

Mexico Tells Ford: 'No Cut-Rate Oil'

Blunt Stand by Echeverria

Tubac, Ariz.

Mexican President Luis Echeverria bluntly told President Ford yesterday that if the United States wants a share of Mexico's newly discovered oil deposits, it will have to pay the current high world market price.

Concluding a day of talks on both sides of the border, Mr. Ford and Echeverria appeared at a joint news conference at a country club dining room and made these other disclosures:

- Mexico has given up hope of negotiating a new treaty with the United States, on migrant farm workers, but insists that the Mexican workers' rights be observed while they are in the United States.

- Mr. Ford's opposition to formal recognition of Cuba remains unchanged, with the U.S. President saying, "Since there is no change in the attitude of Cuba, we certainly have to maintain our attitude." Mexico maintains diplomatic relations with Cuba.

- The United States is dropping its opposition to a proposed United Nations charter provision initiated by Echeverria on the economic rights and duties of nations.

The two presidents met first in the United States, then in Mexico before flying to the desert resort south of Tucson to hold a news conference. Afterwards Mr. Ford flew to Oklahoma City for some campaigning today and Echeverria returned to Mexico.

The first question was on the recently discovered oil deposits in southern Mexico and whether the two presidents had discussed Ameri-

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can access to the deposits.

"Si," Echeverria responded, adding through a translator that "Mexico sells to whoever wants to buy oil at the market price in the world market."

He disclosed for the first time that Mexican oil already is flowing to the Latin American nations, Uruguay

and Brazil, as well as the United States and Israel.

"We hope to continue to sell without making any difference among buyers in order to satisfy the demand," Echeverria said.

He skirted a direct answer on the size of the new oil find but said more than one-third of Mexico's current daily production of 64

million barrels "comes from only a few wells" in the region of the new strike.

"The oil finds in Mexico are very important," he said, without giving further figures. He added that oil exports are important to the Mexican economy "taking into account the prices that prevail, prices which we respect."

Some U.S. officials have

viewed the Mexican oil find as a potential aid in easing America's energy problem, but senior officials accompanying Mr. Ford said there was no effort to press Echeverria for favored treatment.

Mexico now sells its oil at \$11 a barrel — roughly the going world market price.

On the troublesome issue of illegal immigration of

Mexican farm workers into the United States, Echeverria told a questioner that his government has "definitely desisted" in its efforts to negotiate a new treaty allowing a quota of Mexicans to enter the United States at harvest season. Such a treaty had been vigorously opposed by U.S. labor unions, which contended any influx of workers across the border would undercut wages paid American workers.

The Mexican president said his government decided that "opposite results" came from the quota system, because Mexicans would move into border areas and if not allowed to legally immigrate would do so illegally.

Mr. Ford interjected that he and Echeverria had agreed to establish a commission to gather new data on the immigration problem, saying it would "give both of us better answers."

In dropping the cool U.S. attitude toward the Echeverria-promoted economic charter before the United Nations, Mr. Ford said he and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger view the plan as a "key and answer to economic development in all parts of our great globe."

The proposed charter is aimed at specifying the roles of such industrialized nations as the United States in relation to the poorer, developing countries. The restrictions it would impose on multinational corporations had been a major reason for the U.S. resistance to the proposal.

Before conferring privately in the city hall of Magdalena, the two presidents walked side by side through the dusty streets of the town. They were showered by flowers and the cheers of thousands of Mexicans.

Both Mr. Ford and Echeverria shed their suit coats during the walks, then stood in their shirtsleeves to acknowledge the noisy welcome of a crowd massed in a cobblestone-paved plaza.

Mr. Ford told the crowd: "I can assure you our meetings . . . will be off on the right foot and will be productive."

Associated Press



AP Wirephoto

LUIS ECHEVERRIA WAS EMBRACED BY MAYOR ALICIA AVELLANO
President Ford beamed in the background as his Mexican counterpart was greeted in the resort city