

MLI

Reissue

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No: 17

4 January 1945

To VIKTOR[1].

On 2 January CONTRACTOR [PORYaDChIK][11] told me the following:

In November a representative of Standard Oil, DREJNER[111], who had returned from Teheran, three times invited CONSTRUCTOR to discussions in the presence of two members of the board of directors (CONSTRUCTOR says he doesn't remember the names). The question of getting an Iranian oil concession was discussed. CONSTRUCTOR stated that the creation of a concession without the participation of the Iranian government was impossible. Standard Oil immediately expressed readiness to create a mixed company for exploitation of the concession with a distribution of shares of 60% to the Americans and the rest to the Iranian government with capital of 100-150 million dollars and inquired how big a sum the Iranian government could put in. In the future it is proposed to buy up the remaining 40% of the shares. CONSTRUCTOR said that he was not authorized to decide such questions but he agreed to transmit the Standard Oil proposal to Teheran, considering that the distribution of shares could be only half and half with [4 groups unrecovered] Standard Oil. [6 groups unrecovered] Iran. Standard Oil expressed readiness to afford the Iranian government [2 groups unrecovered]. CONSTRUCTOR was asked about possible

[53 groups unrecoverable]

instructions concerning line of conduct.

No.11
4 January

ANTON[1v]

Comments: [1] VIKTOR: Lt. Gen. P. M. FITIN.

[11] PORYaDChIK: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

[111] DREJNER: Probably an error for Thomas J. DRAPER, an executive of Standard Vacuum Oil Company.

[1v] ANTON: Leonid KVASNIKOV.