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BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY LTD
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TO	Mr A.L. Heard	FROM	Dr R.R. Baker
REF	RRB/pr/	DATE	24th May 1991

B&W Root Technology Handbook, February 1991

This Handbook is a very useful introduction to the background and different types of RT. It is based largely on B&W's practical experiences and its style is certainly aimed at the practical use by product developers and the like. If all the information in it were based on sound fact it would potentially be extremely useful. My main worry is that throughout the Handbook the reader could be misled into believing that more has been established beyond doubt than is really the case.

The Foreword acknowledges that it does not contain detailed chemistry, that the known chemistry is not well understood and that the Handbook will need revising in the light of new experimental evidence. Nevertheless, the style of the Handbook is fairly authoritative and in several instances some of the bold statements made may be unjustified. Some of the claims made may actually be opinions that have not been substantiated experimentally. Part of the FRC chemosensory work programme was set up to test some of the claims made for the different forms of RT. There are also some claims made on experimental evidence that may not have been evaluated correctly.

The enclosed note by W.D.E. Irwin gives some specific examples of the above points. R.A. Crellin and J.A. Luke have also independently made the same points.

Richard
Dr R. R. Baker

Enc.

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