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Copocabana
Rio de Janeiro
12 August 1945

My dear Ambassador
and Friend,

With great anxiety did I hear that you had been ill and that you had to undergo an operation; happily after the last news I got from Mexico you are well and up. I hope your health is quite good again.

From here there is not really much to say, very minor occupations, and the temperature is now quite suportable.

The only more outstanding event has been the home coming of the F.B.E. on a hot day and in a squash in which we were packed like sardines. The crowd was such that really one could only see the tips of the helmets. It gave me in any case the pleasure to know your great general Clark. I find him really fine. It gave me also the oportunity to meet Ambassador Berle who gave me the last news about you.

Kleiber has been here, his concerts have been the principal artistic event of the season. We met him and his wife often, talked a lot about you for whom they have a real and justified adoration and veneration.

Since about two months we are back here in Rio after our very long stay in Quitandinha.

This time has been occupied with preparations for our return back to Europe. The principal reason for this move is that all the doctors agree upon this one point that only a complete change of climate, that means a returning to the European one, can do any good to Mme Lupescu who continues not to feel at all well although her courage and energy are remarcable.

In what state I will find dear old Europe again, God knows. The news is so very unsure and every body talks after their political feelings, in any case it seems that this winter is going to be a very difficult one - With all the difficulties, and there are many, after five years of perigrinations, we will be glad to be in our own home and under a roof that is ours -

We will be leaving at the end of the month for Lisbon where we hope to make a pause before going on to France.

Two months have not been too much to get every thing in order especially when you have to travel with as much baggage as we do. Nobody seems to try and make things easy for one, although the war is over, over there. Restrictions, permits and so on that take time and trouble; when will we see things returning to a more normal state of affairs -

The meeting in Potsdam looks promising and certainly shows a decided intention towards a trial of normalisation, but things move slowly. There are so many interests to be taken in consideration. At least I hope that after the decisions taken there peace will return in a certain way, at least, in a part of the world.

Potsdam has been very decidedly a great success for President Truman and an affirmation of his personality. Especially now that there has been such a radical change in England all eyes are turned towards him with the hope that he will be a strong champion of justice, liberty and independence.

News from Romania are very scarce. As I have already told you what makes me more anxious than the political situation is the economical one. For a country to live and to progress that is the basis. Well after the conditions of the armistice, this basis seems to be a very feeble one, the financial clauses are after what I hear much more draconian than they seemed at first. The payments which must be done in nature are rated so low that the global sum must be multiplied very much, if kept at that ratio they mean nothing less than a complete ruin of the country. Then there are entire factories which are being taken out of the land. All this means that my poor Romania is losing its economical independence for many years to come. Independent of my patriotic feelings I do believe that such a state of things is to nobody's advantage be it winner or loser. If we want any stability in the future the first thing to be done is to help that the economy of each European country should normalize as fast as possible. Too great misery in one part of the world, especially when the people have attained a certain degree of civilization and welfare is always a danger to the community, in this politics are so very close to economics -

All the smaller countries believe that it is America which will defend in the world this point of view.

The last news show that the Japanese resistance is definitively smashed and I hope that at this hour when I

write the surrender will be a matter of fact. I allways believed that this chapter of the war was to be the shorter and in a way the easier one, I'm happy that I was right.

For all the joy of seeing the nightmare at last over there is a dark point. Every body seams tired, there is a lack of energy in most nations, and that is a bad thing. It will mean that the real fighting nations, those who have been educated to suffer and to combat will master the world and that is not a good thing.

These are some of the reflexions which I can put on paper, naturally in a conversation there would be many more.

I must tell you an amusing although agrevating thing your treasury has again done. I had to send a certain sum for reparations to be done at our chateau in France. The address was indicated in full Chateau de Coesme, Belleme, Orne, France. well next to the usual questions, when, how, why, the also came this one where is the exact place? I think it takes the cake.

This last letter before leaving America has become a very long one. I think I must put an end to it.

But before leaving I must again express my gratitude for the way I've been received in the countries I've lived in during these years. Mexico and Brazil have done their best to make, if possible, things easy, and pleasant for us. I keep the deepest gratitude espescially to Mexico. But this gratitude extends to you who have been a real friend and the greatest moral suport in days which have sometimes been black ones, to you all my deepest and most affectionate thanks.

What news is there from Mrs. Mustard? I do hope she is keeping well.

Please give Mrs Messersmith my most loving regards and tell her that all the kindness she has shown us both will never be foregotten. You both did all you could for us, and that is a thing that will never leave our heart.

I suppose that in France, Portugal ore elsewhere I will allways be able to write to you through your official representatives, and that very soon I will have the joy to here from you.

Again all my most gratefull thanks.

Your very affectionate and sincere

friend
Carol R.

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My very dear Friend,

I profit of His Majesty's letter to write you a few words. Before leaving America my thoughts go to you and Marion. I want to tell you once more how dear you are both to our hearts and that our friendship will always be the sincerest for you.

The doctor gives me good hopes of recovery on the other continent. I have suffered so much that I don't want to think. I'm full of hope that once over there I'll recover my forces.

We wish to see you soon in Europe. Write us please so as to know where you are.

For the moment we will make a stop in Portugal so that I can have a rest. Then on to France. At last in our home and "por fin" to finish living amongst the trunks.

Please tell Marion all my affection and that I consider her as my dearest friend.

Dear Friend I can only say au revoir at a tres bientot.

Your very affectionate

Elena