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by making an offer to pay
for something which has a
value to you far more than
I could ever compensate.
However I can promise you

7 July '46

My Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Knowing that your time is occupied with many more important and deserving requests, I will attempt to make my story as brief as possible.

First to introduce myself: I am 28 years old, an ex-sergeant in the army, discharged after four years service. I have a wife, a son thirty-one months, and a daughter (I hope) on the way.

I shant attempt to tell you of my admiration for our late President since I believe the nature of my request will make that clear to you. I unfortunately returned to civilian life too late to make my request to your husband directly as I had planned.

I have a small but I

3/ published in five volumes by Random House. They interest me for several reasons: First because they contain what I know will someday be evaluated as the immortal words of our greatest President; Secondly because I want my children to be able to read, as they grow old enough, the words of a man who gave his life so that our Country might realize the greatness that is its destiny. I know that they will someday study our nation's history and with reverence and awe read of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Roosevelt I would like to add a volume to my library and I know of no other way

3/ think, worthwhile library, that has been formed during the past fourteen years. My purpose in continuing to form this library is naturally my interest in reading and in books themselves. I am proud of this library and someday I hope it will go to my children as an enduring record of the good that man has accomplished, a record of the civilizations that have given them life.

At the present time I am trying to gather together a few books dealing with the life and career of Franklin D. Roosevelt, one set I secured prior to entering the army I am exceptionally proud of, it is "The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt,"

that I may acquire it unless you see fit to grant my request. I would like to own and pass on to my children a book that was the President's, a book that he enjoyed and possibly relaxed with; a book in which he inscribed his name. I have many times (four to be exact) watched his manuscripts pass at auction spellbound but not able to purchase - but it was thrilling just to look and dream.

I shall not be impertinent by making an offer to pay for something which has a value to you far more than I could ever compensate. However I can promise you

that the book will receive the care that the most important volume in our library deserves.

Truthfully if you should find it impossible to grant this request I will not blame you - Since if the book were mine nothing could pry it from me.

Thank You for reading this far

Very truly yours,
Harden E. Goldstein

HARDEN E. GOLDSTEIN
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MANHATTAN BEACH VETERAN'S
HOUSING PROJECT
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.