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

**Series 2: “ You have nothing to fear but fear itself:” FDR
and the New Deal**

File No. 1204

1939 February 18

**Radio Address to Pan American
Hernando De Soto Exposition**

Suggested draft for the President's consideration in
the preparation of his radio greeting to the
Pan American Hernando De Soto Exposition at
Tampa, to be delivered Saturday afternoon,
February 18, 1939 (immediately after the
San Francisco speech) and broadcast over the
Gulf Region only.

President Borreson, Commissioner Dye and ~~and~~ friends of the Pan American
Hernando De Soto Exposition:

I like the very name of this Exposition. I am glad you
decided to link the name of the intrepid explorer, who reached these
shores 400 years ago, with the Pan American idea. There was nothing
narrow or restricted in the perspective of De Soto or of his fellow
townsmen, Balboa, discoverer of the Pacific Ocean. They and their
contemporaries drew their ideas from a ~~wide~~ ~~indiscriminate~~ vision
~~of~~ of a New World; ~~and~~ the domains they claimed for their Sovereign
were heroic in geographic extent, ~~limited only by the imagination of~~
~~the dawn of a new era. So today we commemorate Hernando De Soto~~
as one of the first Pan Americans.

The spirit of Pan Americanism happily is coming more
and more to dominate the thoughts and aspirations and the actions of
all of the diverse peoples and cultures which comprise the three
Americas, - ~~North, Central, and South~~. It is the certain and unfailing

safeguard of our inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Although the peoples of the New World are of many origins, they are united in a common aspiration to defend and maintain the ~~free government~~ ^{of the} way of life. That way of life is instinctive in all the peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

To show our faith in democracy, we have made the policy of the good neighbor the corner stone of our foreign relations. No other policy would be consistent with our ideas and our ideals. In the fulfilment of this policy we purpose to heed the ancient Scriptural admonition not to move our neighbor's landmarks; ~~not to encroach on his rights and bounds~~. We desire by every legitimate means to promote freedom in

trade and travel and in the exchange of cultural ideas among nations. We seek no territorial expansion; ~~we do not covet~~ we are not covetous of our neighbor's goods; we shall cooperate in every proposal honestly put forward to limit armaments; we abhor the appeal to physical force except to repulse aggression; but we say to all the world that in the Western Hemisphere -- in the three Americas -- the institutions of democracy -- government with the consent of the governed -- must and shall be maintained.

This exposition is another link in the long chain of that chain of brotherhood.

(Center) STATEMENTS FILE

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE PAN AMERICAN HERNANDO DE SOTO EXPOSITION
~~at Tampa~~ DELIVERED FROM KEY WEST, Florida
FEBRUARY 18, 1939, 3.45 P.M., E.S.T.

(4)
at Tampa

President Brorein, Commissioner Dye and my friends
of the Pan American Hernando De Soto Exposition:

I like the very name of this Exposition. I am glad you
decided to link the name of the intrepid explorer, who reached
these shores 400 years ago, with the Pan American idea. There
was nothing narrow or restricted in the perspective of De Soto
or of his fellow townsman, Balboa, discoverer of the Pacific Ocean.
They and their contemporaries drew their ideas from a vision
of a New World. The domains they claimed for their Sovereign
were heroic in geographic extent. Their imagination was
fitted to the dawn of a new era. So today we commemorate
(Hernando) De Soto as one of the first Pan Americans.

The spirit of Pan Americanism happily is coming more and
more to dominate the thoughts and aspirations and the actions
of all of the diverse peoples and cultures which comprise the
three Americas. It is the certain and unfailing safeguard of

our inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Although the peoples of the New World are of many origins, they are united in a common aspiration to defend and maintain the self-governing way of life. That way of life is instinctive in all the peoples of the Western Hemisphere,

To show our faith in democracy, we have made the policy of the good neighbor the corner stone of our foreign relations. No other policy would be consistent with our ideas and our ideals. In the fulfilment of this policy we ~~desire~~ to heed the ancient Scriptural admonition not to move our neighbor's landmarks, not to encroach on his metes and bounds.

We desire by every legitimate means to promote freedom in trade and travel and in the exchange of cultural ideas among nations. We seek no territorial expansion, we are not covetous of our neighbor's goods; we shall cooperate in every proposal honestly put forward to limit armaments; we abhor the appeal

to physical force except to repulse aggression; but we say
to all the world that in the Western Hemisphere -- in the
three Americas -- the institutions of democracy -- government
with the consent of the governed -- must and shall be
maintained.

and so *in Santa*
A) This Exposition is another link in the forging of that
chain of brotherhood.

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HOLD FOR RELEASE

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CAUTION: The following address of the President to be delivered by radio from Key West, Florida, in connection with the Pan American Hernando de Soto Exposition at Tampa, Florida, is for release in editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets not earlier than 3:45 P.M., E.S.T., February 18th, 1939.

NOTE: Please safeguard against premature release.

William D. Hassett.

President Brorin, Commissioner Dye and my friends of the Pan American Hernando De Soto Exposition:

I like the very name of this Exposition. I am glad you decided to link the name of the intrepid explorer, who reached these shores 400 years ago, with the Pan American idea. There was nothing narrow or restricted in the perspective of De Soto or of his fellow townsman, Balboa, discoverer of the Pacific Ocean. They and their contemporaries drew their ideas from a vision of a New World. The domains they claimed for their Sovereign were heroic in geographic extent. Their imagination was fitted to the dawn of a new era. So today we commemorate Hernando De Soto as one of the first Pan Americans.

The spirit of Pan Americanism happily is coming more and more to dominate the thoughts and aspirations and the actions of all of the diverse peoples and cultures which comprise the three Americas. It is the certain and unfailing safeguard of our inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Although the peoples of the New World are of many origins, they are united in a common aspiration to defend and maintain the self-governing way of life. That

way of life is instinctive in all the peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

To show our faith in democracy, we have made the policy of the good neighbor the corner stone of our foreign relations. No other policy would be consistent with our ideas and our ideals. In the fulfilment of this policy we purpose to heed the ancient Scriptural admonition not to move our neighbor's landmarks, not to encroach on his metes and bounds.

We desire by every legitimate means to promote freedom in trade and travel and in the exchange of cultural ideas among nations. We seek no territorial expansion, we are not covetous of our neighbor's goods; we shall cooperate in every proposal honestly put forward to limit armaments; we abhor the appeal to physical force except to repulse aggression; but we say to all the world that in the Western Hemisphere -- in the three Americas -- the institutions of democracy -- government with the consent of the governed -- must and shall be maintained.

This Exposition is another link in the forging of that chain of brotherhood.

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE PAN AMERICAN HERNANDO DE SOTO EXPOSITION
AT TAMPA DELIVERED FROM KEY WEST
FEBRUARY 18, 1939

President Brorein, Commissioner Dye and my friends of
the Pan American Hernando De Soto Exposition:

I like the very name of this Exposition. I am glad you
decided to link the name of the intrepid explorer, who reached
these shores 400 years ago, with the Pan American idea. There
was nothing narrow or restricted in the perspective of De Soto
or of his fellow townsman, Balboa, discoverer of the Pacific Ocean.
They and their contemporaries drew their ideas from a vision
of a New World. The domains they claimed for their Sovereign
were heroic in geographic extent. Their imagination was
fitted to the dawn of a new era. So today we commemorate
Hernando De Soto as one of the first Pan Americans.

The spirit of Pan Americanism happily is coming more and
more to dominate the thoughts and aspirations and the actions
of all of the diverse peoples and cultures which comprise the
three Americas. It is the certain and unfailing safeguard of

our inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Although the peoples of the New World are of many origins, they are united in a common aspiration to defend and maintain the self-governing way of life. That way of life is instinctive in all the peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

To show our faith in democracy, we have made the policy of the good neighbor the corner stone of our foreign relations. No other policy would be consistent with our ideas and our ideals. In the fulfilment of this policy we purpose to heed the ancient Scriptural admonition not to move our neighbor's landmarks, not to encroach on his metes and bounds.

We desire by every legitimate means to promote freedom in trade and travel and in the exchange of cultural ideas among nations. We seek no territorial expansion, we are not covetous of our neighbor's goods; we shall cooperate in every proposal honestly put forward to limit armaments; we abhor the appeal to physical force except to repulse aggression; but we say to all the world that in the Western Hemisphere -- in the three Americas --

the institutions of democracy -- government with the consent of
the governed -- must and shall be maintained.

This Exposition is another link in the forging of that
chain of brotherhood.

Franklin D. Roosevelt
Original writing copy, used
in autograph at Key West

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
To the Pan American Hernando De Soto Exposition at Tampa
Delivered from Key West, Florida
February 19, 1939, 3.45 P. M., E. S. T.

PRESIDENT BROREIN, COMMISSIONER DYE AND MY FRIENDS
OF THE PAN AMERICAN HERNANDO DE SOTO EXPOSITION:

I like the very name of this Exposition. I am glad that you decided to link the name of the intrepid explorer, who reached these shores 400 years ago, with the Pan American idea. There was nothing narrow or restricted in the perspective of De Soto or of his fellow townsman, Balboa, the discoverer of the Pacific Ocean. They and their contemporaries drew their ideas from a vision of a New World. The domains they claimed for their Sovereign were heroic in geographic extent. Their imagination was fitted to the dawn of a new era. And so today we commemorate (Hernando) De Soto as one of the first Pan Americans.

The spirit of Pan Americanism happily is coming more and more to dominate the thoughts and aspirations and the actions of all of the diverse peoples and cultures which comprise the three Americas. It is the certain and unfailing safeguard of our inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Although the peoples of the New World are of many origins, they are united in a common aspiration to defend and maintain the self-governing way of life. That way of life is instinctive in all the peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

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.

To show our faith in democracy, we have made the policy of the good neighbor the corner stone of our foreign relations. No other policy would be consistent with our ideas and our ideals. In the fulfilment of this policy we purpose to heed the ancient Scriptural admonition not to move our neighbor's landmarks, not to encroach on his metes and bounds.

We desire by every legitimate means to promote freedom in trade and travel and in the exchange of cultural ideas among nations. We seek no territorial expansion, we are not covetous of our neighbor's goods; we shall cooperate in every proposal honestly put forward to limit armaments; we abhor the appeal to physical force except to repulse aggression; but we say to all the world that in the Western Hemisphere -- in the three Americas -- the institutions of democracy -- government with the consent of the governed -- must and shall be maintained.

And so this Exposition in Tampa is another link in the forging of that chain of brotherhood.