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AIR MAIL

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EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Habana, Cuba,
Dec. 9, 1940.

Dear Friend:

It was fine to hear your voice over the telephone last week and I have been wanting to write you since, but it has been quite impossible. For some ten days I have had a little bit of fever and had all sorts of tests made for typhoid, malaria, etc., which were negative. Now I am at the stage where I have a slight temperature one day, and the next day am about a degree or so below normal. I am sure it is nothing serious, but it has made me feel pretty rotten, and I have had to spend as much time in bed as I could. Unfortunately I have had to keep going because we have some very difficult problems to handle right now, which I have to handle myself. I can't write about these, but they are quite important and I am glad to say that we are making satisfactory progress thereon. The Cubans are being very cooperative on the whole. I am going to have a very full week ahead of me as I hope to advance some of our problems very much in the next days.

It is curious that the letter which you sent me transmitting some of the reports on Spain has not reached me. I do not think the Cubans bother my mail and it is quite extraordinary that such a letter should be lost, but I have had nothing from you for at least two weeks. I do not know just what Washington is doing in way of assistance to Spain, but I do know that we are considering what we can safely do. I am in favor of doing whatever we can to help Spain so far as we can be sure that we are not helping Italy or Germany. I am hopeful that some satisfactory arrangement can be worked out because I believe if it is done in the right way we can serve a useful purpose. I know that the attitude in the Department is to do what safely can be done.

I am sure that your problems are not any less irksome and difficult, but after all with the world in the state in which it is, and with the widely spread interests of the company, this situation is inevitable. I myself am confident that the constructive work which you have done will not be most. In the meantime, the many difficulties which you have, I am sure, must be very annoying, but in the end you will surmount them.

I do hope

D. N. Heineman, Esquire,
The Beekman,
Park Avenue,
New York City.

AIR MAIL

I do hope that you and Mrs. Heineman will come down here to make us a visit. Almost any time would suit us, but if you can make your plans a little ahead, it would be helpful to us here. We are not planning to be away during the next months as I know I will not be able to leave. I do hope that you will come. This is just a hurried note, but I wanted to take this opportunity to get off a word to you.

With all good wishes to you and Mrs. Heineman,

Cordially and faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "H. H. H.", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.