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Coby for Heine

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Dear Brosens:

REF:

FILE: Messersmith

I appreciate your telegram in reply to my letter of November 4 stating that you expect to arrive in Mexico City on December 9 and will be leaving on the 16th. I was fearing that I had to make some unexpected trip and I wanted to be sure when you were planning to be here.

I had to take the unexpected trip but sooner than I anticipated. I had to leave here on Monday morning, the 10th, by air for New York and Washington and returned on Friday evening, the 14th, and I do not anticipate now having to be away again from Mexico until sometime early next year. In connection with the short term financing problems of the company and the cash situation and the fact that all this is complicated by the change of administration which takes place on December 1, I had to make this trip north for a Board meeting and a visit to the Bank. We had an all-day Board meeting on Tuesday, November 11, in New York instead of in Toronto, as the circumstances were such that we had to get some immediate decisions on the financing matters and I could not have gone to Toronto for a meeting. We had a very satisfactory meeting of the Board and I had two days in the World Bank going over the situation with them, and they showed very full understanding. We have worked out some quite stop-gap solution which will tide us over until the end of the year and as the new administration comes in on December 1, I think it is quite up to the new administration to begin the immediate study of our major problem. I think they are disposed to do this, but you know how difficult it is to get people to work immediately after a change of administration.

I am sure you had a very nice ceremony in Brussels yesterday on the occasion of Heine's birthday and I am terribly sorry I could not be there and also that I cannot be in New York with him on the 23rd, as the whole family is going to be together for the first time in many years. Jimmy and June are leaving tomorrow to be there for a few days.

Marion and I are looking forward very much to seeing

René Brosens, Esq.,
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you and Mrs. Brosens in early December and I would appreciate your letting me know in due course on what plane you are arriving so that I can meet you at the airport. In many ways I would suggest your coming here by Eastern-Pan American, leaving New York around 9 in the morning and getting here at 6:45 in the evening. If you prefer to travel by night the flight by American from New York to Mexico City is a comfortable one, the plane leaving I think around 10 in the evening from New York and arriving here some time around 7 in the morning.

There is much to talk about when you are here so I will not burden this letter with any details. We both wish that you could stay longer. With all good wishes,

Cordially and faithfully yours,

George S. Messersmith

GSM/cbc