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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

Confidential and
Personal.

March 31, 1953.

Dear George:

I was delighted to get your nice letter of March 26 in which you gave me some very interesting and provocative thoughts about Latin American policy. I warmly agree with your basic point that we too must demand respect for us and self-help of our friends. We just had a particularly illuminating example in one of the small republics of the extent to which they seem to feel they can impudently say and do anything they choose to stir up trouble for us. Although I dislike rows, particularly when I have just taken office, I can foresee that we may have some before we get things again on the rails.

With regard to the President's forthcoming speech, for your private information I consider it doubtful that he will set forth in it any program for Latin America.

I am afraid that I shall probably be away when you are next in Washington, since I am starting on a tour around the Caribbean on April 6. I shall be sorry to miss you.

With every good wish to you and Mary,

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Jack
John M. Cabot.

The Honorable
George S. Messersmith
Génova # 44
Mexico City, Mexico.

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