My dear Mr. Messersmith:

Mr. Phillips is away from the Department on vacation and he asked me if I would acknowledge your letters to him and keep them for him to read upon his return. I am therefore acknowledging your letters of June 18 and June 26, giving us the background on the visits you made on your way back to Vienna. The letter about your trip was exceedingly interesting as giving us a view of the situation in the countries you passed on your return and the last letter, that of June 26, was especially interesting as giving us some further details with regard to the Schacht visits to southern Europe and the developments in connection with von Papen's conversations with Schussnigg.

The Honorable
George S. Messersmith,
American Minister,
Vienna.
The Berlin-Vienna arrangement has now been announced and, although we can hardly be blamed for being skeptical as to the manner in which it will be carried out, I at least feel that it will remove the Austrian question from that of the burning questions of the moment for at least the next few months. The manner of carrying out the agreements and the actual developments as they occur in Austria will be most interesting to follow now and in the future.

I am off this afternoon myself for a few weeks in a clinic for a medical examination and after that I expect to go on and have a rest which will be the first time in three years that I have been away from the Department for more than a week at a time.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]