

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



September 24, 1945

AIR MAIL

My dear Friend:

Before leaving Mexico City for this brief trip I intended to get in touch with you or Hettie but my latest information had been that you were still in Europe, and I was not able to write Hettie before I left as my departure was rather hurried, and I intended to call your apartment in New York after my arrival. I was very happy to get your call from New Hampshire and to know that you are in this country.

I came up here rather unexpectedly in connection with matters relating to the Rio de Janeiro meeting of the American Republics in October of this year. There are certain matters which I felt had to be done before that meeting and which did not seem to be getting adequate attention and I therefore decided on this trip. It has to be a very short one however as I have to return to Mexico City in the very first days of October.

I am planning to leave Washington for Mexico City on Monday, October 1, by air and I do not think I can delay my departure. I will not get out of Washington and will not even be able to go to see the family at Wilmington on account of what I have to do here. In view of the fact, however, that you are in the country and that you could come to Boston, I am trying to move heaven and earth to be able to get a night train to Boston and come back the next night, and before I leave but I do not see how I am going to do it. I cannot leave here until I have seen the President and Secretary Byrnes on the matters which have brought me here, and I will not know until Thursday some time in what form I will have to take up these matters with them. So far as the Secretary is concerned, he is not yet back but is expected back any day.

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Mr. D. N. Heineman,
Center Harbor,
New Hampshire.

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AIR MAIL

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It is possible that his arrival here may be somewhat delayed and in that case I might have to stay until the third of October. In that case there is more possibility of my being able to make this trip to Boston to have a day with you. It all depends, however, on circumstances which I cannot control and which I cannot fully foresee now, and one of the controlling factors is that I have to be in Mexico City under any circumstances not later than October 5. In any event, you can make sure that I will make every effort to make this trip to Boston to see you and I will be in touch with you by telephone as soon as I know what I can do.

If I do not see you this trip I expect I shall be back again very shortly, but I am particularly anxious to see you now for if you are leaving by the middle of October for Europe again it is not likely that I would be back before that time. There are so many things which I would like to discuss with you.

So far as Marion and I are concerned, she is well and my operation in May did me a great deal of good and in spite of my still overtaxing myself with work, I am feeling very fit. So far as my plans are concerned, the President told me in May when I was up here that he considered it very important that I remain in Mexico for the immediate present and for the immediately foreseeable future, which I thoroughly understand and am in full agreement with. He is still, however, thinking in the same terms as President Roosevelt did with regard to me and certain obligations in Europe and I do not think any decision in that respect will be reached until we come closer to switching from purely military control to Allied civil control. I think that is at least half a year in the offing still.

This has to be a very hurried letter, but I wanted to get this word off to you by air mail. As I see it, it is very unlikely that I will be able to make the trip to Boston but I am going to make every effort to do it. If I can't you will know that there are controlling factors which make it impossible.

I am delighted to know that you are having this stay at the farm and I wish I could spend a week with you there.

With love and good wishes to you and Hettie and the family,

Always faithfully yours,
