

In reply refer to
ICD

NOV 30 1951

Dear Victor:

Thank you for your letter of November 6, 1951, giving me some of the impressions you got from your recent trip abroad.

I think I need not tell you how important we regard overseas operations of American private organizations engaged in informational activities. It is therefore particularly gratifying for me to know that our people in the field were able to be of some help to you.

Your observation that English is fast becoming the active second language in the Middle East is a most interesting one. We are still faced, however, with the tremendous task of developing fully what advantage we gain from this language interest. As you know, certain projects aimed at stimulating the commercial distribution overseas of United States books constitute one approach to which we are devoting considerable attention and effort. It goes without saying that it would not have been possible to undertake these projects without the cooperation and efforts put forth by you and your colleagues.

The information which is being collected for you by our Division of Information Centers will soon be available. Meanwhile if you think there is anything I can do to help these projects along, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Edward W. Barrett
Assistant Secretary

Mr. Victor Weybright,
Chairman & Editor,
The New American Library of World Literature, Inc.,
501 Madison Avenue,
New York 22, New York.

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