FUEL TRANSPORT went into winter lay-up in the Turning Basin at Toronto in December of 1968, and remained idle there for the 1969 season. Sold for \$60,000 to West Indies Ltda. S.A., the principals of which operated from Oyster Bay (Long Island), New York, for the Witfuel Corp., she was re-registered in Panama and cleared Toronto under her own power on June 2, 1970. Her Canadian registry was closed on June 23, 1970. Renamed (e) WITFUEL, she operated in the Caribbean under the Nicaraguan flag. She was laid up at St. Thomas, U.S.V.I., in 1974, noted as "survey overdue".

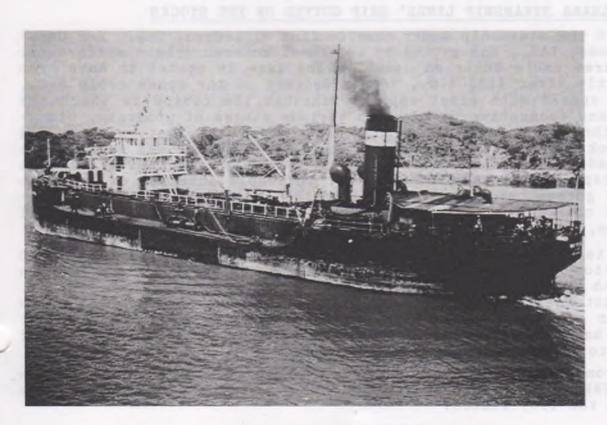
She still had a few years left to her, however, and in 1984 she was renamed (f) WITWATER and was transferred to Challenger Ltd., Hamilton, Bermuda, possibly running under the flag of the Cayman Islands. She was noted as 2499 Gross, 1211 Net and 3988 Deadweight Tons at this time. She was out of both Lloyd's and LCI by 1987, although we have no information as to her final disposition. She is yet another former laker that disappeared in foreign registry with no end to her life noted. If any member can she light on her eventual disposition, we would appreciate the information.

TEXACO WARRIOR continued to serve the Texaco Canada fleet until December 1, 1969, when she was sold to Hall Corp. (Shipping) 1969 Ltd. and renamed (c) LAKE TRANSPORT, thus reflecting the ownership of her sistership. LAKE TRANSPORT did not, however, have her stack shortened and she ran as the last tall-stacked tanker in the Halco fleet. She last operated during the 1973 season, at the end of which she was laid up at Sorel, Quebec. It was rumoured during the summer of 1974 that she had been sold to a Spanish bunkering service, but that never came to pass and, during 1975, shewas sold to Union Pipe & Machinery Ltd., Lachine, Quebec. That firm slowly broke her up and, by September 24, 1978, she was entirely dismantled.

* * *

Ed. Note: For their assistance with this feature, we extend our most sincere thanks to Skip Gillham, Bill Moran and Bill Schell. Much material came from the writings of the late Jim Kidd and John Bascom, and we would be lost without the copies of "Canadian Railway and Marine World" contained in the Toronto Libraries collection.

* * * * *



Photos of "Wit" tankers in Carribbean trade are rare, but here is WITFUEL in a photo from the collection of member Jim Bartke, courtesy of Skip Gillham.