

1609
copy!

July 26, 1944.

Excmo. Sr. George S. Messersmith
Ambassador of the United States of America,
Mexico, D.F.

My dear friend:

Tomorrow should be a day which will fill your heart as a great American citizen with the emotion of duty fulfilled. I consider it a privilege to have had the opportunity during these years so full of responsibilities, to deal with you as the Ambassador of the United States in my country. Step by step I have come to appreciate the value of what you represent in your long career of thirty years in the service of your country. Your clear intelligence, your irreproachable honesty, your mental discipline adjusted in an equilibrium of comprehension and justice of international problems, constitute outstanding and limpid qualities in your actuation. With much reason the responsible people of your country consider you as one of the best Ambassadors which the United States has had in her international life.

Independently of these high qualities of a public man who for thirty years has rendered the most useful services, and much of which will be written in the pages of history, I wish to express to you my admiration for your great personal qualities, which I have learned to appreciate in such a high degree and which I shall always consider as a real fortune for me the friendship which unites us and which I appreciate as one of the most valued sentimental acquisitions of my life.

My congratulations on this day go also to Mrs. Messersmith, who quite independently of her high virtues, has without doubt had a signal part in the noble attributes which have characterized your life.

Please receive the embrazo of your friend who so highly esteems and who holds you in such high estimation and affection.

(sgd) E. Padilla

I also sign with pleasure this letter.
Maria G. C. de Padilla