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Mexico City, May 31, 1949.

Dear Friend,

A clipping from The New York Times which I have just received, confirms the information which I got a few days ago, that you have been nominated by the President as Under-Secretary of State with particular charge of the administration of the Department and the Foreign Service.

I am sure I need not tell you that this has caused me a great deal of personal satisfaction, and I wish to congratulate you on your nomination and the continued opportunity you have for public service and usefulness.

Perhaps I am one of those who has some understanding at least of the problems and responsibilities and opportunities of the Department, and out of my experience I have some knowledge of the scope and substance and vital importance of these matters for our country. Although I am in private life, I am one of those who maintains deep interest in all that concerns our country and its responsibilities and opportunities, and I am very happy that you are continuing your work in the Department which has so close relation to these major problems.

Although I have been making frequent trips to New York and Washington on business of my company, I have not had the opportunity of seeing you recently, but I hope that the next time I am there, which may be in the second half of June, I shall have the pleasure of extending my congratulations and good wishes personally. In the meantime, with good wishes for your continued success and personal happiness, believe me,

Cordially and sincerely yours,

Hon. John E. Puerifoy  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

George S. Messersmith  
~~Chairman of the Board.~~