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UNITED STATES
  SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549
 Schedule 13G
 Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
 (Amendment No. 1) *
 Vaalco Energy, Inc.
 (Name of Issuer)
 Common Stock
 (Title of Class of Securities)
 91851C201
 (CUSIP Number)
 December 31, 1998
  (Date of Event Which Required Filing of this Statement)
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which
this Schedule is filed:
 [X] Rule 13d-1(b)
 [ ] Rule 13d-1(c)
 [ ] Rule 13d-1(d)
* The remainder of the cover page shall be filled out for a
reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to
the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment
containing information which would alter the disclosures provided
in a prior cover page.
The information required in the remainder of this cover page
shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise
subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall
be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the
Notes).
1. NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS
 I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY).
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
 (I.R.S. NO. 13-5581829)
2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group
(a) [ ] Not applicable
         ] Not applicable
(b)
3. SEC USE ONLY
4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
 A New York corporation
    5. SOLE VOTING POWER
     1,500,000
 NUMBER OF
 SHARES 6. SHARED VOTING POWER
 BENEFICIALLY
 OWNED BY EACH
 REPORTING 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
 PERSON WITH 1,500,000
    8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
    1,500,000
(All shares were acquired for the benefit of separate account
customers of the Reporting Person by its affiliate, State Street
Research & Management Company, Inc., an Investment Adviser
registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act.
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This affiliate follows an independent investment decision-making process and has sole voting and/or dispositive power over such securities. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership

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in these shares.)
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN
SHARES [ ]
11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON
ΙC
Item 1
(a). Name of Issuer
Vaalco Energy, Inc.
(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:
4600 Post Oak Place, Suite 309
Houston, TX 77027
Item 2
(a). Name of Person Filing
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
By Joseph P. Cresta, Vice-President
(b). Address of Principal Business Office
One Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10010
(c). Citizenship
A New York corporation
(d). Title of Class of Securities
Common Stock
(e). CUSIP Number
91851C201
Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to sections 240.13d-
1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is
(a) [ ] Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the
Act (15 U.S.C.78o);
 (b) [ ] Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15
U.S.C. 78c);
 (c) [X] Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of
the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);
(d) [ ] Investment company registered under section 8 of
the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8);
 (e) [ ] An investment adviser in accordance with section
240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
(f) [ ] An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in
accordance with section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
 (g) [ ] A parent holding company or control person in
accordance with section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
 (h) [ ] A savings association as defined in section 3(b)
of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
 (I) [ ] A church plan that is excluded from the definition
of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment
Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3); or
  (j) [ ] Group, in accordance with section 240.13d-1(b)(1)
(ii)(J).
Item 4. Ownership:
Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number
and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer
identified in Item 1.
 (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 1,500,000
 (b) Percent of Class: 7.2%
 (c) Number of shares as to which such person has
  (i) sole power to vote or to direct the
  vote: 1,500,000
  (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the
   vote: -0-
  (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the
  disposition of: 1,500,000
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(iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: -0-

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following [].

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person: See item 9 of the Cover Sheet.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company: Not Applicable

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group: Not Applicable  $\,$ 

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group: Not Applicable

## Item 10. Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

## SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 5, 1999
Signature: /s/ Joseph P. Cresta
Title: Vice-President

The certificate of incumbency evidencing the authority of the representative to sign on behalf of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company was attached to that certain Schedule D covering certain interests held in Nvest, L.P. and filed with the SEC on December 22, 1998, and is incorporated herein by reference. SCHEDULE 13G CUSIP No. 91851C201