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April 6, 1948.

D. N. Heineman, Esq.,
Suite 1700,
50 Broadway,
New York 4, N.Y.,
U.S.A.

Dear Dannie:

You will recall that I wrote a personal note to the Foreign Minister of the Argentine, Dr. Brambuglia, who is a really good friend of mine and who is, perhaps, in many ways, the most effective collaborator of President Peron, and who certainly is a good friend of our Country. Before I left New York, I left you a copy of the note which I wrote him and which I asked my friend, Bradford of the United Press, to leave with the Minister when he saw him in Buenos Aires. You will be interested in reading his reply, of which I am sending you a copy, as well as a translation.

With reference to the statement which Brambuglia makes about his not being able to make a trip to the United States at this time on account of his occupations, it is in reply to a statement I made in my letter to him that I hoped that when his occupations permitted he would be able to visit our Country. I know that it is one of his most intimate desires to make a trip to the United States, accompanied by his wife, who is really a very charming and fine woman and who wants to make such a trip because he wants to know our Country better and because he really has great interest in seeing our Country. He is a very busy man, however, and he would not wish to undertake such a trip until he knew all the circumstances were propitious and that it would be really useful. He is not one of these people who make a trip of this kind just because it might fill some personal desires. His remark that he is not able to go to the United States at this time because of his occupations grows out of proper delicacy as he is a man of fine feeling and he knows that the time is not yet ripe for such a trip and I am inclined to think that he is right.

What I have always been hoping is that President Peron will, in due course, make a trip to the United States with Mrs. Peron and that then the Foreign Minister, Dr. Brambuglia, and his wife will accompany him. Such a trip, I think, is still premature, although it would be a very happy thing if it could be made in the near future under the right conditions. Peron is a very understanding man and has fundamentally very decent instincts and I am confident that a trip to the United States, when made under the proper circumstances, will be most helpful to the interests of both Countries, as well as of the Hemisphere. I have not done anything, however, to precipitate

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such a visit, as I think it would be disastrous if it was not made under the most propitious circumstances, and desirable as the visit is, it is imperatively important that it be made only when the circumstances are right. What I am hoping is that out of Brambuglia and out of the Marshall Plan and out of the arrangements with the other American countries, including the Argentine, respecting the Marshall Plan, there will be created conditions which will make it not only opportune but desirable for Peron to make such a visit. I, myself, believe this will come about before the end of the year and I am hopeful that it may be well before the end of the year.

I have no sympathy, however, with some people who are endeavouring to promote such a visit by President Peron and Mrs. Peron to the United States before the time is right, because up to now some of these people, who have been interested in promoting such a visit, have been more interested in purely personal considerations and advantage and have not realized the unwisdom even for themselves for premature and unofficial moment.

With reference to what Brambuglia says concerning his hope that I would make a visit to the Argentine, if my time and occupation permitted, I do not know just what to make out of this but I think I am right in thinking that for the present it was just a nice remark expressing a purely personal feeling on his part. In my letter to Brambuglia I said that I was looking forward to the time when we would see each other in the United States or in Argentina. I flatter myself that Brambuglia would be glad to see me again in his country for a short stay for we are really good friends, but I do not believe that he had anything specific in his mind at the time of making the observation about a trip of mine.

I will undoubtedly shortly be receiving a letter from President Peron in reply to a brief note which I wrote to him and which Bradburn delivered at the same time as the letter to Brambuglia. If President Peron has any special desire to see me, it will be obvious from any letter that he may write me and we can form our conclusions after we get that letter.

I am merely sending you this letter from Brambuglia as I thought you would be interested.

Brambuglia is really a very intelligent and high class person and I am hoping that during the Bogotá Conference there will be adequate private conversations between General Marshall and Brambuglia so that the two men get to know each other better. It will be very helpful if they do because I am sure they cannot, through such conversations, help but form real respect for each other and greater understanding can grow out of it. While Brambuglia is not a politician in some senses of the word, President Peron has the highest respect for his honesty, intelligence and capacity and I know that President Peron values in a very high degree the counsel of Brambuglia.

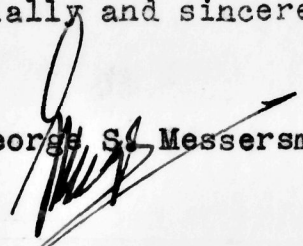
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Mexico, D.F., April 6, 1948.

With love and good wishes to you and Hettie from Marion
and myself,

Cordially and sincerely yours,


George S. Messersmith.

Encls:

Copy of letter from Dr. Brambuglia
Translation of letter from Dr. Brambuglia

cc: Mr. D. N. Heineman,
c/o The Homestead,
Hot Springs, Virginia, USA. with encls.

GSM/KMB