Dear William:

I returned Saturday, the 27th, from another TJ trip of exploration in the area south of the Zerga. With the exception of the inmediate es-Salt area, and the Jordan River valley, I have now completed all of the territory of Sihon, which is as far as I shall be able to carry the third part of my Explorations. I have finished about helf of the text for this third part. Winnett and I was out for the first four days in this month, and then were compelled to return because of a summons from Helen, who is in her third month of pregnancy, and was about to experience the same accident that terminated her previous pregnancy. A rider sent out by Harding found us after a day and a half, and we got back to Jeruselem as fast as we could. The abortion had fortunately been averted. helen felt much better about a week after I returned to Jerusales, so I hied wyself off to TJ again, this time alone, because sinnett was about to leave for India to join his family there. The trip was interesting, and the same historical results that have previously been obtained apply to the territory as far as the Zerga. Farticularly is this area rich in EB III sites. I found one, for instance, overlooking the Beq's from the west, which is 300 metres long, and the outer wall of which can still be traced. I do not remember exactly, but I believe we found about might hi sites slong and immediately south of the Kerga. I did one site north of the Zerga, and it seems to me that there were several MB shords. If that is true, then the Zerga may prove to be the boundary line of the gan between EB and EI. Conditions have become so aggravated recently, however, that I shall be compelled to halt my exploitations for a while. A particularly brutal murder of some non-Jewish government surveyors on the TJ side of the Jordan occurred while I was not very far away. another reason that I shall have to stop for a while, is that upon returning home. I found that Beles had had a relapse. It is so serious, that as much as I hate to do so. I am compelled to cancell the trip to Brussels. which I was going to make primarily to use you and Forgenstern. We had previously given up the idea of going to Smitzerland. In addition, the situation here has taken such a turn for the worse, that I feel also it would be better for me to be around in case anything happened. Fisher isn't here, but even if he were, I could not rely upon him to know how to met if a difficult situation arose. I forsee the possibility of not being able to so much field work this year. This will not be all to the bad for me, because I have a great deal of research and writing to do in connection with the materials I now have in hand. It will of course seriously affect the schedule of work I had plan-ned out for the next two years. I am very desirous of finishing the survey. If A amn't continue working in northern Transjordan this year. I shall need a fifth year out here in order to complete it. One of the for going to Brussels, was that I wanted to broach the possibility, of one yet additional year's leave-of-absence, which would make the five that be - I had originally talked about. Mainly, however, I wanted to go to Brussels to talk Tell el-Kheleifeh with you. With regard to your comparison of the mem of the aramais inscription with that of the inscription from Tell el-Hesi, it seems to me that there is a good deal of difference between them. However, after exemining the similar types of jugs and looking up the positions of where they were found. I can agree with your letter of July 8 that the first helf of the seventh century would be a satisfactory date for it, with one exception

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these Juga were found at depths which could belong to Level IV. Avecy MANAGERANAMENTAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY O and is the one in which we found the cat arulet.

(2). Most of the Gaus'anal scal impressions were found on or near the floor of what is definitely Level III, which I now date from the time of Uzgiah to the time the Edomites regained Elath.

(3). The south-Arabic inscription was also found on the floor of what is

Level III.

(4). We have thus far found none of the black-burnished juglets of TBM A. but numerous elongated juglets with rounded bottoms that are common

(5). The juglet #445 definitely belongs to the transitional type analogue of the Cypro-Phoeniolam cintment juglet of MI I, being between the classes discussed in TBM I, # 95 and 116, and which juglet you say in your letter of July 18 "can hardly be earlier than circa 850 B.C. nor later than circa 700 B.C. at the outside". The fine, but somewhat irregular, almost continuous ring-burnishing of the jet jug. smixite - and its general appearance lead me to believe that it is nearer the earlier than the later of the two limits you suggest. We have a number of this type of juglets, but smaller, which are practically duplica-ted by fig. 14, p. 85 of TBM I. Juglet #445 definitely belongs to Level III, as do the others mentioned either with certainty or probability.

So much for that for the present. I am having the drawings of most of my pottery inked in now, and will have both drawings and pottery photographed as woon as possible, and send you copies. In the mentime, I find more reason as a result of the examination I have made this week of adopting the dating I suggested to you in my last letter. I am quite prepared to assign Level IV to the period extending from about the end of the eighth to the beginning of the sixth century B.C. I shall be most grateful for any additional comments or criticisms.

Winnett left two articles with me, thinking that I would be taking them to Brussels. I had suggested to him that you might care to publish one of them in the Bulletin. He would like Ryckmans to have the other published. On the other hand, I am sure that Winnett would be very glad to have both articles published in the Bulistin. He is a fine fellow. I should like to recommend that he be kept in sind for a future annual Professor.

will you please present my apologies to the Secretary of the Congress, and explain to him why I cannot come, and give the illustrated lecture on Mh. et-Tannur that I had planned to give?. I am enclosing two photographs from Kh. et-Tannur. I wonder if you could ask competent authorities for me what the meaning of the symbol above the left shoulder of the Tyche in the Zodiac panel is, and the meaning of the similar symbol above the right shoulder of the defaced Tyche. I wrote to A.B. Cook, who had previously written to me for permission to publish our Hadad figure in his new volume. (which permission I gave him), but he has never answered me. If Charles ricard is at the Congress, he would be a good person to wak. Seyrig does not seem to know what the symbol is, nor any one around here. Mishing you a pleasant stay abroad.

as ever, sincerely yours. A.L.