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Mexico, D. F., July 19, 1942.

Dear Raymond:

I am sending you herewith a copy of a letter which I have written to Larry Duggen, which is self-explanatory. I am also enclosing a copy of the English and the Spanish text of the speech; I hope you will read it. I think you will agree that it strikes the right and the necessary note. I am not sending it to George Quisenbury but have suggested to Larry Duggen that he do so.

It is not just the material they use in "En Guardia", but I think there are parts of the address which could be used to much advantage in "En Guardia". As I say in my letter to Larry Duggen, I have no pride in authorship, but I think it is the sort of material that we have got to get across in the other American Republics. As a matter of fact, you and I know that it could be used to a good deal of advantage at home. I am wondering whether our organization for handling material for the press at home would not be able to use this because I think it is the sort of thing which could be used with advantage in all the smaller newspapers throughout the United States.

All this is the more important as, unquestionably, the Vatican is considering another peace offensive and we have, in this respect, our own people at home to think of, just as much as the people in the other American Republics.

I have not lost an hour from my desk in Mexico City since I arrived in February, through illness, etc. The rainy season is on here now and we have not yet been able to get the central heating system installed in either the chancellery or the residence/

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residence.. It is cold and damp, and as consequence I have a bad cold which I am trying to clear up. This is Sunday and I shall be working all day, as usual, in spite of this handicap. A cold is a one thing which gets me down and if we cannot get this central heating system fixed up in the chancellery and in the residence, it is going to interfere with my efficiency.

I do hope that you and your sister are both well and Mary joins in affectionate regard to you both.

Cordially and faithfully yours,

George S. Messersmith

Mr. Raymond Geist,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Enc.