

November 1937

[Thanksgiving Day Proclamation]

FDR Speech File

1103

November 6, 1937

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Respectfully referred to the Acting
Director of the Bureau of the Budget for
reconsentation to the President.

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x 79
x 161

M. H. McINTYRE
Secretary to the President

lm

Draft of Thanksgiving Proclamation for 1937.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 3, 1927

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS LE HAND:

Here is a suggested draft for the President's Thanksgiving Proclamation. The pressure for this is already evident and the sooner the President can give it his attention, the better it will be. I will appreciate anything you can do to expedite.

STEPHEN EARLY

THANKSGIVING DAY -- 1937

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, hereby designate Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of November 1937 as a day of national thanksgiving.

The custom of observing a day of public thanksgiving began in Colonial times and has been given the sanction of national observance through many years. It is in keeping with all of our traditions that we, even as our fathers in olden days, give humble and hearty thanks for the bounty and the goodness of Divine Providence.

The harvests of our fields have been abundant and many men and women have been given the blessing of stable employment.

A period unhappily marked in many parts of the world by strife and threats of war finds our people enjoying the blessing of peace. We have no selfish designs against other nations.

We have been fortunate in devoting our energies and our resources to constructive purposes and useful works. We have sought to fulfill our obligation to use our national heritage by common effort for the common good.

Let us, therefore, on the day appointed forego our usual occupations and, in our accustomed places of worship,

each in his own way, humbly acknowledge the mercy of God from whom comes every good and perfect gift.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the city of Washington this day
of November, in the year of
our Lord nineteen hundred
and thirty-seven, and
of the Independence
of the United States
of America the one
hundred and sixty-second.

By the President:

Secretary of State

State B.M.T.

THANKSGIVING DAY -- 1937

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, hereby designate Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of November 1937 as a day of national thanksgiving.

For many years a day in late November has been set aside for thanksgiving by the whole nation. This year we have ample cause for expressing our gratitude for the bounty and the goodness of Divine Providence. The harvests of our fields have been abundant and in our cities men and women have to an ever increasing extent found work worthy of their abilities. A period unhappily marked in many parts of the world by strife and threats of war finds our people enjoying the blessing of peace. As we have no aggressive designs on other nations, we have not been burdened with excessive armaments but have been able to devote our energies and our resources to constructive purposes and useful works. We have been given a better understanding of our obligation to use intelligently our national heritage and a fuller realization that its development by common effort should be turned to the common good. Withal has come

confirmation of our faith in the strength and value of constitutional government and democratic institutions.

Let us, therefore, on the day appointed each in his own way but together as a whole people, express with sincere hearts our thankfulness for the guidance and the blessings of Almighty God.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

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and thirty-seven,
and of the
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The custom of observing a day of public thanksgiving began in Colonial times and has been given the sanction of national observance through many years. It is in keeping with all of our traditions that we, even as our fathers in olden days, give humble and hearty thanks for the bounty and the goodness of Divine Providence. ^{It} The harvests of our fields have been abundant and ~~inexhaustible~~ ^{on a day} men and women have ~~in ever-increasing measure~~ ^{been} given the blessing of stable employment. ^{It} A period unhappily marked in many parts of the world by strife and threats of war finds our people enjoying the blessing of peace. ^{It} ~~We~~ ^{have} no ~~aggressive~~ ^{selfish} designs ^{against} other nations, ~~we have not been burdened with excessive armaments~~ ^{we} have been ~~able to~~ ^{participate in} devote our energies and our resources to constructive purposes and useful works. We have ~~been given a better understanding~~ ^{gained a fuller} of our obligation to use ~~intelligently~~ ^{our} national heritage ~~and a fuller realization that its development~~ ^{by common effort should be} ~~turned to~~ the common good. ^{for}

Let us, therefore, on the day appointed forego our usual occupations and, in our accustomed places of worship, ~~and~~ each in his own way, humbly acknowledge the mercy of God from whom comes every good and perfect gift.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the city of Washington this day
of November, in the year of
our Lord nineteen hundred
and thirty-seven, and
of the Independence
of the United States
of America the one
hundred and sixty-second.

By the President:

Secretary of State

NOV 6 1937

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Herewith is a proposed Executive Proclamation, sent to me by Mr. Marvin H. McIntyre, Secretary to the President, designating Thursday, November 25, 1937, as a day of national thanksgiving.

The White House has requested that if the draft of proclamation meets with your approval, it be forwarded by you directly to the President in order that action thereon may be expedited.

This proclamation has my approval as to form.

Very truly yours,

(SIGNED) D. W. HELL

Acting Director.

The Honorable,

The Attorney General.

Enclosure.

HWT/lt