Roosevelt Organizations and Memorials
July 19, 1945

My Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Mr. Schatz and other members of the Board of Trustees of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Center join me in expressing our deepest appreciation for your kind letter of June 1. We are very proud to use the name of your late husband as the name of our organization. It will be a constant inspiration to the young men and women whom we will train and who will carry out group work programs under our direction in a number of New York communities. It will also be a personal inspiration to me in dealing with the difficult problems that confront a new venture in its first days.

If we have not thanked you before this for your expression of the fittingness of the name we have chosen, it is because we have been going through a period of organization, interrupted by the summer months during which I have been deeply buried in the work of directing the program of an inter-racial children's camp. We also wanted something to show you for our efforts so far. The enclosed folder gives a picture of the kind of work the Franklin D. Roosevelt Center is undertaking.

In this connection I am sure you would be interested in some of the modest achievements of the past winter and spring while we were still only getting organized. We carried out a training program attended by more than 70 young people. Some of these young people became volunteer workers at Bronx House, Henry Street and Lincoln Settlement. We supplied occasional party and entertainment programs for about 1500 children. We gave a course in child development attended by 100 parents. We provided leadership service for a number of children's groups, totaling about 300 children meeting weekly. Some of these children's groups - all inter-racial in composition - carried the message of our work to about 5000 adults in a number of dance, dramatics and chorus performances.

In relation to the great need for such work among our city children these facts are far from impressive. In fact the total of all the fine work being done by all agencies is still far from adequate. However, we felt that you would want to know what we are doing. And we would like to feel that we have your continued interest.

Very sincerely yours,

Richard Crosscup, Director

"...the important wartime job at home of taking care of our children..."
President Roosevelt, 1944
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
499 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 19, 1945

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Sra. Muna Lee de Muñoz Marín of the Division of Cultural Cooperation, Department of State, has sent me various clippings from newspapers in the other American Republics giving examples of the various kinds of permanent or otherwise significant memorials being planned or carried out in tribute to the late President Roosevelt. It is impossible to have all these clippings translated for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library, but I thought you might be interested in having a record of typical proposals and projects.

This list is by no means comprehensive, and does not even include every country; I have no facilities for collecting all the facts. The Department may do so eventually, but I have been informed only that it is preparing a complete record of official acts and tributes of governments and heads of states.

The examples Muna has sent me follow, in alphabetical order of countries:

ARGENTINA: In Buenos Aires, a commission for homage to the late President Roosevelt is collecting funds and designs for a statue; the Association of Argentine-North American Interchange in Rosario sponsored a series of lectures in June on his program of economic and social reconstruction, his international policies, emphasizing both the Good Neighbor Policy and his constant reiteration of the interdependence of nations, and at the doors of the theater in which a big "homage" meeting was held, students solicited contributions of Argentine books to the Washington Library.

BRAZIL: The "Associated Dailies" (Diarios Asociados) sponsored a campaign to have elementary schools in every state named for Roosevelt, some of which are old schools with a new name and some of which are new schools or, in many cases, groups of three elementary schools (according to my latest clippings, federal intervenors or other officials have so named schools in Parnamirim, near the great air base at Natal, Anapólis, Sucupira, Capuava, Sebastião Robo, Fortaleza, Burutí, Alegre, Volta Redonda, Belém, and Rio de Janeiro; in São
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, — 2 —

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Paulo, the "Norte" railroad station of the Central Railway of Brazil was re-named the Roosevelt Station; Sao Paulo is planning a monument in stone or bronze and considering the establishment of a Popular University to be named for Roosevelt, with completely free education offered, by day, night, and correspondence courses, and by lectures open to the public; in Rio de Janeiro, the Society of Friends of America is raising funds for a Roosevelt Foundation for the medical-social rehabilitation of cripples, especially victims of poliomyelitis.

CHILE: The Government proposed to Peru that the Chilean-Peruvian stretch of the Pan-American Highway be called the Roosevelt Highway (Camino Roosevelt).

COSTA RICA: The Congress voted unanimously to make the late President an honorary citizen of Costa Rica, and some members proposed to extend this honor to Mrs. Roosevelt and all their children, but my clippings do not show clearly what happened to this amendment; Roosevelt's portrait was ceremoniously unveiled in the halls of Congress, in what is the equivalent of the Diplomatic Galleries of our Congress.

Ecuador: In Quito the cantonal council is to erect a monument with funds raised by popular subscription, and place the statue along with the other heroes of the Americas, including Columbus, Bolivar, etc; also in Quito, the House of Ecuadorian Culture held a special meeting of its juridical and social science members to study the possibility of "A Universal Code of the Rights of Man," and the first topic was "The Four Great Freedoms of President Roosevelt," in Cuenca, a hospital built with the aid of Office of Inter-American Affairs gave to three of its wards the names of Washington, Lincoln, and Roosevelt; in May, the northern municipality of Otavalo established a free Roosevelt Theater to show films about the cultural development of the Americas, as well as news reels about the United States, the United Nations, etc., asked the Coordination Committee to send films, and the chairman of the Quito O I A A Coordination Committee, Kurtis F. Naylor, participated in the dedication ceremonies.

GUATEMALA: The Ministry of Public Health and Assistance has named a hospital for Roosevelt.

MEXICO: The Workers' Library, at the Mexican Silk Mill, in Mexico City (which has 5,000 books), was re-named the Roosevelt Library on May 1, Mexico's Labor Day, with impressive ceremonies, including music, oratory, and official recognition of Roosevelt's friendship to Mexico.

NICARAGUA: The Legislative Assembly addressed messages to other parliamentary bodies of the hemisphere suggesting that all of them, on July 4, declare Roosevelt "benefactor of the Americas" (most congresses were not in session, so that unanimous action could not result).
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt —

FRH1: The municipality of Lima named a street after Franklin Delano Roosevelt and placed a bronze plaque on it in his memory.

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Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Handwritten note: Much love & sorry for the long delay.]

[Handwritten note: With best wishes, I am,]

[Handwritten note: Ruby Black Press and Publications Department]

[Handwritten note: Special Liaison Officer]

[Handwritten note: VENEZUELA: On April 12, a group of men and women led by Dr. Carabobo Rivero, decided to establish the "Fidel Rivero" cultural association. In association with the "Fidel Rivero" cultural association, the Caracas Municipal Council approved the location of a monument on the site where the Association of Venezuelan Writers is raising the funds by popular subscription.]

[Handwritten note: FORUM: A special commission of the Uruguay-United States Cultural Exchange was named to plan a monument for "Alfaro" in association with the Uruguayan National Commission. A special commission of Uruguayan writers to write a book on the cultural life of the United States was named to be published in a special volume of the "Alfaro" cultural association.]