

June 11, 1957

The purpose of this letter is rather serious.

For years Hilaire du Berrier has written to a wide and varied circle of friends of the world's currents and cross currents. And of a deadly undertow. He has told of the people riding the one and of those caught in the other. This information was collected from whatever seat in whatever part of the world he happened to find himself.

The background material concerning him at the end of this letter reveals his familiarity with faraway lands and peoples--only our own land or household is comparably intimate to most of us.

Some of his friends on the West Coast of America have long compared his information and analysis of events with that we receive through recognized news media. H. du B., not the news media, has helped us to awareness of the basic conflicts between East and West, black and white, Islam and Christianity. The struggle is deadly and preparation and maneuvers are in terms of earthly survival. As yet it is a fluid fight with everchanging manipulation of alliances and arms. How long can it remain fluid if our State Department maintains a rigidity of attitude toward our allies on policy but permits flexibility or softness toward freedom's enemies?

Take State's policy regarding colonialism. "Opposing colonialism" has become a fool-proof excuse for any move in policy in the areas of Allied influence that from the start was strategically or politically untenable.

Our State Department's press releases and most of our American news media still deplore England's and France's move in the Suez Canal situation as unsound action. Many of us feel the only unsoundness lay in timing and not finishing the job. We deplore the Eisenhower administration's belief that by placating Nasser we can win the Afro-Asian bloc from Russia. We do not believe that the support of evil men or stubborn men whose administrations are evil will win their peoples to our principles and beliefs. That era has ended.

Our panicky efforts to substitute money gifts for courage in the face of disaster are producing permanence in more and more bad situations world-wide--a divided Germany, the Suez Canal debacle and the administration of Pres. Diem in South Vietnam to name a few.

Recently some of us sat on George Washington's porch and recalled that the people who founded our country meant what they said. Today too many well-meaning, fence-sitting men are in our public life and when forced off of the fence they solve the dilemma by trying to go in both directions at once! We are sick of them.

And some days ago America's tax-paying, foreign-aid-providing citizens were treated to the works in selling campaigns. The blurbs, extravagances and over-all coverage were in Madison Avenue's best manner.

We refer to the hullabaloo over Pres. Diem of South Vietnam. Only the quality of mind accustomed to directing the introduction of a new soap substitute would try to sell Diem as a substitute for President Magsaysay's past leadership in Asia.

Pres. Diem's understanding of and staying power against Communism and his administrative ability are way down the ladder from President Magsaysay's passionate belief in and flaming defense of a free world.

Our Heavenly Father took President Magsaysay unto Himself when his work was done.

America is pulling the strings and playing the banker all over the world today. Are we now trying to take on the Lord's work too when it is reported we provide \$750,000 to be spent abroad mainly to build up confidence in Pres. Diem's administration?

Asians will place the torch of President Magsaysay's leadership not our State Department.

Six newsletters, with irregular mailing dates, will follow this explanatory letter. We are not interested in selling this letter at this time. H. du B. cares not a hang whether his reader likes his faithful reporting or not. He will report why moves are made and how the people concerned feel about any given development. He thinks that news should present the situation as it is. Let the reader adapt himself or change the situation--not demand that a report be recast.