

March 27, 1934

[signing the Vinson Bill]

FDR Speech File

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For the Press

Immediate Release

^{Miss}
March 27, 1934

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ^{upon} ~~UPON~~ THE SIGNING OF THE
VINSON BILL ~~RELATIVE TO NAVAL CONSTRUCTION.~~

Because there is some public misapprehension of fact in relation
to the Vinson Bill (~~which refers to the United States Navy~~) it is only
right that ^{its} ~~the~~ main provision ~~of the Bill~~ should be made wholly clear.

This is not a law for the construction of a single additional
United States warship.

The general purpose of the Bill is solely a statement by the Congress
that it approves the building of our Navy up to and not beyond the
strength in various types of ships authorized, first, by the Washington
Naval Limitation ^{Treaty} ~~Conference~~ of 1922 and, secondly, by the London Naval
Limitation Treaty of 1930.

As has been done on several previous occasions in our history, the
Bill authorizes certain future construction over a period of years. But
the Bill appropriates no money for such construction and the word
"authorization" is, therefore, merely a statement of the ^{policy} ~~intention~~ of
the present Congress, ~~for action to be taken by later Congresses.~~
~~whether it will be carried~~

~~out depends on the action of future~~
Congresses

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT UPON SIGNING
THE WINSON BILL

Because there is some public misapprehension of fact in relation to the Winson Bill, it is only right that its main provision should be made wholly clear.

It is not a law for the construction of a single additional United States warship.

The general purpose of the Bill is solely a statement by the Congress that it approves the building of our Navy up to and not beyond the strength in various types of ships authorized, first, by the Washington Naval Limitation Treaty of 1922 and, secondly, by the London Naval Limitation Treaty of 1930.

As has been done on several previous occasions in our history, the Bill authorizes certain future construction over a period of years. But the Bill appropriates no money for such construction and the word "authorization" is, therefore, merely a statement of the policy of the present Congress. Whether it will be carried out depends on the action of future Congresses.

*It has been said with the backing of
the Administration to favor continued
limitation of naval armaments. It
is my personal hope that the
Navy Naval Conference to be held
in 1935 will extend all ~~existing~~^{existing}
limitations and agree to
further ~~limitations~~ reductions.*

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT UPON SIGNING
THE VINSON BILL

Because there is some public misapprehension of fact in relation to the Vinson Bill, it is only right that its main provision should be made wholly clear.

This is not a law for the construction of a single additional United States warship.

The General purpose of the Bill is solely a statement by the Congress that it approves the building of our Navy up to and not beyond the strength in various types of ships authorized, first, by the Washington Naval Limitation Treaty of 1922 and, secondly, by the London Naval Limitation Treaty of 1930.

As has been done on several previous occasions in our history, the Bill authorizes certain future construction over a period of years. But the Bill appropriates no money for such construction and the word "authorization" is, therefore, merely a statement of the policy of the present Congress. Whether it will be carried out depends on the action of future Congresses.

It has been and will be the policy of the Administration to favor continued limitation of Naval armaments. It is my personal hope that the Naval Conference to be held in 1935 will extend all existing limitations and agree to further reductions.

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