ADDRESS BY GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH, AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, OVER THE CBS NETWORK FROM MEXICO CITY ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1942.

It is a privilege for me to address this brief message to the people of Mexico and of the other American Republics as a part of a series of broadcasts known as "Calling Pan America."

It has been my privilege to be in Mexico only about six months. Although I have been in the service of my Government in many countries for almost 30 years, the greater part of it has been spent in Europe. To live in Mexico during these momentous times is one of the greatest privileges which I have had in the service of my Government. I feel myself particularly fortunate in being able to live and work in our mutual interest among the freedom-loving Mexican people in a time when our freedoms, so hardly won, are at stake.

Within a very few days the people of Mexico will celebrate the anniversary of their Independence. It promises to be in many respects the most significant celebration of that great day in her history, for freedom is again at stake. Germany, Japan and Italy have for years been devoting all their energies to the preparation for a war to make all other peoples their slaves. They have set out to accomplish their objective of completely dominating the world.
the world and to make all peoples their slaves. In this implacable conduct of the war which they have forced on the world they have destroyed the government of one country after another, robbed their peoples of their freedom, of their property, of their homes, have destroyed innumerable lives and caused incalculable misery. Under the vaunted pretext of establishing a new order in which men shall enjoy greater freedoms they are destroying all freedoms and making slaves of the conquered nations.

Although we in the American Republics and in the democracies have some realization of what is at stake and what the real purposes of Germany, Japan and Italy are, we still do not have an adequate comprehension of the tremendous scope of their ambitions and of the implacable will with which they are endeavoring to achieve their objectives. Nothing which we hold dear, whether it be our homes, our children, our religion, our institutions, our customs, our freedoms, are respected by them and it is their definite objective to destroy these things. In spite of the fact that the war has been coming closer to us, we still do not realize what defeat would mean. We must recognize that we are fighting for our very existence, that this is a war to the finish, and that we cannot achieve the victory without every single one of us making all possible sacrifices, even to the sacrifice of our blood. This is not a war which can be won by words or by the spending of our treasures alone.

It will
It will be a war which will be won by the shedding of our
blood and by making an even greater sacrifice and effort than
that which our enemy, who has set out to destroy us, is pre­
pared to make.

Mexico has been true to her great tradition. The con­
sistent attitude which Mexico and her people have taken in
face of the aggression by the totalitarian powers is no sur­
prise to those of us who know the Mexican people. She is
writing glorious pages in her history and is increasingly
bearing the burden of the war which must be borne by all of
us in common. She has joined the family of the United Nations
and is adding her great resources and strength to those na­
tions which are determined in a common effort to defeat the
enemy and to preserve their freedoms and independence. We
have superior resources, we have a stronger will, we have a
determination which is greater than that of our enemy. With
the sacrifices and the effort which we are prepared to make
we shall win the victory. The unity of the United Nations
and of the Americas is not more important to one country than
it is to another. Either we win the war or we lose our in­
dependence as nations and our freedom as individuals. I am
confident that Mexico and my country, joined with the other
free peoples of the world, will crush the evil forces of the
Axis powers, and when that victory is achieved we shall be
able, through our continued common efforts, to make the world
a much better place in which to live, not only for ourselves,
but for all peoples.