

Tully Archive: FDR Papers

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Box 11; Folder = Correspondence: Villard, Oswald Garrison, 1935

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 21, 1935.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Oswald:-

There is one subject -- and only one -- about which I can claim to have known and to know more than you will ever possibly know -- i.e., just what Naval Defense of the United States means.

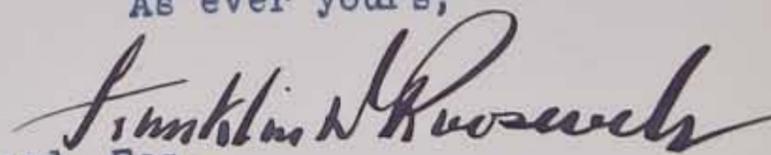
Get our your Atlas and then read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the following categorical statement -- not subject to contradiction by you -- because on Naval subjects you are an infant in arms!

The Naval Defense of the United States in the Pacific (leaving out any question of the Philippines) runs in a line beginning five hundred miles south of the Panama Canal, thence in a straight line to the Island of Guam, thence to Mid-Way Island, thence to the westerly end of the Aleutian Islands. Everything east of that line is the defensive area of the continental United States.

Be a good scout and put that in your pipe and smoke it!

I do hope to see you soon. My best regards,

As ever yours,



Oswald Garrison Villard, Esq.,
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New York, N. Y.