

I. Koss - W. Ross; A-2



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT
WASHINGTON

October 30, 1945.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Nellie Tayloe Ross, the Director of the Mint, prior to her departure for the western mint institutions, instructed me to have the first Roosevelt memorial medal gold-plated and presented to you as her personal gift.

Mr. John R. Sinnock, Chief Engraver at the Philadelphia Mint, gives the following description of the reverse design of the medal:

"A seated figure, draped, with head bowed, represents the sorrowing Nation and all the human race. Her right hand is extended in the act of dropping a wreath upon waters upon which a ship, symbolizing the spirit of the late President, sails into the distant mists of the horizon, and in her left hand is the palm branch of mourning. The inscription at the top, FOR COUNTRY AND HUMANITY, is intended to indicate his labors for the benefit of the oppressed of all mankind. In the left field are the dates of inaugurations; in the right background are rows of crosses, signifying that he, also, was a war casualty. Below this is the date of death. In the lower left field is a stump of an olive tree from which new leaves are sprouting, representing the dawn of a new era of peace; in the exergue, IN MEMORIAM."

Very truly yours,

Elwood Howard
Assistant Director of the Mint.

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

*Will we thank
her for it?*