

# Oil Executive Resigns Over Westrick Gift

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Nazi Agent Faces

## Action by Dewey

NEW YORK, Aug. 12 (C.T.P.S.). Capt. Torkild Rieber, Norwegian-born oil executive, has resigned as chairman of the board of Texas Corporation, a statement from the company announced tonight. The reason, it said, was "certain publicity detrimental to the Texas Company."

Then, in a detailed statement, the company traced its relations with Dr. Gerhard Alois Westrick, Nazi commercial attache in this country, admitted he had been retained as a lawyer for the oil company, and explained that he had been given an automobile owned by the company because "exchange restrictions" made it impossible for Westrick to bring money from Germany to buy a car of his own.

### Deny Oil Sales to Germany

Rieber's resignation was accepted by the board "with real regret on the part of each member," it was explained.

Incorporated in the statement were direct quotations from Rieber, who pointed out that as head of the foreign business department he had met Westrick but asserted that the company did not have a dollar of investment in Germany and had sold no oil to the German government since the outbreak of the present war.

### Westrick Faces Prosecution

Meanwhile, Westrick, involved with the New York Motor Vehicle Bureau over his driving license and the registration of the car paid for by the Texas Company, faced possibility of criminal prosecution.

A copy of the minutes of the hearing at which his driving license and car registration were revoked because of false statements in his applications, were turned over to District Attorney Dewey's office.

Meanwhile, Westrick and his family checked out of their hotel today, leaving no forwarding address and exacting a promise of hotel officials that they would not disclose the destination of the Westrick baggage—reportedly, Washington, D. C.