

HANNIFIN WITH JET



KANE IN ARMY HELICOPTER

For the story, he used reports from correspondents in exporting nations like France and Britain as well as in customer countries in the Middle East and elsewhere. Something of a specialist in the field, Pines has recently written several analyses of strategic weapons for TIME, and last year attended Oxford University's conference on "Changes in the Balance of Power."

In the U.S., correspondents from Boston to Los Angeles spoke with academic experts, arms manufacturers and dealers, but the main files came from Washington. There, Joseph Kane, who covers the Pentagon, and Jerry Hannifin, our expert in military and aerospace technology, collaborated to analyze the policies and hardware of the world's largest arms purveyor: the U.S. No stranger to weapons or military politics, Kane commanded a howitzer battery in the peacetime Army in Germany in the early 1950s. As Atlanta bureau chief he directed coverage of the William Calley court martial, last year reported for our cover story on Defense Secretary James Schlesinger and the U.S.-Soviet arms

Hannifin, a licensed pilot for more than 25 years, has flown several of the U.S.'s "hottest" fighters (among them the F-105 and the A-7 Corsair II) in the course of covering civil and military aerospace for TIME. Besides reporting for the arms trade story, both Hannifin and Kane contributed to an analysis of the new electronic weapons, which may

radically alter the dynamics of future wars and which, we feel, warrant a separate story in this week's Science section.

When word of TIME's cover story circulated among Washington arms dealers, Hannifin found himself invited to West Virginia by a munitions merchant to try his hand at firing M-16s and Uzis, "I didn't shoot badly," he reports, "perhaps because I remembered what my old rifle-team instructor at Boise, Idaho, high school taught me. I put a speck of cigarette tobacco in my shooting eye to help with the

windage."

Ralph P. Davdson

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What you may not realize is that we have the resources to become energy independent, but if we're not careful, we may lose that opportunity, too.

Not every country is as lucky as we are: jolted into a rude awakening by the cartel of foreign oil-producing countries, we now have the ability to land on a cushion of coal.

That's right, coal. America's own energy source.

Undeniably, indisputably ours. With enough of it to fill our present total energy needs for the next 300 years. And, unlike solar power or other exotic sources, it's available now, when we need it.

But, like everything else in life, there's a but. In this case, it means we have to take action now, this year, if we hope to turn our coal potential into a reality.

We have the coal for industrial energy, for electric power and, with additional research, clean synthetic fuels. But it will take new mines, and money, technological innovation and legislative support. None of which is easy to come by.

The President, Congress, leading federal officials, the coal and transportation industries, environmentalists—all are seeking the best, most direct ways of solving the problems that stand between us and the full use of our coal.

What can you do to lend a hand in this momentous challenge? Plenty.

First, send for our free booklet, "Decision '75: Coal is the answer." All the facts, hard and objective, are there. So you can form your own opinion.

After you read the book, think about the situation. Consider the alternatives. If you still have questions you'd like us to answer, write us. But if you agree that timely and intelligent development of our coal resources is vital to our energy independence, tell the people working on the problem.

But do it now. Time is of the essence, and it's running out. If enough of us get together, soon enough, it's just possible that a lump of coal could remove the lump in America's throat.

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