MR. GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH

Our Vienna correspondent writes:—The Viennese, while proud that the American Minister in their city, Mr. George S. Messersmith, has been advanced to such a high position as Assistant Secretary of State, sincerely regret his departure next Sunday. Mr. Messersmith was not only a great friend of an independent Austria, but he helped this country by increasing trade with the United States in days when the Germans tried to undermine Austrian independence by commercial boycott. Mr. Messersmith was known as one of the most generous and hospitable hosts in Vienna society.

He was, before his appointment to Vienna in 1933, American Consul General in Berlin, and his courageous interventions in the first weeks of the Nazi Terror saved the lives of many Americans and Jews and restored the liberty of imprisoned American journalists. Mr. Messersmith is a staunch and faithful friend of Great Britain, and his appointment to this important post will be welcomed not only in Austria but in England.
Hotel Esplanade
MARIENBAD
EXPRESS
10th July, 1937

Personal

The Hon. George S. Messersmith,
Minister of the United States of America,
VIENNA

Dear Friend,

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th inst.

I think it was extremely good of you and Mrs. Messersmith to undertake such a long automobile trip just to pay us that short visit in Marienbad. Both my wife and I appreciated it enormously.

As I told you, I think it would be useful if you would also show the President and the Secretary the letter I addressed to my other English friend, Lord S. As Dr. G. is going to the States with letters of introduction to the President and Secretary, they would thus be informed in advance of what he has to say.

Dr. G. made me a very good impression. He is undoubtedly courageous, intelligent, observant, understands business, knows what he is talking about, clearly follows up his thoughts to their very end, and he is perfectly aware that Germany's final goal must be a Monarchy.

I shall be leaving Marienbad next Friday the 16th, arriving in Brussels in the morning of the 17th and leaving again on Sunday the 18th for London. I shall have several important meetings there on the Monday and Tuesday, and on the 21st I shall accompany my wife and daughter as far as Cherbourg in the Queen Mary. From there I return to Brussels via Paris. I intend to go to the States in the second half of September and I shall return to Europe with my wife and daughter early in October. I shall make a special point of seeing you while I am over there.
I hear Mr. and Mrs. Swope will be sailing for Europe on the s/s Conte di Savoia, arriving at Genoa about the 8th August. They intend to come to Brussels about the 5th September.

This morning I received a long letter from Dr. Brüning. With reference to the Sofina report he writes as follows:


I shall have some copies of the Sofina Report sent to you care of the State Department, Washington, so that you may give copies to the President and Secretary. They will perhaps be interested to read the Report.

As Dr. B. has left for London I shall certainly see him when I get there.

I wish you and Mrs. Messersmith a pleasant trip, the best of luck, and may you derive all the satisfaction from your work that you certainly deserve. Please always remember the personal remark I made to you.

With kindest regards, believe me,

Cordially yours,