house training includes oil handling and measurement practices safety, spill contingency response as well as language and computer applications.

Given that the current system has a great potential for expansion, investment and upgranding of the facilities in an on-going process in Caspian TransCo. In order to give better service to current and potential clients, the company is increasing the pumping rates and rehabilitating the storage tanks and communication pipelines. Caspian TransCo is proud to be able to handle six different grades of crude oil in the transportation system from Baku to Batumi, thus addressing the problems of small producers in the region. Because Caspian TransCo has the advantage of being able to operate on relatively low working inventories, it can offer clients a value based on low inventory cost, and higher turnover rate.

# DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THEIR TRANSPORTATION IN TERMS OF CONTRACTUAL ACTIVITIES OF THE AZERBAIJAN REPUBLIC

MAKHIR GAMBAROV, Graduate of the Azerbaijan Commonwealth University of Baku

Economic cooperation of the Azerbaijan Republic with western countries in organizing and conducting geological exploration surveys and further tapping of oil and gas fields, especially, off Azerbaijan's Caspian coast, as well as the construction of mines and ore concentrating mills was much expanded in recent years.

Technical assistance lent by western oil companies to Azerbaijan may serve as one of examples of fruitful cooperation in exploring and tapping the natural resources of the Caspian Sea. The Azerbaijan upstream oil and gas industry was and remains the most developed real sector. Monopoly in producing crude oil and its processing belonged to the Soviet oil industry. It was no access to liquid and solid natural resources production for foreigners. After Azerbaijan has been declared an independent state, the republic took a number of urgent measures to develop the extractive industry and upstream oil and gas industry, to grant appropriate rights to foreigners to produce and mine for natural resources, to establish large-scale state-owned enterprises of the extractive industry as well as to implement a wide program for geological surveys.

Technical assistance to the Azerbaijan Republic in geological prospecting of gas and oil was provided by appropriate intergovernmental agreements. The US, British, Norwegian, French and other experts working in Azerbaijan use the latest accomplishments of the state-of-the-art geological science. To find natural resources, in particular, oil and gas within Azerbaijan (especially, in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea), they do a wide variety of works from offshore geophysical surveys to photo-geological, geographical and geochemical studies. To carry out the works, foreign equipment and vehicles were delivered to Azerbaijan.

The first successful move in working close-

ly together with foreign companies in oil industry and attracting foreign investment in the sector was taken in 1994. After effective talks between the State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) and 10 wellknown companies representing six foreign companies, on September 20, 1994 a contract for joint development of the Azeri, Chirag and Guneshli fields was signed. The contract has 30 years to run.

For the period from September 1994, SOCAR has signed 18 more large contracts for joint development of oil and gas fields in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea and onshore fields. The world's 32 large oil companies representing 14 countries participate in the contracts. About \$50 billion in investments are suggested to be put up for the projects supported by 19 contracts. The contract areas are estimated to contain between 4 to 10 billion tons of oil.

After signing the contract of the century, the consortium was formed, which in 1995-1998 years produced early oil. For this, appropriate seismic surveys and exploration were carried out and three test wells were drilled. To pump oil on to shore, the Sangachaly terminal and a subsea pipeline long 179km were built.

A significant work was done to develop the country's oil industry. And the Azerbaijan Republic got the opportunity to export its oil to world markets. The work took three years and required more than \$1 billion, Geologists discovered about 140 highly promising structures in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea. According to the initial investigations, the areas hold significant hydrocarbon reserves. Delivering the yet signed by Azerbaijan of international contracts will enable in the next 20-30 years to produce 1.5 billion tons of oil and 1.28 billion cubic meters of gas.

One of topical legal problems sparking the ever-increasing interest in the projects for joint use of oil fields and transport of hydrocarbons is to improve the economic and legal model of the cooperation. The total revenue generated by hydrocarbon production for the Azerbaijan state budget is contingent upon a pattern of the contracts entered into with the foreign oil companies. At present, all the concluded oil agreements and contracts are based on a model of "production sharing agreement" (PSA), which is a well-tried mechanism for sharing risk and earnings between a host government and foreign oil companies. In other words, it is a pattern of sharing production widely-accepted worldwide. Under a PSC, the companies are in first place allowed to recoup their organizational and overhead costs spent on delivering a project and design as well as operating costs from field development by obtaining a share of oil production ("cost oil"). The rest of production is seen as a profit and shared between the contract parties, i.e., the companies receive a share of production as "profit oil" to garner a return on their investments. It is natural that at the initial stage of oil production (about 10 years), after covering operating costs, 50 percent of the rest of production goes for recouping the companies' investments originally contributed to a project. After this, all the rest of production is shared as a profit. The state is entitled to all oil not provided to the companies. If SOCAR were to be an equity partner in a project for developing a field by contributing to a share of the costs, it could be treated similarly to the foreign oil companies. In this latter case, the state budget revenue from oil would come, on the one hand, from the profit oil taken by SOCAR, and, on the other hand, from the direct share of Azerbaijani government in oil production. In practice, some (or even all) of SOCAR's share of the investment cost may be "carried" by the oil companies, which would recoup the costs through their "cost oil" entitlement. Under a PSA, the total volume of exports from Azerbaijan will include three separate components, under the PSC terms assumed : oil companies export of their share of production, SOCAR exports of some of its oil, and Azerbaijan exports of its oil entitlement.

It should be noted that there is a tendency to a decrease in operating and overhead expenses. At the same time it is attended by increasing a share of Azeri party in all international oil agreements. For example, by the terms and conditions of "the contract of the century", during 30 years a share of SOCAR in "profit oil" will rise from 10 to 90 percent. In total, the State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic owns 50 percent of the total profit oil.

Given that 50 percent of produced oil will go for covering operating and investment costs, the volume of the profit oil to be received by Azerbaijan will amount to 150 million tons. A similar figure over the first nine concluded agreements will run up to around 400 million tons of oil and 420 - 450 billion cubic meters of gas. It is equivalent to USD60 billion. It averages USD2 billion per year in terms of the current oil prices in world markets. It exceeds 2.5 times the annual revenue side of the country's state budget in the late 90's.

Another peculiarity of PSA's model applied in Azerbaijan is that, as it has been mentioned above, foreign companies are contractually committed to "carry" all of SOCAR's share of the investment costs. At the same time, so called "historical costs" (in tapping fields and promising structures) include payment of a bonus to Azerbaijan, which is paid as a project puts into practice.

Given that foreign companies take upon themselves the financial costs on discovery and use of a field and that the expenses must be spent earlier than their profit comes, the compamies are exempt from taxes (except for a tax on incomes of individuals). SOCAR will pay off taxes on its share of profit production according to a law of the Azerbaijan Republic.

A next problem pertaining to oil agreements, the solution to which is great value to Azerbaijan, is of how to provide a reliable export of the produced oil to world markets. If in the year 1994 to 1995 the challenge was seen as a problem No 1 for only members of the contract of the century, at present, more than 20 well-known western companies operating in Azerbaijan and representing 12 countries of the world as well as such countries as Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, which are now in searches of the ways of selling their hydrocarbon reserves abroad, are interested in its successful resolving.

In the past three years the questions of selecting of economically sound and commercially viable routes for exporting crude oil have been highlighted by experts. In the period, the routes of Baku-Novorossiysk and Baku-Supsa were analyzed thoroughly and the sums needed to deliver "turnkey projects" from design, planning, supply and erection to their commissioning were fixed. USD55 million were sent in 1996-1997 years on the upgrade and construction of the northern pipeline long 1412km. From November 12, 1997 early oil has flown through the pipeline.

At the same time, the construction of the Baku-Supsa pipeline and a terminal at Supsa was begun. The work were completed on April 17, 1999. It has been established that out of 926km of pipes, 566 km of the pipes want repairing. 258km of the pipeline must be replaced with new pipeline sections. As a whole, it was slated to complete all the works (the construction of pipeline and terminal, the installation of five pump stations, control and other systems) and spent not more than USD315 million on them.

The northern and western lines of pipelines (the throughput of each of them is 5 million tons per year) are able to ensure export of the oil that is expected to be produced before 2005.

When the first and other projects launch to work to capacity, oil production in the Azerbaijani sector of the Caspian Sea will edge up to 40-50 million tons per year. At the same time, more than 40 million tons of crude oil will be delivered to world markets from the Tengiz field alone in Kazakhstan.

The fields situated in Turkmen sector of the Caspian Sea when coming on stream will make the construction of export oil pipelines linking the Caspian region to the European countries still more challenging. Therefore a work on selecting optimum pipeline routes, which might have ensure exporting 1.2 million barrels of Azeri oil a day to world markets was carried out so thoroughly.

For Azeri oil, there are three main routes for building a main oil pipeline, which were scrutinized:

a) the construction of additional pipelines Baku-Supsa and Baku-Novorossiysk and the
shipping of oil by tankers from the ports across
the Black Sea and the Bosporus and
Dardanelles Straits to the European countries;
b) the delivery of oil via the pipelines through
Georgia and Turkey to the terminal at the port
of Ceyhan on the Mediterranean coast and its
further transport by tankers to the European
markets; v) the shipping of oil through the additionally built oil pipeline to the terminal of
Alexandropolis on the Aegean Sea coast of

Greece.

Despite the fact that "the contract of the century" provided for focusing on the Main Export Pipeline construction, picking up in oil production in the Caspian Sea and attracting the ever-increasing number of foreign companies to the region sparks the laying of additional lines. It is due to favor the interests of all the firms and companies operating in the region.

An analysis of technical and economic performances of the above indicated routes shows that the Baku-Supsa and Baku-Novorossiysk pipeline projects are the most economically sound and commercially viable. Their costs are put at USD1.2 and USD2.1 billion, respectively. However, the limits set on the Bosporus throughput because of the environmental dangers of increased tanker traffic through the Bosporus reduce a chance of turning these routes into the main lines. As a matter of fact, the Strait is considered to be already full to capacity. There is considerable environmental weight behind the argument. Turkey says that because the 19-mile channel runs through the center of Istanbul, which is home to more than 10 million people, increases in tanker traffic are impossible.

Though the Baku-Ceyhan route long over 1500km is seen as an expensive one (USD2.4 billion) to be built compared to other alternative ways, the lack of the need for another oil terminals and the proximity of port to the European markets give an advantage to this project over other alternative options. The passage of the pipeline through the territory, in which an armed conflict has not yet been settled, can be one of considerations keeping a check on making a decision to build a pipeline. In the foreseen future, the expanded scope of the works on rising in oil production in the Caspian region will increase a chance of transforming the route into one of the main export oil pipelines.

The length of the third route is 1710km. The route consists of the mixed transport (a pipeline is used on land, and part of way the oil is shipped by tankers). The oil delivery to the Aegean Sea coast is provided by three terminals. It can bring about increases in transport coasts and, consequently, the total route cost. In addition, a chance of incurring big losses during the oil transport rises. The Baku-Supsa and Baku-Ceyhan routes are connected with Georgia somehow or other. Therefore Azerbaijan and Georgia established business teamwork aimed at the transnational oil

#### INTERNATIONAL LAW

pipeline construction.

The Baku-Supsa oil pipeline laid from the Caspian Sea to the Black Sea is of strategic significance to not only Georgia but all the countries of the region and the countries adjacent to it, Georgian President Edward Shevarnadze announced when commenting on the Apr. 17, 1999 inauguration of western route for shipping oil. In his speech Shevarnadze emphasized that the Baku-Supsa oil pipeline was one of basic elements of Great Silk Route. And in future the oil pipeline will be the ground for carrying larger projects into effect with a success.

It should be noted that Azerbaijan's MEP, which will become further the main part of the subsea Caspian oil pipeline, also will be laid through Georgia. Participation of Presidents of Ukraine and Azerbaijan in the solemn ceremony of the opening at Supsa of the western route for shipping early oil and a railcar-on-roll ferry passage at the port of Poti on April 17 was of great political value. Presidents of the USA,

Turkey, Bulgaria, Uzbekistan, Greece, Kazakhstan as well as the British Prime Minister called the opening of the Baku-Supsa oil pipeline historic.

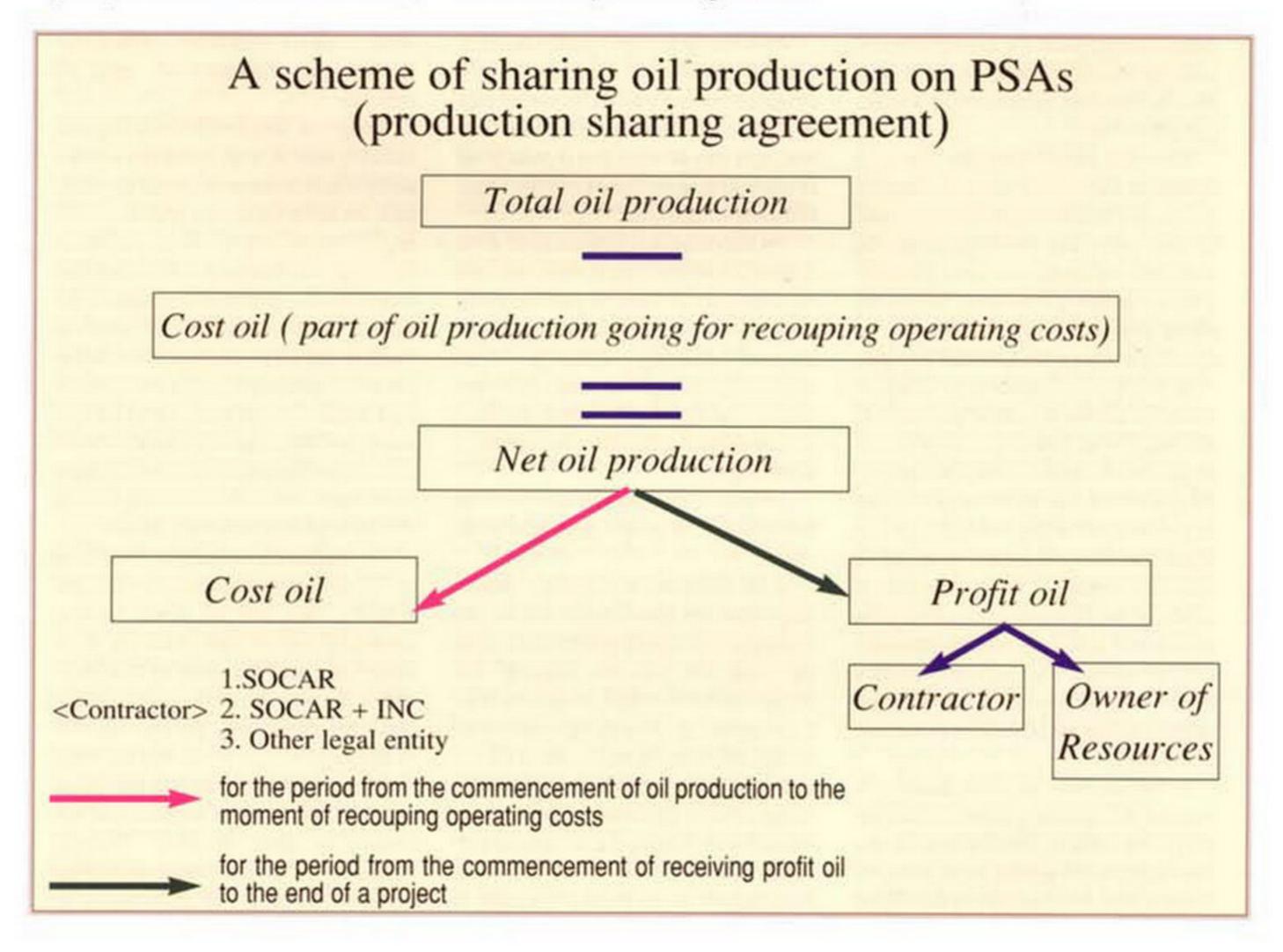
Making a speech at Supsa on April 17, 1999, Azerbaijan President Heydar Aliyev spoke about great difficulties and risk which the historic decision was linked to. But with commissioning the Baku-Supsa oil pipeline, a matter of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan main export oil pipeline construction was clinched. The western pipeline is a bright example of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between Georgia and Azerbaijan , which has the great outlook for the future. For instance, in October, 1998 in Ankara, Georgia, Turkey and Azerbaijan signed Declaration on main aspects of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan project. With the USA administration's support, earlier this April the regular discussion of the Baku-Ceyhan project was held and a protocol of particular practical measures to be taken to put the pipeline construction into practice was signed between

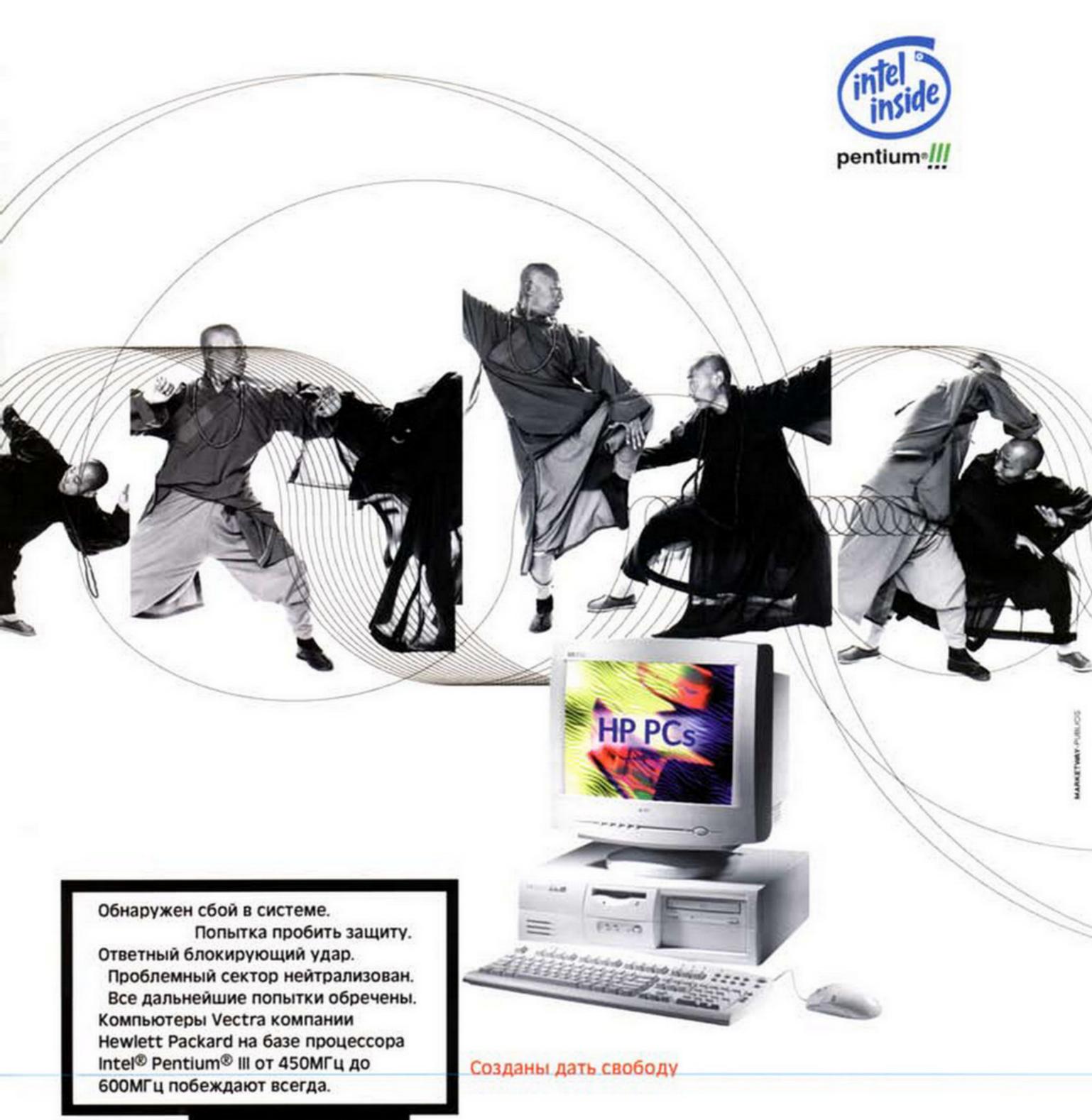
and by Turkey and Azerbaijan.

Another important sample is the transport of Turkmen gas to Turkey via Azerbaijan and Georgia. An agreement on the route was sealed between Turkey and Turkmenistan in October 1998. Ukraine also expressed its intention to export oil through its territory via the Odessa-Brody route to Poland.

Investigations of various routes for exporting main oil are designed to speed up selecting optimum way. Under the Oct. 1998 Declaration above mentioned, in 2004 the transport of "big" Caspian oil to world markets will be effected.

Thus, a conclusion can be drawn that the Caspian region is being transformed into one of the largest oil hubs of the world. It will result in the accelerated upturn of Azerbaijan's economy and give it a top place amidst the industrialized states of the world.





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# CASPIAN RIG CLUBS DRILLING CHALLENGES OF CASPIAN

Caspian consortia resolved a problem of drilling rigs shortage

By Rauf Guseinov

Since this June a situation of how to use drilling rigs in the Azerbaijani sector of the Caspian Sea has been

exacerbated. As a matter of fact, even the presence of two advanced semi-submersible drilling rigs (SDR) and what more than ten off-shore consortia are operative does not yet ensure an uninterrupted use of the units. Anyhow, for the third month running, the Dada Gorgud rig has been moored at a wharf of the port of Baku. Such a wasteful use of so needed rigs became possible due to commonplace marketing activities of the operators from Caspian consortia.

#### "CLUB" STORIES

The Rig Club (or Club for Users of Drilling Rigs) term appeared in lexicon of local oil people when the number of oil contracts on the Caspian became quickly rise and it became clear that consortia did not have sufficient count of rigs for drilling operations.

Chirag-Guneshli field that took the initiative in setting up such a club. AIOC invested a majority of \$39 million spent on the substantial upgrade and refurbishment of the Dada Gorgud rig. With some support of NAOC that operated the Dan-Ulduzu - Ashrafi field), CIPCO, which was awarded the Karabakh permit, AIOC put up most of money for the rig's consequent additional upgrade worth about \$12 million.

The consortium drilling the Shahdeniz area was ranked as a special member in the first Rig Club because of thecomplex geological structure and the need to spud wells to a depth of more than 6000 meters. In that regard, with the backing of other its shareholders, BP Amoco launched the upgrading (in fact, the restoration newly) of the Shelf-5 semi-submersible drilling rig that was renamed Istiglal. By the way, is is interesting that so far local and foreign experts are at odds over what sum was invested in the Istiglal rig upgrade. According to BP Amoco's official assessment, the figure is put at \$224 million, including capitaL expenditures on re-equipment of a site for fabricating modules, while domestic experts put the figure at \$250-\$260 million. Thus, the first of rig clubs for a relatively short time acquired two drilling rigs, which are the only state-of-the-art units on the

Caspian, meeting virtually all international requirements and standards.

However, as it is known, everything changes, and soon the worldwide oil marketing activities together with some disappointing results in drilling wells in the central part of the Caspian Sea led to the merged British-US company BP Amoco having become a sole owner of the above mentioned drilling rigs.

As a result, the new company became the operator for two out of four consortia included in the first Rig Club - AIOC and Shah-Deniz. Other two consortia - CIPCO and NAOC - are now-defunct ones. In doing so, BP Amoco is contractually committed to Socar to use the Istiglal drilling rig until 2002.

Under the contract, none can use the unit



for exploration until BP Amoco notifies SOCAR of the contract termination. But even in this case there is a reservation about BP Amoco's primary right to the unit. The same terms and rights virtually apply to the Dada Gorgud rig.

### THE THIRD PARTICIPANT IS NOT WANTED HERE

As things stand, the operators of the Caspian consortia - Exxon Azerbaijan Operating Company (EAOC operates the Nachichevan, Zafar-Mashal permits), Chevron Petroleum Azerbaijan Overseas Ltd (Absheron), and Agip Azerbaijan B.V. (Kurdashi) also formed an alliance, which was at once christened the third Club of "seekers" of drilling rigs. Before a downturn in crude oil prices, the above mentioned operators were ready to put the money into the factual construction of one more new drilling rig for Azerbaijan. The project was called the Shelf-3 semi-submersible drilling rig modernization.

However, the meltdown in the oil price environment and the expiration of the exploration period stipulated by the production sharing agreements made the projects commercially unsound and economically inviable: the Shelf-3 refurbishment is put at more than \$200 million and the work is scheduled to be finished for two years.

Attempting to find the optimum solution to the problem, Exxon, Chevron abd Agip expressed their willingness to invest, about \$100 million in the additional upgrade of the Dada Gorgud rig to further use them in the above indicated license areas. It was planned to make the following enhancements in the unit's performance:

- to increase the unit's capability of drilling wells in a water depth from the current 475 to 1000 meters;
- to increase the rig's ability to drill wells to depths from the current 7600 to 8200 meters;
- to boost pressure from 700 to 1050 atm and other improvements.

In addition to this, it was slated to replace a derrick, BOP (Blow Out Preventor) and a subsea BOP equipment at the unit. According to expert opinion, all of the works might take up to nine months. However, if one increases requirements to the upcoming works, the term would be extended to a year. However, the good intentions of the third Rig Club encountered at the beginning of this summer objections of BP Amoco. It announced its rights to the Dada Gorgud rig and reminded of the unit belonging to the first Rig Club as before. In fact, ilt means that at any moment when it wants, BP Amoco might demand the drilling rig from the third club. It is evident it does not suit them.

### WHY DOES SOCAR NEED ONE MORE DRILLING RIG?

A number talks and consultations behind a scene showed that the present things were not yet hopeless. The point is that BP Amoco has already created a precedent of transferring its rig when it delegated the plant to the Kurdashi block for 90 day.

In the case of the Dada Gorgud rig, all of the parties need only to dovetail the schedules of using the rig and in accordance with this to share contributions to its re-modernization. After that, they need to solemnly announce the formation of an absolutely new, single Rig Club. However, the Caspian consortia's ambitions can thwart the plans. At the most crucial moment, they can remember a fierce, high-stake rivalry between them.

BP Amoco's reluctance to grant an access to the three indicated consortia for the drilling rig can be explained: until other Caspian operators enable to drill test wells, the British-US group remains the only consortium developing oilfields in the Azerbaijani sector of the Caspian Sea and yet discovered large gas reserves in the Azeri-Chirag-Guneshli and Shah-Deniz fields. Therefore any consortium other than BP Amoco's, which will hit hydrocarbon reserves, is a potential competitor for BP Amoco. In addition, successful exploration surveys can give an additional impact on speeding up talks over the Baku-Ceyhan MEP. BP Amoco is opposed

to the pipeline project as it has already announced it will not need the pipeline in the near future.

Of course, SOCAR runs the show in the situation. It is up to SOCAR to decide what consortium's exploration period needs to be extended and on what conditions. It is a simple matter for the State Oil Company to decide if it is of more benefit to it to acquire one more state-of-the-art drilling rig which will be resulted from the Shelf-3 unit after its upgrading. True, experts' opinions on the matter are divided. By preliminary calculations, the Shelf-3 refurbishment

can become an unduly high-cost project for its creators and it can take a too much (perhaps endless) time to recover its costs on the upgrade. To return the money contributed to its re-upgrade, by some calculations, the drilling rig will have to spud around 15-20 wells. It is not easy to do, given the number of available offshore projects. In addition, according to a number of experts, Azerbaijan will be unable to bring the new drilling rig on stream over the next 30 years. There just will be no well site where SOCAR could use one more semi-submersible modernized drilling rig as SOCAR does not have prospective structures any more to be drilled. It seems probable that foreign consortia do not need the rig so much that quick return on investments did not matter to them. One should remember that all expenses incurred in connection with he upgrade are for the account of SOCAR.

Technically, the Shelf-3 drilling rig is in a worse condition than a similar unit - Shelf-5 before its modernization. All equipment must be replaced here. The Shelf-3 rig has one more problem in terms of its service life. The Shelf-3 rig was built in 1981. And, consequently, in 2001 the 20-year service life of metal of which the rig body was made expires. No marine certificate will not be given to such a semi-sub-mersible drilling rig even after its refurbishment to run 30 more years. The position of Rig Club-3 members led to what an item of the Shelf-3 rig is not on the agenda. The operators are more likely to reach an understanding with BP

Amoco and will make up a single schedule for using the Dada Gorgud rig.

#### TO TRANSFORM INTO A SEPA-RATE BLOCK

#### DRILLING "TRIDENT" - 2000

Meanwhile, despite all the marketing activities, the construction of a new jack-up drilling
rig is in progress and it will be operative in
Azerbaijan. But, unfortunately, Azerbaijan will
not own it. A solemn ceremony is scheduled to
launch the new jack-up rig, Trident (MOD-V),
for September 1, 2000. The name of the new
unit has nothing to do with US nuke missiles
Tridents well-known from cold war times.
Nevertheless, the name has already sparked a
backlash of some experts in Baku, who think
that the unit, which will operate in the
Azerbaijani sector of the Caspian Sea, must be
renamed and have a suitable name.

The new rig construction is under way at the same time in Baku and Singapore. In the near future the works abroad will be completed. After that, the offshore jacket and the module support frame will be installed. Some of other rig modules will be delivered to Azerbaijan in three cargoes through Volga-Don canal. The center of the rig construction then will be moved fully to Baku, at the Caspnefteflot (Caspian Oil Fleet) plant and partly at the plant making deepwater platforms (ZGO) owned by SOCAR's Production Association Shelfprojectstroy ( Designing and Building Offshore Facilities).

Under a contract between SOCAR and the Azeri-Russian-Singaporean joint venture - Azerbaijan-based Caspian Shipard Company, 1080 tons in metal modules have earlier been made for the new unit at the latter enterprise. The jack-up rig is designed for drilling contractor Sedco Forex, a French subsidiary of transnational company Schlumberger. Nexh fall it would make the rig available to four operators of Caspian projects - Elf Petroleum Lenkoran-Talysh B.V., Mobil Exploration and Producing Azerbaijan Inc., Agip Azerbaijan

B.V. ® JAOC. The drilling rig will be owned by Sedco Forex, to which the above operating companies gave guarantees to use the Trident-20 for three years after the constraction completion. \$175-mil in investments are estimated to put up for the new jack-up rig construction project. The jack-up rig is scheduled to come on stream for the 4th quarter of 2000. The operating company Elf Petroleum Lenkoran-Talysh B.V will operates it. It is assumed that the rig will be able to drill to a depth of up to 6500 meters and in a water depth of more than 100 meters. At the moment, only three drilling rigs of the kind have beem put into operation around the world and three more are under construction.

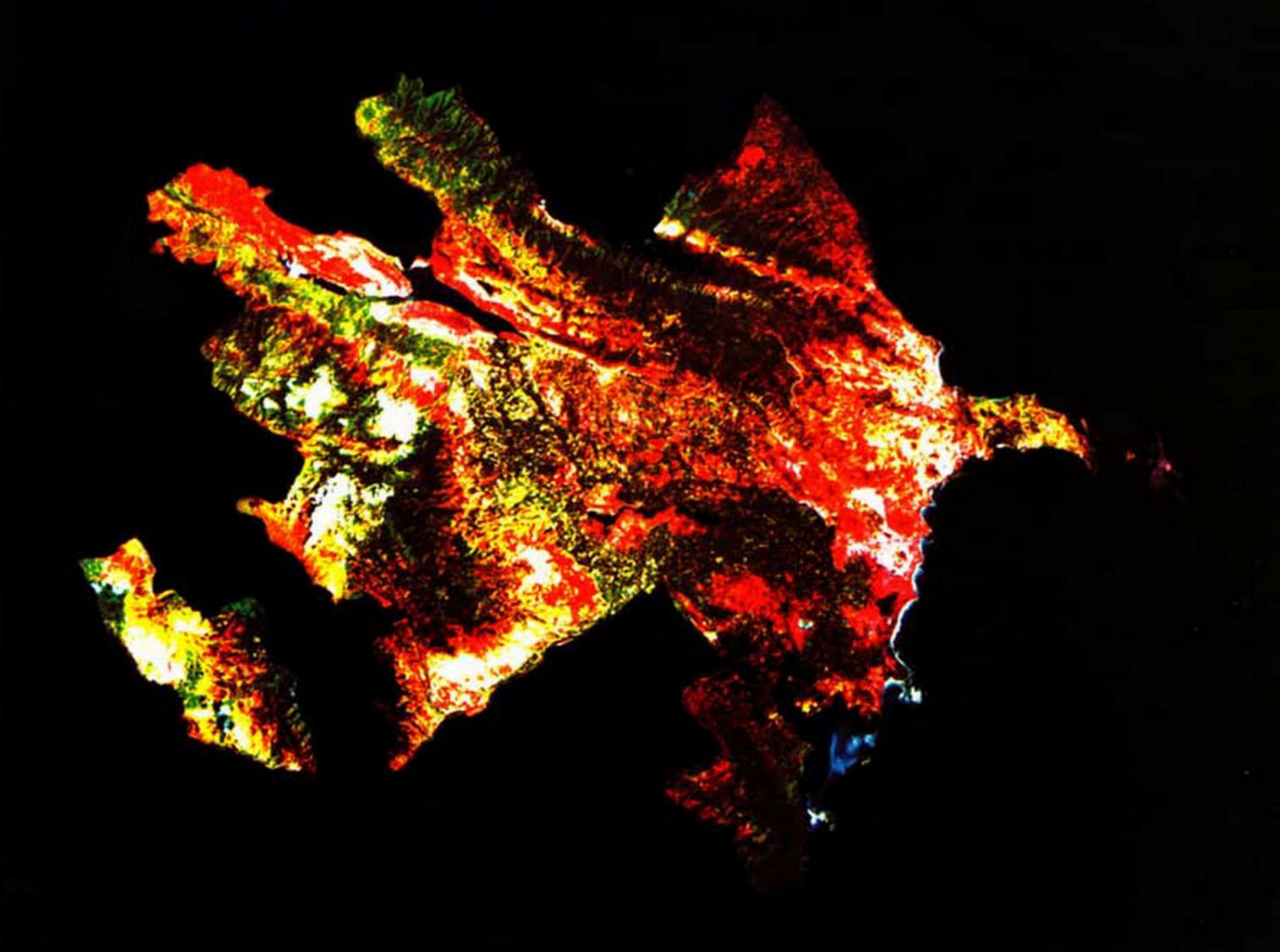
#### ALMOST SOLOMON'S SOLUTION

A final way out of the present situation was found only late in this October during a broaden meeting with participation of SOCAR' representatives and some operators from the Caspian oil consortia.

The meeting gave a ruling that about \$50-\$60 million would be put up for the additional upgrade and refurbishment of the Dada Gorgud semi-submersible drilling rig. It is assumed that the works are to be completed fully after 8-12 months. It means that the project will be finished in the 4th quarter of next year. The Azeri-US joint venture Caspian Drilling Company (CDC) will allocate all fundings needed for the the Dada Gorgud rig construction. From a technical view of point, the developed detailed workpacks means the Dada Gorgud rig will be upgraded partly, as complete modernization is put at \$100 million and a minumum upgrade cost is estimated at \$10-\$20 million. Among the works to be carried out are a 1.5 increase in the BOP power. It will enable to run a full test of appraisal wells and increase water depths from 450 to 500 meters, in which the wells will be drilled. The parties decided not to increase the maximum depth to which wells can be drilled and came to terms on a vertical depth of 6500 meters below sea level yet reached by the Dada Gorgud rig suiting all consortia.

In addition, it can be noted that the results of the meeting brought out serious changes in SOCAR's drilling strategy. The making of a decision on factual independent modernization of the Dada Gorgud rig will lead to what afterwards when it is used by Caspian consortia, all the CDC expenses will be included in the costs of drilling services provided. Apart from this, SOCAR obliged consortia Exxon Azerbaijan Operating Company (EAOC - Nkhichevan, Zafar-Mashal), Chevron Overseas Petroleum Azerbaijan Ltd (Absheron) and Agip Azerbaijan B.V. (Kurdashi) to drill from the Dada Gorgud rig by one well in each of their contract areas after its upgrading is complete. After that, the State Oil Company will consider a legal capacity of extending their exploration periods during which the companies will have to drill 1-2 more mandatory wells. The SOCAR policy goal is to confirm hydrocarbon reserves of license acreages awarded to the companies. It is needed to prove commercial viability of the Baku-Ceihan project. It should be noted that BP Amoco was commissioned for a short time to make up a schedule for a use of two available drilling rigs (Dada Gorgud and Istiglal) and one more rig, Shelf-3, that is getting ready to be upgraded. Topicality of its modernization remains equally for both the operators of the projects and SOCAR itself. SOCAR's representatives announced after the commencement of the Phase-1 large-scale development program of the Azeri-Chirag-Guneshli field, AIOC will have priority rights to using the Dada Gorgud rig as it will take a lot of time to drill new appraisal wells in the Azeri field. Thus, 4-5 consortia again will have only one drilling rig, i.e., Istiglal. This requires to upgrade the Shelf-3 rig. True, there is now not a detailed project for its refurbishing as the exploration surveys under the Phase-One program will begin not earlier than in 2002-2003. And other consortia still have time on their hands to drill even though one appraisal well in each of their contract areas.

# Azərbaycan "qartalı," Qərbi Şərqə bağlayaraq





### ПРОБЛЕМЫ ГАЗОВОЙ ПРОМЫШЛЕННОСТИ ВЫДВИ-ГАЮТСЯ НА ПЕРЕДНИЙ ПЛАН

С 1988 по 1991 год- начальник про-

ШАРИФОВ АБИД ГОДЖА ОГЛЫ



транстрой".

С 1991 по 1992 год работал в Турции заместителем начальника стройуправления по электрификации же-

трификации железнодорожного пути на участке Черкеской-Капыкулу.

ектно-производ-

ственного строи-

тельного объеди-

нения ППСО "Азер-

Председатель Госстроя Азербайджанской Республики, заместитель премьер-министра Азербайджанской Республики

"Заслуженный Строитель Азербайджанской Республики".

Шарифов А. Г. родился 6 января 1940 года в г. Шеки. С 1947 ПО 1957 г. - учащийся средней школы №-10 в Шеки. С 1957 студент Азербайджанского Политехнического института, который окончил в 1962 году, получив специальность инженера-строителя.

С1962 по 1978 год работал в Главбакстрое на различных должностях: строительным мастером, прорабом, старшим прорабом, начальником отдела, главным инженером строительного управления.

С февраля 1978 г. по июль 1980 г. старший референт отдела строительства Управления Делами Совета Министров Азербайджанской ССР.

С 1980 г. по 1988 год- Управляющий трестом "Азертранстрой". С 1993 по 1995 год - Президент Госкомпании "Азертрасдорстрой".

С 1995 года по настоящее время - Председатель Госстроя Азербайджанской Республики, заместитель премьер-министра Азербайджанской Республики.

А.Г. Шарифов руководил строительством таких важных объектов республики как, здание аппарата Президента, здание Министерства Национальной безопасности, отель "Апшерон", железная дорога Евлах-Белоканы и др.

Женат, имеет 2-х детей.

Одним из основных моментов в деле восстановления Великого Шелкового пути явилась, безусловно, международная Бакинская Конференция, проведенная 7-8 сентября 1998 г. и принятое на ней Основное многостороннее соглашение по транспорту. В соответствующем Указе Президента Азербайджанской Республики Его Превосходительства господина Г. Алиева намечены пути реализации этого соглашения.

В настоящее время оно ратифицировано Азербайджаном, Грузией, Таджикистаном, Узбекистаном, Болгарией и вступило в силу 23 мая этого года. К ратификации готовятся также Украина и Румыния.

В последнее время наблюдается рост интереса к этому проекту и со стороны других стран, включая США.

Американским конгрессом 14 июля текущего года принят Закон о стратегии Великого Шелкового Пути. Безусловно, эта сугубо экономическая стратегия направлена на расширение взаимного сотрудничества между Европой и Азией. Надеемся, что она будет способствовать и мирному разрешению военных конфликтов, в том числе и на Кавказе.

До конца текущего года в Тбилиси планируется провести 1-ое организационное заседание по TRACECA. 28 сентября этого же года в Брюсселе Евросоюз провел соответствующий тендер, начата работа по Созданию Секретариата TRACECA, и Евросоюз выделил на эти цели 1,1 млн. долларов США, а Азербайджан - соответствующее помещение для размещения этого органа.

С 1996 г. по настоящее время по евразийскому коридору транспортировано в общей сложности около 9 млн. тонн грузов. Так, если в 1995 году объем этих перевозок составлял 396 тыс. тонн, то в 1998 г. этот показатель превысил цифру 4,2 млн. тонн. Объем перевозок текущего года планируется на уровне около 5 млн. тонн. Около 60% перевозок приходится на долю сырой нефти, перевозимой по маршруту Актау-Батуми.

Прибыль транспортных организаций республики от работы коридора составила в прошедшем году порядка 42 млн. долларов США. Как и предусмотрено Основным многосторонним Соглашением, мы значительно смягчили налоговые процедуры, отменили НДС, ввели больший ассортимент и количество требуемых к перевозке грузов. Нами также предпринимаются меры по обеспечению сохранности перевозимых грузов, безопасности и бесперебойности перевозок, оптимизации сроков доставки.

В июне текущего года мы провели встречу в Актау с министрами транспорта Грузии и Казахстана. По ее итогам был подписан межправительственный Меморандум о создании благоприятных условий для транзита всех видов грузов по территории этих государств. Казахстанская сторона обязалась также рассмотреть возможность оговорки к Основному Соглашению по части установления льготных тарифов. Намечен также ряд мероприятий по снижению портовых сборов, осуществлению дно углубительных работ и восстановлению паромной переправы в порту Актау. Азербайджанской стороной предоставлен в аренду порту Актау буксир-контавщик. Мы также договорились создать трехстороннюю совместную комиссию по оперативным вопросам.

В результате с 1 июля этого года по маршруту Баку-Актау-Батуми раз в неделю курсирует судно типа РОРО "Меркурий", им за 3 последних месяца перевезено свыше 100 автомашин (2 тыс. тонн грузов, в основном продовольственных) и почти 3 тыс. пассажиров.

Говоря о перспективах и проблемах нефтегазовой отрасли, в первую очередь подразумеваются вопросы, связанные с добычей, транспортировкой и экспортом сырой нефти. При этом проблемы газовой промышленности отодвигаются как бы на задний план.

Объективно это объясняется тем, что объем ежегодно добываемого в стране газа составляет всего около 6 млрд. кубометров, что едва хватает для удовлетворения нужд.

В настоящее время ситуация начинает коренным образом меняться. Результаты исследований, проведенных в азербайджанском секторе Каспия, специалистами крупнейших нефтяных компаний мира показывают наличие здесь больших запасов газа. Только на площади "Шах-дениз" запасы природного газа оцениваются в объеме свыше 700 млрд. кубометров.

С учетом этих реалий Президентом Азербайджана Г.Алиевым подписано распоряжение "О создании рабочей группы для решения вопросов, связанных с организацией экспорта на мировые рынки природного газа с месторождения "Шах-дениз", расположенного в азербайджанском секторе Каспия".

В состав рабочей группы включены руководители ГНКАР, представители зарубежных нефтяных компаний, входящих в консорциум "Шах-дениз", а также помощник Президента Азербайджанской Республики - А.Асадов. Руководство рабочей группой поручено мне.

По мнению наших специалистов самым перспективным и реальным рынком для Азербайджанского газа является Турция. При этом транзитной страной будет Грузия.

Для полного удовлетворения внутренней потребности республики в газе и выхода на мировые рынки было бы целесообразным проводить работы в два этапа.

Первый этап включает восстановление газотранспортной системы Азербайджана и Грузии. Он включает в себя реконструкцию на территории Азербайджана газопровода Кази-Магомед-Казах до границы с Грузией протяженностью 416 км, Калмасского подземного хранилища газа, реконструкцию 3-х компрессорных станций, а также строительство нового газопровода диаметром 1220 мм.

На территории Грузии необходимо будет произвести восстановительные работы на участке газопровода граница Грузии компрессорная станция Сагурамо (с реконструкцией самой компрессорной станции), а также осуществить строительство газопровода Сагурами - граница Турции.

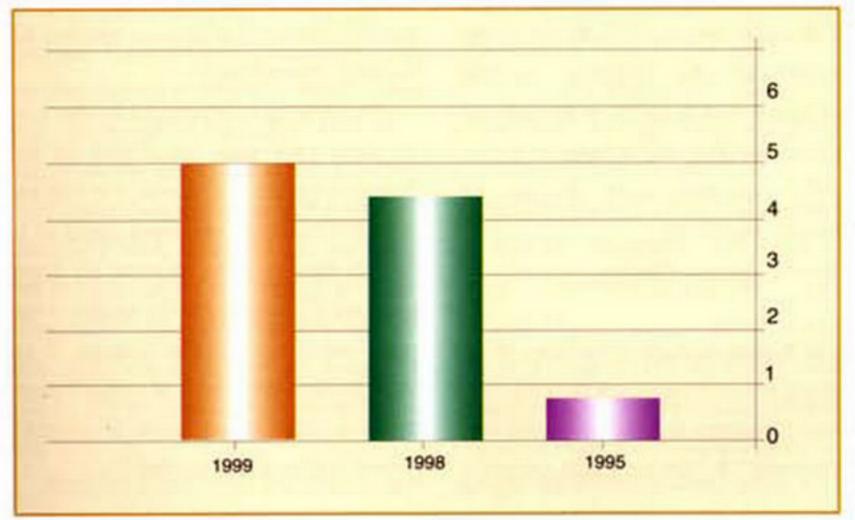
Большое значение имеет то, что проведение этих работ позволяет улучшить обеспечение природным газом жителей районов республики, живущих вдоль трассы газопровода.

\* Второй этап предусматривает строительство нового экспортного газопровода Карадаг (Сангачалы) - Казах - Грузия - Эрзурум (Турция) диаметром 1420 мм, что даст возможность экспортировать около 30 млрд. кубометров газа в год.

Нами уже приняты первые шаги по установлению контактов с соответствующими структурами в Турции и Грузии.

Очевидно, что предстоит длительный переговорный процесс, в котором важную роль будет играть опыт, приобретенный Азербайджаном в процессе переговоров по проекту Основного Экспортного Трубопровода.

Объем перевозок по евразийскому транспортному коридору 1995-1999 гг.



### AZERBAIJAN SPOTLIGHTS GAS INDUSTRY CHALLENGES



By Abid Godja ogly Sharifov

Chairman of State Construction of the Azerbaijan Republic, Vice Prime Minister of the Azerbaijan Republic, Honored Builder of the Azerbaijan Republic.

A,G,Sharifov was born in Sheki on January 6, 1940. From 1947 to 1957 he has been a student of high school No 10 in Sheki. In 1957 he went up to Technical Institute of Azerbaijan he left in 1962.

Trained as an engineer builder.

From 1962 to 1978 has worked in GlavBakStroy (Head Office of Construction Works in Baku) successively as site foreman, site engineer, senior site engineer, manager of division, general engineer of construction department. From February 1978 to July 1980 he has been senior reviewer of construction division at Administrative Department of the Azerbaijani

Government.

From 1980 to 1989
he is manager of
Trust of Azertransstroy. From 1988 to
1991, he is in
charge of designing and production
construction association of the Azertransstroy group.
From the year 1991
to 1992 he has
worked in Turkey

as deputy manager of construction department for electrification of the Cherkess-Kapykaly railway.

The 1993-1995 period - President of the state-owned company Azertransdorstroy.

From 1995 to the present time -Chairman of Gossstroy of the Azerbaijan Republic, vice Prime Minister of the Government of the Azerbaijan Republic.

A.G.Sharifov headed the construction of such important facilities of the republic as the building of the Presidency, the building of Ministry of National Security, the Absheron Hotel, railroad running from Evlakh to Belokany ans so on.

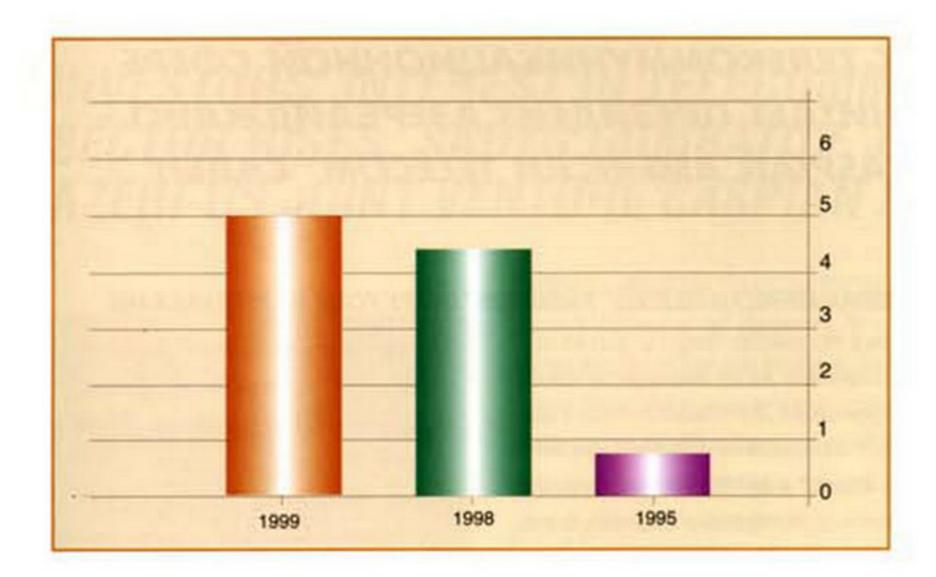
Married, has two children.

One of basic moments in the cause of the Great Silk Way recovery was certainly the international Conference in Baku, which was held on September 7-8, 1998 and a Main agreement on transport, which was adopted at it. The ways of how to carry the agreement into effect were outlined in an appropriate decree by His Excellency President of the Azerbaijan Republic.

By way, the accord was enacted into law by Azerbaijan, Georgia, Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan, Bulgaria and entered into effect on May 23, 1999. Ukraine and Romania also get the document ready for ratification. For some while past there is some growth in an interest in the project on the party of other countries, including the USA. On July 14, 1999 Law on the Great Silk Way strategy was passed by the US Congress. The exclusively economic strategy certainly aims at expansion of mutual cooperation between Europe and Asia. We hope that it will further a peace settlement of armed conflicts, including the conflicts in the Caucasus.

Before this year is out, in Tbilisi it is planned to hold the first organization meeting on TRACECA. On September 28 this year in Brussels the European Union issued an appropriate tender. A work on setting up TRACECA's Secretariat was begun and European Union allocated \$1.1 million for these purposes. Azerbaijan allocated a business premises for the body accommodation.

From 1996 up to today about 9 million tons of goods have been transported via the EuroAsian corridor. For example, if in 1995 the amount of the freight movement surged up to 396,000 tons of cargo, in 1998 the figure exceeded 4.2 million tons. The amount of this year's freight movement is expected to be about 5 million tons. Crude oil carried through the Aktau-Batumi route accounts for around 60 percent of all goods transported.



The earnings of the republic's transport sector from the corridor amounted to around US\$42 million. As it was provided by the multifaceted Main Agreement, we much watered down tax procedures, repealed VAT, expanded a variety and the number of goods to be carried. We also take measures to ensure the security of the cargoes moved and their delivery in time.

This July we conducted a meeting in Aktau with transport ministers of Georgia and Kazakhstan. On the basis of its results, an intergovernmental Memorandum on creating of favorable conditions for the transit of all kinds of cargoes via the states. The Kazakh party was also committed to considering the opportunity to add a reservation pertaining preferential fees to the Main Agreement.

A number of actions was slated to cut harbour fees, to deepen the seabed and renovate
the ferry passage at the port of Aktau. A towboat was leased by the port of Aktau from
Azerbaijan. We also agreed to form a joint trilateral commission on the matters that are of no
delay. As a result, from July 1 this year a ship
has been plied once a week through the BakuAktau route. In the past three months over 100
cars (2,000 tons of cargo, mainly foods) and
about 3,000 passengers were carried by the
ship.

When we speak about the outlooks and

problems of oil and gas sector, the questions dealing with crude oil production, transport and export are above all raised. In doing so, the challenges of gas industry as if recede in the background. Objectively, it is explained by what the amount annually produced gas in the country is only 6 billion cubic meters. The amount can hardly meet the republic's domestic needs.

The present things start to turn around. The results of some studies carried out in the Caspian Sea offshore Azerbaijan by experts from the world's major oil companies show that there are significant gas reserves here. It is enough to say that only the natural gas reserves in the Shah-deniz are estimated at over 700 billion cubic meters. Given the realities, Azerbaijan President Heydar Aliyev has signed an order to set up a working group to solve problems relevant to the organization of gas export to world markets from the Shahdeniz the area off Azerbaijan's Caspian coast. Socar's execs, the representatives of foreign oil companies that are members of the Shahdeniz consortium as well as A.Asadov, an aide to Azerbaijan President were included in the group. I was commissioned to lead the group.

According our experts' opinion, Turkey is the most promising and real market for Azeri gas. In doing so, Georgia will be a transit country. To fully meet the republic's domestic needs for gas and to tap into world markets, it would be better to carry out the work in two phases.

\*The first phase includes renovation of the Azerbaiijani and Georgian gas transport system. It encompasses the upgrade and refurbishment of the Kazi-Magomed - Kazakh gas pipeline long 416km within Azerbaijan up to the border with Georgia, the Kalmass underground gas storage facility and that of three compressor stations as well as the construction of a 1220 mm new gas pipeline.

In the territory of Georgia one will have to refurbish a gas pipeline section running from the border with Georgia to the Saguramao compressor station, involving the upgrade of the compressor station itself. It is also needed to build a gas pipeline stretching from Saguramo to the Turkey-Georgia border. Emphasis is laid upon what the works completed will allow to improve gas supply of the residents of the republic's regions lying along the gas line.

\* The second phase provides for the construction of the new Karadag (Sangachaly) -Kazakh - Georgia - Erzerum (Georgia) export gas pipeline having a diameter of 1420mm. It will enable to export about 30 billion cubic meters of gas per year.

We have taken first moves to establish contacts with appropriate organizations of Turkey and Georgia.

It is evident that we will have to have a long negotiating process, in which the experience acquired by Azerbaijan in talks over the Main Export Pipeline project will play a great role.

### ИНТЕРЕС ИНВЕСТОРОВ К ТЕЛЕКОММУНИКАЦИОННОЙ СФЕРЕ ЭКОНОМИКИ PACTET, СЧИТАЕТ ПРЕЗИДЕНТ АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНО - АМЕРИКАНСКОГО СП "CASPIAN AMERICAN TELECOM" САДЫГ ГУМБАТОВ



До конца 1999 года число абонентов беспроводной фиксированной телефонной связи, предоставляемой совместным предприятием (СП) "Caspian American Telecom" (САТ), достигнет 7 тыс. человек в Азербайджане.

В настоящее время сетью беспроводной связью охвачено 6 тыс. человек при общей мощности АТС- 47 в 16 тыс. номеров.

После того, как будут исчерпаны емкости АТС- 47, САТ предполагает задействование новых - АТС- 48, АТС-49, АТС- 43. При этом общая мощность может быть доведена до 50 тыс. номеров. В перспективных планах компании - оказание услуг 150 тыс. абонентам республики.

Как известно, беспроводная связь является пока единственным видом услуг, предоставляемых "Caspian American Telecom". Дальнейшее укрепление позиций компании на азербайджанском рынке предусматривает предоставление других видов связи. Не исключено, что в дальнейшем спектр услуг будет включать мобильную, селлюлярную связь, кабельное телевидение и интернет.

Для населения страны основным преимуществом беспроводной связи, является возможность установки квартирных теле-

#### "CASPIAN AMERICAN TELECOM" PACШИРЯЕТ СФЕРУ УСЛУГ В АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНЕ

фонов в тех районах Баку, где еще не осуществлена или же не планируется полная телефонизация. Это относится к пос. "Гарачухур", жилмассивам "Новые Гюнешли", "Ени Ясамал" и др. Абонентная плата для квартирных телефонов составляет 5 долларов в месяц при установочном тарифе 99 долларов США. При этом для ветеранов и инвалидов Великой Отечественной и карабахской войн, одиноких пенсионеров введена система льгот.

#### инвестиционная деятельность

Интерес инвесторов к телекоммуникационной сфере азербайджанской экономики достаточно высок. Это показала прошедшая недавно в Вашингтоне под эгидой американо-азербайджанской торговой палаты третья ежегодная выставка-конференция "Азербайджан накануне 21 века".

Несмотря на то, что особое внимание на форуме уделялось нефтяной и газовой промышленности республики, особый интерес вызвала и тема развития в AP системы телекоммуникаций.

В конференции приняли участие такие американские компании, как Omni Communications, Metromedia International

Group, Motorola, Teleglobe и др. Эти компании уже занимаются бизнесом в Азербайджане и сегодня уже готовы представить правительству республики новые проекты.

В ходе пребывания руководства САТ в "Caspian American Telecom" было учреждено в 1999 году Министерством связи AP и американской Отпі Меtromedia Caspian Ltd., являющейся первой компанией, получившей лицензию по установке беспроводной связи на телекоммуникационном рынке Азербайджана. После выхода Минсвязи из учредительства во всех своих СП (в конце этого года), его место в САТ займут производственные объединения "Азтелеком", Бакинская городская телефонная станция.

США, проведен ряд встреч с руководством телекоммуникационных компаний, проявивших интерес к АР. Все они планируют начать переговоры с Министерством связи республики на предмет создания новых бизнес-структур в Азербайджане.

На стабильность роста инвестиционного рейтинга телекоммуникационной сферы Азербайджана указывают и намечающиеся переговоры в Баку с представителями ведущих телекоммуникационных компаний США, в их числе - Vertex, Lucent Tehnologies, Hughes Netvork System.



### INVESTORS' INTEREST IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTOR RISES, SADYG GUMBATOV, PRESIDENT OF AZERI-US JOINT VENTURE CASPIAN AMERICAN TELECOM



Before this year is out, the number of subscribers of wireless unmovable telephone communications, on which joint venture Caspian American Telecom (CAT) provides services, will surges to 7,000 people in Azerbaijan. At the moment, 6,000 people are covered by the wireless telephone network with a total capacity of 16,000 numbers the automated exchange stations-47 used.

After the stations-47 are fully to capacity, CAT suggests to bring innovative stations type of ATS-48, ATS-49, ATS-43 on stream. So, the total capacity can be increased to 50,000 customers. In its prospective plans the company intends to provide the services to 150,000 customers in the republic.

As it is known, the wireless telecommunication is the only kind of services for just now,
provided by Caspian American Telecom. The
company aims to leverage its marketing position to boost its competitive advantage in growing Azeri market for telecommunications. The
policy of its marketing activities provides for
other kinds of telecommunication services. It is
not unlikely that a variety of services will
include mobile, cellular telecommunications,
cable television and Internet. A main advantage of wireless telecommunications for the

CASPIAN AMERICAN TELECOM PROVIDES A WIDER VARIETY OF SERVICES IN AZERBAI-

country's citizens is an opportunity to have phones installed in their flats located in the districts of Baku, where usual telephone communication is not yet effected or is not planned to be done in general. It applies to the settling of Garachukhur and dwelling areas - Novye Guneshli, Yeni Yasamaly and others. Subscription rate for home phones is \$5 per month. A phone installation fee is US\$99. Fringe benefits are provided for veterans and invalids of the Great Patriotic War and Karabakh War, and for retire pensioners living alone.

#### INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES

Investors' interest in telecommunications sector of Azeri economy is rather high. The third annual exhibition-conference entitled Azerbaijan On the Eve of the 21st Century recently held in Washington under the aegis of US -Azeri Chamber of Commerce demonstrated this. Despite the fact that special attention was focused on the republic's upstream oil and gas industry, the theme of developing the telecommunications system in the Azerbaijan Republic aroused a keen interest.

Such US companies as Omni Communications, Metromedia International

Group, Motorola,
Teleglobe and others
participated in the conference. The companies
have already doing business in Azerbaijan. They
are already ready to submit new projects to the

Caspian American Telecom was established in 1999 by the Communication Ministry of the Azerbaijan Republic and US company - Omni Metromedia Caspian Ltd. The latter is the first company to which a license to install wireless telephones in Azerbaijan was granted. After the Ministry of Communications ceases to be a parent company in all of its joint ventures at the end of this year, productions associations - Aztelecom, the Baku town telephone station - will take its place in CAT.

Government of Azerbaijan.

During a visit of SAT's brass to the USA, it met the management teams of the companies that have showed an interest in the Azerbaijan Republic. All of them plan to have talks with the republic's Communication Ministry to establish new businesses in Azerbaijan. The proposed negotiations in Baku with US leading telecommunications companies, including Vertex, Lucent Technologies, Hughes Network System are indicative of a sustained growth in an investment rating of Azerbaijan's telecommunications segment.



# INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AN INVESTOR TO WANT TO COME TO ONLY BAKU, MANY PROBLEMS HAVE TO BE SOLVED



By Eldaniz Lagichev

Eldaniz Lagichev, in charge of foreign
investments for Baku's town council
Investment contributions to development of
Baku have their own history.

Let us remember that at the outset of the century active town planning and industry development in Baku was related to a foreign capital. At the beginning of the century oil attracted investors to Baku. It also furthered the town's prosperity and global glory. The contribution of such oil tycoons as the Nobel brothers and Rothschild, whose names have been perpetuated in the town's history, to the town development is significant. The Swedish Nobels completed with the French branch of the Rothschilds to dominate the Azeri oil boom during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The buildings, which were erected in these years of the Azeri oil boom and which are a decoration of the town, bearing painted records of 100 years of the "oil" culture, gives a specific beauty to the town.

After gaining Azerbaijan's independency, Baku again became to attract foreign investors. To tackle the problems of the town's public utilities, the industry upturn, establishment of market-based relations, the town needs investments. Over the past 3-4 years their amount increasingly rises. No doubt, is is due to a political stability having been reached in the country and the economic reforms having been implemented, which led to achieving a macroeconomic stability. All this was reached thank to instant efforts made by Azerbaijan Republic

Heydar Aliyev. An appropriate legal framework was created. The republic's laws on foreign investments protection and economic relations regulation is progressive and meet international standards. All this makes up a reliable ground for attracting foreign investment institutions.

I would like to note that over the past 5-6 years, the town's executive authorities have taken many actions enough to attract direct foreign investments to implement the urban programs in such spheres as construction, trade, providing paid services, urban infrastructure. It is enough to say that only in the year 1995 to 1998 more than USD2 billion were put up for the building projects, with \$1.5 billion, or more than 70 percent, being accounted for foreign investments. With equity participation of the town's executive authorities seven joint ventures were formed. The projects provide for several tens of dollars in investment. Azeri-German joint venture "UP-Azerbaijan", Azeri-Finnish JV KASCO, which specialize in households' solid waste disposal, have already been operating and quicken their rate, so Azeri-Czech JV "Bakenergo" and JV "Bakkan". To date, the total sum of investments over the town enterprises comes to more than \$4 million. The total amount of investments increasingly rises. For example, initially, the JV KASCO plans to invest about USD\$20 million, and in the second phase the sum will surge to over \$100 million.

In recent years, large hotels, supermarkets and entertainment facilities, shopping centers conforming to international standards were brought on stream.

For many years one of the town's challenges was the public transport. The transport sector faced serious problems, including considerable inefficiencies due to inadequate pricing system and regulations and poor institutional organization. Many transport assets were old and in poor condition or have exceeded their service life. Their worked day ended already after seven in the evening. The number of routes were limited. It caused displeasure of the town's residents. We were pressed for our own money and therefore we were set on involving foreign businessmen in the sector. And we got there. In the year 1997 to 1999 more than USD20 million were put into the public passenger transport, more than 1000 buses and about 2000 taxi-cars were imported in Baku. Now it seems probable that the town has surplus in transport assets. It resulted in a sound rivalry and the urban sector has benefited from the competition. It should be noted that the coming of foreign investors made for stimulating local businessmen and now they are also involved in solving the transport problem.

To tackle the problems, before attracting foreign investors we actively established ties with foreign companies and missions and representatives offices, embassies operating in Baku. We have to have numerous meetings, negotiations and familiarize ourselves with projects, to dovetail the terms and conditions of agreements. We found soon that the scope of the work is very great, given the town dimensions, the complexity of the problem. In addition, we understood that we must not simply resolve separate problems. It is essential to have an integral and perspective viewing and a combined approach. As a whole, we have had to develop investment policy for the town and the coordination of the interested people's actions. The comprehension of the need for the investment-policy-making led to the formation of a Department that was given sufficiently big authorities to decide tasks of providing services of vital to a big town's life.

Periodically, mass media gives information on activities, negotiations, meetings held at the Department. But to talk about the Department activities in more detail, I would like to say the following. Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan is populated with more than 2.5 million of people and the area occupied by it is over 21,000 sq km. Like many towns of the former Soviet Union, Baku inherited greatly a neglected, outmoded and old infrastructure that fell into disrepair. The health care and social sphere faces many problems. We granted top priorities to the upgrade and refurbishment of the town utilities, including water, electricity and heat supply,

waste disposal, waste water cleaning, resources saving, town roads and underwater communications. Please, turn attention to what local businessmen were powerless to resolve the problems. Their solution required significant funds and the wide scope of the works. But the main thing was that advanced technologies were needed, which we do not have at our disposal. While prioritizing the lines, we are proceeding from the following criteria: influence on human health, economic impact and a reduction in the harm environmental impact.

We must stipulate one thing at once. None of the countries from the former Soviet Union is currently in a position to solve the problems that are vital to them without outside help. The moving to a state, the economy of which is based on market-oriented principles and the society of which is developed in accordance with democratic norms, can procrastinate for many years and make the task more challenging and, in doing so, be attended by social outbreaks. Foreign investments, backing by international financial institutions and private capital are able to speed up positive processes and make them less painful.

The town authorities inherited the worn-out and obsolete utilities, the upgrade of which requires both a lot of money and advanced technologies. In the first place, we pay attention on the refurbishment of the town utilities, the execution of projects of social importance and having effect on a upturn of economy. After a global fall in the investors' activities in 1998 and early in 1999 as a result of the Russian and Asian economic and financial turmoil from the second half of 1999, a rise in an interest in investing in the economies of the developing countries is predicted.

However, it does not mean that foreign investors will come to Azerbaijan without our efforts. For investors to want to come to only Baku, it is vital to solve many problems: further strengthening of the republic's financial system, the confirmation of guarantees under a law. In general, all this forms a favorable investment climate.

Unfortunately, there is the need to overcome the resistance of some local officials who not always act on the basis of the protection of national interests and often associate their public and their private life.

Thus, the Department is above all involved in the investment projects which are vital to the town's activity and which for many reasons the domestic private businessmen will not and are unable to be engaged in. In addition, foreign investors will not carry the projects into effect without a firm guarantee given by the state. We aim to that the Department should become a catalyst of collecting the town's internal resources. All this gears up the development significantly.

The work being done is already successful. A work of the Berliner Vasser Betribe, the German company, on a feasibility report for upgrading the town's sewage system comes to an end. The project is a large-scale one. It is enough to say that even in the first stage it is assumed to put about USD\$110 million into the project and the total sum must run up to more than \$1 billion in investment. To modernize the town power supply system, Japanese experts have already launched to study its technical condition in a number of the town's districts. Bakenergy, the Azeri-Czech joint venture, operates in the Nizami district. Investment in the district is over \$70 million. After preliminary talks, we have a principal consent and earlier this September a protocol of intentions was entered into with Stateverke Leipzig GMbH, the German company, for the formation of a joint venture to upgrade and refurbish the power and heating supply system. In the first phase, the work will be done only in one district, namely, the Sabunchi district, Further it is contemplated to expand the activities in the territory of other districts as well. The proposals by OTB Vivendi (France) and PIA Holding International (the Czech Republic) is under consideration on upgrading the purification facilities, a group of Vinsan (Turkey) and Alarco (Turkey) is involved in refurbishing the sewage system and water supply, NIPPON (Japan) works on the transport infrastructure, Morrison Construction of the UK is being built a Hilton hotel and other facilities. Dealing with many problems, we seek to proceed from making the most of local resources and sometimes to take the local climate into consideration. One of the old names of Baku is Badi Kube. It is interpreted as a town of winds.

The capital's residents know well that most of days in a year are windy. Even there is a film that is named Winds Are Blowing In Baku. It occurred to me that natural power of wind can be used for power generation by using wind generators with a minimal power of 20 MWT. Engineers, advisers and contractors from such European countries as the Great Britain and

Germany were be involved in the project. The project suggests to install three framings for the wind power generators and to supply 320 substations and 50,000 units feeding electricity into dwellings and to lay low-voltage overhead and underground cables long 750km. According to preliminary assessments, the project costs are put at over USD\$120 millions. Participation of a group of Japanese companies in upgrading and developing the town's transport sector is under negotiation and study. It encompasses the laying of roads, the contraction of bridges and underpasses and overpasses, the replacement of old and the laying of new railroads and branches.

Very interesting proposals on households' solid waste collection and disposal were received from RPP company of Germany. After familiarizing themselves with a state of the operations in the town, experts from the company suggested quite an innovative approach and the latest technology of disposing rubbish after which no waste remains and there is no need for a dump. The more so, each of waste fractions will be applied in economy sectors and bring in a profit. A significance of the Baku seafront boulevard to the town's residents and guests is well known. Thousands of them spend a good time here every day. However, its present condition troubles very much the town executives.

This worry is highlighted by a special decree of President Heydar Aliyev by which the boulevard is awarded a status of National Park and particular tasks were set to upgrade it. A project for innovating the boulevard and the town's adjacent part has been developed by architects. But large investments will be required to carry the project into effect. So, an involvement of foreign investors is one of our first rate tasks.

There are many projects and ideas. All of them aim to provide a reliable functioning of infrastructure and future upturn in the economy. The Department's activity aims to create and ensure favorable conditions for foreign investors' work. We offer win-win cooperation.

# FIRE PROTECTION IS INTEGRAL PART OF SUCCESSFUL DELIVERING OF AZERBAIIJAN'S INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS



MURAD GUSEINOV, Fire Chief in charge of General Fire Department for the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Azerbaijan Republic.

Like natural calamities, fires have the same huge devastating power. They destroy what has been created for many tens of years. First fires at oilfields owned by Azeri oil tycoons in the 19th century were a real disaster thwarting the development of the oilfields. The present technologies applied in the contract areas of the Azerbaijani sector of the Caspian Sea much rule out the outbreaks of such calamities. However, as it is said, an accident takes place once and firemen must be ready to prevent its occurrence. Therefore Azeri firefighters' work remaining in the shadow at the usual time is highlighted in the case of emergency, which occurs suddenly and, as a result, demands that fire services should be in a state alert at all times.

#### AZERBAIJAN FIRE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHMENT

Decree on Mandatory Fire-Prevention and Fire

The Azerbaijan Fire Department passed a long way in its development. A concept to organize the fire department and then the need to provide fire protection for oilfields in Azerbaijan arose in the late 70s and in the early 80s of the 19th century. It is the historical period that is characteristic of vigorous growth in Azerbaijan's economy in which oil production, its processing and transportation were a dominant sector. It is interesting to note that if in the early 70s of the 19th Century, following the development of oil industry in Baku and its adjacent regions, 12 oil companies operated, by the end of the 19th century their number reached 140. For a short time, a lot of money has been put up by its Russian and foreign owners for the Baku oil industry. In parallel with a rise in oil production, the oil tycoons continued upgrading, restoring, remodeling and refurbishing old oil equipment and facilities in the oil industry. So its potential rose. In the late 70s in the district of Balakhany the first oil pipeline was brought on stream. And by the end of the 19th century the total length of the yet laid pipelines ran up to more than 300 km. At the same time, storage tanks and rail tanks were begun to be built. First fires in Baku and their ever-increasing occurrences, huge damages and losses from them and above all the inability to take fire prevention gave rise to the keen needs for fire service. In first place, it was necessary to develop appropriate programs and make important decisions on the matter. One of the important stages in the making of fire protection in Azerbaijan should be considered the event that happened on March 6, 1884. A Safety Regulations were passed by Baku City Council on that day. The decree entered into effect on April 29, 1884. The historic date should be regarded as the day of the formation of Azerbaijan's fire service. The fire service passed a glorious and fighting way of development and made progress in the fire protection for lives and property in the Republic. At the moment, there is the fire service in each district of the Republic and Baku. After the USSR's collapse, close contacts continue with the firemen of the former Soviet Union on exchange of experience, innovative technologies and innovations in firefighting and fire safety and protection.

#### THE CONTRACT OF THE CENTURY

At the same time, after signing the contract of the century, between Azerbaijan's leadership and world's major oil companies, on the one hand, close friendly relatiobns were established between the General Fire Department for the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Azerbaijan Republic and the firefighters of the countries participating in well-known projects for producing, developing and transporting crude oil, on the other hand. As the contracts with major petroleum companies are of economic importance to Azerbaijan, it is evident that the task of providing fire protection for all the facilities offshore is highlighted. The SOCAR Fire Department is engaged in fighting fires at the facilities of the Azerbaijan State Oil Сотрапу.

The SOCAR Fire Department has both specialized and auxiliary firefighting equipment and apparatus that is able to extinguish fires of various kinds. Among them are nine fireboats type of Vikhr able to put fires out in the Caspian Sea offshore Azerbaijan if they break out as well as firefighting apparatus adapted to extinguish fires in high-rise buildings and gas gushes, fire hose reels systems, automatic pump stations.

Understanding temporary difficulties in the republic's economy and the plight of the Azeri Community and adhering to friendly relations between the firefighters of Azerbaijan and the Great Britain, the British Government (former Prime Minister John Major) presented gratis 80 fire engines to Azerbaijan's firefighters. It used to give gratis the Azerbaijan Fire Department self-contained breathing apparatus, compressor stations and another firefighting equipment



necessary for firemen to provide fire and emergency service to the public such as evacuating people and extinguishing various fires. The process lasts up to today.

On the ground of the Camp of the Azerbaijan Fire Department a training center was built in the settlement of Guzdek. The fire simulated and rescue complex meets all international standards and did not have lookalikes in the CIS countries. This sophisticated training center allows firefighters to practise every conceivable types of fire and emergency rescue procedures within a controlled environment.

In an expertise of Projects for early oil production and the northern and western oil pipelines construction the organization of communications between the facilities of the north-

ern and western pipelines and the questions of interaction between the Azerbaijan Fire Department and the indicated facilities are given particular attention.

A plan of interaction and calls of fire divisions to the facilities in case of

the fire outbreaks was worked out and approved. The plan is reconsidered in a periodical manner and in case of necessity appropriate amendments are made to it.

Experts of fire defence service in conjunction with the Consortium's representatives inspect fire prevention and the necessary advices and recommendations are given at the facilities of the oil pipelines.

Valiant actions of our firemen, who decided to

put the flame out blazing inside a storage tank

itself, allowed them to extinguish the fire. It

saved the Turkish town from the environmen-

tal catastrophe.

Like the oil pipelines, Azerbaijan's gas pipelines are also under a control of firefighters. The Azerbaijan Fire Department has a division that effects defensive firefighting operations, conducts periodical fire protection inspections and gives fire service, fire protection and fire prevention recommendations and so on.

#### FROM HISTORY OF FIREFIGHTING

On July 14, i982 a conflagration occurred at the Novo-Bakinsky oil refinery. The complexity of putting it out was that a strong gas and gasoline blowout took place at a high pressure from one of pumpers of facility, where a process of burning was proceeding. A rapid and large spread of gasoline through industrial sewage

pipes all over the territory occupied by the pump unit made firefighters' operations difficult. 25 fire trucks and about 80 firemen took part in extinguishing the fire. Within a few hours,

the fire was localized and put out. Fire damages were one million of roubles.

On May 26, 1989 a fire broke out at a deepwater offshore platform owned by Caspmorneftegas (the Caspian Sea Oil and Gas Production Association). The gas-oil mixture gushed from the broken 12-inch oil pipeline at a pressure of 27 atm. The mixture inflamed at once. As a result of strong burning and high temperature the second floor and all BOP equipment placed on the platform fell down. The fire zone covered an area of 1200-1300 sq m and at the time of the fire fighting the rate of wind was 25m/s and the height of wave was 5-6 meters. The firefighting boats type of Vikhr and 70 firefighters were involved in extinguishing the fire.

#### GEORGRAPHY OF WORK

The Azerbaijan Fire Department was always involved in firefighting all over the world. Among them were firefighting in Kuwait, Afghanistan, former GDR. More recently, 10 staffers of the Azerbaijan Fire Department took part in extinguishing a fire erupted in Turkey as a result of the earthquake.

Apart from Azeri firefighters, firemen from France, Bulgaria, England, fought the fire broken out at an oil storage facility. But only valiant actions of our firemen, who decided to put the flame out blazing inside a storage tank, allowed them to extinguish the fire. It saved the town from the environmental catastrophe because a plant producing chemicals was in close proximity to the oil storage facility. It should be noted that the fire techniques of firefighting applied by our firemen are distinguished from the ones used by firefighters from other countries. The main distinction is that rescue operations are effected near a burning object. It enables to timely to localize a center of inflammation.

# KOPOTKO O LAGBHOM

ОЭТ

\* 22.10.99: Нефтяная компания ВР Атосо - крупнейший участник Азербайд-жанской Международной Операционной Компании (34,1367%), разрабатывающей морские меторождения "Азери-Чыраг-Гюнешли", объявила 19 октября о поддержке нефтепровода Баку-Джейхан.

Представитель ВР Атосо заявил: "Мы пришли к заключению, что нефтепровод Баку-Джейхан является стратегическим транспортным маршрутом и должен быть построен". Тот же источник сказал, что компания хочет способствовать поиску путей финансирования этого проекта.

\* 22.10.99: Министр энергетики Турции Джумхур Эрсумер полагает, что нефтепровод Баку-Джейхан заработает в 2005 году, а не в 2003, как это ожидалось ранее. Эрсумер сказал, что в Турции знали о решении ВР Атосо поддержать этот проект еще неделю назад, но ждали официального объявления.

" 03.11.99:"Сегодня я с уверенностью могу сказать, что пакет Соглашений по Основному экспортному трубопроводу (ОЭТ) Баку-Тбилиси-Джейхан будет подписан в ходе проведения саммита ОБСЕ в Стамбуле, и это стало возможным после того, как консорциум (АІОС - ред.) согласился взять на себя гарантии по возможным сверхбюджетным расходам на территории Азербайджана и Грузии", - заявил 1 ноября вечером президент Азербайджана Гейдар Алиев в Анкаре, выступая на церемонии вручения

ему Международной премии мира имени Ататюрка в президентском дворце "Джанкая".

\* 03.12.99: Главное внимание в ходе переговоров президентов Азербайджана и Болгарии Гейдара Алиева и Петра Стоянова, находящегося с официальным визитом в Баку, было уделено возможности транзита через Болгарию азербайджанской нефти и газа в Европу.

03.12.99: Азербайджан не рассматривал вопрос о привлечении сил НАТО к охране трубопровода Баку-Джейхан. Об этом заявил журналистам первый вице-президент ГНКАР Ильхам Алиев.

"Мы считаем, что мы сами в состоянии обеспечить безопасность трубопровода на территории Азербайджана", - сказал Алиев. Он также исключил возможность того, что вопрос трубопровода Баку-Джейхан может повысить шансы Азербайджана быть принятым в НАТО.

#### ГНКАР

 01.10.99: По прогнозам Министерства экономики республики, иностранные инвестиции в нефтяной сектор Азербайджана в 2000 году составят \$ 930 млн.

Эта сумма больше, чем прогнозируемый объем инвестиций в нефтяной сектор в этом году, а также имевший место в прошлом году.

 04.10.99: В 2000 году Азербайджан прогнозирует экспортировать на мировые рынки 1 млн 200 тыс тонн нефти, которую получит в рамках реализации первого нефтяного контракта ГНКАР с участием иностранных компаний - "АзериЧыраг-Гюнешли". 1,2 млн тонн - это именно тот объем, который составит долю Азербайджана в 5,4 млн тоннах, которые прогнозирует добыть консорциум в 2000 году.

#### **ГАЗОПРОВОДЫ**

\* 22.09.99: США приложат максимум усилий для того, чтобы поставки природного газа из Центральной Азии в Турцию осуществлялись лишь по Транскаспийскому газопроводу через территории Азербайджана и Грузии, заявил специальный советник президента и госсекретаря США по вопросам освоения энергоресурсов Каспия Джон Вульф.

Вульф подчеркнул, что реализация этого и других крупных энергетических проектов будет способствовать стабилизации ситуации в регионе.

 24.09.99: Первые километры нового магистрального трубопровода для поставок российского природного газа в Турцию будут уложены уже нынешней осенью, сообщил министр промышленности и торговли Румынии Раду Берчану.

Третья по счету газовая "труба" диаметром 1200 мм пересечет румынскую территорию на 190-километровом участке и позволит почти удвоить экспорт углеводородного сырья в Юго-Восточную Европу (с нынешних 10 млрд кубометров в год до 19 млрд).

#### **КОНСОРЦИУМЫ**

22.09.99: AIOC завершила бурение 14-й эксплуатационной скважины на морской платформе "Чыраг-1". В ходе бурения впервые на Каспии применена по новейшей технологии система горизонтального бурения и отклонение от центрального ствола составило почти 4 тыс метров.

"24.09.99: В Баку прошло заседание акционеров операционной компании по разведке и разработке перспективного морского блока "Алов". На заседании обсуждалось выполнение партнерами минимальной программы обязательных работ в соответствии с подписанным PSA. Данная программа включает в себя проведение трехмерных сейсмических исследований и бурение трех разведочных скважин.

\* 15.10.99: Сбор трехмерной сейсмосъемки на перспективных структурах "Аташгях", "Янан Тава" и "Муган-Дениз" планируется провести в начале следующего года. По всей видимости, его как обычно проведет СП Caspian Geophysical с использованием нового судна Gilavar. Сбор 3D данных будет проводиться с площади 550 кв.км. Сбор, обработку и интерпретацию полученных данных планируется провести в течение 2000 года.

#### КАЗАХСТАН

\*01.11.99: Начаты строительные работы проекту КТК, на месте будущего нефтяного терминала в Новороссийске, практически завершены подготовительные работы к прокладке линейной части трубопровода от населенного пункта Комсомольская в Калмыкии до Новороссийска.

\* 08.11.99: Руководство Казахстана считает одним из приоритетных развитие экономических отношений с Японией.

Как сообщили в пресс-службе премьерминистра Казахстана, об этом глава правительства страны Касымжомарт Токаев заявил в среду в Астане на встрече с делегацией японской Marubeni, возглавляемой старшим вице-президентом компании Тетсуо Нисизака.

#### **ТУРКМЕНИСТАН**

\* 08.10.99: "Если мы не начнем строительство транскаспийского трубопровода из Туркменистана через Каспийское море, Азербайджан, Грузию в Турцию в ближайшее время, то через 6-7 месяцев мы начнем продавать газ в Иран и Россию" - заявил 6 октября президент Туркменистана Сапармурат Ниязов заместителю премьерминистра Турецкой Республики, министру энергетики и природных ресурсов Джумхуру Эргумеру, который прибыл со специальным визитом в Ашгабад.

Стараясь как можно быстрее приступить к строительству Транскаспийского трубопровода, глава Туркменистана подчеркнул, что если согласия в сроках его строительства достигнуто не будет, Туркменистан будет готов продавать газ России по ее цене \$32 за 1000 кубометров, а не по \$40, как хотел он.

 13.10.99: В Туркменистане введены новые таможенные правила на вывоз сырой нефти и природного газа.

#### РОССИЯ

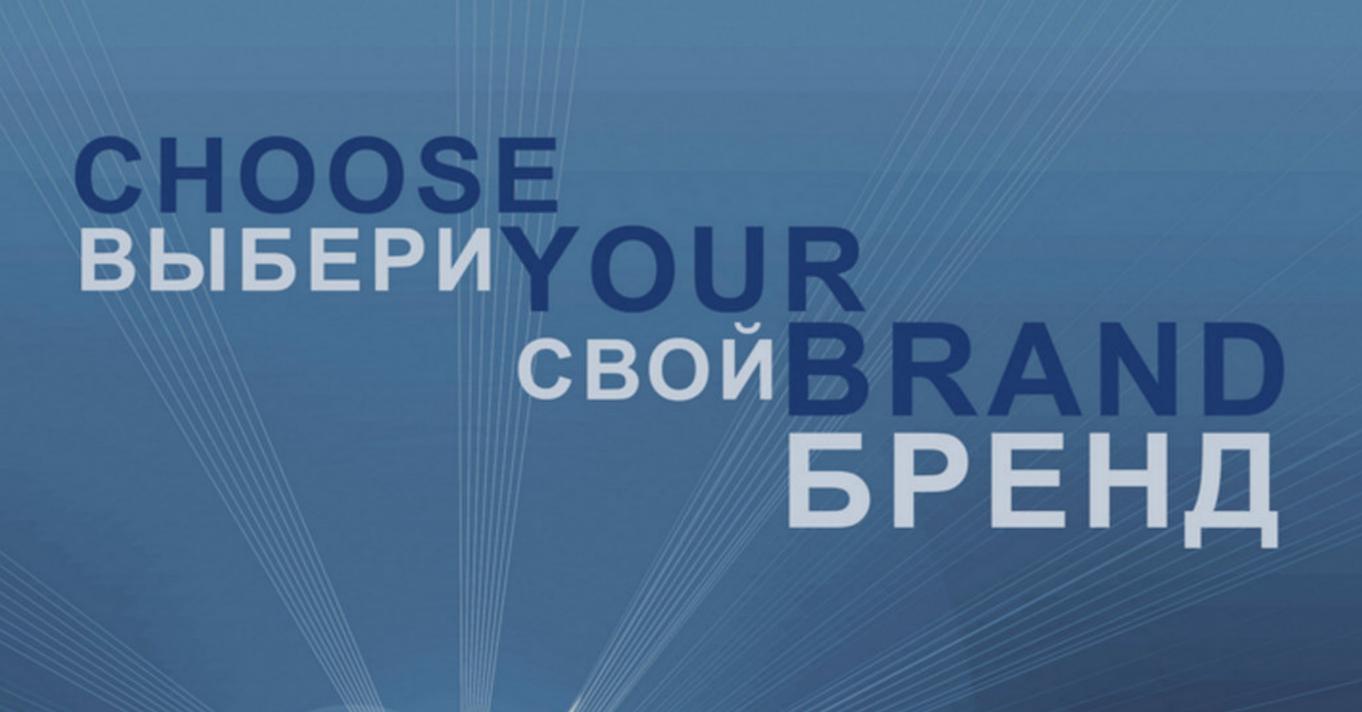
 03.11.99:Четырехсторонняя встреча
 России, Китая, Южной Кореи и Японии по проекту строительства гигантского международного газопровода, который будет поставлять природный газ из Сибири в страны Азиатско-Тихоокеанского региона, запланирована на конец текущего года. облительство обводного нефтепровода вокруг Чечни. Об этом заявил президент российской компании "Транснефть" (оператор транспортировки азербайджанской нефти на территории РФ - ред.) Семен Вайншток. "Мы начали строительство 2 недели назад и в настоящее время опережаем график работ на 8 часов, что свидетельствует о серьезности нашего подхода к данному проекту", - сказал руководитель "Транснефти".

#### КОМПАНИИ

О4.10.99: Американская Phillips

Реtroleum в октябре планирует завершить подготовку ТЭО проекта строительства в Западном Казахстане завода по производству сжиженного газа. Компания год назад взяла на себя обязательство построить завод по производству сжиженного газа, который сможет обеспечить потребности Казахстана в этом виде топлива.

08.11.99: 5 ноября в Баку был подписан Меморандум о Взаимопонимании между ГНКАР и российской компанией LUKOIL. Данный Меморандум предусматривает создание совместного предприятия между вышеназванными компаниями по реабилитации разрабатываемых месторождений, расположенных в южной части азербайджанского сектора Каспия.





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**CASPIAN ENERGY** INTEGRATION AWARD TURKEY

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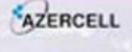
ANNOUNCE PRIORITY AREA AZERBAIJ

H.E. President of Azerbaijan Illiam Aliyev

BLACK SEA AND

BALTIC REGIONS







Cy



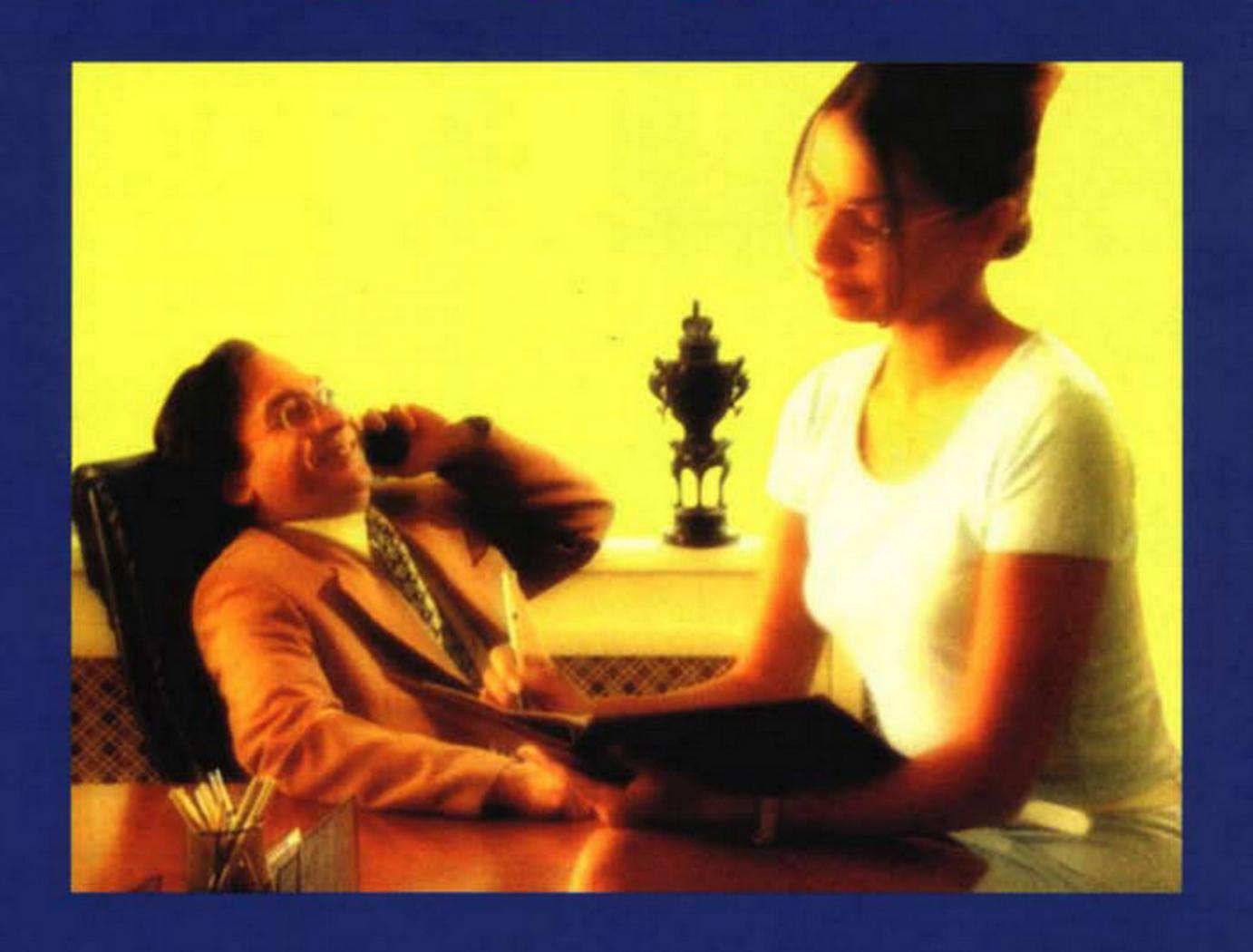






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