

# Royal oil found beneath Windsor castle

LONDON (AP) — The royal soap opera threatens to take the full "Dallas" route as Queen Elizabeth II goes drilling for oil beneath Windsor Castle.

In this week's exciting episode: Will Charles divorce Di? Whose book is selling better? And has anyone got a home for Fergie?

News of a possible royal gusher came Tuesday, punctuating a week that began with opposition politicians calling for a less flashy monarchy, and which could end with an announcement of a divorce.

A Canadian entrepreneur says seismic studies indicate the likelihood of a small oil field 1,000 feet beneath Windsor Castle, the queen's weekend home 20 miles west of the capital. The queen has given

Canuk Exploration Ltd. permission to sink a well in her garden to test reserves.

"In any other location, it would have been tested years ago. But nobody previously has had the courage," said Desmond Oswald, Canuk's managing director.

Oswald has estimated from seismic data that \$1.5 billion worth of oil may be pooled under the palace — but added it was unlikely the venture would be profitable.

The discovery is well-timed: the British royal family is under pressure to reduce its public role and cut costs.

Oil potentially could save Queen Elizabeth from becoming a "bicycling monarch" — the sad fate forecast for her by government ministers if the Labor Par-

ty ever gets into government. Labor leaders called this week for a smaller, less lavish monarchy, with fewer family members on the public payroll.

Even if commercial reserves are found, the government will have first dibs on any oil royalties because the castle — badly damaged by fire in 1992 — is maintained at public expense.

Berkshire County Council is expected to give formal zoning permission for the test well Jan. 4, despite local anguish about damage to the 900-year-old castle and its wooded grounds.

Dennis Otwin, lord mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, worried that drilling was "bound to lead to Windsor Great Park being turned almost into a second Dallas."

Oil was a surprising turn in the saga of a family whose royal motto might well be, "What next?"

As of Friday, the second anniversary of their separation, Prince Charles and Princess Diana will be free to seek a no-fault divorce.

They have not announced plans to do so, content for now to do battle in the bookstores. Diana is winning in both sales and sympathy.

"Diana: Her New Life," an account by Andrew Morton based on interviews with the princess's friends, portrays Charles as cold and unfaithful, Diana as lonely and flaky. It is third on the best-seller list, a notch ahead of "The Prince of Wales" in which Charles admitted his infidelity.

# Proposal to help disabled presidents keep order

WASHINGTON (AP) — Outside doctors, not political associates, should decide whether the president is too ill to stay in office, Jimmy Carter says. His proposal comes just weeks after Ronald Reagan's disclosure that he has Alzheimer's disease.

Carter announced that he has summoned a group to meet at the Carter Center in Atlanta to study the issue. He said he expected the meeting to produce "some concrete proposals and a commission to develop them further and to work toward implementing them."

The determination on a president's fitness now would be made by the vice president and the Cabinet.

"Many people have called to my attention the continuing danger to our nation from the possibility of a U.S. president becoming disabled, particularly by a neurologic illness," Carter wrote in an issue of the weekly Journal of the American Medical Association that examines the question of presidential disability.

Clinton made no mention of Reagan's condition. In Minneapolis, Dr. Steve Miles, a professor of geriatric medicine at the University of Minnesota, recently wrote a newspaper article saying that he and other geriatricians were concerned during Reagan's presidency by his behavior.

Miles said he and his colleagues even considered appealing publicly for an exami-

nation of Reagan to see if he was suffering from Alzheimer's but decided to do nothing "given White House medical reports that all was well."

"We were concerned by the increasing vagueness of his presidency, his inability to speak lucidly outside of brief, tightly controlled settings," Miles wrote in the Star Tribune of Minneapolis.

When Reagan, 83, disclosed his problem

**"Many people have called to my attention the danger to our nation from the possibility of a president becoming disabled."**

*—Jimmy Carter, former President*

last month, his doctors said he was "entering the early stages of this disease." Reagan has been out of office since January 1989.

Carter's proposal apparently could be accomplished without amending the Constitution to change the 25th Amendment, adopted in 1967 to deal with presidential disability.

It says that the vice president and a majority of the Cabinet "or of such other body as Congress may by law provide," can temporarily transfer the powers of the president to the vice president when the group determines that the president is unable to function. If the president resists, it would require a two-thirds vote of each house of Congress to keep him from resuming power.

Congress has not designated any other body to make the judgment. That part of the 25th Amendment has never been used.

Carter said that as a practical matter the vice president and the Cabinet would rely on the president's personal physicians.

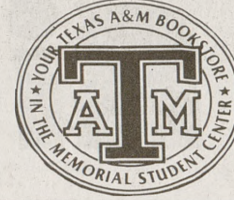
"We must find a better way," Carter wrote. "This might be by creating a nonpartisan group of expert representatives of the medical community who are not directly involved in the case of the president. They could be given the responsibility for determining disability, thereby relieving the president's physicians from their potential conflict of interest and enabling the 25th Amendment to work prudently and smoothly."

Carter called on the medical community to "awaken the public and political leaders of our nation to the importance and urgency of this problem."

He noted that most of the 18 presidents serving this century had serious medical problems.

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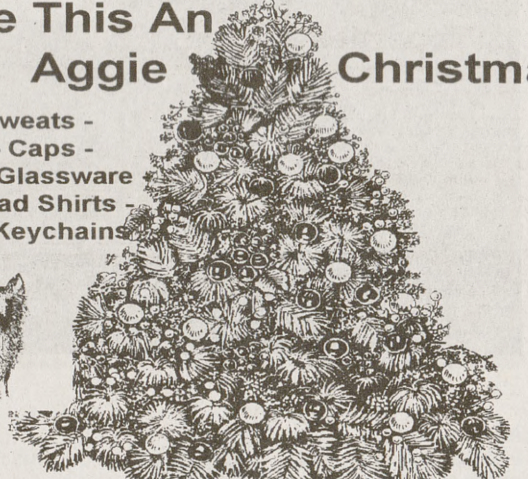
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Round Diamond				Marquise Cut			
Carat	Color	Clarity	Price	Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.31	H	VVS	\$650 <sup>00</sup>	.31	I	VS2	\$475 <sup>00</sup>
.35	H	SI1	475 <sup>00</sup>	.31	H	VS2	675 <sup>00</sup>
.45	I	SI2	850 <sup>00</sup>	.49	J	SI2	1,050 <sup>00</sup>
.60	I	VS2	1,000 <sup>00</sup>	.49	I	VS2	1,176 <sup>00</sup>
.69	H	SI3	1,250 <sup>00</sup>	.55	H	SI2	1,550 <sup>00</sup>
.70	I	I2	850 <sup>00</sup>	.57	K	SI1	1,150 <sup>00</sup>
.70	G	SI1	1,975 <sup>00</sup>	.62	E	SI3	1,750 <sup>00</sup>
.70	H	SI1	2,115 <sup>00</sup>	.68	J	VS2	1,900 <sup>00</sup>
.70	E	SI2	2,350 <sup>00</sup>	.69	K	VVS2	1,750 <sup>00</sup>
.72	G	SI2/SI1	2,300 <sup>00</sup>	.75	G	VS1/VVS2	3,500 <sup>00</sup>
.82	J/K	VS2	2,050 <sup>00</sup>	.84	K/L	SI1	2,150 <sup>00</sup>
.95	I	II	2,275 <sup>00</sup>	.94	K	SI1	2,650 <sup>00</sup>
1.01	K	VS1	2,350 <sup>00</sup>	1.12	H	I	3,250 <sup>00</sup>
1.03	G	VS1/VVS2	5,300 <sup>00</sup>	1.02	H	SI3	3,450 <sup>00</sup>
1.06	K	II	2,050 <sup>00</sup>	.86	H	SI2	2,850 <sup>00</sup>
1.16	J	SI1	3,950 <sup>00</sup>				
1.64	J	SI1	6,000 <sup>00</sup>				
1.76	H	SI3	6,500 <sup>00</sup>				
1.79	H	SI3	6,500 <sup>00</sup>				
9.51	L	II/12	29,500 <sup>00</sup>				
1.02	I/J	I	2,450 <sup>00</sup>				
1.01	H	SI2	3,600 <sup>00</sup>				
2.59	N	SI2	5,500 <sup>00</sup>				


  

Pear Shape				Oval			
Carat	Color	Clarity	Price	Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.47	F	SI1	\$1,300 <sup>00</sup>	.40	J	VS1	\$675 <sup>00</sup>
.49	H	SI1	1,253 <sup>00</sup>	.50	I	SI2	1,383 <sup>00</sup>
.50	F	SI2	1,100 <sup>00</sup>	.53	G	SI2	980 <sup>00</sup>
.61	I	VS1	1,220 <sup>00</sup>	.77	E	SI2	2,350 <sup>00</sup>
.78	J/K	SI1	1,750 <sup>00</sup>	1.12	J	SI2	1,750 <sup>00</sup>
.79	K	SI1	1,675 <sup>00</sup>	1.53	I/J	SI1	5,800 <sup>00</sup>
.92	K	VS2	2,300 <sup>00</sup>	1.00	I	SI1	3,550 <sup>00</sup>
1.02	J	SI1	3,250 <sup>00</sup>				
1.05	J/K	II	2,300 <sup>00</sup>				

Princess			
Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.49	K	SI1	\$875 <sup>00</sup>
.53	K	VS1	975 <sup>00</sup>
.80	J	SI2	1,798 <sup>00</sup>
1.16	F	II	2,970 <sup>00</sup>
.71	G	VVS2	2,475 <sup>00</sup>



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