Today, December 10, 1959, the WORLD BANK made a loan equivalent to $50 million to assist in financing the construction and operation of a 412-mile pipeline to bring crude oil from the Hassi Messaoud oilfield in the Sahara to the Algerian port of Bougie on the Mediterranean coast.

The loan was made to the Societe Petroliere de Gerance, a corporation owned jointly by two companies producing oil in the Sahara: Societe Nationale de Recherche et d'Exploitation des Petroles en Algerie, which is largely owned by the French Government; and Compagnie Francaise des Petroles (Algerie), a subsidiary of the Compagnie Francaise des Petroles, the largest French oil company.

Among those present at the signing of the loan documents were, from left to right: His Excellency Herve Alphand, French Ambassador in the United States, on behalf of the Republic of France; Mr. W. A. B. Iliff, Vice President of the WORLD BANK; and Mr. Leon Edmond Bourdin, on behalf of Societe Petroliere de Gerance.
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242-FRA-1 At Hassi Messaoud in Sahara, about 375 miles southeast of Algiers, an oil field has been opened, with oil reserves estimated at over two billion barrels. The field is sending oil to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean, through a pipeline with an annual capacity of 14 million tons. The WORLD BANK lent $50 million to assist the construction of the pipeline in 1959. Shown here is a section of the pipeline being welded by one of the workers.

Photo: France Actuelle

1959
At Hassi Messaoud in Sahara, about 375 miles southeast of Algiers, an oil field has been opened, with oil reserves estimated at over two billion barrels. The field is sending oil to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean, through a pipeline with an annual capacity of 14 million tons. The WORLD BANK lent $50 million to assist the construction of the pipeline in 1959. Shown here are large pipes being unloaded in the desert.

Photo: France Actuelle

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At Hassi Messaoud in Sahara, about 375 miles southeast of Algiers, an oil field has been opened, with oil reserves estimated at over two billion barrels. The field is sending oil to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean, through a pipeline with an annual capacity of 14 million tons. The WORLD BANK lent $50 million to assist the construction of the pipeline in 1959. Shown in the picture is a long line of pipes ready to be laid.

Photo: France Actuelle

1959
The photo shows a section of pipe being lifted into place by a mechanical pipelayer. The project consists of the construction and operation of a pipeline about 660 km long for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.

Photo: Bureau de Recherches de Petrole, France 1959
Local laborers welding together sections of pipe being used for the oil pipeline for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.

Photo: Bureau de Recherches de Petrole, France 1959
Local laborers welding together sections of pipe being used for the oil pipeline for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.

Photo: Bureau de Recherches de Petrole, France
The photo shows pipeline being wrapped and tarred to preserve it and prevent leaks. The laborer in the foreground is checking by instrument for possible leaks. The project consists of the construction and operation of a pipeline about 660 km. long for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.

Photo: Bureaux de Recherches de Petrole, France 1959
242-FRA-8 Pipes being welded. These pipes are for use in the construction of a pipeline about 660 km long for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Bougie on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.

Photo: Bureau de Recherches de Petrole, France 1959
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"INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT, Washington, D.C., 20433" is noted at the top of the page.

212-72A-9 Laborers grind the ends of the pipes before welding. These pipes are for use in the construction of a pipeline about 660 km long for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Bougie on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.

Photo: Bureau de Recherches de Petrole, France

early 1960
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**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT, Washington, D.C. 20433**

242-FRA-10 Heavy equipment laying the welded pipe in a trench. These pipes form part of the pipeline (about 660 km long) for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Beugla, on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.

Photo: Bureau de Recherches de Petrole, France early 1960
An aerial view of Beaud El Hamra. About 375 miles southeast of Algiers, an oil field has been opened, with oil reserves estimated at over two billion barrels. The field is sending oil to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean, through a pipeline with an annual capacity of 14 million tons. The World Bank lent $50 million to assist the construction of the pipeline in 1959.

Photo: S.O.P.E.G.  1961
An oiler being filled at night at Bougie. At Hassi Messaoud in Sahara, about 375 miles southeast of Algiers, an oil field has been opened, with oil reserves estimated at over two billion barrels. The field is sending oil to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean, through a pipeline with an annual capacity of 14 million tons. The WORLD BANK lent $50 million to assist the construction of the pipeline in 1959.

Photo: S.O.P.E.G. 1961
The photo shows laborers wrapping and tarring the pipeline to preserve it and prevent leakage, at Hacud El Hamra. The project consists of the construction and operation of a pipeline about 660 kilometers long for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.
242-FRA-14  A local laborer welding a section of pipeline which is used for the transport of crude oil from the Hassi-Messaoud field to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean. To assist the financing of this project, the WORLD BANK made a loan of $50 million in 1959.

Photo: S.O.P.E.G.  
1961
242-FRA-15 Surveyors look across the sand dunes at Balise. At Hassi Messaoud in Sahara, about 375 miles southeast of Algiers, an oil field has been opened, with oil reserves estimated at over two billion barrels. The field is sending oil to the Port of Bougie, on the Mediterranean, through a pipeline with an annual capacity of 14 million tons. The WORLD BANK lent $50 million to assist the construction of the pipeline in 1959.

Photo: Société Petrolière de Gérance (SOPEG) 1961