United Nations Flag Day Address
ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
UNITED NATIONS FLAG DAY
JUNE 14, 1942

Today on Flag Day we celebrate the declaration of the United Nations -- that great alliance dedicated to the defeat of our foes and to the establishment of a true peace based on the freedom of man. Today the Republic of Mexico joins us. We welcome that valiant people to the company of those who fight for freedom.

The four freedoms of common humanity are as much elements of man's needs as air and sunlight, bread and salt. Deprive him of all these freedoms and he dies -- deprive him of a part of them and a part of him withers. Give them to him in full and abundant measure and he will cross the threshold of a new age, the greatest age of man.

These freedoms are the rights of men of every creed and every race, wherever they live. This is their heritage, long withheld. We of the United Nations have the power and the men and the will at last to assure man's heritage.
The belief in the four freedoms of common humanity -- the belief in man, created free, in the image of God -- is the crucial difference between ourselves and the enemies we face today. In it lies the absolute unity of our alliance, opposed to the oneness of the evil we hate. Here is our strength, the source and promise of victory.

We of the United Nations know that our faith cannot be broken by any man or any force. And we know that there are other millions who in their silent captivity share our belief.

We ask the German people, still dominated by their Nazi whipmasters, whether they would rather have the mechanized hell of Hitler's "New" Order or -- in place of that, freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.

We ask the Japanese people, trampled by their savage lords of slaughter, whether they would rather continue slavery and slaughter or, in place of them -- freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.
We ask the brave, unconquered people of the nations the Axis invaders have dishonored and despoiled whether they would rather yield to conquerors or, -- have freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.

We know the answer. They know the answer. We know that man, born to freedom in the image of God, will not forever suffer the oppressors' sword. The peoples of the United Nations, are taking that sword from the oppressors' hands. With it they will destroy those tyrants. Man marches forward toward the light.

I am going to close by reading you a prayer that has been written for the United Nations on this Day:

"God of the free, we pledge our hearts and lives today to the cause of all free mankind.

"Grant us victory over the tyrants who would enslave all free men and nations. Grant us faith and understanding to cherish all those who fight for freedom as if they were our brothers. Grant us brotherhood in hope and union, not only for the space of this bitter war, but for the days to come which shall and must unite all the children of earth."
"Our earth is but a small star in the great universe. Yet of it we can make, if we choose, a planet unvexed by war, untroubled by hunger or fear, undivided by senseless distinctions of race, color or theory. Grant us that courage and foreseeing to begin this task today that our children and our children's children may be proud of the name of man.

"The spirit of man has awakened and the soul of man has gone forth. Grant us the wisdom and the vision to comprehend the greatness of man's spirit, that suffers and endures so hugely for a goal beyond his own brief span. Grant us honor for our dead who died in the faith, honor for our living who work and strive for the faith, redemption and security for all captive lands and peoples. Grant us patience with the deluded and pity for the betrayed. And grant us the skill and the valor that shall cleanse the world of oppression and the old base doctrine that the strong must eat the weak because they are strong."
"Yet most of all grant us brotherhood, not only for this day but for all our years -- a brotherhood not of words but of acts and deeds. We are all of us children of earth -- grant us that simple knowledge. If our brothers are oppressed, then we are oppressed. If they hunger, we hunger. If their freedom is taken away, our freedom is not secure. Grant us a common faith -- that man shall know bread and peace -- that he shall know justice and righteousness, freedom and security, an equal opportunity and an equal chance to do his best, not only in our own lands, but throughout the world. And in that faith let us march, toward the clean world our hands can make. Amen."
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
June 8, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR GRACE TULLY:

Dear Grace:

Archie MacLeish submitted the attached for the President's approval for use on Flag Day, next Sunday, June 14th.

Will you please ask the President to edit and approve this suggested draft. When approved, I will have to arrange to have the speech recorded so that it may be broadcast next Sunday. The recordings will have to be made in advance and distributed to the various net-works in advance under a "hold for release".

Therefore, will greatly appreciate clearance of this with the President as soon as possible.

S.T.E.
An Address by the President
On United Nations Flag Day

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Hitler's "New" Order or — freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.

We ask the Japanese people, trampled by their savage lords of slaughter, whether they would rather have the vast prison house of Asia they are offered or — freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.

We ask the brave, unconquered people of the nations the Axis invaders have dishonored and despoiled whether they would rather give up their heroic struggle or — have freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.

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Amen.
June 8, 1942

The Honorable
Stephen H Early
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D C

Dear Steve:

Since Mexico jumped the gun and joined the United Nations last week, it has been necessary to revise the first paragraph in the draft of the President's address we sent over on Friday.

I am enclosing herewith a revised draft. Anything we can do to facilitate the recording of the speech we shall be glad to do. It will be necessary to have a copy of the recording for each of the four networks.

The speech will follow a fifty-five minute dramatic show which is originating in the NBC studios in Hollywood. For this reason it would be extremely helpful if the speech could be recorded by Wednesday evening so that the record might be shipped to Hollywood in time to be played there as part of the over-all production. If this is impossible, however, the record can be played at the NBC studios here.

Best regards,

Cordially,

[Signature]

William B Lewis
Assistant Director
in charge of Operations
An Address by the President
On United Nations Flag Day

We have dedicated this Sunday as a day of homage to our own flag and the colors of all the United Nations pledged with us to the defeat of our foes and the establishment on this earth of a true peace based on the freedom of man. We welcome Mexico to the company of our great alliance. Our thoughts and our prayers go out to the valiant peoples everywhere who fight for the victory of the United Nations, irrevocably determined that mankind shall achieve the four freedoms of common humanity.

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*****
(Representatives of the 26 nations who signed the United Nations Pact, were presented to the President, and then stood before their national flags, forming a "V" behind the President, who was seated with Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and the Mexican Ambassador Najera, and Manuel Quezon, President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, to affix their signatures to the Pact)

THE PRESIDENT: I think I might begin these historic proceedings today by mentioning the fact that the table at which we sit is the Cabinet table of President Abraham Lincoln.

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Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

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march out the world. And in that faith let us march, toward the clean world
our hands can make. Amen."

I think it is very appropriate for all of us here to hear that
Prayer, as a symbol of what that Prayer says and what this (Flag) Day
means throughout all the world.

It is a great pleasure to add two nations to the Pact, which
the 26 of them have already signed.

Now if the original document can be brought forward, it will be
signed, first by the Ambassador from our sister Republic of Mexico, and
immediately thereafter by the President of the Commonwealth of the Philip-
ippines.

(The two signings were then accomplished, recorded by the
newscasts and stills)

May I add, there is plenty of room for more signatures later on. I will turn it over to the Secretary of State, the custodian.

Well, I think that about concludes what we have got -- a successful day. That will hold it. A good job. Thanks for coming.

*****
Ceremonies
on
United Flag Day
at 2:30 PM, EWT
June 14, 1942
Held in the State Dining Room

Representatives of the 26 nations who
signed the United Nations Pact, were
presented to the President, and then
stood before their national flags,
forming a "V" behind the President
who was seated with Secretary of
State Cordell Hull, and the Mexican
Ambassador Najera, and Manuel
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Quezon, President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, to affix their signatures to the Pact.

[Signature]

June 14, 1942 - Flag Day - Remarks of the President

INSERT A

THE PRESIDENT:

I think I might begin these historic proceedings today by mentioning the fact that the table at which we sit is the Cabinet table of President Abraham Lincoln.

(then follows the prepared address) (INSERT B)

I think it is very appropriate for all of us here to hear that Prayer, as a symbol of what that Prayer says and what this (Flag) Day means throughout all the world.

It is a great pleasure to add two nations to the fact which the 26 of them have already signed.

Now if the original document can be brought forward, it will be signed, first by the Ambassador from our sister Republic of Mexico, and immediately thereafter by the President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines.

(The two signings were then accomplished, recorded by the newsmen and stenographers.)

May I add, there is plenty of room for more signatures later on. I will turn it over to the Secretary of State, the custodian.

well, I think that about concludes what we have got -- a successful day. That will hold it. A good job. Thanks for coming.
CAUTION: The following address of the President for United Flag Day, Sunday, June 14th, MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE for release in regular editions of newspaper for Monday morning, June 15, 1942.

NOTE: The text of this speech must not be broadcast in English earlier than 5:50 P.M., E.W.T., Sunday, June 14, 1942.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

Today on Flag Day we celebrate the declaration of the United Nations -- that great alliance dedicated to the defeat of our foes and to the establishment of a true peace based on the freedom of man. Today the Republic of Mexico and the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands join us. We welcome these valiant peoples to the company of those who fight for freedom.

The four freedoms of common humanity are as much elements of man's needs as air and sunlight, bread and salt. Deprive him of all these freedoms and he dies -- deprive him of a part of them and a part of him withers. Give them to him in full and abundant measure and he will cross the threshold of a new age, the greatest age of man.

Those freedoms are the rights of man of every creed and every race, wherever they live. This is their heritage, long-wished. We of the United Nations have the power and the men and the will at last to assure men's heritage.

The belief in the four freedoms of common humanity -- the belief that in a right understanding of the faith in man, created free, in the image of God -- is the crucial difference between ourselves and the enemies we face today. In it lies the absolute unity of our alliance, opposed to the oneness of the evil we hate. Here is our strength, the source and promise of victory.

We of the United Nations know that our faith cannot be broken by any man or any force. And we know that there are other millions who in their silent captivity share our belief.

We ask the German people, still dominated by their Nazi whipmasters, whether they would rather have the mechanized hell of Hitler's "New" Order or -- in place of that, freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.

We ask the Japanese people, trampled by their savage lords of slaughter, whether they would rather continue slavery and blood or, in place of them -- freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.

We ask the brave, un conquered people of the nations the Axis invaders have dishonored and despoiled whether they would rather yield to conquerors or, -- have freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and from fear.

We know the answer. They know the answer. We know that man, born to freedom in the image of God, will not forever suffer the oppressors' sword. The peoples of the United Nations are seeking that sword from the oppressors' hands. With it they will destroy those tyrants. The brazen tyranny pass. Man marches forward toward the light.

I am going to close by repeating a prayer that has been written for the United Nations on this Day:

"God of the free, we pledge our hearts and lives today to the cause of all free mankind."
"Grant us victory over the tyrants who would enslave all free men and nations. Grant us faith and understanding to cherish all those who fight for freedom as if they were our brothers. Grant us brotherhood in hope and union, not only for the space of this bitter war, but for the days to come which shall and must unite all the children of earth.

"Our earth is but a small star in the great universe. Yet of it we can make, if we choose, a planet unvexed by war, untroubled by hunger or fear, undivided by senseless distinctions of race, color or theory. Grant us that courage and foreseeing to begin this task today that our children and our children's children may be proud of the name of man.

"The spirit of man has awakened and the soul of man has gone forth. Grant us the wisdom and the vision to comprehend the greatness of man's spirit, that suffers and endures so hugely for a goal beyond his own brief span. Grant us honor for our dead who died in the faith, honor for our living who work and strive for the faith, redemption and security for all captive lands and peoples. Grant us patience with the deluded and pity for the betrayed. And grant us the skill and the valor that shall cleanse the world of oppression and the old base doctrine that the strong must eat the weak because they are strong.

"Yet most of all grant us brotherhood, not only for this day but for all our years -- a brotherhood not of words but of acts and deeds. We are all of us children of earth -- grant us that simple knowledge. If our brothers are oppressed, then we are oppressed. If they hunger, we hunger. If their freedom is taken away, our freedom is not secure. Grant us a common faith that man shall know bread and peace -- that he shall know justice and righteousness, freedom and security, an equal opportunity and an equal chance to do his best, not only in our own lands, but throughout the world. And in that faith let us march, toward the clean world our hands can make. Amen."
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Transcribed Address of the President for

United Flag Day

Radio broadcast at 5:50 PM EWT
June 14, 1942
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