

OUTGOING AIRGRAM

Department of State

3769

~~RESTRICTED~~
CLASSIFICATION

AMEMBASSY,
BAGHDAD.

3769

611.87/4-951
X25118721

A-50; Aug 29; 1951

Reference is made to the Embassy's despatch No. 1050 dated April 9, 1951 concerning the book AMERICA AS I SAW IT by Sayid Amin Al-Mumayiz.

The Department regrets that it has not been able to take the action recommended by the Embassy. Although an important aspect of the Campaign of Truth program is assistance in the publication of indigenous material, it is obvious that such material should be well balanced and not sensational. The outline of Mr. Mumayiz's book seems to be well organized. However there is not a chapter on the West or on farming and the inclusion of the Negro problem and anti-semitism seems to promise a certain sensational approach. Moreover, a study of the list of illustrations which he has requested raises some questions as to whether or not Mr. Mumayiz's book will be a representative picture of the United States.

This project was discussed with the former Public Affairs Officer at Baghdad while he was in Washington. He confirmed the Department's opinion that AMERICA AS I SAW IT might not be suitable for our program.

However, the Embassy may wish to request a copy of the final text from Mr. Mumayiz in order to make a careful review of the contents. Since it is proposed that the Embassy obtain copies of AMERICA AS I SAW IT for distribution in Arabic-speaking countries, it would be necessary that the text be approved before copies are purchased.

The Embassy should inform the Department if, after making a careful review of the book, the Department should proceed to purchase paper and obtain the illustrations.

Acheson
(MEM)

ACHESON

NEA/P

8/24/51

~~RESTRICTED~~
CLASSIFICATION

OEX:ICD:MEMcNaull:scf

S/S - CR/My

AUG 29 1951 P.M.

Corrections made on this original MUST be made on all copies before delivery to Airgram Section, Telegraph Branch.

511.8721/8-2951

511.8721/8-2951

CS/H

DISTRIBUTION
DESIRED
(OFFICES ONLY)

ATTN: OS