

August 31, 1942

[Dedication of Naval Medical Center]

FDR Speech File

1427

ADDRESS AT DEDICATION OF NAVAL MEDICAL
CENTER, 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 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 Kearny and Reuben Jones, 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.



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From the Papers of

Jursey L. Hopkins

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.

Where 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 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 devoted workers, risking their own lives that otherlives 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 have fearlessly fought and gloriously died.



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Henry L. Hopkins



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Medical Archives and Record Service

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AND MUSEUM, N.Y.C.

From the papers of
Harry L. Hopkins

- 5 -

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



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With P.M., A.D.

From the Pictures of
Harry L. Hopkins

- 4 -

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 union 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 man 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, plodding] 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.]

[This war began three years ago tomorrow morning, on September 1st, 1939. Hitler's legions launched their first Elitzkrieg against the people of Poland. In these three years many men have died, and many nations have been tortured and enslaved, to satisfy the brutal lust for power of a few powerful tyrants — German, Italians, 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.

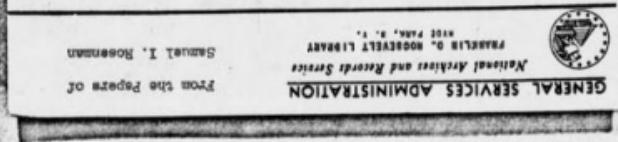
Let this hospital then stand, for all men to see throughout the year, as a monument to our determination to work and to fight until the time comes when the human race shall have true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of freedom and faith.



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Advisory and Research Service
General Services Administration
Housing, Land Planning, and Urban Development
Public Works Projects

E HOUSE



Aug. 31, 1942
Bethesda

Hedda
Speech
Bethesda

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Ward, Mr. [unclear]

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Franklin Roosevelt

Bethesda
Aug. 31, 1948

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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

E HOUSE

ADDRESS AT DEDICATION OF NAVAL MEDICAL
CENTRE, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

This hospital, which we dedicate today, [is] major battle-field of this war. For here [we] 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, ~~young~~ 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 from Balboa to Dutch Harbor from the Indian Ocean to the waters of the Coral Sea, from the African Gold Coast to the North Sea~~ 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 foes; we could see ~~what~~ ^{the} signs were; and we had already begun to arm to meet ~~the~~ ^{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 Kearny and Reuben James, patrolling the sea lanes of the North Atlantic. These American ships were attacked by Nazi submarines ^{many} weeks before the Nazis' ~~attack~~, the Japanese, launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

~~In every war, the Navy has been our first line of defense. And in this ~~unprecedented~~ ^{gave} war, American sailors were the first to ^{in action against the enemy} ~~commence~~ their lives, in both the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans.~~



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

That day of Pearl Harbor — December 7th, 1941 — contained the darkest hour in our Navy's history. ^{In fairness} Suddenly and without warning, 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 ^{and} attack are here in this hospital today.

In the months that followed — months ^{of bitter victories} — ^{of courageous and determined work} — our enemies taunted us with the question, "Where is the United States Navy?"

Today, those enemies know the answer to that question. ^{Beginning of the} ~~—~~ ^{aspect of the same} 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.

Where is the United States Navy?

It is there where it has always been. It is in there fighting. It ^{carrying out the} ~~is fighting~~ command to hit our enemy, and hit him again, wherever and whenever we can 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 devoted workers, risking their own lives that otherlives may be saved.

As we dedicate this new building, standing here in this green, peaceful Maryland countryside, we must think first of that for which ^{The Hospital} ~~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, ^{to be made whole again —} ~~been come back to us~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{most} ~~any~~ ^{best} ~~front~~



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From the Pages of
Samuel I. Rosenman

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The first chief of Navy Medicine, a century ago, was Dr. William F. 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 ^{our banner} to fly above a man-of-war. ~~That American flag by the way took~~ ~~the ominous legend "Dont 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.~~

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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



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

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, plodding 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 ^{lives} men who ^{for us} builds up the fighting ^{men who} ^{influence} ^{which} will gain for us the victory which inevitably will be ours.

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



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White Park, N. Y.

From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

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 ^{that} true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of freedom and faith.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

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 dis-
tinguished 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 through-
out the world. On land and sea and in the air, ~~on enemy commitments~~
~~refugees~~
~~and prisoners~~
and ~~in~~ 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 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 ~~unsuccesses~~, the Japanese, launched their attack
on Pearl Harbor.

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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

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.

*[Information of Pearl Harbor
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?

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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

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 ~~gun turrets~~ ^{gun turrets} alleviating suffering, ~~the~~ ^A 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, ~~women workers~~ ^{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. [Some ^{wounded} have come back to us -- to be made whole again -- and some have gloriously died.]



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

SECOND DRAFT

[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. G. 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 flag to fly above an American man-of-war.]

Today, 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.
~~These are battles the like of which have never before been known.~~
To carry such battles to successful conclusion, men who fight and in the air 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]

we are fighting battles the like of which have never before been known.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

SECOND DRAFT

-5-

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 ~~never~~ 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 ~~enduring~~ the unprecedented rigors of long-range submarine warfare -- ~~a~~ conditions under which it was believed, not so long ago, human life could not possibly exist.

~~Within~~ ^{flesh and blood could not} This work of conditioning ~~is of utmost importance~~ ^{privately 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.



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Defense and Recovery Board

REVIEWED AND APPROVED
BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF

S. SAMUEL I. ROSENSTEIN

Printed from Papers of

SECOND DRAFT

-6-

That remarkable progress has been achieved in this science can be attested by those of our enemies who have ~~and~~ 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 civilians' casualties were men and women ~~who could help~~ who could ~~help~~ build planes, tanks, ships and guns -- who could ~~have~~ served in Civilian Defense or in many other essential services -- ~~have~~ who could themselves ~~have~~ 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 action against our enemies, but all of us can participate in the saving of American lives.

our

Most of the 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 lives and builds up the force of fighting men who will gain for us the victory which inevitably will be ours.

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Administration

S. I. Rosenman
From the Papers of



SECOND DRAFT

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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.



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service

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Samuel I. Rosenman

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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.

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Where is the United States Navy?



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

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.

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
National Personnel Records Center
West Park, St. Louis, Mo.

From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
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From the Papers of
Samuel L. Rosenberg
1945

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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.

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Samuel I. Rosenman

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 preventable? In factories the number was _____ fatalities last year. How many of these deaths were preventable?

Among these civilians' 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.

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.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman
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FRANCIS E. BREWSTER, JR.,
DIRECTORSamuel I. Rosenman
PROTHONOTARY
JO ALEXANDER

SECOND DRAFT

-V-

Most of the 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 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 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 that true health in body and mind and spirit which can be realized only in a climate of freedom and faith.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

THIRD DRAFT

ADDRESS AT DEDICATION OF
NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER, 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 which today celebrates its one hundredth birthday.

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.



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From the Papers of
Samuel S. Rosenman

THIRD 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 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.

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,



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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, they are risking their own lives that other lives may be saved.

Standing here in this green, peaceful Maryland country -- side, 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

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 wartime medical progress -- both in prevention and cure -- must not be limited to the armed forces.



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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 have helped to build planes, tanks, ships and guns -- who could have served in civilian defense or in many other essential services -- who could themselves have 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.

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



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1945 E. 20th Street, New York, N.Y.Samuel I. Rosenberg
From the Pages of
the War

throughout the entire world, the medical work goes on day by day, which heals wounds and saves lives and builds up the forces 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.

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From the President

1067 words

FOURTH DRAFT

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

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 fit 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.



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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 rooms, in the gun turrets -- alleviating suffering,



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From the Papers of
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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.



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FOURTH DRAFT

-4-

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 42,000,000 man days.

It is not only our enemies who kill valuable Americans. Care-



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From the Pages of
Samuel I. Rosenman.

-3-

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 ag inst 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 over half a million 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.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Cal. 1941

Industrial 19,200 deaths
Accidents 100,600 permanent
impairment
(arm or leg or eye)

Temporary
disability 2,060,400 (avg 1/2
year from each
accident)

Total
monetary loss = 42,000,000 +

total
1940
industrial
accidents

1941 Automobile
Cal

Deaths # 40,000
(Nat. Safety Council)

1,450,000 accidents



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O and it seems to me we have there in a
material shortage of doctors and nurses. Even if practicable
certain accidents [e.g. for pneumonia] doctors needed
medical supplies. There are some [and]
therefore become a plan and which is imperative
from the ~~assumed~~ requirements of our Army and Navy

in using our Service might effectively

INSERT

August 29, 1942.

Put in somewhere the idea that as the years go by each new war finds medical skill and medical science saving the lives and putting back into active life a greater proportion of the sick and wounded than in each preceding war. Each new war finds the preparations of Army and Navy and civilian care by Doctors and nurses in hospitals more perfected than in each preceding war and that while loss of life in war these days, especially a world war, is tremendously high, we still have to face the fact that because all of the civilians in a nation are a part of the war effort -- because war has become total in its relationship to every man and woman in the country -- we have not yet attained certain obvious objectives in regard to the population as a whole.

Then go on to say -- I cite the fact that in this country while, of course, we have been in the war ourselves less than a year and are great distances from the fighting fronts, nevertheless, we have found at home where there is no war, that more people are being killed today by highway accidents, automobile accidents



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and things of that kind than there were last year -- a higher percentage -- appalling figures -- so far this year running at the rate of 300,000 killed and another 600,000 injured. That is not the end of it -- that is not all we have to think about -- we have to think of the fact that 110,000 factory workers, most of them engaged in turning out munitions, have been killed since last December 7th, and that another several hundred thousand others have been so injured that they had to stop from turning out munitions until they could get well. And, therefore, we must not think that war is the only thing that takes a toll of life.

Those people are doing a personal injury to the winning of the war if they allow themselves to get run over or allow themselves to get hurt in turning out munitions which are needed in the war. During the last World War there was exactly the same thing. More people were killed in this country in 1917 and 1918 in automobiles and factories than all the men killed in France.

It is perfectly true that in certain forms of war production a relatively small percentage run the risk of shell explosion but in the overwhelming majority of plants there is no more danger than in any other factory



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in time of peace.

Then something about the preparations through experiments on ~~xxxxxx~~ divers who have to go infinitely deep to rescue people from submarines, etc.



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