April 11, 1950

Dear Dannie:

I send you herewith a copy of a letter which I have received from Swinton dated March 29 which is self-explanatory. I will be writing him in a few days and will send you a copy. The Air Force is undoubtedly arranging to bring him from London to the United States, and I will be in touch with Maxwell Field in the next few days by telephone and will ask them what their plans are in this respect so that I may know when Swinton is actually arriving in the United States. You will note from the appended letter that he speaks at the Air War College on May 2 and intends to spend the nights of May 3 and 4 in Washington.

I do not know whom he could most usefully see in Washington. I think it would be useful for him to see Hickerson and Achilles and Dunham, and the Assistant Secretaries in charge of Latin American and Western European affairs.

As you know, my own plans are to leave here the 17th or 18th of April direct for New York so that I may see you before I go to Washington for the signing on the 21st. I expect to be in Washington the 22nd and 23rd and to fly to Maxwell Field on the 24th, make my speech on the 25th, and then return to Mexico City directly from Maxwell Field. According to this schedule, it is not likely that I will see Swinton, but whatever my desires are to see him, and they are very real, it is more important for me to be here at the present time and the next weeks. This labor conflict is going to be serious and it means so much that I think I should be here rather than anywhere else.

It would be wonderful if you and Swinton could fly down here for a few days. I would love it.

I am hoping that nothing will interfere with the signing of the long term loan agreement on April 21 in Washington. I had information last evening that the World Bank will wish the matter of the additional peso financing settled before it will sign the long term dollar loan agreement. I was hoping that the Bank would be satisfied to sign on the basis
of the draft loan agreement everyone has agreed to for the 44 million pesos, and that a statement from the Financiera to the effect that the other 14 million will be adequately taken care of would be sufficient. I gather now that the Bank will wish the peso loan agreement to be signed in a form covering this additional amount. While I have no doubt that the Mexican authorities will enable us to make an appropriate arrangement to cover this additional amount, it may be difficult to get it into a formal agreement so as to have it signed before the 21st. I am actively working on this and have been, and Carrillo Flores is returning to Mexico City in a few days from Washington and this should facilitate the matter. I am not concerned about the result, it is just a question of time. We will do our best to have everything in shape here so that the long term loan agreement can be signed with the Bank on the 21st.

Although the Bank's attitude may be inconvenient, it is, in my opinion, not unreasonable.

I have dictated this letter hastily, as I have wanted to get this word off to you. With affectionate good wishes,

Cordially and faithfully yours,

George S. Messersmith
Chairman of the Board

Enclosure

GSM/cbc