

19 May 1994

OIL CAPITAL LIMITED, Inc.
 301 E. 48th Street
 New York, NY 10017
 (212) 750-0561
 Registered in Delaware and Panama
 Controlling shareholder: Roger Tamraz
 \$50 million in capital

OIL CAPITAL LIMITED
 390 N. Orange Ave, Suite 1875
 Orlando, FL 32801-1681
 (407) 425-3491
 Executive Vice President and Treasurer: Gil Sireni
 11 employees
 sales in 1994: \$940,000
 Oil royalty traders

Roger Tamraz

Head of or affiliated with the following concerns over the last 20 years: First Arabian Corp., Strand, Tamoil, Oil Capital Limited, Arabian Seaoil, Intra Investment Company (U)

- A Lebanese national, Tamraz is currently in his mid-50s. He earned a Masters Degree in business administration from Harvard Business School. (U)
- Tamraz is a big talker who relishes the spotlight. "I enjoy notoriety," he told Forbes. According to his self-drafted curriculum vitae, he is a man "capable of changing any existing power balance." (U)
- Tamraz currently splits his time between New York and Paris. (U)

On the down-side, however, his business dealings have left a trail of victims. (U)

- Tamraz is still wanted for questioning by Lebanese justice authorities who charged him in 1989 with mishandling the funds of the country's second-largest bank, causing its collapse. (U)
 - He claims the charges are trumped up because of his close association with former Lebanese President Amin Gemayel. (U)

In addition, the Lebanese Government in May 1991 formally charged Tamraz in May 1991 with misusing public funds while he was in office in 1987 and listing them as state expenditures. Beirut also issued a subpoena ordering Tamraz to appear for interrogations regarding the disappearance of 1,000 passports. (U)

- Tamraz is believed to have been involved with Lebanese officials in a confidence scheme involving the establishment of dummy companies abroad and the financing of "projects" undertaken by these companies with loans from Bank Al-Mashrek. (C)

Tamraz and the Bank Al-Mashrek Crisis

As a result of severe liquidity problems facing Bank Al-Mashrek in the latter part of 1988, Tamraz was forced to resign as the organization's Chairman and Director General, [REDACTED]

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

- Tamraz was accused of a variety of financial misdeeds, including approval of under-collateralized loans to risky ventures in which he had a personal interest, [REDACTED]. Associated losses were estimated at \$100 to \$230 million. (U)
- In March 1989 Tamraz disappeared from Lebanon amid reports--almost certainly untrue--that he had been kidnapped and that \$1.5 million was paid for his release. He apparently fled the country, for Paris, to evade arrest. (U)

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

Al-Mashrek's affiliates throughout the Middle East were severely affected, as well.

- In December 1989, Doha cancelled Bank Al-Mashrek's permit to do business in Qatar because of the organization's liquidity problems, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Al-Mashrek Qatar started to run into financial difficulties in 1988 when its parent company, Tamraz's Intra Investment Company, used deposits of its branches outside Beirut to enter into risky investments in real estate and in the Lebanese currency and stock markets. (U)

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

- The Al-Mashrek Bank in Jordan also experienced financial difficulties. [REDACTED]

1.5(c)
1.6(d)(1)

[REDACTED] Al-Mashrek Jordan also lost \$6-8 million in local currency due to bad loans approved by the Tamraz board of directors. (U)

- In March 1989, Banque de Participations and de Placements (BPP)--a small French Bank and the French subsidiary of the Lebanese Financial Group Intra, headed by Tamraz--declared bankruptcy, causing a minor scandal in Paris. (U)

Tamraz's Other Business Deals

Tamraz's other business dealings have frequently made the newspapers, and include:

- In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Tamraz used his contacts in the Shah's Iran to get American Transcontinental Pipeline its deal to liquefy natural gas in Iran. (U)
- In post-Nasserite Egypt, Tamraz helped Bechtel Corp clinch the bid for the Suez-Mediterranean pipeline over a consortium of 11 European firms. (U)

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- In 1973--while he was working for Kidder, Peabody--Tamraz used his contacts in Saudi Arabia to obtain for the Japanese trading house Itochu 100 million barrels of desperately needed Saudi oil during the Arab oil embargo. (U)
- Tamraz's First Arabian Corporation made good real estate investments in the 1970s, according to a close Tamraz associate, who claimed Tamraz made a fortune buying and selling Paris hotels in the 1970s. (U)
- In 1981, having left Kidder, Peabody with significant backing from wealthy Arabs, Tamraz's Arabian Seaoil tried unsuccessfully to acquire Commonwealth Oil Refining (nfi). (U)
- In 1985, Tamraz sold 70 percent of Tamoil--the European oil corporation involved mainly in fuel oil production and sales in northern Italy which he established and named after himself--to the Libyan-owned Arab Foreign Bank, retaining 10 percent for his First Arabian Corporation. (U)
- By August 1985, however, Tamraz's Tamoil was in trouble, and its chairman asked Italian authorities to place the concern under the Milan Tribunal's administration. By September 1985 Tamoil was under court administration in Italy while it worked on its financial problems. (U)
- In May 1985, Tamraz's First Arabian Corporation, which owned Tamoil, was unable to come up with the financing needed to buy Chevron Italiana's refining and marketing assets. (U)
- In 1985, First Arabian Corp, whose shareholders include Saudis, Kuwaitis, and Qataris, among others, bought Chevron's Italian marketing operations. (U)
- In 1986, Tamraz formed a joint venture company with Warren Avis (founder of Avis, Inc.) to sell travelers checks. Tamraz was to fund the venture through Intra Investment, his Lebanese financial services concern. (U)
- In the fall of 1993, Oil Capital Limited bid \$50 million to develop two oil and gas fields in western Turkmenistan in a 50/50 venture with Turkmen President Niyazov, but a variety of sources claim Tamraz "never put a penny on the table." Although he claimed to have several backers, including Japan's Itochu Corporation, most denied any involvement with Tamraz. (U)
- Tamraz was originally included in US Commerce Secretary Brown's delegation to Russia in March 1994 to expand US-Russian trade, but apparently was removed at the last minute. (U)
- In February 1995, Oil Capital Limited was part of a consortium (with China Metallurgical Construction Corp) that bid on the purchase of 75 percent of the Reesk copper mine in northeast Hungary. (U)

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