

April 14, 1943

[Parris Island]

FDR Speech File

1461

INFORMAL REMARKS  
OF THE  
P R E S I D E N T  
AT  
PARRIS ISLAND  
APRIL 14, 1943

Major General Emil P. Moses, USMC, Commanding General:

Men, you are about to be spoken to by your Commander in Chief, the President of the United States.

THE PRESIDENT:

Men, I congratulate you on being Marines.

I have followed the Marine Corps many, many years. It was just thirty years ago that I was here at Port Royal. I have seen you in Haiti, Santo Domingo, in France, and on the Rhine. Some of you men may not appreciate it, but I was not in the Halls of Montezuma or on the Shores of Tripoli.

I congratulate you on the fine work being done here. You are a credit to the Marine Corps. I can't say more than that.

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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.