

CONFIDENTIAL
Press and Radio Conference #907
Executive Office of the President
July 9, 1943 -- 10.47 P.M., E.W.T.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: Steve (Early) says I haven't got a blessed thing.

Q. Is there anything you can tell us, sir, about your conferences with General (Henri Honore) Giraud?

THE PRESIDENT: No. We had a little talk at lunch yesterday -- talked about various military problems.

Q. Mr. President, in that connection, you may have noticed some comments in the press to the effect that in the present course with reference to Giraud and (General Charles) De Gaulle, we are unduly interfering with French political affairs. Do you care to comment on those comments?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I don't think so.

Q. (interposing) Mr. President, is there any ---

THE PRESIDENT: (continuing) The only -- only one comment I might make is this, that you used the word "French"; but I suppose 95 percent of France is still under the heel of the Germans in France.

Q. Can you say, Mr. President, whether we are going to recognize the French National Committee?

THE PRESIDENT: There isn't any France at the present time, except five percent outside of France.

Q. Yes, sir, but there is a French National Committee.

THE PRESIDENT: (interjecting) Oh Yes.

Q. (continuing) Do you care to say whether ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) I don't think the question has come up.

Q. Mr. President, is there anything on this eight-cent rail wage controversy?

THE PRESIDENT: What controversy?

Q. The eight-cent rail wage controversy?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, they are going ahead on it. I don't know, the thing -- it's in the condition of being discussed back and forth. I don't think there will be any news until the beginning of the week.

Q. Mr. President, are you in a position to comment on the planning that is being put up to take care of employment after the war?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think so, except the thing is -- the thing is being studied. What we are trying to do is get an orderly procedure -- policy for it. That is one of the reasons we have always been in favor of the Executive branch of the Government having some kind of planning. There are a lot of people who don't want to plan. We have to recognize that also.

Q. Mr. President, can you tell us something about this vacancy on the F.C.C. (Federal Communications Commission), the nomination of Mr. (George Henry) Payne on one day, and his ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) I have seen various

guesses. So far, they have all been wrong.

Q. Can you tell us what the right one is?

THE PRESIDENT: No. (laughter)

MAY CRAIG: Mr. President, would you care to express yourself on the work of the Session of Congress just completed?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I don't think so, May. They have got, still, a lot to do when they come back in September.

Q. Mr. President, anything to say on subsidies?

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q. Food subsidies?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I may have something to say on that later on. I don't think today is a good day to say it.

Q. Sir, could you say anything about this urgent deficiency bill that has all these people's money tied up?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know, it hasn't got to me yet. It has passed, you know, but before it comes down there is quite a long lag.

Q. We understood that it was before you day before yesterday.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it has gone to the various departments.

Q. Mr. President, is the Government going to make any effort to seek full compliance with John L. Lewis in the coal case?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, exactly what do you mean?

Q. Well, the W.L.B. (War Labor Board) asked him to sign a contract, and they seem to feel that full compliance

would call for some Governmental re-affirmation of that order to sign a contract, presumably by yourself?

THE PRESIDENT: What would you order -- what would the affirmation be?

Q. Well, they seem to -- to want some White House statement asking Mr. Lewis to sign this contract.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it is -- after all it's the action by a quasi-judicial body, which speaks for itself. What kind of action would I take?

Q. That's what I was asking.

THE PRESIDENT: What? Send a polite longhand note on pink notepaper and say, "Dear Mr. Lewis, I hope you will sign it"? And then if he doesn't, what happens?

Q. Well, I think that's what the War Labor Board was putting up to the White House.

THE PRESIDENT: Their order, so their decision -- that is perfectly obvious. I don't see any use in writing pink notes to say, "Please conform with the decision of a Government agency." There has been a lot of rot talked about that. It's a definite order.

Q. What will be done if Mr. Lewis doesn't conform, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, what would you do?

Q. I don't know, sir. I am not President.

(laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: You know, it would be an awfully difficult thing if I were to order some of you to sign your

name to something, and you said "No." Do you know any law in which I can acquire his manual signature? There's an awful lot of rot been printed about the whole thing.

Q. Mr. President, you secured the signature of Sewell Avery to the Montgomery Ward contract by asking him to sign the contract and maintenance of membership, and presumably he signed because of the threat of possible Government sanctions, and ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) There were -- there were Governmental sanctions in that case. I didn't want to take over Montgomery Ward, obviously. (laughter) But I did have the authority to take it over. Now, I don't think that there's a similar authority for the Government to take over the United Mine Workers.

Q. Well, do you feel you need, sir, then some sanctions with which you can deal with recalcitrant unions?

THE PRESIDENT: With what?

Q. Do you feel that you need some sanctions by which ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) My God, read section eight of the recent (Connally-Smith anti-strike) law, and the first seven sections.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

(Notebook PC-XIV -- Page 164 -- JR)

CONFIDENTIAL
Press and Radio Conference #908
Executive Office of the President
July 13, 1943 -- 4.07 P.M., E.W.T.

Q. (with bandaged left ear) Howdy!

THE PRESIDENT: Cut yourself?

Q. No, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: Somebody bite it?

Q. Yes, sir -- a bug. (laughter)

MR. EARLY: (adding) With a gold tooth.

Q. I won't go into the gender.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I won't ask. (more laughter)

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: I have got two or three things here that are -- a statement for the 14th of July (Bastille Day), and I think it has been given you for release tonight at nine o'clock.

Then, I have appointed a comptroller of the currency, at the request of the Community War Fund Committee, to assume the duties of chairman of the Government unit during the current year. I think you all know him. (Mr. Preston Delano) He will do a very excellent job there.

Then, I will anticipate somebody's question which I know somebody is going to ask. I did know that Governor (Rexford G.) Tugwell of Puerto Rico is coming up here for a short visit, and I expect to see him when he comes.

Then, on -- what I was talking about the other day, just for your information, I am asking you to read two

things. Section three of the War Labor Disputes Act provides that the Government shall return possession -- it doesn't say of coal mines, but things that have been taken over -- plants taken over by the Government -- to their owners, quote, "as soon as practicable, but in no event more than sixty days after the restoration of the productive efficiency thereof prevailing prior to the taking of the possession thereof."

Well, that's -- that's the law; and the Government certainly will comply with the law.

In case anybody wants to know whether the -- what happens to the employees out -- who went out on strike, if you read the law it also provides for such an emergency, specifying the giving of notice, and so on and so forth. That's that section eight.

And the only other thing I have got is the Urgent Deficiency Appropriation Act. I am going to send a Message to the Congress -- both Houses -- when they reconvene two months from now; and I might just as well tell you what I am going to say to them now -- (laughter) -- it will be a long ways off and people may have forgotten all about it. (more laughter)

(what follows is not the exact wording
contained in the Message)

This is the Act that fires three people who are now in the employ of the Government, by name, unless they -- a new appointment is confirmed by the -- by the Senate. Well, I felt obliged to approve the Act as a whole because this

appropriates funds that were essential to carry on the activities of the -- almost every part of the Government during the recess of the Congress. If I had been able to veto the objectionable rider that was attached, I would have done so, but of course it would have delayed essential war appropriations, and I didn't get the Act itself until, I think, about the moment that Congress was going home.

The rider prohibits any Government department or agency from employing at any time in the future, after November 15, these three named individuals who are now employed by different Government agencies, unless they go through the processes of new appointments, and being confirmed by the Senate. There is no suggestion that the three named individuals have not loyally and competently performed all the duties for which they were employed. They are sought to be disqualified from Federal employment because of political opinions attributed to them.

Now, the provision aimed at these people does not define the offices they hold, and does not seek to make appointments for those offices subject to Senate approval, which three individuals might be any office -- might be a member of the Supreme Court. That is an interesting idea. They might be a member of the Cabinet.

As a matter of fact, the clause permitting them to remain in Government employment, subject to Presidential appointment, was inserted only after the Senate refused to accept the prior provision in the House bill requiring their immediate removal from Government employment and permanent

disqualification for all time to come from the Federal service. The Senate rejected the compromise as incorporated in this bill at one time, and agreed to it only after the House conferees had refused to agree to any bill without a provision aimed at the removal of these three people. The Senate yielded, as I have been forced to yield, to avoid delaying our conduct of the war.

Well, I cannot so yield without placing on record the view that this provision is not only unwise and definitely discriminatory, but also it is unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court sometime ago defined a bill of attainder -- which, as you probably know, is forbidden by the Constitution of the United States -- as, quote, "a legislative act which inflicts punishment without judicial trial."

The rider in this bill operates perpetually to disqualify these three named individuals from holding office in Government, unless they are nominated by the President and later confirmed by the Senate. The bill is directed at named individuals and not at specified statutory offices. No judicial trials have been held. No impeachment proceedings have been instituted; and, of course, under the Constitution, there is a definite provision in the Constitution for impeachment. And that is the only removal-from-office clause, which is in the Constitution of the United States; and it has been used a good many times, we all know, in cases of -- Oh, in the last ten years, in the cases of one or two judges.

The rider is an unwarranted encroachment on the

authority of both the Judicial and the Executive branches, under the Constitution. The rider is not, in my judgment, binding upon them.

Well, I think that's all.

Q. Mr. President, ---

Q. (interposing) Mr. President, does that mean ---

Q. (interposing) Mr. President, ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Now -- wait a minute. One at a time. (laughter)

Q. Does that mean they will stay in office?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I am just giving you that, Pete (Brandt). (laughter)

Q. You said it is not binding.

Q. Mr. President, are you developing plans for the reorganization of the foreign purchasing program of the B.E.W. (Board of Economic Warfare) and the R.F.C. (Reconstruction Finance Corporation), as a means of resolving the dispute between the Vice President and Secretary of Commerce Jones?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't got any news on that.

Q. Mr. President, Senator (George L.) Radcliffe (Democrat of Maryland) said this morning that he had suggested that you go on the air. Have you anything in mind?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I will some day, between now and January first -- '44. (laughter)

Q. Pretty soon, I judge he meant.

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, there isn't ----. Between now and January first.

Q. (interposing) Mr. President, will you ---

THE PRESIDENT: (continuing) Probably. You had better insert probably, just to be on the safe side. (more laughter)

Q. Mr. President, will you appoint these three men as required in these bills?

THE PRESIDENT: As I told Pete, I think what I said covers it all.

Q. Mr. President, regarding Governor Tugwell, there are reports that he will be appointed to some position here on the mainland. Will you comment on that, or will he go back to Puerto Rico?

THE PRESIDENT: I think I will go back to what I said before.

Q. Mr. President, at the Giraud dinner the other night, you were quoted as saying we must eliminate Germany. Did you mean Germany as a fighting force, or did that also apply to the post-war world?

THE PRESIDENT: O my God, what a question! I "ain't" no delphic oracle. I don't know. I think you can -- you can -- I think, really, it's a waste of time, and I think it takes people's thoughts off winning the war to talk about things like that now.

Let's win the war.

Isn't it a good slogan?

Q. Do you have any plans for a radio speech?

THE PRESIDENT: A what? (much laughter)

Q. A radio speech?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know -- it depends on whether I'm a "regular guy."

Q. Mr. President, can you say whether we have bombed Paramushiro in the Pacific (Japanese Kurile Islands)?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. Didn't the Secretary of the Navy decline to say anything about it?

Q. I thought maybe he was letting you answer that one? (laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I think I will follow the Secretary. (more laughter)

Q. Mr. President, will we get copies of that statement on the three executive men?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think so, Pete (Brandt), because I -- while this is what I read from, it is actually the Message to Congress.

Q. That's the Message to Congress you are going to send to Congress?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. Yes. I don't think I will give you a copy, because that would not be courtesy.

Q. There have been some suggestions in some official quarters about taking over the packing industry, in connection with new food distribution plans. Do you have any thoughts on that?

THE PRESIDENT: I wonder where that idea came to -- from?

Q. It's a hot weather idea. (laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: I think so. (adding) I hope not.

Q. Mr. President, is there anything new on the railway eight-cent case?

THE PRESIDENT: No. They are studying it -- still working at it.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

Q. Thank you, sir.

CONFIDENTIAL
Press and Radio Conference #909
Executive Office of the President
July 16, 1943 -- 11.05 A.M., E.W.T.

MR. EARLY: Sleepy?

Q. Everybody is.

MR. EARLY: He didn't realize what he did to you!

(see end of press conference)

Q. Somebody ought to tell him. (laughter)

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: I think that those of you who have been here a long time will share my sorrow in the loss of Rudolph Forster, whom I have known since my earliest days. It will be a great loss to us, but fortunately we have his righthand assistant Maurice Latta, who has been here about as long as Rudolph was.

Maurice Latta also has been a trainer of many Presidents. He is going to take Rudolph's place.

He also is a very old friend of mine, whom I have known since the earlier days of T.R.'s administration; and there will be no trouble about his fitting into the position of Rudolph.

Then, in his place, we are bringing in from upstairs, although he has been down helping more or less in the last two or three years, Mr. William J. Hopkins, whom many of you know. He will take the place immediately under Maurice Latta.

Then, this morning you have all got -- last night, rather -- the statement of Mr. Churchill and myself to the

people of Italy. No (further) particular news in that.

Yesterday we had a very delightful gift and a letter from the President of Brazil (Getulio Vargas), of which I will read the translation.

(reading): "To His Excellency. Dear Friend: As Dr. Salgado Filho, my Air Minister, is visiting your country, I am taking this opportunity of transmitting through him my best wishes and friendship, and also offering the glorious forces of the United States four hundred thousand sacks of coffee -- (laughter) -- to be used exclusively on the war front, and as a contribution from the Brazilian people to the brave soldiers of your country."

If you want a copy of that -- Steve, you might -- you may.

Q. Mr. President, there happen to be twelve Brazilian journalists here, and they are all in the back of the room. I think as hospitable North Americans we might ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Well, I think ---

Q. (continuing) --- get them up to the front row.

THE PRESIDENT: (continuing) -- I think it's time that we could accord a little tribute to the President and the people of Brazil. (and here the President started to applaud) Give them a hand. (warm applause) I hope to see them at the end of the conference.

Q. Mr. President, just for the record, that Italian story did not break last night, it broke at six-thirty this morning. (much laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, but you had it last night.

Q. Well, it's the first time most of us have been up at that time. (more laughter) But on that subject, the statement by you and the Prime Minister is popularly regarded as an ultimatum. Is there any time limit on when the Italian people should get out of the war?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know why it's popularly regarded as an ultimatum. I don't think there's any popular opinion on it yet, anyway.

Q. You would be surprised! (laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: So far, you are not saying you are expressing popular opinion?

Q. Oh No, sir. (more laughter)

Q. Mr. President, can you tell us what happens to Milo Perkins under the reorganization ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) I think you will have to ask Mr. (Leo T.) Crowley (new Office of Economic Warfare head).

Q. What?

Q. (aside) Crowley.

Q. Will Mr. Crowley remain as Alien Property Custodian, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: I think for a while.

Q. Would you care to discuss, Mr. President, any of the changes in the foreign -- in the administration of foreign economic policy; that is, the overseas operations that you have in mind as a result of this change?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think I am quite ready. You know we did -- we did set up -- I think you all got it about the third of July -- the State Department was asked to set up a -- I don't know whether through a bureau or a man over there who would -- whose duty would be to coordinate primarily the various civilian foreign workers -- Americans -- of the various agencies overseas. Well, that was aimed to bring together, in let us say North Africa, the Red Cross, and the B.E.W. (Board of Economic Warfare), and the S.O.S. (Services of Supply), and the relief -- Lehman -- organization. I don't know, maybe several others, but that is a field problem, ---

Q. (interjecting) Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: (continuing) --- and this other thing, of course, under Mr. Crowley, is a domestic problem.

Q. No changes in the overseas end of it, so far as you see?

THE PRESIDENT: No, no.

Q. Mr. President, can you tell us any plans for the disposition of the Commodity Credit bill?

THE PRESIDENT: It has been signed, hasn't it? (looking in Mr. Early's direction) I think so.

Q. We had it.

Q. That was in the Deficiency bill, wasn't it?

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q. That was in the Deficiency bill, wasn't it?

Q. No.

Q. I thought there was a separate appropriation extending the borrowing power of the Commodity Credit Corporation?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, Yes. That's the resolution, I think.

Q. Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: I am -- I am not sure that I have physically signed it or not.

MR. EARLY: No, Mr. President, it hasn't been signed.

THE PRESIDENT: I am waiting -- I am going to make a statement along with it.

Q. Mr. President, there has been a report coordinating these overseas activities under the Assistant Secretary of State -- the new Assistant Secretary of State. Is that true?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it's under Mr. Acheson. I think so. I am not sure, ---

Q. (interjecting) Mr. Acheson.

THE PRESIDENT: (continuing) --- you had better check.

Q. Can you say anything about the report that Dexter Keezer (President of Reed College, Oregon) is going to London as assistant to Averell Harriman?

THE PRESIDENT: Who?

Q. Dexter Keezer. Dexter Keezer.

Q. Of O.P.A.

THE PRESIDENT: No, I haven't heard anything about it.

Since the last (press) conference, we have had one development which has worked out fairly well. We have had the problem in Martinique and Guadelupe and several other islands down there -- French islands -- and we had a somewhat -- what shall I say? -- somewhat difficult problem in Admiral (Georges) Robert -- a very polite way of saying it. And there were a great many people, even a lot of isolationists, who wanted us immediately to go down there with a great battle fleet and a landing force and take Martinique and Guadelupe, with a lot of bloodshed and so forth, at the same time buying a large-sized headache in the actual running of those French islands.

And -- Oh -- for about two years now we have just been taking it on the chin, keeping quiet. We wanted to avoid bloodshed, and we hoped that the matter would be peacefully resolved without landing an expedition and various military operations, which would, of course, if we had done it, have cut into the overall important war picture.

So we -- we waited it out, and we got a base on balls -- (laughter) -- which we hoped we would get from the very beginning.

And now it seems quite clear that practically every part of the French Empire has joined in working in the common cause for the defeat of Germany and the liberation of France itself.

As you know, we have kept aloof and away from the internal political side of affairs, especially in Axis-

occupied countries, and we have consistently refused to become involved in political rivalries and political ambitions of individuals or -- or groups.

Well, out of it, of course, has come all kinds of vicious propaganda attacking the State Department and the Government as a whole. And there were many unfair, and -- well, I will use another polite word -- incorrect rumors, reports and statements, that were derogatory to a perfectly well-ordered plan that goes back several years. I don't think I need say anything more about that.

We have had a consistent policy since the fall of France, our effort being the preservation of the French fleet and the naval and air bases from falling into Axis hands, until last November when the Axis occupied the balance of France. The French lost their fleet; but in the meantime we had got the landing under way successfully concluded in North Africa, and have been working in close cooperation with all Frenchmen everywhere who were patriotically resisting the Axis powers, and who have been working to encourage the people of France -- Occupied France -- to keep thoroughly alive the principles of liberty and freedom. And, so far, it has worked pretty well.

I don't think I have anything else.

Q. Mr. President, I don't know whether this has any local connotation. You had an hour-and-a-half conversation day before yesterday, I think, with Senator Bennett (Champ) Clark ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Oh No -- Oh No --
Oh No. Oh No, your timing is wrong, Pete (Brandt).

Q. Four to five-thirty.

THE PRESIDENT: No. He spent the first three-quarters
of the hour in the other office -- (indicating General Watson's
office). (laughter)

I had a very nice talk with him, and -- well, your
local connotation is a good -- I saw it printed, but not
exactly correct. We talked principally about a thing that we
are all interested in; that is, post-war air. I think he is
the chairman of the subcommittee.

Q. Right.

Q. Is he?

Q. Any agreement reached about ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Oh, No. The whole
thing is in a very, very tentative stage. We have hardly come
to that -- as definite a thing like that. A good many other
things like it -- you do a certain amount of studying.

Q. Did he say anything about the prospective air
conference? Has that been postponed?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know, Pete. Was it ever
given a time?

Q. Never given a time.

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think it ever has been.

Q. Was up for fairly soon.

THE PRESIDENT: I -- frankly, I don't know. I
haven't thought of it for months.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

Q. Thank you, sir.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

Q. Let's go, fellows.

(much laughter)

MR. EARLY: (to the President) Those boys didn't get that last night. (the story on Italy)

THE PRESIDENT: What?

MR. EARLY: They didn't get that last night.

THE PRESIDENT: Didn't they get it?

MR. EARLY: No. They were called at six-thirty this morning, after working all night on the other thing. (the story on the new Office of Economic Warfare)

THE PRESIDENT: But it went all right.

(laughter)

CONFIDENTIAL
Press and Radio Conference #910
Executive Office of the President
July 23, 1943 -- 10.56 A.M., E.W.T.

Q. Good morning, Mr. President. (the President waved his hand in acknowledgement)

THE PRESIDENT: (to Merriman Smith, remembering his question last week re popular opinion on the statement to the Italian people) How are the people today?

MR. MERRIMAN SMITH: (a little puzzled) The people? Fine. (laughter)

Q. He has got them all sized up.

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q. He has got them all sized up.

THE PRESIDENT: I had to rag you on that. It was too good a chance to miss. (more laughter)

MR. MERRIMAN SMITH: You did, too.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: Steve (Early) says I have nothing.

Q. Mr. President, is there any comment on the Pope's letter on the bombing of Rome?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't had any communication whatsoever.

Q. Mr. President, is there anything you can say regarding talks between the United Nations, regarding post-war disposition of Germany?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think there's anything on that. There's a lot of suggestions been made for the last

two or three years. There's absolutely nothing to go on.

Q. Would this answer cover, sir, any comment on the establishment of that Free Germany Committee in Moscow?

THE PRESIDENT: I have had nothing official on it.

Q. Mr. President, when the labor leaders came out of your office yesterday, they said they handed you a statement which they said they had given you, saying that unless there were substantial roll-backs in the near future, that they couldn't go along with the wage and stabilization program.

THE PRESIDENT: I wouldn't put it that way. I don't think they meant it that way. The way you have put it, it sounds like an ultimatum. There is nothing like that of any kind.

Of course, what the situation was on that -- that question was, of course, to food -- is that it hasn't been put back to last September 15. And if any bright person can come along and tell us exactly how the law is to be carried out in that respect, we would be very grateful.

You remember the October 2nd law. It intended to stabilize the cost of food and stabilize the cost of wages. Now they are in a predicament, just as everybody else is. It hasn't been put back. It has been held fairly level on the main articles -- the essential articles of food.

And as you know, we are working now on new plans, to see how far we can accomplish the objective of the law. Probably, whatever plan is adopted would have to be put up to Congress, because it will cost money. They are, as I say --

they are in a predicament, and so are all of us -- just people who have had their salaries raised lately.

Q. Mr. President, have you had any indications from neutral or other sources of the effect of the appeal that you and Mr. Churchill made to the Italian people?

THE PRESIDENT: No. No.

Q. Mr. President, is there any comment you can make, sir, upon establishing Rome as an open city?

THE PRESIDENT: I think the easiest thing is to tell you in general what has been happening for the past -- Oh -- over a year.

We have been very anxious to have Rome declared an -- an open city. However, the Italians -- the Fascists would not do it; and on the contrary, it has become -- probably was then -- a very important military center. That means the making of munitions, and the use of airports very close to Rome -- actually in Rome, and the use of Rome because it's a railroad center for transportation of troops, and guns -- ammunition, down to the southern -- to the south of Rome.

And we used every argument, and pleaded that it be made an open city.

But it didn't work.

We did our best.

And we still hope that the Germans and the Fascists will -- will make it an open city.

Then, of course, it came to the point of Sicily, and I had to think about American boys; and it seemed perfectly

clear that all of the American troops, and the British troops, in Sicily were -- that their -- their danger was being made greater by the constant influx of troops, and ammunition, and guns, and planes from the north. And one of the main centers of supply for all that, of course, were the airplane fields, and the -- especially the marshalling yard in Rome.

And with the primary objective of saving American and British lives, the more we could prevent that traffic from operating without interruption the better it would be for American troops; and the particular bombing was, of course, very successful.

But I still hope that Rome can be made an open city.

I am not going into the quid pro quo question, because I don't think that really is the point, in the last analysis. The -- with the aid of Italians, the Germans had destroyed something like four thousand churches -- the majority of the four thousand were churches, hospitals and libraries -- in Britain. There wasn't any compunction there. But I don't think that really is the essential of the thing -- in other words, I don't believe in destruction merely -- merely for retaliation, it's the wrong basis to put it on. But destruction for the saving of the lives of our men in a great war sometimes is an inevitable necessity.

Well, I don't -- I don't know that there is anything much to add to that.

Q. Are these efforts being continued, Mr.

President?

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q. Are the efforts being continued -- are the efforts to have it made an open city being continued?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, only -- only in this sense, that everybody knows what our position is. It has been made so clear for over a year.

Q. Well, sir, can this be interpreted as an implementation of your remarks to us at some time in the past, when you warned in effect the Italians, that if they did not get out of the war and overthrow their Fascist masters, that they would have to take the consequences?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think the two things should be confused. They are really separate things. One is the problem of -- of the entire nation, which is what you are referring to now, and the other is the problem of a city which is venerated all over the world.

MAY CRAIG: Mr. President, do you have any comment on Mr. Ickes's speech on bureaucrats?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know -- I don't know what you are talking about.

MAY CRAIG: Well, didn't you hear about it?

THE PRESIDENT: No! (much laughter)

MAY CRAIG: A wonderful speech. (more laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: May, you must read almost everything.

MAY CRAIG: I try to.

Q. Mr. President, you spoke a moment ago about the Government working on new plans to roll back prices. Is there anything that you could say in general ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) I don't like -- I don't like the word "rollback." It's an awful word to use. I wish you would invent something else. I don't know.

Q. Have you got any ideas?

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q. Any ideas? *

THE PRESIDENT: No. Not yet. Not yet.

Q. Mr. President, sometime ago, when you set up O.W.I. (Office of War Information), you told us that it was for the purpose of, among other things, eliminating conflicting claims and statements by various organizations. This week the War Food Administration told us there would be plenty of eggs, and today O.P.A. (Office of Price Administration) told us there would be a critical shortage of eggs. (laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I guess it depends a little on where you live. (more laughter)

Q. (interposing) Mr. President, ---

THE PRESIDENT: (continuing) I got a lot of eggs up at Hyde Park now. In fact I am actually selling some of them, but I am lucky on that. Not everybody who is as lucky as that.

Q. (interposing) Mr. ---

THE PRESIDENT: (continuing) Some places there are shortages of chickens and other places there aren't. And

I think it's a great mistake to use generalities. Well, we found here, not so long ago, there was a shortage of something for a week, wasn't there, May (Craig)? You know about that. And, Oh, screaming headlines all through the papers, whatever the article was that we couldn't buy for a week.

MR. EARLY: Potatoes.

THE PRESIDENT: What?

MR. EARLY: Potatoes.

THE PRESIDENT: Potatoes, that's it.

MAY CRAIG: You wouldn't connect potatoes with me.

(laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: You ought to know about potatoes.

(more laughter)

Well, at the end of the week we had more potatoes than we could use.

MR. PAUL LEACH (Chicago Daily News): Mr. President, I have been sorely puzzled by an O.P.A. question, as to why an "A" card motorist should be permitted to take a long trip for a vacation, which would mean from here to Maine and back if you had enough coupons, but he can't drive -- a man who is not taking a vacation can't drive a mile-and-a-half over here to the Rock Creek Park golf course?

THE PRESIDENT: Won't Frank (Knox, Secretary of the Navy, and also publisher of the Chicago Daily News) let you take a vacation? (loud laughter)

I will speak to him about it. (more laughter)

MR. PAUL LEACH: Speak to Prentiss Brown (head

of the Office of Price Administration) about it.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

(much laughter)

CONFIDENTIAL
Press and Radio Conference #911
Executive Office of the President
July 27, 1943 -- 4.11 P.M., E.W.T.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: I have got something rather dry that we had better talk about first.

In accordance with what I did so often for so many years, we are going to give you, as soon as this conference is over, a confidential release for next Sunday morning's papers, which is a summation of the 1944 Budget, and a comparison of the final figures, on the adjournment of Congress, compared with the January first original Budget estimates. You know we have done that several times before, so it really brings everybody up to date six months later than the original Budget Message.

And it contains ten pages of words -- (some laughter) -- and -- (to himself): 1, 2, 3, 4, -- five pages of very interesting figures -- (laughter) -- in very small type. (more laughter) However, it's a -- it's in accordance with custom, and I think it's pretty good. I have got them to write out a short one-page summary of it here, which I think I had better talk to you -- describe the high-spots.

The Budgetary estimates for the fiscal year 1944 have been revised in the light of legislative and other developments since January. Total expenditures for the year -- that is the fiscal year -- excluding debt retirement and trust fund disbursements, are now estimated at 106 billion dollars,

and net receipts at 38 billion. The expected deficit of 68 billion will carry the public debt just above 200 billion by a year from now -- end of June. This deficit -- deficit will of course be reduced if the Congress enacts new revenue legislation.

During the past fiscal year ended June 30, the comparable -- comparable totals were actual expenditures of 80 billion dollars, actual receipts of 22 billion, or a deficit of 58 billion.

Last January's estimate of 100 billion dollars for war expenditures during the fiscal year 1944 still stands. When this amount was announced, some persons thought the program fantastic. The American people are proving that it is feasible. Recent war expenditures have been not far below this annual rate, despite some lags in output. The 100 billion dollars compares with 75 billion dollars that were actually spent for war in the fiscal year 1943. It contemplates an increase for munitions and construction from 56 billion expended last year to 72 billions this year. Spending for other direct war purposes will increase from 19 billion last year to 28 billion during this fiscal year.

In the latest recasting of the program, the War Department is expected to spend less, and the Navy Department and other agencies are expected to spend more for war than was estimated in January. Many factors influenced the revisions. Strategy has been more fully shaped. We now have a more balanced perspective of our military needs and the

needs of our Allies.

Comparatively little battle casualties thus far have meant correspondingly fewer replacements.

Damage and loss of material have been less than we prepared for.

Production potentialities can now be more accurately measured.

Continued breaking of bottlenecks permits stepping up certain programs.

The hundred billion dollar war program is a gigantic national effort for victory. Our efforts to finance it must be equally heroic. We have -- that is not meant to be sarcastic, either -- we have depended far too heavily on bank credits and otherwise idle funds. This endangers economic stability. To help avoid inflationary consequences and to spread the war costs more equitably, I recommended last January a truly stiff program of additional taxes and savings, and I continue to support that program. The war effort must be backed by revenue measures adequate to protect the home front against economic disruption, and to prepare for an orderly transition to peace.

Well, I don't believe we need any more "seminar" on that now. You have all got until Sunday morning's papers to study it, and if any questions come up, ask -- ask the Director of the Budget to explain them. Don't ask me. (laughter)

Q. Mr. President, what is your reaction to the change in the Italian government? (the sudden resignation

of Benito Mussolini on July 25)

THE PRESIDENT: Reaction?

Q. Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: I never have reactions. I am much too old. (laughter)

Q. Mr. President, when you were discussing the bombing of Rome last week, did you have the information that Mussolini would make his exit?

THE PRESIDENT: No. No.

Q. Sir, could you tell us whether there is likely to be any change in our unconditional surrender policy, in respect ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Oh, I think the Secretary of State covered all that pretty well yesterday.

Q. Mr. President, if there should be an unconditional surrender, do you think it likely that we might demand of Marshall (Pietro) Badoglio (succeeding Mussolini) that Mussolini be delivered to us?

THE PRESIDENT: That what would be delivered to us?

Q. Mussolini?

THE PRESIDENT: How did you start that sentence? What word?

Q. (aside) Oh -- Oh.

Q. Er ---- (much laughter).

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think it's useful for me to go into the details of hypothetical questions. I could ask

-- in fact, I do ask myself a very large number of hypothetical questions, and I am wise enough not to give myself the answers. (laughter)

Q. Mr. President, where is Archbishop (Francis J.) Spellman?

THE PRESIDENT: The last I heard, he was in Portugese East Africa, but that was about -- about a week or ten days ago.

Q. You haven't heard since?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I haven't heard anything.

Q. Sir, would you care to make any comment on (Prime Minister Winston) Churchill's statement to Commons?

THE PRESIDENT: No. I have only read the stuff that came out over the ticker, so far. What I read I like very much.

Q. Sir, is there anything that might be said yet on this proposal to re-establish the office of People's Counsel?

THE PRESIDENT: I asked for an opinion from the Attorney General on it, and I haven't got an answer. You know it's the Attorney General that recommended steadily against filling that post, and I haven't heard from him since then.

Q. You say this Attorney General (Francis Biddle) recommended against that?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes -- several Attorney Generals.

Q. Several Attorney Generals?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q. Mr. President, could you say whether the broadcasts of the O.W.I. which have attacked the King of Italy were authorized by you or by the State Department?

THE PRESIDENT: Neither of us. Nor by Bob Sherwood (O.W.I. Overseas Director); and I think Bob Sherwood is raising Hell about it now. It ought never to have been done.

MR. EARLY: He is; and it was a slip.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. Only don't quote me as saying "raising Hell." (laughter)

Q. Mr. President, can you give us any guidance on your speech tomorrow night -- the scope of it?

THE PRESIDENT: It is going to be about the war. (laughter)

Q. Abroad, or at home, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: Do you -- (much laughter) -- you know, I -- I hoped -- I hoped you would ask that question just that way. In other words, -- well, it's -- this doesn't really apply to you (personally), but I am just thinking about the general lines of thought.

There are too many people in this country who go after a slogan, who simplify things down, who are not mature enough to realize that you can't take a piece of paper and draw a line down the middle of it and put the war abroad -- or the war front -- on one side of the line, and put the home front -- so called -- on another side of the line, because after all it all ties in together.

When we send an expedition into Sicily, where

does it begin? Well, it begins at two places, practically, it begins on the farms of this country, and in the mines of this country.

And then the next step in getting that army into Sicily is the processing of the food, and the processing of the raw materials into steel, and then the munitions plants that turn the steel into tanks or planes or the aluminum, whatever it may be. And then, even during that process and a long time afterwards, a great many million people in this country are engaged in transporting it from the plant, or from the field, or the processing instrument to the -- to the seaboard.

And then it's put on ships that are made in this country, otherwise you couldn't get it over there at all. And it gets on board ships that you have to escort and convoy with a lot of other ships, and a lot of other planes that are based, most of them, in this country. And finally, when they get to the other side, all these men go ashore.

And during the process of getting ready for an attack on -- on Sicily, they are putting into effect a training which they received over here before they started. They have been trained in many kinds of camps over here. They have had maneuvers. Well, that is -- that is home front work, even when they are doing that. And as a result of it, in this particular war, we have got over two million men that are overseas, and no man has gone over there that hasn't had pretty adequate training. Most of them have had training sufficient to

enable them to go into action almost at once after they get there.

Well, of course, that did not happen in 1917 and 1918. When the troops went over to France, the first thing they did was to go into a training camp two or three hundred miles behind the lines, before they were sufficiently trained to go up to the front. When an American soldier goes over from here, he is fully equipped, not only his clothing, but also all of the munitions that are assigned to him, which includes almost everything -- guns, rifles, machine guns and ammunition, artillery small and large, tanks, planes, trucks, and everything else.

When our boys went over in '17 and '18, it's a fact that a very large portion of their equipment was given to us, or -- I shouldn't say that, I don't want to raise a question of whether it was given or loaned -- it was turned over to us by Britain and France. Even many of the articles of personal apparel were turned over to us by Britain and France. A great number of our rifles came from Britain and France, a great majority of our -- of our artillery on the Western Front in those days came from Britain and France. We built no tanks of our own that got over there. Most of the trucks -- or lorries, as they call them -- came from Britain and France.

And on the airplane end, in order to say that we had flown some of them on the other side, I think there were six or eight planes in France, none of which had been flown against the enemy, which were put into the air during the -- the

last few days before the Armistice, to save the record.

Today, of course, we are not only sending our people over completely equipped from the bottom to the top, but we are also supplying a very large portion of munitions in the broad sense of the term, including food, to our Allies -- to our Allies, to be specific, in the Sicilian campaign -- before that, the African campaign.

But all through this we have to remember that there is just one front, which includes at home as well as abroad. It is all part of the picture of trying to win the war.

Now, of course, I can't do anything about it because the thing has got started, and people will continue to refer to the "home front."

It always reminds me of an example I use about things getting started. I have a little dog who is called Fala -- F-A-L-A. But in the beginning, everybody got into their heads that his name was F-A-L-L-A, and you can't break them of the habit. Same thing goes for "home front." (laughter)

Q. Mr. President, will you tell us about your interview with Mayor (Fiorello) LaGuardia?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, we talked about a lot of things -- nothing particular. (laughter)

Q. Mr. President, would you comment on Mr. (Vice President Henry A.) Wallace's speech at Detroit Sunday?

THE PRESIDENT: The what?

Q. Mr. -- would you comment on Mr. Wallace's speech at Detroit Sunday?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I heard it. Yes.

Q. Would you give us any comments on it?

THE PRESIDENT: I liked it very much.

VOICES: Thank you, Mr. President.

CONFIDENTIAL
Press and Radio Conference #912
Executive Office of the President
July 30, 1943 -- 10.57 A.M., E.W.T.

Q. Good morning.

Q. Good morning, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: (in high good humor) You'll need two or three notebooks this morning.

Q. Oh -- Oh.

Q. I only brought one.

THE PRESIDENT: I only try to oblige. (much laughter) What are we doing with a Wave in here?

Q. (the Wave) Representing the Navy, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: Grand -- grand.

Q. (surveying numerous papers in front of the President) Is this going to be mimeographed?

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q. Is this going to be mimeographed?

THE PRESIDENT: No! You had better take it all down! (cries of "Oh -- Oh" and laughter)

Q. It's an awful hot day.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. I think I'll read all that, too. (more laughter)

Q. You are going to read all that?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes!

Q. Shall we send out for lunch? (more laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: There's an idea.

An interesting thing at Casablanca, when Churchill

and I had the press conference, we searched the Army and Navy that was there to find somebody that could take the conference. And all they had was just a regular stenographer. There wasn't anybody who had the speed for it. Gosh, there were four WAACs, and one of them stepped forward and said, "I am a court stenographer." So the thing was properly taken -- pretty good. (laughter)

Q. Right.

MR. DONALDSON: All in.

THE PRESIDENT: I have got a lot of things.

(laughter)

Steve (Early) will give you this after -- I am having it typed now -- in regard to crimes against innocent people committed by certain persons. In August, 1942 -- nearly a year ago -- I issued a statement to the press in which, after referring to the crimes against innocent people committed by Axis powers, I stated, "The United Nations are going to win this war. When victory has been achieved, it is the purpose of the Government of the United States, as I know it is the purpose of each of the United Nations, to make appropriate use of the information and evidence in respect to the barbaric crimes of the invaders, in Europe and in Asia. It seems only fair that they should have this warning, that the time will come when they shall have to stand in courts of law in the very countries which they are now oppressing, and answer for their acts."

On October 7, last year, I stated that it was "the

intention of this Government, that the successful close of the war shall include provisions for the surrender of the -- to the United Nations of war criminals."

The wheels of justice have turned constantly since those statements were issued, and are still turning.

There are now rumors that Mussolini and members of his Fascist gang may attempt to take refuge in neutral territory. One day, Hitler and his gang, and Tojo and his gang will be trying to escape from their countries.

I find it difficult to believe that any neutral country would give an asylum to, or extend protection to any of them. I can only say that the Government of the United States would regard the action by a neutral government in affording asylum to Axis leaders, or their tools, as inconsistent with the principles for which the United Nations are fighting, and that the United States Government hopes that no neutral government will permit its territory to be used as a place of refuge, or otherwise assist such persons in any effort to escape their just deserts.

Well, I think that speaks for itself.

Then, here is a thing that I got at the last minute the other night, and I didn't -- couldn't put it in (the speech), because I -- I didn't have the time. It came at the very last minute, from General (Dwight D.) Eisenhower.

Q. (aside) In the speech he made.

THE PRESIDENT: (continuing) I think it is -- this is not -- no copy on this. I will just "talk" it for a

minute.

I spoke of what we were going to do to help the Italian people in Italy. I had this cable from General Eisenhower. I wanted to include some of the facts he sent me, but there wasn't time to get them in. However, I think the American people will be interested to know just what we are doing.

The immediate supply of food for both our troops and the civilian population in Sicily had to be landed across the beaches. Emergency food for the civil population was met from the Army rations, and continues from military stocks. A stockpile of supplies especially for civilians has been established in North Africa, and is now being moved in. It includes sugar, and flour, and milk for children, olive oil, meat, and an Italian favorite called Pasta. A generous amount of medical supplies, and also soap and matches, has been furnished, and the supply will continue.

Public Health doctors went with the assault elements. In addition, sanitary, civil supply, transportation and agricultural experts were also sent in, for the purpose of organizing the food resources of the island itself for the benefit of the population.

The -- they do grow wheat. We are sending other wheat in from Africa, but to supply power for the milling of it we have sent in shipments of Diesel oil to mill the wheat.

To assist in restoring the economy of Sicily,

particularly with respect to its own food supply, General Alexander has been authorized to free selected Sicilian prisoners -- prisoners of war -- whose labor will assist in the wellbeing of the local population.

So you can see we are making good on our promises. And on our doing that will pay dividends, and gaining the cooperation of Italians as our troops push forward.

I think this is particularly important right now. They are getting the harvest in in Sicily, and they will be harvesting all through Italy during the next few weeks. We hope that this year the Italian people as a whole will be able to keep their own crops, as is happening in Sicily, and not be compelled to let them go through to the Germans.

I have got another one.

I am releasing this, otherwise it would -- it would break -- this Report on Demobilization and Readjustment.
(holding it up)

Way back in July, 1942 -- over a year ago -- I appointed an informal conference on post-war readjustment of civilian and military personnel. The conference was selected in order to include representatives with a wide range of experience and interest.

Well, Dr. Floyd Reeves; Dr. Francis Brown, Joint Army and Navy Committee; Dr. Edward Elliott, Chief of Professional and Technical Employment and Training Division of the War Manpower Commission; Dr. William Haber, Director of the Bureau of Program Requirements; Brigadier General (Frank T.) Hines,

Veterans' Administration; Major General (Lewis B.) Hershey, the War Manpower; Dr. (A. F.) Hinrichs, Acting Commissioner of Labor Statistics; Lieutenant Commander (Ralph A.) Sentman -- S-E-N-T-M-A-N -- of the Educational Services Section, Bureau of Personnel, Navy Department; Colonel (Francis T.) Spaulding of the Education Branch, War Department; Dr. Howard -- Mr. Howard Tolley, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics; Dr. Thomas J. Woofter, Jr., Director of Research, Federal Security Agency; and Mr. Leonard Outhwaite, National Resources Planning Board.

It worked as an independent body, and was entirely free in arriving at its recommendations.

And about three weeks ago they made this report.

After calling attention to the great scope of the problem, the conference expressed its belief that if the problems of demobilization are to be met satisfactorily, the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government must produce a national policy that will carry out the general activities of that period. It also believes it will be found necessary to establish a central directive agency for dealing with these problems.

A part of the work of the conference was general in character, and set up general objectives or processes of demobilization procedure. But it wasn't content to deal simply with principles and generalities. Wherever it was found possible to do so, the conference set forth many concrete and practical suggestions. These are still illustrated

by its proposals regarding the mustering-out process that will affect the men and women in the armed services.

They have six recommendations, which are a bit more specific than the ones I made the other night; but the general process, of course, is the same. Well, for instance, they proposed three months of furlough at regular base pay, not to exceed a hundred (dollars) a month plus family allowances. They are more specific than I was, and also a little bit longer than I was. And I added certain things which they haven't got in, and they have got certain -- less important things in that I did not have in. For instance, opportunities for agricultural employment and settlement. Substantially, the objective is exactly the same as mine, although some of the details differ.

The report blocks out a general approach to the problems of demobilization, and recognizes that much work remains to be done both by the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government. It emphasizes the fact that this work must be commenced now, in order that plans may be fully developed before large-scale demobilization begins.

It calls attention to the fact that many men will be released from the armed forces during the course of the war, and it is desirable that the same general provisions apply to them that apply to those who are a part of the more general process of demobilization at the end of the war.

The report places strong emphasis on the importance of bringing about a rapid conversion of industry from a

wartime to a peacetime basis, in establishing full employment as one of the objectives of the demobilization process. It recognizes that the bulk of employment must be furnished by private industry, and that important -- and that -- and that important efforts are being made to this end by various groups in private industry in the country. It recognizes that successful demobilization can only take place if the Federal Government and private industry each perform their proper function.

It points out that the Congress and the Chief Executive must establish the general policy and provide general machinery for bringing about demobilization, but that individual initiative and group effort will also play an important part in making the machinery work.

The -- I think that's about all. You have got enough, anyway.

Q. Mr. President, are you releasing that with your approval?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, not as to every word. In other words, it's a tremendously interesting study. The general objective, Yes. As to the details, that is a matter for Congress to work out. The purpose is excellent. And the committee that drew it up, of course, was -- was in its personnel an extremely good committee.

MR. EARLY: (to the President) Transmitting the report to the Congress.

THE PRESIDENT: What?

MR. EARLY: Transmitting the report to the Congress.

THE PRESIDENT: And Steve suggests as soon as the Congress comes back, I will transmit the report.

Q. Mr. President, regarding your report to the nation the other night, there has been some speculation in some quarters as to its political portent, and some of your loyal opposition have released statements on it. Is there any comment that you would like to make, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: It reminds me of what a member of the family said this morning. He said, "Why, in your next speech, don't you try it on -- a different way? Suppose a paragraph or two saying, 'The moon is beautiful'?" (laughter) Probably you will be accused of playing politics, because there are a lot of young people that like to sit out under the moon."
(more laughter)

Q. Mr. President, there has been some discussion as to whether we ought to deal with the (Marshal Pietro) Badoglio government, or with the King (of Italy), and so forth; and I wonder whether you might think it useful to clarify that point?

THE PRESIDENT: Steve said you would ask that question. (laughter) I said to him it reminds me a good deal of the old argument -- I could go on and have an argument about it -- as to which came first, the chicken or the egg.

When a victorious army goes into a country, there are two things -- two essential things that they want to

meet, in the first instance. The first is the end of armed opposition. The second is -- when that armed opposition comes to an end -- to avoid anarchy. In a country that goes into a state of anarchy, it is a pretty difficult thing to deal with, because it takes an awful lot -- it would take an awful lot of our troops.

I don't care who we deal with in Italy, as long as it isn't a definite member of the Fascist government, so long as they get them to lay down their arms, and so long as we don't have anarchy. Now his name may be a King, or a present Prime Minister, or a Mayor of a town, or a village.

We have a great big objective. The first thing is to stop the fighting, and the second thing is to avoid anarchy. Now mind you, that is only the very first step.

You will also remember that in the -- I think it was the Atlantic Charter, something was said about self-determination. That is a long-range thing. You can't get self-determination in the first week that they lay down their arms. In other words, common sense.

And I don't think that any controversy is either called for or advisable, because it puts the thing, at this stage of the game, into the "which came first, chicken or egg" category.

Q. Mr. President, you wouldn't consider General Badoglio as the Fascist, then?

THE PRESIDENT: I am not discussing personalities. It was only a columnist (Samuel Grafton) who went on the air

the other night that did that. (laughter) (adding) Gave his own personal views.

- Q. Thank you, Mr. President.
- Q. Thank you, sir.
- Q. Thank you, Mr. President.