

The British stated that they did not require any positions in writing at the present time but would like to orally discuss the Department's Middle East oil policies as they are developed. However, it was decided that a Department position should be developed on each of the points raised in the British memorandum to be submitted to the British as a memorandum or an *Aide-Memoire*.

3. Discussion of FTC report on International Petroleum Cartels:

The British were informed that publication of the report was delayed by the FTC because of the Iranian problem. The Department thinks there are major reasons which make it difficult for it to delay publication of the report.

Mr. Greenhill stated that it was unfortunate to add to an already embarrassing situation by publication of past acts of the oil companies. The British would much prefer that the report not be published. If publication cannot be avoided they would like to have adequate advance notice to allow them to make the necessary preparations to meet the possible impact of publication.

4. Relinquishment program in Saudi Arabia:

Mr. Greenhill referred to a despatch from Jidda regarding the relinquishment of oil concessions in Saudi Arabia and asked if there were any new developments on the relinquishment program.

Mr. Eakens stated that the program was already in effect and that 33,000 square miles of Aramco's concession would be relinquished every three years. Mr. Funkhouser pointed out the SAG was talking in terms of a much larger relinquishment—as much as one-half of the Aramco concession.

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Memorandum of Conversation, by David Longenecker of the Office of African Affairs

CONFIDENTIAL

[WASHINGTON,] April 21, 1952.¹

Subject: Status of Aramco-SAG discussions of concession terms.

Participants: NE—Mr. Jones
NE—Mr. Kopper
NE—Mr. Awalt
NE—Mr. Sturgill
PED—Mr. McMaster

¹This memorandum of conversation was prepared on May 6.