The President completed his review of the findings and sentences of the Military Commission appointed by him on July 2, 1942 which tried the eight Nazi saboteurs.

The President approved the judgment of the Military Commission that all of the prisoners were guilty and that they be given the death sentence by electrocution.

However, there was a unanimous recommendation by the Commission, concurred in by the Attorney General and the Judge Advocate General of the Army, that the sentence of two of the prisoners be commuted to life imprisonment because of their assistance to the Government of the United States in the apprehension and conviction of the others.

The commutation directed by the President in the case of Burger was to confinement at hard labor for life. In the case of Dasch, the sentence was commuted by the President to confinement at hard labor for thirty years.

The electrocutions began at noon today. Six of the prisoners were electrocuted. The other two were confined to prison.

The records in all eight cases will be sealed until the end of the war.
File No. 1427-A

1942 August 31

Dedication of Naval Medical Center,
Bathesda, MD
ADDRESS AT DEDICATION OF
NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER, BETHESDA, MD.
AUGUST 31, 1942

In this hospital which we dedicate in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, our Navy battles against disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are anonymous heroes of this war -- the officers, men, and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, which today celebrates its one hundredth birthday. They are surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians, who are part of a service extending throughout the world. On land and sea and in the air, they have carried on their unending fight "to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice Day of 1940, less than two years ago.

We were then at peace. But even then we could see the designs of our foes; we had already begun to arm on a vast scale to meet their attacks.
Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Atlantic Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines many weeks before their partners in crime, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

That day of Pearl Harbor -- December 7th, 1941 -- contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission, and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded.

In the months that followed -- months without victories -- our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned in the Atlantic, they learned in the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.
Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles cannot be fought and won without cost -- and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated to the task of reducing the cost in men, saving lives on deck, in the engine room, in the gun turrets -- alleviating suffering, restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause of freedom. In the sick-bays of all the ships of our Navy, on all the seas, they are risking their own lives that other lives may be saved.

Today, in distant places, we are fighting battles the like of which have never before been known. In the Southwest Pacific, the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases —
and striking together. To carry such battles to successful conclusion, men who fight on land and in the air must work in perfect unison with men who fight above the sea and on the sea and under the sea.

Such warfare requires men of extraordinary physical alertness as well as exceptional daring. A split second lost in timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore, it is not enough for the doctor to work out new methods of healing and cure. He must work out entirely new methods of preparing men for unprecedented combat conditions in submarines, planes and tanks.

Without this work of conditioning, flesh and blood could not possibly meet the demands of this modern war. Men must be perfectly attuned in their bodies, as they are perfectly prepared in their minds and hearts, for the fierce test of battle.
That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science can be attested by those of our enemies who have faced our men in battle. But this progress in prevention and cure must not be limited to the armed forces, because of the simple fact that our whole population is involved in winning this total war.

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents last year was 40,000. How many of these deaths were preventible? The number of people injured in such accidents was almost a million and a half.

In industry last year the number of fatalities from accidents was 19,200. How many of these deaths were preventible? The number of people injured in such accidents was considerably in excess of two million, including over 100,000 permanent disabilities.
Among those who have been killed or disabled were men and women who could have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and guns -- who could have served in civilian defense or in many other essential services. As a result of industrial accidents alone, quite apart from those which were fatal, the time lost last year reached the almost incredible total of 42,000,000 man days.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans. Carelessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation of machines in factories, can cost us many lives needed by our country in using every resource most effectively.

And we must remember that there is a national shortage of doctors and nurses. Every preventible civilian accident diverts sorely needed medical, surgical and nursing care from the imperative requirements of our Army and Navy.
It is not going too far to say that any civilians in the United States who, through reckless driving or through failure to take proper safety measures in industrial plants, kill or maim their fellow citizens, are definitely doing injury to our sons and brothers who are fighting this war in uniform. And similar injury to our armed forces is done by pedestrians or workers who, through thoughtlessness and carelessness, put themselves in harm's way.

Not all of us can participate in direct action against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of our manpower.

Three years ago tomorrow morning, on September 1st, 1939, Hitler's legions launched their first Blitzkrieg against the people of Poland. In these three years men have died, and nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants -- German, Italian and Japanese.
To the defeat of such tyrants -- to the removal from this earth of the injustices and inequalities which create such tyrants and breed new wars -- this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of equity and faith.

[Signature]

[Note: Handwritten note: Chief reading copy]
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 15, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. MALONEY
G.P.O.

Will you please tie as usual
and mark as follows:

F.D.R. -- Dedication of Naval Medical Center
August 31, 1942

Dorothy Brady
CAUTION: The following address of the President, to be broadcast in connection with the dedication of the Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE until released.

NOTE: Released to editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 4:30 P.M., E.W.T., August 31, 1942. Released to radio announcers and news commentators on delivery.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President
ADDRESS AT DEDICATION OF
NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER, BETHESDA, MD.

In this hospital which we dedicate in this green, peaceful
Maryland countryside, our Navy battles against disease and disability
and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are anonymous heroes
of this war -- the officers, men, and women of the Bureau of
Medicine and Surgery, which today celebrates its one hundredth
birthday. They are surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians,
who are part of a service extending throughout the world. On land
and sea and in the air, they have carried on their unending fight
"to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on
Armistice Day of 1940, less than two years ago.

We were then at peace. But even then we could see the
designs of our foes; we had already begun to arm on a vast scale
to meet their attacks.
Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines many weeks before their partners in crime, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

That day of Pearl Harbor — December 7th, 1941 — contained the darkest hour in our Navy’s history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission, and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded.

In the months that followed — months without victories — our enemies taunted us with the question, “Where is the United States Navy?”

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned in the Atlantic, they learned in the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.
Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles cannot be fought and won without cost — and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated to the task of reducing the cost in men, saving lives on deck, in the engine room, in the gun turrets — alleviating suffering, restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause of freedom. In the sick-bays of all the ships of our Navy, on all the seas, they are risking their own lives that other lives may be saved.

Today, in distant places, we are fighting battles the like of which never before been known. In the Southwest Pacific, the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases —
and striking together. To carry such battles to successful conclusion, men who fight on land and in the air must work in perfect unison with men who fight above the sea and on the sea and under the sea.

Such warfare requires men of extraordinary physical alertness as well as exceptional daring. A split second lost in timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore, it is not enough for the doctor to work out new methods of healing and cure. He must work out entirely new methods of preparing men for unprecedented combat conditions in submarines, planes and tanks.

Without this work of conditioning, flesh and blood could not possibly meet the demands of this modern war. Men must be perfectly attuned in their bodies, as they are perfectly prepared in their minds and hearts, for the fierce test of battle.
That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science can be attested by those of our enemies who have faced our men in battle. But this progress in prevention and cure must not be limited to the armed forces, because of the simple fact that our whole population is involved in winning this total war.

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents last year was 40,000. How many of these deaths were preventible? The number of people injured in such accidents was almost a million and a half.

In industry last year the number of fatalities from accidents was 19,200. How many of these deaths were preventible? The number of people injured in such accidents was considerably in excess of two million, including over 100,000 permanent disabilities.
Among those who have been killed or disabled were men and women who could have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and guns — who could have served in civilian defense or in many other essential services. As a result of industrial accidents alone, quite apart from those which were fatal, the time lost last year reached the almost incredible total of 42,000,000 man days.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans. Carelessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation of machines in factories, can cost us many lives needed by our country in using every resource most effectively.

And we must remember that there is a national shortage of doctors and nurses. Every preventible civilian accident diverts sorely needed medical, surgical and nursing care from the imperative requirements of our Army and Navy.
It is not going too far to say that any civilians in the United States who, through reckless driving or through failure to take proper safety measures in industrial plants, kill or maim their fellow citizens, are definitely doing injury to our sons and brothers who are fighting this war in uniform. And similar injury to our armed forces is done by pedestrians or workers who, through thoughtlessness and carelessness, put themselves in harm's way.

Not all of us can participate in direct action against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of our manpower.

Three years ago tomorrow morning, on September 1st, 1939, Hitler’s legions launched their first Blitzkrieg against the people of Poland. In these three years men have died, and nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants — German, Italian and Japanese.
To the defeat of such tyrants — to the removal from this earth of the injustices and inequalities which create such tyrants and breed new wars — this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of equity and faith.
In this hospital which we dedicate in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, our Navy battles against disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are anonymous heroes of this war -- the officers, men, and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, which today celebrates its one hundredth birthday. They are surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians, who are part of a service extending throughout the world. On land and sea and in the air, they have carried on their unending fight "to keep as many men as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice Day of 1940, less than two years ago.

We were then at peace. But even then we could see the designs of our foes; we had already begun to arm on a vast scale to meet their attacks.

Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Atlantic. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines many weeks before their partners in crime, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

That day of Pearl Harbor -- December 7th, 1941 -- contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission, and more than three-thousand men were killed or wounded.

In the months that followed -- months without victories -- our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned in the Atlantic, they learned in the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in those fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles cannot be fought and won without cost -- and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful
men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated
to the task of reducing the cost in man, saving lives on deck, in the
engine room, in the gun turrets -- alleviating suffering,
restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause
of freedom. In the sick-bays of all the ships of our Navy, on
all the seas, they are risking their own lives that other lives
may be saved.

Today, in distant places, we are fighting battles the like
of which have never before been known. In the Southwest Pacific,
the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers
of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases --
and striking together. To carry such battles to successful conclusion,
men who fight on land and in the air must work in perfect union with
men who fight above the sea and on the sea and under the sea.

Such warfare requires men of extraordinary physical
alertness as well as exceptional daring. A split second lost in
timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore,
it is not enough for the doctor to work out new methods of healing
and cure. He must work out entirely new methods of preparing
men for unprecedented combat conditions in submarines, planes and
tanks.

Without this work of conditioning, flesh and blood could
not possibly meet the demands of this modern war. Men must be
perfectly attuned in their bodies, as they are perfectly prepared
in their minds and hearts, for the fierce test of battle.

That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science
can be attested by those of our enemies who have faced our men in
battle. But this progress in prevention and cure must not be
limited to the armed forces, because of the simple fact that our
whole population is involved in winning this total war.

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian
population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents last
year was 40,000. How many of these deaths were preventable? The
number of people injured in such accidents was almost a million
and a half.

In industry last year the number of fatalities from
accidents was 19,200. How many of these deaths were preventable?
The number of people injured in such accidents was considerably
in excess of two million, including over 100,000 permanent
disabilities.

Among those who have been killed or disabled were men and
women who could have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and
guns -- who could have served in civilian defense or in many
other essential services. As a result of industrial accidents
alone, quite apart from those which were fatal, the time lost last
year reached the almost incredible total of 43,000,000 man days.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans.
Carelessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation of
machines in factories, can cost us many lives needed by our country
in using every resource most effectively.

And we must remember that there is a national shortage
of doctors and nurses. Every preventible civilian accident diverts
sorely needed medical, surgical and nursing care from the imperative
requirements of our Army and Navy. It is not going too far to say
that any civilians in the United States who are reckless driving
or through failure to take proper safety measures in industrial plants,
kill or maim their fellow citizens, are definitely doing injury to
our sons and brothers who are fighting this war in uniform. And
similar injury to our armed forces is done by pedestrains or workers
who, through thoughtlessness and carelessness, put themselves in
harm's way.

Not all of us can participate in direct action against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of our manpower.

Three years ago tomorrow morning, on September 1st, 1939, Hitler's legions launched their first Blitzkrieg against the people of Poland. In these three years men have died, and nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants -- German, Italian and Japanese.

To the defeat of such tyrants -- to the removal from this earth of the injustices and inequalities which create such tyrants and breed new wars -- this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of equity and faith.
ADDRESS AT DEDICATION OF NAVAL MEDICAL
CENTRE, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

This hospital which we dedicate today is a major battle
field of this war. For here the men of our Navy battle against
disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are the distin-
guished officers, men, and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
of the United States Navy. They are surgeons and nurses, research
scientists and technicians, who have seen service throughout the
world, on land and sea and in the air. From Boston to Dutch Harbor,
from the Indian Ocean to the waters of the Coral Sea, from the African
Gold Coast to the North Cape, from the Indian Ocean to the waters of the Coral Sea, from the African
Gold Coast to the North Cape, they have carried on their unending
fight "to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice
Day of 1940, less than two years ago. On the morning of that day,
I placed a wreath upon the tomb of the unknown soldier at the Arlington
National Cemetery. The American people were there paying their tribute
at the shrine of those who gave their lives in the defense of their
country twenty-two years before.

When the cornerstone was laid, we were at peace. But even
then we had learned the measure of our foe; we could see their de-
signs were not, and we had already begun to arm to meet their attack, which
we knew was sure to come.

Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action
in the North Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben
James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American
ships were attacked by Nazi submarines weeks before the United Nations,
the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

In every war, the Navy has been our first line of defense.
And in this most terrible of all wars, American sailors were the
first to sacrifice their lives, in both the Atlantic and the Pacific,
That day of Pearl Harbor — December 7th, 1941 — contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Suddenly and treacherously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded. Some of the victims of that treacherous attack are here in this hospital today.

In the months that followed — months of encouragement and defeat — our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the answer to that question — another part of the answer. The learned at the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

And they have learned on the other side of the world, all the way from Northern Russia to the British Isles, to Africa, and around Africa to the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. Endless streams of ships are carrying tanks and guns and food and ammunition to our men and to the armies of all the United Nations — and these ships can reach their destinations only because we of the United Nations still control the seas.

Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is a part of the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles can not be fought and won without cost — and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated to the task of reducing the cost in men, in alleviating suffering, in restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause of freedom. In the sick-bays of all the ships of our Navy, on all the seas, are these workers, risking their own lives that others may be saved.

We dedicate this fine building, standing here in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, we must think first of that for which it stands — for the distant places of the seas, for the men of our Nation who have sailed fearlessly to those distant places, and have fearlessly fought, and gloriously died.
This is the one hundredth birthday of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. And today as Naval doctors, hospital corpsmen and nurses go about their duties of caring for the sick and the wounded, they will be doing what others have been doing, day after day, and year after year, for a hundred years before and more.

The first chief of Navy Medicine, a century ago, was Dr. William P. C. Barton. But the work of our Naval surgery began even before the dawn of our independence. In 1775, Dr. Joseph Harrison was surgeon aboard the "Alfred" when the first lieutenant of that ship, John Paul Jones, hoisted the first American flag to fly above a man-of-war. That American flag, by the way, bore the ominous legend: "Don't tread on me.""}

That spirit of service and sacrifice has continued uninterrupted, down to the present day through the long history of the Bureau and its men. Never has this spirit been expressed more heroically than it was last winter in the actions of Dr. in shepherding a group of wounded men to safety in the grim battle of Java.

Here in this hospital, and in many laboratories throughout this nation, devoted men and women are working constantly to solve the manifold problems — to accept the countless challenges — presented by an entirely new kind of war.

In the battles that are now being fought, on land and sea and in the air, many thousands of miles from home, we have achieved an unprecedented coordination of the forces of our armed services against the enemy. In the Southwest Pacific, the ships and the planes of our fleet, commanded by Admiral Nimitz, and the long-range bombers of our Army, commanded by General MacArthur, are striking at the enemy
Therefore, it is not enough for the medical scientist to work out new methods of healing and care. He must work out entirely new methods of preparation of conditioning men for conditions which men have never before known—fighting at altitudes of seven miles, or driving through the air, it was believed not so long ago, human life could not possibly exist.

This work of conditioning is of utmost importance in this war. Men must be perfectly attuned in their bodies as they are perfectly prepared in their minds and hearts for the fierce test of battle.

dive-bombing at speeds of six hundred miles per hour—or engaging in the unprecedented rigors of long-range substitute warfare—a novel kind of warfare in which
But wartime medical progress — both in prevention and cure — must not be limited to the armed forces.

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian population [which is also vital to the winning of the war].

The number of fatalities from automobile accidents was a year. How many of these deaths were preventable? In factories the number of fatalities a year. How many of these deaths were preventable?

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans. Carelessness in driving on the highways or in the operation of machines can cost us many lives needed by our country in winning this war.

There is work for all of us in the promotion of our national safety.

Among these civilian casualties were men and women who could help to build planes, tanks, ships, and guns — who could serve in Civilian Defense or in many other essential services — who could themselves become soldiers or sailors or nurses in our armed forces.
from widely separated bases — and striking together. These are battles the like of which have never before been known. To carry such battles to successful conclusion, men who fight on land must work in perfect unison with men who fight on the sea and under the sea, and with men who fight in the air.

Such warfare requires men of exceptional daring and of extraordinary physical alertness. A split second lost in timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore, it is of vital importance that men be perfectly attuned in their bodies as they are perfectly prepared in their minds and in their hearts for the fierce test of battle.

To achieve such physical perfection is a part of the task of the Medical Corps of our Army and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of our Navy.

That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science can be attested by those of our enemies who have met our men in battle.

Most of the steady, pleasing doctors of the Army and Navy are anonymous — and will be among the unsung heroes of this war. But here in this Naval Medical Center which we dedicate today and in hundreds of other Army and Navy hospitals, field stations, and sick-bays throughout the entire world, the medical work goes on which heals wounds and saves men and builds up the fighting personnel which will gain for us the victory which inevitably will be ours.

Hitler's legions launched their first Blitzkrieg against the people of Poland. In these three years men have died, and many nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants — German, Italian, and Japanese.
To the defeat of such tyrants — to the removal from this earth of the injustices and inequalities which could create such tyrants — this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of freedom and faith.
SECOND DRAFT

ADDRESS AT DEDICATION OF
NAVAL MEDICAL CENTRE, BETHESDA, MD.

In this hospital which we dedicate today, our Navy battles against disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are the distinguished officers, men, and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the United States Navy. They are surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians, who have seen service throughout the world, on land and sea and in the air, on every continent and in every sea, they have carried on their unending fight to keep as many men as many guns as many days as possible.

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice Day of 1940, less than two years ago.

We were then at peace. But even then we could see the designs of our foes; we had already begun to arm to meet their attacks.

Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines many weeks before their confederates, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.
SECOND DRAFT

That day of Pearl Harbor -- December 7th, 1941 -- contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded. [Some of the victims of that treachery are here in this hospital today.]

In the months that followed -- months without victories -- our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned at the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

And they have learned on the other side of the world, all the way from Northern Russia to the British Isles, to Africa, and around Africa to the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

Endless streams of ships are carrying tanks and guns and food and ammunition to our men and to the armies of all the United Nations -- and these ships can reach their destinations only because we of the United Nations still control the seas.

Where is the United States Navy?
It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles can not be fought and won without cost — and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated to the task of reducing the cost in men, saving lives on deck, in the engine room, in the Sick bay, in alleviating suffering, in restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause of freedom. In the sick bays of all the ships of our Navy, on all the seas, are these workers, risking their own lives that other lives may be saved.

Standing here in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, we must think first of that for which this hospital stands — for the distant places of the seas, for the men of our Nation who have sailed fearlessly to those distant places, and have fearlessly fought. Some have come back to us — to be made whole again — and some have gloriously died.
This is the one hundredth birthday of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. And today as Naval doctors, hospital corpsmen and nurses go about their duties of caring for the sick and the wounded, they will be doing what others have been doing, day after day, and year after year.

The first chief of Navy medicine, a century ago, was Dr. William P. C. Barton. But the work of our Naval surgery began even before the dawn of our independence. In 1776, Dr. Joseph Harrison was surgeon aboard the "Alfred" when the first lieutenant of that ship, John Paul Jones, hoisted the first flag to fly above an American man-of-war.

To-day we are fighting in the Southwest Pacific, the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases -- and striking together.

To carry such battles to successful conclusion, men who fight on land must work in perfect unison with men who fight on the sea and under the sea, and with men who fight in the air.
Such warfare requires men of exceptional daring and
of extraordinary physical alertness. A split second lost in
timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore,
it is not enough for the military medical scientist to work out
new methods of healing and cure. He must work out entirely
new methods of preparing men for combat conditions which have
have never before known -- fighting at altitudes of seven miles,
or dive-bombing at speeds of six hundred miles per hour -- or
enduring for many weeks

[engaging in] the unprecedented rigors of long-range submarine

warfare -- [a novel kind of warfare in which it was believed not
so long ago, human life could not possibly exist.

Without This work of conditioning is of utmost importance
possibly meet the demands of this modern war.

in this war. Men must be perfectly attuned in their bodies, as
they are perfectly prepared in their minds and hearts, for the
fierce test of battle.

To achieve such physical perfection is a part of
the task of the Medical Corps of our Army and the Bureau of
Medicine and Surgery of our Navy.
SECOND DRAFT

That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science can be attested by those of our enemies who have met our men in battle. But wartime medical progress -- both in prevention and cure -- must not be limited to the armed forces.

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents was _____ last year. How many of these deaths were preventible? In factories the number was _____ fatalities last year. How many of these deaths were preventible?

Among these civilian casualties were men and women who could help to build planes, tanks, ships and guns -- who could have served in civilian defense or in many other essential services -- who could themselves become soldiers or sailors or nurses in our armed forces.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans. Carelessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation of machines in factories can cost us many lives needed by our country in winning the war.

[There is work for all of us in the promotion of our national safety. Not all of us can participate in direct attack against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of American lives.]
SECOND DRAFT

Most of the doctors of Army and Navy are anonymous --
and will be among the unsung heroes of this war. But here in this
Naval Medical Center which we dedicate today, and in hundreds of
other Army and Navy hospitals, field stations, and sick-bays
throughout the entire world, the medical work goes on, day by day,
which day by day, heals wounds and saves lives and builds up the force of fighting men who
will gain for us the victory which inevitably will be ours.

Three years ago tomorrow morning, on September 1st,
1939, Hitler's legions launched their first Blitzkrieg against
the people of Poland. In these three years men have died, and
nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal
lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants -- German, Italian and
Japanese.

To the defeat of such tyrants -- to the removal from
this earth of the injustices and inequalities which create
such tyrants -- this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see
throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work
and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have
that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized
only in a climate of freedom and faith.

***************
In this hospital which we dedicate today, our Navy battles against disease and disability and death. Those who fight this vital battle here are the anonymous heroes of this war.

They are surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians, who have seen service throughout the world. On land and sea and in the air, they have carried on their unending fight "to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice Day of 1940, less than two years ago.

We were then at peace. But even then we could see the designs of our foes; we had already begun to arm on a vast scale to meet their attacks.

Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines many weeks before their partners in crime, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.
That day of Pearl Harbor -- December 7th, 1941 -- contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded.

In the months that followed -- months without victories -- our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned in the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles cannot be fought and won without cost -- and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated to the task of reducing the cost in men, saving lives on deck, in the engine room, in the gun turrets -- alleviating suffering,
restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause of freedom. In the sick bays of all the ships of our Navy, on all the seas, they are risking their own lives that other lives may be saved.

Standing here in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, we must think first of that for which this hospital stands -- for the distant places of the seas, for the men of our Nation who have sailed fearlessly to those distant places, and have fearlessly fought.

Today we are fighting battles the like of which have never before been known. In the Southwest Pacific, the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases -- and striking together. To carry such battles to successful conclusion, men who fight on land and in the air must work in perfect unison with men who fight on the sea and under the sea.

Such warfare requires men of exceptional daring and of extraordinary physical alertness. A split second lost in timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore, it is not enough for the military medical scientist to work out new methods of healing and cure. He must work out entirely new
THIRD DRAFT

methods of preparing men for combat conditions which have never before been known — fighting at altitudes of seven miles, or dive-bombing at speeds of six hundred miles per hour — or enduring for many weeks the unprecedented rigors of long-range submarine warfare — conditions under which it was believed, not so long ago, that human life could not possibly exist.

Without this work of conditioning, flesh and blood could not possibly meet the demands of this modern war. Men must be perfectly attuned in their bodies, as they are perfectly prepared in their minds and hearts, for the fierce test of battle.

[To achieve such physical perfection is a part of the task of the Medical Corps of our Army and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of our Navy.]

That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science can be attested by those of our enemies who have faced our men in battle.

[But progress in prevention and cure] must not be limited to the armed forces, because of the simple fact that war, whole population is involved in winning them back near.
THIRD DRAFT

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents was 11,813 last year. How many of these deaths were preventable? In industry alone the number was 19,200.

Among those civilian casualties were men and women who could have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and guns -- who could have served in civilian defense or in many other essential war services. We owe it to ourselves to become soldiers or sailors or nurses in our own defense.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans. Carelessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation of machines in factories, can cost us many lives needed by our country in war.

Not all of us can participate in direct action against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of our American lives.

Most of the doctors of our Army and Navy are anonymous -- and will be among the unsung heroes of this war. But here in this Naval Medical Center which we dedicate today, and in hundreds of other Army and Navy hospitals, field stations, and sick bays...
THIRD DRAFT

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents is too high. How many of these deaths were preventable? In industry, the number was 19,206. How many of these deaths were preventable? Among these civilian casualties were men and women who could have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and guns -- who could have served in civilian defense or in many other essential services. The number of industrial accidents alone, parts apart from those which were fatal, is enormous. Individual lost in this work are treasures in our armed forces.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans.

Carelessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation of machines in factories, can cost us many lives needed by our country in its fight against Japan.

Not all of us can participate in direct action against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of lives.

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And we must remember that there is a material shortage of doctors and nurses. Every preventable civilian accident diverts sorely needed medical, surgical and nursing care from the imperative requirements of our Army and Navy.
THIRD DRAFT

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In this hospital which we dedicate in this green, peaceful Maryland country, our Navy battles against disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are anonymous heroes of this war — officers, men, and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery which today celebrates its one hundredth birthday. They represent surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians, who have seen service throughout the world. On land and sea and in the air, they have carried on their unending fight "to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

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FOURTH DRAFT

- 2 -

That day of Pearl Harbor — December 7th, 1941 — contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded.

In the months that followed — months without victories — our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned in the Atlantic; in the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles cannot be fought and won without cost — and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated to the task of reducing the cost in men, saving lives on deck, in the engine room, in the gun turrets — alleviating suffering,
restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause of freedom. In the sick-bays of all the ships of our Navy, on all the seas, they are risking their own lives that other lives may be saved.

Today, in distant places, we are fighting battles the like of which have never before been known. In the Southwest Pacific, the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases — and striking together. To carry such battles to successful conclusion, men who fight on land and in the air must work in perfect unison with men who fight above the sea and on the sea and under the sea.

Such warfare requires men of extraordinary physical alertness as well as exceptional daring. A split second lost in timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore, it is not enough for the doctor to work out new methods of healing and cure. He must work out entirely new methods of preparing men for unprecedented combat conditions in submarines, planes and tanks.

Without this work of conditioning, flesh and blood could not possibly meet the demands of this modern war. Men must be perfectly attuned in their bodies, as they are perfectly prepared in their minds and hearts, for the fierce test of battle.
FOURTH DRAFT

That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science can be attested by those of our enemies who have faced our men in battle. But this progress in prevention and cure must not be limited to the armed forces, because of the simple fact that our whole population is involved in winning this total war.

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents last year was 40,000. How many of these deaths were preventible? The number of people injured in such accidents was almost a million and a half.

In industry last year the number of fatalities from accidents was 19,200. How many of these deaths were preventible? The number of people injured in such accidents was considerably in excess of two million, including over 100,000 permanent disabilities.

Among those who have been killed or disabled were men and women who could have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and guns -- who could have served in civilian defense or in many other essential services. As a result of industrial accidents alone, quite apart from those which were fatal, the time lost last year reached the almost incredible total of 42,000,000 man days.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans. Care-
lessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation of machines in factories, can cost us many lives needed by our country in using every resource most effectively.

And we must remember that there is a national shortage of doctors and nurses. Every preventable civilian accident diverts sorely needed medical, surgical and nursing care from the imperative requirements of our Army and Navy.

Not all of us can participate in direct action against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of our manpower.

Three years ago tomorrow morning, on September 1st, 1939, Hitler's legions launched their first Blitzkrieg against the people of Poland. In these three years men have died, and nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants — German, Italian and Japanese.

To the defeat of such tyrants — to the removal from this earth of the injustices and inequalities which create such tyrants and breed new wars — this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital stand, for all men to see throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realised only in a climate of equity and faith.
It is not going too far to say that anyone, any civilians in the United States who, through reckless driving or through failure to take proper safety measures in industrial plants, kill or maim their fellow citizens, are definitely doing injury to our sons and brothers who are fighting this war in uniform. And just as similar injury to our armed forces is done by careless producers or workers who, through thoughtlessness and carelessness, put themselves in harm's way.
CAUTION: The following address of the President, to be broadcast in connection with the dedication of the Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE until released.

NOTE: Released to editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 4:30 P.M., E.W.T., August 31, 1942. Released to radio announcers and news commentators on delivery.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

In this hospital which we dedicate in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, our Navy battles against disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are anonymous heroes of this war -- the officers, men, and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, which today celebrates its one hundredth birthday. They are surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians, who are part of a service extending throughout the world. On land and sea and in the air, they have carried on their unending fight "to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice Day of 1940, less than two years ago.

We were then at peace. But even then we could see the designs of our foes; we had already begun to arm on a vast scale to meet their attacks.

Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines many weeks before their partners in crime, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

That day of Pearl Harbor -- December 7th, 1941 -- contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission, and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded.

In the months that followed -- months without victories -- our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned in the Atlantic, they learned in the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles cannot be fought and won without cost -- and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful
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to the task of reducing the cost in men, saving lives on deck, in 
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may be saved.

Today, in distant places, we are fighting battles the like 
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the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers 
of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases -- 
and striking together. To carry such battles to successful conclusion, 
men who fight on land and in the air must work in perfect union with 
men who fight above the sea and on the sea and under the sea.

Such warfare requires men of extraordinary physical 
alertness as well as exceptional daring. A split second lost in 
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it is not enough for the doctor to work out new methods of healing 
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There are today far too many casualties among our civilian 
population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents last 
year was 40,000. How many of these deaths were preventible? The 
number of people injured in such accidents was almost a million 
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other essential services. As a result of industrial accidents 
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And we must remember that there is a national shortage 
of doctors and nurses. Every preventible civilian accident diverts 
sorely needed medical, surgical and nursing care from the imperative 
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our sons and brothers who are fighting this war in uniform. And 
similar injury to our armed forces is done by pedestrians or workers 
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Not all of us can participate in direct action against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of our manpower.

Three years ago tomorrow morning, on September 1st, 1939, Hitler’s legions launched their first Blitzkrieg against the people of Poland. In these three years men have died, and nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants -- German, Italian and Japanese.

To the defeat of such tyrants -- to the removal from this earth of the injustices and inequalities which create such tyrants and breed new wars -- this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of equity and faith.
ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
BROADCAST IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEDICATION
OF THE
NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER, BETHESDA, MARYLAND
ON AUGUST 31, 1942,
AT 4:30 P.M., E.W.T.

ADMIRAL McINTIRE, AND MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL CORPS OF THE NAVY:

In this hospital (which) that we are dedicating today in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, our Navy battles against disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle (here) are anonymous heroes of this war -- the officers, men, and the women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, which today celebrates its one hundredth (birthday) anniversary. They are surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians, who are part of a service extending throughout the world. On land and sea and in (the) air, they have carried on their unending fight "to make good their promise to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice Day, (of) 1940, less than two years ago. And since then I think we can look at it and say it's a job well done.

We were then at peace. But even then we could see the designs of our foes; we had already begun to arm on a vast scale to meet their attacks.

Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Atlantic Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines -- let us remember that -- many weeks before their partners in crime, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

That day of Pearl Harbor -- December 7th, 1941 -- contained the
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.
these three years men, women and children have died, (and) nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants -- German, Italian and Japanese.

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Aug. 1942 Menu
File

STATEMENTS FILE
ADDRESS
OF THE
PRESIDENT
BROADCAST IN CONNECTION WITH THE
DEDICATION
OF THE
NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER, BETHESDA, MD.
ON
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[Handwritten note]

August, 1942

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Great War-fare requires men of extraordinary physical alertness as well as exceptional daring. A split second lost in timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore, it is not enough for the doctor to work out new methods of healing and care. He must work out entirely new methods of preparing men for unprecedented combat conditions in submarines, planes and tanks.

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That day of Pearl Harbor -- December 7th, 1941 -- contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission, and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded.

In the months that followed -- months without victories -- our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned in the Atlantic, they learned in the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in those fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles cannot be fought and won without cost -- and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skilful
men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated
to the task of reducing the cost in men, saving lives on deck, in
the engine room, in the gun turrets -- alleviating suffering,
restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause
of freedom. In the sick-bays of all the ships of our Navy, on
all the seas, they are risking their own lives that other lives
may be saved.

Today, in distant places, we are fighting battles the like
of which have never before been known. In the Southwest Pacific,
the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers
of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases
and striking together. To carry such battles to successful conclusion,
men who fight on land and in the air must work in perfect union with
men who fight above the sea and on the sea and under the sea.

Such warfare requires men of extraordinary physical
alertness as well as exceptional daring. A split second lost in
time by one individual may cost immemorable lives. Therefore,
it is not enough for the doctor to work out new methods of healing
and cure. He must work out entirely new methods of preparing
men for unprecedented combat conditions in submarines, planes and
tanks.

Without this work of conditioning, flesh and blood could
not possibly meet the demands of this modern war. Men must be
perfectly attuned in their bodies, as they are perfectly prepared
in their minds and hearts, for the fierce test of battle.

That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science--
can be attested by those of our enemies who have faced our gun in
battle. But this progress in prevention and cure must not be
limited to the armed forces, because of the simple fact that our
whole population is involved in winning this total war.

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian
population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents last
year was 40,000. How many of those deaths were preventable? The
number of people injured in such accidents was almost a million
and a half.

In industry last year the number of fatalities from accidents was 19,200. How many of those deaths were preventable?
The number of people injured in such accidents was considerably
in excess of two million, including over 100,000 permanent
disabilities.

Among those who have been killed or disabled were men and
women who could have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and
guns -- who could have served in civilian defense or in many
other essential services. As a result of industrial accidents alone, quite apart from those which were fatal, the time lost last
year reached the almost incredible total of 42,000,000 man days.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans.
Carelessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation
of machines in factories, can cost us many lives needed by our country
in using every resource most effectively.

And we must remember that there is a national shortage
of doctors and nurses. Every preventable civilian accident diverts
sorely needed medical, surgical and nursing care from the imperative
requirements of the Army and Navy. It is not going too far to say
that any civilian in the United States who, through reckless driving
or through failure to take proper safety measures in industrial plants,
kill or maim his fellow citizens, or definitely doing injury to
our sons and brothers who are fighting this war in uniform. And
similar injury to our armed forces is done by pedestrians or workers
who, through thoughtlessness and carelessness, put themselves in
harm's way.

Not all of us can participate in direct action against our enemies; but all of us can participate in the saving of our manpower.

Three years ago tomorrow morning, on September 1st, 1939, Hitler's legions launched their first Blitzkrieg against the people of Poland. In these three years men have died, and nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few inhuman tyrants -- German, Italian and Japanese.

To the defeat of such tyrants -- to the removal from this earth of the injustices and inequalities which create such tyrants and breed new wars -- this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of equity and faith.
HOLD FOR RELEASE

August 31, 1942

CAUTION: The following address of the President, to be broadcast in connection with the dedication of the Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE until released.

NOTE: Released to editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 4:30 P.M., E.W.T., August 31, 1942. Released to radio announcers and news commentators on delivery.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

In this hospital which we dedicate in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, our Navy battles against disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are anonymous heroes of this war -- the officers, men, and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, which today celebrates its one hundredth birthday. They are surgeons and nurses, scientists and technicians, who are part of a service extending throughout the world. On land and sea and in the air, they have carried on their unending fight "to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice Day of 1940, less than two years ago.

We were then at peace. But even then we could see the designs of our foes; we had already begun to arm on a vast scale to meet their attacks.

Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearny and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines many weeks before their partners in crime, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

That day of Pearl Harbor -- December 7th, 1941 -- contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Infamously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission, and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded.

In the months that followed -- months without victories -- our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the beginning of the answer to that question. They learned in the Atlantic, they learned in the Coral Sea, they learned off Midway, they are learning now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is carrying out the command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we find him.

Battles cannot be fought and won without cost -- and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skilful
men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated to the task of reducing the cost in man, saving lives on deck, in the engine room, in the gun turrets — alleviating suffering, restoring the wounded to their duties as fighters for the cause of freedom. In the sick-bays of all the ships of our Navy, on all the seas, they are risking their own lives that other lives may be saved.

Today, in distant places, we are fighting battles like of which have never before been known. In the Southwest Pacific, the ships and the planes of our fleet, and the long-range bombers of our Army, are striking at the enemy from widely separated bases — and striking together. To carry such battles to successful conclusion, men who fight on land and in the air must work in perfect unison with men who fight above the sea and on the sea and under the sea.

Such warfare requires men of extraordinary physical alertness as well as exceptional daring. A split second lost in timing by one individual may cost innumerable lives. Therefore, it is not enough for the doctor to work out new methods of healing and cure. He must work out entirely new methods of preparing men for unprecedented combat conditions in submarines, planes and tanks.

Without this work of conditioning, flesh and blood could not possibly meet the demands of this modern war. Man must be perfectly attuned in their bodies, as they are perfectly prepared in their minds and hearts, for the fierce test of battle.

That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science can be attested by those of our enemies who have faced our men in battle. But this progress in prevention and cure must not be limited to the armed forces, because of the simple fact that our whole population is involved in winning this total war.

There are today far too many casualties among our civilian population. The number of fatalities from automobile accidents last year was 40,000. How many of these deaths were preventable? The number of people injured in such accidents was almost a million and a half.

In industry last year the number of fatalities from accidents was 19,200. How many of those deaths were preventable? The number of people injured in such accidents was considerably in excess of two million, including over 100,000 permanent disabilities.

Among those who have been killed or disabled were men and women who could have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and guns — who could have served in civilian defense or in many other essential services. As a result of industrial accidents alone, quite apart from those which were fatal, the time lost last year reached the almost incredible total of 48,000,000 man days.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans. Carelessness in driving on the highways, or in the operation of machines in factories, can cost us many lives needed by our country in using every resource most effectively.

And we must remember that there is a national shortage of doctors and nurses. Every preventable civilian accident diverts sorely needed medical, surgical and nursing care from the imperative requirements of our Army and Navy. It is not going too far to say that any civilians in the United States through reckless driving or through failure to take proper safety measures in industrial plants, kill or maim their fellow citizens, are definitely doing injury to our sons and brothers who are fighting this war in uniform. And similar injury to our armed forces is done by pedestrians or workers who, through thoughtlessness and carelessness, put themselves in
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To the defeat of such tyrants -- to the removal from this earth of the injustices and inequalities which create such tyrants and breed new wars -- this nation is wholly dedicated.

Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout the years, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of equity and faith.
ADDRESS AT DEDICATION OF NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

This hospital which we dedicate today is a battlefield of this war. For here the men of our Navy battle against disease and disability and death.

Those who fight this vital battle here are the distinguished officers, men, and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the United States Navy. They are surgeons and nurses, research scientists and technicians, who have seen service throughout the world, on land and sea and in the air. From Balboa to Dutch Harbor, from the Indian Ocean to the waters of the Coral Sea, from the African Gold Coast to the North Cape — they have carried on their unending fight "to keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible."

The cornerstone of this hospital was laid by me on Armistice Day of 1940, less than two years ago. On the morning of that day, I placed a wreath upon the tomb of the unknown soldier at the Arlington National Cemetery. The American people were there paying their tribute at the shrine of those who gave their lives in the defense of their country twenty-two years before.

When this cornerstone was laid, we were at peace. But even then we had learned the measure of our foe; we could see what his designs were; and we had already begun to arm to meet his attack which we knew was sure to come.

Less than a year later, men of our Navy were killed in action in the North Sea. They were men of the destroyers Kearney and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines weeks before the Nazis' allies, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

In every war the Navy has been our first line of defense. And in this most terrible of all wars, American sailors were the first to sacrifice their lives, in both the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans.
That day of Pearl Harbor — December 7th, 1941 — contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. Suddenly and treacherously attacked, seriously damaged, ships of our fleet were put out of commission and more than three thousand men were killed or wounded. Some of the victims of that treacherous attack are here in this hospital today.

In the months that followed — months of discouragement and defeat — our enemies taunted us with the question, "There is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the answer to that question, or rather, a part of the answer. They learned it at the Coral Sea, they learned it off Midway, they are learning it now in their attempts to recapture that which was taken from them in the Solomon Islands.

And they have learned it on the other side of the world, all the way from Northern Russia to the British Isles, to Africa, and around Africa to the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. Endless streams of ships are carrying tanks and guns and food and ammunition to our men and to the armies of all the United Nations — and these ships can reach their destinations only because we of the United Nations still control the seas.

There is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It is fulfilling that command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we can find him.

These battles can not be fought and won without cost — and the cost may be heavy in ships and in men. The brave and skillful men and women of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery are dedicated to the task of reducing the cost in men, in alleviating suffering, in restoring the wounded to their callings as fighters for the cause of freedom. In the sick-bays of all the ships of our Navy, on all the seas, are these devoted workers, risking their own lives that other lives may be saved.

As we dedicate this fine building, standing here in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, we must think first of that for which it stands — for the distant places of the seas, for the men of our Nation who have sailed fearlessly to those distant places, and here fearlessly fought and gloriously died.
This is the one hundredth birthday of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. And today as Naval doctors, hospital corpsmen and nurses go about their duties of caring for the sick and the wounded, they will be doing what others have been doing, day after day, and year after year, for a hundred years before and more.

The first chief of Navy Medicine, a century ago, was Dr. William P. G. Barton. But the work of our Naval surgery began even before the dawn of our independence. In 1775, Dr. Joseph Warren was surgeon aboard the "Alfred" when the first lieutenant of the ship, John Paul Jones, hoisted the first American flag to fly above a man-of-war. That American flag, by the way, bore the ominous legend: "Don't tread on me".

That spirit of service and sacrifice has continued uninterruptedly down to the present day through the long history of the Bureau and its men. Never has this spirit been expressed more heroically than it was last winter in the actions of Dr.____________ in shepherding a group of wounded men to safety in the grim battle of Java.

Here in this hospital, and in many laboratories throughout this nation, devoted men and women are working constantly to solve the manifold problems — to accept the countless challenges — presented by an entirely new kind of war.

In the battles that are now being fought, on land and sea and in the air, many thousands of miles from home, we have achieved an unprecedented coordination of the forces of our armed services against the enemy.

In the Southwest Pacific, the ships of our fleet, commanded by Admiral Nimitz, and the long-range bombers of our Army, commanded by General MacArthur, are striking at the enemy