

September 8, 1939

[Proclamation of National Emergency]

FDR Speech File

1242

Quoted in P.C.# 577 9-8-39 48

W ( PROCLAIMING A NATIONAL EMERGENCY IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
OBSERVANCE, SAFEGUARDING, AND ENFORCEMENT OF NEUTRALITY  
AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE WITHIN  
THE LIMITS OF PEACE-TIME AUTHORIZATIONS

8 BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS a proclamation issued by me on September 5, 1939,  
proclaimed the neutrality of the United States in the war now  
unhappily existing between certain nations; and

WHEREAS this state of war imposes on the United States  
certain duties with respect to the proper observance, safeguard-  
ing, and enforcement of such neutrality, and the strengthening of  
the national defense within the limits of peace-time authoriza-  
tions; and

C WHEREAS measures required at this time call for the exercise  
of only a limited number of the powers granted in a national emer-  
gency:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the  
United States of America, do proclaim that a national emergency  
exists in connection with and to the extent necessary for the  
proper observance, safeguarding, and enforcing of the neutrality  
of the United States and the strengthening of our national de-  
fense within the limits of peace-time authorizations. Specific  
directions and authorizations will be given from time to time  
for carrying out these two purposes.

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

DOMY at the City of Washington this                    day of  
September, in the  
year of our Lord  
nineteen hundred  
and thirty-nine,  
and of the Inde-  
pendence of the  
United States of  
America the one hun-  
dred and sixty-fourth.

By the President:

Secretary of State.