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Gulf and ARCO deny rumors of a merger

United Press International
PITTSBURGH — Gulf Oil Corp. and Atlantic Richfield Co. Tuesday sharply denied a published report they planned an \$11 billion merger that would be the biggest takeover in U.S. corporate history.

"No offer of a business combination with ARCO has been received or sought by Gulf nor would one be welcome," Pittsburgh-based Gulf, the nation's fifth largest oil firm, said in a statement.

Robert O. Anderson, chairman of eighth-ranked ARCO, said he met recently with Gulf Chairman James Lee but "had not made an offer to purchase the shares or assets of Gulf."

The two firms were responding to a New York Times report, attributed to Wall Street sources, alleging Los Angeles-based ARCO offered to buy Gulf but was rebuffed.

The report came as Gulf fights its largest shareholder, Texas oilman T. Boone Pickens, who it has accused of engineering an unfriendly takeover and starting Wall Street talk of an ARCO deal.

"The spreading of rumor... is but one more demonstration of the stock manipulation that has been going on," Gulf said.

Gulf has filed suit and is seeking a temporary court order against Pickens, chairman of Mesa Petroleum Co. of Amarillo, Texas, alleging he manipulated the stock market to further his takeover ambitions.

U.S. District Court Judge Walter K. Stapleton in Wilmington, Del., said he would rule on the request Tuesday.

ARCO Chairman Anderson said he had met separately with Pickens "to assess the Gulf situation" but denied "lending any money to the Boone Pickens group for its use in a takeover battle with Gulf."

An ARCO spokesman refused to say whether the firm volunteered to step in as a "white knight" should Pickens launch a takeover attempt.

Pickens said the Gulf suit "is without merit" and said it was "unfortunate that shareholders' money is being used to sue shareholders."

Gulf and Pickens waged one of the biggest proxy fights in U.S. corporate history last fall in a battle over how Gulf, considered the weakest of the so-called Seven Sisters oil companies, should be run.

Congressmen soliciting for nerve gas programs

United Press International
PINE BLUFF, Ark. — Two members of the House Appropriations Committee Tuesday urged support of construction programs that eventually could lead to the production of binary nerve gas to replace existing chemical weapons.

Reps. W.G. "Bill" Hefner, D-N.C., and Beryl Anthony Jr., D-Ark., toured the Pine Bluff Arsenal, the proposed site for production of binary nerve gas weapons. They both said opposition to the nerve gas program, rejected several times in Congress, stemmed from misunderstandings and emotional issues.

The congressmen toured the work site of a \$27 million facility, to be completed by early next year, that could manufacture nerve gas components for artillery shells. The second phase of the project would manufacture components for the Bigeye Bomb, which also would be a binary nerve gas weapon. Part of the funding for the second phase is being sought in this year's military budget.

Anthony said the proposed \$105 million appropriation for the nerve gas program for 1985 did not include money for actual production of the gas. He said the money only is for building the facilities to build components for the weapons, and actual production of the gas could not begin for at least two years.

In any case, Anthony said, the binary nerve gas weapons would not be completely assembled at the Pine Bluff Arsenal. He said only one component of the gas would be placed in the weapons, and the second component would be combined in a battlefield situation.

Hefner said he supported construction of the facilities. He said the United States should match the Soviet Union in production of nerve gas whether it liked it or not.

Hefner described the binary nerve gas system as "the safest way to go if we're going to have gas."

Hefner is chairman of the Appropriation Committee's Military Construction Subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over nerve gas production. Anthony said other members of Congress have rejected the program because of misunderstandings about it.

Rep. Ed Bethune, R-Ark., and Sen. David Pryor, D-Ark., have led efforts to stop approval of funds for renewed nerve gas production.

Anthony said supporters of the program had agreed to destroy two nerve gas bombs from the present stockpiles for every new binary weapon produced. He also said nerve gas production was justified because the Soviet Union was continuing to produce the weapons.

He said nerve gas weapons would be an effective deterrent. "As long as we have a chemical deterrent, it lowers the threshold to use nuclear weapons in the field," Anthony said.

Kreglewski died Friday of an apparent heart attack. He lived at 1221 Airline in College Station.

A native of Poland, Kreglewski immigrated to the United States in 1966 and became a citizen in September 1972. Survivors include a daughter, Agnieszka Biernacka of Poland.

A member of the American Chemical Society, Kreglewski published more than 55 papers

Memorial services for A&M research scientist will be here tomorrow

from staff and wire reports — Memorial services for Dr. Aleksander Kreglewski, 56, a research scientist with the Thermodynamics Research Center at Texas A&M University will be held Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the All Faiths Chapel.

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What's up

WEDNESDAY

ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROJECT: A 'Brown Bag Session' will be held in 120A G. Rollie White at noon. The new Texas DWI laws will be discussed. For more information, contact Dennis Reardon at 845-0596.

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION: This week is Fish Week. A Bible study and free lunch will be held today and Friday at noon in the BSU. Another Bible study and free lunch will be held on Thursday at 11:15 a.m.

COLUMBIAN STUDENTS ORGANIZATION: An organizational meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in 350A of the MSC. Contact Jairo Gutierrez at 696-9199 for more information.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES: A meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. in 601 Rudder Tower. For more information, call Jeff Paine at 260-3462.

FLORICULTURE-ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE CLUB: A meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in 106 of the Plant Sciences Building. A speaker from the Dallas Botanical Garden will be there. For more information, contact Monique Dubrule at 260-2698.

GERMAN CLUB: A 'STAMMTISCH' meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Mr. Gatti's in Skaggs Center. Everyone welcome. For more information, call Beatrice Souroujon at 693-6792.

HILLEL: Those who are interested in having lunch with Rabbi Peter Tarlow should meet in the snack bar side of the MSC cafeteria from 1-2 p.m. For more information, call Jean at 696-7313.

LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT COUNCIL: Nominations are being accepted from all students through Feb. 27 for the Faculty College-level teaching awards. Contact Dean Lutes at 845-5143 for more information.

MSC AGGIE CINEMA: 'Foul Play' will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in 701 Rudder Tower. Tickets are \$1.50 with a student ID.

MSC POLITICAL FORUM: A general meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. in 301 Rudder Tower. This meeting is open to all members and anyone else interested in joining. Former State Legislator Joe Gibson, from Waco, will speak. Contact Kevin Brannon at 856-1144 for more information.

METHODIST STUDENT MOVEMENT: A lunch and Bible study will be held at noon in the Wesley Foundation (behind Pizza Hut). Bring lunch or \$1 for sandwiches. Another lunch and Bible study will be held on Thursday at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call 846-4701.

POLO CLUB: A general meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Animal Industries Building. A video tape of the 1983 Intercollegiate Games will be shown. For more information, call Alayna Snell at 693-3078.

PRE-VET SOCIETY: Those who are interested in attending a tour of the animal shelter should meet at 7 p.m. in 109 Trigon. Bring cars. The scrub shirts are \$1. Call Bryan Turner at 260-3871 for more information.

SAILING CLUB: A general meeting to introduce the new members will be held at 7 p.m. in 321 Physics. For more information, call Jackie Schuster at 846-2012.

STUDENT ENGINEER'S COUNCIL: 'Engineer's Week' will be conducted through Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-5 p.m. in 224 of the MSC. Come visit your favorite industry.

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY: A supper with a program and fellowship will be held at 6 p.m. in the A&M Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$1. For more information, contact Mike Miller at 846-1221.

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHAPEL: A candlelight communion service will be conducted at 10 p.m. in the Chapel. Contact Pastor Hubert Beck for more information.

YOUNG CONSERVATIVES OF TEXAS: An organizational meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. in 501 Rudder Tower. The film 'Ronald Reagan's America' will be shown. Everyone welcome. Contact Dennis Black at 784-7817 for more information.

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