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4 U.S. firms apply to build gas pipelines

United Press International

OMAHA — Four major pipeline companies have filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to build an 809-mile, $1.4 billion pipeline to transport natural gas from Alberta, Canada, to midwestern and eastern U.S. markets, it was announced Monday.

The companies, filing the application under the Northern Border Pipeline Co., said the pipeline system would transport gas from the Alaskan North Slope and could be on line by the 1981-82 heating season.

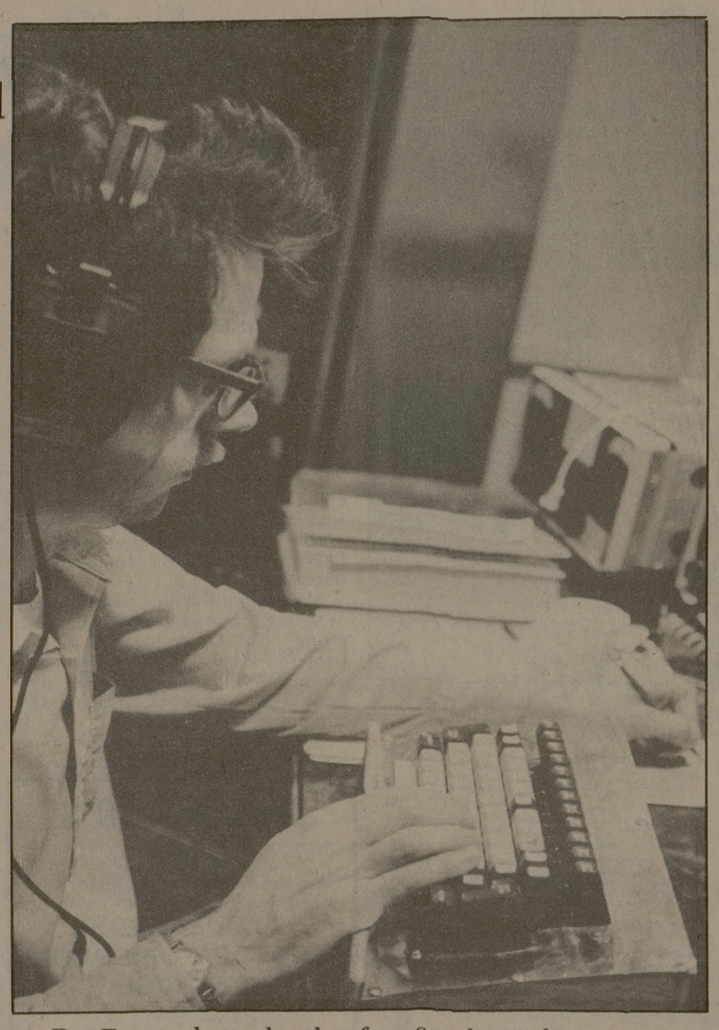
Involved in the proposed project are Northern Natural Gas Co., Omaha; Northwest Energy Co., Salt Lake City, Utah and Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Co. and United Gas Pipe Line Co., both of Houston.

The Northern Border application proposes construction of the 42-inch diameter pipeline from Port of Morgan, Mont., to a point on Northern Natural's system near Ventura, Iowa.

"Volumes of gas contracted for by United and Panhandle will be made available to them through exchange-displacement and transportation arrangements through existing pipeline systems," the companies said.

"This volume of gas is sufficient to supply approximately 2 million homes," the companies said.

The total Alaskan project, proposed to be completed in 1984, will be capable of transporting initially up to 2.4 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day from the North Slope to the United States.



Dan Eggers, doctoral student from Seattle, Wash., operates a Morse code keyboard which transmits the Morse code at a high rate of speed. Eggers is a member of the MSC Radio Committee.

Battalion photo by Becky Leake

A&M involved in annual radio emergency test

By BECKY LEAKE
Battalion Reporter

In a secluded room filled with the low-pitched hum of radio equipment, "DX Dave" listens intently to the morse code coming over the earphones telling of flash floods and tornadoes in Houston.

Pausing only to get his notes in order, he starts relaying the messages for help to other Ham operators standing by in different points all over the country.

Actually, "DX Dave" McCarty, a junior chemical engineering major from Overland Park, Kan., was participating in a national test of the Ham Radio's Emergency Broadcast System.

"The idea is to keep us on the ball," said McCarty, who earned his nickname from his skill in making contact with foreign stations, which are called DX stations by Ham operators.

Sponsored by the American Radio Relay League and CQ Magazine, the simulated emergency test is held yearly during the last week of January.

McCarty and other members of the Memorial Student Center Radio Committee used their own equipment to participate in the national test which lasted 36 hours, ending at midnight Sunday.

McCarty estimates about 100 messages were sent and received at A&M's station, W5AC, during that time. Although the messages were fake, in real emergencies, Ham radio operators work with the Red Cross and other rescue organizations locating disaster victims and informing relatives of thier w

Ham radio works on the principle as citizens band ra transmitting radio waves, eit voice or morse code.

Mark Neal, a senior nuclea neering major from Houstn he first got interested in Ha by enrolling in a course offe Free University.

Neal said the word, Ha thought to have originated words, home amateur. The definition is "a body of self- self-regulated, self-organiz serve of trained operators.

McCarty estimates the about 400,000 Ham radio op in the United States and abo operators in Brazos County.

"During the simulated gency test, operators form munications network acr country to facilitate the rapid ficient relaying of messages point to point in the U. Canada," said McCarty.

Texas A&M University radio station has been trans since the late 1800s, soon a radio was invented. The sta licensed in 1912 as W5AC.

In 1967, the students op W5AC were recognized American Radio Relay Lea their help in relaying an messages during an earthq Central America.

The cost of Ham radio eq can run into thousands of d the more advanced equipm cording to McCarty, about inexpensive way to get st Ham radio operation is to MSC Radio Committee. T $7 fee per semester to equipment.

Iran turmoil affects U.S. oil inventories

The disruption of oil impo Iran is beginning to have affect on the American co industry spokesmen say.

Industry officials say the turmoil that has virtually sh Iran's oilfields in recent mo tributed to a drop in to crude oil inventories below lion barrels in the week end 19 — the lowest point sin 1977.

One major company nounced plans to ration de all kinds of gasoline, two o ready had been allocating brands and still another said it may have to impose cent cutback in supplies to in February.

The latest figures for gas heating oil inventories, are at levels the industry acceptable.

Still, Texaco Inc. asked received permission Thurs the Energy Department gasoline allocations to throughout the country, to February 1978 levels partly because of the disru imports from Iran.

The United States had porting about 900,000 b crude daily from Iran — percent of America's imp roughly 5 percent of its p needs.

But that total has been drastically. Iran's produc been so damaged by oilfield finery strikes that Iran has porting refined products United States.

Shell plans to drop ratio month. Amoco will decid next week if it should con allocation program.

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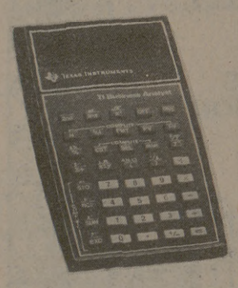
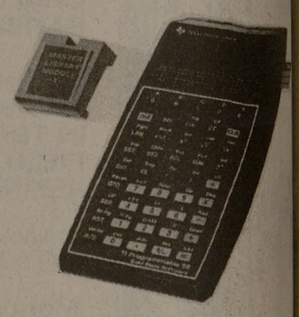
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