Franklin D. Roosevelt — "The Great Communicator" The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt's Political Ascension

File No. 443

1931 October 16

Yorktown, PA - Sesquicentennial Celebration

At Sesquicentennial Celebration, Yorktown, Virginia, October 16, 1931

The State of New York gladly shares this day with the Commonwealth of Virginia and with our other sister states whose right to self-government was won on these fields.

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It was from the banks of my native Hudson that Washington and Rochambeau marched to end the War of the Revolution and to make possible the inauguration of our first president and the establishment of constitutional

I like to dwell not on the surrender of an army under a brave leader but

I like to dwell not on the surrender of an army under a brave leader but rather on the genesis, as a result of this conflict, of a new concept of liberty for the human race—an ideal which quickly made itself felt among our allies of France and our mother peoples of the British Isles, and spread at last throughout the greater part of the eivilized world.

The institutions of liberty and of friendship among nations have been often challenged. They are challenged today. To these forces of despair, of discouragement, of despotism, of chose and of war we can make no surrender. It is fitting that here we should renew our faith in the everhasting rightness, in the power to survive, of the fundamentals of self government which were born a century and a half ago. In the normal development and sure progress of these truths lie the hope and the safety of the days to come.

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Draft Speech Spriktom Heights 1931 All in Randwilling of F. DR. gladly shows this inversalth ul other Pister Viales verument was well was from the teants. That Washington and native Hudson Rashburtoace mouled to and the War of the Herolution potent much to make possible the mangarative of an first President and The worldishing National Archives and Records Service SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY Vitational deprovering, to the the tight - years deliver I like to direct for the the summele. frother in the grassing he aggrett of the complet of liberty for the homester Samuel I. Rosenman ince that - midel which quility must itself foll among Allins of trance and our mother profes of front writing, med spread At 1051 Thoughant the disafter fruit if the live tind is cold, The institutions of liberty mil. friandship among nations to smac to have how after challinged . They her Challenged taking. To these forces of defence; of the energy connect of

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From the Papers of Samuel I. Rosenman

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