Cl. Messersmith [4]

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Habana, May 12, 1941.

Dear Friend:

I have your letter of May 10 with which you sent me a copy of a letter which Miss Mercedes Mallol has received from the Consulate General in Habana with regard to her visa. You have by this time received my letter of May 10 in which I wrote you at some length concerning this situation. My letter of May 10 and the letter of the Consul General to Miss Mercedes dated April 23 set forth the situation with respect to this visa application.

The Consul General is, under our law, the sole person who can take decisions in visa matters. He has given the most sympathetic consideration to the desires expressed by Miss Mallol. Under our law, a person who is in the United States on a temporary visitor's visa cannot register while in the United States for an immigration visa. The registration for an immigration visa must be made personally by the applicant at one of our consular establishments. When registered, the application takes its place on the waiting list of the particular quota. As the Consulate General has already pointed out to me, there are some twenty-six persons under the Spanish quota already in Habana and registered for a visa. There are no numbers available for the present under the Spanish quota, and until such numbers are available, Miss Mallol's application for an immigration visa would not receive favorable consideration here or at any other American consulate.

As I told you in my letter of May 10, I am writing to the Consulate General at Madrid to determine what the possibilities are for visa numbers

after

The Honorable
    Daniel Heineman,
        Suite 1700 - 50 Broadway,
            New York City.

after July 1 and I will write you after I hear. I
wish to assure you that all possible consideration
is being given to her case, but in these matters
our consular officers are so definitely controlled
by the law. I will keep you informed as to develop-
ments.

    With all good wishes,

                Cordially yours,

                George S. Messersmith