

May 10, 1935

[Byrd Expedition]

FDR Speech File

0718

Reading Copy

Remarks of President to Admiral
Byrd and Antarctic Explorers upon
their return to U.S.

May 10, 1935

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Original
Personal file*

May 10, 1935.

ADMIRAL BYRD:

I welcome you and your comrades on your return to the United States.

I do this with a sense of high privilege and for two very good reasons.

The first is because of the close association and deep friendship which has existed between you and me for many long years.

The second is because once more you have completed a successful expedition for the gain of human knowledge and the furtherance of the progress of civilization.

It is no small thing to have filled in another large portion of the map of the world which hitherto had remained a blank. It is an equally great achievement to have added valuable information to at least twenty-two separate Sciences.

I have been especially interested in the meteorological data obtained by you and your comrades in that Antarctic Continent in which storms and weather changes originate and make themselves later felt in many largely inhabited areas.

To have carried these ship comrades to a dangerous outpost, to have developed your exploratory and scientific work through many months, under the most trying conditions, and to have brought them all safely home to their country and to their families, is an achievement of which the whole Nation is proud.

And so I salute you and your comrades and extend to all of you, in behalf of the American people, a hearty WELCOME HOME.

Franklin Roosevelt
(original)

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
IN GREETING REAR ADMIRAL RICHARD E. BYRD
AND HIS ANTARCTIC CO-EXPLORERS
UPON THEIR RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES
May 10, 1935

I welcome you and your comrades on your return to the United States.

I do this with a sense of high privilege and for two very good reasons.

The first is because of the close association and deep friendship which has existed between you and me for many long years.

The second is because once more you have completed a successful expedition for the gain of human knowledge and the furtherance of the progress of civilization.

It is no small thing to have filled in another large portion of the map of the world which hitherto had remained a blank. It is an equally great achievement to have added valuable information to at least twenty-two separate sciences.

I have been especially interested in the meteorological data obtained by you and your comrades in that Antarctic Continent in which storms and weather changes originate and make themselves later felt in many largely inhabited areas.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underlining indicates words extemporaneously added to the previously prepared reading copy text. Words in parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

I believe you are entitled to know the
the United States.
I do this with a sense of high privilege and
two very good reasons.
The first is because of the close association and
long friendship which has existed between you and me for
many long years.
The second is because you have conducted
a successful expedition for the gain of human knowledge and
the betterment of the progress of civilization.
It is no small thing to have filled in another
large portion of the map of the world which history has
marked a blank. It is an equally great contribution to
have added reliable information to at least twenty-two new
great unknowns.
I have been especially interested in the various
logical data obtained by you and your comrades in that last
expedition in which storms and weather changed every
hour and your brave men fell in many lonely spots
of the earth.

To have carried these ship comrades to a dangerous outpost, to have developed your exploratory and scientific work through many months, under the most trying conditions, and to have brought them all safely home to their country and to their families, is an achievement of which the whole Nation is proud.

And so I salute you and your comrades and extend to all of you, in behalf of the American people, a hearty welcome home.

May 10, 1935

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT IN GREETING REAR ADMIRAL RICHARD
E. BYRD AND HIS ANTARCTIC CO-EXPLORERS UPON THEIR RETURN TO THE
UNITED STATES, MAY 10, 1935.

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ADMIRAL BYRD:

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And so I salute you and your comrades and extend to all of you, in behalf of the American people, a hearty WELCOME HOME.