

# Expert says oil reserves low



by Ed Alanis

**Battalion Reporter**  
The U.S. will use up 25 percent of its national energy reserves between now and the year 2000, says former Secretary of Energy Charles Duncan, Jr., and because of this new reserves and alternatives must be sought.

Duncan, currently the president of a group of energy related companies in Houston, gave a program on "Energy Perspectives" to the agricultural engineering graduate seminar Thursday.

To effectively deal with today's energy uncertainty, Duncan said there were three things that had to be done.

First, the U.S. must maximize domestic oil exploration. Then, the nation's strategic petroleum

reserve must be increased at a much more rapid pace. With today's oil glut, the reserve could be increased rapidly with little burden on the tax payer, Duncan says.

Finally, Duncan said the U.S. and the world must develop alternatives to oil and gas. However, corporations are reluctant to invest in alternative energy projects because of what Duncan termed as a "see-saw effect" in political policy. That is, frequent changes in the national energy policy.

Duncan stressed a need for continuity in the energy policy, especially from administration to administration. Having been secretary of energy under the Carter administration, he was disappointed to see the major changes in energy policy made

by President Reagan.

Duncan spoke of a transition taking place in the world — a transition from oil and gas to alternative energy sources. The question is no longer should we make this transition, because the transition is being made whether we like it or not, Duncan said. The question now is how to manage this transition, he says.

"It has not been managed well in the past and it is not being managed well now," Duncan said. Nuclear power can be developed safely, he believes, and solar power is a must for the immediate future.

"We cannot be energy isolationists," Duncan said, pointing out that the U.S. will depend heavily on oil imports until alter-

native energy sources replace it completely.

Duncan said it was wrong to think the oil crisis was gone for good — the U.S. should expect tension in the Middle East and plan its energy policy accordingly.



# UCSD scientist discusses various ocean experiments

by Julie Ennis

**Battalion Reporter**  
"Oceanography is an under-sampled science," Dr. Walter H. Munk, a professor at the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at the University of California at San Diego, said Thursday night in the Memorial Student Center.

Munk said investigating oceans requires infinite amounts of data and many hours, months, days and sometimes years of tedious work and planning.

Munk, who has been with the Institute since 1947, is the second in a series of four lecturers sponsored by the University Lecture Series.

Munk, addressing about 200 people, discussed various experiments that have been completed involving new methods of exploring the oceans.

He discussed the effects of sound speed on temperature and pressure changes in the ocean, and more specifically on the measurement of sound propagation over very long distances.

He described steep rays and flat rays of sound that move through the ocean depths after a disturbance. Steep rays are those that undulate from the bottom of the ocean to the top.

Flat rays, like their name, move on a stable plane.

Using steep and flat ray data obtained from experiments using satellite saucers and receivers, Munk said, scientists are able to locate slow-moving weather-like features in the oceans by recording the amount of time that the sound takes to be picked up by the receivers.

Once the data is collected three questions must be answered, he said.

• Can the individual arrivals be resolved? (pulsing sound movements picked up by receptors?)

• Once resolved could they be identified?

• Are the results stable or consistent over months or years?

Munk said the measuring of the time between sound pulsings is no better than the clocks that are used.

# Council discusses permits

A building permit misunderstanding led to a heated discussion in Thursday's College Station City Council regular meeting.

Don Dale, a local builder, told the council that city officials had permitted him to ready his lot for construction without warning him that he may be denied his building permit.

After several exchanges between Dale and City Director of Capital Improvements Elrey Ash, Mayor Gary Halter gavelled the room quiet and told them to resolve the problem somewhere other than the council meeting.

In other business, the president of the Southeast Texas Higher Education Authority, Col. Robert M. Logan, gave his annual report to the council.

A public hearing was held concerning the annexation of approximately 166 acres located on Graham Road. No action was taken by the council.

The council unanimously approved a rezoning ordinance for two tracts of land on the northwest corner of state Highway 6 and Barron Road.

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