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STATINTL

Onassis Works On Saud Plan

MONTE CARLO, Feb. 21 (AP) —

Greek ship owner Aristotle Socrates Onassis said today a Saudi Arabian proposal for him to sell a number of his tankers to King Saud "is very interesting and capable of leading to a settlement of my difference with the Arabian American Oil Co. (Aramco)."

Mr. Onassis told The Associated Press that the proposal comes from King Saud himself.

He added he is now working on it but has taken no decision in one direction or another yet.

Under the proposal Mr. Onassis would sell 1,000,000 tons of his tankers to King Saud, but would still be "in charge of the management" of the entire fleet.

The proposal will probably not satisfy Aramco, which has claimed that the contract Mr. Onassis signed with Saudi Arabia over a year ago is contravening Aramco's own concession.

Under the contract Mr. Onassis provides Saudi Arabia with a fleet of tankers in return for preference in transporting the nation's oil production.

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