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Cuernavaca, Saturday Nov. 7, 59

Dear Dannie,

Marion and I are in Cuernavaca alone for the week end. We are here alone for the first time in months, but so many of our friends are traveling. Sam and Grace Katz are back in Mexico, but Sam's sister from St. Louis has been in Mexico City for several weeks and is returning home this week-end. Next week-end the Katz's and Steven's will be with us here as well as some friends from Cuba.

Mexico is full of old Cuban friends. They are losing all of their land but they feel at least safe as far as their person is concerned. I think a good many of the wealthy Cubans put a good "nest egg" into the U.S. years ago. What is happening in Cuba seems almost incredible - but true. Castro has killed off more Cubans than all the dictators before him - but our Government is handling things with a very mild hand - and what is happening in Panama these days is a natural sequence, and a fore runner of what may well happen here in Mexico.

I have been kept quite busy the last weeks in Mexico City and am not unhappy that Marion and I are having a quiet week end here alone.

There has been no improvement in the company's problems. Maryssael has left for Belgium - I understand yesterday. He and his daughter had lunch with us in Cuernavaca last Sunday but he did not tell me he was making this trip. I have seen a good deal of Taylor and he is learning fast. The Taylors are now settled in the same house the Drapers had.

I have not had any direct contact with Bob Murphy since he resigned. But his not going to Bonn, as had been planned for months, and his resigning as Under Secretary, for me has very serious implications, which may or may not be correct. It is curious that after one day of speculation, our newspapers have confined themselves to only carrying editorials about him and his fine work - and no more speculation and comment why he quit entirely.

Waugh (?), the head of the Ex Im Bank is in Mexico for some days and yesterday we had a small lunch with him and Bob Hill that lasted over four hours.

We have money problems at home, and fortunately people who know what is what, are beginning to speak more openly of them. As you know them as well as I do, I do not speak more of them.

I am going over what I wrote several years ago and find it very inadequate, and I am making new notes. I hope in another month or two to be able to begin rewriting and then really publish something.

We have had, as I have told you, much bad weather in Mexico City and Cuernavaca for month, but last week end it was wonderful here. To-day it is rather cold, but we have clear skies and sun. We put a lot of money into this Cuernavaca house, but on the whole it has been a good investment.

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Bob Hill and his wife and little boy came here last Monday, as it was a holiday, and we had a chance for a good visit. It isn't very pleasant for a really good man to be American Ambassador here now. There are too many problems. I doubt if nationalism ever ran higher than now in Mexico. We are in for some lean years here.

Lunch is ready so I must close this letter. Marion and I hope this letter finds you all well and we send our love.

Faithfully,

GEORGE