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Subject: Kind offer by the Maduna family of assistance after I retired from the Foreign Service in late 1947.

Life has been very kind to both my wife and myself in many ways. My wife's family were in comfortable circumstances during her youth. When she married me she took a great risk and took it knowingly as I was completely dependent on whatever I might earn. While since the year 1900 I had been making my living teaching school and in school work and was, as I've already said, completely dependent on what I was earning for my living, I never resented the fact that things came to me the hard way. When we went into the Foreign Service in 1914 it was at a salary of two thousand dollars a year without any allowances of any kind whatsoever, as these did not exist in the Foreign Service at the time. It was due to the fact that we both knew the value of a dollar and, therefore, could make the best use of what I earned, and because the parents of my wife were helpful from time to time to us during the earliest days of my career in the Service, we were able to live in modest comfort and carry on the obligations which came to us in the Service. From the very beginning I felt that even though the salary which I was receiving in the government service was utterly inadequate, there was no use complaining about that as I always had the alternative of getting out and trying to earn more. As the years went on our salary naturally increased somewhat and in the latter half of my career in the Service allowances for rent and certain other purposes became a practice of the Service - even though in very limited amounts. All during the many years that we spent at consular and diplomatic posts, our expenditures were in excess of my salary. We always lived, however, within the combined income of my wife and myself.

My wife and I both love people. We liked to have our friends in our home. We realized that the obligations of my work and the oppor-

tunities which we found everywhere for doing things made it necessary for us to do entertaining. Others will have to bear testimony to this but I often think, from my own observation, that there was probably no officer in the service with limited means who did more in the way of entertaining to facilitate his work for our government than we did. We never felt that we were making an unnecessary or improper sacrifice because we always felt that all this went with the task and that if we didn't want to do this - the alternative was to get out. It meant, however, that we could accumulate nothing, under the best circumstances, towards the years when I would be in retirement.

The foregoing is a prelude and background to what I think is one of the very nicest human things that ever happened to me and to my wife during our life. I cannot conceive of anyone being richer in friends than we have been and we have maintained many of the friendships that we formed in various parts of the world all over these years. At our second post, which was at Curaçao in the Dutch West Indies, the Madure family was the most important family on the island. It had been there since the early 1500's when a fair number of Portuguese Jews came to the island. They prospered and they spread to other parts of the Caribbean area. In 1914 some of the members of the Madure family were living in New York in the United States, some were living in Cuba, in Venezuela, in Colombia, and in one or two of the Central American countries. The family was a closely knit one. Incidentally, the family of Justice Cardoza, who was one of the brilliant and most respected members of the Supreme Court in our country during a good part of the time that I was in the Service and, I am happy to say, a good friend of mine, came to Curaçao at the same time as the Madures in the 1500's. During the few years that we spent in Curaçao the Madures became very close friends

of ours, and the close friendships which were formed then have continued during all these intervening years and until today. We did not have the opportunity of seeing much of each other because of the distances which always separated us, but when we did see each other, in Europe or in South America or in the United States or wherever it might be, after my wife and I had left Curaçao, we found that our friendship was unimpaired and fresh as ever.

When I retired from the Foreign Service after leaving my last post at Buenos Aires around the middle of 1947, my wife and I spent a few days in New York before going to New Hampshire, where we were going to make a brief visit with her brother and his family at Lake Sunnapee. While in New York we stayed at the apartment at 270 Park Avenue of our friend, Mrs. Celeste Hutzler, who happened to be out of the city and insisted that we use her apartment. We had been there only a few days when one of the Maduras called me on the telephone. I thought he seemed very formal on the telephone and he said, "George, Jossie and I want to come to see you". I told him that of course they could come at any time they wished and the sooner we saw them the happier we would be. He said, "George, we want to see you alone, some time when Marian is not in the apartment". I was quite mystified but I told him that I would be glad to see them any time and he said that he and his cousin would be in the next day. When they arrived at the apartment they greeted me in a very friendly but at the same time in a somewhat formal way and I was really quite nonplussed. I was wondering what had happened. We settled ourselves in the very comfortable living-room of our friend's apartment but they sat on ^{the only} two rather stiff and formal chairs, very erect and with something on their minds. The older one spoke up and the substance of what he said was this: "George, Jossie and I have come on behalf

of the family. We had about two weeks ago a family conference in Curaçao. You know it is customary for us to have such a family conference every year. Among other things we talked about at this meeting was the fact that you had retired. We did not know what your plans were as to where you would live. We did not know what your financial circumstances were. It was proposed at the family meeting that in view of our long friendship that Jossie and I should call upon you at the first opportunity and say to you that it was the unanimous decision of the family that whatever at any time you might need we would be so happy and honored in placing it at your disposal. All we wished to know was that our help would be agreeable to you and we would do the rest." He added further, "And this we want you to know, that in case anything should happen to you at any time and that Marian should be left alone, you need have no preoccupation over that; we will look after Marian".

Once having made this formal speech and gotten the thing off his mind, they relaxed and became their usual selves. I told them that I was touched beyond measure by their gesture and by that of the family. It was one of the nicest if not the nicest thing of that kind that had ever happened to us in our life. Marian and I would never forget it. It was like them and we appreciated it. We did not think that the circumstances would arise that we should have to in any way avail ourselves of their kind assistance, but I wanted to assure them in the same spirit that they had spoken to me that if ever we needed any assistance we would not fail to let them know.

In this connection I recall that when it became known that I was leaving Curaçao^{6 19/5} and would probably not return but go to another post, one of these two same members of the Madura family came to see me and said that while they realized that I was very much interested in my work

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with my government, that in their business they needed someone like myself and whom they believed had the experience and the understanding and general outlook that I had and that they would be very happy to sign a contract with me for three to five years and preferably for fifteen years. The salary during the first three year period to be no less than twenty-five thousand dollars a year. The work which they had in mind I should do would involve my living in Curaçao probably about half of the year and the rest of the year might have to be spent in the United States or in travel. It meant a great deal to me to have such confidence shown in me at that time by men whom I knew to be sound, correct businessmen as well as careful businessmen. My salary in the consular service was twenty-five hundred dollars a year and at that time I knew there was no hope of ever reaching anything like a salary of twenty-five thousand dollars a year if I remained until the end of my life.

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