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Venezuela Cuero
to trace 4.15 at 4.25

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ADDRESS BY GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH,
AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, OVER THE CBS NETWORK FROM
MEXICO CITY ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1942.

It is a privilege for me to address this brief mes-
sage to the people of Mexico and of the other American
Republics as a part of a series of broadcasts known as
"Calling Pan America."

It has been my privilege to be in Mexico only about
six months. Although I have been in the service of my
Government in many countries for almost 30 years, the
greater part of it has been spent in Europe. To live in
Mexico during these momentous times is one of the greatest
privileges which I have had in the service of my Govern-
ment. I feel myself particularly fortunate in being able
to live and work in our mutual interest among the freedom-
loving Mexican people in a time when our freedoms, so hard-
ly won, are at stake.

Within a very few days the people of Mexico will cele-
brate the anniversary of their Independence. It promises
to be in many respects the most significant celebration of
that great day in her history, for freedom is again at
stake. Germany, Japan and Italy have for years been devot-
ing all their energies to the preparation for a war to
make all other peoples their slaves. They have set out
to accomplish their objective of completely dominating

the world

the world and to make all peoples their slaves. In this implacable conduct of the war which they have forced on the world they have destroyed the government of one country after another, robbed their peoples of their freedom, of their property, of their homes, have destroyed innumerable lives and caused incalculable misery. Under the vaunted pretext of establishing a new order in which men shall enjoy greater freedoms they are destroying all freedoms and making slaves of the conquered nations.

Although we in the American Republics and in the democracies have some realization of what is at stake and what the real purposes of Germany, Japan and Italy are, we still do not have an adequate comprehension of the tremendous scope of their ambitions and of the implacable will with which they are endeavoring to achieve their objectives. Nothing which we hold dear, whether it be our homes, our children, our religion, our institutions, our customs, our freedoms, are respected by them and it is their definite objective to destroy these things. In spite of the fact that the war has been coming closer to us, we still do not realize what defeat would mean. We must recognize that we are fighting for our very existence, that this is a war to the finish, and that we cannot achieve the victory without every single one of us making all possible sacrifices, even to the sacrifice of our blood. This is not a war which can be won by words or by the spending of our treasures alone.

It will

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It will be a war which will be won by the shedding of our blood and by making an even greater sacrifice and effort than that which our enemy, who has set out to destroy us, is prepared to make.

Mexico has been true to her great tradition. The consistent attitude which Mexico and her people have taken in face of the aggression by the totalitarian powers is no surprise to those of us who know the Mexican people. She is writing glorious pages in her history and is increasingly bearing the burden of the war which must be borne by all of us in common. She has joined the family of the United Nations and is adding her great resources and strength to those nations which are determined in a common effort to defeat the enemy and to preserve their freedoms and independence. We have superior resources, we have a stronger will, we have a determination which is greater than that of our enemy. With the sacrifices and the effort which we are prepared to make we shall win the victory. The unity of the United Nations and of the Americas is not more important to one country than it is to another. Either we win the war or we lose our independence as nations and our freedom as individuals. I am confident that Mexico and my country, joined with the other free peoples of the world, will crush the evil forces of the Axis powers, and when that victory is achieved we shall be able, through our continued common efforts, to make the world a much better place in which to live, not only for ourselves, but for all peoples.

[Handwritten signature]