

## Gas: Unsafe in any container

One gallon of gas stored in the trunk of an automobile has the explosive power of 14 sticks of dynamite.

This was determined in a recent experiment carried out by the New York City Fire Department to demonstrate the danger of storing gasoline in the home or in automobile trunks.

Fire Department officials point out that drastic temperature changes in the trunk can cause gasoline to expand, which creates pressure in the can and causes leaking fumes. A cigarette, static electricity, a short in wires leading to tail lights, or a rear-end collision can ignite the fumes and cause an explosion.

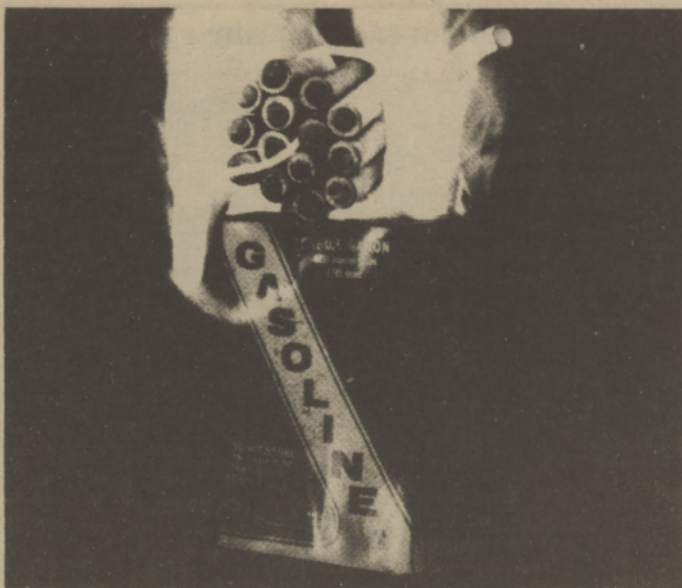
Unseen gasoline vapors, which are heavier-than-air, can flow like a stream of water for distances up to 30 feet or more and be ignited by a spark.

Although swallowing of gasoline can cause serious health problems, the most critical danger is inhalation of gasoline into the lungs. Even a very small amount of gasoline in the lungs can cause death from chemical pneumonia.

### Emergency Storage Only

There simply is no completely safe way for consumers to store gasoline; but if consumers must store gasoline in emergency situations, the Commission strongly advises them to observe the following safety precautions:

- \* Never store gasoline in the



house or automobile. Keep storage cans outdoors and far away from living quarters and ignition sources (such as in a well-ventilated shed). Gasoline storage is especially ill-advised for apartment dwellers.

- \* Never store gasoline in any containers except those manufactured from sturdy steel sheeting which cannot easily be punctured. Glass containers and plastic containers used for food and milk are especially hazardous, as are rusted metal cans.
- \* Since children so frequently are the victims of gasoline

explosions and poisonings, all storage cans should be kept secured and tightly sealed.

- \* Consumers should never refuel power equipment (chain saws, power mowers, etc.) when the engines are running or still hot.
- \* If gasoline is spilled on clothing, consumers should change clothes immediately and then wash the clothing. Even when spilled gas appears to have vaporized and the clothing appears to be dry, the affected clothing may still contain enough gasoline to present a serious fire hazard.

## Rhode Island Indian claims dropped

Extinguishment of all past Narragansett Indian claims in the State of Rhode Island was announced by the Interior Department August 6 following publication in the federal Register of findings by Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus that the state legislature had enacted the necessary enabling legislation.

Under terms of the Rhode Island Indian Claims Settlement Act, the Narragansett Indians will receive 1800 acres of land in Charlestown, Rhode Island, in return for the relinquishment of all their land claims.

The Act, which President Carter signed into law on

September 30, 1978, implements a settlement negotiated by the Narragansett Indians, the State of Rhode Island, private landowners and the town council.

"The parties to this settlement are to be congratulated," said Secretary Andrus. "Governor J. Joseph Garrahy, the Narragansett leaders, the Rhode Island General Assembly, the state's congressional delegation, the town council and private landowners can all feel justifiably proud of their work. Through their patience, leadership and commitment, they have achieved something which has so far escaped other affected eastern seaboard

states—the out of court settlement of an Indian land claim."

The Indians filed suit in 1975 for 3200 acres of land in Charlestown which it claimed had passed out of tribal ownership in 1880 in violation of the Trade and Intercourse Act of 1790. That law says the conveyances of Indian land are invalid unless approved by the Federal government.

The pending suit clouded title to land in the town, even land not involved in the Narragansett claims. Lengthy negotiations produced an agreement whereby an Indian-controlled corporation would get 900 acres of land from the state and would buy another 900 acres in private ownership with \$3.5 million the Federal government would provide. In return, the agreement authorized the extinguishment of all Narragansett claims in Rhode Island.

## TOE NESS

THERE WAS THIS GUY who went golfing one afternoon and saw his doctor coming off the course so he asked, "How did you do?" "I broke 100," he said. "Strokes?" He said, "No appointments." YIKES.....

SS SS SS

YOU KNOW THAT THERE WAS this guy who went into the neighborhood store and told the clerk, "Give me thirty cents worth of potatoes." The clerk, "Why don't you take the whole potato?" YIKES.....

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FISHING REALLY SEEMS TO be making the news nowadays. It is said that there are two kinds of fishermen: Those who fish for sport and those who catch something. YIKES.....

SS SS SS

SPEAKING OF THINGS THAT are happening in Washington D.C. these days, the people should give George Washington a lot of credit. During the days while he was President he got in trouble up to his neck but he couldn't blame the previous Administration. YIKES .....

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## Indian News Notes

by Vince Lovett  
of The Bureau of Indian Affairs

### CONGRESSMEN SAY INTERIOR SECRETARY IS DELAYING ARIZONA WATER PROJECT BECAUSE OF INDIANS:

Four Arizona Congressmen have charged Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus with delaying completion of Central Arizona Project (CAP) facilities by requiring settlement of Indian water claims in the state. The four Congressmen were Senator Barry Goldwater and Reps. John Rhodes, Eldon Rudd and Bob Stump.

Stump is a Democrat, the others Republicans. In a letter to Andrus the Congressmen said they disagreed with Andrus' apparent belief that Indian water rights issues "can be resolved delivering water." They said, "Such an approach is in disregard of the rights and needs of non-Indian citizens of Arizona and is totally unrealistic."

The Congressmen said "Many of the tribes have no intention of quantifying their rights and of settling them with any reasonable period of time, and certainly not prior to 1985. Therefore, your position is working a hardship on Indian communities, as well." Andrus was asked to approve the water allocations to the Indians made by former Secretary Thomas Kleppe in 1976 so that water users can design and construct their treatment plants and distribution systems prior to the time that water deliveries are possible.

The Arizona Republic, in a related story, said that Tom Fredericks, associate solicitor for Indian Affairs, had prepared a memo on "Strategy to secure Central Arizona tribal water rights" in which Fredericks said, "We intend to plan and execute departmental actions which are calculated to encourage water rights settlement negotiations, or take other actions which by themselves will make water available in Arizona for use by Indian tribes."

### TUCSON PAPER SUPPORTS ANDRUS' ACTIONS: SAYS INDIANS HAVE BEEN SHORTCHANGED:

An editorial in the Arizona Daily Star supports Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus for placing "equity and reason above economics in water projects." The paper says Andrus is not likely to be frightened by "surly notes from Congressmen," referring to the letter written Andrus by four Arizona Members.

The editorial concludes: "Now Andrus has asked for delay so he might reexamine the allocations of CAP water set by his predecessor for Arizona Indian tribes. The tribes are not happy with their allocations. Non-Indians, particularly farmers, don't want them to have any more."

"But Andrus knows that Arizona's Indians have not only been shortchanged in water supply over the decades but bankrupted in many cases. Their objections deserve serious consideration. State government has been working on settlement of Indian claims to water through proposed tradeoffs but few bargains have been struck. Water agreements will have to be ironclad to win Indian signatures."

"White man's word has not been very reliable in the past. That will all take time. The time will be well spent, even if it delays the first valve turning on the CAP system, if it also assures all the state's residents that their needs are being equitably met."

### INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSIONER BRANTLEY BLUE IS DEAD:

The first and only Indian appointed to the Indian Claims Commission, Brantley Blue, died August 2 at his home in Arlington Virginia. Blue, a 54-year-old Lumbee Indian, suffered a heart attack. He was appointed to the Commission by President Nixon in 1969 and served on it till its termination in 1978.

In its 32 years of existence the commission settled more than 500 claims and awarded more than \$800 million to Indian tribes.

A World-War II Navy veteran, Blue graduated from Pembroke State College in his native North Carolina in 1946 and received his law degree in 1949 from the Cumberland University School of Law in Lebanon, Tenn. He practiced law for 20 years in Kingsport, Tenn., before his appointment to the Commission. He was working as an administrative law judge for the Department of Labor at the time of his death.

### ENERGY RESOURCE TRIBES HIRE IRANIAN ADVISOR:

The Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT) has turned to the Middle East for expertise, hiring Iran's former Deputy Minister for Finance and Oil, according to a report in the New York Times. "The American Indians are in a position comparable to the one the OPEC countries were in 1968," said Ahmed Kooros in a recent interview in CERT's Denver office. One of the functions of Mr. Kooros will be to arrange financing and marketing for various tribal projects to develop ability to mine and/or develop their own energy resources.

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