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January 19, 1961

Dear Mr. Fike:

The Christian Science Monitor for January 16, 1961, reported that Arturo Morales Carrión, Under - Secretary of State for Puerto Rico, was under consideration for the post of U. S. Under-Secretary of State for Latin America.

For whatever it is worth, I am writing to you as a native of Missouri, to add my vote of approval for Dr. Morales Carrión who has served the United States brilliantly in numerous inter-American and other conferences in which I have had the honor and pleasure of witnessing his participation.

At the time of the Third Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council, in San Juan in late November 1959, for instance, the delegate from Cuba delivered a diatribe against the United States in support of a recommendation equating "culture" with "sovereignty", and insisting among other things upon the independence of Puerto Rico from United States. Dr. Morales, who was serving as Alternate Representative for the United States to the meeting, was asked to take the chair for the United States. His reply to the Cuban delegate was one of the most inspired and inspiring speeches I have ever heard made in defense of "freedom" and in explaining the misuse made throughout history by demagogues who used the concept of "sovereignty" to enslave the people. He explained the fantastic improvement made in recent years in Puerto Rico on the basis of its relationship to the United States where individual freedom is a basic concept. His speech was later printed in Spanish in a Puerto Rican newspaper.

Dr. Morales Carrión has the respect of Latin Americans themselves and of Latin Americanists in the United States, and has had the experience in Puerto Rico of contributing to the amalgamation of the Spanish-Anglo-Saxon cultures and languages to the advantage of both his native land and of his country.

Sincerely yours,

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