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RICHMOND EXPLORATION COMPANY
RICHMOND PETROLEUM CO. OF COLOMBIA
MONTHLY REPORT
MAY - 1953



25X1A9a



VENEZUELA GENERAL

Maracaibo Bar Project

The formal agreement between the Venezuelan Government and the Oil Companies covering the subscription of bonds for the Maracaibo Bar Project was signed May 30.



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Venezuelan Petroleum Production

Week ending May 25	1,741,500 barrels daily
Month of May (approximate)	1,740,000 " "

COLOMBIA GENERAL

The country's political situation has been extremely quiet here of late and no political meetings of any sort have taken place. Activities of the rebel bands also continue to diminish.

In the latter part of May, General Rojas Pinillas, Acting Commander of the Colombian Army, high ranking officers of the Armed Forces and representatives from every unit of the Army gave a banquet in honor of Acting President Dr. Urdaneta Arbelaez, which was attended by top government officials, the Diplomatic corps and prominent Conservative politicians. General Rojas Pinillas took advantage of the occasion to make a speech during which he made emphasis on the government's outstanding achievements. Much importance has been attached to the political significance of this banquet.

On May 26, the Government announced the forthcoming constitution of a new Cabinet, as follows:

- Minister of Government, Doctor Rafael Azuero
- Minister of Foreign Relations, Doctor Guillermo Leon Valencia
- Minister of Justice, Doctor Antonio Escobar Gamargo
- Minister of Finance, Doctor Antonio Alvarez Restrepo
- Minister of War, Doctor Lucio Pabon Nunez
- Minister of Agriculture, Doctor Camilo Vasquez Carrizosa
- Minister of Labor, Doctor Raimundo Emiliani Roman
- Minister of Public Health, Doctor Alfonso Tarazona
- Minister of Industrial Promotion (Fomento), Mr. Carlos Villaveces R.
- Minister of Mines and Petroleum, Doctor Pedro Nel Rueda Uribe
- Minister of National Education, Doctor Jesus Estrada Monsalve
- Minister of Public Works, Doctor Jorge Leyva
- Minister of Communications, Doctor Carlos Albornoz

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PERSONNEL STRENGTH

<u>Venezuela</u>	<u>Dollar</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Daily</u>	<u>Total</u>
May 31, 1953	70	254	223	547
<u>Colombia</u>				
May 31, 1953	3	19	34	56

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIESWestern Venezuela

Active in Western Venezuela during the month of May were 18 exploratory rigs, 6 reflection seismograph, 1 gravity, and 11 surface geological parties.

Eastern Venezuela

Active in Eastern Venezuela were 67 exploratory rigs, 13 surface, 11 seismic, and 1 structure drill party plus 2 gravity parties.

Colombia

Active in Colombia during May were 23 exploratory rigs and 6 surface, 5 seismic, and 2 gravity parties.