

November 1941

[Civilian Defense Week]

FDR Speech File

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7/11/41

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMO FOR MR. EARLY:

The President has agreed to
make a news-reel for Civilian
Defense week. Mr. Corrington Gill
will get in touch with you about
the details.

E.R.

Hayden Park
OK

Robert Collyer
Newsreel Section, Division of Information, OEM
Room 2304-6 Temporary #2.
National Defense 750-1



1 Newsreel
Camera
output
make it
for all

I have proclaimed November 11 to November 16 as Civilian Defense Week, and the Governors of the several States are joining me in this proclamation. The thought behind this observance is the part the civilian must play in the tremendous program required by our national defense.

1 It is not enough that our Army and our Navy are daily growing stronger for the protection of our national life. Each and every citizen, as a civilian, must do his share for defense.

2 In our daily lives, we must halt the waste and unnecessary use of critical materials required for defense. We must work longer hours to produce the munitions required to defeat Hitler. And each of us must be trained in some task that is essential to our total defense.

Civilian defense is your own personal opportunity. Join your neighbors in your town to serve your country.

3 There is more than enough for everyone to do in Civilian Defense. And with each of us doing his share, we shall leave no doubt in anybody's mind that we are and intend to remain strong and united. We shall preserve that genuine American way that distinguishes our living from the ~~spurious~~ *spurious* *paper* *showing* *followed* *by* *the* *united* *by* *the* *dictators* *of* *the* *world*.

For makeup of Wed., Nov. 5, 1941.

Draft of Civilian Defense Week statement for the President.

To be recorded by the newsreels before Tues. night, Nov. 4.

I have proclaimed November 11 to November 16 as Civilian Defense Week, and the Governors of ~~some~~ ^{the} several States are joining me in this proclamation. The thought behind this observance is the part the civilian must play in the tremendous program required by ^{our national defense} the present unlimited national emergency. [It is a period for all Americans to ponder the responsibilities that go hand in hand with their rights and privileges as citizens of the United States.]

It is not enough that our Army and our Navy are daily growing stronger for the protection of our ^{national life} territorial integrity. Each and every citizen, as a civilian, must do his share for defense. [For civilian defense does not mean simply that we are in imminent military danger. It means more than that.]

[We cannot say that bombs will drop on our people and our homes tomorrow, or the day after tomorrow. But we, all of us, are going to see to it that we make it very, very difficult for anyone who tries to bomb us. Hitler will try. [He's out to get us.] We have his blueprint for the conquest of America. Destroying that blueprint is going to keep us busy every day from now on. There are a multitude of things that we can do to wreck Hitler's plans.]

In our daily lives, we must halt the waste ^{and unnecessary use of critical materials required for defense} that makes us the most extravagant nation on earth. [Save the things that make your home comfortable and American. Protect them from premature breakdown.] [Do without non-essentials.] [The German people are doing without, because Hitler has promised them the comforts we have on condition that they steal them from Europe and ourselves.]

We must work longer hours to produce the munitions (over)

required to defeat Hitler. And each
of us must be trained in some task
that is essential to our total defense.

Civilian defense is your own personal ~~problem~~ ^{opportunity} [Get into it.]

Join your neighbors [at the Defense Council] in your town [and find out how
to] [you can] serve your country.

There is more than enough for everyone to do in Civilian defense.

And with each of us doing his share, we shall leave no doubt in anybody's
mind [any where] that we are and intend to remain, strong, [secure] and
united. We shall preserve that genuine American way that distinguishes
our living from the spurious imitations [being peddled ^{of} by] the dictators.

Handwritten scribbles at the top left of the page.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear]
[unclear]:

Mr. [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
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[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

[unclear]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Shepherd

7-4-41

*W. B. ...
Committee*

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... 26*

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J.H.

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

NOVEMBER 4, 1941

C A U T I O N :- The following statement by the President must be held in confidence until released.

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N O T E :- Released to editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets not earlier than 9.00 P.M., E.S.T., Tuesday, November 4, 1941.

The same release of the text of the statement also applies to radio announcers and news commentators.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

W. D. HASSETT

I have proclaimed November 11 to November 16 as Civilian Defense Week, and the Governors of the several States are joining me in this proclamation. The thought behind this observance is the part the civilian must play in the tremendous program required by our national defense.

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In our daily lives, we must halt the waste and unnecessary use of critical materials required for defense. We must work longer hours to produce the munitions required to defeat Hitler. And each of us must be trained in some task that is essential to our total defense.

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There is more than enough for everyone to do in Civilian Defense. And with each of us doing his share, we shall leave no doubt in anybody's mind that we are and intend to remain strong and united. We shall preserve that genuine American way that distinguishes our living from the pagan slavery proposed by the would-be dictators of the world.

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