Columbia College
Columbia University
New York 27, N.Y.
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Hamilton Hall
June 17, 1958

The Honorable Luis Muñoz Marín
Governor of Puerto Rico
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Dear Governor Muñoz Marín:

I am taking the liberty of enclosing an article of mine which grew out of a series of seminars held in Puerto Rico last summer.

This autumn I shall be returning to the University of Puerto Rico to help establish a program of Caribbean studies. I feel it to be extremely important at this time for Puerto Rico to strengthen and extend her relations with and her knowledge of the Caribbean area and the other countries of Latin America. I was therefore delighted to read your admirable statement in the New York Times of May 19 in which you described Puerto Rico as a meeting place for the Americas rather than as a bridge between them. In fact, a similar point is made on pp. 87-88 of the enclosed essay.

Although I will not be coming down permanently until the autumn, I expect to be in Puerto Rico during the first two weeks in July. I would consider it an honor to have the opportunity of exchanging ideas with you some time at your convenience during my visit. The interest and cooperation of the government of Puerto Rico will be important for our enterprise, and I should hope that, in return, a center of Caribbean studies might perform some useful public services.

My predecessor in my position here at Columbia University was my friend Dr. Arturo Morales Carrión. He seems to have set a pattern for a counter-migration from this institution to Puerto Rico!

With warm personal esteem,

Faithfully yours,

Richard M. Morse,
Assistant Professor of History