

Commission would have to consider was that of general commercial policy, and that it would have very little time in which to do its work, since its report would be due in March 1954 and it does not yet exist as an entity. Mr. Armstrong commented that he had examined in some detail, during the fall of 1952, the amount of work which it would be necessary for any government petroleum policy commission to do if it were to get a clear picture of the issues and problems requiring resolution. It was his conclusion that it would be impossible for the proposed Foreign Economic Policy Commission or a subcommittee of it to get the work done properly within the allotted time.

No. 357

886A.2553/7-3054: Telegram

The Ambassador in Saudi Arabia (Wadsworth) to the Department of State

SECRET PRIORITY

JIDDA, July 30, 1954--9 p. m.

43. Re Embtel 42, July 30. ¹ Following is text note:

"Jidda August 2, 1954

Your Royal Highness

Under instructions from my Government I have the honor to address to The Royal Saudi Arabian Government the following communication anent the agreement signed on January 20, 1954 between The Royal Saudi Arabian Government and Mr. Aristotle Socrates Onassis hereinafter referred to as the Onassis Agreement:

On April 30 last I handed to His Majesty, the King, a communication expressing *inter alia* my Government's concern over the effects the Onassis Agreement would have on private American interests.

In this regard my communication stated that the US Government shared the opinion of Aramco and of other private American companies that the Onassis Agreement was not in keeping with the Aramco concession agreement.

To this His Majesty, the King, replied in substance that Saudi Arabia would fulfill all relevant obligations it has assumed, but that where no obligations lay it would act as it deemed best in the national interest.

¹ Telegram 31 to Jidda, July 29, not printed, transmitted some changes the Department of State proposed to the Embassy's text in telegram 38 from Jidda, Document 355. (886A.2553/7-2654) Telegram 42 from Jidda, not printed, reported telegram 43 would contain the text of a note to be delivered to the Saudi Arabian Foreign Office on Aug. 2, unless the Department altered the text in the meantime. (886A.2553/7-3054)