

November 6, 1940

[Leaving Hyde Park for Washington]

FDR Speech File

1342

INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT,  
HYDE PARK STATION,  
November 6, 1940, 11:05 P.M.

It is awfully sweet of you to come out tonight. I had a suspicion that something was going to happen because I got a telephone call from the office in Poughkeepsie, from the radio people, to please not get here at eleven, to make it eleven five.

As you said, I wish Eleanor were here tonight, but she isn't. She went on to Washington this afternoon. We get back tomorrow when I think there is to be a party there of some neighbors of ours -- in a city of six hundred thousand people, a city that I know in the old days in 1913. When I went down there then Washington was a small place, about two hundred thousand. It is an interesting fact that today it is three times as big.

When you get a chance, come down and see the National Capital and, incidentally, come in and see the White House because you have got another four years in which you know that your neighbor is living in it. But I can also tell you I'd much rather live here.

Wait till this goes by. (Referring to freight train)

You know, I could preach a sermon on that train, not only because about 95% of the Brotherhoods voted for me yesterday but also because in the last few weeks when I have been doing a little traveling I have noticed that the freight trains are longer and they are more frequent than for a great many years in our history.

Of course, if I had gone on and campaigned longer, I might have used that as an example of this dreadful depression that we have heard so much about.

I do think we are feeling better after yesterday. I understand that there were some people around Hyde Park who sat up last night just as late as I did. I understand, too, that some of them telephoned to their very rabid neighbors on the other side and got them out of bed at four A. M.

It is good to see you all. You know, there is always a silver lining in every cloud. Because of things down in Washington, I don't believe, as far as I can prophesy two and a half weeks ahead, that I will be able to go down to Farm Springs, Georgia, for my customary Thanksgiving with the patients down there because it is about twenty-four hours out of Washington. Well, that will give me a chance to come up on the 21st of November -- the new Thanksgiving Day -- to come up here for a few days rest, so I will see many of you at that time.

Many thanks and I hope you will get a good long sleep -- as I will. Good night.

-----  
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.

# STATEMENTS FILE

INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT,  
HYDE PARK STATION,  
November 6, 1940, 11.05 PM

(18)

It is awfully sweet of you to come out tonight. I had a suspicion that something was going to happen because I got a telephone call from the office in Poughkeepsie, from the radio people, to please ~~get~~ not get here at ~~11~~ eleven, to make it eleven five.

As you said, I wish Eleanor were here tonight, but she isn't. She went on to Washington this afternoon. We get back tomorrow when there is to be a party there of some neighbors of ours — a city of six hundred thousand people, a city that I knew in the old days in 1913. When I went down there then Washington was a small place, about two hundred thousand. It is an interesting fact that today it is three times as big.

When you get a chance, come down and see the National Capital and, incidentally, come in and see the White House because you have got another four years in which you know that your neighbor is living in it. But I can also tell you I'd much rather live here.

Wait till this goes by. (Referring to freight train)

You know, I could preach a sermon on that train, not only because about 85% of the Brotherhoods voted for me yesterday but also because in the last few weeks when I have been doing a little traveling I have noticed that the freight trains are longer and they are more frequent than ~~at~~ for a great many years in our history.

Of course, if I had gone on and campaigned longer, I might have used that as an example of this dreadful depression that we have heard so much about.

I do think we are feeling better after yesterday. I understand that there were some people around Hyde Park who sat up last night just as late as I did. I understand, too, that some of them telephoned to their very rabid neighbors on the other side and got them out of bed at four A.M.

It is good to see you all. You know, there is always a silver lining to every cloud. Because of things down in Washington, I don't believe, as far as I can prophesy two and a half weeks ahead, that I will be able to go down to Warm Springs, Georgia, for my customary Thanksgiving with the patients down there because it is about twenty-four hours out of Washington. Well, that will give me a chance to come up on the 21st of November -- the new Thanksgiving Day -- to come up here for a few ~~more~~ days rest, so I will see many of you at that time.

Many thanks and I hope you will get a good long sleep -- as I will. Good night.

\*\*\*\*\*

CONFIDENTIAL

Trip of the President  
-to-  
Hyde Park, N. Y.

Sunday, November 3, 1940.

Lv. Washington....(Pennsylvania Railroad)....11:00 p.m.

Monday, November 4, 1940.

Ar. Hyde Park, N.Y.....(N.Y.C.R.R.).....9:30 a.m.

Members of the party:

The President.

Hon. Marvin M. McIntyre,  
Secretary to the President.  
Admiral Ross T. McIntire, U.S.N.  
Miss M. A. LeLand.  
Mr. William D. Bassett.  
Miss Grace Tully.  
Mr. Henry M. Kanneo.  
Miss Roberta Barrows.  
Mrs. Dorothy Brady.  
Miss Toinette Backholder.  
Mrs. Ruthjane Sumelt.  
Miss Grace Earle.  
Mr. Dewey S. Long.  
Mr. Leo A. de Waard.

Secret Service Agents.

Newspaper Correspondents:

Mr. George E. Durno,	International News.
Mr. Thomas F. Reynolds,	United Press.
Mr. Douglas B. Cornell,	Associated Press.
Mr. John C. Henry,	Washington Star.
Mr. Walter Trohan,	Chicago Tribune.
Mr. Charles B. Hurd,	New York Times.
Mr. Bruce Pinter,	New York Herald Tribune.
Mr. Jack Purcell,	New York Daily News.
Mr. Felix Belair,	Time, Inc.
Mr. W. H. Kylander,	Pittsburgh Post Gazette.
Mr. Charles A. Ellis,	Philadelphia Inquirer.
Mr. R. L. Hill,	Philadelphia Bulletin.
Mr. C. C. von Knoblauch,	Transradio News.

Broadcasting Representatives:

Mr. Carleton D. Smith,	N. B. C.
Mr. John Charles Daly,	C. B. S.
Mr. Clyde Hunt,	C. B. S.
Mr. Keith Williams,	N. B. C.
Mr. Grenville Klink,	C. B. S.

Newsreel Representatives:

Mr. James Lyons,	Universal Newsreel.
Mr. Hugo Johnson,	Paramount News.
Mr. Charles Mack,	M-C-L-News of the Day.
Mr. George Dorsey,	Fathe News.
Mr. Ben Box,	Fox Lovietone News.
Mr. Alfred Gold,	Fox Lovietone News.

Photographers:

Mr. George Skadding,	Associated Press.
Mr. John S. Thompson,	Acme.
Mr. Joseph Jamieson,	Times Wide-World.

Telegraph Representatives:

Mr. C. S. Linkins,	Western Union.
Mr. T. B. Bowen,	Postal.