Ltr to Mr. Byroade from Amb. Berry acknowledging HAB's "conclusions" of Secty's trip to NE.
American Embassy,
Baghdad, Iraq,
July 15, 1953.

Dear Hank:

I was very pleased to receive your letter of June 15th enclosing a copy of the notes you put together as you flew homeward from the Near Eastern trip. I was particularly glad to learn that the Secretary had read and reworked your notes, indicating his deep interest.

For sometime it has seemed to me that in the Department at the NEA level there has been a good understanding of the problems of the area and considerable constructive thinking on how to meet those problems, but when NEA thinking got upstairs we found that there was not the necessary appreciation to get our position accepted. Therefore, to know today that the Secretary is personally familiar with the problems of the area from meeting those problems face to face in the area, and that he has given his blessing to your paper discussing both problems and remedies, is one of the most important and encouraging events for this area that has occurred in quite some time.

I have found very little to criticize in the paper and a great deal to commend. I particularly like the section on defense. In Iraq I feel that when the cards are down the Government will go further than in most Near Eastern countries in giving desired guarantees, but even these should be kept as simple as possible with the purpose of winning friendship.

Here our greatest problem grows out of the need to present a united front with Great Britain and France and, at the same time, to avoid the accusation of perpetuating colonialism. We will have to use all our skill in driving home the point that the Secretary made so effectively in the Prime Minister's office, that the

The Honorable
Henry A. Byroade,
Assistant Secretary of State for
Near Eastern, South Asian and African Affairs,
Department of State.
splitting of the West and the encouragement of nationalism is the line upon which the Communist are working, and, therefore, the line which is really most dangerous to the local people. Until now this has been one of the blank spots in the Iraqi minds, but by a great deal of careful work I think we can make progress in eliminating it. We are hard at work at it now.

Very sincerely,

Burton Y. Berry