

Eastern Mediterranean should be discouraged unless, in a particular case, political considerations are deemed to justify it.

f. Encourage the crude oil-producing companies, through individual approaches, to construct and maintain, consistent with their commercial resources, reserve production and loading facilities in the various producing areas (Middle East and elsewhere) to aid in the rapid expansion of exports in an emergency.

g. Encourage the oil industry to maintain as large tanker fleets in being as possible and to make maximum use of the Cape route. To this end practical studies should be undertaken in consultation with industry representatives, of the means, cost and implications (including the adequacy of port facilities) of maintaining a reserve of tanker capacity.

18. It is also recommended that in the light of recent political developments in the Middle East the two Governments make a joint study of the special problems that would be caused by an interference with Middle East production at the source.

20. Editorial Note

On July 14 General Abdul Karim Qassim led a military coup which overthrew the government of King Faisal of Iraq. The King, the Crown Prince, other members of the royal family, and Prime Minister Nuri Said were killed. The new provisional Government of Iraq announced that it was leaving the Arab Union. Documentation on the Iraqi coup and the United States response is printed in the compilation on Iraq.

On July 15 the Eisenhower administration sent 3,500 troops into Lebanon in response to a request from President Chamoun for U.S. and British intervention in Lebanon. Documentation on this decision is in volume XI, pages 107 ff.

On July 17 the British Government airlifted two battalions into Jordan at the request of the Jordanian Government. For the U.S. role in that decision, see *ibid.*, pages 264 ff.