and that the new Industrial Commission is taking up where the Economic Commission left off.

I discern between the lines of the reports that reach me that to you is due considerable credit for the improvement in relations between Mexico and the United States during the last two years. Keep up the good work!

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

The Honorable
George S. Messersmith,
American Ambassador,
México, D.F.

ROOSEVELT, Franklin D.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 15, 1943

Dear George:

It was a real pleasure to have your full letter of October 2 telling me of your conversation with President Ávila Camacho. During the brief time that the President and I were together along the border I developed a high regard for his sound statesmanship. He took hold of his country at a time when it was being rent asunder by internal dissensions and welded it together behind progressive and practical policies.

I am fully aware of the import of the political maneuvering now going on that has as one of its objectives the elimination of Dr. Padilla from the Cabinet and was glad, therefore, to have your opinion that the President will maintain him in his position. In the field of foreign relations Dr. Padilla has collaborated fully and effectively in the implementation of the policies of his chief. His departure would be a loss not only for us but for all the American Republics.

I fully agree with the President that it is of the utmost importance that our two countries continue in the peace the collaboration that has been so fruitful during the war. They can set a standard of cooperation that will have far-reaching effects on the other countries of this hemisphere. I was delighted to learn that the Economic Commission produced results

(3)

SECRETARIO DE LA DEFENSA NACIONAL

Cuernavaca, Mor., a 27 de
diciembre de 1943.

Excmo. Señor George Messersmith.
Embajador de los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica.
MEXICO, D. F.

Nos es grato hacer presente a usted y a la excelentísima Señora de Messersmith nuestro profundo agradecimiento por la felicitación que se sirvieron enviarnos en su atenta del día 24 del actual en ocasión del Nuevo Año y que les retornamos con sincero afecto, haciendo votos por el bienestar personal de ustedes y por la prosperidad de vuestro gran país.

Gral. Lázaro Cárdenas.
Amalia de Cárdenas.

LC/m-ch.

SECRETARIA DE AGRICULTURA Y FOMENTO

SECRETARIO

ACK. 1/5/44-GSM
aw

México, D. F.,
31 de diciembre de 1943.

Muy estimado amigo:

Agradezco a usted su amable carta del 23 del corriente, en la que tiene la fineza de expresarme sus votos de ventura con motivo de la Navidad y el Año Nuevo.

A mi vez, deseo transmitir a usted y a la señora Messersmith mis mejores augurios de felicidad para el año venidero, rogándole se sirva aceptar, como testimonio de ellos, la pequeña figura de Tehuana, en cera, que adjunta le envío, obra del ceriescultor mexicano Luis Hidalgo.

Gustoso aprovecho la ocasión para saludarle y para repetirme como su amigo afectísimo y seguro servidor.

Marte R. Gómez.

Excmo. Sr. George S. Messersmith.
Embajador de los Estados Unidos de
Norteamérica.
Ciudad.

ml.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 1, 1943.

Dear George:-

It is good to have your letter of October twenty-fifth, and I agree with you most heartily.

The consolidation of OEW and Lend-Lease and Import-Export Bank and several other agencies under Mr. Crowley is along the general line. You will remember the trouble we had several years ago in regard to the commercial attaches and the agricultural agencies. Obviously they had to be fitted into the State Department and in this respect things are much better than they were.

In the present emergency the BEW (OEW) tended to set up little Embassies of their own and the whole thing began to get out of hand. Principally they were interfering with each other and, therefore, the first step has been to tie them in under Mr. Crowley.

However, for the first time it is clearly understood that they have to operate with the full knowledge and approval of the State Department. Between ourselves, there was a good deal of opposition within the State Department to placing the whole responsibility on the State Department itself

but I think that all is going to work out -- probably by the process of evolution.

There has been a good deal of opposition within the State Department to taking over administrative functions in the commercial and agricultural field, yet I am sure that we must continue to make the State Department responsible, at least for policy and the supervision of that policy, without interfering with the technical administrative work of some particular service.

I think you will find that Stettinius will work well with all the career people in a simplification of responsibilities within the State Department itself -- for that is much needed. Someone remarked the other day that one can get lost and pushed around in the State Department today just as easily as one can get lost and pushed around in the new Pentagon Building of the War Department.

I do hope to see you one of these days soon.

My best wishes to you,

As ever yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Honorable George Messersmith,
American Embassy,
Mexico, D.F.,
Mexico.

SECRETARIO
DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
MEXICO.

12508

28 de diciembre de 1943.

Excmo. Sr. George S. Messersmith.
Embajador de los Estados Unidos.
C i u d a d.

Mi muy querido amigo:

La señora Padilla y yo, de la manera más efusiva y sincera, enviamos a usted y a la señora -- Messersmith nuestros cordiales deseos de un feliz - año nuevo y nuestros agradecimientos por las aten - ciones que de ustedes recibimos con tan honda satisfacción. Los términos de su carta me han llenado de verdadera emoción.

Deseo asegurar a usted que los sentimientos - de afecto que generalmente son recíprocos, en el caso personal nuestro y a través del constante trato diplomático y amistoso que nos ha unido en días de trascendencia histórica y de graves problemas internacionales, siento que se han convertido en una -- amistad tan firme que constituye para mí un inestimable valor que conservaré para siempre.

Con la más grande admiración por la integri - dad e inteligencia con que usted ha desempeñado sus funciones rindiendo un gran servicio a nuestros dos países, y con mis sentimientos de cariño que, uni - dos a los de la señora Padilla, profeso a la señora Messersmith, me es grato enviar a usted en estas letras el testimonio de mi muy cordial amistad.

S. Padilla

Correspondencia Particular
del Presidente de los
Estados Unidos Mexicanos

Palacio Nacional, a
28 de diciembre de 1943

Excmo. Señor George Messersmith,
Embajador de los Estados Unidos de América,
C i u d a d .

Estimado señor Embajador:

Correspondo a la amable misiva de us-- ted de 23 de los corrientes para retornarle, al igual que a su estimable señora, los parabienes y mejores - deseos que mi esposa y yo formulamos para ustedes en- ocasión del año nuevo.

Quiero aprovechar esta oportunidad pa- ra expresar a usted mi agradecimiento por la eficaz - colaboración que ha prestado a mi Gobierno en todos - los asuntos que ha tenido que tratar con el de su Ex- celencia con miras a los anhelos comunes de ambos pue blos.

Al reiterarle mi atenta consideración, me es grato repetirme amigo y servidor atento.

M. Avila Camacho

Manuel Avila Camacho.

P. R. 1.