

all parties concerned. A similar position would apply to Lebanon. (Most participants in the meeting believed that before telling Mr. Darlington exactly what the Department would be able to do, the Department's proposed line of action should be cleared with Justice.)

It was also agreed that with respect to the specific formulae contained in the IPC proposals, the Department would not make any formal or official comments or suggestions to IPC. Mr. Eakens would, however, after obtaining the comments of the other interested persons in the Department, transmit such comments to Mr. Darlington on a purely personal and informal basis and for such use as Socony might wish to make of them. These would take into account the comments of Mr. Moline, set forth in Despatch No. 5400, May 11, 1953 from London. ²

² Not printed. (800.2553/5-1153)

No. 296

887.2553/6-1653

*Memorandum of Conversation, by Herbert Liebhafsky of the
Petroleum Policy Staff*

CONFIDENTIAL

[WASHINGTON,] June 16, 1953. ¹

Subject: Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC) Paper for Pipe Line Transit Negotiations with Syria and Lebanon.

Participants: Mr. Charles Darlington, Socony Vacuum Overseas
Supply Company
Mr. Funkhouser—NEA
Messrs. Eakens and Liebhafsky—PED

Mr. Darlington, representing the Socony Vacuum interest in the Iraq Petroleum Company, had requested the meeting to obtain the Department's reactions to certain negotiating proposals which IPC was considering with a view to presenting them to Syria and Lebanon as a basis for negotiating pipeline transit agreements with those countries.

Mr. Darlington stated at the outset that he believed the question of renegotiating the existing agreements was quiet at the moment and not likely to be reopened before autumn. He believed the transit countries were watching the current Aramco negotiations with Saudi Arabia, and that the results of those negotiations would

¹ This memorandum of conversation was prepared on June 18.