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**Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”**

**The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945**

**Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension**

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**File No. 66**

**1917 January 26**

**Haiti**

January 26, 1917

Address on Arrival in Haiti

FDR Speech File

[Jan. 26, 1917]

It is with very sincere pleasure that I have come to the Republic of Haiti. Several times before I have seen your blue mountains from the sea, and I have wished to know more of your people and your smiling land. I consider it a great privilege to visit you now, and I am looking forward with interest to my journey from here to Cape Haitien. Please believe that the people of the United States evince a lively interest in the welfare of your country and hope that the bonds of friendship and peace and true liberty will in the future become even closer between the United States and the Republic of Haiti.

I am particularly glad that I can be here when the American fleet is paying you a visit of courtesy, and I want to thank you for the cordial reception you have given them. They greatly appreciate your expressions of goodwill and will carry home many <sup>of</sup> the most delightful feelings towards the sovereign people of Haiti.