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March 5, 1960

Thank you for your letter, I do appreciate your writing me. I was glad to see you, although under these sad circumstances. You were very brave and we admired you, knowing how close you were to George. You have been a good wife and helped him so much in his brilliant carrier. Life is not all rosy for a diplomat, so much depends on his companion. You were his lucky choice and he was happy, and proud of his Marion.

You are missing him terribly, I can understand, but you are surrounded by so many good friends, and those scattered all over the world. George had sometimes his moods, but he was always willing to be helpful. I know it, and many, many others do. I regret that I was unable to reciprocate to a full measure his helpfulness.

It is snowing hard, 14 inches in New York, still more here. I went to New York by car two days ago. The trip going went off satisfactorily, but returning home it took over four hours. Thousands of cars were stuck.

Tell Sam Katz I had lunch last Saturday at the house of his friend, Mr. Zeckendorf, who is living in Greenwich also. He is well known in the international financial world. Very entertaining and a good listener. He was also an admirer of George. He likes good food and has a cellar of 40,000 bottles of the choicest wines. I thought that the Belgians could claim the best wines, but he said that he outclasses them.

Edna is back at home fully recovered from her long operation. Hettie is busy as ever and gets laughing fits, as happened yesterday, when she forced me to try on 40 year old suits which I have outgrown. Old age over 86 does not help maintaining beauty! It is difficult to grow old gracefully, one does not let me.

When spring shows its face then fly in with the birds. You will be heartily wellcome.

Mrs. G.S. Messersmith