

## Chase, Howard

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**From:** Bennett, Sam M  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 27, 2002 8:36 AM  
**To:** Stewart, Ian B; Odone, Toby; Baldwin, John T  
**Cc:** Chase, Howard; Herold, Richard A  
**Subject:** RE: Canada's Norex Alleges Russian Oil Racketeering Scheme

Gentlemen, Rotzang (Norex) has had a very long running battle over this issue with Alfa-Access. This does indeed date back to the good (bad) old days. Norex has filed against Access because Access is a US registered company. Access is led by Len Blavatnik. Blavatnik's partner is Victor Vekselberg, the two run the Russian company, Renova. Access is Alfa's partner and co-owner of the notorious TNK. TNK, through the even more notorious German Khan, is the real target of Norex's suit. While our history is intertwined with the events that befell Norex, we long ago parted company on the road to where we find ourselves to-day. Our official response should be that this is nothing to do with us.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Stewart, Ian B  
**Sent:** 27 February 2002 13:09  
**To:** Odone, Toby; Baldwin, John T  
**Cc:** Bennett, Sam M; Chase, Howard; Herold, Richard A  
**Subject:** RE: Canada's Norex Alleges Russian Oil Racketeering Scheme

Toby - Nah, that was Kaz, this goes back to the good ... I mean bad ol' days ..

John - See below. We are the victims named in the final par. Can you remember the names of the Access / Renova guys? Is this a serious turn of events? If so, do we see implications for us via Alfa?

Regards.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Odone, Toby  
**Sent:** 27 February 2002 12:26  
**To:** Stewart, Ian B  
**Subject:** FW: Canada's Norex Alleges Russian Oil Racketeering Scheme

This is not what we were talking about is it? That was definitely Kazakhstan...

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Nicholas, David H  
**Sent:** 27 February 2002 10:54  
**To:** Bebbington, Clare; Odone, Toby; Baldwin, John T; Stewart, Ian B  
**Subject:** Canada's Norex Alleges Russian Oil Racketeering Scheme

In case it's of any interest:

### **Canada's Norex Alleges Russian Oil Racketeering Scheme**

**By COLLEEN DEBAISE**

OF DOW JONES NEWSWIRES

**NEW YORK --** Canadian oil firm Norex Petroleum Ltd. contends in a lawsuit that a group of American companies operated a massive racketeering and money-laundering scheme to take over a major portion of the Russian oil industry.

Norex claims the American businesses wielded control over Russia's Tyumen Oil Co. and used that power to take over Yugraneft, another Russian oil company, in the "old-fashioned way - through

fraudulent representations, sheer physical force of armed thugs, and corruption of the local government."

Norex, which had been a majority shareholder of Yugraneft, seeks compensatory damages of at least \$500 million and triple damages of \$1.5 billion under federal racketeering laws.

The suit, filed Tuesday in Manhattan federal court, claims the scheme was masterminded in offices in New York by Access Industries Inc., Renova Inc., and the executives who controlled those businesses.

Access Industries couldn't immediately be reached. A phone message left at Renova wasn't immediately returned.

According to the suit, the American businesses conspired with the Alfa Group, a consortium of international companies that reportedly has close ties to the Kremlin, in the illegal scheme.

Access Industries, Renova and Alfa allegedly paid bribes to Russian government officials in order to take over Tyumen during its privatization in the late 1990s, Norex claims in the suit.

The companies also bribed officials to take over and maintain control of Yugraneft, according to the suit.

Norex said in the suit that the illegal scheme extended to the bankruptcy proceedings of two units of Sidanco (R.SDK), the Russian oil company.

Norex said Access, Renova and Alfa rigged auctions of the assets of the bankrupt companies to obtain their petroleum reserves. The "corrupted bankruptcies" ultimately harmed Sidanco and its shareholders, including BP Amoco PLC (BP), the Harvard University Endowment Fund and Norex, according to the suit.

-By Colleen DeBaise, Dow Jones Newswires; 212-227-2017; colleen.debaise@dowjones.com

*Updated February 26, 2002 6:58 p.m. EST*