



Academy of American Franciscan History

29 Cedar Lane
Washington 14, D. C.

October 6
1950

Sra. Gabriela Mistral
Edificio Bahía
Apartado 338
Veracruz, Veracruz
Mexico

My dear Madame:

Your very gracious letter of September 28 arrived here on the feast of Our Holy Father St. Francis -- surely a heavenly sign that his spirit has had a part in the heartfelt invitation which we have extended to you to come to Washington for the purpose of receiving The Americas Award, as well as in your kind acceptance of that invitation. We do indeed feel that to honor, in the name of the Franciscan Order, your life of service, of charity and of high idealism is to pay tribute to the spirit of the Poverello of Assisi. The Award which we have voted to bestow upon you, and which the Minister General of the Order, the successor of St. Francis, has approved for you, is intended to extol these spiritual ideals and to call attention to what they have meant in the developing of the American nations. It is, for that reason, a most profound joy for us to know that, in your Franciscan devotion to all that is good and noble, you will make every possible effort to come to Washington for December 10 and 11.

Be assured that not only we, but a host of friends, admirers and spiritual leaders want to join with us in this tribute to the good which your life has exemplified. We know that your presence here, if it is at all possible without too much of a strain on your physical powers, will be a powerful reaffirmation of the spiritual and moral bases upon which the world must be rebuilt. In your modesty, do not minimize the effect which this tribute to your ideals can and will have in the capital of the United States: the mere effort to honor a person whose campaign is of the spirit will help to offset somewhat the effect of a prevailing materialism. You can understand our joy, therefore, as Franciscan priests, in the knowledge that you will join us. Once more we repeat this Franciscan invitation to be with us on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. May she bring you safely to us and return you safely to your home.

It is indeed fortunate that Miss Doris Dana is with you at the present time, and I am taking the liberty of addressing a few lines to her directly. It would greatly simplify matters for you if she would be good enough to attend to the details of the trip, and I am presuming to discuss these matters with her.

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**[Carta] 1950 Oct. 6, Washington D. C., [Estados Unidos] [a]
Srta Gabriela Mistral, Edificio Bahía, Apartado 338,**

Veracruz, Veracruz, México [manuscrito] Alexander Wyse.

Libros y documentos

AUTORÍA

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FORMATO

Manuscrito

DATOS DE PUBLICACIÓN

[Carta] 1950 Oct. 6, Washington D. C., [Estados Unidos] [a] Srta Gabriela Mistral, Edificio Bahía, Apartado 338, Veracruz, Veracruz, México [manuscrito] Alexander Wyse. 2 h. ; 28 cm.

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