The following is a paraphrase of a telegram No. 2030 of August 17, 1946, 1:00 P.M., which Ambassador Messersmith sent the Department marked "Personal for the Secretary, Under Secretary, and Assistant Secretary Braden". It is in reply to the Department's telegram No. 1082 of August 15, 8:00 P.M.:

The Ambassador states in this telegram that he is in complete accord therewith and that he considers it essential that the President and Secretary Byrnes must be kept fully informed concerning developments in the Argentine situation, particularly in view of the continued great understanding interest both of them have shown in this problem. The Ambassador states that he is, therefore, in full agreement that the Department should not make any commitments at this time regarding measure of performance which our government would consider satisfactory by the Argentine without having consulted with the President and with the Secretary on this matter.

The Ambassador, however, goes on to state that the foregoing implies that the President and the Secretary shall have read his despatches and shall have full knowledge of the recommendations which the Ambassador has and shall make. He states that he believes this is essential as it was on the request of the President and the Secretary that he undertook this Mission.

Referring to the Department's telegram No. 1082 of August 15 and to his top secret despatch No. 471 of July 31, 1946, the Ambassador states that it is essential and important that the President and the Secretary have full and direct knowledge of that despatch as well as of his top secret despatches No. 561 of August 12, No. 565 of August 13, and No. 583 of August 15 which cover latest developments in the situation and the most recent conversations with the President and the Foreign Minister.

The Ambassador goes on to say that the ratification of the Acts of Mexico City and San Francisco will almost certainly be carried through during the next week by the Argentine Congress and that this must be recognized in view of Argentine past performance with respect to the ratification of inter-American agreements as a most significant step forward; that this very significant act of ratification will open the way for what now appears to be the adequate action which the Argentine government plans shortly.
shortly to take with respect to enemy property and aliens. The Ambassador states that it is his definite opinion that our government cannot lay down in the Depart­ ment or as a government a specific blueprint through de­ tailing specific firms and individuals as to what must be done by the Argentine government. He states that we have not done this with the other American republics and we have no authority to do so, and that so far as the Argentine is concerned, all that we can ask of her is what we have asked and can expect of the other American countries—and that is adequate action. The Ambassador states that we still have reason to believe that the performance of the Argentine government in the field of property and aliens will be relatively as satisfactory and as effective as that of the other American republics.

The Ambassador then adds that some of the recent publicity from home with respect to the Argentine such as the New York Times editorial on proposed immigration measures and policies of the Argentine government for which editorial there is no real foundation, and a recent leading article in the New York Daily Post, can do no good and that publicity of this kind seriously prejudices the current favorable developments in bringing about an alto­ gether satisfactory solution of our problems with the Argentine and those of the other American republics.

The Ambassador adds that it was agreed before he pro­ ceeded to Buenos Aires that the Department and he would refrain from comment to the press and from statements on the Argentine situation and states that he considers it essential that we maintain strictly this attitude with the exception, of course, that any observations made on current developments in the Argentine of a favorable char­ acter should not minimize the good faith of the Argentine government. He states that the repercussions of some re­ cent publicity and comment at home on the Argentine sit­ uation have made unnecessarily more difficult the major task in which we are engaged by arousing completely under­ standable feelings in the Argentine in the government and in other circles which are endeavoring to bring about a proper and adequate solution of the problems.

The Ambassador closed this telegram with the request that it be made available to the President and to Secretary Byrnes.