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

Series 3: “The Four Freedoms” and FDR in World War II

File No. 1411

1942 January 30

Birthday Anniversary

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

JANUARY 30, 1942

To all of you who are making tonight's celebrations such a success, I want to say -- very simply -- thank you.

In the midst of world tragedy -- in the midst of sorrow, suffering, destruction and death -- it is natural for most of us to say even on a birthday or a feast day: "Isn't the word 'happy' a bit out of place just now?"

That was perhaps my own predominant thought this morning. Yet the day itself and the evening have brought with them a great reassurance which comes from the deep knowledge that ^{most of} this world is still ruled by the spirit of Faith, and Hope, and Charity.

Even in time of war those nations, which still hold to the old ideals of Christianity and democracy, are carrying on services to humanity which have little or no relationship to torpedoes or guns or bombs. That means very definitely that we have an abiding faith in the future -- a definite expectancy that we are going to win through to a peace which will bring with it continuing progress and substantial success in our efforts for the security and not for the destruction of humanity.

Our enemies must at this moment be wondering -- if they are permitted to know what goes on -- how we are finding the time during the grim business of war to work for the cause of little children. For, under the enemies' kind of government, there is no time for or interest in such things -- no time for ideals; no time for decency; no interest in the weak and the afflicted to whom we in this country have dedicated this day.

Stop

~~It would not be strictly true to say that our enemies pay no attention to health or the relief of need. But the difference is this: with them it all comes from the top. It is done only on order from the Ruler. It is carried out by uniformed servants of the Ruler. It is based, in great part, on direction, compulsion and fear. And the Rulers are concerned not with human beings as human beings but as mere slaves of the state or as cannon fodder.~~

The United Nations of the world continue, however, to put these things on a very different basis. We support our tasks of humanity in time of war, as in time of peace, through the same old

system of telling the public of the great need, and asking for the voluntary help of men, women and children to fill it.

The fight against the disease of infantile paralysis has proven beyond doubt that the way democracy works -- the voluntary way -- is efficient and successful. (It is only ten years ago that this country undertook, through wholly private contributions, to organize every locality to carry on this great effort, not for a year or two, but for all the future years -- so long as the fight can help humanity.)

Today, as in these many years past, we continue this great crusade -- made possible not by a few large gifts but by the dimes and the dollars of the people themselves.

This year there is only one difference proposed for the use of these gifts. The Trustees of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis have told me that I can make the special announcement that the authorized County Chapters throughout the Union may use such portion of their funds as is ^{share of this year's} ~~available~~ ^{necessary} to give

special assistance to the children of any of our soldiers and
~~sailors who fall~~ ^{and marines - their children who may} victim to infantile paralysis. That will be good news and a well-deserved boon to the fathers who are serving their Flag on land and on sea in many parts of the world, and to the mothers who have been left at home to do their brave part -- to carry on.

I am made additionally happy by the fact that in many of our Sister Republics of the Americas, parties and celebrations are being held today to provide needed help to the children in those lands.

For all these reasons I am very sure that this day has not been wasted -- that it has been a useful day. For all that you have done, I am very grateful.

For we have all been helpful in lifting some of the clouds of unhappiness and anxiety which have settled down on many of our citizens. In that realization I am sure we shall have added strength to face the days of trial which ~~are~~ ^{lie} ahead until peace with victory is assured.

The lives of all of us are now dedicated to working
and fighting, and, if need be, dying for the cause of a better future --
^{will} ~~the~~ the future that belongs ~~to~~ ^{to} little children of our beloved
land.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Via reading copy

January 30, 1942

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
DELIVERED ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 60th
BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY
January 30, 1942
Approx. 11.20 P.M.

To all of you who are making tonight's celebrations such a success, I want to say -- very simply -- thank you.

In the midst of world tragedy -- in the midst of sorrow, suffering, and destruction and death -- it is natural for most of us to say even on a birthday or a feast day: "Isn't the word 'happy' a bit out of place just now?"

That was perhaps my own predominant thought this morning. Yet the day itself and the evening have brought with them a great reassurance (which) that comes from the deep knowledge that most of this world is still ruled by the spirit of Faith, and Hope, and Charity.

Even in time of war those nations, which still hold to the old ideals of Christianity and democracy, are carrying on services to humanity which have little or no relationship to torpedoes or guns or bombs. That means very definitely that we have an abiding faith in the future -- a definite expectancy that we are going to win through to a peace (which) that will bring with it continuing progress and substantial success in our efforts for the security and not for the destruction of humanity.

Our enemies must at this moment be wondering -- if they are permitted to know what goes on -- how we are finding the time during the grim business of war to work for the cause of little children. For, under the enemies' kind of government, there is no time (for or) -- there is no interest in such things -- no time for ideals; no time for decency; no interest in the weak and the afflicted to whom we in this country have

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.

... now comes -- 45, In view -- would have a more effective source to form sort of -- regular basis to which we all have got to go to save not fraction of \$1 -- goes on underlined line and ends in two did a "good" time out there -- goes back you can't do no

from that

for instance did expand industry and we expect our red
administration from a very dire report and believe not too late to do all it
duty or otherwise to form sort underlined your sort last time any kind of

effort but you can't do stripe sort of policy
of ours on this kind same question would you do us a favor

when you are engaged on your own organization to speak
that about as early as possible of organization or in effect your
sort -- expect sort of like position as well as our organization you know
only involved doing sort aspects like as well as we had yesterday started
with the sort executive department has emerged yourself if you could tell

organization to accomplish and you are advance will not
long you will tell -- organization so taking care to take certain and
very difficult sort of positions and so on -- in every field sort of better
and more poor -- probably will be some sort of not good of time to mention
on in itself -- (about) sort of almost connecting numbers columns
on process and sort of parallel not said on -- would have all relevant
and sufficient right of no more or less than sort one class sort of

dedicated this day.

(It would not be strictly true to say that our enemies pay no attention to health or the relief of need. But the difference is this: with them it all comes from the top. It is done only on order from the Ruler. It is carried out by uniformed servants of the Ruler. It is based, in great part, on direction, compulsion and fear. And the Rulers are concerned not with human beings as human beings but as mere slaves of the state -- or as cannon fodder.)

The United Nations of the world, of whom we are part, continue (however) to put these things on a very different basis. We support our tasks of humanity in time of war, as in time of peace, through the same old system of telling the public of the great need, and asking for the voluntary help of men, women and children to fill it.

The fight against the disease of infantile paralysis has proven beyond doubt that the way democracy works -- the voluntary way -- is efficient and is successful. (It is only ten years ago that this country undertook, through wholly private contributions, to organize every locality to carry on this great effort, not for a year or two, but for all the future years -- so long as the fight can help humanity.)

Today, as in these many years past, we continue this great crusade -- made possible not by a few large gifts but by the dimes and the dollars of the people themselves.

This year there is only one difference proposed for the use of these gifts, a difference that I think you will all approve of. The Trustees of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis have told me that I can make the special announcement that the authorized County Chapters throughout the Union may use such portion of their share of this year's funds

as is necessary to give special assistance to the children of any of our soldiers and sailors and marines -- their children who may fall victim to infantile paralysis. That, I hope, will be good news and a well-deserved boon to the fathers who are serving their Flag on land and on sea in many parts of the world, and good news to the mothers who have been left at home to do their brave part -- to carry on.

And I am made additionally happy by the fact that in many of our Sister Republics of the Americas, in many parts of the great continent of which we are a part, parties and celebrations are being held today to provide needed help to the children in those lands.

For all these reasons I am very sure that this day has not been wasted -- that it has been a useful day. For all that you have done, I am very grateful.

For we have all been helpful in lifting some of the clouds of unhappiness and anxiety (which have) that had settled down on many of our (citizens) people. In that realization I am sure we shall have added strength to face the days of trial (which) that lie ahead until peace with victory is assured.

The lives of all of us are now dedicated to working and fighting, and, if need be, dying for the cause of a better future -- (the) that future that will belong(s) to (our) the little children of our beloved land.

File

HOLD FOR RELEASE

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FOR THE PRESS

January 30, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL RELEASED

CAUTION: This radio address of the President to be delivered on the occasion of his 80th birthday anniversary MUST be held in confidence until released.

Release upon delivery.

NOTE: Care must be exercised to prevent premature publication.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

To all of you who are making tonight's celebrations such a success, I want to say — very simply — thank you.

In the midst of world tragedy — in the midst of sorrow, suffering, destruction and death — it is natural for most of us to say even on a birthday or a feast day: "Isn't the word 'happy' a bit out of place just now?"

That was perhaps my own predominant thought this morning. Yet the day itself and the evening have brought with them a great reassurance which comes from the deep knowledge that most of this world is still ruled by the spirit of Faith, and Hope, and Charity.

Even in time of war those nations, which still hold to the old ideals of Christianity and democracy, are carrying on services to humanity which have little or no relationship to torpedoes or guns or bombs. That means very definitely that we have an abiding faith in the future — a definite expectancy that we are going to win through to a peace which will bring with it continuing progress and substantial success in our efforts for the security and not for the destruction of humanity.

Our enemies must at this moment be wondering — if they are permitted to know what goes on — how we are finding the time during the grim business of war to work for the cause of little children. For, under the enemies' kind of government, there is no time for or interest in such things — no time for ideals; no time for decency; no interest in the weak and the afflicted to whom we in this country have dedicated this day.

It would not be strictly true to say that our enemies pay no attention to health or the relief of need. But the difference is this: with them it all comes from the top. It is done only on order from the Ruler. It is carried out by uniformed servants of the Ruler. It is based, in great part, on direction, compulsion and fear. And the Rulers are concerned not with human beings as human beings but as mere slaves of the state — or as cannon fodder.

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private contributions, to organize every locality to carry on this great effort, not for a year or two, but for all the future years — so long as the fight can help humanity.

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I am made additionally happy by the fact that in many of our Sister Republics of the Americas, parties and celebrations are being held today to provide needed help to the children in those lands.

For all these reasons I am very sure that this day has not been wasted — that it has been a useful day. For all that you have done, I am very grateful.

For we have all been helpful in lifting some of the clouds of unhappiness and anxiety which have settled down on many of our citizens. In that realization I am sure we shall have added strength to face the days of trial which lie ahead until peace with victory is assured.

The lives of all of us are now dedicated to working and fighting, and, if need be, dying for the cause of a better future — the future that belongs to our little children.

- - - -

Kurt Wright

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

JANUARY 30, 1942

To all of you who are making tonight's celebrations a real success, I want to say -- very simply -- thank you.

I have been wondering in the course of this Birthday of mine whether millions of other people in the country -- and indeed in many other lands -- are getting out of it all the same mental boost as I am. For in the midst of all the terrible things that are happening all over the world -- sorrow, suffering, destruction and death -- it is a natural tendency on the part of most of us to say on a birthday or a feast day "Isn't the word 'happy' a bit out of place just now?"

And yet, while that was perhaps my predominant thought this morning, the day itself and the evening have brought with them a sort of surge of compensation in the deeper knowledge of what this means in the long run.

The very fact that in time of war those nations, which still hold to the old ideals of Christianity and democracy, are carrying on services to humanity which have little or no relationship to torpedoes or guns or bombs, means very definitely that we have an abiding

faith in the future -- a definite expectancy that we are going to win through to a peace which will bring with it continuing progress in our efforts for the security and not the destruction of humanity.

Our enemies must at this moment be wondering, if they are permitted to know what goes on -- wondering how we are finding the time to work for the cause of little children. For, under their system, there is no time for such things -- no time for ideals; no time for decency; no time for the weak and the afflicted to whom we have dedicated this day.

It would not be strictly true to say that they pay no attention to health or the relief of need. But the difference is this: with them it all comes from the top. It is an order from the Ruler. It is carried out by uniformed servants of the Ruler. It is contributed to by direction, by compulsion and by fear.

Outside of that minority of the world's population, the United Nations of the world continue to put things in a very different case. We support our tasks of humanity in time of war, as in time of peace, through the old system of telling the need and asking the voluntary

help of men, women and children to fill it.

That system -- that incident of the working of a democracy -- does not spell the inefficiency with which democracy is so often charged, and the fight against Infantile Paralysis proves the point. It is only ten years since this country undertook, through private means, to organize itself in every locality to carry on a great effort, not for a year or two, but for all the future years just so long as the fight could do real good.

Today, as in many years past, we are carrying on this great crusade, made possible not by a few large gifts but by the dimes and the dollars of the people themselves.

This year there is only one difference proposed for the use of these gifts. The Trustees of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis have told me I could make the special announcement that the authorized County Chapters throughout the Union may use such portion of their funds as is advisable to give special assistance to the children of any of our soldiers and sailors who fall victim to Infantile Paralysis. That, we rightly believe, will be good news to the Fathers who are serving

their Flag on land and sea in many parts of the world, and to the Mothers who have been left at home to do their brave part -- to carry on.

And I am made happy, too, by the fact that in many of our Sister Republics of the Americas parties and celebrations are being held today for the giving of help to the children in those lands who need it.

For all these reasons I am very sure that this day has not been wasted -- that it has been a useful day. For these reasons I am very grateful. For these reasons the cloud on happiness for you and for me has been greatly lifted.



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→
the slaves of the state or as

Ⓐ p 3

The fight against ~~against~~ the ~~disease~~ disease of infantile paralysis has proved beyond doubt that ~~this~~ the way democracy works ~~in these matters~~ is efficient and successful.

voluntary

- the voluntary way -

faith in the future -- a definite expectancy that we are going to win through to a peace which will bring with it continuing progress in our efforts for the security and not the destruction of humanity.

Our enemies must at this moment be wondering if they are permitted to know what goes on -- [wondering] how during the grim business of war we are finding the time to work for the cause of little children. For, under ^{the enemies' kind of government} [their system], there is no time for or interest in such things -- no time for ideals; no time for decency; no time for the weak and the afflicted to whom we have dedicated this day.

It would not be strictly true to say that ^{our enemies} [they] ~~do~~ ^{in this country} pay no attention to health or the relief of need. But the difference is this: with them it all comes from the top. It is an order from the Ruler. It is carried out by uniformed servants of the Ruler. It is ^{done only on} ~~done, in great part, on~~ contributed to by direction, [by] compulsion and [by] fear. (B)

[Outside of that minority of the world's population,]
P The United Nations of the world continue to put ^{however these} things ^{basis.} ~~on~~ a very different ^{basis.} We support our tasks of humanity in time of war, as in time of peace, through the old ^{and} ~~public~~ ^{of the great} system of telling the need and asking for the voluntary

-3-

help of men, women and children to fill it.

[That system -- that incident of the working of a democracy -- does not spell the inefficiency with which democracy is so often charged, and the fight against Infantile Paralysis proves the point.] It is only ten years ^{after} since this country undertook, through private ^{philanthropic} contributions, to organize itself in every locality to carry on [a great] this great effort, not for a year or two, but for all the future years [just] so long as the fight could do real good. ^{here} Today, as in many years past, we [are carrying on]

Continue this great crusade, made possible not by a few large gifts but by the dimes and the dollars of the people themselves.

This year there is only one difference proposed for the use of these gifts. The Trustees of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis have told me ^{for I can} make the special announcement that the authorized County Chapters throughout the Union may use such portion of their funds as is advisable to give special assistance to the children of any of our soldiers and sailors who fall victim to Infantile Paralysis. That, we rightly believe, ^{and a most deserved boon} will be good news to the Fathers who are serving

their Flag on land and sea in many parts of the world, and
to the Mothers who have been left at home to do their brave
part -- to carry on.

And I am made happy ^{gloriously} [too,] by the fact that in many
of our Sister Republics of the Americas parties and cele-
brations are being held today [for the giving of] help to
the children in those lands [who need it.]

For all these reasons I am very sure that this day
has not been wasted -- that it has been a useful day. For ~~all~~
~~for you have done,~~ ⁱⁿ ~~these reasons~~ I am very grateful. For these reasons the
cloud on happiness for you and for me has been greatly
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AJB

(A)

and anxiety

For we have all been helpful in lifting
some of the clouds out of unhappiness, which
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B

The lives of all of us
are now dedicated to
working and fighting and
if need be dying for the
cause of a better future —
the future that belongs to
our little children.

FDR

From Keith Morgan.

My fellow countrymen. I am very happy tonight and in the name of America's children, ~~thank you all of you~~, I wish to tell you all how much this particular birthday celebration ^{means} ~~means~~ to me.

And from the bottom of my heart, my own thanks for this -- the most deeply satisfying birthday of all my life.

I am proud of America tonight -- proud to share with you the rare and priceless privilege of partnership in this great land that is the world's sanctuary of charity and humanity and freedom.

It must give our enemies pause as they watch America tonight -- as they see this nation of 130 millions of people tonight ... with our war production going ahead at the greatest speed in the history of the world ... but still not at the sacrifice of charity and humanity.

Our enemies must wonder. They must wonder how we find time, Because under their system, there is no time ... no time for ideals, no time for decency, no time for the weak and the afflicted to whom we have dedicated this day.

They have no time for such things -- they have had to rule out charity and decency and freedom and offer their peoples nothing

but treachery and human slavery.

Of course, as they so often do, they may explain our charity to themselves as evidence of sentimentality -- or softness. They may try to tell themselves that we are not hard enough or cruel enough or ruthless enough for the bitter struggle that lies ahead. The truth is that under our system we can build more guns and more tanks and more ships and more planes than they can under theirs.

We can do all these things -- we can win this war without sacrificing one ideal because our ideals are what unites us all. That is the lesson which the enemies of freedom might well take from America tonight. They have said that we can have no real unity because we are too many kinds of people, because we have no common heritage.

Tonight they can see an example of what unites us all -- here in this war against disease they can see our devotion to an ideal -- a devotion which in the broader war we are now waging translates itself into a love of freedom that is above a love of life. That is what unites us -- that is what serves notice on aggressors all over the world that in actual fact we are one kind of people -- the kind that believe in freedom and will die to preserve it.

For us tonight marks the passing of another great milestone in our Fight against Infantile Paralysis. This is the ninth birthday of mine in a row which you have made the occasion for raising funds to combat this enemy of our children.

Today, because of your efforts, this Fight is now carried on every hour of the day and night, 365 days of the year. Research has been broadened and intensified by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis while the county chapters of the Foundation from coast to coast now make certain that no victim of Infantile Paralysis is knowingly without the best of care and treatment.

I am happy to make a special announcement for the trustees of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. In order to make a still greater contribution to national defense and national morale, the trustees have authorized county chapters to use part of their funds to assist the dependents of any of our soldiers and sailors who fall victim to Infantile Paralysis.

Thus, this great and humane crusade -- made possible not by a few large gifts, but by the dimes and the dollars of the great mass of the people -- this splendid crusade goes triumphantly on.

And so -- on another birthday -- I thank you all for the finest present I could receive ... this reaffirming of our humanity at a time when we all are now pledged to defend it with our lives.

Dear Steve

O'Connor
After
Mr. Cross

Thanks for the wine. Am
hastening to get this off
to you tonight.

Keep well. You are working
under inhuman pressure
but try to get some re-
laxation.

As ever

Keith

48 State Chairmen
3000 County "
7000 Local "

The Motion Picture Theatres
" Legitimate theatres
The Labor Unions
The Employees of factories, offices
Federal, State, County, City Employees
The Railroads
" Buses
" Taxis
The Sports World
all kinds of birthday parties

dances, box socials, Rodeos,
Barbecues, Sports events,
quilting parties, spelling
bees, carnivals, in fact
every kind of American
activity

State chairman in most
places report expected in-
crease over last year which
was all time high.

Total raised last year \$104,460.53

Spirt of Country Toward
this Celebration as follows

1. Determination that the war fare
on the home front against
disease be not only carried
on but intensified
2. This Birthday gives everyone
opportunity to honor the
President and show him we
stand behind him 130,000,000
strong
3. That the unanimous celebrations
of this Diamond Jubilee
birthday anniversary will
have profound effect on the
people of the Countries abroad

BO'C
The White House
January 30, 1942

THANK YOU, KEITH MORGAN. AND THANKS, ALSO,
TO THE THOUSANDS OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE LABORED WITH
YOU IN THIS CAMPAIGN TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF THE
NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES TONIGHT, MEN
AND WOMEN HAVE MET IN OBSERVANCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S
BIRTHDAY -- A DAY WHICH HAS BECOME A SYMBOL OF OUR
DETERMINATION TO WIN THE FIGHT FOR OUR FREEDOM ON MANY
FRONTS. FOR WE HAVE MANY FREEDOMS.

AND ONE OF THOSE -- NOT YET FULLY ATTAINED --
IS FREEDOM FROM DISEASE. THAT FREEDOM WILL BE FINALLY
WON IN OUR RESEARCH LABORATORIES, THE BATTLEFIELDS OF
SCIENCE THAT HAVE KNOWN MANY VICTORIES BUT NEVER AN
ARMISTICE. AND THERE WILL BE NO ARMISTICE IN THE WAR

AGAINST

AGAINST MAN'S ILLS AS LONG AS THERE ARE FREE MEN AND
WOMEN TO ENCOURAGE AND TAKE PRIDE IN THIS WORK.

ALL OF US ARE BUSY TODAY WITH THE BATTLE
CRIES OF WAR -- "KEEP THEM FLYING!" "KEEP THEM SAILING!"
"KEEP THEM ROLLING!"

BUT WE HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN OUR BATTLE CRIES
OF PEACE -- "KEEP THEM LIVING!" "KEEP THEM HEALTHY!"
"KEEP THEM WALKING!"

THE DIMES AND THE DOLLARS CONTRIBUTED TO
THIS CAMPAIGN WHICH CLOSES TONIGHT WILL MAKE THE BIRTHDAYS
OF OUR CHILDREN HAPPIER -- AND SAFER.

PERHAPS IN YOUR OWN COMMUNITY THESE FUNDS
WILL CARE FOR SOME VICTIM OF INFANTILE PARALYSIS. IT
MAY BE A NEIGHBOR. IT MAY BE A FRIEND. PERHAPS YOU
WON'T EVEN KNOW THE BOY OR GIRL WHO'S HELPED. BUT
YOUR GIFT WILL HAVE DONE ITS PART.

IN

IN RESEARCH LABORATORIES THROUGHOUT THE NATION,
MEN AND WOMEN OF SCIENCE WILL CARRY ON THEIR WORK WITH
NEW COURAGE -- FOR THEY WILL KNOW THAT THE NATION STANDS
BEHIND THEM AND THAT THE JOYS OF LIFE AND LIVING HAVE NOT
BEEN ABANDONED TO THE MISERIES OF DEATH AND DYING.

IN REMEMBERING OUR BATTLE CRIES OF PEACE IN
THESE TIMES OF WAR WE TAKE A STEP FORWARD TOWARD A FINER
AND MORE LASTING VICTORY. FOR WE SHALL HAVE KEPT ALIVE
THE IDEALS AND THE IDEAS FOR WHICH WE ARE FIGHTING.

YOU WHO HAVE JOINED IN THIS CELEBRATION OF
THE PRESIDENT'S DIAMOND JUBILEE BIRTHDAY HAVE EXPRESSED,
WITH A SINGLE, NATIONAL VOICE, YOUR LOYALTY TO THOSE
FAITHS.

YOUR GIFTS HAVE SAID TO THE WORLD:
"WE ARE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE."
"WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT DAY
WHEN OUR CHILDREN WILL BE CARRYING ON IN

THE

THE AMERICAN TRADITION."

"WE ARE ACTING NOW SO THAT THEY WILL

BE STRONG AND ABLE."

A FEEBLE, UNCERTAIN OR FRIGHTENED NATION

COULD NOT DO THIS.

A NATION DEDICATED TO THE DARK PHILOSOPHIES

OF DESTRUCTION AND SLAVERY WOULD NOT DO THIS.

TONIGHT, IN MANY DARKENED CORNERS OF THE

GLOBE, THERE ARE MEN AND WOMEN WHO WHISPER A PRAYER OF

THANKFULNESS FOR THIS SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY OF DEMOCRACY'S

LEADER.

THERE ARE MEN ON DISTANT BATTLEFIELDS --

MEN ALOFT IN FIGHTING PLANES -- MEN RIDING THE EXPANSE

OF MANY SEAS -- WHO SAY IN THEIR HEARTS, "THANK GOD

THIS MAN LIVES AND FIGHTS WITH US."

BUT, PERHAPS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, THERE ARE

CHILDREN

CHILDREN YET UNBORN WHO WILL SAY, "DEMOCRACY GAVE ME A
CHANCE."

THROUGH THIS CELEBRATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S
BIRTHDAY, DEMOCRACY IS GIVING THE CHILDREN OF TODAY AND
TOMORROW A CHANCE TO LIVE -- AND RUN -- AND PLAY.

I AM PROUD TO PRESENT TO YOU NOW THE MAN
WHO HAS GIVEN HIS BIRTHDAY TO THE NATION, SO THAT
EVERY CHILD IN EVERY HOME TONIGHT MAY MARCH TO MANHOOD
AND WOMANHOOD WITHOUT A CRUTCH AND WITHOUT A LIMP.

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

INCORPORATED

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

BASIL O'CONNOR
PRESIDENT

January 29, 1942.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

I am enclosing herewith a copy
of my speech to be delivered from the White
House tomorrow night, so that you can have
it before you in connection with whatever
you are going to say.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor
President.

Encl.

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

JANUARY 30, 1942

To all of you who are making tonight's celebrations such a success, I want to say -- very simply -- thank you.

In the midst of world tragedy -- in the midst of sorrow, suffering, destruction and death -- it is natural for most of us to say even on a birthday or a feast day: "Isn't the word 'happy' a bit out of place just now?"

That was perhaps my own predominant thought this morning. Yet the day itself and the evening have brought with them a great reassurance which comes from the deep knowledge that this world is still ruled by the spirit of Faith, and Hope, and Charity.

Even in time of war those nations, which still hold to the old ideals of Christianity and democracy, are carrying on services to humanity which have little or no relationship to torpedoes or guns or bombs. That means very definitely that we have an abiding faith in the future -- a definite expectancy that we are going to win through to a peace which will bring with it continuing progress and substantial success in our efforts for the security and not for the destruction of humanity.

Our enemies must at this moment be wondering -- if they are permitted to know what goes on -- how we are finding the time during the grim business of war to work for the cause of little children. For, under the enemies' kind of government, there is no time for or interest in such things -- no time for ideals; no time for decency; no interest in the weak and the afflicted to whom we in this country have dedicated this day.

It would not be strictly true to say that our enemies pay no attention to health or the relief of need. But the difference is this: with them it all comes from the top; It is done only on order from the Ruler. It is carried out by uniformed servants of the Ruler. It is based, in great part, on direction, compulsion and fear. And the Rulers are concerned not with human beings as human beings but as mere slaves of the state or as cannon fodder.

The United Nations of the world continue, however, to put these things on a very different basis. We support our tasks of humanity in time of war, as in time of peace, through the same old

system of telling the public of the great need, and asking for the voluntary help of men, women and children to fill it.

The fight against the disease of infantile paralysis has proven beyond doubt that the way democracy works -- the voluntary way -- is efficient and successful. It is only ten years ago that this country undertook, through wholly private contributions, to organize every locality to carry on this great effort, not for a year or two, but for all the future years -- so long as the fight can
^
~~would~~ help humanity

Today, as in these many years past, we continue this great crusade -- made possible not by a few large gifts but by the dimes and the dollars of the people themselves.

This year there is only one difference proposed for the use of these gifts. The Trustees of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis have told me that I can make the special announcement that the authorized County Chapters throughout the Union may use such portion of their funds as is advisable to give

special assistance to the children of any of our soldiers and sailors who fall victim to infantile paralysis. That will be good news and a well-deserved boon to the fathers who are serving their Flag on land and on sea in many parts of the world, and to the mothers who have been left at home to do their brave part -- to carry on.

I am made additionally happy by the fact that in many of our Sister Republics of the Americas, parties and celebrations are being held today to provide needed help to the children in those lands.

For all these reasons I am very sure that this day has not been wasted -- that it has been a useful day. For all that you have done, I am very grateful.

For we have all been helpful in lifting some of the clouds of unhappiness and anxiety which have settled down on many of our citizens. In that realization I am sure we shall have added strength to face the days of trial which are ahead until peace with victory is assured.

The lives of all of us are now dedicated to working
and fighting and, if need be, dying for the cause of a better future --
the future that belongs to our little children.

M. Romagna

STATEMENTS FILE

STATEMENTS FILE

HOLD FOR RELEASE
FOR THE PRESS

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

January 30, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL RELEASED

CAUTION: This ~~Radio~~ address of the President, to be ~~delivered~~ on the occasion of his 60th Birthday Anniversary MUST be held in confidence until released.

Release upon delivery.

APRIL 12 1942

NOTE: Care must be exercised to prevent premature publication.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

To all of you who are making tonight's celebrations such a success, I want to say — very simply — thank you.

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That was perhaps my own predominant thought this morning. Yet the day itself and the evening have brought with them a great reassurance which comes from the deep knowledge that most of this world is still ruled by the spirit of Faith, and Hope, and Charity.

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Our enemies must at this moment be wondering — if they are permitted to know what goes on — how we are finding the time during the grim business of war to work for the cause of little children. For, under the ~~enemies'~~ kind of government, there is no time ~~for~~ ^{or} interest in such things — no time for ideals; no time for decency; no interest in the weak and the afflicted to whom we in this country have dedicated this day.

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children who
may

Good news

in many parts of the world without
impossible before a party

P.R.E.

HOLD FOR RELEASE
FOR THE PRESS

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January 30, 1942

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^{radio}
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Care must be exercised to prevent premature publication.

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Secretary to the President

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II Release upon delivery

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January 30, 1942

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CAUTION: This address of the President to be delivered on the occasion of his birthday anniversary is for release in editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER than 11:26 P. M., E.S.T.

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