EDITOR: F.C. Najia, REPORTERS: Nazir Hanna (Beirut), Hanna Faddoul (Badanah), John Franjigsh (Amman), 0. Yassin (Rafha), M.A. Kublan (Rafha), Kamal Abu—Zeid (Sidon), S.M. Khalifeh (Turaif).

\textbf{SERVICE STARS}  
Khalid Abdul—Karim Abdallah of Badanah and Rashid M. Bustani of Dera' chalked up 25 years of service each in December and January respectively, while 14 other Tapliners completed 5.10.15 or 20 years of service during the same period. The 20-year pin recipients: Badanah—Abdul—Rahman Hamoud of Medical, Rastyn—A. G. Nukho, Beirut—May J. Rebez of Medical, Turaif—Rasdy, Nabil |. Haddad of Treasurer's & Comptroller's.

\textbf{OPERATIONS REPORT}  

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline
Year & 1972 & 1973 \hline
Sidon Receipts (MBDI) & 432.8 & 413.7 \hline
Deliveries (MBDI) & & \hline
Offtakers Shipped & 412.9 & 392.8 \hline
IPC Exchange & 4.5 & 0 \hline
Medico & 14.3 & 16.5 \hline
Jordan & 13.0 & 14.3 \hline
Grains & 444.7 & 423.6 \hline
\hline
\end{tabular}

Pipeline throughput averaged 423,600 barrels per day during 1973, compared with 444,697 BPD pumped in 1972. The pipeline operated at only 85 percent of its capacity because of technical and area problems which resulted in a total potential throughput loss of 20,805,000 barrels while the remaining 49 percent was attributed to extraordinary combustion system work on the gas turbines.

Sidon Terminal deliveries to offtakers averaged 409,300 barrels per day in 1973 compared with 431,700 BPD in 1972, 336,353 BPD in 1971, 173,217 BPD in 1970 and 327,318 BPD in 1969. Low throughput averages in 1970 and 1971 were the result of a nine-month shutdown and a series of five pipeline breaks. The average size of ships loaded at the terminal during the year was 300,000 barrels, compared with 346,000 barrels in 1972, 396,000 barrels in 1971, 395,600 in 1970 and 346,300 in 1969.

During the absence of J.M. Tanner from January 26 through February 4, S.W. Ombargi was delegated the administrative responsibilities of Vice President—Beirut Office, in addition to his regular duties as General Manager—Administration. During the said period, Mr. Ombargi reported directly to the Office of the President, AOG—The Hague.

The unusual stormy weather which whipped Lebanon recently halted marine operations at Sidon Terminal for a record period extending from 18:00 hrs. January 16 through 07:00 hrs. January 24. The port closure resulted in a throughput loss of 2,560,000 barrels.

Medical Director Dr. A. Ghanma and Manager Relations (Saudi Arabia) R.E. Marsh were among the guests of H.H. Amir Abdallah bin Abdul—Aziz bin Musa'ad at a luncheon on held in 'Ar'ar January 13 in honor of H.H. King Feisal's brother, H.H. Amir Nayef bin Abdul—Aziz, Minister of Interior for Municipalities. Congratulations to Assistant Surgeon Dr. Philip Sunna who completed recently a two-year medical course in England and obtained the FRCS (Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons) diploma. He resumed his functions in Badanah on January 15.

Tapline's third billion barrel was pumped out of Qaisumah last December 22. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Mitri Antonios on the birth December 27 of their first son, Bruno.

Good luck to Xenophon A. Danos who left Tapline recently to accept a post with Varminia International Corporation in Piraeus, Greece. Formerly of Beirut's MST

ed Dr. Adel K. Sansour, Senior Physician—Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Staff Nurse Miss Ispigushi T. Shampian, who left Badanah permanently in December following about two and a half years of company service.

As of Jan. 1, 1974 direct functional responsibility for Tapline's community and residential services and recreation activities in Saudi Arabia has been assumed by Aramco's Community Services Department. Abdullah Mattar, Superintendent—Northern Area Community Services, undertook a trip along the 'Line towards the end of 1973 connected with the new arrangement.

Joseph Lopez and Robert Report of Haskins and Sells, New York, are currently working on Tapline's Annual Audit. They arrived in Beirut January 6 and are expected to complete their assignment in late February. Assistant Superintendent Mohammad S. Thabit made a one-week business trip to Beirut around mid-January.

Sincere condolences are extended to Fardl Kashou on the recent death of his father.
On January 31 and February 1, station division heads including Ed Olsen, Ahmad Shmassy, Said Ahmad Rashidi and Hmood Nazzal lyadah, met in Beirut with Manager Operations J.L. Koenreich, General Superintendent R.R. Portmess, G.N. Ziady, General Superintendent Operations - Western Countries, and Abdallah Mattar, Superintendent of Community Services - Northern Area, to discuss 1974 operating plans. The two-day session also covered 1974 approved programs and a review of plans to study special points of concern.

Unusual amounts of rain drenched the pipeline area this winter. As shown above, grass has started to bloom in the desert. Meanwhile, "fagah" (truffles) are expected to occur in abundance, especially in the strip of land between Uwaigilah and Jalamida auxiliary pumping units.

Aramco has recently donated $100,000 to the American University of Beirut for the scholastic year 1974. Shown above is AUB President Samuel Kirkwood (left) who received the donation from Aramco President R.W. Powers (second from left) in the presence of S.W. Ombargi, ADC Beirut Representative and Tapline's General Manager of Administration, and AUB Vice President George Rabin. (Photo by Sayak).

Work is underway on the construction of a vital road that will link Tapline's main pipeline road near Qaisumah with Kuwait via the city of Hatr el-Batin, an important trade center near the pipeline in the eastern province of Saudi Arabia. (Photo by Nasr).
Saudi Arabia's Minister of Defense and Aviation, HRH Amir Sultan bin Abd al-Aziz, visited Ar'ar Dec. 29 and was entertained at a dinner party hosted by HH Amir Abd al-Rahman bin Musaid, Amir of the Northern Frontiers. Forty sheep and three camels were slain for the occasion.

Among the distinguished quests were HR Sheikh Ahmad Ali Al-Amri, Qadhi (judge) of Ar'ar Court; HE Amir Abd al-Rahman al-Sudairi, Amir of Al-Jouf and his son, HE Amir Feisal al-Sudairi, Deputy Amir of Al-Jouf; HE Rusheid bin Mijlad, Unaza tribe leader; Sheikh Ibrahim al-Hassoun, Director of Finance, Northern Frontiers; as well as five Tapline officials — namely Dr. Amjad Ghanma, J.L. Koenreich, R.E. Marsh, R.R. Portmess and Mohammad Abdul Rahman.
Tapline Management hosted a company wide cocktail party at the Delhamiyeh Country Club on January 17, to honor newly-elected Aramco President R.W. Powers, Tapline President and Mrs. D.R. Fate and General Counsel and Mrs. W.L. Owen.

The function brought together a host of Aramco and Tapline employees and their families who came from the different companies' locations in Lebanon and Saudi Arabia as well as a group of visitors from affiliated companies, including Elton Yates of Texaco, John Simpson and Edward Kondis, of Mobil; Loy Harris, of Exxon; and James Briggs, of Standard Oil Company of California. The visitors were accompanied by J.J. Kellner, Aramco's General Manager of Oil and Materials Supply. (Photos by Sayah).
AR’AR WELCOMES AMIR NAYEF

HRH Amir Nayef bin Abdi al–Aziz, brother of HRM King Faisal and Deputy Minister of Interior, was the guest of honor at a lunch–

eon party hosted by HH Amir Abdallah bin Abdi el–Aziz bin Mu-

s'ad, Amir of the Northern Fron-
tiers, during his Jan. 13 visit to 

Ar'Ar.

The list of guests included area
notables and tribal leaders as well
as Tipline officials, including Med-
dical
Director Dr. A. Ghanma, Manager
Relations (Saudi Arabia) R.E.
Marsh, Manager Operations J.L.
Koenneke, Badanah’s Company
Representative Muhammad Abdul-
Rahman, Dr. Maurice Barooody and
Hanna Faddoul.

General view of the luncheon party
A holiday atmosphere pervaded Tapline’s work locations along the Line at the tail end of 1973 as the Jelly Old Fellow with his red flannel suit made his appearances at Qaisumah, Rafha, Badanah, Turaif, Beirut and Sidon with a heavy load of gifts to distribute to the good little boys and girls. The children’s program for Christmas and New Year also featured cartoon films, games, desert trips, corals, cold but—fets, cakes and refreshments.

Holiday activities in Beirut started with the Children’s Christmas party held at the Tapline Sporting Club on January 20. Three days later, Tapline Management held a Christmas party for all Beirut employees and their families with Vice President and Mrs. J. M. Templier, General Manager Engineering and Mrs. F. N. Khabbaz and Assistant Treasurer/Assistant Comptroller and Mrs. S. M. Chamieh officiating as hosts.

TURAIF

The Holiday Season got off to a good start in Turaif on December 16 with Christmas games for the station’s schoolchildren at the Turaif Movie Theatre. On December 23, Santa Claus (John Forster) dropped by the Community Center to distribute a load of gifts for the happy youngsters.

The next day, the R. R. Portmess, Hans Slotbooms, Robert Ballantyne, J. Hendley, J. Rosquists and Brian James, gave a successful dinner party for all station bachelors. During the function, the Jelly Old Fellow made a second appearance with more gifts for the children.

On December 25, a station-wide company dinner was hosted by Station Superintendent Ed Olsen at the Dining Hall. Two days later the Hans Slotbooms held a dinner party and a baby shower for Mrs. John Hendley attended by almost all the families and bachelors of the station.

A desert trip was organized the next day.

On December 30, the J. L. Koenreichs hosted an open house. The year-end activities culminated with a New Year’s Eve party hosted by the J. Rosquists. All Turaif families were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Portmess at a brunch held on New Year’s Day.

Sixteen children enrolled in schools abroad were in Turaif to visit their parents during the Christmas vacation. They were entertained at three separate dinner parties hosted by the J. Makkinjes, the R. Harts and the R. R. Portmess.
Winners of the one—club, 18—hole golf tournament organized by Badanah’s Rocky Acres Golf Club in mid—January, face the camera. They are from left: Dr. Omar An—Nimr (runner—up), Ahmad Shmassy (first—prizewinner), Dr. Maurice Baroudy (third—prizewinner) and Joe Sha— ghoury, president of Badanah’s Rocky Acres Golf Club.

SHMASSY OUTSHINES BADANAH GOLFERS

Ahmad Shmassy outshined Badanah golfers in the one—club, 18—hole golf tournament organized by the station’s Rocky Acres Golf Club on January 15 with a score of 75 strokes.

Runner—up was Dr. Omar An—Nimr with 80 strokes while Dr. Maurice Baroudy and Dr. Boghos Artinian tied for third place with 82 strokes each.

Presentation of trophies took place at a coffee—cake party held later in the evening at the station’s ship Division of the Local Indus—Dining Hall. All Badanah golfers trial Development Department in * and their families attended the Dhahran. Jeries Awwad teeingoff function.

EMPLOYEE HOMES BUILT OR ACQUIRED TOTALLY IN ARABIA

Completed acquisition of 33 Saudi Home Ownership Plan houses in 1973 raised the number of S.H.O.P. houses built or acquired along the ‘Line until the year—end to 307.

The plan enables interested and eligible employees to obtain new, good quality and durable homes through a deferred payment program.

Of the 307 homes acquired or built and accepted by the end of 1973, 124 are at Turai village, 104 at ‘Ar’ar, 47 at Rafha town and 22 at Qaisumah town.

At the year end, six more dwellings were being built in the towns of Turai, ‘Ar’ar, Rafha and Qaisumah.

Effective Jan. 1, responsibility for Tapline’s Saudi Home Ownership Plan has been transferred from the Engineering Department in Beirut to Aramco’s Home Ownership Division of the Local Industrial Development Department in Dhahran.

365,386 CLINIC VISITS TAX TAPLINE’S MEDICAL FACILITIES IN 1973

Tapline medical facilities received 365,386 clinic visits in 1973 and admitted patients for a total of 13,361 days of hospitalization, compared with 391,836 clinic visits and 13,251 days of hospitalization in 1972.

Of all clinic patients treated in Saudi Arabia during 1973, 88.64 percent were non—company patients. Some 88.42 percent of the hospitalization days in Saudi Arabia were for non—company patients.

A total of 55,333 tests and 16,521 X—Ray exposures were some of the items that taxed Tapline medical facilities last year, compared with 58,383 tests and 16,006 X—Ray exposures in 1972.

“MASS” SERVICE PIN PRESENTATION
Twenty two Tapliners from Rafha completed about four centuries of company service during 1973 and were feted en masse at a company dinner hosted by Said Ahmad Rashidi, Superintendent Rafha.

The dinner which was held at the dining Hall in mid—January featured service emblem presentation and delicious “Kabsah”.

The service pin recipients were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>YEARS OF SERVICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abdullah S. Dubayyan of Water Wells</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammed S. Thabit of Operations General</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humeydi H. Mubarak of Operations &amp; Repairs</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ali/Ahmed Alwani of Operations &amp; Repairs</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushid H. Gharib of Mechanical Maintenance</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turaykhsin Atiq Thamin of Mechanical Maintenance</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isidat Bala Sultani of Community Maintenance</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moosaa Alkhalaf Ibrahim of Community Maintenance</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ummat Waris of Community Maintenance</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammad H. Muhamad of Community Services</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mogbil Khalaf Mogbil of Community Services</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammad A. Kudin of Operation General</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turk F. F. of C.E. &amp; I.</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdullah A. Ibrahim of Operations &amp; Repairs</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saleh S. Dakhil of Operations &amp; Repairs</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saleh A. Dughayyim of Water Wells</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdullah H. Aweidah of Mechanical Maintenance</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammed H. Awadah of Mechanical Maintenance</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khaliifah H. Muhamad of Community Services</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A/Karim A. Tuwayyan of Plant Protection</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker U. Mirjan of Mechanical Maintenance</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badi Raji Badi of Plant Protection</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
One of the completed microwave communications towers at Km. 599 in Saudi Arabia. Twenty similar towers dot the Tapline system from Qaisumah to Sidon (Photo by Nasr).

The Communications Improvement Program was reported 90 percent complete by yearend. Final lineup and installation work was in progress in preparation for final acceptance tests about the end of March.

When completed, better though limited, communication will be available for work coordination among pipeline management and supervisors.

Felicitations are due to Joseph M. Deeb of the MST & T division, Beirut, who got married Dec. 9 to the former Miss Marie-Rose Ghazi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michel Ghazi of Tripoli. The wedding ceremony which was held at the Saydet al Hobsheyichurch in Ghazir was officiated by Mgr. Shucrallah Harb. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the Monte-mar Hotel in Maameltein where the newly weds received their friends before taking off to Paris on their honeymoon.

The bride is a first-year student at the Lebanese University. The best man was the bridegroom's nephew, Sherbel Abi Zakhm, and the bridesmaid the bride's sister Dolly.

Among the distinguished guests at the wedding ceremony were Sheikh Pierre Gemayel, Fuad el-Bon, the Adel Noujaims and the Fouad Constantines (Photo by Jacques Philippe).