Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 13, 1947

No. 2049

Subject: Final Disposition of Enemy Property in Argentina

CONFIDENTIAL

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to Embassy's confidential despatch No. 1779A of January 31, 1947, on the above subject, and to enclose herewith text and unofficial translation of a statement issued by the Banco Central. The Bank announces that it has paid over the 100 million pesos required by Decree 1.981/47 and that the State thereby becomes the sole proprietor of the specified enemy firms. The statement further announces that the names of additional firms encompassed within the provisions of the decree and said bank's action will be announced later and that thereby the State will become possessed of all enemy property in Argentina, thus completely affecting its compliance with the relative provisions of Articles 18 and 19 of the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace.

The Department will recall that the Embassy has already reported the transfer of the stipulated initial payment of 100 million pesos. In view of the fact that announcements by the Banco Central are frequently issued several weeks after the acts reported have been given effect, the Embassy believes that this statement merely constitutes an official announcement to the public of action heretofore taken by the Bank in compliance with said decree.

Respectfully yours,

George S. Messersmith

Enclosure

1. 5 copies of Central Bank statement
2. Translation of statement

To Department in quintuplicate
File No. 651
MBTousedal