

CUNEIFORM TEXTS FROM NIMRUD V

THE NIMRUD LETTERS, 1952

Edited by

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BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ
2001

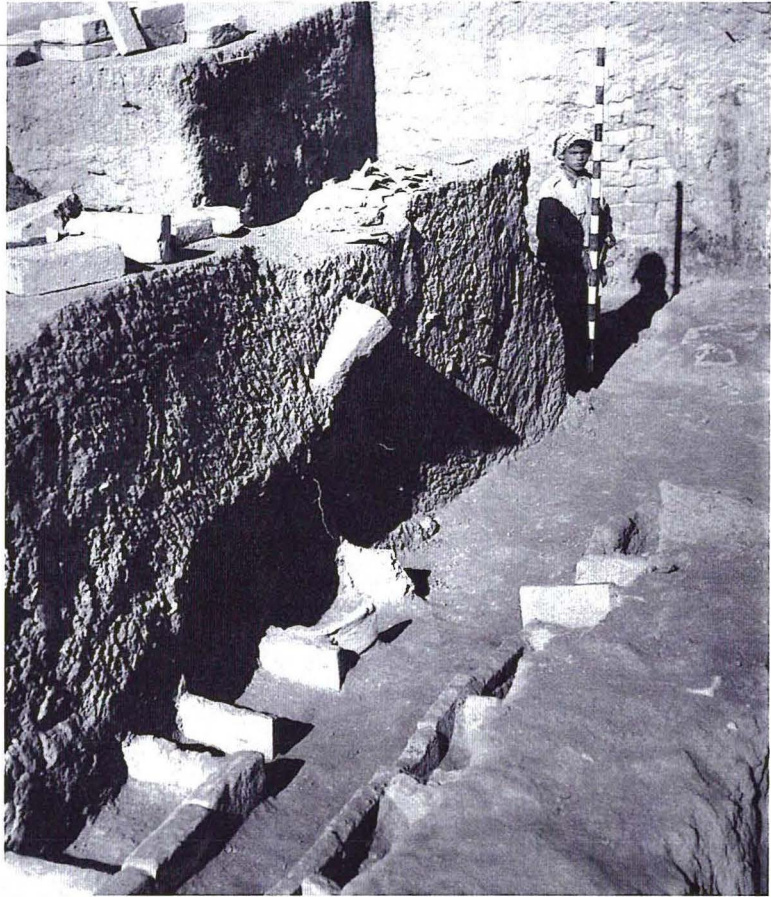
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To Joan,
my dear wife



The "filing cabinets" in ZT 4 [after *Iraq* 15 (1953), Plate IV.1].

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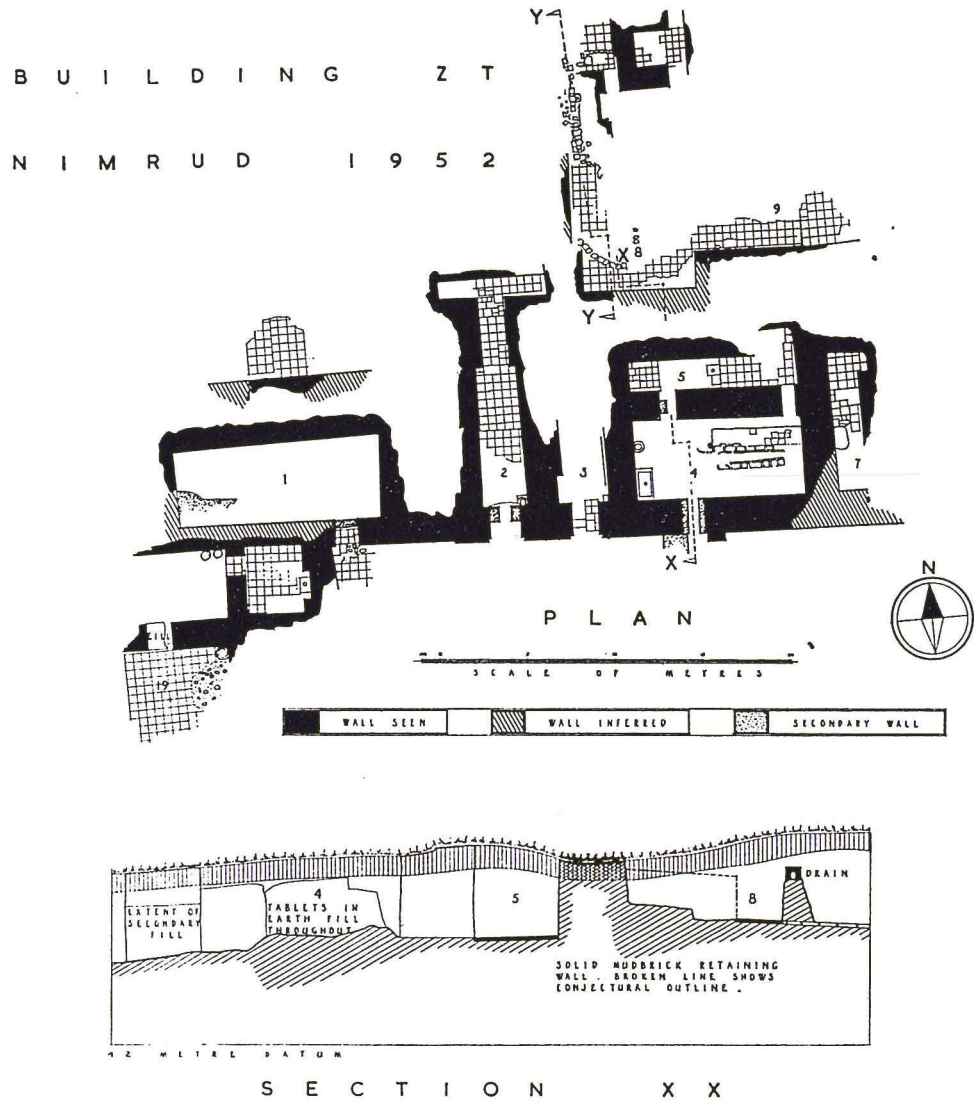
ABL	Harper, R.F., 1892-1914.
ABZ	Borger, R., 1978.
ABZErg.	Borger, R., 1981.
ADD	Johns, C.H.W., 1898-1923.
AfO	<i>Archiv für Orientforschung.</i>
AHw	von Soden, W., 1965-81.
AKA	Budge, E.A.W. & King, L.W., 1902.
An.Or.	<i>Analecta Orientalia.</i>
AOAT	<i>Alter Orient und Altes Testament.</i>
APN	Tallqvist, K.L., 1914.
<i>Arämaer</i>	Dietrich, M., 1970.
Ar.Or.	<i>Archiv Orientální.</i>
BDB	Brown, F., Driver, S.R. & Briggs, C.A., 1906.
BM	British Museum.
BSAI	British School of Archaeology in Iraq.
CAD	Gelb, I.J. et al., 1956- .
CCNA	Fales, F.M., 1973.
CLNA	Fales, F.M., 1983.
CT	<i>Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets in the British Museum.</i>
GAG	von Soden, W., 1952.
IM	Iraq Museum.
<i>Inscr. Sargons II.</i>	Fuchs, A., 1994.
<i>Inscr. TP III</i>	Tadmor, H., 1994.
<i>Iraq</i>	<i>Iraq.</i>
MEA	Labat, R., 1976.
<i>Möbel</i>	Salonen, A., 1963.
NABU	<i>Nouvelles assyriologiques brèves et utilitaires.</i>
NAT	Parpola, S., 1970.
NBK	Langdon, S.H., 1912
Or.	<i>Orientalia</i> , Nova Series.
<i>Or.An.</i>	<i>Oriens Antiquus.</i>
PKB	Brinkman, J.A., 1968.
<i>Provinz.</i>	Forrer, E., 1920.

RCAE	Waterman, L., 1930-36.
RLA	Ebeling, E. et al., 1932- .
SAA, 1	Parpola, S., 1987.
SAA, 5	Lanfranchi, G.B. & Parpola, S., 1990.
SAA, 14	Parpola, S., 1994 [Not seen].
SAA, 15	Dietrich, M., 1995 [Not seen].
SAAB	<i>State Archives of Assyria Bulletin</i> (Padova, Italy).
Sargon, 8th. Camp.	Thureau-Dangin, F., 1912.
Streck, Assurbanipal	Streck, M., 1916.
Syll.	von Soden, W., 1967.
TCAE	Postgate, J.N., 1974.
<i>Untersuchungen</i>	Kessler, K., 1980.
VAB	Vorderasiatische Bibliothek.
WO	<i>Welt des Orients</i> .
WZKM	<i>Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes</i> .
Ylv.	Ylvisaker, S., 1912.
ZA	<i>Zeitschrift für Assyriologie</i> .

Abbreviations of grammatical terms

Acc.	Accusative
adj.	adjective
c.	common gender
D, G, G ^t , G ^{tn} , Š, N	designation of themes
Dat.	Dative
f.	feminine
Impf.	Imperfect
Impv.	Imperative
Indic.	Indicative
Infin.	Infinitive
m.	masculine
MA	Middle Assyrian
MB	Middle Babylonian
NA	New Assyrian
NB	New Babylonian
Nom.	Nominative
Pf.	Perfect
pl.	plural
Prec.	Precative
Pres.	Present
Pret.	Preterite
pron.	pronoun, pronominal
Ptcp.	Participle
sg.	singular
St.	Stative
Subj.	Subjunctive

suf. suffix
Vent. Ventive



Plan and section of ZT 4 [after *Iraq* 15 (1953) p. 31].

Chapter One

Introduction

The Nimrud Letters are part of an archive excavated at Nimrud in Spring 1952 by the British School of Archaeology in Iraq, under the direction of the late Professor M.E.L. (Sir Max) Mallowan. Their find-place was a chamber designated ZT4, near the ziggurat terrace¹.

Tablets continued to be found in ZT4 until the end of the 1952 excavation season. None were discovered in the following year, which seemed to indicate that the 1952 excavation had exhausted the hoard, and there is no conclusive evidence pointing to any other conclusion. There is, however, a hint of another possibility. In 1954 I made friends in Baghdad with a gentleman from Europe who was a keen amateur in matters Assyriological; he was the person in possession of the important bronze Pazuzu figurine which I published in *Archiv für Orientforschung* 19 (1960), 123-127. This friend informed me that when his duties had taken him into the vicinity of Nimrud after the end of the British excavations in 1952, he had been offered, and had bought, cuneiform tablets. He generously offered to make these tablets available to me for examination, but potential problems arising from possible contravention of the Iraqi Excavation Laws led me to decline. I did, however, receive a detailed description of the physical form of the cuneiform tablets in question, which suggested that they were Neo-Assyrian letters. This does not, of course, prove that the tablets came from ZT4 at Nimrud, but it presents a possibility which might be borne in mind.

The limited conservation facilities available in Iraq in 1952 made it desirable that excavated tablets should be baked on site, and for this purpose a kiln was constructed, which operated very successfully. The tablets from ZT4 classified as letters originally amounted to just over 250, but joins have slightly reduced this number, and a few (one a religious document) have proved not to be letters, or are so severely damaged that they do not merit publication. In the present work I publish or re-publish, or in a few cases record without a copy, a total of 240 texts. One of these certainly and a few others possibly are not letters.

I originally copied (or, in the few cases for which there is no copy, recorded) all these tablets in Baghdad in 1954, with the intention of publishing them in *Iraq*. I had published 95 in articles in *Iraq* by 1966², with a further 10 in 1974³. The excessively long delay in publishing the remainder, for which I apologise, has been largely due to factors beyond my control. From 1966 to 1983 I occupied a chair of Semitic Languages in which, although I enjoyed the valued privilege of directing post-graduate students in Akkadian, duties related to Biblical Studies and Theology occupied almost the whole of the remainder of my time. I had planned to resume publication of the Nimrud Letters in

¹ See *Iraq* 15 (1953), 33-34.

² *Iraq* 17, 21-50 and pl.IV-IX, 126-154 and pl.XXX-XXXV; 18, 40-56 and pl.IX-XII; 20, 182-212 and pl.XXXVII-XLI; 21, 158-179 and pl.XLIII-XLIX; 25, 70-80 and pl.XI-XIV; 27, 17-31 and pl.II-VII; 28, 177-191 and pl.LIII-LVI.

³ *Iraq* 36, 199-221 and pl.XXXIV-XXXVII.

1983, the earliest date at which the terms of my contract of employment gave me the option of retiring. However, I fell seriously ill in 1981, from when until a surgical operation in 1988 I suffered repeated disabling spells of illness, so that such time as was available to me was fully occupied with writing *The Might that was Assyria* (1984), the revised edition of *The Greatness that was Babylon* (1988) and *Civilization before Greece and Rome* (1989).

Most of the Nimrud Letters are in New Assyrian script and grammar, the remainder, rather less than one in seven, in New Babylonian. Some of the latter have physical features sufficient by themselves to identify the tablets as Babylonian; they are composed of a characteristic type of clay which has baked to a distinctive pink colour with a very smooth surface, and their faces and edges have a curvature which differs from that of the typical Assyrian tablet in the same archive. But such physical differences are not infallible guides to script: some skilled Babylonian scribes demonstrated either their versatility or their pro-Assyrian sympathies by writing in Assyrian script on tablets of Babylonian clay and shape. ND 2602, for example, is beautifully written on a tablet of such a form, with the small compact writing which generally distinguishes Babylonian letters from Assyrian in this archive, so that at a cursory glance one might take this for a Babylonian tablet. But the scribe has, with one single slip-up where he has inscribed RA in New Babylonian form, written all the signs in New Assyrian. ND 2648, although predominantly in NA script, has three signs in NB shape and a NB grammatical form.

A further feature of the Babylonian tablets in this archive is a very high lime content, which makes them less brittle than a typical Assyrian tablet, but softer. In consequence, the Babylonian tablets are less likely to show the crazing, cracking or chipping which not a few of the Assyrian tablets have suffered, but are more liable to have had part of the surface obliterated, or damaged by efflorescence of salts. The Babylonian tablets often have a surface layer of higher quality clay over a core; examples of this also occur with the Assyrian tablets, although less commonly.

Currently it is more usual to publish Assyrian and Babylonian tablets as separate groups, and deviation from this custom may require explanation. The main justification is the fact that, particularly in relation to the Mukin-zer rebellion, some of the Assyrian and Babylonian tablets are closely related in subject-matter. In addition, the distinction between the two types of letter is not always clear-cut, since some letters in NB script bear Assyrian features (e.g. ND 2391), and some in NA script exhibit certain Babylonian characteristics (e.g. ND 2400). There is the further point that the ancient scribal administrators placed these particular Babylonian and Assyrian tablets together, although one must hasten to disclaim any suggestion that the practice of ancient Assyrians should settle details of modern Assyriological procedures.

Damage to some of the Assyrian tablets has exposed the core and thereby revealed the techniques by which they were made. Although this matter has not gone undiscussed, it may not be out of place to present conclusions from the Nimrud Letters. With quite a number of broken tablets, the cross-section of the core is clearly visible, and shows plainly that the tablet must have been made by rolling out the clay, folding it on itself, and then compressing it (for examples see Plates I-II). This procedure was not, however, invariable; there are rarer instances where the cross-section at a break

makes it apparent that the tablet was pressed direct from a piece of clay without folding; such tablets seem to be less carefully formed (see Plate II).

Neo-Assyrian letters and economic documents are normally distinguishable by their shape, the economic documents usually being squared off at ends and sides, whilst the letters have curved sides and (with few exceptions) curved ends. The Assyrian scribes appear to have produced the characteristic curvature of the letters by the use of little concave-sided cylindrical rollers of terracotta to shape the wet clay; a number of such rollers, whose concave curve exactly matched the typical convexity of the sides and ends of most of the Assyrian letters, were found near the Nimrud Letters in 1952, and I suggested to Professor Mallowan at the time that this was their purpose, a suggestion he accepted.

Some scribes in the imperial administration, instead of preparing a tablet from scratch immediately before the letter was written, used ready-made tablet blanks. Evidence for this comes from one of the Nimrud Letters, ND 2623. On this tablet the scribe has written over a surface where a flake had obviously chipped off from the top right corner of the reverse, leaving a sharp line of break. I see only one way in which this could have happened: a tablet blank had dried so completely between being shaped and being used, that its corners had become brittle enough to chip off under impact instead of distorting. Presumably such a tablet blank would have been wrapped in a damp cloth before use to soften the surface.

There were, however, cases in which tablets must have been prepared ad hoc; one finds, for example, some which are composed of a coarse clay containing tiny stones, obviously made from poor local material. It is interesting that one of the few *abat šarri* ('Royal Command') tablets in the archive (ND 2404) was written inexpertly on such a tablet. This suggests either that the king sometimes sent written orders back to Calah when actually in the field, away from his chancery staff and normal writing materials, or, more likely, that an *abat šarri* was not always written directly by the king.

The condition of the text of the tablets ranges from totally preserved to almost totally illegible. But there are very few at either extreme, and most yield some information with gaps from damage. It is sometimes difficult to distinguish with the naked eye between damage marks and partially lost wedges, but in many cases the use of a binocular microscope immediately solves such problems. Following the very strong precepts of my mentor Professor Sidney Smith, who had known cases in the British Museum in which illicit attempts at cleaning by an Assyriologist had destroyed a sign or created a bogus new one, I have only in very rare cases, where Nimrud tablets in the Iraq Museum have been heavily encrusted with dirt, personally attempted cleaning.

As is usual with letters, the present examples cover a wide range of subject matter. Whilst some are mere reports on the wellbeing of the land, others are highly informative about international affairs, such as the rebellion in Babylonia of Mukin-zer. Some have biblical relevance, such as a letter, unfortunately broken, which reports that an official had seen a shrine in Samaria, presumably in the northern kingdom's temple of Yahweh.

I have attempted to divide up the tablets and to arrange them in relation to their *mise en scène*. Tablets in Chapter Two concern Babylonia, those in Chapter Three northern areas including Urartu, whilst Chapter Four deals with the west and northwest. In Chapter Five I have placed tablets which appear to relate primarily to the Assyrian homeland, whilst those whose geographical provenance I cannot with certainty identify

are in Chapter Six. Since the text of many of the letters is damaged, and for rather more than half of them this is their editio princeps, failure to recognize place-names, or to evaluate place-names correctly, may well have resulted in the misplacing of letters, particularly in chapter six.

Within each chapter, the primary criterion for the order in which letters are published is excavation number, but this is in places overridden by other considerations. In part (a) of chapter two, which deals with texts concerned with the Mukin-zer rebellion, an attempt has been made to present letters in an approximate chronological order rather than in order of excavation number, although it is recognized that at some points other conclusions may be drawn about the chronological sequence. In all chapters, where two or more letters appear to be interlinked, they are presented consecutively, as are letters by the same correspondent.

In the initial stages of my work on the Nimrud Letters I had the advantage of the guidance of both Professor Sidney Smith and Professor C.J. Gadd. I also briefly enjoyed the shrewd counsel of Professor A.L. Oppenheim, who *inter alia* suggested that problems inherent in documents of this category justified initial publication in the form of transliterations and notes with no attempt at translation, a tempting suggestion which I did not however feel justified in adopting. Professor Gadd gave encouragement, with the proviso that he found Assyrian letters amongst the most difficult category of cuneiform documents, since often (as he put it) when one has finally translated an Assyrian letter, one wonders if the result adequately represents the meaning. Professor Sidney Smith took on the whole a more optimistic view, but with the warning: 'If the translation makes sense, it may well be wrong. If it makes nonsense, it is wrong.' I have attempted to apply this last comment to my own translations, which incorporate idiomatic rather than more literal renderings only where the precise nuance seems assured. Doubtless other scholars will be able to offer improvements both of reading and of understanding, which I look forward to seeing.

I wish to express my thanks to Professor J.N. Postgate, who read my manuscript before publication, for many helpful suggestions and criticisms, a large number of which I have incorporated. The errors and misunderstandings which remain are my own.

Conventions

(1) Terminology

The successive inscribed parts of a tablet are designated Obv. or Face A; Base; Rev. or Face B; Top (between end of Rev. and beginning of Obv.); End (between two faces where it is uncertain which is Obv. and which Rev.); Side (where the inscription, always on the left side, begins near the beginning of Obv.) or Side* (where the inscription begins near the beginning of Rev.).

(2) Numeration

Where practicable, lines are numbered continuously throughout. Where there is a hiatus, Obv., Rev. and Side/Side* (if any) are numbered separately.

(3) *Transliteration symbols*

<i>x</i>	one unidentified sign, whether damaged or undamaged
[<i>x</i>]	one sign completely lost
[<i>x</i>]?	possibly one lost sign
?	(after a sign) probable but not certain
??	(after a sign) improbable
!	(after a sign) certain, despite contrary indications in copy
DN	unidentified divine name
LN	unidentified place name
N	unidentified numeral
PN	unidentified personal name
V	(in transliteration of syllabograms) one of the vowels <i>a, e, i, u</i>
///	ancient erasure
< >	signs supplied by editor but omitted by scribe (except in ND 2716 q.v.)
...	lost text estimated at from 2 signs to $\frac{1}{4}$ line
... ..	lost text of between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ line
... .. .	lost text of between $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ line
...	lost text of more than $\frac{3}{4}$ line

(4) *Transcription of logograms*

Numerals are represented by Akkadian values, if certain, otherwise by Roman numerals.

J. Friberg, H. Hunger and F. al-Rawi, *Baghdader Mitteilungen* 21 (1990), p. 485, in an edition of mathematical texts, cogently argued for transcribing logograms as Sumerograms. In the context of mathematical texts this is undoubtedly valid, but Neo-Assyrian letters admit a different solution. Assyrians of the eighth century BC, when they encountered a logogram in a letter, normally read it with an Akkadian value, a point put beyond doubt by cases in which ideogrammic and syllabic spellings alternate. To represent logograms in Assyrian letters as Sumerian would therefore not in most cases correspond to ancient practice. For this reason, wherever practicable I transcribe logograms into what I take to be the appropriate Akkadian form, according to the equivalences given below; only for the less common equivalences, not in that list, is the assumed Akkadian form followed by the logogram in brackets. There are, however, instances where there is uncertainty as to the probable Akkadian equivalent in eighth century BC Assyria, as, e.g., UDU (see CAD, Š/3, 417a, apud *š'u' u B*). Or the context may be unclear, leaving the case ending doubtful; or the text may be so badly damaged that it is not obvious from the copy which sign is assumed to be present. In such instances logograms are represented by their most appropriate Sumerian value in upper case. Determinatives which have no obvious Akkadian equivalents and were probably not sounded, are rendered in lower-case Roman; determinatives with obvious Akkadian equivalents are given an Akkadian value unless there is some overriding consideration. This procedure admittedly produces a limited inconsistency, but this seems preferable to a Procrustean uniformity which consistently fails to reproduce what the scribe intended to be understood.

Equivalences

(i) *Determinatives*

<i>āl</i>	URU
<i>amēl</i>	LÚ
<i>amēl*</i>	LÚ* ¹
<i>d</i>	DINGIR
<i>imēr</i>	ANŠE
<i>m</i>	DIŠ
<i>mašak</i>	KUŠ
<i>māt</i>	KUR ²
<i>meš</i>	MEŠ
<i>sal</i>	MUNUS
<i>še</i>	ŠE

(ii) *Other logograms*

<i>amēl</i> abarakku	LÚ.AGRIG
<i>abu</i>	AD
<i>arah</i> ābu	ITI.NE
<i>abullu</i>	KÁ.GAL
<i>dadad</i>	DINGIR.IM
<i>dadád</i>	DINGIR.U
<i>ahu</i>	ŠEŠ
<i>ahu</i> ₂	PAP
<i>akalu</i> ³	NINDA.MEŠ
<i>alpu</i>	GUD
<i>ālu</i>	URU
<i>ammatu</i>	KUŠ
<i>aplū</i>	DUMU.NITA
<i>áplū</i>	A
<i>ardu</i>	İR
(Babylonian dialect)	
<i>arhu</i>	ITI
<i>amēl</i> atû	LÚ.NI.GAB
<i>babilu</i> ^{ki}	KÁ.DINGIR.RA.KI
<i>babílu</i> ^{ki}	TIN.TIR.KI
<i>balāṭu</i>	TIL(-LA)
<i>balāṭu</i> ₃	TIN
<i>banû</i>	DÛ
<i>bēltu</i>	NIN
<i>bēlu</i>	EN
<i>biltu</i>	GUN

¹ See ABZ, Nr.330, line 1.

² KUR is always treated as a determinative before names of countries, including (contrary to some scholars) the land Ashur.

³ See p. 86.

<i>bītu</i>	É
<i>išdaltu</i>	GIŠ.IG
<i>damāqu</i>	SIG ₅
<i>dūru</i>	BÀD
<i>ebūru</i>	ŠIBÍR
<i>ekallu</i>	É.GAL
<i>išeleppu</i>	GIŠ.MÁ
<i>denlíl</i>	DINGIR.BAD
<i>denurta</i> ⁴	DINGIR.NIN.IB
<i>dénurta</i>	DINGIR.MAŠ
<i>išepinnu</i>	GIŠ.APIN
<i>eqlu</i>	A.ŠÀ
<i>erība</i>	SU

(in personal names)

<i>ēribu</i>	KU ₄
<i>erû</i>	URUDU
<i>eṭēru</i>	KAR
<i>harrānu</i>	KASKAL
<i>harrānu</i> ^{II}	KASKAL.II
<i>hurāšu</i>	KÛ.GI
<i>ibilu</i>	ANŠE.A.AB.BA
<i>ikkaru</i>	ENGAR
<i>illatu</i>	ILLAT (KASKAL.KUR)
<i>ilu</i>	DINGIR
<i>imēru</i>	ANŠE
<i>ina</i>	AŠ
<i>irtu</i>	GABA
<i>issu</i>	TA
<i>iškaru</i>	ÉŠ.GÀR
<i>dīštar</i>	DINGIR.INANNA
<i>dīštar</i> ₃	DINGIR.XV
<i>itti</i>	KI
<i>kānu</i>	GIN
<i>kaspu</i>	KÛ.BABBAR
<i>kurummatu</i> ⁵	ŠE.PAD
<i>iškussu</i>	GIŠ.GU.ZA
<i>le'û</i>	ZU
<i>libbu</i>	ŠÀ
<i>libittu</i>	SIG ₄
<i>manû</i>	MA.NA
<i>amēl</i> mār šipri	LÚ.A.KIN

⁴ For the earliest recognition of this pronunciation see Sidney Smith, *Early History of Assyria* (1928), 391, n.3.

⁵ But see ABZ, Nr.367 and 469.

<i>d¹marduk</i>	DINGIR.AMAR.UTU	<i>šakānu</i>	GAR
<i>d¹márduk</i>	DINGIR.ŠU	<i>amēlšaknu</i>	LÚ.GAR
<i>māru</i>	DUMU	<i>šalāmu</i>	SILIM
<i>maššartu</i>	EN.NUN	<i>amēlšangu</i>	LÚ.ŠID
<i>mātāti</i>	KUR.KUR	<i>šanû</i>	MIN
<i>mātu</i>	KUR	<i>amēlšanû</i>	LÚ.II
<i>mehretu</i>	GAG	<i>amēlšāpiru</i>	LÚ.PA
<i>muhhi</i>	UGU	<i>amēlšāqû</i>	LÚ.BI.LUL
<i>mukîn</i>	GIN		(Assyrian dialect)
	(in personal names)	<i>amēlšāqû</i>	LÚ.BI.LUL
<i>mūšu</i>	GI ₆		(Babylonian dialect)
<i>d¹nabû</i>	DINGIR.AK	<i>šammu</i>	Ú
<i>d¹nabû₃</i>	DINGIR.MUATI	<i>šarru</i>	LUGAL
<i>nadānu</i>	SUM	<i>šárru</i>	MAN
<i>nadānu₃</i>	AŠ	<i>šattu</i>	MU.AN.NA
<i>nādu</i>	I	<i>šatû</i>	NA ₈
	(in personal names)	<i>šēpu</i>	GÌR
<i>amēlnāgiru</i>	LÚ.NIMGIR	<i>šinu</i>	MIN
<i>nakāru</i>	KÚR	<i>šipatu</i>	SÍK
<i>nakru</i>	KÚR	<i>šulmu</i>	SILIM
<i>napharu</i>	PAP	<i>šumu</i>	MU
<i>napištu</i>	ZI		(in personal names)
<i>išnarkabtu</i>	GIŠ.GIGIR	<i>tamkaru</i>	DAM.GÀR
<i>nāru</i>	A.ENGUR	<i>ṭābu</i>	DÙG.GA
<i>našāru₂</i>	PAP	<i>ṭuppu</i>	DUB
<i>našhuru</i>	NIGIN	<i>ṭúppu</i>	IM
<i>d¹nergal</i>	DINGIR.U.GUR	<i>amēlṭupšarru₃</i>	LÚ.A.BA
<i>d¹nergal₄</i>	DINGIR.MAŠ.MAŠ	<i>ubānu</i>	ŠU.SI
<i>nippur^{ki}</i>	EN.LÍL.KI	<i>arahulûlu</i>	ITI.KIN
<i>arahnisannu</i>	ITI.BÁR	<i>ūmu</i>	UD
<i>nuhatimmu</i>	MUHALDIM	<i>māturartu</i>	KUR.URI
<i>pāhatu¹</i>	NAM	<i>urdu</i>	ÌR
<i>pānu</i>	IGI		(Assyrian dialect)
<i>qātu</i>	ŠU	<i>zēru</i>	NUMUN
<i>rabû</i>	GAL	II	MIN
<i>rādiu, rēdû</i>	LÚ.UŠ	:	pseudo-GAM
<i>amēlṭēšu</i>	LÚ.SAG		
<i>sinništu</i>	MUNUS		
<i>sisû</i>	ANŠE.KUR.RA		
<i>sisû₂</i>	ANŠE.KUR		
<i>sukkallu</i>	SUKKAL		
<i>V sāti</i>	BANIA		
<i>šabû</i>	ERIM (ÉRIN)		
<i>amēlšīru</i>	LÚ.MAH		

¹ See AHw, 862a.

Chapter Two

Letters relating to Babylonia

(a) The Mukin-zer rebellion¹

(i) Letters edited in tentative chronological order:

ND 2390, ND 2438, ND 2674, ND 2389, ND 2695, ND 2632, ND 2494, ND 2717, ND 2603, ND 2663, ND 2630, ND 2628, ND 2365, ND 2418, ND 2452, ND 2623, ND 2363, ND 2729, ND 2723, ND 2444, ND 2761, ND 2382, ND 2602, ND 2385, ND 2350, ND 2455, ND 2634, ND 2689, ND 2065, ND 2478, ND 2710.

(ii) Letters edited in order of excavation number:

ND 2360, ND 2388, ND 2398, ND 2421, ND 2493 (may not belong in this chapter), ND 2636, ND 2681, ND 2700, ND 2779.

Summary of letters edited in tentative chronological order

The chronological order offered is based primarily on two factors: apparent links between letters, and relationship of the data they contain to the records of Tiglath-Pileser III, as most recently edited by H. Tadmor in *The Inscriptions of Tiglath-Pileser III King of Assyria* (Jerusalem, 1994). Some of the conclusions are tentative, offered with the recognition that other scholars might reasonably give an alternative evaluation of the data.

The interpretation of ND 2390 is particularly tentative. This is a very fragmentary letter, which, since it is in NB script, must almost certainly refer to events in Babylonia. Almost the only legible portion, in line 8', is [šar]ru-ú-ti iš-ši, 'he appropriated kingship', an allusion which seems to refer to a usurpation. Prima facie, if this interpretation is correct, the phrase might, within the termini of this archive, as well fit the later activities of Merodach-baladan as Mukin-zer's grasp of power. On the other hand, whereas the archive contains a large number of letters concerning Mukin-zer's assumption of the kingship, there is not a single other reference which may reasonably be taken as referring to Merodach-baladan's seizure of the Babylonian throne. Thus, this makes it not improbable that the words quoted from ND 2390 constitute the earliest allusion to the Mukin-zer rebellion.

ND 2438, a royal decree to the administration of Babylon, reflects the anxiety of the citizens of Babylon at some threat to their security. A reasonable interpretation of this is that it dates from the beginning of Mukin-zer's rebellion, but before he had actually entered Babylon. Another letter from early in the period is ND 2674. Although the writer's name is lost, he was clearly a Chaldean leader. This leader, acting independently of Nabu-nasir, the impotent king of Babylonia, and writing to the king of Assyria about the problems Babylon and Borsippa were facing under threat from Mukin-zer, can hardly have been anyone other than Merodach-baladan.

¹ For a recent discussion of Nimrud Letters relating to the Mukin-zer rebellion see H.W.F. Saggs, WZKM 86 (1996) (Fs. Hans Hirsch), 379-390.

Another letter certainly from Merodach-baladan is ND 2389. Since this retains very little legible beyond the address and a broken reference to provision of ships and men, it is difficult to date it with any exactness. It is, however, provisionally placed near the beginning of the rebellion, since it appears to belong to a period when princes who were loyal to Assyria, as the form of address shows Merodach-baladan to have been at this time, were offering their forces in support of Tiglath-Pileser III.

ND 2695 can be placed with some exactness, since it reports the actual entry of Mukin-zer into Babylon. The next letter may be ND 2632, written at a time when Mukin-zer's supporters had just gained control of Babylon. The recentness of the usurpation is suggested by the fact that the native Babylonians had doubts as to whether the Assyrian king would come to take the city, although the Litamu tribe had already sided with Assyria. ND 2494, which reports that no Babylonian citizens had yet come over to the Assyrian side, could be from about the same date as ND 2632.

ND 2717 may come next. It speaks of sheep of Mukin-zer grazing in Puharu, a city of Bit-Amukkani, the tribe to which Mukin-zer belonged. At a later stage, Bit-Amukkani, or at least a part of it, seems to have switched allegiance and, as ND 2636 (published in part ii) reflects, joined the Assyrian king. The fact that in ND 2717 the loyalty of Bit-Amukkani to Mukin-zer was still unquestioned suggests that this letter was from quite early in the rising. Another pointer to a relatively early date is that lines 48'-53' show that Mukin-zer was in control of Babylon, although the citizens were not prepared to join him in attacking Dilbat. In addition, Mukin-zer had plundered Larak (lines 45'f.), a city to which, as we see from ND 2603 (see below), the Assyrians persuaded Balasu, chief of the Bit-Dakkuri tribe, to give assistance.

Several letters mention Balasu, a major chieftain who, though apparently never overtly hostile to Assyria, initially hesitated to give active support. What is probably the earliest of this group of letters, ND 2603, shows how Assyrian diplomacy won over this important leader. The Assyrians persuaded him to give his active even though reluctant assistance by showing him, to his alarm, a letter from Chaldean sources suggesting that he was ruining the land by his attitude. This may reflect the point at which, according to the annals of Tiglath-Pileser III, Balasu paid tribute¹.

The Assyrians also persuaded Balasu (lines 20'f.) to go to the assistance of Larak, which ND 2717 tells us had been looted by Mukin-zer. This links up with the statement in the annals of Tiglath-Pileser III that Nadinu of the city Larak paid tribute at the same time as Balasu². ND 2663, written by Shamash-bunaya, may tentatively be placed here, since the extant part refers to the road to Larak, and also mentions Itu'a protecting the Tigris. ND 2630, by the same correspondent, concerns troop movements, and ND 2628, also by Shamash-bunaya, reports a tour of inspection of Babylonia, including 'people who were formerly citizens of Larak'; although there is insufficient evidence for a precise chronological placement for these two letters, about this time appears possible. ND 2403 could also be from Shamash-bunaya, but the restoration of this as the name of its author is highly tentative, for which reason the letter is provisionally placed in the general section of letters relating to Babylonia.

An indication of Balasu's active support of Assyria seems to be given in ND 2365, one of four letters written by Ashipa, which speaks of troops of Balasu being killed in

¹ H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, Summ.7: 26, 11: 18.

² H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, pp.162-3, Summ.7: 26, with parallel account in pp.196-7, Summ.11: 18.

company with an Assyrian messenger; it also mentions ships. ND 2418, another letter by Ashipa concerning shipping, may reasonably be placed here. ND 2452 and ND 2623, by the same correspondent, both mention Kutha. The names of Balasu and Nadinu occur alongside in a broken context in ND 2363, which mentions both Dur-ladini of Bit Dakkuri and Dur-balihaya of Bit-Sha'alli. ND 2729 is tentatively placed here, in view of its reference to Dur-ladini. Another mention of Balasu occurs in ND 2723, 38'; although the context is too broken to indicate specifically on which side he was fighting, there is no hint anywhere that he was at any time actively anti-Assyrian.

Since the writer of ND 2444 was in Mukin-zer's erstwhile capital Sapia (also written Shapia), this letter must be from well on in the period of the rebellion. The rebellion was, however, not yet subdued, since Nabu-ushabshi, paramount chief of the Chaldean tribe of Bit-Shilani, who was caught and killed by Tiglath-Pileser III before the end of the rebellion, was still alive, although, according to lines 4'-6', the Assyrians had succeeded in making some of his followers desert.

ND 2761, one of seven letters written by Ashur-shallimanni, reports intervention by the king of Elam, dealt with by the governor of Arrapha, who was in fact Ashur-shallimanni himself. Since in Tiglath-Pileser III's royal records the only references to Elam recount the annexation of cities on the border of Elam, which were placed under the governor of Arrapha, and go on to recount the attack upon Nabu-ushabshi of Bit-Shilani¹, we tentatively place this letter here.

Ashur-shallimanni, governor of Arrapha, also wrote ND 2382, ND 2602, ND 2385, ND 2350, ND 2455 and ND 2634. The first of these letters refers to the mustering of pro-Assyrian Aramaean tribesmen, whose leaders included Nadinu, presumably the ruler of Larak, and the second is also concerned with operations involving Aramaeans. Both may reasonably be placed at about this point. The important letter ND 2385 reports the defeat, presumably within Babylon (although not explicitly named), of Mukin-zer and his son. ND 2350 and ND 2455 contain nothing specifically linking them to the Mukin-zer rebellion, but are placed here in view of their authorship. ND 2634 is an important letter linking Ashur-shallimanni with Shamash-bunaya, with whom he wished to share the responsibility for feeding six thousand prisoners.

ND 2689, ND 2065 and ND 2478 were all from the same correspondent, Nabu-balassu-iqbi. In ND 2689 the writer was in Dur-sha-balihaya of the tribe of Bit-Sha'alli, which had recently been defeated. It seems to belong just before ND 2065, which implies, with its mention in broken contexts of Babylon, 'messengers to Babylon', and 'the centre of the city', a situation in which the Assyrians were reasserting control in the Babylonian capital. ND 2478 shows Nabu-balassu-iqbi rebutting an accusation that he had failed to reply to a communication from the king. Probably the latest letter linked to the rebellion of Mukin-zer is ND 2710, which, since it reports that all is well at Babylon, must be subsequent to the rebel's defeat.

Summary of letters edited in order of excavation number

Other letters associated with the rebellion of Mukin-zer are less easily given a precise chronological placement. ND 2360 is too badly damaged for certainty but its mention of

¹ H. Tađmor, *Inscr. TP III*, Summ.1: 9-10, Summ.7: obv.13ff., Summ.11: 12.

Aramaean troops, Borsippa, (probably) troops of Mukin-zer and slaughter link it to the rebellion. ND 2388, although to a large extent illegible after the introductory four lines, has a clear reference to 'the sons of Mukin-zer'. ND 2398 refers to Bit-Amukkani and, if the final lines are correctly interpreted, may indicate that at the time it was written Shapia had been brought under Assyrian control. ND 2421 in a broken context alludes to military operations [*in*]a *māt*ru-x, which could be the land of Ru'a¹. The contents of ND 2493 are obscure but it seems to be concerned with incidents in a difficult campaign. ND 2636 speaks of part of Bit-Amukkani deserting from Mukin-zer. In ND 2681 troops are still being mustered and have to be sent into Dilbat; possibly this activity was linked to Mukin-zer's threat to Dilbat (see ND 2717 above), which would give this letter a more definite chronological placing. ND 2700 speaks of the arrest and subsequent escape of Mukin-zer's emissary, who was currently at Hindanu on the middle Euphrates. ND 2779 tells of negotiations with Merodach-baladan, who, although not always ready to accept instructions, was operating on behalf of the Assyrians; this letter could be linked with either ND 2602 or ND 2603.

ND 2390 (IM for study; Plate 1)

Transliteration

Face A

1' ... x x x x ...
 ... i]a a-m[a]? ...
 ... x za ka? tab x ...
 ... x mi-nam-ma ip-pu-uš ...
 5' ... aq-bu-ú um-ma DIŠ x ...
 ... ú-tu i-ši a-na x x ...
 ... [b]a?-nu-ú-a šarru-ú-tu i-x ...
 ... [šar]ru-ú-ti iš-ši i-n[a] ...
 ... x-ni šarru iq-ta-ba x ...
 10' ... x x šarru x x? KASKAL ...
 ... x x x x ...

Face B

1' ... x šar[ru] i[š]-x x ...
 ... [b]a?-nu šá ul-tu ...
 ... x-š[a]?-az-z[u] ...
 5' ... x-ti en-na x ...
 ... x ÚR x x ...
 ... x-šú x x ...
 ... x x x e s[i]? x ...
 ... x x ul x ...
 10' ... x x x x ...
 End ... x x ...
 ... x ...

¹ Cf. H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, Summ.3: 9' (*māt*Ru-u-a as part of region annexed when Tiglath-Pileser III imposed tribute on chieftains of Chaldaea); Summ.7: 32 (*māt*Ru-ú-«a» as part of region defeated by Tiglath-Pileser III). See also op.cit., Ann.15: 6.

Translation

[The only significant remains are in part of Face A:] (7') ... my *creator*; kingship
(8') ... he appropriated kingship ... (9') ... the king has said ...

Notes

Fragment from top or bottom of a tablet. NB script.

A 8') Taken as referring to the usurpation by Mukin-zer; see above, p. 9.

ND 2438 (= LIV; BSAI; Plate 1)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-bat šarri*
a-na amēlēribēme[š] [b]īti
amēlki-na-a[l-t]i
 LÚ.SAG.KAL^{meš} ša [x] x
 5 *a-na LÚ.TIN.TIR.K[I.ME]Š*
šulmu^{mu} ia-a-ši
šulmu^{mu} a-na mātaš-šur
libbi-ku-nu lu DÛG.GA-ku-nu
ina muhhi tē-e-me an-ni-u
 10 *ša taš-me-a-ni*
la pal-ha-ku-nu
ā^lhi-ir-da-su b[a]!-b[a]!-a-te
šab-bi-ta maššartu ša ra-me-ni-ku-nu
tu-u-ra an-nu-rig
 15 *ana-k[u] ak-tar-ba-ku-nu*
mna' id-ilu amēlqur-bu-ti
iq-ṭi-bi-a ma-a pal-h[a-x]
 Base *ig-da-nar-ru-ru*
 Rev. *ᵀbēl u ᵀna[bû] lu u-d[u]-u*
 20 *u DINGIR.GAL šu-tu-ma*
lu ú-da šum-ma a-ki
ina pa-ni-ti aš-mu-u-ni
ša ahhē^{meš}-ku-nu di-ku-u-ni
[š]um-ma III ūme^{meš} me-me-ni pa-ni-ia
 25 *e-ru-ub-an-ni lib-bi i-di-pan-ni-ni*
tu-u-ra ú-ma-a pal-ha-ku-nu
bēl u ᵀnabû₃ lu ú-du-u
šum-ma hi-ṭ[a-k]u-nu i-ba-āš-šú-u-ni
libbi-ku-nu a-da[n-n]iš lu DÛG.GA-ku-nu
 30 *maššartu-k[u-n]u [l]u d[an-n]a-a[t]*
a-du bi-i[t] a-qar-r[i-b]u-[ni]
[a^l-n[a] pa-an amē^l]qu[r]-bu-tú ...
x x ūmu XXVI.KAM i[l-l]a-a[k]

Translation

(1-5) Royal decree to the Chapter, the Congregation, the Senior Officials of ..., (and) the Babylonians. (6-8) It is well with me. It is well with the land of Assyria. Let your hearts be glad.

(9-13) Concerning this report which you heard, do not be anxious. (As to) the town of Hirdasu, seize the gates. The watch is your responsibility. (14-15) Again now I myself invoke blessings on you.

(16-18) Na'id-ilu the Qurbutu-official has told me 'they are anxious; they are constantly scared'. (19-25) Bel and Nabu certainly know, and that great god certainly knows, that when I formerly heard that your brethren were mustered, for three days no-one came into my presence. My heart blew away from me. (26) Again now you are anxious. (27-30) Bel and Nabu indeed know that there is no fault on your part. Let your hearts be very glad. Let your watch be strong. (31-33) Until I arrive, [pay heed] to the Qurbutu-official. He will come on the 26th of the month.

Notes

Complete tablet. Has worm-hole running from near top right corner to rev., 28-22 mm from bottom, middle of line. Slight surface loss on both obv. and rev. near right edge between lines obv. 3-5. Some abrasion passim. Final 13 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

4) LÚ.SAG.KAL = *ašaridu*, but the Akkadian form of the plural here is not clear.

12) *āhi-ir-da-su*. A town of this name is not otherwise known to me.

12) *b[a]!-b[a]!-a-te*. The two uppermost strokes of the first two signs are in line and markedly oblique, and since each sign is slightly damaged, each prima facie suggests *qa*.

13) *ra-me-ni-ku-nu*. The final *-nu*, which has run over to the rev., is almost concealed in the end of line 25, which has slightly distorted it.

16) *na'id-ilu amēlqur-bu-ti*. See *Iraq* 21 (1959), 164-5.

25) *i-di-pan-ni-ni*. < *edēpu*. The final *-ni* appears to be an unexplained Subj. affix.

27) *bēl*. There is no trace of DINGIR.

ND 2674 (= VI; IM 64111; Plate 1)

See also WZKM 86 (1996), 380-381.

Transliteration

Face A

1' *x x x-MU [u]m-[ma] i[na? muhhi?]*
 šá ahu-ú-a iš-pu-ra um-[ma] ...
 ṭè-e-mi il-t[i-me]
 mi[m]-mu-ú mukīn-zēr x

5' *ṛùl x-mi-ri-tu[m]?*
 [u]l a-[š]ap?-p[a]?-r[a]?? x x x x ...
 [mi]m?-ma? ṛa?-n[a]? [b]īr? x x ul x ...
 šá ahu-ú-a iš-pu-ra [u]m-ma m[i-n]u-ṛú
 ṭè-e-mi šá māti it-ti-ka id-bu-bu

- 10' *muš-šag-ru-ra i-na da-ri-i*
m.^dnabû-našir a-na šar[ri] [i]l-tap-ra um-ma
m^mmukîn-zēr sīsē^{meš} ša bāb [b]ār-síp^{ki}
a-na muh-hi babil^{ki} ki-i ir-bu-ú
man-ma ul-tu babil^{ki} ul uš-ši-ma
- 15' *e-ri-šú ul ni-ri-iš ár-ki-šú*
šarru [i]l-tap-ra um-ma ina bi-rit
babil^{ki} u bār-síp^{ki} SIG₅ ši
a-[n]a-[k]u ù amēl^{ra}-šá-a-nu šá amēl^{kal}-du
ki-ma il-li-ku sīsē^{meš}-nu
- 20' *ul-tu bār-síp^{ki} nu-ul-te-ša-a*
... x x [ba]bil^{ki} u bá[r]-síp^{ki}
... x x ... x e x ti
... x x x ... x x x

Face B

- 1 ... x qu-ú-tú x x?
 ... x x ki šú x x x
 [x] x l[a]? x x šá tuppi-ia x-[n]u
 x x x [ú]l? [š]ú?? [u]m-m[a] x nu x x
- 5 [š]á? x x x x x x x u[m?-m]a?
 k[i]?-[i]l? x x [a]l-[d]e-e x x x DU
 AŠ x x x áš-šú x ù x x x x
 x x x [i]l-na x x? [b]it? BU DA x x ta
 i[t]-ti šar māt aš-šur^{ki} [i]t-ti x x x?
- 10 i[t]-ti x x x i[t?]-t[i]? ... x x
 ki-[i]l áš-p[u]-ru um-ma LU[GAL]? ... [a]l-de-e x-ih?-hi gab-r[i]
 a-na tuppi-ia l[a] i[t]-... x x x x?-ti?
 i[t-t]a-[d]i u ia-a-š[i] ... x x x
 a-na šar māt aš-šur^{ki} šup-[r]a? x [a]l?-[n]a? [É]l?.GAL??
- 15 a-de-e a-na tuppi-ia GUB tú-še-ša a-na-ku
 [u]l a-man-gur um-ma šá-ni-tu a-na šar māt aš-šur^{ki}
 u[l] [a]l-šap-par en-na ki-i É.G[A]L [a]l-[k]i-e
 [a]l-na tuppi-ia GUB tú-šar-k[i-s]a? x x
 x x AN? x a-na šarri x x x ...
- 20 a-šap-pa-ra ù ki-i la tú-tir-ru
 a-na šarri a-šap-pa-r[a]m-ma mim-mu ...
 šá šarri x x x? li-p[u-u]š DIŠ.SUM ...
 x x x x x um-m[a] ...
 ... x x ...

Translation

Face A

(1') [PN] says thus: 'Concerning that (2') about which my brother sent a message, saying (3') he had heard a report (4') anything of Mukin-zer (5'-7') [fragmentary]

(8') About that on which which my brother sent a message, saying: 'What (9') reports of the land did they discuss with you?', (10') (things are) a cause of alarm continually. (11') Nabu-nasir sent a message to the king, saying: (12'-13') 'Mukin-zer, when he came in against Babylon (with his) horses *from* the Borsippa gate, (14') no one could get out of Babylon; (15') we could not get on with the cultivation.' Afterwards (16'-17') the king sent a message, saying: 'Is it well within Babylon and Borsippa?' (18-20') I, and the chieftains of the Chaldeans when they came, we brought our horses out from Borsippa. (21') Babylon and Borsippa (22'-23') [Nothing intelligible]

Face B

(1-2) [Nothing intelligible] (3) of my tablet ... (4) thus: ... (5) *of*
 ... *thus* (6) *when* ... until (7) concerning ... and ... (8) ... *ina* ... *house of*
 (9) with the king of Assyria, with ... (10) with ... *with* (11-12) when I
 sent a message, saying: 'The king ... as long as ... [*he has*] not [*sent*] an answer to my
 tablet,' (13) he has been negligent, and *to me* (14) *Send a message* to the
 king of Assyria ... *to the palace*. (15) Until you have a written reply brought to my
 tablet, (16) I shall not comply. I say, (16-17) I shall not send a message to the king of
 Assyria a second time. (17-18) Now if the palace, as soon as you organize a written
 reply to my tablet... .. (19) to the king (20) I shall send a message, and if
 you do not return (an answer), (21) I shall send a message to the king. Anything (22)
 which the king *pleases*, let him do. Nadin-... (23) thus ... (24)

Notes

Tablet damaged around both ends, with top right and base corners lost. Obv. almost flat top to base and only slightly convex left to right. Rev. is fairly flat from top to base but markedly convex from left to right. NB script.

Cleaning in the Iraqi Department of Antiquities has significantly increased the legibility of this tablet since my original publication, but when I subsequently saw it, circumstances beyond my control severely limited the time I was able to spend on collation, permitting me only to incorporate the most obvious corrections and additions, and to take photographs. The corrections and additions now published derive partly from photographs, and are therefore offered with appropriate reserve. A cuneiformist with a binocular microscope and adequate time could obtain improved readings.

The letter can be neither to nor from the king of Assyria, since it refers twice (B 9, 14) to 'the king of Ashur'. The writer was, however, someone of sufficiently high rank to be able to speak with authority and to address the recipient of the letter as 'my brother' (A 8'). Also, whereas all the king of Babylon could do, when Mukin-zer brought in horses to interfere with the administration in Borsippa and Babylon, was to send a message asking if all was well (16'-17'), the writer of the letter himself controlled the chieftains of the Chaldeans, and got the horses out. Undoubtedly, therefore, the writer enjoyed paramountcy amongst the Chaldean chieftains, and since he was not supporting Mukin-zer, he can scarcely have been other than Merodach-baladan in person.

Face A

1') This may be the original first line. Minimal traces immediately above it are taken to be tails from the last line on the end following rev.

1') *x x x*-MU. This could represent the name Marduk-apil-iddina, but the traces are insufficient to confirm this.

5') *x-mi-ri-tu[m]*? The traces do not necessitate *ta* for the first sign, but this seems a possible reading, giving a form linked to *tawwertum*, *tamertu*, AHW, 1341a, 'Umland, Umgebung'.

6') *a-[š]ap?-p[a]?-r[a]??*. The traces do not favour reading *ra* or *ram* for the fourth sign, but the earlier elements in the verb make one of these probable.

10') *muš-šag-ru-ra*. Taken as linked to *šugarruru*, CAD, G, 48a, 2 (cf. also 49a, *garāru* B, 2), AHW, 1259b-1260a.

11') ^{m.d}*nabû-našir a-na šar[ri]*. In this context Nabu-našir must be the king of Babylon of that name, whilst *šarri* must refer to the king of Assyria.

12') *sīsē^{meš} ša bāb [b]ār-síp^{ki}*. Must refer to some circumstance obscure to us but clear to the correspondents.

11', 15') *a-de-e*. The contexts suggest that this is a variant spelling of *a-di-i* for *adi*, 'until', rather than from *adû* 'treaty terms'.

Face B

15, 18) GUB = *šaṭāru*. The context suggests that this refers to a reply.

18) *tú-šar-k[i-s]a?* If a correct reading = Pret. 2 sg. m. of *rakāsu Š*, lit. 'to cause to attach'.

20) *tú-tir-ru*. Less probably *tú-še-e-ru* from *warûm* II, Š 'schicken' (AHw, 1473b).

23) The initial uncertain traces could be interpreted as *ú-lu-ú a-na*.

ND 2389 (IM 64023; Plate 2)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *arad-ka* ^{m.d}*marduk-apla-iddina^{na}*)
a-na di-na-an be-lí-ia [*lul-lik*]
um-ma-a a-na šarri be-lí-i[a qi-bi]

4 *šá šarru il?-ši x x ...*

[There is a horizontal split along the middle of line 5. Line 6, which retains parts of most signs, and lines 7-9, which retain only the first half or less, are badly abraded.]

Rev.

1' *x ni* [... ..]
um-ma-a x [... ..]
 XXX ŠE.BAR *x* [... ..]
 ŠE?.BAR *x š[á]* LUGAL [... ..]

5' *ki-i pa-an LU[GAL]?* [... ..]
išeleppēti^{meš} ma-l[a]? ... *x x*
 [ù] *šābē^{meš} su-uh-hi-il?-ma*
a-na [š]arri [i]š-pu-[r]a
ù mi-n[i]? *x lu?-ta-mi?*

Partial Translation

Obv.

(1) Your servant Merodach-baladan. (2) I would go as substitute (in death) for my lord. (3) Say this to the king my lord: That which the king

Rev.

(5') when before *the king* (6') ships *as many as* (7') and ... troops. (8') He sent a message to the king ... (9') and why

Notes

Upper part of tablet. Obv. bears 6 largely complete lines plus half or less of 3 further lines; only the first 3 lines are significantly legible. Rev. bears 5 partial and 4 largely complete lines. NB script.

Rev.7') *su-uh-hi-il?-ma*. If a correct reading, is Impv. D of *sahālu* (AHw, 1003b, 'durchbohren', D ~ G), but sense in this broken context is uncertain.

Rev.

7') *-ma!*. This, which seems to be the only possible reading, is, if correctly taken, in a MB form, with two verticals.

7') *lib-hi-r[u]?*. Although the traces of the third sign are not certain, this reading appears to be the only one which makes sense with the two preceding signs. For the verb see AHw, 117b-118a, *behēru* 'auswählen, (Truppe) ausheben'.

ND 2695 (IM 64122; Plate 2)

Transliteration

Obv. [a]rad-ka^mdu-um-mu-q[u]

a-na di-na-an šarri be-lí-ía l[ul-lik]

^dnergal u ^dla-az a-n[a]

šarri be-lí-ía lik-ru-bu um-ma-^ra^l

5 a-na šarri be-lí-ía-ma ^{tu}p-pi

a-na šul-mu šarri be-lí-ía al-tap-r[a]

šul-mu a-na e-kur-ra-ti

ù āli š[á] šarri be-lí-ía u₄-mu-u[s-su]

ina pa-n[i-t]i a-d[i]? x-x

10 LUGAL x x LUGAL ^t[e]-e-[m]u

šá babilⁱ[li^k]i^mmuk[īn]-zē[r]

ù X sīsē^{meš}

it-ti-šú ul-tu

[b]īt a-mu[k]-a-ni a-na

15 babilⁱki i-te-ru-ub

Rev. šu[l]-mu a-na amēlⁱbabila^{ki}[-a-a]

iq-[t]i-bi u[m]-ma V?/VI? ME

sīsē^{meš} AN[ŠE].KU.[DI]N.M[EŠ]

KUR x x x x

20 a-na babilⁱki ultu(TA) ir-[bu-ú]

um-ma [l]a ta-pal-l[ah]

amēlⁱbabilⁱki.meš ina U[GU]?

la ma[h]? x 'ùl?
a-na x x x x ...
 25 *i-te-lu-ú ki-í l x?*
ú-š[a]??-[š]i?-'ú l?? a-na
šarri be-lí-ia la? x ...

Translation

(1-4) Your servant Dummuqu. [I would go] as substitute (in death) for the king my lord. May Nergal and Laz bless the king my lord.

(4-5) (Say) thus to the king my lord. (5-6) I have sent a tablet (asking after) the wellbeing of the king my lord. (7-8) It is well with the temples and the (capital) city of the king my lord. Daily (9-10a) [unclear].

(10b-15) A report about Babylon. Mukin-zer and ten horses with him from Bit-amukkani have entered Babylon. (16-17a) He has spoken peace to the Babylonians. (17b-18) He said: 5/600 horses (and) *mules* (19) [fragmentary] (20-21) After he entered Babylon he said: 'You are not to be afraid.' (22a) The Babylonians (22b-24) [fragmentary] (25) they have come up. *When* (26) *he/they sent (them) forth* to (27) the king my lord, *they did not ...*

Notes

Complete except for top right corner. A space equivalent to one line is unscribed at end of rev. There are cracks across middle of obv. and bottom left corner of rev. Legibility is good in lines 1-9, but damage elsewhere leaves obscurities. Indicates that Mukin-zer entered Babylon without resistance. NB script.

10) LUGAL x x. The traces do not suggest EN-ía for the lost signs.

22-23) These badly damaged lines may have elaborated upon the reaction of the Babylonians to the entry of Mukin-zer.

26) *ú-š[a]??-[š]i?-'ú l??*. This restoration is very dubious.

ND 2632 (= I; IM 64084; Plate 2)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šar[ri] be-lí-ia*
urad-ka ^{m.d}[šama]š-būn(DÙ)-a-a ^{m.d}nabû₃-namir(ZÁLAG)^{ir}
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri be-lí-ia
^dnabû₃ ^dmarduk *a-na šarri be-lí-ía lik-r[u-bu]*
 5 *ūm XXVIII [KÁ]M a-na babiliki ni-it-ta-la[k]*
pa-an [abul]li mar-duk ni-it-ti-ti-zi
issu [L]Ú? babiliki ni-id-du-bu-ub
^m[a]l-si-nu ^{amēl}urdu ša ^mmukīn-zēr
^{amēl}[kà]l-da-a-a i-ba-áš-ši i-d[a]-e-šu
 10 *i[t-t]u-šu-u-ni issu mārē babiliki.meš*
pa-an abulli i-za-zu a-ni-ni k[i] an-ni-i
a-na mārē babiliki.meš ni-iq-tí-bi
ma-a m[i-n]i ina muh-hi-[š]u-nu t[a]-na[k-ka]-ra-na-ši
ma-a ... x-šu-nu issu LÚ? ... x x

- 15 *x x x a*
 [a]-na x x ba[bi]l^{ki} lim-gur
 amēl^{ki} di-nu-tú-ku-nu ṛa¹-na k[a]-' -un
 a-na babil^{ki} al-la-ka [di]b-bi ma-' a-du-ti
 i-si-šú-nu ni-id-du-bu-ub šābē^{me[š]} h[a]-meš
- 20 *šābē^{meš} X i-ba-aš-ši la i-ma-g[u-r]u*
 la u-šu-u-ni i-si-ni la i-da-bu-bu
 i-sa-nap-pa-ru-na-ši a-ni-ni
 ni-iq-ṭi-ba-šú-nu ma-a abulla pi-ti-ia
 a-na babil^{ki} ni-ru-ub la i-ma-gúr
- 25 *ma-a a-na ka-na-šú-nu a-na babil^{ki}*
 nu-si-ri-ib-ku-nu ma-a ki-ma
 šarru-ma it-tal-ka mi-i-nu
 a-na šarri a-qa[b-b]i ki-ma
 šarru it-tal-ka abulla i-pat-ti-ú
- 30 *la i-qi-pu ša šarru [i]l-lak-u-ni*
 Rev. *ki-i an-ni-i ni-iq-ṭi-ba-šú-n[u]*
 m[a]-a m^{x-x-x} ù amēl^{urdāni}meš
 ša m^[mu]kīn-zēr lu en-du-ni šu-nu
 a-di bīt šarru il-l[a]-ka-an-ni
- 35 *a-ni-ni ina āl^{kar-d}nergal-ma x-[x]?-x-ma?*
 [in]-n[a]-ni issu amēl^{ki} ni-da-bu-ub
 mi-i-nu ša ṭē-mu ša-nu nu-x-tú-u
 a-na šarri be-lí-ia ni-šap-pa-ra
 amēl^{li-ta-ma-a-a} i-sa-ap-ru-na-ši
- 40 *ma-a amēl^{urdāni}meš ša ša[rri] a-ni-ni ma-a ūm XXX KÁM*
 ni-il-la-ka i-[s]i-ku-nu ni-dib-bu-ub
 ù L[Ú]? .x.DAN.MEŠ [iss]i-ni ina muhhi šarri il-lu-ku
 ki-ma it-tal-ku-u-n[i] pa-an šarri be-lí-ia
 [l]u? ṛa¹-ba-la-š[ú-n]u ṭē-e-m[u] ša āl^{dil}-bat^{ki}
- 45 *šu-u[h ša] ša[rri b]e-lí i[š-p]ur-a[n-n]i*
 m^{mukin-z[ēr]}
 a-ni-ni x
 a-na x UD?
 ni x
- 50 *a-na [šarri bēlī-ia ni-šap-p]a-ra*
 [On left side aligned with line 50 and in slightly smaller script:]
 ni-mur-ra-a

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant(s) Shamash-bunaya (and) Nabu-namir. (3) May it be well with the king my lord. (4) May Nabu (and) Marduk bless the king my lord.

(5) On the 28th day we went back to Babylon. (6) We took our stand in front of the Marduk Gate. (7) We talked with the *Man* of Babylon. (8-9) Asinu the servant of Mukin-zer the Chaldaean was there. (9-11) They came out at his side and stood with

the citizens of Babylon in front of the gate. (11-12) We ourselves spoke to the citizens of Babylon in these terms: (13) ‘Why are you hostile to us for their sake? (14-15) [badly damaged] (16) Let him agree to [entry into] Babylon. (17-21) I am coming to Babylon to confirm your citizen privileges.’ We had many discussions with them. Five or ten people were present. They would not agree to come out. They would not negotiate with us. (22-24) They just kept sending us messages. We ourselves said to them: ‘Open the Great Gate. Let us enter Babylon.’ They would not agree. (25-29) (They) said: ‘For you should we let you into Babylon?’ (I) said: ‘When the king himself comes, what shall I say to the king? When the king comes they will open the Great Gate.’ (30) They did not believe that the king would come. (31) In these terms we spoke to them: (32-33) ‘PN and the servants of Mukin-zer are subject to penalty. (34-35) Until the king comes, we ourselves will *wait* in Kar-Nergal.’ (36) Now we are talking with the Man of Babylon. (37-38) Whatever other report we *hear*, we shall send a message about it to the king my lord.

(39) The people of the Litamu tribe have sent us a message, (40-41) saying: ‘We are servants of the king. On the thirtieth day we shall come (and) have discussions with you, (42) and *a strong force of soldiers* will come with us to the king.’ (43-44) When they have come back, I shall certainly send them before the king my lord.

(44b) A report about the city of Dilbat. (45) Concerning that on which the king my lord sent me a message, (46) Mukin-zer (47) we (48) to (49) (50) *We shall send [a message] to [the king my lord]*.

[On left side aligned with line 50:] We have seen (it).

Notes

Virtually complete large tablet, broken and rejoined. Has several cracks, and a worm hole near middle of top of obv. Obv. is almost flat, rev. is convex, ends and sides are rounded. Tapers very slightly to the ends. 40 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

2) ^m.d[šama]š-būn(DÛ)-a-a. On this official see *Iraq* 17(1955), 45.

6) [abul]li mar-duk. See E. Unger, *Babylon*² (Berlin, 1970), 69.

7) [L]Ú? *babili*^{ki}. [G]AL *babili*^{ki} seems improbable.

8) ^m[a¹-si-nu. The unidentified PN in line 32 appears to differ from this in all three signs.

9) *i-d[a]-e-šu*. *e*, rather than the expected *a*, seems clear.

17) *k[a]-’-un*. NA form of D infin. of *kānu*.

24) *ni-ru-ub*. Cohortative without preceding *i*; see GAG §81g.

25) *ka-na-šú-nu*. A variant of *kunāšunu*, CAD, K, 538b.

35) *x-[x]?-x-ma?*. The final *-x-ma?* could be *-[t]u*.

42) L[Ú]?*x*.DAN.MEŠ. The group possibly represents *amēlšābē dannūti*^{meš}.

Level with 50) *ni-mur-ra-a*. Presumably represents a note added by the king or his secretary after the reading of this important letter.

ND 2494 (= LXVI; BSAI; Plate 2)

Transliteration

Obv. [ana šarri bēlīya]

[urad-ka ^mPN lu šulmu]

[*ina muhhi ša šarru*]
 [*bēli i*]š-pur-an-n[*i*]
 5 *m*[*a*]-[*a*¹ *amēl* *mārē* *meš* *babi*][*li*]^{ki}
mar ina ir-ti-ía
il-li-ku-nin-ni
 MU.MEŠ-šú-nu
ina lib-bi e-gír-ti
 10 *šu-ṭur*
 E. *še-bi-la*
 Rev. *mi-nim-mi-ni*
la il-l[i]-ka

Translation

[(1-2) To the king my lord your servant PN.]

(4-) [Concerning the matter about which the king] my lord sent me a message, saying, 'Write in a letter the names of Babylonian citizens, as many as came over to my side, and send it (to me)', no one came over.

Notes

Tablet with top missing. The surface is mainly in good condition. The core shows no indication of coiling of clay or of a distinct surface layer of clay. Has a final ruled line. 33 mm of extant rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

6) *mar*. See GAG §48j.

6) *ina ir-ti-ia*. For a distinction between usage of *ana irtiya* in SB and NA, the former of a hostile confrontation and the latter of a neutral or friendly meeting, see CAD, I/J, 187a-b, 2'c' and 2'd'. The reference here may be to the situation at the time of the Mukin-zer rebellion, when Assyrian officials attempted to secure the goodwill of the Babylonian citizens; see ND 2632, lines 12ff.

ND 2717 (= II; IM 64132; Plate 3)

Transliteration

Obv.

1' ... x x
 ... x nu x x [x] [a¹-ta-[a¹ x ...
 ... [muh]?-hi [š]a? at-t[u]-nu ina bīti kam-mu-sa-t[u]-[n]u
 ... amēle-mu-q[i] ša ekalli ina lib-bi
 5' [ina]? [lib]?-[b]i? [l]a ni-il-lak pa-ti-hu šu a-dan-niš
 ... x ina lib-bi-šú la il-lu-ku a-na-ku
 ... x a-na pa-ni-šú-nu lal-lik ^mmukīn-zēr
 [ina pa-n]a-tu-u-a ina bi-ri-tu-uš-šú-nu ma-dak-tú
 ... x x la il-lak ina muh-hi-šú-nu la e-ti-qi
 10' i-[s]a-he-[i]a-ši la nu-[s]a-ta-mah ^mmia-su-ba-a-a
 ina l[ib]-bi pīt-hal-l[i] ina] muhhi-šú-nu a-sap-ra mu-uk
 a-l[ī]k] qi-ba-á[š]-šú-nu [u]š-ṣu-ú-ni mu-uk
 a-ta-[a¹ ina bīti kam-mu-sa-[t]u-nu mu-uk šúm-ma

- ina lib-bi ^mmukīn-zēr la tal-[l]a-ka mu-uk
 15' a-[d]i ^āma-rad al-ka-ni mu-uk ana-ku
 issu [a]n-na-ka lal-li-ka ina libbi-ku-nu
 lu-[s]a-me-eh it-ta-a[r] ^mia-su-[b]a-a-a
 iq-ṭi-ba-áš-šú-nu la i-ma-gúr-u-[n]i la ú-ṣu-u-ni
^mia-su-ba-a-^la^l i-su-hu-ra it-tal-ka
 20' ṭè-en-šú-nu iq-ṭi-bi-a ma-a i-da-bu-ub
 ma-a šúm-ma ^{amē}l e-mu-qi i-ba-áš-ši
 [i]t-tal-ku-u-ni ni-ta-rad ma-a issu lib-bi
 [bīti?] nu-ša-a ma-a ú-la-a ^{amē}l e-mu-qi
 [i]l-li-ku-u-ni ma-a la-áš-šú la nu-ṣ[a]-^la^l
 25' āla nu-kal la kam-mu-sa-ni [ina bīti]
 [šú]m?-[m]a? ^{amē}l e-mu-qi ni-im-ma-r[u-ni]
 [i?-ba?-á]š?-šú-ú ṭè-en-šú-nu a-na x ...
 [ú?-la?]-^la^l la-áš-šú qa-ra-bu l[a]? ...
 29' ... x la il-lu-k[u]
 Base ... be-lí ú-še-x
 31' ... x x la-aš-šú-nu ana-ku
 ... x x x a x

Rev.

[The text of rev. continues from base without a break, but the traces in lines 33'-39' contain no recognizable sign and have not been copied.]

- 40' ki x x x-... ..
 ma-a m[i]? ... [ú]?-[p]a-ša-qa du[l-l]i-šú-nu
 ta-d[a]-x x ... šú am-mar ^{amē}l a-ru-mu-ú
 ša ina ^ā[s]a-pi-ia issu ^mmukīn-zēr i[t-ta]l-ku-u-ni
^mmukīn-zēr ki-i issu ^āl sa-pi-i[a ú-ṣ]a-ni
 45' ina x illati(ILLAT)-šú lu? x [l]i?/[š]a? larak(UD.UD)^{a[k.ki]} ih-ta-bat
 UDU.M[EŠ š]a ^mmukīn-zēr ina ^āl bu-ha-ru l[u]? ^le^l-ku-lu
^{amē}l larak(UD.UD)^{ak}ki-a-a it-tal-ku UDU.MEŠ XX LIM
 ša ^mmukīn-zēr ih-tab-tu-u-ni ṭe-mu ša
 babilⁱki ^mmukīn-zēr a-na mārē^{meš} babilⁱki
 50' iq-ṭi-bi ma-a i-si-ia a-[t]a-[k]a-ni ma-a
 ḡi^šḡi^šimmarē ša dil-bat^{ki} du-[k]a la i-tam-gu-ru
 mārē^{meš} babilⁱki i-si-šú la il-lu-ku
^{amē}l ši-ir-ki ša bēl i-si-šú it-tal-ku
 [ṭ]è-mu [š]a ^{amē}l[G]Ú.EN.NA ūm III KAM* ša ^{iti}tašrīti
 55' ^la^l-[n]a [p]a-ni-ía it-tal-ka III GIŠ.GIGIR
 [x] [L[Ú].pet-hal-lu V ME ^{amē}l šābē^{meš} GIŠ.BAN i-si-šú
 [it-t]al-ku-u-ni issu muhhi ^{amē}l a-ri-me ša
 [šarru? bēli? i]š-pu[r]-a[n-n]i [m]a-a šu-ṭur še-bi-la
 ... x x ... MEŠ ^{sa}l ar-me-te-ía
 60' ... ^li^l-su-[ri] [šarru be]-lí i-qab-bi
 ... ti x ... x x e
 [At least three further lines totally lost on rev.]

Side*

1' ... *amēl*bēl pāhati ša ālarrap-ha a-na U[RU] ...
 ... *x*-[t]u a-na šarri be-lí-ía ú-s[i?]-bi?-la?
 [amēl]mār [š]ipri ša šarri be-lí-ía ina muhhi-šú-n[u] ...
 ina muhhi-ia lu-bi-[l]a-šú x ...

Translation

Obv.

(2') why ... (3') *that* you are assembled in the tribal area (4') ... the forces of the Palace within. (5) We will not go *there*, he is extremely ... (6') ... they will not go inside it. (6'-9a') I myself will go to their presence. Mukin-zer [has set up] camp opposite me in the midst of them. (9b'-10a') He will not come on (and) I did not cross to them, (so) we have not joined forces with each other. (10b'-11') I sent Iasubaya to them with cavalry. I said: (12') 'Go! Tell them to set out. Say: "Come out! (13') Why are you assembled in the area? If (14') you are not going with Mukin-zer, (15') go as far as Marad. (15'-17') I will come from here myself (and) join you.'" He then went back. (17'-18') Iasubaya spoke to them, (but) they would not agree to come out. (19'-20') Iasubaya came back again and gave me the report about them. He said: (21-23a) 'They say: "If there were forces and they had come, we would have come down, we should have come out from within *the settlement*. (23b'-25') But forces have not come, (and) there are none, (so) we are not coming out. We are holding the city; we are not (just) assembled [*in the settlement*]. (26'-27') [*If*] we see forces, (*showing there are (some)*), [*we shall send*] information about them to [*my lord*]. (28') But if there are none, (and) battle [*is not imminent*], (29') ..." They will not come (30'-32') [broken]

Rev.

(41') their service (42'-43') as many Aramaeans as go with Mukin-zer in Sapia. (44') Mukin-zer, when he went out from Sapia, (45') with his forces ... he plundered Larak. (46') Mukin-zer's sheep were pasturing in the town Buharu. (47'-48a') The people of Larak came and plundered 20,000 sheep of Mukin-zer.

(48b'-49') Report about Babylon. Mukin-zer said to the Babylonians: (50'-51') 'Come with me! Destroy the date-palm(s) of Dilbat!' They were not willing. (52') The Babylonians would not go with him. (53') (Some) temple-slave(s) of Bel did go with him.

(54'-57a) Report about the Shandabakku-official. On the third of the month Tashritu he came into my presence; three chariot(s), (56') [a stated number of] cavalry (and) 500 archers (also) came with him.

(57b'-57') Concerning the Aramaeans about whom [the king my lord] sent me a message, saying, 'Write (and) send (information) (59') my Aramaean woman.' (60') Perhaps [the king] my lord will say: (61')

Left Side

(1') ... the governor of Arrapha to the town ... (2') ... I *have/He has sent* to the king my lord. (3'-4') Let the messenger of the king my lord bring it to me for them.

Notes

Top end is lost, there is some damage at base, and surface is lost at beginning of rev. NA script.

Obv.

3') [muh]?-hi [š]a? The traces of the third sign do not suggest *ia*.

5') *pa-ti-hu*. See *Iraq* 17 (1955), 29. The equation *pa-ti-hu* = *nu-u-hu* of ZA nF 9 (1936), 242, line 239, seems to have no relevance here.

10') *i-[s]a-he-[i]a-ši* < *ištu ahā'iš*, see GAG §120e. This reading, now verified by collation, was proposed in CAD, S, 109b (where *ia* is read as *jī*).

10') *nu-[s]a-ta-mah*. D^t of *samāhu*.

17') *it-ta-a[r]*. Taken as G^t *tūr*, and anomalous for *ittūar* or *ittūr*.

31') *x x la-aš-šú-nu*. The traces of the two unidentified signs could be interpreted as [D]U.[NU]MUN = *mukīn-zēr*, but the plural form of the following verb is against this.

Rev.

46') *ā^lbu-ha-ru*. A city of Bit-Amukkani; see NAT, 94.

56') [L]Ú.pet-hal-lu. Or [AN[ŠE].pet-hal-lu.

ND 2603 (= V; IM 64071; Plate 4)

Obv.1' ... [i^l-hal-l[a]?-x

[la i-man]-gúr la il-la-ka amē^lmar šipri^{meš}-šú ina muh[hi] ...

[amē^lmar šipri]^{meš} ša m^mmukīn-zēr ina [mu]hhi-šú il-la-ku-ni [e^l-gi[r-ti]

... PEŠ ina muhhi m^dmarduk-apla-iddina^{na} na-šu-ni

5' ... [m]a at-ta-a ina libbi amē^lri-'a-sa-ni ša māt^kkal-di

[lu pa]l-ha-ka-ni ma-a a-ta-a qa-la-ka māt^kkal-du i-sa-am-mu

[ina] pa-ni-ka ma-he-e-ri a-di m^bba-la-su māt^kkal-du

[i^l-ha-pe-e id-da-nu-ni e-gir-tu₄ ša ina muhhi

[m^dmarduk-apla-iddina^{na} na-šu-ni-ni it-tab-lu-ni

10' [ana p]a-ni-ni i-si-si-ú : ù m^bba-la-su

[ip-t]a-la-ah a-dan-niš ma-a an-nu-rig šu[m-ma]?

Base [at]-tu-nu tal-la-ka ma-a ša-ga-la-ni

[x]-x-ku-nu la-al-lik ma-a DUMU.NIN-ia

[a-k]e-e a-na-ki-ir ma-a amē^le-mu-qi

15' [m^mukin-zēr i-ša-da-da māta i-hap-pi

Rev. [x] un-qa?-ka amē^lā^lm[a]?-lu-la-ta-a-a ina mu[hhi-t]a

...-[i^l ma-a a-ke-e a-ha-ri-di ma-a ib-ra-ni

...-x-tu ku-ul-da i-su-ri šarru be-lí i-qab-bi

...-x-ti-bi-ra šarru be-lí ú-da pa-du-ni ma-hi-ši

20' ... x lib-bi DÛG.GA.MEŠ i-si-šú ni-du-bu-ub

... x x a-na a-a-li-e ša ā^lla-rak-a-a

... x-li-ka ik-ke-e-la ni-la-ka

... ina muhhi-šú lu tal-li-ka lu-šar-hi-šu-šú

... x a ... a i-ga-li-ú

Translation

(1') (2') he is unwilling. he will not come. His messengers concerning ... (3'-4') [*The messengers*] of Mukin-zer came concerning him. They brought a letter about Merodach-baladan. (5'-6') [It said] thus: 'You are amongst the leaders of the Chaldean land, they indeed respect you. Why are you silent? The Chaldean land listens. (7'-9') There is a rival in your presence, while Balasu ruins the Chaldean land.' They gave (it) to me. They brought the letter which was sent to me about Merodach-baladan. (10'-12') They read it in my presence, and Balasu was very much afraid. (He said) 'Now if you yourself go, (13'-15') Let me go with your ... [*He is*] my nephew. How can I show hostility? The forces of Mukin-zer will devastate (and) ruin the land.' (16') ... your *seal* the man of *Malulat* for me. (17'-18') He said: 'How can I *do what is fitting?*', I said: 'Cross over (and) defeat the ...' Perhaps the king my lord will say: (19') '... you shall cross over.' The king my lord knows (20') We spoke kind words with him about it. (21') [*We persuaded him to go*] to the help of the people of Larak. (22') Is he delayed? We will go (23') *You indeed* went against him; let *them* encourage him. (24') They will go into exile.

Notes

Approximately lower half of a letter. NA script, mainly in sound condition.

7'-8') *a-di ... i-ha-pe-e*. For usage see GAG §173f.

8') *id-da-nu-ni*.

12') *ša-ga-la-ni*. AHW, 275b takes as *galû* II, Impv. Š 'in die Verbannung führen', but the exact sense here is unclear to me; the signs are certain, with no possibility of a suffix -šú, as tentatively suggested *ibid*.

15') *i-ša-da-da*. This is assumed to have the meaning of the West Semitic verb, as in Hebrew. The normal Akkadian meaning does not give good sense.

16') *un-qa?-ka*. A photograph suggests that the second sign should be *qa* rather than *na* as read in editio princeps. The copy has been altered, although the line so read gives no obvious sense.

16') *āl^lm[a]?-lu-la-ta-a-a*. The first sign of this town name seems marginally more likely to be *ma* than *šu*.

19') *pa-du-ni ma-hi-ši*. Lit. 'are sparing of fighting', but the words may have an idiomatic sense.

20'-24') These obscure lines appear to speak of proposals to encourage Balasu to support the Assyrian side.

21') *a-a-li-e*. CAD, A/1, 226b *ajalu* B, 'help', taken as West Semitic loanword.

22') *ik-ke-e-la*. Taken as N Pret. of *kalû*, with lengthening of second vowel perhaps to denote a question.

ND 2663 (= VIII; IM 64101; Plate 3)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [ana šar]ri be-lí-[ia]
 [urad-ka] m.^dšamaš-bu-na-[a-a]
 [ina muhhi] t̄è-me ša amēl̄sābē[meš]

- [ša šarru b]e-lí iš-pu[r-a]n-ni
 5 ... [a]n?-na-šú-nu la t[u]-še-b[i-la]
 [a]mēl[šābē]meš ʾLʾ? ša amēl[i]-[t]u-[']a
 x-x ÍD.IDIGNA [a]-na
 bat-ti am-mi-ti ša nāri
 [h]arrānu ša ālUD.[UD] x x x x-tu-u-nu
 10 i-si-šú-nu i[t]-t[a]-[al]?-[ku]?-ʾu¹-ni
 ʾa¹-[n]a p[a]-an šar[ri] be-lí-ʾia¹ [i]t-t[al]-k[u]
 ... x amēl[r][u]-ʾú¹ 'a
 ... -ni harrānu ša ālkar-dšamaš
 [ana pān šarr]i be-lí-ía il-la-ku-u-ni
 15 x.MEŠ ša m^a-m[u-d]a-n[i]
 m^a-mu-da-ni
 [am]ēl[šā]bēmeš māti-šú-nu
 [amēl][šā]bēmeš-[š]u?-nu
 x x
- Rev.
 1' x
 UD?
 [KÁ.DIN]GIR.RA.KI
 x KÁ.DINGIR.R[A.K]I
 5' [i]r?/[n]i? ʾú¹
 [p]a?-ni-te
 la ú-ši-ú i[ssu]? [K]Á.DINGIR.RA.K[I]
 it-ta-lak i^sdaltu š[a] x x-PAPir
 ina lib-bi tal-li ša x x ...
 10' [t]a-[t]a-ha-aš ù x-x-[x]?-[m]ir
 i[t]?/a[t]?-[t]a-lak x-ta-x x x
 x x x qa-ni(-)t[a] at x [x]? x
 i x x ša i^skirī(KIRI₆) tu-un-[t]a?-gi-ir
 [s]u?-gu-ul-tu ma-a'-da a-dan-niš
 15' e-ta-na-rab mārēmeš KÁ.DINGIR.R[A.KI]
 x x a zu ni ta x x ...
 [x] x ab? x x ...

 x x ...
 20' a-n[a] ...
 x ki-ʾi¹ [...]?
- Side
 ... il-l[a-k]a ʾa¹-na ša[rri] bēlīya

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Shamash-bunaya. (3-4) In the matter of the report on the soldiers about whom the king my lord sent me a message, (5) saying, 'you have not brought their ...', (6) soldiers, *fifty* of the Itu'a (7-8) *protect* the Tigris

on this side of the river. (9) The road for the city La[rak] ..., (10) (when) they went with them, (11) they came into the presence of the king my lord. (12) the Ru'a tribesmen (13) the road for the city Kar-Shamash (14) (when) they come into the presence of the king my lord (15) [the troops] of Amudanu (16) Amudanu (17) the troops of their land (18) their troops (19)

Rev.

(3') Babylon (4') Babylon (5'-6') [unintelligible] (7') did not come out from Babylon (8') he came back. The door of [PN] (9') in the midst of the tallu of ... (10) she struck and ... (11') he?/I?/she? came back (12') (13') she got agreement to the ... of the orchard. (14') Very much *sugultu* (15') keeps coming in. The Babylonian citizens (16'-21') [nothing intelligible]

Side

... .. he will come to the king [my lord].

Notes

Top half of tablet joined to right side of bottom half. Surface only fair. Has several cracks and substantial local damage. Has one line on left side, running from bottom to top. NA script.

Obv.

7) *x-x*. Possibly *ill-mi!*. Re-collation, with the help of a binocular microscope to identify damage marks, is desirable.

16) *ma-mu-da-ni*. One is strongly tempted to adjust the third sign of the name to give *ma-mu-ka-ni* (for alternative spellings, see NAT, 77f., apud '*BĪT-AWUKĀNI*'), but I see no possibility of reading this sign as either *ka* or *kan*. The traces of the damaged name in 15 also conform to *ma-mu-da-ni*.

Rev.

9') *tal-li*. For possible meanings see AHw, 1311a-b, *tallu(m)* I. See also J.N. Postgate, *Fifty Neo-Assyrian Legal Documents*, p. 151.

10') [*t*]a-[*t*]a-*ha-aš*. The first sign is certainly not *it*, and it would be almost impossible to read the traces as *li*.

13') *tu-un-[t]a?-gi-ir*. Taken as representing 3 sg. f. D^t of *magāru*.

ND 2630 (BSAI; Plate 4)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-na šarri be-lí-í[a]*
urad-k[a] ^{m.d}*šamaš-bu-na-a-a*
ina muhhi nišēmeš ša šarru be-lí iš-pur-an-ni
an-n[u-r]ig III ME LXXIII zi-me ina qātē^{II}
- 5 ^mM[U]-AD ^ra^l-n[a] *šarri be-lí-ia*
ú-si-bi-la ^rX¹? (+) VII *am[ēl]šā[bē]meš*
 VI *amēlšābēmeš ša x x ... x 4 [r]u-ṭu*
^rX¹V[II]? *x : VIII š[a] [G]A*
naphar x [amēl]šābēmeš

- 10 III I[V]? : [I]I? x
naphar L?[I]I? [š]a?
 LXX *amēlšā[bēmeš]*
 XII *ša* 4 [r]u-[tu]
 XVI *ša* III x
- 15 *naphar* I ME XXXVI
 V *ša* IV : x
 [a¹?-[n]a? SU [... ..
 ... x [... ..]
- Rev. [On lines 4a'-9a' see notes below]
- 1' LÚ x ... [... ..]
issu x ... [... ..]
il-lik [... ..]
 MU MEŠ-šú 4a' [šarri bē]-lí-ia
- 5' a-na šarri 5a' -ri-bi
abi-šú ša DIŠ 6a' [šarri bē]-lí-ia
abi-šú ša DIŠ x 7a' x LÚ.GAL.MEŠ
 m_{ga}-ra-ba 8a' x-ne
 m_{gab}-bu-^dšam[aš] 9a' -an-ni
- 10' Š[À]? m.^dnabû-š[e]-... ..
 šú-nu *amēlšābē*^{m[eš]} ... x x
 nīš^{me[š]}(-)^š[ú-n]u [a¹-n[a] [šarri] be-lí-ia
 ú-si-bi-l[a] in[a li]b-bi
*amēl*_x-[x]-[b]a-te *amēl*_i-da-a-nu
- 15' šú-nu

Partial Translation

Obv.

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Shamash-bunaya. (3) Concerning the people about whom the king my lord sent a message, (4-6) now I have despatched to the king my lord 373 *special troops* by the hand of Shumu-abi. [Lines 6b-18, which are very broken, appear to have given statistics on the composition of this group.]

Rev. [disregarding lines 4a'-9a', on which see notes below]

(12'-13') I have sent their people to the king my lord. (13'-15') Therein are the ...

Notes

Five fragments rejoined to form tablet with base missing. Surface is lost from right half of obv. after line 6 and from much of rev. before the final 4 lines. Final 10 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

The ends of lines on rev. designated 4a'-9a' are on two joining fragments which have been attached to the middle of the right half of the tablet. Whilst the join looks very convincing, with closely matching dimensions and curvature, it is not perfect, and two points suggest that it may be false. Firstly, the distance from beginning of line 4a' to end of line 9a' is 23.5 mm, whilst that on the left of the tablet from beginning of line 4' to end of line 9' is 26 mm. Secondly, on the reverse, the first eight lines of the main

tablet all run up to, and all but one go beyond, the right margin, whereas the right ends of the added fragments, which correspond to seven lines on the main tablet, are all blank, so that these seven lines, if part of the tablet, would all have borne from 2 to 11 mm less inscription than the shortest line earlier. It is therefore assumed that lines rev. 4a'-9a' are not a true join.

Obv.

4) *zi-me*. Perhaps an abbreviated form of *zīm panī*, for which see CAD, Z, 122a, 4. J.N. Postgate suggests reading ZI.ME(Š), 'people' or 'deportees', which may well be preferable.

Rev.

14') *amēl_x-[x]-[b]a-te*. The first sign might be *qi*, but some of its apparent diagonals could be damage marks.

14') *amēl_i-da-a-nu*. Not otherwise attested.

ND 2628 (= LXXVI; BSAI; Plate 4)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri be-lí-ia*
urad-ka^{m.d}šamaš-bu-na-a-a
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri be-lí-ía
ūm XXIX KAM issu ma-rad^{ki}*
5 *ú-ta-m[e-š]a a-di*
parak-mār[i^k]i at-ta-lak
nišē^{meš} ša ina pa-an
[ā^l]lara[k](UD.UD.K[I])-a-a
[ā^ln]i-ip-pur-a-a
10 *a-ta-šar at-ta-har*
ūm I KAM issu parak-mārⁱki*
Rev. *ú-nam-maš nišē^{meš}*
ár-ti a-pa-qid
a-na pa-an šarri be-lí-ia
15 *al-la-ka*

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Shamash-bunaya. May it be well with the king my lord. (4-6) On the 29th I set out from Marad and went as far as Parak-mari. (7-10) I checked and received the people who were formerly citizens of Larak or Nippur. (11-13) On the first I shall set out from Parak-mari. I shall appoint the people ... (14-15) I shall come into the presence of the king my lord.

Notes

Complete tablet rejoined from three fragments. Text very clear, with significant damage affecting only lines 5 (middle) and 8-9 (beginning). Two-thirds of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

- 2) m.dšamaš-bu-na-a-a. One of the authors of ND 2632.
 5) ú-ta-m[e-š]a. For the final sign, [š]a is the only likely reading, the tail of a third vertical (shown in copy) being probably a damage mark.
 7) ina pa-an. Taken in the sense in which used in AKA, 164, 20.
 13) ár-ti. Or ub/p-ti. Neither reading seems to be otherwise attested in an appropriate sense.

ND 2365 (= XI; IM 64011; Plate 3)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [a-n]a ša[rri] bēlī-ia
 ur[ad]-ka^ma-[š]i-pa-a
 l[u]-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šárri bēlī-[i]a
 iṣelippāti^{meš} āl.kušma[š-ki]r
 5 uq-ṭa-ri-ba
 x x x [ú¹-qa-r[i-ba]?)
 x x
 x x

Rev.

- 1 x x
 x-a-a
 x-ṣu-ni
 [ina mu]hhi amēl^{meš} ṣābē^{meš}
 5 ša^mba-la-si
 i-zu-uq-pu
 V[II] ṣābē^{meš} i[t-t]u-ṣu
 V ṣābē^{meš} di-ṭe¹-ku
 I amēl^{meš} mā^r šī[pri-i]a
 10 itti-šú-nu-ma
 di-e-ki
 [šú]lmu^{mu} a-na iṣelippāti^{meš}
 [ša] āl.kušma[š]-kir

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashipa. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) I have brought the ships of Kelek-town. (6) I brought ...

Rev.

(4-6) Concerning the troops of Balasu: they have taken station. (7-8) Seven soldiers came out. Five were killed. (9-11) One of my messengers was killed actually with them. It is well with the ships of Kelek-town.

Notes

Lacks bottom left corner and surface of most of bottom half of obv. Has distorting vitrification at the beginning of obv. Text is otherwise sharp and mainly clear. No lines are lost at the beginning of rev. NA script.

Obv.

4, rev. 13) *āl.kušmaš-kir*. Thanks are due to J.N. Postgate for this proposed restoration.

5) *uq-ṭa-ri-ba*. There is a confusing adventitious mark after the vertical of *ba*.

Rev.

6) *i-zu-uq-pu*. See CAD, Z, 55a, *zaqāpu* B, b.

10) *itti-šú-nu-ma*. Enclitic *-ma* for emphasis.

ND 2418 (= XCI; IM 64030; Plate 5)

See K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 82.

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na šarri bēlī-i[a]*
 *urad-ka^ma-ši-p[a]-[a]*¹
 lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-n[a bēlīya]
 ina muhhi iṣelippāti^{meš}
 5 *ša šarru bēlī i[š-p]ur-an-ni*
 I[V] M[E] i[ṣ]elippāti^{meš}
 [x ME ku]šmaš-kir

Rev.

1' ... x x
 [ú]l-na-m[a]-áš
 ki-ma : GI[Š.M]Á.MEŠ
 ú-sa-r[i-q]u
 5' *lu-ra-mi-i*
 li-li-ku
 ú-la-a
 End *[n]i-ka-l[a-š]ú-nu*

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashipa. May it be well with my lord.

(4-5) Concerning the ships about which the king my lord sent a message, (6) 400 ships (7) x00 inflated waterskins

Rev.

(2') I shall set in motion. (3'-4') When they have unloaded the ships, (5') shall I release (them), (6') so that they may go on, (7'-8') or shall we detain them?

Notes

Top half of tablet, broken in several places and rejoined. Has very square edges. Large clear NA script.

Obv.

2) ^ma-š*i*-p[a]-[a]^l. Since an official of the same name, also concerned with ships, was the writer of ND 2365, we present the two letters together.

7) [x ME^{ku}]^šmaš-kir. Restored after Deller, op.cit.

Rev.

4') ú-sa-r[i-q]u. See AHW, 979b, riāqu(m) apud Š 2. After *kima* one expects Subj. particle -ni; see GAG §116e.

5') lu-ra-mi-i. See AHW, 953b, ramû(m) III, D 'entlassen'. Deller, op.cit., points out that the form indicates a question.

8') [n]i-ka-l[a-š]ú-nu. see CAD, K, 95a, kalû.

ND 2452 (= XXXV; IM 64046; Plate 5)

Transliteration

Obv. a-na šarri [b]ēlī-ia

urdu-<ka> ^ma-š*i*-pa-a

VI LIM ŠE.PAD.MEŠ

ša mšilli-bēl

5 amēlyab ālāni^{meš}.ni

[t]a-ba-at ri-ih-ti

ŠE.PAD.MEŠ la ú-du [ta]b-ku

[see note]

III LIM ŠE.PAD.MEŠ ina āl*si*-par

10 ŠE.PAD.MEŠ issu muhhi-ía

pa-ti-a-at

Rev. ŠE.PAD.MEŠ x-a'-ra-at

a-na āl*si*-par

la a-lak

15 ŠE.PAD.MEŠ issu pa-<an>? nāri

pa-ti-a-at

šum-mu šarru i-qa-bi

ma a-lik

dul-lu ú-ku-šú

20 šu-u-tu

i-da-bu-bu

ma-a issu [ā]l*ku*-ti-e

ma-a issu āl*kar*-^dnergal

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Ashipa.

(3-6) 6,000 (gur) of grain supplies of Šilli-Bel, Chief of the Towns, is good. (6-7) I do not know about the rest of the grain supplies. (7-9) The store of, 3,000 (units) of grain supplies (are) in Sippar, (10-11) the grain supplies are distant from me. (12) The grain supplies are [not] available, (13-14) I cannot go to Sippar. (15-16) The grain supplies are distant from the river.

(17-20) If the king says: 'Go! The task is to be *settled*', they will argue: 'From Kutha, from Kar-Nergal' [message apparently incomplete]

Notes

Complete tablet in good condition. Large clear NA script. Ends clear but uninscribed.

The writer, subject matter, and mention of Šilli-bel, link this letter to ND 2623, q.v.

3) ŠE.PAD.MEŠ. The verbal accordance appears to treat this as sg. f.

8) Either II LIM LXX GUR *eṭir^{ir}* or, as J.N. Postgate suggests, 2 LIM mU+GUR-KAR^{ir}.

11, 16) *pa-ti-a-at*. Lit. 'is opened', but for *patû* in sense 'to be distant' see SAA, 5, p. 232.

19) *ú-ku-šú*. Taken as D infin. of *akāšū*, with a sense approximating to 'is to be got out of the way'.

ND 2623 (= XXXVI; BSAI; Plate 5)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri be-lí-ía*
urdu-ka^ma-ši-pa-a
lu-ú šulmu^{mu} a-n[a] be-lí-ía
ina muhhi ŠE.PAD.ME[Š] š[a] šarru
5 *be-lí i[š-p]ur-an-ni-ni*
issu pa-an šarri be-lí-ía
ša¹ú¹-nam-mi-ša-an-ni
a-na [ā]^l[ku]?-[t]i-u
1a¹na ā^l[kār]?-s[i]-p[ar]
10 *e-ta-á[r]-ba*
II^{ta} ūme^{me}[š] ina babili^{ki}
ka-mu-[s]a-ak
Rev. ŠE.PAD.MEŠ *ša^mšilli-bē^l*
la qu-u[r]-ba-ti
15 *la aq-[r]i-ib*
a-du^m mu-še-zib-ili
[is]su [ā]^lkār-aš-šur
i[l]-li-kám-m[a]
GIŠ.M[Á].MEŠ *a-s[a-d]a-d[a]?/a[d]?*
20 *mar-di-ti ša-pa-al*
GU.DU₈.A.KI *at-ta-lak*
ūm XXIII KÁM *ú-[s]e?-še-ri*
Š[E.P]AD.MEŠ *š[a] GU.D[U₈].A.K[I]*
a-kar-ra-ar

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashipa. May it be well with my lord.

(4-6) Concerning the grain supplies about which the king my lord sent me a message, (7-10) when I set out from the presence of the king my lord, I went into

Kutha (and) Kar-Sipar. (11-15) For two days I was stationed in Babylon. The grain supplies of Šilli-bel not being at hand, I could not start work. (16-19) While Mushezib-ili came from Kar-Ashur, I towed the boats. (20-21) I have gone back on the stage downstream from Kutha. (22) (By) the twenty-third I shall have put things in order. (23-24) I shall put in place the grain supplies of Kutha.

Notes

Tablet composed of three fragments rejoined. Complete except for a lost fragment (18 mm × 9 mm maximum) on lower part of obv., and a smaller lost fragment on right of middle of rev. At top right corner of rev., a flake has chipped off, leaving a sharp line of break, over which the scribe has written a sign; this is evidence for the use of previously prepared tablet blanks see above, p. 3. NA script.

9) $\bar{a}[l][k\bar{a}r]-s[i]-p[ar]$. The spacing demands another sign between URU and *si*.

15) *la aq-[r]i-ib*. 'I could not start work.' See CAD, Q, 235b-236a, 6.

15-18) A possible alternative translation is 'The grain supplies of Šilli-bel not being at hand, I could not start work until Mushezib-ili came from Kar-Ashur'.

19) *a-s[a-d]a-d[a]?/a[d]?* G^t of *šadādu*.

22) $\acute{u}-[s]e?-š\acute{e}-ri$. Taken as Š^t of *ešēru* with 'überhängende' *i*, (GAG §18e). It seems possible that this type of usage marked the beginning of an attempt (presumably under the influence of Aramaic) at using cuneiform signs alphabetically; i.e. *ri* was taken to represent not only *r+i* but also, in occurrences like the present, *r* alone.

ND 2363 (BSAI; Plate 6)

Transliteration

Obv. $[ana \text{ šarri } b\bar{e}]l\bar{i}-a$
 $[urad-ka^{m}x?]-x-x-a-h[i]?$
 $[lu \text{ šulmu}^m]^{u} a-na \text{ šarri } b\bar{e}l\bar{i}-a$
 $[x] [x]? x \text{ mašak} \text{ maš-kir}$
 5 $[x] [x]? \bar{a}l\bar{d}\bar{u}r-la-di-ni$
 $[x].MEŠ [i]k-ra-ru-ni$
 $[\acute{u}-t]a-am-me-š\acute{u} ina b\bar{a}b bi[t-q]i$
 $[x] [l]i?-u-ti [l]u?-t[a]?-[m]u?$
 $[x]? x i-qab-bi ma-a x x x-[m]a$
 10 $[l]e?-e-ti-qu li[l-q]i-[\acute{u}]$
 $[x]? x-la?-mu^{m}ba-la-su$
 $[x]? x [G]AB?^{m}na-di-nu$
 $[x]? x x \text{ š}[a]? GIŠ x x?$
 Base $[x]? [ma]šak \text{ maš-k}[i]-i[r]$
 15 $[x]? x \text{ } \acute{u}l(-)x x$
 $[l]u?/\acute{u}l??-[n]am-me-š\acute{u}$
 $a-du ana-k[u] u[r]-ki-u-te$
 $issu \bar{a}l[d]\bar{u}r-balih(KASKAL.KUR)-a-a$
 $[a]t-[t]a-[ta]l-kan-ni$

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant ...-ahi. May it be very well with the king my lord. (4) ... water-skin (5) ... the town Dur-ladini (6-7) they put the ... in place, (then) they set out. In the sluice-gate (8) ... (9-10) ... he says thus: '... let them pass through, let them take ...' (11) ... Balasu ... (12) ... *against* Nadinu (13) ... (14) ... water-skin (15) ... (16) let them set out (17-19) until afterwards I myself have come back from Dur-balihaya.

Notes

Has lost substantial piece at top left corner and has surface damage down almost the whole of left of obv.; 45 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

4ff.) These damaged lines are obscure, but they may be explaining how Chaldean tribesmen escaped from a marsh city being invested by the Assyrians.

5) *āldūr-la-di-ni*. Known from the annals of Sargon II as a city of Bit-Dakkuri; see A. Fuchs, *Inscr. Sargons II.*, p. 152, Ann.305. See also SAA, 1, p. 236.

6) [*i*]k-ra-ru-ni. For other instances of characteristic vowel *a* in this verb see ND 2453, 5, 7.

7) [*ú-t*]a-am-me-šú. D^t Pret. from *namāšu*; see CAD, N/1, 222a-b, 4.

11, 12) ^mba-la-su, ^mna-di-nu. Balasu, head of the Bit-Dakkuri tribe, and Nadinu, ruler of the city of Larak, are mentioned together as paying tribute to Tiglath-Pileser; H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, Summ.7: 26, Summ.11: 18.

15) [*x*] ? x ^rú(-)x x. As a restoration *lu-u-šak-la* might fit, but the sense 'let me hold back, let them set out' would be questionable unless it were idiomatic for 'let me hold them back from setting out'.

17) u[r]-ki-u-te. Pl. of an adjectival form, but appears to be used here with an adverbial sense.

18) *āld*[*d*]ūr-balih(KASKAL.KUR)-a-a. The capital city of Bit-Sha'alli; see H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, p. 163, Summ.7, obv. 20. For the value of KASKAL.KUR see E.I. Gordon, JCS 21 (1967), 77, and for a NA pronunciation *dūr-bi-li-ha-a-a* see ABL 1292, obv. 5. See also below, p. 51, ND 2689, 7.

ND 2729 (BSAI; Plate 5)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 a-na šarri bēli-ia
 urad-ka ^msin-ašarid
 lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēli-ia
 LÚ.A.KI[N].MEŠ issu lib-bi *āldūr-la-di-n*[i]
- 5 i-tal-ku-ni ma-a e-mu-qi
 [š]a-at ina šadīⁱ ma-a II ME L pét-hal
 [x] ? x PA ? G[Ī]R.II i-šal-la-šú i-si-niš
 [m]a-a ina mu[h-h]i-[n]i i-tal-ku-[n]i
 [K]Û.BABBAR.ME[Š] x [K]A ? ŠAB TE ša ?/TA ? x
- 10 i[na] ? x x am-me-te [k]am-mu-s[u]
 [m]a-a ni-x ... x ...
 ... x ...

Rev.

[Although, for the sake of completeness, a copy and transliteration are offered, few signs are sufficiently preserved to justify even a tentative restoration, and only five can be considered certain. Some of the traces drawn may reflect adventitious marks rather than remains of wedges.]

1' x x x x
 x ša? nu? x
 x x me? d[u]?
 x x x x
 5' x x x i[k] ʾúʾ-x ...
 x x x x ZI[G]? x ...
 ʾúʾ x x x q[u]? ...
 ʾiʾ?-na ši? šu x ...
 la x x

10' x x x x

Top

11' i-s[a]-ak-nu-š[ú-nu]
 [h]a-ra-ma-ma

Side*

[Traces of two illegible signs show there was originally a further line of script.]

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Sin-asharid. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-7) The messengers have come from within Dur-ladini. They say: 'The forces that are in the mountain(s) are 250 cavalry and ... infantry. They are coming for a third time together.' (8) They say: 'They have come against us.' (9) Silver (10) They are gathered on that [*side of the river*].

Rev.

[Nothing intelligible.]

Top

(11') they stationed them. Afterwards

Side

[Nothing legible. Presumably another verb.]

Notes

Upper part (between half and two-thirds) of tablet. Obv. convex, rev. slightly so. Some abrasion on obv., very severe abrasion on rev. NA script.

Obv.

4) *āʾdūr-la-di-n[i]*. Cf. ABL 1292, 5 and Fuchs, *Inscr. Sargons II.*, Ann.304, 305, 312.

6) [š]a-at. If correctly restored, would appear to be a form of anaphoric pronoun; see GAG §41f.

7) PA?. G[Ī]R.II. I do not see the first sign as GIŠ. After the reference to '250 cavalry', in what seems to be an intelligence report about troop concentrations, one might expect

GĪR.II to be the end of a term for 'infantry', but the traces do not permit the restoration *zu-uk šēpē*.

7) *i-šal-la-šú*. In form could be from *šálu* or *šalû* with pron. suf., or from *šalāšu* 'to do for a third time'.

10) *i[na]? x x*. The two unidentified signs presumably conceal a feminine noun qualified by the following *ammete*. The traces are consistent with a restoration *ba-te*, which could be a form of *battu* 'side', which occurs so spelt in earlier Assyrian.

ND 2723 (BSAI; Plate 6)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 5'-8' [contain no recognizable traces]
 9' *x n[i]?-ib?* ...
 10' *x x x [š]a? M[EŠ]?* ...
 11'-12' [contain no recognizable traces]
 13' *x x x qa? b[ir]? x* ...
 14' *x x ERIM.M[EŠ]?? x* ...
 15'-16' [contain no certainly recognizable traces]
 17' *x x x [r]a?? x* ...
 18'-20' [contain no certainly recognizable traces]
 21' *x ma-a x* ...

On turn to rev.

- 22' *ʿiʿ?? x* ...
 23' *x a* ...
 24' *x x* ...
 25' *[n]u]-ra x* ...
 26' *[b]i x* ...

Rev.

- 27'-31' [contain no certainly recognizable traces]
 32' *x x da k[i]?* ...
 33' *n[a]??-sa-ma? ina? pa? x UD x* ...
 34' *x kam-m[u-s]u x x* ...
 35' *[š]a?? ina pa-at-te ša ina mu[hhi]* ...
 36' *qa-qa-ru LÚ x ni? x* ...
 37' *šuššu ANŠE x x x* ...
 38' *[š]a? mba-la-s[i] ʿaʿ-na DIŠ x* ...
 39' *x šubti(KI.TUŠ)-š[u]?? x x* ...
 40' *x ma-a ú-da(-) x x* ...
 41' *x bi-ra-šú-nu x* ...
 42' *x ina [mu]h-hi-šú-nu* ...
 43' *x x x ʿeʿ?* ...
 44' *x na? x* ...
 45' *ma x* ...
 46' *x* ...

[Insufficient consecutive text remains for a useful translation. Line 38' mentions ^m*ba-la-s[i]*, chief of the Chaldean Bit Dakkuri tribe.]

Notes

Fragment from the bottom of the right side of a largish tablet. The dimensions of extant sections of text are:

obv.: 76 mm long × between 17 mm and 35 mm wide,
 base: 19 mm long × between 8 and 14 mm wide,
 rev.: 69 mm long × between 10 mm and 28 mm wide.

There are traces of 21 lines on obv., 5 on base, and 20 on rev. Obv. 1' to 4', which bear only the graves of lost signs. These have not been copied. For the remainder, especially on obv., many signs are uncertain, and the copies are offered with due reservation. NA script.

In terms of physical appearance, dimensions and perhaps contents, ND 2723 could have been part of the right side of a tablet of which ND 2456 was part of the left, the total width of the postulated original tablet being between 70 and 75 mm. Possible line correspondences are:

ND 2456 ND 2723
 obv. 16' circa obv. 12'
 rev. 4' rev. 38'

There is also indication of a common subject matter, since ND 2723 appears to touch upon resettlement (rev. 39', *šubti-šu*, and *qaqqaru* in a broken context, rev. 36') and ND 2456 has the words 'he(?) / they(?) returned to the land'. If ND 2456 and ND 2723 were not parts of the same tablet, they possibly came from tablets written by the same scribe.

14') ERIM.M[EŠ]?? Some marks taken for traces in M[EŠ] could be mere scratches.
 32') *x da k[i]*? The traces before *da* could be part of *i*.
 33') *pa? x*. The traces of the unidentified sign most suggest either *ár* or LÚ.
 34') *x kam-m[u-s]u*. The traces are against reading the first sign as *ta*.
 37') ANŠE *x x x*. The upper part of the first unidentified sign precludes taking it as a miscopied GÌR. The succeeding signs could not be NUN.NA to give ANŠE.GÌR.NUN.NA = *kūdanu* 'mule'.

ND 2444 (BSAI; Plate 7; Photo Plate II)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [*a*^l-[*n*]a *ša*[*rri*] *be-lí-i*[*a*]
 [*u*]rad-ka ^{m.d}PA-x *x* [*l*]u *šu*[*lmu*]^m[*u*] [*a*^l-[*n*]a
 [*ša*]*rri be-lí-ía* ^d[PA]? [*ù*]? [^dAMAR.UTU]? [*a*^l-[*n*]a
 b[*e-li-i*]a [*l*][*ik-r*]u-bu *x x x x x*
 5 *ú-ta-na-aš-ši a-šur x x a x x x*
 i-qa-[b]u-niš-šú : DINGIR *x x x x x x*
 ... *k*[*u*]?-ka-ru-u [DI]NGIR [H]I? *x x x x*
 ... *x x x x x x x*

Rev.

- 1' ... ṛaṛ?-[a]ṛ? a-na(-)k[a] x x x
 ... x ṛaṛ?-[n]a? UG[U]? m.dnabû₃-ú-šib-ši
 ... m_s[a?-l]a?-m[u]? m_{x-x-n}[u]
 x x x-[a]r? : i-si-e-a
- 5' it-tal-ku-u-nu issu pa-an m.dnabû₃-ú-šib-ši
 ú-si-ti-qu-u-ni a-na-ku an-nu-rig
 ina ^āsa-pi-ia x x x x
 a-d[a-b]u-bu-n[i]? ṛiṛ-n[a] ṛe-m[u] x ...
- 9'(End) a-har-ra-ša a-na šarri be-lí-ía a-ša[p-p]a-[ra]

Translation

Obv.

(1-4a) To the king my lord your servant PN. May *Nabu* and *Marduk* bless my lord.

(4b-5) [fragmentary] (6) They said to him: ... (7-8) [fragmentary]

Rev.

(2') ... before Nabu-ushibshi (3'-4a) [fragmentary] (4-7') They came back with me; they made them pass over from the presence of Nabu-ushibshi. I now in Sapia ... (8a') (that which) I tell, (8b'-9') I shall make clear in the report (and) shall send a message to the king my lord.

Notes

Top fragment of tablet. Obv. is flat with 8 lines extant, and rev. curved with 7 lines extant. There are 2 lines on base. Much of obv. and some of rev. is abraded; this is particularly severe in the second half of lines on obv. NA script.

The cross-section where the fragment has broken clearly shows the core with a layer of finer clay of slightly lighter colour around it, varying in thickness from 2 to 6 mm.

Obv.

5) ú-ta-na-aš-ši. Reading certain. Does this represent **untanašši*, an otherwise unattested D^m of *našû*?

Rev.

2', 5') m.dnabû-ú-šib-ši. The reference to Sapia in rev. 7' shows that this letters concerns Chaldean affairs. This person was therefore Nabu-ushabshi, paramount chief of the Chaldean tribe of Bit-Shilani, against whom Tiglath-Pileser III took action. Since Tiglath-Pileser III caught and killed this leader before the end of the Mukin-zer rebellion, and he was still alive in this letter, the letter must date from c. 732 BC. Lines 4'-6' show that the writer had succeeded in making some of Nabu-ushabshi's followers desert.

3') m_s[a?-l]a?-m[u]? Although this reading of this name is not beyond question, the traces cannot represent m_{DU}.NUMUN = m_m*mukîn-zēr*.

4') -[a]r? Or -B[U]-ri.

4') i-si-e-a. Passim on this tablet are some shallow scratches simulating headless wedges. In this word there is one such scratch below the two horizontals of certain -e-, wich could conceivably be the result of unskilled cleaning in an attempt to read i-si-ia!-a.

ND 2761 (IM 64157; Plate 7)

Transliteration

- Obv. [a-na šarri bēli]-ia
 [urad-ka^{m.da}[š-šu]r-šallim-an-ni
 [lu šul]mu^{mu} a-na šarri be-lí-ía
 ina muh-hi ʔe-mi ša šar elamti^{ki}
 5 e-ti-bir ina muh-hi giš-ri i-sak-na
 i-si-me ma-a amēl^{bēl} pāhati ša āl^{arrap}-ha
 a-na āl^{dī}-ri it-tal-ka
 mzi-ni-e-ni issu muh-hi
 giš-ri ú-sa-hi-ra ú-ma-a
 10 mzi-ni-e-ni a-di amēl^e-mu-ʔe-e-šú
 gab-bu ug-da-ta-me-ru
 i-da-tu-uš-šú e-tab-ru
 issu muhhi giš-ri libbi x x ūkin(DU)-apla(A)
 it-ta-lak ina lib-bi amēl^a-r[i-m]e
 15 i-sak-na issu āl^d[i-ri]
 a-du lib-bi giš-ri ...
 ʔaq-ʔu-ru ina mu[h-hi] ...
 ur-ta-kis amēl^[l]... ..
 ú-še-e-li
 20 at-ta-lak ina amēl^l
 ina pa-na-t[u-k]a
- Base
 x x
- Rev. š[a]? [i]l-da-t[u]-...
 25 āl^{bir}-tú ú-x
 amēl^{šābē}meš ina lib-b[i] ...
 [š]a ina āl^{dī}-ri x ...
 amēl^{mār} šipri ina muhhi x ...
 a-sap-ra ú-x ...
 30 la il-la-ka e-gi[r-ti]
 ša šarru be-lí ú-še-bi-[la-ni]
 DI[Š].x.AN.PAP it-tu-bíl [ú] ...
 la il-la-ka ki-ma x id-x
 mi-n[u] ša ʔe-mu un-ni-x
 35 a-n[a š]arri be-lí-ía a-šap-pa-ra

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant [Ashur]-shallimanni. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) About the report on the king of Elam: he crossed over (and) set up camp at the bridge. (6-7) He heard: 'The governor of Arrapha has come to Der. (8-9) He has turned Zineni back from the bridge. (9-11) Now he has finished off Zineni together

with his whole army.' (12) They have crossed over at his side. (13-14) He has gone back from the bridge in ... (14-15) The Aramaean is stationed there. (15-16) From Der to the midst of the bridge (17-18) I have heaped up earth against ... (18-19) I caused to go up ... (20) I came back in the ... (21) in front of you ... (22-23) [nothing extant] (24) *of (my) side* (25) the fortress ... (26) soldiers therein ... (27) who in Der ... (28-29) I sent a messenger concerning ... (29-30) I have ..., he will not come. (30-32) ...-ilu-nasir has brought the letter that the king my lord sent. ... (33) He will not come. When ... (34-35) Whatever the news is ..., I shall send a message to the king my lord.

Notes

Top left and bottom right corners missing. Text in good condition. NA script.

2) ^{m.d}a[š-šu]r-šallim-an-ni. Governor of Arrapha, and eponym for 735 BC; see RLA, II, 424, C^a I and 431, C^b I.

5, 9, 13, 16) *giš-ri*. Taken as CAD, G, 107b-108a, *gišru* B 'bridge', but one cannot wholly exclude CAD, G, 107a-b, *gišru* A 3 'barricade' with reference to some type of military defence position.

8, 10) ^mzi-ni-e-ni. The context indicates that this person was an Elamite commander. The same name occurs as that of an Elamite general in ABL 576, obv. 9, from the reign of Esarhaddon or Ashurbanipal.

13) ŠÀ x x DU A. ŠÀ is undamaged and is not a misreading of ša DIŠ. One expects a place name to follow, but the following sign could only be URU if very carelessly inscribed; a photograph seems to confirm *mar* of the copy. The other sign, copied as *ti*, is uncertain from damage. DU A could represent *mukin-apla* as part of a place name based on a personal name.

ND 2382 (= XC; IM 64019; Plate 7)

See K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967) 82 and Fales, CLNA, pp. 33f.

Transliteration

Obv. [a-n]a ša[rri b]e-lí-ía
 [ur]ad-ka ^{maš-šur-šallimanni}(SILIMⁿⁱ)
 lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri
 be-lí-ia ina muhhi
 5 amēlšābē^{meš} š[a šar]ru be-lí
 iš-[p]ur-an-ni-ni
 ma-a a-š[ur]
 I ME L š[a] ^mna-di-nu
 x ME ša ^mha-a-la-a
 10 LX ša ^ma-a
 XX[X] ša amēl^s[u]-ha-a-a
 ... ša amēl^{hi}-i[n-d]a-n[a]-a-a
 [a-kal]-la-šú-nu
 Rev. [a-di amēl]šābē^{meš}-šú-nu
 15 [l]i-il-li-ku-né-ni
 [18 mm uninscribed, then:]

16 X UD.MEŠ *āl*harrānu(KASKAL)
 17 *āl*_x
 18 *āl*_x
 19 *āl*aš-šur

Translation

(1-4a) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-shallimanni. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4b-6) Concerning the people about whom the king my lord sent me a message, (7-12) saying: ‘Organize (matters)!’ (There are) 150 of Nadinu, *x* hundred of Halaya, 60 of Aya, 30 of the Suhaeans, ... of the Hindanaeans. (13-15) Should I detain them (or) should they come to me [together with] their people?

[space] (16-19) (It will take) 10 days (via) Harran, city ... city ..., Ashur.

Notes

Complete except for small fragment missing from bottom left corner. Surface mainly in good condition, except in parts of lines 11-12, which appear to have been accidentally cut during excavation. On rev. there are only two lines of the main message, followed by a space equivalent to four lines, and then three incomplete lines of text. The latter are in slightly smaller script less deeply impressed and less sharp, perhaps added by a different scribe after information not immediately available had come to hand. NA script.

2) *maš-šur-šallimanni*(SILIMⁿⁱ). Governor of Arrapha, and eponym in 735 BC; see above, note on ND 2761, 2. The same name occurs as that of the writer of six other letters (see above, p. 11) all concerned with military and tribal affairs in Babylonia.

7) *a-š[ur]*. Adopted from Deller, op.cit. The supernumerary horizontal shown in the copy is presumably damage.

8) *ma-di-nu*. Possibly the ruler of Larak; see p. 11.

11) *amēl*s[u]-ha-a-a, *amēl*hi-i[n-d]a-n[a]-a-a. Suhu was a tribe, Hindanu a city, along the middle Euphrates; see S. Schiffer, *Die Aramäer* (1911), 110f., and refs. in SAA, 1, pp. 238, 237.

13) [*a-kal*]-la-šu-nu. Restoration proposed by J.N. Postgate. Deller, op.cit., tentatively proposes [*ku-tal*]-la-šú-nu.

16) X UD.MEŠ. Taken as the time required for a journey to Calah via the four cities named.

16-19) *āl*harrānu(KASKAL) *āl*_x *āl*_x *āl*aš-šur. Suggests an itinerary, but since the homeland of the Suhaeans and Hindanaeans was along the middle Euphrates, it is not clear why they needed to start from Harran (if this was the city in south Anatolia and not a place elsewhere with the same name) to reach Ashur.

ND 2602 (= X; BSAI; Plate 7; Photo Plate I)

Re-edited in Fales, CLNA, p. 67.

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [ana šarri bēli-ia urad-ka] *maš-šur-šallim-an-ni*

[*lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-i*]a *šulmu^{mu} a-na ma-da[k]-t[ú]*?
-*[i]*a *ša šarri be-lí i-ma-l[i]-ku-na-t[i-n]*i
 *[l]*i-*kal-ka issu āl^{ma-ru-ri} ni-su-uh-r[a]*
 5 *a-na libbi amēl^{a-ri-mi} pa-ni-ni*
 *x in pu-ut nippur^{ki} ina muhhi-ni na-šu-ni*
 *x ina muhhi-ku-nu il-la-ka*
 *pu-uh-ra? li-tan-ka še' a ub-bu-lu*
 *[bit]? a-mu-ka-ni us-ha ni-su-hur*
 10 *[it-t]al-KAM-in-ni amēl^{ša} pet-hal-la-ti*
 *āl^{ma-ru-ri} nu-še-ti-qu-ni*
 *āl^{ma-ru-ri} kam-ma-su-ni LX amēl^{šābē}meš*
 *x(-)ku-ti ú-ša-bi-tu-ni a-na II? ūmī^{mi}*
 *x x x [x] x x x x x*

Rev.
 1' *x* ...
 *x i x [x] [x]? [x]?*
 *i x x [x] [x]? [x]?*
 *[te-e]n-šú-nu a-na šarri bēlī-ía a-sap-ra*

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) [To the king my lord your servant] Ashur-shallimanni. [May it be well with the king my lord.] It is well with the camp.

(3-4) [In the matter of ...] about which the king my lord counsels us, [saying, '...'] let him go', we have come back from Maruri. (5-6) [*we have gone/are going*] into the midst of the Aramaeans before us. They were brought against us opposite Nippur. (7) he will come against them. (8) assemble. Let him go. They will bring the corn. (9) 'Expel [the people of] the Bit-Amukkani tribe!' We have come back. (10) [*when*] they came back. (11) The cavalry [which] we sent on [to] Maruri (12) are [now] stationed in Maruri. They arrested 60 soldiers (13), for *the day /two days* (14)

Rev.

(1'-3') [nothing legible remains] (4') ... I have sent the report about them to the king my lord.

Notes

Top right-hand corner of tablet which looks Babylonian in form but bears beautiful small NA script, 9 lines to the inch. There are several indications that the scribe normally wrote in Babylonian script; e.g., in signs such as *ma*, *še*, *UZ*, there are four or five strokes where an Assyrian scribe usually wrote three. Also, in obv. 8 the third extant sign is *ra* in Babylonian form (despite the normal Assyrian *ra* in obv. 4 and rev. 4'); theoretically it could be a hybrid Assyro-Babylonian *hir*, but this would only be possible if the scribe had also imported Babylonian morphology (NB *pu-uh-hir* against NA *pa-ah-hir*). *ub* in obv. 8, with its horizontals not extending beyond the diagonals, also shows NB features, and the grouping of wedges at the beginning of obv. 10 looks more NB than NA. It seems probable that the sender, who as Governor of the province

of Arrapha controlled the region east of the Tigris right into Babylonia, was using a Babylonian scribe, who wrote in NA script rather than the NB to which he was most accustomed.

In physical appearance and calligraphy this fragment provides a marked contrast to ND 2350, from the same administrator and also apparently dealing with events in Babylonia. Whilst ND 2602 is a report of current military developments, ND 2350 seems to concern transport. Possibly the tactical report went to the king in person, so that the best scribe available was employed, whereas transport was a routine matter, dealt with by a subordinate minister.

The longest line preserved contains not more than half of the original line, perhaps slightly less. The length preserved may not be more than one-third of the original. Thus ND 2602 probably represents not more than one-sixth of the original tablet, although rather more than that proportion of the original text, since not all the reverse was inscribed.

The fragment shows clearly that the tablet was made with a layer of finer clay over a core.

Obv.

1) ^maš-šur-šallim-an-ni. Author also of ND 2350 and of ND 2385, for which see Fales, CLNA, I.4.

4) [l]i-tan-ka. G^t Prec. of *alāku*; AHw, 33b.

7) *muhhi-šu-nu*. Not *muhhi-ku-nu* as proposed in editio princeps.

9) *us-ha*. Vent. Impv. 3 sg. m. *nasāhu*.

9) *ni-su-hur*. Since the writer has already in obv. 4 said that he has come back from a specific place, using a form with Vent. ending, the present form is likely to be an auxiliary with the sense 'we have done again'.

10) ... [it-t]al-KAM-in-ni. It is assumed that KAM here serves for KÁM = *kan*, in *ittalkaninni*, Assyrian form of 3 pl. G^t Vent. Subj. *alāku*; see GAG, parad.8.

ND 2385 (= LXV; BSAI; Plate 8)

Re-edited in Fales, CLNA, pp. 34-37, 66-67, I.4.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri be-lí-i[a]*
urad-ka ^maš-šur-šallima(SILIM)-ni
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šar[ri bēlīya]
ūm XXVI KAM ni-ip-tu bi[r-ta]
5 *ina* ^{amēl}tur-ta-ni ni-te-t[e]-z[i]
ṭe-e-m[u] ʿa^l-ha-a-a-iš ni-sa-kan
ina lib-bi abullāti^{meš}
ni-iq-ṭi-[r]i-ib di-ik-tú
ni-du-a[k] ^mmukin-zēr
10 *de-e-ki* ^mšum-ukîn mārī-šú
de-e-ki ālu k[a-a]š-du šu-ʿú^l
šarru be-lí l[u] ha-di
šarru be-li pa-an
amēl^{mār} šipri-[n]i lid-din

- 15 *a-d[u] bi-it amēlmār šipri-ni*
il-l[a]-kan-ni
ha-a[l-š]u šarri ina
 Base [q]ab-li āli [šu-u]?
 Rev. *i-su-ri šarru be-l[i]*
- 20 *i-qab-bi ma-a ina libbi K[Á].G[AL].M[EŠ]*
i-du-ku ilānu^{meš} ša šarri be-lí-i[a]
šum-ma DIŠ.KUŠ DIŠ.LAL ina qabli āli
[l]a e-[r]a-bu-ni
ša[r]ru be-lí liš-al
- 25 *muhhi ŠE.PAD.MEŠ ša a-na^{m.d} marduk-apla-iddin₃*
ša ša[r]ru be-lí iq-bu-u-ni
a-ki di-[i]k-tú e-mu-ru-n[i]
ma-a a-[s]a-par¹ ú¹-ba-lu-ú¹-n[i]

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-shallimanni. May it be well with the king.

(4-6) On the 26th (of the month) we effected an opening of the fortress. We acted jointly with the Turtan (and) we have made a report jointly.

(7-14) We reached to within the great gates (and) went on to inflict a defeat. Mukin-zēr is killed and his son Shum-ukin is killed. The city is taken. Let the king my lord be glad. Let the king my lord give audience to our messenger.

(15-18) Until our messenger shall come (back with different instructions), there is a royal garrison within the city. (19-21) Perhaps the king my lord will say: 'They merely effected a defeat (going no further than) inside the great gates.' (21-24) By the gods of the king my lord, *they are entering into the midst of the city* by cubit and span at a time. Let the king my lord make enquiries.

(25-28) Concerning the grain rations which the king my lord ordered for Merodach-baladan, when I saw the defeat, I sent a message that they should transport (them).

Notes

Virtually complete tablet, with only a small chip missing at top right of obv. Some abrasion, mostly insufficient to obscure the text. Almost half of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

4) *ni-ip-tu bi[r-ta]*. Fales restores *ni-ip-tu-h[ur]*.

5) *ni-te-t[e]-z[i]*. Cf. GAG, p. 46*. paradigm 35, Perfekt *ittitiz/s*. The literal meaning 'we stood with' is the basis for the translation 'we acted jointly with'.

9) *ni-du-a[k]*. Taken as Pres. for durative in the past (GAG §78e) and translated accordingly.

10, 11) *de-e-ki*. Although this could mean 'is defeated' rather than 'is killed', the latter meaning is adopted here, since it seems improbable that, in a report of the outcome of a particular battle, especially one in a single city, there would be separate mention of both the leader and his son having been defeated.

13-14) *pa-an ... lid-din*. For the sense of the idiom see AHW, 702b, *nadānu(m)* II 3c.

22-23) *šum-ma ... [l]a e-[r]a-bu-ni*. Positive oath; see GAG §185g.

ND 2350 (BSAI; Plate 8)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri be-lí-ia*
urad-ka ^m*aš-šur-šallim-a-ni*
lu šulmu^{mu} *a-na šarri be-lí-ia*
ina muh[*hi* ^ā*l*]*dūr-m*[*a*]*m-ia-a-ba-[b]a*
5 *ša ša*[*rru b*]*e-l*[*i*] *i*[*š-pu*]*r-a*[*n*]-*ni* ^É¹.G[A]L
x x x ... x x r[*i*]??-*u*
a[*h*]??/*hi*? [*x*]?? ... *x* GA *am-hur*
AN *x x ... x x bi x* [*x*]??
a-l[*a*]?? ... [^ā*l*]*dūr*-^m*am-ia-a-ba-[b]a*
10 *x x x ... x x x x*
x s[*u*]?? *x ... x* ŠE.PAD.MEŠ *š*[*a*] ^m*be*[*l*]-*apla-iddina*
[*x*] *šar*[*ru*] *b*[*e-l*]*i* [*iš-p*]*ur-an-ni* ^m*mu-šal-li*[*m*]-^d*márduk*
... *x* GI[Š].M[Á].MEŠ *il-li-ku-ni*
... *x-ra-tu* ILIMMU.KAM GIŠ.MÁ.MEŠ
15 ... *x e-di-ti iq-ṭar-ba-a-ni*
[*x*]?? [^m*u*]-*ša*[*l*]-*lim*-^d*márduk* *ás-s*[*a-a*]*l* [*x*]??
... ... *x-s*[*i*] *ši-na* GIŠ.M[Á].M[EŠ]
... *x ma-a* *š*[*e*]??-[*š*]*i*??-*b*[*u*]?? ...
... *x x ...*

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-shallimanni. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) Concerning the town Dur-amia-ababa, about which the king my lord sent me a message, the palace (6-7) I received. (8-9) Dur-amia-ababa, (10-11) the grain rations of Bel-apla-iddina, (12) about which the king my lord sent me a message, Mushallim-Marduk (13) ... ships came (14) ... nine ships (15) they approached. (16) ... I have interrogated Mushallim-Marduk (17) ... ships (18) ... said thus, 'Make them be present!'. (19)

Notes

Tablet completely preserved at top, with loss of bottom end, piece from lower half of left side, and c. 30 × 17 mm from left half of obv., lines 6-12. Rev. uninscribed. Obv. almost flat longitudinally, rev. slightly convex. NA script.

2) ^m*aš-šur-šallim-a-ni*. Also author of ND 2385, ND 2455 and ND 2602.

4, 9) ^ā*l**dūr-mam-ia-a-ba-ba*. For personal names beginning *Am-ia-*, see APN, 21, and for the onomastic element (*a*)*baba* see APN, 16, *A-hi-ia-ba-ba.

15) *e-di-ti*. So the copy. J.N. Postgate suggests *mar*!-*di-ti*, which seems more probable. Collation is desirable.

17) *s*[*i*]. Spacing would admit the possibility of three verticals, but the form of the horizontals precludes the reading *ta*.

18) *š*[*e*]??-[*š*]*i*??-*b*[*u*]?? Severe damage makes the restoration very dubious.

ND 2455 (BSAI; Plate 8)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na šarri be-lí-ía*
 urad-ka maššur-šal-lim-an-ni
 lu-u šulmu^{m[u]} a-na šarri be-lí-ía
 ša šarru be-lí te-e-mu
 5 *iš-kun-na-ni-ni*
 ma-a a-lik bir-ti
 [x]-x-bi-tú šarru be-lí
 [x] [x]? x x x x [x]? [x]?

Rev.

1 x x x x
 x x x x
 3 *bi-la-ni ma-a ú-la-a*
 3 cont. *be-lí*
 e-ti-i[q] ina ekalli
 5 *al-lak mi-nu*
 ša šarru be-lí x? x?
 i-qa-bu-u-ni

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-shallimanni. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-7) Concerning the matter about which the king my lord sent me an instruction, saying, 'Go! Take charge of the fortress', the king my lord (8) should know that ...

Rev.

(2-3) '... .. bring!', I say thus, if my lord (4-7) has gone away, I shall come into the palace. (I shall do) whatever the king my lord shall command.

Notes

Rather more than the upper half of a tablet. NA script.

Obv.

7) *[x]-x-bi-tú*. A form from *šabātu*, perhaps Impv. Š. *ša-aš-bi-tu*, would seem to fit the context, but the final *-u* would be anomalous for the expected sg.

7) *be-lí*. According to the copy made in 1954, the sign preceding *-lí* was clearly *be*, but the tablet now shows other traces. It appears that the scribe, after beginning to write EN, infilled and overwrote it with BE; modern cleaning has removed the infill containing part of BE to expose the original incomplete EN.

Rev.

3) *ma-a ú-la-a*. It is assumed that *ú-la-a* introduces the alternative to a proposal of which only the Impv. *bi-la-ni* remains. For usage of *ú-la-a* in NA see GAG §117e.

6) *x? x?* If there was a word here, it may have been a prepositional phrase, such as ‘to me’ or an adverb such as ‘quickly’. However, I see hints of erasure suggesting that the writer originally wrote *iq-bu* in the wrong tense on the end of line 6, and erased it to replace it with the correct form on line 7.

5-7) *mī-nu ša šarru be-lí i-qa-bu-u-ni*. See Ylv., 21, n.1. One expects a verb *eppaš* to follow, and although nothing is inscribed along the extant part of the top end, the verb could have been on the lost part. Alternatively the writer may have left the sense implied but unstated.

ND 2634 (= XCVI; IM 64086; Plate 9)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri be-lí-i[a]*
urad-ka^maš-šur-šallim(SILIM)-a-ni
lu-u šulmu^m a-na šarri be-li-i[a]
ša a-na [ša]rri be-lí-ía áš-pu-ra-ni
5 *mu-uk la-am-mar-ku niše^meš*
bi-it i-ba-áš-š[u-n]i lu-pa-hi-ra
a-na amē^lna-si-ka-ti ás-sa-al
ma-a ištēⁿ la re-e-hi ma-a
an-nu-tim-ma šu-nu
10 *an-nu-rig amē^lna-si-ka-a-ti*
il-l[i-k]u-ni šar[ru] be-lí
liš-al x x? x A x AN-ía
ina lib-b[i m]ar?-d[i]?-t[i]? š[a] a-n[a]
álkar-aš-[šu]r il-la-ku-n[i]
15 *ina ir-t[i-š]u? e-t[e-l]i-ia-a*
ša šarru b[e]-lí iš-p[u-r]a-ni
ma-a VI LIM amē^lhu-ub-tu
ina pa-ni-ka ša-ki-il
a-du ma-ti VI LIM
20 *lib-li-ú : [l]u amē^lGAL.MEŠ gab-bu*
a-mat tak-la-a-te šarri-e
b[e]-lí-ía AŠ MU [I]M? x
Base *ᵀi?-[sa]p?-ru mu-uk Š[E.P]AD*
Rev. *la-áš-šú šarru [b]e-[l]i*
25 *iq-ᵀi-bi-ia-a ma-a*
lu-u ta-[h]u-r[a]-ni XL LIM
Š[E.P]AD.[M]EŠ i[t?]-ᵀi?-di-na-ka
[l]u-ᵀú^l [ša]rri ú-da-a ki-i
ŠE.PADⁱ : la-áš-šu-ni a-du ma-ti
30 *VI LIM : III LIM lid-di-nu-ni*
IIII [L]IM-ma ᵀa^l-na^{m,d}šamaš-būn(DÙ)-a-a
lid-di-[na] an-ni-ú a-na šarri
b[e]??-l[i]??-[i]a [l]i-ta-har ša šarru
be-lí iš-pu-ra-ni ma-a

35 *amēlhu-ub-[t]u [a]r-ki-ia-ú*
a-da-[n]a-šú-nu an-ni-ia-ú
ís-s[i]-e-a lu-ša-an-ši-lu
u[r-k]i-ia-ú a-na-ku
i-s[i]-i-šú-nu lu-ša-an-ši-il
40 *i-su-ri šarru be-li i-qab-bi*
ma-^la a-ke-e ina pān m.dšamaš-būn(DÛ)-a-a
ir-ru-bu ma-a a-na ma-ti
kar-mu I ME L ālāni^{meš}
End *issu dūrāni^{me[š]} ša m.dšamaš-būn(DÛ)-a-a*
45 *^laⁿ[a] ālarrap-ha ina lib-bi*
x lu-še-ri-bu

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-shallimanni. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) Concerning the matter on which I sent a message to the king my lord, (5-6) saying: 'Let me delay; let me gather the people, as many as they are', (7) I have enquired of the chiefs. (8-9) They say: 'Not one is left over; these are they.' (10-12) Now that the chiefs have come, let the king my lord make enquiries. *PN is* (13-14) (somewhere) within the *road* which goes to Kar-Ashur. (15) I have gone up *against him/to meet him*.

(16-22) On the matter on which the king my lord sent me a message, saying: 'Feed 6,000 prisoners as your responsibility.' How long (*till the lives of*) the 6,000 prisoners *come to an end*? All the magnates *on hearing* the staunch words of the king my lord (23-25) sent a message (about it). I said: 'There is no grain ration.' The king my lord gave me an order. He said: (26-27) 'You have indeed received (sufficient). He has delivered to you 40,000 units of grain rations.' (28-33) *But surely* the king knows that there are not corn rations enough for 6,000 (prisoners). Let him deliver 3,000 (prisoners) to me (and) 3,000 to Shamash-bunaya. May this be fitting for the king my lord. (33-39) As to the message the king my lord sent me, saying: 'I will deliver subsequent prisoners to them', (rather) let them share these (present ones) with me, (and) let me for my part share subsequent ones with them. (40-43) Perhaps the king my lord will say: 'How are they going to come into the presence of Shamash-bunaya? How long will they be delayed?' (43-46) There are 150 settlements from the fortresses of Shamash-bunaya to the city of Arrapha. Let them make them go into (them).

Notes

Virtually complete. Surface abraded in parts, with some lines largely unreadable. NA script.

5) *la-am-mar-ku*. I owe this interpretation of the four signs to J.N. Postgate.

12) A x AN-*ía*. The traces before AN could represent either *ni* or DÛ; the latter might be part of a personal name.

20) *lib-l[i]-ú*. Reading uncertain, as the traces of the second sign might alternatively be read *su*, although *lib-su-ú* would be an unknown form. The form read is taken as Pret. 3 pl. of AHw, 121a, *belû(m)* II, *balû*, 'verlöschen, vergehen'.

- 21) *tak-la-a-te*. Taken as pl. of AHw, 1357a, *tikiltu(m)*, *takiltu* ‘Zuverlässigkeit’.
 22) AŠ MU [I]M? x. J.N. Postgate proposes restoring *ina* MU.IM.MA = *šaddagdiš*.
 25) *iq-ṭī-bi-ia-a ma-a*. Slight marks before *ma-a* (not represented in the present copy) are probably mere scratches.
 33) *b[e]??-[i]??-[i]a*. In the context these signs must represent *bēlīya*, but the traces of the first sign look more like EN (contrary to the usage elsewhere in this letter). Virtually nothing remains of the second sign.
 33) *[l]i-ta-har*. For the usage cf. CAD, M/1, 66a, *mahāru* 5d.
 46) *x? lu-še-ri-bu*. The supposed traces of wedges before *lu-še-ri-bu* are not certain.

ND 2689 (IM 64119; Plate 10)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [ara]d-ka^{m.d}nabû₃-balāṭ-su-iq-bi
 [a]-na di-na-an šarri be-lí-ía
 lul-lik^dnabû₃ u^dmarduk a-na
 šarri be-lí-ía lik-ru-bu
 5 um-ma-a a-na šarri be-lí-ía-^la^l-ma
 áš-šú L[Ú].[ER]IM^{meš} bi-ti
 šá [d]ūr-šá-^{m.d}balih(KASKAL.KUR)-a-a
 ša LUGAL be-lí i[š-p]u-ra
 x ... [M]EŠ [š]á šarri be-lí-ía
 10 lu-ú^ldu-ú ki-i
 a-ra-šú-nu i-d[u]-^lu^l
 ši-b[u]!-[t]e-šú lu i-[š]am-mu-ú
 il-la-k[a?]k[u?] tal-la[k]-an-ni
 a-di a-šap-[p]a-ru-ma
 15 ina dūr-šá-^{m.d}illa[t-a-a] [...]

[Lines obv. 16 to rev. 5 retain nothing significant]

Rev.

- 6 šarri be-lí-ía a-ša[p]-pa-ra
 áš-šú ši-pir-ti mah-ri-ti
 šá šarru be-lí ú-še-bi-lam-ma
 ga[b]-ra-šú a-na ekalli
 10 la ú-še-bi-la ši-pir-ti
 i-na qāṭē^{II}-ni a-mah-har i-tah-ha-ab-ṣu
 šumē^{meš} šá ni[šē]^{meš} šá ina [l]ib-bi
 šaṭ-ru ul nu-mi-is-si
 a-na muh-hi ul i-di
 15 i-nu-ú a-na šarri be-lí-^la
 x x [i]š-pu-ra(-)šu-ú
 ... x mātāti gab-bi
 [a?-na? ša]rri be-lí-ía it-tan-nu
 19 ... x a^l ki-i ni[šē]^{meš}
 End [an-n]u-ti la-pa-an
 [ša]rri be-lí-ía [l]i-hal-li-q[u]

Translation

Obv.

(1-4) Your servant Nabu-balassu-iqbi. I would go as substitute (in death) for the king my lord. May Nabu and Marduk bless the king my lord. (5) (Say) thus to the king my lord. (6) In the matter of the soldiers of the tribe (7) of Dur-sha-Balihaya (8) about which the king my lord sent a message, (9) [*the officials*] of the king my lord (10) indeed reveal that (11) they know their guilt. (12) They are hearing the evidence about it. (13) They will come (when) you come. (14) Until I send a message (15) [*I shall remain*] in Dur-sha-balihaya. [Lines obv. 16 to rev. 5 are very fragmentary.]

Rev.

(6) I will send a message to the king my lord.

(7) In the matter of the former message (8) which the king my lord sent to me, (9-10) I have not sent a reply to it to the Palace. (10-11) I am taking (the matter of) the message in hand. They [*sc. the insurgents*] have been vanquished. (12-13) We have not identified the names of the people inscribed within (your message); (14) nothing is known about it. (15-16) When [*the officials/tribesmen*] sent a message to the king my lord, he (17) ... they have delivered ... all lands (18) to the king my lord. (19-21) ... let them destroy these people before the king my lord.

Notes

Tablet largely complete except for bottom right corner. Considerable abrasion, sometimes making it difficult to decide whether a mark is damage or part of a wedge. NB script.

Obv.

1) ^{m.d}nabû₃-balat-su-iq-bi. This person was also author of ND 2605 and ND 2478.

7) [d]ür-šá-m.^ld^lbalih(KASKAL.KUR)-a-a. See above, p. 36, ND 2363, 18.

11) a-ra-šú-nu. Taken as for *aranšunu* < *arnu*.

Rev.

11) *i-na qātē^{II}-ni a-mah-har*. Taken as a hitherto unattested idiom for 'to act'.

11) *i-tah-ha-ab-šu*. Appears to be N^{tn} of *habāšu*, although this verb is not elsewhere attested in N^{tn}. For the proposed meaning see AHw, 303a-b, *habāšu(m)* II 'niederschlagen'.

13) *nu-mi-is-si*. For the proposed meaning see AHb, 1497b, *wussûm*, *mussû*.

14) *i-di*. Taken as Stat.

16) [*i*]š-pu-ra(-)šu-ú. *šu-u* is unlikely to be an anomalous form of 3 sg. m. pron. suf. to the verb. More probably it is the subject of a new clause of which the predicate is the lost first word in line 17.

18) *it-tan-nu*. See GAG §1021.

ND 2065 (BSAI; Plate 7)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [arad-ka] ^{m.d}nabû-balāt-s[u-i]q-bi
[a-na di-n]a-an [š]arri be-lí-ia

[lul-lik ^dn]abû u ^dmarduk
 [a-na be-lí-ia l]ik-ru-bu
 5 [a¹-na šarri be-lí-i[a-m]a
 š[a]? šul-mi(-)[x]?
 [a]l-tap-ra
 ... [te]-e-mu ša babíli^{ki}
 [mār šip]?-ri^{meš} a-na babíli^{ki}
 10 x a-di-kan-ni
 x-[n]i
 Rev.
 1' x x
 -ú
 x šarri
 -ni [š]á qa-bal āli
 5' -li

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) Your servant Nabu-balassu-iqbi; may I go as substitute (in death) for the king my lord. (3-4) May Nabu and Marduk bless my lord. (5-7) I have sent a message of greeting to the king my lord.

(8-9) ... a report about Babylon. Messengers to Babylon (10) until now ...

Rev.

(3') the king (4') of the centre of the city

Notes

Fragment from upper right of a tablet, constituting rather more than a quarter of the whole. The exposed core shows neither coiling nor a layer of finer clay over the core. Curvature greater on rev. than on obv. Bears NB script bolder and less elegant than that on typical NB tablets amongst the Nimrud Letters. Final 33 mm of rev. uninscribed.

ND 2478 (BSAI; Plate 10)

Transliteration

Obv. [ar]ad-ka ^{m.d}nabû-bal[at₃-s]u-iq-b[i]
 di-na-an šar[ri] be-lí-i[a] l[ul-l]ik
^dnabû u [^dmard]uk a-n[a] šarri be-lí-ía [l]ik-ru-bu
 um-ma a-na šarri be-lí-ia-[a¹]-[m]a
 5 ʔup-pi a-na šu[l]-mi šar[ri]
 be-lí-i[a] al-t[a]-par šar[ru] be-lí
 [i]q-[ta]?-[bi]?-m]a um-ma ^{amel}mar šipri-ka
 x x L[Ú]? EN x ul-tu pa-ni-ia
 a[q]-[ta]?-[b]u u[m]-ma mi-na[m]-ma
 10 x x [te]?-m[u]? a-šap-pa-rak-kam-ma
 x [x] [x]? x la t[u]-šib-bi[l](-)[ma]?

x [x] [x]? x x ši-pir-ti?-[a]?
[a]¹-n[a p]a-an ir[at] šarri-[m]a?
[u] [a]¹-šap-pa-ra
 15 *man-ma amelmar šipri šarri-[i]a*
[a]¹-na ha-an-ṭiš [a]¹-na p[a]-an
[šar]ri u[l] ú-š[e-t]i-iq
 Rev. *[u]¹-š[e-š]a-šú ul-t[u] bit*
ši-pir-ti šarri a-na pa-n[i]-ia
 20 *[t]al-li-ka gab-ra-šú ki-i*
[a]š-tur a-na šarri ul-te-bil
šum-ma ul ú-še-et-te-eq-šú ///
šarru a-na hi-tu ša ardi-šú
la i-šak-kan

Translation

(1-6) Your servant Nabu-balassu-iqbi; may I go as substitute (in death) for the king my lord. May Nabu and Marduk bless the king my lord. (Say) thus to the king my lord: 'I have sent a tablet (asking) after the wellbeing of the king my lord.'

(6-10) The king my lord has said thus: 'Your messenger ... from before me.' I said thus: 'Why ...?' I shall send a report to you.

(11-14) ... you shall not dispatch. ... I do indeed send my communication(s) to the king my lord. (15-18) Someone has not allowed the royal messenger to get through quickly to the king (or) has sent him away. (18-21) As soon as the communication of the king came before me, I had an answer to it despatched to the king, as I wrote it. (22-24) If (the messenger) does not pass it on, the king should not set it to the fault of (me) his servant.

Notes

Almost complete tablet, with several cracks, abrasion passim, surface of obverse lost in parts of left half of lines 9-12, small chip lost from right of top edge and a larger piece from right half of bottom edge. The latter damage reveals that the tablet was composed of a surface layer of clay, here nearly 5 mm thick, over a core. Terra cotta in colour, with NB script. Tablet markedly convex on obv., slightly so on rev. Final 40 mm of rev. uninscribed.

11) *t[u]-šib-bi[l](-)[ma]?*. 2 m. sg. Š Pres. *wabālu*; for corresponding forms see Ylv., 48.

13) *šarri-[m]a?*. The traces after *šarri* do not provide space for either *be-li-ia* or *EN-ia*. 15-17, 22) *man-ma ... u[l] ú-š[e-t]i-iq; šum-ma ul ú-še-et-te-eq-šú*. The second phrase may indicate that *man-ma* is an incorrect reading for *šum-ma*. The verb in line 17 is not restored to correspond exactly to the certain form in line 22, since in the former the distance from the beginning of *še* to the beginning of *IQ* is 14.5 mm, against 19 mm in line 22, suggesting one sign less.

20) *[t]al-li-ka gab-ra-šú*. The feminine form of the verb agrees with *šipirti* (cf. GAG §75h), but the suffix to *gabra* does not.

22) *ú-še-et-te-eq-šú ///*. The wedges after *šú* must represent an intentional erasure; they cannot be *-ma*, since the surface at the end of the traces is sound and lacks a vertical.

Relics of another wedge just before -šú suggest that the scribe had begun to write -šú and then substituted -šú.

ND 2710 (IM 64127; Plate 11)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [arad]-ka ^mahu-li-ia a-na di-na-an
 be-lí-ia lul-lik um-ma-a a-na šarri
 be-lí-ia-a-ma EN.NU[N] É.SAG.GIL
 ù babiliki^{ki} ma-d[i-i]š [d]an-na-a[t]
 5 ūm IV KAM* ^da-ri-qu ^lù^l
^dDUMU.É ki-i it-bu-ú
 [u]m-ma šul-mu a-na T[IN].T[IR].K[I]
 [ù]? [BÁ]R.[S]ÍB.[KI]

Rev.

1' x x-tu it-t[i]?
 [x]? x [L]Ú.TIN.TIR.KI.MEŠ
 [x]? x ^mha-ma-ni x
 [li]l-li-ku-ma n[u]? x x ...
 5' x? x?-[t]u?-ni ul i-man-g[u-ur?/ru?] ...
 um-ma ki-i tah-tab-ta x x
 šá ina šēri šilli(GIŠ.GÍG) i-hab-ba-tu
 L[Ú.TI]N.TIR.KI.MEŠ LÚ i-hab-ba-ta-ni
 š[á] ina muhhi ^mba-šá-a x-x?-ri muh-hi [è]-mu
 10' x x x mu na ši t[im]? x? x MEŠ-šú
 ... x-e ki-i sal-mu ši-na
 ... x a nu-u ina lib-bi ekalli
 [a?-na] pa-an šarri i[l-la?-ak?]
 End ... x x šú a-n[a] LÚ x ...-[n]i?
 15' x? x [l]?-ú ki-i um-m[a]
 ... x ^la^l-[n]a mu[h]-i-šú-nu šal-m[u]

Left Side

1 x i-ba-[š]u-u ...
 x ul š[a]? x ...

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) Your servant Ahu-li-ia; may I go (to death) as surrogate for my lord.

(2-4) (I say) thus to my lord: The watch of Esagila and Babylon is very strong.

(5-8) On the fourth day, the gods Ariqu and Dumu-e when they approached (said) thus: 'It is well with Babylon and Borsippa ...'

Rev.

(1') (2') ... Babylonians (3') ... Hamani (4') let them come and (5') ... is/are unwilling (6') (and say(s)) thus: 'When you plundered ... (7') which they plunder in (8') the Babylonians plunder a man (9') who was

... against Basha ...' Concerning the report (10') (11') if they (f.) are friendly (12') in the midst of the palace (13') *he will come into* the presence of the king (14') ... to the [*official*] ... (15') if thus: (16') ... they are friendly to them.

Side

(1) they will be ... (2) not of ...

Notes

Top part (rather more than half) of tablet. The break reveals coiling of the clay. Top end is flat enough for tablet to stand on it. Obv. and rev. are almost equally convex top to base; rev. is more convex left to right. NB script.

Obv.

1) ^mahu-li-ia. The badly broken letter ABL 270, obv. 5 mentions a person of this name as *amēlšā pa-ni ekalli* in a Babylonian context.

3) ^mha-ma-ni. A person of this name occurs as an Aramaean leader alongside Marduk-apla-iddina in ABL 542, rev. 6.

6) ^dDUMU.É. For a temple to this deity in Borsippa, see Langdon, NBK, Nr.15, col.iv, 49.

Rev.

5') *x?-[t]u?-ni*. Although the second half of the doubtful *tu* might be *ma*, a restoration ^mh]a-[*m*]a-ni does not appear to be possible.

7') *ina šēri šilli*(GIŠ.GÍG). Lit. 'in the open country, protection' or 'upon protection', but the sense is unclear.

9') *x-x?-ri*. Appears to read either *tir-ri* or *še-e-ri*, neither of which would make obvious sense in the context.

ND 2360 (= IV; IM 64009; Plate 9)

Transliteration

Face A

1' ... x LIM x x x ...
 [it]-[ta]l-ka x x x ...
 [i]q-bu-ú-ni ak-...
 x? x ú-di-ni? ma?-[l]a? x x
 5' am[ēl]šābēe.meš-šú-nu issu ad?-du-x
 [i]l-du-ku l[a]? ša(-)da-a-ni
 [ú-š]ak-li-šú-nu šú-nu-ú-ma
 x-da-a[l] ú ʔe-mu
 š[a] amēl]i-'a-ta-mu
 10' ^mga-a-ma-a-nu L[Ú].GA[B]
 [š]a ina lib-bi ahhēmeš
 ... x x MA[H]? x
 ... x x

Face B

1' x
 AN x

- ... g[ab-b]u l[i]?-...
 x
 5' ina? ālha-a[k]?-... x ...
 ù amēlšābēmeš [m][mukīn-z]ēr x ...
 issu [l]ib-bi ālha-me-te x x
 it-t[u]-ši-u ina pa-ni-ka
 i[t]-tal-ku-ú-ni i'? [l]i?
 10' x x ŠID nišēmeš x x x
 [ú-ša]k-lu-ú-ni ina bár-sípa^{ki}
 ... x x x x x

Translation

Face A

(3') they said (4') ... until ... (5') their troops after I pitched camp (6') they slaughtered (7') I had them detained. They are indeed (8') Report (9') of the Li'atamu people (10') Ga'amanu ... (11') who among the brothers (12'-13') [nothing intelligible]

Face B

(6') and the troops of [Mukin-z]er... (7'-9') came out from within Hamete. They went back before you ... (10') ... the people ... (11') whom I had detained, in Borsippa (12') [nothing intelligible]

Notes

Tablet with top and base missing. NA script.

Face A

4') ú-di-ni₇. Taken as a variant spelling of NA *udīni*, AHw, 1401b, 'bis dahin'.

5') ad?-du-x. In the absence of opportunity for collation, the probable vertical in the damage at the end of the last sign has been added to the copy on the basis of a photograph to make NIM. This as ni₇, a syllabic value apparently used in the previous line, would give a meaningful form if it here represented NA Subj. suffix. For a possible alternative interpretation of the whole group as mār ^mmukīn-zēr, see note on B 4'.

6') l[a]? ša(-)da-a-ni. The traces do not favour a reading URU for the first sign, and the following four signs do not make a known place-name. Could *la ša da-a-ni*, lit. 'not of judgement', be an idiom for 'without authority'?

Face B

4') x x? DU x x. This could be restored either DUMU DIŠ.DU.NUMUN = mār ^mmukīn-zēr or a[d]-du-n[i₇] '(when) I pitched camp'.

ND 2388 (IM 64022; Plate 8)

Transliteration

- Obv. u[rad-k]a ^mx-x-x a-na di-na-na ekalli
 l[ul-li]k [u]m-m[a]-a a-na um-ma-nu-ú [qi-bi]?
^lm¹x-SÈ.A ma-a KUR šá šarru iq-bu-ú it-ti
 4 mDU.Ú amēlA.K[IN]-x ša mārēmeš ^mmukīn-zēri

[In the remainder, the only intelligible consecutive signs are:]

- (5) *a-na mu[hhi]*
 (7) *a-du-ú šá*
 (8) *šá šarru i[q]-bu-ú a-na?*
 (9) *x x pa-ru ki x x x gab-bi*
 (10) *it-ti-iq NIN*
 (11) *šá ina su x*

Partial Translation

(1-2a) Your servant PN₁. I would go as substitute (in death) for the Palace. (2b) Say thus to the Scholar: (3) 'PN₂ says: "The land of which the king spoke with (4) *Kinu* the messenger of the sons of Mukin-zer (5) concerning ..."'

Notes

More than the upper half of a tablet. Obv. has suffered substantial damage. Extant part of rev. is uninscribed. NB script.

4) ^mDU?.Ú. The context requires that this is a personal name and not ^la^l-du-ú. DU.Ú could perhaps represent *Kīnu*.

ND 2398 (IM 64024; Plate 11)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *arad-ka ^mha-ma-pi a-na di-na-an ša[rri]*
be-lí-ia lul-lik um-ma-a a-na be-lí-ia-a-ma
amē^lki-i-pi šá māt^lelamti^{ki} šá ina bīt x-[b]i-ia
áš-bu ki-i iš-pu-ra um-ma mi-nu-ú
 5 *ṭe-e-mu šá ma-dak-ti šá tal-li-ka*
ar-ki-šú al-tap-raš-šú um-ma šar māt^{aš}šur
... x nu-tú it-ta!?-n[a]!?! mu-du x u x
... x x x ... x [bī]t a-muk-a-n[i]?

Rev.

- 1' *... x k[i]-[i]l*
a-na qatē^{II}-ka i[l]-lu-ú x x x x
u x x x x su šá māti gab-bi-šú
ā^lšá-p[i]-[i]a a-du-ú tap-ta-ṭar-šú
 5' *ki-i pi-i šá-a-šú-[m]a? man-ni a-mat-ka*
it-ti-qu-u a-de-e-ka
ú-ša-an-nu-ú a-na qatē^{II}-ka
im-man-ni

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) Your servant Hamapi. I would go as substitute (in death) for the king my lord. Thus (I say) to my lord indeed. (3-4) When the Warden of Elam who dwells in *my paternal area* (4-5) sent a message saying, 'What is the report about the force which

came?', (6) I afterwards sent him back a message, thus, 'The king of Assyria ...' (7) one who knows ... (8) Bit-Amukkani ...

Rev.

(1') ... when (2') it will come up as your responsibility (3') of the whole land. (4') The city Shapia, now you have redeemed it, (5'-7')) according to this order indeed, who will transgress your command (or) alter your oath-agreements? (7'-8') It is assigned to your responsibility.

Notes

Top of tablet. Close NB script, damaged passim.

Obv.

3) *bīt x-[b]i-ia*: perhaps É [*im-b*]i-ia (Bīt Imbiya is a fortress on the borders of Elam and Assyria, cf. Parpola, NAT 83-4; Zadok, RGTC 8, 92).

5) *šá tal-li-ka*. Note Babylonian grammar, without the *-ni* postfix to Subj. normal in NA.

7) *it-ta!?-n[a]!?* This reading is very dubious. The final group suggests UD, but this would leave no obvious reading for what precedes.

7) *mu-du x u x*. The sign following *du* could be DUMU.

Rev.

4) *a-du-ú*. Taken as an adverb, as in CAD, A/1, 131a, *adû* b 2'.

5) [*m*]a? It is difficult to suggest a credible alternative reading. For the sense, see GAG §123a.

ND 2421 (BSAI; Plate 8)

Transliteration

Obv.

1' [l]u?-[ú] ... [... ..]
 [in]a mātr_{ru}-x ... [... ..]
 [l]u?/[š]u?-ú ... [... ..]
 ina māšša-x ... [... ..]

5' la [a] ... [... ..]

Rev.

1 L[Ú].GAL.B[I.LUL] [...]
 issu : amē^le-mu-q[i] [...]
 a-na-ku DIŠ NIGIN x [...]
 issu : e-mu-qi x [...]

5 i-sa-ha-'[i-iš]
 nu-sa-ta-me-[eh]? [...]
 ina pu-tu-š[u] [...]
 x x x [... ..]

Translation

Obv.

(2') in the land Ru-... .. (3') (4') in the land Sha-... .. (5') ...

Rev.

(1) the rab-shakeh ... (2) with [*his*] forces ... (3) I (4) with [*my*] forces.
(5-6) We have *joined together* ... (7) in front of him ...

Notes

Tablet lacking top and right side. More than half of surface of extant obv. lost. Remaining text is mostly bold and clear. NA script.

Obv.

2') *mātru-x*. Possibly to be restored to one of the spellings of *mātru-'u-a*.

Rev.

3) DIŠ NIGIN. The broken context leaves this unclear. Perhaps represents *ana pahāri* = 'to assemble'.

5-6) Translation proposed by J.N. Postgate.

ND 2493 (IM 64067; Plate 12)

Transliteration

Face A

1' ... x x ... x ... x ...
ú-sa-né-te-qu-šú la-áš-šú
amēlšābēmeš-šú-nu la id-du-nu
an-nu-rig a-na-ku pa-an ur-ki-ti-šú-nu
5' *a-da-gal šúm-ma i-na-áš-ši*
amēlšābēmeš i-da-nu-ú šú[m-m]a
la i-da-nu-ú-ni mi-x
ṭe-en ša-nu-ú-ni a-ki-[i]
al-la-ka a-na šarri be-lí-[ia]
10' *a-qab-bi ṭe-mu ša x ...*
ūm XXV KAM ša arahaddari AN x ...
it-[t]i-bi mār^{m.d}nabû-našir ...
x x la-áš-šú a-na ...
... .. x

Face B

1' *amēlšābēmeš[s]*
it-tu-ṣ[u]
a-na pa-an šarri
ṭe-mu ša amēlšā[bēmeš]
5' *arah ūmēmeš ina bīt*
kam-mu-sa-ak II ME x ...
it-ta-an-nu-ú-ni ...
la-áš-šú amēlšābēmeš-šú-nu x [x]?
la id-di-nu-ú-ni
10' *ṭe-mu ša amēlx-AN-a-a*
ištēnen ina lib-bi am[ēl]šā[bēmeš-šú-nu
[i]!-[t]a?-na x-[ṣ]u-u-ni
... .. x

Left Side

1 ... *mi-nu ʔe-mu-u-ni ša ūm* V KA[M] ...
 ʔi-l-qab-bi

Translation

Face A

(2') they have continually passed him on. There is not one (left). (3') They will not deliver troops. (4'-5') Now I myself will wait *for the sequel*. (5'-6') If they bring (them), they will deliver troops. (6'-7') If they do not deliver, ...

(8'-10') (There is) a report of a second thing. As soon as I come, I will tell the king my lord.

(10') A report of ... (11') On the twenty-fifth day of Addar, *the god* ... (12') rose up. The son of Nabu-našir ... (13') ... there is not, to ...

Face B

(1') the troops ... (2') have come out ... (3') to the presence of the king (4') a report about the troops ... (5') a whole month in the house ... (6') I kneel, 200 ... (7'-8') they have delivered. There is not ... (8'-9') Their troops ... they did not deliver.

(10') Report about the ...-people. (11') One from amongst their troops (12'-13') [unintelligible]

Side

(1-2) He will tell what the report is about the fifth day.

Notes

Tablet with top (estimated at 5 mm), base (estimated at 20-25 mm) and part of right side missing. Good clear NA script. 2 lines on left side, written from top to bottom relative to Face A (bottom to top, relative to Face B). There appears to be no indication which face was obv.

Mention in A 12' of Nabu-našir, perhaps the king of Babylon, suggests a Babylonian connection. The only extant tribal or ethnic name, in line B 10', is illegible, but the general contents suggest a problem in obtaining troops from communities (perhaps tribes in Babylonia) who were responsible for delivering them.

Face A

2') *ú-sa-né-te-qu-šú*. Š^{tn} of *etēqu*; cf. ABL 480, rev. 8, *ú-sa-né-taq-a-ni*.

3') *amēl-šābē-meš-šú-nu*. MEŠ in this tablet comprises a vertical followed by two horizontals and then one or two large obliques; see lines A 6', B 1', 5', 8', 11'. This appears to preclude here a reading *amēl-šābē-meš* MAN-šú-nu.

4') *ur-ki-ti-šú-nu*. Lit. 'after them'; see AHW, 1469b, (*w*)*arkītu(m)*, Assyrian *urkītum*. 12') ^{m,d}*nabû-našir*. Perhaps the king of Babylonia, 747-734 BC.

ND 2636 (= VII; IM 64087; Plate 15)

Transliteration

Face A

1' LU[GAL] b[e]-l[l](-)... ...
mi-ti-ia x x x ...

ṭè-ma-a la-pa-an ša[rri]?
ù TAR a-h[u]-r[a] a-na šar[i]? [x] [x]? n[i]? [a]?
 5' *la i[l]-la-k[a] ul-t[ú] mu[h]-hi*
a-kan-nim-ma šarr[u] be-lí li-ih-su-us
ki-i bit a-m[uk]-ka-a-an-ni
ul-tu ^mmukin-zer-ma e-[m]u?
a-na muh-hi-ia šá-kan ina šilli šarri
 10' *bē[li]-ia ul-t[a?-a]š?-bat en-na a[']-me-ni*
i-na hu-lu uk-ku-šú UD.IV.KAM
akala(NINDA.HI.A) ul al-hi-[i]m šarru b[e-l]i
la i-qab-bi um-ma mi-nu-ú
x x x nam-ma la ta[š]?-[p]u?-ra
 15' *gab-bi x x x UD x [x]? [x]?*

Face B

1 *a-na šarri al-ta-par ...*
a-na mu[h-h]i-šú aš-ša-bat ...
ṭè-e-mu-ma DIŠ si²-nu-u² ...
la iq-b[u]-[ú] ul i-qi-p[u]? ...
 5 *šarru b[e-l]i x x-[l]i??-mu? ú ul x x ma*
x x x x [b]u?-ti šá šarri
i-na pa-ni-ia q[u]-x-šú
[l]a-pa-[a]n mati-ma la i-pal-làh a-na šarri
liq-bi-ma x šá x hu KI dan-ni
 10 *... .. [ā]UD.UD.KI šá u-ša-a'*
... .. x mi-nu-ú ina p[a]-ni-ia
... .. x i-di ki-i x
... .. ù pa? x [x] [a]1-na-ku
... .. x

Translation

Face A

(1') the king my lord (2') of my deceased (3') information before the king (4') and I received ... To the king (5') he will not come. Therefore (6') now let the king my lord remember (7') that Bit-Amukkani (8') *wanted to be away* from Mukin-zer. (9'-10') As for me, I have duly arranged settlement in the shadow of the king my lord. (10'-12') Now why are they chased off on the way? For four days I have not eaten food. (12'-14') The king my lord should not say, 'Why did you not send ...?' (15') all

Face B

(1) I sent a message to the king ... (2) for him I arrested ... (3) report (4) (that) they did not say, they would not *believe* (5) the king my lord (6) of the king (7) in my presence ... (8a) before the land, he will not fear. (8b-9) Let him tell the king that LN is strong. (10) of Larak who come out (11) why before me (12) he knows that ... (13) I

Notes

Top half of tablet, with top right corner lost. NB script, almost chancery. Abrasion passim seriously impairs legibility.

Face A

4') TAR *a-h[u]-r[a]*, For idiomatic use of *mahāru* with *sūqu* see CAD, M/1, 52a. The meaning of *sūqu* here is taken as related to that in CAD, S, 406a, 2, 'a commercial technical term, referring to assets outstanding'.

7'ff.) This passage appears to indicate that the writer was a Chaldean chief able to bring Bit Amukkani into the Assyrian camp.

8') *e-[m]u?*. The second sign is not *zib* to give *e-zib*. *e-mu*, if a correct reading, could be from either *ma'û*, AHw, 637a, or *muā'um*, AHw, 665a, but the latter is improbable since it is otherwise attested only in OA.

10') *a[']-me-ni*. J.N. Postgate suggests reading ERIM.ME-*ni*, which is possible, although the signs at the end of the line are not very distinct.

11') *uk-ku-šú*. For the suggested meaning see CAD, A/1, 265a, discussion.

14') *x x x nam-ma*. A possible reading for the first two signs, [GI]Š.MÁ, would not appear to fit the context.

Face B

3) DIŠ *si?-nu-u?* ... Not a misreading of signs concealing ^m*mukîn!-zēr!*

5) *x x-[l]i??-mu?*. The traces might conceal a name, either ^m*mukîn-zēr* or ^m*x-ah-iddin*.

6) *x [b]u?-ti*. The traces would permit a restoration *qur-bu-ti*, but the preceding traces are against a restoration LÚ.

8) [*l*]*a-pa-[a]n mati-ma*. After *lapan*, *mati-ma* is unlikely to be a conjunction.

9) *x hu* KI. Assumed to conceal a city name.

ND 2681 (= LXXXIII; BSAI; Plate 13)

Transliteration

Oby. [*a*]*rad-ka* ^{m.d}*nabû-udammiq^{iq}* [*a*]^l-*na d[i]-na-a[n]*

šarri be-lí-ia lul-lik ^d*nabû u* ^d*marduk*

a-na šarri be-lí-ia lik-ru-bu

um-ma-a a-na šarri be-lí-ia-a-ma

5 *a-na muhhi ʔe-e-mu šá šarru*

iš-pu-ra-an-ni i-na

la-mu-ú-a dib-bu ib-ta-nu-ú

en-na ha-an-ʔiš harr[āna] ^{m.d}*nabû-ba-ni*

ù V ME sisē^{meš}

10 *šarru liš-pu-ram-ma ša-nu be-lí*

a-na ^ā*bār-sib lil-li-ku*

ù amēl^{mār} šipri šá šarri a-na

pa-an ^m*ia-a-ki-ri amēl^{na}-si-ku*

DIŠ *x x [li]l-li-kám-ma*

15 *šābē^{meš} a-na d[i]-[i]l-[i]k*

lid-ka-am-ma i-na dil-bat^{ki}

Rev. *a-na pa-ni-ni li-lik-ú-ni*

mìn-de-e-ma e-ri-bi

a-na bār-sib^{ki}
 20 *i-ba-áš-ši šar[ru] l[u] ú-di-i*
a-na amē^le-mu-qu a-na
šarri a-na šá-pa-[r]i-ni
l^e-diš

Translation

(1-3) Your servant Nabu-udammiq. I would go as substitute (in death) for the king my lord. May Nabu and Marduk bless the king my lord.

(4) (Say) thus to the king my lord: (5-6) Concerning the instructions that the king sent me, (7) they devised an agreement before my (arrival). (8-10) Now let the king quickly send Nabu-bani and 500 horses on the way. (10-11) For a second (time) let my lord come to Borsippa, (12-13) and let the king's messenger come into the presence of the chieftain Yakiri. (14) (15-16) Let him muster troops for mobilization and (16-17) let them come into Dilbat into my presence. (18-20) Perhaps there will be an entry into Borsippa. The king has indeed made (it) known (21-23) (that) for forces for the king (the procedure is) to send (them) to me alone.

Notes

Complete tablet with NB script. Obv. almost flat, rev. slightly convex. Text virtually complete except for loss of surface layer in part of lines 14 and 15. 35 mm of rev. uninscribed.

7) *dib-bu*. Taken as having its NB sense; see CAD, D, 134a, *dibbu* A 6.

10-11) *be-lí ... lil-li-ku*. Either *bēlī* is taken as an implicit pl., or the final vowel implies a question – ‘Secondly, will the king come to Borsippa?’

14) *DIŠ x*. The traces seem to suggest *DIŠ.LÚ*, which could be the beginning of a personal name, but a reading *DIŠ KASKAL = ana harrāni* cannot be excluded.

15) *d[i]-l^e-[i]k*. Taken as from *dīku* ‘mobilization’, CAD, D, 140b.

20) *ú-di-i*. Taken as D theme of *idû*; for sense see CAD, I/J, 30a, 4, *uddû*.

22) *šá-pa-[r]i-ni*. Infin. used gerundially plus 1 sg. Dat. suf.

ND 2700 (= III; IM 64124; Plate 12)

Transliteration

Face A

1' ... x x x x ...
 l^e-ma-a a-sa-par bi-it ša x [x] x
 e-mu-ru ki-ma dul-li ug-da-mir
 la ú-[d]a-ma a-di bīt a-na šá-a-šá
 5' a-ma-ha-á[r]-ši-i-ni an-nu-rig ka-ni-ku
 ša tu-še-bi-la-an-ni ak-ta-na[k] ina muhhi šarri
 ú-s[i]-bi-la issu muhhi LÚ.MAH ša ^mmukīn-zēr
 ša a-na šarri áš-pur-an-ni nu-ku EN.NUN-šú
 ú-da-in nu-ku šum-mu ina qātē^{II} i-t[u-']a
 10' i-šab-tu-ni-šú ina muhhi šarri ú-š[e-b]i-la-šú
^mia-di-i[b]-i-lu šumi-šú ih-ti-liq [a]na muhhi

^mmukīn-zēr i-ta-lak bīt-su nišē^{meš}-šú
 [i]-[n]a [a]hi-in-da-na an-nu-rig
 [a-na bēlī-i]a ina muhhi ^{m.d}adad-apla-iddin a-s[a-par]
 15' ... ṣa-bu-tú ina muhhi šarri x ...
 [šarru l]u-ú-da i-si-šú DIŠ x ...
 x x x ...

Face B

1' ... [e]?-[m]u?-qa(-)a x
 ... [e]?-[m]u?-qa(-)a i?-n[a]?
 ... x-ni-šú an-nu-rig šarru b[e-l]í
 [li]?-s[i]-[b]i-la-šú [ù] li-sa-ta-al-šú
 5' [š]a? dul-li ša āl dū[r]?-ti-nu-ta-a
 [ša a-n]a šarri aš-pur-an-n[i] libnāti^{meš}
 [a-na ša]rri ú-ki-na [i]?-[n]a? muhhi
 [ana līb]-[b]i la a-qa-ri-bi
 ... [i]q-tu ina qātē^{II} amēlqe-e-pi
 10' [ana muh]-hi-ia ta-sa-pa-ra
 ... tu-si-bi-la ma a-ta-a
 ... x-ka ta-du-ku
 ...-ni a-na-ku gab-ru-ú
 x a-sa-ṭar ...
 15' x nu ...

Translation

Face A

(2') thus, I sent a message. In the matter of what ... (3') he saw. When I finished my work (4') I did not know, until such time as (5a') I received it. (5b'-7a') Now (as to) the sealed document which you sent to me, I have placed it under seal (6'-7') and had it sent to the king.

(7b'-9a') Concerning the emissary of Mukin-zer about whom I wrote a message to the king, saying: 'I have strengthened his guard', (9b'-11a') and (also): 'they have truly caught him by the hands of the Itu'a, (and) I have sent him to the king; his name is Yadib-ilu', (11b'-13a') he has escaped (and) gone back to Mukin-zer. His clan (and) his people (are) in Hindana.

(13'-14') Now I have sent a message to my lord about Adad-apla-iddin. (15'-17') [broken and unclear]

Face B

(1'-2') [broken and unclear] (3'-4') now, let the king my lord have him brought and interrogate him.

(5'-7a') As to the work on the town Dur-tinuta (6') about which I sent a message to the king, I have laid the bricks [for] the king. (7b'-8') I will not make an approach inside.

(9'-10') ... you have sent me a message by the hands of the Qipu-official. (11') You sent [a question], saying: 'Why (12') did you kill your ... (13'-14') ...' I myself wrote an answer (15')

Notes

Lacks top and base and left side of one face is missing. Has several cracks. Clear and largely undamaged NA script.

Face A

9') *šúm-mu*. Taken as a variant, otherwise unattested, of CAD, Š/3, 274b, *šumma*, adverb.

15') *ša-bu-tú*. See CAD, Š, 167b-171a, *šibûtu* A (*šubûtu*, *šabûtu*).

Face B

4') *li-sa-ta-al-šú*. Prec. formed from Perf. G^t of *ša'ālu*, with NA phonology; see GAG §81e.

ND 2779 (= IX; IM 64167; Plate 11)

Transliteration

Obv.1' x U[D]? x x ...
 ... [URU.K]Á.DINGIR.RA.KI x ...
 ... [m].d*marduk-ápla-iddin*₃ ma-a x ...
 ... [a-d]an-niš a-ka-ni-i : ni-iq-ṭi-ba-á[š-š]ú
 5' ... x bīt-^msa-la-me ŠE.PAD.MEŠ
 ... -[u]l-ni liš-ši-ú la i-ma-gúr
 x ME la-sap-par ma-a
 ša ^{amēl}li-' a-ta-mu
 x PA?(-)ti(-)bi-ri
 10' x šu(-)u-ri
 it-ta-lak
 [^{amēl}li-']a-ta-mu
 Base [^{am}ēl]a-ru-mu
 [I]D? eqli(A.ŠÀ)
 15' x-u-ni
 Rev. x [^{am}ēl]ha-ga-ra-nu
 x LIM iṣ-šab-tu
 ... [š]a ^{āl}qar-ra-di
 ... x ^{amēl}naḡīrē(NÍMGIR)^{meš}(-)x-šú-nu a-na pa-ni-ía
 20' [i]l?-[di]b?-[b]u?-ub ú-sa-áš-ki-in-šú-nu
 [mu-uk]? [l]a? [t]a-pal-lah mu-uk ši-a-ni
 ... x x pi ina lib-bi ālāni^{meš}-ku-nu ši-ba
 ... x x-ku-nu i-si-ni lil-li-ku
 ... lúERÍN.MEŠ.MAN-ni : nu-ša-aṣ-bi-it
 25' ... x x ... x x x ...

Translation

(2') ... Babylon ... (3') ... Merodach-baladan said: '... (4') very much now.' We said to him: (5') '... Bit-salame, ... let them transport corn rations.' (6') ... he would not agree. (7') ... I continually send messages, saying: (8') '... of the Li'tamu tribe' (9'-10') [fragmentary] (11') ... he came back. (12') ... the Li'tamu tribe

(13') the Aramaean tribe (14'-15') [fragmentary]

(16') the Hagaranu tribe (17') they have seized (18') ... of the town Qarradi. (19'-20') ... *There were no heralds present.* He spoke in my presence. He put them in charge. (21) *I said: 'Do not be afraid! Go out! (22') ... Dwell in the midst of your towns! (23') Let your ... come with us.'* (24') ... we have settled the royal soldiers.

Notes

Both ends and left side lost. NA script.

24') ^{l4}ERÍN.MEŠ.MAN-*ni*. For ERÍN.MAN = *šāb šarri* see CAD, Š, 1a and K. Deller, Or.33 (1964), 90. The appended -*ni* here either is pron. suf. 1 pl. (thus 'our royal soldiers') or indicates that ERÍN.MAN represented some other Akkadian word ending in pl. in *ni*. Cf. also ND 2715, 38, ^{amēl}*šābēmeš šarri-šú-nu* (below, p. 156).

(b) Other letters relating to Babylonia

Letters edited:

ND 2352, ND 2357, ND 2358, ND 2368, ND 2391, ND 2400, ND 2403, ND 2407, ND 2411, ND 2797, ND 2412, ND 2419, ND 2435, ND 2456, ND 2470, ND 2484, ND 2611, ND 2626, ND 2641, ND 2661, ND 2667, ND 2725 (possibly does not belong in this chapter), ND 2783, ND 2786, ND 2795.

ND 2352 (IM 64006; Plate 13)

Transliteration

Obv.1' ... x
 l[i]? x x DIŠ ...
-[p]a?-' a LÚ x ...
 [iš?-p]u-ra-a[n-ni]?
 5' x šá ÌR DIŠ x ...
 x-su šá ^{m.dbē}[l]-iddin(MU)
 mu-ša[r]?-di?
 [L]Ú?? x x [x]
 [L]Ú.ĪA¹ ...
 10' DIŠ x ...
 x DUB? x ...
 x ia? x [liš-p]u?-r[u]? ...
 Base ... [S]AG?? šēpē^{II}-i[a] x ...
 x zi-ti SAL.x ...
 15' x x-šú-ta-mat SAL ...
 x x ... [t]a? qa? x ...
 x [G]A? x x a a-na x ...
 e(-)i[a]-a-ši i-na-x
 ú-qá-iš LÚ.šá ZUR? DINGIR x x
 20' ^lm^{1.dbē}[l]-hu-ud mār ^{m.dbē}[l]-iddin(MU)
 x amtu(GÉME) DI[Š].x-ki-a-a x M[U]?

aššat(DAM) ^{m.d}*marduk-šallim-an-ni*
 SAL-*ia* x x *a-tu* x *amat*(GÉME) š[á] ^mx x x
 DIŠ x x x x x ^rú^l?-*a-ma*[t]
 25' SA[L]? *bi*? x x x-*tu*? DIŠ *ka-x-ru*
 x x ^{m.d}*mard*[uk]-*šallim-an-ni* ...
 [š]*i-hir* šá ^{m.d}x-KUR.A
 ... x x x x x

[No translation is offered. Obv. and rev. retain nothing significant except a personal name in 5', and rev. is predominantly a list of personnel.]

Notes

Bottom half of what was presumably a letter. There is severe loss of surface on obv. and some on rev. NB script.

17') *e(-)i[a]-a-ši*. See CAD, I/J, 327a-b, *jaši*.

ND 2357 (= LXXIII; BSAI; Plate 12)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [a-na šarri *bēlīya*]
 [urad-ka ^{mm}u-še-z[ib]?-x-[x]?
 [lu šulm]u^{mu} a-na šarri [*bēlīya*]
 [ša šar]ru be-li iš-pur-an-n[i]
 5 [m]a-^ra^l [r]i-ih-ti ŠE.PAD.MEŠ
 la ta-kar-ra-ar a-du bī[t]
^{ma}!-bi-ha-ri il-lak-an-ni
 lid-dī-nak-ka ma-a ^{ma}hu-u-nu
 ár-hiš lil-li-k[a]-[an-ni]
 10 pa-an ^{amēl}i-tú-'a-[a-a]
 an-nu-rig ^{ma}b[i-ha-ri]
 ūm XX KAM UD.UD.MEŠ ...
 šarri be-lí-ía x ...
 a-du bit ^mr^al-[bi-ha-ri]
 15 ... [r]u?/[t]a?

Rev.

1' ^rú^l-r[a]?/d[a]?(-)... ...
 a-na-ku a-... ...
 at-ta-la[k] harr[āna]
 š[a]-[a]z-b[u]-u[s-s]u
 5' š[a] pa-na-at šarri [b]e-[l]í-[ia]
 la-aš-šú harrāna š[a ša]rri b[e-lí-ia]
 la-mur ki-ma ^{mabi}ha-r[i]
 it-tal-ka a-na-ku
 a-[s]a-hu-r[a] ŠE.PAD.MEŠ am-mar š[a]?
 10' a-ma-da-di a-mah-har-šú

[li]l-l[i]-ka re-eš ŠE.PAD.M[EŠ]

... x ša-az-bu-u[s]-s[u]

... K[A].DINGIR.RA^{ki}

... li x ...

15' ... x x ...

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Mushezib-DN. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-8) About (the matter on which) the king my lord sent me a message, (5) saying, 'You are not to load the rest of the grain rations until Abi-hari comes. Let him make delivery to you. (8-10) Let Ahunu come to me quickly, (10) in front of (a contingent of) Itu'a troops', (11-14) Now Ab[ihari] on the 20th day ... of the king my lord ... until ... until A[bihari] (15) [fragmentary]

Rev.

(1') I will ... (2') I ... (3'-6a') I came back ... the route. There is no consignment of goods for the king my lord. (6b'-7a') Let me see the route of the king my lord. (7b'-9a') When Abi-hari has come, I myself will resume (my work). (9b'-11a') The grain rations, as much as I measure out, I will collect (from) him. Let him come. (11b'-12') The original amount of the grain rations ... the consignment of goods (13') ... Babylon ... (14'-15') [Nothing legible]

Notes

Major part of a tablet, with all corners lost and about 10 mm broken away across most of base. Has a deep crack down middle of obv. Surface is missing from most of right of lower half of obv. and from some of right of upper half of rev. Text remaining is mostly well preserved and clear. Obv. is almost flat, rev. slightly curved. NA script.

The broken ends reveal part of core, showing it to be composed of clay folded on itself. Over the core is a surface layer of clay of similar type, ranging in thickness from 2 mm in the centre of lines to 7 mm at the sides of the tablet.

Obv.

7) ^ma!-bi-ha-ri. The a is written over a group which, although it appears to be a partially erased i, is probably an incomplete AD, the sign used in this name in rev. 7'.

12) UD.UD.MEŠ. Less of the MEŠ remains now than when I copied the tablet in 1954. The absence of URU is against relating this to the city-name Larak.

Rev.

4', 12') š[a]-[a]z-b[u]-u[s-s]u, ša-az-bu-u[s]-s[u]. Recognition of these forms is due to J.N. Postgate.

ND 2358 (IM 64008; Plate 9)

Transliteration

Face A

1' x

x hu? x BE? x

[x]? x ni a-ga-a x
 an-ni-i ga-x
 5' a-na šarri be-lí-i[a]
 DIŠ KAN-NA x x
 AŠ x [x]? ^dmarduk-.....
 x x É? x x
 a-d[i] [x]? x a-di x
 10' a x a-na x x
 x x x šú
 ... x LUGAL
 ... x(-)šú(-)u
 ... a
 Face B

[Retains only isolated intelligible signs. Not copied.]

[Insufficient remains of the text of this tablet to provide a plausible translation.]

Notes

Fragment from left side of middle of largish letter, badly broken and rejoined. NB script. Physical appearance suggests possibility of this fragment belonging to the same tablet as ND 2368 (below) or ND 2624 (p. 276).

ND 2368 (BSAI; Plate 14)

Transliteration

Face A (Obv.?)

1' [x] x x
 aš x
 ul
 SA[G]?
 5' šab? x x
 ù x x
 il-li-ku
 ki-i iš-pu-[ra]?
 ù ištēn^{en} ha-x
 10' šá a-na šēr x
 ú-šu-ú
 a-na É.GIŠ x
 PAD.HI.A a-šá-mu
 ù DIŠ MA x
 15' e-ri-šú u[l]
 šú-ú šá-hi-šá
 ù ina x
 x ... x

Face B (Rev.?)

1' ... [V]? [a]?

i-x a-na x
um-ma al-t[e]? *x*
ak-ka-'-i x
 5' *l[u]-maš-šir-ma*
x [t]u-ú x
š[á] šarri be-lí-ía x
i-dib-bu-ub x
ú-sil-li x
 10' *en-na a-na x*
 LUGAL *x x x*
šum?-[m]a?
be-lí-šú x
i[t]-.....

Translation

[The only lines which retain text sufficiently unambiguous out of context to warrant a translation are:]

Face A

(7') they came (8') when he sent a message
 (10') which/who to upon (11') they go forth
 (13') I *buy/bought* rations

Face B

(4') *how/as soon as* (5') let me release (7') of the king my lord
 (8') he has spoken

Notes

Piece from left side, with neither end preserved, and less than half the width of the tablet extant. Has physical similarities with ND 2358, but the two are not from the same tablet. This fragment might be from the same tablet as ND 2624, q.v. Face A (obv.?) is almost flat; Face B (rev.?) is curved. NB script.

ND 2391 (BSAI; Plate 10; Photo Plate I)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na* LÚ.DUB.S[AR É?.GAL?]
be-lí-šú ^{m.d!}*mardu[k]-x-x*
šá be-lí iš-pu-r[a]
išten^{en} UDU.NÍTA *pān* ^d*na[bû]*
 5 *išten^{en}* UDU.NÍTA *pān* DINGIR.[DN]
at-ta-'-i[d]
it-ta-ši-^lú^l?
ù lib-bi D[UB.SAR] [...]?
 [be-l]i-i[a] [lu *ṭāb*]

Rev.

1' *la* ^l*i*-x

^dnabû u DIN[GIR.DN]
 ak-ta-r[a]?-... ...
^dmarduk u DI[NGIR.DN]
 5' a-na LÚ.DUB.S[AR]
 be-lí-ia lu-x

Translation

Obv.

(1) To the Scribe of the Palace (2) his lord, Marduk-...

(3) About (the matter on which) my lord sent a message, (4) (that is,) one sheep before Nabu, (5) (and) one sheep before [DN], (6) I have attended (to the matter), (7) they have handed (them) over. (8) And the heart of the Scribe (9) [of the Palace] my lord, may it be content.

Rev.

[Insufficient remains for a translation.]

Notes

The greater part of a small tablet which has lost about its lower third. Obv. retains the greater part of 9 lines in a clear NB script, rev. retains the first half or less of six lines, with the final 16 mm uninscribed.

Obv.

1-2) The form of address is unusual.

1, rev. 5') The sign after LÚ in obv. 1 clearly has four verticals and in rev. 5' clearly only three, but the context indicates that the same sign (DUB) is intended in both instances. The sign in obv. 8 after *lib-bi* seems to be DUB with three verticals.

4, 5) UDU.NÍTA. See MSL VIII/1, p. 7, 7.

7) *it-ta-ši-íú*? In a letter in NB script and grammar (see Subj. *iš-pu-ra* in obv. 3), an ending *-iu* without crasis would be anomalous. However, although the script is Babylonian, it uses Assyrian forms of wedges and does not conform to the small elegant Babylonian script found in typical Babylonian letters in the Nimrud collection, and the scribe, perhaps more accustomed to writing in Assyrian, may here have supplied an Assyrian ending to a verb of which the phonology (*š* rather than *ṣ*) was otherwise Babylonian.

8) D[UB.SAR] [...]? There could just be room for a lost É.GAL after DUB.SAR.

ND 2400 (BSAI; Plate 14)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [a-na šarri be-lí]-[i]a urad-ka DIŠ [x] x x
 [lu šulmu^{mu} a-n]a [ša]rri be-lí-ia ᵀa^l-d[an-ni]š a-da[n-ni]š
 [ša šarru] be-lí iš-p[u]-ra-an-ni
 x x x x e-ri du-ú-lu
 5 x x x x šá x [n]i?-ša-ba[t] di-na-áš-šú
 ... x ... x bi da x [a]t-tu-ši-a
 ... x a-sa? x x ᵀa^l-[š]ap-[r]a-áš-šú

[x] x x x GAR?/[P]UR? x x x x R[I]? [E]N?? NI *ni-il-lik*
 ... *iš?-bat* [n]i? x x x *ūme*^{meš}-[š]ú?
 10 ... x ni [x]? x ma-a ʾa¹-[na]? am[ē]b[ē]l [p]āhati
 ... x a ... i[l]-l[i]?/[la]k? x x x
 ... x a-na-k[u] ʾa¹-[š]ap-[r]a-á[š]-šú
 ... x mu ʾa¹ x x šarri
 ... ha-ra-ma-ma
 15 ... x x a-na ālāni^{me[š].[n]}i
 ... x LU[GAL]?/RAB?
 ... x-ta-har
 ... x-ši
 ... x-te
 ... x

Rev.

[Lines 1'-10' bear nothing legible and significant]

11' ... šar[ru] be-lí lu-ʾú¹-[da]
 ... x x x x šu?-ú am-mu-te
 ... x x la a l[a] ištēnu^{en-ú}

Partial Translation

Obv.

(5) ... we have seized (6) ... I came out (7) (8) ... we went *into the town* ... (9) (10) (11) (12) ... I myself sent him a message (13) ... the king (14) ... thereupon (15) ... to the towns

Rev.

(11') ... the king my lord knows (12') ... those (13') ... *I have* ... not one.

Notes

Upper part (more than half on part of right side, about a quarter on left side) of tablet of fine pink colour, with the shape and the very small script characteristic of tablets from Babylon in this archive. However, this tablet was actually in NA script, but clearly by a Babylonian scribe, since some signs show the influence of Babylonian practice. Abrasion quite severe on obv. and very severe on rev. These Babylonian tablets are relatively soft. A test in 1954 on an uninscribed fragment of this type of Babylonian tablet showed that it contained a high proportion of calcium carbonate, probably powdered chalk added to the clay as degraissant, which has contributed to the relative softness of such tablets when baked.

Obv.

5) šá. This sign, undamaged when the tablet was first copied, is now so abraded that only the outline of the left side remains.

6) di-na-áš-šú. In form could be *dīnu* with pron. suf., but not in NA letter dialect. Here the form can only be Impv. *nadānu* plus suf.

8) x x R[I]? [E]N??. The first two signs could be AŠ URU = *ina āli*, in which case the other two signs would constitute a place name.

9) *iš?-bat. iš*, although possible, is more dubious than it looks in the copy.

ND 2403 (IM 64026; Plate 14)

Transliteration

Face A (Obv.?)

- 1' [m.d]šamaš-[b]u?-[na?-a?-a?]
 [ù] amēl**babili**ki.[meš]?
 [a-n]a [d]i-na-an be-lí-[ni]
 [i ni-i]l-lik ^dnabû u ^d[marduk]
 5' [a-n]a [bē]li?/[b[e]-[l]i?-ni lik-ru-bu
 [lu šulmu] ʾa¹-na [b]e-l[i]-[n]i-[m]a
 [ina muhhi ša]? [i]š-pur-an-na-ši
 [ma-a] [l]a ta-pal-la-h[a]
 ... KI?-IB um-m[a]
 10' x x x
 [e]-mu-qu
 -i-ni
 -a-ni

Face B (Rev.?)

- 1' ... x [i]š-pur-an-n[a-š]i
 [k]i-ma x x mu a-ha-meš
 [l]i-pu-ša ana ma-man-ma
 la x x an-ha-az-zu
 5' ʾa¹-[d]i ʾa¹-na muh-h[i]-šú
 x ERIM ša i-na ta-mi[r]-ti
 [ā]l**ba**]bīl**ki** ʾa¹-[n]a x x? ʾú¹
 IGI MU SAR x x x
 x x x x x [k]i-i
 10' GIŠ x hu i-na [t]a?-[mi]r?-ti
 ša amēl**kal**-du it-x-...
 šul-mu a-na ša[rri] ...
 ù a-na x
 x x

Translation

Face A (Obv.?)

(1'-2') Shamash-*bunaya* and the Babylonians: (3'-4') we would go as substitute (in death) for our lord. (4'-5') May Nabu and [Marduk] bless our lord. (6') [May it be well with] our lord indeed.

(7') [Concerning that on which] he sent a message to us (8') [saying]: 'You shall not fear' (9') thus, (10') [... ..] (11') forces (12'-14') [nothing intelligible]

Face B (Rev.?)

(1') He sent a message to us, (2'-4') thus: '... let them act together to whoever does not ...' (5') until to him (6'-7') [Any] *soldier* who in the territory of

Babylon to ... (8') ... (9') ... when/if (10') ... in the territory (11') of the land of Chaldaeā ... (12') It is well with the king ... (13') and with ...

Notes

One end broken off, with loss of perhaps one line. Badly chipped in places, left side of Face A erased. Clear deep NB script.

Face A

1') [m.d]šamaš-[b]u?-[na?-a?-a?]. A highly speculative restoration. If correct, the letter would need to be moved to join ND 2663, ND 2630 and ND 2628 above (see p. 30).

4') [i ni-i]l-lik. In this conventional greeting formula the only alternative to the 1 pl. form restored is 1 sg. *lul-lik*, but the broken sign definitely has two verticals, which eliminates *lul-* and favours *-il-*.

Face B

4') *x x an-ha-az-zu*. This does not correspond to any attested N form of *ahāzu*.

8') MU SAR. This is not a misreading of *ina TIN!.TIR!.[KI]*.

ND 2407 (= LXXXIV; BSAI; Plate 16)

Transliteration

Obv.4 *x ... x x ...*

- 5 š[á] [a]hi?-[i]a? i[š-p]u-r[a] ...
 ūmimⁱ tup-pi ta-mu-r[a]...
 a-na irat šarri e-la-a [t]a?-la-ka-a
 ul šá qātē^{II}-ia gab-bi šá [qā]tē ahī-ía
 šu-ú mātāti gab-bi [i]l-du-ú
- 10 ki-i ram-na-a a-n[a muh]hi ahī-ia
 a-mu-ur ki-i ahu-[ú]l-[a] a-na
 du-un-qí-ia ù a-na
 ba-ni-ti-ia qé-[e]l-pu m.dnabû-da-iq
 ištēn^{en} ūmu^{mu} a-di pa-ni-ia ahū-ú-a
- 15 liš-par-am-ma it-ti-šú lud-bu-ub-ma
 te-ma-a ù [d]ib-bi āli
- Base lil-qa-am-[m]a a-na ahī-ía
 liq-bi
- Rev. tur-ti a-mat šá ah[ī-ia]
- 20 lu-uš-me-e-ma KAS[KAL]^{II} šá ahī-[i]a
 ina šēpē^{II}-ia i-š[ak-k]a-nu
 lul-lik ù mim-m[a š]á ahū-ú-a
 i-[q]ab-ba-a lu-pu-uš
 áš-š[ú] m.ahi-dam-qí šá ahū-u-a
- 25 iš-pu-ra m.ahi-dam-q[í] a-na ///
 pa-ni-ia ul il-li-ka
 ki-ma a-na pan-ni-ia it-tal-ka
 KASKAL^{II} a-na šēpē-šu a-šak-kan
 ù na-aš-par-ti šá ahī-ia
- 30 [ú]l-šal-lam ahū-ú-a tup-p[i-š]ú

EG[IR]-šú *te-en-šú* U[GU]? ...
 [n]u-šá-[b]il e-...
 [x] x *si-ma*

Translation

(5) about which *my brother* sent [*me*] a message [saying]: (6) ‘the day you see my tablet ... (7) come up before the king. Will you come?’ (8) It is not my responsibility; it is wholly the responsibility of my brother. (9) He knows all lands. (10-11) I looked after my brother as though (it were) myself. (11-13) If my brother is entrusted with my good fortune and my wellbeing, (13-15) let my brother send Nabu-damiq to me for one day so that I may talk with him, (16-18) and let him take the information and city gossip and tell (it) to my brother.

(19-21) Let me hear the reply in my brother’s affair, so that my feet may be set on a journey to my brother. (22-23) Let me come, and anything that my brother says I will do.

(24-26) In the matter of Ahi-damqi, about whom my brother sent a message, Ahi-damqi has not come into my presence. (27-28) When he has come into my presence, I will set him on his journey, (29-30) and he will execute my brother’s commission.

(30-31) My brother, his tablet after him, his information (32) we brought

Notes

NB script. Two fragments rejoined to give a tablet which lacks only a small piece from top left corner and a larger triangular piece from top right corner. The joined surfaces correspond but are slightly misaligned; the alignment has been corrected in the copy. Except for surface loss on first five lines, and minor damage along the join line, legibility is mainly good, although where there are groups of parallel wedges, (e.g., obv. 3, *mi*. rev. 12, *ú*), the scribe has impressed all but one wedge very lightly, so that even slight abrasion affects legibility. Tablet is almost flat on obv., gently curved on rev.

The line numeration, which takes the first extant line as 4, is arrived at by measurement.

10-11) *a-na muhhi ahī-ia a-mu-ur*. For the idiom see CAD, A/2, 21a, 5b.

13) ^{m.d}*nabû-da-iq*. There is nothing to indicate whether or not this is the Nabu-damiq of ABL 331, 2; 813, 2, 814, 2; 815, obv. 1, rev. 17.

25) *a-na ///*. A small *šú*, which the context suggests was not intended as part of the letter in its final form, still shows under what seems to be an erasure.

ND 2411 (BSAI; Plate 15)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na šarri be-lí-[i]a*
 [ur]ad-ka ^{m.d}*nabû*₃-namir(ZÁLAG)^{ir}
^d*nabû*₃ ^{1d1}[ma]rduk [a¹-[n]a [ša]rri
 be-lí-ía li[k-r]u-bu

- 5 *ūmu* II KÁM *amēl*bēl *pāhati*
ša mātha-ban ina m[uh]hi
nāri iq-tar-b[a]
ki-ma e-tab-ra
 ANŠE.M[ES] *id-da-a[r]?-[ri]?-[ru]?*
- 10 *nu-n[a]m-ma-šá*
x x x
- Rev.
- 1' *x*
 ... *x ... x*
a-[n]a x x ' ?
x x ... ša ni x
- 5' *i-n[a]? U[GU]? AŠ x*
amēl A¹ *š[ip]-r[i] [a-š]ap-par*
a-na-ku x x? a x
ina [p]a?-a[n]? [ša]rri be-lí-í[a] ...
[n]i-[p]u-š)a kaspá a-di ša x x ...
- 10' XV *bilti-šú ú x x [x]? x ...*
is|e-' e^{meš} ša mātha-su-a-t[i] pa-ni-u-t[i]
ša mātha-su-a-ti a[r-k]i-ú-ti
ina pa-an amēl sar-tin-ni šú-nu
aban_{kunukku} ša amēl sar-tin-n[i]
- 15' *ina muhhī-šú*

Translation

Obv.

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-namir. May Nabu and Marduk bless the king my lord.

(5-9) On the second day the governor of Haban arrived at the river. When he crossed, the asses *ran off*. (10) We are setting out (11) [*without them*.]

Rev.

(5') *upon* (6) I shall send a messenger. (7) I (8'-9') we did ... *in the presence of* the king my lord. Until ... (10') fifteen (units of) his tribute

(11') The former documents of Hasuati (and) (12') the latter ones of Hasuati (13') are in the presence of the Chief Judge. (14'-15') The Chief Judge's seal is on them.

Notes

Tablet lacking bottom left and right corners, bottom edge and small part of right side on lower half of tablet. Tablet has white spots from chalk efflorescence. Slight abrasion overall, with severe abrasion on much of upper half of rev. Lines rather more widely spaced on obv. than on rev. Obv. flat, rev. slightly curved top to base. NA script.

Obv.

2) ^{m,d}*nabû₃-namir*(ZÁLAG)^{ir}. The sign ZÁLAG is clear. The same name as author occurs in ND 2797, 2, linking the two letters.

6) *mātha-ban*. See ND 2783, rev. 22', [*mā*]^t*bīt-h[a]-ban* and NAT 147, HAMBAN. *mātha-ban* was *māthamban* on the upper Diyala. The placing of ND 2411 and ND 2797

in this chapter assumes that the governor of Hamban was moving from his territory towards Babylonia, so that Nabu-namir was writing from within or near north Babylonia.

9) *id-da-a[r]?-[ri]?-[ru]?* The form restored would be N theme of *darāru* A, for which see CAD, D, 109a-b. Alternatively one might look for a form from *tebû*, and take it as a report of the asses being drowned. Herodotus, *Histories*, I, 189, mentions that a sacred horse of Cyrus was drowned in attempting to swim the Diyala, which between Baquba and Kurdistan can be fierce and treacherous. J.N. Postgate suggests restoring a form from *iddāt-*, which is possible.

Rev.

8') *[p]a?-a[n]?* This is a guess. Abrasion is too severe here for a definitive reading.

14') *abankunukku ša amēlšar-tin-n[i]*. This text shows that some goods in transit had to bear the seal of the Sartinnu.

ND 2797 (BSAI; Plate 13)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [a-na] [šar]ri bēlī-i[a]
 [urad]-ka m.^dnabû-namir(ZÁLAG)^{i[r]}
 [lu]-[u] šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-i[a]
 [dD]N u ^dmarduk

5 a-n]a bēlī-ia lik-ru-bu
 [ša šar]ru iš-pur-an-n[i]
 x x
 x

Rev.

1' x
 x x l[u]?
 ... [i]k?-ta-r[u]? ...
 ... [G]Ú.[U]N KÛ.BABBAR ...

5' [U]GU x ...
 ka x ...

L.e. x
 x ...

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-namir. May it be well with the king my lord. (4-5) May [Nabu] and Marduk bless my lord.

(6) About the message the king sent to me (7-8)

Rev.

(4') ... talents of silver ...

Notes

Fragment from top of a tablet, retaining neither side nor top nor bottom edge. NA script.

Obv.

2) ^{m.d}nabû-namir(ZÁLAG)^{i[r]}. For this name, see above, ND 2411, 2.

ND 2412 (BSAI; Plate 15)

Transliteration

Obv. arad-k[a] [^{m.d}A]K?-ušall[im]lim

a-n[a d]i-na-an sukkalli rabî

be-li-[i]a lul-lik

um-ma a-na b[e]-lí-i[a]-a-ma

5 ar-ki amēlmar [š]i pri ša šarri

mu-ša-piš d[ul-l]u ša harrāna

a-na šēpē^{II}-šú áš-ku-nam-ma

a-na pa-an šarri a[hi]-šu [i]d-du

amēlš^u-ur-ki ša ā^IKU.TU.A

10 UG[U]! x-[x]?-[r]a? x ÉRIN x

ša KAŠ? x mi-^Ii¹-n[u]

a-na x-mu-^Iu¹?-ti

x x d[u]?-un x x

Rev. [uninscribed]

Translation

(1-3) Your servant *Nabu-ushallim*. I would go as substitute (in death) for the Great Minister my Lord.

(4-8) (I say) thus to my lord: after I had set a royal messenger on a journey, responsible for assigning the corvee-work, he neglected his duty to the king. (9-10) A temple servant of Kutha [*sent a message*] about [*it*] ... (11-13) [unintelligible]

Notes

Tablet complete except for some surface damage. In some signs slight abrasion produces phantom wedges. The final four lines, which must have contained the gravamen of the letter, are rendered almost wholly illegible by more serious abrasion. Inscribed on one side only in NB script. Convex on both faces, rev. marginally more so. Both ends are so flat that the tablet will stand on them. Across the left half of lines 1-12 is a shallow flat excision 15 mm long and a maximum of 4 mm wide, made by some sharp tool, presumably during excavation; ND 2703 has a similar but larger area of damage. There is a small hole in the uninscribed rev.

6-7) *harrāna a-na šēpē^{II}-šú áš-ku-nam-ma*. For the idiom see CAD, 𒄩, 109b, 2(c).

10) UG[U]! Has one horizontal wedge too many for the standard NB form of UGU.

11) *mi-^Ii¹-n[u]*. Examination under the microscope shows that several phantom diagonals and verticals over the middle sign are scratches; the only assured wedges are horizontals.

12, 13) Abrasion is so severe that the traces represented in the copy are not offered with confidence.

ND 2419 (BSAI; Plate 15)

Transliteration

Obv.1' *ul-t[u]* [... ..]
 šá-pi-ir [... ..]
 nu-bu-x [... ..]
 i-na-aš [... ..]
 5' *a-kan-na-ka*
 lu ú-ka-la
 a-di bit ana-ku
 8' *a-na pa-an šarri bēlī-ía*
 Base *[a]l-la-ka*
 Rev. *mìn-d[i]-e-ma šarru*
 11' *i-qab-bi u[m]-ma*
 mī-nam-ma ul-tu
 ina babiliki šú-ú
 [k]u-ú-nu LÚ.A.KIN.ME[Š]-šú
 15' *a-n[a] x x ... x RI*
 il-x [... ..]
 a-du [... ..]
 lil-x [... ..]
 x [... ..]

Translation

(1') from/since (2') *overseer* (3-4') (5') there (6') I shall indeed hold back (7'-9') until I come into the presence of the king my lord. (10'-11') Perhaps the king will say thus: (12'-13'), 'Why, since he is in Babylon, (14') are his messengers *remaining*?' (15'-19')

Notes

Lower half of tablet joined to fragment from middle left side. Clear, bold, deeply-incised NB script, almost perfect on obv., damaged in parts on rev. Both faces slightly curved in vertical plane.

ND 2435 (IM 64040; Plate 16)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na* ^{m.d}KUR.GAL-šum-iškun^{un}
 qí-bi-ma um-ma šarru-um-ma
 ^ā*ki-hu-dak-si maššartu*^{ki}
 lu-u dan-na-at
 5 ^{m.d}*mi-šar-apla-našir*^{ir}
 a-na muhhi mātaš-šur^{ki}
 ta-dúr-ma ú-pal-lah-ma
 la ta-pa-lah-ma n[i]-qut-ti
 la ta-raš-šu a-na išdi!(ÚR)

- 10 *x māti-ma pu-ut-ma*
na-šá-at a-du-ú
amēlgu-du-da-nu
šá amēl^rrab BI.LUL! m.d^aššur-eṭir^{ir}
 I ME *sisē^{meš}*
- 15 II^{ta} *išnarkabāti^{meš}* III ME *al[pē]?me[š]*
i[l]-l[i-k]u-[m]a ina pa-ni-ki
- Rev. ... [ú]-šū-uz-zu
 [x] x [x] x *iš-ši-di*
 x x [x]? [eb]ūru a-na
- 20 *pa-ni-k[u]?/k[i]? al-tap-ru*
amēlmār šipru^{meš}.ú-a ša ul-tu
ā^ldu-um-ma-al^{ki}
a-na pa-ni-ki i-lu-ni
paq-du-nik-ku ú-šur-ma
- 25 *sisē^{meš} šá amēl^{qí}-pu*
la i-šab!-ba-tu-šú-nu-tu
harrān šá-lim-ti₄ ana šēpē^{II}-šú-nu
šu-kun-ma ina šu-lum-me-šú-nu
a-na pa-ni-ia šup-raš-šú-nu-tu
- 30 *ku-ri-pu ul ta-dúr ù*
 XXX GUR *šamaššammū ina qatē^{II}*
 m.d^ašamaš-ereš^{eš} *ul-te-bi-lak-ku*

Translation

(1-4) To KUR.GAL-shum-ishkun say, thus says the king: ‘As to the town Kihudaksi, let the watch be strong. (5-7) You are afraid of Mishar-apla-nasir on account of Assyria and he causes fear. (8-9) You need not fear and you need have no anxiety. (9-11) You bear the responsibility for the security of the land.

(11-17) ‘Now then, the military detachments of the Rab-shakeh Ashur-etir, one hundred horses, two chariots, *three* hundred ... *have come* and they stand at your disposal. (18-20) I have sent ... reapers *for* the harvest at your disposal.

(21-24) ‘My messengers who have come up from the city *Dummal* into your presence are entrusted to you; keep the watch. (25-29) The horses of the Warden are not to be commandeered; set a safe route for them and send them to me in good condition. (30a) You shall not fear the ... (30b-32) And I will have thirty kors of linseed brought to you by Shamash-eresh.’

Notes

Complete tablet in very good condition. Neat NB script.

This letter has strongly marked Babylonian features, such as a Babylonian form of address, NB script, and NB features of grammar, vocabulary and syllabary usage. NB grammatical forms include: (11) *a-du-u* (GAG §121a), (20) *al-tap-ra*, (32) *ul-te-bi-lak-ku*, (21) *ul-tu* for NA *issu* (GAG §114k). In vocabulary NB *našû* is used rather than NA *našû*. In syllabary usage, *qí*, common in NB, less usual in NA, occurs; and the divine name Aššur is written as ^dHI rather than ^daš-šur.

- 1) ^{m.d}KUR.GAL-šum-iškun^{un}. The context suggests that he was a semi-independent ruler, perhaps a Chaldean chieftain.
- 3) ^ālki-hu-dak-si. Iraq 23 (1961), plate XXVIII, ND 2790, rev. 6' has a town name, damaged in its two final signs, read op.cit., 53 as ^ālki-hu-li-il and provisionally in NAT, 205 as ^ālki-hu-li-an; this may be the same town.
- 3) maššartu^{ki}. Despite slight damage the final sign seems to be KI and not TU.
- 5) ^{m.d}mi-šar-apla-našir^{ir}. The god-name is certainly not AMAR.UTU. For personal names compounded with the god-name Mišaru, not noted in APN, see AHw, 659b-60a and CAD, M/2, 118b-119a.
- 7) ta-dúr-ma ú-pal-lah-ma. The implicit subject of the second verb must be the person named in line 5.
- 9) išdi!(ÚR). The sign is clear, but has the two verticals appropriate to MB rather than NB.
- 10) *x māti-ma*. A note made at my last collation says 'first sign is certainly not NUMUN and probably not ša'. Other readings rejected are KASKAL (with reference to the routes of the land), and DIN = *balātu* ('the life' of the land). The sign could well be simply AŠ (= *ina*) plus scratches deriving from attempts at cleaning the sign; this point could be settled by microscopic examination, which was not available to me at collation.
- 10) *māti-ma? pu-ut-ma?* This is probably the correct reading, but it is possible that there is a vertical at the beginning of each of the signs taken as *ma*, giving the readings *māti-ku! pu-ut-ku!*, where *-ku* would be NB genitive of 2 sg. m. pron. suf.; see GAG §42j, k, note 6.
- 12) *amēlgu-du-da-nu*. See CAD, G, 120a, **gudūdu*.
- 15) III ME. The three verticals of III are completely clear, but are preceded by a smaller fourth vertical, just over half size.
- 15) *alpē?meš*. The first sign shows a slight variation from the standard NB form of GU₄, but no other probable reading presents itself.
- 16, 23, perhaps 20) *pa-ni-ki*. Unless the third sign was an unusual writing for *ku!*, the form of the pronominal suffix would suggest a female correspondent, contrary to other indications. Could *-ki* be a writing for *-k*, known as an alternative to *-ka* in spB (GAG §42j)?
- 22) ^āl^ldu-um-ma-^{al}ki. Although the second sign is slightly damaged, its reading as *um* seems assured. Could this be the correct reading of the place-name in ABL 849, rev. 6, read ^āl^lDu-um-ma-šak?-ka by Waterman, RCAE 849, rev. 6 and URU DU-UM-MA-AQ-QA in NAT, 107? For a possible siting of Dummašaqqa on the Elamite side of Babylonia see Forrer, *Provinz.*, 102.
- 30) *ku-ri-pu*. The reading is clear. This can hardly in the context denote the genius of that name.

ND 2456 (BSAI; Plate 16)

Transliteration

Obv.

1' *x s [i]?*
 issu lib-b[i]

- ma-a an-n[u]?-r[ig]?*
ma-a mārē^{meš} KÁ.DINGIR.R[A.KI] ...
- 5' *ú-šab-bi-it ma-a*
ina muhhi-šú-nu i-sak-n[a]
ú-d[a]-iq DI-bi
a-na ahī-ía ú-si-b[i-la] ...
^mapla^a mār ^ml[a]?-... ..
- 10' *ma-a ina muhhi ^mmu-na-b[i]*
ma-a ina muhhi ^mza-li-at
ma-a ina muhhi ^mla-ba-x
ma-a ina muhhi ^mbēl-bani x
ma-a ina muhhi ^msu-la-^la^l
- 15' *ma-a ina muhhi ^mšu-zu-b[i]*
ma-a ina muhhi ^mú-ša-a x
[ma]-^la^l ina muhhi ^mbēl-šab-š[i]
[ma-a ina] muhhi ^ms[u]-x-x
- Rev.
- 1' x
 *tí* x
š[a]? [x] x KAM ma-a x
ša šu-me-l[i] a-di x
- 5' *a-na qa-q-a-ri it-tu-r[a]?*
māre^{meš} KÁ.DINGIR.RA.KI ib-x
iq-tu-lu t[è]-mu š[a] DIŠ x
^m.^dnabû-ahhe₂^{meš}-id[din] VI LIM I[D]
 III MA.NA *kaspi na-ša-ma x*
- 10' *šap-[p]u la-áš-šú la ak-k[a]?-... ..*
ú-x-al la il-la-k[a]?
a-na ahī-ía na-ša ù x
si-par-ri i-si-ip i-x
ina pa-ni-ía ak-ta-la-šu
- 15' *ša a-na ahī-ía aq-b[u]-[ni]*
tè-mu ša ^[am]ēlšābe^{meš}
- Side
 ... ù a-na-[ku] e-ti-qa a-na ekalli

Translation

Obv.

(2') from the midst (3') thus, now (4') thus, the Babylonians ... (5') he seized (6') upon them he placed (7') he made *the matter* favourable (8') I have transmitted to my brother (9') Apla son of (10') thus, concerning Munabi (11') thus, concerning Zaliat (12') concerning Laba-... .. (13') concerning Bel-bani (14') concerning Sula (15') concerning Shuzubu (16') concerning Usha (17') concerning Bel-Shabshi (18') concerning Su-... ..

Rev.

(4') of the left side until ... (5') he has returned to the plot of land ... (6') the Babylonians ... (7') they have heeded. The report of ... (8') Nabu-ahhe-iddin, 6,000 ... (9') 3 minas of gold were brought, thus ... (10') there is no container, I could not ... (11') he *was unwilling*, he would not come ... (12') he was brought to my brother and ... (13') he collected bronze ... (14') I then detained him in my presence ... (15') which I *said* to my brother ... (16') the report of the soldiers ...

Side

... and I continued to the palace ...

Notes

Fragment from middle of left side of a large letter, composed of three pieces rejoined. There is a marked distinction between almost flat obv. and significantly curved rev. The curvature indicates that the longest lines on rev. retain about half of the original line length, and the longest lines on obv. probably just under half. NA script.

ND 2470 (= XXXVII; IM 64055; Plate 13)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *tuppi*^{m.d}*enurta-ila-a-a*
a-na amēl^t*tupšar*₃*ekalli*
nišē^{meš}*-šú-nu ša*
māt^{pu-qu-da-a-a}

5 *ša ina pa-ni-ia*
ša ina ekalli iq-bu-u-ni
ma-a lu-bi-lu-ni-šú-nu
 XXIX LÚ *x x x*
na-ṣ[u]-ni x x x

10 *an-ni-e x x x*
šú-nu NINDA.MEŠ-š[u-n]u?
 [ú^l-šá^{kal}-šúⁿ[u]
 *x* ...

Rev.

1' *x x*
li-im-n[u]
bi-it nišē^{me[š]} [...]?
lu-bi-lu lul-qi-x

5' *ištēn*^{en} *issu lib-bi-šú-nu*
ina māt^{bar-hal-zi}
šu-tú a-sap-ra
ú-ti-lu-ni-šú
a-sap-rak-ka ar-hiš

10' *nišē*^{meš} *a-šur mu-hur*

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) Letter of Enurta-ilaya to the Scribe of the Palace.

(3-4) The people of the Puqudu-land (5) who (are) at my disposal, (6-7) of whom they said in the Palace, 'Let them bring them', (8) twenty-nine ...-men (9) were brought ... (10) this ... (11-12) Those people, I have provided them with their food.

Rev.

(2') let them count (3') *where/when* the people ... (4') let them bring, let *me* take. (5'-7') I sent one from amongst them with a message to Bar-halzi. (8') They took him away. (9) I have sent you a message. (9'-10') Quickly check (and) receive the people.

Notes

Small piece at base of tablet missing. The final 10 mm of rev. is uninscribed. Text mostly legible, but wedges have largely lost sharpness. NA script.

Obv.

2) m.^d*enurta-ila-a-a*. For another letter by a person of this name, see ND 2460. For the earliest recognition that ^dNIN.IB is to be read ^d*enurta* in Assyrian, see Sidney Smith, *Early History of Assyria* (1928), 391, note 3.

3) *nišēmeš-šú-nu ša*. Taken as periphrastic genitive.

8) LÚ x x x. The traces do not favour restoring a form of *pu-qu-da-a-a*. The first sign could be RU, giving a form of the tribal name *ru-'u-a*.

11) NINDA.MEŠ-š[u-n]u?. NINDA = *akalu* or *kusāpu*, both 'food'.

Rev.

6') *lul-qi-x*. The final broken sign is not *ú*. J.N. Postgate proposes the restoration *lip-qi-d[u]*, which would fit the traces.

8') *ú-ti-lu-ni-šú*. For the sense of *elû* in D^t see CAD, E, 126b-127a, 6a-b.

10') *a-šur*. Impv. sg. of *ašāru* A, CAD, A/2, 420b.

ND 2484 (IM 64061; Plate 17)

Transliteration

Obv.1' x x x x

šú-nu(-)ma x x

šarri be-lí-ia(-)ma x x [lì]b?-bi

tar-di-ti ul-tu e-le-ni

5' a-na muh-hi-šú-nu ul i-b[i]-ru-ni

ʽa^l-hu I[^ta] šá bāb bit-qa

[š]a? hu-uš-ši-e-ti

[ú-ha]-[a]š-ši-šu

Rev. ʽi^l-na lib-bi áš-bu

10' II LIM sisēmeš

ù XC ⁱsⁿarkabāti^{meš} it-ti-šú-nu

ul i-na iš-qi-šú-nu ki-i

áš-bu ul-tu e-le-nu

ke!-e-ma šak-nu um-ma

15' *pa-ni-ku-nu la am-mar šal-ta*
x-ka en-na a-du-ú
[il]-ta-nap-pa-ru-niš-šú
x-AB i-na-ši-[m]a
i-na KA di-ke-e-ma
 20' *i-na-ši am-me-ne*
x x x x x ...
 L.End x x ...

Translation

(3') the king my lord (4') within the *supplementary water* from upstream (5') they will not cross to them. (6'-8') On the other side of Bab-bitqa they are cutting reeds for reed huts; (9') they live in them. (10'-12') 2,000 horses (11') and 90 chariots (are) with them; (they are) not in their land allocation, as (13') they dwell *upstream*. (14') (This is) how they are located. Thus (I say), (15') 'I shall not see your face'. Strife (16') while (17') they keep sending messages to him (18') (19') concerning mustering (20'-22') he will bring. Why ?

Notes

Full length of tablet is preserved, but surface of top half of obv. is lost; rev. has only slight loss of text. One line on final end is represented only by minor traces. NB script.

4') *tar-di-ti*. See AHW, 1348a, *te/ardītu(m)*, 'Hinzufügung, Zusatz; Verstärkung'.

6') *bāb bit-qa*. Town on the lower Euphrates; for other refs. see SAA, 1, p. 236, apud Bab-bitqi.

14') *ke!-e-ma*. There has been no opportunity for collation of the first sign, but the context seems to make KI the only possibility. The word is tentatively taken as a further variant of *kīam* (CAD, K, 325b, AHW, 470a).

19') KA. One expects UGU, which was probably the intended reading.

ND 2611 (BSAI; Plate 17)

Transliteration

Face A

1' *x x x x x [... ..]*
šá x-ta a-na [... ..]
m.d₁nabû-ah-iddina^{na} x [... ..]
ù m₁kudurru(NÍG.DU) LÚ.M[U]? [... ..]
 5' *šá amēl^{bēl} pāhati šá āl_x [... ..]*
GIS.MÁ.MEŠ a-di GAR x [... ..]
ù XX^{kuš} maš-ki-r[u] [... ..]
ina ERIM.MEŠ ma-a'-du-t[u]? [... ..]
ina šá-lim-ti ki-i x [... ..]
 10' *ap-te-qid-šú a-na L[Ú]? x [... ..]*
šá ina kārī(KAR) x x [... ..]

Face B

1' *gab-bi ERIM.MEŠ ú-x*

- a-na šarri ul a-qab-[bi]*
it-tap-šú-ú man-nu x
i-na-áš-ši-u EN x
 5' *a-n[a] HI?-di-ia a-si*
an-ni i bi x x
u NE x x x
um-ma l[u]? x x
la te it ti
 10' *aš-šu tu qu šá?*
x-ta tu lu? x
šarru i-x x x
GIŠ x x x
... x i-n[a]
 15' *... x*

Translation

Face A

(5') of the governor of the city ... (6') ships together with (7') and twenty waterskins (8') in many troops (9') in security when (10') I appointed him as ...-official (11') who in the quay

Face B

(1') All the troops (2') to the king I shall not say (3') *were done*; who (4') they will bear

Notes

Fragment from left side of large tablet; text nowhere extends to the right beyond middle of lines, and in parts is less. NB script, mainly clear. Face A (taken as obv.) is markedly more curved in the horizontal plane than Face B.

A 2', B 11') *x-ta*. The most probable reading of the unidentified sign is KIL.

A 3') *it-tap-šú-ú*. Appears to be a rare N Pf. of *epēšu*; cf. GAG, parad.17.

ND 2626 (IM 64082; Plate 17)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [a-na šar]ri bēlī-ía
 [urad-ka] ^mMAN-dūri
 [lu šulmu^m]^u a-na šarri bēlī-a
 ... x ša ^āl.đsîn-šab-ši
 5 ...-ti-ia
 [ina p]ān šarri bēlī-a
^lú^l-sī-ri-bi
 ma-la ina ekal ma-šar-ti
 ma-la ina ^āl^lni-nu-u-a
 10 [L]Ú.[b]ēl di-e-ni

Rev.

1' [x] x la e-pu-[uš?/šu?]
 [x]? x amēlar-ba-a-a
 [ša] [šar]ru bēlī iq-bu-u-ni
 ... [am]ēlhi-in-da-na-a-a
 5' ... [h]a-an-ni-ti ú-si-bi-ra-šú-nu
 ...-šu la e-bi-ru-u-ni
 ... x am-me-te ina SAG!
 ... x-šur ina mu-da-bir
 ... x [n]u-me-e-ru
 10' ... ^ālhi-in-da-ni
 Top me-ia-ú

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Sharru-duri. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) ... of the city Sin-shabshi. (5) (6-7) I have brought into the presence of the king my lord. (8-9) As much as (there is) in the arsenal, as much as (there is) in Nineveh, (10) the adversary in court ...

Rev.

(1') ... *he/they* did not do (2') ... the Arabs (3') of whom the king my lord spoke, (4'-5') I made ... the people of Hindanu cross this ... (6') (when) they did not cross its ... (7') ... that in the head (8') in the wilderness (9') (10') the city Hindanu

Notes

Lacks base, top left corner, and much of left side. Bold NA script.

ND 2641 (BSAI; Plate 17)

Transliteration

Face A (Obv.)

1' ...-šú-nu x x x
 šá a-na a-[h]a-ti
 i-ri-ši x x x ú-ma
 um-ma e-x ... x
 5' i-ni-ši x ...
 ... x x ú x
 ... x lu-du?
 en-na ul-[t]u

Face B (Rev.)

1 m^zēr-ibni [ana p]a-an šarri
 be-lí-ía l[il]-lik
 ki-i x x a-na
 m^zēr-ibni x x ša

5 *qāt?* m.d_{x-x-x}
a-na DIŠ MA *x x* ...
ni-i[q]?-[*b*]u-u ... *x*
a-na a-ša-[*b*]i ...
 LÚ.x ... *ša u*[*l*]?-[*t*]u?

10 *x* ...

Side*

1 *lib-bi ša šarri be-lí-ía lu-u* ṭā[*b*](DÙ[G.GA])
 LÚ hu-ub-tú *ša šarri* ... *x x*
ul-la dān(KAL) *ebūri-šú-n*[*u*] ...

[The text is insufficiently preserved to provide a useful translation.]

Notes

Three fragments rejoined to give tablet with one end missing. Substantial losses around joins. Serious abrasion passim, especially on right half. 3 lines on left side. NB script.

Face A must be obv., since line 8' reads *en-na ul-tu*, which requires a continuation which the lines on the side do not supply.

Face A

3') *i-ri-ši*. Apparently 'he desired', but the *ša* in line 2' before *a-na a-ha-ti* demands a Subj. form, and *ši* cannot be a mis-reading for *šu*.

5') *i-ni-ši*. Apparently Pres. of *neṣû* 'to tear out'.

Face B

1-2) *mzēr-ibni* ... [*p*]a-an *šarri be-lí-ía l[il]-lik*. 'May Zer-ibni come into the presence of the king my lord.' [*p*]a, although damaged, is certain, and the traces of the penultimate sign conform to *l[il]* but do not permit *lul*. The words after *mzēr-ibni* cannot be the introductory formula *a-na di-na-an šarri lul-lik*.

6) DIŠ MA *x*. Could be I *ma-na*.

ND 2661 (BSAI; Plate 18; Photo Plate II)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *arad-ka* m[*x*]-*x-ha-ri*
a-na di-na-a[*n*] *šarri be-lí-ía lul*-[*l*]ik
um-ma-a a-na šarri be-lí-ía-a-ma
 ṭup-pi *a-na šulmu*^{mu} *šarri*
 5 *be-lí-ía al-tap-r*[*a*]
*a-na-ku dul-lu*₄ ...
 ù ki-[*i*] *x-x-x-an-n*[*i*]
šarru AŠ R[U] *x x x x x*
x x x ... *x* ...

Rev. and Top End

1' *x x x*
a-na šābē^{m[eš]}
ša a-di ki-t[*i*]?-*x* ...

ul i-tu-ru a-d[u]
 5' I ME *šābē^{meš} ina lib-bi-š[ú]*
a-na k[a]l-le-e šá šar[ri]
ul-ta-aš-bat ilāni^{meš}
šá šarri be-lí-ía lu-ú
 9' [i]l-du-ú ki-[i]l
 End *a-na-ku u AD-ía la*
 11' *amēlardānu^{a-nu} šá šarri be-l[i]-ía*
a-[n]a šarri la qa[b]-le-[e] :
 Side*
 1 *x šarru li-is-kil*
 *x-an-na mi-nu-ú*
 *[šulmu]^{mu} šá šarri be-lí-ía-m[a]?*
 *[t]e?-e-ma lu-mur-ma*

Translation

Obv.

(1) Your servant ...-hari. (2) May I go as substitute (in death) for the king my lord.

(3) Thus (I say) to the king my lord: (4-5) I have sent a tablet for the welfare of the king my lord. (6) I myself [*do*] the work ... (7) and if he ..., (8) the king

Rev. and Edge

(2') to the soldiers (3') which as far as (4') they will not return until (5'-7') I have organized a hundred troops therein for the royal messenger organization. (7'-11') The gods of the king my lord verily know that I and my father(s) are servants of the king my lord, (12'-Side 1a) [*that we have fought*] battles for the king.

Side*

(1b) let the king acquire (2) what (3) [*is the news of the wellbe*]ing of the king my lord? Let me see *a report*.

Notes

Top half to two-thirds of tablet. Obv. flat, rev. curved in both planes. Significant damage on obv. Four lines on left side, bottom to top. NB script.

Obv.

1) ^m[x]-x-ha-ri. Probably Abi-hari of ND 2357, obv. 7.

Rev. and Edge

4') *i-tu-ru*. The translation assumes that this is a defective writing for *iturrū*; otherwise it should be 'they did not return' and the verb in line 7 should be transliterated *ul-ta-aš-bít* and translated 'I organized'.

9'-10') *ki-[i]l ... la*. Taken as an example of *kī* instead of *šumma* in an oath for positive assertion; see GAG §185j.

10') *AD-ía*. In the context should represent a nominative. Unless a scribal error, this writing is likely to represent plural *abbē-ía*, a form which occurs for Nom. + 1 sg. pron. suf. in later dialects.

11') *be-l[i]-ía*. The final *-ía* is written on the side beyond the corner of the tablet, at right-angles to what precedes.

12') *qa[b]-le-^le^l* :. If this is correctly taken in the sense 'battles', it is assumed that the clause was completed by a verb on the lost first half of Side 1. The traces taken as the word divider are on the very corner of the tablet.

Side*

1) *li-is-kil*. CAD, S, 68b-69a, adduces *sakālu* A, characteristic vowel *-i-*, with the NB sense 'to acquire', which would be possible here.

ND 2667 (IM 64104; Plate 18)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *ara[d]-ka amēlšand[abakku](GÚ-[EN-NA])*
a-na di-na-an ša[rri bēlīya]
lu[l-li]k^ln[abû u^d]mar[duk]
a-na šarri be-li-i[a] li[k-r]u-b[u]
- 5 *um-ma-a a-na šarri be-l[i-ia qí-b]i-ma*
šá bīt aš-šu[r] [r]i-hi-it [š]a māti
a-na balāṭ(DIN) napšāti^{meš} šá šarri
be-lí-ia ul-te-bil ul-tu
šarru ina māti áš-bu a-na irti
- 10 *šá šar[ri] be-lí-i[a] LÚ.KA[L]?-x*
ú-še-bi ú-bal x ...
šarri be-lí-ía i[l]?-t[ap]?-[ra]?
x^{meš}-ia u a-... ..
[ša]? ^la-na d[a]-na-an
- 15 *... x ... x x ...*
... .. x ...

Rev.

- 1' *... x x x x*
[k]i-i pi-^li^l an-n[i]-^li^l ...
[q]i-b[i]-ma x x x?-ma
[u]l a[l-l]ik a-di x
- 5' *š[a]? na-gu-ú ^la^l-d[i]-[i]a? x x?*
x x na šú šá na-šu-ú x bil
^la^l-n[a]? x x? iš? en-na
a-mat šarri be-lí-ía a-na x-[s]u?
u x x šarri be-lí-ia
- 10' *a-da[g]-gal*

Translation

Obv.

(1-4) Your servant the Shandabakku-official. I would go as substitute (in death) for the king my lord. May Nabu and Marduk bless the king my lord.

(5) Say thus to the king my lord. (6-8) I have brought from the Ashur temple the offerings of the land for the sustenance of the king my lord. (8-11) Since the king dwells in the land, the *Kal*...-official *produces* (and) brings (food) in front of the king

my lord. He has [sent a message to] the king my lord. (13) My ... and ... (14) [which] for strength ... (15-16) [nothing intelligible]

Rev.

(2'-3') Say according to this order ... (4') I did not go as far as ... (5') of the enclave as far as ... (6') ... which were brought ... (7'-10') ... Now I shall observe the command of the king my lord for the ... and ... of the king by lord.

Notes

Tablet, broken and rejoined, with small fragment at bottom missing. 20 mm at end of rev. uninscribed. Substantial abrasion passim, but otherwise script is sound and clear. NB script.

Obv.

11) *ú-še-bi*. Tentatively taken as Š Pres. from (*w*)*apû(m)*, AHW, 1459a-b, Š 'hervorbringen', with voicing of the bilabial plosive.

11) *ú-bal*. The wedges constituting *ú* are indisputable, but faint apparent vestiges of further horizontals and small obliques (as represented in the copy) are probably either damage marks or remains of an incomplete erasure.

ND 2725 (= XXVI; IM 64137; Plate 6)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*

urad-ka maš-šur-mat-ka-tirra(GUR^{ra})

lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ia

šu-uh mātar-ma-a-a

5 *ša šarru iq-bu-ú-ni*

ma-a sinnišāti^{meš}

lu-šá-hi-zu-šú-nu

sinnišāti^{meš} ma-a ša

[ni]-ta-mar

10 *[šā]bē^{meš} a[r-ma-a-a]*

la i-ma-[gu-ru]

la i-du-[nu]

ma-a a-di k[as-p]u

i-da-nu-na-ši

15 *kas-pu li-di-nu-ni šú-nu*

šu-nu-ma li-hu-zu

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-matka-tirra. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) In the matter of the Aramaeans (5) of whom the king gave orders, (6-7) saying, 'Let them obtain women for them', (8-9) the women say: 'We have come to know that (10) the Aramaean people (11-12) are not willing to make payment; (13-14) they say, "(Not) until they give us silver." (15-16) Let them themselves hand over silver, (and then) they themselves may marry.'

Notes

Two pieces rejoined to give tablet complete except for small fragments from bottom corners left and right on obv. and top corner right on rev. Final 27 mm of rev. uninscribed. Clear NA script.

The exact sense depends upon who was speaking in lines 13-14. If the women were quoting what the men said, the Aramaean men were expecting silver to be provided (by the Government?) for the bride-price. If, however, the women were speaking for themselves in these two lines, they were refusing to marry until the men paid them silver. In either case, the women were saying in lines 15-16 that the men should at once pay from their own resources.

8-9) *ma-a ša [ni]-ta-mar*. For the translation of the verb, see CAD, A/2, 13a-b, *amāru* A 2d. Contrary to usage after *ša*, the verb is not Subj., which could suggest that *ma-a ša* is an erroneous reading for *ma-a-da!*, although the latter would be difficult to translate in the context.

13) *k[as-p]u*. A final horizontal at end of line precludes a restoration *a-di-n[i]*.

ND 2783 (= LIX; IM 64170; Plate 19)

Partly re-edited in TCAE, pp. 395-7.

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [a-na šar]ri be-lí-i[a]
[urad-ka m.^dl[D]N-P[AP]?(-)[x]?
[lu šulm[u]^{mu} a-n[a š]arri bē[lī-ia]
[a^l-[da]n-niš a-da[n-niš]
- 5 an-nu-rig lúMAH^{meš.ni} ša [m]āt[PN]
issu m.^dmarduk-iddina^{na} i[l-la-k[u-u?-ni?]
I ú-ru-ú ša sisē^{m[eš]}
issē^{et} [ú^l-[r]u-ú š[a] ANŠE.KU.DIN.MEŠ
gab-bi dib-bi-šú-nu ina muhhi x x x
- 10 ina muhhi ^{amel}urad ek[all]i ME[Š]? x x x x
aq-ṭi-ba-šú-nu mu-uk [a^l-x-...
EN ta-hu-me-ku-nu mu-uk ...
x x bat-te-bat-te-ku-nu x ...
x x [a^l-k[i]-[i] L[Ú]? SAG GI x ...
- 15 i-si-ia l[a]-a k[i]-nu ...
mu-u[k] e[k]-diš e-tam-ru m[a]-la x ...
mu-u[k] x x a-si-me ma-a i-ba-...
^{amel}ur[ad] e[kal]l^{m[eš]} ina a[li] m.^dGU₄-x ...
x x i s[u]-ri m[a]?-nu-ma x ...
- 20 ... x x x la a ...
... x x u[k]?-k[i] ...
... x x x x x ...
... x ...

Rev.

- 1' x [L]Ú?/[LUG]AL? x?
 *ālāni*^{meš.ni}
 x-ú-te ú?-x ...
la-a ú-[d]a?-u-ma il-ka-šú x ...
- 5' *sisē*^{meš} *issu libbi ālāni*^{meš.ni} *l[i-lik?-u?-ni?]*
an[a]-ku issu libbi ka[r]-me a-ha-[š]i-[n]i [x]? x x x
šarru be-lí ú-da BE RĪ x x [x]? x x x
gab-bu ha-tú an-nu-te [āl]āni^{meš.ni} x x-e
am-ma[r] šal-mu-ú-ni an-nu-te [i]t-[t]a-š]u
- 10' *a-na-ku-ma il-k[u] š[a] [šarri be-lí-í]a al-lak*
ma-da-tú gab-bu ma?-an-d[u?-d]a?-[a]t? x x-ku?
sisē^{meš} *ina muh-hi-ía x x x x x*
ú-ma-^la¹ an-nu-te ālāni^{meš.ni} *x x x x x*
it-t[a-š]u ana-[k]u sisē^{meš} *x x x*
- 15' *a-laq-qi šúm-ma ālāni*^{meš.ni} *l¹-[n]a-á[š]?-šú-^lú¹?-[ni]?*
sisē^{meš} *issu muh-hi-ía liš-x x x?*
[šú-n]u-ma lil-qi-^lú¹ x x x MEŠⁿ[i]?
*[a-n]a [ša]rri *bēlī-ía ú-qar-ri-b[u]?/b[a]? x x x x(-)šú-nu**
 ... ^lx¹ GAR.MEŠ TE ^lx¹ *[in]a? libbi x x [x]?-a*
- 20' x [t]u? x [š]arri b[e]-l[í-ía] ...
 [šarri] be-lí-[ía] ^lú¹-...
 [*mā*]^lbūt-h[a]-ban x ...

Side

- 1 ...-liš? *ba-s[i] t[u]-ša-kil ba-t[u]?-u x ...*
 ... x *šarru li[l]-l[i]-k[a]? [ana]? [āl]āni*^{meš.ni} ...
 ... x-u-ni *am-mar šal-mu-u-ni li-mur*

Translation

Obv.

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant DN-nasir-... May it be very well with the king my lord.

(5-8) Now, the MAH-officials of the land PN are coming with Marduk-iddina (with) one team of horses (and) one team of mules. (9-10) All their business concerning ... *I have passed on* for the servants of the palace. (11-13) I said to them thus: '... .. *the lord of* your boundary; around you (14-17) ... when the SAG-official ... is not just with me' *They* said: 'They met in furious encounter, as much as ...' *I* said: '... I heard, saying, ... (18-19) the servants of the palace of the town of PN at once' (20-23) [Nothing intelligible].

Rev.

(2') towns (3') (4') they did not know, his service ... (5') let horses come from within the villages, (6') I myself will provision (them) from the storage pile ... (7') the king my lord knows (8') are all *overthrown*. These villages, ... (9') as many as are at peace, they have taken. (10') I myself perform the service of the king my lord. (11') The entire tribute *is measured out* ... (12') horses for me (13'-14a) Now, they have taken these villages. (14b'-15a) I myself am

receiving horses ... (15b'-17a') If *they take* the villages, let them *carry off* the horses from me (and) take (them). (17b'-18') They brought near ... to the king my lord. (19'-21') [nothing significant is intelligible] (22') ... the land Bit-Haban

Side

(1) ... soon you made provision for ... (2) ... let the king come to the villages ... (3) ... may he see as much as is at peace.

Notes

Base broken away; much other damage at corners. Several extensive cracks. Some abrasion. Although much of the surface is damaged, most lines retain traces of most signs. The copy of obv. may possibly over-estimate the amount of lost surface to the right. Since collating the tablet in 1970 I have obtained some improved readings by studying photographs; study of the original tablet might well yield further improvements. NA script.

Obv.

12) EN. Taken as = *bēl*. J.N. Postgate suggests reading EN here with the value *adi*, when the translation would be 'as far as your boundary'.

18) ^{m.d}GU₄. Despite a crack, the sign seems certain. AMAR as part of AMAR.UTU is not possible. For ^dGU₄ = ^dšeriš see ABZ, p. 124.

Rev.

6') *ka[r]-me*. See CAD, K, 200a-b, *karammu* (*karmu*), 'storage area, pile (of barley)'.
6') *a-ha-[š]i-[n]i*. Reading adopted from TCAE, ad loc.

8') *ha-tú an-nu-te*. *ha-t* could be Stat. of *hatû(m)* II, AHW, 336b, 'niederschlagen'. TCAE, ad loc., proposes *ha-pi-la?-nu-te*.

11') *ma?-an-d[u?-d]a?-[a]t?* Uncertain, but if the reading is correct, this is 3 f. sg. St. D of *madādu*, 'is measured out'.

22') [^{mā}]*t*^{bīt}-*h[a]-ban*. In the Zagros foothills northeast of Babylonia; see RLA 4, 71-b, Hamban. See also ND 2411, 6.

ND 2786 (IM 64171; Plate 20)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na LÚ.A.BA ekalli x ...*

urad-ka ^mna-hi-ši-x ...

XXV UDU.MEŠ *a-na ^{m.d}marduk-ápla-iddi[na](M[U])*

a-ti-din : ina ^{ūme} VII ú-si-ši-šú

5 *na-ma-da-ti ša ^{iš}dalāti^{meš}*

ú-šab-bi-ti a-na be-lí-ía

ú-si-bi-la ina muhhi bīt SA.HI.A.ME

ša be-lí iš-pur-ra-ni ma-a

ki-i šá tal-tu-ku-ni

10 *i-ta-nu-ni-ka-a*

SA.HI.A ša ^{āl}dī-gi-ri-na

a-na-ku ú-si-rib

bi-it al-tu-ku-ni a-di-nu-ni

a-ki-i al-la-ka-ni

- 15 *a-na be-lí-ía a-qa-bi*
e-gir-tú šá ina muhhi lúAGRIG
be-lí iš-pur-ra-ni
ina muhhi qa-qí-ri ///
- 19 *š[a] [i]l-né-du-ni*
 Rev. *i-ta-na-x-[x]*
- 21 *ma-a a-na pa-an x x*
 LÚ.ŠÁM.MEŠ *ina lib-bi*
lu-u ka-mu-su
e-gir-tú ša ina muhhi
- 25 *amēlša muhhi āli be-lí*
ú-še-bi-la-ni
amēlša muhhi āli ina mātaš-šur
i-tal-ka be-lí
i-si-šú li-dí-bu-ub
- 30 *ina muhhi ri-šib-ti ša be-lí*
iš-pu-ra-ni ma-a issi
ú-ni-ni ri-šib-tú
ri-ši-bi ša la ú-ni-ni-e
ri-šib-tú a-ra-ši-bi
- 35 XXX *ti-ik-pi ak-ta-ra-ar*
 lúAGRIG *[f]é-ma e-ta-har*
ma-a ši-in-da ra-me-a
ma-a dul-lu dan šu-u

Translation

(1) To the Scribe of the Palace ... (2) your servant Nahishi-...

(3-4) I have delivered 25 sheep to Merodach-baladan. I sent him off on the seventh day.

(5-7) I have taken the measurements of the doors (and) have sent (them) to my lord. (7-8) Concerning the SA-house about which my lord sent me a message, saying, (9-10) 'When you checked, did they hand (it) over to you?', (11-12) I myself had the SA of the town Digirina brought in. (13-14) As to what I checked (and) handed over, I shall tell to my lord as soon as I come.

(16-19) (As to) the letter which my lord sent me about the steward, concerning the land which *they are leaving fallow*, (20-21) (22-23) bought people are staying therein.

(24-26) (About) the letter which my lord sent me concerning the Man over the City, (27-29) the Man over the City has come into the land of Assyria; let my lord speak with him.

(30-35) Concerning the construction about which my lord sent me a message, saying, 'Carry out the construction with *uninu*', I am carrying out the construction without *uninu*; I have laid 30 courses. (36-38) The steward has accepted a report. He says: 'Ease off (the stint) of brickwork; the work is hard.'

Notes

Complete tablet in good condition. NA script. Copied in Baghdad in 1954, but when asked for on a subsequent visit for collation, could not be found.

9, 13) *tal-tu-ku-ni*, *al-tu-ku-ni*. In both cases the *tu* is clear and undamaged; it is not a misreading for *li*. For *latāku* see CAD, L, 111a-112b.

9) *ki-i šá*. For usage see CAD, K, 320a, *kī* b, GAG §§116d, 178g.

10) *i-ta-nu-ni-ka-a*. 3 pl. Vent. Pf. *nadānu*, with 2 sg. pron. suf. in lengthened form, taken to denote question.

19) [i]l-*né-du-ni*. Tentatively taken as an unusual spelling for *inaddūni*, from *nadū*.

20) *i-ta-na-x-[x]*. Could be restored *i-ta-na-n[a-ši]*, ‘they have delivered (it) to us’.

32, 33) *ú-ni-ni*, *ú-ni-ni-e*. AHW, 1421a, *unnī/ēnu(m)* I ‘Flehen, Gebet’ might be possible here. AHW, 1418a, *umnīnu*, auch ... *unnīnu(m)* II ‘eine Kiste für Kleider, Waffen usw’ appears less likely.

36) ^{lú}AGRIG. On doubts as to whether in NA this is to be read *abarakku* or *mašennu* (*masennu*), see H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, 183, note 13.

37) *ši-in-da*. See CAD, Š, 197a, *šimdu* A, 3.

ND 2795 (BSAI; Plate 20; Photo Plate II)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*
 urad-ka^maš-šur-GIŠ-ka-dan-in
 lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ía
 ^d*aš-šur^d nin-lil a-na šarru bēlī-ía*
- 5 *lik-ru-bu ša šarru be-lí iš-puru-ni*
 ma-a ana pan^{amēl}x te-te-li-a
 *ma-a i-su-ri*
 *x e-te-bir*
 *x II ūmē^{meš}*
- 10 *x SAR.MEŠ*
- Rev.
- 1' *x x*
 *x-ma*
 *[am]ēl^{mār} [ši]pri-ma*
 *[l]i /// ka ///+[ME]Š*
- 5' AN[ŠE.PI]T.HAL.MEŠ *[ma]r i-ba-šú-ni*
 ^{amēl}*a-ru-mu ma[r š]u-tú-ni issu libbi āl^dadad*
 a-di āli šá ú-qi-mu-ta-a-a EN.NUN.MEŠ
 ap-t[i-q]i-di a-n[a-k]u a-sa-hu-ru
 e-t[e]-[bi]r x x x M[E]Š? i-ba-šú-ni
- 10' *x ... DINGIR.MEŠ [š]a [ša]rru SUM-nu-ni-ni*
 ... *x-kan-na-áš*

L.e. ... *x su-ha-a-a*
an-nu-ma dul-lu-šú

Left Side (bottom to top)

... [āli? ša? ú-[q]i?/[k]u?-mu-ta-a-a

Translation

Obv.

(1-5) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-nirka-danin. May it be well with the king my lord. May Ashur (and) Ninlil bless the king my lord.

(5-6) About that on which the king my lord sent a message, saying 'You shall go up before the ...-official', (7) (and) say: 'Perhaps (8) ...', ... he has crossed (9) two days (10)

Rev.

(3') a messenger (4') [*has come*]. (5'-8') I have posted (as) guards cavalry *as many as* there are, (and) as many Aramaeans as there are from inside the town of Adad (7'-8a') together with the town of the Uqimutaeans. (8b'-9') I myself have crossed back again. There are ... (10') ... the gods which the king gave me (11') ... (*he*) will force (them) into submission. (12') ... the Suhaeans. (13') This is his task.

Left Side

... .. [Uq]imutaeans.

Notes

Lacks all base and more than half of left half of tablet. A vertical fracture has, without splitting the fragment apart, left the first and second halves of lines rev. 5'-8' out of alignment. This has been corrected on the copy. NA script.

Core shows coiling of the clay very clearly.

Obv.

2) ^maš-šur-GIŠ-ka-dan-in. Turtan, eponym in 720 BC. The same name may occur in ABL 571, obv. 10, where Harper's copy shows ^maš-šur-GIŠ-... (11) ^{amēl}tur-tan. It is possible that this officer was the Turtan (BH Tartan) of Isa.20: 1 and of 2 Kgs.18: 17.

5) iš-puru-ni. For the value *puru* see Deller, Or.31, 19.

6) ^{amēl}x. The sign after LÚ is completely lost except for the tails of two final parallel horizontals, sufficient to show it is not MEŠ. DIŠ IGI cannot there be read I LIM, which would require a plural sign after LÚ.

Rev.

4') [l]i /// ka ///+[ME]Š. Between [l]i and ka the surface is smoothed down in a manner suggesting that there had been an erasure before ka was impressed. After ka there is a further erasure, with faint traces of an unidentifiable sign, and the lower half of an incompletely erased MEŠ. Presumably to be read [il-l]i-ka or [lil-l]i-ka.

6') ma[r š]u-tú-ni. For syntax cf. CAD, A/2, 69a, 2'.

8'-9') a-sa-hu-ru e-t[e]-[bi]r. Hendiadys. Does the first verb represent a sandhi form for *asahur u*, or does the final vowel imply a question?

10') SUM-nu-ni-ni. Taken to represent *ittannūnini*.

11') *x-kan-na-áš*. Either Pres. D of *kanāšu* I (AHw, 435b, 'sich unterwerfen', characteristic vowel *u* or *i*), or, less probably in the context, from *kanāšu* II (AHw, 436b, 'einsammeln').

Chapter Three

Letters relating to the North

Letters edited:

ND 2070, ND 2359, ND 2367, ND 2380+2386, ND 2384, ND 2402, ND 2427, ND 2433, ND 2434, ND 2439, ND 2445, ND 2448, ND 2453, ND 2454, ND 2463, ND 2487, ND 2488, ND 2608, ND 2631, ND 2635, ND 2648, ND 2655, ND 2673, ND 2677, ND 2696, ND 2701, ND 2709, ND 2720, ND 2755, ND 2772, ND 2798, ND 2799.

ND 2070 (= LXXXV; IM 63396; Plate 21)

See notes by K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 81.

Transliteration

- Obv. ʾa^l-na šarri bēlī-[ia]
 urad-ka m.^dDN-x-x
 [l]u šulmu^{mu} a-na šar[ri bēlī-ia]
 amēl^rab ālāni^{meš} x x [x]?
- 5 II-šú amēl^ršab šárri i-s[i-ri?-qu?]
 m^ha-lu [m]_x ...
 urd[āni]?^{meš} š[a] m.^{ʾd}1P[A]-D[U]?-P[AP]
 [amēl^rbēl] pāhati š[a] āl be-li-ia
 ʾú^l-sa-ha-li-qu-šú-nu
- 10 a-na ā^lú-pu-me
 i-ta-šu-šú-nu
 a-di a-šá-lu-ni
 ú-ši-šu-ni
 ra-di-ú ir-ti-da-ni
- 15 ša a-na mā^tšup-ri
 harrāna^{II}-šú šaknu^{nu}-ni a-ša-bat
 a-na amēl^rrēdi kib-si amēl^rmār šipri
 a-ti-di-ni mu-ku
- 19 a-lik a-mur x-[x]?-[h]u?-u
- Base šu-ú ina pa-a[n]
- 21 šarri la-qa-bi
- Rev. ú-la-a a-na-[k]a
 lu-ba-'a-šu
 mā^tšub-ri-a-a
- 25 issu pān amēl^rrēdi kib-si
 up-ta-zi-ri
 ma-a amēlu-ma la-a-šú
 ina pa-ni-ia urdu
 ša ^dnabú₃-mukīn-ahi₂

- 30 *e-ta-at-qa ma-a dul-lu*
šarri na-ša-ka ma-a
x-du-nu ta-ta-[l]ak
m[ātšu]b-[r]i-a-a

- 35 *amēl¹ra[b ā]lāni^m[eš] x x x AN*
ša ú-šá-ha-li-qu-šú-n[i]
mātšub-ri-a-a EN x x [x]?
šu-ú ina muh[hi]
bēlī-ia ú-x ...
- 40 *šarru be-lí*
a-li[k]?
ú-si-b[i]?-[la]?

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant PN. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-11) The Town Commandants of ... have in two instances *abducted* royal personnel, Halu [and PN], servants of Nabu-mukin-ahi, the governor of a city of my lord. They helped them to escape and conveyed them to Upume. (12-16) While I was making enquiries and searches, a guide led me, whose course was set for the land of Shubri. I duly took action. (17-19) I assigned a messenger to the Redi-kibsi official, saying: 'Go (and) look! *Where is* (20-23) he?' (He said): 'Am I to speak before the king (about it) or am I to search for him here?' (24-32) The Shubrian (ruler) has hidden (him) from the Redi-kibsi official, saying: 'The man in question is not in my presence.' The servant of Nabu-mukin-ahi has crossed (and come) back. He says: 'I perform the king's service. You have come ...' (33-39) The Shubrian ruler
 ... the Town Commandants ... who helped them to escape. The Subrian ruler is *a malefactor*. He has *acted* against my lord. (40) The king my lord (41) Go!
 ... (42) I *have sent*.

Notes

Two sections rejoined to form largely complete tablet. Lacks bottom right corner of rev. and has significant damage in area of join and to top right of obv. NA script.

2) m.^dDN-x x. The god-name could, but need not, be represented by DI.

4) x x [x]? These signs, almost wholly lost, presumably contained a place-name.

5) *i-s[i-ri?]-qu?*. Conjectural restoration.

7) m.^fd¹P[A]-D[U]-P[AP]. The traces are wholly consistent with this restoration, and the subject-matter shows that this must be the same name as in line 29.

10) *ālú-pu-me*. See K. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 107f.

13) *ú-ši-šu-ni*. Taken as 1 sg. Pret. Subj. *uššusu*, GAG §88h.

14) *ra-di-ú ir-ti-da-ni*. See K. Deller, *op.cit.*

15) *mātšup-ri*. There is no damage after *-ri* to suggest the original presence of a final *-a*. The land of Shupria lay between what is now Diyarbekr and Lake Van; see K. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 108.

19-20) *x-[x]?-[h]u?-u šu-ú*. An alternative restoration *a-[l]i* is possible, but this would leave the *-u* unexplained.

21, 23) *la-qa-bi, lu-ba-'a-šu. la-qa-bi* (as in ABL 633, rev. 9) is taken as 1 sg. Prec. for *laqbi*. The intervening *ú-la-a* suggests that the two verbs are to be taken in parallel. *a-na-ka lu-ba-'a-šu* 'Let me seek him here' can obviously not have been spoken by the writer of the letter, who knew that the fugitives had gone to Shubri. Both verbs are therefore taken as representing what the messenger is to say.

22) *a-na-[k]a*. Defective form of *annaka*, apparently not otherwise attested in NA.

27) *amēlu-ma*. *-ma* indicates emphasis.

29) ^d*nabû₃-mukîn-ahi₂*. The name ^{m.d}MUATI.DU.PAP has alternatively been read as Nabû-kin(a)-uṣur (APN, 152a; RLA, II, p. 426a); see also RLA II, 451b-452a).

34) This line was accidentally omitted in the original publication, and the minimal extant traces, insufficient to suggest any sign, are not shown in the present copy, which is a revised form of that originally published.

37) EN *x x [x]?*. The context obviously requires a term for 'offender' or 'traitor'. Possibilities for the lost word include *hiṭi*, *arni*, and *gillati*, but the traces preclude the first.

ND 2359 (= LXI; BSAI; Plate 19)

Transliteration

[About nine lines are lost at beginning.]

Obv.1' [XX] *si[sêmeš]*

pa-[n]i-ú-te ú-si-b[i-la]

ina ša-lu-ši-ni ki an-n[i-i]

ku-pu-u i-di-[i]n

5' *narāti^{meš} i-dan-na amelšābē^{meš}*

sisē^{meš} ša i-si-ia

ina ku-pe-e [m]é-e-tú

šu[m-m]a ū[m V]I KÁM

Rev. *šum-ma ūm VII KÁM š[a] arahni[sanni]*

10' *ina pān šarri be-lí-ía a-na-ku*

ša šarru be-lí iš-pur-an-ni

ma-a amelšābē^{meš} imērē^{meš}

i-si-ka lil-li-k[u-n]i

[h]u-u[b-t]u a-da-k[a-an-ni]?

[Up to twelve lines may be lost at end.]

Translation

(1'-2') ... I have brought the first [x hundred and] *twenty* horses. (3') In the year before last, like this one, (4') the cold was intense, (5') the rivers were high. Some horsemen (6') who were with me (7') are dead from the cold. (8') Either on the sixth (9') or on the seventh of Nisan (10') I shall be in the presence of the king my lord.

(11') About the matter on which the king my lord sent me instructions, (12') saying, 'Let the donkey-men (13') come with you', (14') the booty *until now* ...

Notes

Lower part (slightly less than half) of a tablet, brick red in colour. On obv. about half of original text remains, on rev. about one-third. There are some abrasions on obv. towards base, but text is otherwise largely clear. Core shows no indication of use of a different clay for surface. Obv. is markedly curved, rev. less so.

1') ... [XX]. The two oblique wedges represent either 20, or part of a group denoting 30, 40 or 50. Since the mention of casualties en route indicates that this was a large convoy, the group before [XX] was probably a numeral denoting hundreds.

4', 5') *i-di-[i]n ... i-dan-na*. Assyrian forms from *danānu*. Cf. ND 2700, A9', *ú-da-in*; ND 2777, 10, *i-di-in*.

5'-6') *amelšābēmeš sisēmeš*. Against taking this as 'troops (and) horses' is the parallel *amelšābēmeš imērēmeš*, which in the context can hardly mean 'troops (and) donkeys'.

8') *-m]a u[m]*. Despite the abrasion, there can have been no further sign between these two.

9') *arahni[sanni]*. The traces, although slight, admit no other reading.

11'-14') The writer, in addition to his duties in bringing a consignment of horses, had also received instructions to send booty by ass-caravan. This may have been an exceptional arrangement, necessitated by the bad weather.

ND 2367 (= LXII; IM 64013; Plate 21)

Re-edited SAA, 5, 74.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri be-lí-ia*

urad-ka^mmah-de-e

lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ia

kal-li-ú ša ni-da-nu-ni

5 *amēlqur-[b]u-ti ša il-lak-a[n-n]i*

ma-a [a^l]-bat šarri ši-i-ti

ma-a a-di ā[š]á-bi-ri-šú

lil-lik [AN]ŠE ša ina <pāni>-ia

u[g-d]a-me-ra šarru be-lí

10 *ú-da a-di ā^[l]šá-bi-ri-šú*

ú-ru-u la ú-k[al-la]

ša il-la[k]-ú-n[i]

la i-sa-hur-ú-ni

Base *anšef[ú]l-ra-te-ia*

15 *[ga]m-mu-ra*

Rev. *šarru be-lí lu ú-da*

ša ā^lkal-ha ú-ra[t]meš

nu-še-taq GIŠ.GI[GIR]

ú-ra-a-a amēlmu-[ki]l [appā]te([kušP]A)me[š]

20 *m.dnabú₃-u-a [amēl][q]ur-bu-ti*

a-di ā^[l]šá-bi-ri-šú

i-tal-[ka š]a ā^[l]šá-bi-ri-šú

[ú]l-š[e-ti-q]u šarru be-lí

25 *l[iš?-'a?-a]l liš-pu-ra*
m[a]-[a]l al-ka ina šēpē^{II.me-ia}
al-la-ka la-a narkabta
la ú-ra-a-a
la-a amēl^{mu-kil} appātē^{(kušPA^{meš})-ia}

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Maḥdē. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) (As to) the communication system which we provide, (5) a royal bodyguard who comes to me (6-8) says it is an order of the king that he should go as far as Shabirishu. (8-9) (But) the asses which are at my disposal are used up. (9-11) The king my lord knows that I do not keep a team (to go) as far as Shabirishu. (12-13) Those (mounts) which go (there) do not return. (14-15) My mounts are used up. (16) The king my lord certainly knows this.

(17-22a) We are transferring teams belonging to the Calah (run), (namely) a chariot, my (own) team, (and) a charioteer; they went (with) Nabua the royal bodyguard as far as Shabirishu, (22-23) (but) (the people) of Shabirishu let them go on (further). Let the king my lord (24) make enquiries. Should he (now) send a message (25-28) saying, 'Come!', I shall (have to) come on foot without a chariot, without my team (and) without my charioteer.

Notes

Tablet substantially complete, lacking fragment just above bottom right corner and with crack from this point to centre. NA script.

The northern geographical setting of this letter, a complaint alleging misuse of riding animals of the imperial communication system, is fixed by mention in line 7 of Shabirishu, on the way to Guzana.

2) ^m*mah-de-e*. SAA, 5, p. 62, n, suggests this was the official who was Governor of Nineveh in 725 BC.

4) *kal-li-ú*. CAD, K, 84a, 2, takes *kallû* (*kalliu*) as meaning 'messenger (as member of an organization with carried royal messages)'. But the term could equally well mean the organization itself, and where, as here, there is no determinative LÚ, this seems the better rendering.

4) *ni-da-nu-ni*. Contrary to a doubt expressed in *Iraq* 21, 173, collation shows this reading to be correct.

7, 10, 21, 22) *ālišá-bi-ri-šú*. A site on the route to Guzana; On the localization see Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 122-149, especially 145-149.

19) *amēl^{mu-[kil]} [appā]te^{([kušPA^{meš})]}*. SAA, 5, 74 restores *-ia* at end.

ND 2380+2396 (= LXXX+; BSAI; Plate 21)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na ša[rri] be-lí-[i]a*
urad-k[a mišdi(SUHUŠ)-libbi-āl[i]
lu-u šul^[mu^m] a-na šarri be-lí-ía

- x x x GIŠ.ŠAR ša ālki-šir-[t]e*
 5 [...] *x x x x x-[n]i?*
[ma]-a issu pān man-ni
ta-la[q-q]i issu pān
m^fa^l-[š]ur-[m]u-šal-lim
m.^dnergal₄-m[u]-šal-lim
 10 *ahhē^{meš} a[bī]-ia a-l[aq]-qi*
ad-d[i-i]n ^fa^l?-[n]a? ni-bit amē^lBILUL
ina bīt P[A]? ... x-ti
an-ni-t[u]? la k[it]-ti
ina l[ib]-bi x p[a]-an
 15 D[IŠ]? *x x x x ...*
 Rev.
 1' *a-na DIŠ.H[A]?-x*
UZU.SAG.DU.M[EŠ] ...
ša ālki-šir-te x x
šúm-ma la ki-e-tú ši-i-[t]e
 5' [š]arru *lu la i-qa-pá!-ni*
kal-bu a-na-ku
šarru be-lí a-[n]a ilāni^{meš.ni} kit-te
e-tap-ša-ni
a-na-ku la ki-e-te
 10' ^fa^l-[n]a *šar[ri] be-lí-ía*
^fa^l-š[á-p]a-ra
[ša]rru be-[l]í a-na mbēl-aha-ušur
a-na mⁱšdi-ahhē^{meš}[š]
liš-a-al
 15' *ma-a GIŠ.KI[RI]₆ ...*
a-a-^fú^l ina li[b]?-[bi]? ...
^fi^l?-... ..
- Side
 1 *issu x ...-[n]i a-na-ku ^fú^l-...*
ina libbi ... x te RI x ...
x x ... [LU]GAL? i[q]-[bu]?-[ni]?

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ishdi-libbi-ali. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) [Concerning] the garden of the town Kisirte, (5) (6-7) He said: 'From whom will you get (it)?' (7-11a) I will get (it) from my paternal uncles, Ashur-mushallim (and) Nergal-mushallim, (and) deliver. (11b) At the call of the butler (12-15) [Unclear]

Rev.

(1') to [PN] ... (2') skulls ... (3') of the town Kisirtu ... (4') Indeed it is true. (5') The king will certainly not believe me. (6') I am a dog. (7'-8') The king my lord has

wrought truth for the gods; (9'-11') would I send an untruthful message to the king my lord? (12'-14') Let the king my lord ask Bel-aha-usur (and) Ishdi-ahhe, (15'-16') saying: 'As to) the garden, has anyone within [it] ...?'

Side

(1) From I ... (2) within (3) ... [whatever] the king ordered.

Notes

Tablet lacking base and small piece of left side near top. Rejoined from four fragments. One of these fragments, ND 2396, providing the right three-quarters of lines obv. 1-5 and rev. 11'-16', has been joined since the original publication of ND 2380. NA script.

Obv.

4) *ālki-šir-[t]e*. Also in rev. 3'. AKA, 314, col.II, 58 locates this city in Zamua.

Rev.

4') *šúm-ma la*. For use in positive oath see GAG §185g.

4', 7', 9') *ki-e-tú, kit-te, ki-e-te*. For *kē/ītu* as a late variant of *kittu, kettu* see AHw, 494a. The context requires the form in 9' to be in a question.

5') *i-qa-pá!-ni*. The context requires this reading; *i-qa-ba-ni* would not be appropriate here.

ND 2384 (= IM 64020; Plate 22)

Transliteration

Obv. [ana šarri bēlīya]

[urad-ka ^mPN]

lu šu[l-mu]

a-na šarri bē[lī-ia]

5 a-dan-niš a-da[n-niš]

ša šarru be-lí i[š-p]ur-a[n-n]i

[m]a-a a-na am-me-ni

da-a-ka ina libbi ^mtal-ta-a

t[u]-bi-il

10 [a^l-ke-e ša-la [p]î

a[l-l]ak ana-ku x ...

i[na]? [lī]b?-bi-šú ú-q[a](-)...

... .. DIŠ? T[U] Ú ...

14 x ...

Base ... [l]a a-na

16 ... [šar]ru be-l[î]

Rev. [t]a? x

... .. [l]i x

... .. [a]?-na KUR É x ...

20 [i]t?-ta-lak : šu x ...

x x UD U x ra x

ina lib-[b]i ša LUGAL

i[k?-t]a-am-me

IV *ālāni*^{meš.ni} i-s[a]-rap

25 *u am[ēl]šābēme maššarātīme*
ša [ina āl]āni^{meš} i-du-ak
 [I]I [M]E U[DU].HI.A.ME *x ... x*
 *x*

Translation

[(1-2) To the king my lord your servant PN]. (3-5) May it be very very well with the king my lord.

(6) About (the matter on which) the king my lord sent me a message, (7-9) saying, ‘Why did you *scheme to kill* Talta?’, (10-11) how can I myself act without an order? ... (12) I am waiting *thereon*. (13-15) [fragmentary] (16) ... the king my lord ... (17-18) [fragmentary] (19) ... *to the land É*-... (20) he has gone: ... (21) ... of day 12 ... (22-23) He *took captive* within what belongs to the king. (24) He has burnt four towns, (25-26) and he is killing soldiers of the guard-posts who are in the towns. (27) 200 sheep (28)

Notes

Lacks top and fragments from each of the bottom corners. Surface cracked and burnt black in parts. Some abrasion. NA script.

7-9) *a-na am-me-ni da-a-ka ina libbi^{mtal-ta-a t[u]-bi-il}*. The translation is based on usage in CAD, A/1, 21a-22a, *abālu* 5d. Talta (or Dalta), king of Ellipi, brought tribute in 737 BC, later rebelled and afterwards became staunchly pro-Assyrian; see summary in A. Fuchs, *Inschr. Sargons II* (1994), 408f. The suggestion in this letter, that the writer had planned to kill Talta, seems to point to a time when commanders in the field doubted Talta’s loyalty, although the central authorities knew that his sympathies lay with Assyria. One possible period for this was in Sargon’s sixth *palū*, when Talta was invited to become suzerain of rebellious Harhar (see A. Fuchs, *op.cit.*, 103f, §§96-96a). Circumstances may have permitted differing views on whether the burning of towns and the killings mentioned in 22-26 of the present letter were at the instigation of Talta or by rebels from Harhar against his orders.

21) *x x UD U x ra x*. The traces do not favour a restoration *ʿil-d[a]-tú-u-ʿal* ‘at my side’. A more probable reading is *x ša UD XII*.

23) *i[k?-t]a-am-me*. The first sign is damaged beyond recognition. A possible alternative reading is *u[r?-t]a-am-me*, ‘he left behind’.

ND 2402 (BSAI; Plate 22)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na [ša]rri bēlī-[i]a*
urad-ka^{mšulmu^{mu}-bēl}
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēli-ía
amēl^{rab} HAL.ŠU^{meš} mā^rTILLA.KI-a-a

5 *ša amēl^{bēl} pāhati ša ālkal-hi*
na-ša-ni ina āl^{arba-īl} šú-nu
[k]i-ma-a lu-u šú-nu ina ālkal-hi

di!-ik-šú-nu me-nu ša šarru
... x [x] x x [n]i

Rev.

1' *x x x x x [š]a ša[r]ru bē[lī]*
ᵀi!-[q]a-b)u-ni

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Shulmu-bel. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-6) The Chiefs of the fortresses of the land of the Urartians, whom the governor of Calah brought, are in Erbil. (7-8) As soon as they are (there), move them into Calah.

(8-9) Whatever the king

Rev.

(1'-2') that the king my lord commands.

Notes

Top half of tablet, in fair condition. Final 30 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

This tablet indicates that the fortress-commanders on the Urartian frontier came under the governor of Calah, and were centred on Erbil.

Obv.

4) *māᵀTILLA.KI-a-a*. Although forms with and without KI are conventionally distinguished as referring to Akkad and Urarᵀu respectively (cf. Borger, ABZ, no.359), the reference to border fortresses strongly suggests that here, even with KI, the reference must be to Urarᵀu.

8) *di!-ik-šú-nu*. Although the first sign is odd in form, only DI can be intended.

ND 2427 (BSAI; Plate 22)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-n[a šar]ri b[ēli-ia]*
urad-k[a] x

lu šulmu^{mu} ᵀa^l-n[a] šar[ri] bēli-ia
šulmu^{mu} a-na māᵀi

5 *a-[n]a na-g[i]-e*
a-n[a] ma-[t]a-te
[gab]-[b]i-[šu-u]n

[Three to five lines are lost on both obv. and rev.]

Rev.

1' *L[Ú] x x x u?*
ā^lši-ni-na-h[a]-a-a
L[Ú].šab-ta ina mu[hhi] šarri
bēli-ia ú-si-bi-la

5' *šu-uh amē^lnakru*
ša šarru bēli i[š]-mu-ni

*amēl*b[ēl] *pāhati*
 Top [š]a ^ā[l][t]a-a-s[i]
 šu-ú-t[u]
 Side*
 1 x ra-me-ni-šú
 x

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant [PN].

(3) May it be well with the king my lord. (4-7) It is well with the land, (and) with all the regions (and) lands.

Rev.

(2'-4') A man of the town Sininaha has brought a prisoner for the king my lord. (5'-6') As to the enemy of whom the king my lord heard, (7'-8') it is the governor of the city Tasi.

Notes

Top (half or more) of tablet rejoined from 3 fragments. Has some damage, mainly at beginning of obv. Obv. is rather more curved in the vertical plane than rev. Deep clear NA script.

The two place-names (rev. 2', 8') both point to the Urartian sphere.

Rev.

2') *ālš*i-ni-na-h[a]-a-a. König, *Handbuch der Chaldischen Inschriften*, 214, enters several Urartian place-names containing the sequence *ši-ni*, although since in all cases these are at the end of a name and *-ni* is a postpositional morpheme, these are not necessarily relevant here. Note also that the group *šini* occurs in an Urartian god-name, op.cit., 213.

8') ^ā[l][t]a-a-s[i]. A city on the Urartian frontier. See F.W. König, *Handbuch der Chaldischen Inschriften* (= AfO Beiheft 8, 1955-57), p. 132a, Inschrift 104 VIII, URU. *Ta-a-še-e*. Mentioned by Tiglath-Pileser III as one of the fortress of Urartu annexed to Assyria; see H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, p. 126, Summ.1: 34; p. 184, Summ.9: obv. 18'. See also SAA, 1, p. 239.

Side

2) x. This could be *šú-tú* with damage.

ND 2433 (= XCIX; IM 64038; Plate 23)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 a-na *am*[ēl]nagīr ek[al]li bēlī-ía
 ura[d]-ka ^maš-šur-nat-kil
 l[u]-u šulmu^{mu} a-na bēlī-ia
 *amēl*bēl *pāhati* ša *māt*urartā(KUR.TILLA)-a-a
 5 ina *āl*me-ši e-li-[a]
 ina [muh]hi bir-te : x ša x ...

- x e-mid x x x ...*
ina pe-e š[a] amēl bēl [āli]
ša āl me-ši ʿ:ʿ? x x ...
- 10 *ka-ra-x x ši-bu x ...*
ina lib-bi amēl bēl ālāni meš
ša ba-ta-ba-tu-šú x ...
 [U]RU? AD? *lu-ur-ma-a-a ...?*
x a-na i[l]-ki ina mātura[r̄ti](KUR.TIL[LA]) ša-...
- Rev.
 1' *x*
 *x š[a]?* ...
 *x AN a x* ...
 *x u te* ...
- 5' *x ... la x x ...*
ina muh[hi] māú-ka-a-ʿa¹
ina muhhi ta-hu-me : x ...
ša-a-su : aq-ṭi-[ba]
nu-uk a-ta-a : āl ...
- 10' *ta-ka-ša-da x ...*
ma-a bēl ša-si-ia šú-[u]?
aq-ṭi-ba-āš-šú : nu-uk
amēl šal-lu-tú : bi-la ...
a-na mā ʿú¹-ka-a-a : x ...?
- 15' *nu-uk : a-ta-a qa-la-[ta]?*
māt urarṭa(KUR.TILLA)-a-a ina ta-hu-me ša amēl^x x
āl bir-tú i-ša-bat
- Top *n[u-u]k amēl bēl ālāni meš*
ša ba-te-ba-tu-ka
- 20' *i-si-ka li-il-qí*
i-si-šú-nu na-hi-ši
- Side*
 22' ... *x-a šúm-mu amēl e-mu-qi*
 ... *x-ka [m]a-a : a-la-ka itti-šú-nu*
a-ma-ha-ša

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the Herald of the Palace, my lord, your servant Ashur-natkil. May it be well with my lord.

(4-5) A governor of the Urartians came up into the city Mesi. (6-7) He stood against the fortress ... (8-9a) At the order of the city ruler of Mesi (9b-10) [badly damaged] (11-12) Amongst the city rulers of his region, (13) [doubtful reading] (14) [were conscripted] to feudal service in the land Urartu.

Rev.

(1'-5') [fragmentary] (6') against the people of the land Ukku, (7') against the boundary ... (8'-10') battle. I said: 'Why are you attacking [Mesi]?' [He answered]:

(11'-13') 'It is my enemy.' I said to him: 'Bring booty.' (14'-17') To the people of the land Ukku [I said]: 'Why do you remain inactive? The Urartian is inside the border of the *City Ruler*. He is taking the fortress.' (18'-20') I said: 'Let him take with you the city rulers of the region around you. (21') With them he is ...

Side*

(22'-24') ... If the forces *come*, I will go with you (and) fight.'

Notes

Lacks bottom and most of right side. Although most of the text is legible, abrasion makes recognition of some signs difficult or impossible. There are 3 lines on left side, with beginning of lines nearest to beginning of rev. NA script.

Obv.

10) *ka-ra-x x*. One expects a form from *karašu* 'camp, expeditionary force', but the traces of the unidentified signs do not appear to yield anything appropriate.

13) [U]RU? AD? *lu-ur-ma-a-a*. One hesitates to read *ād-lu-ur-ma-a-a*, which would be based on an unknown and improbable place-name.

Rev.

6', 14') *mātú-ka-a-a*. The Ukkaeans were permanent clients neither of Urartu nor of Assyria (ABL 145, obv. 4-8), but according to circumstances were prepared to support Assyria (ABL 197, obv. 8-12) or to show friendship to Urartu (ABL 101, obv. 7-8). In the present letter the writer is attempting to induce a pro-Assyrian stance by the Ukkaeans, on the ground that Urartu had transgressed their boundaries and that if they resisted Assyria would aid them.

8', 11') *ša-a-su, ša-si-ia*. NA forms from *šaltu* 'battle'.

10') *ta-ka-ša-da x*. The two wedges at the beginning of the unidentified group are not *nu* and probably not a word-divider.

21') *na-hi-ši*. This reading has been collated, and is beyond doubt. Is it a dialectical variant of *na-hi-si*, meaning 'he is in retreat', or, as J.N. Postgate kindly suggests, N Impv. of *mahāšu*?

ND 2434 (= XCVII; IM 64039; Plate 22)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-[ia]*

urad-ka ^{m.dPA-x-[x]}

lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na bēlī-[ia]

^d*nabû* ^d*marduk a-na ša[rrī]*

5 *b[ē]lī-ia lik-ru-bu*

ša bēlī tē-e-mu

iš-ku-na-ni-ni šu-uh

mātul-lu-ba-a-a

ša ina pa-an ^{m.d}*énurta-ila-a-a*

10 ^l*a*^l-*sa-al ša aš-bu-t[ú-ni]*

x-r[i]?-[i]m? mu-tē-e-šú

^{[šulmu^m]^u a-dan-niš}

Base ^{[māt^u]^l-^l*l*-^l*u*-^l*b*-^l*a-a-a*}

- 14 [ina]? [ū]m [X]XVII KA[M]
 Rev. na x x
 16 III ME LIM
 [ina] āl^lkāl-zi šu-^lú^l-tú-n[i]
 [am]ē^le-mu-qi x x
 x iq-ba-šú-[ni]?
 20 [x] x-[š]ú? mar-di-^la^l-t[i]
^lú^l-kal i-ša[p-ra?]
 a-na-ku mu-še-ši-x
 e-ta-pa-áš x [x]?
 e-te-ti-i[q]

Translation

(1-5) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-... May it be well with my lord. May Nabu and Marduk bless the king my lord.

(6-10a) (On the matter on) which my lord sent me instruction, I have made enquiries concerning the Ullubaeans who are at the disposal of Enurta-ilaya. (10b) (As to that) which I was concerned with, (11) its deficiency. (12-14) (It is) very well. The Ullubaeans on the 27th day (15) (16) [The troops] 300,000 (of them), (17) are in Kalzu. (18) the forces (19) which he said to him (20-21) he controls the road stages, he has sent a message. (22-24) I myself have made a way out, I have passed through.

Notes

Tablet largely complete except for top right corner and some damage at bottom and at both sides of rev. Surface rather cracked. Last 1 cm of rev. unscribed. Some flakes of surface have fallen off since the copy was made. NA script.

8-9) See Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 174.

8, 13) *mātu^lul-lu-ba-a-a*. Since Tiglath-Pileser III conquered Ullubu and settled people there in 739 BC (H. Tadmor, *Tiglath-Pileser III*, p. 63, note on nn.19*: 12), this letter must be subsequent to that date.

11) *x-r[i]?*-[i]m? The copy originally published was substantially correct; the transliteration proposed in *Iraq* 36, 204 is not possible.

16) III ME LIM. If this referred to troop numbers, it must have covered the major part of the Assyrian army.

17) [ina]. There is space in the break at the beginning of the line for *ina*, but not for *ša ina*.

17) *āl^lkāl-zi*. A major marshalling point for troops going east, about 30 miles east of Calah. This, and the apparent mention of a huge army, suggests preparations for a major campaign, though whether against Urartu or southwards into Babylonia is not made clear.

22) *mu-še-ši-x*. See CAD, M/2, 268a, *mušēšû* A, 2, but a meaning 'outlet canal' does not appear appropriate in the context.

ND 2439 (= IM 64043; Plate 23)

Transliteration

- Obv. 𐎠𐎡𐎴-𐎠𐎢𐎺𐎠 𐎲𐎠𐎫𐎲𐎠 𐎡𐎠𐎢𐎠-𐎠𐎢𐎺𐎠 𐎠𐎢𐎺𐎠 𐎲𐎠𐎫𐎲𐎠^{mu}
 [ur]ad-k[a] m^bbag-te-šup
-
- x ... x ahū-ú-a
 x x pānī-ú x [E]N
- 5 l[u]?(-)ú š[a]? pā[n]? [ša]rri bēlī-ía
 x x x x ... x
 x x
 𐎠𐎢-𐎠𐎢[ú]?-𐎠𐎢[í]? x x x
 i-x-x-a-a x ... x
- 10 x x x [LU]GAL E[N] x x l[i]?-l[i]?-k[a]?
 x x x x x x-šú
 x x x x ... x r[u]-[ú]!?-a
 EN x x ni x x x K[U]?/K[I]?
 EN x x-te-ia
- 15 pa-n[i]-šú 𐎠𐎢-𐎠𐎢-𐎠𐎢[an]
 i-n[a] pānī-𐎠𐎢 a x x x ME[Š]?
 Rev. ša[rri] bēlī ú-[d]a pa-ni-šú
 ina muhhi-i[a] ú-ma-a
 tu-ra LÚ.SA[G]??A i-ta-lak
- 20 i-hab/p-b/pu-ra al-la-ka
 la ú-ra[m]-ma
 ina libbi āli a[r-g]u?-e?
 x-hur NI-li al-la-ka
 šarru dul-li i-la-'a-ni
- 25 li-pu-uš

Translation

(1-2) To [the king my lord]. May it be well. Your servant Bag-Teshup.

(3) my brother (4) ... front ... lord (5) *verily in the presence* of the king my lord (6-7) [nothing intelligible] (8) *perhaps* (9) (10) ... *let* the king my lord *come* ...

(11-14) [nothing intelligible] (15) he directed his course. (16) In my presence (17) The king my lord knows (this). His face (18) (is) against me. Now (19) again the ...-official has come back. (20) He will ..., I shall go. (21) I shall not ... and (22) within the city *Argue* (23) I shall go. (24) The king *is capable of* the task, (25) let him do (it).

Notes

Tablet complete, but with cracks. Obv. is so severely abraded as to be almost totally illegible, and since it is often difficult to distinguish between traces of wedge and damage marks, the copy here may be less reliable than usual. Last 30 mm of rev. uninscribed. The corners are square, and the base is so square that the tablet will stand on it. 16 lines of text on obv., 9 on rev.

- 1) *lu šulmu^{mu}*. The position of this greeting is anomalous but it has a precedent in ABL 215, from a person with the same Urartian name. Bag-Teshup was apparently an Urartian acting as a spy for Assyria.
- 12) *x r[u]-[ú]?*-*a*. This could be the ethnicon for one of the Aramaean groups, if the unidentified sign were LÚ.
- 20) *i-hab/p-b/pu-ra*. The lexica list no verb *hab/pāru* or *heb/pēru* with characteristic vowel -*u*-.
- 21) *ú-ra[m]-ma*. Could be from *rāmu(m)* II D (AHw, 952b); for *urabma* (see GAG §27c) from *rābu(m)* I D (AHw, 936b); or Pret. Vent. from *arû* A (*warû*) (CAD, A/2, 313a-314b).
- 23) *x-hur*. Possible restorations include *am-hur* and *ah-hur*, but the traces of the first sign appear to exclude both *am* and *ah*.
- 23) NI-*li*. Neither the reading *ni-li* nor *šal-li* makes obvious sense here.
- 24) *i-la-'a-ni*. The ending -*ni* is anomalous for 3 m. sg. Indic., and J.N. Postgate proposes reading *dul-li i-la-'u-ni le-pu-uš*, 'let the king do the work he can'.

ND 2445 (BSAI; Plate 23)

Transliteration

Face A (Obv.?)

- 1' *x x x . . .*
 a-tu-r[i] x SI.MEŠ [ú]l-ta-gi-ir
 a-sa-rap ŠE.x.MEŠ a-ta-ta-ha
 ina ^āl x x [a]k-ta-ra-ra
- 5' *amēlšá bīt ku-dini i-ta-al-ka ma-a*
 šal-[l]u-u-[t]ú? ina ^{mā}l ma-za-mu-u-a
 lu-u tam/tú-ri-x ma-a mṭebēta-a-a
 ú-na-ma-aš a-sap-ra an-nu-ri[g]
 ú-ra-du-u-ni ár-hi-i[š]
- 10' *[šarru]? [bē]li liš-p[u]-ra lu-u-na-me-š[a]?*
 . . . x x x GAR.MEŠ x
 x [x] x x . . .

Face B (Rev.?)

- 1' *x x n[a]*
 a-na DIŠ.[DI]NGIR x
 a-na DI[Š].DINGIR x [a]k? du . . .
 a-n[a] [DI]Š x ba-di . . .
- 5' *pa-a[n] x i x . . .*
 a-t[a]-t[a]-har-u-ni . . .
 x x x ni DIŠ.DING[IR] x . . .
 x x x [x]? ka-d[u]? x . . .
- 9'-11' [no certain sign]

Translation

Obv.

(2'-3') ... I twisted, I burnt. I brought the ...-grain, I stored it in the town ... (5')
The Mule-Stable-Inspector came, saying: (6') '... in the land Mazamua, (7'-9') ...
... Tebetaya will set out. I have sent a message. Now they will come down quickly.'

(10') Let *the king* my lord send a message; let me (be the one to) set out.

Rev.

(2') To PN ... (3') to PN ... (4') to PN ... (5') in the presence of ...
[which] (6') I received ...

Notes

Piece from largish tablet, with top and bottom missing. The text on the flatter side (Face A, Obv.?) has 12 lines, most of them complete or nearly so. The text on the more curved side (Face B, Rev.?) has 11 partial lines, with very little intelligible. Some of the wedges drawn in the copy are not easily recognizable with the naked eye, and were only recovered with the use of a binocular microscope. NA script.

Face A (Obv.?)

2') x SI.MEŠ. The traces do not suggest, and scarcely permit, GIŠ.MÁ.MEŠ.

5') *amēlšá bīt ku-dini*. See AHW, 499a. Although this means lit. 'man (in charge) of the mule-stable', by the time of Sargon II at least, this official was clearly a senior military administrator whose duties far surpassed the implications of the title; see, e.g., ABL 245 obv. 4, 312 rev. 9 (= SAA, 5, nos.79 and 200).

6') *mātma-za-mu-u-a*. For possible identity with a province centred on site of modern Sulaimaniya see SAA, 5, p. 247. For deportation of Aramaeans to Mazamua see H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, pp. 44-45, Ann.9: 9-10.

7') *tam/tú-ri-x*. One expects here a verb meaning approximately 'you shall deal with' or 'you have dealt with'.

Face B (Rev.?)

3') x [a]k? *du* ... The loss of a chip has now removed almost all of *du*, which was present when the tablet was first copied.

ND 2448 (= LXXV; BSAI; Plate 24)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-na ša]rri bēli-ia

[ur]ad-ka maš-šur-lē' ū

*amēl*rab bīti i-tal-ka

ina āl^bbir-du-nu

5 e-ta-ra-ba

*amēl*e-mu-qi rapšūti(DAGAL)^{meš}///

am-mar i-pa-ar-ši-d[u-ni]

ú-di-ni a-na a-ha-i[š]

la-a i-pa-hu-ru

10 [a]m-mar GAZ.MEŠⁿⁱ

[a]m-mar hab-tu-ú-ni

[b]a-tiq-tú la-a ni-šá-[me]

[am]ēl^lmār šip-ri ša šarri
 [bēlī]-ia
 15 ... ¹m¹.d^denurta-ila-a-a
 Base [...] -[t]a-k[i]?/q[i]?
 Rev. [...] ... x-[q]i?
 x
 x
 20 x-[n]i?
 x

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-le'u.

(3-5) The majordomo has come and entered Birdunu. (6) The numerous troops, (7) as many as fled, (8-9) are not yet gathering together. (10) (As to) how many were killed, (11) (and) how many were taken prisoner, (12) we are not hearing. (13-14) The messenger of the king my lord, (15) Enurta-ilaya, (16-21) [too fragmentary for translation]

Notes

Lacks small piece at top left corner, bigger piece at bottom left corner, and part of right side. Extant text on obv. is very clear. Ends only of about five lines are extant on rev., of which at least the last 32 mm is unscribed. NA script.

2) ^maš-šur-le'û. This cannot be the person of this name who was a troublesome ruler of Karalla in the reign of Sargon; for refs. see A. Fuchs, *Inscr. Sargons II.*, 407.

4) ^āl^lbir-du-nu. See also p. 117, ND 2453, 6.

6) ^rapšūti^{meš}///. The erasure, over-written by MEŠ, shows traces of the end of a sign plus a partially erased MEŠ.

8) a-ha-i[š]. Reading due to J.N. Postgate.

10, 11) [a]m-mar. Lit. 'as many as', but translated ad sensum.

12) [b]a-tiq-tú la-a ni-šá-[me]. Thanks are due to J.N. Postgate for the restoration of the verb. *batiqtu* = 'accusation' is inappropriate here, where one expects some further reference to those just mentioned who had been killed or taken prisoner. The tentative translation assumes that *batiqtu* is f. of AHW, 115a, *batqu(m)* I, 'abgerissen'.

15) ¹m¹.d^denurta-ila-a-a. Name borne by the eponym for 736 BC, the governor of Našibina (RLA, II, 424-5 and 431), and by the eponym for 722 BC (RLA, II, 424-5).

ND 2453 (= XLVIII; BSAI; Plate 23)

Re-edited in K. Deller, 'Ausgewählte neuassyrische Briefe', *Incunabula Graeca*, LXXVIII, Rome, 1984, 111f., 4.4.

Transliteration

Obv. [a-na šarri bēlīya]
 [urad-ka ^mPN]
 [l]u š[ulmu^{mu}] [a-na] bēli-[i]a
 ina ^āl^lir-ru-un aq-ṭí-rib
 5 uš-še ak-ra-ra

- al-lik ina āl*bir-du-nu
uš-še ak-ra-ra
ú-na-ma-šá ú-ša-a
i-su-ri šarru bēlī
 10 *i-qa-bi m[a]-a mī-nu*
ṭè-e-mu ša mā^turartī
mā^te-ti-ni-a-a
šini-šú ina muh-hi-šú i-zu-qu-pu
[d]i-ik-tu-šú i-du-ak
 15 *[h]u-ub-tu-šú : ih-tab-at*
 Base *[š]al-šu-///-ti-šú ina muh-hi-šú*
[U]R-su m^{ur}-sa-a
issu ā^t[u]-ru-u[š]-pa
 Rev. *i[t]?-ta-ši-ra!*
 20 *ina? mu[hhi]? mā^te-ti-ni-a-a*
[a]h?-[h]ur il-la-ka
[k]i-i a-na-ku ina ā^tsu-ru-du-ri-a-ni
ṭe^l-ru-bu-u-ni
ina mu[hhi] ā^lāni^{meš} ša ba-ti am-m[ī]-te
 25 *ša nār*za-ba az-qu-pu-u-ni
ša kil-li ina muhhi m^{ur}-sa-a
i-tal-k[a] ma-a amē^le-mu-qi
ša šár mā^taš-šur a-na šalāši-šú
ina mu[h]-hi-k[a] il-la-ku-u-ni
 30 *x x? x x x x [KA]SKAL*

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant PN. May if be well with my lord.

(4-5) I approached Irrun; I laid the foundations. (6-7) I went into Birdunu; I laid the foundations. (8) I am moving on; I am going out.

(9-11) Perhaps the king my lord will say: ‘What is the report about Urartu?’ (13) Twice the Etinaeans have made an uprising against him (i.e., the king of Urartu). (14) They (i.e., the Etinaeans, *lit.* he) are causing him (the king of Urartu) military losses. (15) They have plundered him. (16-17) For a third time *they are joining up* against him. (17-19) Ursa has come straight from Turushpa, (20-21) (and) is going yet again against the Etinaeans. (22-23) When I myself entered into Suruduriani, (24-25) for the towns which I planted on that side of the Zab, (26-27) a prisoner came concerning Ursa. He said: (27-30) ‘When the forces of Assyria go for you for the third time, *I myself will show you the route.*’

Notes

Tablet with top missing, otherwise complete, with clear script and little significant damage. Cleaning since publication of editio princeps has removed doubt from some signs, and a new copy is now offered. NA script.

This letters reports on security problems facing the ruler of Urartu.

4) *ālir-ru-un*. Almost certainly thus, and not *āl^lsa-ru-un* as in editio princeps, since the upper horizontal of the first sign of the name begins only minimally to the right of the beginning of the lower horizontal.

5, 7) *ak-ra-ra*. Deller, op.cit., reads *aka-ra-ra*, Pres. tense, and translates accordingly.

13) *i-zu-qu-pu*. See CAD, Z, 55a, *zaqāpu*. The present passage, which shows that the action *zaqāpu* led to fighting, indicates that the verb could carry a nuance of more positive hostility than the 'to take up a position' proposed in CAD. Deller, op.cit., takes as 3 m. sg. Pf. with overhanging vowel, and argues that the subject in 17 (*^mur-sa-a*) is also the subject of 12-13, so that it was Ursa who had attacked the Etinaeans.

16) [*š*] *al-šu-///-ti-šú*. Traces of two very small horizontals and part of a third wedge between *šu* and *ti* are probably the remains of an incompletely erased sign. For *šalšūti*-see AHw, 1150b.

16) *muh-hi-šú*. The *šú*, just into the edge from the bottom right corner of obv., was not evident in 1954 and is therefore lacking from the copy in editio princeps, but after cleaning is certain.

17) [U]R-*su*. K. Deller, op.cit., proposes to read ^mDINGIR!-SU = ^m*Ilī-erība*, possibly the name of the sender of ND 2463. But this, although attractive, seems impossible, since although the first sign is slightly damaged I see it as undoubtedly UR, and there is no space for anything preceding. The context suggests a verb here. The translation assumes *lik-su* = *liksû*, but this is tentative and very dubious since *kasû* normally requires an object. Alternatively UR might be an ideogram, with *su* either a phonetic complement or a 3 m. sg. pron. suf. phonetically changed after a verbal form ending in a dental. No appropriate ideogrammic value suggests itself.

19) [*t*]?-*ta-ši-ra!* Taken as G^t of *ešēru*. The first sign is so badly damaged that it is difficult to decide between *it* and *ú*, but the former seems more probable. The final sign does not prima facie correspond to any NA sign, and must have been written over an erasure made by smearing clay into the depression of an earlier sign, some wedges of which modern cleaning has revealed.

21) [*a*]h?-[*h*]ur. See CAD, A/1, 186a; AHw359b, *hurri*, *hur* 'immer'.

26) *ša kil-li*. The signs are certain. For the form, see CAD, K, 361b, *ša kili*. Deller, op.cit., proposes ^{lú}A!.NIN!-*li* 'Prinz, Kronprinz'. J.N. Postgate proposes taking as a form from *ša ikkilli* 'reporter, informant'.

30) *x x? x x x x*. Traces wholly unintelligible. The proposed translation is a guess.

ND 2454 (= C; IM 64047; Plate 24)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [*a-na šarri bēl*]*ī*-[*i*]*a*
 urad-k[*a*] ^l*m*aš-šur-dan-an-ni*
 lu-u šulmu^[*m*]*u a-na šarri bēlī-ía*
 *ša šarru bēlī ina muhhi āl**bir-te**
- 5 *ša āl**zab-zi-qi tē-mu*
 iš-kun-an-ni ku-pu-u
 da-' a-na e-li a-du
 *āl**a-pi-nu-nu a-šap-pa-r*[*a*]

10 *amēl*pár-šá-mu-te i-lak-u-ni
i-si-šú-nu a-da-bu-bu
*āl*zab-zi-qa-a-a ih-ti-s[u]
[m]bir-^dba-ri-áš
[a-pi-n]u-na-a-a ú-maš-[šar]?
... .. UN.M[EŠ]? ...

Rev.

1' ... [M]EŠ? x
... x-u-a x ... x ^la^l x
x x š[a]? x x-u-ni
ina mu[hhi ša]rri bē[lī]-ia ^la^l-[s]ap-ra

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-dananni. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-7) As to the matter of the fortress of Zabziqu, about which the king my lord sent me instructions, the snow is severe. (7-10) I have come up as far as Apinunu. I shall send a message, (and) the elders will come and I will discuss things with them. (11) They have mistreated the people of Zabziqu. (12-13) I shall set free Bir-bariash, the man of Apinunu.

Rev.

(4') I have sent a message to the king my lord.

Notes

Some loss at top, base entirely lost. 36 mm of rev. uninscribed. Text of obv. mainly legible, that of rev. abraded beyond recognition except in the final line. NA script.

Obv.

2) ^lm^laš-šur-dan-an-ni. Eponym for 733 BC and governor of Mazamua; see RLA, II, 424-5, 431.

6) ku-pu-u. See AHW, 509a, kuppû II.

9) *amēl*pár-šá-mu-te. Pl. of NA form of *puršumu(m)*, AHW, 881b.

11) ih-ti-s[u]. See CAD, H, 177b, hesû C.

13) ú-maš-[šar]?. Restoration and translation suppose a form from AHW, 1485a, 5, uššuru (a) '(straf)frei lassen'.

ND 2463 (= XLVII; IM 64051; Plate 22)

Re-edited in: (1) Deller, 'Ausgewählte neuassyrische Briefe', *Incunabula Graeca*, 78, Rome, 1984, 110f., 4.3; (2) Fales, CLNA, p. 42-43, 73, I.8. See also K. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 175.

Transliteration

Obv. a-na šarri bēlī-[ia]
urad-ka ^{m.d.}...

*amēl*rab-šāqê

bīt issu e-mu-qí

- 5 *e-ru-bu-ni*
^rm^l[u]r-sa-a i-tal-ka
 ik-ta-šá-su
 ištēn^{en} issu lib-bi-šú-nu
 la ú-ši-a
- 10 *il-la-ka*
 ina muhhi āl^{ha}[l-š]u^{meš}
 ša amēl^{rab}-šāqê
 i-šak-kan
- Rev. *qa-ra-bu e-pa-áš*
- 15 *šar[ru l]u-[ú?-d]a x x x?*
 li-[p]u-uš

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant [PN].

(3-5) The Rab-shakeh, when he went in with armed forces, (6-9) Ursa came (and) defeated him. Not one of them got away. (10-13) He (Ursa) is coming on (and) is setting up camp against the fortresses of the Rab-shakeh. (14) He is going to do battle. (15-16) May the king know (and) take *appropriate action*.

Notes

Tablet complete and in good condition except for slight loss at top right corner. 58 mm of rev. is uninscribed. The base of the tablet is square enough for the tablet to stand on it. NA script.

This reports a major defeat of an Assyrian force by Rusa I, and a further threat.

2) m.^d... Deller, op.cit., restores m^DDINGIR-[SU?] after a supposed link with ABL 443, 3.

6) ^rm^l[u]r-sa-a. Clearly the date of the archive requires this to be Rusa I, as taken by Deller, op.cit.

12) At end of line Deller, op.cit., supplies <pa-ni-šú>.

15) l]u-ú?-d]a x x x? Deller, op.cit., restores, possibly correctly, k[i š]a ^ri^l-[l]a-[u]-[ni], 'Der König möge handeln, wie ihm beliebt!'

ND 2487 (BSAI; Plate 25)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-na šarri be-l[i]-[i]a/[i]a*
urad-k[a] m.^dnabu-ú-šal-l[a]
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri be-l[i]-[i]a/[i]a
ša šarru bēli iš-pur-an-ni ma-a a-x [x]? [x]?
- 5 *š[a] arahabi libnāti^{meš} ina āl.^dištār-d[ur]-a-n[a]*
šu-hu-ṭu ra-a-me ma-a matú-ka-a-a
amēl^{da}-a-li ina pa-ni pi-qid-di ma-a maššarta
ša libnāti^{meš} li-iš-šu-ru : ma-a at-tú-nu
ina āl^{el}-iz-k[i] tal-l[a-a]k X umē^{meš} libnāti^{meš} š[u]-uh-ṭa

- 10 *ma-a ki-ma mat^urar^{ta}-[a^l]-[aⁱ]na ^{āl}.dⁱš^tār-dur-a-ni
ina muhhi libnāti^{meš}-m[a^L]Ú?[.][A?[.]K]IN i-tal-ku-ni
ma-a ša ki-l[i] li[l-li]-ka li-iq-ba-ku-nu
ma-a at-tú-n[u is]su libbi ^{āl}el-iz-kun
di-'-[pa] [ú^l]-ka-te-mu-šú-nu*
- 15 *am^[ēl][d]a-a-[a^l]-l[i] [a^l]-sap-ra e-ta-am-r[a]
III L[Ú.E]N.[N]AM.MEŠ a-di e-mu-qi-šú-nu
ina pu-tú-ni š[a]-ak-nu ^{mza}-bid x x
ina libbi āli u[š-š]u-a : SAG KUR x ...
š[a]-[a^l] [L]UGAL [i]ssu lib[bi URU x ...]*
- 20 ... x x
- Rev.
1' x
uš[?]-x-x
ina lib[bi] URU x
x x [š]a DIŠ.MAN.[D]U? x x
- 5' n[u] x x : UR s[u]?/[l]i? UD x
V [K]AM š[a] ^{arah}a[bi] ina muh[hi]
[x x] [g]a?-mar ša ^{āl}bir-t[e]? ...
[a^l?/h[a]? x x? š[a] ina lib-bi ^{āl}el-iz-[kun] x x?
[ā]l^e[l-iz-k]un [in]a? lib-bi : UR[U] x ...
- 10' x [I]B? [K]I? i[na]? [li]b-bi-ni [n]i-x x
E[N.N]UN.M[E]Š i[na] muhhi-ni ra-ba-[n]i?/[n]ú? x bu?
ša U[R]U.[H]AR?-ra : maššarta Š[E]Š! a-dan-niš
amēl^{mā}r š[i]pri-[i]a ina muhhi amēl^ú-k[a]-a-a [i]h-r[id]!?
la-a : [i]m-ma-gur a-na a-la-[k]i
- 15' X LÚ.DIN.[M]EŠ I ME amēl[š]ābē^{meš} [ú^l]-si-bi-l[a]
i-su-uh-ru am-mar ūmē^{me}-šú i[h-ta]l-[q]u
IIú amēl^{mā}r [š]ipri-[i]a a-sap-ra
nu-uk V ME amēl^šābē^{meš} ša i^ša-ri-te
li[l]-li-ku-nu ú-di-ni amēl^{mā}r šipri-i[a]
- 20' la i-la-ka : ki-ma i-tal-ka X? x x [x]?
[m]a-[a^l] tē-mu-ni a-na šarri be-li-i[a]-[ma]?
[a^l]-šap-pa-ra

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-ušalla. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-9) (About the matter on) which the king my lord sent a message, saying, '[By a stated day] of the month Ab, prepare bricks in the city Ishtar-durani (and) make them available,' and '(As to) the Ukaya, appoint an inspector over them, and let them keep guard over the bricks,' and, 'You shall go into the town Elizki; prepare bricks (there) for ten days,' (10-12) (and): 'When the Urartians come into Ishtar-durani for bricks ... let a prisoner come, let him tell you,' (12-14) (and): 'Push (the Urartians) out from Elizkun,' I have dealt with these matters (*lit.* 'them'). (15) I have sent an inspector as

messenger (and) he has seen (the situation). (16-19) Three provincial governors with their forces are set against us. Zabid ... will go out from within the city: *the head of the land* ... of the king within the city ...

Rev.

(3') within the city ... (4') *the messenger of Sharru-kin* ... (5') ... (6') the fifth day of the month Ab, upon ... (7') *the whole* of the fortress ... (8') ... which within Elizkun ... (9') Elizkun in the midst: city ... (10') ... in our midst we ... (11') the guards over us ... (12') of the town *Harra*: the watch is very ... (13') my messenger has *kept watch* on the Ukaya. (14') He was unwilling to go. (15') I sent ten overseers (and) one hundred troops. (16') They *again* ... fled. (17'-18') I sent my deputy messenger to say, 'Let 500 shield-bearing troops come.' (19'-22') So far my messenger is not coming. When he has come, ... I shall send our report to the king my lord.

Notes

Major part of quite a large tablet. Obv. is relatively flat, rev. markedly curved. The surface is crazed, with many cracks on both faces, and surface loss passim. There is significant abrasion on much of rev. At a few points appropriate laboratory treatment might improve legibility by removing dirt. Parts of the surface of rev. have begun to flake off, leaving some signs less clear than when I first copied the tablet. In view of the possibility of continuing deterioration, my notes on the appearance of the traces at final collation are rather fuller than usual.

The writer, in a fortress on the Urartian frontier, has been ordered to strengthen the defences. Three divisions of Urartian troops are facing him.

Obv.

5) *āl.dīštār-d[ur]-a-n[a]*. The final sign does not appear to be *-ni*.

6, 9) *šu-hu-ṭu ra-a-me, š[u]-uh-ṭa*. Despite some damage, all readings are certain. The contexts indicate that *šu-hu-ṭu* and *šu-uh-ṭa* are from the same verb, so that the *š* must be part of the root. The verbs are in some way connected with bricks. The only relevant verb in the lexica associated with bricks is CAD, Š/1, 85a, *šahātu* A (*šahātu*) 4 'to glaze bricks' (= AHW, 1130a, *šahātu(m)* IV, *šahātu* IV, G 4). But even on the occurrences listed in CAD this meaning is unacceptable, since ABL 1180: 15 indicates that what prevented the operation *šahātu* was lack of straw, and although in the ancient world straw was indispensable for the making of bricks (Exodus 5: 6-18), it played no part in glazing. Further, in a critical situation on the Urartian frontier, officials would hardly have bothered about whether or not their bricks were glazed. It might well, however, have been a matter of life and death to provide bricks to strengthen the fortifications, and this must be the sense here. No one who has seen bricks being made in a mould in rural Iraq can miss the semantic link between making a brick and smearing, and CAD, Š/1, 84a, accepts 'to smear' as a primary sense of *šahātu* A (*šahātu*). The sense of 'to prepare (bricks)' also fits the occurrences of *šahātu* left untranslated by Parpola in LAS 291, 15 (read 'let them prepare bricks on the far bank and build a quay') and in 283, r.7 (read 'the Akkadians are preparing bricks on the other bank and damming up [the canal]').

šu-uh-ṭa appears to be Impv. Vent. G theme. Except for its final *-u*, *šu-hu-ṭu* would be Impv.; either the final vowel has no significance (see GAG §§18e, 82e and below, p. 197 (ND 2449, 20) on *lu-da-'i-ni*), or the form may be a sandhi writing for *šuhuṭ u*.

The final vowel of *ra-a-me* points to a root *rmi*, not a hollow verb. The writing of the internal vowel would prima facie suggest a Ptcp., but its use in conjunction with *šuhuṭ(u)* suggests that it is another Impv., perhaps an anomalous writing for NA D Impv. *ramme*. In the present context the sense 'zur Verfügung stellen' (AHw, 953b, *ramû(m)* III, D 10d) seems appropriate.

6) *matû-ka-a-a*. For other occurrences of these people, associated with Urartu, see NAT 365, *UKKU*.

9, 13) *âlel-iz-k[i]*, *âlel-iz-kun*. Both the *-ki* and the *-kun* are beyond doubt. In the former spelling, this place name occurs also in ABL 101, 19, where RLA 2, 356b wrongly takes it as *âlel-iz*. The alternative spellings suggest that the native pronunciation of this non-Assyrian place name was ElizkV, where V represents a nasalized vowel heard as something near to *ü*.

9) *tal-l[a-a]k*. Spacing and traces are against restoring the third sign as *-ka*.

11) *x x [K]IN?* LÚ.A.KIN would fit the limited traces, but possibly not the context.

12) *ša ki-l[i]*. What might appear to be a second small oblique to the left of the first vertical is shown by microscopic examination to be mere damage. The second sign is certainly *ki*, not *dul*. For *ša kili* see CAD, K, 361b; ND 2453, 26 (p. 117 above).

14) *di'-[pa]* ¹ú¹-. Before the restored *ú-* there is room for nothing longer than *pa*. The form restored is taken as Impv. *da'āpu*.

19) *š[a]-[a]* [L]UGAL. Although the writing *ša-a* is unusual in NA letters, the spacing demands another sign between *ša* and LUGAL, and the slight but certain traces of the heads of verticals seem to exclude any other restoration.

Rev.

2', 4', 5', 7', 8', 10') At some points in these lines it is difficult to distinguish between adventitious scratches and traces of signs, and the copy is offered with reservations.

2') *uš?-x-x*. Alternatively *ni-i[h]-x*.

4') *x x [š]a* DIŠ.MAN.[D]U? In view of cracks, scratches, gouges and abrasions in this line, the copy and transliteration are offered with considerable reserve. The absence of a preceding LÚ is against reading the introductory signs as A.KIN. The reading of the sign after MAN as DU, to give the royal name Šarru-kīn (Sargon), is far from assured.

5') *n[u] x x*. The copy may not be wholly accurate here, since examination under the microscope shows that the angles and sides of some marks copied as wedges lack sharpness, casting doubt on whether they are wedges at all. Skilled cleaning to remove salts might add legibility to this line.

5') UR *[s]u?/[l]i?* UD. Could represent *taslītu* (AHw, 1337a) or a variant of *teslītu* (AHw, 1351b).

7') *[g]a?-mar*. Even using a microscope I am unable to decide whether the final element of the first sign is two small obliques (as taken in my copy and transliteration) or one large one. The certain trace of a vertical immediately preceding the oblique(s) proves that this sign was not NA *am-*.

9') *lib-bi* : UR[U] *x*. Comparison with line rev. 7' indicates that the traces after *lib-bi* cannot derive from *bir-te*.

10') *x* [I]B? [K]I? IB is almost certain. The third sign could be a damaged *tu* in the fourth form listed in ABZ, no.58; the slope of the first partial wedge seems to exclude *la*.

11') *x bu?* There appears to be more than one wedge in the damaged first sign.

12') U[R]U.[H]AR?-*ra*. Embedded between the second and third signs is a small stone 3 mm from top to bottom, with its surface level with the present surface of the tablet.

13') [*i*]h-r[*id*]!?. The traces of the first sign limit the possibility to SUD and UH, of which only the latter is likely here. The second sign *prima facie* appears to be *sa*, but it may have been distorted by being on the edge, and a form from *harādu* A (CAD, 𒄩, 88a-b) would seem to fit the context better than one from *hesû* C, 'to mistreat' (CAD, 𒄩, 177b).

14') [*i*]m-ma-gur. Pret. 3 sg. m. *magāru* for *im-me-gur*; see AHw, 575b, II, 2c.

15') LÚ.DIN.[M]EŠ. For LÚ.DIN = *hajjātu* or *hajātu* 'inspector, overseer', see AHw, 309a, CAD, 𒄩, 1b-2a.

15') *amēl*[*š*]abē^{me}[*š*]. A crack has created a gap between the top and bottom of ÉRIN, and has put the end of the final horizontal of LÚ out of alignment.

16') *am-mar ūmē^{me}-šú*. See CAD, A/2, 68b, adducing ABL 1469 r.9.

18') *is^a-ri-te*. See AHw, 68b, *arītu* II, 1e and ABL 251 r.1.

20') X? *x* [*x*]?. The certain broad oblique could be the beginning of some sign other than U = X.

ND 2488 (IM 64065; Plate 26)

Transliteration

Obv.

[Not copied; the surface of obv. is so severely abraded that, although traces of most signs remain on the first fourteen of its twenty three lines, very few signs are identifiable. The only signs certainly or probably identifiable were:]

- 1 LUGAL
- 3 [*l*]u?
- 5 a-[*n*]a?
- 6 bu,-*ša-a*
- 7 n[*i*]?-*ti?*
- 8 lu, [*m*]u?, mu, na-a?-a?
- 10 LUGAL?, AŠ
- 12 ša, mu?
- 18 a?

Rev.

- 1' *x x*
- ina pa-an x*
- x x x x x*
- x* . . . [*l*]i . . . a? *x*
- 5' *ma-a* III [L]IM L[Ú].*x x-u-^la* . . .
- amēl^rab šā[qi]* *x x x* . . .
- ma-a li-x x x a i x*
- m]a-a* III ME LÚ.*x x-^lu^l-a-a še-bi-[la]*

- a-na-ku ki-i an-n[i]-i a-na amēl^rrab-šā[qī]*
 10' *a-sap-ra-šú n[u]-[u]k ki-i an-ni-i*
 [a^l-na mātšup-ri-i[a]-a-a šu-pur
 [m]a-a TUŠ^{ta} amēlⁱ-tu-u-a-a
 [l]u-ri-šá-n[i]-ni [m]a-a a-na ia-a-ši-ma
 šup-ra lal-li-ka
- 15' *i-su-ri šarru be-lí i-qa-ab-bi*
ma-a amēlⁿnakru(PAP) me-me-ni amēlⁿnakru-ma l[a]-a-šú
šarru ú-ta-kis a-dan-niš na-pa-x
ina muhhi šarri be-lí-ía lal-l[i-k]a
šarra b[e]-lí la-mur
- 20' *šúm-ma [a^l-n[a] ha-n[i]-e-šá la al-la-ka*
x me x x i mu IGI ša šarru
[i-sap]-ru-ni lal-li-ka šarra be-lí
la-[m]ur

Partial Translation

Rev.

(2') in front of (3'-4') [nothing intelligible remains] (5') thus, three thousand ...-people (6') the Rabshakeh (7') thus, let him (8') thus, 'Send three hundred ...-people.' (9'-10') I myself have sent a message in these terms about them to the Rabshakeh. (10'-11') I said: 'Send a message in these terms to the people of Shubria. (12'-13') Say: "An encampment of Itua troops would make me rejoice. (14') Send a message to me. Let me come".' (15') Perhaps the king my lord will say, (16') 'Who is an enemy and who is not an enemy?' (17') The king has *recognized the problem. He is very shrewd.* (18'-19') Let me come to the king my lord. Let me see the king my lord. (20') If I do not come here, (21') about which the king (22') sent me a message, let me come, let me see the king my lord.

Notes

Tablet with top left corner and bottom lost. Surface of obv. much abraded. NA script.

Rev.

9', 10') *ki-i an-ni-i*. Lit. 'according to this'.

12') TUŠ^{ta}. For TUŠ = *šubtu* 'encampment', see CAD, Š/3, 172a and 184a, 5.

13') [l]u-ri-šá-n[i]-ni. Prec. D 3 pl. Vent. with 1 sg. Acc. suf. of *riāšu(m)* (AHw, 979b-980b).

17') *ú-ta-kis*. Taken as D^t of *nakāsu* 'to cut', assumed to be used idiomatically of cutting through a problem, as in 'to cut the Gordian knot'.

20') [a^l-n[a] ha-n[i]-e-šá. Taken as a form of *ana anniš*, for which see CAD, A/2, 133b.

ND 2608 (= IM 64073; XLVI; Plate 24)

Re-edited in: (1) K. Deller. 'Ausgewählte neuassyrische Briefe', *Incunabula Graeca*, LXXVIII, Rome, 1984, 101, 1.7; (2) SAA, 1, 32. See also G.B. Lanfranchi, *Or.An.* 22 (1983), 128.

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [ana šarri bēliya urdu-k]a m.d...
 [lu šulmu ana šarri] be-lí-i[a]
 [šulmu ana māt]aš-šur-ki
 [šulmu ana] ʾÉ1.KUR.MEŠte
- 5 [šulmu ana ālbi-ra-t]e šarri gab-bu
 [libbu šá šarri a-dan]-niš lu-u ṭāb
 ... [š]a amēli-tú-u-a-a
 ... [š]a issu lib-bi āliš-ta-hup
 [ú?-ši?]-ú-ni ú-ma-a issu lib-bi
- 10 ... x ID-rat-ta ina muh-hi-ia na-šu-niš-šú
 [ina muhhi mātura]rṭa-a-a a-sa-al-šú ma-a māturarṭa-a-a
 ... x x KUR.PABir bi-it il-l[i]k-u-ni
 [ma-a ú-ma-a]? issu pa-an šarri bēli-ia pal-hu a-dan-niš
 ... x SAL MEŠ i-ru-ú-d[u]? i-qúl-lu
- 15 ... ālbi-rat ša šarri bēli-ia me-me-e-ni
 [la]? ... x ma-a šul-mu a-dan-ni-iš
 [te-e]-mu ša māturarṭa-a-a
 ... x x-e ša LÚ.[TÚ]L? [x] x
 ... [L]Ú.MAH ša mātman-na-a-a
- 20 ... [GU]D.HI.A.MEŠni UDU.HI.A.MEŠ x
 ... x an-ni DUM[U]? .LID ma-a x ...
 x a ina lib-b[i] x ...
 x

Rev.

- 1' x ...
 x x x ...
-
- x ma t[a]? x ...
 x x ...
- 5' x
 x x ... x
 ... x x x x x x
 ... ʾú1-te a x x x x
 ... x x [KUR][i]a-ú-da-a-a
- 10' ... [š]a x GAR ša LÚ.GAL.MU
 ... x.MEŠ dan-nu-te
 ... x bēl pāhat mātira-šap-pa
 ... bēl pāhati āltil-bar-si-ba
 ... MEŠ.II-u-t[e]
- 15' ... lib-bi āla-di-a
 [Space for 6 lines uninscribed]

Translation

Obv.

(1-6) [To the king my lord] your [servant] PN. [May it be well with the king] my lord. [It is well with] Assyria. [It is well with] the temples. [It is well with] all the fortresses of the king. [Let the heart of the king be] very glad.

(7) [In the matter] of the Itu'aeon person (8-10) ... who came out from inside the town Ishtahup, now they brought him to me from within ... (11) I asked him about the Urartians. He said: 'Since the Urartians went to the land of the Cimmerians, (13) [now] they are very much afraid of the king my lord. (14) ... *they tremble* (and) remain inactive. (15-16) ...' *Nobody will attack* the fortresses of the king my lord.' He said: 'Things are very well.' (17) This is the report about the Urartians.

(18) ... (19) ... the emissary of the Mannaeans (20) ... oxen and sheep (21-23) [Nothing intelligible]

Rev.

(1'-8') [Nothing intelligible] (9') ... the Iaudeans (10') ... of the ... of the chief cook (11') ... strong (12') ... the governor of Rasappa, (13') ... the governor of Til-barsip (14') ... (15') ... within the city Adia.

Notes

The right side of a largish tablet with small Assyrian script. The base is missing, and there is some damage to the surface on obv., and much on rev. Last 20 mm of rev. is uninscribed. Rev. is more convex than obv. NA script.

This is related in subject matter to ND 2488 (see ND 2608, obv. 19 and ND 2488, obv. 6), but there is no possibility of a join.

G.B. Lanfranchi, *op.cit.*, 128-135, discusses the relationship of this letter to ABL 198 and ABL 197, giving arguments for its date as 715 BC.

Obv.

1) m.d.... Deller, *op.cit.*, and SAA, 1, no.32 restore ^{md}[30-PAB.MEŠ-SU] = Sin-ahheriba.

8) *āiš-ta-hup*. SAA, 1, p. 237 takes this as a town in Kurdistan. L.D. Levine, RLA V, 208b, suggests equating it with Ishta'ippa in northwest Iran.

11) [*ina muhhi*]. Deller, *op.cit.*, restores *tè-e-mu ša*, which is perhaps preferable.

12) KUR.PAB^{ir}. Established as equivalent to *mātgamir^{ir}* by the alternation in ABL 197, rev. 10 and obv. 9, of this form and the writing *mātga-mir*.

14) ... x. SAA, 1, no.32 restores [*ma-a a-k*]i!. The *ki* is possible but not assured.

14) ŠAL MEŠ. Deller, *op.cit.* and SAA, 1, no.32 read MÍ.MEŠ, but the form could be *šal-meš* 'in safety'.

14) *i-ru-ú-d[u]*?. SAA, 1, no.32 reads [i!l-ru!-ú-!bu!], but almost certainly the fourth sign is not *bu*, since there are no initial obliques. *d[u]* is not certain but seems more probable than *bu*; *i-ru-u-du* could be a defective NA writing for *iruddū*, 3 pl. Pres. *rādu* 'beben', AHw, 941a-b.

19) [L]Ú.MAH. K. Deller, *op.cit.*, argues for the reading l[úA.K]IN.

Rev.

9') [KUR][i]a-ú-da-a-a. Although J.D. Hawkins, RLA, V, 273a, claims that Jaudu 'always denotes Judah', the fact that every other geographical reference in this letter is to the Urartian region or north Syria suggests that the present reference is to a northern

state rather than to biblical Judah. The alternative but very speculative conclusion is that the term in this very broken context may have denoted a contingent of troops from Judah operating with the Assyrians.

10') *x* GAR. Although the traces of the lost sign seem to favour the restoration EN, this would not give good sense here. LÚ.GAR seems more probable.

11') ... *x*.MEŠ. Deller, op.cit., restores [GIŠ.Û]R^{meš}.

12') *mātra-šap-pa*. For identification as in southern and eastern slopes of the Jebel Sinjar see M. Liverani, SAAB, VI/1 (1992), 35-40.

ND 2631 (= LXXXIX; IM 64083; Plate 26)

Re-edited in TCAE, pp. 383-5, SAA, 5, no.215, and by J.N. Postgate in *Iraq* 62 (2000) 89-108. See also K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 81.

Transliteration

Obv. [ana šar]ri bēlī-ia
 [urad-ka] ^{m.dadad}-itti-ia
 [lu šu]lmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ia
 [š]a šarru bēlī tē-e-mu iš-ku-na-ni-ni
 5 ma-a e-mu-qe ša māt^{za}-mu-u-a
 a-šur šup-ra-[m]a X išnarkabāti^{meš}
 II išut-tar-a-te X ša sisē^{meš}
 X ša imērku-di-ni naphar XX imēr-ú-ra-te
 XCVII imērpít-hal-lu XI amēl^{mu}-kil appāti(KUŠ.PA)^{meš}
 10 XII amēl^{tašlīšē}(III.U₅)^{meš} X LÚ.A.SIG₅
 LIII LÚ.GIŠ.GIGIR.ME[Š] [XX LÚ-GA]L ú-ra-te
 naphar I ME VI šābē^{m[eš]} [ša GI]Š.GIGIR.MEŠ
 I ME LXI amēl^{šá}-pet-hal-l[a-t]e I ME XXX LÚ.GIŠ.GIGIR.MEŠ
 LII amēl^{zu}-un-zu-ra-he naphar III ME XLIII
 15 LÚ.GIŠ.GIGIR.MEŠ VI[II] amēl^{šá} bīti šanê(II)^e
 XII kāširē(KA.KÉSDA) XX amēl^{šāqê}
 XII amēl^{kar}-ka-di-ni VII LÚ.NINDA.MEŠ
 X amēl^{nuhatimmē}(MU) naphar LXI[X] nišē^{meš} bīti
 VIII amēl^{um}-ma-ni XXIII LÚ.UŠ.ANŠE.MEŠ
 20 I mu-tir tē-me LXXX amēl^{kala}-ba-te
 naphar VI ME XXX mā^{aš}-šur-a-a
 III ME LX amēl^{gur}-ru IV ME XL mā^t[i]l-[t]ú
 Base naphar I LIM IV ME XXX šābē^{meš} šár[ri]
 Rev. a-di pa-ni-ú-te ša a-na-ka-[ni]
 25 a-di ša amēl^{qur}-bu-te na-ša-ni
 [i-s]u-ri šarru bēlī i-qa-bi
 [m]a-^la^l re-[e]h-te e-mu-q[i] a-le-e
 amēl^{rab} bī[tī-i]a n[a]-[m]ar-ku ri-ih-te
 e-mu-qe ^lú^l-ba-lu

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Adad-ittiya. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-8) As to the order the king my lord sent me, saying: 'Check the forces of Zamua and write to me,' (they are):

20 chariots (and) 2 wagons; 10 (teams of) horses, 10 (teams of) mules, total 20 teams; (9-11) 97 cavalry horses, 11 chariot drivers, 12 (chariot) 'third riders', ten messengers, 53 grooms, 20 team-commanders,

(12) TOTAL: 106 chariot personnel;

(13-14a) 161 cavalrymen, 130 grooms, 52 *zunzurahi*,

(14b-15a) TOTAL: 343 chariot personnel;

(15b-18a) 8 palace servants, 12 tailors, 20 stewards, 12 pastry-cooks, 7 bakers, 10 cooks,

(18b) TOTAL: 69 household staff;

(19-20) 8 craftsmen, 23 ass-drivers, 1 information officer, 80 axe-men;

(21) TOTAL: 630 Assyrians

(22) 360 *Gurraeans*, 440 *Itu'aeans*;

(23) GRAND TOTAL: 1,430 royal personnel, together with those formerly here, (and) those whom the bodyguard brought.

(26-29) Perhaps the king my lord will say: 'Where are the rest of the forces?' My major domo is delayed (but) is bringing up the rest of the forces.

Notes

Complete except for top left corner and worm hole in middle of obv. Has a crack for its whole length. The text is largely in good condition. 75 mm of rev. is unscribed. NA script. I extend my warm thanks to J.N. Postgate for improvements supplied prior to publication of his re-edition of this letter.

2) ^{m.d}*adad-itti-ia*. Also author of ABL 342 and 529; see *Iraq* 28 (1966), 187. The same name occurs in ND 2495, 7 as one of two officials responsible for provisioning Abu-lishir.

7) II. So copy. SAA, 5, no.175 emends to XX, making the number of teams equal to the number of chariots.

7) *isut-tar-a-te*. See AHW, 1493a, *wattartu*.

10) LÚ.A.SIG₅. Deller, op.cit., reads LÚA *ši-pír*, against which Borger, ABZ, p. 199 gives references for alternation LÚ.A.SIG₅ and LÚ.A.SIG. Borger, op.cit., equates LÚ.A.SIG₅ with *mār šipri*, 'messenger'. Line 12 would suggest that these personnel were specifically military staff concerned with chariots.

14) *amēlzu-un-zu-ra-he*. Apparently a Hurrian loanword. See AHW, 1538a *zunzurahhu* 'ein Wagenknecht?'. One might also consider a possible link with *um/nzarhu*, on which see Deller, 'Assyrisch um/nzarhu und Hebräisch 'āzrah', ZA 74 (1984), 235-239.

15) *amēlšá bīti šanêe*. See CAD, B, 296b.

19) *amēlum-ma-ni*. In the context appears to mean 'craftsmen' rather than 'scribes'.

20) *amēlkala-ba-te*. Transliteration after Deller, op.cit. See CAD, K, 66a-b, *kalappu* (*kalabbu*). A reading *amēlkal-la-bu*, linked to CAD, K, 77b, *kallābu* 'member of the light troops', is not possible.

22) *amēl*gur-ru. A photograph supports this reading against *amēl*gur-ra! of Deller, op.cit.

22) *amēl*gur-ru IV ME XL *māt*(sic)l̄l-[t]ú. Deller, op.cit., suggests these are shortened for *amēl*gur-ra!-a +a, *amēl*l̄l-[t]ú-'a-a +a, which are mentioned together in ABL 388: 6-7.

29) l̄l-ba-lu. Although the final sign is slightly damaged, it appears to be *lu* rather than the expected *la*, as read in SAA, 5, no.215.

ND 2635 (= XLIII; BSAI; Plate 27)

Transliteration

Obv. a-na šarri bēlī-i[a]
 urad-ka ^{m.d}nabû-qa-a[l]?-[la]?
 lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarr[i] bēlī-i[a]
 issu muhhi mār ^ma-tu-a
 5 ša a-na šarri bēlī-ia a-qa-b[i]-l̄l-[ni]
 mu-uk i-la-ka i-tú-ši-a i-su-hu[r]
 abī-šu i-la-k[a] XL *amēl*gur-[r]a-a-a
 ša issu šarri bēlī-ia il-su-mu-u-ni
 issu libbi šatti ša ina ^āhar-di
 10 i-[l]i-ku-u-ni a-da-ka-a-ni
 la tú-uš-mu-ú ma-a la ú-ši-u
 qa-ni me-eh-ri-šú-nu la i-[l]i-ku
^ma-tu-a ma-a la tal-la-ka
 ma-a *amēl*urdē^{meš}-ia at-tu-nu
 15 ina muhhi ^{ālāni}meš ša a-na ^mna-ba-a
 šarru be-lí iš-pur-a-ni
 la ú-sa-hi-ir la i-din
 Base *māt*ma-ni-sa-a-a
 ina pān šarri bēlī-ia šú-nu
 20 šar[ru] be-lí liš-al-šú-nu
 Rev. ma-a r[a]-ma-ni-šú-nu ^{ālāni}meš
^mú-a-a-ni-a-ra *amēl*rēšu
 iš-la-hi i-mur-u-ni
 i-si-šu i-la-ka ki-i ina muhhi
 25 šarri bēlī-ia a-la-ka-a-ni
 aq-ṭi-ba-a-šu mu-uk al-ka
 ni-lik am-mar ^{ālāni}meš ša šarru
 i-dan-a-ka-ni la-a-mur
 la i-li-ka ú-ma-a a-du bi-it
 30 a-na-ku issu pān šarri bēlī-ia
 as-hur-a-ni šu-ú i-la-ka
*amēl*rēšu ša šarru be-lí ina *māt*za-mu-a
 ip-qi-du-u-ni la i-[l]a-ka
māt-su la e-mur me-nu ša ṭi-in-šú-u-ni
 35 lu e-pu-uš issu muhhi *amēl*rē[š^m]eš

- ša šarru be-lí t[e]-mu iš-ku[n]-
a-ni-ni : aq-ṭi-ba-šu-n[u]?
mu-uk a-li-e L[Ú] ...
- 39 ša ina IGI e x ...
- Top [m]a-a an-nu-rig ...
- 41 ú-ba-la ...
- Side ki-i issu muhhi amēl bēl pāhati iš-mu-u-ni la i-ma-gúr
- 43 la i-da-na-ma a-na-ku ina ekalli ú-bal
ki-la-li-šú-nu ina pāni-šú šu-nu

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-PAP-... May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-6) After I told the son of Atua, about whom I spoke to the king, that he should go, he duly set out (but) has returned. (7-8) His father is going. Forty Gurraeans who served with the king my lord as runners, (9-11) who within the (past) year went into Hardi, are disobedient until now (and) have not come out. (12) They would not go (from) their own territory. (13-14) Atua said: 'You shall not go. You are my servants.'

(15-16) Concerning the cities about which the king my lord sent a message to Naba, he did not hand them back. (18) The Manisaeans are in the presence of the king my lord; let the king my lord question them, (21) saying, 'Their own cities' (22-23) [See notes] (24) he shall go with him.' (24-25) When I was coming to the king my lord (26-28) I said to him, 'Come! Let us go. Let me see whatever cities the king has given to you.' (29-31) He did not go; however, as soon as I return from the presence of the king my lord, (then) he will go. (32-33) The Reshu-official whom the king my lord appointed in Zamua will not come. (34-35) I have not seen his land. Whatever news there is of him, *I have certainly done*.

(35-37) About the Reshu-officials on which the king my lord sent me instructions, I have spoken to *them*. (38-39) I said: 'Where are the ...-men who' (40-41) They said: 'Now ... they are bringing ...' (42-43) If, after the provincial governor has heard, he is unwilling to deliver, I myself will bring (*them*) to the palace. (44) Both of them are at his disposal.

Notes

Tablet in excellent condition, lacking only small fragment from top right corner. Cleaning in the BM after publication of the editio princeps clarified the reading of several signs. Very slightly convex on both faces, minimally more on rev. NA script.

2) m.dnabû-qa-a[l]?-[la]?. Cf. APN 23, *Ana-Ašur-qa-al-la*.

4) m.a-tu-a. For *atu* as a possible Elamite element see APN 273a.

6) i-su-hu[r]. On the form (for *issuhur*) see GAG §96d.

7) amēl gur-[r]a-a-a. For other references see NAT, 137. They were often associated with Ituaeans, normally loyal Aramaean auxiliaries.

8) il-su-mu-u-ni. On *lasāmu* 'to run (for the king)', see TCAE, p. 229.

9) ālhar-di. See SAA, 5, no.2 (= ABL 548), rev. 7, ālhar-da, and SAA, 5, no.3 (= ABL 424), 11, ālha-ar-da. Placed by SAA, 5, p. 246 north of Diarbekr, following RCAE, III, p. 158, which identifies the city with modern Horta.

- 10) *a-da-ka-a-ni*. Taken as representing *adi ana akanni*, for which see AHw, 28a, apud *akanni*. An alternative but unlikely interpretation is as NA form of 1 sg. Pres. Subj. Vent. from *dekû*, meaning '(whom) I would muster'.
- 11) *tú-uš-mu-ú*. Taken as a form of *dušmû(m)*, 'Diener' (AHw, 179a), perhaps related to *tešmû(m)*, *tašmû* 'Erhörung' (AHw, 1352b).
- 12) *qa-ni me-eh-ri-šú-nu*. *qa-ni* is defective writing for *qanni*. For the phrase see AHw, 641a, *me/ihru(m)* I, 5.
- 18) *māma-ni-sa-a-a*. Not otherwise attested.
- 22) *mú-a-a-ni-a-ra*. The initial DIŠ is after cleaning beyond question, and the interpretation of the following form offered in *Iraq* 20 (1958), 195 cannot stand. The form can only be a personal name, apparently non-Assyrian, presumably of the Resh-official.
- 23) *iš-la-hi*. The first sign is unquestionably IŠ, not *ša*, and the non-attestation of a *pirras* formation in Akkadian appears to preclude a reading **mil-la-hi*. *iš-la-hi* could be 3 m. sg. Pret. with overhanging *-i* from a verb *šalāhu* with characteristic vowel *-a-*.
- 23) *i-mur-u-ni*. Might alternatively be read *i-har-u-ni* (defective for *ih-har-u-ni* from *mahāru*); cf. ABL 131, 10; 916, 16.
- 27) *ni-lik*. Taken as representing Cohortative with particle *i* omitted; see GAG §81g.
- 29) *a-du bi-it*. For sense see CAD, A/1, 114a, 7'.
- 34-35) *me-nu ša ũi-in-šu-u-ni lu e-pu-uš*. The reading is now beyond question; cf. *me-nu ša ũe-en-šú-ni*, ND 2759, 15 (p. 189 below). The restoration *šad!-di-in!-šú-u-ni lū labbuš!*, offered in AHw, 1001b, apud *sšaddinu*, partly on the basis of faults in the first copy arising from incomplete cleaning, is not possible.
- 36-37) *iš-ku[n]-a-ni-ni*. An unusual instance of a verbal form split across two lines.
- 37) *aq-ũi-ba-šu-n[u]?*. The apparent evidence for the final *-nu* is a vestige of the head of a horizontal on the very edge of the break.

ND 2648 (= LXXIV; BSAI; Plate 28; Photo Plate II)

Re-edited in TCAE, pp. 385-7; see also p. 183.

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-na šarri bēli-ia*
urad-k[a] mšarru-emurra(IGI.LÁ)-a-ni
amēlšaniú [š]a āli-sa-n[a]
-
- 5 *šenu-sa-hi ša ũi-ti-ma-li*
i-ša-šu-me ša mbar-r[u-q]u
ša m.dnergal-ašarēd(MAŠ) ša ni-na-sa-hu-ni
ú-ma-a mbēl-apla-iddina₃ amēlqe-pa-ni
uk-ta-ši-di
šarru bēli i-qa-bi ma-a LÚ.GUR.IGI.UD
- 10 *la za-ku-ú ša ina lib[bi] un-qi šarri*
za-ku-ú š[a] A.ŠA[G].GA lu-kin
ša il-qu-ni šenu-sa-hi-n[i] šú-nu
[l]a ũi-ma-gúr x x x ... x

Rev.

- 1' x
x
É X[L] AN[ŠE] Š[E.NUM]UN.MEŠ *āli pa-a[n]*
amēlabarakku ša bīt amēlmār šārri
- 5' x [U]D? a x x
issu libbi! I LIM ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ /// [DIŠ.EN].A!.AŠ
ša pāhat āli-sa-na
a-ri-[-š]u-ni II ME A.MEŠ *ikkal*(GU₇)
a-šap-pu a-na muh-hi-ia
- 10' *e-ra-ba mi-nu a-na-ku*
la-di-ni amēlmar šip-ri
ša šarri lil-li-ka
a[m-mar š]a šenu-sa-hi-ni-ni lu-u-ši-ia-a
- 14' x x x-za-u-a-a š[a] *ālx-x-x*
- Top *a-ba[t] šarri i-zak-kar*
- 16' *ma-a za-ku-ka*
amēlqi-pu [ú]ʔ-s[i]ʔ-r[i]ʔ-b[i]!
- Side*
- 18'-ni *ša mšēpē*^{II}-aš-šur *šenu-sa-hi-ni šú-nu*
... .. [amēl*i*]ʔ-tú-'-a *ina libbi ú-se-ri-bi*

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Sharru-emurrani, Deputy of Isana.

(4-8) (As to) the barley tax(es) which formerly we used to exact on Barruqu (and) Nergal-ashared, now Bel-apal-iddin has driven away the administrators.

(9-11) The king my lord may say: 'The *Qurbutu*-official is not exempt (from taxation); (only) one who is within the royal decree is exempt.' Let me establish who has received a field.

Rev.

(3'-5') an area of 40 homers of corn-land ... *I have given* in the presence of the steward of the house of the Crown Prince. (6') Out of 1,000 units of corn-land of *Bel-apla-iddina* (7'-9') which is in cultivation (in) the province of Isana, he enjoys 200 (units of) watered land. (9'-11a') The pack-animals are coming in to me. What am I to give them? (11b'-12') Let a messenger of the king come. (13') Let me take away (to feed the pack-animals) as much as is our barley tax. (14') of the village ... (15'-16') He refers to a royal command, (claiming) 'I am exempt'. (17') *I have sent in* an administrator ... (18') of Shepe-Ashur are our barley tax. (19') I have sent in the *Itu*'a troops.

Notes

Rather more than the top half of tablet. Obv. mostly well preserved; on rev. damage in some places seriously impairs legibility. At some points there are indications that the scribe was using a stylus with a split tip. Text on left side is written bottom to top. The core shows that the tablet blank was formed by coiling the clay. Bold NA script.

Obv.

3) [š]a ā^li-sa-n[a]. This reading, from TCAE, op.cit., is confirmed by collation.

8) uk-ta-ši-di. Possible meanings are 'he has driven away' (CAD, K, 280b, 4b), 'he has seized' (CAD, 281b, 5d), or 'he has sent' (CAD, K, 281b, 6).

9) LÚ.GUR.IGI.UD. IGI may be a scribal error, or a modern misreading, for bu, so that the reading should perhaps be amē^lqur-bu!-tú.

Rev.

5') x [U]D? a x x. TCAE, ad loc., proposes [i]p-tú-a-ga!. But the final group in the line is clearly 3 small obliques, not the 2 required for ga. This group appears to be DIN in NB form; since other apparently NB forms occur in ŠÀ in rev. 6', probably in ŠA in rev. 7' and 14', and certainly in RA in rev. 10', it is a reasonable conclusion that the scribe, although competent in NA, was more accustomed to writing in NB. Since the group after a could be a damaged ta, the second half of this line might then be read a-[t]a-din, a NB form instead of the standard NA it(t)idin.

6') libbi!. As drawn in copy; the only reasonable reading is as a NB form of ŠÀ.

6') /// [DIŠ.EN].A!.AŠ. An erasure on the turn to side is followed by traces which seems to read [DIŠ.EN].A!.AŠ = mbē^l-apla-iddina, as in obv. 7. It is not clear whether the extant part of the name represents part of the original erased wording which was restored in the course of modern cleaning, or whether it was a correction added after the erasure. Although the former is perhaps more likely, the name is provisionally included in the translation.

8') GU₇. Sign collated; correctly identified by TCAE, ad loc.

14') x-za-u-a-a. The u appears to have been written over an earlier vertical, which it largely conceals.

17') [ú]l?-s[i]l?-r[i]l?-b[i]l! Reading uncertain. All these signs appear to have suffered either from cleaning, or more probably from the crystallizing out of salts.

ND 2655 (= XLII; IM 64097; Plate 25)

Partly re-edited in TCAE, pp. 115-6. See also K. Deller, *Or.* 33 (1964), 92.

Transliteration

Face A

1' x
 x x ...-ni? i[l-l]ak-u-ni
 ina muhhi ṭe-e-mu ša m^{dal}-ta-a issu bīti la ú-ša-a
 ù me-me-ni ina pa-ni-šú la e-rab a-se-me
 5' ma-a ri-ih-te ma-da-te ú-pa-har b[il]at?(G[Ú.U]N?)-su
 i-da-na amē^lmad-a-a ša pa-ṭ[u]-ru ša i[na pān]ī-ia
 XXX sisē^{meš} a-ta-ša re-eh-te nišē^{meš} ina pānī-ia
 ma-da-te ša ā^lzak-ru-tú XL sisē^{meš}
 [at-ṭ]a-har iq-ṭí-bi ú-ma-a re-eh-te
 10' ... ni-da-an šarru bē^lī a-na amē^lGAL.MEŠ
 ...-[q]u?/bi? ina muhhi ā^lku-lu-man KUR.x(-)x?
 ... x-lu?-šú-nu da-al-hu a-na māti-šú-nu
 ...-e? la kit-tú ina muhhi šarri b[e-l]ī-a
 ... x ma-a kit-ri ina lib-bi e[-pu-uš]?

- 15' ... [m]a-a man-nu šú-nu kit-ri ...
 x-a-a-e mātel-li-pi x x
 MEŠ-šú-nu III IV LIM? x ...
 [i-n]a? muhhi e-tab-ku(-)[ni]?
 [T]A? LUG[AL] ...
- 20' x x ...
- Face B
- 1' x ku ...
 x mu ša x [x]?
 [S]IG₄.MEŠ ni-x(-)[x]?
 [ni]?(-)[i]r-ti-ši-pi x [x]?
- 5' x ma-a lal-li-k[a]
 x-ta la-šú ma-a i-s[i]?-i[a]?
 -tal-lak šarru bēli liš?-x-x
 -ni-šú ul-lu ma-a III UR[U]? .M[EŠ]?
 ... [š]ú-nu kit-ti ši-i a-na mi-i-n[i]
- 10' [pí]l?-ku šú-ú na-a-da
 [š]a? [ša]rri bēlī-a šúm-mu [ši]-[i]l píl-ku
 [š]a ekalli píl-ku ša me-me-ni i-ba-aš-šú-u-ni
 ù L ti-ik-pi e-mid ip-še-ti
 an-ni-ti a-na ma-la ša ^{m.d}nergal-eṭir(KAR)^{ir} ši-i
- 15' ina muhhi bīt-^mhu-na-nu i-du-bu-bu
 a-du bīt i-ba-u šú-nu u-ma-a
 ina muhhi āl^{kār}-^mšárru-kīn i-da-bu-bu
 ūmu^{mu} la e-te-qi ša ša-a-su hi-in-sa-te
 la i-ga-ra-ni-ni amēl^{rēšē}meš ša šárru
- 20' ša an-na-ka dul-lu e-pu-šú-u-ni
 ù L[Ú]? x ... x i-si-šú-nu DU.MEŠⁿⁱ
 x x-u-ni

Translation

Face A

(2') ... (when) *we/they* come. (3') Concerning the report about Dalta, he does not go out from home (4') and no one comes in into his presence. I have heard (5'-6') say, he will assemble the rest of the tribute (and) will pay his tax. (6') (For) the Medes, who were to be released, who were in my presence, (7') I have taken 30 horses. The rest of the people are in my presence. (8'-10') As tribute of Zakrute, I have received 40 horses; he (the representative of Zakrute) said: 'We shall deliver the rest subsequently.' (10'-11') ... Let the king my lord [give orders] to the Resh-officials. (11') Concerning the city Kuluman *of the land* ... (12') their ... *are disturbed*. To their land (13') ... untruth concerning the king my lord (14') ... He said: 'I provided military aid there.' (15') ... he said: 'Who are they [*who received*] military aid?' (16') ... the land of Ellipi ... (17'-19') [fragmentary]

Face B

(1'-4') [fragmentary, referring to building with bricks] (5') ... he said: 'Let me come, (6'-7a') there is not ...' He said: 'You shall [*not?*] come *with me*.' (7b') Let

the king my lord *enquire/send a message*. (8') He said: 'Three cities (9') their ...' Is it right? Why (10'-11') is that *building sector* neglected? (*Is it for the king my lord?* (11'-13')) Whether it is the palace sector or someone else's sector, then put fifty courses (of bricks) in place. (13'-14') This affair is typical of Nergal-etir.

(15'-17') They argued about Bit-Hunanu until they went in. Now they are arguing about Kar-sharrukin. (18'-19') A day does not pass that they do not show quarrelling (and) hostility (against) me. (19'-20') The royal Resh-officials who did the work here (21'-22') [fragmentary]

Notes

Lacks top end (assuming that Face A is obv.) and large fragment running transversely from about halfway down left side almost to right side at bottom. NA script.

Face A

3') ^m*dal-ta-a*. King of Ellipi. After insurrection, Dalta paid Sargon tribute in the ninth regnal year of the latter (Fuchs, *Inschr. Sargons II.*, 123, 192-194). This dates the present letter either in that year, or possibly, since Dalta was still collecting the tribute he intended to pay, a year earlier.

5') *b[i]l'at?*(G[Ú.U]N?)-*su*. TCAE, p. 115, reads the traces as 'a-na ^mx (x)l-*su*.

6') *pa-t[u]-ru*. Reading after TCAE, p. 115.

7') *a-ta-ša*. = *attaša*, 1 sg. Pf. G. of *našû*, NA variant of *našû*.

12') *x-lu?-šu-nu*. In terms of appearance, *x-lu* could be 'ùl, but if *da-al-hu* is correctly read and taken as an adj., *-šu-nu* can only be a suffix to a noun.

Face B

10') *[p]l'ku*. For the proposed meaning see AHW, 863b, *pilku(m)* I, 5.

14') *a-na ma-la*. The translation of this line is based on CAD, M/1, 147a, 1. d.

18') *ša-a-su*. Taken as representing *šassu*, NA form of *šaltu* 'quarrel'.

18') *hi-in-sa-te*. See AHW, 346b, *him/nsātu*, NA 'Streit'.

19') *i-ga-ra-ni-ni*. 3 pl. (or sg.) Pres. Vent. Subj. plus 1 sg. pron. suf. from *gerû*, 'to be hostile'. For sense of the line see Deller, op.cit.

ND 2673 (= XLV = IM 64109; Plate 27)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-na šarri bēlī-ī[a ur]ad-[k]a*
 [DIŠ].x-E[N]?-[x] lu šulmu^{mu} a-[na šar]ri
 [bēlī-ia] a-dan-niš a-dan-niš
-
- 5 *is[su]? [p]a-a-ni-ú šarru bēlī a-na māturarṭi*
 ʿe^l-li aš-šur ^dšamaš [ā]l^tu-ru-uš-pa-a
 ina qātē^{II} šarri bēlī-ia ʿi^l-sa-a[k]-nu-ma
 šarru bēlī harrāni-šú a-n[a] māturarṭi liš-kun
 ā^tu-ru-uš-pa-a li-ik-šu-du
 šarru bēlī šu-u[n]-šú a-na [d]a-ra-a-ti
- 10 *liz-z[i-k]ir i-su-ri šarru bēlī hur-ba-na-te*
 [š]a x x x ú-sa-ha[r] i-da-na
 aban^{un}-[q]i šarri ša ina muh-hi-ia šarru

- bēlī iš-pur-a-ni a-ta-al-ka*
a-na mpa-ar-ni-al-de-e
 15 *a-sa-al m[a] šarru bēlī š[a]? x-x ...*
šu-uh x x EN? x ša mātaš-šur ...
ša x x x x [k]u?/šu? ...
x x x x x b[i]-x
x x ... x E[N]? x-í'ú'!-ni ia-u-te
- Rev.
 1' *í'ml[p]a-a[r!-n]i-al-de-e LÚ.A.KIN.x*
š[a] mía-da-il[i] ni?-[b]i-[i]t? ši?-ra-a
a-nu-ú-te LÚ.A.KIN.MEŠ ur-ki-ú-te
šá-tú-nu LÚ.A.KIN.[ME]Š? ša a-na māturarṭi
 5' *e-li-ú-ni LÚ.A.KIN.MEŠ ša māturarṭi*
i-si-šú-nu i-tal-ku-ni i-na bīt
mía-t[a]-í[a]-a amēl'rab ālāni^{meš}-šú
i-si-tal-li-m[u] ina úqa-la-a-te
NINDA.MEŠ A.MEŠ í'l-ta-nu-ni šú-nu a-di kit-r[i]
 10' *is-ha-ru-ni a-na māturarṭi e-lu-u-ni*
mpa-ar-ni-al-de-e amēl'urad-ka
i-da-bu-bu i-su-ri a-na-ku
la kit-tú ina pān šarri bēlī-ía aq-ṭi-bi
šarru bē[lī] a-na māšup-r[i]!-ia-a-e liš-pur
 15' *m.d[x]-na-al-de-e LÚ.x x E[N]? .MEŠ-šú*
lu-[ba]-la šarru bēlī li-iš-al-šú
... [L]UGAL EN.MEŠ ú-da-<ba>-bu-ni
... x x issu LÚ.GAL.MEŠ-šú
... x x issu amēlurdāni^{meš}.ni
 20' *ša í'ml'aš-šur-bēl-ušur i-sa-kan*
 Top *ina muhhi du-a-ki-i[a] í'l'!-da-bu-bu*
šarru bēlī lu-ú-da

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant PN. May it be very very well with the king my lord.

(4-5) When formerly the king my lord went up to Urartu, (5-6) Ashur (and) Shamash put the city of Turushpa into the hands of the king my lord. (7) Let the king my lord take the way to Urartu, (8) let them conquer Turushpa, (9-10) may the king my lord let his name be remembered for ever. (10-11) Perhaps the king my lord will again deliver the wastelands of ...

(12-13) (As to) the royal sealed document which the king my lord sent to me, I went back (14-15) (and) enquired of Parni-alde. He said: 'The king my lord (15-19) [fragmentary]

Rev.

(1') Parni-alde the messengers (2') of Yada-ili, ... (3'-5a') these are the former messengers, the messengers who went up to Urartu. (5b'-9a') The messengers of

Urartu came back with them. In the house of Yataya the Chief of his Cities they made peace by the parched grain, food and water that they delivered. (9a'-10') They, together with (their) allies, withdrew (and) went up to Urartu. (11') Parni-alde (and) your servant are negotiating. (12'-13') Perhaps I have spoken untruth before the king my lord? (14') Let the king my lord send a message to the Shuprians (to find out). (15'-16') Let him bring ...-na-alde the ...-official. Let him enquire of him.

(17') (*While*) the king (and) the lords *negotiate*, (18'-20') he has set up [*an agreement*] with his lords [*and an agreement*] with the servants of Ashur-bel-usur. (21') They are talking about killing me. (22') May the king my lord know.

Notes

Tablet complete except for top left corner and fragments near bottom of right side and at bottom of obv. Over-baking has left the tablet brick-like with some warping of surface. It has cracks and abrasion, particularly near bottom of obv. NA script.

Obv.

10) *liz-z[i-k]ir*. Taken as 3 m. sg. Pret. N, for *lizzakir*.

14, rev. 1', rev. 11', rev. 15') The detailed interpretation of the tablet depends upon whether every name ending *-alde* is the ^m*pa-ar-ni-al-de-e* of obv. 14 and rev. 11'. The restoration of this name in rev. 1' is probable although not wholly assured. ^{m,d}[*x*]-*n[a]-al-de-e* of rev. 15' could but need not represent an alternative writing. For the etymology of the non-Assyrian name ^m*pa-ar-ni-al-de-e* – presumably the name of the leader of an Urartian delegation or army – see *Iraq* 20 (1958), 197.

It appears that although peace negotiations had taken place between Assyria and Urartu, the Assyrian official in charge recommended a renewed attack. The Urartians had apparently entered into a plot to murder the Assyrian official.

15) *x-x-x* The first unidentified sign is damaged but appears to have three horizontals, suggesting *ša*; otherwise it could be *iš* (the beginning of *iš-pu-ra-ni?*). A reading *iq* seems excluded.

16) EN?-*x*. Nothing remains to positively identify the lost sign, but NUN would just fit the space available. The stroke entered in the copy could be mere damage.

Rev.

1', 4') LÚ.A.KIN.*x*, LÚ.A.KIN.[ME]Š?. One expects LÚ.A.KIN.MEŠ as in 3' and 5', but the damaged final traces may represent *u-ni* rather than MEŠ. If so, this may be an alternative writing for the plural (LÚ.A.KIN^{u-ni} representing *mār šiprūni*).

7') ^m*ia-t[a]-i[a]-a amēl_rab ālāni^{meš}-šú*. Cf. ABL 252, obv. 7-9, with a reference presumably to the same person, ^m*ia-ta-a'-a amēl_rab ālāni^{meš}-šú šá qa-ni ta-hu-me ša māturar_rta-a-a*.

15') LÚ.*x x* E[N]?.MEŠ-šú. This presumably conceals the title of the representative of the Shuprians. The traces cannot be read as LÚ.GAL.URU.MEŠ-šú. What is transcribed as *x x* might represent a single long sign, but if so it is not SAG in any standard form, nor, unless some apparent wedges are damage marks, SAR.

17') *ú-da-<ba>-bu-ni*. In the absence of a suitable verb from which to derive the form as written, there seems to be a scribal error.

20'-22') When last collated, the tablet had lost a further fragment, bearing the first signs on lines 20' and 22' and the first sign and a half of line 21'.

21') *du-a-ki-i[a]* [i]?'-*da-bu-bu*. There are clear traces of two signs between *ki* and *da*. *ia* seems beyond question; the only possible alternative to [i]?' is [ú]', giving the meaning 'they are negotiating'.

ND 2677 (= XLIV = IM 64113; Plate 24)

Re-edited in TCAE, pp. 389-90.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*
urad-ka <^m>PAB.DU
lu šulmu^{mu} ina šarri bēlī-ia
ina muhhi mātkar-la-a-a
5 *šá šárru iš-pu-ra-ni-ni*
ūm XXII ina ālkāl-zi
e-tar-ba
ūm XXIII ina ālkal-hi
e-ra-ba
10 *ma-da-tú-šu*
ina qātē-šu
Rev. *i-su-ri*
bēlī i-qa-bi
ma a-ta-a
15 *amēlqur-bu-te*
la-a i-hi-ru-pu
la-a e-ti-qa
nāra ú-še-ba-ra
har-ra-ma-ma
20 *e-te-qa*

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ahu-illaka (*or* Babba). May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) Concerning the ruler of Karalla about whom the king sent me a message, (6-11) on the twenty-second he entered Kalzi, on the twenty-third he will enter Calah, (with) his tribute in his hands. (12-13) Perhaps my lord will say: (14-17) 'Why did the Qurbutu not come on ahead?' (18-20) (It is because) he will (first) get him across the river, then he will come on.

Notes

Complete tablet. Surface almost perfect. Ends so square that the tablet will stand on them. Last 10 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

2) <^m>PAB.DU. Adopted from TCAE, ad loc., which tentatively takes it as representing Ahu-illaka. My copy (which I have been unable to collate since editio princeps) has PAB.BA = Babba.

3) *šulmu^{mu}*. Or *šul-mu*, at all occurrences.

3) *ina*. Anomalous for *ana*.

4) *mātkar-la-a-a*. Abbreviated or erroneous form for *mātkar-al-la-a-a*. Karalla was a small land east of Kalzi and south of Lake Urmia.

10) *ma-da-tú-šu*. An apparent damaged trace after *-šu* was made accidentally and does not represent a lost *nu*.

16) *i-hi-ru-pu*. In hendiadys with the following verb, which shows it is not a pl. form. The final *-u* must therefore represent a lengthening in a question.

ND 2696 (= XV; BSAI; Plate 10)

Re-edited in Fales, CLNA, pp. 32-35, 65-66, I.3.

Transliteration

Obv. [ana šar]ru bēlī-i[a]
 [urad-k]a m.dénurta-ila-a-[a]
 amēl₁tar-ta-nu
 i-sa-pa-ra
 5 ma-a šal-lu-tú
 ša ina pa-ni-ku-nu
 na-am-me-šá
 li-kal-ka
 Rev. m₁t[u]-ta-mu-ú
 10 a-di amēl₁rēšēmeš-šú
 i-si-niš
 il-la-ka-a

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Enurta-ilaya. (3-4) The Tartan has sent a message, (5-8) saying, 'Set under way the booty which is at your disposal. Let it come.' (9-12) Shall Tutamu come together with his Resh-officials?

Notes

Small tablet lacking top left corner, part of left side, and small fragment from top right corner. The final 27 mm of rev. is uninscribed. The surface is blackish, although the inside of the tablet is of terracotta colour. There is no distinction between the clay of the core and the surface layer. Exceptionally bold and clear NA script. Neither obv. nor rev. is significantly convex.

2) m.dénurta-ila-a-[a]. A person of this name, governor of Našibina, was eponym official in 736 BC.

8) li-kal-ka. For the reading see S. Parpola, *Studia Orientalia* 55 (1984), 183ff.

9) m₁t[u]-ta-mu-ú. Tutamu of Unki is mentioned in the annals of Tiglath-Pileser III (see H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, pp. 56-57, Ann.25, 5'-8') as having been conquered in 738 BC after refusing to pay tribute. See also K. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 207.

12) il-la-ka-a. For the ending as indicating the interrogative, see Fales, CLNA, p. 66.

ND 2701 (= LXXVII; BSAI; Plate 27)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-na šarri be-lí-ia*
urad-ka ^{m.d}*nergal*_{4-x-x}
lu [š]ulmu^{mu} *a-na šarri be-l[í-ia]*
 [š]ulmu^{mu} *a-ṽna* ^{uru}HAL.ŠU^{meš}
- 5 *gab-bu ša amēlṽrab ka-ri*
ša šarru be-li iš-[p]uru-ni-ni
sisē^{meš} a-ta-har
a-ti-din šulmu^{mu}
a-na amēlurdāni^{meš.ni} ša [ša]rri
- 10 *gab-bu ú-di-ni*
 [r]i-ih-ti si[sē^{meš}]
 [i-na] lib-bi-š[ú-nu]?
 ... ṽa¹-ma[h]-[ha-ru-ni]?

Rev.

- 1' *ālī-šú-nu*
ša ālāni^{meš.ni} dan-n[u-ti]
ina nār-ti ša x [x]?
^mú-ar-gi-ir-te illik-u-ni
- 5' III ME LXX di-ik-[t]a-šú-nu
šarru be-lí liš-[a]l

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Nergal-... May it be well with the king my lord.
 (4-6) It is well with all the fortress towns of the Quay Master about which the king my lord sent me a message. (7-8) I have bought and sold horses. (8-10) It is well with all the servants of the king. (10-12) Until *I receive* the rest of the horses amongst them (*sc.* those bought)

Rev.

(1') their city (2') of strong cities (3') in (the district of) the river of ... (4'-5') (When) Uargirte came, their casualties were 370. (6') May the king my lord make enquiries.

Notes

Broken into several fragments and repaired. Lacks fragment from top right corner of obv., bottom of tablet and lower part of right side. NA script, clear except in vicinity of breaks. Final 24 mm of rev. uninscribed.

Obv.

6) *iš-[p]uru-ni-ni*. For the value of BUR see Deller, *Or.* 31 (1962), 19, 199. Usages such as BUR for *puru*, KUN for *kunu*, or spellings such as *ip-qi-di* for *ipqid* imply that BUR, KUN, DI were regarded as representing BURV, KUNV, DV (= D^e or D-), pointing to the influence of concepts derived from the use of the Aramaic alphabet.

12, 13) Since the tablet was first copied, a small fragment, the outline of which is indicated in the copy by a broken line, has disappeared, eliminating evidence for possible šú and MAH.

Rev.

4') ^mú-ar-gi-ir-te. Identifiable with ^mú-a-ki-ir-tu ša ^āl-na-ap-pi, who is mentioned in Sargon, 8th. Camp., 44 as bringing tribute. The present letter, in which this chieftain had been hostile, must therefore ante-date 714 BC.

ND 2709 (BSAI; Plate 28)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 a-na šarri be-li-ia
 urad-ka ^{m.d}nabû-bēl-ukin
 lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri
 be-li-ia a-dan-niš a-dan-niš
 5 ša šarru be-li iš-pur-an-ni
 ma-a bit mar-di-a-ti
 ša sisē^{meš}-ka
 di-lip al-ka
 [ma]r-d[i]-te sisē^{meš}
 10 [š]a? har-bu
 x

Rev.

1' x x x x? ZA?? KI?? x ...
 ba-x-te-šú-nu bi?-x ...
 x DUR-tu-n[i]?-a¹?
 [t]a-a[d]-di-nu-ne-ni
 5' ina pa-na-tú-u-a šak-nu!-ú
 x x x x x a¹
 DIŠ x ma[r]?-d[i-te]? x x x
 na-x x x x x
 XL?/L? sisē^{meš} XC
 10' ša ^mm[u]-še-si ina pān
^m[aš-š]ur-dan-an-ni x-ME?

Top End

12' la-mur
 māri-šú i-si-niš
 il-la-ka

Side*

[There are traces of 8 or 9 signs, which have been almost completely erased, only the final two being partly legible, and perhaps to be read ti?-ti?. The fact that the erasure extends along the whole line and is restricted to that suggests that it may have been deliberate.]

Translation

Obv.

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-bel-ukin. May it be very very well with the king my lord.

(5) (On the matter on) which the king sent me a message, (6-8) 'Look sharp and go on (from) the posting stage of your horses', (9) the horse stage is (10-11)
Rev. and Top End

(4'-5') you delivered, they are set before me (6'-8') *a posting stage*
... .. (9'-12') let me see *forty/fifty* horses (and) ninety of Mushesi in the presence of Ashur-dananni ... (13'-14') His son will go at the same time.

Notes

Tablet lacks bottom, much of surface of lower third of obv., and a piece 8 × 8 mm gouged out of left side near middle of rev. Almost all wedges have lost their sharpness, often making assured identification difficult; part of rev. is so abraded as to be completely illegible. Obv. is almost flat, rev. slightly curved. NA script.

Obv.

6) *bit mar-di-a-ti*. See CAD, M/1, 278b.

8) *di-lip*. See CAD, D, 48a, 1b.

10) *har-bu*. The broken context leaves it uncertain whether 'waste land' or 'early' is appropriate here.

Rev.

1') ZA?? KI?? The apparent ZA could be part of GIR or UN, and the following sign could be DĪ.

2') *ba-x-te-šú-nu*. The damaged sign might be RU, but *ba-ru-te-šú-nu* does not seem probable in a context apparently concerned with movement of horses.

3') *x DUR-tu-n[i]?*-[a]'. Examination by microscope excludes KA as a possible reading of the first sign, which seems most likely to be URU, although the subsequent signs do not make the name of a known town.

5') *šak-nu!-ú*. The second sign contains, except for what seem to be phantom wedges resulting from abrasion, only a horizontal and an oblique, not in the correct relative position for a normal *nu*. However, as the horizontal is written at the extreme end of the line, and the oblique at a right-angle to it over the edge, there may have been displacement.

6') Severe abrasion makes definite identification impossible, except for the final *a*. For the second sign, NIN seems marginally the most likely restoration.

8') *-si-ku-ú* is less assured for the three signs after *na-* than my copy might suggest.

11') ^[m][*aš-š*]ur-dan-an-ni. At the period of these letters, this is likely to denote the governor of Mazumua, who was eponym official in 733 BC; see RLA II, 424-5, 431.

11') *x-ME?* For the former sign the traces suggest GUR, ZU or URU.

ND 2720 (XXIX; IM 64134; Plate 28)

Transliteration

Obv. [*a-na*] šarri bēlī-ia
[urad]-ka m^dūr-^daš-šur

[š]ulmu^{mu} a-na ālbi-rat
 ša šar[ri] bēlī-ia
 5 a-[d]an-niš
 libbu š[a ša]rri bēlī-ia
 lu-u ṭāb
 i-su-ri
 šarru be-lí
 10 i-qa-a-b[i]
 ma a-ta-^la^l
 Base amē^ltur-t[a-n]u
 ina qātē^{ll} amē^lmār ši[pri]
 Rev. la tu-še-bi-la
 15 ku-pu-ú : dan^{an}
 a-dan-niš amē^lda-a-a-lì
 a-sa-par : i-su-hu-ru-ni
 ma a-a-ka ni-i[l-l]ak
 [k]i-ma ku-pu-ú
 20 ki-ma-ma : i-tab/p?-x
 [š]u-ru-pu
^li^l-l[i] ṭ[e-m]e
 amē^lnakri ú-ba-lu-ni

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Dur-Ashur. (3-5) It is very well with the fortresses of the king my lord. (6-7) Let the heart of the king my lord be glad.

(8-10) Perhaps the king my lord will say: (11-14) ‘Why have you (as) Tartan not sent (a report) by the hands of a messenger?’ (15-16) The cold is very severe. (16-17) I did send scouts (but) (17-18) they turned back, saying: ‘Where shall we go?’ (19-20) When the cold outside has eased (21-22) (and) the cold weather has gone, (23) they will bring a report about the enemy.

Notes

Complete except for loss of fragment from top left corner. Some damage in middle of obv. and near bottom of rev. NA script.

Since the writer managed to get this letter through, although his scouts were held up, it seems that high ranking administrators had available to them specialist delivery personnel with the physique and skill to reach the king even when weather conditions were very adverse. The mention of the scouts also makes clear that in at least some cases representatives – well-informed if less agile – were sent to the capital to supplement a letter, by a full oral report about enemy activities.

2) ^mdūr-^daš-šur. Eponym for 728 BC; see RLA, II, 424-5 and 431.

18) ma a-a-ka ni-i[l-l]ak. For a-a-ka as NA form of *ajikī’ am* ‘where?’, see CAD, A/1, 232a-233b. An alternative rendering, *ma-a a-ka-ni i[l-l]ak*, ‘saying, how could he go’, is perhaps possible, although a sg. verb in 18 would be awkward in view of the pl. verbs in 17 and 23 and the pl. *amē^lda-a-a-lì* in 16.

20) *ki-ma-ma*. Taken as *kimâ* ‘outside’ (CAD, K, 363a), plus enclitic *-ma*.

ND 2755 (BSAI; Plate 29)

Transliteration

Obv.

[Not copied. The few legible signs are shown in the following:]

2' [š]a? x
 x x [L]UGAL
 x ... x ...

5' x ... x
 ... x u x x-šu-u-ni
 ... x x lu? x hu
 ... x-šú-nu x x x
 x

10' x

Base

1 x
 ... x x ... x ša x
 ... ʾu¹-ni [U]N?.MEŠ

Rev.

1 ... x ʾú¹-tú ʾi¹-ta-šu
 ... x [m]a-hi-ša-a-ni
 ... iš-pur-ʾa¹-ni
 ... [p]a-an amē^lrēši

5 ... x ma-hi-ši-šú ú-x(-)x?
 x GIŠ DU NIR? ma-hi-š[a]-a-n[i]
 x KAN [I]II? issu líb-b[i]-šú-nu
 XL ʾa¹ x : i-mu-x-te?/la?
 du : a-ki-ʾi¹ : a-ha-a-a-iš

10 ... x : ūm XX KAM [š]a arahnisanni
 ... x-aš-šur issu ā^l[š]i-me-ra i-tú-r[a]
 ... a-[l]ik ár-hiš L[Ú].ÚŠ.MEŠ
 x-x-[l]i?-ha : dul-la-š[u-n]u?
 ZA ... [U]GU? [LU]GAL lu-u ga-...

15 x [G]IŠ.MÁ [š]a ā^l[š]i-me-r]a ...
 ... [A]Š? ā^l[š]i-me-ra ta-...
 ... x L[Ú] ... x ʾa¹?/ʾe¹? x

Partial Translation

Rev.

(1) he went forth (2) scouts (3) ... he sent a message (4) ... in front of the Resh-official (5) ... his scout ... (6) scouts (7) from their midst (8) (9) as soon as together (10) on the twentieth day of Nisan (11) [PN] has returned from the town Simera, (12) ... go quickly, the dead people (13) their work (14) ... upon the king may be ... (15) ... ship of the town Simera (16) ... in the town Simera

Notes

Rejoined from at least eight fragments. Obv. has not been copied, since the face of its upper part is completely lost, and little remains of the surface of the remainder. More than half of most lines remain on base and rev. Except near cracks, signs are mostly sharp and clear. NA script.

Rev.

2, 5, 6) [*m*]a-hi-ša-a-ni, ma-hi-ši-šú, ma-hi-š[a]-a-n[i]. For possible meanings see CAD, M/1, 101b-103a, māhišānu, māhišu 3.

6) NIR? The sign seems to have three small verticals over two (as drawn in the copy), but examination under the microscope suggests that four verticals over four were intended. The only other possibility seems to be a badly made UN.

ND 2772 (IM 64163; Plate 29)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 a-na ša[rri] bē[lī]-i[a]
u[rad-k]a x x ...
x ... x ...
l[u šulmu ana šarri bē]lī-i[a]

5 š[a] x x x mā[*t*]a-[z]a-m[u]-[a]¹
š[a] ša[rri] bēlī i[š-pu]r-[a]¹-n[i]
[*m*]a-[a]¹ x ... x x x
[t]e?-mu i[na l]ib-bi
x x x ... x-šú-nu

[6 further lines on obv., 2 lines on base, and first 3 lines of rev. bear no certainly identifiable sign.]

Rev.

4 ... x-[š]u-nu
5 ... x x x
... t[a]?-hu-mu
x ... x [t]a?-x RI BE
x x x [U]RU? an?-n[i]-u
[š]a? mā[*t*]a-za-mu-a-[a]¹
10 ú-še-l[u]-u-n[i]
x x x ma RI B[E]?
x x x ... IGI
x k[a]-a x x x

[3 further lines on rev. and 3 on end bear at most 3 identifiable signs.]

Side*

i[na]? x x x l[i] ...

[Insufficient is legible to permit a translation. The only certain indication of subject-matter is the mention certainly once, possibly twice, of mā^tma-za-mu-a-a.]

Notes

Virtually complete tablet with such severe abrasion and surface damage that much of the text is illegible. NA script.

ND 2798 (= LV; BSAI; Plate 29)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-na šarri [bēlīya]*
urad-ka m.rd1
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šar[ri bēlīya]
a-dan-niš a-dan-niš
- 5 *šulmu^{mu} a-na mā^tbi-rat gab-bu*
a-na māti ša amē^labarakki šulmu^{mu}
ina mā^t amē^lrab šāqī šulmu^{mu}
dul-la-ni ša ā^lšarru-i[q-b]i
[š]a šarru iq-ba ni-i[p-p]a-āš
- 10 *ṭé-e-mu ša mā^tú-ra-ar-ṭi*
qat-tú-ma šu-u
 UDU.MEŠ *ša ā^lx-x-x*
am[ē^l]ṭe^l?-[t]u?-na-a-a x [x]?
... x x ṭe^l? a-na?(-)x [x]?
- 15 *... .. x i-ta-x(-)[x]?*
... .. x x ...

Rev.

- 1' *... .. x x x ...*
... .. i-du-ub-[bu-ub]
ṭú^l-x ... lu : āš-ri
a-ka-a[n-n]i is[su]? LÚ.x
- 5' *ú-si-bi-la x x*
šulmu^{mu} a-dan-niš dul-li-n[i]
ni-pa-āš lib-bu š[a] šarri
bēlī-ia a-dan-niš
lu-ú ṭāb

Translation

Obv.

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant [PN]. May it be very very well with the king my lord.

(5-7) It is well with all the border fortresses; it is well with the land of the Steward; it is well with the land of the Rab Shakeh. (8-9) We do our duty in respect to the city Sharru-iqbi, which the king ordered.

(10-11) Report about Urartu: it is destroyed. (12) The sheep of the city ... (13) the people of *Etuna* have ... (14-16) [fragmentary]

Rev.

(1'-3') [fragmentary] (4'-5') Now since the ...-official has had ... brought, (6') it is very well. (6b'-9) We do our duty. Let the heart of the king my lord be very glad.

Notes

Top right corner and all base missing. Fragment at lower right of tablet has been broken off and rejoined. 28 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script, mainly clear.

Obv.

5) *mātbi-rat*. The determinative URU is common with forms of *birtu*, KUR unusual. For the suggestion that this implies '(mountain) fortresses', '(border) forts', see *Iraq* 21 (1959), 166 and CAD, B, 262b, apud occurrence in AKA 181: 28.

8) *ālšarru-i[q-b]i*. In the Mannaeian border area; for other refs. see NAT 332.

8, 9) *ša ālšarru-i[q-b]i [š]a šarru iq-ba*. Since grammatically the final verb should be Subj. (in NA *iq-ba-ni*), the phrase *[š]a šarru iq-ba* may have been a pun on the place-name.

12) UDU.MEŠ. UDU at this period could represent *immeru* or *šu'u*; see CAD, Š/3, 417a.

13) *am[ēl]r[e]l?-[t]u?-na-a-a*. If a correct reading, perhaps related to ETINI of NAT 126f.

ND 2799 (= XXVIII; IM 64176; Plate 24)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ía*

urad-ka m^{dū}[r]-aš-šur

lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri

bēlī-ía a-dan-niš

5 *a-dan-niš*

ša šarru be-lí

iš-pur-a-ni ma-a

amēl_rab bītī-ka

lil-li-ka a-nu-ri-ig

10 *a[mēl_{šāb}]ēmeš-ia*

a[m-m]ar i-ba-šu-ni

ú-šá-aš-bít

it-ti-qu-ni

i-la-ku-u-ni

Translation

(1-5) To the king my lord your servant Dur-Ashur. May it be very very well with the king my lord.

(6-9) As to the message the king my lord sent me, saying 'Let your major domo come', (9-14) now then I have mustered my troops, as many as there are; they are setting out and coming.

Notes

Complete except for small piece gouged out of beginning of line 10, apparently with an excavating tool. Rev. uninscribed. NA script.

2) ^m*dū[r]-aš-šur*. Eponym for 728 BC, governor of the province of Tushkhan; see RLA, II, 431.

Chapter Four

Letters relating to the West and Northwest

(a) Palestine and Transjordan

Letters edited:

ND 2064, ND 2417, ND 2430, ND 2662, ND 2686, ND 2715, ND 2716, ND 2773,
ND 2766, ND 2767.

ND 2064 (BSAI; Plate 30)

Transliteration

Obv. *ana šar[ri bēlīya]*
urad-ka ^{m.d}D[N]-x-[x]?
m^bi-na-a-a-[x]?
m^si-li-x-x
 5 *naphar* II *amēlšīrāni* ^{meš} š[a]
āl^a-qa-ru-na-a-a
ša kaspā na-šū-n[i]-n[i]
 VII?/IX? *bilat* X[XX]IV *m[a]-n[a]*
ih-ti-a-t[a](-)l^a x x
 10 *š[a]* [U]RU? *x x x [x]?*
k[i] x x x [x]? [x]?
a-na x
DIŠ x u
 Base *x x*
 15 *ša* D[IŠ]
 Rev. *āl^ha-[za-ti] ...*
a-x d[i]?
 XII *x x x*
at-tal-l[ak] ...

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant PN.

(3-9) Ben-aya-... and Sili-..., a total of two chieftains of the Ekronites, who brought silver, have weighed out *nine* talents and thirty-four minas. (10) As to the town ... (11-15) [fragmentary] (16) Gaza ... (17-18) [fragmentary] (19) I have come back ...

Notes

Two fragments rejoined to form tablet lacking top right corner and nearly one-third of right side of lower half. Final 53 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

3, 4) *m^bi-ni-a-a-[x](-)[x]?* *m^si-li-x-x*. West Semitic names of emissaries from Ekron. *-a-a-[x](-)[x]?* might represent an onomastic element beginning in West Semitic with y-;

see also APN, 64, Bin-ia... For some west Semitic names to which ^msi-li-x-x might be related, see BDB, 699a.

6) *āl-a-qa-ru-na-a-a*. Consonantly the spelling corresponds with the Masoretic form and not with the usual Amqaruna.

9) *ih-ti-a-t[a](-)ʿaʿ*. This is one of several cases in the Nimrud Letters of a verbal predicate ending in -a with a grammatical subject comprising two persons, suggesting that the dual form of verbs was still a living form in this dialect. The final (-)ʿaʿ here might indicate the long vowel of the dual ending. See also below, p. 299, on ND 2711, 13-14.

ND 2417 (BSAI; Plate 30)

Transliteration

Obv.1' ... x [... ..]
 [x]? x ... x AŠ IGI A x [... ..]
 ʿaʿ-na mātsa-mir-na [... ..]
 ina KUR Ú : GAR BU x [... ..]
 5' amēl māṛ šip-ri š[a] L[Ú] [... ..]
 issu amēl šanū i-r[a]-x [... ..]
 bēl pi-qi-ti š[a] [... ..]
 i-tal-ku GIŠ x [... ..]
 ina āli pa-pa-ha [... ..]
 10' ku-[t]a-a[l]? [... ..]
 x x ... [... ..]
 Base šúm ... [... ..]
 [t]a?-ma?-ʿaʿ? [... ..]
 14' x x x [... ..]
 Rev. ... x [... ..]
 16' ... x ... [... ..]
 ma x x [... ..]
 ša x x x [... ..]
 URU x x ... [... ..]
 20' i[l]?-m[e]? x [... ..]
 a-na-ku x [... ..]
 ... x x [... ..]
 Left Side
 ... a-te gab-bu-š[ú]

Partial Translation

(3') to the land Samirna ... (4') in the land ... (5') the messenger ... (6') with the second-in-command ... (7') the official who/of ... (8') came back ... (9') in the city a shrine ... (10') behind ...

Notes

Slightly more than left half of tablet, with top missing. Surface lost near right ends of lines on most of obv. Considerable abrasion on rev. NA script.

Obv. and rev. are so identified by the text continuing over the extant end from one face to another. Nothing in the very slight remains of the beginning of what is taken to be rev. contains any element of an introductory formula. Obv. is almost flat top to bottom, rev. slightly curved.

This letter, of which the text is only fragmentarily preserved, records that an official had been to Samirna (= Samaria) and there seen a shrine, presumably of Yahweh and striking enough to warrant mention.

3') *māt_{sa}-mir-na.* = Samaria. For other occurrences see SAA, 1, p. 238.

6') *i-ra-x.* The slight traces of the third sign would accord with *bu*, but *i-ra-bu* would be anomalous for *ir(r)ubū* 'they enter'.

3'-9') *māt_{sa}-mir-na ... pa-pa-ha.* Presumably this letter gave further details of the shrine of Samaria at the time the Assyrians conquered the region, but regrettably nothing else of significance remains and no join has been identified.

11') *x.* The uncertain traces of the first sign suggest *il* but might be TA* = *issu*.

19') URU *x x ...* The very slight traces would not oppose a restoration *āl_{sa}-mir-[na]*.

ND 2430 (= XXI; IM 64037; Plate 30)

See partial new edition in TCAE, p. 115.

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1' ... *x x ...*
 [*x*] *x e tap? x ...*
m^mma-te-en-ni ...
*a-na āl_{da}-na-n[*i*] ...*
 5' *kas-pu ša šarri ni-x ...*
ma-a ki-i a-bu-tú x ...
ahi-šú iš-pu-ra x x ...
ša šarri it-tal-ka ma-a ...
di-na šu-ú issu āl_{da}-na-ni ...
 10' [*m*]*a-a ma-da-at-tu di-na x ...*
 [*amē*]*l_ši-du-na-a-a am-mar x ...*
 [*i*]*l-li-ku-ni-ni issu x ...*
 [*x*] *ina muh-hi-ia lil-li-ku?...*
 [*x-s*]*i-iq a-na šarri la ...*
 15' [*amē*]*l_qi-pu ma-a ki-i ...*
 [*á*]*š-mu-u-ni ma-a a-na x ...*
*ma-a issu ma-da-at-t[*u*] ...*
x ma x ...

Rev.

- 1' *i x ... x i ...*
*ma-a ŠE.NUMUN-šú-nu a-r[*i-iš*] ...*
 GIŠ.KIRI₆.MEŠ-šú-nu *l[*u*]?/k[*u*]? ...*
*m^gi-ri-ba-'-l[*i*] ...*
 5' III *amēl_širāni^{meš} ša K[UR]?... ..*
*ma-da-[*a*]t-ti ...*

Translation

Obv.

(3') Matenni ... (4') to the city Danani... (5') the silver of the king we ... (6') thus, according to the order [*of the king*] (7') he sent his brother ... [*A messenger of*] (8') the king came (and) said: '... (9') deliver!' That person [*came*] from the city Danani. (10') He said: 'Deliver tribute! ... (11') The Sidonians as many as ... (12') came to me from ... (13') let them come against me ... (14') ... to the king not ... (15') the Warden says: 'When ... (16') I heard, saying, 'To ... (17') thus, 'From the tribute ...'

Rev.

(2') He said: 'Cultivate their cornland! ... (3') their orchards ... (4') Giru-ba'al ... (5') three chieftains of the land ... (6') tribute ...'

Notes

Fragment from left half or more of a quite large tablet. Shows surface layer of clay over a core. NA script.

Although line-spacing, clay type, core form, and curvatures of obv. and rev. might suggest that ND 2430 belonged to the same tablet as ND 2456 and ND 2723, this is precluded by differences of subject matter, and by a line of text down the side of ND 2456 which is not represented on the side of ND 2430.

To judge by the curvature of obv. the extant part of the longest remaining line (obv. 9') represents not more than two-thirds of the complete line, perhaps less.

The correct placing of quotation marks is open to doubt, since the broken state of the text makes it difficult to decide where oratio directa ends.

Obv.

3') ^mma-te-en-ni. See APN 138, Mitenna, king of Tyre.

14') [x-s]i-iq. The lost sign, which must have been a short one, may have been *i* or *is* but was probably not *ú*.

Rev.

4') ^mgi-ri-ba-'-li. Cf. personal name Giri-ba'al (ADD 775, 7) and place name Gur-ba'al (2 Chron.26: 7).

ND 2662 (IM 64100; Plate 19)

Transliteration

Obv. [ana šarri b]ēlī-ia urad-ka ^mqur-dī-aš-šur-[lāmur]

...-da-a ina muh-hi-ia i-sa-par

... x ālqa-da-r[u]-a āllī-i-du

[x]? x-di-du šarri ina libbi a-de-e a-s[a-k]an

5 x(-)UD-ma a-na [ša]rri at-ta-ha-ra

... x x x ... x x x x x

... .. x x

Translation

(1) To the king my lord your servant Qurdi-ashur-[lamur]. (2) ... he sent a message for/about me. (3) ... the city of Qedar (and) the city of Lidu (4) ... of the king I have set within the vassal-treaty (5) ... I have duly delivered to the king.

Notes

Top of large tablet, lacking left side. Bears one line of address on turn of top end, and four almost complete lines and two vestigial lines on obv. The extant 18 mm of end of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

This text mentions Qedar.

1) ^mqur-di-aš-šur-[lāmur]. The name here, which occurs in the same form in ND 2716, 2 and ND 2773, 2, is assumed to be a shortened form of the name in ND 2686, 2 and ND 2715, 2. All these letters are concerned with Palestine or Transjordan.

3) ^ālqa-da-r[u]-a. See NAT, 285, apud Qedar.

3) ^ālī-i-du. Cf. ND 2366, 10' (= Iraq 21 (1959), 171, LX, 10'), ^{mā}tli-d[i]-a-a.

ND 2686 (= XIII; IM 64118; Plate 30)

Transliteration

Obv. [ana šar]ri bēlī-ia
 ur[ad-k]a ^mqur-di-aš-šur-lāmur(IGI)
 ka-ni-ku an-ni-tú ^{mā}tār-mi-tú
^mna^bū₃-še-zib [is]su lib-bi ^ālšur-ri
 5 [ú]l-si-bi-l[a] ma-a ina ekalli
 [^āl]šur lu šul[mu] ina ekalli
 [lib]bi ^āluš-še
^mnergal-iddin : e-qu
 ša bīt ilānini.meš-šú
 10 ša rēš ^ālšī-du-u-ni
 [i]l-ti-kis : ma-a a-n[a] ^ālšur-ri
 la-an-tú-uh a-s[a]-par
 ú-sa-ak-li-ú-šú
 14 e-qu : ša i-ki-s[u]-u-ni
 Base ina šēpē šadē^e
 16 ha-ni-qi
 Rev. ^mna[bū₃]-še-zib i-b[a]?-...
 ... x-[r]u?-mu ...
 MEŠ-šú i-tú-[']a?[-a?-a?]
 20 AN x an-nu-tú
 x ... ú-si-ši
 hu-u[b-t]ú [š]a a-na ^ālim-mi-[i]l-ha
 il-la-ka-a-ni : lu-nam-mi-šá
 lil-li-ka ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ-šú-nu
 25 a-ri-iš ina muhhi
 in-gal-li-šú-nu
 lil-li-ku-ú-ni

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Qurdi-Ashur-lamur.

(3-5) I sent this Aramaic document by Nabu-shezib from inside Tyre. (5-6) It is well in the palace of Tyre. (6-11) In the palace inside Ushshe, Nergal-iddin has cut down the *cult-object* of the house of its gods which are at the head of Sidon. (11-12) He said: 'I shall move it to Tyre.' I have sent a message (and) (13) made him stop it. (14-16) The *cult-object* which he cut down is *secured* at the foot of the mountains. (17) Nabu-shezib ... (18-20a) [uncertain] ... (20b-21) I made this one ... go out. (22-24) I shall set under way the booty which is going to Immiha; it may go. (24-25) Their corn is sown. (25-27) Let them come for their ...

Notes

Slight damage at top left corner of obv., at bottom right corner, and fairly extensive damage near beginning of rev. left to middle. The surface is a little chipped passim but tablet on the whole is in good condition, very solid, with clear script. 25 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

3) *ka-ni-ku an-ni-tú māár-mi-tú*. Clearly the present letter was introductory to a fuller account of events in Aramaic, brought by Nabu-shezib.

7) *ālūš-še*. Either a part of Tyre or an area adjoining it; see Forrer, *Provinz.*, 66, and Streck, *Assurbanipal*, II, 80, col.IX, 115.

8, 14) *e-qu*. An unidentified cult-object; see CAD, E, 253b and AHW, 232a-b.

15) *šadē*. The copy shows further traces, which may be mere damage or the remains of MEŠ.

16) *ha-ni-qi*. The proposed translation is based on the context, which seems to require mention of some restriction on further movement of the *equ*. CAD, 𐤒, 77a gives *hanāqu* (2) 'to constrict, compress'; similarly AHW, 320a.

22) *ālīm-mi-īl-ha*. There are certainly traces, almost certainly representing *i*, between the end of *mi* and subsequent verticals.

25) *a-ri-iš*. 3 sg. Stat. of *erēšu*.

26) *in-gal-li-šú-nu*. The reading is beyond doubt, and the proposal in *Iraq* 17 (1955), 131 to read LÚ instead of IN is invalid. *ingallu* is not listed in CAD, and the meaning offered in AHW, 382a, 'eine Holztafel', seems inappropriate here. Is it perhaps a form of *niggallu* 'sickle' (see SAA 5, no.295, r.24)?

ND 2715 (= XII; IM 64130; Plate 31)

Re-edited in TCAE, pp. 390-3 and Fales, CLNA, pp. 90-95, 128-132, II.2.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*

urad-ka m^mqur-di-aš-šur-lāmur(IGI)

issu muhhi āl^lšur-a-a ša šarru iq-bu-u-ni

ma-a : INIM.INIM : *itti*(KI)-šú *lu tāb*

5 *ka-ra-a-ni^{meš} gab-bu ra-mu-ni-šú*

urdāni^{meš}-šú ki-i lib-bi-šú-nu bīt KAR.RA^{meš.ni}

e-ru-bu ū-šu-u i-du-nu i-ma-ha-ru-ni

- šadlab-na-na ina pānī-šú ki-i lib-bi-šú-nu*
e-li-ú ú-ru-du GIŠ.MEŠ ú-še-ra-du-ni
 10 *ša GIŠ.MEŠ ú-še-ra-da-a-ni*
mi-ik-si-šú a-ma-kis amēlma-ki-sa-ni^{meš}
ina muhhi ka-ra-a-ni^{meš} ša šadlab-na-na gab-bi
[u]p-ta-q[i-d]i [m]a-[š]ar-tú ša [k]āre(KAR)^e
i-na-[š]u-[r]u amēlma-ki-su
 15 *ša ina b[īt] kar-ra-a-ni^{meš}*
ša ina [ā]lšī-du-u-ni u-ra-du-ni-ni
ap-ti-qi-di ālšī-du-na-a-a
uk-ta-ši-du-ni-šú ha-ra-ma-ma
mātī-tú-'a-a-a ina šadlab-na-na a-sa-par
 20 *nīšē^{meš} ú-sa-ga-ri-ru*
ur-ki-te i-sa-par-u-ni amēlma-ki-su
i-ta-šu ina ālšī-du-ni ú-si-ri-bu
ki-i an-né-e aq-ṭi-ba-šú-nu
nu-uk GIŠ.MEŠ še-ri-da-ni
 25 *dul-la-ku-nu ina lib-bi e-pi-šá*
 Base *a-na mātmu-šur-a-a a-na*
mātpa-la-áš-ta-a-a la ta-da-na
 Rev. *ú-la-ma-a la ú-ra-ma-ku-nu*
a-na šadē^e la te-le-a
 30 *issu muhhi ālkas-pu-na-[a-a] šarru iq-bu-u-ni*
ma-a a-na mi-ni tu-har-ri-di ta-di-na-šú-nu
a-ki-i : ú-di-ni issu ekalli la i-š[a]-pa-ru-ni
a-ša-ab-ta dul-lu e-ta-pa-[á]š ur-ki-te
imka-ni-ku i-sa-pa-ru-ni la il-laka-ni
 35 *ah-hur a-hi issu muhhi a-na ul-lu-e*
i-si-ta-te a-ta-áš?/ma?-ha abulli-ma
ša bitāni^{ni.meš} la-ar-šip a-ti-ši
[u]r-ta-am-[m]i amēlšābē^{meš} šárrī-šú-nu u-ša-bi-ta
itti-ia i-tal-ku-ni amēl^{rēš}u amēl^{rāb} bi-i[r]-te
 40 *i[na m]uhhi-šú-nu ap-ti-qi-di XXX amēlšābē^{meš}*
[mātš]i-ia-na-a-a ina lib-bi u-se-rib
maš[šar]tu^{tú} i-na-šu-ru XXX-ma amēlšābē^{meš}
i-pa-ṭa-ru-šú-nu ša šarru iq-bu-u-ni
ma-a X bitāti^{meš} mātīa-su-ba-a-a
 45 *ina lib-bi ālkas-pu-na še-rib*
mē^{meš} ina lib-bi dan-nu nišē^{meš} i-ma-ru-šu
ki-i issu mē^{meš}-šú-nu ina ālīm-mi-u
i-taš-ku-nu mit-ha-[r]iš ina ālkas-pu-na
u-še-raba-šú-nu

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Qurdi-Ashur-lamur.

(3) Concerning the ruler of Tyre, about whom the king said: (4) ‘Talk nicely to him’, (5) all the wharves are at their disposal. (6-7) His subjects enter and leave the warehouses at will, and trade. (8-9) The Lebanon range is accessible to him; they go up and down at will and bring lumber down. (10-11) On the lumber they bring down I impose a tax. (11-14a) I have appointed tax inspectors over the customs (houses) of the entire Lebanon range, (and) they keep the watch on the harbour. (14b-18a) I appointed a tax-inspector (for those who) were going down into the custom houses which are in Sidon, (but) the Sidonians chased him away. (18b-19) Thereupon I sent the Itu’a contingent into the Lebanon range. (20) They terrified the people, (21-22) (so that) afterwards they sent a message and fetched the Tax Inspector (and) brought (him) into Sidon. (23) I spoke to them in these terms: (24-27) ‘Bring down lumber, do your work on it, (but) do not deliver it to the Egyptians or Palestinians, (28-29) or I shall not let you go up to the mountains.’

(30) Concerning the people of the town of Kaspuna about which the king said to me: (31) ‘Why *did you act so hastily* (and) hand them over?’, (32) (it was) because while they were not sending a message from the palace, (33) I took matters in hand (and) did the work. (33-34) Afterwards when they send me a sealed document, it did not get to me.

(35) In addition, *a further matter*. (36-38) *I am dealing with* (or *I have taken away*) the defence-towers. I wanted to build the great gate of the inner quarter, (but) I have withdrawn (and) left (it). (38-40) I took twenty of the royal soldiers; they have come with me; I have appointed an officer (as) Garrison Commander over them. (40-42) I brought 30 Shiyanaean soldiers inside; they are keeping guard; (42-43) soldiers will relieve them thirty at a time. (43-45) About what the king said: ‘Bring ten households of the Iasubaeans within Kaspuna’, (46) the water therein is dangerous and people fall ill. (47) When they have organized their water (supply) from Immiu, (48-49) I will bring them together into Kaspuna.

Notes

Broken into pieces and rejoined. Except for damage in the vicinity of joins, the text is almost perfect, with beautifully clear and deep script. 15 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

4) INIM.INIM : *itti* (KI)-*šú lu t̄āb*(DUG.GA). Lit. ‘Let your speech with it be good.’ INIM.INIM is taken to represent *abat-ka* rather than pl. *abāti*.

5) *ra-mu-ni-šú*. For the proposed translated cf. K. Deller, *Or.* 30 (1961), 351, *rammû* ‘zur verfügen stellen’.

6) *ki-i*. Not *ša* as read in CAD, K, 238b.

10-18, 21-22) See transliteration and translation in TCAE, p. 131.

13) [*k]āre*(KAR)^e. CLNA, p. 92, proposes ‘*šad!-d̄le!-e*’, but the penultimate sign ends in a vertical followed by two superimposed verticals and can certainly not be *de*.

15) *b[īt]*. CLNA, p. 92, proposes [UG]U. The sign is almost completely lost except for the slightest trace of an inconclusive initial wedge.

16) *u-ra-du-ni-ni*. 3 m. pl. Assyrian Subj. of Vent.

20) *ú-sa-ga-ri-ru*. See CAD, G, 49a-b, *garāru* B, 2 *šugruru*.

22) *i-ta-šu*. In form could be G^t of either *ašû* or *naš/šû*, but the context suggests the latter.

28-29) *la ú-ra-ma-ku-nu ... la te-le-a*. Lit. 'I shall not release you ... you shall not go up'.

31) *tu-har-ri-di*. Fales, CLNA, p. 93, 'Perché hai tardato (tanto) a fornirli?', with supporting note on pp. 130-131. Although this makes good sense, *haradu* IV (AHw, 322b) = 'wachen, bewachen', D 'als Wache einsetzen' (= CAD, H, 88a, *harādu* A, 'to wake up, to be alert') suggests the concept of alertness rather than delay. Hence the tentative translation above, although prima facie this would appear to be less suitable to the context.

34) *il-laka-ni*. CLNA, ad loc., *il-lak<-u>-ni*.

36) *i-si-ta-te*. See CAD, A/2, 332b-333a, *asītu*.

36) *a-ta-áš?/ma?-ha*. On doubts about the third sign see TCAE, p. 393, and CLNA, pp. 94, 132; both read *a-ta-áš-ha* (from CAD, N/2, 1a, *nasāhu* (*našāhu*) 'to remove'). Since the horizontals certainly extend to the right of the vertical, the reading *áš* seems preferable, but with regard to defence-towers, *a-ta-ma-ha* 'I am fixing' would seem to fit the context better than *a-ta-áš-ha* 'I have taken away', even though the writer goes on to say that he has had to leave off building the great gate.

37) *bītāni^{meš}*. See CAD, B, 274b, *bītānu*.

41) [*mātš*] *i-ia-na-a-a*. The emendation in NAT 187 to [^{KUR}j] *a-u₂-na-aja* is invalid.

ND 2716 (IM 64131; Plate 32)

Transliteration

[For the meaning in this transliteration of the symbols < >, see notes below]

Obv.

1 [*a-na*] *šarri be-lí-ia*
 [*urad-k*] *a^mqur-di-aš-šur*
 l[*u šulm*] *u^{mu} a-na šarri be-lí-[i]a*
 [*ša šarr*] *u be-lí a-n[a] x ip-qi-da-ni-ni*
 5 ... <*a*>-l^a *ú-x ... x-<ia> ip-taq-du*
 ... <*a-a-ši* *i-na LÚ? x-ša>-an-a-a*
 ... <*x ni*> *x muhhi š[a]? áš-pu-ra-šú-ni*
 *ā^hhu-ul-b[u-n]a*
 *x x x-ma!?-gúr*
 10 *x RI x*
 *x*
 *x x*

[Lines 13-15 were already completely lost in 1954]

16 ... *x ... [iq]-ṭi!-ba-ni ma-a*
 x x x muh-hi la ša x x x
 x x x i[n]? [n]i? ni si? x ... LUGAL
 *x x x x ... x*
 20 *x x ...*
 *x x ...*

Rev.

1' <*x*> *x x x ma-a x x ...*
 <ŠE>.GIŠ.KIRI₆.MEŠ *ša ālāni^{me.ni} ā^h[u-u]l-[b]u-[na]*

- <a-na> [m]e-me-ni a-da-nu-u-ni šúm-mu SIG₅.MEŠ
 <šum-mu a>-na hur-bi-te i-tu-ra šarru ina qātē^{II}-i[a]
 5' ... x x ú ma-a šúm-mu ú-sa-ni-'u
 ... me-me-ni i-[s]i-ia ip-ti-te
 ... x x š[a]? x x ... x ú-da
 x x LUGAL
 x tur-ta-nu
 10' x x x šúm-mu
 <issu> ... x ... x amēl**bēl** pāhati
 <ša URU> <[i]b-ba>-a-a-ši
 <a>-[n]a ka x ... x ... x x ša LUGAL
 [šú]m-mu x x-ni ú-du-x
 15' <ki>-[i] LUGAL x x <ka?-ni-a ... ni> x ta mur nu
 <i x x> [m]a-a šarru <šú-bu-ra>
 <lu> <pa-ni-ia>
 [i]l-qa-bi
 x x ša šarri
 20' x x ki-i šu-u-tú
 k[i]-[i]l x ...

Partial Translation

[Insufficient remains for a full translation. Obv. 1-2 shows that this was a letter to the king from Qurdi-Ashur-[lamur], author of ND 2662, ND 2686, ND 2715, and ND 2773, who was concerned with events in Sidon and district. *ā^lhu-ul-bu-na* of obv. 8 and rev. 2' may be Helbon of Ezek.27: 18, a city in the Syrian orbit associated by trade with Tyre.]

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Qurdi-Ashur-(lamur). May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) (About the matter) which the king my lord appointed to me, (5) they have appointed (6) [doubtful] (7) which I sent him a message about (8) the city of Helbon (9) he will [*not*] agree (10-15) [fragmentary or lost] (16) they said: (17-18) [fragmentary]

Rev.

(2') [*the grain of*] the gardens of the cities of Helbon, (3') to whom shall they give *it/them*? Whether they are successful, (4') or whether it returns to wasteland, let the king ... in my hands. (5') ... He says: 'Whether they have *done again/changed* (6') ... somebody with me has opened ...' (7'-21') [very fragmentary]

Notes

When copied in 1954 this tablet lacked most of left side and the equivalent of probably one or two lines at bottom, with substantial surface loss; there were parts of 18 lines on obv., with 7 or 8 half or more preserved, and parts of 21 lines on rev., with 9 half or more preserved. NA script. Final 15 mm of rev. was unscribed. Tiny detached fragments in the tablet box indicated that the tablet was beginning to disintegrate. By 1965, when an attempt was made at collation, the tablet was in several pieces, and by

1970 the text of obv. was totally lost, and extant text of rev. was substantially reduced. A quick provisional transliteration which C.J. Gadd, presumably concerned about the physical condition of this tablet, made and passed to me within a few days of its excavation in 1952, provides some signs additional to my copy; these are included in the transliteration, identified by the symbols < >.

Obv.

9-12) Gadd's copy also made no sense of these traces.

Rev.

4') *hur-bi-te*. Taken as from CAD, H, 251a *huribtu*; otherwise perhaps *har-bi-te* from CAD, 100b, *haribtu*, although this is attested only from Mari.

12') <[i]b-ba>-a-a-ši. This is Gadd's reading; my proposed restoration is [a]-na a-a-ši 'to me'.

14'-16') A tiny unattached fragment in the tablet box bore traces which could have been the first half of the first sign on each of these lines.

ND 2773 (= XIV; IM 64164; Plate 31)

Re-edited: W.F. Albright, BASOR 140 (1955), 34ff.; H. Donner, MIO 5 (1957), 156-158; Fales, CLNA, I, pp. 94-97, 132-133, II.3.

Transliteration

Obv. [a-n]a šarri be-lí-ia
 urad-ka m^qur-di-aš-šur
 lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri be-lí-ia
 amēl^{mār} šipri ša m.^da-a-nu-r[i]
 5 māt^a-ab-i-la-a-a
 m^e-za-zu šumi-šú ka-ni-ku
 ina qātē^{II}-šú a-na ekalli
 ú-ba-la dib-bi
 ša ina libbi ka-ni-ki-šú
 10 i-na muhhi āl^{ma}-'a-ba-a-a
 šu-nu ša māt^{gi}-di-ra-a-a
 a-na māt^{ma}-'a-b[a-a-a]
 Base e-ti-qu-u-n[i]
 14 i[l]-li-ku-u-ni
 Rev. dīkti(GAZ)-šú i-du-ku-u-ni
 16 i-na muh-hi šu-u-tú
 ú-ma-a an-nu-rig
 i-na qātē^{II} amēl^{mār} šip[ri]-ia
 ap-ti-qi-su
 20 a-na ekalli ú-ba-la-šú
 i-na ūm XXIX KÁM
 ša arahšabāti(ZÍZ) [ú!]-šu-ni

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Qurdi-Ashur(-lamur). May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-8) The messenger of Aya-nuri, the Tabilite, Ezazu by name, is bringing a sealed document in his hands to the palace. (8-11) The matters within his sealed document are with reference to the Moabites, (11-15) when the Gidirites crossed over to Moab (and) came (and) inflicted a defeat on it (*sc.* Moab). (16-19) Concerning that matter, now then I have entrusted it (*sc.* the report) into the hands of my messenger. (20) He will bring it to the palace. (21-22) They are setting out on the 29th of Shabat.

Notes

Virtually complete except for small fragment missing from top right corner. Text mostly very clear. NA script. Final 20 mm of rev. uninscribed.

2) ^mqur-di-aš-šur. Since this letter, like ND 2715, relates to events in the Lebanon-Palestine region, the writer's name is taken as a shortened form of ^mqur-di-aš-šur-lāmur, the name of the author of ND 2715.

4) ^mda-a-nu-r[i]. A West Semitic name. For related parallels see *Iraq* 17 (1955), 132, and Friedrich, *Tell Halaf*, 64, 112 vs.4, ^mahu-nūri.

5) ^mātta-ab-i-la-a-a. Cf. Isa.7: 6. For the 'son of Ṭab'el' as a prince of Judah from the land of Ṭab'el in northeast Palestine or southeast Syria see W.F. Albright, *BASOR* 140 (1955), 35. For a possible alternative reading see *Iraq* 17 (1955), 132.

6) ^me-za-zu. A West Semitic name, equivalent to Hebrew 'āzāz of 1 Chron.5: 8.

11) ^mātgi-di-ra-a-a. For possible identifications see *Iraq* 17 (1955), 133; CLNA, p. 132-133; NAT, 285-286, apud QEDAR.

22) [ú]!-šu-ni. Although the first sign in its damaged state strongly resembles *i*, as read in editio princeps, it must be *ú* with only minimal traces remaining of its second and third verticals. The pl. implies that the named messenger Ezazu was accompanied.

ND 2766 (= LXX; BSAI; Plate 33)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 a-na šarri be-lí-ia
 urad-ka ^m.dšamaš-aha₂-iddin₃
 LÚ.GAL [S]AG ina pā[nī]-í[a] ina ālra-a[b-l]e-e
 ú-si-ri-ba-a-ni
- 5 b[i]-ir-ti ēnē^{II}.meš-ia
 ina muhhi maššarti ša ālra-ab-l[e]-e
 un-ta-di-id ma-a
 [m]eš-li imēr-a-šap-pi
 ina ālra-ab-le-e
- 10 li-ru-ub ma-a meš-l[u]-ma
 ins ālqi-di-si l[i]-ru-ub
^ma-i-ni-ili i-ta-la[k]
 amēltur-ta-nu i-t[a]-...-x
 amēlmār šip-ri š[a] x ... e-gir-tú
- 15 ša amēltu[r]-ta-n[i] x ...
 issu [ā]lra-a[b-l]e-[e] ...-a-ni
 na-x

Rev.

- 1' [ú] [...]
meš-li x [... .. .]
x^{meš.ni} meš-x ...
a-l[i]? meš-li(-)ma(-)x
- 5' *šum-ma šarru be-lí i-[qa(b)-bi]*
ma-a ša ra-me-ni-š[ú-n]u
lil-qi-ú li-ku-lu
lil-qi-ú li-ku-lu
šarru be-lí lu ú-da
- 10' *šarru be-lí ú-da ša ālāni^{meš}*
ša imēr^a-šap-pu ina lib-bi
ú-se-ri-bu-u-ni
qa-b[a]-si mu-da-bi-ri
šú-nu šum-ma a-na maššarti
- 15' [š]a imēr^a-šap-pi man-nu
li-zi-iz šum-ma
a-na maššarti ina pa-ni-ía
man-nu li-zi-iz
maššarti ša āl^{ra}-ab-l[e]-e
- 20' *uš-š[u]-rat šarri*
 Top *be-lí lu ú-da*
šum-ma šarru be-lí
i-qab-bi

Side*

- 1 [ma-a] x MEŠ šarri lu-ra-me a-na-ku ina i^snarkabāti x
 ... š[a] šarru ip-qi-da-ni x x x x

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Shamash-aha-iddin.

(3-4) They sent the General into my presence into Rable. (5-7) He made things clear to me about the guard of Rable, saying: (8-11) 'Let half the pack-animals go into Rable, and half into Qadesh.'

(12) Aini-ili has come back. (13) The Tartan has ... (14) The messenger of the letter (15a) of the Tartan (15b-17) [lost or fragmentary]

Rev.

(1'-4') [fragmentary]. (5') If the king my lord should say: (6'-7') 'Let them take (and) eat for themselves', (8') (then) let them take (and) eat. (9') The king my lord certainly knows (best). (10'-12') The king my lord knows that the villages into which they have introduced the pack-animals (13'-14') are in the midst of the desert. (14'-16') Whether someone should take position for the watch of the pack-animals, (16'-18') or whether someone should take position for the watch in my presence, (19'-20') the watch of Rable is (in either case) organized. (20'-21') The king my lord should know (this). (22'-23') If the king my lord should say:

Side*

(1) 'I myself will release the royal ...', in the chariot ... (2) ... which the king appointed

Notes

Tablet of terracotta colour with bottom missing. Obv. very slightly convex top to bottom, rev. more markedly so. Surface mainly in good condition, except on right side of last six extant lines on obv. The text is in the main sharp, but in some places wedges are either abnormally shallow, as with BI at the beginning of obv. 5 and the second and third verticals of TA in obv. 12, or completely invisible, as with most of the second vertical of URU in obv. 3 and the bottom of the probable vertical(s) in *l[i]?* in rev. 4' (left unstippled as there is no obvious abrasion). The tablet would appear to have been originally covered with a skim coating of finer clay which has been lost, taking with it the upper layer of some wedges and in a few instances the whole wedge, without leaving overt indication of abrasion.

Obv.

3) LÚ.GAL [S]AG. The general slight abrasion makes it difficult to see the double vertical in SAG.

6) *ālra-ab-l[e]-e*. = Riblah, just to the north of Palestine (2 Kings 23: 33).

12) *ma-i-ni-ili*. See *Iraq* 25 (1963), 80, note to obv. 12.

Rev.

3') *x^{meš}.ni*. The traces of the unidentified sign rather suggest ERIM, but the upper diagonal appears to be absent, and the phonetic complement *ni* would not be appropriate.

12') *qa-b[a]-si*. NA for *qa-bal-ti*.

Side

1) *išnarkabāti x*. The unidentified sign does not appear to be *ma* or *šū*. *tu* would be possible, but as phonetic complement this would not be appropriate for the noun after *ina*.

ND 2767 (IM 64160; Plate 31)

Transliteration

Obv.

1' *x*
x
 DIŠ *x x x*
it-tal-k[a]
 5' *i-qab-bi-ma-[a]*
a-x e-gir?/piš?-x
ra-qu-bi-šú-n[u]? ...
x muhhi ^{anše}KUR.RA ...
 AŠ T[A]? *x* ... *x x* ...
 10' *ina UR[U]?* ... *x x* ...
a-x x x x
pa-an x x

- 15' $\lceil a \rceil$ -x x x
i-qab-bu ma-[a]
 ... x x
 x
- Rev.
- 1' LÚ.A.K[IN]?
ki-la-l[i]
i-du-k[u]-[ú]
ú-sa-aṣ-b[i]-[it/tu]? ...
- 5' *ma-a la LÚ.x x x ...*
 UDU.MEŠ- $\lceil e \rceil$ -a *ih-bu-[tu]? ...*
ma-a ālar-za-a ...
ih-ta-a[b]?-[tu]? ...
šarru be-lí u-[da]? ...
- 10' *a-di LÚ.e-x ...*
la(-)a[g/k/q]-ru-u?? ...
 [Remainder of rev. is uninscribed]

[Since there is no complete line, and readings of the extant text are at many places doubtful, no translation is offered.]

Notes

Fragment from left side, lacking top and bottom. NA script.

Rev. 7') *ālar-za-a*. For other occurrences see NAT, 37. The connection elsewhere of this town with *nahal muṣur* suggests a link with south Palestine. The apparent reference in rev. 6' to the plundering of sheep may point to a clash with Arab raiders in this area.

(b) Syria

Letters edited:

ND 2370, ND 2737, ND 2381, ND 2437, ND 2399, ND 2415 (not a letter), ND 2495, ND 2644, ND 2668, ND 2671, ND 2676, ND 2680, ND 2733, ND 2762 (also related to Palestine).

ND 2370 (= LXIX; BSAI; Plate 32; Photo Plate I)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 $\lceil a \rceil$ -na *šarri bēlī-ia*
urad-ka^mqur-di-ili-lāmur(IGI)
mātīa-ú-na-a-a i-tal-ku-ni
qa-ra-bu ina ālú-si-x
- 5 *ina ālha-ri-ṣu-ú ina ā[?]*...
ú-tap-pi-šu ša x x x? ...
[i]-tal-ka a-na āli ša šárri

[amēl]šābē^{meš} zak-ku-ú ina B[ÀD]??
 [š]a-bit a-ta-t[a]-lak mi-m[i]-[ni]?
 10 [l]i?-iš-ši-ú a-di-i e-m[u]-[qi]?
 [x] x-x-ni ina lib-bi GIS.MÀ.MEŠ
 qab-li-ta bar-ti
 x š[a] x¹u¹?-a.M[EŠ]?
 Rev.
 1' ... x x
 x x a ri ša KUR x x? ...
 šu x x k[i]-ma-a x x AŠ ...
 e-lu-ni x x x a-x-[x]
 5' a-ra-x-x amēli-tú-'a-[a-a]
 e-x-x ina? [p]ānī?-ia amēli-tú-'[a-a]
 x x x-[n]i ina lib-bi lu-še-ši-[bu]?

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Qurdi-ili-lamur.

(3) The people of the land Iauna came. (4-6) They have done battle in the cities Usi, Harišu and (7) He (*sc.* the ruler of Iauna?) has come to the king's city. (8) The soldiers are free of tax obligations. (8-9) He is detained in ... (9) I have come back. Let no one (10) until the forces (11) [arrive] in the ships. (12) in the middle of a rebellion (13)

Rev.

(4') they came up (5') the Itu'a (troops) (6') ... into my presence. (6'-7') Let them [bring] the Itu'a (troops) (and) make them go inside.

Notes

The base, the lower part of the left side and most of the right side are missing. 18-30 mm of surface is lost from the upper part of extant rev. The remaining text is mainly clearly legible on obv., less so on rev. NA script. The clay contains some minute stones, of about 1 mm diameter; one such is visible in the sign before LÚ in rev. 5', where its presence immediately below the surface has contributed to the wedge impressed above it flaking away.

Obv.

2) ^mqur-di-ili-lāmur. Cleaning (not by me) reveals that that the divine element is AN, not aš-[šu]r as read in the editio princeps.

3) ^mātia-ú-na-a-a. See note in *Iraq* 25 (1963), 77f., and further refs. in NAT 186f, apud JAWAN. The attribution of the report to the people of Iauna rather than to an Assyrian official suggests that Iauna was part of a vassal land rather than fully subject territory.

6) ša x x x? The traces favour ša AN[ŠE].KUR.R[A] rather than ša LÚ x x?. The verb in line 7 gives no guidance on which restoration is appropriate.

10) [l]i?-iš-ši-ú. Or [l]a iš-ši-ú; for this latter cf. ABL 339, obv. 18-rev. 1.

12) qab-li-ta bar-ti. Collation does not support emendation to qab-li ta-an!-ti.

Rev.

6') *e-x-x. e-r[a-b]u* would be a possible restoration, but would leave unexplained the following horizontal taken as *ina*.

ND 2737 (BSAI; Plate 33)

Transliteration

Obv.1' [š]a
 ... *ina lib-bi UR[U]* ...
 ... *x.MEŠ-[š]u ša ina x ...*
l]u-^lu^l [T]A? T[U]?? UD? RI AN x ...*
 5' *hi-ri-[š]u a-na ba-at-ti [x]?*
ša [š]al-hi-^le^l i-ha-ru-š[u]
a[m-m]u-te x x RU ŠÁ ME [x]?
ši-h[i-i]t x [x] ^lú^l āli-...
LÚ ša EN.NUN e-ta-m[ar]?
 10' *k[i]? il-q[i]? it-taš-š[i]?-[x]?*
[n]i-ir-ti-di-ip-šu-n[u]
a-na šadê ša ku-pe-^le^l
i-šab-tu pa-ni-šú-nu
issu lib-bi ā^lia-ú-na
 15' *issu lib-bi ā^lx-šu-ri*
[n]i-[š]ab-[t]a II ME amēlšābē^m[š]
pa-na amēl^tu[r-t]a-ni
ú-si-bi^l]-ma ina ekalli
 Rev. *l[u]-bi-lu XXIV amēlšābē^m[eš]*
 20' *an-na-ka ÚŠ*
i-ba-ši ša issu amēl^xmeš
ú-[š]a-bi-tu-u-ni i-su-[r]i
šarru be-lí i-qa-bi [m]a a-a-ka
hi-ri-šu i-ha-ru-šu
 25' *šal-hi-ú it-ta-aš-m[i]!-di*
hi-[r]i-ši ug-da-[me-ru-n]i
a-na ba-at-ti an-[ni-te]
hi-ri-šu šá-ni-u x
šal-hi-ú bir-ti
 30' *šum-mu BE x x x*
š[a] x ... x

Translation

(2') ... within the town ... (3') which in ... (4') indeed *from* (5-6') they are digging a moat around the [outside] of the outer wall. (7') Those (people), the ..., [made] an attack [on/from] the town I[auna]. (9') The guard saw [them] (10') *as he took* (11) We pursued them. (12'-13') They took to the snow mountain(s) in front of them. (14'-16') We took (people) from inside the town of Iauna (and) from inside the town ...-suri; (16') we sent 200 people into the presence of the Turtan. *Shall*

I bring (them) into the palace? (19'-22') 24 people here are dead, whom they seized from the ...-people.

(22'-27') Perhaps the king my lord will say: 'Where are they digging the moat?' It is joined to the outer wall. They have completed the moat. To this side (28') a second moat (29') the outer wall of the fortress

Notes

Tablet comprising several fragments rejoined. Lacks several lines at top end, small fragment running from near middle of top downwards to left side, and large fragment running from top down to lower half of right side. Considerable loss of surface on rev. NA script.

7') RU ŠÁ ME. Assumed to be part of an unidentified proper name identifying attackers.

8') *ši-hi-iṭ*. See AHw, 1209b, *še/iḥṭu(m)* I.

14') *āliā-ú-na*. See NAT, 186f., JAWAN.

19') *l[u]-bi-lu*. Taken as Prec. 1 sg. G. of (*w*)*abālu*, with final *u* to denote a question.

25') *it-ta-aṣ-m[i]!-di*. This seems to be the only credible reading, although immediately before *m[i]* there are remains of wedges which do not appear to be part of *aṣ*.

ND 2381 (XIX; IM 64018; Plate 33)

Re-edited in SAA, 1, no.175.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na* [š]arri *bēli-i[a]*
urad-ka ^m*u-ha-ti*
l[u] *šulmu*^{mu} ^ʾ*a*¹-[*n*]*a* [šar]ri [*b*]*ēlī-ia*
[*mā*]r ^m^ʾ*a*¹-*mi-ri*
5 *ina lib-bi* III ME *imēr**a-na-qa-te*
ú-za-ta-ki ma-a ina muhhi
am[ēl]hu-ub-te ša is[su]
*āl**d[i]-maš-qa* ^ʾ*a*¹-[*n*]*a mā*^t*aš-šur*
^ʾ*ú*¹-[š]*e-ta-q[u]-ú-ni*
10 [*ma*]-^ʾ*a*¹ [*ina m*]*uh-hi a-ma-qu-u[t]*
[*a?-na?*] *muh[hi]* ^m*bēl-i[q-bi]?*
[*a-sa*]*p-ra i-tal-k[a]*
^ʾ*a*¹-[*n*]*i-ni a-hi-ši ina ira[t]*
amēl^h*u-ub-te ni-ta-lak*
15 [*e-ta-ma*]*r-na-a-ši*
[*a-na šu*]*b-tú ina ku-ta-li-ni*
Base [*ú-še-ši*]*b*
[*ni-it-t*]*a-ha-ša*
19 [I LI]M V ME UDU.HI.ʾA¹
Rev. [*hu-ub-t*]*e issu āl*^h*u-z[a]-z[a]*
21 ... *x* [L]IM VI ME UDU
... *x x x* ... *x*
... .. URU *x-[x]-t[u]?*

..... x ME šābē^{meš}
 25 x ... šābē^{meš}
 x x ina? li[bbi]? x
 te x mu ...
 ... x ina libbi x-šú x ...
 x ... x ... x x ...
 30 [a-n]i-nu n[i]-su-h[u-u]r
 ... x x-šu ni-ir-ti-di-pi
 [ana li]b-bi mātil-l[a?-b]a?-a-ni
 x x ni-iq-ṭi-r[i]-bi
 la ni-ik-šu-du-š[u]
 35 ma-ri-ši la-a a-na
 sisē^{me[š]} l[a]-a a-na
 narka[bā]ti^{m[ēš]}
 DIŠ.s[a]-x x ...
 AŠ x x x x ...

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Uhati. (3) May it be well with the king my lord.
 (4-10) The son of Amiri with three hundred she-camels got himself ready (and) said: 'I will fall upon the booty which they are sending on from Damascus to Assyria.'
 (11-12) I sent a message to Bel-*iqbi*; he came. (13-14) We went together to meet the booty. (15) He (*sc.* the son of Amiri) saw us. (16-17) He set up an ambush behind us. (18) We had a fight. (19-20) 1,500 sheep, booty from the town Huzaza, (21) (and) 1,500 sheep (22-29) [nothing significant intelligible] (30) We returned. (31) ... we gave chase. (32-33) We ... got as far as inside the land Illabani, (34) (but) we did not catch him. (35-37) It was difficult; it was not (terrain) for horses or chariots. (38-39) [unintelligible].

Notes

Tablet with damage to left side, and fragments missing from bottom left corner and middle of right side. Clay contains many small stones.

2) ^mu-ha-ti. SAA, 1, no.175 reads ^m10-ha-ti = Adda-hati, but since the name occurs four times (here and ABL 224, 2; 225, 2; 414, rev. 3) without the divine determinative before U, it seems more likely that this name is Uhati and of non-Assyrian origin.

4) [mā]r ^ml^a-mi-ri. ABL 414, which is linked to ND 2381 by this term in rev. 10, by the name ^mu-ha-ti in rev. 3 and possibly by identity of the name ^mbēl-liq-bi in obv. 2 with ^mbēl-i[q-bi]? in ND 2381, 11, in rev. 10 names mār ^ma-me-ri as ^ma-mi-li-i'-ti. For the latter name see also H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, p. 233. On date of ABL 414 (and 224-225) see I. Eph'al, *The Ancient Arabs*, 96f. For re-edition of ABL 414 see Fales, CLNA, pp. 96-99, 133-135, II.4.

6) ú-za-ta-ki. Taken as D^t of zakû, for *uztakki.

13) ^la^l-[n]i-ni a-hi-ši. The sign before a-hi-ši is certainly ni, making impossible the restoration in SAA, 1, no.175, [i-s]a-a-hi-ši.

23) URU x-[x]-r[u]?. It is just possible that the final sign is li, but the indications of a second vertical may result from damage.

31) ... x x-šu. The traces of the penultimate sign preclude the reading *tu*, contra SAA, 1, no.175, which tentatively restores *i-da-tu-šu*.

ND 2437 (= XX; IM 64042; Plate 34)

Re-edited in SAA, 1, no.176. See also TCAE, pp. 183, 382.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*
urad-ka^{mu} ha-ti
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-i[a]
b[il]?-tú ša LÚ.GAR.K[U]^{te} ša amēlGAL.URU.MEŠ^{te}
5 *š[a in]a muhhi nišē^{meš} māti ú-sa-di-na*
II [G]UN XVIII MA.NA *kaspi ina ma-né-^le^l*
š[a ālkar-g]a-miš BAR GÍ[N] hurāši
II[I]? [x x].x.MEŠ III *túgkitê(GADA)^{meš} i-s[i]-niš*
ina [qātē^{II} am]ēl^{am}mār šipri-i[a a-na šar]ri
10 *b[e-lí-i]a^l ú^l-si-bi-[la]*
[š]a? [šar]ru be-lí i-di-n[u-ni?]
II L[IM] II[I] M[E] L *šābē^{me} i-ta-n[a]*
ú^l-ma-a^{mda-na-a} I LIM IX ME L
i-[t]a-n[a] IV [am]ēlšābē^{meš} un-t[a-^ti]
15 *ša GA[Z].M[EŠ] x x a-n[a] x*
ša-al-mu : ut-r[u] ...
[a]d?-[d]i-ú i-...
x x a la x
19 [x] RI x
Base *x-ma x [T]A?*
21 *[is]su āl^a[r]-... ..*
x x āl^di?-... ..
Rev. *x(-)bi-x*
x(-)IGI(-)x-šú-nu x
25 *ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ ša āl^{hi}-x ...*
e-ši-di I LIM ŠE.NU[MUN.MEŠ]
ša āl^ala-ba-'a-u ut-[r]u
ina muhhi-šú-nu e-ši-di ú-ma-a
šarru be-lí nišē^{meš} mātaš-šur-a-a
30 *amēlⁱ-tú-'a-a-a li-di-na*
ina mad-bar lu-šá-ša-bi-ti la-a
amēlšá muhhi āli la-a LÚ.Ì.DU₈.MEŠ
[m]ātaš-šur-a-a ina āl^šu-pi-te
[š]a šarru be-lí iq-bu-ú-ni
35 *ma-a issu m[uh]hi ti-la-a-ni : lu-ri-du-u-ni*
ina ŠAB-šú l[i]-ir-ši-pu i-tú-ur-du-u-ni
X ālāni^{meš} bīt dūri ina mad-bar
ha-nu-te lu-ri-du-u-né-e
mi-i-nu ša šarru : i-qa-bu-u-ni

40 [k]a-a-a-ma-nu gi-ru-tú
 Top i[na] mad-baṛ EN.NUN.NA
 [l]a a-ši-ia-ṭ[a]

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Uhati. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) I have effected the delivery of *the tribute* of the Prefects (and) of the Chief(s) of Cities (5) who (are) over the people of the land, (6-7a) (*amounting to*) 2 talents 18 minas of silver by the Carchemish standard. (7b-10) Together (with it) I have sent to the king my lord half a shekel of gold, *three woollen garments* (and) three linen garments by the hands of my messenger.

(11-12) *As to what* the king my lord gave me, he delivered 2,350 soldiers. (13-14) Now Dana has delivered 1,950. (Thus) he has left (the number) short by 400 soldiers ... (15) of those killed ... to ... (16) *are/is* well. ... to ... (17-20) [fragmentary and unintelligible] (21) from the city Ar-... (22) ... the city Di-... (23) ... as to ... (24) I have settled them ... (25-26) I harvested the corn-land of the city Hi-... (27-28) I harvested for them in addition 1,000 units of corn-land of the city Laba'u. (28b-31) Now let the king my lord supply people, Assyrians (or) Itu'aens, (and) let me settle (them) in the steppe. (31b-33) There is no Assyrian Officer-over-the-City nor Assyrian *guards* in the city Supite. (34-36) As to what the king my lord commanded, saying: 'Let them abandon (their positions) upon the mounds, let them construct ...', they have abandoned (them). (37-38). Should they (also) abandon these ten fortified villages in the steppe? (39) Whatever the king commands, (let it be done). (40) (There is) continual hostility (41-42) (but) in the steppe I am not neglectful of the watch.

Notes

Pillow-shaped tablet in good condition, except for bottom right corner and two marks (made by excavators' tools?) on obv.

2) ^mu-ha-ti. The correspondent's name links this letter to ND 2381. SAA, 1, no.176 reads ^m10-ha-ti = Adda-hati.

4) [bil]?-tú. SAA, 1, no.176 reads K[UG].UD, 'the silver dues'. A hole in the tablet makes positive identification of the first sign impossible.

4) LÚ.GAR.K[U]^{te}. The reading LÚ*.GAR-nu!!..MEŠ!!-^{te} proposed in SAA, 1, no.176 is impossible, since between GAR and ^{te} there is certainly only one sign, which has two verticals but no horizontals after the second vertical to constitute part of MEŠ and no oblique for nu. AHW, 139b takes LÚ.GAR.KU as *šākin ṭēmi*, but the determinative ^{te} opposes this reading here.

4) ^{amēl}GAL.URU.MEŠ^{te}. The determinative indicates that this cannot represent *rab ālāni* here; it might represent *rabûte ālāni*.

5) ú-sa-di-na. Taken as NA defective form of Š^t of *nadānu*, with sense of causative of G theme. SAA, 1, no.176 reads ú-sa-di-r[u], a possible alternative; I have had no opportunity to collate since seeing this proposal. If the reading proposed in SAA, 1, no.176 is correct, the translation requires corresponding modification.

8) II[I]? [x].x x.MEŠ. SAA, 1, no.176 restores 2 [TÚG.šá]-[din!].MEŠ. DIN is possible, but the traces of the preceding sign appear not to permit the restoration šá.

- 12) II L[IM] II[I] M[E] L. SAA, 1, no.176 restores the sign following LIM as IV, but this is impossible in any normal form, since the group is certainly not three verticals over one; there are at least two, probably three, full length verticals.
- 15) GA[Z].M[EŠ]. Proposed in SAA, 1, no.176, confirmed by collation.
- 22) *āl*di?-... The traces neither preclude nor suggest the restoration URU.š[u-pi-te?] of SAA, 1, no.176.
- 23) x(-)bi-x. The restoration in SAA, 1, no.176, [lu]-bi-li, is possible.
- 24) x(-)IGI(-)x-šú-nu. The sign before šú might be *ba*. SAA, 1, no.176 reads *ina* IGI-¹tu?¹-šú-nu.
- 27) *āl*la-ba'-a-u. Lebo-Hamath, between Hamath and Aram; see H. Tadmor, *Inscr. TP III*, p. 149, note on Summ.5 II; 25.
- 27) ut-[r]u. See AHW, 1492a, (w)atru(m).
- 32) LÚ.Ī.DU₈.MEŠ. = *amēlatēmeš*, 'doorkeepers', but since that translation seems inappropriate here, one suspects that, as in other cases in the ancient Near East and also in the modern world, the range of functions covered by the title had become broader than those it strictly implied.
- 33) *āl*su-pi-te. Biblical Zobah, in Beqa'a Valley; see SAA, 1, p. 238.
- 35, 36, 38) lu-ri-du-u-ni, i-tú-ur-du-u-ni, lu-ri-du-u-né-e. For the sense proposed for *arādu* see CAD, A/2, 217a-b (e).
- 36) *ina* ŠAB-šú. SAA, 1, no.176, fn., tentatively suggests a reading 'URU.HAL.ŠU or the like', but the signs are clear, except for a possibility that the number of horizontals in the final element of ŠAB might be three rather than two. J.N. Postgate suggests that the form is an ancient scribal error for *ina šap-šu*, which would make good sense in the context.
- 36) l[i]-ir-ši-pu. The final wedge of *pu* is so much elongated vertically and reduced horizontally that the sign would prima facie be taken for *te*.
- 36) i-tú-ur-du-u-ni. G¹ of *arādu*; cf. ABL 506, r.6.
- 41) i[na] mad-bar EN.NUN.NA. SAA, 1, no.176 restores [ina U]GU EN.NUN.ṽNA¹, but UGU is not a possible reading.
- 42) [l]a a-ši-ia-ṽ[a]. The reading ṽ[a] takes a mark under the middle horizontal as the head of a further horizontal. Should the mark be mere damage, the sign would be *m[a]*, and the line would read *la-a pāni-ia-m[a]*, with 41-42 having the sense 'in the steppe the watch is not my responsibility'.

ND 2399 (BSAI; Plate 32)

Transliteration

- Obv.1' x x x
 DIŠ [M]E *sisēmeš*
*ša issu āl*kul-ni-a
il-li-k[u]-ni-ni
- 5' [i]ssu *āl*kal-hi
*a-du āl*dūr-bēl-ila-ṽa¹-ṽa¹
a-du ina muh-[h]i-ia
 [i]q-ri-bu-ni-ni
- 9' [X]XṽV¹? [s]isē^m[eš]

Edge [is]su lib-bi
11' ÚŠ

Translation

(2'-4') One hundred horses, which came to me from Kul[la]nia, (5'-8') have arrived with me, (coming) from Calah as far as Dur-bel-ilaya. (9'-11') 25 horses among them have died.

Notes

Small tablet with top missing. The NA script is bold and legible but is not the work of an expert scribe. 8 lines on obv. and 2 lines on bottom edge are largely preserved, with some abrasion. The top 10 mm and bottom 25 mm of rev. are uninscribed; from 11-20 mm there are marks which to the naked eye look like remains of unidentifiable signs, but which microscopic examination suggests may be adventitious.

2') [M]E. Despite damage, the spacing precludes LIM as an alternative reading.

3') *āl*kul-ni-a. A value *kulu* has been proposed for NUMUN (ABZ, p. 252a); did it also have the value *kula*, so that the reading here should be *āl*kula-ni-a? On the name Kullani(a)/Kulnia, and the region concerned (= Unqi/Pattin), see J.D. Hawkins, *Iraq* 36 (1974), 83.

5') [i]ssu. Despite damage, this is certain.

6') *āl*dūr-bēl-ila-^la^l-^la^l. See NAT, 109.

9') [X]XIV? 25 seems to be the more probable reading, but 26 is not impossible.

11') ÚŠ. Presumably represented *mītū* or *mētū*.

ND 2415 (BSAI; Plate 1)

Transliteration

Obv. [U]RU? man-nu-dan-il[i]
x x AN x KUR?.ME[Š]
[q]āt mSILIM^{m[u]}?-x-x-[A]N?
x ú x
5 *ā*[l]hal-li-n[i]?-iš
ā[l]ga[l]?-l[a]?-bu
U[RU] x-^la^l?-[b]u
U[RU] t[e]?-s[i]?/e?-bu
ālāni^{meš}.[n]i
10 *ša* *amē*lhal-ba-a-a
i-si-niš
ālu *ša* ep!?-ri ma-te-šú
[q]āt m^x-UR-x-ili
[ša] *māt*hal-z[i-m]a?

Translation

(1) The town Mannu-dan-ili (2-4) (in) the hand of PN (belongs with) (5-8) the towns of Halliniš, Gallabu, ...-abu, (and) Te/sibu (9-11) (which are) together towns of the

man of Aleppo. (12) (It is) a town of the territory of his land. (13) (*It is in*) the hand of ...-UR-...-ili, (14) (*of*) the land of Halzi.

Notes

Tablet complete except for loss of bottom left corner. Inscribed on one face only. Surface damaged passim, with some blistering from salt deposits, and some signs illegible. Deeply inscribed with bold NA script.

The absence of a regular form of address suggests that this is a list of towns rather than a letter.

1-4) Very doubtful. Restorations are conjectural and offered with hesitation.

1) [U]RU? The traces are illegible. A possible alternative reading, IM ^m, seems improbable, since line 2 lacks a formula naming an addressee.

2) *x x*. It seems impossible to read *a-na* DIŠ.

3) SILIM^{m[u]}?. Or *di-nu!*.

4) *x ú x*. The traces would permit but do not compel the reading *álú-ur*.

12) *ep!?-ri*. Although the first sign suggests *lu* rather than *ep*, *ep-ri* makes better sense.

ND 2495 (= LXXXVIII; IM 64068; Plate 34)

Re-edited in TCAE, pp. 381-3 and SAA, 1, no.172. See also K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 81.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na* [šarri *bēlīya*]
urad-k[a PN]
šarri be-lí [tè-mu *is-sa-kan*]
ma-a ^{amēl}*bēlē pāh*[^{ātī}meš] *x x* ...
5 *NINDA.MEŠ* *k[i]-su-tú is[su]* ^{m.1d1}[UTU?].P[AP?.A]Š?
i-si-ku-nu li-in-tú-hu
ma-a ^{madád}*-itti-ia* ^{mbēl}*-lišir*(GIŠ)
a-na abi-lišir(GIŠ) *lu-šá-ki-lu*
la-a ¹*ma-GÚR* *la-a i-šá-mi-ú*
10 *a-ta-a in-nu-te ma-a* ^{ālāni}meš.*ni*
ina mad-bar ša ^{amēl}*bēlē pāhātī*me[š] *ga[b-b]i-šú-nu*
^{ālāni}meš *ina libbi a-hi ši x-nu-gu*
šarru be-lí liš-pu-ra ^{ālāni}me[š]-*šú-nu*
ša mad-bar liš-ṭ[u-r]u
15 *issu bit* [^{im}ēr] *a-ša-pu šarri be-lí*
issu ^{māṭha}*-ma-te is-hu-1*^u*-ni*
Base *a-na-ku a-na-k[u-ma]*
šu-ú šú-nu-ú-m[a šú-nu]
19 *i-ši-a-ri šarru* [*be-lí*]
Rev. ¹*q[a-b]i-1*^a*-ni ma-[a]*
21 *la e-pi-šú-tú at-tú-nu*
an-ni-ú [NI]NDA.MEŠ *ki-su-tú*
ša I arhi ¹I ME ¹V *imēr k[i-s]u-tú*
I ME XXII[I]? *imēr* NINDA.MEŠ *naphar* II ME XXVI[II]? *imēr*

- 25 m.^dšamaš-áh-iddin₃ LXXV imēr k[i]-su-tú
 XV imēr NINDA.MEŠ naphar XC imēr ^mabi-lišir(GIŠ)
 VI ME ša II LIM ^{amēl}za-ku-e
 ša ^{māt}ku-mu-ha-a-a
 naphar IX ME XVI[II]? imēr ša I arhi
 30 bītu an-ni-ú šarru be-lí ú-da
 ina lib-bi mar-di-a-te III mar-di-tú
 an-né-nu ni-ma-t[a]-ha šú-nu
 šu-na-a-a i-ma-tu-ha
 34 ú-ma-a šarru be-lí [l]u-^lú^l-d[a]
 Top [šú]-nu i-bal-k[u?-tu?]
 36 [a]n-né-nu

Translation

(1) To (the king my lord) your servant [PN].

(2-3) The king my lord [*gave orders*] (4) saying: 'Let the governors (5-6) transport bread and animal fodder from Shamash-aha-iddina and from you, (and) (7-8) let Adad-ittiya (and) Bel-lishir provide food for Abu-lishir.' (9) They will not hear (of the idea), (10) (but say): 'Why (is the responsibility) ours? (10b-11) The villages in the steppe belong to all the governors, (12) (but) the villages *within that side* [*are separate*].' (13) Let the king my lord send a message; (13b-14) let them make a written record of their villages which are (in the) steppe.

(15-18) Since the king my lord took away the pack animals from Hamath, I am by myself, they are by themselves. (19-21) Tomorrow the king my lord may say: 'You are do-nothings', (22-23a) (but against this conclusion) this is the bread and animal fodder (we have arranged) for one month (as follows):

(23b-25a) 105 homers of animal fodder, 123 homers of bread, total 228 homers Shamash-aha-iddina;

(25b-26) 75 homers of animal fodder, 15 homers of bread, total 90 homers Abu-lishir;

(27-28) 600 (homers of bread) of 2,000 zakku-men of the land of Kummuh;

(29) (grand) total 918 homers for one month, (from) this estate.

(30b) The king my lord knows that (31) within the road stages, we ourselves are responsible for transport for three stages, they are responsible for transport for two stages each. (34-36) Now the king my lord certainly knows, that they are rebellious (while) we [*are obedient*].

Notes

Tablet lacks surface at top right corner of obv.; some abrasion passim, script otherwise in quite good condition. NA script.

2) [PN]. SAA, 1, no.172 restores ^mEN-BÀD, but the name is entirely lost on the tablet.

3) [^{tè}-mu is-sa-kan]. Restoration adopted from SAA, 1, no.172. TCAE, ad loc., proposes [^{iš}-pur-a-ni].

4) x x SAA, 1, no.172 restores *gab-bu*.

5) m.^ld^l[UTU?].P[AP?.A]Š?. Restoration adopted after TCAE, ad loc. SAA, 1, no.172 restores URU!.MEŠ *mad-bar*, but the initial DIŠ, bigger than the preceding three verticals of TA*, is certain and the traces following are the beginning of DINGIR.

- 7) *mbēl-lišir*(GIŠ). TCAE, 382, suggests this person may be identical with the author of ND 2625.
- 9) *la-a* [i^l-*ma*-GÚR *la-a* *i-šá-mi-ú*. I adopt the final -ú (lacking from my copy) from TCAE, op.cit. If this is correct, [i^l-*ma*-GÚR will represent 3 pl. *i-ma-gúru*. The two verbs are taken as in hendiadys.
- 10) *in-nu-te*. See GAG, *Ergänzungsheft*, §44c.
- 12) *ina libbi a-hi ši*, ‘within that side’. The transliteration and translation are tentative. TCAE, ad loc. and SAA, 1, no.172 read *a-hi-ši*, taking it as a form of *ahaiš* ‘each other’.
- 12) *x-nu-gu*. SAA, 1, no.172 reads *pa-nu-gu*, but TCAE, ad loc., does not accept the reading PA for the first sign. It is tentatively suggested that *x-nu-gu* conceals an unidentified verb which makes the points that ‘the towns within that side’ (i.e. the towns in the steppe) are under an administration distinct from that of other areas.
- 16) *māt^hha-ma-te*. This mention of Hamath is the basis for placing this letter in this section. It might alternatively be argued that *amēl^za-ku-e ša māt^hku-mu-ha-a-a* of lines 27f. favours a placement in section (c), but this appears to refer to personnel who had been moved.
- 16) *is-hu-[u^l]-ni*. Taken as an anomalous or erroneous writing for *is-su-hu-u-ni* < *nasāhu*, an interpretation suggested in TCAE, ad loc. and followed by SAA, 1, no.172.
- 18) *šu-ú šú-nu-ú-m[a šú-nu]*. Restoration after SAA, 1, no.172.
- 20) [i^l-*q*[*a-b*]i-[*a*]^l-ni. The alternative restorations of TCAE, ad loc., *i-[du-ba^l]-ni*, and of SAA, 1, no.172, *i-du-ka-a-ni*, do not fit the traces.
- 21) *la e-pi-šú-tú*. See CAD, E, 245b.
- 23) [I] ME. SAA, 1, no.172 transcribes as [U]D.ME. The traces might permit this, but it would produce a total of 818, instead of the 918 given in line 29.
- 23-29) Some of the numerals are damaged and doubtful, but the transcriptions now given add up to the correct totals.
- 32) *an-né-nu*. For suggestion that this is a form of 1 pl. personal pron., accepted in CAD, Š/3, 302a, see note in *Iraq* 28 (1966), 185.
- 33) *šu-na-a-a*. See CAD, Š/3, 302a, *šunāja*.

ND 2644 (XXIII; IM 64092; Plate 35)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-bat šar[ri]*
a-na ^{m.d}*alla*(ALLA)-*ušur*
 ANŠE.KUR.RA!.MEŠ *am-mar*
ša ^{amēl}*tur-t[a]-nu*
- 5 *e-da-na-kan-ni a-šur mu-hur ga[b-b]i-š[ú-nu]*
^{mzu}*di-'i-ili ina pa-ni-ka*
pi-qi-da-šú lib-bi māti
li-ir-'u-ú
an-nu-riḡ ^{amēl}*ár-ba-a-a an-nu-ti*
- 10 ^{amēl}*tur-[t]a-nu it-t[a-h]a-za*

maššarti-ku-nu [k]i-i š[a] ti-ma-[l]i
šal-ši ūmēme [m]ātmu-d[a-b]ir
l[u]-[ú] x-[d]i-at
 U[DU]?.[NIT]A?.MEŠ-ku-nu
 15 [x]? x mātm[u-d]a-bi-ri
 [ša ina]? [l]ib-bi ma-a-ti
 Rev.
 (B) [t]u?-[ú]?-ra li-ir-i-u
 a-du x-ši-x
 (C) *harrānu ša ālta-ab-na-x-x*
 20 *ú-šah(-)ka(-)m[u]?(-)x ...*
 ki-i ša bir-te ālx ...
 [*bir-t*]e ālni?-u
 (D) *bir-te āl[q]i-di-si*
 bi[r]-te x x ... x
 (E) [parallel to long axis]
 25 *ma-a ŠE.NUMUN an-ni-ú ša a-ri-šú-u-ni*
 ma-a a-na x x x u ša ta-[a]l-kan-ni
 ki-i issu āldi-maš-qa il-la-ku-ni-ni
 la a-ra-an-tú a-na KIN-šú-nu
 DIŠ ME XL ŠE.[G]IG.MEŠ XX ŠE.PAD.MEŠ

Translation

(1-2) Royal decree to Alla-usur. (3-5) Check (and) receive all the horses, as many as the Turtan delivers to you.

(6-8) (As to) Zudi'ili, appoint him as responsible to you. Let him shepherd the midst of the land. (9-10) Now, the Turtan has seized these Arabs. (11-13) Let your watch over the desert as in the recent past *be vigilant*. (14-17) (B) Let them *again* shepherd your sheep [which are in] the desert [which is] in the midst of the land (B) (18) *until/as far as* ... (C) (19) the road of Tabna... (20) (21) When (those) of the fortress ... (22) the fortress *Niu*, (D) (23) the fortress Qadesh, (24) the fortress (E) (25) thus, this corn which I sowed, (26) to ... when you came to me (27) when they come from Damascus, (28) [see notes] (29) 140 (units of) wheat, 20 (units of) provisions.

Notes

Tablet lacking small fragment from lower left corner and part of top end. The reverse is inscribed in an unusual way, with four separate sections of writing, the first directly following obv., the second separated by a substantial gap, the third separately at the bottom of the face, and the fourth parallel to the long axis and mainly but not wholly on the left side; see diagram in *Iraq* 17 (1955), 143. Bold NA script.

5) *a-šur*. Impv. sg. of *ašāru* A, CAD, A/2, 420b.

18) *x-ši-x*. The (almost complete) traces of the final sign rather suggest *ri*, with the oblique missing. Another possibility is an unusual form of TUG.

20) *ú-šah*. The signs are certain. In the context one might expect an Impv. J.N. Postgate suggests reading the line as *ú-šah-ka-m[u]*, ‘they explained’, although the *mu* is not certain.

22) *āl^lni?-u*. The sign read *ni* looks suspect; it could equally be *ir*.

28) *a-ra-an-tú*. For a word perhaps relevant here see AHW, 64b, *arantu* I, ‘eine Grasart’.

28) KIN-šú-nu. URUDU.KIN = *niggallu* ‘sickle’ (CAD, N/2, 213a) might be considered here, with the line meaning ‘no grass for their sickle’.

ND 2668 (IM 64105; Plate 35)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [*a*^l]-[*na šarri bēliya*
ur[ad]-k[a] ... *x* ... *x*
a-n[u-r]ig *x* ... *x* *x* A RA
... *x* *x* *x* *x* *x* *x* *x*
- 5 *x* *x* IGI URU? *x* *x* *x* *x*
x *ša* LUG[AL]?? XX MA.NA KÙ.BABBAR
x *x* *x* RA VIII M[A.N]A K[Ù].BABBAR
x GUR *x* *x*? [*š*]*a* *x* ...
naphar(PAP) *ma* [X]XX? MA.N[A] [KÙ.BABBAR]
- 10 *ku-u[m]* KÙ.BABBAR *x*
ina bīt *x*
- 13 [*A*]? RA

Rev.

- 1' *x* [...]
a-nu-rig *x* [...]
a-de?-e-šú-nu issu [...]
āl^ldi-maš-qi ih-x(-) [...]?
- 5' *ina mā^tha-ma-te i-lu-k[u]*
issu lib-bi HI UZ
ina rēš ā^lqi-di-si ú-ša-bi-[tu]
a-nu-rig ina ekalli
ú-si-bi-la-šú-nu
- 10' *amē^lma-hi-ša-ni* SIG.MEŠ *šú-nu*

Translation

Obv.

[The only lines retaining substantial meaningful text are:] (6) 20 minas of silver (7) 8 minas of silver (8) ... *kors* ... of ... (9) total: 30 minas of silver (10) in place of the silver

Rev.

(2') Now (3') their treaty-agreement from ... (4') *they* ... Damascus (5') they will go into Hamath (6') from the midst ... (7') they seized *in the upper part* of Qadesh. (8'-9') Now they have brought them into the palace. (10') [see note]

Notes

This tablet may have lost a line or two at the bottom. It lacks a small fragment from bottom left corner and a large fragment running from middle of base to almost halfway up right side. The surface of the first five lines of obv. is so badly abraded that only five signs and one damaged word are identifiable. The final 22 mm of rev. are uninscribed. Obv. is gently convex top to base, rev. only very slightly convex. NA script.

Rev.

3') *a-de?-e-šú-nu*. At my final collation I concluded that the second sign was not DI, but no better reading suggests itself.

6') HI UZ. Or HI ŠE.HU.

7') *rēš*. The tentative translation assumes a meaning in the semantic range offered by AHw, 974b, *rēšu(m)* B.

10') I am unable to offer any credible translation of this line. J.N. Postgate very tentatively suggests 'They are poor archers'.

ND 2671 (= LXXIX; BSAI; Plate 36)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bē[lī-ia]*
urad-ka ^{m.d}[PN]
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bē[lī-i]a
amēl^ltar-ta-nu ma-a
5 DIŠ LIM : ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ *a-ru-uš*
šattu šum-kut-ma
la-mu-qa-a-a DIŠ LIM Š[E.NU]MUN.[M]EŠ
la a-ra-áš
a-di a-šá-pa-r[u-n]i
10 *išepinnāti^{meš} : š[a]*
māt^lbar-hal-zi šu[m]-qu[t]-[t]u
si-mi-in ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ
e-ti-iq a-sa-pa-ar
issu libbi [ā]l ka[p]-ri
15 *ša pa-an ā^lar-pa-da*
alpē^{meš} ú-bal-u-ni
išepinnāti^{meš} GU₄.NÍTA.MEŠ
a-na a-ha-meš^l e^l-[t]a-rab
am-mar e-mu-qa-^la^l-^la^l-ni
20 ŠE.NUMUN.ME[Š] *a-ra-áš*

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant PN. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) The Tartan said: 'Cultivate a thousand units of corn-land.' (6) (This) year there is a shortfall; (7-9) I am not able to cultivate a thousand units of corn-land until I have given (appropriate) orders. (10-12) The ploughs of Bar-halzi were insufficient at the time proper for the corn-land. (13) I went over and gave orders. (14-16) They

brought oxen from within the village opposite Arpad. (17-18) I have come in together with the ploughs and oxen. (19-20) I shall cultivate as much cornland as is in my power.

Notes

Tablet complete except for top right corner missing on obv. Over half of rev. is uninscribed. The surface is in good condition except for local damage. Obv. is slightly convex, rev. completely flat. Two bottom corners are completely square; the top left corner has been pinched so that it protrudes slightly. NA script.

6, 11) *šum-kut-ma*, *šu[m]-qu[t]-[t]u*. The meaning offered is deduced from the context; there is an obvious semantic link with the meanings proposed for *šumqutu* in CAD, M/1, 251a, 9a and 9b. One might expect the NA St. to be *šamkut*. J.N. Postgate proposes reading *taq-qut*, etc.

9) *a-di a-šá-pa-r[u-n]i*. For the use of Pres. see GAG §173f.

11) *mā^hbar-hal-zi*. On the area concerned, see *Iraq* 27 (1965), 27.

12) *si-mi-in*. Taken as a form of AHw, 1044b, Assyrian *simānu*.

ND 2676 (BSAI; Plate 36)

Transliteration

Obv.1' x
 x
 x
 ... x x ... x x-si
 5' ... e-q[u]?-^hu^h? x x
 ... kib x x M[U].AN.NA
 [T]A* mar āl[u k]an-[š]u-u-ni
 ma-a ina lib[bi] UR[U].ŠE ša šal-la-t[e]?
 9' [x]-x-[m]u?-ku-nu
 Base x x s[a] x x ...
 11' [I]? M[E]? X[X]/X[XX]? Z[Ì.D]A.M[EŠ]
 [k]u-u[m] x x? ... ^ha^h?-n[a]?
 Rev. āli ša šarri
 i-na-ši
 15' a-na-ku issi āl^hgu-za-na
 XXX ZI.DA.MEŠ [L] UDU.H[I].^hA^h.MEŠ
 XL DUG.ŠA[B].MEŠ ^hu^h-si-bi-i[l]
 x x A AŠ KÙ.BABBAR la-[q]i
 UR[U]? x [b]i? ša MUNUS É.GAL
 20' [ú]-pa-[a]q-qu-u-ni
 [x] x-u-ni : a-na-ku
 a-qa-ri-ib
 [g]i-pi-i
 x x x x
 25' ša L[U] ...
 a-bat šar[ri] ...

... .. x ... x
 Side*
 1' x x x x
 x x

Translation

(6') year (7') after the city was in submission, (8') I say thus, from the midst of the city ... booty (9'-10') [nothing intelligible] (11') one hundred and twenty/thirty measures of meal (12') in place of (12'-14') he will bring to the king's city. (15'-17') I have had thirty measures of meal, fifty sheep, (and) forty shappu-containers brought from Guzana. (18') silver is taken. (19'-20') the town which the Lady of the Palace is concerned about (21'-22') I myself shall approach [Remainder is very fragmentary.]

Notes

Major part of tablet, lacking both upper corners, greater part of left side, and more than half surface of obv. Abrasion and pitting passim, severe in places, making many readings conjectural, especially on obv. Rev. is almost flat, obv. slightly convex. The surface clay contains a large number of tiny stones, mostly of diameter of $\frac{1}{2}$ mm or less. NA script.

Appears to be a report on tribute after the conquest of a certain city or cities.

4') x x-si. Traces are against reading penultimate sign as *us*.

8') UR[U] x x. Presumably a place name.

17') DUG.ŠA[B].MEŠ. See A. Salonen, *Hausgeräte* II, 124 and CAD, Š/1, 479a, *šappu*.

19') MUNUS É.GAL. For a proposed reading as *šēgallu* (rather than *sinnišat ekalli*), taken as the origin of BH loan-word *šēgāl*, see S. Parpola, SAAB, II/1 (1988), 73-76.

19') x [b]i?. Alternatively, this could be *ú* followed by word divider.

20') [ú]-pa-[a]q-qu-u-ni. See AHW, 879b, *puququ(m)*.

ND 2680 (= XXII; BSAI; Plate 35)

Transliteration

Obv.1' [a¹-n[a] ... x x ... ME[Š]
 ina libbi amēl^hu-up-te ur-a[r-ṭa-a-a]?
 ša issu libbi āl^ltil-bar-[sip]
 šarru be-li : i-di-na-n[i]
 5' mu-uk lu-u-da x ...
 i-ba-ši ina lib-bi l[a]-áš-šú
 m^ha-ra-am-mu LÚ.NAR ana pāni
 ša āl^lman-ṣu-a-te ina muhhi-[i]a
 i-tal-ka V māre^{mēš}-šú
 10' ... x ša-am-x-x
 Base ... te nišē^{mēš}
 ... šú-tú x x ...
 Rev. ... x MEŠ ina? p[ān]? x ...

- 15' $\text{[a}^1\text{-n[a] me-eh-ri ... x}$
mu-uk la-ap-ṭur-šú-nu
lu-šá-aš-bi-su-nu naphar^{meš}-šú-nu
la i-ma-gúr : ma-a amēlšābē^{meš}
pa-ri-ṣu-te šu-nu
ma-a i-tab-bi-ú i-hal-l[i-q]u
20' *ma-a a-na du-a-ki i-d[u]-u[k-ku]*
a-na mi-ni amēlšābē^{m[eš]}
... x [š]ú-nu x ...

Translation

(1') to (2'-4') among the *Urartian* prisoners whom the king my lord gave me from within Til-Barsip, (5') I say: 'I certainly know there is ... There is nothing there.' (7'-9') Harammu the musician came to me in front of Mansuate. Five of his sons (10'-13') [fragmentary]

(14') to the front ... (15'-16') I said: 'Let me ransom them (and) let me settle all of them.' (17'-19') He would not agree. He said: 'They are unreliable soldiers. They would set off and run away. (20') They should put (them) to death. (21'-22') Why are the soldiers?'

Notes

Small tablet lacking top, upper half of right side and small fragments at bottom left and right corners. Except immediately adjacent to damage, text is clear throughout. NA script.

2') *ur-a[r-ṭa-a-a]*? The restoration is uncertain. The form could alternatively be *ur-k[i-u-te]* 'latter'.

7') LÚ.NAR. Or LÚ.LUL. See Deller, *Or.* 30 (1961), 254 and Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 153-4. J.N. Postgate tentatively suggests reading, instead of LÚ.NAR *ana pāni*, LÚ.GAL! I LIM, a title otherwise found only in NB; see CAD, L, 198a, *līmu* B in *rab līmi*.

18') *pa-ri-ṣu-te*. See AHW, 834b, *parrīšu*.

ND 2733 (BSAI; Plate 41)

Transliteration

Face A (Obv.?)

- 1' ... x
[l]u? šulmu^{m[u]}
[an]a pān LÚ x
x ma an x
5' *ni-ra-šip x*
nu-uk da-me-... ..
ni-ha-ra-ša muh[hi]
ša āl^{di}-maš-q[a]
amēl^{rab} hamšā(L) ša^{m_t}[a]-...
10' *ina muhhi-ia ih-r[u]-[ša]?*

[ana]? muhhi šarri bē[lī-ia]? ...
 ... x x
 Face B
 1' x
 x ... x [a] x ...
 is[su]? ... x te li x x
 [i]-x-x Š[E.P]AD.MEŠ
 5' issu pān šarri₂ x [x]? a-n[a] x
 a-da-na-šú
 liš-pu-ra
 U[R] PA x
 ša ina UR[U]
 10' LU[GAL] EN-... ..
 ... ME

Translation

Face A

(2') *may it be well* (3') in the presence of the ...-official (4')
 (5') we shall *destroy/pile up* (6') (we said) as follows (7') we shall make
 clear about (8') of Damascus (9') the platoon officer of (10') *he*
made clear for me (11') for the king *my lord* (12')

Face B

(4') corn rations (5') from the presence of the king ... to ... (6') I will give to
 him (7') let him send a message (8') (9') which in the town
 (10') the king [my] lord

Notes

Fragment with both ends missing. Retains left side, but approaches completeness from
 left to right only in Face A lines 8'-11' and Face B lines 3'-4'; all other lines retain half
 or less of their original surface. Shows no distinction between core and surface clay.
 NA script.

Is placed in this section because of *āldi-maš-q[a]* in A 8'.

Face A

2') [l]u? šulmu^{m[u]}. If, as seems probable, this is part of the introductory greeting
 formula, Face A is obv.

6') *da-me-*. Since 'blood' is not obviously appropriate after *nu-uk*, these two syllables
 may be the beginning of a longer word.

9') *amēl-rab hamšā(L)*. Lit. 'chief of a pentecostys'.

Face B

8') PA x. The unidentified damaged sign was either RAB or LUGAL.

ND 2762 (= L; BSAI; Plate 34)

Re-edited in K. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 203-206.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri be-lī-ia [u]rad-k[a]*

- m.arahulūla-a-a [l]u-u šul[mu]mu
a-n[a š]arri be-lí-ia a-d[an-ni[š]
šulmu^m[u] [a]l-[n]a mat[a]š-[š]u)r
5 šulmu^{mu} [a]-[n]a é-kur-ra-t[e]
šulmu^{mu} a-[na b]i-ra-a-ti
ša šarri [ga]b-[b]u lib-bu
ša šarri be-lí-ia a-dan-niš lu-u DÙ[G.G]A
amēlšīrāni^mēš.ni matku-mu-ha-a-a
10 mat_x-[x]?-[']a?-sa-a-a
matma[r-q]a-s[a]-a-a
mat_{sa}-ma-la-a-a mat_{si}-du-da-a-a
mat_{ma}-'-ba-a-a it-tal-ku-ni
ša la pi-ia āltur-bi-si-ba
15 ālgu-za-na e-ta-t[e-q]u-ni
a-sa-par ina ā^lku-ba-na ...
Base ik-ta-al-'u-š[u-n[u]
Rev. x ... x x ...
x x ... x x ...
20 a-na L[Ú]? ... x a-sa-par u[m-m]a
amēlšīrāni^m[ēš.ni] lu-u la e-ti-qu
ur-ta-me-[u] e-ta-a[b-r]u-ni
ú-ma-a ina ālku-b[a-n]a G[AR]?-nu
amēlšīru II^ú [š]a KUR x x x
25 e-gi-ra-a-ti ina ā^lk[u]!-ba-[n]a
a-sa-par di-ib-b[i] š[a]? [i]?-[sa]p?-ru-ni
e-g[i]-ra-ti š[a?-a?-ti?]
ki-ma na-šu-ni [a-na šarri]
be-lí-[i]a u-še-ba-la
30 ki-ma šarru ú-nam-ma-šá
liš-par-r[u]-u-ni lal-l[i]-ka
šarra be-lí la-mur na-pa-si
š[a š]ulmu^mu ša[rri] be-lí-ia

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ululaya. May it be very well with the king my lord.

(4-8) It is well with the land of Assyria, it is well with the temples, it is well with all the fortresses of the king. Let the heart of the king my lord be very glad.

(9-13) The emissaries of the land of Kummuh, of ...-'asu, of Marqasi, of Samal, of Ashdod, (and) of Moab have come. (13-17) They have gone past Til-Barsip (and) Gozan without my authority. I have sent a message (and) they have detained them in Kubana ... (18-19) [unintelligible] (20) I have sent a message to ..., saying: (21) 'The emissaries are not to go on. (22) They have left (and) crossed (the river) (23) (and) are now settled in Kubana.' (24-26a) I sent a second emissary of the land ... (with) letters into Kubana. (26b-29) The matters they sent messages about, when those letters are brought, I will transmit [to the king] my lord. (30-32a) As soon as the king sets out,

let them send a message (and) let me come. Let me see the king my lord, (32b-33) (let me have) a reply (telling) of the wellbeing of the king my lord.

Notes

Virtually complete tablet, with only a piece c. 10 × 8 mm missing from bottom right corner, and another smaller piece from near top of right side. Some surface damage, more marked on rev. Both faces slightly convex. NA script.

11) *matma[r-q]a-s[a]-a-a*. For Marqasa as capital of Gurgum, near Maraş, see SAA, 1, p. 238.

14) *āltur-bi-si-ba*. This and other variant spellings (cf. SAA, 1, p.239) suggests that the form Til-Barsip is a folk etymology.

16) *ā[l]ku-ba-na* In the province of Guzana. For a possible restoration see SAA, 1, no.233 (= CT 53, 2), rev. 2.

20) L[Ú]? ... x. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 204, restores L[UGAL *be-lí-y*]a, which is possible, although extant traces are insufficient to confirm this reading.

24) *amēlšīru* II^ú. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 204, reads ^{lú}MAH-[a]-n[i].

26) *š[a]? [i]?/[a]?-[sa]p?-ru-ni*. Speculative restoration.

32) *na-pa-si*. Taken as a NA form from *nāpaltu*, ‘answer’ (CAD, N/1, 272b; AHw, 733b). Less probably it might represent *napasī*, Nom. with 1 sg. suf., a NA form from *napaštu* (*napištu*), and with line 33 might mean ‘my life (is only there for) for the wellbeing of the king my lord’.

(c) The Northwest

Letters edited:

ND 2610, ND 2656, ND 2713, ND 2759.

ND 2610 (BSAI; Plate 37)

Transliteration

Face A

1' ... x x
 ... [b]i-r[i]?
 ... x aš x
 ... [l]ib-bi KUR q[u-e] ...
 5' ... [s]iše^{me[š]} x
 ... x s[u-s]a-[n]i
 ... *amelšābē^{meš} šarri i-x* ...
 ...-[t]a?-me-šú-nu [n]i?-...
 ... x šī-i x
 10' ... [n]i u x x
 ...-x-an-ni x
 ... x [D]UR? šá x
 x [K]IB-la ma-^[a]
 x e x x
 15' *matna-[g]i-u*

... .. x x
 [n]a?-[k]u
 MU.AN.NA
 x x

Face B

[Measurement from the extant top right corner indicates that two lines are lost before the first extant traces of inscription.]

3 ... x n]i
 ... x MAN? x
 5 ... ši-bu ... x x-šu-nu
 ... [š]a-sur-šú-nu sah-har!??-ru-[t]u
 ... x x x ina lib-bi ú-[s]i-šib-š[ú]-nu
 ... x-[š]ú-nu bītātī^{meš}-šú-nu
 ... x-šú-nu i-da-gu-lu₄
 10 ... x liš-pu-ra bit
 [pa-n]a-at šarri be-lí-ia
 [i-d]a-ga-lu-ni lid-gu-lu₄
 ... x^{meš} amel^{hu}-ub-tu
 ... x^{meš}-šú-nu alpē^{meš}-šú-nu
 15 ... x-šú-nu i-si-šú-nu
 ... [p]a-an ^{mat}na-gi-u x ...
 ... e??-[l]i??-ni lu-PA-te ...
 ... [i]n gu ri ...
 ... x nu ni ...
 20 ... x x

[There may have been a further two lines of text.]

Translation

Face A

... .. (4') the midst of the land Qu[e] ... (5') horses (6') ... vessels
 (7') ... troops of the king ... (13'-14') [nothing intelligible] (15') district
 (16'-17') [nothing intelligible] (18') year

Face B

(3-5) [nothing intelligible] (6) ... *to safeguard them. The lesser people* (7) I
 settled them there (8) ... their ... (and) their houses (9) their ... will be subject (10) ...
 ... Let him send a message to the effect that (11-12) they will be subject to the king my
 lord. Let them be subject. (13) prisoner(s)-of-war (14-16) [*let them bring*] with
 them their [*flocks*], their cattle (15) their ... (16-17) I will open the front of the province
 (for them) (18-20) [nothing intelligible]

Notes

Tablet lacks whole of left side, part of right side, three corners, and substantial parts of
 surface. Part of one end remains, and only a few mm are lacking at the other end. Extant
 signs are mostly quite legible. Tablet has slight convexity on both faces. In Face A 5'
 there is a fragment of stone, at least 5 mm by 4 mm, below the surface after the extant
 text. NA script.

Face A

4') KUR *q[u]*? ... Possibly *mātqu-e*.

13') [K]IB-*la*. Possibly linked to *k/qapālu(m)* (AHw, 442a, CAD, K, 174a) and *kip/blu* (AHw, 482b, CAD, K, 397a).

Face B

6) *sah-har!??-ru-[t]u*. The second sign could not be DI, KI or LAGAB, and *har* is very doubtful. The form restored is very dubious, since although it might be linked to *sihhirutu* (CAD, S, 174b), the doubled *-r-* of *sahharrutu* would be contrary to normal NA practice.

10) *liš-pu-ra bīt*. On sense of *bīt* see CAD, B, 273a, c 2'.

17) *lu-PA-te*. In form could represent either *lupatti* 'let me open' or *luhatti* 'let me smite', but the context, which seems to concern resettlement of conquered people, seems to favour the former.

ND 2656 (= XL; BSAI; Plate 27)

See TCAE, pp. 123-4.

Transliteration

Obv. [*ana šarri bēliya? urad-ka?*]

DIŠ.[x] x

amē[^l]šāpir(PA) x-x-ma-ni

*amē*šīrāni^{meš.ni}

5 *mātqu-a-a*

DIŠ ^š*i-pi-nu-tú*

III *imērkū-din*

III *amē*šābē^{meš}

Rev. ^l*i-l-si-šú-nu*

10 *ina arahaddari ūmu XXX.KAM*

nāra e-tab-ru-ni

ina ālkar-m.dšulmānu^{ma-nu}-ašarīd

bi-'-du

a-na šulmu^{mu}

15 *ina ekalli*

... x x x ...

Translation

(1) [*To the king my lord your servant*] (2) PN, (3) governor of ...-mani.

(4-5) The emissaries of Que, (6-11) (with) one *ipinutu*, three mules and three soldiers with them, crossed the river (Euphrates) on the thirtieth of Addar. 12-13) They are spending the night in Kar-Shalmaneser. (14-16) [*They are coming*] to the palace for peace.

Notes

Almost complete tablet, with surface lost for most of first two lines and part of third, and most of final line. Very square, and will stand on either side or on base. Both faces flat. Bold clear NA script.

The first line is wholly lost and there is substantial loss of surface from lines 2 and 3 and final line. Otherwise the script is deep, clear-cut and mostly undamaged.

1-2) The initial DIŠ of line 2 suggests that the writer's name began here, without the customary *urad-ka* preceding on the same line. The brevity of subsequent lines suggests that only one of *bēliya* and *ardu-ka* was on line 1 after *ana šarri*.

3) *x-x-ma-ni*. A restoration KUR (or URU) *bit-za-ma-ni* is impossible, and KUR *za-ma-ni*, although not utterly impossible, seems very improbable, although it might be geographically acceptable (for the tribal territory of Bit-zamani see K. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 97f., 159ff.). The official's territory must have been within reasonable reach of Kar-Shalmaneser (= Til Barsip), mentioned in line 12.

4) *amēlšīrāni^{meš}.ni*. TCAE, op.cit., points out that this term is used only of foreigners, and was roughly the equivalent of LÚ.GAL.MEŠ, reserved for Assyrians.

6) *iši-pi-nu-tú*. Reading certain. Is this linked to *epinnu* 'plough'?

14) *a-na šulmu^{mu}*. Taken to mean that the emissaries were bringing assurance of peace from Que. Alternatively 'to (give) greetings'.

ND 2713 (BSAI; Plate 36)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-na] šarr[i] b[e]-l[i-i]a
 [urad-k]a DIŠ.x-[x]-aš-šur-[x]
 ... x ... x x
 [š]a? *mat*a-[b]a-l]i
 5 x x qu x x x?
 [š]a ina [ek]alli iš-puru-n[i-n]i
 [d]aš-šur^dbē[l] ^dna[bû]
 ina pan šar[r]i li[l-l]i-[k]u
 [a]-[d]u-u ša[rri]? b[ēli]?-šú-n[u]?
 10 ina ^āur-r[u]-du-t[a]-a-a
 [i]-ka-ra-r[u]-[u]-n[i]
 [b]i-[ra]t^{meš}-šú-nu ina x x
 [i]na pā[n ša]rri? ina *mat*aš-šur
 x x x x x
 15 [š]a muhhi *amēl*hu-ub-ti
 [š]a āli a-na x-a-me
 É.GAL x x x ...
 Rev. x im x x ...
 ... qa-r[i?]-t]u? MIN x
 20 ... x-b[u]?-ti lil-l[i-k]u
 x x [N]AM? ŠID
 x x MEŠ A.MEŠ
 x x šú-nu

[Lines 24 to end retain insignificant traces only.]

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant ...-ashur-... ..

(4) of the land Tabal (5) (6) who in the Palace sent me a message. (7-8) Let the gods Ashur, Bel, Nabu come into the presence of the king. (9-11) They will impose the vassal-treaty terms of the *king their lord* on the people of the town Urrudutu. (12-14) *They shall* their fortresses in ... before the king in the land Assyria. (15) The person in charge of the prisoners (16) [of] the town ... (17) the Palace (18) (19) ... granary (20) let them come. (21-end) [fragmentary]

Notes

Tablet has lost most of its left side, and has some loss of surface from the middle of lines 2-5 on obv. and from approximately the left quarter of all rev. Abrasion is considerable on obv. and so severe on rev. that little can be restored. The surface contains many small white efflorescences, presumably of calcium salts, and also some tiny particles of stone. The tablet is equally convex on both faces. NA script.

3) It is difficult here to identify the expected *lu šulmu ana šarri bēliya*.

4) *mat_{ta}-[b]a-l*i**. This restoration requires acceptance of an unusually wide spacing between signs.

10) *ā^lur-r[u]-du-t[a]-a-a. ā^lur-ru-du-tu* is taken as an alternative spelling of *ā^lur-du-tu*, mentioned in connection with the land of Tabal in *Iraq* 9, 151, 31f.

11) *ʿi^l-ka-ra-r[u]-ʿu^l-n[i]*. What might appear to be the head of a vertical at the beginning of the line is shown by examination under the microscope to be nothing but a small hole.

22) *x x MEŠ*. Above the end of MEŠ is a tiny fragment of stone with a hole to its right, which in a photograph might suggest an oblique wedge.

ND 2759 (= XXXIX = IM 64156; Plate 38)

Re-edited J.N. Postgate, *Iraq* 35 (1973), 21-33 and S. Parpola, SAA, 1, no.1. See also K. Deller, *Or.* 33 (1964), 92; G.B. Lanfranchi, 'Sargon's Letter to Aššur-šarru-ušur: an Interpretation', SAAB II/1 (1988), 59-64; G. Galil, SAAB VI/1 (1992), 55-63.

Transliteration

Obv. ʿa^l-[b]at šarri a-na m.^daš-šur-šarra-úš[ur š]ulmu ia-ʿa^l-ši
 šulmu^{mu} a-na mā^taš-šur^{ki} li[b-bu-ka l]u ṭāb-ka
 [š]a taš-pur-an-ni ma-a amē^lmār šip-ri [š]a m^mme-ta-a
 mā^tmu[š-k]a-a-a ina muh-hi-ia it-t[al]-ka ma-a XIV šābē^{meš}
 5 mā^tqu-u-a-ʿa^l [š]a m^u-r[i]-ik a-na amē^lšap-ru-te
 a-na mā^turarṭi ú-še-bi-[l]u-u-ni ma-a ina muh-hi-ia na-ša
 ta-ri-iš a-dan-niš an-nu-rig aš-šur^dš[á-m]aš bēl
 ḏⁿabū ilāni^{meš}-ia e-d[u]-ʿu^l ina libbi qa-ra-bi x(-)x-m[e]-ni
 mā^tmuš-ka-a-a pi-i-šú it-ta-an-na-ši
 10 a-na sa-al-mi-ni it-tu-ar ša taš-pur-an-ni
 ma-a ba-lat šarri be-lí-ia amē^lmār šip-ri-ia ina muhhi
 mā^tmuš-ka-a-a la a-šap-par ú-ma-a an-nu-rig
 a-sap-rak-ka amē^lmār šip-ri-ka issu pa-an mā^tmuš-ka-a-a
 lu l[a] ib-bat-taq dib-bi ṭābūti^{meš} šup-ra-áš-šú
 15 ka-a-a-ma-nu mi-i-nu ša ṭē-en-šú-ni š[i-m]i a-du bi-it a-tal-ka-ni

- ša taš-pur-an-ni ma-a ki-i ša šu-ú urdāni^{meš} ša šar[ri] be-lí-ia
 ú-še-bi-il-an-ni ma-a ana-k[u] urdāni^{meš.ni}-šú lu-še-bi-la-[áš]-šú-ú
 še-bi-la-áš-šú ba-si lib-bu-šú is-s[i-n]i ip-p[a]-šar lu I M[E] ^{am[ēl]šā}bē^{meš}-šú u
 lu X
 k[i]-[i] an-n[i šu]p-ra-šú ma-a šābē^{meš} mā^{qu}-u-a-a ša t[u]-še-bil-an-ni
 20 m[a]-[a] [ina]? [muh]hi? šar[ri] bē[lī]-ia as-sap-par ma-a šarru be-lí
 ih-tu-du a-dan-niš ma-a ú-s[a-h]i-i[r]
 ina muh-hi-ia is-sap-ra ma-a mā^tmuš-k[a-a-a] ša
 ina pa-ni-ka-ni ištēn^{en} la ta-kal-la ma-a [ár-hiš a-n]a
 m^{me}-t[a]-a še-bi-il ma-a šābē^{meš} an-[nu-t]e
 25 ina muhhi pi-e ša šarri be-lí-ia ú-š[e]-bi-lak-ka
 ša taš-pur-an-ni ma-a ^{amēl}mār šip-ri ša m[u]r-bal-a
 issu ^{amēl}mār šip-ri mā^tmuš-ka-a-a a-na šulme^{me} ina muh-hi-ia
 it-tal-ka lil-li-ka aš-šur ^dšamaš bēl u ^dnabū₃
 liq-bi-u šarrāni^{meš.ni} ha-an-nu-ti gab-b[i]-šú-nu ina libbi ziq-ni-šú-nu
 30 KUŠ.DA.E.SIR-ka lu-sak-kí-lu
 š[a taš-p]ur-an-ni ma-a m^{ki}-la-ar IV na-gi-[a]-ni
 [e-ri-šá-a]n-ni ma-a lid-di-nu-ni ki-ma IV na-gi-a-ni
 [an-nu-t]i [a]-[n]a m^{ki}-la-ar ta-[a]t-ti-din
 la a-na mi-ih-r[i-k]a-a i-t[u-a]r
 35 at-ta-ma ina muhhi mi-i-ni ^{amēl}pa-ha-tu-[ú]-[t]ú tu-u[p]-pa-áš
 ki-i an-ni-i qi-ba-áš-šú ma-a ina ti-[m]a-li šal-ši ūmē^{m[e]}
 [is]su [p]ān mā^tmuš-ka-a-a pal-ha-a-ka ma-a ú-ma-a
 [m]ā^tmuš-ka-a-a is-si-ni is-si-lim
 [m]a-a at-ta issu pān mi-i-ni [pa]l-ha-a-ka
 40 [ma]-[a] ú-ma-a šilli šarri be-l[i-i]a NINDA.MEŠ-ka a-kul
 mē^{meš}-ka ši-ti ma-a libbu-ka lu [t]āb-ka
 ma-a ni-kit-ta-ka issu pa-an mā^tm[u]š-ka-a-a lu la-áš-šú
 ša taš-pur-an-ni ma-a m^{ur}-bal-a ina muh[hi] š[a] ^{āl}a-tú-n[a]-[a]-[a]
 ālⁱs-tu-an-da-a-a il-lik-ú-ni [āl]āni^{meš.ni}
 45 ša bīt m^{pa}-ru-ta i-pu-g[u]-[ú]-[ni] [x] x ...
 i[ssu muh]hi šar[ri] be-lí-ia ... x an-nu-rig
 mā^tm[uš-ka-a-a] i]s-si-ni is-si-l[im] i]t-ti-ia SILIM-m[a]
 šárrāni^{meš.ni} ša mā^tta-ba-li gab-b[u mi]-i-nu ah-hur
 ep-pu-šu at-ta issu na-ka mā^tmu[š-ka-a]-a issu ma-[k]a
 50 tu-ma-za' a-šú-nu ba-si at-ta e-b[i-i]h-ka ina lib-bi-šú-nu
 ta-rak-kas an-nu-rig aš-šur ^dšá-maš bēl u ^dnabū₃
 ilāni^{meš}-ia e-tap-šú mā^{tu} ha-an-ni-tú ina šap[al](KI.[T]A) šēpē^{II}-ka
 ta-at-tak-ba-as ki-i lib-bi-ka du-ú-lu
 mi-i-nu š[a du]l-[l]a-ka-ni e-p[u]-uš ar-k[u] bu-tu-qu
 55 á[š]-ri ú-li-ma a-du bi-it ana-ku al-la[k]-an-ni
 dul-lu k[i-i] x-x-x-ni ad-da-na-kan-ni
 ina muhhi m^{ba}-... [š]a t[aš-pur-an-ni] dib-bi-šu gab-bu a-s[e-m]e
 ūmu^{mu} ša e-gír-tú an-n[i-tú ta-a]m-[m]ar-[ú]-ni mārī-šú ku-m[u-š]u
 ina muhhi šābē^{meš}-šú pi-qid nišē^{meš}-šú lu kan-nu-šú lu kām-mu-su
 60 šum-ma lib-bu-šú šadū^u lu-šá-bal-ki-ta lu-še-šib-šú-nu

ú-la-a ha-na-ka-ma lu kam-mu-su a-na šá-a-šú
amēl^etašlišu(III.U₅)-ka ištēn^{en} a-na kal-li-e li-in-tu-ha-áš-šú
lil-li-ka dib-bi tábūtī^{meš} is-si-šú la-ad-bu-ub
lib-bu la-áš-kun-[š]ú ba-si a-šap-pa-ra nišē^{meš}-šú
 65 *ša ha-na-ka ú-sa-har-u-ni il-lak ina bītī-šú*
e-rab^mapla-iddi[na]?(SU[M]?) šu-tú a-du nišē^{meš}-šú
amēl^{mār}šipri-ka a-du muh-hi-ia lu-bi-la-šú-nu
lu mārē^{meš} babilī^{ki} lu-u mār bār-sipa^{ki}
lu-u kiš^{ki}-[a]l-a lu nippur^{ki}-a-a
 70 *lu āluruk(UNUG)^{ki}-a-a lu māt dēr(BĀD.AN)^{ki}-a-a*
lu

Translation

(1-2) Command of the king to Ashur-sharra-usur. I am well. It is well with the land of Assyria. May your heart be glad.

(3-7) Concerning the message you sent me, saying: 'A messenger of Mita the Mushkaean has come to me, bringing to me fourteen people of Que whom Urik has send as a mission to Urartu', (that) is very proper. (7-10) Now Ashur, Shamash, Bel and Nabu, my gods, know that in the midst of battle ... the Mushkaean has given us his word (and) has become our ally.

(10-14) Concerning the message you sent me, saying: 'Without (the permission of) the king my lord I shall not send my messenger to the Mushkaean', now in fact your messenger should certainly not be cut off from the presence of the Mushkaean. Send him with a message of friendly words. (15) Constantly listen to news about him (*sc.* the Mushkaean ruler) until I come.

(16) Concerning the message you sent me, saying: 'Just as he sent over subjects of the king my lord, shall I send his subjects to him?', (18) do send (them) to him! Soon his heart will become favourably disposed to us. Whether (it is a matter of) a hundred people or ten, (19-25) sent him a message. Say: 'The people of Que whom you sent to me, I have sent a message (about them) to the king my lord. The king my lord was very pleased and in return he sent a message to me saying: "You shall not hold back a single Mushkaean who is in your presence, but [quickly] send (them) to Mita." I send you these people at the order of the king my lord.'

(26-30) Concerning the message you sent me, saying: 'A messenger of Urbala came to me with the Mushkaean messenger for an audience', let him come, and let Ashur, Shamash, Bel and Nabu speak, that all these kings may wipe your sandals with their beards.

(31-34) Concerning the message you sent me, saying: 'Kilar [has requested] from me four districts, (saying), "Let them give (them) to me"' – when you have given these four districts to Kilar, will he not become your equal? (35) Over what would you yourself exercise the governorship then? (36-41) Speak to him in these terms, saying: 'In the past you were afraid of the Mushkaean. The Mushkaean has now made peace with us, so what are you afraid of? Now eat your food and drink your water in the shadow of the king my lord. Let your heart be glad. (42) There is indeed no reason for anxiety on account of the Mushkaean.'

(43-46) Concerning the message you sent me, saying: ‘Urbala [*may withdraw*] from the king my lord because the people of Atuna and Ištuanda came (and) took by force towns of Bit-Paruta ...’, (46b-51) now the Mushkaean has made peace with us. There is certainly peace with me. All the kings of Tabal, what can they do in the future? You from this side, the Mushkaean from that side, will squeeze them. You will quickly bind your rope on them. (51-53) Now Ashur, Shamash, Bel and Nabu have acted, (and) this land will in consequence be trodden down under your feet. (53-55) Go about as you wish. Do whatever is your duty. Cut off the long, raise the humble, until I myself come. (56) I will give you duties *according as* ...

(57-59) Concerning Ba-..., I have heard his whole story. On the day you see this letter, appoint his son in his place over his men. Let his people assemble and be present. (60-61a) If it is his wish, let him take (them) into the mountains (and) settle them there, or let them live here. (61a-66) As for him, let one of your riders collect him promptly (and) let him come to me; I want to speak kindly with him (and) encourage him. (As) soon (as) I send a message (*about those of*) his people whom they have brought back here, he may go and enter his estate.

(66-71) (As for) Apla-iddina, let your messenger bring him to me with his people, whether men of Babylon, of Borsippa, of Kish, of Nippur, of Erech, of Der or (wherever).

Notes

Largely complete tablet, composed of several fragments rejoined. Some loss of surface around joins. Abrasion passim. NA script.

I have benefited considerably from the new editions by Postgate, *op.cit.*, and Parpola in SAA, 1, no.1.

4) XIV *šābēmeš*. Clearly so, pace Postgate, *op.cit.*, p. 22.

8) *e-d[u]-[ú]*. For the traces after *e*, editio princeps proposed *e-d[u?-m]a?*. Postgate, *op.cit.*, p. 22, proposed *e-tap?-š[ú] l]a?*, which SAA, 1, no.1, adopted with no indication of doubt. For the traces immediately after *e*, *e-du* or *e-tap-šú* seem equally possible, but the final sign cannot be *ma* or *la*, since there is certainly the tail of one horizontal, and probably the tails of two, following the vertical. In the context this points to the final sign being *ú*, and the whole word *e-du-ú*, despite the certain *e-tap-šú* in line 52.

8) *x(-)x-m[e]-ni*. Editio princeps ...-*n]i?-ni*; Postgate, *op.cit.*, p. 22 [(*x*) *x*] *x-me-ni*, suggesting (p. 24) a sense ‘our enemy’; SAA, 1, no.1 [*la ina ŠÀ m]e-me-ni*, taken to mean ‘or anything’. Contra the last restoration, there is certainly insufficient space for four signs between *qa-ra-bi* and *-m[e]-ni*, possibly insufficient for three.

14) *lu l[a] ib-bat-taq*. So editio princeps and Postgate, *op.cit.*, p. 22. SAA, 1, no.1 reads *lu l[a t]a-bat-taq*, which, since the third sign is slightly damaged, is not impossible.

15) *a-tal-ka-ni*. Postgate, *op.cit.*, p. 22, *a-ri-qa-an-ni*, followed by SAA, 1, no.1. But the supposed *qa-an* is probably *ka* with some wedges slightly misaligned, as can happen with signs written, as here, on the curve running into the right side.

22) [*ša*]. Space is insufficient for the *am-mar* supplied by SAA, 1, no.1.

23) [*ár-hiš*]. After SAA, 1, no.1. Space permits this restoration.

29) *ina libbi*. So also Postgate, *op.cit.*, p. 22. SAA, 1, no.1 reads TA*.

30) *lu-sak-kí-lu*. See CAD, Š/3, 219a-b, *šukkulu*.

- 40) *ú-ma-a šilli šarri*. Before *šilli* Deller, op.cit., supplies <ina>.
- 45) *i-pu-g[u]-[ú]-[ni]*. So editio princeps and Postgate, op.cit., p. 24. The traces disallow *i-pu-gu-[šú]-[ni]* proposed by SAA, 1, no.1.
- 46) *i[ssu? muhh]i?*. This reading is after Postgate, op.cit., p. 24 and SAA, 1, no.1, but the traces are too slight to admit certainty.
- 46) ... *x-[a]?*. Postgate, op.cit., p. 24 [*x x x (x)-[di-a]?*]; SAA, 1, no.1, [*x x x*] [*di x*].
- 47) *SILIM-m[a]*. Taken to represent *šulum-ma*; cf. GAG §126e. The scribe appears to have first written *SILIM^{mu}*, since there remain (as shown in the copy) traces of an incompletely erased *mu*.
- 55) *á[š]-ri ú-li-ma. ú-li-ma* is taken as defective writing of Impv. D *elû* with enclitic *-ma*. SAA, 1, no.1 proposes [*ku-r*]i!-ú [*le!-e!*]-[*rik*], but the *-e!*- is very suspect.
- 57) *^mba-...* SAA, 1, no.1 tentatively restores *^mba-la-su*. For a possible basis for this see Postgate, op.cit., p. 26, note to line 57.
- 59) *lu kan-nu-šú lu kám-mu-su*. For the first verb see AHw, 436b, *kanāšu* II D 'einsammeln'. The second verb is taken as AHw, 431b, *kamāsu(m)* II 'sich beugen, knien'.
- 62) *amēltašlīšu(III.U₅)-ka*. Lit. 'your "third-rider"'.
 65) *nišē^{meš}-šú ša ha-na-ka ú-sa-har-u-ni*. Postgate's translation, op.cit., p. 25, 'his people who are delaying here', is attractive, but it is difficult to justify this sense for D theme of *sahāru*. SAA, 1, no.1 'I will ... have his people (being kept) here returned' requires *ú-sa-har-u-ni* to be 1 c. sg., although after *ša* it can only be 3 pl. Subj.
- 66) *^mapla-iddi[na]?(SU[M]?)*. Postgate, op.cit., p. 24, suggests *^mDUMU.UŠ-[ia]*, but (p. 29) accepts doubt about the reading of the final sign.

Chapter Five

Letters relating to the Assyrian homeland

In this chapter the letters edited are grouped primarily by topic, and by excavation number within the topic.

(a) Wellbeing of the Land

Letters edited:

ND 2355, ND 2372, ND 2409, ND 2449, ND 2462, ND 2617, ND 2697, ND 2719, ND 2731, ND 2736, ND 2757, ND 2784, ND 2792.

ND 2355 (LII; BSAI; Plate 38)

Re-edited Fales, CLNA, pp. 116-117, 147-148, II.14. See also K. Deller, *Or.* 33 (1964), 260.

Transliteration

Obv. [a-na šar]ri [bēlīya]
 [urad-k]a^{m.d.x...}
 [lu š]ulmu^{mu} a-na šárri bē[lī-ia]

šulmu^{mu} a-na māti ša ša[rrī]

5 ma-'u-ta-a-[t]i
 ša šarru ka-nu-šá
 ma-hi-ru i-na māti
 damiq^{iq} a-dan-niš
 I ANŠE ŠE.PAD.MEŠ

10 ša I MA.NA er^{meš}
 ina ā^lni-nu-a tal-lak
 I ANŠE BANIA ina mā^tha-láh-hi
 II ANŠE ina mā^tmu-da-bi-ri
 XX[X]? MA.NA šipā^{ti}meš

15 [š]a I MA.NA er^{meš}

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-DN. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) It is well with the land of the king. (5-6) The ma'uttu fields of the king are harvested. (7-8) The price level in the land is extremely favourable. (9-13) One homer of grain goes for one mina of copper in Nineveh; (you get) one and a half homers in the land Halahhi (and) two homers in the steppe-land. (14-15) ... minas of wool (go for) one mina of copper.

Notes

Tablet lacks top and top right and left corners. Except where corners are lacking, text is almost wholly preserved on obv., and clear. Surface of whole of rev. is lost, except for unidentifiable traces on rev. 1, and the final sign or part of a sign at the ends of lines 7 (MEŠ), 9 (-te), 10 (-te), 12 (perhaps *mu*). The base is extant and uninscribed. NA script.

2) ^m.d_x-.... Or possibly ^maš-šur[r]-x [-...].

5) *ma-'u-ta-a-[t]i*. See CAD, M/2, 321b, *mu'untu* (*ma'uttu*) '(a type of field)'

6) *ka-nu-šá*. D Stat. of AHW, 436b, *kanāšu* II, D 'einsammeln'.

11) *tal-lak*. Deller, op.cit., proposes reading the first sign as *il*!, and since the preceding -a is followed by slight damage, with possible remains of a horizontal, this deserves consideration. But the possible further horizontal is markedly shallower than other wedges in the line and may be adventitious; and since what I take as *tal* certainly has only one horizontal, one oblique and three verticals, even with an additional preceding horizontal it could not be emended into *il* in any normal form. The space and traces are insufficient for the reading *it-tal-lak*.

12-13) On these prices see Postgate, JESHO 17, p. 238.

13) *mātmu-da-bi-ri*. Since the price of grain in this region was half that in Nineveh, *mudabiru* (*madbaru*, AHW, 572a) must have meant the corn-growing plain rather than specifically desert, or may have become, as Deller, op.cit., suggests, a toponym.

ND 2372 (LIII; IM 64015; Plate 29)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-na šar]ri b[e-l]f-i[a]

[uraḏ]-ka ^mx x-a-a

[l]u šulmu^{mu}

a-na šarri be-lí-ia

5 a-dan-niš

šulmu^{mu} a-na māt aš-šur^{ki}

šulmu^{mu} a-na ekurrāti(É.KUR)meš

šulmu^{mu} [a]-na bi-ra-ti

9 [š]a [māti] ga[b-b]u

Rev. [libbu ša šarri]

11 b[e-lí-ia] lu ṭāb

Translation

(1-5) To the king my lord your servant [PN]. May it be very well with the king my lord. (6) It is well with the land of Ashur, (7) it is well with the temples, (8-9) it is well with all the fortresses of the king. (10-11) Let the heart of the king my lord be glad.

Notes

Virtually complete with significant cracks. Text on obv. is mainly in good condition, the 2 lines on rev. are in poor condition. Nearly 50 mm of rev. is uninscribed. This is a report on the wellbeing of the land, in simplest form. NA script.

ND 2409 (LI; BSAI; Plate 38)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-na š]arri be-lí-[ia]
 u[rad-k]a m.arahulūla-a-[a]
 lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šar[ri]
 be-lí-ia a-dan-niš
 5 šulmu^{mu} a-na mātaš-šur
 šulmu^{mu} a-na ekurrāti^{meš}
 šulmu^{mu} a-na hal-šu^{meš}
 ša [ša]rri gab-b[u]
 lib-bu ša šar[ri] be-lí-[i]a
 10 a-dan-niš lu-u ṭāb
 XX ma-gār-ru-tú
 [š]a bīt amēl^{tur-t}[a-n]i
 Rev. XL : ša am[ēl]_x ...
 XXX [š]a am[ēl^{ra}]b BILUL
 15 naphar XC m[a-gār-r]u-tú
 ša ku-up-[p]i-e
 a-na šarri be-lí-ia
 ú-si-bi-l[a]
 ūm III.KAM ša arahayyari
 20 mašakmaš-ku-[r]u ú-t[a-l]i-^{ra}1

Translation

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Ululaya. May it be very well with the king my lord.

(5-8) It is well with the land of Assyria. It is well with the temples. It is well with all the fortresses of the king. (9-10) Let the heart of the king my lord be very glad.

(11-12) 20 wagon-loads of the household of the Turtan, (13-14) 40 of the ...-official, 30 of the Rab-shakeh, (15-18) total, 90 wagon-loads of reeds I have had brought to the king my lord. (19-20) On the third of Ayyar I brought the raft up.

Notes

Tablet largely complete except for small losses at top left and right corners and bottom right corner. Has cracks and some surface loss passim. Final 19 mm of rev. uninscribed. There are unusually wide spaces (c. 3 mm) between lines of script. NA script.

2) m.arahulūla-a-[a]. This person was also the author of ND 2762 (above) and ND 2792 (below).

16) ku-up-[p]i-e. Taken as from CAD, K, 555b, kupû 'canebrake', rather than from op.cit., 551b, kuppû 'snow, ice'; this is confirmed by the writing ku-pi-e in ND 2792, 8, by the same author. These reeds, like those of ND 2792, may have been for the building of Dur-Sharrukin, on which see below, p. 214.

20) *ú-t[a-l]i-ṛa*¹. See CAD, E, 125b, 5.-127a, *ullû*. Here “to bring up” seems likelier than “remove” in the ventive.

ND 2449 (XXIV; BSAI; Plate 39)

Re-edited in TCAE, pp. 375-6.

Transliteration

Obv. [a]-na šarri bēlī-ía
urad-ka ^maš-šur-išme(HAL)-a-ni

šu-uh amēlikkarēmeš
ša ^{m.d}aš-šur-ni-ir-ka-unaššir₂
5 *ša šarra i-hu-ru-ni*
ma-a ŠE.NUMUN.ME[Š]-ni ra-hi-iš
ú-ma-a ebūri-šu-nu
damiq : a-dan-niš
šarru : lih-da
10 *ina šatti X AN[ŠE]*
ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ x
x x x
Base [b]it ŠE.[NUMUN]?
14 *i-x*
Rev. X ANŠE ŠE
16 *ṛi-ta-x*
x x : ma a[h]?
[x] x-tu : e-x
x x maššarti-šu-nu
20 *l[u]-da-'i-ni*
šu-nu ma-a ŠE.NUMU[N].M[EŠ]
ša ra-ma-ni-ni šu
ú-ma-a : e-ši-de
ina muhhi ma-'u-te
25 *a-ka-ra-ar*
šum₄-ma : ma-ṭi
ana-ku ú-š[al]-lam
Top *bīt I ME* ŠE.NUMUN.M[EŠ]
ālbīt-e-ri-i-i[a]?
30 *bīt I ME XL eqli*
i-ša-bat

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-ishmeani.

(3-9) Concerning the farmers of Ashur-nirka-unaššir who approached the king, saying ‘Our corn-land has been flooded’, the fact is, their harvest is very good. Let the king be glad. (10-11) In a year, ten homers of corn-land [*should produce ...*] (12-16) [nothing significant intelligible] (17-18) [see notes below] (19-20) I will strengthen ... their watch [*or the watch on them*]. (21-22) They say: ‘The corn-land is ours.’ (23-25)

Now I shall place harvesters upon the mu'untu-land; (26-27) if it is little, I myself will make up the shortfall. (28-30) He has taken possession of an area of 100 units of corn-land of the settlement Bit-eria, and 150 fields.

Notes

Tablet complete except for bottom right corner. Beginning of lines 16-20 on rev. obliterated, otherwise surface mainly sound and legibility good. NA script.

2) ^maš-šur-išme(HAL)-a-ni. A person of this name was governor of Kalzu and eponym official for 724 BC; see RLA, II, 443b. For another occurrence of the name see ND 2464.

4) ^m.^daš-šur-ni-ir-ka-unaššir₂. The copy published in *Iraq* 18 (1956), plate IX, no. XXIV, was correct at this point, but in my transliteration I wrongly emended it. Cf. Borger, *Asarh.*, p. 107, Gbr.II IV 34, for a place-name transliterated as ^{uru}aš-šur-ni-ir-ka-rap-p[iš]; could the final two signs of the latter be misreadings for ÛRU^{ir} = unaššir?

9) *lih-da*. TCAE, op.cit., reads *lu!-u-da*.

10) X AN[ŠE]. TCAE, op.cit., restores *a[n? -ni-te?]*.

16-17) TCAE, ad loc. restores, perhaps correctly, É *ma-[u-tú-u-ni (?) ina lib]-bi-ma : e-tar-[bu]*, 'wherever there is watered land(?), they have gone into it', and continues (19-20) '(but) I have established a stronger guard against(?) them'.

20) *l[u]-da' -ni*. For the form cf. GAG §98d. Since the final *-i* has no morphological justification, I suggest that in such instances the sign NI is used quasi-alphabetically to represent *-n* with appropriate vocalisation, rather than syllabic *-ni*.

24) *ma-'u-te*. See CAD, M/2, 321b, *mu'untu* '(a type of field)'

26-27) The writer makes the point that he is so sure of a good harvest that he is willing to accept personal responsibility if there is any shortfall.

27) *ana-ku ú-š[al]-lam*. Lit. 'I myself will compensate'.

ND 2462 (LVI; BSAI; Plate 39)

Re-edited in TCAE, pp. 380-1.

Transliteration

Obv.1' x ...

[*ina m*]ūšī ša ūm XXV[II.K]AM

ᵀ^al-di na-me-ra-ni

ina ūm XXVII.KAM ūmu^{mu} gab-bi-šú

5' *ina mūšī ša ūm XXVIII.KAM*

mūšī gab-bi-šú

ᵀ^A1.[A]N.MEŠ *ma-a' -da*

[*a-da*]n-niš i-zu-nu-nu

[*zu-u*]n-nu mē^{meš}

10' [*ma-a*]'-da a-dan-niš

[*i*]k-ta-ra-ra ni-bu

[š]a? mē^{meš} *ma-a' -da*

13' [*a*]-dan-niš [*eb*]ūru

Base [*dam*]iqiq a-dan-niš

Rev. [š]i-qu i-tal-k[a]
 16' É.ŠAM.MEŠ É ŠE.NU[MUN]? x-t[ú]?
 i-si-qi ki-i
 ina ^āl arba-ili in pan šarri bēlī-a
 a-na-ku-ni ma-la i-si-qi
 20' ú-ma-a ú-sa-ni-'a
 šá-nu-te-šú i-s[i-q]i
 maš-šur-nášir^{ir} mam-x?-ti-i
 mbēl-apkal(NUN.ME)-ilāni^{meš} naphar III amēl^{mu}-šar-ki-s[a-n]i
 ša šarru bēlī iš-pu-ra-ni
 25' [m]a-a ālāni^{meš.ni} ša mbēl-apla-iddin
 [l]i-ru-bu e-tar-bu
 ... x x ... x PAP.MEŠ
 Side [ú]-[m]a-a ina muhhi šarri bēlī-a ...
 ... LUGAL ...

Translation

(2'-3') in the night of the twenty-seventh until dawn broke, (4') for the whole of the twenty-seventh day, (5'-6') (and) during the night of the twenty-eighth for the whole night, (7'-8') very much rain kept pouring down. (9'-11a') The rain set down very much water. (11b'-14') The rising of the water is very considerable. The harvest is very favourable. (15') Watering has arrived. (16'-17') It (*sc.* the rain) has watered the pasturage region and the region of ... corn-land. (17'-21') When I (was) in Erbil in the presence of the king my lord, it did the watering once, and now it has repeated it (and) done the watering a second time.

(22'-26') (As to) Ashur-nasir, Am-...-ti (and) Bel-apkal-ilani, a total of three musharkis-officials about whom the king sent a message, saying: 'Let them enter the villages of Bel-apla-iddin', they have entered. (27') (Side, 28') thus, concerning the king my lord ... (29') the king ...

Notes

Lacks top and fragment from left side. Has several cracks, one full-length from top to bottom. Except in immediate vicinity of the cracks, surface is in good condition, with large clear NA script.

2'-8') The letter reports a continuous rainfall covering about 36 hours, one night and day and a further night. The order in which the periods are listed indicates that the full day (i.e. twenty-four hour period) was, as in Judaism, reckoned to begin at sunset.

11') *ni-bu*. See AHW, 786a, *nib/p'u(m)*, *nibûm*, NA *nibu* II, 'das Aufsteigen'.

15') [š]i-qu. The sign before *qu*, although damaged, is certainly *ši*, and there is no possibility of a preceding sign. For the noun see AHW, p. 1248a-b, *šiqu* I.

16') *x-t[ú]?*. TCAE, ad loc. reads *šib-t[ú]*, but the first sign, which clearly has one small oblique over three, cannot be *šib* in normal form, although it could be *še. še-tú*, if a correct reading, could be a writing for *š/sittu*, implying 'the remaining corn-land'.

17', 19', 21') *i-si-qi*. Taken as 3 sg. m. G^t from *šaqû* B (CAD, Š/2, 24b. TCAE, ad loc., derives these occurrences from *leqû*, but against this is the certain [š]i-qu in 15'. For a parallel to the -i- of the second syllable, cf. op.cit, 25a, *ta-si-qi-šú-nu*.

19') *ma-la*. See CAD, M/1, p. 147a, 2d.

ND 2617 (CIII; IM 64077; Plate 39)

Re-edited in Fales, CLNA, pp. 114-117, 146-147, II.13.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na ša[rri] bēlī-ia*
 [ur]ad-ka ^{ma??-š[i]?}pa-a??
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na ša[rri b]ēlī-ia
^dnabû ^dmarduk
 5 *a-na šarri bēlī-ia lik-ru-bu*

amēl^lqur-bu-tú ša šarru
bēlī iš-pur-an-ni
ma-a e-ra-bi-ú
du-ku mar i-ba-šú-ni
 10 *ni-su-qu-su*
š^eebūra me-me-ni
la il-pu-ut
me-me-ni ša šarri bēlī-ia
 14 [u]h-tal-li-qu-šú
 Rev. *š^eebūrāni^{meš.ni}*
 16 *ina māti ša šarri bēlī-ia*
 [g]ab?-bi šulmu^{mu} a-dan-niš

Translation

(1-5) To the king my lord your servant *Ashipa*. May it be well with the king my lord. May Nabu (and) Marduk bless the king my lord.

(6-10) (As to) the Qurbutu-official whom the king sent with a message, saying: 'Kill the locusts!', we have destroyed them, as many as there are. (11-12) None has touched the harvest. (13-14) Anyone belonging to the king my lord has destroyed them. (15-17) The harvests in the whole land of the king my lord are very good.

Notes

Complete tablet with slight abrasion passim. 53 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

2) ^{ma??-š[i]?}pa-a??. This is the obvious restoration, although the traces do not favour *a* for either the first or last sign of the name.

8) *e-ra-bi-ú*. Either a NA pl. of *erbu* 'locust', CAD, E, 256b, or, since it is referred to in lines 10 and 14 by a 3 sg. suf., a related sg. meaning 'locust swarm'.

10) *ni-su-qu-su*. Taken as representing **niltuqutšu* from *laqātu* (courtesy of J.N. Postgate). Fales, CLNA, p. 116, reads *ni-su-qu-su-nu*, but there is no *-nu* and the surface is undamaged.

13) *bēlī-ia*. Fales, CLNA, p. 116, adds *la*, but I see no evidence for this.

17) [g]ab?-bi. See Fales, CLNA, p. 116. [*li*]b-bi would seem to fit the traces better, but the syntax would not be clear. Not impossible is [D]Û.†A†.BI = *kalama*.

ND 2697 (XXX; IM 64123; Plate 24)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri be-lí-ía*
urad-ka ^{m.d}*šamaš-ila-ṽa*^{l-a}
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri
be-lí-ía

5 *a-dan-niš*
šulmu^{mu} ina mātī^{ti}-ka
šulmu^{mu} a-na niše^{meš}
mātī^{ti}-ka
^ṽ*aš-šur u* ^d*šamaš*

10 *[a]-na šarri*
 Rev. *be-lí-ía*
lik-ru-bu

Translation

(1-5) To the king my lord your servant Shamash-ilaya. May it be very well with the king my lord. (6-8) It is well with your land. It is well with the people of your land. (9-12) May Ashur and Shamash bless the king my lord.

Notes

Complete except for small chip off bottom left corner of obv. Obv. is partly covered with a black deposit. Rev. bears only 2 lines; remaining 46 mm is uninscribed. The two faces are equally convex left to right; obv. is more convex than rev. top to base. NA script.

ND 2719 (BSAI; Plate 38)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šar[ri bēlīya]*
urad-ka *DIŠ*
lu šulmu^{mu} a-n[a šarri bēlīya]
šul-mu a-na mat aš-šur^{k[i]}

5 *šu[l-m]u ṽa^l-[n]a [e]kurrāti(ṽÉ^l.KUR)me[š]*
šu[l]-mu a-na ā^lbi-ra[t š]a šar[ri] gab-b[u]
lib-bu ša šar[ri] bēlī-ia a-da[n]-niš l[u ṽā]b
ina [mu]hhi [K]IN [š]a ra-ša-pi
x x x x [U]RU x x x? -ṽa^l-ṽa^l

10 *[š]a šarru bēlī i]š-pur-a[n-n]i*
x x x x x x x?
ina muhhi x x x [s]i x x ...
U x x x? AŠ š[a] x ...
issu bit MUNUS ekalli GIŠ x ...

15 *ú-si-e-bi-l[a] ...*
NIŠ x x x [x] x SI? ...
... .. x x ...

Translation

(1-7) To the king my lord your servant [PN]. May it be well with [the king my lord]. It is well with the land of Ashur. It is well with the temples. It is well with all the fortresses of the king. May the heart of the king my lord be very glad.

(8-9) Concerning the directive about the *smashing/building* of the ... of the people of the town ... (10) about which the king my lord sent me a message, (11-13) [almost totally illegible] (14) from the house of the Lady of the Palace ... (15) I have had brought (16) twenty

Notes

Two halves joined. Tablet has a gap at the join, lacks a few mm at the base, the right side of the lower half, and some surface at top right. There are cracks and some abrasion. Rev. uninscribed. Obv. is curved in the longitudinal plane and rev. is flat. NA script.

8) [š]a ra-ša-pi. Infin. of either *rasāb/pu(m)*, *rašābu*, '(er)schlagen', AHW, 958b, or *rašāpu*, AHW, 960b, a by-form of *rašāpu* '(Bauten) aufführen', AHW, 959b.

9) [U]RU x x x?-[a]¹-[a]¹. A *nisbe* form from a place name.

13, 16) U, NIŠ. Presumably the numerals X and XX in an inventory.

14) MUNUS É.GAL. For S. Parpola's proposed reading as *šēgallu* (rather than *sinnišat ekalli*), see above, p. 180, on ND 2676, 19'.

ND 2731 (IM 64141; Plate 39)

Transliteration

Face A

1' ... x x x x x ...
 [áš]-šú šarru be-lí iš-p[ur-an-ni]
 [m]a me-nu ša ʔe-en x x
 hur-ša šup-ra ina mātī-šu šú-u
 5' dul-lu-šú e-pa-áš māt-su gab-bu
 ni-ha-at dul-la-šú-nu e-pu-šu
 amēlšābēmeš-šú ina ālhal-šu
 d[ul-l]a-š[u-n]u e-pu-šu

Face B

1 bē[lī]-i[a] ...
 x x šar[ri] E[N]ʔ-ī[a] i-x-x
 [m]a-[a]¹ x [LU]GAL?
 x x šarri bē[lī]-īa
 5 [ú]¹-ra x
 KU[R]ʔ x x x i-sa-par
 x x x x x-ia
 [... ..] x šarru b[e]-li

Translation

Face A

(2') In the matter about which the king my lord sent me a message, (3'-4a') saying, 'What is the report about ...? Send a clear message!' (4b') He is in his land. (5') He does his duty. His whole land (6') is quiet. They do their duty. (7') The soldiers in the fortress (8') do their duty.

Face B

[Insufficient remains to offer a translation.]

Notes

About half, probably the lower part, of a tablet. Face B, which is more likely to be obv., is in poor condition, with a worm hole through. NA script.

ND 2736 (IM 64144; Plate 30)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na* [šarri bēlī]-ia
urad-ka ^{m.d}nabû₃-šum-iš-kun
lu-u šulmu^{mu}
ana šarri bēlī-ia
 5 *a-dan-niš* II
 šulmu^{mu} *a-na*
 āl^lHAL.ŠU.M[EŠ]
 [šulmu^{m[u]} x ...

Translation

(1-5) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-shum-ishkun. May it be very very well with the king my lord. (6-7) It is well with the fortresses. [It is well with] ...

Notes

More than top half of small tablet. Top edge damaged. NA script, clear and sharp. Extant part of rev. uninscribed.

5) II. Ditto sign, used to indicate that *adanniš* was to be repeated.

ND 2757 (IM 64154; Plate 40)

Transliteration

Obv. ṛa^l-[n]a [am]ēl^ltupšar₃ ekal[li]
bēlī-[i]a
urad-ka ^mbēl-abu-u-a
lu-u šulmu^{mu} *a-na* bēlī-[i]a
 5 *šulmu*^{mu} *ina* bīti *a-dan-niš*
šulmu^{mu} *ina* āl^llibbi-āli
ina bīt-ka nu-sa-kil
*amēl*GÌ[R.N]ÍTA^{meš} *gab-bu*
er-re-šú

- 10 *a-na bēlī-ia*
iq-t[i]-bu
tú[ḡ]ṣi-p[ir-a-ti]
- Base *x be-l[i] ...?*
x x u-n[i] ...?
- 15 *x x ta x [x]?*
- Rev. *x ra??-'[a]? x*
ša(-)li[p]-te lib-bi
ša bēlī-ia ba-šú
tú[ḡ]ṣi-p[ir-a-ti]
- 20 *x-ra-te ina libbi BAR m[a]?-na-a-a*
kaspa i-du-nu
ša hur-bi-te am-mi-te
ú-di-ni im-da-na-ni
la-a ni-ša-bat
- 25 *DİŠ x-al-la-a-a*
...-x-na-ka

Translation

(1-2) To the Scribe of the Palace my lord, (3) your servant Bel-abua. (4) May it be well with my lord. (5) It is very well in the House. (6) It is well in the citadel (Ashur). (7) We have provided food in your House. (8-11) All the governors have promised farmers for my lord.

(12-16) [fragmentary]

(17-18) ... *therein* (18) belongs to my lord. (19) textiles (20-21) [See notes] (22-24) As to that waste land, we have not yet taken possession of our ... (25-26) [unclear]

Notes

Virtually complete tablet. Signs mainly extant but in some cases so lacking in sharpness that identification is difficult. There is a space equivalent to one line unscribed at end of rev. NA script.

17) *ša(-)li[p]-te*. The signs seem certain, but not the interpretation. *ša li[p]-te* could contain *liptu* A, CAD, L, 200b-202b, or less probably *ša-li[p]-te* could be *šāliptu* '(a scoop or similar utensil)', CAD, Š/1, 247a.

20) *x-ra-te*. The traces of the first sign most suggest *kam**, but *mu* might be possible.

20) *BAR m[a]?-na-a-a*. Prima facie, this looks like ^m*ba-na-a-a* with the first horizontal of supposed *ba* written over the *DİŠ*. To read *ma* requires the assumption of a third horizontal very lightly inscribed above the two certain near-horizontals of the second sign.

19-21) J.N. Postgate proposes translating 'they sell (these textiles) for half a mina of silver each'.

23) *im-da-na-ni*. Appears to be object of the verb in 24; could this be an otherwise unattested pl. of *imdu*, in sense of CAD, I/J, 110b, 2(b)?

24) *ni-ša-bat*. G^t of *šabātu*.

ND 2784 (XLIX; BSAI; Plate 18)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 a-na šarri bēlī-ia
 urad-ka ^mdūr-aš-šur
 lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri
 bēlī-ia a-dan-niš
 5 šulmu^{mu} a-na ^āl*b*[i-rat]
 a-na māti š[a] šar[ri]
 lib-b[u] ša šarri
 a-da[n]-niš lu [tāb]
 m_x

Rev.

1' ... x x x x ...

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Dur-Ashur. (3-4) May it be very well with the king my lord.

(5-6) It is well with the fortresses (and) with the land of the king. (7-8) May the heart of the king be very glad.

Notes

Approximately top half of tablet. Text is clear although surface is slightly abraded and has cracks. Final 38 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

ND 2792 (XXXI; IM 64173; Plate 5)

Transliteration

Obv. a-na šarri be-lī-ia
 urad-ka ^m.arahulūla-a-a
 lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri b[e-lī-ī]a
 a-dan-niš šulmu^{mu} a-na mātaš-šu[r]
 5 šulmu^{mu} a-na ekurrāt^{imeš}
 šulmu^{mu} a-na HAL.ŠU.MEŠ ša šarri gab-bu
 lib-bu ša šarri be-lī-ia a-dan-niš lu tāb
 XXXVI ma-gar-ra-a-ti ša ku-pi-e
 a-na-ku qātā-a-a ina mu[h]hi nāri
 10 at-tu-rid ina pa-ni-ia
 ih-taš-lu e-ta-AŠ-BU
 ina qātē ^mišdi-nergal ^{amēl}qur-bu-ti
 a-na šarri be-lī-ia ú-si-bi-la

Translation

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Ululaya. May it be very well with the king my lord.

(4-7) It is well with the land of Assyria, it is well with the temples, it is well with all the fortresses of the king. Let the heart of the king my lord be very glad.

(8-10) By my own hands I personally brought down 36 wagon-loads of reeds on the river. (11) *They prepared and left* (them). (12-13) I have sent them to the king my lord by the hands of Ishdi-Nergal the bodyguard.

Notes

Tablet complete except for small piece of bottom right corner. 7 mm of obv. and all of rev. are uninscribed. NA script.

8) XXXVI *ma-gar-ra-a-ti ša ku-pi-e*. These reeds may well have been for the building of Dur-Sharrukin, on which see below, p. 214.

8) *ku-pi-e*. J.N. Postgate, *Fifty Neo-Assyrian Legal Documents*, p. 69, §6.3.5, takes this term to mean ‘snow, ice’, but see above, p. 195, note on ND 2409, 16.

11) *ih-taš-lu e-ta-AŠ-BU*. The first verb can only be Perf. 3 pl. of *hašālu*, but the meaning ‘they smashed’ is inappropriate; the verb must refer either to some aspect of delivery (see *Iraq* 18 (1956), p. 47) or to some process to which reeds were subject before sending on further; for the basis of the latter possibility cf. M. Jastrow, *A Dictionary of the Targumim*, 511a, Aram. *h^ašal* 2 ‘to peel’ and 441b, Aram. *hūšlā* 1 ‘pounded grain’, 2 ‘peeled barley’. *e-ta-AŠ-BU* could represent *e-ta-az-bu*, Perf. 3 pl. of *ezēbu*.

(b) Land administration

Letters edited:

ND 2486, ND 2649, ND 2660, ND 2734+2416+2457, ND 2769.

ND 2486 (LXVIII; BSAI; Plate 40)

Transliteration

Obv.

1' ... x [U]RU [LUG]AL? [E]N?-[a]?
 ... x-ú-ni
 ... [M]EŠ a-ki ša šarru bēlī
 [iq-b]u-u-ni nu-za'-i-za-šú-nu
 5' [am]ēl^lurad ekalli ina pa-ni-šú-nu
 ap-ti-qi-di ^mtar-di-i[t-aš-šur]
 u[p]-ta-ti-šú a-bat šarri
 i-za-kar ma-a A.ŠÀ.GA.ME[Š]
 šarru ia-a-ši ú-za-ki
 10' ... x x A.ŠÀ.GA.MEŠ
 ... x x ...

Rev.

1' ... x š[a] LU[GAL]? ...
 ina pān šarri bēlī-a a-x
 šarru bēlī liš-al-šú-nu
 šúm-mu A.ŠÀ.MEŠ šarru bēlī

5' *ú-za-ki a-na mtar-di-i[t]-aš-šur*
i-ti-din pu-tu-hu
 A.ŠÀ.GA.MEŠ ša x ... x
 issu A.ŠÀ.GA.MEŠ ša a-lik-š[u]?
 [l]u-ra-me

Translation

Obv.

(1') ... the city of *the king my lord* (2') (3'-4') ... We distributed them as the king my lord ordered. (5'-6') I appointed a palace servant at their disposal. (As to) Tardit-Ashur, (7') I dismissed him. (7'-9') He is quoting a royal order, claiming, 'the king freed the fields for me'. (10') the fields (11')

Rev.

(1') ... of *the king* (2') I ... before the king my lord. (3'-6a') Let the king my lord ask them whether the king my lord freed the fields (and) then gave (them) to Tardit-Ashur. (6b'-9') (As to) the responsibility which [*he bears*] for the fields, let him occupy (them as though they are) from the fields of his fief.

Notes

Tablet with top, bottom and upper left corner missing. Condition mostly good, with very clear NA script. Last 16 mm of extant rev. uninscribed. Both faces flat.

Obv.

6', rev. 5') *mtar-di-it-aš-šur*. For a person of this name, a chieftain of the Itu'a, see ABL 419, obv. 19.

Rev.

7') *ša x ... u x*. The translation 'which [*he bears*]' assumes that the lost word was *i-na-ši-u-ni* or some variant; this seems possible, if the traces on the side after *pu-tú-hu* in line 6' represent the final sign *ni* of line 7'. For the NA idiom *putu(h)hu našû*, see AHW, 885a.

8') *a-lik-š[u]*. From *alku*, a form of *ilku*, cf. CAD, A/1, 350b.

ND 2649 (XXXIII; IM 64095; Plate 20)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri*
be-lí-ia
urad-ka m.dnabû-eṭir-ir
dnabû dmard[uk]
 5 *a-na šarri be-[l]í-ía*
lik-ru-bu
an-nu-rig
nišēmeš
ú-sa-ni-q[u]-ni
 10 *ú-pa-r[i-r]u*
a-na-ku ina muh[hi]
 Base *šarr[i be]-[l]í-[ía]*

- a-sa-a*[p-r]a
a-na ša[k-n]u
 15 *ki-í*l an-ni-i
iq-í-bi-ia ma-a
nišē^{meš} ir-ri-š[u-m]a?
am-mar ina pa-ni-š[u-u]n?-ni
ma-a ištēn^{en} la a-kal-la
 20 *ma-a* gab-bu
ú-še-e-ša
a-na šarri be-lí-ía
a-dan^{an}

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-etir. (4-6) May Nabu and Marduk bless the king my lord.

(7-10) Now *they have transferred and dispersed* the people. (11-14) I myself sent a message for the king my lord to the governor. (15-16) In this manner he replied to me, saying: ‘The people will cultivate as much as is at their disposal. (19) I will not hold one back. (20-23) I will send everyone out (and) will deliver to the king my lord.’

Notes

Complete tablet. No significant loss of text, but abrasion make readings uncertain in several places. NA script.

3) ^{m.d}nabû-eṭir^{ir}. KAR = eṭir appears to lack two of its usual verticals.

9-10) *ú-sa-ni-q*[u]-ni *ú-pa-r*[i-r]u. Since both verbs are D forms, they presumably have an active sense, and in the context the grammatical object for both is likely to be *nišē*. The subject would then be indefinite 3 pl., and the translation ‘they have transferred and dispersed the people’ would refer to a resettlement.

18) *pa-ni-š*[u-u]n?-ni. For the affixed *-ni* in a nominal clause, see GAG §123f.

ND 2660 (CII; IM 64099; Plate 40)

Transliteration

- Obv. *a-na* šarri bēlī-i[a]
urad-ka ^{m.d}nergal₄-būn(DÛ)-...

šarru : ṭè-mu : i-sa-ka[n a]-na pānī-i[a]
 [m]a bītī-ku-nu
 5 [ina ā]lhu-NUMUN?-na : ša-ba-ta
bīta ar-te-ši-bi
nišē^{meš}-ia amēl[u]rdē^{meš}-ia
 [ina lī]b-bi ú-si-ri-bi
 [ina] M[U].IM.MA : a-ni-n[i]?
 10 [am]-mar : šarru : [ṭ]è-mu
 [iš-k]unu-na-ši-ni
 x x x x
 Base ʾÉʾ? x ...

14 x
 Rev. x x
 16 [i?-m]a?-gúr?
-u-ni
 x [m]ār? m^mmu-bi-i
 ... x x x ina ā^h[u]-MU?-na
 20 ṣa-b[a-t]a : la i-ma-g[úr]-ru
 a-na ṣa-ba-te
 am-mar bīt abī-šú
 ina lib-bi-ni la i-ma-gúr
 a-na ṣa-ba-ti
 25 [š]a i[na] ti-ma-li : šá-šu-ú-m[e]
 bītā[ti]^{me[š]} ina lib-bi ú-r[a]-[š]ip-u-ni
 Top la i-ma-gúr-ru
 la ú-še-ra-bu-šú-nu
 Side kar-ši-ia
 30 RI x x?-qu

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Nergal-bun[aya].

(3-5) The king has sent an instruction to me, saying: 'Take possession of your estate in Hu-*NUMUN*-na.' (6-8) I have erected the house; I have brought my people and my servants inside. (9) Last year, *as to us*, (10-11) as much as the king gave us instructions, (12-17) [illegible or uncertain] (18) *the son of Mubi* (19-20) 'Take possession of ... in Hu-*MU*-na'; they will not agree. (21-23) He will not agree to taking possession among us (even for) as much as his paternal estate. (24-28) They who in the recent past built houses therein, are unwilling to take possession and will not bring them (*sc.* their families) in.

(29-30) *Let the king not listen to slander against me*

Notes

Lacks almost all top end, upper part of left side, and some surface on both faces near these areas. NA script.

5, 19) [ā]^hhu-*NUMUN*?-na, ā^h[u]-*MU*?-na. Since the same place must be indicated in both occurrences, one transcription must be erroneous. ā^hhu-*NUMUN*-na would be Huzirina near Harran, see NAT 171. ā^hhu-*mu*-na would be unknown.

9) [ina] M[U].IM.MA = šaddagdiš. Thanks are due to J.N. Postgate for recognition here of the form.

9) a-ni-n[i]?. This reading is assumed in the translation, although the damaged traces of the final sign suggest šá.

ND 2734+2416+2457 (XLI; IM 64029; Plate 41)

See K. Deller, *Or.* 33 (1964), p. 90 and TCAE, pp. 38, 58, 137, 387.

Transliteration

Obv. a-na šarri bēlī-ia

- [ura]d-ka^{m.d}nergal-ú-bal-liṭ
 [lu šulm]u^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ia
 [ša] šarr[u bēlī i]š-p[ur-an-n]i
 5 ma-a eqlāti(A.Š.Ā.GA)^{meš} ša pāhat
 ālur-zu-hi-na gab-bu ú-šur-a
 ma-a at-tu-nu eqlāti(A.Š.Ā.GA)^{meš}
 ša^{mbēl-apla-iddina} : ta-pu-ga
 a-ia-ú šu-ú eqli-šú ša^{mbēl-apla-iddina}
 10 ša ina pān šarri bēlī-ia iq-bu-u-ni
 ma-a eqlu(A.Š.Ā.GA) na-ši : X šanāti^{meš}
 amēlpāhatu-u-tú ina ālur-zu-hi-na
 šarru be-lí ip-ta-aq-da-an-ni
 ina ma-ti-me-ni la a-mur^{mbēl-apla-iddina}
 15 šēpē^{II}-šú ina lib-bi eqli am-me-ia-e
 la um-mì-di : šarru be-lí ú-da
 eqlu ša bīt^{amēl}sukalli eqlu(A.Š.Ā.GA)
 ša bīt^{amēl}šar-ti-ni nār-ra-da-nu
 la e-bir harrān šarri ša a-na
 20 āl^a-za-ri i-la-ku-u-ni
 ta-hu-mu-šú-nu : a-ki ia-a-š[i]
 šarru a-na mā^tqu-u-e ú-bi-la-ni-ni
 nišē^{meš} mā[ti i]p-ta-šu
 A.Š.Ā.G[A] ... x x š[u] UR[U]? x x
 25 urdāni^{meš.ni} ša^{mbēl-apla-iddina} DIŠ!?^{×EN} la-a(-)[š]ú-[n]u
 [la i]l-lik la hu-ra-du
 x ... x [i]l-ba-ši ina [pā]nī-ni
 28 ... ta-hu-mu e-ta-ba-r[u]-ni
 Base kapra(URU.ŠE) ina lib-bi i-ša-ab-tú
 Rev. ú-ma-a a-ki šarru be-lí
 31 ina muhhi LÚ.LUL.MEŠ iš-pur-an-ni-ni
 ina lib-bi a-ta-lak a-ta-ta-ha
 ēnē^{II.meš}-ia kapra(URU.ŠE) a-ta-mar
 LÚ.AB.BA.MEŠ ša māti mār na-gi-ia-e
 35 urdāni^{meš.ni} ša šarri II III ina pānī-ia i-za-zu
 a-sa-al-šú-nu nu-uk a-[k]e-e x
 a-na^{mbēl-apla-iddina} i-din x x
 amēl^{urdāni}^{meš.ni} LÚ.AB.BA.MEŠ ša māti
 ma-a ahhē^{meš}-ni ip-ta-šu eqli-šú-nu
 40 ra-mu ma-a i-tu-ru-du
 ša^{mbēl-apla-iddina} ša da-a-ni kapri(URU.ŠE) š[ú]-tú
 ina lib-bi i-ša-ab-tú ú-ma-a
 LÚ.AB.BA.MEŠ ša māti mār na-gi-ia-e
 II III i-ba-ši li-li-ku-u-ni
 45 issu urdāni^{meš.ni} ša^{mbēl-apla-iddina} ina pān šarri bēlī-ía
 lu-u-ki-nu eqlu ša man-ni šu-tu-u ir-m[u-n]i
 a-na di-ib-bi la šal-mu-ti ina pān šarri bēlī-ía

i-da-bu-bu : eqlu(A.ŠÀ.GA) ša pāhat āl^lur-zu-hi-na
šum-ma ra-mu ša la bēlī e-šu-ú
 50 *man-nu ša eqla(A.ŠÀ.GA) ša-hi-tú-u-ni i-bat-taq*
i-na pān x x ṽa^l-ri šarri be-lí
i-šá x ... x x urdāni^{meš}.ni-ia
ip/b ... [s]u x
x ... x ina lib-bi
 55 *x x x x x ... [b]ēlī-ia*
x ma-a eqlāni^{meš} is-x x x
[i?-d]in? : la šu-tú XIX LIM eqli
x āl^lur-zu-hi-na [š]a LUGAL be-lí[-ia]?
 Top *[šarr]u? be-lí ma-a na-kam-tú šu-u*
 60 *... [z]i-zi a-di bīt tal-l[i] a-na-šú-ni*

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Nergal-uballit. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) About the matter on which the king my lord sent me a message, (5-8) saying, ‘Surrender all the lands in the province of Urzuhina; you have usurped the lands of Bel-apla-iddina,’ (9-11) what is this land of Bel-apla-iddina of which they told the king my lord, ‘The land is ours?’ (11-13) For the ten years that the king my lord has appointed me to the governorship in Urzuhina, (14-16) I have not at any time seen (anything of this). Bel-apla-iddina has not set his feet within that land. (16-21) The king my lord knows that the land of the estate of the Sukkallu-official (and) the land of the estate of the Chief Judge do not cross the Radanu river. The royal road which goes to Azari is their boundary. (21-23) When the king sent me in person to the land of Que, the people of the land had gone off. (24) [unintelligible] (25-27) There (were) no servants of Bel-apla-iddina. None came. There was not even a watchman in our presence. (28) (*When*) they had crossed the boundary, they seized a village therein. (30-31) Now when the king my lord sent me a message concerning the lawbreakers, (32) I went therein (and) took the matter up, (33) I saw the village with my own eyes. (34) The elders of the land, natives of the district, (35) (and) two or three royal servants, were standing in my presence. (36) I interrogated them saying, ‘How is it he gave (it) (37) to Bel-apla-iddina? ... (38) The servants (and) elders of the land (answered): (39) ‘Our brothers went off. Their land (40) is abandoned; they have left (it).’ (41-42a) *They were acting on an idea* of Bel-apla-iddina, who is president (*or* one) of the village judges.’

(42b-44) Now elders of the land, natives of the province – two or three do exist – let them come along. (45-46) Let them give evidence, along with the servants of Bel-apla-iddina, in the presence of the king my lord, (as to) whose land it is (and) who abandoned it. (47-48) They will give testimony in the presence of the king against unreliable gossip. (48-49) If land of the province of Urzuhina is abandoned, there will be confusion without (an appropriate decision by) my lord. (50) Whoever desires a field, he should cut off (a piece from unused land). (51-57a) [fragmentary] (57b) 19,000 (units of) land (58) of Urzuhina belongs to the king my lord. (59) The king my lord (will say): ‘It is nakkamtu-(land) (60) (which) ... I shall take over until ...

Notes

Complete tablet composed of three excavation entries rejoined; the major part is ND 2734, the top ND 2416 and the bottom ND 2457. Bears a beautifully legible NA script in very good condition almost everywhere except in the vicinity of joins.

6) *ú-šur-a*. See CAD, N/2, 60b, *našāru* A, but in the present context the sense required appears to be ‘surrender’ rather than ‘expropriate’.

8) *mbēl-apla-iddina*. See also ND 2648, 8 and ND 2461, 24’. On his extensive estates see TCAE, p. 137, i.8.

16) *um-mi-di*. See AHW, 212b, *emēdu(m)* D 3.

23, 39) *ip-ta-šu*. See AHW, 840a, *pašāšu*.

25) DIŠ!×EN. A note made at collation subsequent to original publication says: ‘definitely EN, not DIŠ×EN’, and this reading is represented in the cuneiform copy. Despite this, a reading *iš[tēn]^{en}* – ‘There (were) no servants of Bel-apla-iddina’ – seems to give better sense than EN and is adopted in the translation.

25) *la-a(-)[š]ú-[n]u*. *la-[a] [š]ú-[n]u* may give the better sense.

31) LÚ.LUL.MEŠ. = *parriṣē* or *sarrūte*; see *Iraq* 20 (1958), 190 and Deller, *Or.* 30 (1961), 249-57.

40) *i-tu-ru-du*. 3 pl. Pf. *urādu*, for NA *i-tu-ur-du*.

41) *ša da-a-ni*. Either the equivalent of *ša pān dajāni* ‘president of the court’, for which see CAD, D, 33b, or ‘among the judges’.

42) *ina lib-bi i-ša-ab-tú*. For the sense assumed in the translation, see CAD, Š, 24a, *šabātu* 7c.

44) *i-ba-ši*. I am indebted to J.N. Postgate for pointing out that this, rather than *i-na-ši* of the editio princeps, is the probable reading.

47-48) *a-na di-ib-bi ... i-da-bu-bu*. The presence of *a-na* indicates that this is not the idiom *dibbi dabābu* ‘to talk gossip’, and the writer would certainly not have proposed that witnesses should appear before the king for such a purpose.

50) *ša-hi-tú-u-ni*. K. Deller, *Or.* 33 (1964), 90, shows that this is Stat. of a second *šahātu* ‘to desire’.

58) *[š]a LUGAL be-lí[-ia]?*. After *ša* with apparently no succeeding relevant verb, one expects the oblique case; a final *-ia* may have been omitted from the copy, but there has been no opportunity to collate the tablet to check this.

59) *na-kam-tú*. In NA a class of land; see CAD, N/1, 184a, *nakkamtu* 2b, c; AHW, 722a, *nakkamtu(m)* 4, 6.

60) *a-di bīt tal-li*. Perhaps ‘for partition, distribution’; see AHW, 1311a, *tallu(m)* I etwa ‘Trennlinie’.

ND 2769 (CIV; IM 64161; Plate 42)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šar[ri] bēlī-ia*

urad-ka m.dénurta-bel-úšur

l[u]-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ī[a]

ša šarru be-lí iš-pur-a-ni

5 *ma-a alpē^{meš} ša ekalli*

- ša ina pānī-ka ma-a hi-ši-in
 ia-ú alp^{meš}
 pi-q[i]-tú š[a] ekalli
 [m]a-a'-d[u] ʾa^l-dan-ni[š] ina pānī-ía
 10 [i-t]a-na-har ʾa^l-na šarri
 [b]ēlī-ia mu-uk
 ʾÉ^l.ŠAM.MEŠ-ia la-šú
 ālgi-il-gi-me-e
 [i]š-ku-na-ni x
 15 ʾÉ^l.ŠAM.MEŠ-[i]a
 Base x [k]a x-nu
 Rev. ... x UD ga ni
 ʾa^l-n[a^{mb}]ēl-harrān-šár-úšur
 ... x ti ... si-[e]l a-na-n[i]?
 20 ... x x mu a-n[u]-te
 ... x x ʾú^l-ma-a
 [šarru] be-[l]i ʾa^l-[n]a^{mb}ēl-harrān-šár-úšur
 [É?.ŠA]M?.M[ÉŠ]? it-taš-k[u?-n]u?
 liš-pur : bīt re-'e-e
 25 ʾÉ^l.ŠAM.MEŠ ina pānī-šú-nu
 [al]p^{meš} ša šarri bēlī-[a]
 l[i]-ih-ši-nu
 [a]n-nu-te ša šarri bēlī-ī[a]
 ša ina pānī-ía ša šarri-ma
 30 bēlī-ia

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Enurta-bel-usur. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-7) Concerning the matter on which the king my lord sent me a message, saying: 'Provide for the cattle of the palace which are your responsibility', what cattle (do you mean?). (8-12) (Any) responsibility of the palace is always very acceptable to me, (but) I say to the king my lord, I have no pasturage areas. (13-14) He has designated the town of Gilgime for me; (but) (15) my pasturage areas (16) are [*very limited*]. (17) [fragmentary] (18) To Bel-harran-shar-usur (19-21a) [fragmentary] (21b-23) Now the king my lord (*knows that*) pasturage areas are designated to Bel-harran-shar-usur. (24) Let him send a message. Grazing ground – (that is), pasturage areas – are at their disposal; let them provide for the cattle of the king my lord. These belonging to the king my lord which are my responsibility do indeed belong to the king my lord.

Notes

Tablet broken and rejoined. Lacks piece from lower half of left side, otherwise almost complete. NA script, mainly clear, with some abrasion, mainly on left half of rev.

The writer is unable, through lack of pasturage, to provide for cattle entrusted to him, and suggests that they should go to other officials who are better equipped in this respect.

- 10) [i-t]a-na-har. 3 sg. G^{tn} of *mahāru*. For the sense assumed, cf. CAD, M/1, 64b-65a, 2'.
 12, 15, 25) 𐎶𐎵.ŠAM.MEŠ. Although 𐎶 is damaged at each occurrence, the reading is certain. 𐎶.ŠAM is taken to represent *bīt šammi* 'pasturage area'.
 16) The extant signs are very limited, and the translation is a guess based on the apparent context.
 19) a-na-n[i]. The final sign, inscribed on the edge, is distorted.
 22) be-[l]í. The implicit *ú-da*, assumed in the tentative translation, is not represented in the text.
 23) it-taš-k[u?-n]u?. The form assumed in this tentative restoration is 3 pl. N^{tn} of *šakānu*, with NA vowel harmony in penultimate syllable (GAG §10e).

(c) Building operations

Letters edited:

ND 2408, ND 2481 (perhaps not a letter), ND 2666, ND 2765, ND 2770.

ND 2408 (XXXII; IM 64027; Plate 20)

Re-edited SAA, 1, no.26 and Fales, CLNA, pp. 154-155, 177, III.1.

Transliteration

- Obv. a-bat šarri a-na amēlSA[G x]
 VII ME ^{tú}gma-qar-rat ša tibni(ŠE.IN.NU)
 VII ME ša ^{gí}appar[āti](AM[BAR])me[š]
 ša išēt^{et} e-bi-is-si
 5 imēru(ANŠE.NÍTA) la e-mu-qa-šú-u-n[i]
 la i-mat-ta-hu-u-ni
 Base ūm I KAM ša arahkislimi
 Rev. ina [ā]l^ldūr-šárru-kīn
 lu qu-u[r-b]u
 10 ištēn^{en} ūmu^{m[u]} [e]-ti-iq
 ta-m[u]-at

Translation

(1) Royal decree to the Head of ...

(2) 700 loads of straw, (3) 700 sheaves of reeds, (4-6) of (such a size that) a donkey is incapable of carrying a single one, (7-9) let them be present in Dur-Sharrukin on the first day of Kislev. (10-11) (If) one day passes, you shall die.

Notes

Royal letter, virtually complete except at three corners. Inscribed parallel to long axis. At end of rev. there is a space equivalent to one line. Rev. is more convex than obv. NA script.

Line 8 of the present letter indicates that the material was for the building of Dur-Sharrukin, as were probably also the large quantities of bricks and reeds mentioned in ND 2481. This must also have applied to ND 2666, which, since line 9 mentions a new

great gate, and lines 31ff. concern the garrison, was certainly related to the building or rebuilding of a city, almost certainly Dur-Sharrukin. ND 2765, which mentions the erection of colossi, is also likely to be linked to the building of that city, since the mention of emissaries from Egypt and places in south Palestine favours a date for this letter in the reign of Sargon. The badly broken ND 2770 (pp. 221-2) also probably refers to Dur-Sharrukin, since it mentions (rev. 6) building the royal house. On the possible relationship of ND 2409 and ND 2792 to the building of Dur-Sharrukin see above, pp. 195 and 205. Possibly the reference in ND 2637 to bringing silver into the New Palace (see below, p. 227) is a further allusion to Dur-Sharrukin. There is little positively to link ND 2669 (see below, pp. 230-1) to the building of Sargon's new capital, but a connection seems possible.

1) *amēl*SA[G x]. The restoration proposed in SAA, 1, no.26 (LÚ*.ša[k]-[ni], 'the governor] (of Calah)') is open to the objection that a governor is unlikely to have been threatened with death in connection with delivery of straw and reeds.

3, 4) *e-bi-is-su, e-bi-is-si*. See AHW, 183a, *e/ibissu* < **ebiltu*, linked to *eblu* 'cord'. The sense 'sheaf' fits both etymology and the parallelism with 'loads of straw'. See also J.N. Postgate, *Fifty Neo-Assyrian Legal Documents*, p. 69, §6.3.5.

ND 2481 (IM 64059; Plate 42)

Transliteration

Obv.1' x
 ša
 DIŠ LIM DIŠ LIM x x
 libittu(SIG₄) *iškaru*(ÉŠ.GÀR) ša IV I[TI]?MEŠ
 5' *ina šatti*(MU.AN.NA) šá-ni-ti
 ki-i AN x ma i-šah-hu-ṭ[u]-n[i]?
 naphar II LIM LIM V[I]? ME L IV LIM VI ME
 libittu(SIG₄) *iškaru*(ÉŠ.GÀR) ša II *šanāti*(MU.AN.NA.MEŠ)
 XL LIM *ma-gàr-rat tibni*(ŠE.IN.NU)
 10' [M]AŠ? *qa tibni*(ŠE.IN.NU) ša DIŠ *libittu*
 IV *qa a-na ši-in-di šá [x]?*
 VI LIM II ME LX *ma-gàr-rat GI.x*
 VII KÙŠ *r[u]-ṭu* BAR KÙŠ XX
 issēt^{et} ma-gàr-rat-tú
 15' VII LIM GI.SAR.'A
 Base BAR KÙŠ XX GÍD.DA
 Rev. [x KÙ]Š XX-m[a]?
 naphar TUR?.KAL KÙŠ A[R]?PAD.DA

Tentative Translation

(3') 1,000 (times) 1,000 (4') brick(s), the delivery of four *months*, (5') in the second year, (6') when they ... and make (the bricks). (7') Total: 2, 654,600 (8') brick(s), delivery of two years. (9') 40,000 loads of straw; (190'), *half* a qa of straw for one brick; (11') four qa for the brickwork of [...] (12') 6,250 loads of ...-reeds.

(13') 7 cubits ... half a royal cubit. (14') One load, (15') 7,000 SAR'U reeds. (16'-18') Half a royal cubit is the length, ... royal cubits is the ..., total ... cubits of ...

Notes

Tablet with perhaps one line, at most two lines, lost from top, otherwise in good condition. More than three-quarters of extant rev. is uninscribed. Tablet is a report about brick production. It is possibly not a letter, although it has the physical appearance of a letter, and the broken beginning of line 1' could be [a]-[n]a as part of the address. NA script. I acknowledge considerable help from J.N. Postgate with lines 13' to 18' of this text.

3') DIŠ LIM DIŠ LIM. Presumably a writing for 'one million'.

4') *iškaru*. Translated in sense of CAD, I/J, p. 247b, 3f.

4') I[TI]?.MEŠ. The former sign is too damaged for certain reading, but the traces would permit ITI, as suggested by J.N. Postgate.

6') *i-šah-hu-ṭ[u]-n[i]?*. On the meaning see above, ND 2487, note on lines 6, 9. After *kī* one expects Subj. affix *ni* at end of verb, and there may be a trace of a wedge in the damaged area after *ṭ[u]*.

11') *ši-in-di*. See CAD, S, p. 197a, *šimdu* A, 3.

18') KÜŠ A[R]?.PAD.DA. Could this be 'cubit of Arpad'? Alternatively, read G[İR']?.PAD.DA; *ešemtu* is sometimes used as a linear measure in Neo-Assyrian, and a variant writing of the logogram with .DA is attested in Ashurbanipal's inscriptions.

ND 2666 (LXVII; BSAI; Plate 41)

Re-edited by B.J. Parker in *Iraq* 59 (1997), pp. 79ff.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēli-ia*
 [u]rad-ka ^mdūr-aš-šur

[š]u-uh dul-l[u] ša šarru
 bēli i[š-p]ur-an-ni dūru ga-mur

5 *na-ṭu x sa x-ú-tu*
 GIŠ.MEŠ na-ṣ[a]-ri ra-h[i]-ṣi
 ši-bir ni-qi-r[u] pa-áš-šú
 XXVIII ⁱm[a-h]i-ri šak-nu
ⁱdaltu [š]a abulli šak-na-at

10 *up-pu si-KU-tú ep-šú*
 bi-bi [k]a?-sa-[l]u? ku-up-ru
 ka-ap-ru x x? š[á]??(-)DA-ri-ki
 šak-na-a[t] x-[r]i?-te?/tú? šá bīt nap-ṭar-t[e]
 ra-ṣip ga-mur ṣa-lu-lu

15 [É]l.Š[U.I]I š[a]? x x a-ra-ṣip
 [ú]l-ga-[m]ar e-bi[r]-tú

Base *x x x x x*
 k[u]-up-ru a-ka-par
 bīt qāti(É.ŠU.II.MEŠ) a-na šá bir-t[e]

20 *r[a]-aṣ-pa ga-m[u]-r*a

- Rev. ʾú1-[r]a-a-te i-si-ru
 iṣBI-sa-na-te i-šá-ku-nu
 tar-ba-ša-te i-ka-si-r[u]
 ia-ar-hu ša gi-da-ni
- 25 damiq(SI[G]₅) ad-dan-niš ša bi-ta-ni
 mēme[š] šá šá-qa šá nārīdiqlat(^{id}HAL.HAL)
 ṭāb(DÜG.GA) šar[ru] bēlī illak(DU)^{ak} e-mar
 K[Á] x x? GI[Š]?.MEŠ šum-mi
 iṣhar-bi iṣšu-gu-ri
- 30 qi-ru ha-mar-tú bu-ú-[lu₄]
 a-na maṣṣarti ú-še-rab a-šá-kan
 amēlṣābē^{meš} ša āl^{bir}-te
 [l]il-li-ku-nu li-ru-bu
 x MEŠ man-nu i-ma-ta-ha x x ri
- 35 šarru b]e-lí liš-pu-ra
 [amēlṣa] bīt ku-din šá šarri
 ... x MEŠ e-ta-mar
- Top [x ME] LXII amēlṣābē^{meš}
- 39 [issu libbi] āl^{ra}-ša-pi āl^{x-x-x-h}[i]?
- Side* āl^{ar}-zu-hi-nu ša amēlṣaknū(LÚ.GAR)^{nu.meš} ša ālg[u-za-ni]
- 41 šá āl^{arrap}-ha šá amēl^{rab} šāqī(BI.LUL) amēlṣābē^{meš}-šú-nu
 ʾa^l-hi ri-ṣu-ʾú1-t[i] [l]u-ú illak(DU)^{ak}

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Dur-ashur.

(3-5) Concerning the task about which the king my lord sent me a message, the wall is finished (and) ready. ... (6-7) The protective timbers are reliable. The broken (and) demolished parts are cleared away. (8) 28 mahiru are set in place. (9) The door of the great gate is set in place. (10) The narrow pipes are made. (11-12) The drainage openings of the baulk-wall are smeared with bitumen. (12-13) The ...-dariki is set in place. (13) the ... of the napṭartu house (14a) is ready (and) complete. (14b-16a) I shall prepare (and) complete the canopy of the ... house. (16b-17) The staircase (18) I shall smear with bitumen. (19-20) The wing for the garrison official is prepared (and) complete. (21) They have plastered the roofs. (22) They are setting the kassanate in place. (23) They are paving [or plastering] the courtyards. (24-27) The pond on the outside is very satisfactory. For the inside, the irrigation waters of the Tigris are good. The king my lord will come (and) he will see. (28) the gate ... timbers ... (29-31) I shall bring in ploughs, spears, bitumen, ... (and) cattle for the guard (and) set (them) in place. (32-33) Let the troops of the fortress come (and) enter. (34) Who will transport the? (35) Let [the king] my [lord] send a message. (36) [The man over] the royal mule stable (37) has seen the ... (38-42) (There are) [x hundred and] sixty two soldiers (39) [of] the town of Rasappu, the town of ...-hi, (40) (and) the town of Arzuhinu. (As to) the governors of the town Gu[zana] (and) Arrapha (and) the Rab-shakeh, their troops will come to (their) assistance.

Notes

Tablet complete except for fragment missing from surface layer of final 17 mm of left corner of end of rev.; distinction between core and surface layer can be clearly seen here. Obv. almost flat, rev. slightly convex. Some signs, mainly on obv., are badly abraded. In places legibility is significantly reduced by encrusted dirt, which, from respect to the teaching of my mentor Sidney Smith, I have not attempted to remove for fear of damaging the tablet. Careful laboratory treatment might improve some readings. NA script.

5) *x sa x-ú-tu*. The first unidentified sign might be *ka*. The traces after *sa* might conceal two signs. B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 79, reads [x x] KA₂ E₂-SUHUŠ? without translating.

6) *ra-h[i]-ši*. B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 79, proposes [ma]-[hi?]-ši.

6-7) GIŠ.MEŠ *na-ṣ[a]-ri ra-h[i]-ši ši-bir ni-qi-r[u] pa-áš-šú*. CAD, Q, 271a, takes the penultimate word as *qi-ru* and translates GIŠ.MEŠ ... *qi-r[u] pa-áš-šú* as ‘the beams are smeared with bitumen’. B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 79, reads *ši-bir-ni qi-ru pa-áš-šú*, and translates ‘the *šibirni*’s have been smeared with hot tar’ without explaining *šibirni*. In my translation *ši-bir* is taken as constr. of *šibru* ‘broken piece’ (CAD, Š/2, 382b, *šibru* B; AHW, 1207a, *šeburu*). *ni-qi-r[u]* is from *naqāru* ‘to demolish’; AHW, 792b, offers *niqu(m)* ‘Abbruch-Holz’. *pa-áš-šú* could be derived from *pasāsu(m)*, NA *pašāšu(m)* ‘annullieren’ (AHW, 838a-b, 843b).

8) *is[m[a-h]i-ri*. Here must represent some building feature.

10) *up-pu si-KU-tú*. The first word is taken as *uppu(m)* I ‘Röhre’ (AHW, 1424a-b). Despite slight damage, the reading of the second word is assured; it is not *si-ku-ru*, as emended in editio princeps and accepted tentatively in AHW, 1042b, apud *sikkūru(m)*, and in *Iraq* 59, p. 79. *si-KU-tú*, (m. pl. adj.), is unlikely to be *sikūtu* from *sāku*; more likely is *si-qú-tu*, pl. of *sīqu* I ‘eng, schmal’ (AHW, 1049b).

11) *bi-bi*. Approximate sense adopted from B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 80.

11) [k]a?-sa-[l]u?. Examination under the microscope makes it certain that the first sign is not *ki*, as read in *Iraq* 59, p. 79; *ka* is almost certain. The third sign is probably not *ta*, as proposed in editio princeps, but *lu*, as read in *Iraq* 59, p. 79. [k]a-sa-lu is perhaps linked to *kaslu* II, *kasal* (AHW, 454a).

13) *x-[r]i?-te?/tú?*. The first sign is damaged beyond recognition; it could be *ú* as proposed by B.J. Parker in *Iraq* 59, p. 79. *ri*, read by B.J. Parker, is almost certain, but there is a further sign, which examination under the microscope proves to be more probably UD than *te* (as given in editio princeps). If *urītu* is the correct reading, cf. perhaps AHW, 1431a, hypothetical form *urītu* I ‘Stute’, although this sense hardly fits the context.

13) *bīt nap-ṭar-t[e]*. The copy in the editio princeps was correct, the transliteration erroneous. For a closely related term *bīt napṭari* cf. CAD, N/1, 325a, apud *napṭaru* in *bīt napṭari*, ‘a type of residence for ... persons of *napṭaru* status’. B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 80, translates ‘barracks’.

14) *ša-lu-lu*. Taken as NA spelling of *šulūlu* A of CAD, Š, 242a, but B.J. Parker could be correct in taking it as St. D of *šullulu* A of CAD, Š, 239a in the sense ‘is roofed’, parallel to the two preceding verbs.

15) [É]Š[U.I]I š[a]? *x x*. Tentatively adopted from B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 80, but it should be noted that the lowest of the four horizontals of supposed ŠU is level with the other three, so that the correct reading might be É š[a] *x-x-x*.

- 16) *e-bi[r]-tú*. Taken as representing *ebertu* ‘staircase step’ (CAD, E, 10a, *ebertu* B, 2; AHw, 182a, *ebertu* II).
- 17-20) Line 17 is on the turn from obv. to base, and line 20 on the turn from base to rev.
- 17) This line retains nothing legible. B.J. Parker proposes to read the final three signs as *ki-sa-lu?*, but for each sign the minimal traces are opposed to this restoration.
- 18) *a-ka-par*. In the final sign, on the bottom right corner of the tablet, the vertical is inscribed slightly lower than normal.
- 19) The rendering of this line is after CAD, Q, 198b-9a.
- 21) *ú1-[r]a-a-te*. Pl. of *úru(m)* I ‘Dach’, AHw, 1434b.
- 21) *i-si-ru*. From *sêru(m)*, Assyrian *se’ârû(m)* ‘bestreichen’, AHw, 1038a. The translation of line 21 approximates to that of B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 80.
- 22) *isBI-sa-na-te*. The context indicates that this was some building feature. B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 80, reads *GIŠ.bi-sa-na-te* and relates the word to *pisannu*, for which see AHw, 867b-868a, *piš/sannu(m)* I. J.N. Postgate (private communication) translates ‘gutters’. Possibly, however, an otherwise unknown *iskas-sa-na-te*.
- 23) *i-ka-si-r[u]*. See CAD, K, 313b, *kesêru* b, and AHw, 1328a, *tarba/āṣu(m)* B 1b.
- 24) *gi-da-ni*. Taken as a spelling of *kidāni*.
- 26) *šá-qa*. In *Iraq* 59, p. 80 restored as *pat-te*, but despite slight damage to the first sign, an introductory broad oblique seems very unlikely, whilst the second sign certainly consists only of one horizontal, one small oblique and one vertical, not of several small obliques and one vertical.
- 27) *šar[ru] bēlī*. So the text; *LU₂*.SAG*, proposed in *Iraq* 59, p. 80, is not a possible reading.
- 28) *šum-mi*. In the context, this must be a verbal form, presumably St., but no verb appropriate to the context suggests itself, unless one considers the possibility that it is from *šummu* (CAD, Š/3, 280b) with the meaning ‘is to be considered’. B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 80 reads *TAG-u-ni*, but since there are certainly not two small verticals in the final element, a reading *ni* seems precluded.
- 29) *šu-gu-ri*. Taken as a variant spelling of CAD, Š/3, 233b, *šukurru* ‘spear’.
- 30) *qi-ru ha-mar-tú*. CAD, Q, 270-271a, apud *qīru*, proposes *qi-ru ha-mar* ‘the bitumen is dried up’, but in the context *tú* must belong with *ha-mar*.
- 30) *bu-ú-[lu₄]*. Although the second sign has four (perhaps even five) verticals, it must be an anomalous *ú* rather than *É*.
- 34) *x x ri*. A restoration *i-su-ri* is possible.
- 38) [*x* ME] LXII. The statement by B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 85 that ‘there is enough room in the break to restore *x-lim x-me*’ is questionable. The actual space is equal to that occupied by *ku-din* in line 36; only by a form of writing more condensed than elsewhere on this tablet could this space have held 4 signs.
- 42) [*a*]-*hi*. For prepositional use of *ahi*, cf. CAD, A/1, 208a-b, *ahu* B, 3b.
- 42) [*a*]-*hi ri-ṣu-ú1-t[i]* [*l*]*u-ú illak(DU)^{ak}*. B.J. Parker, *Iraq* 59, p. 80, reads *hi-ri-ṣú* [E₂-^d15] *ú-ra?-ak*, but this does not accord with the traces and signs present.
- 42) [*l*]*u-ú illak(DU)^{ak}*. The second wedge in the lower part of DU looks like a small vertical, but examination under the microscope proves it to be a horizontal elongated downwards by a scratch.

ND 2765 (XVI; IM 64159; Plate 43)

Re-edited in SAA, 1, no.110. See also TCAE, pp. 117-8.

Transliteration

- Obv. [a-na šarri b]ēlī-i[a]
 [urad-ka [m.d]x-x-LID
 [lu šulmu] [a¹-na šarri bēlī-[ia]
 [i?-sin?-n]u? e-pi-[iš]
 5 d[x ina šu]l-me it-tu-š[i]-[a¹
 e-ta-rab d^{nabû} u d^{marduk}
 a-na šarri lík-ru-bu
 ina muhhi d^{ALAD}-d^{LAMMA}
 ša šarru be-lí iš-pur-an-ni
 10 ú-ta-si-iq ina muhhi bā[bāti]?meš.te
 ša amēl^rrabūte(GAL)meš ak-ta-ra-ar
 i-bat-tu-qu d^{ALAD}-d^{LAMMA}
 bat-qu-te ina pān bīti la-ap-du-ni
 ni-šak-kan lamassāti(LAMMA)meš.tu i-bat-tu-qu
 15 ina mahri bāb qa-na-ú-te ni-šak-kan
 ina muhhi [L]Ú?.A?.GÀR?.MEŠ ša a-na šarri bēlī-ia
 aq-bu-u-ni ú-pa-al-šú-nu
 a-na d^{ALAD}-d^{LAMMA} ú-ta-ru-šú-nu
 ina mahre bāb qabalti(MURUB₄)^{ti} ni-šak-kan
 20 i-su-ri šarru be-lí [i¹-q[ab-b]i
 ma-a dul-lu dan-n[u]
 dul-lu pa-ha-x ...
 ki-i-tu DIŠ KÛŠ r[u]-x ...
 d^{ALAD}-d^{LAMMA} x ...
 25 x x la? ni?/i[r]? ...
 x x x x x ...
 Base ... x x
 ... ŠID x
 29 [l]i-i-tu ša x ...
 Rev. ša a-na šarri bēlī-ia a[q-bu-u-ni]?
 31 li-e-ši-ru lu-š[e-bi-lu]
 i^sziq-pu ina pi-it
 XLV sisē^{meš} ša ... at-ta-har
 amēl^šīrāni^{meš} māt^{mu-šur}-a-a
 35 māt^{ha}-za-ta-a-a māt^{ia}-ú-da-a-a
 māt^{ma}-'a-ba-a-a māt^{ba}-an-am-ma-na-a-a
 ūm XII.KÁM* ina ā^lkal-hi e-tar-bu-u-ni
 m[a]-da-na-t[e]-šú-nu ina qatē^{II}-šú-nu
 XXV sīsē^{meš}
 40 ša māt^{ha}-za-ta-a-a ina qātē^{II}-šú
 māt^ú-du-mu-a-a māt^á[š]-du-da-a-a
 māt^{an}?-[q]a-ru-na-a-a x x x

...-x-[u]-[n]i? LÚ.[M]AH ...-x-a-a
 [issu]? ... x x : ú-ša-a
 45 [a-na ā]^lzab-ban il-la-ka
 ... x [š]a? amēl^ltar-ta-ni itti-šú

Translation

1-3) To the king my lord your servant *Nabu-ballit*. May it be well with the king my lord. (4) *The festival has been performed*. (5) The god [DN] has gone out (6-7) (and) come in. May Nabu and Marduk bless the king. (8-9) Concerning the colossi about which the king my lord sent me a message, (10-11) I have incised the outlines, I have set (them) in position at the *gates* of the nobles. (12-13) The roughhewn colossi in front of the house *were damaged*; we are fixing them. (14-15) They are roughhewing the lamassu-colossi (and) we shall fix them (the colossi) in front of the *exterior parts*. (16-18) Concerning the *hired men* of which I spoke to the king my lord, I will make them responsible (and) return them to (work on) the colossi. (19) We shall fix them (*sc.* the colossi) in front of the middle gate.

(20-21a) Perhaps the king my lord will say: 'The heavy work ...' (22) the work ... (23) truly one cubit ... (24) the colossi ...26-28) [fragmentary] (29-31) Let them draw and send the sketch of ... which *I spoke of* to the king my lord. (32) Saplings in

(33) I have received 45 horses of ... (34-38) The emissaries of Egypt, of Gaza, of Judah, of Moab, of the Ammonites, entered Calah on the twelfth (with) their tribute in their hands. (39-40) Twenty-five horses of the people of Gaza (are) in his hand. (41-42) The Edomites, the Ashdodites, the Ekronites (43) (44) He set out [*from ...*] (45) (and) is going to Zabban. [*An official*] of the Turtan (is) with him.

Notes

Largely complete tablet lacking fragments from top left and right corners, right bottom of obv. and left bottom of rev. Abrasion leaves several areas of doubt. Final third of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

2) [m.d]_{x-x}-LID. TCAE, op.cit., p. 118, followed by SAA, 1, no.110, restores m.dŠID(SAA, MES!)-rém!-[an(SAA, a)]-ni, but ^dMEŠ does not appear to be a possible reading of the traces. Another possible but uncertain restoration is m.d[n]abû₃-ba[l]-liṭ, for which name see ABL 577, obv. 15.

4) [i?-sin?-n]u? e-pi-[iš]. An almost wholly conjectural restoration, after SAA, 1, no.110.

5) ^d[x ina šu]l-me. Adopted from SAA, 1, no.110.

8, 12) ^dALAD-^dLAMMA. CAD, A/1, 287b suggests reading *šēdu lamassu* rather than *aladlammû*. In 13 *bat-qu-te* implies a pl., and LAMMA^{meš.tu} in 14 points to a distinction between ^dALAD and ^dLAMMA, which supports the view of CAD. The term has been translated 'colossi', to include those of both *šēdu* and *lamassu* type.

10) *ú-ta-si-iq*. Taken as D^t of *esēqu*, CAD, E, 331b, 'to incise a relief' (= AHw, 249a), although the verb appears to be not otherwise attested in D theme in this sense.

10) *bā[bāti]*?^{meš.te}. This is not certain but seems to be the most probable interpretation of the traces.

11) *amēl-rabūte*(GAL)^{meš}. Reading certain. ʿÉ!GA!L!MEŠ of SAA, 1, no.110 is impossible.

13) *la-ap-du-ni*. Taken as 3 pl. St. *lapātu*, related in technical sense to verbal adj. *laptu(m)* I c (AHw, 537a). SAA, 1, no.110 reads *la* DU.DU-*ni*, which seems improbable since the second and third signs have significantly different outlines.

15) *qa-na-ú-te*. The third sign is clearly *ú*, not *si*!! as proposed by SAA, 1, no.110. Taken as a defectively written pl. from CAD, Q, 81b-82b, *qannu* A 2 ‘outside’.

16) [L]Ú??A??GÀR.MEŠ. With considerable diffidence it is suggested that this, if a correct transcription, may be an otherwise unattested writing for *amēl-agrūti*^{meš}; cf. CAD, A/1, 151b LÚ.A.GAR (*sic*, not GÀR) = *agru*. Alternatively, one wonders if what I have very tentatively read as LÚ.A could have been intended for a form of ALAD. SAA, 1, no.110, reads ʿNA₄?AM!MEŠ, but a photograph appears to preclude NA₄ and certainly precludes AM. There are insufficient wedges for ALAM.MEŠ, suggested by J.N. Postgate.

17) *ú-pa-al-šú-nu*. See CAD, A/2, 165a, *apālu* A 7. SAA, 1, no.110 proposes *ú-pa-hu?-šú-nu*.

17b-18) Translation after CAD, A/2, 165a, 7.

42) *x x x*. TCAE, ad loc., [*a?-n*]a? ʿMURUB₄].

43) ...-x-ʿu¹-[*n*]i? TCAE, ad loc., restores [*e-tar-b*]u-u-*ni*.

44) ... *x x*. TCAE, ad loc., restores U]RU*kal-hi*.

ND 2770 (IM 64162; Plate 44)

Transliteration

Obv.

1' *x x* ...
 *ina m[uh]-hi* ...
 *x x x x*
 ʿa¹-*lik ma-a pa-ri-š[u](-)ʿu¹?-t[ú]?*
 5' ... É? NU PA RI LI? *x* UD?
 ...-*ha-ia i-si-šú-nu*
 ... *x pa-ri-šu šu-ú*
 ... PA? RI BE
 ... ŠEŠ.MEŠ-*šú*
 10'-*u-ni*
 [*a-n*]a *pān*

Base

1 *x* ...
x

Rev.

1 *šúm-m[a šar]ru i-qa-bi*
x x š[a] pa-ri-šu-te
nu-šal-lim : šu-uh ni-bu
ša gušurē(GIŠ.ÛR) ša šarru iš-pur-an-ni
 5 II ME XXVI *gušurē(GIŠ.ÛR) dannūti(KALAG)^{meš}*
ša bīt šarri

[I] ME *ina libbi a-na bīt qa-ta-tu*
x x a-na i-si-tu
x ME XXXIX guš[urē](GIŠ.Û[R])meš
 10 [ana]? *ekalli ša āl...-a-te*
[šu?-u]h? amēl.šābēmeš māt x ...(-)x-i[a]
[x] x bit-a-nu tu-š[a]-...
[x]? x MEŠ ú-ša-bi-[tu-ni]?
 ... x x x x ...

Translation

Obv.

[Nothing significant is certain except:] (4') ... thus, 'Criminal(s)', (6') with them, (7') ... he is a criminal, and (9') ... his brothers.

Base

[Nothing intelligible]

Rev.

(1) If the king should say: (2-3a) 'Take action!', we shall requite those guilty of crime.

(3b) Concerning the quantity (4) of beams about which the king sent me a message, (5-6) (there are) 226 massive beams of the royal house, (7) *one* hundred thereof for the *storehouses*, (8) ... for the tower, (9) x39 beams (10) for the palace of the city ...-ate.

(11) *Concerning* the people of the land ..., (12) for the bitanu-building you shall ... (13) they

Notes

Lower three-quarters or more of tablet. The extant script ranges from deep and clear to abraded beyond recognition. On left side, beginning nearest to start of rev., are parts of signs (not copied, since none are complete or restorable) showing the original presence of two lines there. NA script.

Obv.

5') É? NU PA RI LI? x UD?. The five verticals together before NU give the impression of all belonging to the same sign, and were probably part of É written anomalously. J.N. Postgate points out the attestation of *bīt nu-pa-ri* in MA. The remainder of the line is very dubious. The undoubted final horizontal in LI? might be a mistake, making the intended sign *ši*.

Rev.

2) x x One would normally expect *ma-a* after *i-qa-bi*, but the very damaged traces do not appear to support this.

7) *bīt qa-ta-tu*. Must denote some particular building; see CAD, Q, 198b, *qāti* in *bīt qāti*. Tentatively taken as a pl. of the latter form.

12) *bit-a-nu*. See CAD, B, 275a, *bītānu* 2.

(d) Other letters relating to the Assyrian homeland

Letters edited:

ND 2410, ND 2616, ND 2625, ND 2637, ND 2645, ND 2669, ND 2703, ND 2742.

ND 2410 (= CV; IM 64028; Plate 44)

Re-edited in K. Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 152-5.

Transliteration

Obv.1' [... .. x
 [m^l.f^d] x
 m^mMU-x x x BAD
 naphar II urdāni^{meš.ni}
 5' ša amēl^rrab šāqî
 ša ālⁿ[a]-āš-me-di
 m.^dadad-ki-la-ni
 mārī-šú
 naphar II urdāni^{meš.ni}
 10' ša amēl^šangi ša āldūr-^dBE
 m^{ta}-tu-^rú
 ša URU.ŠE m^{il}u-ba-ni
 Rev. [ur]du ša m^{am}-ba-ti-i
 amēl^{mu}-šar-kiš
 15' m^áha-iddina^{na}
 [š]a āl^{si}-in-ga-ar
 urdu ša rab šāqî
 naphar VI lúLUL^{meš}
 āl^ša-mⁿnashir(NIGIN)-bēl
 20' ik-tal-du

Translation

(2'-3') PN₁ (and) PN₂, (4'-6') a total of 2 servants of the Rab Shakeh, from Nashmedi;

(7'-8') Adad-kilani (and) his son, (9'-10') a total of 2 servants of the priest of Dur-BE;

(11'-14') Tatu of the village Ilu-bani, servant of Ambati the Musharkis official

(15'-17') (and) Aha-iddina of Singar, servant of the Rab Shakeh;

(18-20') a total of 6 attendants have reached the town Sha-Nashir-Bel.

Notes

Virtually complete tablet, with probably only one line, at most two, of the address totally lost. Except in lines 1'-4', face is only slightly damaged. Clear deep-cut NA script. In 1954 some crumbling was occurring from crystallization of salts.

ND 2410 is placed in the chapter relating to the Assyrian homeland, as it concerned Sinjar and a major city in the province of the *rab šāqî*.

- 10') *āl*dūr-^dBE. On the unresolved question of whether in NA this is to be read Dūr-Bēl or Dūr-Ellil see Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 150, n.508.
 12') URU.ŠE. See J.N. Postgate, AfO 24 (1973), 77, 'URU.ŠE = *kapru*'.
 13') ^m*am-ba-ti-i*. For this name see below, p. 301, ND 2718, B 4', 8'.
 18') lúLUL^{meš}. Or lúNAR^{meš}. On possible equivalents (*zammārē*, *parrišūte* or *sarrūte*, *šāqê*) see Kessler, op.cit., 153-4. As a designation of six people who had arrived, three of them specifically described as servants of the *rab šāqî*, 'singers' or 'criminals' would seem less appropriate than 'attendants'.
 19') *āl*ša-^m*nashir*(NIGIN)-*bēl*. Or *āla* ša ^m*nashir*(NIGIN)-*bēl*, 'the town belonging to Nashir-Bel.

ND 2616 (BSAI; Plate 37)

Transliteration

- Obv.1' x x x x ...
 ina [q]āta-a-^la^l i-ta-na-[x]
 [l]a mu-[q]a-a-a la a-ha-ši-i[n]
 in]a [b]u-bu-te i-mu-tú
 5' [šā]bē?^{meš} ša šarru be-li
 ^li^l-di-na-an-ni
 ... [n]i^{šē}^{meš} māti
 ... x-ta-m[a]-ni ša qātē^{II} amēl^{abarakki}
 Rev. ^la^l-[n]a amēl^{kit-ki-te-e} x x x
 10' ug-da-mir a?-[n]a? x x
 I emār ŠE.PAD.MEŠ ba-ti-x x
 amēl^{pāhatu} ša ^{āl}arba-^{il} am-m[ar š]u-u-ni
 šarru be-li ú-da
 mā^{hi}-in-dar-a-a
 15' [amēl?/mār?][h]a-dal-la-a-a
 [... ..] x x la x [x]?

Translation

(1'-3') It is not within my power to make provision [for those people whom] he has given into my hands. (4') They will die of famine. (5'-6') The *soldiers* which the king my lord gave me (7') ... the people of the land ((8'-9') ... who (by) the hand of the chief steward [were delivered] to the military engineer, (10') I have dealt with in full. ... (11') 1 emar of corn rations ... (12') the governor of Erbil, as much as there is. (13') The king my lord knows (14'-15') the people of Hindaru, the people of Hadallu (16')

Notes

The lower half of a tablet in fair condition, both faces slightly curved. NA script.

2') *i-ta-na*-[x]? Cf. GAG §102i.

3') [l]a mu-[q]a-a-a la a-ha-ši-i[n]. Note hendiadys.

5') [šā]bē?^{meš}. The traces permit but do not require this reading.

7') [n]i^{šē}^{meš} māti. Note the semantic parallel to the biblical 'ām hā' āreš.

9') *amēlkit-ki-te-e*. For *kitkittū* in NA as 'engineer (as a category of soldier)' see CAD, K, 454b, *kiškattū* 3.

ND 2625 (LXXXVII; IM 64081; Plate 45)

See notes by K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 81, and TCAE, p. 126.

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [a-na š]arri bēlī-ia
*urad-k*a^{mbēl-lišir}(GIŠ)
 [lu šul]mu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ia
 [i]na ekalli a-na šul-me
 5 [a^l-ta-al-ka i-da-tú-u-a
*māt*i-tú-'a-a-a ša ina pāhati
 [ú^l-ka-lu-u-ni
 [i]t-[t]e-šú-nu ina na-ge-e
i-ta-ba-lu UDU.MEŠ
 10 ša ina na-ge-e i-ra-'u-u-ni
 [i]na GIM sa-ar-te i[h]-tab-tú
 ... [ú^l-ka-lu
-ni *ṭe-e-mu*
-x-ni
 15 ša māti
 x ša šarri
-ni
 x
 x

Rev.

- 1' x
 x ...
 ... [š]a? H[AR]?(-)[x]?(-)a-nu ...
 ... bēlī-ni ú-x [e^l?-pu-š[ú]?
 5' [ina]? [n]a-gi-ú ša pāhat *āl*kur-b[a-ìl]
 [mat][i^l-tú-'a-a-a
 [līb-b]u ú-ka-lu-u-ni
 [ú^l-ma-a *amēl*na-si-ka-ni
 [i]na ekalli i-tal-lu-u-ni
 10' šarru bēlī-ni liš-al-šú-nu
*a-di nišē*meš a-ka-bu-su-ni
 [l]iḅ-bu ša māti a-ka-bu-su-ni
 [h]a-ra-ma-ma a-sa-pa-ra
 [ā]lāni^{meš}.ni ša māti-tú-'a-a-a
 15' ga-bi-šú ih-ti-ṭí-ú
ina libbi UDU.MEŠ MUNUS É.GAL
 ša pāhati ša LÚ.GAL.MEŠ
 [š]a ina pāhati i-ra-'u-u-ni

19' *x x nu ta ta x x*
 Top ... *šarru bēlī-ni i-x* ...
 21' *[l]i?-pu-šú*
 Side*
 1 *x x x [l]u? x [h]a? ki x*
 *x x x [i]?' su* ...
 *x [u] ... x* ...

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Bel-lishir. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) I came to the Palace for audience. During my absence, (6-11) the Itu'a troops who have control in the province have brought with them into the region the sheep which they pasture in the region. They have treacherously plundered (them) (12-19) [Very fragmentary]

Rev.

(4') ... my lord ... *they did* (5') in the district of the province of the city of Kurbail, (6'-7') the Itu'a people have control therein. (8'-10') Now when the tribal leaders come up into the palace, let the king our lord question them. (11'-13') As long as I am subjecting the people, and the midst of the land, I have duly sent information. (14'-15') All the villages of the Itu'a have been negligent. (16'-18') Amongst the sheep of the Lady of the Palace of the province (and) of the dignitaries who pasture in the province (19'-Side 3) [Nothing significant is retained.]

Notes

Major part of letter. Top left corner, all base and part of left side are lost. Obv. and rev. are both almost flat. Text is very sharp and clear except in the vicinity of damage. NA script.

Obv.

2) *mbēl-lišir*(GIŠ). This name occurs as that of an army commander in ND 2366, 11' (p. 242).

5) *i-da-tú-u-a*. Taken as from *ittu(m)* I, *idatu*, AHW, 405b, lit. 'in my circumstances'. Translation above follows Deller, op.cit. J.N. Postgate suggests taking from *dāt*, *dāti*, *dātu-*, AHW, 165b, which seems equally possible.

6-11) Although the passage could be translated to give an allegation of treachery against the Itu'a, one does not expect this sense, since the Itu'a were normally Aramaean tribesmen conspicuously loyal to Assyria. The allegation of treachery (*sartu*) in 11 is therefore taken as directed not against the Itu'a but against the local inhabitants. This interpretation is not, however, beyond question, since rev. 14'-15' indicates that the writer held the Itu'a villages culpable for at least negligence, although this could have been an accusation unrelated to, and less significant than, the earlier mention of *sartu*.

11) *[i]na* GIM. The transcription adopts the reading of Deller, op.cit., who reads *ina* GIM, taken to stand for *ina kūm*, although the sign after *ina* appears to be GÌR^{II} rather than GIM in normal form. An alternative transcription might take GÌR = *šēpu* in the sense of 'approach' (CAD, Š/2, 303b-305a, 3).

Rev.

5') *āl*kur-b[a-il]. Restoration after Deller, op.cit., city in Assyria; SAA, 1, 237 proposes identification with a site south of Dohuk.

7', 12') *lib-bu*. In neither occurrence is there space for a further sign before *lib*.

15') *ga-bi-šú*. Must agree with *ālāni* despite the singular suffix.

16') MUNUS É.GAL. For the probable reading, see above, p. 179, on ND 2676, 19'.

ND 2637 (XCIV; IM 64088; Plate 25)

Re-edited in Fales, CLNA, pp. 154-155, 177-178, III.2.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*

urad-ka^mman-nu-ki-^dnergal

ina ūm XXII KAM ša^{arah}arahsamni(APIN)

kas-pu ina ekalli ešši

5 *ú-si-ri-bi*

in[a] u[n?-q]i? e-re-ni

Base *a-sa-kan*

Rev. *šulmu^{mu} a-na un-qi*

a-na ma-a-te

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Mannu-ki-Nergal.

(3-5) On the 22nd day of Arahsamna I brought the silver into the New Palace. (6-7)

I put (it) in the cedar sealed treasury.

(8-9) It is well with the sealed treasury (and) with the land.

Notes

Virtually complete tablet in good condition. Inscribed parallel to long axis, unusually for letters of this period, other than astrological reports. Two-thirds of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

4) *ekalli ešši*. May refer to one of Sargon's buildings at Dur-šarrukin.

6) *u[n?-q]i?*. This restoration, after Fales, CLNA, p. 154, seems more probable than [É], as guessed by K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 82.

8) *un-qi*. Taken as 'treasury safeguarded with a seal'; see *Iraq* 28 (1966), 191.

9) *ma-a-te*. K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 82, suggests emending to *ma-<šar>-a-te* 'the guards'.

ND 2645 (XVIII; IM 64093; Plate 42)

Re-edited in SAA, 1, no.171.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ía*

urad-ka^{mbēl}-dūr[i]

milu-mu-še-zib lúNINDA

ša^{mbēl}-ēmur(IGI)-an-ni

- 5 *šarru ina [ā]l^lha-ta-ri-ka*
ú-s[e-ši]b-[š]u : a-ki
šarru [i-te]-qu-ni
m.dKÛ?-...-ērešēš
ša ú-[de?-e?]-šú
- 10 *ša ka[l-zi] [ni]šēmeš-[š]ú*
šu-u-tú ... x x ... x-šú
liš-ú-lu [L]Ú ʾ:ʾ
lu-sa-hír-u-ni
a-ki D[IŠ]?? x x-nu
- 15 *a-na-k[an]-ni : mīlu-bi-i'-di*
am[ēlʾ]ab [k]i-šir x x
... . . . qātē^{II}-ia
- Rev. *sīsâ*
i-du-ka
- 20 *sīsû ku-mu-šú*
ana-ku ú-sa-lim-me
ma-a KÛ.BABBAR SUM-ka
mīlu-bi-i'-di : māt(UŠ)
sinnišat-šú : LÚ H[AR]-du : mār-u-ta
- 25 *ta-ta-h[az] [ina L]U*.M[U].MEŠ*
amēlu : ʾiʾ-[s]i-ia : i-du-la
a-k[i] ša[r^rru] [bēl]ī e-ti-qu-ni
ša ka[l]-z[i]? : i-tal-ku-ni
amēl : ʾúʾ-[s]a-ah-li-qu
- 30 *DĪŠ.x-x : šumī-šú*
a-n[a m^k]i-mu-ma-a-a
ʾùʾ ʾaʾ-na ša kal-zi
šarru be-lí liš-'a-la
šúm-mu la amēl^lurdu
- 35 *šu-tu-ni*
 Side *m.dnabû-še-zib amēlmār(A) [šī]pri*
ina pān maš-šur-ērešēš : šarru be-lí
lu-še-bíl-šú

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant(s) Bel-duri.

(3-6) The king settled Ilu-mushezib, a baker of Bel-emuranni, in Hatarikka. (6b-7) After the king went on, (8) *Kubaba-eresh* (9) (10-13) Let them ask the people of Kalzi (and) let them return the man to me.

(14) When [PN]? (15) was here, Ilu-bi'di, (16) a cohort commander ... (17) [under] my control, (18-19) ... killed a horse. (20-21) I myself paid for a horse in its place. (22) He said: 'I will pay you silver (in recompense).' (23) Ilu-bi'di is (now) dead. (24-25a) His wife has taken the sonship (for) a posthumous child. (25b-26) The man (concerned) goes about with me amongst the bakers. (27) When the king my lord had gone on, (28) the people of Kalzi came, (29) (and) let the man escape; (30) his

name is [PN]. (31-33) Let the king my lord enquire of Kimumaya and the people of Kalzi. (34-35) If he is a slave, (36-38) may the king my lord cause Nabu-shezib the messenger to bring him into the presence of Ashur-eresh.

Notes

Tablet formed of several fragments rejoined. Complete in outline except for small fragment of left half of base, but has major surface loss in a hole in middle of obv. and in vicinity of breaks on both obv. and rev. NA script.

5) [ā]l^hha-ta-ri-ka. On siting (near Damascus?), see SAA, 1, p. 134, footnote, contra K. Kessler, WO 8 (1975), p. 61, who equates it with Afis in upper Syria.

8) m^dKÙ?....-ēreš^{eš}. SAA, 1, no.171 restores m^dKÙ.[KÁ]-APIN-eš = Kubaba-eresh, perhaps correctly, but the sign after DINGIR could be X[V], and the PN perhaps Ishtar-shum-eresh.

9, 10, 28, 32) ša. In each of these lines SAA, 1, no.171 reads kal-zi after ša. This reading is very probable in 10 and 28, and certain in 32, but impossible in 9, where, as a photograph clearly confirms, the sign after ša is ú. In 9, there is space for two signs between ú and the final -šú, for which a possible conjectural restoration is ú-de-e-šu 'him alone'.

11) ... x x ... x-šú. SAA, 1, no.171 restores [ú-s]a-[ah]-[li-q]u?, but the final sign is certainly šú, not damaged qu.

12) [L]Ú? [l]. After SAA, 1, no.171.

14) D[IŠ]?? x x-nu. DIŠ is possible but dubious. SAA, 1, no.171 restores [mu-t]a-nu, but for the first sign the very slight traces seem to preclude a reading mu, and the following traces can hardly be part of ta.

15) a-na-k[an]-ni. Adopted from SAA, 1, no.171.

16) am[ē]r[ab] [k]i-šir. Restoration after SAA, 1, no.171.

24) LÚ H[AR]-du. The sign before -du certainly begins with the group HI, which precludes the reading [ú]-du, as proposed by SAA, 1, no.171. Taken as CAD, H, 250a, hurdu B 'posthumous child', although this is not otherwise attested in NA.

24) mār(DUMU)-u-ta. Not DUMU : QÀL, as SAA, 1, no.171.

25) ta-ta-h[az]. After SAA, 1, no.171.

25) [ina L]Ú*.M[U].MEŠ. After SAA, 1, no.171.

26) i-du-la. The apparent vertical (or slender šú) following this is almost certainly a mere scratch.

30) DIŠ.x-x. SAA, 1, no.171 proposes the reading m^mLAL!-[nu]?, but the sign after DIŠ appears to have heads of two verticals, which would preclude the reading LAL.

34) šúm-mu la. GAG §§121a, 185g.

ND 2669 (IM 64106; Plate 46)

Transliteration

Obv. [a]-[n]a šarri bē[lī-ia]
ura[d-k]a maš-šur-ila-[a]-a
l[u šu]lmumu a-na šarri [b]ēlī-ia

šulmumu a-na ā[l]bi-ra-a-ti

5 x x x ša šar[ri] bēlī-ia

- [š]a šar[ru bē]lī iš-pu[r]-an-ni ma maššartu
x ša? x x ilāni^{meš} ša šarri bēlī-ia
 ʾú!-ti-ru libbu ša šarri bēlī-ia
 l[u ʔ]āb ^mbur-ili : š[a] ālg[u]?-x-x
 10 *amēl^{urdu} ša ^ma-nu-x ... x ...*
 ʾi! UD? *x ta x ina muhhi šar[ri b]ēlī-i[a]*
 ú-[s]i-bi-la-šú ʔe-mu : ša ^{āl}m_x ...-šú
ki-ʾi! LU[GAL]? EN!?: iq-ʔi-bi-ia : ma-a MAŠ x šá
ina x šiqlē^{meš} kaspi i-du-nu
 15 *ina IT[I].x-x-A? : ša(-)ma-a-ri?*
 DIŠ.DUG.Z[I]? *x x x x x x x*
 DIŠ.DUG.ZI.SI?RA(-):(-)NI.MEŠ *ina libbi XII GÍN.MEŠ*
 MAŠ.x x x *ina lib[bi] III GÍN.MEŠ : kaspi i-du-nu*
 DIŠ GU₄? *x V ME GÍN.MEŠ : kaspu ta-din*
 20 *x [B]UR? x e : ša(-)ma-a-ri?*
x x x MEŠ [š]a? GIŠ.APIN.MEŠ : XXX GU₄.ME? H[I]? T[E]? x
x x x MEŠ : x x p[a]?-tak-ka-ti ša
 Base *x x x x pit-ha-lu*
x x x ... [li]b?-b[i] x x ...
 25 *arah^{ar}ahsamna(APIN) : [š]a x MEŠ : la TAG? IŠ? ...*
x-li-mu UD ŠE? TAB x
 Rev. *[m]a a-na-ša ki?i?-e : ša ina pa-ni-i[a]*
i-da-nu-ni : DIŠ ŠE? TAB ša LÚ ʾi!-šú-u
ša SAL-šú : x x ka : áš :? tu-ša-ʾa!?
 30 *a-na II^ú x x : ÁŠ?/MA U A A ... x x*
ʾú!-ša-x x x tu-ša-a
x x KÁ.GAL/[im]? ša x x x x
... x GA[L]? x ša tu??-š[i]?
... [š]a ZA?/HA? x AN : NI? x-u-ni
 35 *x x x u : up-p[u]-qu*
x x x BU [U]H? UD
x A[H]? x x up-ta-tan
gab-bi-šú up-pu-qu : t[u]?-ra-šib
issu libbi abulli : ša ^āda-hi-ni
 40 *a-di ne-ru-bu : ša x A.MEŠ*
ša ina libbi āli : ir-r[a]-bu-ni
a-na qa-an-ni ša šal-hi-e
hi-ri-šu : ih-r[u]-ša
V ina I ammatu rapšu(DAGAL)VII ina I ammatu ru-qu
 45 *[k]i-i an-ni x x GIŠ AG UD iq-ʔi-bi-a*
ʾa!-n[a muh]hi šarri bēlī-ia a-sa-p[ár]

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-ilaya. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) It is well with the fortress (and) ... of the king my lord. (6) About that on which the king my lord sent a message, saying: 'The guard (7) ... of ... the gods of the king my lord (8) ...' Let the heart of the king my lord (9) be glad. Bur-ili of the city Gu-... (10) the servant of Anu-... (11-12a) has sent *him/it* ... to the king my lord.

(12b) A report about the city ... (13) When *the king my lord* gave orders to me, saying: (14) 'They shall deliver ... shekels of silver', (15) in the month ... (16) one *container* ... (17) *one container* ... therein 12 shekels (18) ... they shall deliver 3 shekels of silver therein. (19) 500 shekels of silver are delivered (*for*) *one ox*. (20) ... (21) ... of ploughs; 30 *oxen* ... (22) ... (23) ... cavalry horses (24) ... *within* ... (25) the month Arahsamna of ... (26) ... (27-28) *I shall bear* when they deliver in my presence. (28-29) ... you go out (30) for the second time. ... (31) ... you go out (32) *to* the great gate of ... (33) ... (34) ... (35) ... massive (36) ... (37) ... he will strengthen. (38) *You* shall build up all of it massively, (39) from within the great gate of Dahinu (40) to the entry point of the *waters* (41) which go into the midst of the city.

(42-43) Outside the city wall they have dug a moat, (44) five cubits wide (and) seven cubits *deep*. (45) According to this ... he gave me a command. (46) I have duly sent a message for the king my lord.

Notes

Virtually complete tablet with some areas of loss of surface, and extensive abrasion which renders many readings uncertain. Most of surface of obv. had flaked off, but has been refixed. Final 6 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

15) IT[I].x-x-A? The unidentified signs do not appear to make APIN.DU_g.A. They could be KIN.A.A, but ITI.KIN.A.A = *ulūlaia*, though based on a month name, is normally a personal name.

15, 20) *ša(-)ma-a-ri?*. In each occurrence, damage between the first and second verticals of the final sign puts the reading in question.

16) A wide horizontal split in the face begins at the end of the third sign and continues till the end of the line, leaving all signs after the third in doubt.

17) DIŠ.DUG.ZI.SI?.RA(-):(-)NI.MEŠ. This writer uses word-dividers so liberally that the certain word-divider between RA and NI does not necessarily indicate that NI.MEŠ is a separate word.

21-27, 30-37) These badly damaged lines (and, indeed, the tablet as a whole) would repay a fresh collation when access and cleaning are again possible.

26) *x-li-mu* UD. The position relative to the beginning of the line indicates that the first sign is not simply *a*, to give the rare word *a-li-mu*. The traces could be the remains of *kal*, to give *kal-li-mu* (CAD, K, 82b), or the plural *kal-li-mu-tú*, although this is otherwise only attested in OB.

26, 28) ŠE?.TAB. Less probably KAM*.TAB.

29) :? Alternatively this could be the remains of another sign.

32) *ša x x x x*. The traces appear to read *ma ni pi e*, but the context seems to require URU plus place-name.

40) *ne-ru-bu*. For *nērabu* with vowel harmony; see GAG §10e.

40) *x* A.MEŠ. It is possible that there is no lost sign between *ša* and A, so that the meaning is 'of the waters', with reference to the point where the river joined the city's defences.

42) *a-na qa-an-ni*. See CAD, Q, 82b, *qannu* A, 2a.

43) *hi-ri-šu* : *ih-r[u]-ša*. Cf. CAD, H, 103b, apud *harīšu* 'moat'.

44) *ru-qu*. Normally means 'distant' with reference to length, but since a moat only seven cubits (about 2.8 metres or 9 feet) long outside the city wall would be ludicrous, the term here must surely refer to depth.

ND 2703 (LXXXI; BSAI; Plate 44)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*
urad-ka ^m*a-ši-pa-a*
lu-u šulmu^{mu} *a-na šarri*
bēlī-ia
5 *amēl*^l*šaknu ša* ^{sal}*ša-kín-te*
i-tal-ka : *iq-tí-bi-a*
ma-a ^{iš}*hattu*
istup-ni-nu
ka-nu-nu ^{da}*-sa-lu erî*
10 *ša ekalli* : *ša-ar-qu*
ina kas-pi ta-da-nu
Rev. *a-sa-ap-r[a]*
bi-it : *ka-nu-nu-ni*
ina kas-pi ta-di-nu-nu
15 *i-ša-ab-tú*
amēl^{ba}*-te-qu*
ana muhhi šarri
[*bēl*]*ī-ia a-sa-ap-ra*
[*šarru bē*]*lī liš-'-al-šú*

Translation

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Ashipa. May it be well with the king my lord.

(5-6) The administrator of the Harem Manageress has come. He told me: (7-11) 'A sceptre, a brazier and a copper vessel of the Palace have been stolen to sell for silver.'

(12) I have made (my) report. (13-15) They arrested someone when the brazier was sold for silver. (16-18) I have sent the accuser to the king my lord. (19) Let the king my lord question him.

Notes

Tablet has a minor chip missing from bottom right of rev., and a hole c. 20 × 25 mm on left half of rev.; a clean cut for 15 mm of its length suggests that this hole was gouged out during excavation. Final 21 mm of rev. is uninscribed. The wedges are beautifully sharp. The top end is so flat that the tablet easily stands on it. NA script.

My copy of 1954, published in *Iraq* 27 (1965), plate VII, was essentially accurate but too formalised to give any indication of the scribal ductus. I therefore offer a new copy to redress this omission.

5) *amēlšaknu*, ^{sal}*ša-kín-te*. For meanings, see CAD, Š/1, 190b, 4 and 165a-b.

6, 10, 12) As shown in the copy, the form of the word divider is different at each occurrence. In 10, the scribe has impressed the lowest wedge so close to the middle one that it almost overlaps, so that without close scrutiny one might assume there were only two wedges.

ND 2742 (XCIII; IM 64146; Plate 31)

Transliteration

Obv.1' x x
x x a-n[a]
šarri bēlī-ia-a-^le^l
ina muhhi na-d[a-a]n
5' ša ŠE.PAD.MEŠ
ša šarru
iš-pur-a-ni
ma-a'-da
9' ŠE.PA[D].MEŠ
Rev. lu-bi-lu-ni
11' ina lib-bi
[l]i-di-bu-ku

Translation

(2'-3') to the king my lord. (4'-5') Concerning the delivery of grain rations (6'-7') about which the king sent a message, (8') (there is) much. (9'-12') They will transport corn rations and pour (them) out therefrom.

Notes

Lacks top. Has square end. Inscribed with very large, clumsy, rather shallow NA script. 37 mm of rev. uninscribed.

3') *bēlī-ia-a-^le^l*. The final damaged sign is not *ma*.

4') *na-d[a-a]n*. K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), p. 82, restores *na-da-ba-a[k-te]*.

12') *[l]i-di-bu-ku*. Represents *litbukū*. The spelling combines with the clumsiness of the script to indicate the inexpertness of the scribe.

Chapter Six

Letters of uncertain provenance

Letters (and two or three non-letters) edited:

ND 2052, ND 2062, ND 2067, ND 2087 (not copied), ND 2351, ND 2614, ND 2353 (not copied), ND 2356, ND 2361, ND 2362, ND 2366, ND 2369, ND 2373, ND 2376 (not copied), ND 2379, ND 2387, ND 2392, ND 2394, ND 2801, ND 2395, ND 2401, ND 2404, ND 2405, ND 2413, ND 2420, ND 2422, ND 2423, ND 2425, ND 2426, ND 2428 (perhaps not a letter), ND 2429, ND 2432 (not copied), ND 2436, ND 2459, ND 2472, ND 2460, ND 2464, ND 2467, ND 2468, ND 2469, ND 2747, ND 2473, ND 2474, ND 2477, ND 2604, ND 2605 (not a letter), ND 2613, ND 2615 (not a letter), ND 2624, ND 2627, ND 2639, ND 2642, ND 2643, ND 2647, ND 2654, ND 2658, ND 2665, ND 2675, ND 2682, ND 2683, ND 2685, ND 2690, ND 2698+2702, ND 2708, ND 2711, ND 2718, ND 2724, ND 2735, ND 2740, ND 2743, ND 2746, ND 2749, ND 2752, ND 2756, ND 2760 (not a letter), ND 2763, ND 2771, ND 2775, ND 2777, ND 2780, ND 2793, ND 2794, ND 2800, ND 2802.

Letters not copied but noted:

ND 2479, ND 2688, ND 2704, ND 2753.

ND 2052 (XXXVIII; IM 63393; Plate 47)

Transliteration

Obv. *ṭuppi bēlet-tú-ta-a*

a-na mšum-iddin ahi-šú

d.salnin-líl u dištar babílíki

šu-lum māti šá ahi-ia

5 *li[q-b]a-[']a ūmu^{mu}-us-su*

l^dl[s]alnin-lí[l] u dištar babílíki

a-na balāṭ₃ napšāti^{meš} ša ahi-ía

l^ul-ṣal-l[a] am-me-ni ma-la

a-ga-a ūmu^{mu} amēlmār šip-ri-ka

10 *la a-m[u]r en-na ki-i*

bal-ṭa-a-tu₄ i-da-ti-ka

mi-ṭe-e-ti l[u]-ram-ma

lu-ur-qud^{sal}ga-ga-a

mi-ta-at u ahi-ku

15 *da-li-ih*

Base *al-kam-ma*

a-mu[r]-šú

Rev. *ki-i na-kut-ti*

al-tap-rak-ka ha-an-ṭiš

- 20 *kul-du* ^d*nin-líl*
u ^d*ištar* *babíl*^{iki}
x-x-da-'a
k[i]-i ūmu^{mu}-*us-su*
it-ti du-lu-uh-ti-a
- 25 [*n*]*i-pi-ih lib-bi-ka*
la [t]i-la-ka-an
^m*šul?*-*x ma-a šu-lum*
^{ša} ^m*šum-id*[*din*] *ahi-šú*
i-šá-al

Translation

(1-5) Tablet of Belet-tuta to Shum-iddin his brother. May Ninlil and Ishtar of Babylon decree the wellbeing of my brother's land. (5-8) Daily I pray to Ninlil and Ishtar of Babylon for the life of my brother's soul.

(8-10a) Why have I not seen your messenger up to this day? (10b-) Now *if/that* you are well, let me (to) your side and dance for joy.

(13-15) The lady Gaga is dead and your brother is sad. (16-17) Come and see him. (18-19) I have written to you out of concern. (20-26) Quickly approach Ninlil and Ishtar of Babylon ... that daily you have not established an inward foreboding with concern about me.

(27) [A named man] asks after the welfare of Shum-iddin his brother.

Notes

Complete tablet in good condition. NB script. The NB script of this document, one of the few apparently private letters in the archive, could link it to Babylonia, but there is no conclusive evidence as to its place of origin.

4) *šu-lum māti*. Could be read *šu-lum-mat*, but this would not give an appropriate sense here. *šu-lum-mu!* is not a possible reading. Reference to 'the land of my brother' suggests that the Shum-iddin addressed was a high provincial official, but the name is not uncommon and no identification suggests itself. The similar formula in lines 27-29 gives only *šu-lum*.

10-13) *en-na ki-i bal-ṭa-a-tu₄ i-da-ti-ka mi-ṭe-e-ti l[u]-ram-ma lu-ur-qud*. The rendering of CAD, M/2, 147b, 'now let me (lit. my humble self) acknowledge(?) that you are well and I will dance (for joy)' depends upon reading the first verb as *lu-bil-ma*, but I see the second sign of this verb as certainly *ram*, not *bil*. Prima facie *l[u]-ram-ma* could derive from *rāmu*, and *l[u]-ram-ma lu-ur-qud* might be hendiadys for 'I would like to dance (for joy)', although no parallel can be offered. Accepting *i-da-ti-ka mi-ṭe-e-ti* as interpreted in CAD, op.cit., one might render the whole sentence 'now that you are well, I, my humble self, would like to dance (for joy)', but since this rests upon unproved assumptions on the sense of several words it is uncertain.

20) *kul-du*. Impv. 2 pl. with *-u* for standard *-a*.

25) [*n*]*i-pi-ih lib-bi-ka*. Restoration from CAD, D, 179a.

24-26) Restoration based on CAD, D, op.cit.; translation modified.

ND 2062 (BSAI; Plate 8)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na šarri [bēlīya]*
 ura[d]-ka [PN]
 lu-u šulmu^{mu} [ana šarri bēlīya]
 i-n[a] BÀ[D]?
 5 *š[a] an n[a]?*
 pi? x
 x x

Rev. [not copied]

1' *x x*

[No translation is offered. Nothing is legible except part of the greeting formula in lines 1-3, and possibly 'in the fortress' in line 4.]

Notes

Upper half of small tablet, with right half of surface of obv. completely lost. Surface of lower half of rev. is largely preserved, but is uninscribed except for one line with traces of the first two signs, damaged beyond recognition. Probably originally bore 12 lines of text on obv. and 6 on rev. NA script. The broken end shows coiling of the clay, making clear how the tablet was formed; see pp. 2-3.

Obv. 6) *pi? x*. It is just possible that further marks, which I take to be adventitious, could be traces of a further vertical. In that case, the reading might be *u₄-me*.

ND 2067 (IM, for study; Plate 40)

Transliteration

Obv. [Retains no complete line. The first three lines may be restored:]

1 *[a-na] šarri be-lí[-ia]*
 [ura]d-ka x
 [lu šulmu] a-na šarru be-lí-ía

[Remainder of obv. contains some legible signs in almost all lines, but insufficient to give consecutive sense.]

[Rev. is in significantly worse condition than obv. and was not copied.]

Notes

Major part of tablet, with base and both sides lost. Some of obv. remains legible, but very little of rev. NA script.

ND 2087 (IM 63403)

Notes

Complete small tablet, tapering at ends. Signs were very indistinct through abrasion, and the copy made in 1954 is inadequate. The tablet could not be found when it was sought for collation and possible re-copying in 1970.

ND 2351 (BSAI; Plate 26)

Transliteration

Face A

- 1' [AŠ]? Š[À]? x
 [š]a muhhi URU DI[Š] TE x
 [š]a šarru iš-pur-an-ni ma-a a x x ...
 pi-x-ti-ía(-)ma L[Ú.ÉR]IN.MEŠ x x x ...
 5' mû^{meš} a-na šatī-šú-nu l[a]? x [x] x x x x
 ša ni-ra-šip-u-ni ta-RI x x? a¹ú¹?/n[i]? x-ti-ma
 É.GAL^{lim} šum₄-ma ālbi[r]-[t]e UR[U]? x-[x]-a-te
 ni-ra-šip pān amēl^{meš} ša maššarti ina l[ib]-bi
 x ... x imēr^a-šap-pi š[a] L[Ú]?E[N]?x.[M]EŠ
 10' [š]a-li-ú-[n]i ša LUG[AL] ...
 x x x x am? ...
 x x ...

Face B [Not copied. The only legible or possibly legible signs are:]

- 1' (end)-ni
 2' (end)-r[a]?
 6' (beginning) x¹-l[a]?/b[a]?-áš
 7' (beginning) a¹-[n]a LÚ.GAR
 8' (beginning) x-[h]a? a¹?

Translation

Face A

(2') concerning the city (3') of which the king sent me a message, saying ...
 (4') my the soldiers (5') there is not water for their drinking (6') which
 we shall erect (7') of the palace; if the fortress ... (8') we shall erect in front of
 the troops. The watch in the midst (9') ... the pack animals of the ... (10') which
 they ask. That which/of the king ...

Notes

Full width fragment from a large tablet, lacking top and bottom. Curvature on the two faces is almost equal. Core shows traces of use of a surface layer of clay over the core. NA script.

On Face A 12 lines are preserved, some only minimally; on Face B there are minimal traces of 8 lines. There is slight damage at sides, with abrasion on right side of Face A. Almost all of Face B is lost from severe abrasion.

The dimensions and the similarity of the cores admit the possibility that this and the fragmentary ND 2614 come from the same tablet.

The fragmentary intelligible sections of this letter suggest that the writer was in charge of a military force which was under attack and suffering water shortage, but give no indication of the place of origin.

Face A

4') *pi-x-ti-ía*. Some of the wedges drawn for -x may be damage marks. The certain wedges tend to suggest KAN, but this would give a non-form.

7') UR[U]? The other possible reading, GUR, is less probable.

ND 2614 (BSAI; Plate 47)

Transliteration

Obv.1' [...] x x [...]

2' [pa-n]i-šú IGI ^msi-'a-ṭ[u-r]i [...]

3' [...] x ša bīt DINGIR [...]

4 [...] VI-ma ša? bīt x [...]

5' [...] XXIV G[I]? ... x x [...]

6' [...] [K]Ū?.BABBAR x [x] ^É1 x x [...]

7' [...] [š]a? m[a]? IV x x ka a x [...]

8' [...] hi x x UD [m]a-hi-ir x x [...]

Base 9' [...] IV-ma ša bīt ^dnabû₃ ina pa-ni-šú [...]

10' [...] x x SUM? GI VII-ma K[Ū]?.BABBAR x x [...]

11' [...] x x III ma x s[u]? DIŠ.DINGIR NU x [...]

12' [...] x III ME XLV x x [...]

Rev. 13' [...] x x KŪ.BABBAR š[a] bī[t] DINGIR.x [...]

14' [...] x ṣ[a-s]u x x x [...]

15' [...] VIII-ma [š]a bīt x [...]

16' [...] ša bīt DINGIR x [...]

17' [...] x x x x bīt DING[IR] x [...]

18' [...] XXIX-ma VI UR x x [n]a? [...]

19' [...] XXVIII x UR IV x x [...]

20' [...] x ú x [...]

[.....] x x [...]

[Insufficient is legible to warrant a translation.]

Notes

Fragment from middle bottom of large tablet. No line retains more than a half of the original text. NA script. The existence of three drawn horizontal lines, and the contents so far as intelligible, suggest that this may be from an economic or administrative document rather than a letter. Cleaning might improve the legibility of some signs. See above, ND 2351 (p. 237), to which this tablet may be linked.

2') ^msi-'a-ṭ[u-r]i. See APN, 195a.

ND 2353 (BSAI)

Notes

Description as seen in 1954: Fragment of a very large letter, about 120 mm long × 70 mm wide × 30 mm thick. Bears parts of 17 lines on one face and parts of perhaps 10 lines of the other. The script is small and the surface either badly abraded or filled with a dirt as hard as the clay of the tablet. In 1954 only three lines on Face A and 2 lines on Face B bore definitely identifiable signs, sufficient to show this was a letter to the king. Not copied. Subsequent cleaning may have improved legibility.

ND 2356 (LXXXVI; IM 64007; Plate 43)

Re-edited in TCAE, p. 370.

Transliteration

Obv. [a-bat šarri]
 [a-na m.]^{m.}[a]-šur-bēl-L[Á]?
 amēlum-ma-nu ša ekalli
 lu-u amēl[a]š-šur-r-^al-a
 5 lu-u ^a[mēl]a[r-m]a-a-a
 ša a-na KUR.TI.LA
 a-na māti-ka il-li-ku-ni-ni
 LÚ.A.KIN.MEŠⁿⁱ-k[a]
 ina na-gi-u ga[b]-bu
 10 šī-tap-par bi-it šá-nu-u-ni
 gab-bi-šú-nu [p]ah-hi-ra
 ina muh-hi-ía še-bi-la-áš-šú-nu
 [p]it-hal-lu₄ amēlⁱ-tú-'a
ⁱl-si-šú-nu pi-qid
 15 [š]a ^al-[n]a [^a]l[^{dū}]r-mbēl-ila-a-a
ⁱl-še-t[a]-qu-ni-šá-nu-u-ni
 Rev. [l]u?-ⁱu!? [t]u-u-da-^al
 ... ša [É]Š.GÀR e-ma-du
 i[q-t]ar-ba-a-ni

Translation

(1-2) [Royal order to] Ashur-Bel-taqqin.

(3-5) (As to any) scribe of the palace, whether Assyrian or Aramaean, (5-7) who came to your land, to KUR.TI.LA, (8-10) send a message into all districts wherever they are, (11-12) (and) gather them all up (and) send them to me. (13-14) Appoint cavalry (and) Itu'a troops with them, (15-16) who will get them through to Dur-Bel-ilaya. (17-19) Know that [*the time*] for imposing the Ishkaru-tax is approaching.

Notes

Lacks top left and bottom left corners. 70 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

1) Identification of this letter as an *abat šarri* is due to K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 81.

- 3) [m].¹d¹[a]-šur-bēl-L[Á]. Adopted after TCAE, op.cit., although for the final sign my copy suggests LA₅ rather than LÁ.
- 6) KUR.TI.LA. There is no case for equating this with Tille, east of Našibina (Kessler, *Untersuchungen*, 9-15, 21), which never occurs with this spelling and almost always has the determinative URU (NAT, 356f.). Could this be an anomalous writing for KUR.TILLA = *mātu*urartu? In view of the doubt about identification, this letter is placed in Chapter 6.
- 8) LÚ.A.KIN.MEŠⁿⁱ-k[a]. The phonetic complement indicates that LÚ.A.KIN.MEŠ here represented an Assyrian form ending in *ni*, perhaps *mār šiprāni*.
- 10) *ši-tap-par*. Impv. G^{tn} *šapāru*, lit. 'keep sending messages'.
- 15) [ā]¹[dū]r-^{mb}ēl-ila-a-a. See NAT, 109, apud DÜR-BĒL-ILĀYA, which elsewhere is mentioned alongside sites in eastern Assyria.
- 17) [l]u?-¹u¹? [t]u-u-da-¹a¹. Against this restoration is GAG §81c, but see CAD, L, 225a, 4', b'.
- 19) i[q-t]ar-ba-a-ni. TCAE, op.cit., offers the alternative restoration [e-t]ar-ba-a-ni.

ND 2361 (BSAI; Plate 37)

Transliteration

- Obv. [tuppi]? [PN₁ amēl^tur-t[a]-n[i]
[ana]? PN₂? ... [b]i-[r]at-i[a]
[x] x x x sisē²meš-ia
[x]-mu-u a-na UD.MEŠ-ia amēl^rabî-ia
- 5 a-na]? amēl^šanî-ia at-ta ku-mu-u-a
[ana]? [qa]-[t]a-ka a-na maššarti-ia
[lu]?-[u]?-[m]e-[l]a maššarta u-šur
[x] [x]? x ¹É¹? x
- 10-14 [Illegible traces of five further lines]
- Rev. [Nothing remains but parts of three wedges in the middle of three successive lines.]

Translation

(1) Tablet of PN₁ the Commander-in-Chief (2) to PN₂, ... my fortresses (3) ... my horses (4-5) ... For my two days (of absence), you are in my place as my deputy commandant. (6) You are responsible for my watch. (7) I have handed over. Keep the watch! (8) ... day ... (9) ... house ...

Notes

Major part of a small tablet, with loss of left side, right bottom corner, and lower edge, and some surface of obv. There is one broad crack and many hair-line cracks on obv., and several cracks on rev. Rev. may originally have borne up to five lines of text; surface of final 35 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

1) [tuppi]? [PN₁]. Although commoner in Babylonia than Assyria, the restored form of address is attested from Assyria in exchanges between officials. The space available is too short for the restoration *ana šarri bēlīya* PN, and in any case both this and a

restoration *abat šarri ana* PN are precluded by the reference in lines 5-7 to the writer handing over his duties to the recipient.

6-7) [*ana*]? [*qa*]-[*t*]*a-ka* ... [*lu*]?-[*u*]?-[*m*]*e-l**a*. The restoration assumes the idiom noted in CAD, M/1, 187a, *malû* 9c.

9) [É]!? *x*. Or *ib u₄-m[u]*.

ND 2362 (IM 64010; Plate 35)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *tuppi* m.^d[LU]GAL-*x x*
a-na LÚ.A.[B]A *ekalli*
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na mārī-ia
m.^d*nabû-nadin-ahhe^{meš}*

5 *ina muhhi mārī-ia*
a-sa-par
[*p*]*a*?-[*a*]*q*?-*da-a-ti*

Rev.

1' *x*
an-ni-t[e]
amēl_x-a-a
li-pu-šú

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) Tablet of Lugal-... to the scribe of the palace. (3) May it be well with my son.

(4-6) I have sent Nabu-nadin-ahhe with a message for my son. (7) *Things entrusted*

Rev.

(1'-4') this let the ... people do.

Notes

About two-thirds of a short letter, in reasonable condition. 23 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

ND 2366 (LX; IM 64012; Plate 48)

Transliteration

Obv.1' *x* ... *x*

x x x

[*a*]?-[*na*? *muh*]*hi-šú-nu-m[a]*? [*ú*]-[*a*]!?

...-[*m*]*a i-l[i]-ku-u-ni a-d[i]*?

5' *x* ... [M]E AN[ŠE.KU]R.[R]A.MEŠ *ú-t[a-x]*

[š]*a x ú-si-ši-a-šú-nu*

i-ta-ta-ku-ú-ni

XIX *amēl*_{šābē}^{meš} [:] XIX ANŠE.NÍTA.[K]AM? *x*

XIII *šābē*^{meš}-šú : DIŠ *imēribilē*(A.AB.BA)^[m]^{eš}

- 10' I[II] : III : *mātli-d[i]-a-ʿa*¹
 LXXXI ʿ:ʿ LXXXI : *mbēl-lišir*(GIŠ)
 ʿXʿVIII : XVIII : *mātú-tu-u-a-ʿú*¹
 XV : XV *mātḥa-mar-ʿa*¹-n[aʿ-aʿ-aʿ?]
 Rev. LIX : LIX : DIŠ *imērib[ilē]*(A.[AB.BA])[meš]
 15' *ša qātē*^{II} m.d.šamaš-ibni(DÙ)
naphar I ME XCVIII *am[ēl]šābē*^{meš}
 I ME XCV ANŠE.ME[Š]
 DIŠ.DIŠ *imēribil[ē]*(A.AB.B[A])[meš]
i-n[a] qātē^{II} m.d.a-x
 20' *[am]ēlmār šipri-ia*
 ʿú1-si-bi-l[a] ...
 ... x

Translation

(3') *he/they came out* against them. (4') ... they came *together with* (5') x00 horses ... (6') ... he caused them to come forth (7') *they have come back*;
 (8') 19 soldiers, 19 ...-equids;
 (9') 13 of his soldiers, 60 dromedaries;
 (10') 3 (*soldiers*), 3 (*mounts*) : the Lidaeans;
 (11') 81 (*soldiers*), 81 (*mounts*) : Bel-lishir;
 (12') 18 (*soldiers*), 18 (*mounts*): the Ituaeans;
 (13') 15 (*soldiers*), 15 (*mounts*) the Hamaranaeans;
 (14') 59 (*soldiers*), 59 (*mounts*) : 60 dromedaries (15') by the hands of Shamash-ibni.
 (16'-21') Total: I have sent 198 soldiers, 195 equids, 120 dromedaries at the hand of PN my messenger ... (22') [text lost]

Notes

Lower two-thirds of tablet. Most of right edge is missing. Deeply inscribed NA script, very clear except where there is abrasion. Letter enumerates troops and mounts.
 6') [š]a x. Collation suggests that LUGAL is improbable as the reading of the second sign.
 7') *i-ta-ta-ku-ú-ni*. For a verb *ataku* see AHW, 86A; contra CAD, A/2, 481a. But form may be anomalous G^t Perf. of *alāku*; see *Iraq* 21 (1959), 171.
 8') ANŠE.NÍTA.[K]AM?. Salonen, *Hippologica Accadica*, 48, adduces ANŠE.NITA (not NÍTA).
 8'-14') The numbers given for men and equids in these lines add up to the totals given in lines 16'-17'.
 9'), 14', 18') DIŠ *imēribilē*(A.AB.BA)[m]eš, DIŠ *imērib[ilē]*(A.[AB.BA])[meš], DIŠ.DIŠ *imēribilē*(A.AB.BA)[meš]. Since the lowest number of equids listed is 3, and the totals of men and equids are both nearly 200, DIŠ seems more likely here to represent LX than I.
 10'-14') The word-divider signs appear to be used here virtually as ditto signs.
 12') *mātú-tu-u-a-ʿú*¹. Sic, not *mātú-tu-u-a-ʿa*¹. Variant of forms from *amēlitu'u*; cf. NAT, 179-181.

ND 2369 (IM 64014; Plate 48)

Transliteration

Obv. x
 LÚ.SAG? ša x x x
 bel pi-qi-te
 ša eleppāte^{meš.te}
 5 issu eleppāte^{meš.te}
 i-la-ka
 ina bīt šarri i[r-r]u-bu-u-ni
 IV elip[pā]te^{meš.t[e]}
 ša šarru iq-b[u]-ni
 10 [m]a-a k[i]-[i]
 Base x x x
 [an-n]i-te šu-^lú^l-[tú]? ...
 Rev. x x x x
 [x]? gu-ra-t[u]?
 15 x ša DIŠ TI SI?
 [š]a [i]q-bi-u-ni
 x x x x [š]u-u-tú
 a x x x x-si-[š]á?
 m[i]??-x? šú?-nu?? x bat-te-šú
 20 x x x x x-a-šú
 me-me š[u]?-ú x x a-l[ik]
 pa-ti x x x x
 23 x x x x x ina lib-bi
 Side*
 24 ... l[i]?-[t]e l[i]-in-[t]ú-hu ...
 25 ... x x x ^lú^l-ga-mu-[ru]

Translation

(1) ... (2) the chief of ... (3) responsibility (4) for the ships. (5-6) After the ships come, (7) when they enter the royal domain, (8-9) four ships of which the king spoke, (10) saying, ... (11-15) [nothing significant intelligible] (16) which they said (16-22) [nothing significant intelligible] (23) ... within (24) ... let them transport ... (25) ... they will complete.

Notes

Tablet complete except for c. 10 mm at top and small fragments missing from both bottom corners. Much of rev. is badly abraded. NA script.

14) *gu-ra-t[u]?* The final sign could well be taken as *li*, but this would give no obvious sense. For a possible *gu-ra-tu* see AHW, 299a, *gurratu*, *agurratu*.

15) SI?. What appears to be a horizontal at the end does not look like damage, and is wrongly placed to be a continuation of the introductory horizontal.

ND 2373 (BSAI; Plate 49)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-n[a] šar[ri] bēl[ī-i]a*
urad-ka m.dnabû-e[ir]

lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šar[ri] bē[li-ia]
ina muhhi [a]mēl^{da-a-a-li}

5 *ša m^b[i-b]i-ia-e*
š[a ša]rru bēl^{li}
[iš?-pur?]-a[n]?/a^l?-ni
[ma?-a? ... -d]a-a-a

Rev.

1' x x
 ʾú^l-si-bi-la-šú
 III ME ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ
 ša ā^lhu-ba-na

5' *a-ri-iš*
ri-ih-tú
a-ra-áš
šu-uh : ŠE.MEŠⁿⁱ ša ā^lhu-ba-na
ša šar[ru] bēl^{li}

10' *[i]q-b[u]-ʾu^l-n[i]*

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-eṭir. May it be well with the king my lord.
 (4-8) Concerning the scout of Bibiae, about whom the king sent me a message, *he has gone to the ... people.*

Rev.

(1') (2') I have had it brought. (3'-7') I have sown 300 units of the corn(land) of Hubana. The remainder I shall sow. (8'-10') This is in connection with the corn(land) of Hubana, about which the king my lord spoke to me.

Notes

Small tablet with base lost and small chip missing from top right corner. Large clear NA script.

Obv.

2) *m.dnabû-eṭir*. A common name; see APN 149. In ND 2632, a person of this name is concerned in the Mukin-zer rebellion.

5) *m^b[i-b]i-ia-e*. For the personal name Bi-bi-ia see APN 63.

8) *-d]a-a-a*. Presumably a gentilic.

4', 8') *ā^lhu-ba-na*. No place of this name is known. One might be tempted to assume mistaken readings for the well-attested *ā^lhu-ba-ba* (NAT 165-6), but whereas the *ba* of one scribe may be very similar to the *na* of another, on the present tablet the second and

third signs of the name are distinctively different in both occurrences. There are no grounds for equating the name with ^{al}hubahna of NAT, 166.

ND 2376 (BSAI)

Transliteration

Obv. [a]-na šarri bē[lī-ia]
 urad-ka^mx ...
 lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri ...
 ša šarru iš-pur-...
 5 [m]a-a a-ta-a ki-...
 [am]ēl?šābē?meš ...
 ša šābē^{meš} ...

Notes

Top left corner of quite large tablet. NA script. Parts of 7 lines on obv.; rev. uninscribed. Not copied, since the only intelligible section is part of the address.

6) [am]ēl?šābē?meš. Or LUGAL UD.MEŠ.

ND 2379 (LXXVIII; BSAI; Plate 11)

Transliteration

Obv.
 1 a-na šarri bēlī-a
 urad-k[a] maš-šur-ila-a-a
 lu šu[lmu^{mu}] [a]-na šarri bēlī-[a]

 ša šar[ru] bēli iš-pu[r]-a-ni
 5 [m]a-a KASKAL.MEŠⁿⁱ
 ša-ba[t] [ù] a-di
 x x-[n]i-ni
 x x [k]i?-e-n[u]?
 x ...

Rev.
 1' [x] x MEŠ
 x x me-ni
 ina ir-ti : šarri
 bēlī-a : illiku^{ku}-ni
 5' lu-ra-me-šú-nu-u
 nāra li-BIR-ne-e
 ú-la-a : al-la-šú-nu
 me-nu : šá t̃è-mu-ni
 šarru bēli liš-pu-ra

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-ilaya. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-6) (As to the matter about) which the king my lord sent me a message, saying, 'Take the road and [go] as far as (7-9) [fragmentary]

Rev.

(2'-4') ... why did they come into the presence of the king my lord? (5') Shall I release them? (6') Are they to cross the river, (7') or *something else?* (8') Whatever the instructions are, let the king my lord send a message.

Notes

Tablet with base missing and significant related surface damage on obv. NA script.

Obv.

6) *a-di*. Despite slight damage is certain. The group is markedly distinct from ÍD = *nāra* in rev. 6'.

7) *x-[n]i-ni*. The traces would permit, but do not require, the reading of the traces of the lost sign as BIR.

Rev.

5') *lu-ra-me-šú-nu-u*. The final lengthened *-ū* is taken to denote an interrogative. For the meaning cf. SAA, 5, no.78 (= ABL 246), rev. 8.

6') *li-BIR-ne-e*. BIR is presumably to be vocalised *-birū*; see Deller, Or.31 (1962), 7ff. The lengthened *-nē* is taken as marking a pausal form to denote an interrogative.

7') *al-la-šú-nu*. See AHW, 36b, *alla*. The first sign is definitely not *ak!* to give *ak-la-šú-nu* 'should I detain them?'

ND 2387 (LXXII; BSAI; Plate 49; Photo Plate I)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-n]a šarri be-lí-ía*
u[rad-k]a^mmu-še-zib-ili
l[u]-u šulmu^m[u] a-na šarri bēlī-ía ūmu III K[ÁM]
amēli-bu-la-a-a a-na ālarrap-ha
- 5 *a-na-ku ina harrāni^{II} at-ta-an-ha-az*
a-dan-niš mar-ša-ku la [i]l-la-k[a]!
a-du pa-an šarri be-lí-ía la i[l]-[la?-ka?]
an-nu-rag ina lib-bi āli ša L[Ú] [i]!?-...
ina muhhi nā[r]za-ban lib-bi ... x ...
- 10 DIŠ x x x x GI[Š.T]UKUL ša LÚ x ...
a-du amēl^{nā}gire^{mē}[š] šarru/i be-lí-[ia]? ...
...-nu ša na-šu-u-ni a-n[a]? ...
... šum-ma a-sa-ṭar [a]!?-...
[i-su-ri šarr]u be-lí i-qab-bi m[a-a] ...
- 15 ... ši-i ša a-na DIŠ x ...
... [i]š-pur-u-ni šar[ru] ...

- ...-ú-tu i-š[ak]-... ..
 ... ʿi-l-šak-ku-nu x
 ... x UD IGI ...-ma-r[u]
 20 ... x x x
 Rev. [about two lines are lost]
 1' x š[u] ʿi-l?/L[Ú]? x ...
 x^{meš}-šú-nu i-ša-x-x?
 ... x x ... ig-ga-[m]a-ru
 ... x q[a]? ... x š[ú]-nu ina lib-bi x
 5' [x]-x-na-n[i]? ... x [k]i-i ša x x [x]?
 ʿe-l-pu-uš x x x x-ir i-ša[p]-[pa?-ra?]
 ú-tab-x ...-nu ma-a DIŠ MU ...
 a-[n]a ^ā[l][dūr-ku-r]i-gal-zi la ...
 x x ... [š]um-ma x [x] x ...
 10' x x x [k]u?/[k]i? LU[GAL]? x x ...
 x x x ma-a T[A]? ši šú ...
 x x x-[k]u ša ^{amē}hi-tu(-)m[a]? ...
 [l]u-bi-lu-u-ni šarru be-lí liš-al-šú k[i] ...
 [i]t-tal-ka x x [b]i? a? ma ...
 15' ^ā[l][d]ūr-[k]u-ri-gal-zi x x ...
 x [š]um? x at-tal-ka ID x ...
 a x x x ša áš-mu-u-ni x a x ...
 x x [L]UGAL LÚ.A.KIN i-da-tu!-u-a a-na m[uhhi]?
 x x-hi-ri i-sap-ra ma-a al-ka
 20' [ina]? ^ā[l][d]ūr-k[u-r]i-gal-zi lu-še-rib-ka
 Top [la]? ʿa-l??-ma-gur [l]a al-lak
 ... ^ā[b]i-r-te i-na-š[a]-ru-n[i]
 ... [l]u-ú-si-ši-ʿú

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Mushezib-ili. May it be well with the king my lord.

(3-4) On the third day the Ibula man/men [came] to Arrapha. (5-6a) I have been taken ill on the way; I am very sick; – [Comment by the scribe]: He cannot go. (7) He cannot come to the presence of the king my lord. –

(8) Now, within the city of the Ibula emissary, (9) concerning the Zab river within ... (10) ... the weapon of ... (11) together with the heralds of the king my lord ... (12) ... which were brought to ... (13) ... if I did not write to [my lord], (14) perhaps the king my lord would say: '...' (15-20) [fragmentary]

Rev.

(3') ... are brought to an end. (4') ... they in the midst (5') ... (6') he did ... he will send a message (7') ... (8') to Dur-Kurigalzu ... (9'-11') ... (12'-13') Let them bring the offender, (and) let the king question him ... (14') he has come ... (15) Dur-Kurigalzu ... (16) ... I came back ... (17') ... which they heard ... (18'-20') The messenger at my side has sent a message

concerning the ... He said: 'Come! Let me bring you into Dur-Kurigalzi.' (21) I was *not willing to come*. (22') ... are guarding the fortress. (23') Let them make the ... go out.

Notes

Substantially complete tablet, rejoined from five pieces. Has lost base, about one-third of surface at left of lower half, and right ends of all lines on obv. except the first five, and of all lines of rev. except the third extant line and the last four. Legibility is impaired along joins, and most of the surface is lost from left half of upper part of rev. NA script. The tablet clearly shows use of a layer of different clay, 3-6 mm thick, over a core.

In this letter the writer has been taken ill on the way to Arrapha.

Obv.

4) *amēli-bu-la-a-a*. Cf. A. Fuchs, *Inscr. Sargons II.*, 147, §§285-6 for *āli-bu-li* as a city of Puqudu. Prima facie this could be taken to link this letter with Babylonia, but there is nothing further to place it in that area.

5) *at-ta-an-ha-az*. Lit. 'I have been seized (with disease)'

6) *[i]l-la-k[a]*! The final sign is distorted because written over the edge of the tablet. In the context one might expect *al* for the first sign, but it is certainly *il*; the possibility of confusion between AL and IL in monumental script of an earlier period (*Syll.*, no.160) is not relevant here. The solution must be that, since the nominal correspondent was sick, the scribe here wrote in the 3rd person, with reference to his incapacitated master. 8 et passim) *ša* has an unusual form throughout.

8) *an-nu-rag*. Either an error for *an-nu-ríg*, or an anomalous spelling representing pronunciation *an-nu-reg*.

8) L[Ú] *[i]?*-... If, as seems likely, the damaged sign is *i*, the whole group might be *am[ē]li-bu-la-a-a*.

19) ...-*ma-r[u]*. Probably to be restored either *im-ma-ru* or (see rev. 3') *ig-ga-ma-ru*.

Rev.

5') *[x]-x-na-n[i]?* The second sign could be *ba* or a badly made *an*.

9') Microscopic examination of the traces of the first sign suggests that it was more probably *la* than *i*.

13', 14') Since the tablet was last collated, a further chip has disappeared, removing the initial traces of the first sign on each line.

ND 2392 (BSAI; Plate 42)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na šarri bēli-ia*
urad-ka ^{m.d}*nabû₃-eṭir-a[n]-ni*
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri
bēli-ia

5 *x x*

Rev.

1' *x ... x x x*
at-t[a??-a]!?-k[a??-n]i

x x x? d[a]??/š[a]?? [l]i? bīt šarri₂
 4' *ša x x x*
 Edge *x x x x [l]i?*
 6' *lil-li-ku-u-ni*
 Side*
 1 *..... [e]n?-da-te*
 r[u] x

Translation

Obv.

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-etiranni. May it be well with the king my lord.

Rev. and Edge

(2') (when) I came back (3') the house of the king (4'-5') (6') let them come

Side

[nothing translatable]

Notes

Top (probably less than half) of a tablet, with obv. retaining only the address, and severe abrasion leaving only one line and two other signs definitely legible on rev. and edge. NA script. The break shows no distinction between the core and surface clay.

Rev. 2') *at-t[a]??-a]l?-k[a]??-n]i*. Abrasion leaves this restoration very doubtful; no evidence is visible of the second sign having had three verticals, and the fourth sign could well be SAG rather than KA.

ND 2394 (BSAI; Plate 53)

Transliteration

Face A

1' *..... x m[u]?? ...*
 ... x x x x ...
 ... n[a]?? ni a n[a]?? si-li-i[q] ...
 ... [p]a-na-tu-ú-a la ina Š[À](-)[bi]??
 5' *... la ú-ša x x x x ...*
 ... -te-e-a at-tu-ši ...
 ... x x^mmu-še-zib^d[DN]
 ... [M]EŠ ina lib-b[i] x ni ...
 ... x x x la ME ...
 10' *..... I[D]??/D[U]?? ...*
 x ...

[The few isolated words are insufficient for a translation.]

Notes

A fragment probably from beginning of rev., with both sides and both ends lost, although the core appears to extend to the right side. One face retains parts (in some lines only minimal traces) of 11 lines; the other face is entirely lost. NA script. Shows use of a thin layer of finer clay over the core.

The left broken edge of this fragment appears at first sight to come close to making a physical join with the upper right broken edge of ND 2801, and the epigraphy in both fragments is very similar. ND 2394 and ND 2801 were originally taken as being fragments of the same tablet, but two points suggest that this is not so. The two fragments differ very slightly in the distance from line to line, and the extant face of ND 2394 is almost completely flat whereas the main extant face of ND 2801 has a very slight curvature left to right. Also, a thin layer of finer clay over the core, clear in ND 2394, is not apparent in ND 2801, although this difference could result from the two fragments having been baked under different conditions.

ND 2801 (BSAI; Plate 53)

Transliteration

Face A

1' x
 x
 x
 x ú-ram-... ..
 5' iq-tí-bi ma-[a]
 ú-bil-ma ku-... ..
 ma-a šu-ma ki?-te x
 [a]p-qí-id(-)ka x
 ma-a šu-ma ki?-te ka
 10' ma-a kit-tú-u ma-a x
 [r]i?-a-hu [š]a LUGAL ...
 x x
 x

Face B

1' x
 x
 ku x
 [l]ul-x
 5' GIŠ.GIGIR [.....
 x

Translation

Face A

(5') he said thus: (6') *I/He* brought (7') thus he said: '... .. (8') I appointed *you*' 9') Thus he said : '... ..' (10') thus: 'justice', thus '... ..' (11') ... *which/of* the king

Face B

(5') chariot

Notes

Fragment from the left side of a large tablet with neither top nor bottom preserved. NA script. Placed here because of physical similarity with ND 2394, q.v.

Face A

10') *kit-tú-u*. J.N. Postgate suggests that this is a question, 'is it true?'

ND 2395 (IM, for study; Plate 43)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na* [šarri bēlīya]
urad-k[a DIŠ.PN]
lu-u [sulm]u^{mu} [a^l-[na bēlīya]

kaspu [š]a ša[r^{ru}]

5 *be-lí i-di-nu-n[i]*
ma-a x x x
 [a^l-na am[ēl]x-[x]-m[a]?-a-a
x i x x

9 ... *amēl[šā]bē*meš

Base [i?]-n[a]? *lib-bi-šú-n[u]*

Rev. ... *x ú-sa-h[i]-[r]a-š[ú]*

12 ... *am[ēl[šā]bē*meš
 [r]i-e-hu
issu x x ri-bi-te

15 *ina muh[hi] šarri*
bēlī-ia
a-s[a]-p[a-r]a

Translation

(1-3) To [the king my lord] your servant [PN]. May it be well [with my lord].

(4-5) The silver which [the king] my lord delivered, (6) saying, ['Pass it on] (7) to the ... people' (8) (9-11) I have taken it round [to] ... the soldiers (10) [in] their midst. (12) [To] the soldiers, the remainder (14) from ... the (town) square. (15-17) I have made a report to the king my lord.

Notes

A large fragment is lost from top right corner, extending one-third of way down tablet, and a small fragment from left bottom corner. The tablet is cracked and a piece has been gouged out from the middle of obv. Final 10 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

ND 2401 (IM 64025; Plate 46)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-na ša]rri bēlī-ia

[ura]d-k[a] ¹m.d¹DN-bēl-ušur₂
 [lu šulmu^m]^u ¹a¹-n[a] šarri bēlī-ia

[ina muhhi] ša šarru be-lí iš-pur-a-ni
 5 ... [š]a I LIM pít-hal-[l]i aq?-bi-ú-ni
 [il?]-la-ka-ni ma-a iškar(ÉŠ.GÀR) sisê^{meš}
 [ina]? [M]U?.AN.NA an-ni-te ša a-na amēl¹tamkārē(DAM.GÀR)^{meš}
 [x] š]a?-ni ina pānī-ia ta-sa-rib
 ...(-)ha-ni-i issu lib-bi-ka
 10 ... x x x x-ni
 ... [M]EŠ
 Rev. [Uninscribed]

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant DN-bel-usur. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) (In the matter of that) [about] which the king my lord sent me a message, (5) ... 1,000 cavalry (of which) I/he spoke, (6) they have come. They say: 'The ishkaru-tax due on the horses, (7) this year which to the merchants (8) ... you have brought in before me' (9-10) [fragmentary]

Notes

Lacks left side and lower part. NA script, mainly very clear. Extant part of rev. uninscribed.

5) aq?-bi-ú-ni. The first sign suggests aq, but a small oblique immediately before bi makes it possible that iq was intended.

7) [ina]? [M]U?.AN.NA. Thanks are due to J.N. Postgate for the proposed restoration of the first two signs.

ND 2404 (BSAI; Plate 35)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-bat] šarri
 a-na ^mšadâ(KUR)-a-a
 ūm I KAM ša arahdumuzi
 at-ta a-du
 5 XXX imēr pēt-ha[l]-li-um
 x ... x zu-x-ba
 ina [pa-n]a-tú-u-a
 [lu] u ... x-ta
 DIŠ E[N]? ... x m[u]?
 10 x ... x
 Rev. [l]u-u x
 ki-i ¹ú¹.....
 a-ša[p]-x x x
 x x x at
 15 ¹a¹ x x [l]a?-ka

ina [š]u-a-te
lu am-ma-ra[k]-ku

Translation

(1-5) Royal decree to Shadaya. On the first of the month Tammuz you, together with 30 cavalry horses, (6-8) *shall indeed come* into my presence ... (9-12) [insufficient remains for translation]

(13) I will send [you a message]. (14-15) ... (16-17) For this reason I will indeed see you.

Notes

Small tablet, rejoined. Lacks small piece at top left corner and has a hole 20 mm × 10 mm max. in lower left of obv. Some signs on rev. are damaged or completely lost from abrasion. Final 10 mm of rev. is uninscribed. The NA script was somewhat clumsy, so that this *abat šarri* is not a credit to the Assyrian Civil Service.

6) *zu-x-ba*. The first sign cannot be URU, unless badly inscribed. The second sign resembles *hi* with an additional horizontal.

17) *lu am-ma-ra[k]-ku*. J.N. Postgate suggests, perhaps correctly, that this is a form from *namarkû*, = ‘I am indeed delayed’.

ND 2405 (IM, for study; Plate 46)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [a-na šar]ri be-lí-ia
[arad-ka^mman-n]u-ki-i-^daš-šur
[l]u-^lú^l šulmu^[m]u^l a^l-na šarri be-lí-ía
x x x ... x-a-ni šá šarru be-lí
5 [iš-pu-ru]? um-ma a-du-^lú^l
... x a-na pa-ni-k[a]
... x-ma KUL NI[M]? LA?

Rev.

1' ... x x
... -nu-ú en-na
... su-nu-ti-ma
... [k]i a-na-ku a-du-u
5' AŠ? x ... EN.NUN-ia
^lú^l-š[u]-uz-za-ak-a
Top [x]? [E]N.NUN-a : a-na-aš-šar

Translation

Obv.

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Mannu-ki-Ashur. (3) May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) [In the matter of the] ... about which the king my lord (5) [sent a message], saying, ‘Until (6) ... to your presence’ (7) ...

Rev. and End

(2') now (3') them (4') I until (5'-6') ... I stand (ready) for my watch. (7') I shall keep my watch.

Notes

Top of a tablet. Largish clear script which is basically NB, but which in the penultimate sign of obv. 3 has NI in an essentially Assyrian form, with an almost horizontal top wedge.

Obv.

7) KUL. The preceding traces do not favour reading this as the end of ^mmukîn-zêr.

7) NI[M]? LA?. The second sign does not appear to be MA, and there is no KI to make NIM.MA.KI = *Elamtu*^{ki}.

Rev.

6') [ú]l-š[u]-uz-za-ak-a. St. 1 c. of izuzzu.

ND 2413 (IM 64179; Plate 50)

Transliteration

Face A (Obv.?)

1' x x x x
 iš-pu-[r]a-ni
 x x ME[Š] ú-x-x
 [l]a-šú ina libbi la ú-x-[x]
 5' ina mu[hhi am]ēl[n]agīri TU[R]? š[a ša]rri
 bēli i[q]-bu-ú-ni x x-ni
 lu-n[a]-i-d[a]?/d[u]? x š[a]?
 DIŠ x x DINGIR.MAŠ x
 [a]l-s[a]?-[pa]r? x x
 10' x x x
 x x
 x

Face B (Rev.?)

1 [L]Ú?.SAG.MEŠ ša pa-hi-...
 ina [li]bbi šarru liš-pur lu-x ...
 istē^{en} la-šú [šar]ru? l[iš]??-[p]ur?? x x ...
 amēl^{mār} šipri ša ina muh[hi] x ...
 5 áš-pa-ru-ni ina? x x x x
 ša ^mx-LAL-aš-šur x x LU[GAL]? E[N]?
 iq-bu-ú-ni XXXII x x? MEŠ
 [a]l-[t]a-mar am-mu-ti x-[x]?-ti
 ^{m.d}nabû-k[i]-la-ni L[Ú] ...
 10 [š]a ^mmu-x-aš-šur x x ...
 x x x x ME[Š] š[a] x ...
 x x x-ni MAN ...

Side*? [from bottom to top if Face A is obv.]

1 ša ina libbi ^{al}x x x x
 ta-hu-mu [t]a?-t[a]?-kal?

Partial Translation

Face A (Obv.?)

(2') sent me a message ... (3') ... (4') there is not. In the midst *he/ll* did not ... (5') Concerning the junior herald about whom the king (6') my lord gave an order ... (7') let *me/them* praise ...

Face B (Rev.?)

(1) the *rešū*-officials of ... (2) Let the king send a message thereon ... (3) there is not one. *Let the king send a message* ... (4) The messenger whom concerning ... (5) I sent with a message. ... (6) Of ...-LAL-Ashur (*about*) which the king my lord (7-8) gave an order, I have seen 32 ... (8) Those ... (9) Nabu-kilani the ...-official (10) of Mu-...-ashur ...

Side*

(1) which within the city ... (2) you have *enjoyed* (*the benefit of*) the border.

Notes

Tablet lacking one end (top?) and right corner at other end (base?). Few signs are completely lost but many are so badly damaged that definitive identification is difficult or impossible. NA script.

Face A

5') TU[R]?. Reading virtually certain, presumably representing *šehru. Nagīru sehru* ('junior herald') is not otherwise attested, although *nagīru rabû*, common in NA, could be taken to imply the existence of such an office.

7') *lu-n[a]-i-d[a]?/d[u]?*. *du* appears to be more probable than *da*. For possible forms see CAD, N/1, 103a-b, *nu'udu*.

Face B

6) ^m*x*-LAL-*aš-šur*. The unidentified sign might be IGI, an element in IGI.LAL = *amāru*, in which case the name could be Emur-Ashur, Otherwise LAL presumably represents a form from *tarāšu*.

6) *-aš-šur x x*. The sign after *-šur* might be *ša*, if the single horizontal with which it seems to begin is mere damage.

Side

2) [*t*]*a-t[a]?-kal?*. For the translation offered above, cf. CAD, A/1, 252b, *akālu* 2b. 'You have ravaged the border' (cf. CAD, A/1, 256b, 8, and AHW, 27a, G^t) would be very dubious, since (1) other instances of *akālu* G^t as 'to ravage' all imply a reflexive sense, which is excluded here, (2) it would be an odd comment at the end of a letter.

ND 2420 (IM 64031; Plate 50)

Transliteration

Face A

1' *x*
 *x a-na x x* ...
 ... *x-du-ni-ni i-mu?*-*x*
 ... *x mu-di-šú issu nišē^mš-šú*

- 5' ...-x-ti-iq ú-šab
 ... a-šap-pa-ru-u-ni
 ... [z]a?/[a]?-na UD ni? šú? iṣ?-ša?-ni
 ... x UZ[U]? a-na mār šip-ri-ia
 ... x [m]a-a an-nu-rig
- 10' x x x ni
- Face B
- 1' x x x
 [m]a-a [SA]R? áš x ni-na
 x L[Ú].GAL.x
 MEŠ-šú ina pa-an
- 5' ...^[d]šamaš amēl bēl pāhati
 [a-n]a šarri a-sa-pa-ra-áš-šú
 ... [am]ēl!?! šābē^{me[š]} LUGAL š[a] x [x] x
 x ...

[Insufficient remains for a useful translation.]

Notes

Fragment from middle of a tablet, which is more rounded in cross-section than most NA letters. Extant to full width, except for c. 2 mm to left. NA script.

Face A

7') ni? šú? Could be a misreading of uš.

7') iṣ?-ša?-ni. If a correct reading, could be Impv. pl. of *naṣṣ (AHw, 757b; cf. CAD, N/2, 80a-b, našú A). iṣ?-ša? could be a misreading of un.

Face B

5') ...^[d]šamaš. Part of the name of a provincial governor.

ND 2422 (IM 64032; Plate 36)

Transliteration

- Obv.1' [ú]?-ru-d[u]?-n[i]?
-[k]a la iq-bi-[a]
 ... [p]u?-lu šu-nu
 [a-na]? šarri ú-si-bi-la
- 5' ...-[n]i-šú-ma ši-i-ti
 [ša]? [ú-š]a-zi-bi-lu-u-ni
- Base ... x mi-i-nu ša šarri
- Rev. [li?-p]u-ša li-pit šarri
 ... ina muhhi [a]l-h[a]-iš
- 10' ... [a]l-na šarri

Translation

(1') ... they come down (2') ... he did not say. (3') They are ... (4') he had (it) brought [to] the king. (5') It is his ... indeed (6') [which] they caused to be

transported. (7') ... what of the king (8') *let him perform* the king's handiwork (9') ... concerning each other (10') ... to the king.

Notes

Lower fragment of tablet, with small loss (corresponding perhaps in the most complete lines to not more than one sign) from left side. Rev. bears only three lines of inscription. Clear NA script.

Since the tablet was first copied in 1954, a substantial fragment has been lost across the middle of lines 3' to 5', damaging *lu* in 3', almost totally removing *si* in 4', and damaging *i* in 5'. The upper horizontal in *pit* in 8' has also been lost. This recent damage is not shown in the copy.

6') [ú-š]a-zi-bi-lu-u-ni. For *ušazbilūni*, see Ylv. §9.

ND 2423 (BSAI; Plate 47)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 a-n[a] ša[rri bēlī-i]a
 urad-ka D[IŠ] ...-[n]i?
 ina ā^[l]tur-mu-na bi-it šarru
 ip-qi-da-ni-ni šulmu^{mu}
 5 a-dan-niš mātu : ka-ab-[s]a-at
 ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ e-ru-uš
 ú-ri : i-si-r[u]
 x x KI DIŠ.EN NI x [a]t?/x-ma?
 [x] x amēl^{pa-ri-š}[u]-tú
 10 ... x x x x [b]i?-it
 ... x
 ... x

Rev.

1' ... x x x [a] x ...
 ... x x gi ...
 ... x ta áš x x
 ... x x me-me-ni
 5' [la?-á]š?-šú l[a] x-ši-ia-u

Partial Translation

Obv.

(1-2) To the king [my lord] your servant [PN]. (3-5) In the town Turmuna, where the king appointed me, it is very well. (5) The land is subjugated. (6) I have sown the grain. (7) [see notes] (8) [unclear] (9) ... liars.

Rev.

(4'-5') *There is not anyone, they are not ...*

Notes

Tablet with bottom broken away, two-thirds of surface of first two lines lost, and slight damage passim. Last 35 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

Obv.

7) *ú-ri* : *i-si-r[u]*. Apparently 'they have plastered the roofs', but with no relevant context could perhaps represent 'they have enclosed the stables', with *ú-ri* from *urû(m)* I 'Stall', AHW, 1435a and the verb from *esēru(m)* II, 'einschließen', AHW, 249b.

8) *x x* KI DIŠ.EN. Line could begin *ʾa*¹-*ʾa*¹-*ki*, 'where?'. DIŠ.EN could represent *ištēn* or be the beginning of a personal name.

Rev.

3') *x ta áš*. In the unidentified sign, examination under the microscope suggests that the apparent third vertical may be a scratch.

4') *x me-me-ni*. The unidentified sign might be UL.

5') *x-ši-ia-u*. Severe blurring of the wedges of the first sign makes conclusive identification impossible, but it appears to be either *ra* or *iš*.

ND 2425 (IM 64034; Plate 50)

Transliteration

Obv.1' *x x x x x*

[*a*]h?-*x-š*u

ʾʾ *manû er*meš

da-tú ina ta-la-ki

5' ʾ*a*¹-*ta-na*-[*á*]š-š*u* ///

[*k*]u?-*ra-a-ia-a*

ʾ*a*¹-*na x* [*x*]? *a*[*l*]-*lik*

... *x x x x*

9' ... *x x*

Base *x x x* [*x*]?-[*i*]*a*

Rev. [DI[Š]]? *x x* MEŠ

12' *ana harrāni šu-u-nu*

k[*a*]?-*lu: ka-x-x*

*š*u-u-*tú*

15' *ku?-ra-a-a* ///

i-x-dam?

ʾ*i*¹-*p*[*a*]-*la-ha pa-da-ni*

x aš-ba-su

... .. *x x x*

Side*? [base to top, if obv. and rev. are correctly identified]

... .. *x* [*l*]u lu ti *x* ...

... .. [*b*]i *x ra* ...

Translation

(2') *I* ... it (3') 1 mina of copper. (4') Afterwards in due course (5') I shall keep bringing it along. (6') *Kuraia*, (7') I went to ... (8'-11') [nothing intelligible] (12') they are for the journey.

(13'-14') He is (15'-17') *Kuraia* is afraid. (17'-18') I have started (on) the way. (19'-) [Nothing significant remains in rev. 19' and the two lines on the side.]

Notes

Bottom(?) half of a largish tablet, with large, bold, deep-cut NA script. Mainly in good condition, with some damage near the base.

In 1979 the tablet was found to be marked in ink with the false number ND 2485, in addition to its correct IM number in Arabic.

4') *ta-la-ki*. Taken as a defective writing from *tallakku* (cf. AHW, 1310b, *tallakku* 2, 'nA ... statt *tallaktu* 3').

5') $\lceil a^1-ta-na-[\acute{a}]š-šu$. 1 sg. Pres. G^{tn} of *našû*.

6', 15') $[k]u?-ra-a-ia-a$, $ku?-ra-a-a$. These appear to represent the same term, which, since an ethnicon is excluded in the context, must be a personal name. Unless *ku?* is an anomalous combination of *DIŠ+ma*, there is no determinative.

13') $k[a]?-lu$. The doubtful sign could be *lil*, but *lillu* 'fool' would not make sense here. *Kallû* (CAD, K, 83b; AHW, 426a) seems more appropriate.

13') *ka-x-x*. The traces seem to suggest *ka-li-mu*.

16') *i-x-dam?*. The final element could be *pin*, but this reading would leave a problematic preceding element. The sign may have been written over an incomplete erasure.

18') *x aš-ba-su*. The unidentified sign does not seem to be *lu*. The verb is taken as 1 sg. Pret. *šabātu* with assimilated suffix *šu*.

ND 2426 (IM 64035; Plate 51)

Transliteration

Face A

1' *x x x x x x*
 $š[a]?$ $t[a]$ *x*
 a-na x x $\lceil \acute{u}^1-te$...
 $m[a]?$ - $\lceil a^1?$ *x x x x x x*
 5' *pi-qi-d[i]* *x* ... *x x* $\lceil \acute{u}^1?$
 $ša$ ^{maš-šur} *x x x* $[x]?$ -[B]U
 $ša$ $\acute{a}lki-x$ *x x x*- \acute{u}^1-te
 ap-ti-qi-di *x* $[x]?$ *x x*
 amēl're'u *x x x* *ina mu*[*hhi*] *pāhati*
 10' $š[a$ \acute{a}] $k[a]$ -*am-x x x x*
 bir-ti ēnē^{II.me[š]}- $\acute{š}ú$ $l[u-ma-di-du]$
 issu $ša$ *x x a x*
 L[\acute{U}] *x x x*

Face B

1' $\lceil \acute{u}^1-ma-a$ *x*
 li[*k*]-*ta-am*-... *x*
 $\lceil a^1$ -[*n*] a $\acute{a}l$ *arrap*-[*h*] a *it-t[a]*- $l[ak]$ [...]?
 šarru *be-l[i]* $\lceil a^1$ -*na imitti*(ZAG) *u* *šumē*[*li*](KA[B])

- 5' *i-šap-pa-[r]a-an-ni*
me-me-ni in ku-tal-li-ia la-áš-šú
amēl mār šip-ri ša šarri be-lí-ia
lil-li-ka ina muhhi dul-la-a-ni
ša šarri bir-ti ēnē^{II.me[š]}-šú
- 10' *[l[u-ma-di-du dul-l[u]-šú*
[i]-p[u-u]š

Translation

Face A

(5') *Appoint!* (6') of Ashur-... (7') of the city Ki-... .. (8') I appointed (9') the shepherd ... *over/concerning* the province (10') of Kam-... .. (11') let them make clear to him (12') from of

Face B

(3') he has gone back to Arrapha. (4'-5') The king my lord keeps sending me messages right and left. (6') There is no one as a replacement for me. (7'-11') Let the messenger of the king my lord come. Let them make clear to him about duties for the king, (and) let him perform his duty.

Notes

Fragment of tablet with top and bottom missing. Since the final c. 10 mm of Face B is uninscribed, this must be rev. NA script.

The correspondent requests a replacement.

Face A

4') *m[a]?-[a]?*. Or possibly *š[a]*.

9') *pāhati*. For the probable spelling in NA see AHw, 862a, *pīhātu(m)* I.

10') *[ā]k[a]-am-x x*. The obvious restoration would be the known town name *Kammanu*, but the traces do not favour taking the first *x* as *ma* or *man*; the reading might be *si*, or what is read as *am* might be part of *ne* to give *[ā]k[a]-ne*.

11', B 9') *bir-ti ēnē^{II.me[š]}*. See AHw, 129b, *bi/erti*, *birtu-* III e, NA *bir-ti/te ēnē maddudu* = 'jmdm. klarmachen', and CAD, M/1, 8b (d).

Face B

8') *dul-la-a-ni*. NA pl., not sg. with suf.

ND 2428 (BSAI; Plate 37)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1' *[x] x ki x ...*
[x]? ša šē[pē]^{II}
DIŠ? ÈRI? ki-rib
š[a] GIŠ? MU x
- 5' *naph[ar] IV DIŠ m[a]? x*
DIŠ [È]RI? ki-rib
[a]?-n[a]? šēpē^{II}
... .. [k]i-rib

Rev.

- 1 m.^dadad-i-[d]a?
 issu ^ma-du-IM šú?-n[u]?
 ... x? ... x? ...
 [x]-šú [š]a šepē^{II}
- 5 ^mm[u]-še-zib-[^dDN]?

[Insufficient remains for a meaningful translation.]

Notes

Five pieces joined to form most of a tablet with large clumsy NA script. Top edge, part of base and left side are lost, and a sizeable fragment is missing from right side. 8 lines are extant on obv. Rev. begins with an uninscribed section of c. 15 mm, followed by 2 lines, then a further uninscribed space of c. 12 mm, then 2 lines, with possibly one further line wholly lost. Both faces are almost flat. Curvature at the ends indicates that virtually the full length of the tablet is retained. NA script.

It is not certain that this is a letter. The preserved text gives no indication of its provenance.

Obv.

3', 6', 8') These lines may all have borne the sequence DIŠ ÈRI *ki rib*, which would suggest a personal name, but although *kirib* does appear as an onomastic element (see CAD, K, 404b, *kirbu*), an Akkadian name ^marad-*kirib* would be inexplicable.

5') m[a]? x. The traces following possible *ma* could be the remains of *ni* or *di*.

Rev.

2) ^ma-du-IM-šú?-n[u]?? The supposed oblique of *nu* could be a damage mark, and the horizontal an extension of the horizontal of IM.

After 2, before 3) The slight marks shown in the copy are taken as damage, not remains of a line of text.

ND 2429 (IM 64036; Plate 38)

Transliteration

- Obv. [a-na ša]rri be-l[i-ia]
 [urad-ka ^m...] x DI ...
 l[u] šulmu^m[^u a-n]a šarri b[e-li-ia]
 ina muhhi AD-ra-'a ša A? [x] [x]?
- 5 iš-pur-an-ni ma-a hu-ú-d[a]
 lib-bi AD-ra-'a šá pi-te
 narāti^{meš} ša a-na lib-bi [x]?
 qa-q-qu-ru aš-ti-ih-h[i]-[tu?-ni?]
 la-aš-šú la il-la[k] ...
- 10 x-x-[u¹]-ni x

Translation

(1-3) [To the] king my lord [your servant PN. May it be] well with the king [my lord].

(4-6a) Concerning the *adra* of [PN], he sent a message, saying: 'Rejoice at heart!
(6b-9) There is no *adra* of the *opening* of the canals which I ... *to/for* the midst of the
ground, it does not go.'

Notes

Left half or more of upper part of letter. Rev. uninscribed. NA script. The formulae in lines 1-3 show that the loss from the right ends of any of the lines 1-7 probably does not exceed one or two signs.

This letter seems to concern some technical device applied to canals.

4, 6) AD-*ra*-*a*. Reading certain. The noun is hardly *adru* 'threshing floor', since although the cognate occurs in Aramaic as '*adr*', it normally has no glottal stop in NA, and it would not give an appropriate sense in the context of canals.

4) *ša* A? ... One expects a personal name here, but the vertical immediately after *ša* seems to be part of A and not an independent DIŠ.

8) *aš-ti-ih*-[*hi?*-*tu?*-*ni?*]. The infix -*ti*- indicates a root with characteristic vowel *i*. A verb meeting this criterion is *šahātu(m)* I, AHW, 1130a (= *šahātu* A, CAD, Š/1, 88a) which at *ibid.*, 1c adduces the sense 'überspringen' with reference to a canal, possibly relevant here. Alternatively, J.N. Postgate suggests the earlier part of the form may conceal *ina ti-ih* 'adjacent to'.

ND 2432 (BSAI)

Transliteration

Obv.

1'
 ta a
 RI ŠID MEŠ *ma*
 ina É.GAL
 5' *ni*
 ina UGU DIŠ EN
 *-a-a*
 *ina* UGU

 10' *ša*
 XX LIM?
 x li? x qa
 ... *ša e-pu-*
 x LÚ.GAL
 15' *ina lib-bi* ANŠE?.KUR

 Base
 Rev.
 1' AN
 i-nam-... ..
 ina lib?
 x-du-u-ni

5' [š]ap?-rak-ka

[Too fragmentary to warrant a translation.]

Notes

Both ends and both sides lost. Surface badly crazed, chipped and in places abraded. Has at some time been covered with a film of plastic (now largely removed), presumably to save further loss of surface. Laboratory treatment might improve legibility. Neither face is significantly curved top to bottom. There are traces of 16 lines on what is taken as obv. and of 8 lines on what is taken as rev.; remainder of rev. appears to have been uninscribed. Not copied.

In physical appearance this tablet resembles a letter rather than a contract.

ND 2436 (IM 64041; Plate 48)

Transliteration

Obv. ʾa¹-n[a ša]rri bē[li-i]a
 [ura]d-k[a] mah-d[i]-ʾe¹
 [lu šulmu]^{mu} ʾa¹-[n]a [šarri] be-l[í-ia]
 ... x
 5 ... x
 ina mu[hhi]

 x
 x
 10 DIŠ x x
 [LU]GAL? a-na pa-[an] ...
 ... x-nu-ni
 x x-at-[t]e?
 x x x
 15 [k]a?-a-a
 x-ti-qu
-hi-ru-ni
 Base-nu-ni
 19 x(-)ša
 Rev. ...-šú-nu-nu šarri bēlī-ía
 21 ...-li-e-du-ka
 ... ú ina šap-lu-šu
 ... x x x U[B]? [k]u?-li
 [šarru b[e-l]i x-[l]u-ú(-)da!
 25 [ša]rru be-lí liš-pur šip-ṭu
 [i]š?-ku[n]-nu-ni šu-nu
 ... x x ... x x x x

... ..
 ... ʾi-l-x
 30 [š]a LUGAL E[N] ... x ...
 x x [m]u? ... x x x
 x x ... x x x
 x x? x ... x a EN [...]?
 34 x ... x ʾe-l-[g]ir-t[u] i-ma-g[úr]
 Top [i/e]-[pa]-a[š] ...
 36 ... x
 Side [Indication of possibly one line, perhaps two, totally lost]

Partial Translation

[Nothing significant remains except:] (1-3) To the king my lord your servant Mahde.
 May it be well with the king my lord.

(25) let the king my lord send a message, *the punishment*

(35-36) ... the letter, he will agree, he will do ...

Notes

Tablet rejoined from a large number of fragments. Much of the surface is missing. Bears parts of 17 lines on obv., 2 on base, 15 on rev., 2 on top end. Traces of part of one sign indicate that there was originally a line (or two lines) inscribed down the side. NA script.

35, 36) ʾe-l-[g]ir-t[u] i-ma-g[úr], ...-[pa]-a[š]. Since this tablet was first read, crumbling has reduced the legibility of some of these signs.

ND 2459 (BSAI; Plate 45)

Transliteration

Obv.1' ... x E ŠEŠ.MEŠ-ʾe-l-ʾa^l
 ... [š]a ni[še]^{meš}-e-a
 ... [a]?-[n]a? qāte^{II}-a-a ir-rab
 4' ... x pānī-a ad-dan
 Rev. ... [ki]?-ʾi^l a-kan-ni-i
 6' ... x-an-ni a-sa-par
 [x] [x] ŠEŠ-šu il-la-ka ina pa-an
 ... [x].MEŠ MAN-e-šú iz-za-az
 ... x šarri be-lí-ía
 10' ... [šar]ru be-lí

Translation

(1') ... the house of my brothers (2') ... of my people ... (3') ... will come into my hands (4') ... before me I will give (5') ... *that* now (6') ... I have sent a message (7') ... his brother will come in front of (8') ... his *royal* ... will stand (9') ... of the king my lord (10') ... the king my lord

Notes

Rather less than the lower half of a tablet, with some loss of surface on left of both obv. and rev. There is a hairline crack down the middle of rev., and slight abrasion passim. Obv. is flat, rev. is slightly convex. NA script.

The NA script has a distinctive ductus, and ND 2472 was apparently written by the same scribe, who either used a different stylus from the usual Assyrian one or wielded it differently; many of the wedges on both tablets, instead of appearing as a triangular head sloping into a tail, give the impression more of an elongated triangle with one side almost straight. I have attempted to reproduce this in my copies.

ND 2459 and ND 2472 are very similar in other respects than ductus. The clay is of identical type, and reverse faces of both have the same curvature. On both tablets base and sides meet at a sharp angle, almost a right-angle, produced by finger pressure, actual fingerprints being clearly visible to the naked eye at the two extant corners of ND 2472 and to the microscope at the single extant corner of ND 2459, with what appears to be a nail mark adjacent on the bottom edge.

ND 2472 (BSAI; Plate 45)

Transliteration

Obv. *mu-uk x*

ú-nam-mu-š[u] x [x]?

gišeleppāti^{meš}-ku-nu

hu-ut-ta la i-ma-g[u-ru]

5' *šarru be-lí li[q-b]a-aš-šú*

Rev. *liš-pu-ra gišeleppāti^{meš}]-šú*

li-ih-tu-tu

Translation

(1') I said: '... .. (2'-4') put your ships *in order*.' They were not cooperative. (5') Let the king my lord give him a command. Let them *put his ships in order*.

Notes

Bottom half of tablet. 2 partial and 3 complete lines on obv., 2 complete lines on rev., remainder of rev. (22 mm extant) uninscribed. Cracked, but with minimal loss of surface along crack; adhesive visible on core shows it has been rejoined. NA script.

2') *ú-nam-mu-š[u]*. Apparently 3 pl. 'they dispatch', but unclear.

4', 7') *hu-ut-ta, li-ih-tu-tu*. No meaning proposed for *haṭātu* in CAD, H, 152b-153a or AHW, 336b-337a seems appropriate here. Post-biblical Hebrew has *ḥtt*, Pi'ēl 'to pick (things out of holes)', which could provide a semantic link with 'to caulk', a sense appropriate in connection with ships, although one would expect any necessary caulking to have been carried out by the shipmen without instructions from an administrator. It therefore seems more probable that *hatātu* referred to some unidentified administrative procedure.

5') *li[q-b]a-aš-šú*. A small damaged area on right edge could originally have borne *-nu*, curving upwards above *-aš-šú*. But this is unlikely, since one would expect the same pronominal suffix here as at the end of 6', where there is no such possibility.

ND 2460 (XXXIV; IM 64050; Plate 47)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na šarri be-lí-i[a]*
urad-ka ^{m.d}*enurta-ila-a-a*
lu šulmu^{mu} *a-na šarri [b]e-li-[i]a*
amēl^{ma-aq-tu pa-ni-ú}

5 *[š]a a-na ekalli ú-še-bi-l[a-ni]*
iq-ṭi-bi-a ma-a XX šābē^[meš]
uk-ta-ši-du-ú-ni
a-di qa-an-ni āl^{ma-...}
ina kal-la-ma-ri im-ma-...

10 *sisē*^{meš} *i-da-tu-š[u]-[nu]?*
a-sa-par l[a]? ...
la ik-šu-d[u]?/d[a]?
it-tal-ku-[u]¹[-ni]?
ina É
x

Rev.

1' *x*
ša x
man ebū[ri]-š[ú-n]u
ša ^{amēl}*nagīr ekal[li [...]]?*

5' *alpē*^{meš} *la-áš-šú AN x [...]]?*
ša ^{m.d}*nergal-ú-bal-liṭ x* ...
an-na-ka liq-bu-ni-šú
alpē^{meš} *šú-nu lil-lik-ú-n[i]*
man ebūri-šú-nu lu du-ri-[u]¹?

10' *li-in-tu-hu ina libbi āl[i]*
lu-še-ri-bu
LÚ.EN.NUN.MEŠ-šú-nu ina IGI.ŠE.x
un-zu alpē^{meš}
ina panī-šú-nu la-áš-šú

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Enurta-ilaya. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-9) The former fugitive whom I sent to the Palace has said: 'Twenty soldiers have raided (and) by dawn reached as far as the environs of the city Ma-..., (with) (10)

horses with them.’ (11) I have (therefore) sent a message. ... (12) They did not conquer (it), (13) they have gone back. (14) In the *palace*

Rev.

(4’) of the Herald of the Palace (5’) there are no cattle (6’) of Nergal-uballit ... (7’) here let them say to him: (8’) ‘Let their cattle go; (9’) they whose harvest is still standing, (10’-11’) let them transport (it and) bring it into the city.’ (12’-14’) Their guards have at their disposal no *corn* for the hunger of the cattle.

Notes

Tablet largely complete, except for a missing fragment from right side of final four extant lines on obv. and first four on rev. At least one line has been lost at base, leaving only unrecognizable traces of beginning of first sign. Surface mostly in good condition, with large clear NA script.

The following is a tentative interpretation of the contents. An attack had been made on an Assyrian outpost and reported to the district governor by a survivor who was sent on to the king. The governor investigated, and now makes a fuller report on the circumstances and the steps he had taken, which included bringing into the city any grain harvest still standing.

Obv.

2) ^{m.d}enurta-ila-a-a. Five eponyms bore this name, including those for 736 and 722 BC.

9) *im-ma*-... Perhaps *im-ma-ru*, ‘they see’.

Rev.

6’) ^{m.d}nergal-ú-bal-liṭ x ... The eponym for 731 BC, the governor of Ahi-zuhina, bore this name.

9’) *du-ri-ur*?. Taken as St.3 pl. of adj. *dūru*, ‘continuity’ (CAD, D, 197b, *dūru* B).

12’) ŠE.x. The sign appears to me as in the copy; I do not see the group as ŠE.BAR, but in the context it must represent some kind of grain.

13’) *un-zu*. See AHW, 1418a, *umṣu* I, *unṣu* ‘Hunger’. J.N. Postgate suggests reading *iz-za-zu*.

ND 2464 (BSAI; Plate 49)

Transliteration

Obv. [a]-na šarri bēlī-ia

urad-ka ^{m.aš}-šur-išmea(HAL)-ni

ina muhhi nišē^{meš}

ša šarru be-li

5 iš-pu-ra-an-ni

^{m.ri}-mu-te-[a]hi-šú

mār ^{m.d}nabu-re-e-ši

^{m.d}šamaš-bi-ru-MU

a-na pa-ni-ia šú-nu

10 ^{m.d}nabu-šar-hi-ilāni^{meš}

[x] NIN? ša x

Rev.

la a-n[a] pa-ni-[i]a
š[u]-nu

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-ishmeani.

(3-9) Concerning the people about whom the king my lord sent me a message, Rimute-ahishu the son of Nabu-reshi (and) Shamash-biru-iddin are in my presence.

(10-14) Nabu-sharhi-ilani *the son of PN₁* (and) *PN₂ the son of PN₃* are not in my presence.

Notes

Almost complete tablet with slight damage at top left corner and both bottom corners. One whole line and part of a second line are lost from surface damage at beginning of rev. Otherwise in sound condition. NA script.

2) *māš-šur-išmea(HAL)-ni*. The same name occurs in ND 2449, q.v. It is certainly the same person in both instances, since not only do these two letters have common elements in that in both the customary greeting is omitted and the writer is concerned with disposition of personnel, but also the calligraphy on both tablets is identical, both have a horizontal line after the address, and both are of the same type of clay, of the same thickness, and with corners and top and bottom edges of very similar form.

6) *mri-mu-te-[a]hi-šú*. Alternatively *mri-mu-te [a]hi-šú* 'Rimute his brother'. Both readings present problems. Against the first interpretation is the fact that Rimute is a well-known name, whereas the longer form would be unknown and difficult to explain. Against the second interpretation is the singular *mār* and the absence of any indication of whose brother.

8) *m.dšamaš-bi-ru-MU*. Examination under the microscope confirms that the vertical was omitted in the DINGIR determinative.

ND 2467 (BSAI; Plate 53)

Transliteration

Obv.

1' ... *x ra pi šá x* ...
 ... *ta a ti ina li[b]?* ...
 ... *x ra ra 'a x* ...
 ... *a-nam-bi d[u]?* ... *x*
 5' [a]l-[t]a-ba-ak *amēlšāb[ē]*[m]eš
ina liḅ-bi ú-si-ri-bi
issu liḅ-bi ina liḅ-bi āl_x x
ina āl_{me-x-ga} ālāni_{meš} [KAL]A?.MEŠ
š[a] māš-šur-x x A ŠID

Rev.

1 *bīt la ha-ru-da-a-ni*
ú-ha-ra-da ŠE.PAD.MEŠ
a-[z]a-bi-il ina liḅ-bi
*[a]l-ta-ba-ak *amēlšābē_{meš}* ina liḅ-bi*

5 ʾú!-še!-ra[b] āhal-šu
 x x [p]a-an ¹m¹bēl-iddin a-šá-an-ni
 x x x x x nu ku l[i]?
 ... [UR]U?.ME?-x-g[a]? ... x x t[e]?
 [URU]?.[hal]?-[š]u^[m]eš ... x ...
 10 ... x ... x ...
 x ...

Translation

Obv.

(5'-6') I drove away. I brought soldiers inside. (7') From therein into the midst of the town ... (8') (and) into the town Me...ga, (8-9) *strong* towns of Ashur-... ..

Rev.

(1) Wherever they are not on the alert, (2-3) I will alert (them). I will transport corn rations, (3-4) I will then bring (it) inside. (4-5) I will bring the people inside. (5-6) I shall *transfer* the district to the charge of Bel-iddina. [Remainder too damaged to read.]

Notes

Lower three-quarters of a badly damaged tablet. Extant script is in fair condition. NA script.

Obv.

8') *ālme-x-ga*. The unidentified sign might be *su* or *tu*.

Rev.

1, 2) *la ha-ru-da-a-ni, ú-ha-ra-da*. Both verbs are taken to be from *harādu* A (CAD, 𒄩, 88a-b, *harādu* IV (AHw, 322b). If this derivation is correct, the first verb is D St., NA form written defectively, 3 pl. The second is D Pres., 1 sg.

ND 2468 (IM 64054; Plate 52)

Transliteration

Obv.1' x
 x x x?
 ri-ih-t[u] ...
 ma-a AŠ GIŠ.BAR ...
 5' iq-ṭí-bu-ʾu!?
 ma-a XXII ANŠ[E] [x]?
 nu-ša-kal ma-a x [x]?
 nu-ša-kal ma-a x [x]?
 9' [i]l-ku ša ^mtu-x-x
 Base [šú]m-mu šarru be-lí
 11' i-qab-bi
 Rev. la-di-in lu-ša-ki-lu₄
 āl^bbir-tu ina bīt karāni^{meš}
 la-áš-šú a!-ka-an-ni x
 15' ina lib-bi lu-šá-x-[x]
 li-iz!-bi-l[u] ...
 lu-ša-k[i]?-l[u₄]?

Translation

(3') the remainder ... (4') thus ... (5') they said: (6'-7a) 'We shall provide twenty two homers as food.' (7b'-8a') (They) said: 'We shall provide ... as food.' (8b'-9') (They) said: '... the land-revenue of Tu-...' (10'-12') If the king my lord orders (it), let me assign it, (and) let them provide food. (13'-14') There is no fortress in the wine area; now ... let them ... therein, (16') let them transport ... (17') let them provide food.

Notes

Tablet with top and upper part of right side missing. Clear NA script.

4') GIŠ.BAR. = *sutu*. The signs are undamaged; this is not a misreading of *pa-an*.

12') *lu-ša-ki-lu₄*. For *u* as first vowel of 3 pl. Š Prec. in NA, see GAG §81c.

14') *a!-ka-an-ni*. *a* is undamaged but has an unwarranted horizontal.

16') *li-iz!-bi-l[u]*. The second sign, which is undamaged, is unrecognizable as it stands, but in view of the misformed *a* in 14', the possibility of a supernumerary wedge may be considered. The sign could then be either *qa* with an additional horizontal below, or GIŠ with an additional oblique above. Since *li-qa!-bi-lu* would not make a recognizable word, it is proposed to read the verb as *li-iz!-bi-l[u]*.

ND 2469 (BSAI; Plate 7)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na ša[rri bēlīya]*
urad-ka
lu šulmu^m[u]
a-dan-niš ^{ra}l-[*dan-niš*]
5 *lu šulmu^{mu}* ^{ra}l-[*dan-niš*]
a-na bīti š[a] [*bēlīya?*]
amēl_{ur}dāni^{meš}
ša ba-ta-b[a-te] ...
x x x ... *x* ...

Translation

(1) To the king [my lord] (2) your servant [PN]. (3-4) May it be very, very well with [the king my lord]. (5-6) May it be [very] well with the house of [my lord]. (7) The servants ... (8) who are around ...

Notes

Top left corner, in good condition. Rev. uninscribed. The top end is so flat that the fragment will stand on it. NA script.

Could be part of same tablet as ND 2747, below, although there is no physical join.

ND 2747 (BSAI; Plate 9)

Transliteration

Obv. x š[a] x
 x-ka-š/zib/p
 x SIG₄ ÉŠ.GÀR
 UD.MEŠ
 5 'LXX'II LIM IV ME

[Insufficient remains to warrant a translation.]

Notes

Small fragment from right side. Rev. uninscribed. NA script. Epigraphy, size, curvature, and form and colour of clay would all allow this fragment to belong to the same tablet as ND 2469, q.v. above.

ND 2473 (IM 64056; Plate 15)

Transliteration

Obv.
 1 a-na šárri bēlī-ia [urad-ka PN libbu ša šárri lu t̄āb]
 ma-a'-da šar[ru] i-du [... ..]
 ša maš-šur-ila-a-a ša x [... ..]
 te-lit at-ri-šú-nu la-[áš-šu]? [... ..]
 5 me-me-ni-ma ina lib-b[i] [... ..]
 x x x x [... ..]
 Rev.
 1' x x x x [... ..]

Translation

(1) To the king my lord (your servant PN. *May the heart of the king be*) very (*glad*). The king knows ... (3) of Ashur-ilaya of ... (4) the crop return, *there is no* additional amount of theirs ... (5) whoever therein ...

Notes

Top left corner of small tablet, probably half of original tablet left to right, perhaps a third top to bottom. There are traces of one line on rev., which has not been copied, since all signs are damaged and unintelligible; remainder of rev. is uninscribed. NA script is similar to that of ND 2478 (p. 54), but the two fragments do not make a join.

The address in this letter uses MAN instead of LUGAL, the usual logogram in addresses in this archive.

ND 2474 (BSAI; Plate 15)

Transliteration

Obv. a-na šárri bē[lī-ia]

urad-ka ^{m.d}A[K]?-...
lu šulmu^{mu} *a-na* [šarri]
^dnabû *u* ^rd[AMAR.UTU]
5 *a-na* šarri *li*[*k-ru-bu*]
ina *muhhi* *amēl*_x ...
ša šarru *be-lí* ...
... .. *x* ...

Translation

(1-5) To the king my lord your servant PN. May it be well with the king my lord. May Nabu and [Marduk] bless the king. (6-8) Concerning the ...-official about whom the king my lord [sent me a message],

Notes

Top left portion of a tablet which, judging by the curvature and the brevity of restorable lines, must have been less than twice as wide and little more than twice as long as this fragment. Extant part of rev. is uninscribed. Core shows no coiling of clay. NA script.
3) [šarri]. The shortness of the other lines, so far as they can be assuredly restored, and the occurrence of LUGAL by itself in line 5, are against a following *bēlī-ia* here.
5) *li*[*k-ru-bu*]. The traces do not permit a restoration *bēlī-ia*.

ND 2477 (XCVIII; IM 64057; Plate 44)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na* šarri *be-l*[*í-ia*]
urad-ka ^mqur-*di-x*
lu šulmu^{mu} *a-na* šarri
be-lí-ia
5 ^mša-*la-a-a* ^mpu-*ru-a-x-x*
^mba-*bi-e*-SUM.KI
^mú-*a-ru*
nap[*har*] IV *ma-aq-tú-te*
[*ana* *mu*[*hhi* šarri *b*[*e-lí-i*]*a*
10 [*ú-si*]-*bi-la*
Base *x*

Translation

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Qurdi-x. May it be well with the king my lord.
(5-7) Šalaya, Purua-x-x, Babe-SUM.KI, (and) Uaru, (8) a total of four fugitives,
(9-10) I have sent to the king my lord.

Notes

Tablet with slight damage at base. Rev. uninscribed. NA script.
6) ^mba-*bi-e*-SUM.KI. For a possible reading see *Iraq* 36 (1974), 206.

ND 2604 (BSAI; Plate 44)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [ana šarri bēlī]-i[a]
 [urad-ka^{m.dD}]N-bēl-ušur
 [lu šulmu^{mu}] [a^l-na šarri bēlī-ia

 [ina muh]hi ša šarru be-lí
 5 [iš-pur]-a-ni ma-a XX LIM
 x ina muh-hi-ka
 [P]A?-ma-te ta-ma-ta-ha
 x ME LXVI ANŠE
 am-t[a-a]t-ha
 10 x di x x
 x

Rev.

1' x ...
 PA-ma-t[e]
 [a?-ma?]-[t]a-ha

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant DN-bel-usur. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-5) In the matter about which the king my lord sent me a message, saying, '20,000 (6) are your responsibility. (7) You shall transport PAmate', (8-9) I have transported x hundred and sixty six homers of ...

Rev.

(2-3) I shall transport PAmate

Notes

Piece from near top of right side of tablet. Insufficient is left to estimate original length, but it was certainly more than twice the length of this fragment. The longest line on obv. seems to be of about half the original width. The greater part of extant rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

Obv. 7, rev. 2') Traces favour PA-ma-te in both places, but I can suggest no plausible noun.

ND 2605 (BSAI; Plate 54)

Already published by B. Parker, *Iraq* 23 (1961), pl.XIX and 36f.

Transliteration

Face A

1' x
 mku-ti-a x x x x x
 it-ti-di-i[n]-šú-nu

- $\overline{xx\ su\ am\bar{e}l\ \check{s}aknu\ \check{s}a\ [a]l\ b\bar{i}t\ \check{s}a\ te\ e}$
 5' $a\ na\ kas\ pi\ ta\ din\ m\check{k}ud\ da\ a\ a$
 $issu\ \check{a}l\ kan\ nu\ u[h]\ i[p]\ ta\ \check{t}ar\ \check{s}[u]$
 $\overline{m\check{i}\ \check{s}di\ (SUHU\check{S})\ aplu\ (TUR.U\check{S})\ am\bar{e}l\ b\bar{e}l\ p\bar{a}hati\ \check{s}a\ \check{a}l\ mi\ l[i\ d]i}$
 $ummi\ (AMA)\ -\ \check{s}\acute{u}\ a\ na\ kas\ pi\ a\ na\ m\check{k}u[d\ d]a\ -[a]l\ -[a]l$
 $ta\ at\ ti\ di\ i[n]\ -\ \check{s}\acute{u}$
- 10' $\overline{m\bar{b}\bar{e}l\ li\ \check{s}ir\ (GI\check{S})\ m.d\ nergal\ (U.GUR)\ -\ etir\ ir}$
 $\text{II}\ \overline{am\bar{e}l\ urd\ \bar{e}me\check{s}\ \check{s}a\ m.d\ sin\ iddina}$
 Base $[m].d\ enurta\ (MA\check{S})\ -\ b\bar{e}l\ na\ \check{s}ir\ (PAP)\ am\bar{e}l\ rab\ \check{a}l\ \bar{a}ni\ me\check{s}$
 $\check{s}a\ MUNUS\ ekalli$
 $[a\ na]\ [ka]s\ pi\ a\ na\ m\check{k}ud\ d[a]\ -[a]l\ -[a]l$
 $[it]\ -[t]i\ -[d]i\ nu$
- Face B
- 1 $\dots\ x\ [i]?\ am\bar{e}l\ nukarip[pu]\ (NU.GI\check{S}.KI[RI]_6)\ x$
 $[ur]du\ \check{s}a\ m\ \check{s}ar\ i\ \check{s}t[ar]\ (X[V])\ x\ -\ \check{s}\acute{u}$
 $[ur]ad\ m\ \check{s}um\ ma\ a\ \check{s}\ -\ \check{s}ur\ am\bar{e}l\ ra[b\ \bar{a}]\ \bar{a}l\ \bar{a}ni\ me\check{s}$
 $\check{s}a\ MUNUS\ \check{s}[a]?\ \acute{E}\ \check{s}a\ am\bar{e}l\ tar\ tan$
- 5 $m\check{k}ud\ -[d]a\ a\ a\ na\ XII\ M[A.N]A\ K\bar{U}.BABBAR$
 $a\ na\ III!?\ -\ \check{s}\acute{u}\ a\ di\ abi\ -\ \check{s}\acute{u}\ i[l]?\ -\ q[i]?$
 $\overline{[m]x\ ia\ am\bar{e}l\ nukarippu\ (NU.GI\check{S}.KIRI_6)\ issu\ \check{S}[E??].B}AR$
 $m\bar{b}\bar{e}l\ ila\ a\ -[a]l\ am\bar{e}l\ \check{s}akin\ MUNUS\ ekalli$
 $m\check{k}ud\ da\ a\ a\ i\ si\ -[q]i$
- 10 $\overline{m.d\ adad\ x\ x\ x\ i\ x\ qu\ u\ ni}$
 $xxxxxx$

Translation

Face A

- (1') (2') Kutia (3') has delivered them.
 (4'-5a') [PN] the governor of Bit-shate was sold for silver. (5b'-6') Kuddaya has ransomed him from the town of Kannah.
 (7'-9') Ishdi-aplu, the governor of Melid, his mother delivered him for silver to Kuddaya.
 (10'-13') Bel-lishir (and) Nergal-etir, two servants of Sin-iddina (and) Enurta-bel-nasir, Mayor of the Lady of the Palace, (14'-15') were delivered for silver to Kuddaya.

Face B

- (1-2) [PN] the gardener, servant of Shar-ishtar, X-shu, (3) servant of Shumma-Ashur, Mayor of the Lady of the House of the Tartan, (5) Kuddaya has received for twelve minas of silver (6) for his ... together with his father.
 (7) ...-ia the gardener from ... (8) Bel-Aya, the governor of the Lady of the palace (9) Kuddaya has received. (10) Adad-... .. (11)

Notes

This is not a letter and has already been published, but was allocated to me by an oversight. I have republished it to take account of some minor improved readings.

Two joining fragments constitute a tablet with one end missing, but otherwise complete except for some abrasion and small areas of surface loss; some further surface has been lost since I first copied this tablet. Neither face is markedly curved. NA script.

Face A

4') [*ā*]*bīt* *ša-te-e*. The traces of the sign before *bīt* are incomplete, but it seems necessary to supply the determinative URU, since an official would hardly be identified as 'governor of the drinking house'.

Face B

6) III!?-*šú*. Or *ša-a-šú*.

9) *i-si-[q]i*. G^t Assyrian form from *leqû*.

ND 2613 (IM 64076; Plate 18)

Transliteration

Obv. [*a-na šar*]ri *bēlī-ía*
[*ur*]ad-ka^{m.d} x x x

hu-ub-tú *ša* [*ša*]rri *bēlī*
[*l*]u *iq-ṭa-b[i]!*?

5 x ŠE x ME x x
[...]*s i?-zik-x x x*
[... ..] x x x

[Insufficient remains for a translation.]

Notes

Less than the top half of tablet. Obv. is in bad condition, extant part of rev. is uninscribed. NA script. Appears to concern booty or prisoners-of-war (3, *hu-ub-tú*).

ND 2615 (BSAI; Plate 54)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 ZA? A E EN
... .. x DUG₄.GA.A.NI
... x ... x x BI E GA
... x x NI? SA KA^dEN.LÍL
5 x ŠE? KI *a-na bu-ut-tùq lil-li-ka*
... .. x^dGU.LA
... .. x *bal-lit-su*
... .. x BU

Rev.

1' KA ... x
... .. x^dEN.LÍL

... *x iṣʔ-bat-ma*
 ... *x(-)ši-im ú-kal-lam-ka*
 5' ... *x ME ME DIŠ EN.LÍL.KI ID HA? N[I]? x*
 ... *x LA E SUD? AD TI LA NAM ŠA*
 ... *UD II eš-šú il-tak-an*
 ... *x GA EN EN LU? LU*

Notes

Not a letter. Is inscribed parallel to long axis. Script on rev. is smaller and more shallowly impressed than that on obv., and could be by a different hand. Obv. is almost flat, rev. is pillow-shaped (i.e., curved on both axes).

ND 2624 (IM 64080; Plate 55)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [*tuppi PN a-n*] *a šarri be-lí-[ia]*
 [... ..] [*i*] *k-ta-li*
 [... ..] [*b*] *eʔ-lí-ía paq-du*
 [... ..] *x ma-la i-mu-ru*
 5 [... ..] *i-qab-bi*
 [... ..] *šá a-na li-me-ti-ía áš-bu*
 [... ..] *x-hu e-pu-uš*
 [... ..] *ʾa¹-ki-i šá ēnē^{II}*
 [... ..] *x a-na šarri a-qab-bi*
 10 [... ..] [*n*] *i-[i¹] [k]i-[i¹] i-zer-ra-an-ni-ma*
 [... ..] *x na a at-ta*
 [... ..] *x x [M]AH? šá aš-ba-tu*
 [... ..] *x x a lu-uš-bat*
 [... ..] *x x šá ma-la LÚ.MU*
 15 [... ..] *x-ú a-na muh[hi] šarru-ú-tu*
 [... ..] *x šá LUGAL la qātē^{II} [LU]GAL*
 [... ..] *LÚ.AŠGAB KI x*
 [... ..] *x-ía al-tap-r[a]ʔ*
 [... ..] *-ni ZI.MEŠ šá šarri x x x*
 20 [... ..] *iqʔ-t]aʔ-bi um-ma šá a-na šarri*
 [... ..] *x i un DIŠ LIM RU m[i]-[i¹]-ti*
 [... ..] *a-n]a šarri be-lí-ía a-šap-pa-ra[k]ʔ-ma*
 [... ..] *x am-mar*

Rev.

1' [... ..] *x x x x x ...*
 [... ..] *x UGU en-na*
 [... ..] *x BE? k[i]ʔ/d[i]ʔ LUG[AL]ʔ x-ta-bat*
 [... ..] *x šá šarri-ía x-inʔ*
 5' [... ..] *muʔ x x ... [t]uʔ*
 [... ..] *x x a i ... x*

- [... ..] x II ME [X]XX? x x x.MEŠ
 [... ..] x UGU x-šú-nu
 [... ..] x-ta-bat a-du-ú
 10' [... ..] x ga? a-na šēri ul uš-ši
 [... ..] x [a]na an-ni-tu it-ta-ši
 [... ..] x ul ú-maš-šir-an-ni-ma
 [... ..] [a]ri-ri-iš
 [... ..] [ša]rri be-lí-ia i-pu-šú
 15' [... ..] x-ti i-dib-bu-bu
 [... ..] x a-hi-ár lib-bi
 [... ..] x KAL
 [... ..] [šarr]i be-lí-ia
 [... ..] [li]b-bi áš-k[un]?

Partial Translation

Obv.

(1) [Tablet of PN to] the king my lord. (2) he has detained (3) ... [who] is appointed [for the king] my lord. (4-5) ... he will tell [the king my lord] as much as he saw. (6) who dwell on my border (7) he did (8-9) I will tell the king my lord according to what (my) eyes (9) [have seen]. (10) if he hates me (11) you (12) which/whom I seized (13) let me seize (14) (15) concerning kingship (16) of the king, not the hands of the king (17) (18) I have sent a message (19) the life of the king ... (20) ... he said thus: 'He who [tells lies] to the king ... (is) dead.' (22) ... I will send a message to the king my lord (23) I shall see/as much as

Rev.

[Nothing significant remains until line 10'] (10') he will not go out to the plain (11') for this he has brought (12') he did not release me (13') (14') ... [which] he did [for] the king my lord (15') they discuss (16') I will get ready the midst (17') (18') ... [to] the king my lord (19') I set in the midst

Notes

Substantial fragment, but less than half, from the right of a tablet. The base is partly extant. Obv. is more convex than rev. NB script. Physical similarity suggests that this might be from the same tablet as ND 2358, although the curvature and maximum thickness of the two fragments require that if they are directly related, a fragment is missing between them. The only assistance the very fragmentary extant text of ND 2358 may offer in restoration is the possibility that its line A 5' may be completed by ND 2624, obv. 5. [Note the slight possibility that ND 2358 may also belong with ND 2368 (pp. 70-1).]

Obv.

4-5) Translation is in part tentatively restored from ND 2358 (p. 70), obv. 5'.

14) *ma-la*. Either 'as much as' or 'once'.

14) LÚ.MU. = *amēl*nuhatimmu, 'cook'.

17) LÚ.AŠGAB. = *amēl*aškāpu, 'leatherworker'.

19) ZI.MEŠ. Assumed to represent *napšātī*^{meš}.

Rev.

16') *a-hi-ár*. 1 sg. Pres. of *hâru* B, CAD, 𐎶, 120a.

ND 2627 (BSAI; Plate 57)

Transliteration

Obv.

1' x x
 ANŠE.KUR.R[A].ME[Š] [x] x [U]RU? *x-su-nu*
lil-lik-ú-n[i] [ANŠ]E.KUR.RA.MEŠ TI-ú
 É[Š].GÀR *ša šá-dag-diš* [D]IN-x-DU GAR-nu-ni
 5' I GUN KÙ.BABBAR AŠ x x *ina libbi* XXX
 ANŠE.KUR.RA.ME[Š] DIŠ.DINGIR.[DN]-x-DU[MU] *a-te-x*
a-te-din XX M[A].N[A] [x] *a?* LAL.DI
 XX MA.NA *a-na* DIŠ.[H]I?-[x]-[A]1.ZU *nadin*ⁱⁿ
 XI *na-ša* IX LAL.[E]1 [x] *x na a-[n]a*
 10' DIŠ.SU.PAP.MEŠ x [x] I[X]? *na-š[a]*
 XIII LAL.E x *x-si*
a-[t]e-din x x x
 L[Ú].ERI[N].MEŠ GIŠ? x
 š[a s]u-x x
 15' *am-mu-t[e]* x x
 ÉŠ.GÀR *ša* GIŠ.[KI]RI₆ x
 IV [G]UN KÙ.BABBAR x
 Base x DIŠ XX x KAN? x ///
 [l]i?-[s[a]-n[u] [a]1-ki x ...

Rev.

1 I[V]? GUN KÙ.BABBAR x nu
 [m]k[u-n]a-a-a m[x]-bi-Z[A](-)x
ahhē^{meš}-šú PAP [V]I GUN KÙ.BABBAR
 š[a] [a]1-šap-p[i] *ina libbi* II ME *sis*[ē^{meš}]
 5 [G]U e k[u]?/[l[u]?/š[u]?(-)BE-su-nu u a-a
issu lib[bi] LÚ.GIŠ.TUKUL.MEŠ LÚ.ma-a-a-s[u]
ú-kal-lu-ni SUM-šú-nu š[a] x
a-n[a] ka-a-ri e-lu-[u]1?-[ni]? [l]u
eqlē^{meš} *iškīrātī*^{meš} [ú]1-[x] [ú]1-sa?-a[s]-lil?
 10 lu *amē*[l]tamkārē^{meš} x x IGI ŠU^{II}?
t[u]?-t[a]-ab a-kan-ni [x] ka III ME *sisē*^{me}
 š[a] [ša]rru *be-lí* [iq]-bu-ni lu *ša-tir*
 ... x x ... x MEŠ *šum-ma issu*
libbi ālka-x-[x]?-a-a šum-ma issu
 15 *libbi ālú-x-x-a-a šarru be-lí*
 [l]i-di-na ... [l]i?-me?-x x
 x x *si*
 x LUGAL

... .. x MEŠ
20 x

Translation

Obv.

(2'-3') Let the horses comes (with) their ... (3') The horses are in good condition.

(4'-7a') I have *received* (and) delivered the ishkaru-tax of last year ... which was deposited (to the value of) 1 talent of silver, ... within which (total) were thirty horses of DN-x-apla. (7b'-8') Twenty minas of [*silver*] are owing (and) twenty minas have been delivered to ...-x-asu. (9'-10a') Eleven (minas) were brought (and) nine are owing ... to Eriba-ahhe. (10b'-11') ... *nine* (minas) were brought (and) thirteen are owing to [PN]. ... (12') I have delivered ... (13') The troops ... (14'-15') [nothing significant is intelligible] (16') the ishkaru-tax of the garden(s) (17') four talents of silver ...

Rev.

(1) *four* talents of silver ... (2) Kunnaya, ...-biZA-... (3-4) his brothers. Total; seven talents of silver of the horse column, within (which total are) 200 horses. (5) [unintelligible] (6-7a) they held back from amongst the armed men (and) the grooms. (7b-8) Their delivery of ... came up to the quay. (9) I have *left* the fields, the garden (and) the ... *undisturbed*. (10-11a) As to the merchants, you shall put (things) right (for them). (11b-12) Now as to the 300 horses about which the king spoke, let a written record be made, (13-16a) (as to) ... whether the king my lord would wish to give (them) from (14) the citizens of the town Ka-... or from the citizens of the town U-... (16b-20) [fragmentary]

Notes

Five fragments rejoined, terra cotta in colour. Core at broken end clearly shows that this tablet was formed by coiling the clay. Top and most of lower right quarter of obv. missing. Some abrasion. Surface loss around joins. NA script.

My copy of obv. correctly presents the lines of script as rising from left to right.

Obv.

3') TI-ú. Reading clear; *ina pani!-ú* is not a possible reading unless there was a scribal error. Cannot be an adj., which in the context would require *-utu* ending. Could represent St. *balṭuú*, 'are in good condition'.

4') É[Š].GÀR. On *iškaru* see Postgate, TCAE, 94-110, especially 102-3 in relation to horses.

6') *a-te-x*. The traces of the final sign suggest *din*, but it is unlikely that *a-te-din* was written twice in sequence.

7', 9', 11') LAL.DI, LAL.E. Taken as representing forms from *maṭû* 'to be deficient'; DI may be the phonetic complement *ṭi*.

9', 10') *na-ša*. For other occurrences in NA see ABL 173, obv. 7; 198, rev. 19; 396, obv. 10; 532, obv. 7; 760, obv. 7; 1035, rev. 11.

Rev.

2) ^m[x]-bi-Z[A](-)x. The final sign is not *nu*, but apparently SAL or some sign beginning with the SAL group.

- 3) [V]I. Rejoining across a break has put the beginning and end of the sign out of alignment.
 6) LÚ *ma-a-a-s[u]*. *ma-a-a-su* is NA spelling of *majāltu*, CAD, M/1, 116b-117b, 3 in sense 'stable'.
 10) IGI ŠU^{II}?. Cannot be read IGI-*ia*!
 11) *t[u]?*-*t[a]-ab*. The only other likely reading of the first sign, *ma*, would give a non-form.
 15) *ālú-x-x-a-a*. Restoration as *ālú-ka-a-a* (cf. ND 2487, obv. 6, *mātú-ka-a-a*) would require the lost *ka* to have been excessively long.

ND 2639 (BSAI; Plate 54)

Transliteration

- Obv. [a-na šarri bēlīya]
 [urad-ka^{mPN}]
 lu šul[mu]^{m[u]} [a-na šarri bēlīya]
 [ša] ša[r^rru bē]lī i[š]-pu[r]-[an-ni]
 5 m[a]?-[a]? [x] [x]? E[N]? x x [x]? [x]-ni
 ma-a x i[l]?-l[i]?-k[u]?-ni
 GAR.M[EŠ] x x [x] [x]? x x x(-)[l]i?-qu??
 pa-an ša[r^rru]? bē[lī]?-[i]a? [x]? x [i]q?-bi-u
 a-na x [x] [x]? x x x x?
 10 a-na x x x x-[x]?-[š]ú-nu
 [ú]l??-[š]a??-a x x x x x ŠE.NUMUN
 a-na I ME L ZI AŠ [Š]À?.[M]E? ŠE.NUMUN-šú
 ŠE tab-ku-šú-nu ŠE.NUMUN.MEŠ-šú-nu
 14 ú-sa-li-me a-[t]i-din
 Rev. [l]u??-[ú]l?? ŠE.PAD.MEŠ a-ti-din
 16 [x x] [x]? [Š]E? [t]ab?-[k]u?-ti-šú
 [in]a? mu[hhi]? x-x-x-ni-šú-nu
 [DI]Š x [ú]l?/[i]l?-sa-na-[h]i-[r]u
 [a]l-n[a]? ... x x x ki-šir-šú-nu
 20 x x ... x a-na
 [x] x ... x RI liš-a-al
 22-25 [Unidentifiable traces only]

Translation

- (1-3) To the king my lord your servant PN. May it be well with the king my lord.
 (4-6) About the matter on which the king my lord sent me instructions, saying, '...
 ... they came. (7) bread take (8) before the king my lord ... they said (9)
 to (10) to their ... (11) they will go forth seed corn (12) for 150
 ... therein 100 (units) of his seed corn. (13-14) I have delivered in full their corn store
 (that is,) their seed corn.
 (15) ... I have given rations (16) his stored corn (17) upon their (18)
 ... they keep going round (19) to their troops (20) to (21)
 let him ask. (22-25) [nothing intelligible]

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*
urad-ka^maš-šur-māt-ka-GUR
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri
bēlī-ia

5 *ina muhhi amēlšābē^{meš}*
mātār-ma-a-a
ša šarru be-lí
iš-pur-an-ni
ma-a šá-aš-bi-su-nu

10 *ma a-na harrāni*

Base *il-lu-ku*
e-ši-di-su-nu

Rev. *šubat^{sa-a-gu}*
mašakhi-in-tú

15 *mašakšēni(E.SIR)*
šamnū^{meš} a-da-na-šú-nu
emārē^{meš}-ia
la-áš-šú

issu ma-ši-en

20 *emārē^{meš}-ia*
i-ba-šú-u-ni
gišqir-si-ia-ma
a-na harrāni

Top *la-am-tu-u[h]*

Translation

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-matka-GUR. May it be well with the king my lord.

(5-8) Concerning the Aramaean people about whom the king my lord sent a message, (9-11) saying: 'Get them ready!, they are going on a journey', (12-16) I am giving them their travel provisions, cloth, waterskins, sandals and oil. (17-18) I have no asses (at present). (19-21) As soon as my asses are there, I will put my *wagons* on the road.

Notes

Complete tablet in almost perfect condition. Large clear NA script.

This letter concerns preparations for deportation of Aramaeans.

2) *maš-šur-māt-ka-GUR*. GUR presumably represents a form from *tāru*, either *tīr* or *utāra* (so Fales, CLNA, p. 37).

9) *šá-aš-bi-su-nu*. On the sense see Deller, op.cit.

12) *e-ši-di-su-nu*. Apparently represents **ešidit-šunu* (< *ešēdu* 'to harvest'), but the required sense is from *šidītu* 'travel provisions'; on the form see *Iraq* 18 (1956), 42.

13) *šubat^{sa-a-gu}*. See Fales, CLNA, p. 68.

14) *mašakhi-in-tú*. See CAD, H, 192b-193a, *himtu* (*hindu, hintu*) 'a leather bag, waterskin'.

- 15) *mašakšēni*. Fales, CLNA, p. 68, questions this reading for *kušE.SIR* in NA.
 19) *issu ma-ši-en*. See AHW, 620a, *maši* 1, and CAD, M/1, 331b-332a, *maši* b 2'.
 22) *gišqir-si-ia-ma*. So CAD, Q, 269b-270a, from *qirsu* B, probably 'a vehicle drawn by draft animals'. But perhaps a variant (*kirsû?* or *kirsu?*), under West Semitic influence, of *kussû* (A. Salonen, *Landfahrzeuge*, 77, 'Tragsessel, Reisesessel').

ND 2647 (XVII; BSAI; Plate 50)

Re-edited in CLNA, I, pp. 90-91, 127-128, II.1. See also K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 81.

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēli-ia*
urad-ka m.dnabû-iš-qur-ni
lu-u šulmu^{mu}
a-na šarri be-///-li-ia-ma
 5 *ina muhhi a-ša-pi*
ša mā^tsu-ha-a-a
ša šarru be-li
iš-pur-a-ni
a-ta-šar
 10 VI *išnarkabāti^{meš}*
 Base I *išú-tar-tú*
XI ú-rat
ša sisē^{meš}
III ú-rat
 15 *ša ku-dini*
I ME XX imērē^{meš}
LX ibilē^{meš}
amēlšābē^{meš} la am-nu
ina pu-tu-u-a
 20 *amēlšābē^{meš}*
IV ME i-ba-ši
e-te-bir
 Top *ug-da-ta-mir*

Translation

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-ishqurni. May it be well with the king my lord.

(5-9) Concerning the pack-animals of the Suhaeans about which the king my lord sent me a message, I have made a muster. (10-17) (There are) six chariots, one wagon, eleven teams of horses, three teams of mules, one hundred and twenty donkeys, (and) sixty camels. (18-20) I have not numbered the soldiers. In my presence (are) four hundred soldiers. They have completed crossing (the river).

Notes

Complete tablet in good condition, with only minor abrasion at each end. Both faces are almost flat, obv. minimally less so. The tablet has square corners, and both ends are so flat that the tablet will stand vertically on them. NA script.

2) ^{m.d}nabû-iš-qur-ni. -iš-qur is written across base and -ni extends on to rev. CLNA, I, p. 90 reads ^{m.d}PA-da!-in?!<a/an-ni?>.

4) be-///-li-ia-ma. The scribe first wrote EN, some wedges of which remain clearly visible, as shown in the copy, and then over-wrote it with BE.

6) ^{māt}su-ha-a-a. Tribesmen on the middle Euphrates, but this term does not by itself link this letter to Babylonia, or require it to be placed in chapter 2 with letters related to Babylonia.

11) ^{iš}ú-tar-tú. See CLNA, I, p. 128.

12, 14) ú-rat. Deller, Or.36 (1967), 81 reads ú-rata.

21) i-ba-ši. Correctly restored by CLNA, I, p. 90.

23) ug-da-ta-mir. For the form see GAG §93e and AHw, 278a.

ND 2654 (BSAI; Plate 53; Photo Plate II)

Transliteration

Face A (Obv.?)

1' x x x
 šu UGU
 [x?-t]i-šú la bi-[n]i-ti
 ... PAP-u a-ti-d[in]
 5' ... [a]-[n]a kaspi
 ... x ŠE.PAD.MEŠ
 ... x UN.ME[Š]
 ... ME U[DU]?-x-[M]EŠ
 x x-[M]EŠ
 10' x x x -MEŠ

Face B (Rev.?)

1' x
 x sal^{ri}-š[a]?/h[a]?-x
 [mā]rat([DU]MU.MUNUS) ^mišdī(SUHUŠ.I)
 IV narāti(MUNUS.NAR)meš
 5' X URUDU ME LI KAM URUD[U]
 [x]? [D]U? URUDU ME x x x x
 x-ia-ú gab-b[u]
 [p]a-an ^{m.d}marduk-našir(ŠEŠ)ⁱ[r]
 [x] x UGU ZI x x
 10' [x] x a-[t]a-na-šú
 x x x x x

Partial Translation

Face A

(3') unseemly (4') I gave (5') ... for silver (6') ... corn rations (7') ... people (8') ... hundred *sheep*

Face B

(2') ... the lady Riš/ha... (3') daughter of Ishdi, (4') four lady musicians (5'-7') [unclear; concerns copper] (8'-10') I shall deliver it in the presence of Marduk-nasir ...
... ..

Notes

Tablet with top and base and surface of left side missing. One damaged end and the left side clearly show a layer of surface clay over a core. Face A is flat, Face B slightly curved left to right. NA script.

Face A

3') *la bi-[n]i-ti*. Perhaps a variant of *la banītu*, 'unseemly', CAD, B, 80b.

Face B

5') KAM. Could be ÚTUL = *diqāru*, with reference to a copper bowl or bowls.

ND 2658 (BSAI; Plate 55)

Transliteration

Obv.1' *x x ... x x [t]a-[d]a-[n]i*
amēlqi-pa-n[i] ša šenu-<sa>-hi i-su-h[u]-[n]i
bal-tu [š]arru bēli liš'-al
amēl_rab nuhatimmu [i]-sa-pa-ra
5' *a-na muhhi UR[U]? x [x]? ni x [x]?*
ma-a amēlqi-p[a-ni] [x]? x ...
uk-ta-x
Base *āl[i]-... ..*
9' *ša qa-ni*
Rev. *[l]i-šad/t-x*
11' *[is]si É.NAM x*
ta-bi-tú-ni šenu-[sa-hi]
ú-ma-a DIŠ.KA.K[A]?-... ..
i-tal-ka amēlqi-p[i] ...
15' *issi libbi L amēlqi-p[a-ni]? ...*
... x x
Side*
naphar III ālāni^{meš}
amēle-[mu-qi]?

Translation

(1') to deliver. (2') The Qipu-officials who exacted the barley tax (3') are safe and sound. Let the king my lord make enquiry. (4') The Chief Baker has sent a message (5') concerning the town ..., (6'-7') He says: 'The Qipu-officials have (8') the town Li-... (9') of the region (10') Let them cause to ...

... ... (11') from the house of (12') seize the barley tax. Now PN has come back. (14') The Qipu-official ... (15') from among the Qipu-officials (16') (17') altogether three towns (18') the forces

Notes

Two pieces rejoined to form most of the lower part of a tablet, which lacks the right halves of the last two lines of obv., the right half of a line on base, and the surface of the right third of rev. NA script. The broken end reveals that the tablet was formed with about 3.5 mm of surface clay over a core.

3') *bal-tu*. Taken as St. pl.

13') *DİŠ.KA.K[A]?*-... Apparently a personal name, possibly beginning *Amat-ka*, although no such NA name appears to be attested.

ND 2665 (XXVII; IM 64103; Plate 25)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri [bēliya]*
urad-ka [PN]
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-n[a šar]ri [bē]lī-ía
dan-niš a-da[n]-niš
5 *ka-ni-ku ša šarri bēlī-í[a]*
ina muh[hi-i]a ta-tal-ka
ma-a ⁱškir-si
ša ⁱdu-un x hi x x
NI-tu mu-sa-ša-bi-ra
10 *íi^l?-si-e ka-mu-tú?(-)x?*

ma-a ⁱšna-ši-[h]a??
x(-)ta-ma-ta
ki-i ša šarru be-lí
iq-bu-ú-ni-[n]i [m]a am-m[ar]??
15 ... *MEŠ ^mgi-lu-í^l-ni*
ía^l-[n]a zitti(HA.LA)-k[u-n]u
uk-tab-bir a-x-x
amēl^šābē^{me}[š]
19 *x x x*
Rev.
21 *[ru]?-ku-u[b]*
... .. *-qu-n[i]*

Partial Translation

[The only lines which are beyond doubt are 1-6, 13-14, and part of 15-17. For remainder see notes.] (1-7) To the king my lord your servant [PN]. May it be very very well with the king my lord. The sealed document of the king my lord has come to me, ... (13-14) As the king my lord ordered me, saying: 'As much (15-17) ... as Giluni has made heavy for your share I have ...'

Notes

Largely complete tablet, with major cracks, patches of surface loss and abrasion. In some cases there is doubt as to whether or not marks in damage at the end of the line are vestigial remains of a sign. Rev. is inscribed with only three lines of text, the first of which is wholly lost. NA script.

7) *iskir-si*. See *Iraq* 18 (1956), 44 and above, ND 2643 (p. 283), note 22.

8) *isdu-un x hi x x*. The traces after *un* seem to represent *[m]a*. They cannot be read as *na*, *nu* or *ni*. The traces after *hi* suggest *i*, although *a[t]* cannot be excluded: *š[i]* is unlikely. The final traces might be *[p]i*. A tentative reading of the whole is *isdu-un-[m]a hi-i-[p]i*, ‘the *dun* indeed is broken’. For *isdunnu* see A. Salonen, *Landfahrzeuge*, 35, n.3, and W. von Soden, *ZA* 43, 241, line 190, where the term is linked to *ma-a-a-al-tú* ‘bed’. See also *Iraq* 18 (1956), 44.

9) *NI-tu mu-sa-ša-bi-ra*. The first word could be *šal-tu*. The remainder of the line could be Ptcp. Š^t of one of the two verbs *šabāru*, for *mušašbira* with additional *-a-*.

10) *l¹?-si-e*. The first sign might alternatively be taken as *[k]an*.

15) *mgi-lu-l¹-ni*. For the name see *Iraq* 18 (1956), p. 44.

15, 16, 17) A fragment, bearing the major part of *lu* on line 15, the beginning of *ku* on line 16, and *a* plus traces on both sides on line 17, has disappeared since the original copy was made.

17) *a-x-x*. Perhaps *a-t[al]-[k]a*, but in the context one expects some such sense as ‘I have authorised’ or ‘I have approved’.

19) *x x x*. The first sign is not *pa*; it could be *[l]a*. AN is a dubious reading of the second sign.

ND 2675 (IM 64112; Plate 56)

Tentative Transliteration

Face A

- 1' x
 x x ...
 ... x LUGAL EN i[š-k]u-na-n[i]
 ... x x x ma ah-ha-za
- 5' [x]-a bu-ú-e x la si
 [k]a?-ra-du HI MAH? Š[U] x [r]u
 x x e [m]a?(-)ak-su ŠE gab-bu
 ŠE.LÍL.MEŠ i x x? ŠA x UD
 a-na-ku x x x ... ma
- 10' I ANŠE ŠE.GIŠ.NI a-na lid-x x x ra x
 DIŠ ŠAB? x x : ālbi[r-t]e x ... x r[i]? x
 [x z]i? x ri x IR? ZA-a-a x x x r[a]?
 x ... a x ú a-na TAB? IM?.ME[Š]?
 V[I] x SIG₄ x : V[I] x x ma-a-t[e]
- 15' X SIG₄ x šá i x ... te
 X SIG₄ ša pa-an x a x x x x
 XX A A MAŠ Ú x AŠ BI x x [š]i-qa
 i-si-tu : qa-ri-ib ... MAŠ? x

VI MAŠ Ú TA [N]A AN x ... NE? a-na
 20' *issu muhhi x x x x RI SUM NU x*
a-x-ga-šú a ... x ma-a x
 22'-26' [very fragmentary]
 Face B
 1'-5' [very fragmentary]
 6' XXII a x Ú x x x x x na
 X x x x x x x x ME[Š] x x
 XX x x x x x x x
 x x x T[E]?/D[I]? šú? x x bi šá ru x
 10' šá KUR x x r[a]? x x ú-še-bi-l[u]!?
 TA É x x x a-n[a]? : an-na-a-te
maš-r[i]? x x x : LÚ x x x x
 ŠÀ x-šú-nu x ŠÀ x-š[ú]-nu L[Ú]? x x [A]
a-x x x-šú-nu x x x x x x
 15' KUR.mu-x-[a]-[a] : ina muhhi x x x
e-pu-x x x ŠAB x x-[ú]-ma
ma-a-ri x x EN x m.d x-x
x x x ú x : [LU]GAL EN [t]e-e-mu
liš?-ku[n]? x x x x x x a x
 20' MU.AN.N[A] x liš-x x SUM x x
x x x x x MEŠ x ...
x x x x x KUR.m[u]-x ...
x ... x x x ...
 Side
 1 ... URU.x x x DIŠ ŠAB IGI PAD x x x lu-na ...
 ... LUGAL EN liš-a-la : x x [ú] x x ri ...
 ... na issu ālibbi-āli : x x x [ā]l[a[r]-b[a-ili
] ... x ha te ti x x šá ... x x ...

Notes

Major part of a tablet, cracked, scored and badly abraded. Top and bottom are both damaged, but total loss lengthwise is probably less than 10 mm. In addition to text on obv. and rev., tablet bears four lines on left side. LUGAL EN occurs in line 3' (perhaps actual 3 or 4) of Face A, but as it is not in a context proving it to be part of the address, this does not prove that Face A is obv. NA script.

Substantial parts of the surface are lost. In addition, a note made when the tablet was first copied in 1954 recorded that it much needed laboratory cleaning, and although this had to some extent been undertaken when it was collated in 1979, still only a minority of signs were certainly identifiable. A new collation after additional cleaning might further improve readings. The transliteration is very tentative and no translation is offered.

ND 2682 (IM 64115; Plate 52)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [tup]pi^maš-šur-GIŠ-ka-dan-in
 a-na^{m,d}nabû-na-mir ah[i-i]a
 l[u]-u šulmu^m[u] ʾa^l-[n]a ahi-[i]a [a-d]an-niš
 šu-ut x x tu-ú x : a-ki-i
- 5 qin-ni š[a ... š]a amē^l[l]tar-ta-ni
 ša pa-a[n] ʾm^l[d]aiān(DI.KUD)-^dadad ina āl^lbir-ti
 i-qi-b[a]-ʾu^l-ni : ma-a šu[m]-ma
 ina pa-ni-ka : la nu-te-ra-šú
 ina āl^lsa-p[u]-u-a i-qi-ba-an-ni
- 10 ú-ma-a [š]u-ú : bīt-su
 ša^mdaiān(DI.KUD)-^dadad ša ina pa-[n]i-ia
 ālāni^{meš}.ni ša šarri am-[m]ar
 šá šá-nu-u-ni l[i]-x-x(-)x
 sisē^{meš} ša
- 15 ši-e-[ni]
- Base i-šam : ANŠE.K[UR?.RA?.MEŠ?]
 am-mar
 ... x

Rev. and End

- 1' x
 ša x x
 šum-ma x
 šum-ma x x
- 5' la ú-da šú-nu : x x ...
 šum-ma i-ta-ár-ša-ka
 ina pa-an šarri : qi-bi
 šum-ma ina ūmē^{me} XXV ša arah^ta[šrīti]?(D[UL]?)
 šum-ma ina ūmē^{me} ūm I KAM ša arah^tebēti(AB)
- 10' lu-u-ri-da a-ki-i
 ša i-ta-ra-šu-ú-ni
 ina pa-an ah[i]-ia a-mur šup-ra
 šu-tú ahu-u-a-a : l[u]? x ... x.[ME]Š
 amē^lpa-hu-tu a[n]-n[i]? ...
- 15' x a x : issu^mdaiān(DI.KUD)-^dadad [...]?
 ma-a bīt DIŠ.x-x-x ...
- Top š[a] ^mdaiān(DI.KUD)-^dadad a-ki-i š[a]
 [x] e-pa-šú-u-ni : li-pu-u[š]
 x x a : e-da-n[a]
- Side* šup-ra : bi-r[a]-ti : ša ú-ra-da-a-ni

Translation

Obv. and Base

(1-3) Tablet of Ashur-nirka-danin to Nabu-namir his brother. May it be very well with my brother.

(4-5) *As to the family of ...* of the Turtan (6) who in the presence of Dayan-Adad in the fortress (7-8) said: (7-8) 'We shall certainly return him into your presence', (9-11) in Sapua he told me: 'Now he is of the household of Dayan-Adad who is in my presence.' (12-13) The cities of the king, as many as they are, let him ... (14) horses of ... (15) sheep of ... (16) he shall sell.

Rev. and Top

(3'-4') Whether ... or ... (5') I do not know them. ... (6'-7') If things have gone well for you, say so in the presence of the king. (8'-10a') I shall come down, either in the days (from) the 25th of the month *Ta[shrit]* or in the days (from) the first of Tebet. (10b'-12') According to how (things) work out, visit my brother (and) send a message. (13') He is my brother; *let me* ... (14') provincial governor ... (15') ... from Dayan-Adad ... (16') [sense unclear] (17'-18') About Dayan-Adad, let him act just as he acts. (18') I shall give ...

Side

Send a message (about any) fortresses which they abandon.

Notes

When first copied the tablet lacked the right bottom corner and a fragment from the right top of rev.; it has subsequently lost further fragments, including the whole of the right top corner. There is a large split down the middle of obv. NA script.

Obv.

1) *maš-šur-GIŠ-ka-dan-in*. Eponym for 720 BC; see RLA, 2, 424-5.

4 et al.) *mdaiān*(DI.KUD)-*dadad*. The name recurs from the next century in SAA, 10 (= ABL 43), 18.

8) *i-qi-b[a]-[u]l-ni*. The *u*, although damaged, is certain. The form is uncontracted Pret. Subj. 3 sg. m. of *qabû*.

9) *ālsa-p[u]-u-a*. The phantom further [a] suggested in the copy between *u* and *a* must be adventitious, due to damage. If this place name could be shown to be a variant writing for the city Sapia, this letter would need to be transferred to chapter 2, with letters related to Babylonia.

10) *bīt-su*. < **bīt-šu*, pronounced *bissu*.

Rev.

8') *arah[ta]š[riti]?(D[UL]?)*. Uncertain reading, supported only by the apparent initial large oblique, which seems to exclude GAN = *kislīmi*.

18') *li-pu-u[š]*. The final two signs have been lost since the tablet was copied.

Side

1) *ú-ra-da-a-ni*. For the sense proposed see CAD, A/2, 217a-b, *arādu* 1, 2' e.

ND 2683 (LXIV; BSAI; Plate 57)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-na šar]ri bēlī-ia

[urad-k]a^{m.d}enurta-bēl-ušur
[lu] šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ia

issu muhhi^{m.d}enurta-apla-iddina

- 5 ša be-li iš-pur-a-ni
ma-a [AN]ŠE.KUR.RA.MEŠ GUD.NITÁ.MEŠ
UDU.HI.A.MEŠ ša issu mā^tta-ba-li
na-ša-ni ma-a ki-ma āla ina pāni-ka
ip-qid-di ma-a a-ta-a la taš-pur
- 10 II-šú ma-ši ina muhhi bēlī-ia
a-sa-pa-ra XLVI ANŠE.KUR.RA.MEŠ
I ME LXV GUD.MEŠ IV LIM VI ME XXXV
UDU.HI.†A†.ME[Š] i[na] p[a-n]i-ia
XXXIII ANŠE.KUR.RA.ME[Š] DI[Š].M[E] XX[X]†V†
- 15 GUD.NITÁ.MEŠ ina pān^maš-šur-našir^{[i]r}
a-na šá-a-šú ṭe-e-mu
a-sa-kan-šú ka-ni-ku a-ša-bat^{at}
a-lík!?-šú ina muhhi bēlī-†i†-ia
i-ta-ta-ka XVI GIŠ.Û[R].MEŠ
- 20 ša issu pān^mbēl-ib-ni
Rev. i-li-ku-ni-ni^ma-a-[n]i-r[i]
im-ta-at-ha ina muhhi-ia
ik-ta-ra-a[r] a-na-ku
am-ta-ha-ár! it-ti-ma-li
- 25 ina šalšē ūmē^{me} ma-tar-x x x x
ina muhhi šap-x ... x ...
i-kar-ra-ru-ni x x x
ina lib-bi i[k]?-[r]a?-ra-ni
x x x x x x x
- 30 ma-a l[i]?-h[a]-[r]a?-ni ina [b]a-te
an-ni-te še-bi-[r]a-ni
šarru bēlī lu †ú†-[d]a
la il-ki-ni šu-ú
a-na ma-a-ti š[a bē]lī-ia
- 35 šulmu^{mu} a-dan-niš a-ni-nu
dul-li-ni ni-pa-áš
lib-bi šarri bēlī-ia †a†-[d]an-niš
lu ṭāb

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Enurta-bel-usur. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-9) Concerning Enurta-apla-iddin, about whom my lord sent a message saying '(About) the horses, cattle (and) sheep which were brought from the land of Tabal, when he put a town at your disposal, why did you not send a message?', (10-11) as much as twice I have sent a message to my lord. (11-19a) 46 horses, 165 cattle, 4,635 sheep are in my charge. 43 horses, 135 cattle are in the charge of Ashur-nasir. I have set

down instructions for him; I made use of a sealed tablet. He has hastened (to perform) his service for my lord.

(19b-24) Aya-niri transported (and) put in place for me 16 beams which came from Bel-ibni. I myself took delivery. (24-26) Yesterday (and) the day before Atar-... for the (27) [which?] they are putting in place ... (28) they have placed (them) inside. (29) [They sent a message] (30-31) saying: 'Let them deliver. Bring (it/them) across into this region.' (32-33) The king my lord knows it is not our feudal duty. (34-38) It is very well with the land of my lord. We ourselves are rendering our service. Let the heart of the king my lord be very glad.

Notes

Two fragments rejoined to form a tablet complete except for the loss of the top left corner. The text is mainly well preserved except in the vicinity of breaks, but in some areas abrasion and shallowly impressed wedges leave a few signs doubtful. Final 10 mm of rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

9) *mā^tta-ba-li*. The context does not suggest either that this letter originated in Tabal, or that it was primarily concerned with events there.

10) *ma-ši*. Lit. 'enough'.

17) *a-ša-bar^{at}*. G^t form.

18) *a-KID-šú*. The middle sign is clearly KID. The translation assumes that this writing was a scribal error for *a-lik-šú*, from *alku* for *ilku*, as elsewhere in NA.

19) *i-ta-ta-ka*. From *etāku*, AHw, 260a.

21) *i-li-ku-ni-ni*. 3 pl. Pret. Vent. Subj.

24, 25) *it-ti-ma-li ina šalšē ūmē^{me}*. See GAG §72b.

26) *šap-x*. A possible restoration is *šap-ti*.

30) *l[i]?-h[a]-[r]a?-ni*. Badly damaged. If the reading is correct, it is taken as an Assyrian form for *lih^hurūni* (< *lim^hurūni*).

30-31) *[b]a-te*. In the final sign the first four wedges are on the rev. proper, where, relative to the rest of the text on rev., they appear as horizontals, giving *la*. But the vertical is just over the edge and crooked, and relative to this the first four wedges are the small obliques of *te*. Thanks are due to J.N. Postgate for recognition of the reading *ba-te* rather than *ba-la*.

32-33) Postgate, TCAE, 66, reasonably suggests that the writer is protesting that the task of transporting beams which have been delivered to him does not fall within his duties.

37) *lib-bi*. The second sign is certainly *bi*, not *bu*.

ND 2685 (CI; IM 64117; Plate 57)

Transliteration

Obv. [ana šarri bēliya]

[urad-ka PN]

[l]u-[u šulmu^{mu}]

a-na š[arri be-[l]i-i[a]

5 ... x da-i-qu x ...

l^al-[n]a bī[t]-a-ni tal-l[a-ka]

an-[n]i-ú a-di ni-ir-[ra-bu-ni]
amēlšābēmeš ma-a-da : ...
 10 *an-ni-ú ša ni-kar-[ra-ru-ni]?*
amēlšābēmeš ma-a-da : x ...
ʾiḷ-si-niš li[q]-qu-ru x ...
[lu-nap]??-p[ī]?-lu bī[t] ka-ra-[ni]
... .. ʾiḷ-sa-ru-hu
 Base *... .. ni-ik-ru-r[u-[ni]*
 15 *... .. [a?-da]n?-niš*
 Rev. *... .. -šú*
... .. ʾúḷ-[r]u?-[d]u-ni
... x xmeš.e-ni
ša[rru lu]-ú-da ...
 20 *ina ālb[i-r]a-t[e] x x ...*
ša ālb[i]-r[a-te]
amēlšābēmeš š[a]
šarru bēlī
x
 [Several lines lost]
 Side
 n + 25 [šarru lu]-ʾúḷ-da : di-ib-bi an-nu-te

Translation

(1-4) [To the king my lord your servant PN.] May [it be well with] the king my lord.
 (5) ... are favourable ... (6) You shall come to the inner quarter of the palace. (7)
 (*In both*) this one, until we enter, (8) soldiers are numerous ... (9) (*and also in*) this
 (other) one, which we *are setting in order*, (10a) soldiers are numerous. (10b-12a)
 Together let them demolish (and) dismantle ... (12b-13) They are *destroying* the
customhouses. (14) (when) we set in order, (15) *very much* (16)
 (17) (*when*) *they come down* (18) (19) May the king know
 (20) in the fortresses (21) of the fortresses (22) the soldiers of ...
 ... (23) the king my lord (24)

Side

(n+25) May the king know these matters.

Notes

When copied in 1954 this tablet was as represented in the copy. Although it was already
 crumbling, with damage at top, left bottom and along all the right side except at the base,
 the extant script was on the whole clear. When collated in 1970, the tablet was
 disintegrating, and represented by two fragments and crumbs in the box; everything
 above the line AA' and to the left of lines BB' and CC' had disappeared. NA script.

The gaps make the sense obscure, but the letter possibly relates to an attack upon an
 enemy stronghold; some of the text may be quoting royal instructions.

12) [lu-nap]??-p[ī]?-lu. This tentative restoration assumes D Prec. of *napālu* in the
 sense of CAD, N/1, 275a-b, A 4b.

12) *bī[r] ka-ra-[ni]*. Either pl. of *bīt kāri*, for *bīt karrāni* (see CAD, K, 237b *kāru* A in *bīt kāri*), or 'vineyard(s)' from *bīt karāni* (CAD, K, 206b).

13) *ṛiṣa-ru-hu*. Possibly 'are destroying', from AHW, 1028a, *sarāhu(m)*, 'zerstören', but gaps in the context leave the sense obscure.

ND 2690 (LVII; BSAI; Plate 48)

Transliteration

Obv.1' *x x*
 [*ina mu*]h-hi-ia ma-a[h]-x(-)[*x*]?
 ša la ṣilli(GIŠ.MI)
 III IV imēr-ú-rat d¹en-líl
 5' ù amēl-ṣābēmeš la-š[ú-n]u
 Base ṛú¹-ma-a ina muhhi
 [*s*]isēmeš
 šá na-kan-te
 Rev. ša a-na ahī-i[*a*]
 10' a-qa-bu-u-ni
 ma-a li-be-lu ...
 issu m[uh-h]i-i-*i*[*a*]
 *x*
 Side*
 1 ina muhhi gab-.....
 x ú-me *x*
 [*x* š]a id-*x*

Translation

(2') against/for me ... (3') without protection. (4') (There are) three or four teams of horses of Enlil (5') and there are no soldiers. (6'-8') Now concerning the horses of the storehouse (9'-10') about which I speak to my brother, (11') saying, 'Let them take possession ... (12') from me (13')'

Side

[Retains nothing significant]

Notes

Bottom third of a small tablet. Obv. flat, rev. markedly curved. Text largely legible. NA script.

2') *ma-a[h]-x(-)[x]?* The traces after *a[h]* would be compatible with either *rat* or *ri*.

3') GIŠ.MI. There are no traces of any further sign on this line.

4') d¹en-líl. The sign after *rat* can hardly in the context be other than DINGIR, although the second horizontal is not visible. What might be taken as further traces after *líl* is probably the remains of an unidentified sign on rev. (end of line 13').

ND 2698+2702 (BSAI; Plate 58)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na LÚ.GAL.SAG bēlī-ia*
urad-ka maha-l[a-mu]r

lu šul-mu

a-na bēlī-ia a-dan-niš

5 *amēl_rab ka-ri*

ūm XXII KAM ša arah_ulūli

nar-tu il-ta-pa-su

ištēn^{en} ūmu x ... a-da-gal

la ú-[r]a-mi-šū

10 *a-n[a] U[D]? [II]?^{le}.K[AM]?*

a-da-ga[l]-[ma]?

la ú-ra-mi-š[u]

ha-ra-mi-[m]a

amēl_{mar} šip-[r]i

15 *ina muhhi bēlī-[i]a*

Base *a-sap-ra*

bēlī^{li} šum-mu

Rev. *ina ekalli i-taq-bi*

li-iq-bi

20 *ú-la-a bēlī^{li}*

a [x] x x?-x-ni

x x x

ma x

la g[a]? x x x ...

25 *bēlī^{li} a!-bat šar[ri]*

ina muhhi m.^dnergal₄-KAL.AN

liš-pu-ra ri-ih-te

ma-da-tu

li-iš-bat pu-tu-hu

30 *ma-da-tu liš-ši*

Translation

(1-4) To the chief Reshu-official my lord, your servant Aha-lamur. May it be very well with my lord.

(5-7) The quay-master, on the 22nd day of Ulul the river seized him. (8-9) I was looking (for him) for a whole day (but) I did not recover him. (10-12) I kept looking for a second day, (but) I did not recover him. (13-16) Thereupon I sent a message to my lord. (17-19) If it is mentioned in the Palace, let my lord speak, (20) or let my lord (21-24) [nothing translatable]

(25-27) Let my lord send a royal command for Nergal-KAL.AN. (27-30) Let him levy the rest of the tribute; let him bear the responsibility for the tribute.

Notes

Complete tablet constituted from rejoining two fragments, originally separately catalogued. The top two-thirds was ND 2702 and the bottom third ND 2698. There are major cracks on both faces, with substantial surface loss on both faces in the vicinity of the cracks and the join. In the surface between lines 21 and 22 is a fragment of stone, 3.5 mm × 3 mm. NA script.

2) -l[a-mu]r. Despite abrasion, an assured outline makes this the only credible reading for these signs.

8) ūmu x ... a-da-gal. The trace of a wedge after *umu* could not be part of KAM (as postulated for the final sign in line 10) even if syntax permitted. The space available seems insufficient for *gab-bu. ma* would fit the traces, the space, and (as an enclitic) the sense.

25) a!-bat. Microscopic examination confirms the form represented in the copy, which must incorporate either an uncorrected scribal slip or an incomplete erasure.

25-27) Since the addressee was not the king, this shows that an *abat* (Babylonian *amat*) *šarri* was a particular type of command, not necessarily a directive from the king in person.

26) m.^d*nergal*₄-KAL.AN. Possibly a shortening for (or a modern mis-reading of) m.^d*nergal*₄-*dannin-an-ni*.

ND 2708 (IM 64126; Plate 51)

Transliteration

Face A

1' x
 x
 x lib-bi
 ... x ⁱ*šeleppāti*^{meš} š[ú-n]u?
 5' x ... i^š-pur-an-n[i]-m[a]?
 x x x? l[i]?-nam-mi-š[a]?
 x x a ši x x x x?
 ma-a am-mar x iq-b[u]?-n[i]?
 x x ši-na x ra
 10' ⁱ*šeleppāti*^{me[š]}-š[ú-n]u?
 x š[i]?/i[a]? AN x x
 x-a-ni-[m]a?
 ME[Š]? É? ...
 x RI ha ...

15' x ...

Face B

1' x x x mu
 x x áš-šú
 x x x x
 x x ...
 5' ... x x x x ...
 x x É x [š]a? KUR.x x-^ra^l?-a?

x ša mātur-zu-hi-n[a] ...
x x na ki it x ...
x hi-in-ti uṭṭāti(ŠE.BAR)meš-šú-n[u]?
 10' *[in]a lib-bi ú-ram-mu-ur?*
[i-m]a-tah-u-ni ...
... x x x ki ri x x?
... x [i]š?-[p]ur?-a[n]?-[ni]?

Translation

Face A

[Nothing significant is extant except two mentions of ships.]

Face B

[The only intelligible section is:] (7') ... of the land Urzuhina ... (8')
 (9'-10') They will leave their barley there. (11') They will transport ...

Notes

Both ends and upper and lower parts of left side are lost. One face is flat top to bottom, the other slightly convex; both faces are slightly convex left to right. No complete line is preserved on Face A. NA script.

Face B

9') *hi-in-ti*. The lexica offer no word *him/ntu* obviously apposite in juxtaposition to *uṭṭāti*; could this be a loan-word from Aramaic *hinṭin* 'wheat' with modified dental? *Him/ntu* 'leather bag' does not appear to be attested with reference to grain.

ND 2711 (IM 64128; Plate 60)

Transliteration

Obv. *urad-ka maš-šur-dannin(KAL)-an-ni*
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-ia
urad-ka šarri bēlī-ia a-ta-ha-ra
 5 *[n]u-uk la-áš-šú [l]a i-šá-mu-u-ni*
šúm-mu hi-ṭa-a-a pa-an šarri bēlī-ia
šarru bēlī li-du-kan-ni
a-ta-a an-nu-ti i-du-ku-u-ni
šarru bēlī ṭe-mu i-sa-ak-na-an-ni
 10 *ma-a KUR.RA.MEŠ ka-a-a-ma-nu-te mu-[h]u-ru*
a-na ma-da-di-i di-in ma-a KUR.RA
ša šarri mu-hu-ru am[ēl]bēl āli ša ālki-sa-si
ma-da-'a-tú : na-ša : amēlmu-šar-ki-sa-a-ni
ina pānī?-i[a]? e-ra-ba amēltašlīšū(III.U₅) la a-sap-ra-šú-nu it-tal-ka
 15 *ina pa-ni-ia ši-bi ma-da-'a-tú i[r-š]u*
ni-hu-ru [n]u-uk šúm-mu ina pa-ni-ka
la-li-k[a] [l]u-u ši-bi ma-da-'a-tú
ni-hu-ru šu-u i-sap-ra ma-a ma-da-'a-tú
ša šarri at-ta mu-hu-ru

- 20 *ma-a a-na-ku ka-a-a-ma-nu-te*
 [a¹-na ta-a-a-ár-te a-la-q[u-ut]
 [a¹-ma-ha-ra [ú]-[m]a-a DUMU-šú? ...
 x x x ... x x ia ...
- Base x x ...
- 25 a-ta...
 [r]a?-bi-[e¹?
 x GIG?-šú
 x x x
 x-x-mu-u-n[i] i-la-q[u]-u[t]/t[ú]
- 30 [u]rki(EGIR) NÁ i-za-bi-lu-šú amēl^{mārē}meš-šú
ina pa-na-tú-u-a i-šá-par ka-a-a-ma-n[u-t]e
ša šarri ki i-ma-hu-[r]u a-na amēl^lr]ab [ā]āni^{meš}
ṭé-mu i-šá-kan ma-a lib-bi-šú? x x
la ta-ma-qu-ta [a¹-[s]ap-[r]a-šú
- 35 *nu-uk amēl^rrab ma-da-'a-ti li-li-ka*
la-áš-'a-la ma-a la amēl^{urad}-ka
šu-u ma-a a-ta-a ina pa-ni-ka i-la-ka
ú-ma-a šu-ut-ma ih-tú-ru-pu
ina muhhi kar-ši-ia ina muhhi šarri bēlī-ia
- 40 *i-sap-ra a-ki ma-a x x x*
iš-pur-an-ni-ni dul-li-n[i i-n]a
pa-an šarri bēlī-ia ni-la-[ak-m]a
šu-u ēnē^{II} ina lib-bi ēnē^{II} ša[rri bē]lī-ia
ni-da-bu-bu ina muhhi KU[R] ... x
- 45 SIG₅.MEŠ^{te} ša nakri ša a-ma-har-u-ni
šu-u ki-i nakri i-si-ia i-kir
[i]na muhhi qa-a' ih-tú-ru-pu
[k]ar-ši-ia i-kal KUR.RA.MEŠ x x
 [a¹-[n]a pa-an šarri bēlī-ia ú-b[a]-la
- 50 x GAL bat-te ša šarri-ma
- Top RI i-ma-har
 [ana šarri bē]lī-ia ú-ba-la
 x x bēlī^{li}-ni
 EN i-x ...
- Side*
- 55 ... ṭé-[m]u i-sa-ak-na-ni ma-a ka-bi-su
 [ma]-[a¹ šúm-mu la a-dan-niš ú-ka-ba-a[s-su]

Translation

(1) To the king my lord (2) your servant Ashur-danninanni. (3) May it be well with the king my lord.

(4) I have approached the king my lord (5) to say, there is no one who is not obedient. (6) If (I am guilty of) an offence before the king my lord, (7) let the king my lord kill me. (8) (But) why should these (people) kill me?

(9) The king my lord sent me an instruction, (10) saying: 'Get trustworthy horses (11) (and) deliver (them) to Dadi.' He said: (11-12) 'Receive royal horse(s).' The lord of the city Kisasi (13-14a) brought tribute. The (two) commissaries are coming into my presence. (14b) [see notes] (15) There are witness of the tribute in my presence. (16-18) We have received (it). I say, (even) if I may not come into your presence, we have indeed got witnesses of the tribute.

(18-19) That man sent a message saying: 'You yourself collect the royal tribute!' (20-22a) He says: 'I will take trustworthy (mounts) for the return journey. I will get (them).' (22b-28) [fragmentary only] (29) *they* will take away.

(30-31) *After they deliver the bed* to him, he will send his sons into my presence. (31-34a) When they receive the royal mounts, they will make a report to the Supervisor of the Cities, saying: 'In it ... you shall not ...' (34b-37) I sent a message to him saying: 'Let the Tribute Inspector come, let me carry out an enquiry.' He said: 'He is not your servant; why should he come into your presence?'

(38-41a) Now that man has indeed been quick to send a message of calumny against me to the king my lord, when he said ... (that) he sent me a message. (41b-44a) We do our duty to the king my lord. Let that man (and I) *argue it out eye to eye with the king*.

(44b-46) Concerning the land ..., (despite) the favourable things which I gather about the enemy, that man was hostile to me as though to an enemy. (47-48) For envy he was quick to denounce me. (48-49) I will bring horses into the presence of the king my lord. (50) around the king. (End) (51-52) he will receive, I shall bring [to the king] my lord. (53) our lord. (54) ... [the king] my lord will ... (Side) (55) ... he has sent me instructions, saying: 'Crush (them)!' (56) I swear I will crush them (*lit.* it) harshly.

Notes

Large almost complete tablet, with slight damage at ends and some cracks. Legibility good except in vicinity of damage. 3 lines on left side, beginning near first sign on rev. Both faces convex. NA script.

This letter, although well preserved, is obscure from absence of background. The writer had been entrusted with collecting horses for the king, but after the delivery of tribute in the form of horses, another official had taken them away and had denounced the writer to the king. The writer hints that his rival had perhaps suborned other officials, who would have been able to support the writer's account of events. The writer promises that despite this setback, he will bring horses for the king.

10) KUR.RA.MEŠ. For this writing for 'horses', without ANŠE, see ABL 61, line 11. 10, 20, 31) *ka-a-a-ma-nu-te*. In the first occurrence qualifies KUR.RA.MEŠ, in the others is independent, indicating that it is used as the equivalent of a noun for 'mounts'. 13, 17, 18) *ma-da-'a-tú*. Taken as a variant spelling of *maddattu* 'tribute'.

13) *amēlmu-šar-ki-sa-a-ni*. This pl. form governs *e-ra-ba* in 14, which, since it is not sg. in form and cannot be pl., must be a dual form. On other indications that the verbal dual form still occurred in NA, see above, p. 151, on ND 2064, obv. 9.

14) Interpretation of this line is problematic. *amēltašlišu*(III.U₅), lit. 'third rider (in a chariot)', here appears to be used of someone with some specific function in the administration. In the signs read *a-sap-ra-šú-nu*, an alternative reading of the second

- half of the group taken as *sap* (to include a small oblique taken as adventitious and not shown in the copy) would admit the alternative reading *a-pa-ṭa!-ra-šú-nu*.
 30) [*u*]rki(EGIR) NÁ *i-za-bi-lu-šú*. The mention of a bed in the context is obscure.
 33) *lib-bi-šú?* *x x*. The traces after *lib-bi* could represent *k[i-m]a x*.
 34) *la ta-ma-qu-ta*. The damaged context leaves it uncertain whether this means 'You shall not fall', 'You shall not suffer a defeat', or 'You shall not attack'.
 40) *x x x*. Since the first unidentified sign has three introductory horizontals, it cannot be É. TA seems possible.
 48) KUR.RA.MEŠ *x x*. The traces after MEŠ strongly suggest *ša*, although the absence of Subj. *-ni* postfix in the subsequent verb is an objection.
 56) *šúm-mu la*. Introducing positive oath; see GAG §185i.
 56) *ú-ka-ba-a[s]-s[u]*. Since in this text *ba* and *na* are very similar, the true reading could be *ú-ka-na-a[s]-s[u]*, 'I will force it into submission.'

ND 2718 (IM 64133; Plate 59)

Transliteration

Face A

- 1' *x ... [l]u?-u*
 LÚ.KÚR.MEŠ GÌR.II *x* [G]U?
 VI BAR KÙŠ *li-x-x*
 XIV *ka-da-am-me x*
- 5' *ša ša-da-'a-ni x*
isra-pa-a-ni [š]a te-pa-šu-u-ni
ša isnarkabti lu ka-bu-ru ša pa-nat x x
ma-'a-da isdu-ni ma-hi-ši ina šap-l[i? -e? ...]
 IV ME *abanpu-la-a-ni ša* III *ša* IV BAR KÙŠ *x da x ...*
- 10' *i-ma-tah-u-ni muhhi isdu-ni ma-hi-ši i-ka-ra-r[u-ni]*
ba-ši šá-a-ru lu qur-bu iššū ša qabal āli ma-'a-[du]
ta-šar-ri-me s[š]al-q[a]-ru i-ra-piš ka-bu-u lu x ...
 [I]V *pa-ka-tú-a-ti te!-pa-áš* II^{ta} *imitti* II^{ta} *šumēli ša x [x]?*
x x ki [š]a gi-in-da-[d]i x x x x [a]n?-ni
- 15' *a-na d[ul-l]i-ka e-pu-uš* MAN *x*
te-pa-á[š] x x ina libbi dūri ša qa-ni-ia ...
ina libbi dūri ša qabal āli ta-šak-kan III *x ...*
 GÍD.DA.MEŠ *hu-[l]i-me-su tú-mal-la* PA.MEŠ *ša x*
lu-ša-mar-áš-šu BUR *ša isri-sit-ti lu-ša-x*
- 20' I^{en?} *ka-ru-^lú^l-[n]i a-na* SA[L]? *[x]-na-a-t[i] ina qabal āli ...*
tú-šá-[']a-[d]a ta-šak-ka[n du]n?-a-ti ša GÁ[N] ...
ki(-)i(-)ha-ni-ma ina qabal āli ina [d]ūri šap-li-e ...
pu-la-a-n[i] ki-i ku-bi-ri issu dūr[i] x ...
tu-šá-[']a-[d]a ta-šak-kan x

Face B

- 1' *x*
ša x
mi-i-nu ša x

- ^mam-ba-ti-i x
- 5' ina muhhi āli il-la-k[a]
 pu-tu-hu ša qabal āli ^li^l-n[a-áš-ši] ...
 issu amē^lrab bir-ti ina dūri šap-l[i-e]
 ša a-na ^mam-ba-ti-i i-š[ak]-kan-n[u]-n[i] x ...
 i-ku-mu-šu ú-šá-ba pu-tu-hu ša qab[al ā]li ...
- 10' uš-še ša e-si-ti ša pu-tu ad-ri ki ša x ...
 ik-ra-ru-u-ni la ú-ga-me-ru-u-ni libnāti^{meš} ...
 tal-pa-pa ga-me-ra-ši ina muhhi ∇ ti-ik-pi hu-ur-x ...
 tú-ra-ka-sa AM.SI ina BAR ammati pi-[l]a-a ina muh-hi t[a]-...
 DAGAL GÍD.DA ša e-si-ti pa-ni-ti DAGAL GÍD.DA š[a] ...
- 15' [i]na muh-hi ú-ra-du-u-ni ta-ma-da-da ...-šú
 x ... x ú? m[u]-lu-u ša šal-he-e ^lú^l-da[n]-n[a-an]
 ki-i ša ā^lda-hi-na x x
 ša ma-za-li-ti(-)š[ú]? x x x
 lu la am^[ē]da-gi-l[u]
- 20' te-p[a-á]š ša
 [k]i?-i ša KUR
 ša ina šal-he-[e]
 IV ammatu
 a-na x
- 25' ú-x
 t[e]-... ..
 x

Translation

Face A

(2') enemies, feet (3') six and a half ells let him/them (4') 14 kadammu-structures (5') of the šada'nu (6'-7') the rapani which you make ... let the ... of the chariot be strongly made. Of the front of (8') much/many, the wooden foundation of the structure beneath (9'-10') They shall transport 400 limestone blocks of (from) three (to) four and a half ells (in size); they shall put them in place upon the wooden foundation of the structure.

(11'-12') There are winds, they are imminent. The trees of the inner city are numerous; you shall trim them. (12') The s/šal-q[a]-ru is broad (13') You shall make 4 trimmed tree trunks, two to the right (and) two to the left of ... (14') (15') do as your work. (16') you shall do ... within the fortress of my district ... (17') you shall set up within the fortress of the inner city, three ... (18') you shall fill the lengths (with) ...-trees (18'-19') I shall ... the fronds of the

(19') I shall [provide] a vessel for irrigation. (20'-21') You shall carefully set up one karuni for ... in the inner city. The foundations of the ... (22') in the inner city in the lower wall ... (23') limestone blocks according to thickness from the wall ... (24') you shall take care and set in place

Face B

(3') whatever (4') Ambati (5') he will come against the city (6') he will bear responsibility for the inner city ... (7') from the Fortress

Commander in the lower wall ... (8') which he will arrange for Ambati ... (9') he will dwell in his place; [he shall bear] responsibility for the inner city. (10'-11') They shall lay the foundation of the tower at the front of the threshing floor (11'-12') (If they have not completed (it), you shall use ... sun-dried bricks. (Only do) finish it!

(12'-13') Upon (it) you shall fix five courses of ... tiles. (13') Ivory, upon half an ell (of) the stone blocks you shall [fix it]. (14') The breadth (and) length of the front tower [*shall equal*] the breadth (and) length of [the *other* tower]. (15') (If) they decrease (the dimensions), you shall measure [*and correct*] it. (16') ... I shall reinforce the height of the outer wall ... (17') according to that of the city Dahina ... (18') of its drainage channel ... (19') verily not an eye-witness ... (20') you shall do, of ... (21') ... (22') which in the outer wall ... (23') four ells ... (24'-27') [fragmentary]

Notes

Major part of the largest of the Nimrud Letters. Lacks top and bottom. The four longest lines of each face are probably almost complete. NA script.

Face A

4') *ka-da-am-me*. AHW, 419a very tentatively proposes 'Kerker'.

5') *ša-da-'a-ni*. Conceivably in a building context a form of *šadānu* = 'hematite' (CAD, Š/1, 36b; AHW, 1123a).

6') GIŠ *ra-pa-a-ni*. Perhaps a form of AHW, 956b *rappu(m)* 'Stock, Block', although the latter is not otherwise attested with single *p*, with pl. ending *ānu*, or with det. GIŠ. See also *rapā'um*, *rapūm*, AHW 956a.

7') *lu ka-bu-ru*. Pret. with St. D. of *kabāru*.

8', 10') *išdu-ni*. Cf. CAD, D, 185b, *dunnu* A 5.

8', 10') *ma-hi-ši*. Cannot in the context be the noun *māhišu* of CAD, M/1, 102a. Could represent *mahiš*, St. of *mahāšu* 'to hit', with idiomatic meaning, perhaps 'is knocked into place'.

9') *abanpu-la-a-ni*. Cf. AHW, 864a, *pīlu* I, *pīlu* 'Kalkstein(block)'

11') *ba-ši*. For usage as equivalent of *ibašši* see GAG §78b.

12') *sšal-q[a]-ru*. Or *munusq[a]-ru*.

13') *pa-ka-tú-a-ti*. The context indicates that this was something to be made and erected, in pairs on the right and left. Perhaps a pl. of AHW, 812a, *pakuttu* (Sumerian loanword) 'ein Baumstamm ohne Zweige?'

13') *te!-pa-āš*. The first sign is clearly *te*, but has indications of two supernumerary verticals, presumably from an incomplete erasure.

14') *gi-in-da-[d]i*. Is this a form of AHW, 926a, *quddu* II, *quddadu*, terms which in MSL V, 98f., 67-78 are listed with forms denoting trees or shoots from trees?

18') *hu-[l]i-me-su*. See A. Salonen, *Möbel* (1963), 220, CAD, H, 227b, *hulamēsu*, tentatively 'a tree and its fruit'.

18') PA.MEŠ. The earlier references to trees suggests that PA here denotes *aru* '(palm) frond'.

19') *lu-ša-mar-āš-šu*. Would appear to be either from D theme of *šamāru* written defectively or from Š theme of *amāru*, but no verb of either spelling is obviously appropriate here.

19') BUR. Perhaps = *pūru* I, AHW, 881b, '(Stein-)Schale'.

19') *isri-sit-ti lu-ša-x*. The signs from *ri* to *ša* show several superfluous parts of wedges, suggesting an imperfect erasure.

19') *isri-sit-ti*. Cf. AHW, 988b-989a, *risittu, rišittu*, 'Tränkung'. It is suggested that BUR *ša isri-sit-ti* denoted some kind of irrigation equipment; or *tal-lak-tú?*

20') I^{en}. Or KAB.

21') *tú-ša-[']a-[d]a*. Š Pres. of *na'ādu*, AHW, 693b or D Pres. of *šu'udu*, CAD, Š/3, 417b-418a.

21') *[du]n?-a-ti*. If a correct restoration, may be defective writing of plural of *dunnu*, CAD, D, 184a-185b.

22') *ki(-)i(-)ha-ni-ma*. Could be *ki-i ha-ni-ma* or *ki i-ha-ni-ma*; *hanû(m)* and *hanāmum* are attested as verbs in AHW 321b and 320a.

Face B

4', 8') *mam-ba-ti-i*. For the name see above, ND 2410, 13'.

6', 9') *pu-tu-hu*. See AHW, 885a, *putu(h)hu* in NA *p. našû*, 'die Verantwortung tragen'.

9') *i-ku-mu-šû*. For NA *ikkūm* representing *ina kūm* see AHW, 505a, ABL 620, 6 and 1264, rev. 5.

10') *e-si-ti*. See CAD, A/2, 332b-333a, *asītu (isītu)* 'tower (as part of a city wall)'.
 12') *ti-ik-pi*. See AHW, 1354b, *tibku(m)*, Assyrian auch *tikpu* II, 4) 'Ziegelschicht'.

13') AM.SI. For ZÚ.AM.SI = *šinni pīri* 'ivory'.

13') *pi-[l]a-a*. Taken, on the basis of apparent context, as a plural from AHW, 864a, *pīlu* I, 'Kalkstein(block)'.
 15) *ta-ma-da-da ...-šû*. Since the space is too long to be filled by the restoration *ta-ma-da-da-aš-šû*, a second verb was probably present.

15') ... *šû*. It is possible, but not certain, that *šû* marks the end of the line.

18') *ma-za-li-ti-š[ú]?*. Taken as linked to AHW, 637b, *mazzaltu* II, CAD, M/1, 230b, *manzaltu* B.

ND 2724 (BSAI; Plate 55)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 |¹*a*[-*n*]a [*šarr*]i b[*ēli-i*]a
 |*ara*]d-ka DIŠ.DIN[GIR].U[TU]?-ZA-x-x
 |*u š*]ulmu^{mu} a-n[*a šar*]ri bē[*li*]-i[*a*]
 |[*l*]u? [*šul*]mu? x x ...
 5 |*ma-a* x ... x x x
 |š[*a*]? x ... x ... x ...
 |II? x x x ... x ...
 |x x ... x x? -šû
 |[*g*]i? x x ... x x x
 10 |... x x x x x
 |... x x x ...
 |... x

Rev.

1' |x x

x x x x x
 x x x x r[a] . . .
 x-ku-nu-ni B[U]? [L]UL? BI x x . . .
 5' ú-dì-ni x x x x
 [l]a ú-k[a]?-x-[p]a?

[Nothing significant is translatable except part of the introductory formula and *udini* = 'until' in rev. 5'.]

Notes

Top half or more of small tablet. NA script. Very severe abrasion has left only a few isolated signs recognizable on obv., and this has been copied only for completeness. Rather more, but nothing of significance, is legible on rev. Final 13 mm of rev. is uninscribed.

ND 2735 (IM 64143; Plate 62)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 a-bat šarri
 a-na ^maš-šur-rím-an-ni
 a-na ^m.^dnabû₃-bēl-ahhē₂meš-šú [L]Ú.A.BA
 hu-ub-tu am-mar a-di na-ša-ni
 5 tu-šá-aš-bit-u-ni
 amēlpāhati-ka ši
 [GU₄.ME]Š-ka UDU.MEŠ-ka ina pānī-ka
 [ana šá-a]š-bu-ta-ka
 . . . x HAR issu ekalli
 10-ri-iš
 am-mar issu ūmē^{me}
-BAL-kan-ni
 [i]na [b]at-ti
 ina lib-bi
 15-ba-su-nu
 muh-hi-šú-nu
 x
 x

[Probably not more than one line is missing between obv. 18 and rev. 1']

Rev.

1' x issu ekal[li]
 a-na amēlhu-ub-ti
-ka issu lib-bi
 . . . x-ka UDU.MEŠ-ka
 5' . . . [t]a ta-da-an
 a-na amēlhu-ub-ti ša-aš-bu-ti
 a-di VII-šú [l]a ta-ši-a-ṭa

ina muh-hi ta-mu-at
šum-mu amēlmaršu(GIG) ina amēlhu-ub-ti
 10' *ša ú-še-ba-l[a]-kan-ni*
issu lib-bi tal-k[i]-di lib-bi ma-de-e
i-ba-ši i-ma-ta-hu-ú-ni
ina pa-ni-ka i-kar-ru-ru-šu
a-di ti-la-u-ni ku-zi-pi ša amēlšābē^{meš}
 15' *l[u]-[u] damiqⁱ[q] amēlⁱ-tú-'a-a-a*
... x x ku-zi-pi-šú-nu lu-u ša-ni-ú
... x x SIPA?.MEŠ
... [š]a ZAG.MEŠ
 Side*
 1 *... x ti ša amēlza-ku-u [i]l-x(-)[x]?*
... x x x x

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) Royal Command to Ashur-rímanni (and) to Nabu-bel-ahheshu the Scribe.

(4-6) The prisoners, until you have brought and settled (them), are your responsibility. (7-8) Your [cattle] and sheep (are) at your disposal for you to settle. (9-18) [fragmentary only]

Rev.

(1') ... from the palace (2') ... to the prisoners (3') ... from within (4') your [cattle] (and) your sheep (5'-6') you shall deliver ... to make the prisoners settle. (7') Seven times over you shall not be careless; (8') for that you would die. (9') If there is anyone sick amongst the prisoners (10') whom they bring to you, (11'-12') you shall *gather (them) together* from amongst (the group). However many there are, they shall transport (them), (13') (and) place them in your presence (14') until they are fit.

(14'-16') The cloaks for the soldiers are indeed good. The Itu'a troops, their cloaks are different. (Rev. 17'-18' and Side*) [fragmentary]

Notes

Obv.

3) ^{m,d}nabû₃-bēl-ahhē₂^{meš}-šú [L]Ú.A.BA. For possible identification see APN, 146b.

Rev.

7') *a-di* VII-šú. See CAD, S, 204b, *sebīšu* b.

11') *tal-k[i]-di*. Root taken as byform of *laqātu* 'einsammeln'; see AHW, 537b, 529a, and cf. Heb. and Aram. *lqt*.

11') *ma-de-e*. See CAD, M/1, 20a, *ma'dû* A, c. A possible alternative reading is *ma-ti-e* 'is missing' (CAD, M/1, 431a, 6'), but the sense here would be difficult.

14') *ti-la-u-ni*. Taken as from adj. *tele'û*, AHW, 1344b, 'überaus tüchtig, fähig', in St. 3. pl.; see GAG §77b; or TI.LA-u-ni = *balṭūni*?

14', 16') *ku-zi-pi*, *ku-zi-pi-šú-nu*. This appears to indicate that at least some units of Assyrian troops wore military uniform.

18') This line is inscribed on the turn from rev. to top end.

Side

1) *amēl*za-ku-u. See CAD, Z, 22b-23a, *zakkû* '(a member of a class of feudatories)'.

ND 2740 (IM 64145; Plate 59)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 [a-na šarri bē]lī-ia
 [urad-ka ^{m.d}DN]-ila-a-a
 [lu-a šulmu a-na ša]rri belī-ia
 [... ..] x ša šarru be-lí
 5 [... ..-n]i MUNUS : SIG₅
 [... ..] x ^li^l?/k]am?-su
 [... ..] x x
 [...] x ú-ša-aš-bat šu-nu
 [... ..] x la-aš-šu
 10 [... ..] x iš-pur-a-ni
 [... ..] x x

Rev.

1' [... ..] x x x š[a]?
 [... ..] XXX *amēl*zu-ki
 [... iš]-pur-a-ni

[Insufficient remains to warrant a translation.]

Notes

Top right corner of tablet. NA script. 25mm of rev. is uninscribed.

ND 2743 (BSAI; Plate 56)

Transliteration

Face A

1' x [...]?
 x [...]?
 ... [a]-na šarri bēlī-i[a]
 ... x ša šarru be-lí
 5' ...-[n]i an-nu-ti KÙ.BABBAR
 ... gab-bu up-ta-hi-i[r]
 ... x ma-ti DIŠ GIŠ x [...]?
 ina MUH(-)x x ...

Face B

1' x x ...
 ... x ra? nišē^{meš} lu x ...
 x x x MEŠ É x x MEŠ x ...
 x lu-ú-ma ú-su-uk [...]?
 5' qātē DIŠ.i-[b]a?-a ú x x [...]?

x pa-a[n] x x x x ...

[Insufficient remains to warrant a translation]

Notes

A fragment with neither ends nor sides extant. NA script.

ND 2746 (IM 64149; Plate 49)

Transliteration

Face A

1' [a]-n[a] x x x ...
 Ú-ku-ta-ti-šú
ma-a li-qí-ba qab-l[i] [...]?
i-ti-zi bi-i-l[i]
 5' *i-ti-bu lu(-)ka-ni(-)[x]?*
a[t]?-ra-a lu ta x ...
 [P]IŠ?? x du x ...
i-ti-u DIŠ DI[NGIR]
 AN[ŠE]?? x x

Face B

1' DIŠ DI[NGIR]
i ih x
i-ti-x(-)x
 [L]Ú.ERI[M].[M]EŠ *ki-... ..*
 5' [k]i?-i m[a]? x
x x
x x x

Side (top to bottom of Face A)

1 x x ma x x x ...
 x x EN x ...

[Insufficient remains to warrant a translation.]

Notes

Fragment from left side of tablet. Large deep NA script.

Face A

- 2') Ú-ku-ta-ti-šú. The signs are clear and beyond question. Possibilities are (i) *ú-ku-ta-ti-šú*, a form from a NA spelling of *akûtu* 'Verkrüppelung' (AHw, 30b), or (ii) *šam-ku-ta-ti-šú*, an otherwise unattested form of type GAG §§56i, 21b from *makû(m)* III (AHw, 591a).
 3, 5') *li-qí-ba*, *i-ti-bu*. Respectively for *liqbâ* and *itbû* (from *tebû(m)*, AHw, 1342a); see GAG §18d.
 4') *i-ti-zi bi-i-l[i]*. Probably 'Stand! Bring!', Impvs. 2 m. sg. of *uzuzzu* and *abâlu* respectively, with 'überhängende' *i* (GAG §18e).

ND 2749 (BSAI; Plate 43)

Transliteration

Obv. *a-na šarri bēlī-ia*
urad-ka^mbēl-dūri
lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-i[a]
 VI LIM VI ME LXVI ANŠE XLVI QA [ŠE?.PAD?]
 5 *a-na^{m.d}enurta-šár-ušur a-t[i-din]*
 [I]II [L]IM III ME XXXIII ANŠE Á[Š] ...
 [*a-n*]a aš-šur-rím-a-ni ...
 ... x [Š]E.PAD
 x

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Bel-duri. May it be well with the king my lord.
 (4-7) 6,666 homers 46 qa [of grain rations] I have delivered to Enurta-shar-usur.
 3,333 homers [54 qa of grain rations] [I have delivered] to Ashur-rimani. (8) ... corn
 rations

Notes

Top left corner of tablet, with first three lines almost complete. Up to half the tablet is extant vertically. Extant signs are clear. Final 20 mm of rev. is extant in part and uninscribed. NA script.
 2) *bēl-dūri*. See APN 55.
 5) *m.d*enurta-šár-ušur. For a *rab kišir* of this name see APN 176.
 6) Á[Š] = 3 *sūtu* = 30 *qû*. It is assumed that lost signs represented additional *qû* to make the total of the two deliveries exactly 10,000 homers.

ND 2752 (IM 64153; Plate 12)

Transliteration

1' ... x *duga-ga-[nu]* ...
 ... BA KÛ.BABBAR LUH DIŠ x ...
 ... x GAR KI AN DU x ...
 ... [ANŠ]E.KUR.RA.MEŠ UD MEŠ x ...
 5' ... x [E]!/A? BA U MEŠ *te* x ...
 ... x x x x

[Insufficient remains to warrant a translation.]

Notes

Fragment from middle of tablet. One face totally lost. Extant face is completely flat, with clear deep NA script.

ND 2756 (BSAI)

Tentative Transliteration

Obv.

1' [... ..]
 [...]
 [...] a? ma?
 LUGAL? x x x x x
 5' x x x ta? za? x ...
 x x MEŠ ša x x [...]
 x x ni a BĀD? [...]
 ... x UR PA? x [...]

Rev.

1 TA? UGU? bi?-ra?-te? ...
 al? x x x ...
 AŠ KUR? x MEŠ?/ME? a x ...
 x x KUR.i?-x-x-a-a
 5 x x x a-ni
 [...] x x x ul? x
 [...] x ar? x
 [...] x x x x? a
 [...] ... x
 10 [...] ... x
 [...] ... x?

Notes

Lower half of small tablet, formed of three fragments, two major and one very small, rejoined. C.J. Gadd catalogued it in 1952 as 'in poor condition and unimportant', and so little was legible in 1954 that I did not then copy it. It bore 8 lines of (largely illegible) NA script on obv. and 10 or 11 on rev.

Rev. 4) KUR.i?-x-x-a-a. The traces do not suggest the restoration KUR.i-tu-'a-a.

ND 2760 (BSAI; Plate 61)

Transliteration

[Lines shown in the transliteration as inset without preceding damage are so placed on the tablet.]

Face A

[The extant core indicates the loss of about four lines before the first extant traces.]

1' x x x
 i[k-t]a-a[l]?-[d]a a-na x
 x DA an DA ha m[u]?
 x bi ma ina pi(KA)-šu kusāpu(PAD) x
 5' [i]k?-tal-da ina pi(KA) LÚ x
 [x x] iq-ti-ba-a ša
 [x x g]i-ri-e KIMIN x

... *x?* *ub-bu*
 [d]a-ra-a-ti-šu KIN I[M]
 10' *ishunnatu*(GIŠ.KIN.GEŠTIN) *x*
 [x] *kussu ša pisanni*(GIŠ.PISAN) A[N]?/T[I]?
 LU AS
 [a]t?-t[ú]?-nu *be-li im-x*
 [a]l?-[n]a?
 15' [a]h-[r]i-ti *ba-ni-[t]e?* [a]l-x
 ID D[I]?
 [am]ēl*na-gi-r[i]* *x x*
x
 LÚ [ú]l?

[There may have been three further lines of text.]

Face B

1 [in]a *ba-n[i]-ti i-x*
ubanāti^{meš} *ša lu x*
i-ra-[s]a-a lu i-rat x
lu a-ri-tu x
 5 *la [t]a-šab ina si-li*
 [l]u-d[u]
 ... *x pa ka a-d[i]?*
 ... ZA *ma ka S[I]*
 [ú?]-[l]u? *ina im-me me ka x*
 10 [ú]l?-[l]u? *in[a] me x ka eqlu x*
ú-lu ina? bal?-ti ša ahi-šú
ú-lu ina me-šá-ri-e x
ina an-ni-ma lib-bi i-ra
 ŠID *t[i]?*
 15 *t[i]-x x [a]n-ni-[i]l*
 *x x*

[The core indicates that there may have been up to ten further lines of text.]

Translation

Face A

2' he arrived to ...

 ... in his mouth a morsel of food
 5' he arrived. In the mouth of the man
 ... he said that
 ditto

 his eternity
 10' a cluster of grapes
 ... a chair of *pisannu* wood

 you, my lord,

... ..
15' propitious posterity

... ..
the herald

Face B

in favour
the fingers of
her chest is verily the chest of
verily a shield

... ..

... ..

whether in the daytime

10 whether in your ... a field
whether in the *dignity* of *his* brother
whether in justice
in this within

Notes

Large tablet, with core virtually complete except for two corners; nearly half the surface is lost on the right side of both faces, some from left side, and all from final 17 mm of Face A and final 45 mm of Face B. There are no complete lines, and only six lines retain more than half their original text. Preserved signs are exceptionally sharp and clear and mostly beyond doubt except when adjacent to surface loss. On Face A, the lines of script slope slightly upwards. NA script.

Although this tablet has the characteristic letter shape, the contents of the extant text do not conform to the usual topoi of letters from the Nimrud archive. Since in addition the inseting of some lines is uncharacteristic, I conclude that this is not an administrative letter. Possibly it is an omen report.

Face A

7') [g]i-ri-e. For possible meanings see CAD, G, 96b, 97a, *girû* A and B.

10', 12', 14', 16') Each of these lines has sufficient undamaged surface between the damaged margin and the first sign drawn, to prove that they were inset. In A 8', the apparent traces before *ub-* could be mere scratches, in which case this line would also be inset.

Face B

10) *me x ka*. The traces preceding *ka* suggest KUR rather than *mu*.

11) *ina? bal?-ti*. The first horizontal is deeply impressed, partly obscuring other horizontals and leaving doubt about the reading.

ND 2763 (BSAI; Plate 12)

Transliteration

Obv.

1 *a-na šarri bēlī-ia urad-ka*
DIŠ.x.MAN.PAP *lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na š[arri]*
[*bēlī-ia*] [a¹-dan-niš *lu-u š[ulmu^{mu}]*

Rev.

1' [liš]-al-šu

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant ...-shar-usur. May it be very well with the king my lord. May it be [well with]

Rev.

(1') Let him ask him.

Notes

Fragment from top of tablet. Retains one complete and two incomplete lines on obv., and part of the final line on rev. 10 mm of rev. is uninscribed. The break shows a layer of better quality clay over core. NA script.

Rev. 1') [liš]-al-šu. 4 mm of undamaged and uninscribed surface after šu indicates that this was the final sign.

ND 2771 (LXXI; BSAI; Plate 58)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-n]a šarri bēlī-ía

[ura]d-ka maš-š[u]r-ŠID-x-x

[p]i-iq-ta-t[e]

šarru be-lí a-ša-pu

5 ú-še-ba-l[a]

la-[m]u-qa-a-a

a-ša-pu la a-ha-ši-ni

[ni]šē^{meš} šarri i-r[a]-ba-ni

[x] ME a-ka-li-šú-nu

10 [x] ME ŠE.NU[MUN]-šú-nu i-ba-ši

[š]a a-na šarri i-sa-lu-ni

i-mu-ta

te-li[t] ad-ri ga-bi-šú-ma

14 [a^l]-[s]a-da-ra

Base x x UD a-s[a]-d[a]-r[a]

Rev. [m^l]_x-a-a amēl^lupšarru(A.BA)

17 [ina qāt]ē^{ll} mbēl-būn(DŪ)-a-a

[ú^l]-si-bi-la

[šarru b]e-lí i-qa-bi

20 [ma a-t]a-a ta-[r]ad-di

[a-ta]-[a^l] la taš-p[u-r]a

[la a]-di ár-ki

[ta?-sap?]-ra šarru be-lí

... [š]a e-pa-šú-ni

25 [l]i-pu-šu

[a^l]-ša-pu l[a]-mu-qa-a-a

la a-ha-ši-ni

Translation

(1-2) To the king my lord your servant Ashur-...

(3-5) (About) duties; the king my lord is sending me pack-animals. (But) I cannot possibly take care of pack-animals. (8) The royal personnel are coming in, (9-10) (and) their food (requirements) will be ... hundreds (and) their corn (requirements) ... hundreds. (11-12) (There is a saying): 'He who answered the king back died', (13-14) (so) I shall set out the whole of the produce of the threshing-floor. (15) I shall set out the ...; (16-18) PN the scribe has sent (it) by the hands of Bel-bunaya. (19) The king my lord may say: (20) 'Why do you go on? (21) [Why] did you not send a message? (22-25) [You have not] sent a message until afterwards.' Let the king my lord do what he will do; (26-27) I cannot possibly take care of the pack-animals.

Notes

Tablet almost complete, except for two small areas of damage on obv. and loss of most of left side, with up to 11 mm of surface loss at left of rev. The damage on rev. clearly reveals a core overlaid by a thin layer of surface clay. Final 9 mm of rev. uninscribed. Both faces are almost flat. NA script.

3, 4) [p]i-iq-ta-t[e], šarru. There is not space for a lost ša (or other sign) at the beginning of either line.

4) a-ša-pu. The final sign, although slightly damaged, is certainly pu, not pi.

8) i-r[a]-ba-ni. A possible alternative reading, i-tur-ba-ni, would be difficult to explain in NA. J.N. Postgate suggests i-tar-ba-ni, but I have had no subsequent opportunity for collation to see if this would fit the traces.

14) [a]-[s]a-da-ra. Considerations of space, as well as the first syllable of what appears to be the same verb in the next line, make it unlikely that the first sign was ú, to give D Pres., written defectively.

15) x x UD. The traces are consistent with ša-ku-tú, perhaps an anomalous spelling of CAD, Š/3, 230a, šūkultu (šākultu, šākussu) 'fodder'.

20) ta-[r]ad-di. In the second sign, traces of the damaged initial horizontal are scarcely visible. The translation assumes an idiomatic usage from redû 'to pursue'.

22) [la a]-di. There is a space requiring another sign before a-di, and la seems to be the only probability.

ND 2775 (IM 64165; Plate 51)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 [a-na š]arri b[e-l]í-ia
 [urad-k]a m^xx-x-a-a
 l[u šùl-m]u [a]-[n]a ša[rri bē]lī-ia
 m.^dšamaš-našir x x É?
- 5 ša m^aš-šur-D[Ú] x x-ia
 i-tal-ka-n[i] III ālāni^{mēš.ni}
 ālú?/ta?-ku-x-x-an-ni

- ālmi-la [āl][m]a-a-x*
i-ta-an-[x] ma-a nišē^{meš}-ka
 10 *še-ši-i-a nišē^{meš}-ia*
lu-še-ri-bi [l]a a-ma-gur
ālāni^{meš.ni} l[a] a-da-an
nu-ku a-di e-qi-aš š[a]?
a-mar-u-ni [ālā]ni^{meš.ni} u-ra-áš
 15 *šarru ú-d[a] [māi]i[m-r]i-ia-a*
la bīt har-bi šu-u
mē^{meš} ina libbi dan-nu bīt re-'e-i
šu-u ŠAH [a¹-[a¹-l[i]
ina lib-bi dan-n[u] x ...
 20 *ēnē^{II}? a-ra-ši*
... x x x
 Rev.
 1 [ANŠE.KUR.R]A.MEŠ ...
[x] x ni ina x ... x ...
x [U]G? MEŠ x ... x x [x]?
māt^{qut-ti} x LUL? x
 5 *māt^{ku-su} UD E KU LUM*
ina māt^{x-r[i]-ia-a} ŠE.PAD
at-[t]a-na-ra-áš
ālāni^{meš.ni} an-nu-ti
ina muhhi ā[lāni][^{meš.ni}i-šú la qur-bu
 10 *ālāni^{meš.ni} [i š]a m^{ha}-áš-da-at*
ša amē^lbē^l pāhati ša ā^lar-pad-da
ina bi-x x x pa-ar-ku
šum-mu ā[lāni?^m]eš.ni i-ti-ši
DIŠ LIM ŠE.NU[MUN ina li]b-bi a-ta-ra-áš
 15 *li-ši-[d]i ANŠE.KUR.RA*
ša GIŠ.x x x li-ku-l[u₄]
a-na-ku [i]t-ti ANŠE.KUR.RA
ša ina pa-ni-ia a-a-e-šá
[l]u-bi-il

Translation

Obv.

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant PN. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-6a) Shamash-nasir, *the major domo* of Ashur-DÛ-x my ..., has come *to me*.

(6b-11a) He has *demanded* three villages, U/Ta-ku-x-x-anni, Mila (and) Ma-a-x

(9-11a). He says: 'Get your people out; let me bring my people in.' (11b-14) I would

not agree to give up the villages. I said: 'How should I make a land grant of that which I

look after? I cultivate (those) villages.' (15-16) The king knows that the land Imria is

not waste land. (17-18) Water is abundant therein; it is pasturage. (18-19) Pig and deer

are abundant there.

Rev.

(1) horses ... (2) ... therein ... (3) (4) the land Quttu (5) the land Kusu (6-7) I continually cultivate corn in the land *Imria*. (8-9) These villages are not near his own villages. (10) The villages belonging to *Hashdat* (11) (and) to the Governor of Arpad (12) *are closed off* ... (13) *If he has made a mistake about* the villages, (14) I have cultivated a thousand units of cornland therein, (15) (so) let him undertake the harvest. Let the horse(s) (16) eat from the ... (17-19) I myself, with the horse(s) which *are* at my disposal, where should I take (*them*)?

Notes

Left corner missing and base damaged. Broken and rejoined down the middle parallel to long axis. Some surface is wholly lost, and the state of the extant text varies from deep and clear to severely damaged at some points in the vicinity of the break. NA script. Final 10 mm of rev. uninscribed.

This letter has not been given a specific placement, since although it contains place names which might appear to be identifiable, they give contrary indications of the region concerned.

Obv.

14) *u-ra-áš*. The reading appears to be certain, although only one instance is hitherto attested of *erēšu* in D theme.

15, rev. 6) [*māt*]_i[*m-r*]_i-*ia-a*, *māt*_{x-r}[*i*]-*ia-a*. These are presumably the same name, in which case the first sign in the second name, although copied as *pi*, is likely to be a mis-reading of a damaged *im*; I have had no opportunity of collation to check this.

Rev.

4) *mātqut-ti*. If this were linked to *ālqu-ut-ta* of Sargon, *8th. Camp.*, line 304, this letter would need to be placed in chapter 3. But the mention in rev. 5 of *mātku-su* (in the northwest?) and in rev. 11 of the governor of Arpad both tell against this. The places mentioned appear to have been under direct Assyrian administration.

5) *mātku-su*. See NAT, 218f, entries apud KŪSU, which appears to be linked to the northern Muṣru.

10) ^m*ha-áš-da-at*. The determinative seems to identify this as a masculine personal name, despite its feminine form, and if a correct reading, it might be the name of the official complained of.

12) *bi-x x x*. Possibly *bi-rit* or a related form, plus a noun (perhaps *KUR.ni = šadāni*), defining the type of boundary.

13) *šum-mu ā[lāni?m]eš.ni i-ti-ši*. The verb is tentatively taken as G^t from AHW, 259b, *ešû(m) V* ‘verwirren’. The translation assumes that the writer suggests that since the official of whom he complains may have made a mistake in identifying his villages, he should be allowed to harvest their crops.

15, 17) ANŠE.KUR.RA. In both places the text is clear and unbroken, and in neither case is this group followed by MEŠ. Is the sg. form in these occurrences used for the pl.?

ND 2777 (LXIII; BSAI; Plate 58)

Transliteration

Obv.

- 1 *a-na šarri be-lí-ía*
urad-ka ^{m.d}*nabû₃-bē[l-u]kīn^{i[n]}*
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri be-lí-ía
a-dan-niš a-dan-niš
- 5 *ša šarru be-lí iš-pur-an-ni*
ma-a ūm I KÁM ša ^{arah}*nisanni*(BÁR)
a-na ā^lkal-ha ir-ba
hu-la-a-ni ni-pat-tu
i-šak-kan ku-pu-u ú-ma-la
- 10 *ku-pu-u i-di-in a-dan-niš*
 [*ūm*] III KÁM ša ^{arah}*šabāti*(ZÍZ)
-*qu-ul*
 *x x*

Rev.

- 1' *['i] x x x x*
 DUMU *x x*
la-a[l-lik]? x [d]i
ina pa-ni-šú-nu m[a]-[a^l x x x a
- 5' *du-ku-ni sise^{meš}*
ni-laq-qi nu-bal kal-li-ú
ša ^m*aš-šur-dan-an-ni ša-aš-bu-ut*
ša ^{ā^l}*ár-zu-hi-na-a-a*
lu-ti-qí

Translation

Obv.

(1-4) To the king my lord your servant Nabu-bel-ukin. May it be very very well with the king my lord.

(5-7) About the matter on which the king my lord sent me a message: 'Go into Calah on the first of Nisan', (8) we are opening the roads (9) (but) snow is setting in; it fills (the roads). (10) The snow is very severe. (11) On the third day of Shabat (12)

Rev.

(4') in front of them, (they) say: (5'-7') 'Kill!' We shall take the horses and bring (them). Ashur-danani's courier service is organized. (8'-9') I will *avoid* that of the people of Arzuhina ...

Notes

Upper portion, rather more than half, of tablet in fine condition. 15 mm of rev. uninscribed. NA script.

Obv.

2) ^{m.d}nabû₃-bē[l-u]kīn^{i[n]}. For other letters to the king by an official of this name see ABL 168-172, and possibly 173.

9, 10) *ku-pu-u*. Cf. CAD, K, 551b, *kuppû* A, AHw, 509a, *kuppû* II.

11) [ūm] III KÁM ša *arahšabāti*(ZÍZ). Since Shabat was two months before Nisan, the writer was presumably reporting that the bad weather had started a month or more before.

Rev.

6') *kal-li-ú*. CAD, K, 83b, 2. 'messenger (as member of an organization which carried royal messages)', AHw, 426a-b, 'Eil-, Schnellbote'. See also *Iraq* 21 (1959), 173. The term appears to mean not only the messenger, for which the normal term was *amēlmāršipri*, but also the whole organization associated with the messenger. The contexts in which the term occurs appear to distinguish between *amēlkal-li-u* (the messenger himself) and *kal-li-u* (the whole organization behind the messenger).

7') *maš-šur-dan-an-ni*. Eponym in 733 BC, when he was governor of Mazamua.

9') *lu-ti-qi*. Prec. 1 sg. *etēqu* with overhanging *-i*, here apparently used transitively. Precise sense unclear in the absence of background knowledge of the situation.

ND 2780 (LVIII; IM 64168; Plate 58)

Transliteration

Obv. [a-n]a [ša[rri bēlī-[ia]
[urad-k]a ^mbēl-x-[x]
[lu] šulmu^{mu} a-na b[ēl[i-i]a
[m].^dnabû₃-eṭir^{ir}-an-ni
5 *amēlšā bēl* [a]š^kāpi([A]ŠGAB)
[m.d]ištar(XV)-šum-ēreš(KAM)
[am]ēlra[k]-su ša *amēlṛab u-rat*
ú-ru-u ša sisē^{meš}
mātmu-šur-a-a
10 *ina mu[h-h]i-ia na-ša*
ma-ṛaṛaṛa-bat šarri
ši-i ma-a sisû
ina URU x
Rev. . . . x
15 . . . mu?
[šu]m-ma a-bat ša[rri]
[š]i-i ahu₂-u-a
[liš]-pu-ra
ṛaṛaṛa-ru-u la-mur-ru

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant Bel-... May it be well with my lord.

(4-11) Nabu-etiranni the chief saddler, and Ishtar-shum-eresh, the groom of the chief of the horse-team, have brought me a team of Egyptian horses. They say, 'It is a royal

order.' (11b-15) They say: 'A horse in the town' (16-19) If it is a royal order, let my brother send a message. Do let me see the horse team.

Notes

Small tablet with clear script. Damaged at both ends and left side; final 30+ mm of rev. lost. NA script.

5) *amēlša bēl [a]škāpu*([A]ŠGAB). AŠGAB = *aškāpu* 'leatherworker' is linked to horses through the making of saddles, horse-armor and chariot parts (CAD, A/2, 443a, *aškāpu* c-e).

7) [*am*]ēl*ra*[*k*]-*su*. The slightly damaged sign before *-su* prima facie suggests *ši*, but this would give an unknown title. Thanks are due to J.N. Postgate for the reading offered.

19) *la-mur-ru*. Taken as a pausal form implying emphasis; *ra* does not appear to be a possible reading for the last sign.

ND 2793 (IM 64174; Plate 45)

Transliteration

Obv.1' ... x x
 [š]a mšilli-bēl ...
 a-na LÚ.A.BA x x [x]?
 GIŠ KUR DU i-šak-k[an]?
 5' *amēlum-ma-ni urdāni*^{meš.n[i]}
 ša mšilli-bēl š[a] x [x]?
 LÚ.A.BA IQ-ta-...
 Base *ṭé-mu ti x ...*
 [g]a? li
 10' x x x
 Rev. *ri-hu-ti*
 ih-tal-q[u]
 nišē^{me[š]}-šú-nu a-n[a] ...
 i-ta-at-ku x ...
 15' LUG[AL l]u-še-bi-l[a]?
 x x x x ...

[Insufficient remains to offer a consecutive translation.]

Notes

Bottom left corner of tablet. The left edge is sound; in parts the fragment extends almost to the right edge. Surface rough. The NA script is bold and mainly clear.

ND 2794 (BSAI; Plate 52)

Transliteration

Obv.
 1' [...] x x x? ...
 [T]A* ha-na-ka[m-ma] ...

- lu-u at-tu-nu ...*
 [š]a bēl ši-il-[ti]
 5' ʿa¹-n[i]-nu [a]n-[n]a-kam-ma ʿa¹-n[i]-nu
 [š]a? [bē]lī?-i¹?-ia gab-bu
 [a]n-n[a]-ka šú-nu
 x ma ME?/ME[Š]? x-šu-te-ma š[ú]-nu
 x amēl^šar-ti-ni
 10' [it]-tal-ku-ú-n[i?-m]a?
 ... x x
 Rev.
 1' ... x x
 ... i-si-šú-nu i[l-l]ak
 x x qī-te-e-a
 i-si-šú-nu a-šap-par
 5' a-di eqlēti^{meš} i-na-šú-n[i-n]i?

Translation

Obv.

(2') *from here* ... (3') *verily you* ... (4') *of the adversary at law* (5') *we here*. We (6') *(people) of our lord*, all (7') *are here*. (8') they (9') *with/to* the Chief Judge (10') *have come*

Rev.

(2') ... *he will come with them* (3') (4') *I will send a message with them* (5') *as soon as they hand over the fields*.

Notes

Lacks top and base, and fragments from upper right side, from lower left side and lower right side. Some abrasion. Final 11 mm of extant rev. is uninscribed. NA script.

Appears to concern a problem of land tenure.

Obv.

2', 5', 7') *ha-na-ka[m-ma]*, [a]n-[n]a-kam-ma, [a]n-n[a]-ka. Taken as variants of one form.

4') *bēl ši-il-[ti]*. See CAD, Š, 88b-89a, *šaltu* in *bēl šalti*.

8') *x-šu-te-ma*. None of the likely readings of the unidentified sign (KID, Ú, UN or KAL) appears to produce a word meaningful in the apparent context.

ND 2800 (XCV; IM 64177; Plate 48)

Transliteration

- Obv. [a-n]a šarri bēlī-ia
 urad-ka^mx-[x]-ka-pa-hi-ir
 lu-u šulmu^{mu} a-na šarri bēlī-a
 issu muhhi eqlēti^{meš}
 5 ša amēl^šbēl pāhati ša ālgu-za-na
 i-pu-gu-ni ša šarru bēlī
 iš-pur-an-ni ma-a

eqlēti^{meš} *ina pa-ni-te-e*
[l]a-qi-^u? x x x

Translation

(1-3) To the king my lord your servant ...-ka-pahir. May it be well with the king my lord.

(4-6a) Concerning the fields that the Governor of Guzana took away by force, (6b-7) about which the king my lord sent a message asking: (8-9) 'Were the fields taken in the past? ...'

Notes

Top half (or slightly more) of small tablet. Extant part of rev. uninscribed.

2) ^mx-[x]-ka-pa-hi-ir. K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 82 tentatively suggests a restoration ^maš-[šur-NUMUN]-ka-pa-hi-ir.

5) ^āl_{gu}-za-na. City and province immediately west of Našibina, under direct rule since the time of Adad-nirari III.

9) *ina pa-ni-te-e*. After K. Deller, *Or.* 36 (1967), 82, the lengthened *-te-e* is taken to denote a question.

ND 2802 (IM 64178; Plate 37)

[Insufficient is intelligible to warrant a transliteration and translation.]

Notes

A small tablet, largely complete except for part of left side, with text too severely abraded to give consecutive sense, although there is evidence for the introductory formula in lines 1-4, and the phrase *šarri bēlī-ia* occurs at least twice later. About half of rev. is uninscribed.

ND 2479 (BSAI)

Notes

Tablet with very rough surface, inscribed in NB script parallel to long axis and probably not a letter. 7 lines on obv., 3 on rev., of which very little is legible. Not copied.

ND 2688 (BSAI)

Notes

Most of upper part of tablet. Obv. bears 8 complete and 4 partial lines, rev. 6 partial and 1 complete line, plus 25 mm uninscribed. Legible section of obv. reads:

Obv. [a]-na šarri be-l[ī-ia]
[u]rad-ka ^m... ..
lu šulmu^{mu} a-na ša[rri]
be-lī-ia
5 ina muhhi ŠE ...
ša šarru be-lī

iš-pur-an-ni

... .. MEŠ

Remainder of obv. and rev. illegible. Not copied.

ND 2704 (BSAI)

Notes

Top half of small tablet. 7 lines on obv., 3 lines on rev., all almost illegible. Not copied.

ND 2753 (BSAI)

Notes

Complete tablet. Obv. bears traces of 12 or 13 lines, of which the only legible signs are LÚ.GAL in line 3. Rev. bears 6 lines, then a space of 30 mm, then 1 line, then a space of 10 mm, suggesting that this may not be a letter. Rev. is in part legible but insufficient to give significant information. Not copied.

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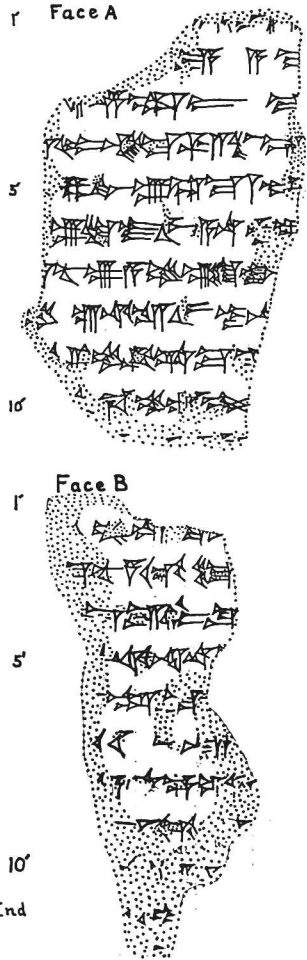
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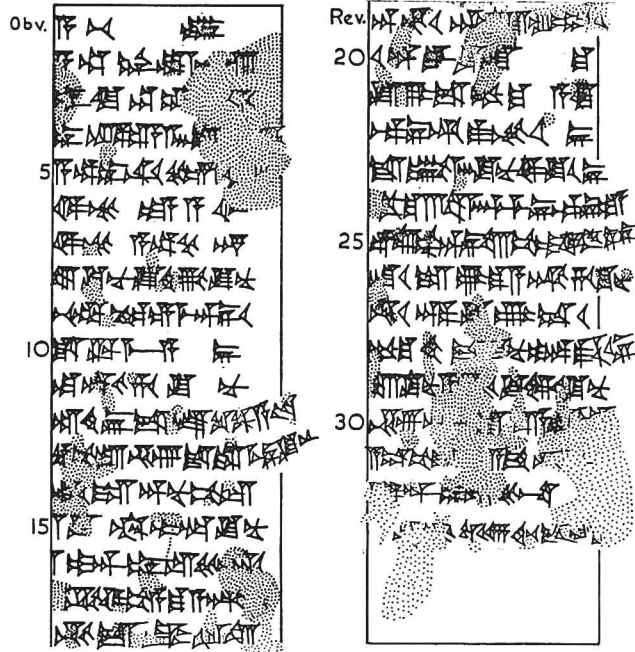
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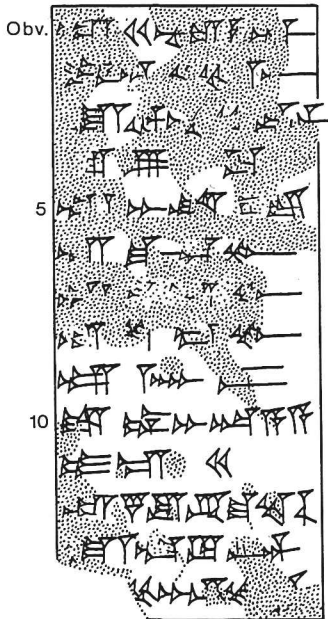
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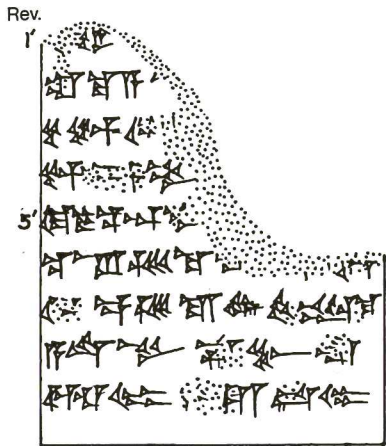
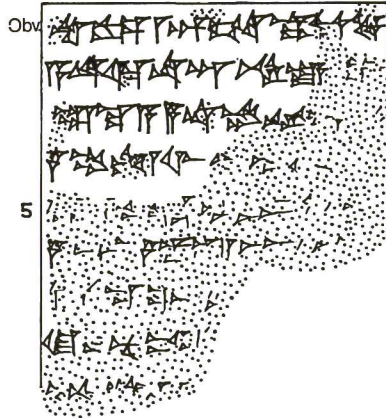
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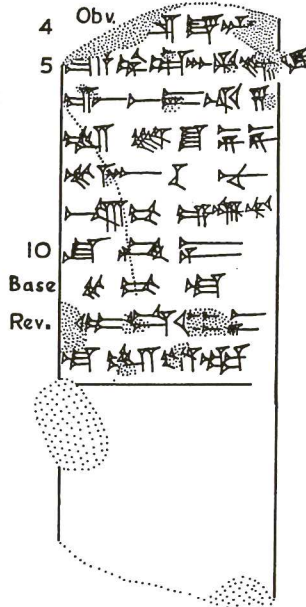
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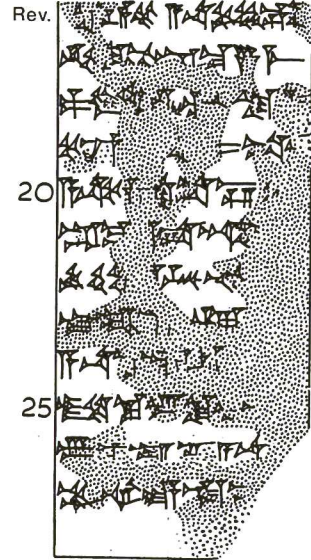
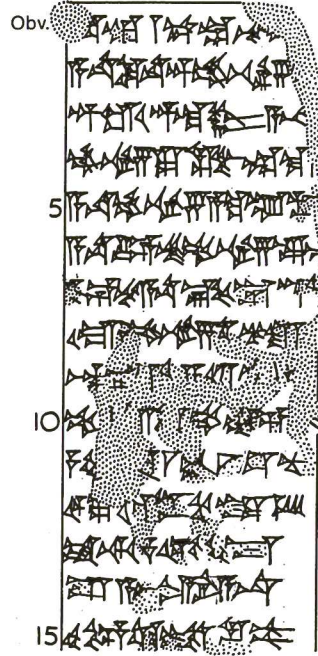
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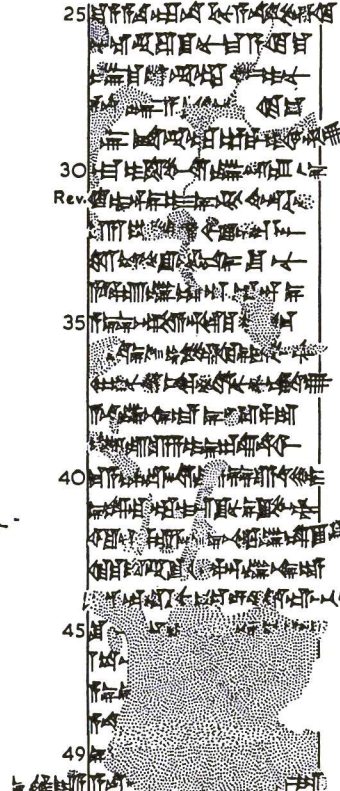
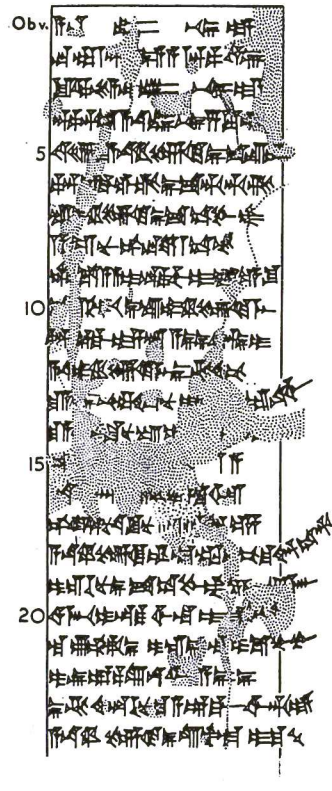
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ND 2663

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ND 2663 (cont.)

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ND 2365

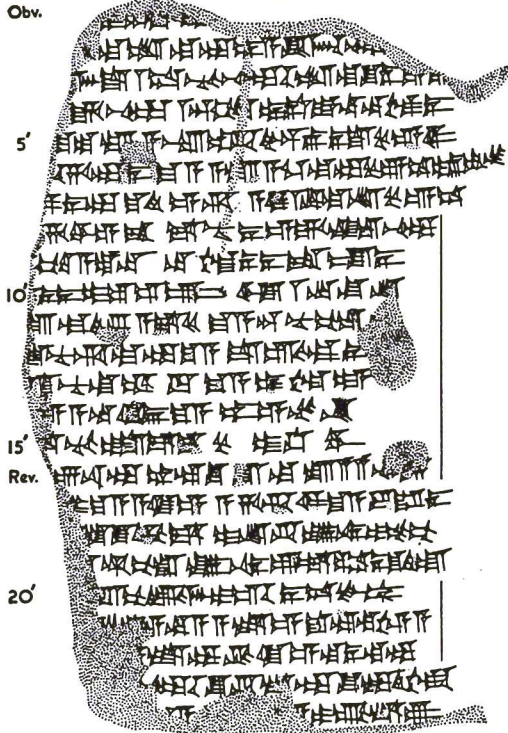
Obv.

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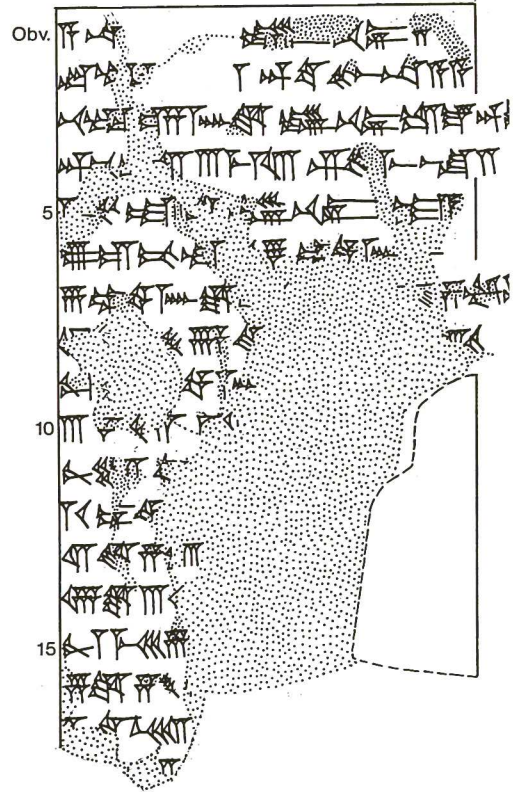
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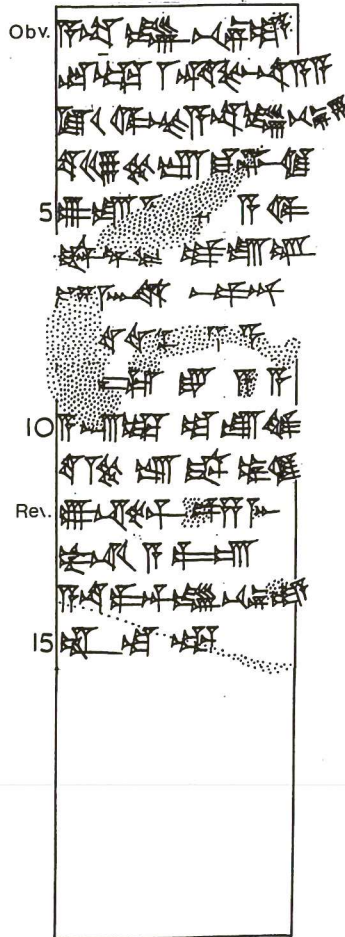
ND 2603



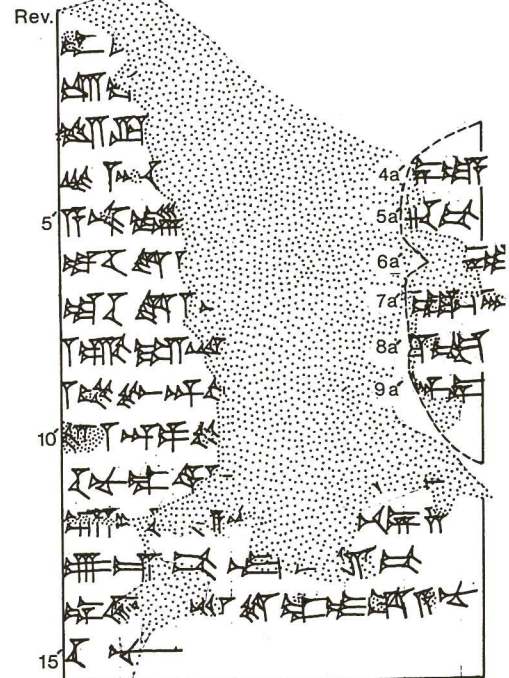
ND 2630



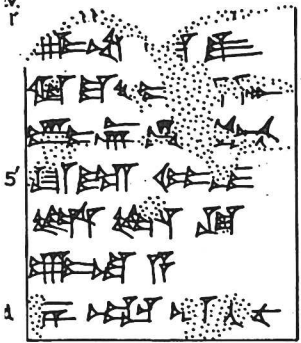
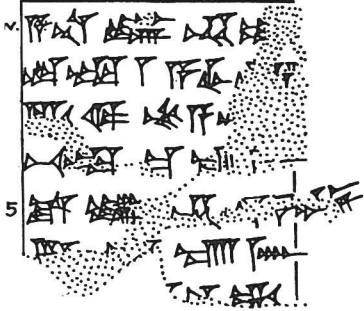
ND 2628



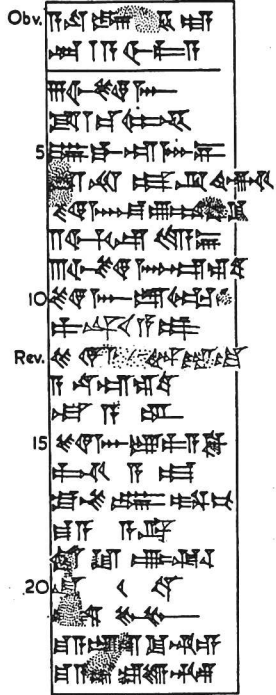
ND 2630 (cont.)



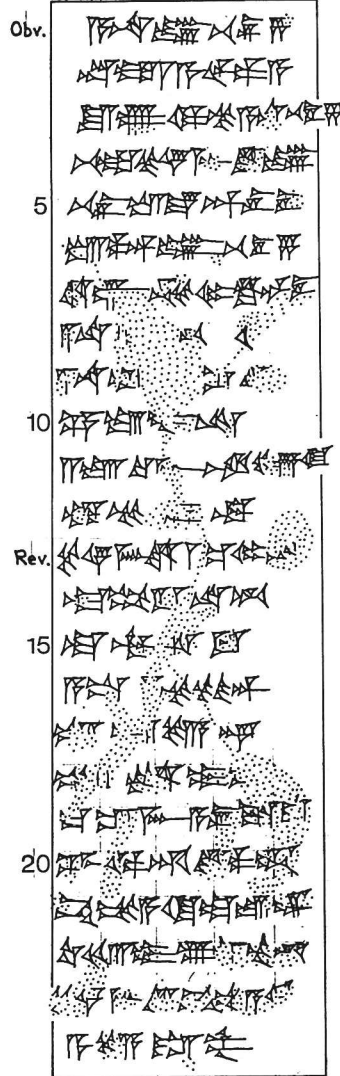
ND 2418



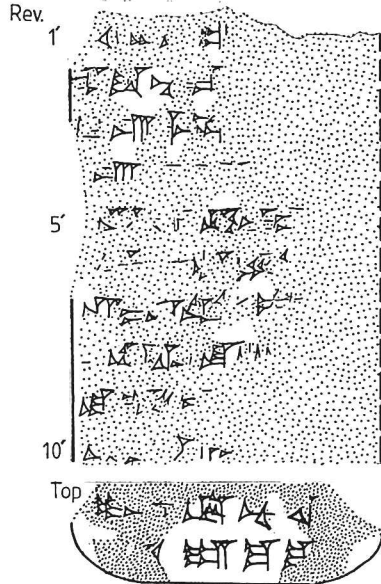
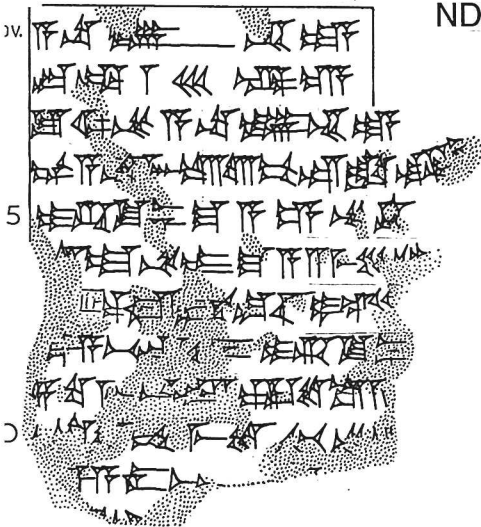
ND 2452



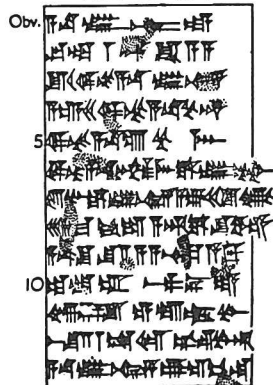
ND 2623



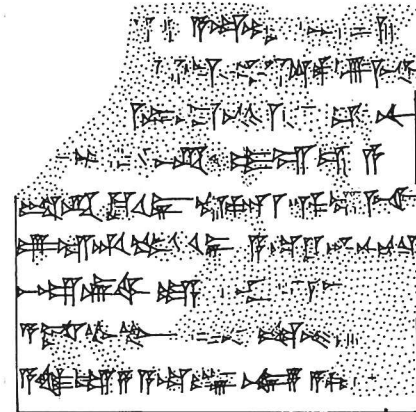
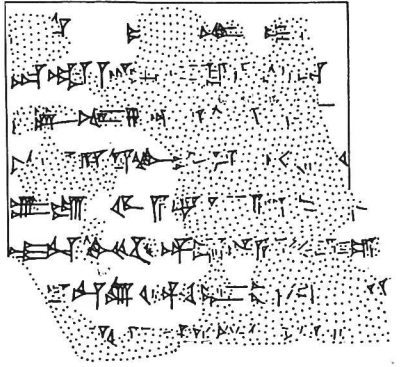
ND 2729



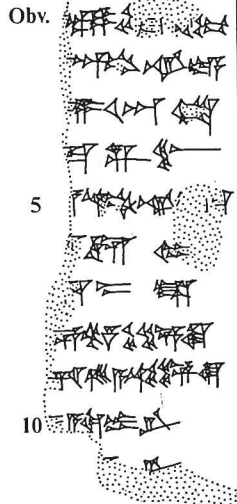
ND 2792



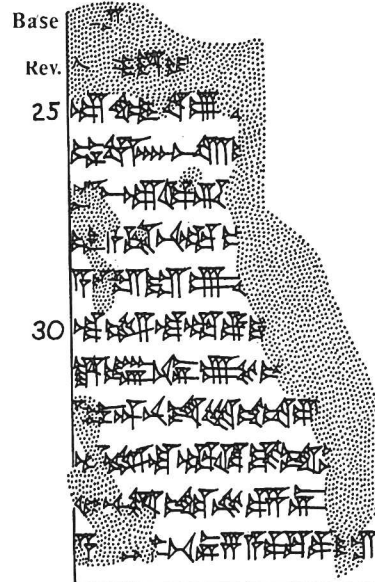
ND 2444



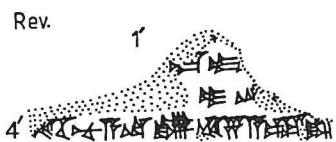
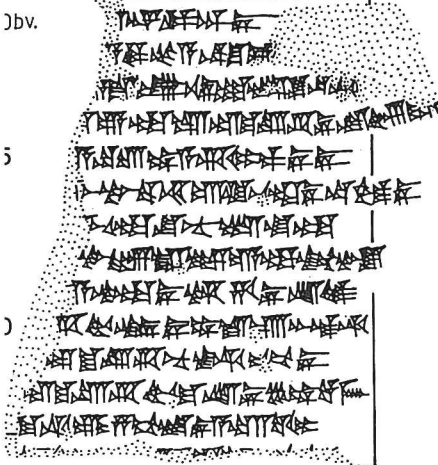
ND 2065



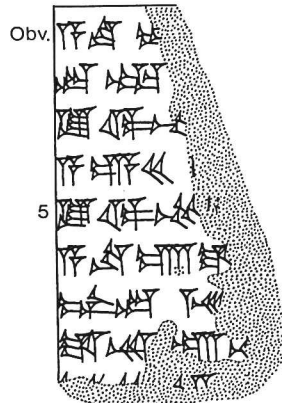
ND 2761



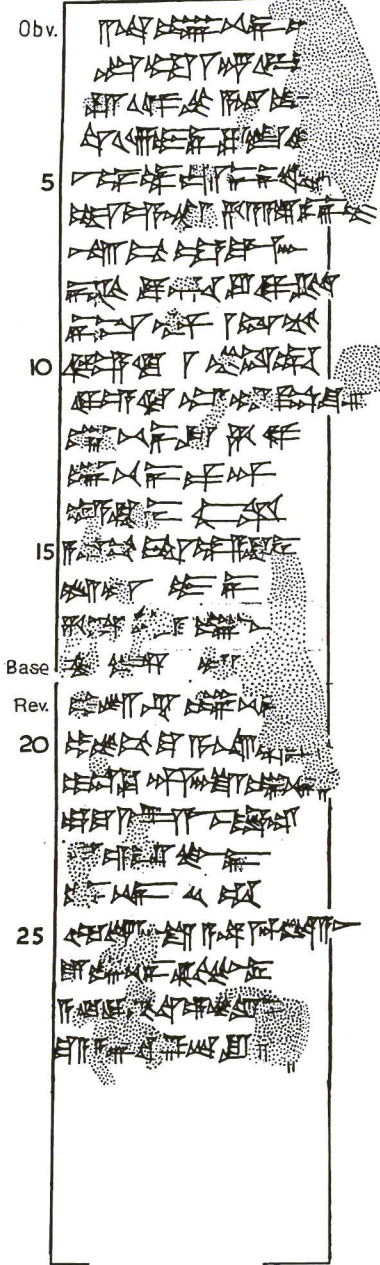
ND 2602



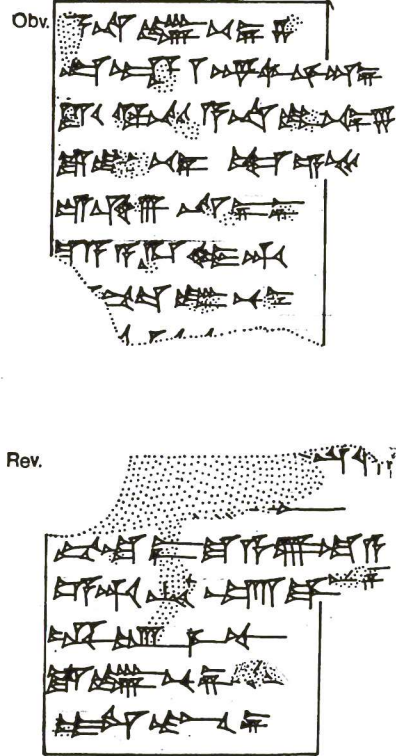
ND 2469



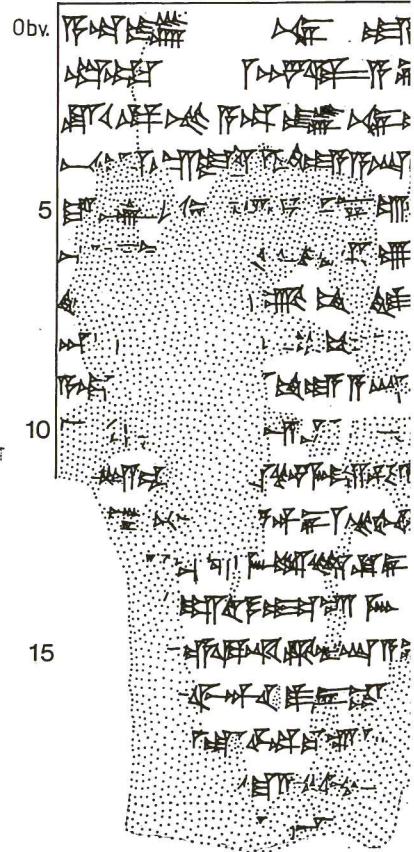
ND 2385



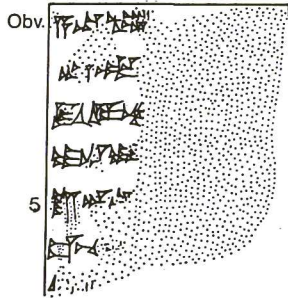
ND 2455



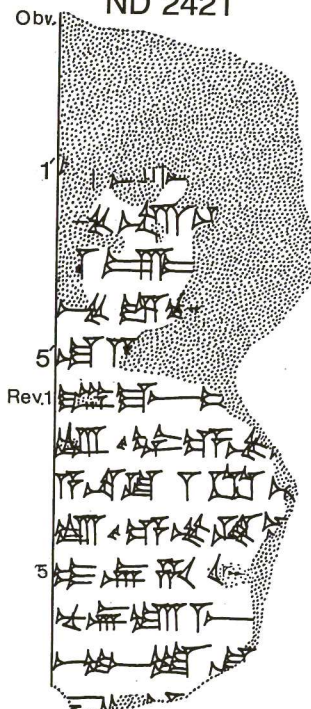
ND 2350



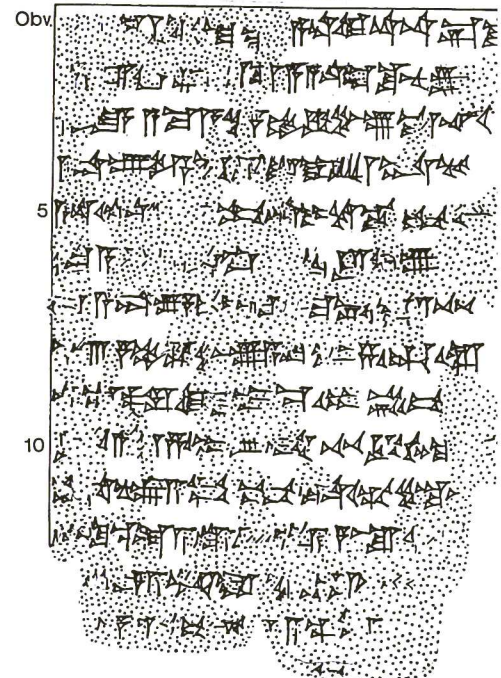
ND 2062



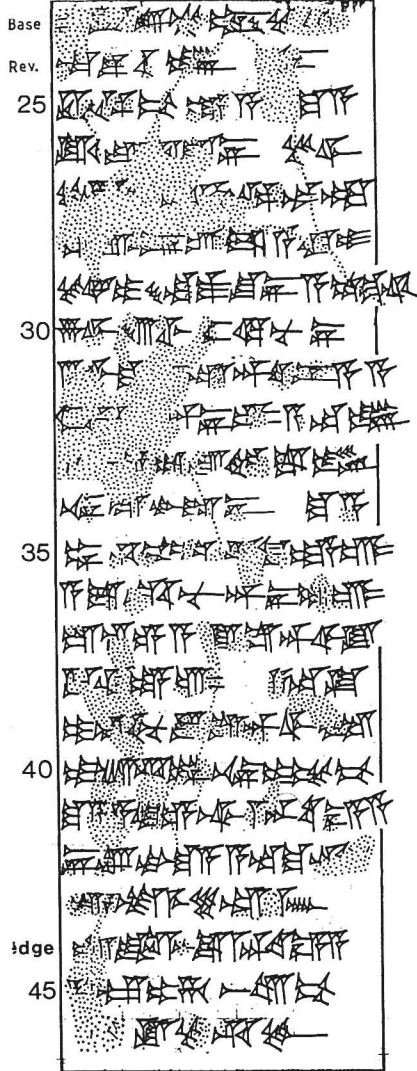
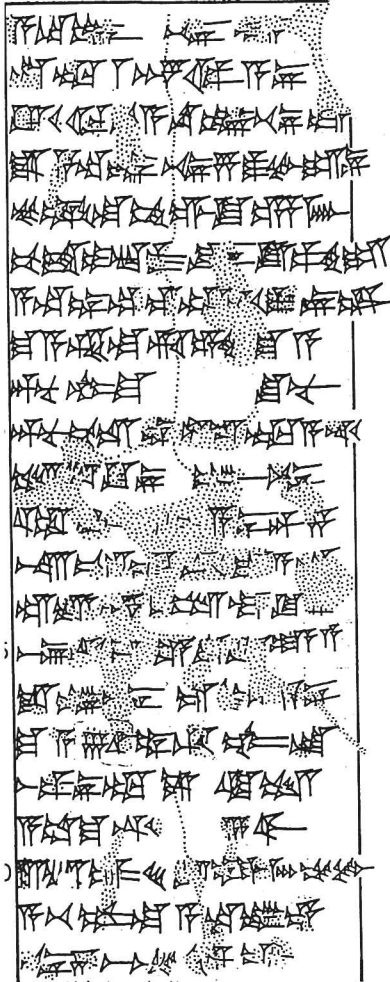
ND 2421



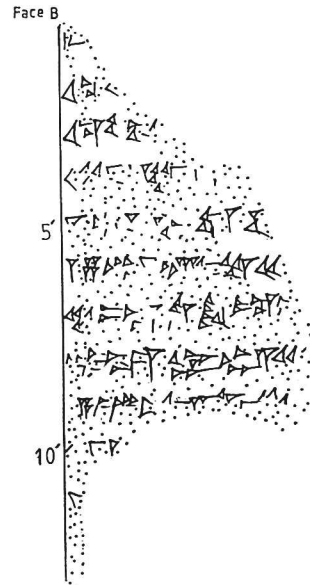
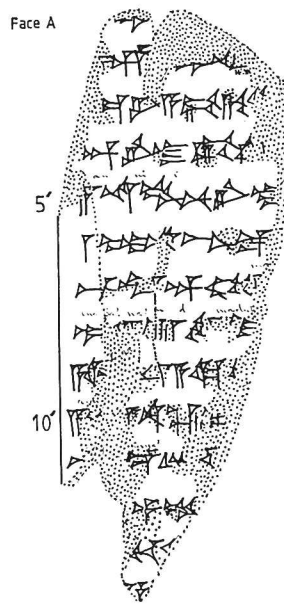
ND 2388



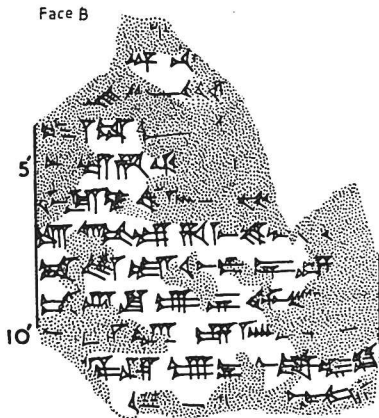
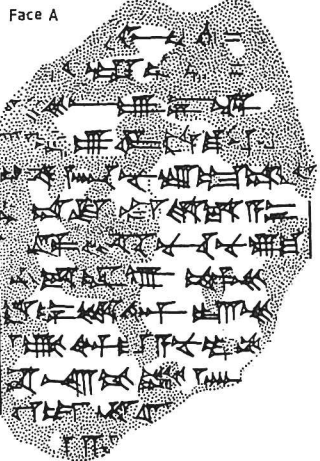
ND 2634



ND 2358



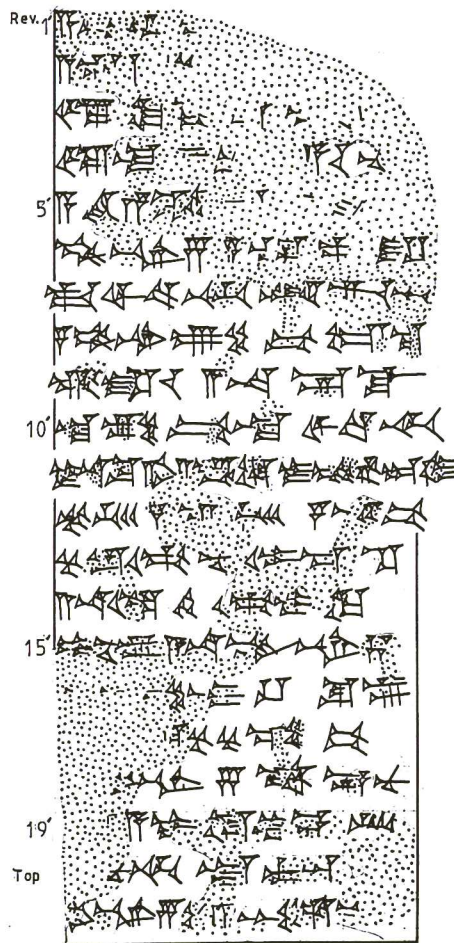
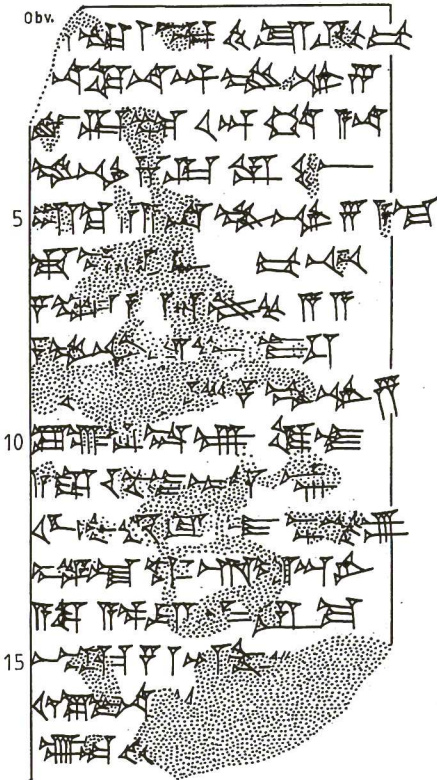
ND 2360



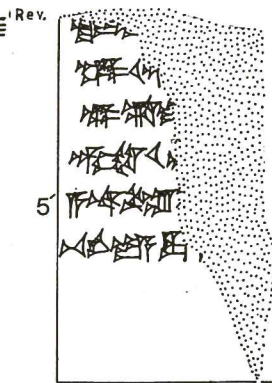
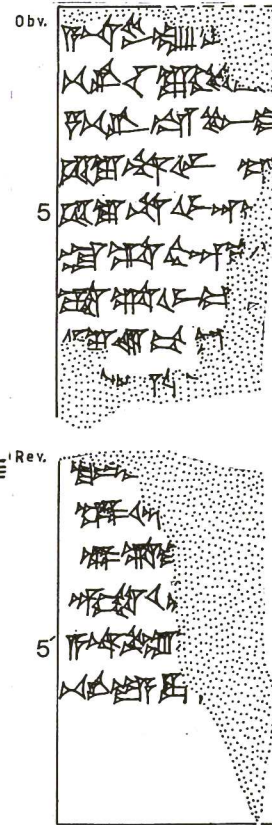
ND 2747



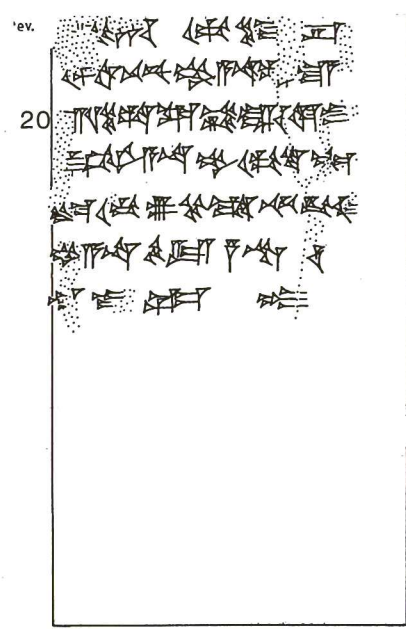
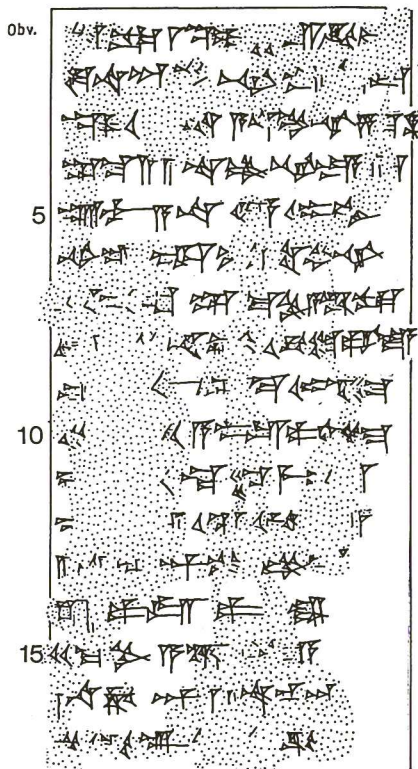
ND 2689



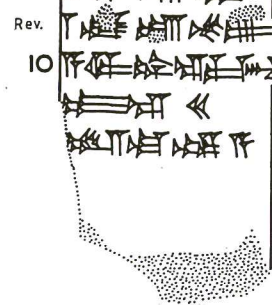
ND 2391



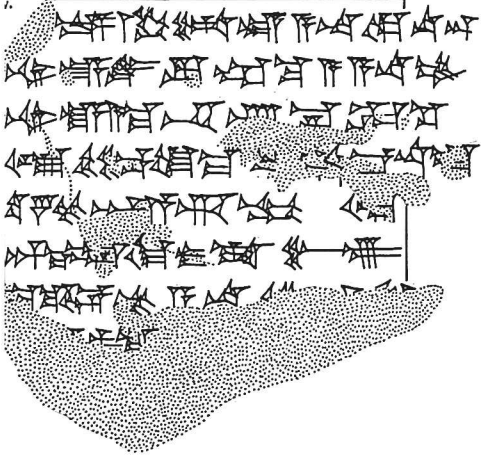
ND 2478



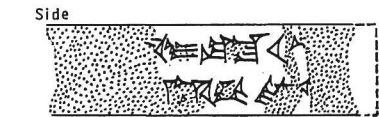
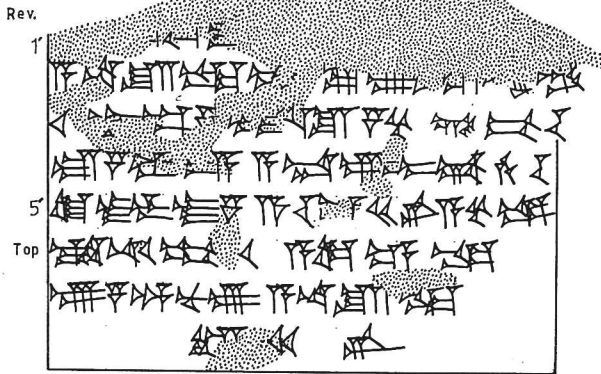
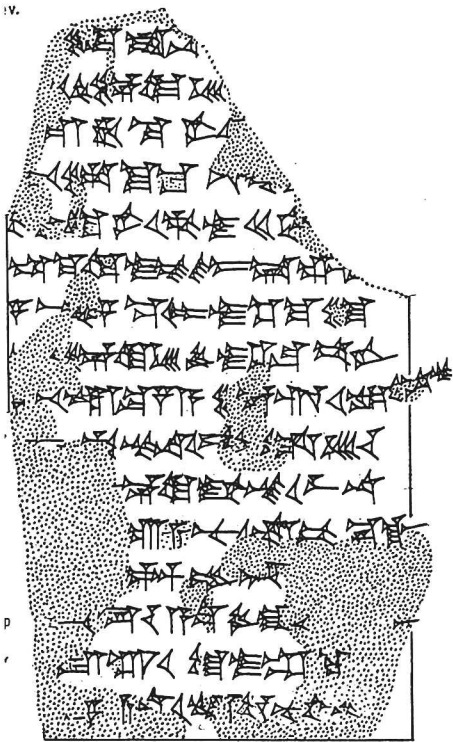
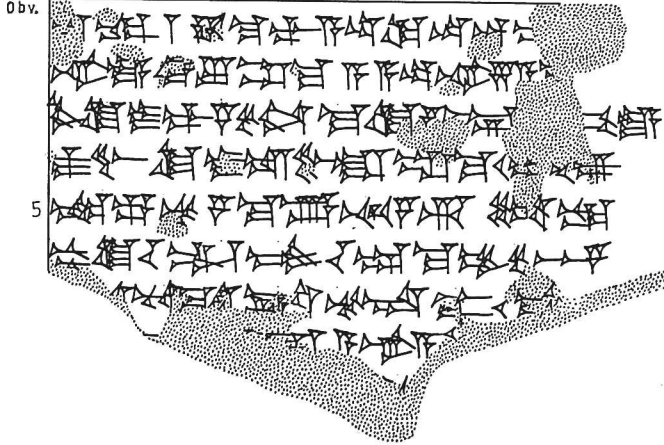
ND 2696



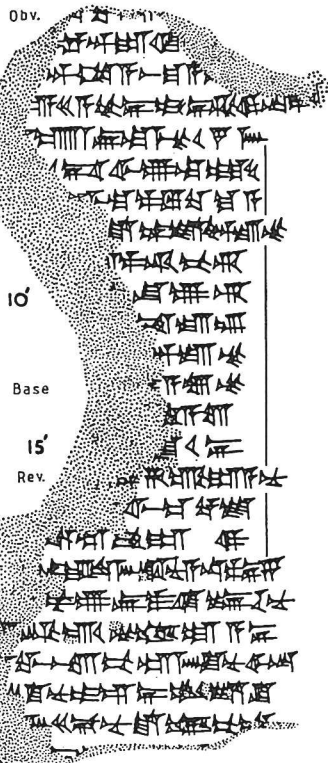
ND 2710



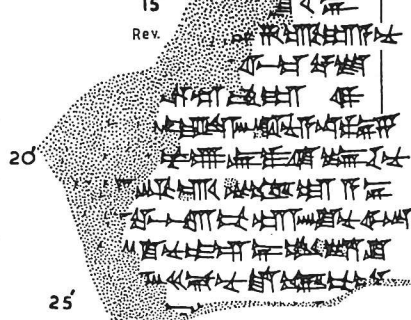
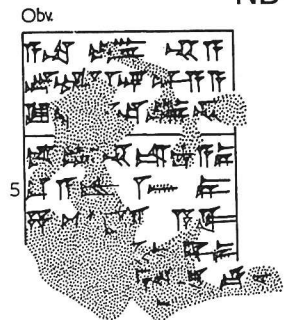
ND 2398



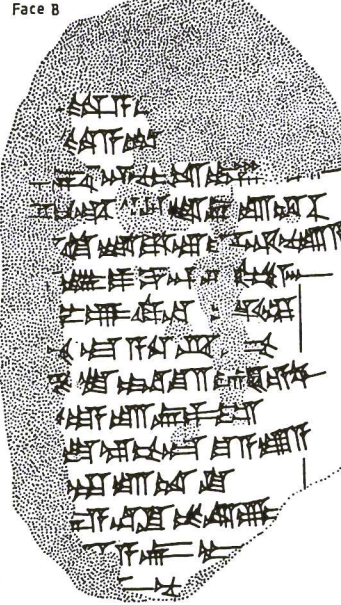
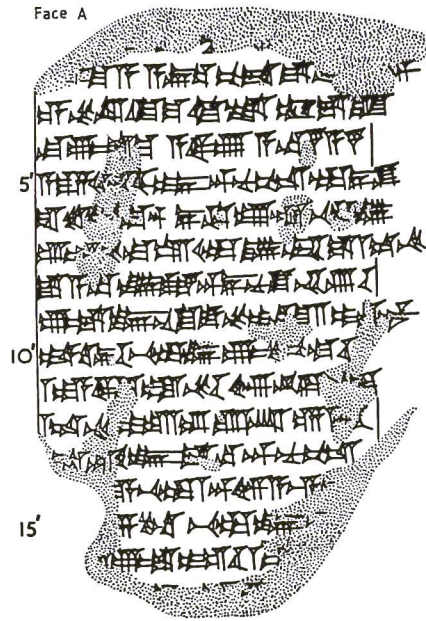
ND 2779



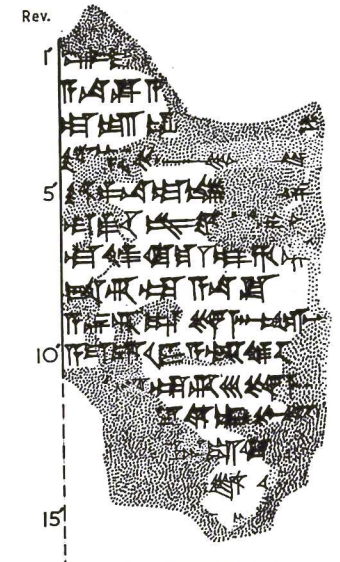
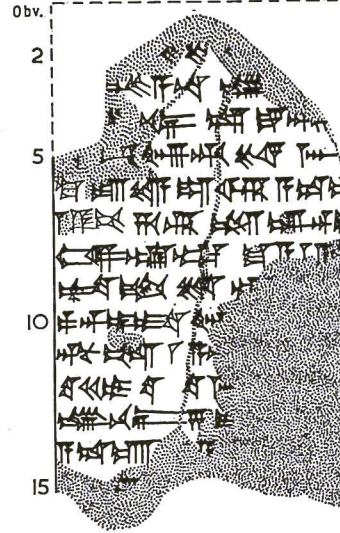
ND 2379



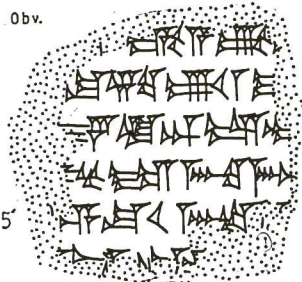
ND 2700



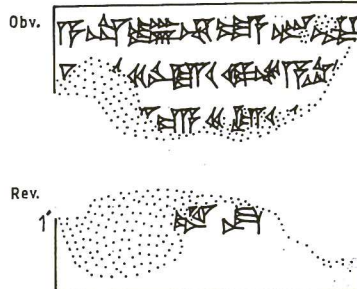
ND 2357



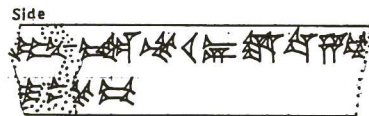
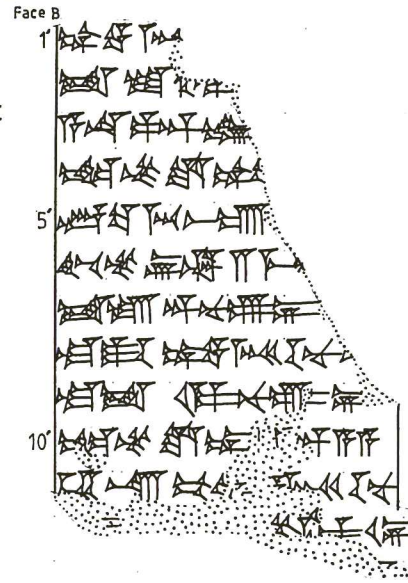
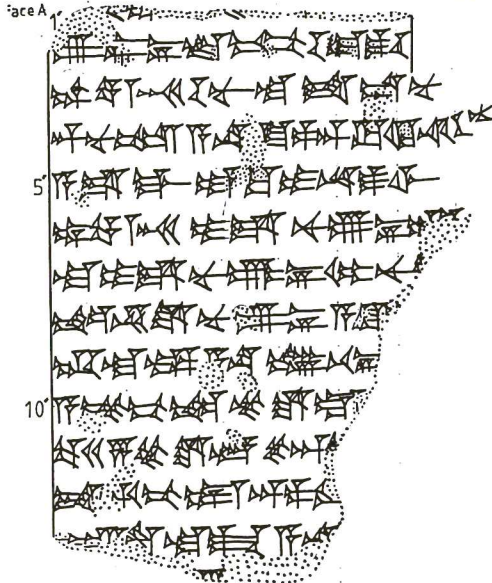
ND 2752



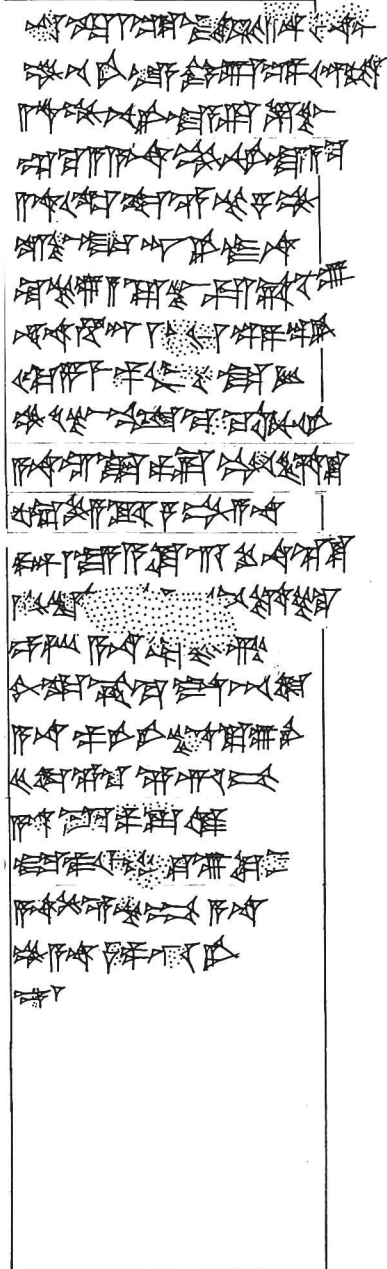
ND 2763



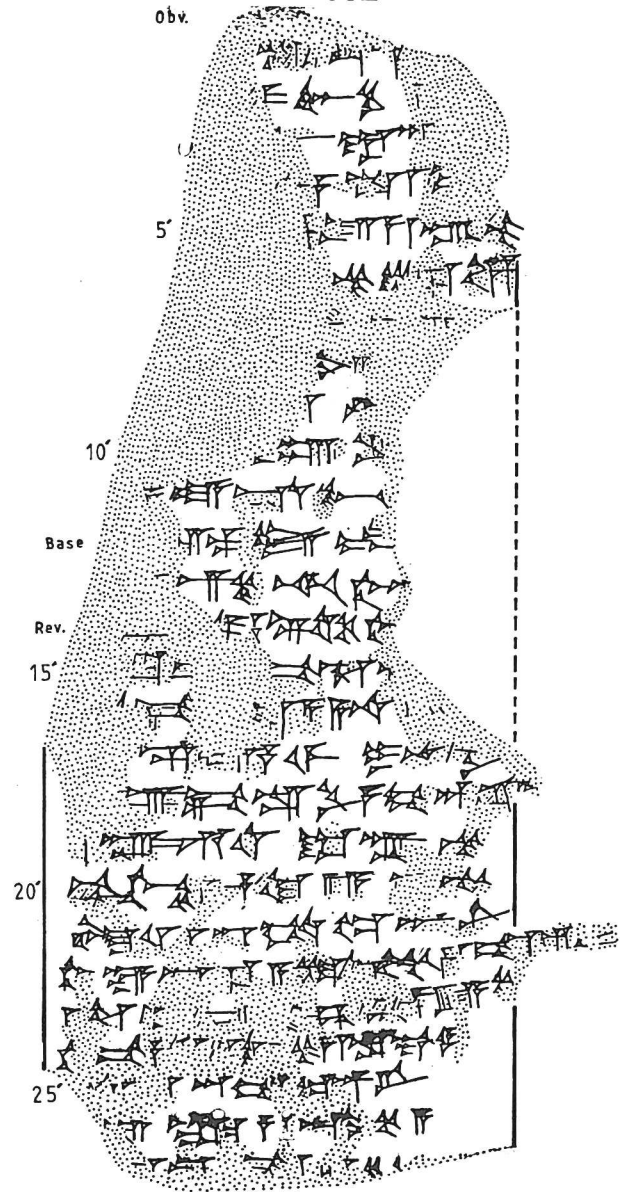
ND 2493



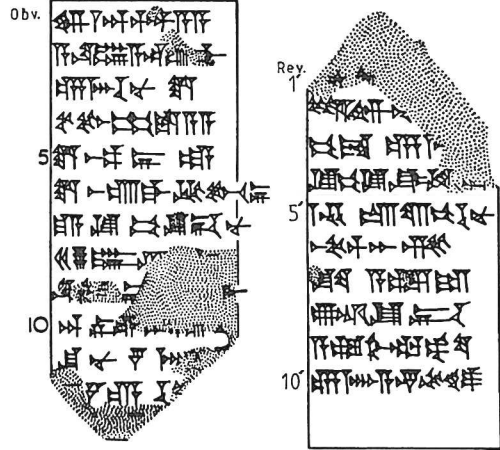
ND 2681



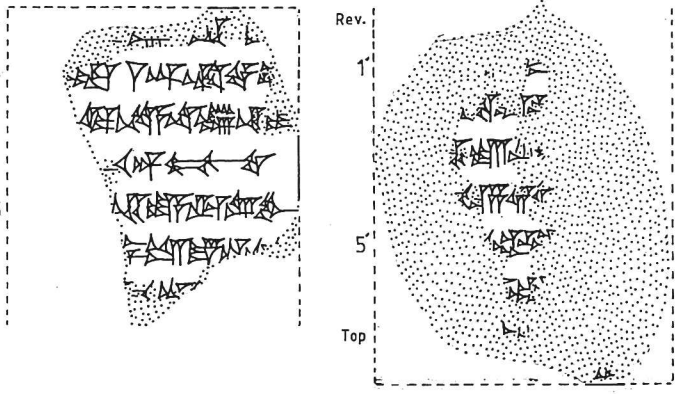
ND 2352



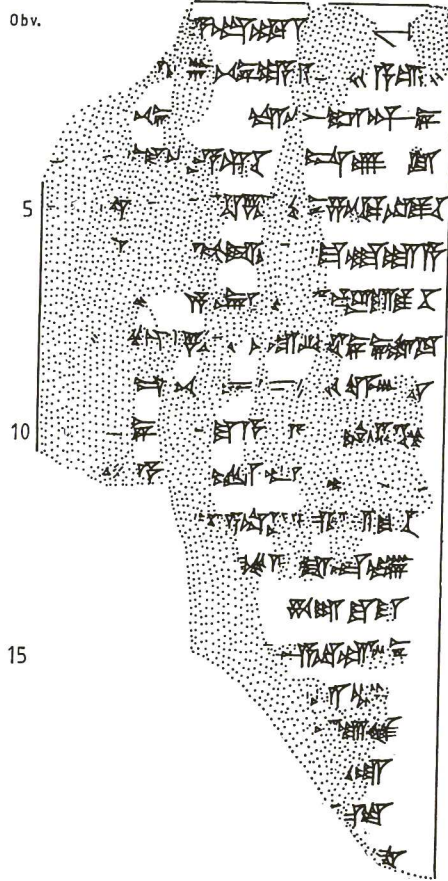
ND 2470



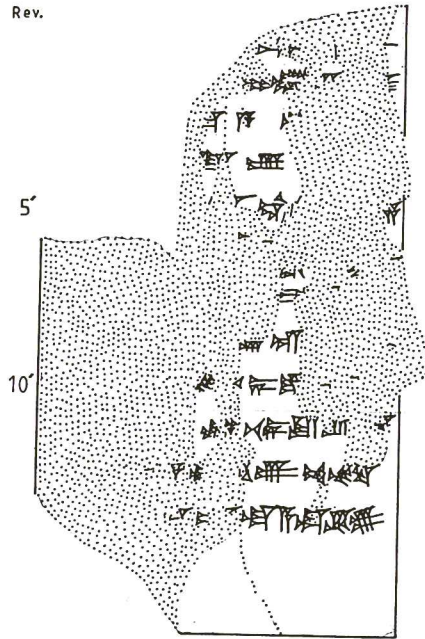
ND 2797



ND 2400



Rev.

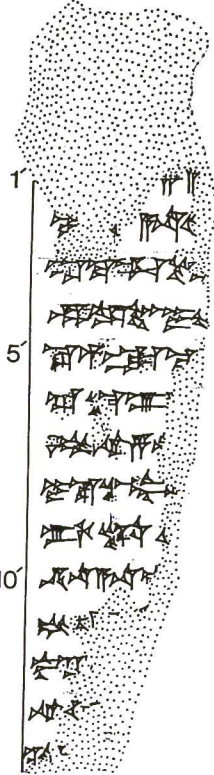


ND 2368

Face A (Obv.?)

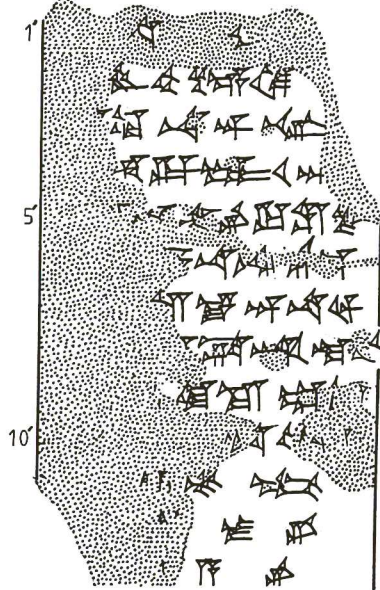


Face B (Rev.?)

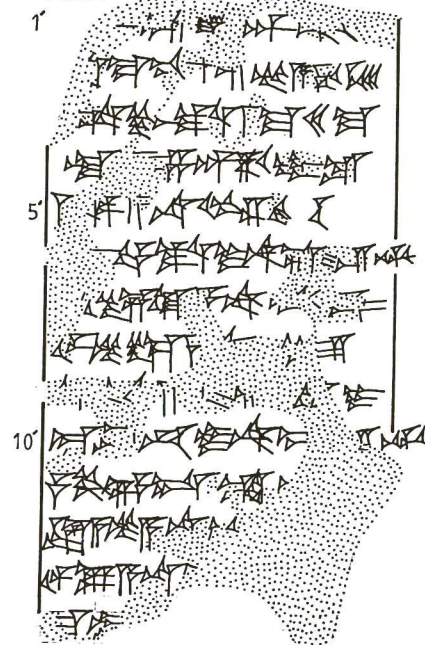


ND 2403

Face A (Obv.?)



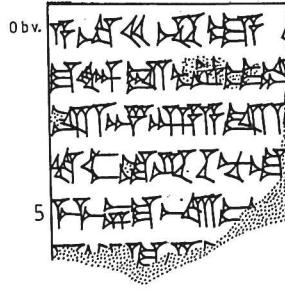
Face B (Rev.?)



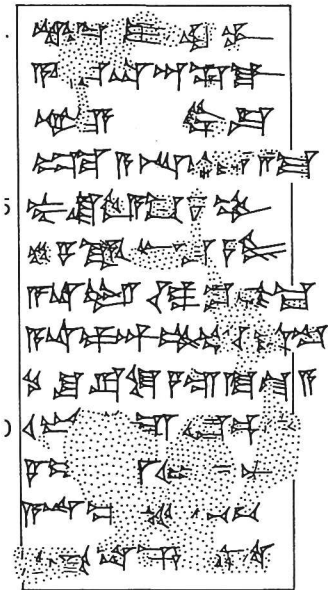
ND 2636



ND 2473



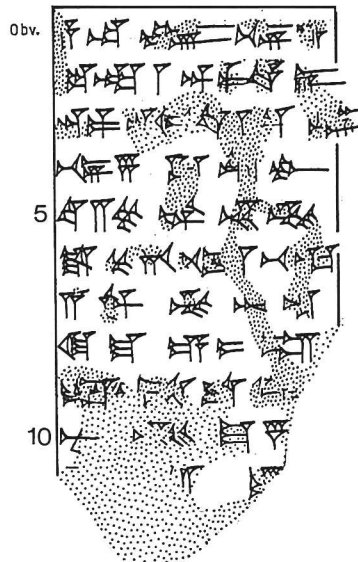
ND 2412



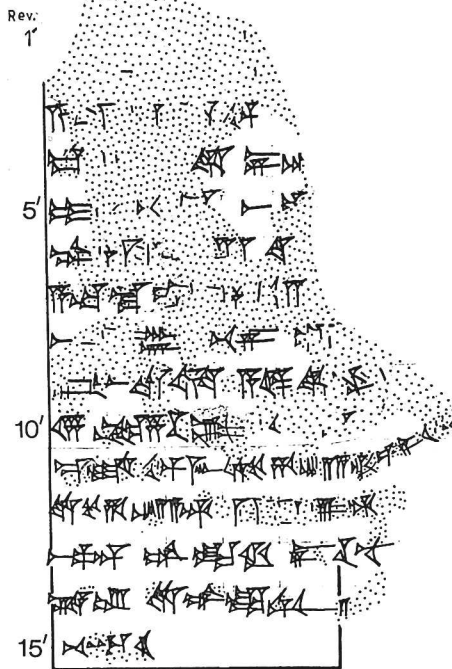
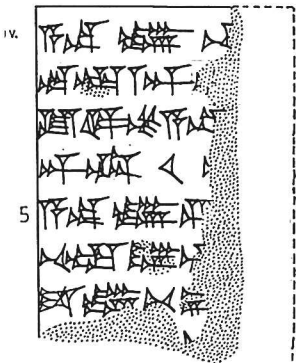
ND 2419



ND 2411



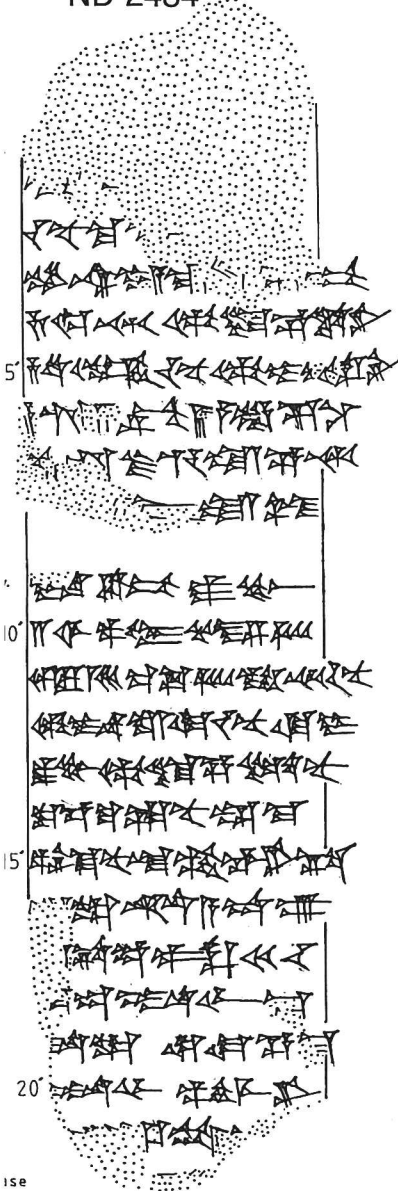
ND 2474



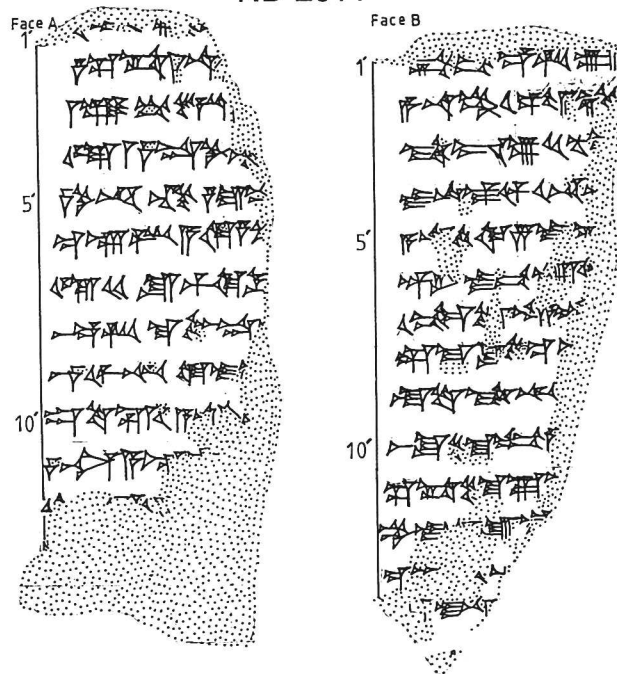
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Obv. 1 𐎠𐎡𐎢𐎣𐎤𐎥𐎦𐎧𐎨𐎩𐎪𐎫𐎬𐎭𐎮𐎯𐎰𐎱𐎲𐎳𐎴𐎵𐎶𐎷𐎸𐎹𐎺𐎻𐎼𐎽𐎾𐎿𐏀𐏁𐏂𐏃𐏄𐏅𐏆𐏇𐏈𐏉𐏊𐏋𐏌𐏍𐏎𐏏𐏐𐏑𐏒𐏓𐏔𐏕𐏖𐏗𐏘𐏙𐏚𐏛𐏜𐏝𐏞𐏟𐏠𐏡𐏢𐏣𐏤𐏥𐏦𐏧𐏨𐏩𐏪𐏫𐏬𐏭𐏮𐏯𐏰𐏱𐏲𐏳𐏴𐏵𐏶𐏷𐏸𐏹𐏺𐏻𐏼𐏽𐏾𐏿𐐀𐐁𐐂𐐃𐐄𐐅𐐆𐐇𐐈𐐉𐐊𐐋𐐌𐐍𐐎𐐏𐐐𐐑𐐒𐐓𐐔𐐕𐐖𐐗𐐘𐐙𐐚𐐛𐐜𐐝𐐞𐐟𐐠𐐡𐐢𐐣𐐤𐐥𐐦𐐧𐐨𐐩𐐪𐐫𐐬𐐭𐐮𐐯𐐰𐐱𐐲𐐳𐐴𐐵𐐶𐐷𐐸𐐹𐐺𐐻𐐼𐐽𐐾𐐿𐑀𐑁𐑂𐑃𐑄𐑅𐑆𐑇𐑈𐑉𐑊𐑋𐑌𐑍𐑎𐑏𐑐𐑑𐑒𐑓𐑔𐑕𐑖𐑗𐑘𐑙𐑚𐑛𐑜𐑝𐑞𐑟𐑠𐑡𐑢𐑣𐑤𐑥𐑦𐑧𐑨𐑩𐑪𐑫𐑬𐑭𐑮𐑯𐑰𐑱𐑲𐑳𐑴𐑵𐑶𐑷𐑸𐑹𐑺𐑻𐑼𐑽𐑾𐑿𐒀𐒁𐒂𐒃𐒄𐒅𐒆𐒇𐒈𐒉𐒊𐒋𐒌𐒍𐒎𐒏𐒐𐒑𐒒𐒓𐒔𐒕𐒖𐒗𐒘𐒙𐒚𐒛𐒜𐒝𐒞𐒟𐒠𐒡𐒢𐒣𐒤𐒥𐒦𐒧𐒨𐒩𐒪𐒫𐒬𐒭𐒮𐒯𐒰𐒱𐒲𐒳𐒴𐒵𐒶𐒷𐒸𐒹𐒺𐒻𐒼𐒽𐒾𐒿𐓀𐓁𐓂𐓃𐓄𐓅𐓆𐓇𐓈𐓉𐓊𐓋𐓌𐓍𐓎𐓏𐓐𐓑𐓒𐓓𐓔𐓕𐓖𐓗𐓘𐓙𐓚𐓛𐓜𐓝𐓞𐓟𐓠𐓡𐓢𐓣𐓤𐓥𐓦𐓧𐓨𐓩𐓪𐓫𐓬𐓭𐓮𐓯𐓰𐓱𐓲𐓳𐓴𐓵𐓶𐓷𐓸𐓹𐓺𐓻𐓼𐓽𐓾𐓿𐔀𐔁𐔂𐔃𐔄𐔅𐔆𐔇𐔈𐔉𐔊𐔋𐔌𐔍𐔎𐔏𐔐𐔑𐔒𐔓𐔔𐔕𐔖𐔗𐔘𐔙𐔚𐔛𐔜𐔝𐔞𐔟𐔠𐔡𐔢𐔣𐔤𐔥𐔦𐔧𐔨𐔩𐔪𐔫𐔬𐔭𐔮𐔯𐔰𐔱𐔲𐔳𐔴𐔵𐔶𐔷𐔸𐔹𐔺𐔻𐔼𐔽𐔾𐔿𐕀𐕁𐕂𐕃𐕄𐕅𐕆𐕇𐕈𐕉𐕊𐕋𐕌𐕍𐕎𐕏𐕐𐕑𐕒𐕓𐕔𐕕𐕖𐕗𐕘𐕙𐕚𐕛𐕜𐕝𐕞𐕟𐕠𐕡𐕢𐕣𐕤𐕥𐕦𐕧𐕨𐕩𐕪𐕫𐕬𐕭𐕮𐕯𐕰𐕱𐕲𐕳𐕴𐕵𐕶𐕷𐕸𐕹𐕺𐕻𐕼𐕽𐕾𐕿𐖀𐖁𐖂𐖃𐖄𐖅𐖆𐖇𐖈𐖉𐖊𐖋𐖌𐖍𐖎𐖏𐖐𐖑𐖒𐖓𐖔𐖕𐖖𐖗𐖘𐖙𐖚𐖛𐖜𐖝𐖞𐖟𐖠𐖡𐖢𐖣𐖤𐖥𐖦𐖧𐖨𐖩𐖪𐖫𐖬𐖭𐖮𐖯𐖰𐖱𐖲𐖳𐖴𐖵𐖶𐖷𐖸𐖹𐖺𐖻𐖼𐖽𐖾𐖿𐗀𐗁𐗂𐗃𐗄𐗅𐗆𐗇𐗈𐗉𐗊𐗋𐗌𐗍𐗎𐗏𐗐𐗑𐗒𐗓𐗔𐗕𐗖𐗗𐗘𐗙𐗚𐗛𐗜𐗝𐗞𐗟𐗠𐗡𐗢𐗣𐗤𐗥𐗦𐗧𐗨𐗩𐗪𐗫𐗬𐗭𐗮𐗯𐗰𐗱𐗲𐗳𐗴𐗵𐗶𐗷𐗸𐗹𐗺𐗻𐗼𐗽𐗾𐗿𐘀𐘁𐘂𐘃𐘄𐘅𐘆𐘇𐘈𐘉𐘊𐘋𐘌𐘍𐘎𐘏𐘐𐘑𐘒𐘓𐘔𐘕𐘖𐘗𐘘𐘙𐘚𐘛𐘜𐘝𐘞𐘟𐘠𐘡𐘢𐘣𐘤𐘥𐘦𐘧𐘨𐘩𐘪𐘫𐘬𐘭𐘮𐘯𐘰𐘱𐘲𐘳𐘴𐘵𐘶𐘷𐘸𐘹𐘺𐘻𐘼𐘽𐘾𐘿𐙀𐙁𐙂𐙃𐙄𐙅𐙆𐙇𐙈𐙉𐙊𐙋𐙌𐙍𐙎𐙏𐙐𐙑𐙒𐙓𐙔𐙕𐙖𐙗𐙘𐙙𐙚𐙛𐙜𐙝𐙞𐙟𐙠𐙡𐙢𐙣𐙤𐙥𐙦𐙧𐙨𐙩𐙪𐙫𐙬𐙭𐙮𐙯𐙰𐙱𐙲𐙳𐙴𐙵𐙶𐙷𐙸𐙹𐙺𐙻𐙼𐙽𐙾𐙿𐚀𐚁𐚂𐚃𐚄𐚅𐚆𐚇𐚈𐚉𐚊𐚋𐚌𐚍𐚎𐚏𐚐𐚑𐚒𐚓𐚔𐚕𐚖𐚗𐚘𐚙𐚚𐚛𐚜𐚝𐚞𐚟𐚠𐚡𐚢𐚣𐚤𐚥𐚦𐚧𐚨𐚩𐚪𐚫𐚬𐚭𐚮𐚯𐚰𐚱𐚲𐚳𐚴𐚵𐚶𐚷𐚸𐚹𐚺𐚻𐚼𐚽𐚾𐚿𐛀𐛁𐛂𐛃𐛄𐛅𐛆𐛇𐛈𐛉𐛊𐛋𐛌𐛍𐛎𐛏𐛐𐛑𐛒𐛓𐛔𐛕𐛖𐛗𐛘𐛙𐛚𐛛𐛜𐛝𐛞𐛟𐛠𐛡𐛢𐛣𐛤𐛥𐛦𐛧𐛨𐛩𐛪𐛫𐛬𐛭𐛮𐛯𐛰𐛱𐛲𐛳𐛴𐛵𐛶𐛷𐛸𐛹𐛺𐛻𐛼𐛽𐛾𐛿𐜀𐜁𐜂𐜃𐜄𐜅𐜆𐜇𐜈𐜉𐜊𐜋𐜌𐜍𐜎𐜏𐜐𐜑𐜒𐜓𐜔𐜕𐜖𐜗𐜘𐜙𐜚𐜛𐜜𐜝𐜞𐜟𐜠𐜡𐜢𐜣𐜤𐜥𐜦𐜧𐜨𐜩𐜪𐜫𐜬𐜭𐜮𐜯𐜰𐜱𐜲𐜳𐜴𐜵𐜶𐜷𐜸𐜹𐜺𐜻𐜼𐜽𐜾𐜿𐝀𐝁𐝂𐝃𐝄𐝅𐝆𐝇𐝈𐝉𐝊𐝋𐝌𐝍𐝎𐝏𐝐𐝑𐝒𐝓𐝔𐝕𐝖𐝗𐝘𐝙𐝚𐝛𐝜𐝝𐝞𐝟𐝠𐝡𐝢𐝣𐝤𐝥𐝦𐝧𐝨𐝩𐝪𐝫𐝬𐝭𐝮𐝯𐝰𐝱𐝲𐝳𐝴𐝵𐝶𐝷𐝸𐝹𐝺𐝻𐝼𐝽𐝾𐝿𐞀𐞁𐞂𐞃𐞄𐞅𐞆𐞇𐞈𐞉𐞊𐞋𐞌𐞍𐞎𐞏𐞐𐞑𐞒𐞓𐞔𐞕𐞖𐞗𐞘𐞙𐞚𐞛𐞜𐞝𐞞𐞟𐞠𐞡𐞢𐞣𐞤𐞥𐞦𐞧𐞨𐞩𐞪𐞫𐞬𐞭𐞮𐞯𐞰𐞱𐞲𐞳𐞴𐞵𐞶𐞷𐞸𐞹𐞺𐞻𐞼𐞽𐞾𐞿𐟀𐟁𐟂𐟃𐟄𐟅𐟆𐟇𐟈𐟉𐟊𐟋𐟌𐟍𐟎𐟏𐟐𐟑𐟒𐟓𐟔𐟕𐟖𐟗𐟘𐟙𐟚𐟛𐟜𐟝𐟞𐟟𐟠𐟡𐟢𐟣𐟤𐟥𐟦𐟧𐟨𐟩𐟪𐟫𐟬𐟭𐟮𐟯𐟰𐟱𐟲𐟳𐟴𐟵𐟶𐟷𐟸𐟹𐟺𐟻𐟼𐟽𐟾𐟿𐠀𐠁𐠂𐠃𐠄𐠅𐠆𐠇𐠈𐠉𐠊𐠋𐠌𐠍𐠎𐠏𐠐𐠑𐠒𐠓𐠔𐠕𐠖𐠗𐠘𐠙𐠚𐠛𐠜𐠝𐠞𐠟𐠠𐠡𐠢𐠣𐠤𐠥𐠦𐠧𐠨𐠩𐠪𐠫𐠬𐠭𐠮𐠯𐠰𐠱𐠲𐠳𐠴𐠵𐠶𐠷𐠸𐠹𐠺𐠻𐠼𐠽𐠾𐠿𐡀𐡁𐡂𐡃𐡄𐡅𐡆𐡇𐡈𐡉𐡊𐡋𐡌𐡍𐡎𐡏𐡐𐡑𐡒𐡓𐡔𐡕𐡖𐡗𐡘𐡙𐡚𐡛𐡜𐡝𐡞𐡟𐡠𐡡𐡢𐡣𐡤𐡥𐡦𐡧𐡨𐡩𐡪𐡫𐡬𐡭𐡮𐡯𐡰𐡱𐡲𐡳𐡴𐡵𐡶𐡷𐡸𐡹𐡺𐡻𐡼𐡽𐡾𐡿𐢀𐢁𐢂𐢃𐢄𐢅𐢆𐢇𐢈𐢉𐢊𐢋𐢌𐢍𐢎𐢏𐢐𐢑𐢒𐢓𐢔𐢕𐢖𐢗𐢘𐢙𐢚𐢛𐢜𐢝𐢞𐢟𐢠𐢡𐢢𐢣𐢤𐢥𐢦𐢧𐢨𐢩𐢪𐢫𐢬𐢭𐢮𐢯𐢰𐢱𐢲𐢳𐢴𐢵𐢶𐢷𐢸𐢹𐢺𐢻𐢼𐢽𐢾𐢿𐣀𐣁𐣂𐣃𐣄𐣅𐣆𐣇𐣈𐣉𐣊𐣋𐣌𐣍𐣎𐣏𐣐𐣑𐣒𐣓𐣔𐣕𐣖𐣗𐣘𐣙𐣚𐣛𐣜𐣝𐣞𐣟𐣠𐣡𐣢𐣣𐣤𐣥𐣦𐣧𐣨𐣩𐣪𐣫𐣬𐣭𐣮𐣯𐣰𐣱𐣲𐣳𐣴𐣵𐣶𐣷𐣸𐣹𐣺𐣻𐣼𐣽𐣾𐣿𐤀𐤁𐤂𐤃𐤄𐤅𐤆𐤇𐤈𐤉𐤊𐤋𐤌𐤍𐤎𐤏𐤐𐤑𐤒𐤓𐤔𐤕𐤖𐤗𐤘𐤙𐤚𐤛𐤜𐤝𐤞𐤟𐤠𐤡𐤢𐤣𐤤𐤥𐤦𐤧𐤨𐤩𐤪𐤫𐤬𐤭𐤮𐤯𐤰𐤱𐤲𐤳𐤴𐤵𐤶𐤷𐤸𐤹𐤺𐤻𐤼𐤽𐤾𐤿𐥀𐥁𐥂𐥃𐥄𐥅𐥆𐥇𐥈𐥉𐥊𐥋𐥌𐥍𐥎𐥏𐥐𐥑𐥒𐥓𐥔𐥕𐥖𐥗𐥘𐥙𐥚𐥛𐥜𐥝𐥞𐥟𐥠𐥡𐥢𐥣𐥤𐥥𐥦𐥧𐥨𐥩𐥪𐥫𐥬𐥭𐥮𐥯𐥰𐥱𐥲𐥳𐥴𐥵𐥶𐥷𐥸𐥹𐥺𐥻𐥼𐥽𐥾𐥿𐦀𐦁𐦂𐦃𐦄𐦅𐦆𐦇𐦈𐦉𐦊𐦋𐦌𐦍𐦎𐦏𐦐𐦑𐦒𐦓𐦔𐦕𐦖𐦗𐦘𐦙𐦚𐦛𐦜𐦝𐦞𐦟𐦠𐦡𐦢𐦣𐦤𐦥𐦦𐦧𐦨𐦩𐦪𐦫𐦬𐦭𐦮𐦯𐦰𐦱𐦲𐦳𐦴𐦵𐦶𐦷𐦸𐦹𐦺𐦻𐦼𐦽𐦾𐦿𐧀𐧁𐧂𐧃𐧄𐧅𐧆𐧇𐧈𐧉𐧊𐧋𐧌𐧍𐧎𐧏𐧐𐧑𐧒𐧓𐧔𐧕𐧖𐧗𐧘𐧙𐧚𐧛𐧜𐧝𐧞𐧟𐧠𐧡𐧢𐧣𐧤𐧥𐧦𐧧𐧨𐧩𐧪𐧫𐧬𐧭𐧮𐧯𐧰𐧱𐧲𐧳𐧴𐧵𐧶𐧷𐧸𐧹𐧺𐧻𐧼𐧽𐧾𐧿𐨀𐨁𐨂𐨃𐨄𐨅𐨆𐨇𐨈𐨉𐨊𐨋𐨌𐨍𐨎𐨏𐨐𐨑𐨒𐨓𐨔𐨕𐨖𐨗𐨘𐨙𐨚𐨛𐨜𐨝𐨞𐨟𐨠𐨡𐨢𐨣𐨤𐨥𐨦𐨧𐨨𐨩𐨪𐨫𐨬𐨭𐨮𐨯𐨰𐨱𐨲𐨳𐨴𐨵𐨶𐨷𐨹𐨺𐨸𐨻𐨼𐨽𐨾𐨿𐩀𐩁𐩂𐩃𐩄𐩅𐩆𐩇𐩈𐩉𐩊𐩋𐩌𐩍𐩎𐩏𐩐𐩑𐩒𐩓𐩔𐩕𐩖𐩗𐩘𐩙𐩚𐩛𐩜𐩝𐩞𐩟𐩠𐩡𐩢𐩣𐩤𐩥𐩦𐩧𐩨𐩩𐩪𐩫𐩬𐩭𐩮𐩯𐩰𐩱𐩲𐩳𐩴𐩵𐩶𐩷𐩸𐩹𐩺𐩻𐩼𐩽𐩾𐩿𐪀𐪁𐪂𐪃𐪄𐪅𐪆𐪇𐪈𐪉𐪊𐪋𐪌𐪍𐪎𐪏𐪐𐪑𐪒𐪓𐪔𐪕𐪖𐪗𐪘𐪙𐪚𐪛𐪜𐪝𐪞𐪟𐪠𐪡𐪢𐪣𐪤𐪥𐪦𐪧𐪨𐪩𐪪𐪫𐪬𐪭𐪮𐪯𐪰𐪱𐪲𐪳𐪴𐪵𐪶𐪷𐪸𐪹𐪺𐪻𐪼𐪽𐪾𐪿𐫀𐫁𐫂𐫃𐫄𐫅𐫆𐫇𐫈𐫉𐫊𐫋𐫌𐫍𐫎𐫏𐫐𐫑𐫒𐫓𐫔𐫕𐫖𐫗𐫘𐫙𐫚𐫛𐫜𐫝𐫞𐫟𐫠𐫡𐫢𐫣𐫤𐫦𐫥𐫧𐫨𐫩𐫪𐫫𐫬𐫭𐫮𐫯𐫰𐫱𐫲𐫳𐫴𐫵𐫶𐫷𐫸𐫹𐫺𐫻𐫼𐫽𐫾𐫿𐬀𐬁𐬂𐬃𐬄𐬅𐬆𐬇𐬈𐬉𐬊𐬋𐬌𐬍𐬎𐬏𐬐𐬑𐬒𐬓𐬔𐬕𐬖𐬗𐬘𐬙𐬚𐬛𐬜𐬝𐬞𐬟𐬠𐬡𐬢𐬣𐬤𐬥𐬦𐬧𐬨𐬩𐬪𐬫𐬬𐬭𐬮𐬯𐬰𐬱𐬲𐬳𐬴𐬵𐬶𐬷𐬸𐬹𐬺𐬻𐬼𐬽𐬾𐬿𐭀𐭁𐭂𐭃𐭄𐭅𐭆𐭇𐭈𐭉𐭊𐭋𐭌𐭍𐭎𐭏𐭐𐭑𐭒𐭓𐭔𐭕𐭖𐭗𐭘𐭙𐭚𐭛𐭜𐭝𐭞𐭟𐭠𐭡𐭢𐭣𐭤𐭥𐭦𐭧𐭨𐭩𐭪𐭫𐭬𐭭𐭮𐭯𐭰𐭱𐭲𐭳𐭴𐭵𐭶𐭷𐭸𐭹𐭺𐭻𐭼𐭽𐭾𐭿𐮀𐮁𐮂𐮃𐮄𐮅𐮆𐮇𐮈𐮉𐮊𐮋𐮌𐮍𐮎𐮏𐮐𐮑𐮒𐮓𐮔𐮕𐮖𐮗𐮘𐮙𐮚𐮛𐮜𐮝𐮞𐮟𐮠𐮡𐮢𐮣𐮤𐮥𐮦𐮧𐮨𐮩𐮪𐮫𐮬𐮭𐮮𐮯𐮰𐮱𐮲𐮳𐮴𐮵𐮶𐮷𐮸𐮹𐮺𐮻𐮼𐮽𐮾𐮿𐯀𐯁𐯂𐯃𐯄𐯅𐯆𐯇𐯈𐯉𐯊𐯋𐯌𐯍𐯎𐯏𐯐𐯑𐯒𐯓𐯔𐯕𐯖𐯗𐯘𐯙𐯚𐯛𐯜𐯝𐯞𐯟𐯠𐯡𐯢𐯣𐯤𐯥𐯦𐯧𐯨𐯩𐯪𐯫𐯬𐯭𐯮𐯯𐯰𐯱𐯲𐯳𐯴𐯵𐯶𐯷𐯸𐯹𐯺𐯻𐯼𐯽𐯾𐯿𐰀𐰁𐰂𐰃𐰄𐰅𐰆𐰇𐰈𐰉𐰊𐰋𐰌𐰍𐰎𐰏𐰐𐰑𐰒𐰓𐰔𐰕𐰖𐰗𐰘𐰙𐰚𐰛𐰜𐰝𐰞𐰟𐰠𐰡𐰢𐰣𐰤𐰥𐰦𐰧𐰨𐰩𐰪𐰫𐰬𐰭𐰮𐰯𐰰𐰱𐰲𐰳𐰴𐰵𐰶𐰷𐰸𐰹𐰺𐰻𐰼𐰽𐰾𐰿𐱀𐱁𐱂𐱃𐱄𐱅𐱆𐱇𐱈𐱉𐱊𐱋𐱌𐱍𐱎𐱏𐱐𐱑𐱒𐱓𐱔𐱕𐱖𐱗𐱘𐱙𐱚𐱛𐱜𐱝𐱞𐱟𐱠𐱡𐱢𐱣𐱤𐱥𐱦𐱧𐱨𐱩𐱪𐱫𐱬𐱭𐱮𐱯𐱰𐱱𐱲𐱳𐱴𐱵𐱶𐱷𐱸𐱹𐱺𐱻𐱼𐱽𐱾𐱿𐲀𐲁𐲂𐲃𐲄𐲅𐲆𐲇𐲈𐲉𐲊𐲋𐲌𐲍𐲎𐲏𐲐𐲑𐲒𐲓𐲔𐲕𐲖𐲗𐲘𐲙𐲚𐲛𐲜𐲝𐲞𐲟𐲠𐲡𐲢𐲣𐲤𐲥𐲦𐲧𐲨𐲩𐲪𐲫𐲬𐲭𐲮𐲯𐲰𐲱𐲲𐲳𐲴𐲵𐲶𐲷𐲸𐲹𐲺𐲻𐲼𐲽𐲾𐲿𐳀𐳁𐳂𐳃𐳄𐳅𐳆𐳇𐳈𐳉𐳊𐳋𐳌𐳍𐳎𐳏𐳐𐳑𐳒𐳓𐳔𐳕𐳖𐳗𐳘𐳙𐳚𐳛𐳜𐳝𐳞𐳟𐳠𐳡𐳢𐳣𐳤𐳥𐳦𐳧𐳨𐳩𐳪𐳫𐳬𐳭𐳮𐳯𐳰𐳱𐳲𐳳𐳴𐳵𐳶𐳷𐳸𐳹𐳺𐳻𐳼𐳽𐳾𐳿𐴀𐴁𐴂𐴃𐴄𐴅𐴆𐴇𐴈𐴉𐴊𐴋𐴌𐴍𐴎𐴏𐴐𐴑𐴒𐴓𐴔𐴕𐴖𐴗𐴘𐴙𐴚𐴛𐴜𐴝𐴞𐴟𐴠𐴡𐴢𐴣𐴤𐴥𐴦𐴧𐴨𐴩𐴪𐴫𐴬𐴭𐴮𐴯𐴰𐴱𐴲𐴳𐴴𐴵𐴶𐴷𐴸𐴹𐴺𐴻𐴼𐴽𐴾𐴿𐵀𐵁𐵂𐵃𐵄𐵅𐵆𐵇𐵈𐵉𐵊𐵋𐵌𐵍𐵎𐵏𐵐𐵑𐵒𐵓𐵔𐵕𐵖𐵗𐵘𐵙𐵚𐵛𐵜𐵝𐵞𐵟𐵠𐵡𐵢𐵣𐵤𐵥𐵦𐵧𐵨𐵩𐵪𐵫𐵬𐵭𐵮𐵯𐵰𐵱𐵲𐵳𐵴𐵵𐵶𐵷𐵸𐵹𐵺𐵻𐵼𐵽𐵾𐵿𐶀𐶁𐶂𐶃𐶄𐶅𐶆𐶇𐶈𐶉𐶊𐶋𐶌𐶍𐶎𐶏𐶐𐶑𐶒𐶓𐶔𐶕𐶖𐶗𐶘𐶙𐶚𐶛𐶜𐶝𐶞𐶟𐶠𐶡𐶢𐶣𐶤𐶥𐶦𐶧𐶨𐶩𐶪𐶫𐶬𐶭𐶮𐶯𐶰𐶱𐶲𐶳𐶴𐶵𐶶𐶷𐶸𐶹𐶺𐶻𐶼𐶽𐶾𐶿𐷀𐷁𐷂𐷃𐷄𐷅𐷆𐷇𐷈𐷉𐷊𐷋𐷌𐷍𐷎𐷏𐷐𐷑𐷒𐷓𐷔𐷕𐷖𐷗𐷘𐷙𐷚𐷛𐷜𐷝𐷞𐷟𐷠𐷡𐷢𐷣𐷤𐷥𐷦𐷧𐷨𐷩𐷪𐷫𐷬𐷭𐷮𐷯𐷰𐷱𐷲𐷳𐷴𐷵𐷶𐷷𐷸𐷹𐷺𐷻𐷼𐷽𐷾𐷿𐸀𐸁𐸂𐸃𐸄𐸅𐸆𐸇𐸈𐸉𐸊𐸋𐸌𐸍𐸎𐸏𐸐𐸑𐸒𐸓𐸔𐸕𐸖𐸗𐸘𐸙𐸚𐸛𐸜𐸝𐸞𐸟𐸠𐸡𐸢𐸣𐸤𐸥𐸦𐸧𐸨𐸩𐸪𐸫𐸬𐸭𐸮𐸯𐸰𐸱𐸲𐸳𐸴𐸵𐸶𐸷𐸸𐸹𐸺𐸻𐸼𐸽𐸾𐸿𐹀𐹁𐹂𐹃𐹄𐹅𐹆𐹇𐹈𐹉𐹊𐹋𐹌𐹍𐹎𐹏𐹐𐹑𐹒𐹓𐹔𐹕𐹖𐹗𐹘𐹙𐹚𐹛𐹜𐹝𐹞𐹟𐹠𐹡𐹢𐹣𐹤𐹥𐹦𐹧𐹨𐹩𐹪𐹫𐹬𐹭𐹮𐹯𐹰𐹱𐹲𐹳𐹴𐹵𐹶𐹷𐹸𐹹𐹺𐹻𐹼𐹽𐹾𐹿𐺀𐺁𐺂𐺃𐺄𐺅𐺆𐺇𐺈𐺉𐺊𐺋𐺌𐺍𐺎𐺏𐺐𐺑𐺒𐺓𐺔𐺕𐺖𐺗𐺘𐺙𐺚𐺛𐺜𐺝𐺞𐺟𐺠𐺡𐺢𐺣𐺤𐺥𐺦𐺧𐺨𐺩𐺪𐺫𐺬𐺭𐺮𐺯𐺰𐺱𐺲𐺳𐺴𐺵𐺶𐺷𐺸𐺹𐺺𐺻𐺼𐺽𐺾𐺿𐻀𐻁𐻂𐻃𐻄𐻅𐻆𐻇𐻈𐻉𐻊𐻋𐻌𐻍𐻎𐻏𐻐𐻑𐻒𐻓𐻔𐻕𐻖𐻗𐻘𐻙𐻚𐻛𐻜𐻝𐻞𐻟𐻠𐻡𐻢𐻣𐻤𐻥𐻦𐻧𐻨𐻩𐻪𐻫𐻬𐻭𐻮𐻯𐻰𐻱𐻲𐻳𐻴𐻵𐻶𐻷𐻸𐻹𐻺𐻻𐻼𐻽𐻾𐻿𐼀𐼁𐼂𐼃𐼄𐼅𐼆𐼇𐼈𐼉𐼊𐼋𐼌𐼍𐼎𐼏𐼐𐼑𐼒𐼓𐼔𐼕𐼖𐼗𐼘𐼙𐼚𐼛𐼜𐼝𐼞𐼟𐼠𐼡𐼢𐼣𐼤𐼥𐼦𐼧𐼨𐼩𐼪𐼫𐼬𐼭𐼮𐼯𐼰𐼱𐼲𐼳𐼴𐼵𐼶𐼷𐼸𐼹𐼺𐼻𐼼𐼽𐼾𐼿𐽀𐽁𐽂𐽃𐽄𐽅𐽆𐽇𐽋𐽍𐽎𐽏𐽐𐽈𐽉𐽊𐽌𐽑𐽒𐽓𐽔𐽕𐽖𐽗𐽘𐽙𐽚𐽛𐽜𐽝𐽞𐽟𐽠𐽡𐽢𐽣𐽤𐽥𐽦𐽧𐽨𐽩𐽪𐽫𐽬𐽭𐽮𐽯𐽰𐽱𐽲𐽳𐽴𐽵𐽶𐽷𐽸𐽹𐽺𐽻𐽼𐽽𐽾𐽿𐾀𐾁𐾃𐾅𐾂𐾄𐾆𐾇𐾈𐾉𐾊𐾋𐾌𐾍𐾎𐾏𐾐𐾑𐾒𐾓𐾔𐾕𐾖𐾗𐾘𐾙

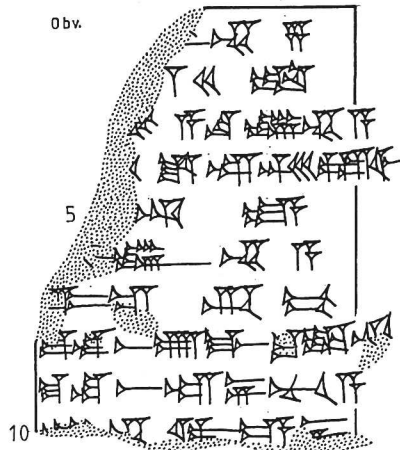
ND 2484



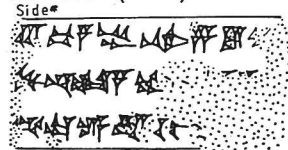
ND 2611



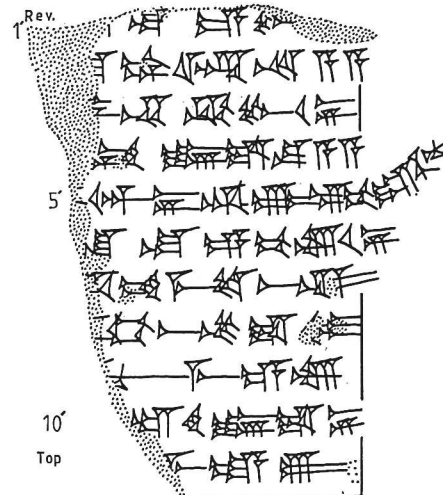
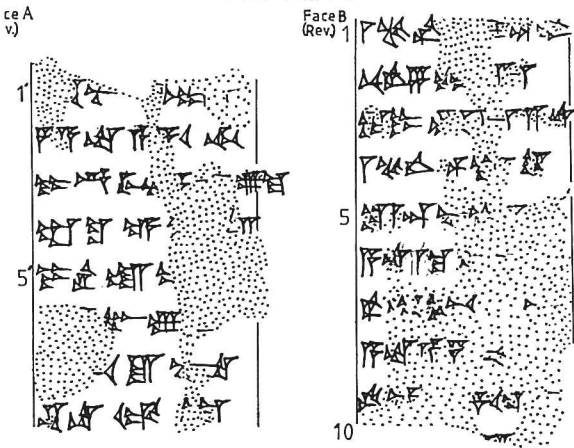
ND 2626



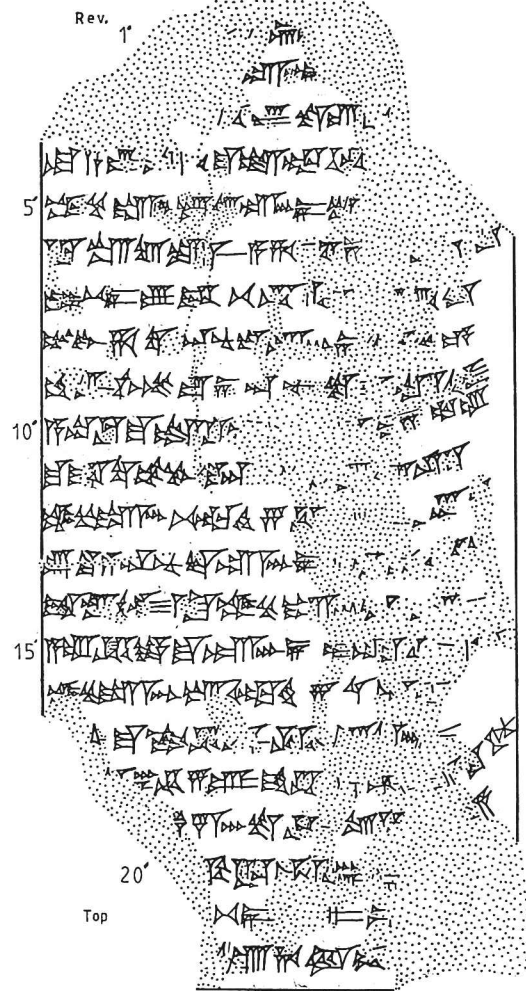
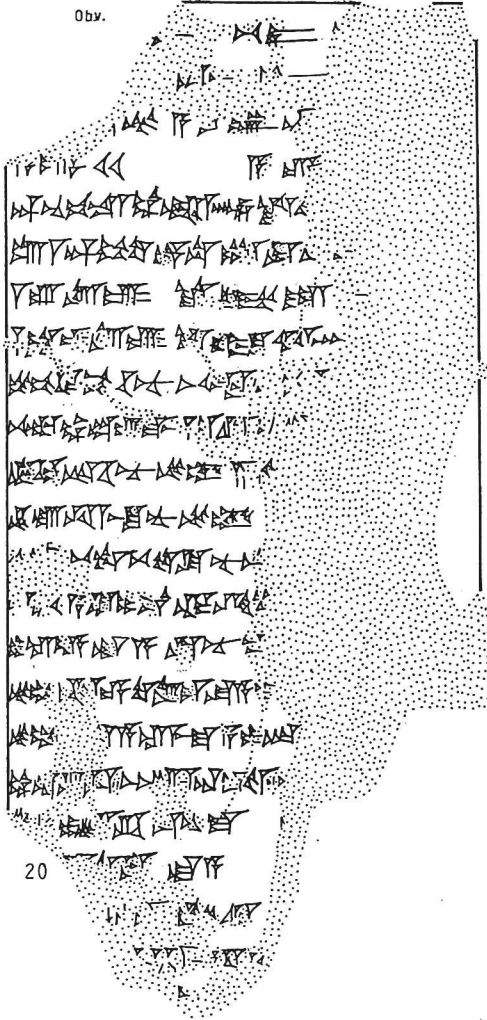
ND 2461 (cont.)



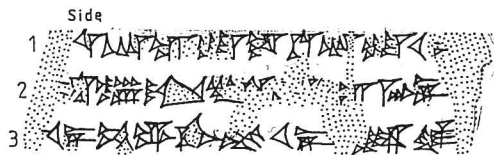
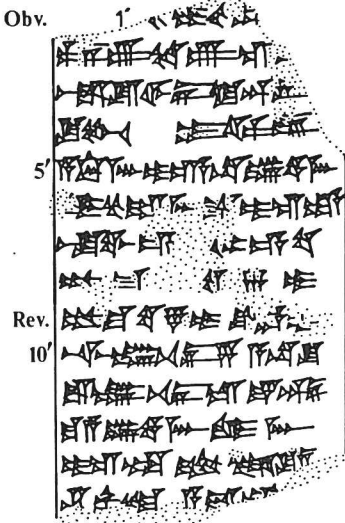
ND 2641



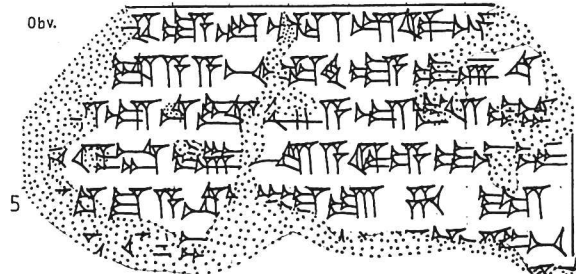
ND 2783



ND 2359



ND 2662



ND 2786

Obv.

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Rev.

25

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35

Obverse and reverse of ND 2786 showing cuneiform script in vertical columns. The obverse is numbered 5, 10, and 15. The reverse is numbered 25, 30, and 35. There are shaded areas indicating damage or reconstruction.

ND 2795

Obv.

5

10

Rev.

5

10

Top

Side*

Obverse and reverse of ND 2795 showing cuneiform script. The obverse is numbered 5 and 10. The reverse is numbered 5 and 10. A 'Top' view and a 'Side*' view are also shown, with the side view containing a few lines of script.

ND 2649

Obv.

5

10

Base

Rev.

15

20

Obverse and reverse of ND 2649 showing cuneiform script. The obverse is numbered 5 and 10. The reverse is numbered 15 and 20. A 'Base' view is also shown.

ND 2408

Obv.

5

Base

Rev.

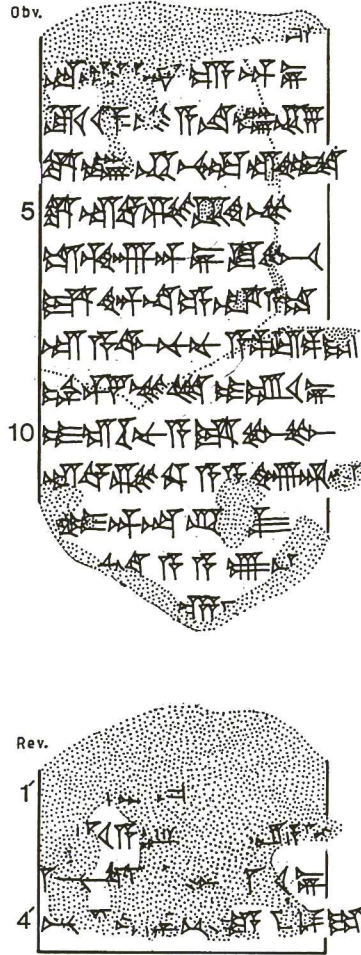
10

Obverse and reverse of ND 2408 showing cuneiform script. The obverse is numbered 5. The reverse is numbered 10. A 'Base' view is also shown.

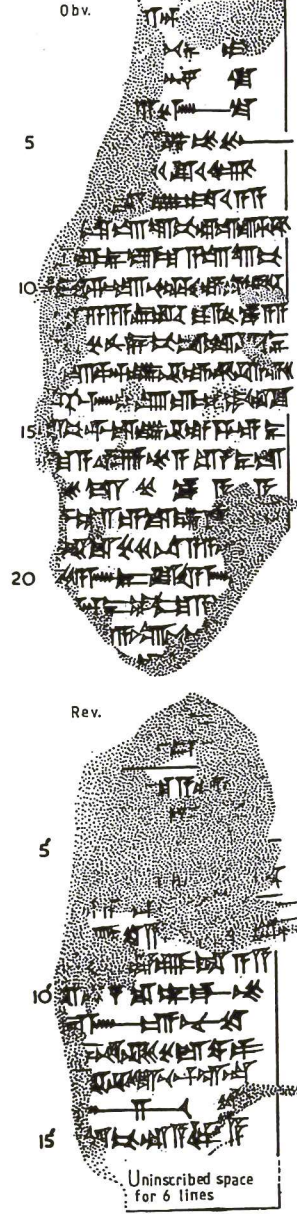
ND 2448



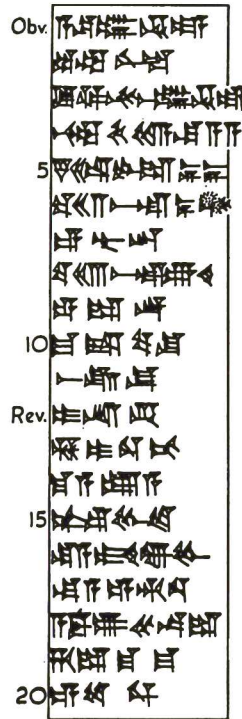
ND 2454



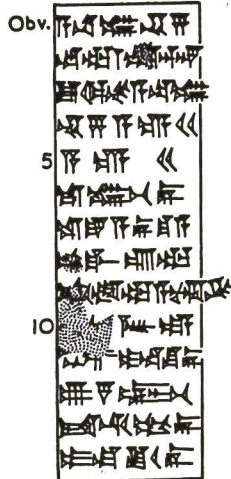
ND 2608



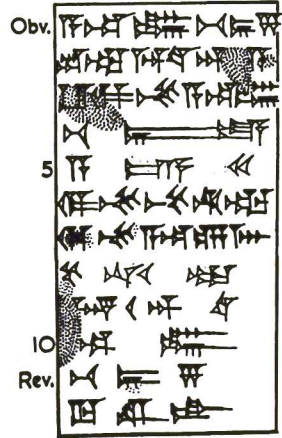
ND 2677



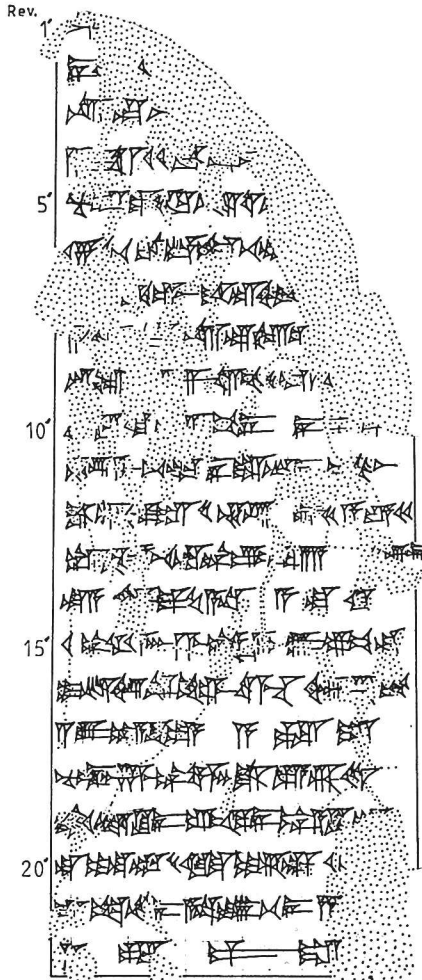
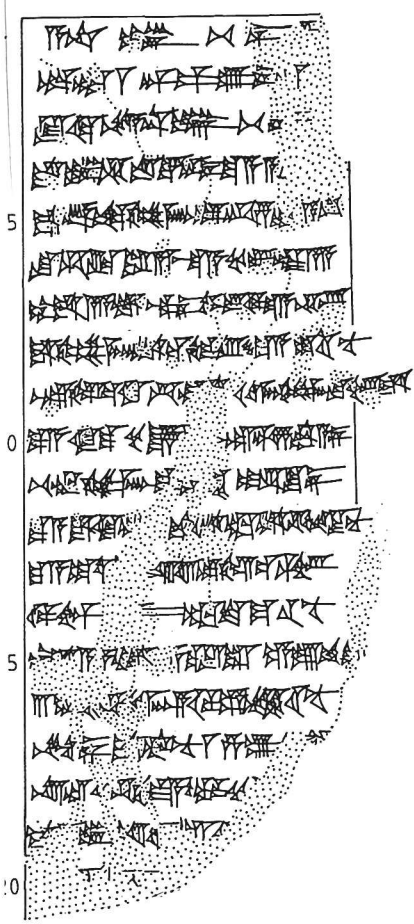
ND 2799



ND 2697



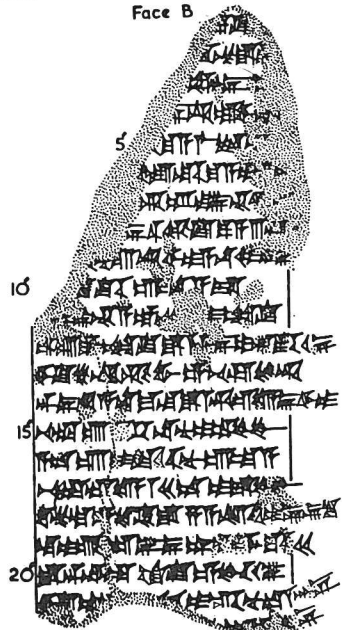
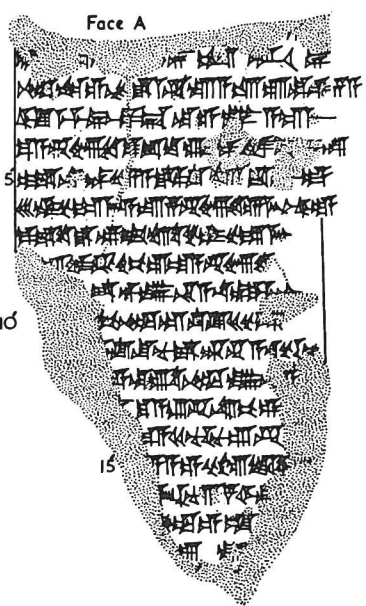
ND 2487



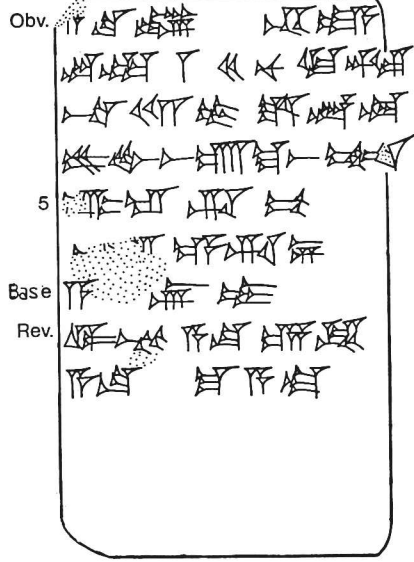
ND 2665



ND 2655



ND 2637



ND 2488

Rev.

5

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Detailed description: This image shows the reverse side of a coin (ND 2488). The text is written in cuneiform script in vertical columns. The columns are arranged from right to left. The top line is partially obscured by a dotted pattern. The text is organized into several lines, with some lines starting with a small symbol. The bottom of the coin is also partially obscured by a dotted pattern.

ND 2631

Obv.

5

10

15

20

Base

Rev.

25

Detailed description: This image shows the obverse and reverse sides of a coin (ND 2631). The obverse (top) features cuneiform script in vertical columns, starting with a small symbol. The reverse (bottom) also features cuneiform script in vertical columns. The text is organized into several lines, with some lines starting with a small symbol. The bottom of the coin is also partially obscured by a dotted pattern.

ND 2351

Face A

5

10

Detailed description: This image shows Face A of a coin (ND 2351). The text is written in cuneiform script in vertical columns. The columns are arranged from right to left. The top line is partially obscured by a dotted pattern. The text is organized into several lines, with some lines starting with a small symbol. The bottom of the coin is also partially obscured by a dotted pattern.

ND 2635

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Rev. 1
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Side

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ND 2701

Obv. 1
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Rev. 1
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ND 2673

bv. 1
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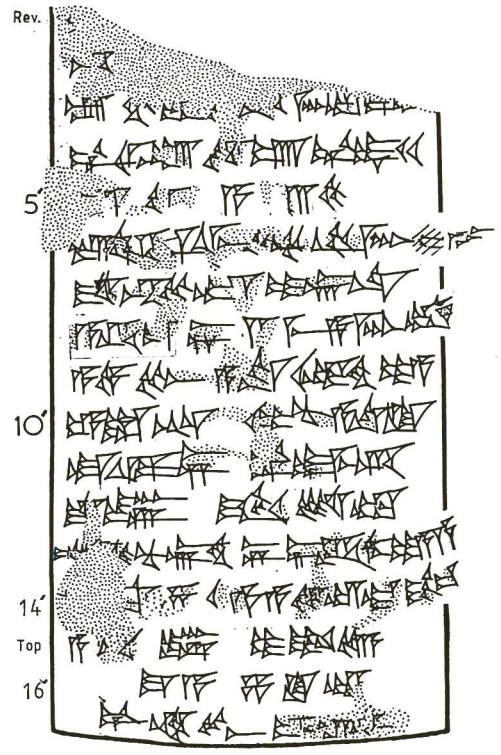
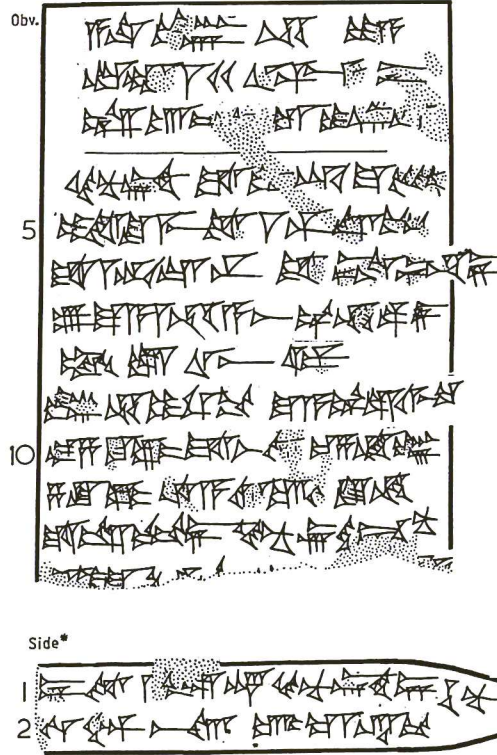
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ND 2656

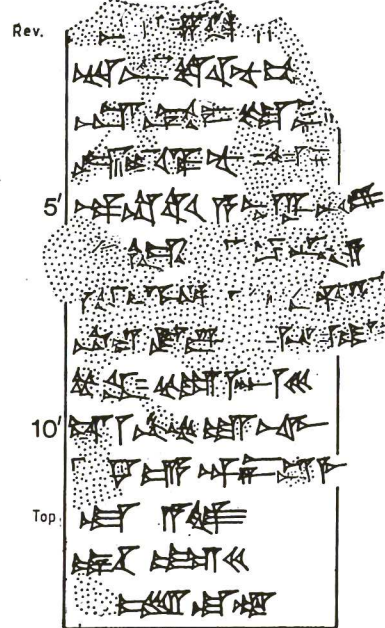
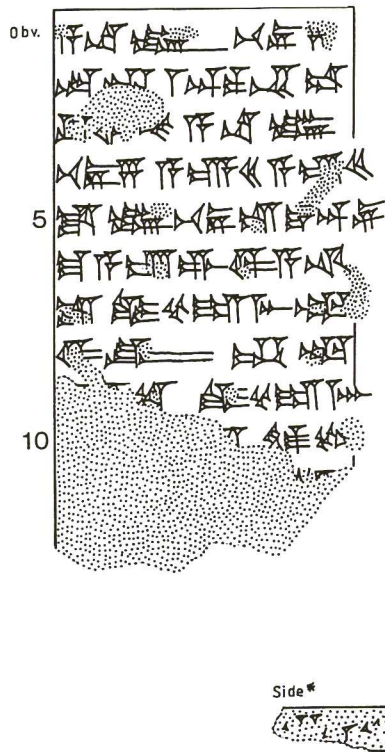
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ND 2648



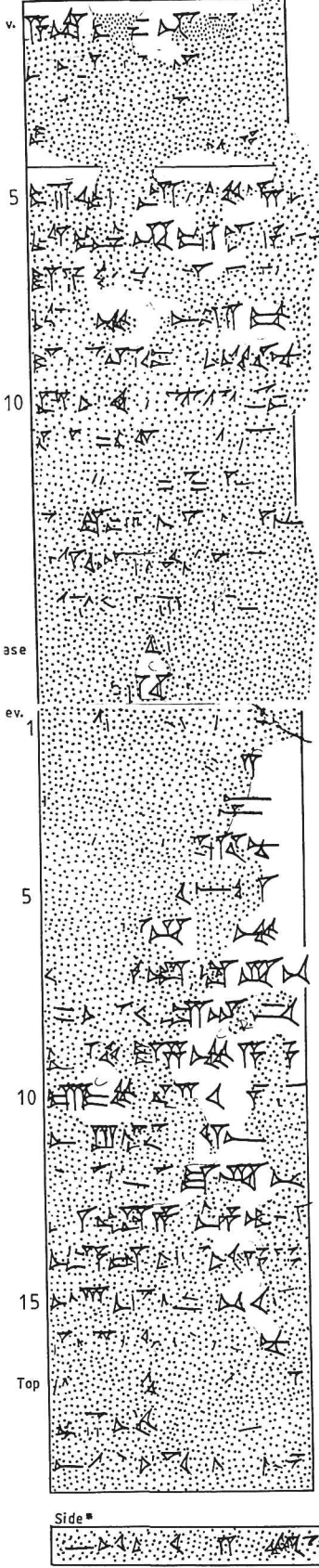
ND 2709



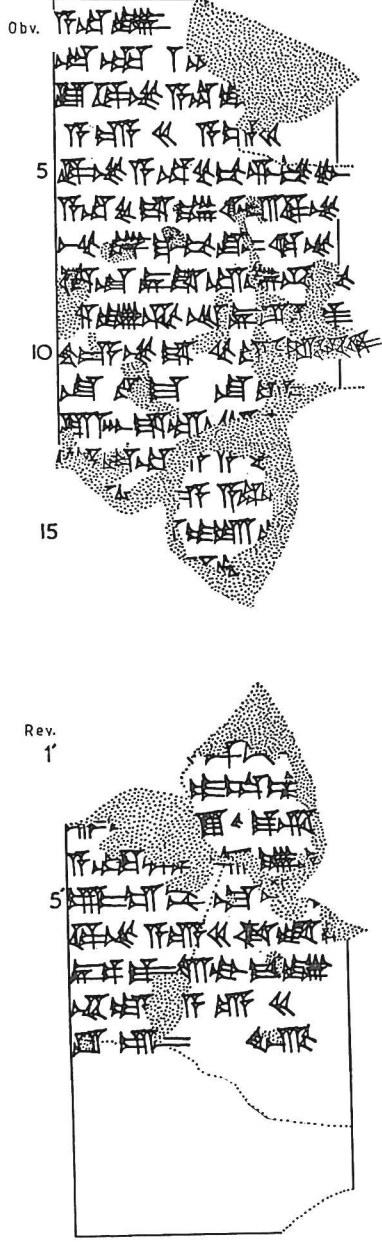
ND 2720



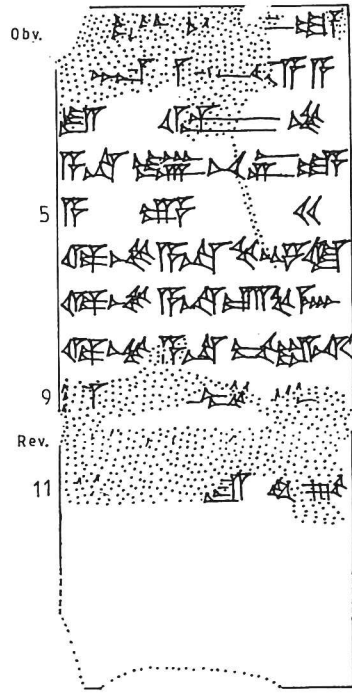
ND 2772



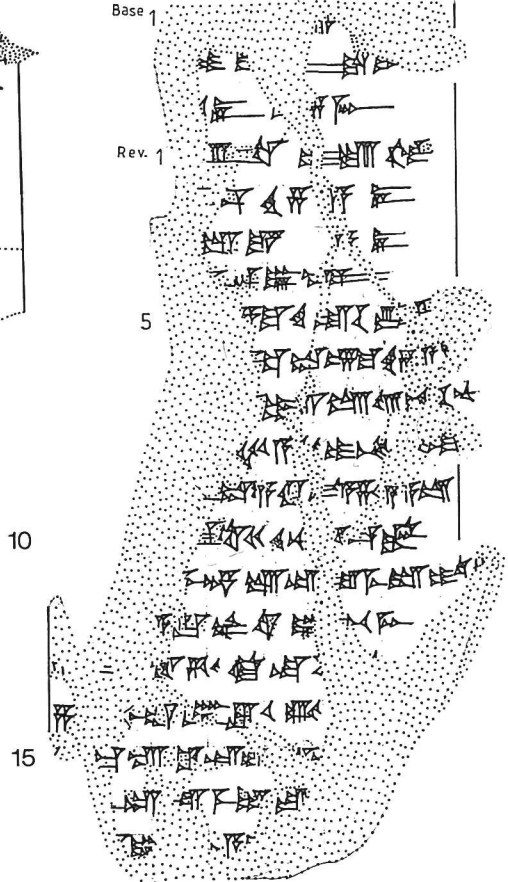
ND 2798



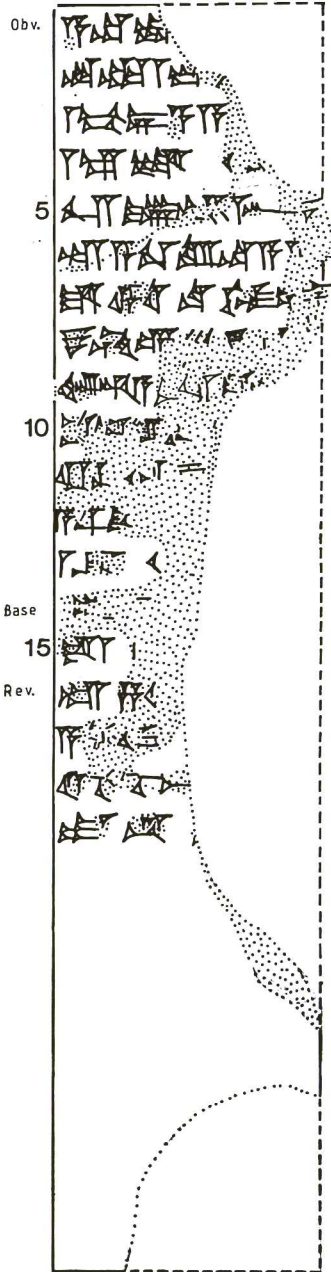
ND 2372



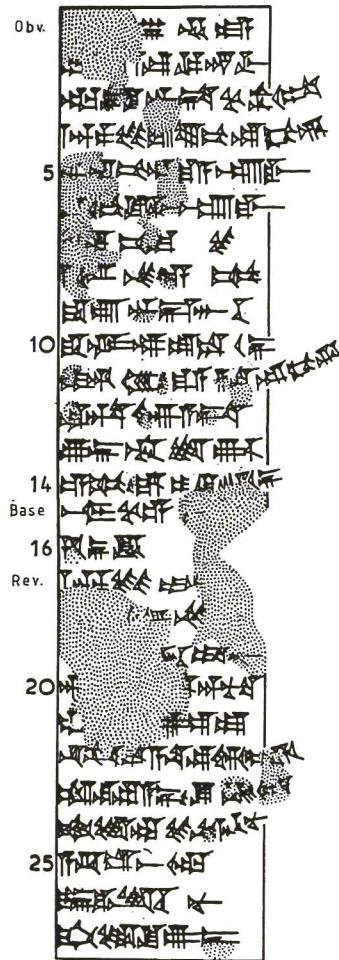
ND 2755



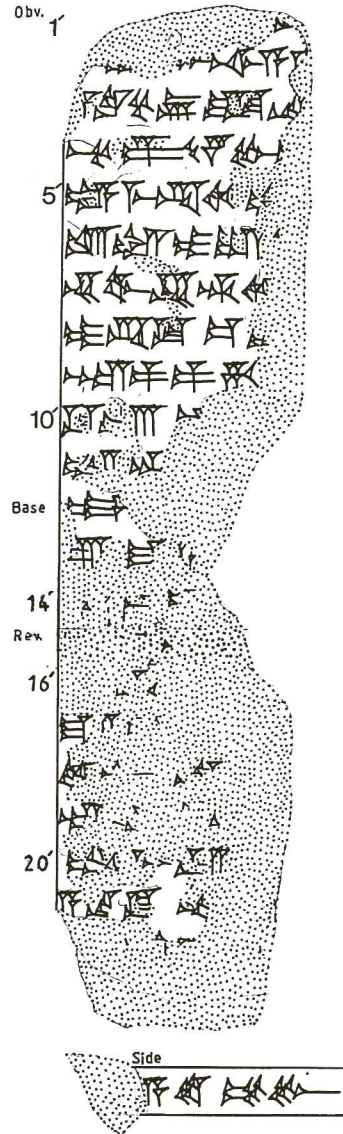
ND 2064



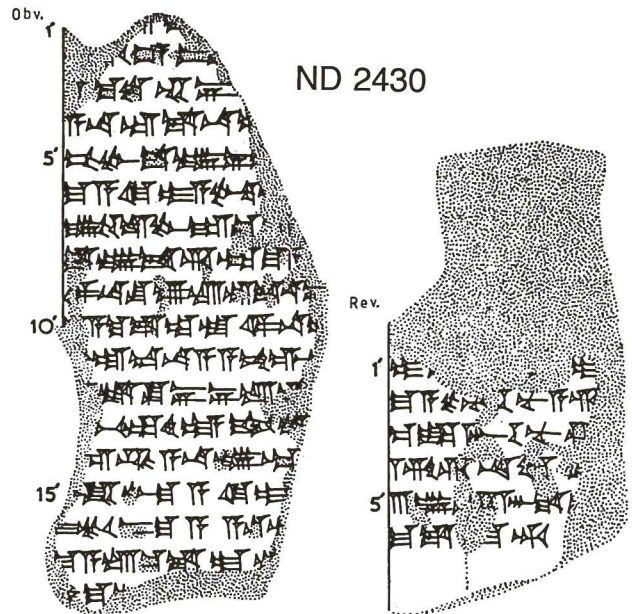
ND 2686



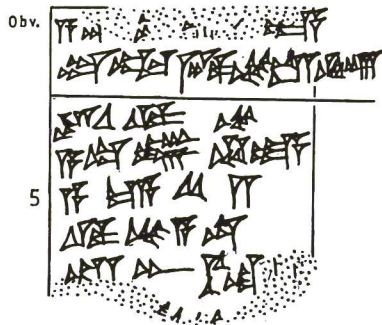
ND 2417



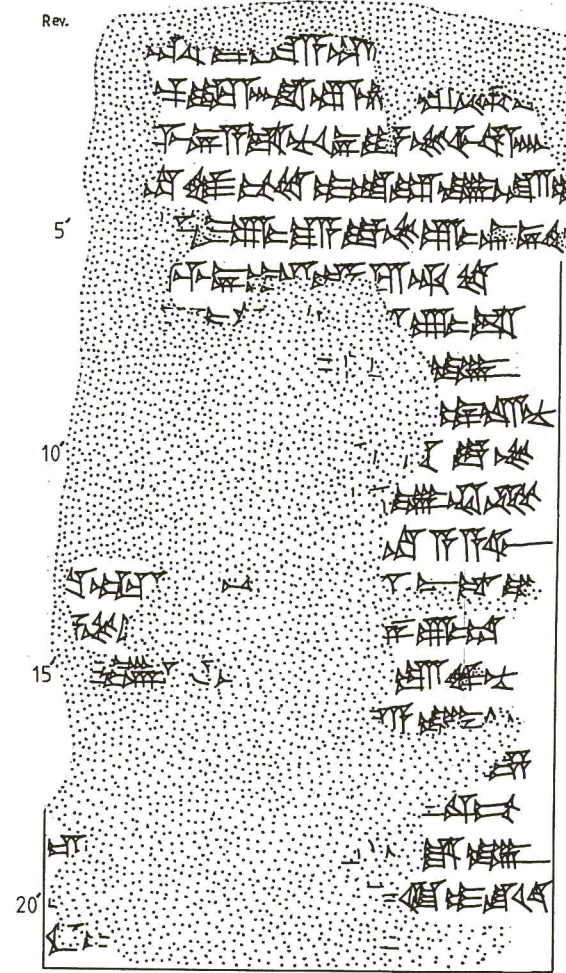
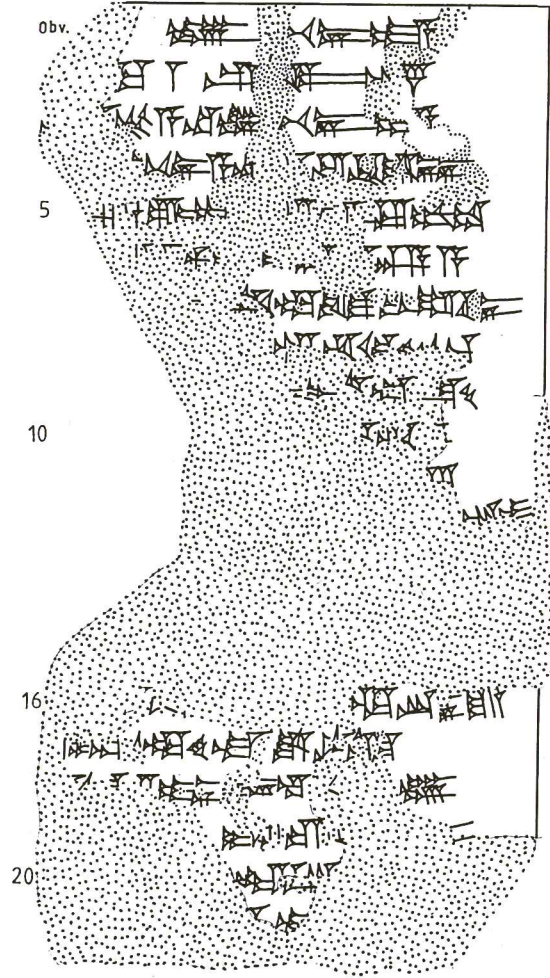
ND 2430



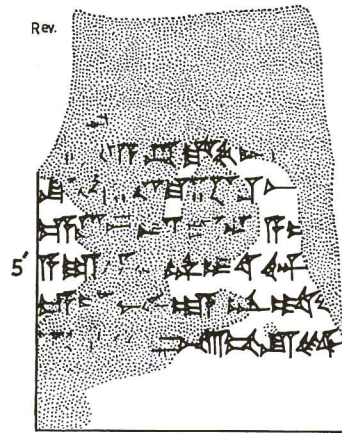
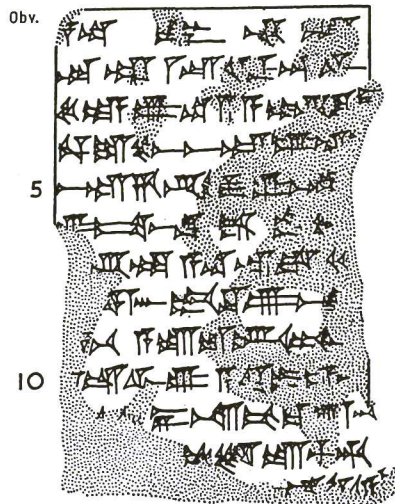
ND 2736



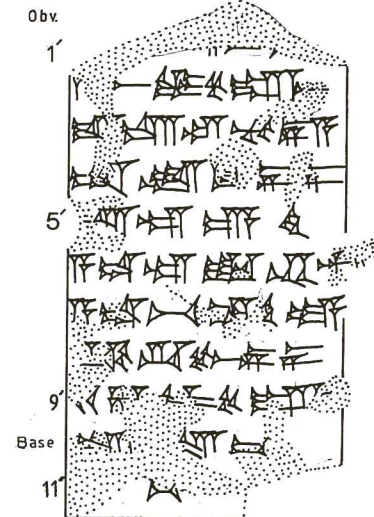
ND 2716



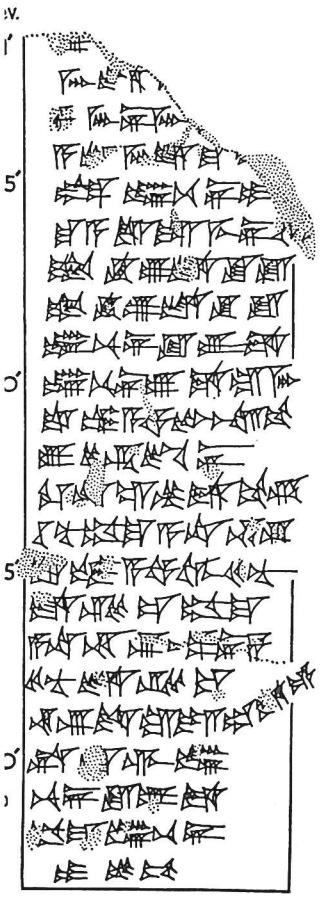
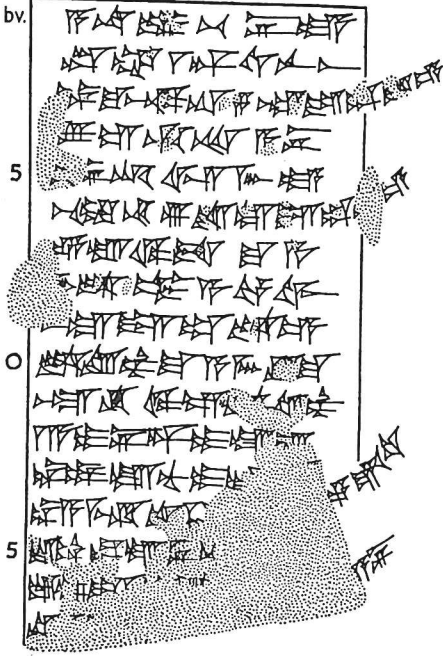
ND 2370



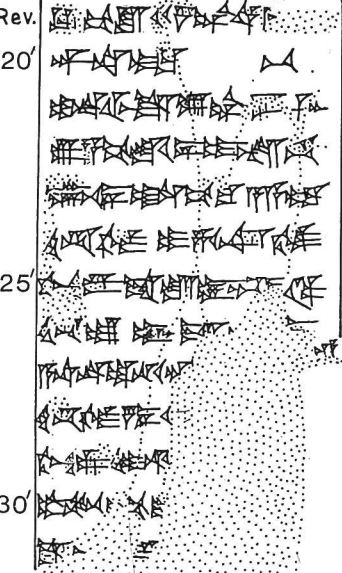
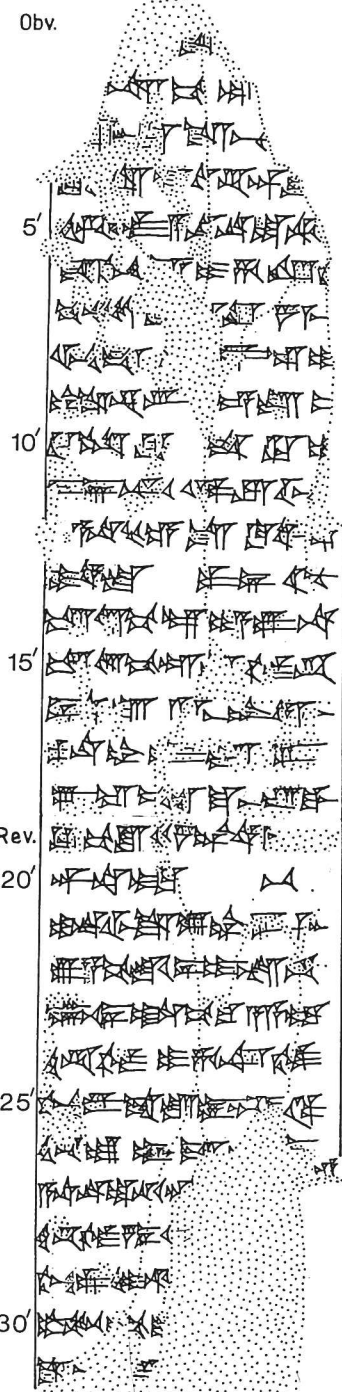
ND 2399



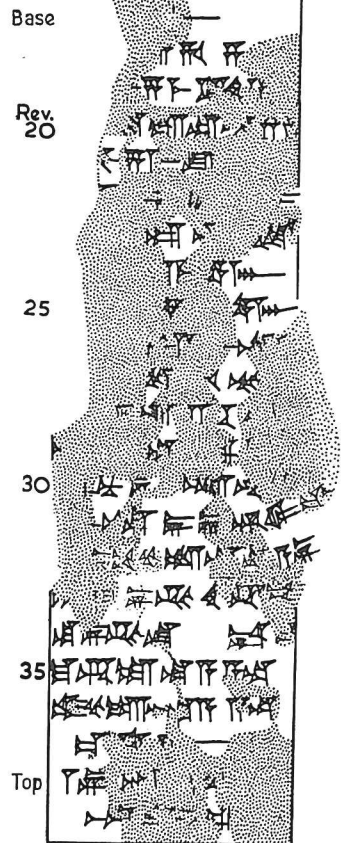
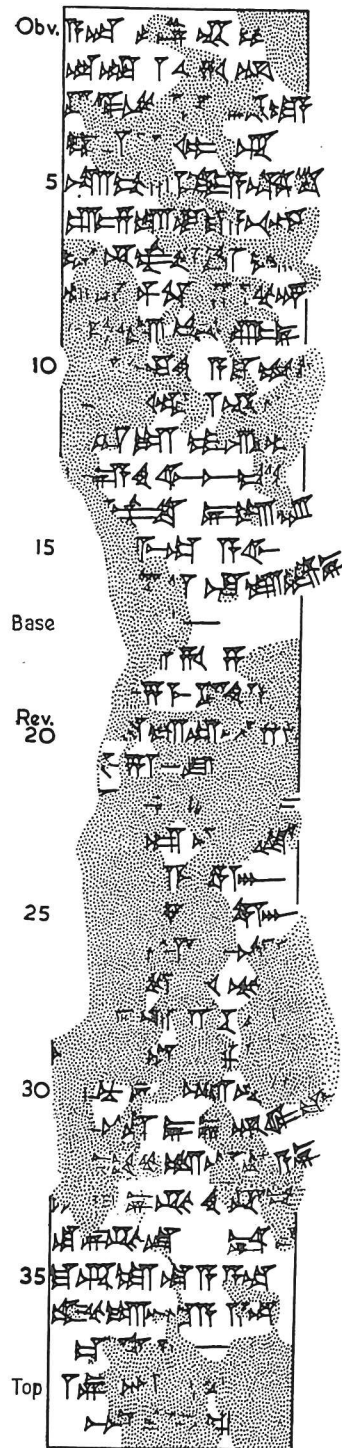
ND 2766



ND 2737



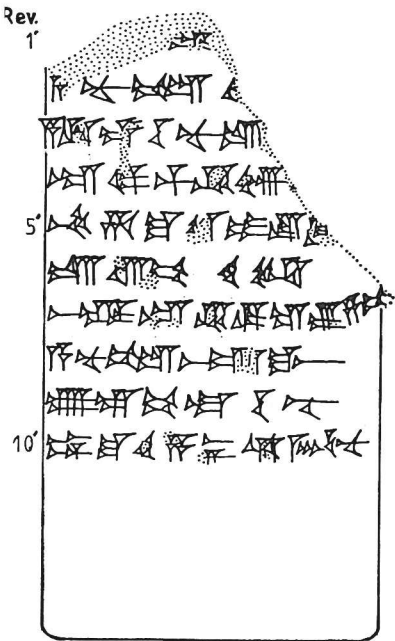
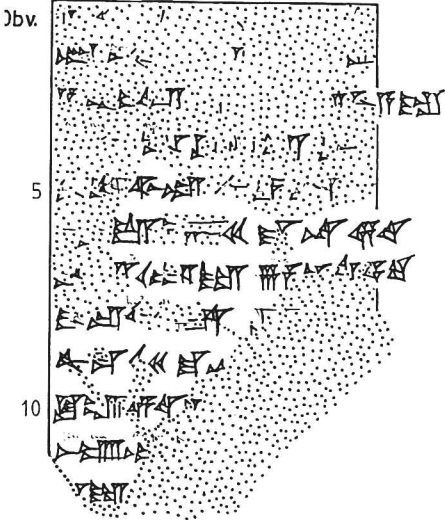
ND 2381



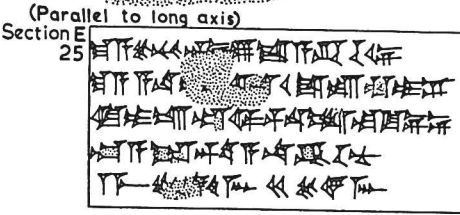
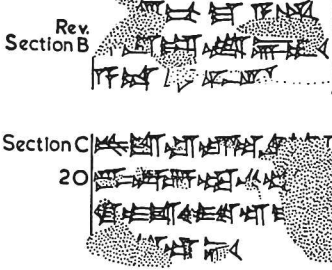
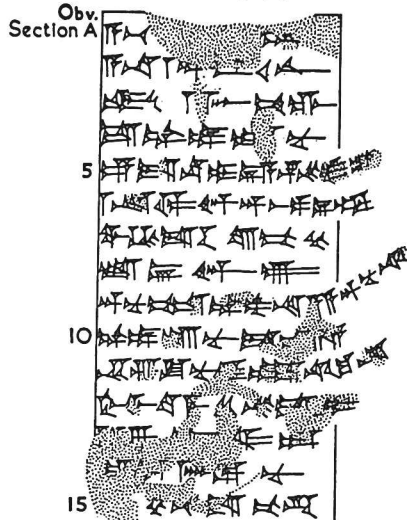
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Obv. 𐎠𐎡𐎢𐎣𐎤𐎥𐎦𐎧𐎨𐎩𐎪𐎫𐎬𐎭𐎮𐎯𐎰𐎱𐎲𐎳𐎴𐎵𐎶𐎷𐎸𐎹𐎺𐎻𐎼𐎽𐎾𐎿𐏀𐏁𐏂𐏃𐏄𐏅𐏆𐏇𐏈𐏉𐏊𐏋𐏌𐏍𐏎𐏏𐏐𐏑𐏒𐏓𐏔𐏕𐏖𐏗𐏘𐏙𐏚𐏛𐏜𐏝𐏞𐏟𐏠𐏡𐏢𐏣𐏤𐏥𐏦𐏧𐏨𐏩𐏪𐏫𐏬𐏭𐏮𐏯𐏰𐏱𐏲𐏳𐏴𐏵𐏶𐏷𐏸𐏹𐏺𐏻𐏼𐏽𐏾𐏿𐐀𐐁𐐂𐐃𐐄𐐅𐐆𐐇𐐈𐐉𐐊𐐋𐐌𐐍𐐎𐐏𐐐𐐑𐐒𐐓𐐔𐐕𐐖𐐗𐐘𐐙𐐚𐐛𐐜𐐝𐐞𐐟𐐠𐐡𐐢𐐣𐐤𐐥𐐦𐐧𐐨𐐩𐐪𐐫𐐬𐐭𐐮𐐯𐐰𐐱𐐲𐐳𐐴𐐵𐐶𐐷𐐸𐐹𐐺𐐻𐐼𐐽𐐾𐐿𐑀𐑁𐑂𐑃𐑄𐑅𐑆𐑇𐑈𐑉𐑊𐑋𐑌𐑍𐑎𐑏𐑐𐑑𐑒𐑓𐑔𐑕𐑖𐑗𐑘𐑙𐑚𐑛𐑜𐑝𐑞𐑟𐑠𐑡𐑢𐑣𐑤𐑥𐑦𐑧𐑨𐑩𐑪𐑫𐑬𐑭𐑮𐑯𐑰𐑱𐑲𐑳𐑴𐑵𐑶𐑷𐑸𐑹𐑺𐑻𐑼𐑽𐑾𐑿𐒀𐒁𐒂𐒃𐒄𐒅𐒆𐒇𐒈𐒉𐒊𐒋𐒌𐒍𐒎𐒏𐒐𐒑𐒒𐒓𐒔𐒕𐒖𐒗𐒘𐒙𐒚𐒛𐒜𐒝𐒞𐒟𐒠𐒡𐒢𐒣𐒤𐒥𐒦𐒧𐒨𐒩𐒪𐒫𐒬𐒭𐒮𐒯𐒰𐒱𐒲𐒳𐒴𐒵𐒶𐒷𐒸𐒹𐒺𐒻𐒼𐒽𐒾𐒿𐓀𐓁𐓂𐓃𐓄𐓅𐓆𐓇𐓈𐓉𐓊𐓋𐓌𐓍𐓎𐓏𐓐𐓑𐓒𐓓𐓔𐓕𐓖𐓗𐓘𐓙𐓚𐓛𐓜𐓝𐓞𐓟𐓠𐓡𐓢𐓣𐓤𐓥𐓦𐓧𐓨𐓩𐓪𐓫𐓬𐓭𐓮𐓯𐓰𐓱𐓲𐓳𐓴𐓵𐓶𐓷𐓸𐓹𐓺𐓻𐓼𐓽𐓾𐓿𐔀𐔁𐔂𐔃𐔄𐔅𐔆𐔇𐔈𐔉𐔊𐔋𐔌𐔍𐔎𐔏𐔐𐔑𐔒𐔓𐔔𐔕𐔖𐔗𐔘𐔙𐔚𐔛𐔜𐔝𐔞𐔟𐔠𐔡𐔢𐔣𐔤𐔥𐔦𐔧𐔨𐔩𐔪𐔫𐔬𐔭𐔮𐔯𐔰𐔱𐔲𐔳𐔴𐔵𐔶𐔷𐔸𐔹𐔺𐔻𐔼𐔽𐔾𐔿𐕀𐕁𐕂𐕃𐕄𐕅𐕆𐕇𐕈𐕉𐕊𐕋𐕌𐕍𐕎𐕏𐕐𐕑𐕒𐕓𐕔𐕕𐕖𐕗𐕘𐕙𐕚𐕛𐕜𐕝𐕞𐕟𐕠𐕡𐕢𐕣𐕤𐕥𐕦𐕧𐕨𐕩𐕪𐕫𐕬𐕭𐕮𐕯𐕰𐕱𐕲𐕳𐕴𐕵𐕶𐕷𐕸𐕹𐕺𐕻𐕼𐕽𐕾𐕿𐖀𐖁𐖂𐖃𐖄𐖅𐖆𐖇𐖈𐖉𐖊𐖋𐖌𐖍𐖎𐖏𐖐𐖑𐖒𐖓𐖔𐖕𐖖𐖗𐖘𐖙𐖚𐖛𐖜𐖝𐖞𐖟𐖠𐖡𐖢𐖣𐖤𐖥𐖦𐖧𐖨𐖩𐖪𐖫𐖬𐖭𐖮𐖯𐖰𐖱𐖲𐖳𐖴𐖵𐖶𐖷𐖸𐖹𐖺𐖻𐖼𐖽𐖾𐖿𐗀𐗁𐗂𐗃𐗄𐗅𐗆𐗇𐗈𐗉𐗊𐗋𐗌𐗍𐗎𐗏𐗐𐗑𐗒𐗓𐗔𐗕𐗖𐗗𐗘𐗙𐗚𐗛𐗜𐗝𐗞𐗟𐗠𐗡𐗢𐗣𐗤𐗥𐗦𐗧𐗨𐗩𐗪𐗫𐗬𐗭𐗮𐗯𐗰𐗱𐗲𐗳𐗴𐗵𐗶𐗷𐗸𐗹𐗺𐗻𐗼𐗽𐗾𐗿𐘀𐘁𐘂𐘃𐘄𐘅𐘆𐘇𐘈𐘉𐘊𐘋𐘌𐘍𐘎𐘏𐘐𐘑𐘒𐘓𐘔𐘕𐘖𐘗𐘘𐘙𐘚𐘛𐘜𐘝𐘞𐘟𐘠𐘡𐘢𐘣𐘤𐘥𐘦𐘧𐘨𐘩𐘪𐘫𐘬𐘭𐘮𐘯𐘰𐘱𐘲𐘳𐘴𐘵𐘶𐘷𐘸𐘹𐘺𐘻𐘼𐘽𐘾𐘿𐙀𐙁𐙂𐙃𐙄𐙅𐙆𐙇𐙈𐙉𐙊𐙋𐙌𐙍𐙎𐙏𐙐𐙑𐙒𐙓𐙔𐙕𐙖𐙗𐙘𐙙𐙚𐙛𐙜𐙝𐙞𐙟𐙠𐙡𐙢𐙣𐙤𐙥𐙦𐙧𐙨𐙩𐙪𐙫𐙬𐙭𐙮𐙯𐙰𐙱𐙲𐙳𐙴𐙵𐙶𐙷𐙸𐙹𐙺𐙻𐙼𐙽𐙾𐙿𐚀𐚁𐚂𐚃𐚄𐚅𐚆𐚇𐚈𐚉𐚊𐚋𐚌𐚍𐚎𐚏𐚐𐚑𐚒𐚓𐚔𐚕𐚖𐚗𐚘𐚙𐚚𐚛𐚜𐚝𐚞𐚟𐚠𐚡𐚢𐚣𐚤𐚥𐚦𐚧𐚨𐚩𐚪𐚫𐚬𐚭𐚮𐚯𐚰𐚱𐚲𐚳𐚴𐚵𐚶𐚷𐚸𐚹𐚺𐚻𐚼𐚽𐚾𐚿𐛀𐛁𐛂𐛃𐛄𐛅𐛆𐛇𐛈𐛉𐛊𐛋𐛌𐛍𐛎𐛏𐛐𐛑𐛒𐛓𐛔𐛕𐛖𐛗𐛘𐛙𐛚𐛛𐛜𐛝𐛞𐛟𐛠𐛡𐛢𐛣𐛤𐛥𐛦𐛧𐛨𐛩𐛪𐛫𐛬𐛭𐛮𐛯𐛰𐛱𐛲𐛳𐛴𐛵𐛶𐛷𐛸𐛹𐛺𐛻𐛼𐛽𐛾𐛿𐜀𐜁𐜂𐜃𐜄𐜅𐜆𐜇𐜈𐜉𐜊𐜋𐜌𐜍𐜎𐜏𐜐𐜑𐜒𐜓𐜔𐜕𐜖𐜗𐜘𐜙𐜚𐜛𐜜𐜝𐜞𐜟𐜠𐜡𐜢𐜣𐜤𐜥𐜦𐜧𐜨𐜩𐜪𐜫𐜬𐜭𐜮𐜯𐜰𐜱𐜲𐜳𐜴𐜵𐜶𐜷𐜸𐜹𐜺𐜻𐜼𐜽𐜾𐜿𐝀𐝁𐝂𐝃𐝄𐝅𐝆𐝇𐝈𐝉𐝊𐝋𐝌𐝍𐝎𐝏𐝐𐝑𐝒𐝓𐝔𐝕𐝖𐝗𐝘𐝙𐝚𐝛𐝜𐝝𐝞𐝟𐝠𐝡𐝢𐝣𐝤𐝥𐝦𐝧𐝨𐝩𐝪𐝫𐝬𐝭𐝮𐝯𐝰𐝱𐝲𐝳𐝴𐝵𐝶𐝷𐝸𐝹𐝺𐝻𐝼𐝽𐝾𐝿𐞀𐞁𐞂𐞃𐞄𐞅𐞆𐞇𐞈𐞉𐞊𐞋𐞌𐞍𐞎𐞏𐞐𐞑𐞒𐞓𐞔𐞕𐞖𐞗𐞘𐞙𐞚𐞛𐞜𐞝𐞞𐞟𐞠𐞡𐞢𐞣𐞤𐞥𐞦𐞧𐞨𐞩𐞪𐞫𐞬𐞭𐞮𐞯𐞰𐞱𐞲𐞳𐞴𐞵𐞶𐞷𐞸𐞹𐞺𐞻𐞼𐞽𐞾𐞿𐟀𐟁𐟂𐟃𐟄𐟅𐟆𐟇𐟈𐟉𐟊𐟋𐟌𐟍𐟎𐟏𐟐𐟑𐟒𐟓𐟔𐟕𐟖𐟗𐟘𐟙𐟚𐟛𐟜𐟝𐟞𐟟𐟠𐟡𐟢𐟣𐟤𐟥𐟦𐟧𐟨𐟩𐟪𐟫𐟬𐟭𐟮𐟯𐟰𐟱𐟲𐟳𐟴𐟵𐟶𐟷𐟸𐟹𐟺𐟻𐟼𐟽𐟾𐟿𐠀𐠁𐠂𐠃𐠄𐠅𐠆𐠇𐠈𐠉𐠊𐠋𐠌𐠍𐠎𐠏𐠐𐠑𐠒𐠓𐠔𐠕𐠖𐠗𐠘𐠙𐠚𐠛𐠜𐠝𐠞𐠟𐠠𐠡𐠢𐠣𐠤𐠥𐠦𐠧𐠨𐠩𐠪𐠫𐠬𐠭𐠮𐠯𐠰𐠱𐠲𐠳𐠴𐠵𐠶𐠷𐠸𐠹𐠺𐠻𐠼𐠽𐠾𐠿𐡀𐡁𐡂𐡃𐡄𐡅𐡆𐡇𐡈𐡉𐡊𐡋𐡌𐡍𐡎𐡏𐡐𐡑𐡒𐡓𐡔𐡕𐡖𐡗𐡘𐡙𐡚𐡛𐡜𐡝𐡞𐡟𐡠𐡡𐡢𐡣𐡤𐡥𐡦𐡧𐡨𐡩𐡪𐡫𐡬𐡭𐡮𐡯𐡰𐡱𐡲𐡳𐡴𐡵𐡶𐡷𐡸𐡹𐡺𐡻𐡼𐡽𐡾𐡿𐢀𐢁𐢂𐢃𐢄𐢅𐢆𐢇𐢈𐢉𐢊𐢋𐢌𐢍𐢎𐢏𐢐𐢑𐢒𐢓𐢔𐢕𐢖𐢗𐢘𐢙𐢚𐢛𐢜𐢝𐢞𐢟𐢠𐢡𐢢𐢣𐢤𐢥𐢦𐢧𐢨𐢩𐢪𐢫𐢬𐢭𐢮𐢯𐢰𐢱𐢲𐢳𐢴𐢵𐢶𐢷𐢸𐢹𐢺𐢻𐢼𐢽𐢾𐢿𐣀𐣁𐣂𐣃𐣄𐣅𐣆𐣇𐣈𐣉𐣊𐣋𐣌𐣍𐣎𐣏𐣐𐣑𐣒𐣓𐣔𐣕𐣖𐣗𐣘𐣙𐣚𐣛𐣜𐣝𐣞𐣟𐣠𐣡𐣢𐣣𐣤𐣥𐣦𐣧𐣨𐣩𐣪𐣫𐣬𐣭𐣮𐣯𐣰𐣱𐣲𐣳𐣴𐣵𐣶𐣷𐣸𐣹𐣺𐣻𐣼𐣽𐣾𐣿𐤀𐤁𐤂𐤃𐤄𐤅𐤆𐤇𐤈𐤉𐤊𐤋𐤌𐤍𐤎𐤏𐤐𐤑𐤒𐤓𐤔𐤕𐤖𐤗𐤘𐤙𐤚𐤛𐤜𐤝𐤞𐤟𐤠𐤡𐤢𐤣𐤤𐤥𐤦𐤧𐤨𐤩𐤪𐤫𐤬𐤭𐤮𐤯𐤰𐤱𐤲𐤳𐤴𐤵𐤶𐤷𐤸𐤹𐤺𐤻𐤼𐤽𐤾𐤿𐥀𐥁𐥂𐥃𐥄𐥅𐥆𐥇𐥈𐥉𐥊𐥋𐥌𐥍𐥎𐥏𐥐𐥑𐥒𐥓𐥔𐥕𐥖𐥗𐥘𐥙𐥚𐥛𐥜𐥝𐥞𐥟𐥠𐥡𐥢𐥣𐥤𐥥𐥦𐥧𐥨𐥩𐥪𐥫𐥬𐥭𐥮𐥯𐥰𐥱𐥲𐥳𐥴𐥵𐥶𐥷𐥸𐥹𐥺𐥻𐥼𐥽𐥾𐥿𐦀𐦁𐦂𐦃𐦄𐦅𐦆𐦇𐦈𐦉𐦊𐦋𐦌𐦍𐦎𐦏𐦐𐦑𐦒𐦓𐦔𐦕𐦖𐦗𐦘𐦙𐦚𐦛𐦜𐦝𐦞𐦟𐦠𐦡𐦢𐦣𐦤𐦥𐦦𐦧𐦨𐦩𐦪𐦫𐦬𐦭𐦮𐦯𐦰𐦱𐦲𐦳𐦴𐦵𐦶𐦷𐦸𐦹𐦺𐦻𐦼𐦽𐦾𐦿𐧀𐧁𐧂𐧃𐧄𐧅𐧆𐧇𐧈𐧉𐧊𐧋𐧌𐧍𐧎𐧏𐧐𐧑𐧒𐧓𐧔𐧕𐧖𐧗𐧘𐧙𐧚𐧛𐧜𐧝𐧞𐧟𐧠𐧡𐧢𐧣𐧤𐧥𐧦𐧧𐧨𐧩𐧪𐧫𐧬𐧭𐧮𐧯𐧰𐧱𐧲𐧳𐧴𐧵𐧶𐧷𐧸𐧹𐧺𐧻𐧼𐧽𐧾𐧿𐨀𐨁𐨂𐨃𐨄𐨅𐨆𐨇𐨈𐨉𐨊𐨋𐨌𐨍𐨎𐨏𐨐𐨑𐨒𐨓𐨔𐨕𐨖𐨗𐨘𐨙𐨚𐨛𐨜𐨝𐨞𐨟𐨠𐨡𐨢𐨣𐨤𐨥𐨦𐨧𐨨𐨩𐨪𐨫𐨬𐨭𐨮𐨯𐨰𐨱𐨲𐨳𐨴𐨵𐨶𐨷𐨹𐨺𐨸𐨻𐨼𐨽𐨾𐨿𐩀𐩁𐩂𐩃𐩄𐩅𐩆𐩇𐩈𐩉𐩊𐩋𐩌𐩍𐩎𐩏𐩐𐩑𐩒𐩓𐩔𐩕𐩖𐩗𐩘𐩙𐩚𐩛𐩜𐩝𐩞𐩟𐩠𐩡𐩢𐩣𐩤𐩥𐩦𐩧𐩨𐩩𐩪𐩫𐩬𐩭𐩮𐩯𐩰𐩱𐩲𐩳𐩴𐩵𐩶𐩷𐩸𐩹𐩺𐩻𐩼𐩽𐩾𐩿𐪀𐪁𐪂𐪃𐪄𐪅𐪆𐪇𐪈𐪉𐪊𐪋𐪌𐪍𐪎𐪏𐪐𐪑𐪒𐪓𐪔𐪕𐪖𐪗𐪘𐪙𐪚𐪛𐪜𐪝𐪞𐪟𐪠𐪡𐪢𐪣𐪤𐪥𐪦𐪧𐪨𐪩𐪪𐪫𐪬𐪭𐪮𐪯𐪰𐪱𐪲𐪳𐪴𐪵𐪶𐪷𐪸𐪹𐪺𐪻𐪼𐪽𐪾𐪿𐫀𐫁𐫂𐫃𐫄𐫅𐫆𐫇𐫈𐫉𐫊𐫋𐫌𐫍𐫎𐫏𐫐𐫑𐫒𐫓𐫔𐫕𐫖𐫗𐫘𐫙𐫚𐫛𐫜𐫝𐫞𐫟𐫠𐫡𐫢𐫣𐫤𐫦𐫥𐫧𐫨𐫩𐫪𐫫𐫬𐫭𐫮𐫯𐫰𐫱𐫲𐫳𐫴𐫵𐫶𐫷𐫸𐫹𐫺𐫻𐫼𐫽𐫾𐫿𐬀𐬁𐬂𐬃𐬄𐬅𐬆𐬇𐬈𐬉𐬊𐬋𐬌𐬍𐬎𐬏𐬐𐬑𐬒𐬓𐬔𐬕𐬖𐬗𐬘𐬙𐬚𐬛𐬜𐬝𐬞𐬟𐬠𐬡𐬢𐬣𐬤𐬥𐬦𐬧𐬨𐬩𐬪𐬫𐬬𐬭𐬮𐬯𐬰𐬱𐬲𐬳𐬴𐬵𐬶𐬷𐬸𐬹𐬺𐬻𐬼𐬽𐬾𐬿𐭀𐭁𐭂𐭃𐭄𐭅𐭆𐭇𐭈𐭉𐭊𐭋𐭌𐭍𐭎𐭏𐭐𐭑𐭒𐭓𐭔𐭕𐭖𐭗𐭘𐭙𐭚𐭛𐭜𐭝𐭞𐭟𐭠𐭡𐭢𐭣𐭤𐭥𐭦𐭧𐭨𐭩𐭪𐭫𐭬𐭭𐭮𐭯𐭰𐭱𐭲𐭳𐭴𐭵𐭶𐭷𐭸𐭹𐭺𐭻𐭼𐭽𐭾𐭿𐮀𐮁𐮂𐮃𐮄𐮅𐮆𐮇𐮈𐮉𐮊𐮋𐮌𐮍𐮎𐮏𐮐𐮑𐮒𐮓𐮔𐮕𐮖𐮗𐮘𐮙𐮚𐮛𐮜𐮝𐮞𐮟𐮠𐮡𐮢𐮣𐮤𐮥𐮦𐮧𐮨𐮩𐮪𐮫𐮬𐮭𐮮𐮯𐮰𐮱𐮲𐮳𐮴𐮵𐮶𐮷𐮸𐮹𐮺𐮻𐮼𐮽𐮾𐮿𐯀𐯁𐯂𐯃𐯄𐯅𐯆𐯇𐯈𐯉𐯊𐯋𐯌𐯍𐯎𐯏𐯐𐯑𐯒𐯓𐯔𐯕𐯖𐯗𐯘𐯙𐯚𐯛𐯜𐯝𐯞𐯟𐯠𐯡𐯢𐯣𐯤𐯥𐯦𐯧𐯨𐯩𐯪𐯫𐯬𐯭𐯮𐯯𐯰𐯱𐯲𐯳𐯴𐯵𐯶𐯷𐯸𐯹𐯺𐯻𐯼𐯽𐯾𐯿𐰀𐰁𐰂𐰃𐰄𐰅𐰆𐰇𐰈𐰉𐰊𐰋𐰌𐰍𐰎𐰏𐰐𐰑𐰒𐰓𐰔𐰕𐰖𐰗𐰘𐰙𐰚𐰛𐰜𐰝𐰞𐰟𐰠𐰡𐰢𐰣𐰤𐰥𐰦𐰧𐰨𐰩𐰪𐰫𐰬𐰭𐰮𐰯𐰰𐰱𐰲𐰳𐰴𐰵𐰶𐰷𐰸𐰹𐰺𐰻𐰼𐰽𐰾𐰿𐱀𐱁𐱂𐱃𐱄𐱅𐱆𐱇𐱈𐱉𐱊𐱋𐱌𐱍𐱎𐱏𐱐𐱑𐱒𐱓𐱔𐱕𐱖𐱗𐱘𐱙𐱚𐱛𐱜𐱝𐱞𐱟𐱠𐱡𐱢𐱣𐱤𐱥𐱦𐱧𐱨𐱩𐱪𐱫𐱬𐱭𐱮𐱯𐱰𐱱𐱲𐱳𐱴𐱵𐱶𐱷𐱸𐱹𐱺𐱻𐱼𐱽𐱾𐱿𐲀𐲁𐲂𐲃𐲄𐲅𐲆𐲇𐲈𐲉𐲊𐲋𐲌𐲍𐲎𐲏𐲐𐲑𐲒𐲓𐲔𐲕𐲖𐲗𐲘𐲙𐲚𐲛𐲜𐲝𐲞𐲟𐲠𐲡𐲢𐲣𐲤𐲥𐲦𐲧𐲨𐲩𐲪𐲫𐲬𐲭𐲮𐲯𐲰𐲱𐲲𐲳𐲴𐲵𐲶𐲷𐲸𐲹𐲺𐲻𐲼𐲽𐲾𐲿𐳀𐳁𐳂𐳃𐳄𐳅𐳆𐳇𐳈𐳉𐳊𐳋𐳌𐳍𐳎𐳏𐳐𐳑𐳒𐳓𐳔𐳕𐳖𐳗𐳘𐳙𐳚𐳛𐳜𐳝𐳞𐳟𐳠𐳡𐳢𐳣𐳤𐳥𐳦𐳧𐳨𐳩𐳪𐳫𐳬𐳭𐳮𐳯𐳰𐳱𐳲𐳳𐳴𐳵𐳶𐳷𐳸𐳹𐳺𐳻𐳼𐳽𐳾𐳿𐴀𐴁𐴂𐴃𐴄𐴅𐴆𐴇𐴈𐴉𐴊𐴋𐴌𐴍𐴎𐴏𐴐𐴑𐴒𐴓𐴔𐴕𐴖𐴗𐴘𐴙𐴚𐴛𐴜𐴝𐴞𐴟𐴠𐴡𐴢𐴣𐴤𐴥𐴦𐴧𐴨𐴩𐴪𐴫𐴬𐴭𐴮𐴯𐴰𐴱𐴲𐴳𐴴𐴵𐴶𐴷𐴸𐴹𐴺𐴻𐴼𐴽𐴾𐴿𐵀𐵁𐵂𐵃𐵄𐵅𐵆𐵇𐵈𐵉𐵊𐵋𐵌𐵍𐵎𐵏𐵐𐵑𐵒𐵓𐵔𐵕𐵖𐵗𐵘𐵙𐵚𐵛𐵜𐵝𐵞𐵟𐵠𐵡𐵢𐵣𐵤𐵥𐵦𐵧𐵨𐵩𐵪𐵫𐵬𐵭𐵮𐵯𐵰𐵱𐵲𐵳𐵴𐵵𐵶𐵷𐵸𐵹𐵺𐵻𐵼𐵽𐵾𐵿𐶀𐶁𐶂𐶃𐶄𐶅𐶆𐶇𐶈𐶉𐶊𐶋𐶌𐶍𐶎𐶏𐶐𐶑𐶒𐶓𐶔𐶕𐶖𐶗𐶘𐶙𐶚𐶛𐶜𐶝𐶞𐶟𐶠𐶡𐶢𐶣𐶤𐶥𐶦𐶧𐶨𐶩𐶪𐶫𐶬𐶭𐶮𐶯𐶰𐶱𐶲𐶳𐶴𐶵𐶶𐶷𐶸𐶹𐶺𐶻𐶼𐶽𐶾𐶿𐷀𐷁𐷂𐷃𐷄𐷅𐷆𐷇𐷈𐷉𐷊𐷋𐷌𐷍𐷎𐷏𐷐𐷑𐷒𐷓𐷔𐷕𐷖𐷗𐷘𐷙𐷚𐷛𐷜𐷝𐷞𐷟𐷠𐷡𐷢𐷣𐷤𐷥𐷦𐷧𐷨𐷩𐷪𐷫𐷬𐷭𐷮𐷯𐷰𐷱𐷲𐷳𐷴𐷵𐷶𐷷𐷸𐷹𐷺𐷻𐷼𐷽𐷾𐷿𐸀𐸁𐸂𐸃𐸄𐸅𐸆𐸇𐸈𐸉𐸊𐸋𐸌𐸍𐸎𐸏𐸐𐸑𐸒𐸓𐸔𐸕𐸖𐸗𐸘𐸙𐸚𐸛𐸜𐸝𐸞𐸟𐸠𐸡𐸢𐸣𐸤𐸥𐸦𐸧𐸨𐸩𐸪𐸫𐸬𐸭𐸮𐸯𐸰𐸱𐸲𐸳𐸴𐸵𐸶𐸷𐸸𐸹𐸺𐸻𐸼𐸽𐸾𐸿𐹀𐹁𐹂𐹃𐹄𐹅𐹆𐹇𐹈𐹉𐹊𐹋𐹌𐹍𐹎𐹏𐹐𐹑𐹒𐹓𐹔𐹕𐹖𐹗𐹘𐹙𐹚𐹛𐹜𐹝𐹞𐹟𐹠𐹡𐹢𐹣𐹤𐹥𐹦𐹧𐹨𐹩𐹪𐹫𐹬𐹭𐹮𐹯𐹰𐹱𐹲𐹳𐹴𐹵𐹶𐹷𐹸𐹹𐹺𐹻𐹼𐹽𐹾𐹿𐺀𐺁𐺂𐺃𐺄𐺅𐺆𐺇𐺈𐺉𐺊𐺋𐺌𐺍𐺎𐺏𐺐𐺑𐺒𐺓𐺔𐺕𐺖𐺗𐺘𐺙𐺚𐺛𐺜𐺝𐺞𐺟𐺠𐺡𐺢𐺣𐺤𐺥𐺦𐺧𐺨𐺩𐺪𐺫𐺬𐺭𐺮𐺯𐺰𐺱𐺲𐺳𐺴𐺵𐺶𐺷𐺸𐺹𐺺𐺻𐺼𐺽𐺾𐺿𐻀𐻁𐻂𐻃𐻄𐻅𐻆𐻇𐻈𐻉𐻊𐻋𐻌𐻍𐻎𐻏𐻐𐻑𐻒𐻓𐻔𐻕𐻖𐻗𐻘𐻙𐻚𐻛𐻜𐻝𐻞𐻟𐻠𐻡𐻢𐻣𐻤𐻥𐻦𐻧𐻨𐻩𐻪𐻫𐻬𐻭𐻮𐻯𐻰𐻱𐻲𐻳𐻴𐻵𐻶𐻷𐻸𐻹𐻺𐻻𐻼𐻽𐻾𐻿𐼀𐼁𐼂𐼃𐼄𐼅𐼆𐼇𐼈𐼉𐼊𐼋𐼌𐼍𐼎𐼏𐼐𐼑𐼒𐼓𐼔𐼕𐼖𐼗𐼘𐼙𐼚𐼛𐼜𐼝𐼞𐼟𐼠𐼡𐼢𐼣𐼤𐼥𐼦𐼧𐼨𐼩𐼪𐼫𐼬𐼭𐼮𐼯𐼰𐼱𐼲𐼳𐼴𐼵𐼶𐼷𐼸𐼹𐼺𐼻𐼼𐼽𐼾𐼿𐽀𐽁𐽂𐽃𐽄𐽅𐽆𐽇𐽋𐽍𐽎𐽏𐽐𐽈𐽉𐽊𐽌𐽑𐽒𐽓𐽔𐽕𐽖𐽗𐽘𐽙𐽚𐽛𐽜𐽝𐽞𐽟𐽠𐽡𐽢𐽣𐽤𐽥𐽦𐽧𐽨𐽩𐽪𐽫𐽬𐽭𐽮𐽯𐽰𐽱𐽲𐽳𐽴𐽵𐽶𐽷𐽸𐽹𐽺𐽻𐽼𐽽𐽾𐽿𐾀𐾁𐾃𐾅𐾂𐾄𐾆𐾇𐾈𐾉𐾊𐾋𐾌𐾍𐾎𐾏𐾐𐾑𐾒𐾓𐾔𐾕𐾖𐾗𐾘𐾙𐾚

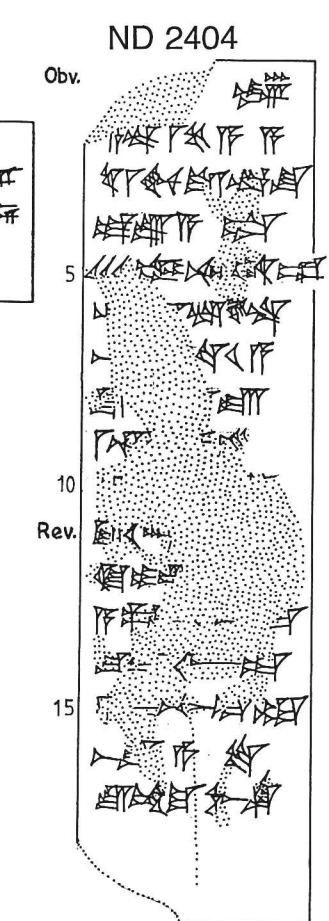
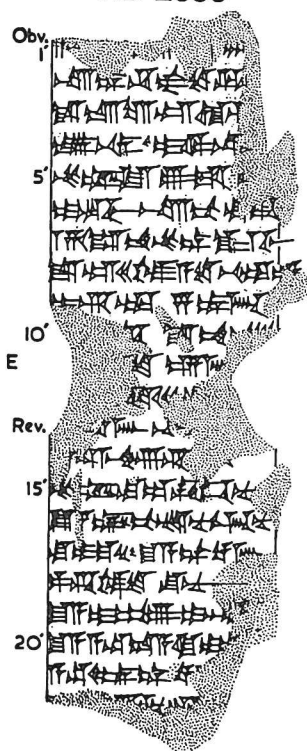
ND 2668



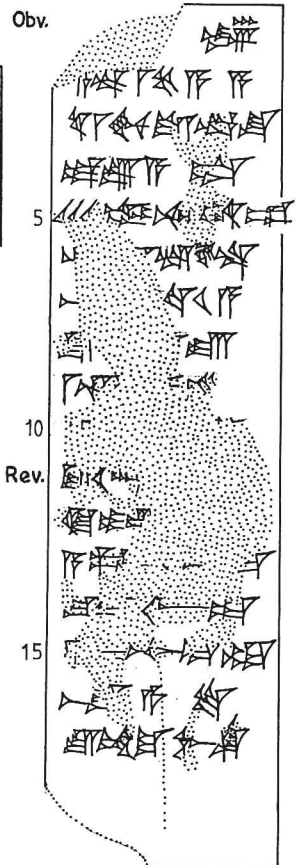
ND 2644



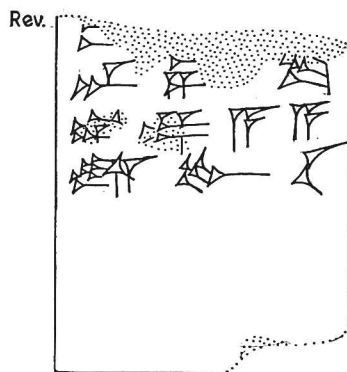
ND 2680



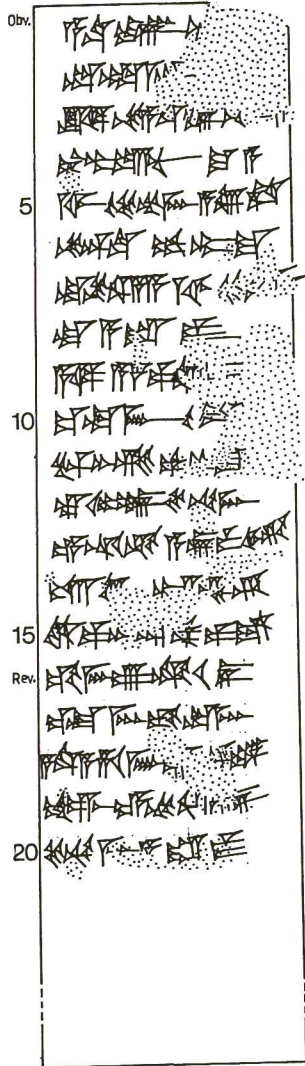
ND 2404



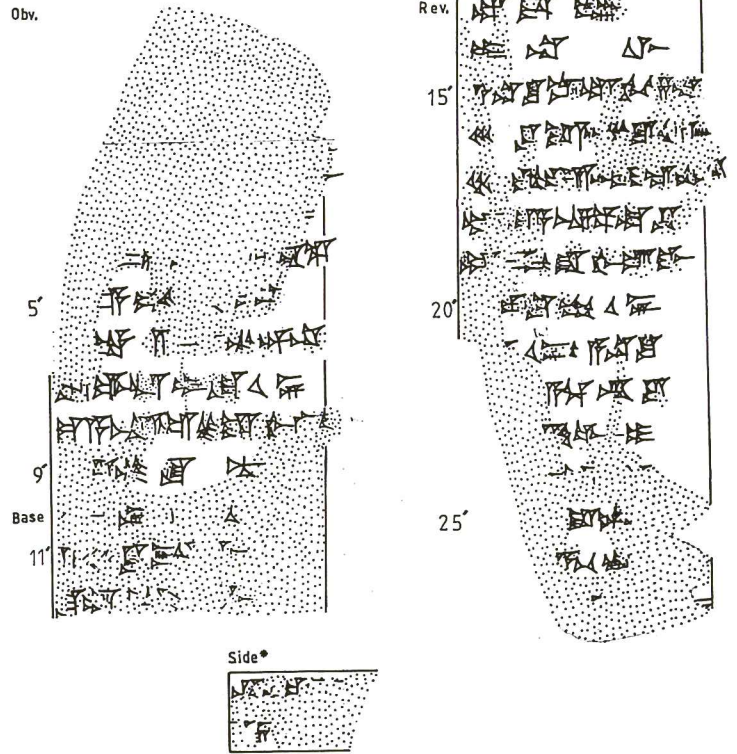
ND 2362



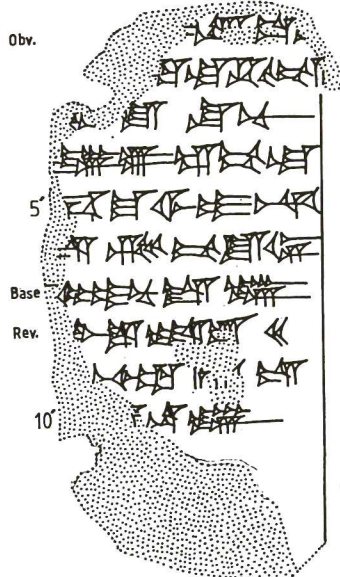
ND 2671



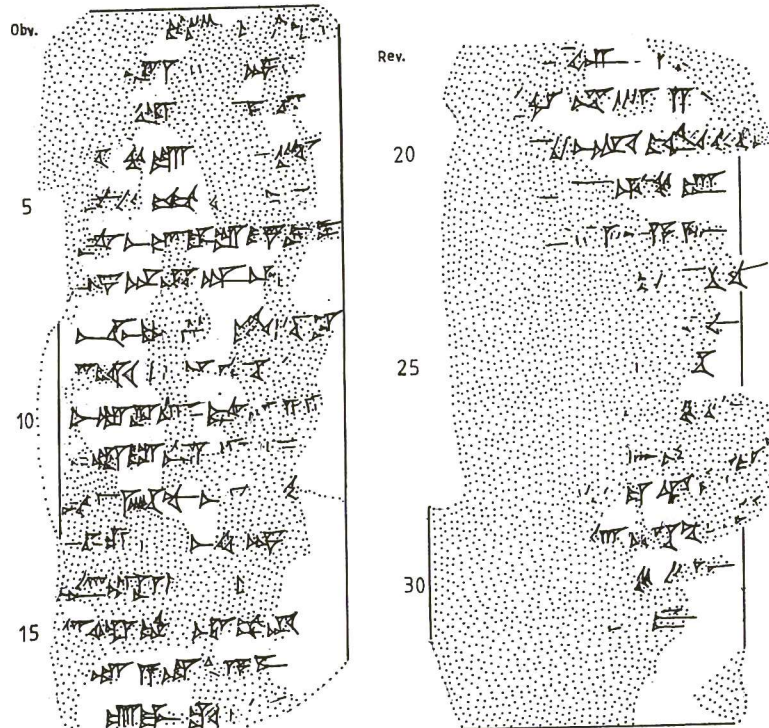
ND 2676



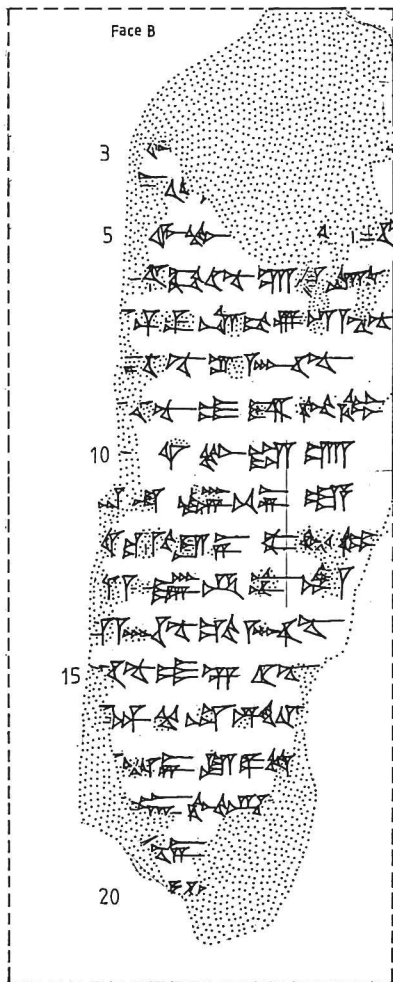
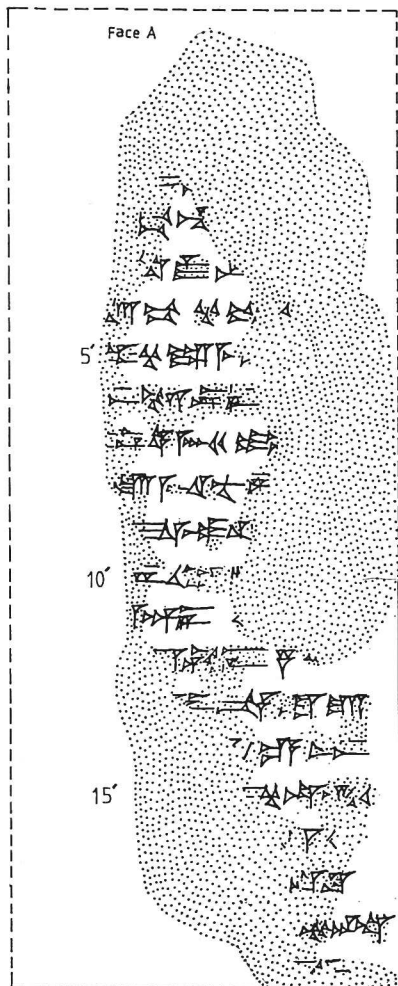
ND 2422



ND 2713



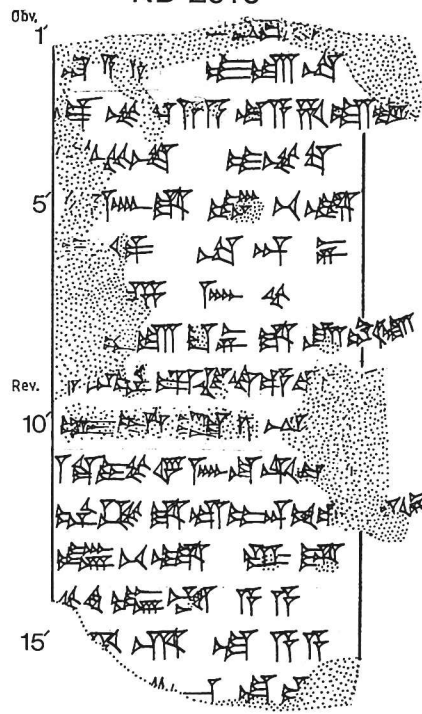
ND 2610



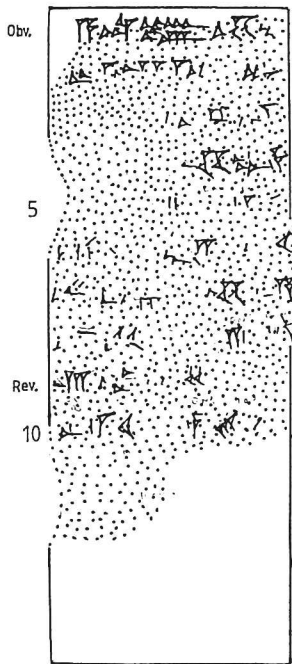
ND 2428



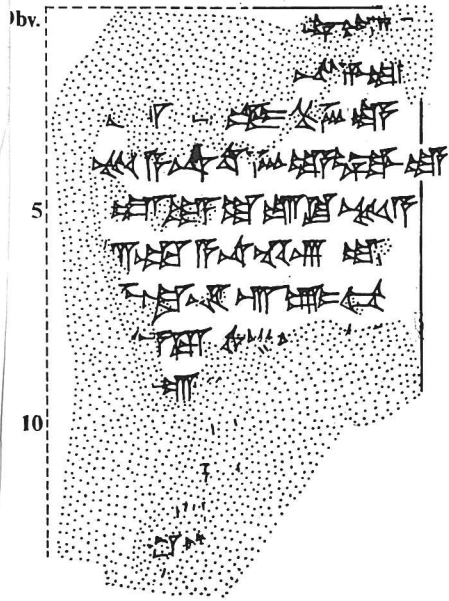
ND 2616



ND 2802



ND 2361



ND 2759

Obv.

5

10

15

20

25

30

35

Rev.

40

45

50

55

60

65

70

ND 2409

Obv.

5

10

15

20

Rev.

ND 2355

Obv.

5

10

15

ND 2429

Obv.

5

10

ND 2719

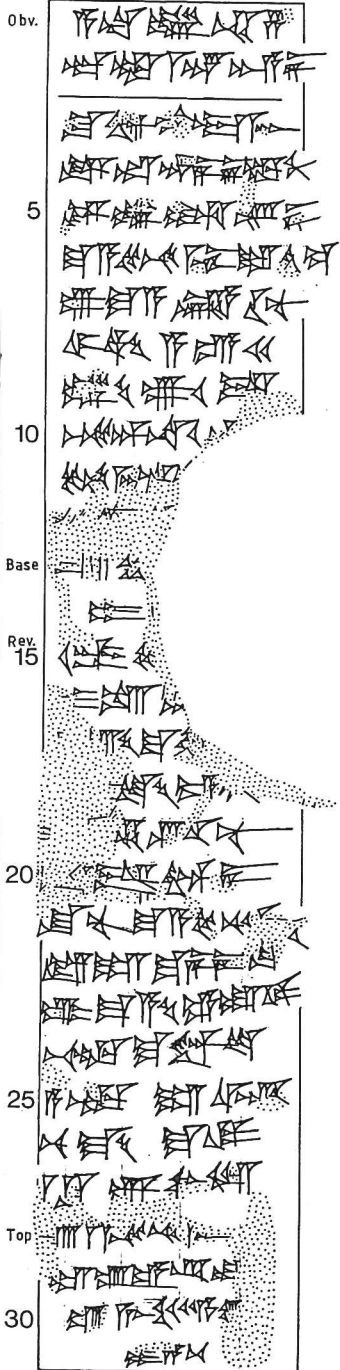
Obv.

5

10

15

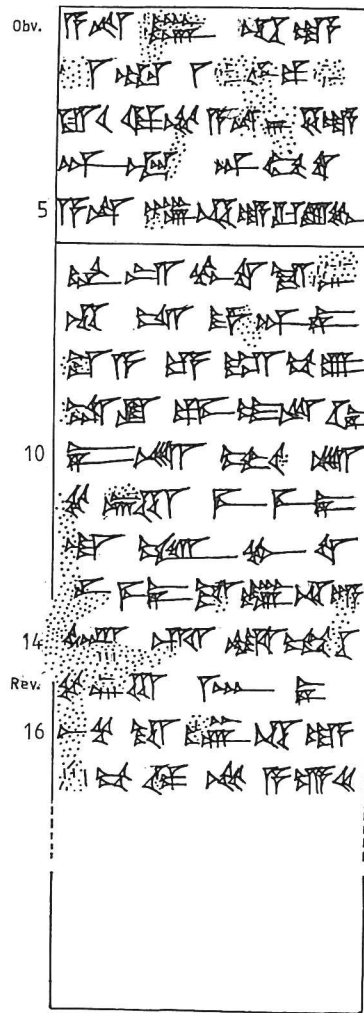
ND 2449



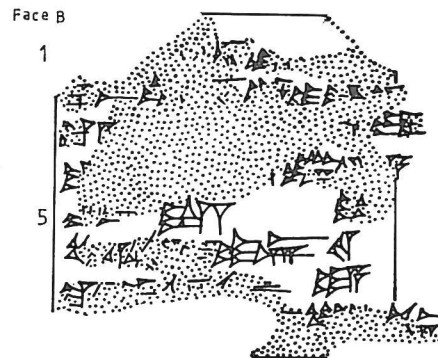
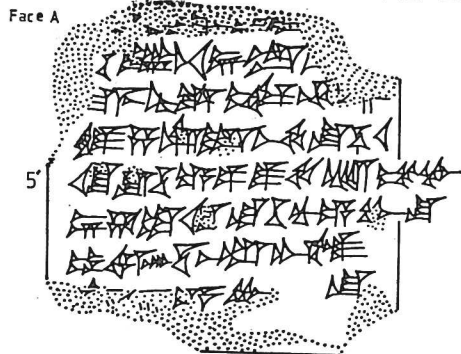
ND 2462



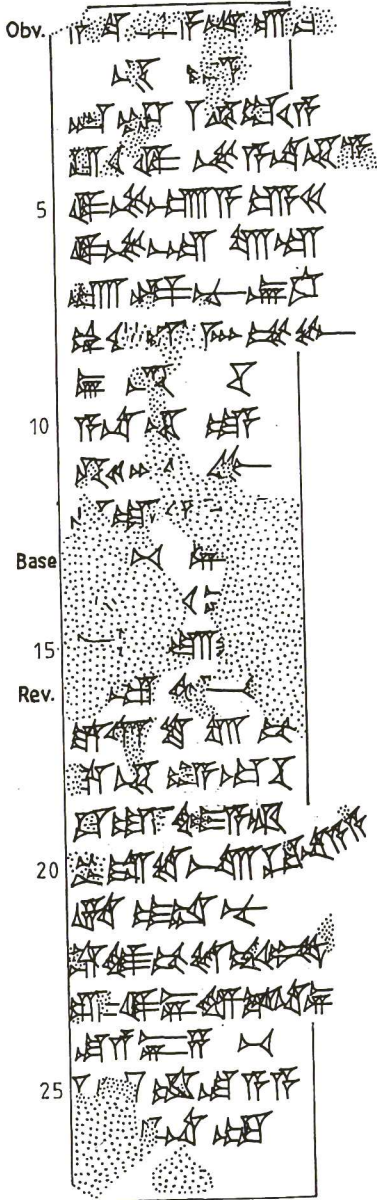
ND 2617



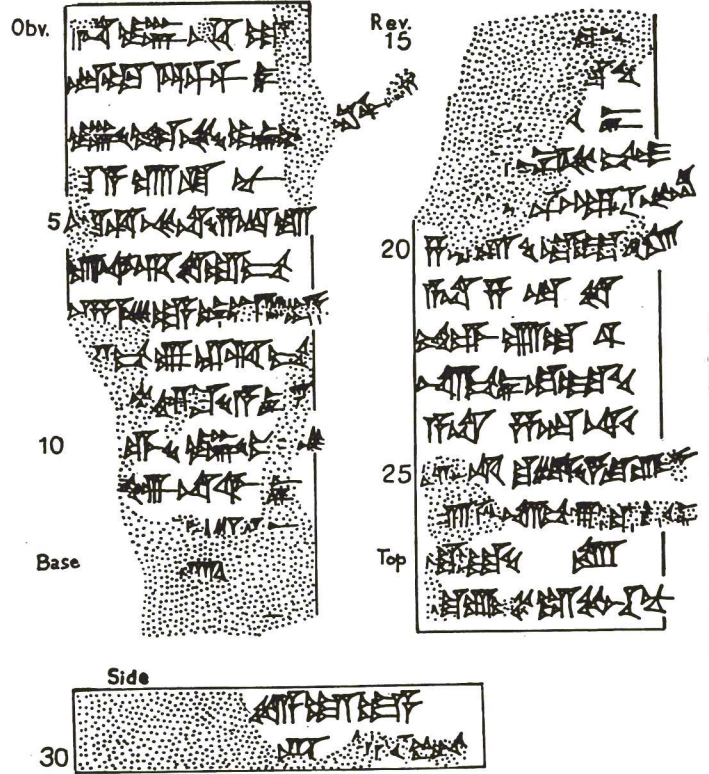
ND 2731



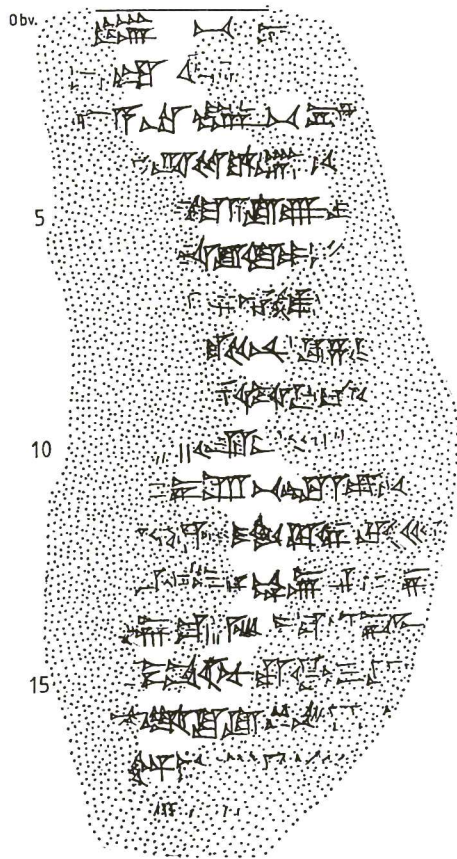
ND 2757



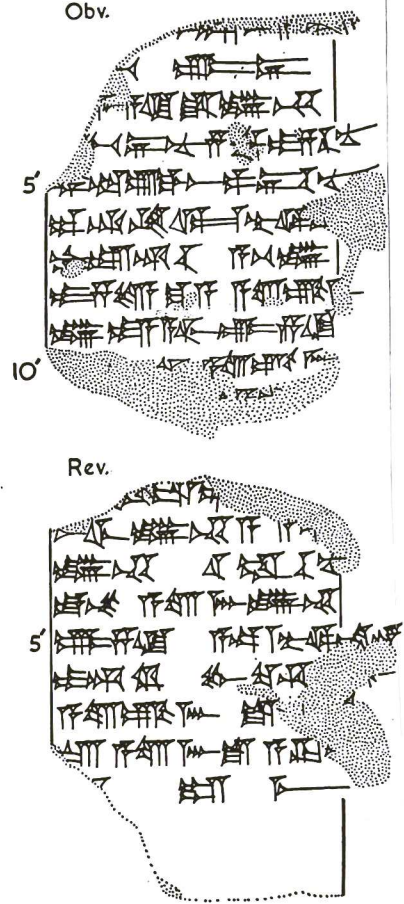
ND 2660



ND 2067



ND 2486



ND 2734+2416+2457

ND 2666

Obv. 31
 35
 40
 45
 50
 55
 Base
 20
 25
 Rev. 10
 15

31
 35
 40
 45
 50
 55
 60

Obv. 5
 10
 15
 Base
 20
 Rev. 25
 30
 35
 Top
 40
 Side

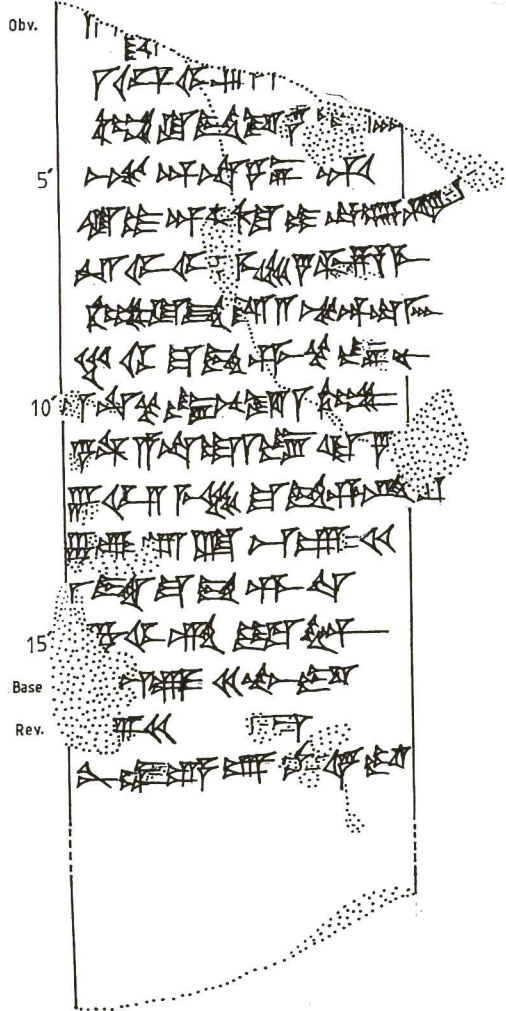
ND 2733

Obv. 5
 10

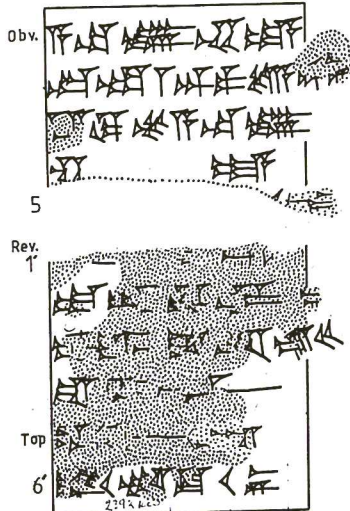
Rev. 5
 10

40
 Side

ND 2481



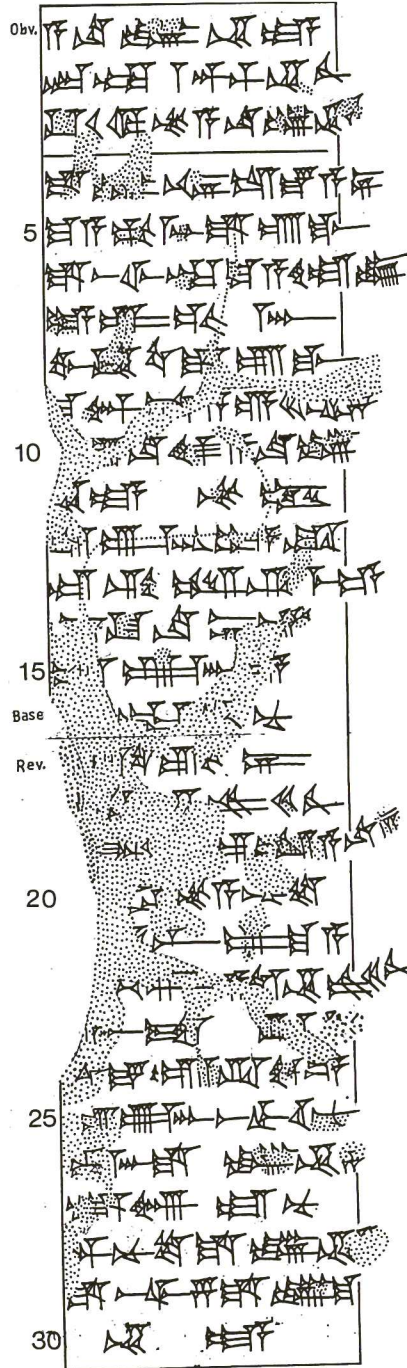
ND 2392



Side*



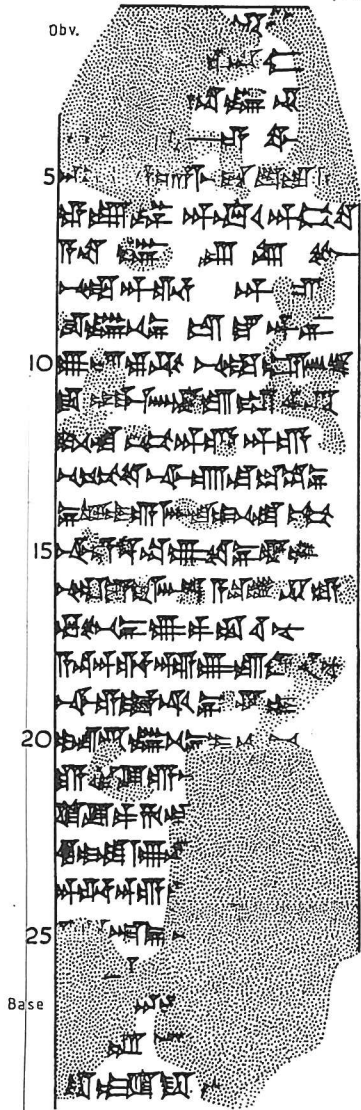
ND 2769



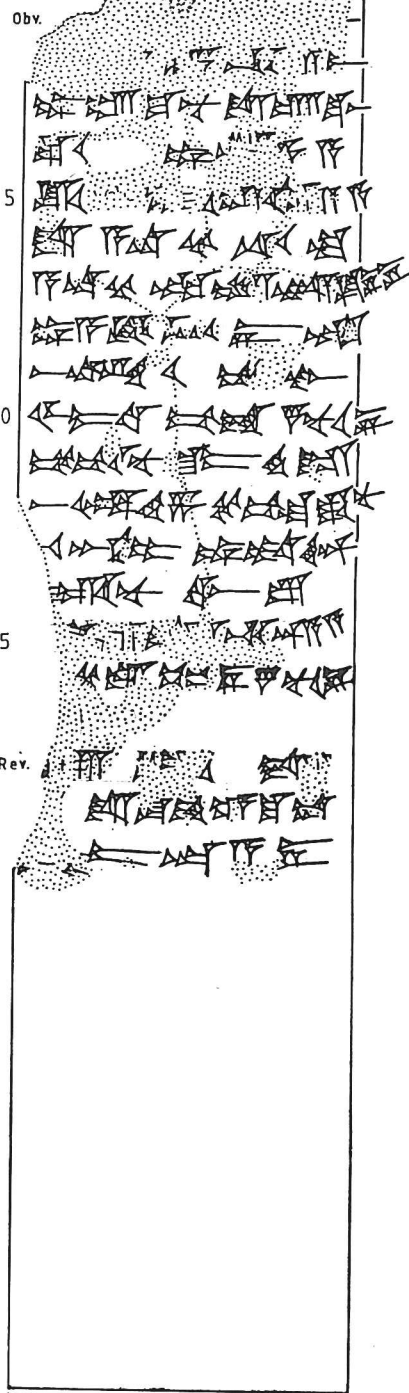
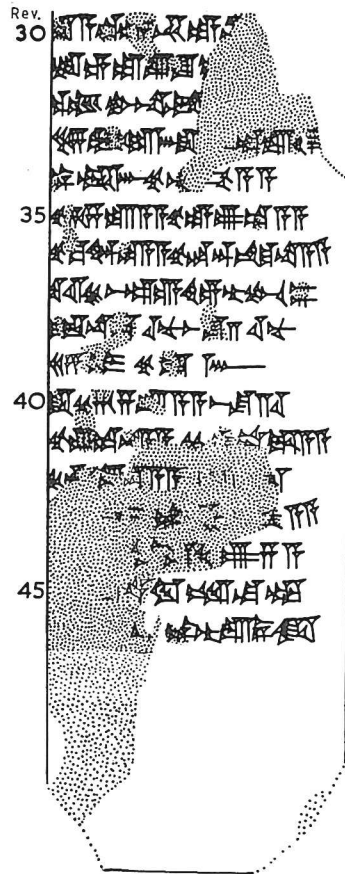
ND 2645



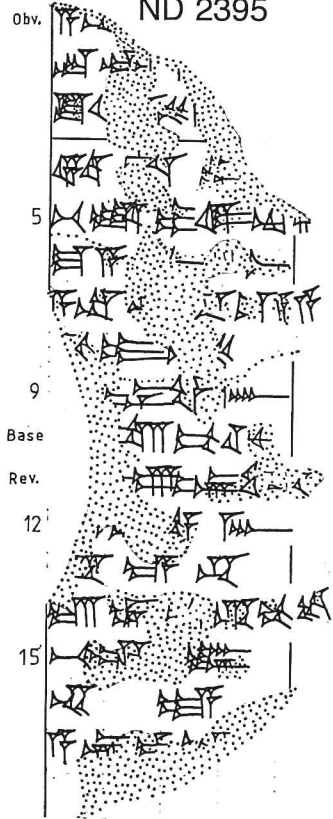
ND 2765



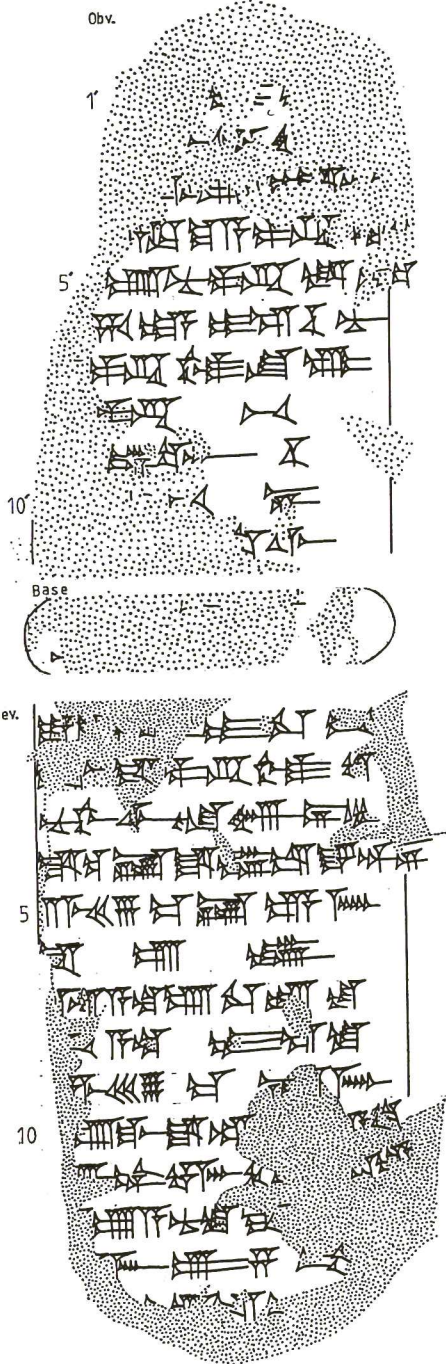
ND 2356



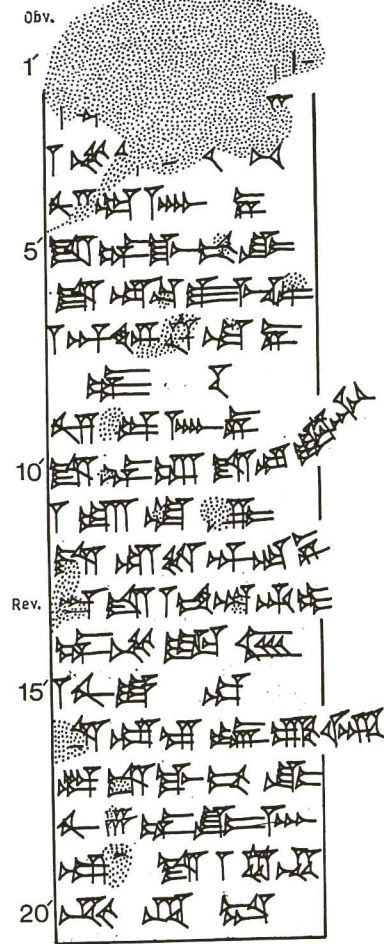
ND 2395



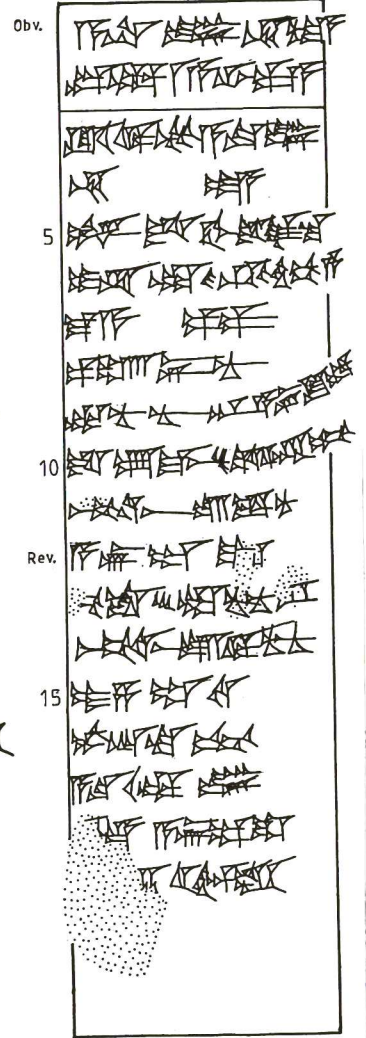
ND 2770



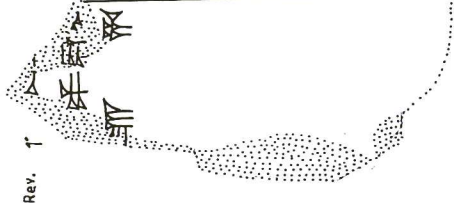
ND 2410



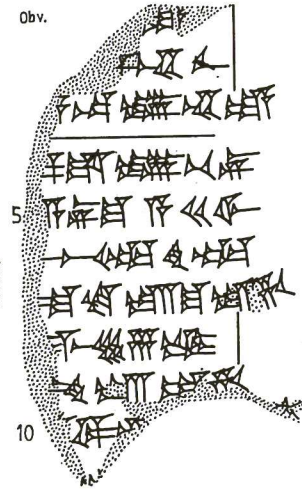
ND 2703



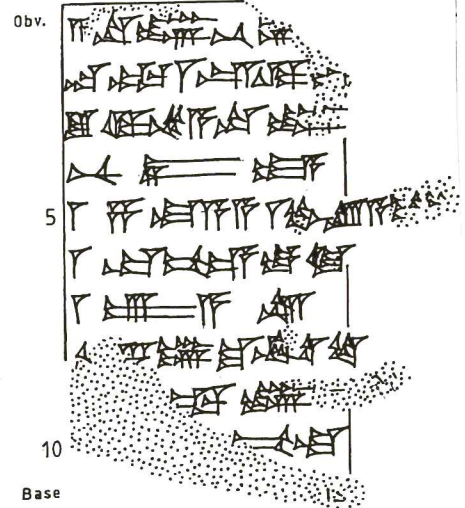
ND 2604 (cont.)



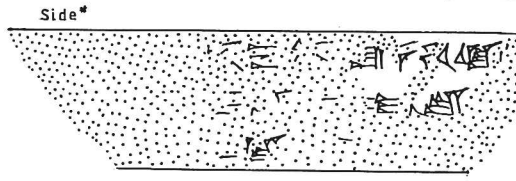
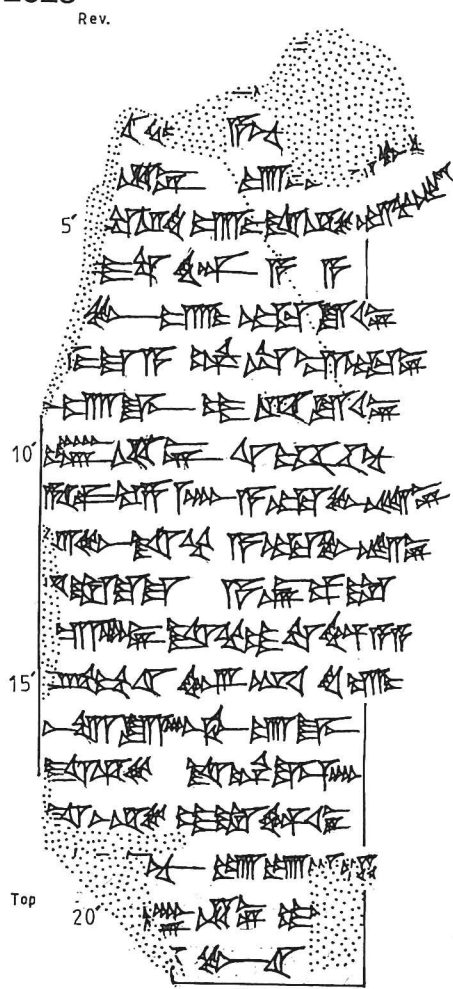
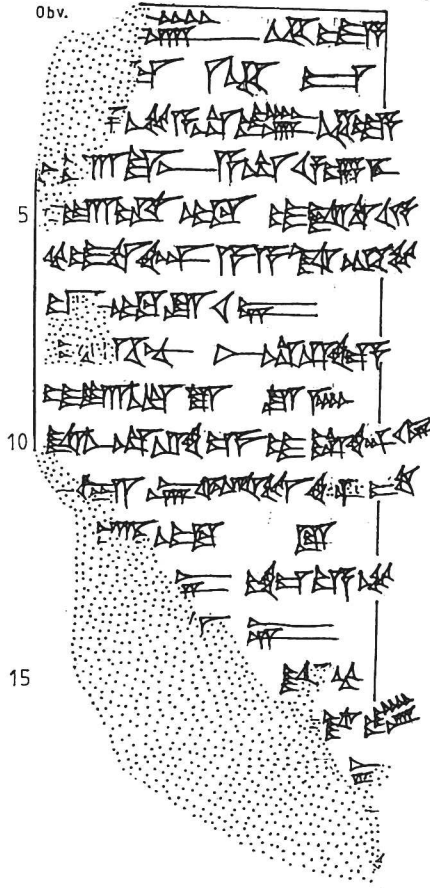
ND 2604



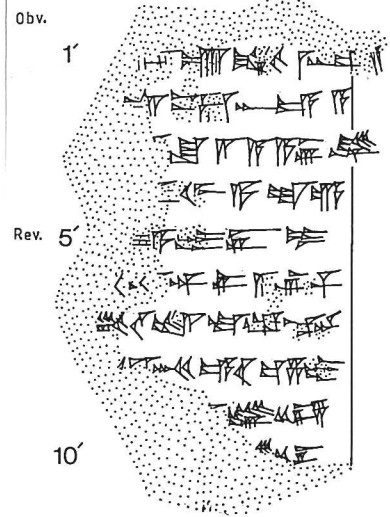
ND 2477



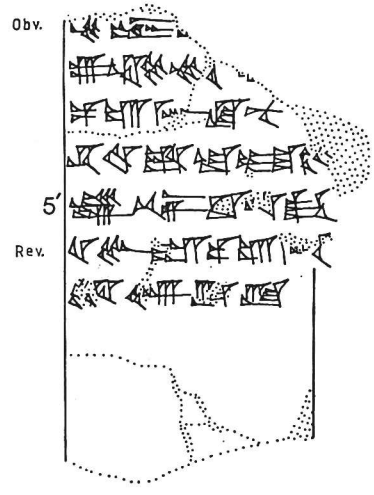
ND 2625



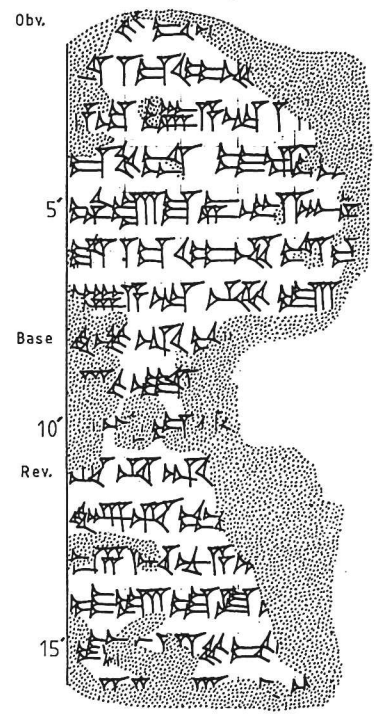
ND 2459



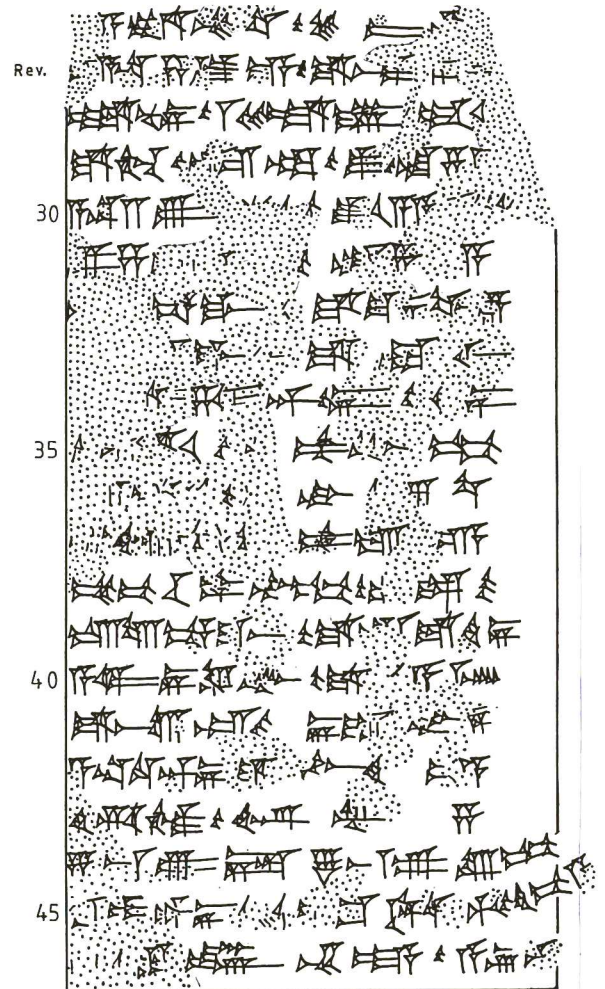
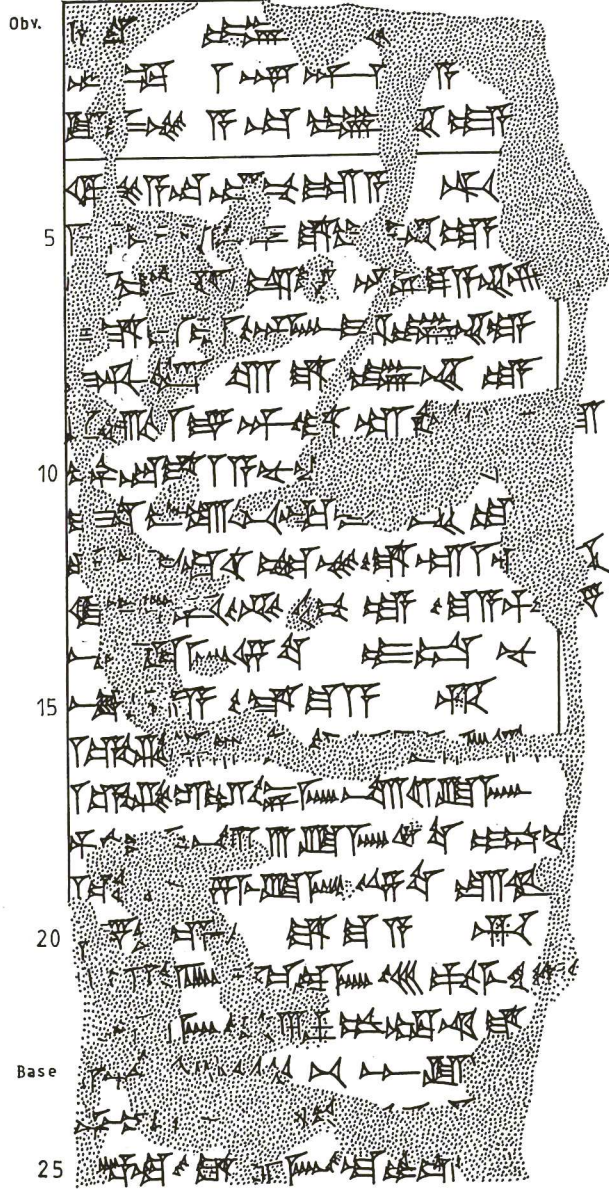
ND 2472



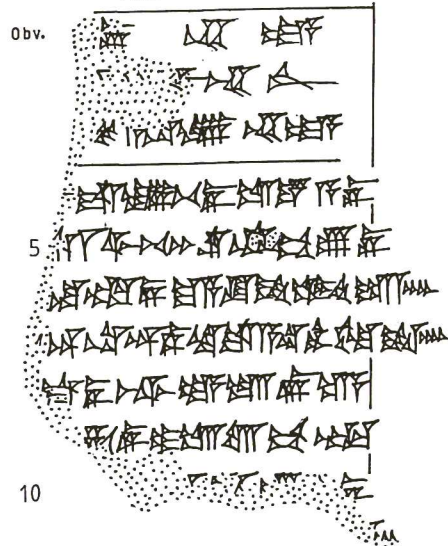
ND 2793



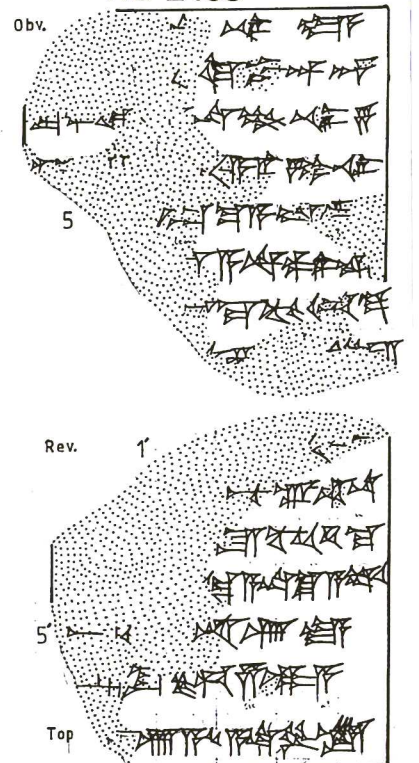
ND 2669



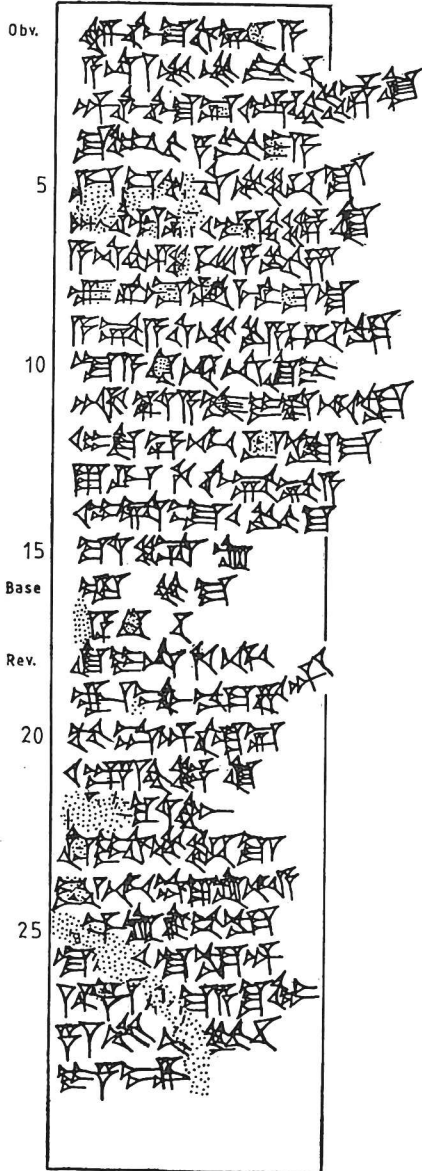
ND 2401



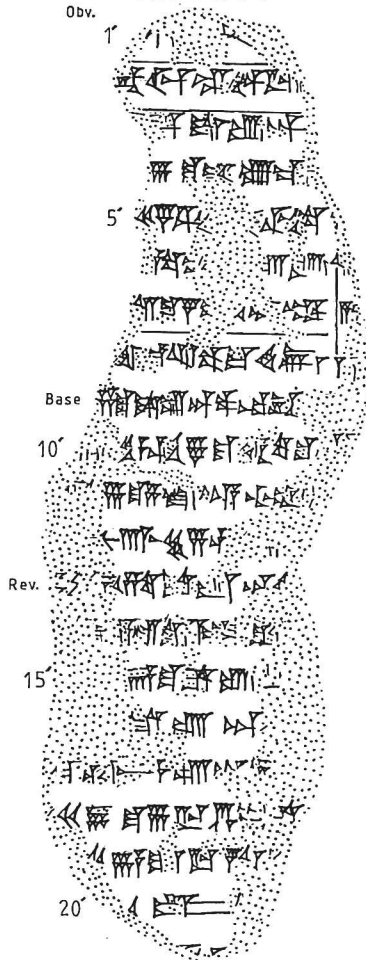
ND 2405



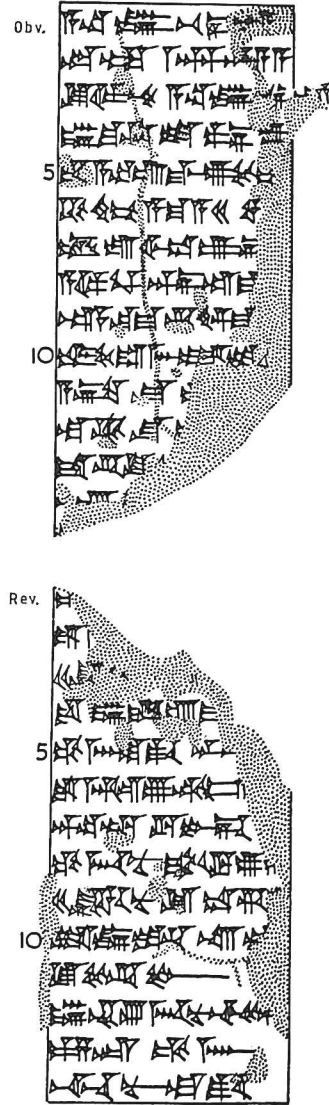
ND 2052



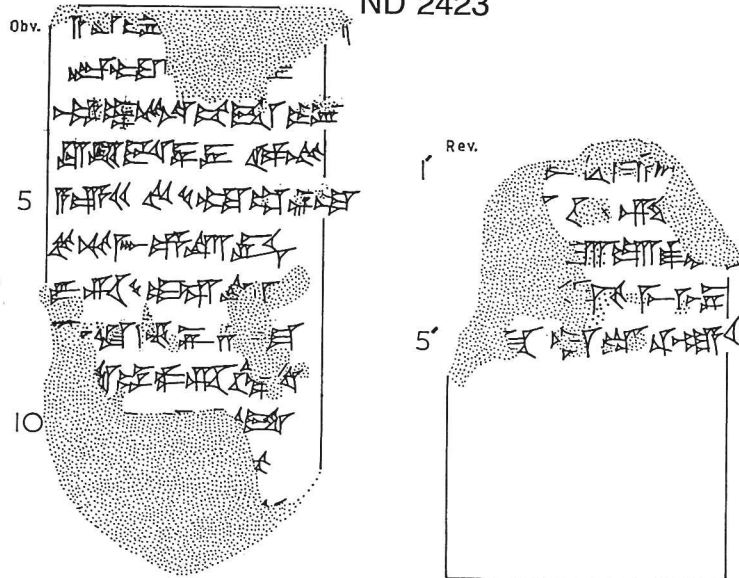
ND 2614



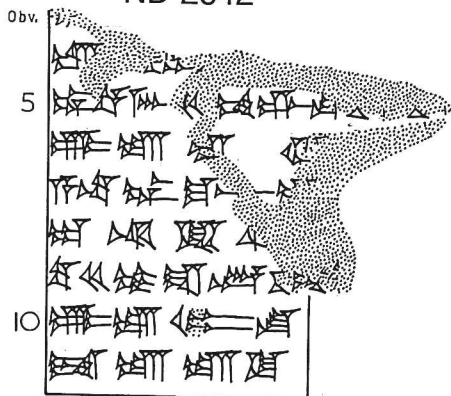
ND2460



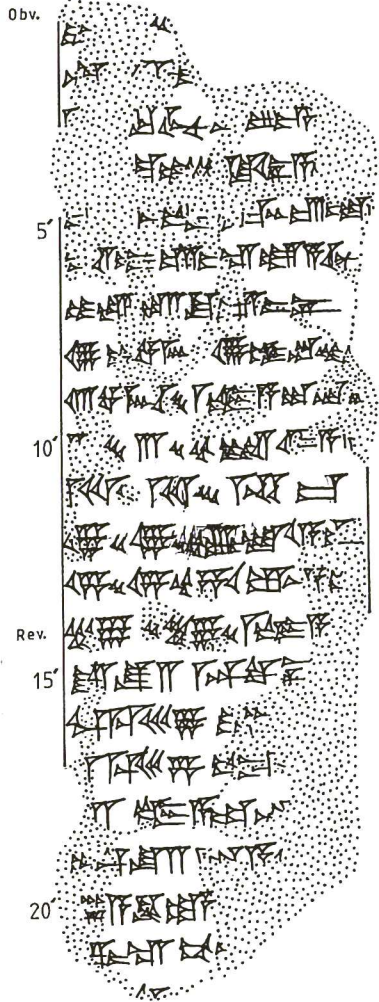
ND 2423



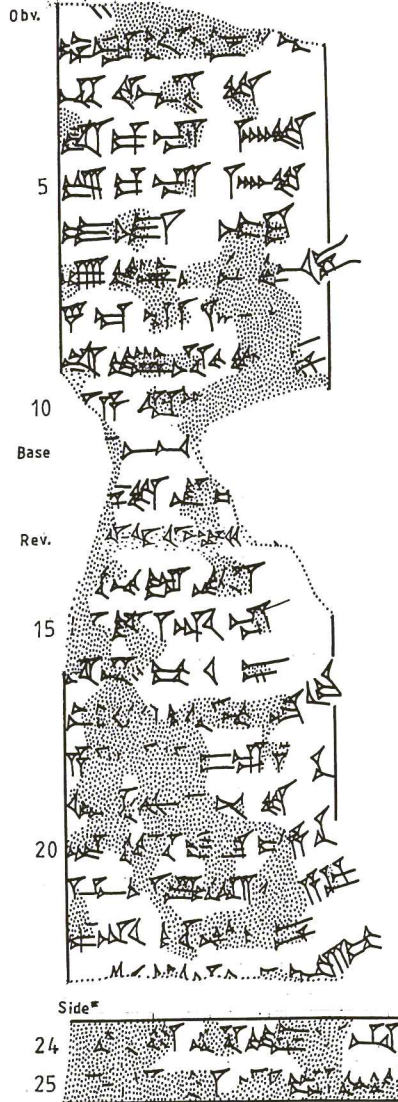
ND 2642



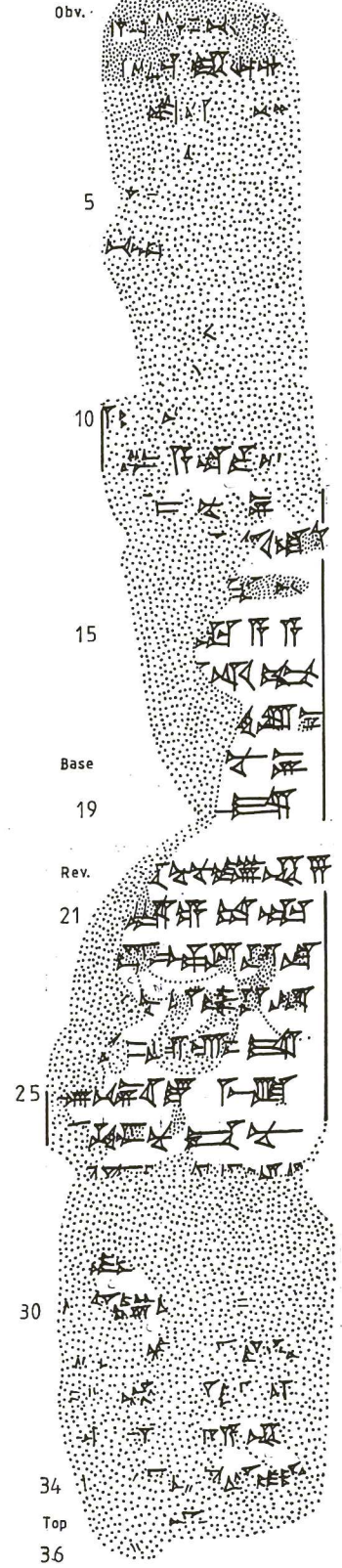
ND 2366



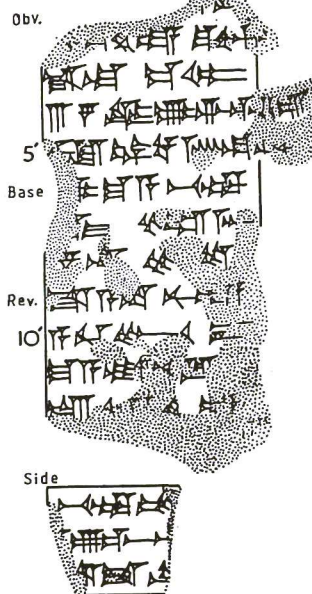
ND 2369



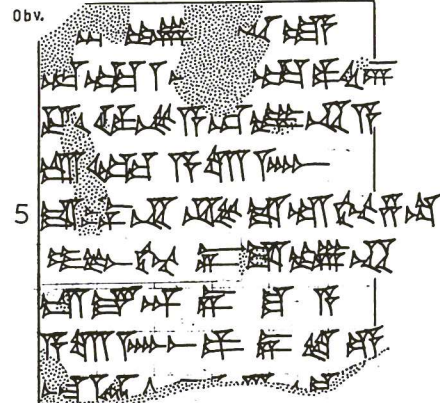
ND 2436



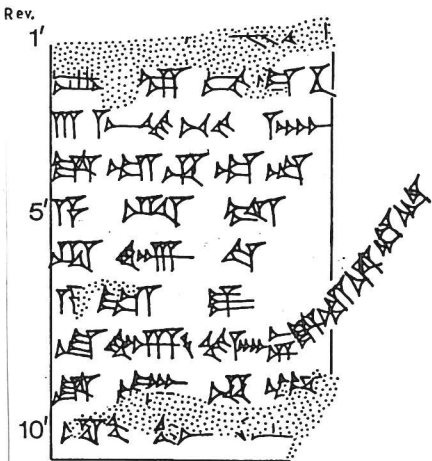
ND 2690



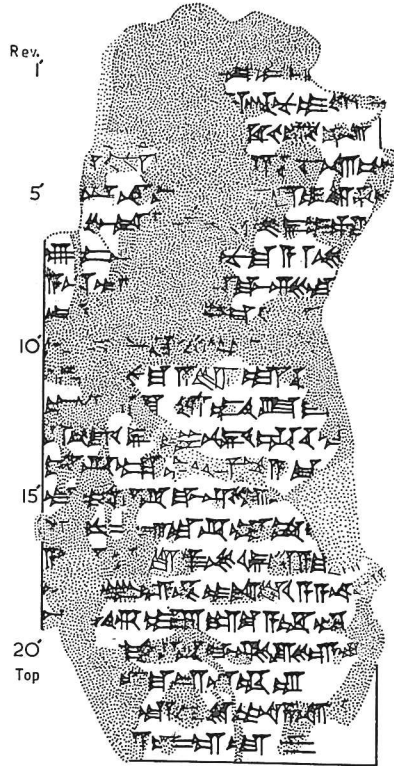
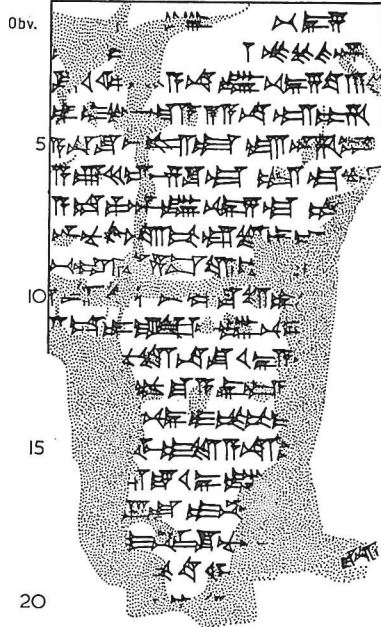
ND 2800



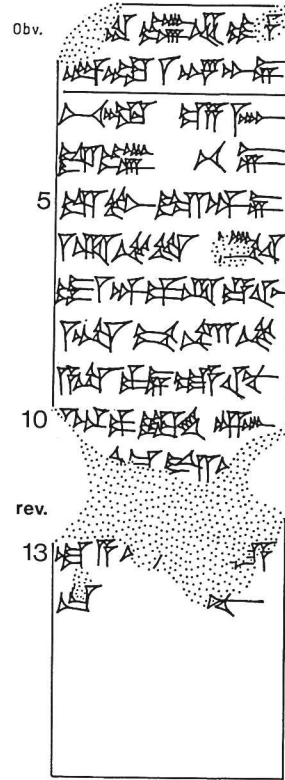
ND 2373



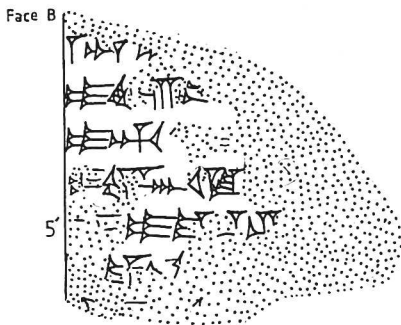
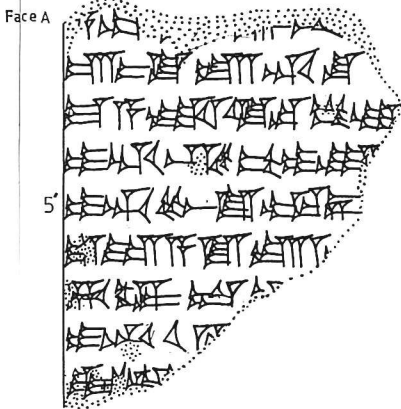
ND 2387



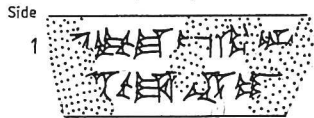
ND 2464



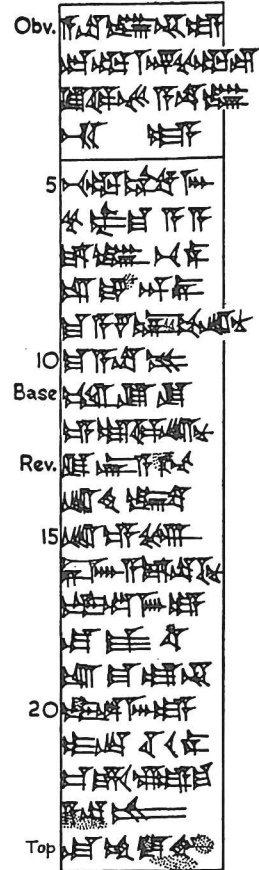
ND 2746



ND 2746 (cont.)

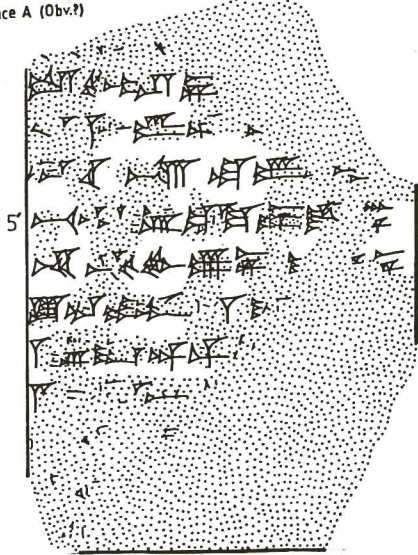


ND 2643

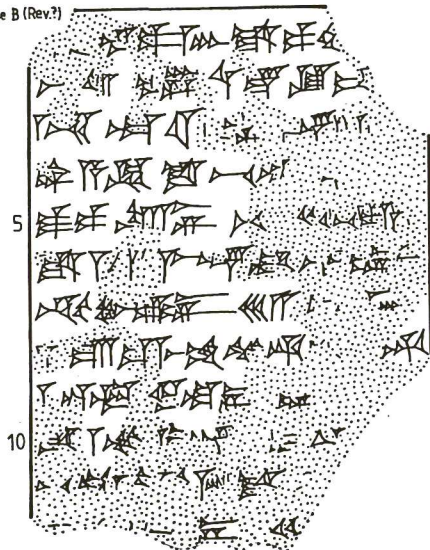


ND 2413

Face A (Obv.?)



Face B (Rev.?)

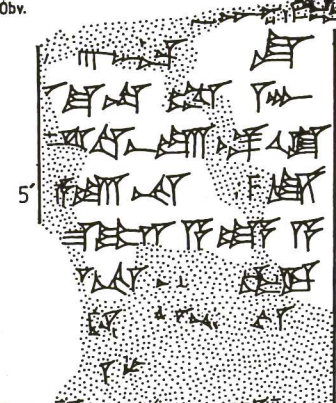


Side



ND 2425

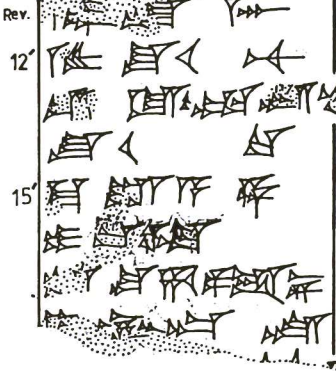
Obv.



Base



Rev.

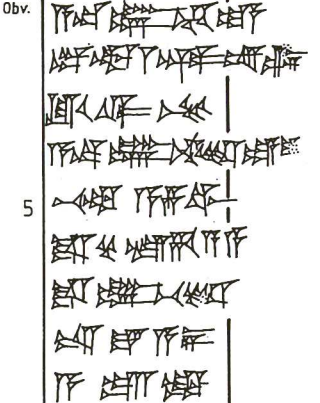


Side



ND 2647

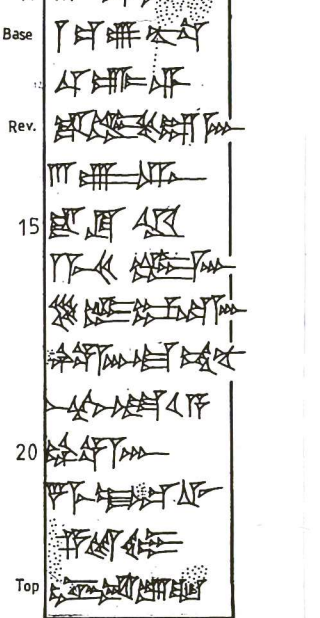
Obv.



Base

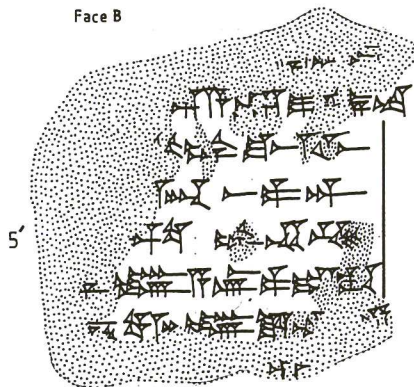


Rev.

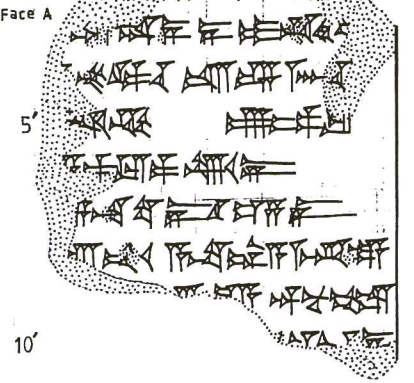


ND 2420

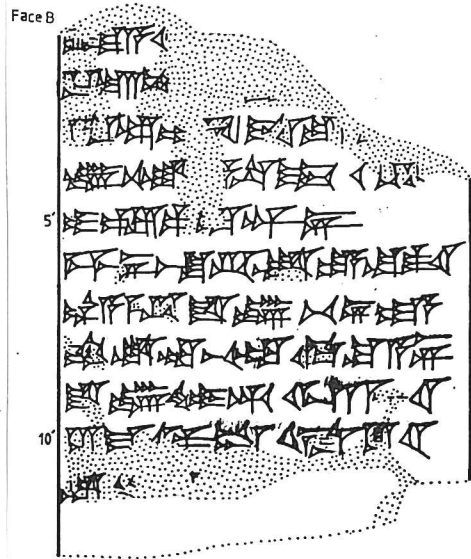
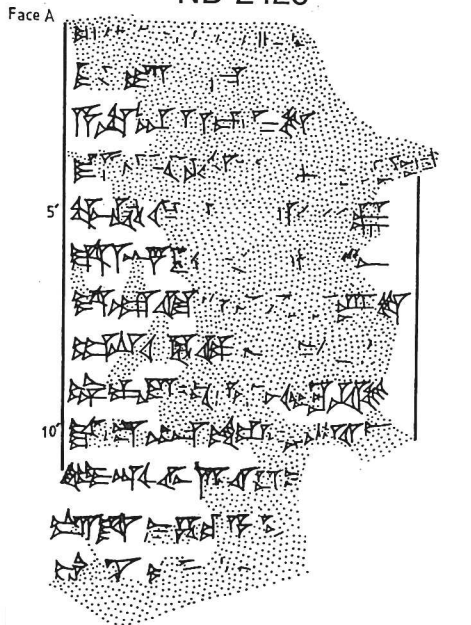
Face B



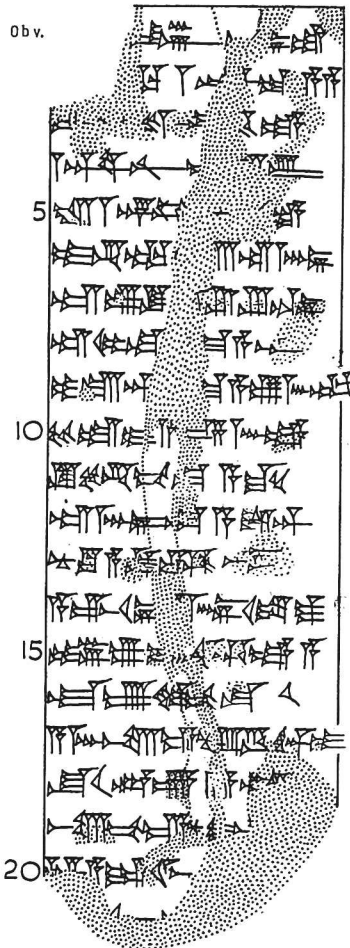
Face A



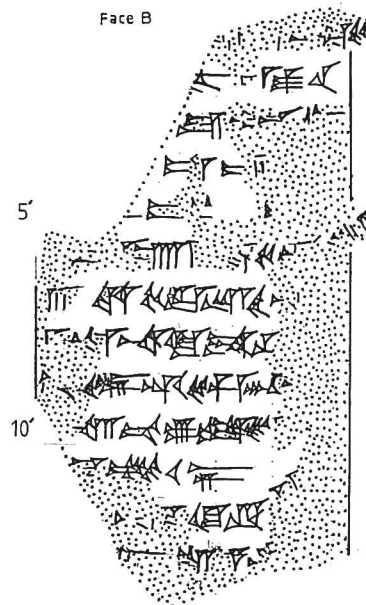
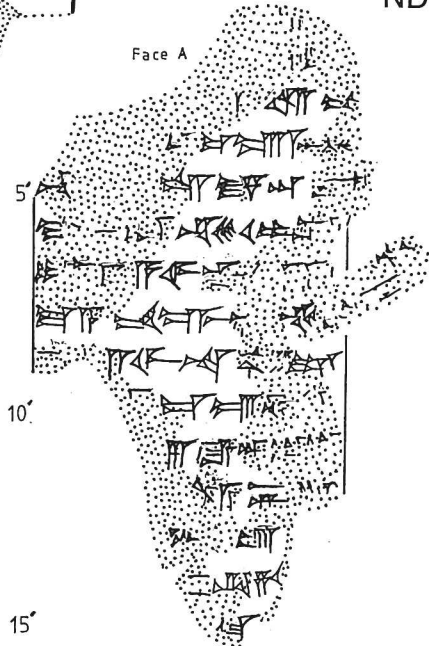
ND 2426



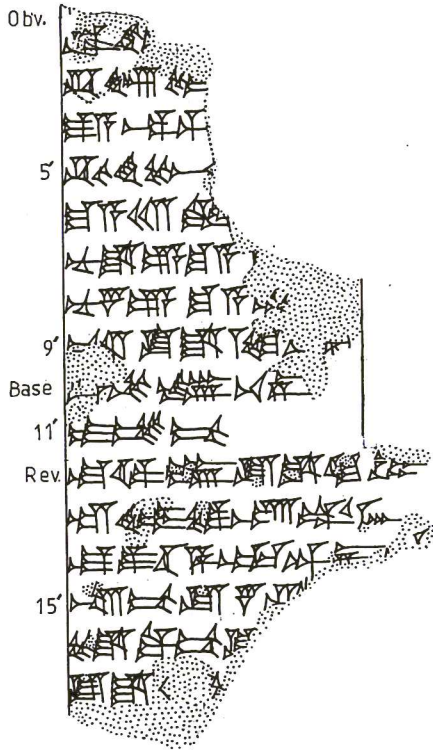
ND 2775



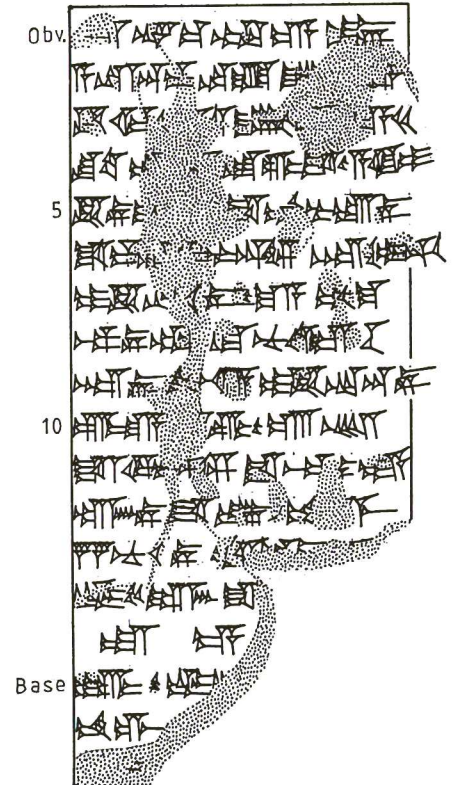
ND 2708



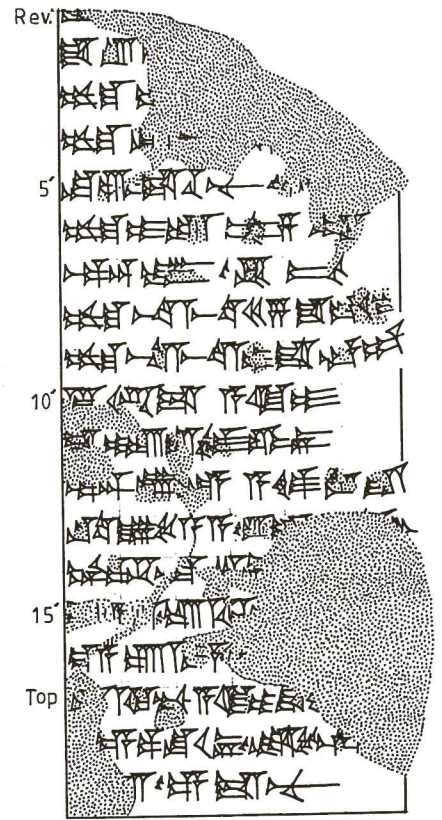
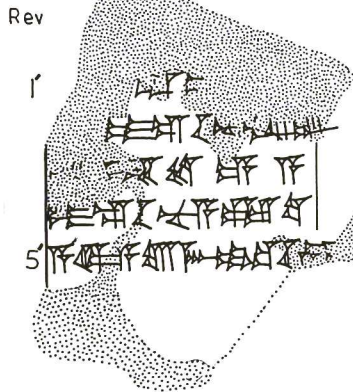
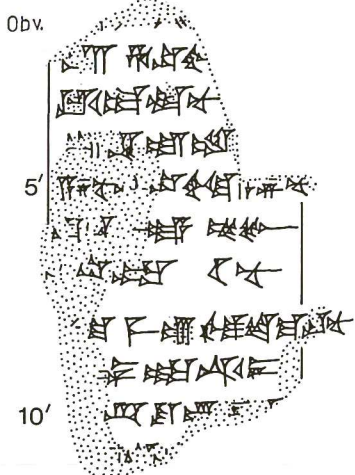
ND 2468



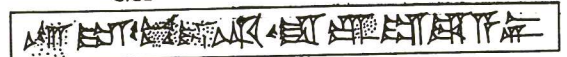
ND 2682



ND 2794



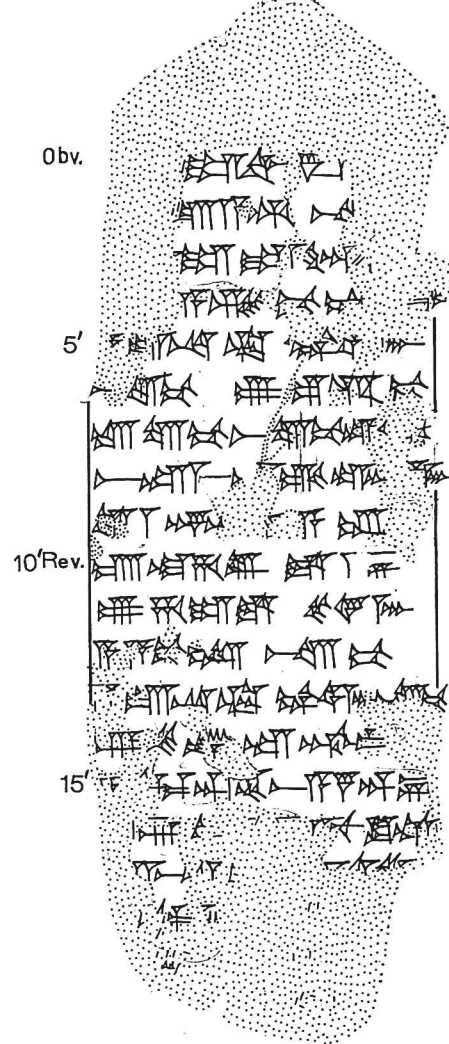
Side*



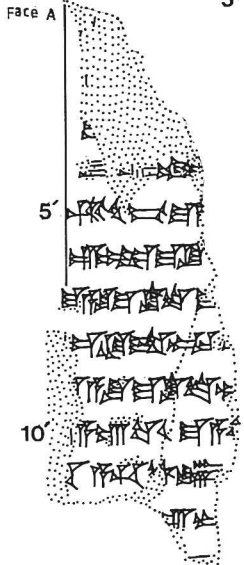
ND 2394



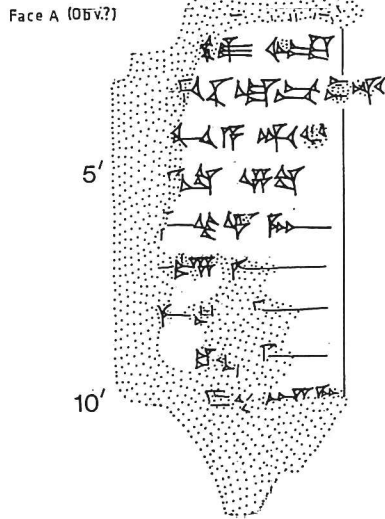
ND 2467



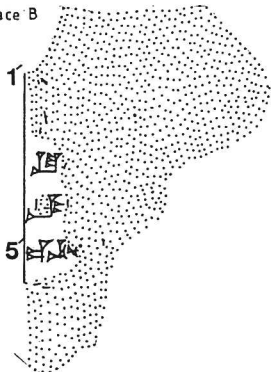
ND 2801



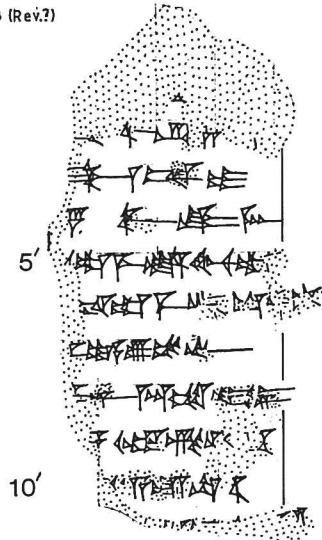
ND 2654



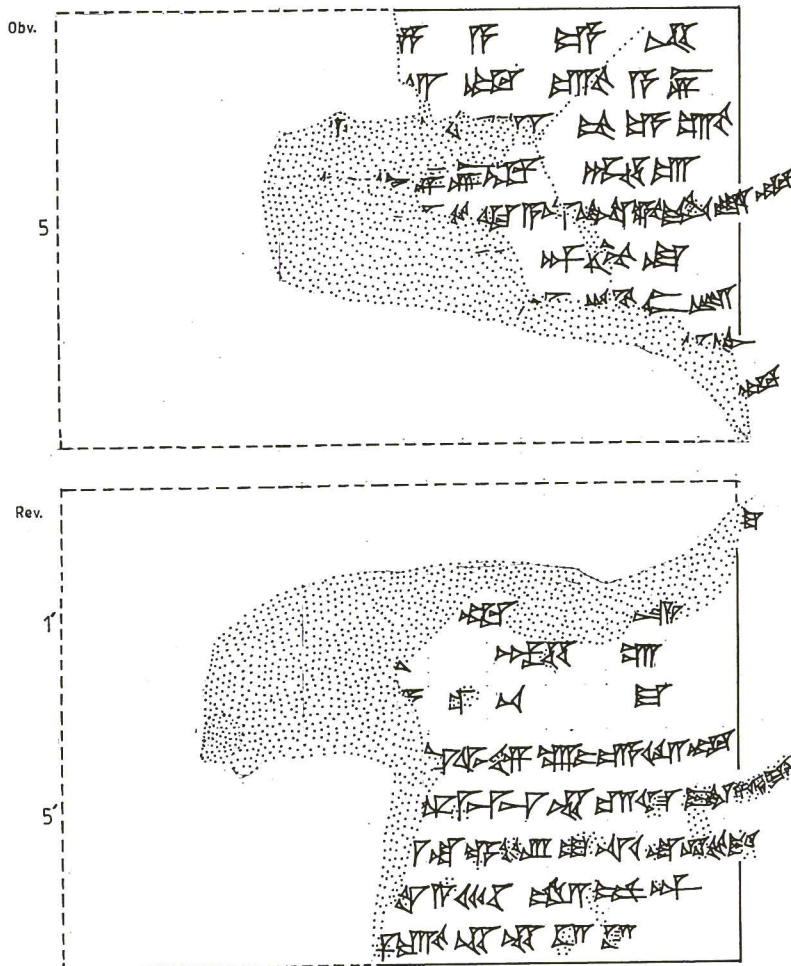
Face B



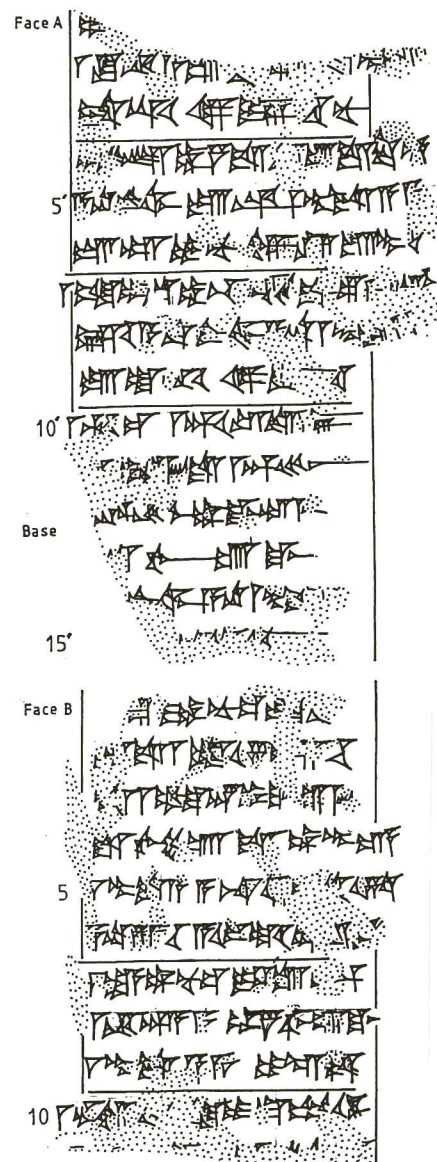
Face B (Rev.?)



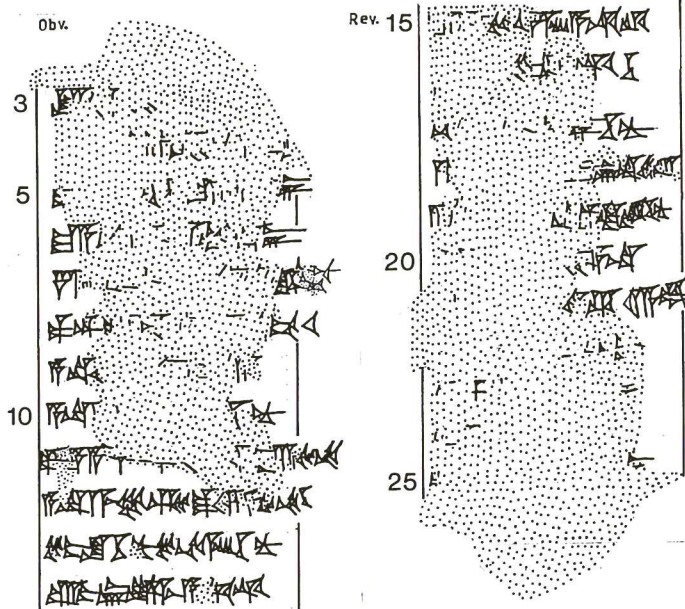
ND 2615



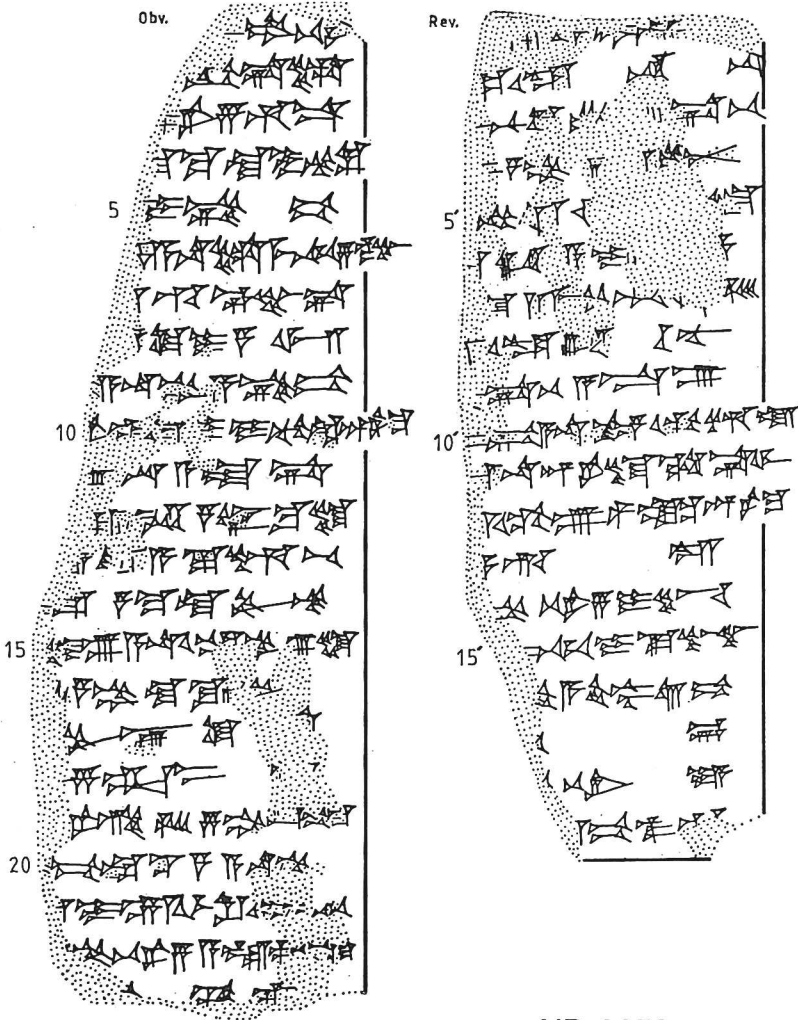
ND 2605



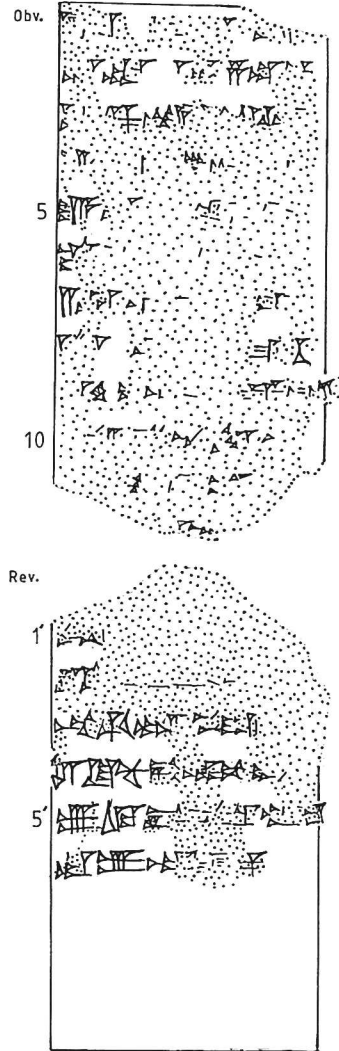
ND 2639



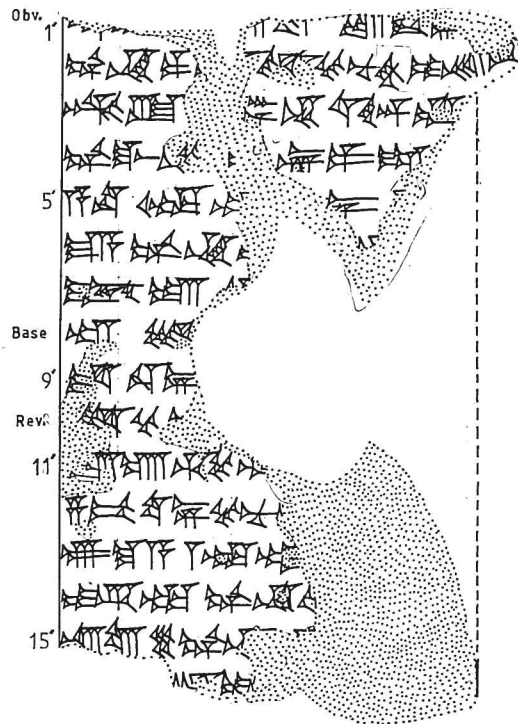
ND 2624



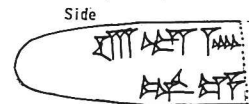
ND 2724



ND 2658



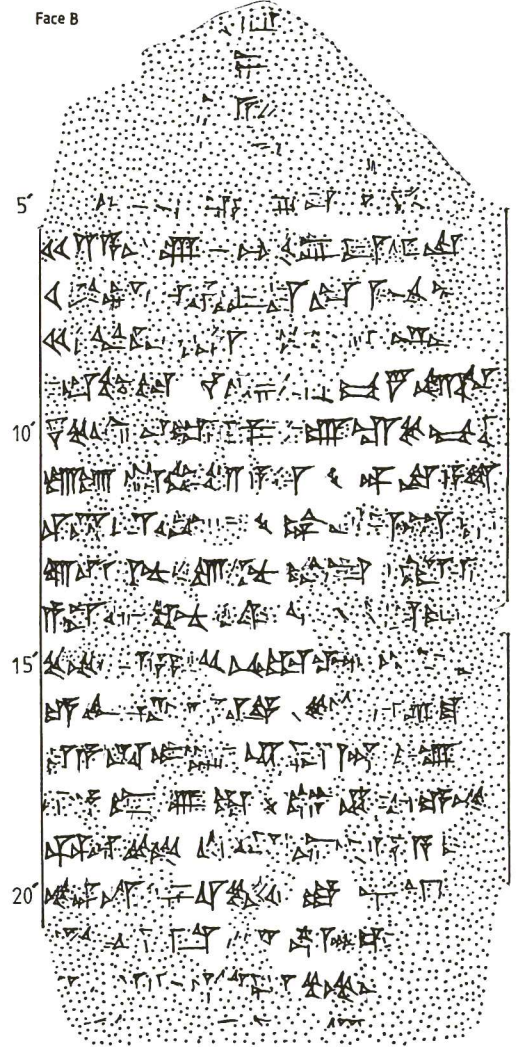
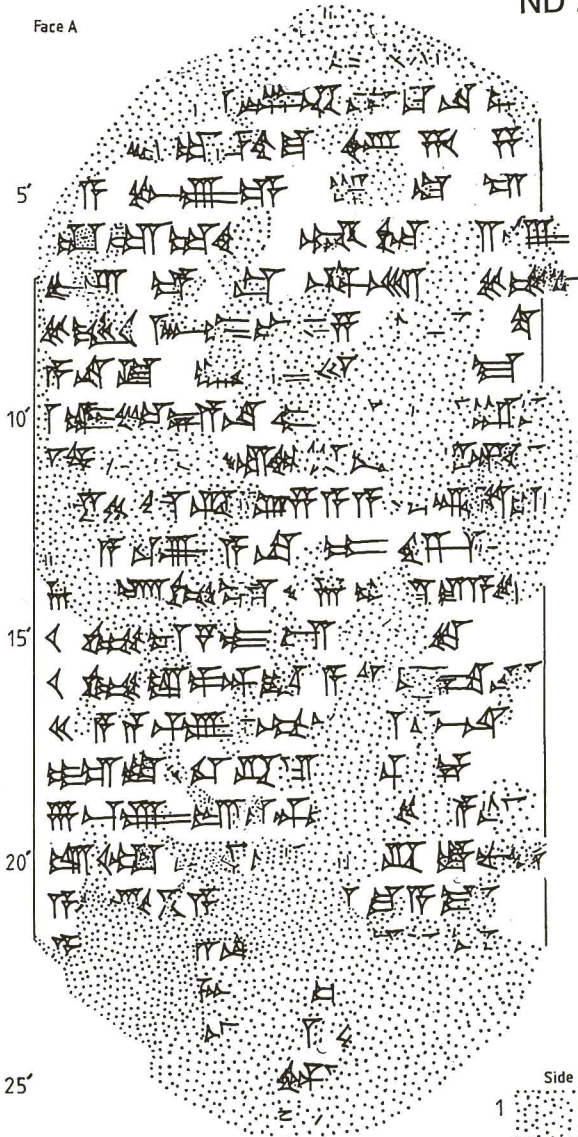
ND 2658 (cont.)



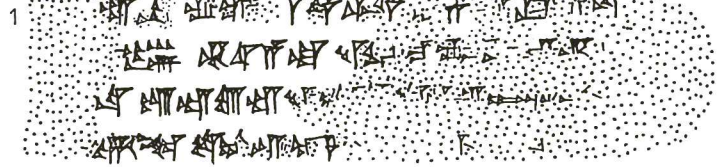
ND 2675

Face A

Face B



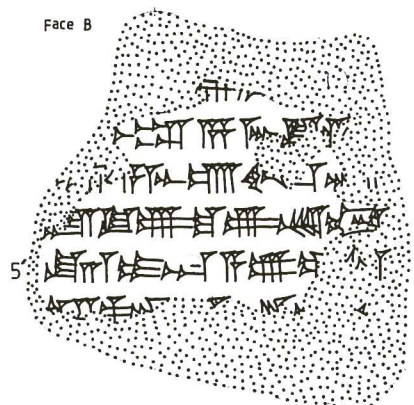
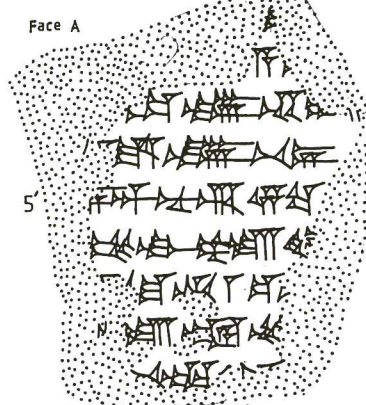
Side



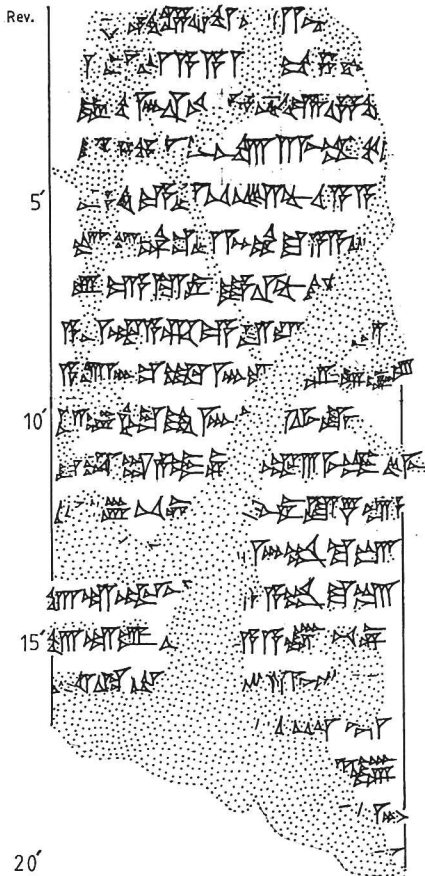
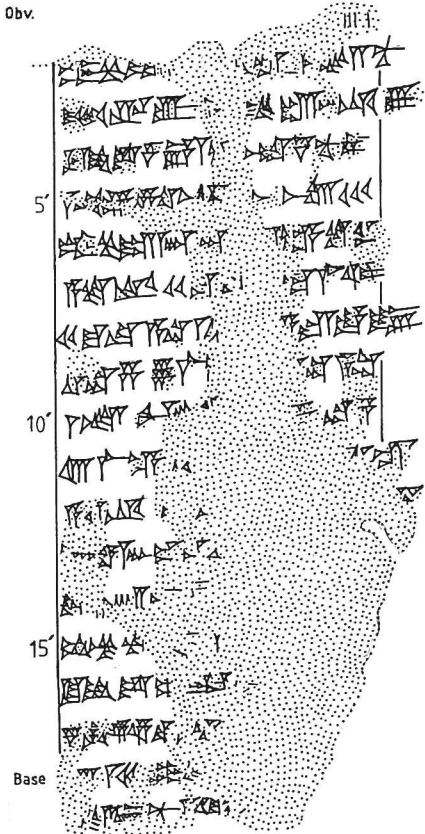
ND 2743

Face A

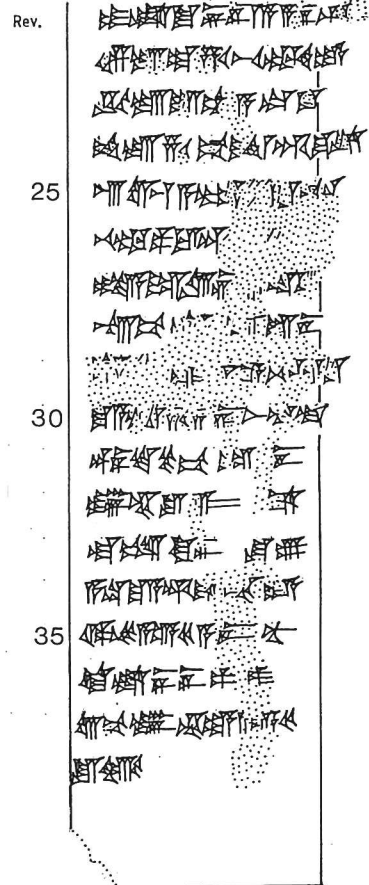
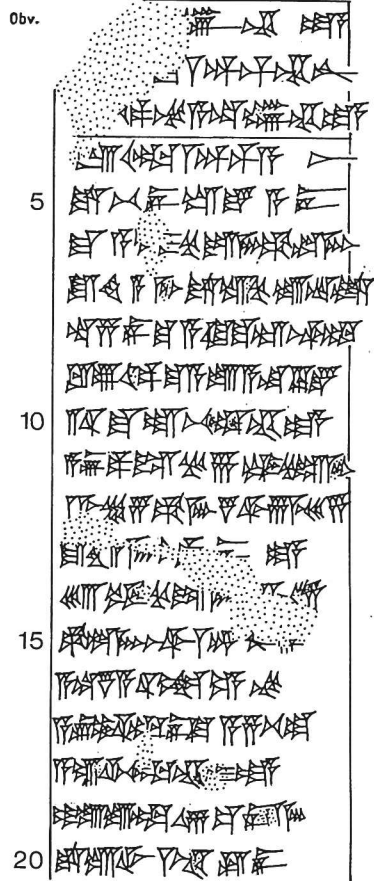
Face B



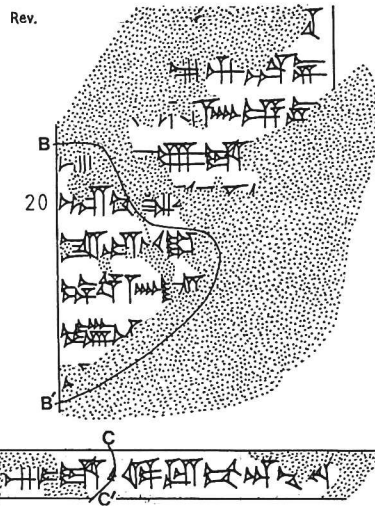
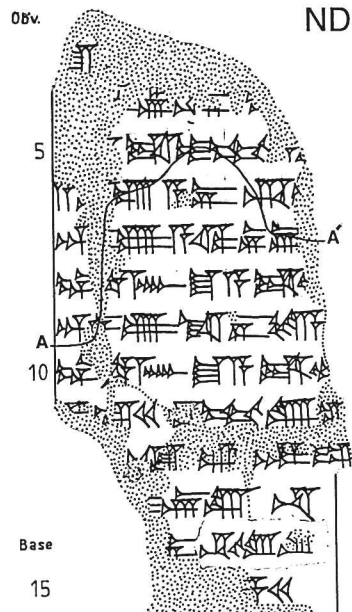
ND 2627



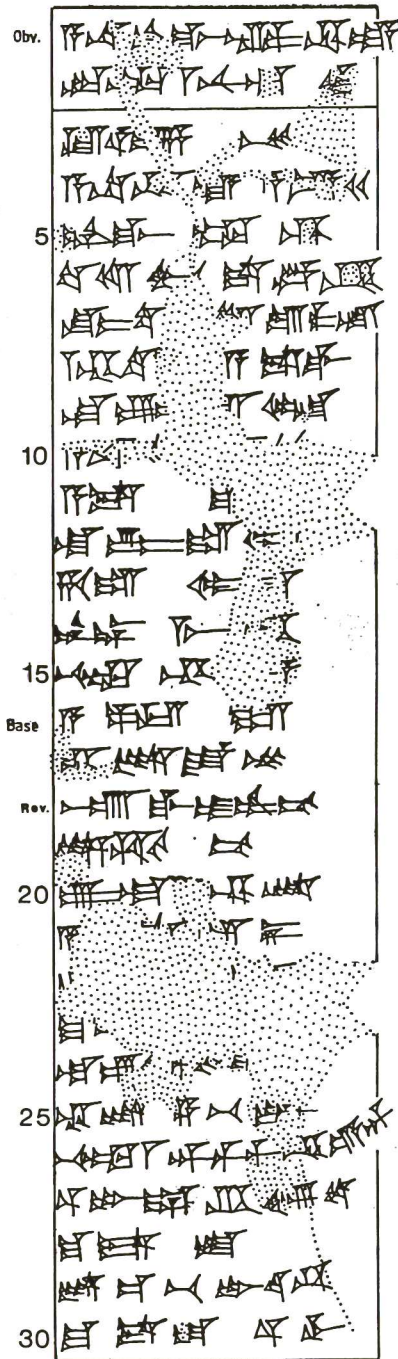
ND 2683



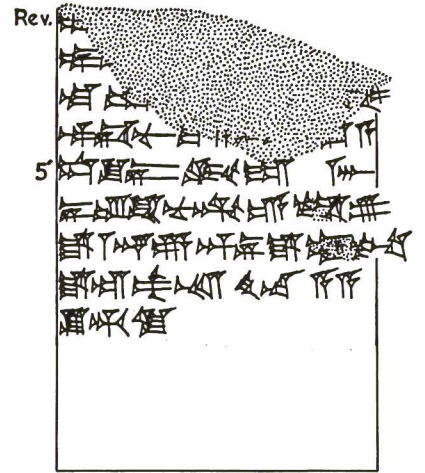
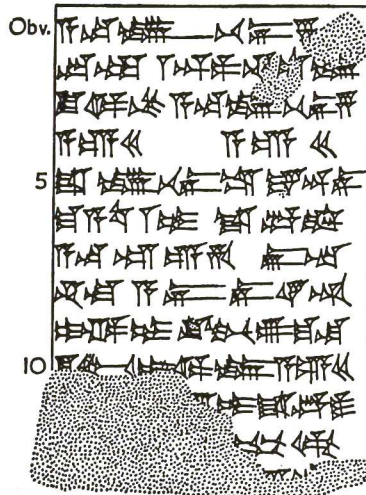
ND 2685



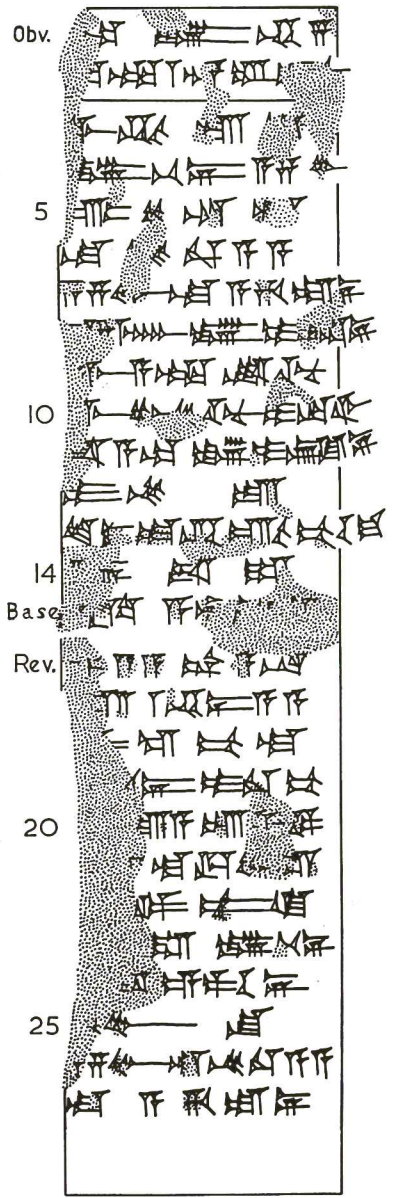
ND 2698+2702



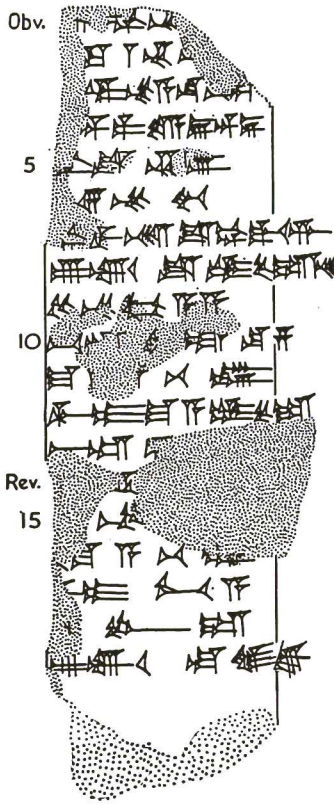
ND 2777



ND 2771



ND 2780



Obv.

5

10

15

20

Base

25

Obverse of a coin showing a series of characters in a vertical column. The characters are arranged in approximately 25 lines, with some lines containing multiple characters. The text is oriented vertically, reading from top to bottom. The characters are in a stylized, ancient script.

Rev.

30

35

40

45

50

Top

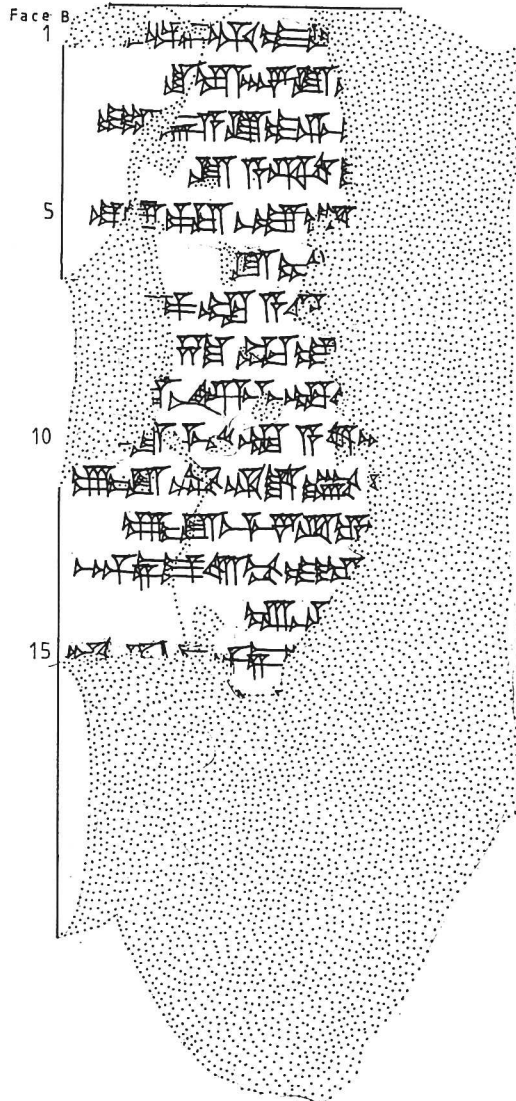
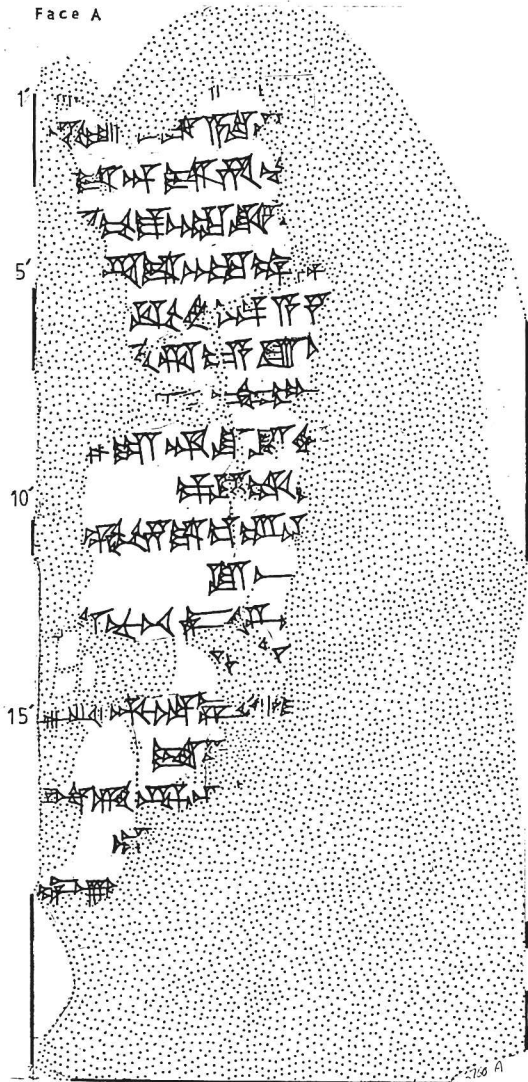
Reverse of a coin showing a series of characters in a vertical column. The characters are arranged in approximately 25 lines, with some lines containing multiple characters. The text is oriented vertically, reading from top to bottom. The characters are in a stylized, ancient script.

Side

55

Side view of the coin showing characters in a vertical column. The characters are arranged in approximately 2 lines, with some lines containing multiple characters. The text is oriented vertically, reading from top to bottom. The characters are in a stylized, ancient script.

ND 2760



ND 2735

Obv.
5
10
15

Obverse view of a coin. The background is filled with a dense pattern of dots. The characters are arranged in vertical columns, reading from right to left. The characters are: 上, 下, 左, 右, 中, 外, 内, 前, 后, 东, 西, 南, 北, 天, 地, 人, 鬼, 神, 仙, 佛, 道, 儒, 释, 孔, 孟, 老, 庄, 墨, 韩, 申, 吕, 白, 公, 西, 孟, 梁, 丘, 公, 西, 孟, 梁, 丘, 公, 西, 孟, 梁, 丘, 公.

Rev.
5
10
15

Reverse view of a coin. The background is filled with a dense pattern of dots. The characters are arranged in vertical columns, reading from right to left. The characters are: 上, 下, 左, 右, 中, 外, 内, 前, 后, 东, 西, 南, 北, 天, 地, 人, 鬼, 神, 仙, 佛, 道, 儒, 释, 孔, 孟, 老, 庄, 墨, 韩, 申, 吕, 白, 公, 西, 孟, 梁, 丘, 公, 西, 孟, 梁, 丘, 公, 西, 孟, 梁, 丘, 公.

Side

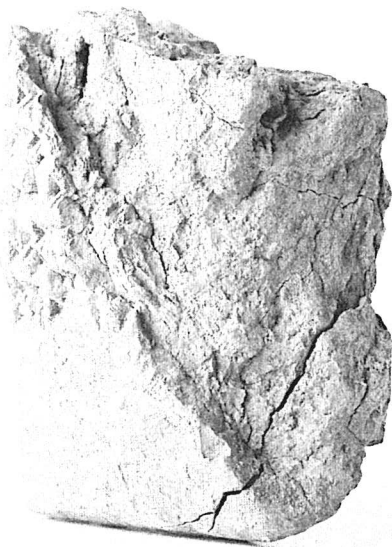
Side view of the coin, showing its profile. The characters are arranged in a single vertical column, reading from right to left. The characters are: 上, 下, 左, 右, 中, 外, 内, 前, 后, 东, 西, 南, 北, 天, 地, 人, 鬼, 神, 仙, 佛, 道, 儒, 释, 孔, 孟, 老, 庄, 墨, 韩, 申, 吕, 白, 公, 西, 孟, 梁, 丘, 公.



ND2370



ND2370



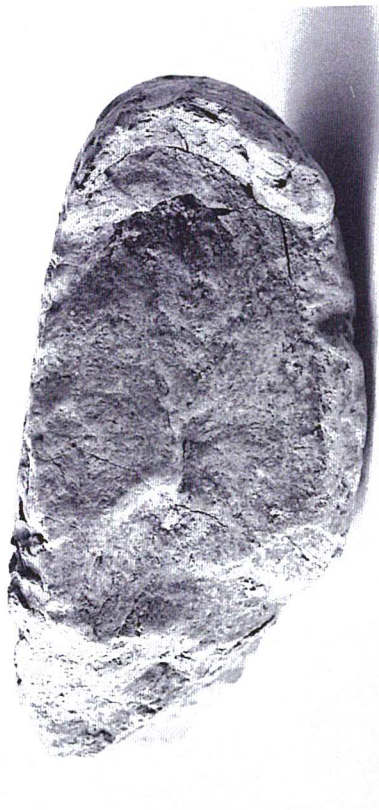
ND2391



ND2602

Views of selected tablet cores

PLATE II



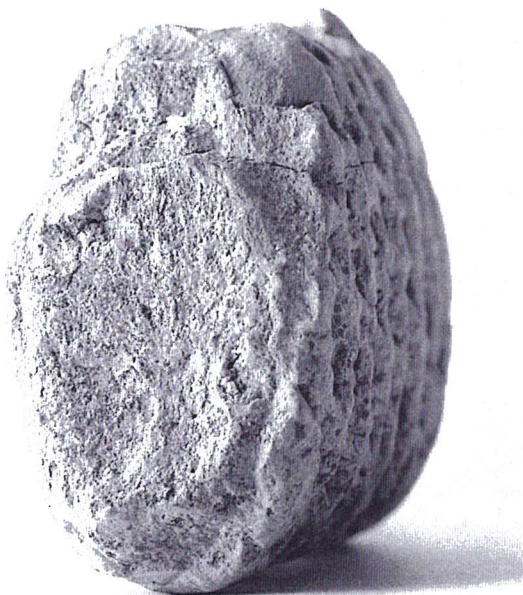
ND2444



ND2648



ND2795



ND2654



ND2661

Views of selected tablet cores