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Wednesday, January 23, 1957

Dear Doris:

I have tried to get you by phone tonight to tell you that I could come up to help you over this week end and also to report on the microfilming venture. I enclose a copy of the letter I received from Jack Harrison of the Rockefeller Foundation (recently of the National Archives here in Washington). I should have made some kind of estimate as to the cost of the operation, Jack is thinking in Rockefeller terms.

I shall ask the University for some money and also the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia. A friend of mine got from the latter a lump sum \$900.00 for research in Portugal, included microfilming; the American Philosophical Society does not make a Federal Case out of things.

In applying to the University and to the American Philosophical Society I will apply as a private scholar interested in Gabriela Mistral (then all these problems of who will distribute etc. won't come up). I will explain I had access to these papers before Gabriela's death and would like to continue the work I have started on variations of her poetry, and on the art of her composition in general, and that I would make copies available to any scholar who has your permission to use the material. I can't very well explain that we can't trust the recipients, the chileños. A certain Carlos Santana writes in the Diario Las Américas, 15 enero 1957: "'Recado de Chile'... Gabriela Mistral alcanzó a completar antes de morir lo que pudiera ser su obra poética cumbre, 'Recado de Chile' pero la dejó escrito a lápiz." By the way, this evening I received the New York Times Book Review, (January 27, 1957) p. 2 is devoted exclusively to Gabriela.

I also have permission to keep any of Gabriela's papers temporarily under lock and key in the University Archives—I was thinking especially of those copies of the poems in laser that we would file in the cellar after we had copied Gabriela's corrections—they are not strictly in chronological order—and it will take some time to go over them to see which correction was made before which. That I can do here in Washington. You were thinking of visiting Maritain and then coming on down here. If you do you can bring down any other papers that need arranging—oh, and don't forget—the most important—to take out my file of letters to Gabriela! If you don't come down here I shall see you in N.Y.

Dear Doris, if everything meets with your approval I won't expect an answer. I know how difficult these days are for me and I can imagine how terrible they are for you.

[Carta] 1957 Jan. 23, [Estados Unidos] [a] Dear Doris
[manuscrito] Margaret Bates.

AUTORÍA

Autor secundario:Mistral, Gabriela, 1889-1957Autor secundario:Dana, Doris, 1920-2006

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Manuscrito

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