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ESTIMATED CAPABILITIES OF THE USSR TO BUILD
A TRANS-IRANIAN PIPELINE
FROM ABADAN TO THE CASPIAN SEA

(A Preliminary Report)

25X1X6 16. [REDACTED] with many years' experience in pipeline construction and maintenance, who has visited Iran, believes that construction of a pipeline to deliver petroleum products from Abadan to the Caspian Sea is not only possible but feasible. He states that, given men and materials, he could build such a line in less than a year.

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Review

S-E-C-R-E-T

ESTIMATED CAPABILITIES OF THE USSR TO BUILD

A TRANS-IRANIAN PIPELINE

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(A Preliminary Report)

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16. [redacted] quotes a US national with years of experience, who is a recognized authority on pipeline construction, to the effect that a pipeline can be built in less than a year to deliver petroleum products from Abadan to the Caspian Sea.

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12. A Census of Pipeline Construction Contractors, Oil and Gas Journal, Vol. 49, No. 20, September 21, 1950, pp. 188-9.

13. M/P memorandum for files, 15 April 1952, Subject: "Alberta-Vancouver Trans-Mountain Oil Pipeline."

14. M/P memorandum for record, 8 July 1952, Subject: "Petroleum Stocks in Iran."

15. M/P contribution to Project 110-51. Unpublished. Secret.

In terms of total steel requirements, 110-51 preliminary estimates place total annual input to the USSR oil industry for expansion and operation in the range of 650,000 to 1,000,000 metric tons per year. The Trans-Iranian pipeline program outlined in this report would require not over one-seventh of this minimum input, and would provide a non-declining source of petroleum products as compared with an average annual decline of at least 10 percent on crude oil sources within the USSR.

25X1A2g 16.

The following excerpts are quoted from this report.

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"2. I have heard much discussion about the possibility of the Soviets building a pipeline from Iranian oil fields to the Caspian Sea if they ever acquired military control of the Middle East. I think such construction is not only possible, but feasible. Of course, I know little of the technical competence of Soviet engineers in regard to pipe line construction, but I'm sure that, given men and materials, I could build such a line, making refined products from Abadan to the Caspian Sea in less than a year...."