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

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

File No. 1543

1944 October 17

Address in Behalf of National War Fund

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL WAR FUND
OCTOBER 16, 1944

Once again I come to you on behalf of your community war fund, united with the National War Fund in a common federated appeal "for our own and for our Allies".

This year, more than ever, we need the friendly aid and assistance of all these great humanitarian agencies for our fighting forces, for the long-suffering peoples of the United Nations and for those in need among our neighbors here at home. These united services can bring us one step farther in our fight for decency, humanity and good-will towards men.

Through a single gift to this united appeal we are able to extend the hand of friendship to millions of people at home and around the world -- to perform millions of acts of kindness.

Through this one gift we show the warmth of our affection for our men and women in uniform by providing them with the home comforts and conveniences of the USO -- and, to those whose service has been fulfilled, a friendly hand in getting adjusted to civilian life all over again. Through USO-Camp Shows, one of the great institutions of this war, we bring the spirit-refreshing tonic of good American entertainment to every camp, every military hospital, and every fighting front.

Through this same Gift we also support United Seamen's Service, providing rest and relaxation for our merchant seamen -- the men who are bringing the convoys through.

And we help to keep up the spirits of the homesick and heartsick prisoners of war -- with the music, the books, the sports and games provided by War Prisoners Aid.

It is through this gift that we send a token of our own personal friendship to the tragic victims of brute slavery and to those who have so long borne the burden of fighting this war --

the hungry, the sick and the homeless peoples of China, Russia, Britain, Belgium, France, Greece, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, the Philippines, and other friends and neighbors in the community of nations. This personal gift made by you, this token of sympathy and appreciation, is much more than mere monetary assistance.

The great warm-hearted good will, that you have expressed through these funds, has helped immeasurably to revive the spirit of faith and hope in many lands across the seas where there had been bitterness and hatred after the years of war and oppression.

Wherever our "G-I's" go, they are welcomed not only as liberators but as good friends. Wherever they go, their presence spells "America", and that is a word now more beloved of more millions of people throughout the world than ever before in our history.

And finally -- through this united gift we contribute to the important wartime job at home of taking good care of our children and our young people -- giving a helping hand to our neighbor down the street -- maintaining standards of welfare worthy of the great efforts of our fighting forces.

This gift of friendship -- this participation in our community war appeal -- is one war job we are not compelled to do, but it is one that we all willingly wish to do. This is typical of democracy at its best.

In these days, as we begin to see the approach of victory, it may seem more of a burden to us to measure up to our war jobs and responsibilities. Our gift to our community war fund is one way to show that there is no let-down in the spirit and unity of this country. This gift -- this expression of our own free will -- speaks from the heart of the nation.

Because of this I know that this appeal will be met gladly and generously. I know that we will re-affirm our concern for our own and for our Allies.

We cannot let them down now! I know that we will keep faith with them as they are keeping it with us until their job is done. I know that we will all have a great sense of pride on that glad day of their return -- which we are trying to make as speedy as possible -- when they shake us by the hand and say: "Thanks for helping, friend. In many ways, it meant a lot to us out there!"

I ask your support in a big way -- a way that will count.

Orig. sending copy

Franklin D. Roosevelt

ADDRESS of the President

In Connection with the National War Fund

Broadcast Nationally from the White House

October 17, 1944, at 10.30 p.m., e.w.t.

My friends: Once again I come to you on behalf of your community war fund, united with the National War Fund in a common federated appeal for us and for our Allies. ("for our own and for our Allies.")

This year, more than ever, we need the friendly aid and assistance of all these great humanitarian agencies for our fighting forces, for the long-suffering peoples of the United Nations and for those in need among our neighbors here at home. These united services can bring us one step further (farther) in our fight for decency, humanity and goodwill towards men.

Through a single gift to this united appeal we are able to extend the hand of friendship to millions of people at home and around the world -- to perform millions of acts of kindness.

Through this one gift we show the warmth of our affection for our men and women in uniform by providing them with the home comforts and the conveniences of the USO -- and, to those whose service has been fulfilled, a friendly hand in getting adjusted to civilian life all over again. Through USO-Camp Shows, one of the great institutions of this war, we bring the spirit-refreshing tonic of good American entertainment to every camp, every military hospital, and every

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underlining indicates words extemporaneously added to the previously prepared reading copy text. Words in parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

fighting front.

Through this same gift we also support United Seamen's Service, providing rest and relaxation for our merchant seamen -- the men who are bringing the convoys through.

And we help to keep up the spirits of the homesick and heartsick prisoners of war -- with the music, and the books, the sports and games provided by War Prisoners Aid.

It is through this gift that we send a token of our own personal friendship to the tragic victims of brute slavery and to those who have so long borne the burden of fighting this war -- the hungry, the sick and the homeless peoples of China, and Russia, and Britain, and Belgium, and France, Greece, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, the Philippines, and other friends and neighbors in the community of nations. This personal gift made by you, this token of sympathy and appreciation, is much more than the mere money (monetary) assistance.

The great warmhearted goodwill, that you have expressed through these funds, has helped immeasurably to revive the spirit of faith and hope in many lands across the seas -- and in many homes back here -- where there has (had) been bitterness and hatred after (the) years of war and oppression.

Wherever our boys in the services ("G I's") go, they are welcomed not only as liberators but as good friends. Wherever they go, their presence spells "America," and that is a word now more beloved, I think, by (of) more millions of people throughout the world than ever before in all our history.

And finally -- through this united gift we contribute to the important wartime job at home of taking good care of our children and our young people -- giving a helping hand to our neighbor down the street -- maintaining standards of welfare worthy of the great efforts of our fighting forces.

This gift of friendship -- this participation in our community war appeal -- is one war job we are not compelled to do, but it is one that we all willingly wish to do. This is typical of democracy at its best.

In these days, as we begin to see the approach of victory, it may seem more of a burden to us to measure up to our war jobs and responsibilities. Our gift to our community war fund is one way to show that there is no letdown in the spirit and the unity of this country. This gift -- this expression of our own free will -- speaks from the heart of the nation.

Because of this, I know that this appeal will be met gladly and generously. I know that it (we) will re-affirm our concern for our own and for our Allies.

We cannot let them down now! I know that we will keep faith with them, as they are keeping it with us, until their job is done. I know that we will all have a great sense of pride on that glad day of their return -- which we are trying to make as speedy as possible -- when they shake us by the hand and say, "Thanks for helping, friend. In many ways, it meant a lot to us out there!"

And so, I ask your support -- your support in a

big way -- a way that will count.

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

OCTOBER 17, 1944

CAUTION: The following radio address of the President, to be delivered in connection with the National War Fund, MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE until released.

NOTE: Release to editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 10:30 o'clock, P.M., E.W.T., October 17, 1944. The same release also applies to radio announcers and news commentators.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

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Secretary to the President

Once again I come to you on behalf of your community war fund, united with the National War Fund in a common federated appeal "for our own and for our Allies".

This year, more than ever, we need the friendly aid and assistance of all these great humanitarian agencies for our fighting forces, for the long-suffering peoples of the United Nations and for those in need among our neighbors here at home. These united services can bring us one step farther in our fight for decency, humanity and good-will towards men.

Through a single gift to this united appeal we are able to extend the hand of friendship to millions of people at home and around the world -- to perform millions of acts of kindness.

Through this one gift we show the warmth of our affection for our men and women in uniform by providing them with the home comforts and conveniences of the USO -- and, to those whose service has been fulfilled, a friendly hand in getting adjusted to civilian life all over again. Through USO-Camp Shows, one of the great institutions of this war, we bring the spirit-refreshing tonic of good American entertainment to every camp, every military hospital, and every fighting front.

Through this same gift we also support United Seamen's Service, providing rest and relaxation for our merchant seamen -- the men who are bringing the convoys through.

And we help to keep up the spirits of the homesick and heartsick prisoners of war -- with the music, the books, the sports and games provided by War Prisoners Aid.

It is through this gift that we send a token of our own personal friendship to the tragic victims of brute slavery and to those who have so long borne the burden of fighting this war -- the hungry, the sick and the homeless peoples of China, Russia, Britain, Belgium, France, Greece, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, the Philippines, and other friends and neighbors in the community of nations. This personal gift made by you, this token of sympathy and appreciation, is much more than mere monetary assistance.

The great warm-hearted good will, that you have expressed through these funds, has helped immeasurably to revive the spirit of faith and hope in many lands across the seas where there had been bitterness and hatred after the years of war and oppression.

Wherever our "O-I's" go, they are welcomed not only as liberators but as good friends. Wherever they go, their presence spells "America", and that is a word now more beloved of more millions of people throughout the world than ever before in our history.

And finally -- through this united gift we contribute to the important wartime job at home of taking good care of our children and our young people -- giving a helping hand to our neighbor down the street -- maintaining standards of welfare worthy of the great efforts of our fighting forces.

This gift of friendship -- this participation in our community war appeal -- is one war job we are not compelled to do, but it is one that we all willingly wish to do. This is typical of democracy at its best.

In these days, as we begin to see the approach of victory, it may seem now of a burden to us to measure up to our war jobs and responsibilities. Our gift to our community war fund is one way to show that there is no let-down in the spirit and unity of this country. This gift -- this expression of our own free will -- speaks from the heart of the nation.

Because of this I know that this appeal will be met gladly and generously. I know that we will re-affirm our concern for our own and for our Allies.

We cannot let them down now! I know that we will keep faith with them as they are keeping it with us until their job is done. I know that we will all have a great sense of pride on that glad day of their return -- which we are trying to make as speedy as possible -- when they shake us by the hand and say: "Thanks for helping, friend. In many ways, it meant a lot to us out there!"

I ask your support in a big way -- a way that will count.

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Suggested draft for radio address of
The President
October 10, 1944

My friends and fellow Americans:

Once again I come to you on behalf of your community war fund, united with the National War Fund in a common federated appeal for our own and for our Allies.

This year more than ever we need the friendly aid and assistance of all these great humanitarian agencies for our fighting forces, for the long-suffering peoples of the United Nations and for those in need among our neighbors here at home. These united services can bring us one step nearer on the road to victory and peace — one more step in our fight for decency, humanity and good-will towards men.

Through a single gift to this united appeal we are able to extend the hand of friendship to millions of people at home and around the world — to perform millions of acts of kindness.

Through this one gift we show the warmth of our affection for our men and women in uniform by providing them with the home comforts and conveniences of the USO — and, to those whose service has been fulfilled, a friendly hand in getting ^{adjusted} ~~used~~ to civilian life all over again. And through USO-Camp Shows, one of the great institutions of this war, we bring the spirit-refreshing tonic of good American entertainment to every camp, every military hospital, and every fighting front.

Through this same gift we also support United Seamen's Service, providing rest and relaxation for the men who are bringing the convoys through our merchant seamen in the ports and on the beachheads of the seven seas.

And we help to keep up the spirits of the homesick and heartsick prisoners of war — with the music, the books, the sports and games provided by War Prisoners Aid.

*Belgium, France,
Greece, Norway,
Poland, The Netherlands,
The Philippines,*

~~and~~ It is through this gift that we send a token of friendship —
our own personal friendship — to the tragic victims of brute slavery and
to those who have so long borne the burden of fighting this war — the
hungry, the sick and the homeless peoples of China, Russia, Britain and other
friends and neighbors in the community of nations. [However insignificant
in relation to their gigantic needs, however small in relation to the aid
they obtain from government and other sources,] This personal gift made by
you, this token of sympathy and appreciation, is much more than mere mone-
tary assistance.

INSERT

(A)

And finally — through this united gift we contribute to the im-
portant wartime job at home of taking good care of our children and our
young people — giving a helping hand to our neighbor down the street —
maintaining standards of welfare worthy of the great efforts of our fighting
forces.

This gift of friendship -- this participation in our community war
appeal -- is one war job we ^{are not compelled} ~~don't have~~ to do, but it is one that we all ^{willingly wish} ~~want~~
to do. This is ^{typical of} democracy at its best.

In these days, as we begin to ^{see the approach of} taste victory, it may seem more of a
^{to me} burden to measure up to our war jobs and responsibilities. But ^{is one way to show} our gift to
our community war fund ^{unity} ~~will prove~~ that there is no let-down in the spirit
and ~~consciousness~~ ^{unity} of this country. This gift -- this expression of our own
free will -- speaks from the heart of the nation.

Because of this I know that this appeal will be met gladly and
generously. I know that we will re-affirm our concern for our own and for

Heart (A) p. 2.

warm-hearted

The great good will ~~of the~~ human friendships
and sympathies, that you have expressed
through these funds, ~~has~~ has helped
immeasurably to establish ~~the~~ ^a climate of ^{friendship}
~~friendship in which our fight goes~~ in many
lands across the seas.

Wherever our "G-1's" go, their presence spells
"America", and that is a word ^{now} more beloved
of more millions of ^{than ever} ~~people~~ ^{than ever before}
in our history.

where there had been ^{hatred} and
hatred ~~in the~~ after the
years of war and oppression.

our allies.

[Not now -- not in this hour -- can't ^{can not} let them down, I know
that we will keep faith with them until their job is done. . . I know

that we will match their victories with ours . . . and] I know that we will ^{all}
^{have a} feel great ^{cause of} pride on that glad day of their return when they shake us by
the hand and say: "Thanks for helping, friend. ^{in many ways, it} meant a lot to us out
there!"

as they are keeping it with us

- which we are trying to
make as speedy as
possible -

NATIONAL WAR FUND

INCORPORATED



46 CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK 5, N. Y. • BOWLING GREEN 9-1366



WINTHROP W. ALDRICH, *President* • JEAN B. ADOUE, JR., *Texas*; ROBERT M. HANES, *North Carolina*; FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS, *Nebraska*; WALTER ROTHSCHILD, *New York*; EDWARD L. EYERSON, *Illinois*; ROBERT G. SPROUL, *California*; HENRY M. WRISTON, *Rhode Island*, *Vice-Presidents* • RALPH HAYES, *Secretary*
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October 2, 1944

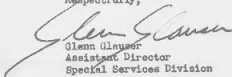
Mr. Thomas Blake
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Blake:

Following your suggestion, I am attaching, herewith, necessary facts and data in speech form for your use in facilitating the drafting of the five minute nation-wide radio address, to be made by the President, opening National War Fund's campaign throughout the country on the evening of October 10, 1944.

Your courtesy and cooperation in facilitating this matter is deeply appreciated.

Respectfully,


Glenn Glazer
Assistant Director
Special Services Division

GG:hm
Encs.

Member Agencies of the National War Fund:

U.S.O. • United Seamen's Service • War Prisoners Aid • The Belgian War Relief Society • The British War Relief Society • French Relief Fund • Greek War Relief Association • Friends of Luxembourg • Norwegian Relief • Polish War Relief • The Queen Wilhelmina Fund • Russian War Relief • United China Relief • United Czechoslovak Relief • The United Yugoslav Relief Fund • Refugee Relief Trustees • United States Committee for the Care of European Children

Draft of
Radio Address of the President, October 17 1944

My friends and fellow Americans:

Once again I come to you on behalf of your community war fund, united with the National War Fund in a common federated appeal "for our own and for our Allies."

This year, more than ever, we need the friendly aid and assistance of all these great humanitarian agencies for our fighting forces, for the long-suffering peoples of the United Nations and for those in need among our neighbors here at home. These united services can bring us one step farther in our fight for decency, humanity and good-will towards men.

Through a single gift to this united appeal we are able to extend the hand of friendship to millions of people at home and around the world -- to perform millions of acts of kindness.

Through this one gift we show the warmth of our affection for our men and women in uniform by providing them with the home comforts and conveniences of the USO -- and, to those whose service has been fulfilled, a friendly hand in getting adjusted to civilian life all over again. Through USO-Camp Shows, one of the great institutions of this war, we bring the spirit-refreshing tonic of good American entertainment to every camp, every military hospital, and every fighting front.

Through this same gift we also support United Seamen's Service, providing rest and relaxation for our merchant seamen -- the men who are bringing the convoys through.

And we help to keep up the spirits of the homesick and heart-sick prisoners of war -- with the music, the books, the sports and games provided by War Prisoners Aid.

It is through this gift that we send a token of our own personal friendship to the tragic victims of brute slavery and to those who have so long borne the burden of fighting this war -- the hungry, the sick and the homeless peoples of China, Russia, Britain, Belgium, France, Greece, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, the Philippines, and other friends and neighbors in the community of nations. This personal gift made by you, this token of sympathy and appreciation, is much more than mere monetary assistance.

*I act of our support in a big way - a way
that will count*

(Penned sentence read at end of speech)

The great warm-hearted good will, that you have expressed through these funds, has helped immeasurably to ~~establish a climate of~~ ^{friendship} ~~revive the spirit of faith and hope~~ in many lands across the seas where there had been bitterness and hatred after the years of war and oppression.

Wherever our "Q-I's" go, their presence spells "America," and that is a word now more beloved of more millions of people throughout the world than ever before in our history.

And finally -- through this united gift we contribute to the important wartime job at home of taking good care of our children and our young people -- giving a helping hand to our neighbor down the street -- maintaining standards of welfare worthy of the great efforts of our fighting forces.

This gift of friendship -- this participation in our community war appeal -- is one war job we are not compelled to do, but it is one that we all willingly wish to do. This is typical of democracy at its best.

In these days, as we begin to see the approach of victory, it may seem more of a burden to us to measure up to our war jobs and responsibilities. Our gift to our community war fund is one way to show that there is no let-down in the spirit and unity of this country. This gift --

They are welcomed not only as
donors but as good friends.
When they go,

this expression of our own free will -- speaks from the heart of the nation.

Because of this I know that this appeal will be met gladly and generously. I know that we will re-affirm our concern for our own and for our allies.

We cannot let them down now! I know that we will keep faith with them as they are keeping it with us until their job is done. I know that we will all have a great sense of pride on that glad day of their return -- which we are trying to make as speedy as possible -- when they shake us by the hand and say: "Thanks for helping, friend. In many ways, it meant a lot to us out there!"

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL WAR FUND

OCTOBER 16, 1944

Once again I come to you on behalf of your community war fund, united with the National War Fund in a common federated appeal "for our own and for our Allies".

TAKE ONE
This year, more than ever, we need the friendly aid and assistance of all these great humanitarian agencies for our fighting forces, for the long-suffering peoples of the United Nations and for those in need among our neighbors here at home. These united services can bring us one step farther in our fight for decency, humanity and good-will towards men.

Through a single gift to this united appeal we are able to extend the hand of friendship to millions of people at home and around the world -- to perform millions of acts of kindness.

STOP

20

Through this one gift we show the warmth of our affection for our men and women in uniform ~~by providing them with the home comforts and conveniences of the USO -- and, to those whose service has been fulfilled, a friendly hand in getting adjusted to civilian life all over again.~~ Through USO-Camp Shows, one of the great institutions of this war, we bring the spirit-refreshing tonic of good American entertainment to every camp, every military hospital, and every fighting front.

Through this same ^{gift} ~~we~~ we also support United Seamen's Service, providing rest and relaxation for our merchant seamen -- the men who are bringing the convoys through.

And we help to keep up the spirits of the homesick and heartsick prisoners of war -- with the music, the books, the sports and games provided by War Prisoners Aid.

^{TAKE TWO}
It is through this gift that we send a token of our own personal friendship to the tragic victims of brute slavery and to those who have so long borne the burden of fighting this war --

the hungry, the sick and the homeless peoples of China, Russia, Britain, Belgium, France, Greece, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, the Philippines, and other friends and neighbors in the community of nations. This personal gift made by you, this token of sympathy and appreciation, is much more than mere monetary assistance.

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Wherever our "G-I's" go, they are welcomed not only as liberators but as good friends. Wherever they go, their presence spells "America", and that is a word now more beloved of more millions of people throughout the world than ever before in our history.

END

120

TAKE THREE

-4-

~~and finally~~ ^{also} -- through this united gift we contribute

to the important wartime job at home of taking good care of our children and our young people -- giving a helping hand to our neighbor down the street -- maintaining standards of welfare worthy of the great efforts of our fighting forces.

~~This gift of friendship -- this participation in our community war appeal -- is one war job we are not compelled to do, but it is one that we all willingly wish to do. This is typical of democracy at its best.~~

In these days, as we begin to see the approach of victory, it may seem more of a burden to us to measure up to our war jobs and responsibilities. Our gift to our community war fund is one way to show that there is no let-down in the spirit and unity of this country. This gift -- this expression of our own free will -- speaks from the heart of the nation.

END

Because of this I know that this appeal will be met gladly and generously. I know that we will re-affirm our concern for our own and for our Allies.

We cannot let them down now! I know that we will keep faith with them as they are keeping it with us until their job is done. I know that we will all have a great sense of pride on that glad day of their return -- which we are trying to make as speedy as possible -- when they shake us by the hand and say: "Thanks for helping, friend. In many ways, it meant a lot to us out there!"

I ask your support in a big way -- a way that will count.

STATEMENTS FILE

NEWSREEL EXCERPTS

OCTOBER 17, 1944

TAKE I

16 Nov 1944

This year, more than ever, ~~we~~ need the friendly aid and assistance of all these great humanitarian agencies for our fighting forces, for the long-suffering peoples of the United Nations and for those in need among our neighbors here at home. These united services can bring us one step farther in our fight for decency, humanity and good-will towards men.

Through a single gift to this united appeal we are able to extend the hand of friendship to millions of people at home and around the world -- to perform millions of acts of kindness.

STOP

TAKE II

It is through this gift that we send a token of our own personal friendship to the tragic victims of brute slavery and to those who have so long borne the burden of fighting this war -- the hungry, the sick and the homeless peoples of China, Russia, Britain, Belgium, France, Greece, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, the Philippines, and other friends and neighbors in the community of nations. This personal gift made by you, this token of sympathy and appreciation, is much more than mere monetary assistance.

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STOP

TAKE III

Through this united gift we also contribute to the important wartime job at home of taking good care of our children and our young people -- giving a helping hand to our neighbor down the street -- maintaining standards of welfare worthy of the great efforts of our fighting forces.

In these days, as we begin to see the approach of victory, it may seem more of a burden to us to measure up to our war jobs and responsibilities. Our gift to our community war fund is one way to show that there is no let-down in the spirit and unity of this country. This gift -- this expression of our own free will -- speaks from the heart of the nation.

STOP