

2. The Attorney General, at the request of the State Department, dropped the following-named companies from the proposed defendants:

Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco)
Anglo Iranian Oil Company, Ltd.
Royal Dutch Shell Company
Bahrein Petroleum Company
Mediterranean Refining Company
N.V. Pacific Matschapii

You will note that the only defendants named are American companies.

3. I have advised the Attorney General that the State Department will answer the British and Dutch notes, in which they request the elimination of British and Dutch companies from the list of defendants and that he need not suggest a form of answer.

4. It is recommended that you write the Attorney General, thanking him for his co-operation in this matter.

5. The minutes of the Security Council action relative to this matter has been amended to read as follows and has been approved by Mr. Cutler and by the Attorney General.

"b. Noted that the Secretary of State agreed with the decision in a to discontinue the criminal proceedings but believes that the institution of a civil suit would seriously prejudice United States foreign relations unless the proceedings are conducted with due regard for all matters affecting such foreign relations as well as national security."

No. 289

887.2553/4-235k Telegram

*The Acting Secretary of State to the Embassy in Lebanon*¹

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON, April 23, 1953—11:13 a. m.

1917. Memorandum from U.K. representatives Washington states Lebanese Government exerting pressure IPC allocate twenty per cent Tripoli production local marketers. British suggest coordinated approach Lebanese Government pointing out our Governments cannot condone action voiding 1952 agreement or approve negotiations under duress; that transit and market arrangements have always, as provided for in concession, been negotiated between company and Lebanese Government and that Lebanese Government cannot expect IPC accept unilateral action this matter since

¹ Drafted by Penniman and cleared by NEA and, in draft, by OMP and L/E.