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WASHINGTON
MERRY-GO-
ROUND 
By **DREW**
PEARSON

Big Interests May Fight Over Surplus Pipelines; "Rifle Not Much Good Against Tank," Says Bulge Fighter; Jeeps Carried Athletic Equipment Instead Of Ammunition To Hard-Pressed Front.

Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 6—Alert Senator Joe O'Mahoney of Wyoming, is one of the few senators with his eye glued on what may become a national scandal—the disposition of the two pipelines built by the government to carry oil and gasoline to the Atlantic Coast when Nazi U-boats made tanker shipments impossible.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation, still dominated backstage by Jesse Jones, has declared the two pipelines surplus and there is strong suspicion in some quarters that they may be allowed to rust and deteriorate.

Two powerful groups of people definitely do not want the pipelines to operate, despite the fact that they are cheaper than tankers. One group is the oil companies. The other group is John L. Lewis and his mine workers.

The last thing the Big Oil companies want is to have the government operate the pipelines and permit independents to ship the oil and gas through them to the East Coast. Some of the big oil companies have tried to get the pipelines for their own use, but the surplus property board, when under ex-Senator Guy Gillette, was not willing to sell to one company unless other companies were given the right to use the pipeline also.

John L. Lewis is even more worried about the pipelines. He fears that cheap natural gas from Texas will be pumped through them to the big cities of New York, Phil-

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