3734 Matheson Avenue, Miami, Florida 33133. May 11, 1976.

Dear Laura:

It was delightful to hear from you. I had been meaning to answer your last note, but things have been happening fast and furiously around here of late. Yes, I have decided to go to Europe first. Paris, Madrid, Santillana (Altamira Caves), Guernica, back to Madrid, Toledo and maybe, if time and energy hold out, Granada. Back to the U. S. on June 15. On June 22, off to New Mexico. But, I will be arriving too late to take the Shuttlejack, so I will be staying overnight in Albuquerque.

And, I am really excited about returning to Paris. I left for good when I was 25 or 24 years old, did not care to return for fear of stirring up memories of the past. I do not like to live in the past. But enough time has lapsed so that I will be seeing things with new eyes. And Spain-well, I have always wanted to go. Now is as good a time as any.

My house here is being rewired in spots, because with tenants in the house, everything had better be simple and up to snuff. I don't expect anyone else to fiddle around with loose plug-ins the way I do, or worry about blowing fuses. Now, the upper deck has sprung a leak and I will have to have a new deck laid. Then the house will be all set for a long, long WKKK while, I hope.

I do feel that our friendship is important. For I, too, have lost my oldest and dearest friend. A friendship of over 38 years can't be replaced, but new ones help fill the void. It is interesting to me that my friend Annette Rada was a fine photographer, and that my new friendship should be with another photographer!

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I talked to Tommie about you and he will be delighted to do his best for you. By the way, he also does Ektachrome work.

It won't be too long now. I leave here on May 31, returning on June 15; then off to Albuquerque on June 22. My travel agency has just phoned to say there will be a Shuttlejack that evening, so I may just tuck myself into it and shoot up to Santa Fe that very night.

Be well and happy.

Affectionately,

Mayare )