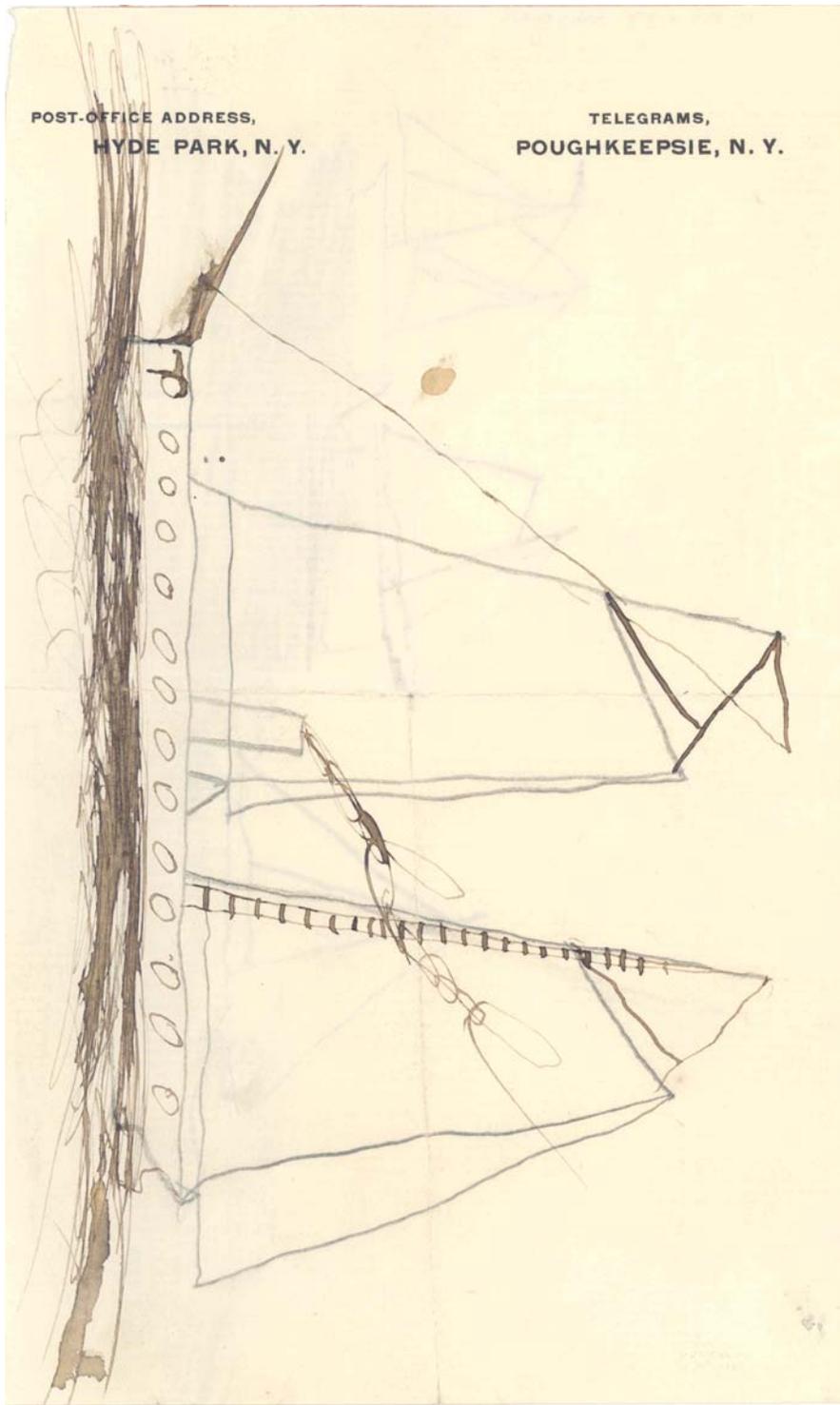




FDR Birth Announcement. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was born on January 30, 1882 to James Roosevelt and Sara Delano Roosevelt at their home in Hyde Park, New York. This whimsical birth announcement was found among the papers of Sara Delano Roosevelt and demonstrates that FDR was known as FDR from the very beginning. *From the Roosevelt Family Papers: Sara Delano Roosevelt Papers.*

21-2
1897-
Dear Charlie I am very sorry you
have a cold and you are in-
bed I packed in the Navy today
for a little while I hope by tomorrow
you will be all better I am glad
to say that Tony cold in letter your
cousin Frank & I. Best
love

continued...



FDR's First Letter. Young Franklin Roosevelt's first letter, written in 1887 when he was five years old, was to his mother Sara Delano Roosevelt who was ill in her room with a cold. He addressed his mother as "Sallie," his father's name for her. The drawing of a ship was included with the letter and reveals FDR's early fascination with sailing. *From the Roosevelt Family Papers Donated by the Children.*

F.D.P. Infantile

July 29, 1924.

My dear Mr. Walker:

I greatly appreciate your letter of the 23d, and am sorry indeed to hear that you have been an invalid for more than a year, and I sincerely trust that you are improving and will be able to cast a vote for President John W. Davis next November.

I have been interested in reading the copy of the article. I really was not as unwilling to obey the doctor's orders as it says, and as a matter of fact with this infantile paralysis germ there was very little pain except in the first few weeks. Since then I have been slowly but surely getting back the use of my muscles which were only affected from the hips down, and I am confident that with a continuation of plenty of sunlight and exercise I shall be able to get rid of crutches and braces.

Thank you for writing me.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Harry Wilson Walker,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

continued...

Franklin D. Roosevelt
Vice President
FIDELITY AND DEPOSIT COMPANY OF MARYLAND
55 Liberty Street New York City

Warm Springs, Ga.
April 25th, 1928

Jeremiah Milbank, Esq.
New York City

My dear Mr. Milbank:

I have been greatly interested to read of your fine gift towards the study of infantile paralysis. Out of your ~~intensive~~ extensive efforts some definite knowledge of the cause of this scourge will surely come. It is, of course, greatly needed ~~by~~ by humanity at this time. My figures show that there were probably well over fifteen thousand (15,000) diagnosed cases of infantile paralysis in the United States alone last year, with the definite probability that, in the years to come many other sections of the United States which have so far had no epidemic, will be hit.

My own work, as you probably know, has been directed not at the preventive end of the disease but at the after-care. We have only scratched the surface of this subject also.

Some day I hope much that you will take occasion to visit Warm Springs, Georgia, for I am certain that it would greatly interest you to see the work which is being conducted here by the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation. Over a period of two years we have built up the facilities here and now have sixty-five patients and have had over one hundred and fifty people through our hands. There seems to be no question that we are obtaining very remarkable results in the restoration of function, and with our limited resources we are doing everything possible to keep in touch with the various methods of treatment being used in other parts of the country.

There are probably at least ~~twelve~~ ^{one hundred and fifty} thousand victims of infantile paralysis in this country who have been to a greater or less degree crippled; and the great majority of these cases could be helped, as a comparatively very small percentage now receive adequate treatment.

I hope some day that the various methods now in

continued...

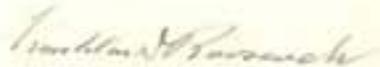
Dear Mrs.

Ch. 10
Box 22

use can be more carefully studied and coordinated. Our own experience is that even helpless cases, dating back for many years can be, in most cases, restored to some form of useful activity. Our use of natural warm water as the medium for the giving of carefully directed exercises seems to enable the average patient to take much more exercise without fatigue than in the older method of giving these exercises in the air.

I, myself, expect to get back to New York next week and wish much that you could come and lunch with me some day at my office. I want to hear more about your plans for while our work does not lap, they are both for the same purpose and have a common meeting point.

Very sincerely yours,



rds/r

FDR Letters regarding Polio. In August 1921, Franklin Roosevelt was stricken with infantile paralysis (polio) that left him paralyzed from the waist down. Already a widely-known public figure, FDR's illness was well-publicized, and many people similarly afflicted anxiously sought news of his recovery. His reemergence on the political stage at the 1924 Democratic National Convention was a triumph for FDR personally and for polios across the country. Throughout the rest of his life, FDR never lost his optimistic view of life and the hope that not only would he one day walk again unaided by braces or crutches but that the polio disease would be eradicated from the globe. These letters are just a small sampling of Franklin Roosevelt's conversation with average Americans and medical researchers alike about polio and its treatment. *From the Franklin D. Roosevelt Family, Business and Personal Papers.*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mar 17

37

Dearest Babs

After a fruitless week of thinking
and lying awake to find whether
you need or want undies, dresses,
hats, shoes, shirts, towels, rouge,
soup plates, candy, flowers,
pumps, laxative pills, whisky,
beer, etchings or caviar

I GIVE IT UP

!

And yet I know you lack some
necessity of life - so go to it
with my love & many happy
returns of the day!

FDR

FDR's Note to Eleanor Roosevelt about their Anniversary. March 17, 1933—just two weeks after FDR took office as President—was Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt's 28th wedding anniversary. On that day, FDR wrote a note to Eleanor (whom he called "Dearest Babs") concerning his dilemma in selecting an appropriate anniversary gift for her. *From the Roosevelt Family Papers Donated by the Children.*

NPx 70-22

file

PPF

207

July 12, 1935.

Dear Bob:-

Your Dad has told me that you are a stamp collector and I thought you might like to have these stamps to add to your collection. I am also enclosing a little album which you may find useful.

X PPF 37

Perhaps sometime when you are in Washington you will come in and let me show you my collection.

My best wishes to you,

Very sincerely yours,

Robert Kennedy,
Hyannisport,
Massachusetts.

(Enclosure)

continued...

F.

PP
207

HYANNISPORT
MASSACHUSETTS
July 19, 1935

Dear Mr. President,

I liked the stamps
you sent me very much
and the little book is very
useful. I am just starting
my collection and it would
be great fun to see yours
which mother says you
have had for a long
time.

continued...

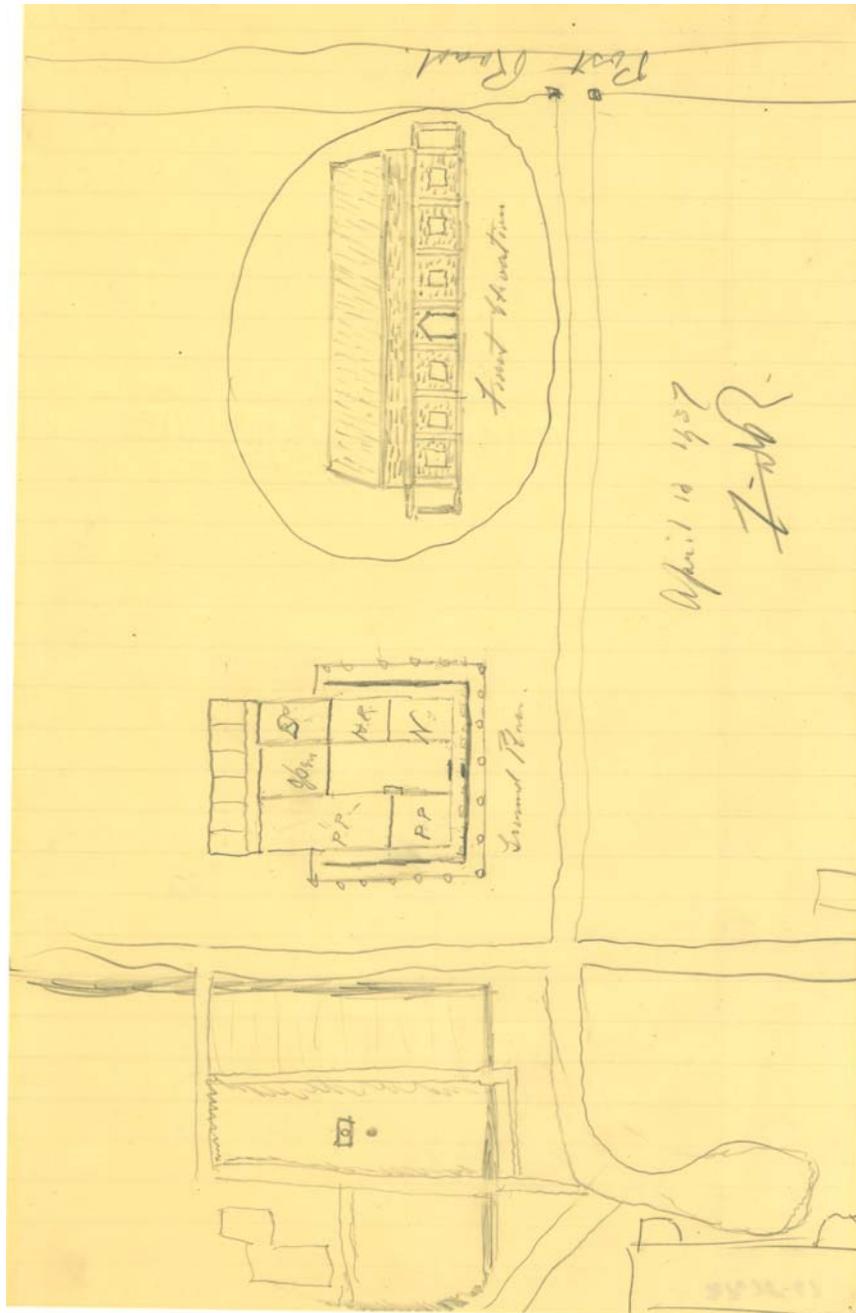
I am going to
frame your letter and
I am going to keep it
always in my room.

Daddy, mother,
and all my brothers and
sisters want to be remem-
bered to you.

Bobby Kennedy

Son of Joseph P. Kennedy

Letters between FDR and Bobby Kennedy about Stamp Collecting. From an early age, Franklin Roosevelt enjoyed stamp collecting as one of his favorite hobbies. During the presidency, the State Department and White House correspondence offices saved for his collection interesting stamps from around the world. FDR encouraged young people in their stamp collecting as well, as this letter to a young Bobby Kennedy, son of Joseph P. Kennedy and brother to John F. Kennedy, demonstrates. *From the President's Personal Files.*



FDR's Original Sketch of the FDR Library. As an amateur historian, Franklin Roosevelt was concerned about the loss of the historical records of prior presidencies. In 1937, FDR envisioned a new kind of research center—a presidential library where his papers, memorabilia and other collections and the papers of his family and associates could be placed and made available to the public. FDR's vision was realized in 1941 with the dedication of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library—the nation's first presidential library—on the grounds of the Roosevelt estate in Hyde Park, New York. This sketch reflects FDR's initial architectural design concept for the Library that was largely adopted in the actual structure. *From the President's Personal Files.*

STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT
UPON SIGNING THE SOCIAL SECURITY BILL - AUGUST 14, 1935.

Today a hope of many years standing is in large part fulfilled. The civilization of the past hundred years, with its startling industrial changes, has tended more and more to make life insecure. Young people have come to wonder what would be their lot when they came to old age. The man with a job has wondered how long the job would last.

This social security measure gives at least some protection to thirty million of our citizens who will reap direct benefits through unemployment compensation, through old age pensions and through increased services for the protection of children and the prevention of ill health. (STOP)

We can never insure one hundred per cent of the population against one hundred per cent of the hazards and vicissitudes of life but we have tried to frame a law which will give some measure of protection to the average citizen and to his family against the loss of a job and against poverty-ridden old age.

This law, too, represents a corner stone in a structure which is being built but is by no means complete -- a structure intended to lessen the force of possible future depressions, to act as a protection to future Administrations of the Government against the necessity of going deeply into debt to furnish relief to the needy -- a law to flatten out the peaks and valleys of

continued...

deflation and of inflation -- in other words, a law that will take care of human needs and at the same time provide for the United States an economic structure of vastly greater soundness.

I congratulate all of you ladies and gentlemen, all of you in the Congress, in the executive departments and all of you who come from private life, and I thank you for your splendid efforts in behalf of this sound, needy and patriotic legislation.

If the Senate and the House of Representatives in this long and arduous session had done nothing more than pass this Bill, the session would be regarded as historic for all time.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

(Original)

Statement on Signing the Social Security Act. One of Franklin Roosevelt's most enduring legacies is the Social Security system. Through his New Deal series of programs instituted to stave off the effects of the Great Depression, FDR sought not only to put people back to work quickly but also to reform the government and economy in such a way so as to provide a safety net should another economic downturn take place. Social Security was designed to provide the average worker the means to live decently through periods of unemployment or at retirement. This statement was read by FDR upon his signing of the Social Security Act on August 14, 1935. *From the President's Master Speech File.*

Albert Einstein
Old Grove Rd.
Nassau Point
Peconic, Long Island

August 2nd, 1939

F.D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
White House
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Some recent work by E. Fermi and L. Szilard, which has been communicated to me in manuscript, leads me to expect that the element uranium may be turned into a new and important source of energy in the immediate future. Certain aspects of the situation which has arisen seem to call for watchfulness and, if necessary, quick action on the part of the Administration. I believe therefore that it is my duty to bring to your attention the following facts and recommendations:

In the course of the last four months it has been made probable - through the work of Joliot in France as well as Fermi and Szilard in America - that it may become possible to set up a nuclear chain reaction in a large mass of uranium, by which vast amounts of power and large quantities of new radium-like elements would be generated. Now it appears almost certain that this could be achieved in the immediate future.

This new phenomenon would also lead to the construction of bombs, and it is conceivable - though much less certain - that extremely powerful bombs of a new type may thus be constructed. A single bomb of this type, carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory. However, such bombs might very well prove to be too heavy for transportation by air.

continued...

The United States has only very poor ores of uranium in moderate quantities. There is some good ore in Canada and the former Czecho-slovakia, while the most important source of uranium is Belgian Congo.

In view of this situation you may think it desirable to have some permanent contact maintained between the Administration and the group of physicists working on chain reactions in America. One possible way of achieving this might be for you to entrust with this task a person who has your confidence and who could perhaps serve in an unofficial capacity. His task might comprise the following:

a) to approach Government Departments, keep them informed of the further development, and put forward recommendations for Government action, giving particular attention to the problem of securing a supply of uranium ore for the United States;

b) to speed up the experimental work, which is at present being carried on within the limits of the budgets of University laboratories, by providing funds, if such funds be required, through his contacts with private persons who are willing to make contributions for this cause, and perhaps also by obtaining the co-operation of industrial laboratories which have the necessary equipment.

I understand that Germany has actually stopped the sale of uranium from the Czecho-slovakian mines which she has taken over. That she should have taken such early action might perhaps be understood on the ground that the son of the German Under-Secretary of State, von Weizsäcker, is attached to the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institut in Berlin where some of the American work on uranium is now being repeated.

Yours very truly,

A. Einstein
(Albert Einstein)

Einstein Letter. In the summer of 1939, a group of physicists, including several who had fled Hitler's Germany, met to discuss their fears of Germany developing a uranium-based weapon. It was decided that the best course of action was to inform President Roosevelt immediately of their concerns. Because Albert Einstein had a previous personal relationship with the Roosevelts and was internationally well-known for his expertise, a letter informing the President about the dangers of a nuclear chain reaction bomb was drafted for Einstein's signature. This August 2, 1939 letter was personally delivered to the President on October 11, 1939 (the outbreak of the war intervened) by Alexander Sachs, a longtime economic adviser to FDR. After learning the letter's contents, President Roosevelt told his military adviser General Edwin M. Watson, "This requires action." The action FDR required would evolve into the Manhattan Project. *From the President's Secretary's Files.*

The President received
word by telephone from
Ambassador Bullitt that
Germany has invaded
Poland and that several
cities are being bombed.
The President directed that
all Army ships and Army
~~ships~~ commands be
notified by radio at
once
a

In bed
3:05 a.m.
Sept 1 1939

Bedside Note. In the early morning hours of September 1, 1939, President Roosevelt was awakened in his bedroom at the White House by a telephone call from his Ambassador in Paris, William C. Bullitt, who advised the President that Germany had invaded Poland and that several Polish cities were being bombed. After FDR gave orders that all Army commands and Navy ships be notified at once, the President wrote this unique "bedside note" documenting for posterity how and when he had received the news of the outbreak of World War II. *From the President's Personal Files.*

We should widen the opportunities for adequate medical care in many parts of the country. With it we must make better provision for the care of those who are handicapped in life by physical or mental causes or by personal conditions which make them exceptions to the normal.

We must go further than ever before in planning a nationwide system by which all persons desiring gainful employment may obtain it in private or in government work.

I have called for personal sacrifice. I am assured of the willingness of almost all Americans to respond to that call. ~~A part of the response involves harder work and the giving up of certain things in life which are not essentials.~~

A part of the sacrifice means the payment of more money in taxes. In my budget message I recommend that a greater portion of this great defense program be paid for from taxation than we are paying today. No person should try, or be allowed, to get rich out of this program. The principle of tax payments in accordance with ability to pay should be constantly before our eyes to guide our legislation. *AAA*

→ That is the kind of system which we have been seeking to build. That is the kind of system which we shall continue to build for the future. *The days which we seek to make secure*
In ~~the~~ future, we look forward to a world founded fundamentally upon four essential human freedoms.

continued...

FIFTH DRAFT

- 18 -

The first is Freedom of speech and expression everywhere in the world.

The second is Freedom of every person to worship God in his own way everywhere in the world.

The third is Freedom from want — which translated into *will* ~~means~~ *will* ~~terms~~ *will* ~~mean~~ *will* ~~economic~~ *will* ~~understandings~~ *will* ~~which~~ *will* ~~will~~ *will* ~~secure~~ *will* ~~to every nation~~ *will* ~~enables~~ *will* ~~a healthy peace time life for its~~ *will* ~~inhabitants~~ *will* ~~everywhere in the world~~ *will* ~~everywhere in the world~~

The fourth is Freedom from fear — which translated into *will* ~~means~~ *will* ~~terms~~ *will* ~~mean~~ *will* ~~a world-wide reduction of armaments to such~~ *will* ~~a point and in such a manner~~ *will* ~~that no nation~~ *will* ~~will~~ ~~be in a position to commit an act of~~ *will* ~~aggression against any~~ *will* ~~neighbor~~ *will* ~~anywhere in the world~~

17A That kind of a world is the very antithesis of the so-called "New Order" which the Hitlers seek to create *with the crash of a bomb* in Europe and in Asia.

To that "New Order" as opposed to the greater conception of the world order, a good society is able to face setbacks of world domination and foreign revolutions alike without fear. It has no need either for the one or for the other.

Draft Pages from the Four Freedoms Speech. In his Annual Message to Congress (State of the Union Address) delivered on January 6, 1941, President Roosevelt warned the Congress and the nation of the peril faced by the United States and the world's democracies from aggression abroad. The ultimate defeat of aggressor nations, he believed, would constitute a victory for the underlying principles of the democratic system of government. In this Fifth Draft of the speech, we can see Roosevelt's own handwritten revision of the principles he defined as "four essential human freedoms": Freedom of Speech and Expression, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Fear, and Freedom from Want. Roosevelt's concept of the Four Freedoms would guide his leadership throughout the war. *From the President's Master Speech File.*

December 7, 1941.

PROPOSED MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS

Yesterday, December 7, 1941, a date which will live in ~~world history~~ ^{infamy}
 the United States of America was ~~unprovokedly~~ ^{suddenly} and deliberately attacked
 by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan, ~~at Pearl Harbor~~.

The United States was at the moment at peace with that nation and was
~~conducting~~ ^{still in} the conversation with its Government and its Emperor looking
 toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific. Indeed, one hour after
 Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in ~~Hawaii and the Philippines~~ ^{Oahu}

the Japanese Ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered
 to the Secretary of State a formal reply to a ~~former~~ ^{recent} message, ~~from the~~

~~Secretary.~~ ^{While} ~~This reply contained a statement that diplomatic negotiations~~ ^{stated}
~~were to be considered at an end, but~~ ^{it} contained no threat ~~and~~ ^{or} hint of ~~an~~ ^{any}
 armed attack.

It will be recorded that the distance ~~between~~ ^{of}
 Hawaii from Japan make ^{it} obvious that the ~~attack~~ ^{was} deliberately
 planned many days ^{or 10 or 14 weeks} ago. During the intervening time the Japanese Govern-
 ment has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false
 statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

continued...

The attack yesterday on ~~Manila and on the Island of Oahu~~ *the Hawaiian Islands* has

caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. Very many American lives have been lost. In addition American ~~ships~~ ships have been torpedoed on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.

Yesterday the Japanese Government also launched an attack against Malaya.

of last night Japanese forces attacked Luzon. The Philippines Islands
Japan has, therefore, undertaken a "surprise offensive" extending

throughout the Pacific area. The facts of yesterday speak for themselves. The people of the United States have already formed their opinions and well understand the implications ~~of these attacks~~ *to* the safety of our nation.

As Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy I have ~~directed~~ directed that all measures be taken for our defense.

Long will we remember the character of the onslaught against us.

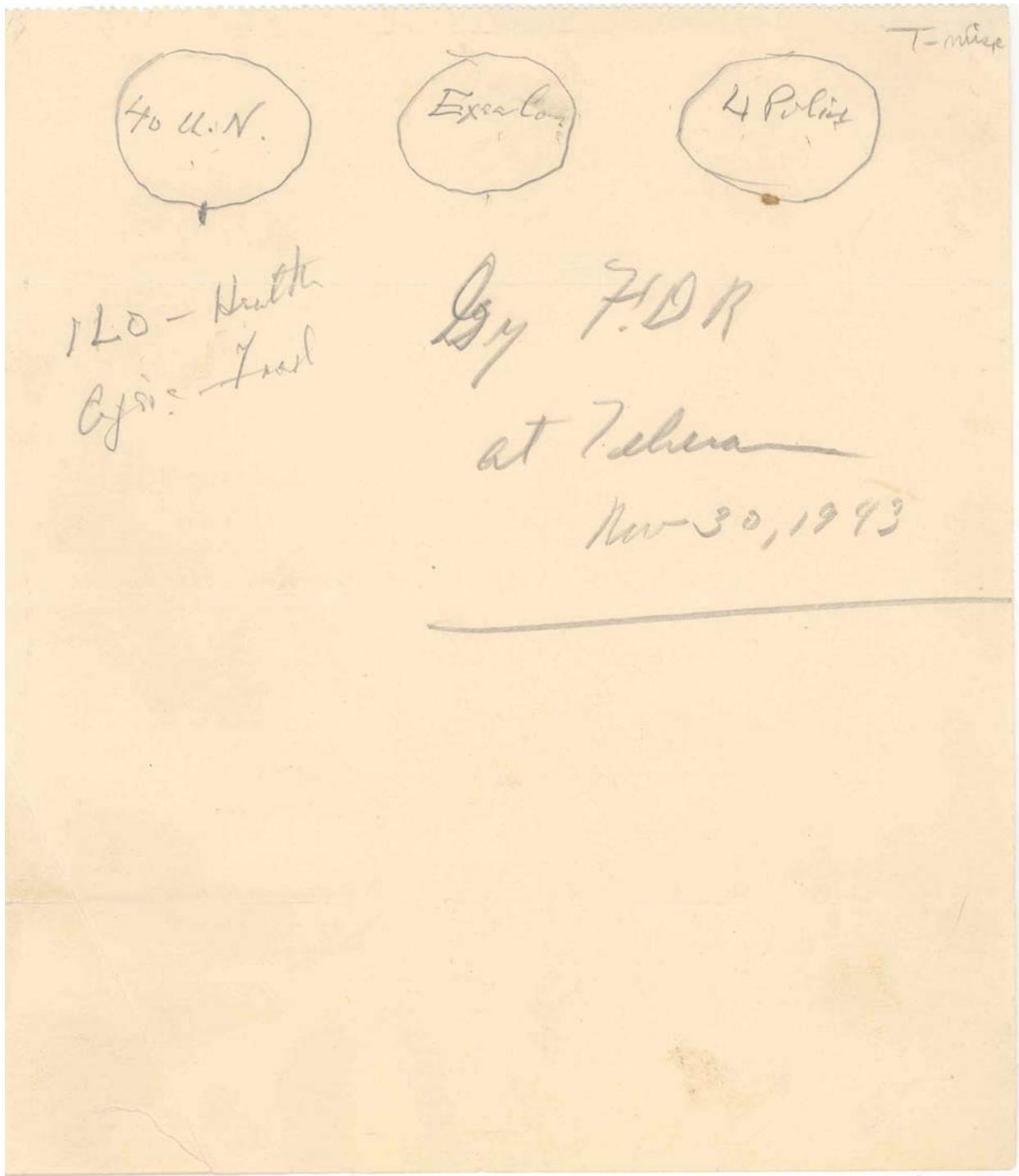
(A) No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion the American people will in their righteous might win through to absolute victory.

I speak the will of the Congress and of the people ~~of this~~
~~Nation~~ when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to
the uttermost but will see to it that this form of treachery shall
never endanger us again. Hostilities exist. There is no mincing
the fact that our people, our territory and our interests are in
grave danger.

I, therefore, ask that the Congress declare that since the
unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December
seventh, a state of war ^{has} ^{ex}isted between the United States and the
Japanese Empire.

Our people in
full confidence in our might

Draft of December 8, 1941 Message to Congress. President Roosevelt was having lunch in his White House study on December 7, 1941 when he received word of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and other Pacific installations. A few hours later, the President dictated a short address to be delivered to a Joint Session of Congress the following day. His handwritten revisions—visible in this December 7 draft of the speech—made the “Day of Infamy” speech one of the most memorable in American history. *From the President’s Master Speech File.*



United Nations Organization Sketch by FDR. By late 1943, FDR was formulating ideas for the postwar peace. Critical to his thinking was a new United Nations Organization. This sketch, made by the President in November 1943 during the Teheran Conference, reflects his early concept of how such an organization might be structured. It includes a main body consisting of the forty United Nations in the Allied coalition, a smaller Executive Committee, and what FDR termed the "4 Policemen"—the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and China. *From the Harry L. Hopkins Papers.*

April 13

My friends:

Knowing that you are gathered tonight in cities, in towns, from one end of the country to the other, to give expression to your loyalty, I wish that I had the power, just for an evening, of being in a thousand places at once.

I, too, feel the old need of a homecoming, the old urge to show up among the folks, and to take pride with you in the fact that we are Democrats.

I have spoken to my doctor about my inability to be in more than one spot at a time, but he tells me the condition is chronic. There is nothing he can do about it.

But I am with you in heart. And in these times of trial, this greatest of all tests of men and the leaders of men, of nations and the community of nations -- up to this decisive hour I know that you have stood, and you stand now, most loyally side by side with me.

Let me tell you that I am strengthened by that knowledge. ~~Let me~~

continued...

~~tell you that I am strengthened by that knowledge.~~ Let me assure you that my hand is the steadier for the work that is to be done, that I move more firmly into the task, knowing that you -- millions and millions of you -- are joined with me in the resolve to make this work endure.

The work, my friends, is peace. More than an end of this war -- an end to the beginnings of all wars. Yes, an end, forever, to this impractical, unrealistic settlement of the differences between governments by the mass killing of peoples.

Even as I speak these words, I can hear, in my mind's ear, an old, old chorus. You have heard it too. You will hear more of it as we go forward with the work at hand.

It is the chorus coming from the defeatists, the cynics, the perfectionists -- all the world's sad aggregation of timid souls who tell us, for one reason or another, it can't be done.

They have been afraid to come along with us as we approached this task of destiny. And they will shrink, they will pull back and try to pull us back with them, as we get further into it.

Oh yes, they will agree, war is horrible. War is hell.

And yet, in their pale, anaemic minds there is a kind of worship

continued...

of this same horror of war. They tell us there can be no end to it. They endow it with immortality. They certify it to us as the ultimate fate of mankind on earth.

Now, you and I don't stand in such awe and adoration. We don't think war deserves it.

You and I are not willing to concede that we were put here on earth for no better purpose. And from here on, the wars that would come if we let them would leave precious few of us to argue to the contrary!

You and I call war stupidity -- not plain stupidity, but enormous, brutal stupidity, ~~but enormous, brutal stupidity,~~ a crime that makes no more sense to its perpetrator than it does to its victim.

Well, today that cult of the faint-hearted, the credo of those cringing adorers of a criminal precedent, is on its way out. And in a span of time as far back as history goes, that is something new under the sun.

To me there is no greater hope for humanity, there is no better sign in the world of our time, than the fact that this abject worship of war has become -- for the first time -- a minority belief. We have struck

continued...

boldly forward in the inner world of our thinking, in the world that we project for our kind, and we have discovered that that world is not flat.

True, if there are new corporals who will want to become rulers of the earth, we cannot legislate wild fancies out of their minds. And if there are other impractical dreamers who must indulge themselves in their private nightmares -- the pipedream that war is inevitable -- we cannot pass laws abridging the freedom to dream.

But we can and we will stop these murderous hallucinations from reaching us. We can and we will keep them confined to the dream-world of would-be conquerors and of the defeatists who are their accessories before the fact. We can stop them from wrecking the lives of sane, sound, peace-loving, practical humanity. This we can do. And this we will do.

I say "we", for I know that I am only one in many millions who share this belief and are so resolved. We have had it proved abundantly to us in America that our people, whether Democrats or Republicans, want to strike boldly against the threat of war. They have demanded a sane, practical end to it. And they have their feet on the ground.

To this I can add -- for I have seen it just as abundantly in my

continued...

recent travels -- that the other peoples of the world will be with us every step of the way. The thin-blooded timid souls who are now in a minority in our country are also in a minority in the world.

I remember saying, once upon a time in the long, long ago when I was a freshman, that the only thing our people had to fear was fear itself. We were in fear then of economic collapse. We struck back boldly against that fear, and we overcame it.

Today, as we move against ^{the} ~~an even more~~ terrible scourge, ^{of war} ~~and as~~ we go forward towards the greatest contribution that any generation of human beings can make in this world -- the contribution of lasting peace, ~~and that little admonition of thirteen years ago comes back to me.~~

I ask you to keep up your faith. I measure the sound, solid achievement that can be made at this time by the straight-edge of your own confidence and your resolve. And to you, and to all Americans who dedicate themselves with us to the making of an abiding peace, I say:

The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our ~~doubt~~ ^{doubts of today. Let us move forward} ~~of today.~~ ^{with strong and active faith.}

Undelivered Jefferson Day Address, April 13, 1945. President Roosevelt was scheduled to deliver by radio a speech to the annual Jefferson Day Dinner, a major event on the Democratic Party calendar. On April 11th, the President read through the initial draft of his speech that set forth his vision for a peaceful post-war world. As was his custom, he made handwritten revisions, re-arranged paragraphs, and inserted new language. At the end of the speech, he added the simple but powerful phrase "Let us move forward with strong and active faith." They were the last words that Franklin Roosevelt wrote for public utterance. He would die the next day, and the speech would remain undelivered. *From the President's Master Speech File.*