

DOCUMENT CAPTIONS

document001.pdf

Baptismal certificate, March 20, 1882

James Roosevelt wanted to name his son Isaac after his own father. But Sara prevailed and the baby was named Franklin Delano after her favorite uncle, Franklin Hughes Delano.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document002.pdf

Groton School report card, June 23, 1900

Though not a great scholar, FDR finished fairly high in his class. Headmaster Endicott Peabody's final report notes: "He has been a thoroughly faithful scholar." Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document003.pdf

Page 1, Reading Copy, First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1933

This is the first page of the reading copy of the Inaugural Address. FDR read from this copy when he delivered the speech. It includes a final handwritten change—a new opening sentence that Roosevelt penciled in while waiting inside the Senate building for the inaugural ceremonies to begin.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document004.pdf

Duncan Major to Louis Howe, Report on CCC, June 16, 1933

The Civilian Conservation Corps moved with amazing speed to employ young men. Within three months of its creation it had enrolled almost a quarter million workers. Nearly 100,000 were already working in CCC camps. This report to FDR's aide Louis Howe details progress made by June 16, 1933.

document005.pdf

Statement upon Signing the Social Security Bill, August 14, 1935

This is the public statement FDR read to radio and newsreel reporters when he signed the Social Security Act in a ceremony at the White House on August 14, 1935. It bears his signature at the end. FDR's handwritten notation on the first page marks the spot where he intended to pause to sign the Act.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document006.pdf

Resignation letter, Mrs. Roosevelt to Mrs. Henry M. Robert, Jr., February 26, 1939

In her February 26, 1939 letter resigning from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Mrs. Roosevelt cited her "complete disagreement with the attitude taken in refusing Constitution Hall to a great artist." The DAR "had an opportunity to lead in an enlightened way," she wrote, "and it seems to me that your organization has failed." *Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives*

document007.pdf

Einstein letter to FDR regarding atomic bomb, August 2, 1939

In the Summer of 1939, a group of physicists met to discuss their fears that Germany was developing a uranium-based weapon. They decided to inform President Roosevelt of their concerns. Because Albert Einstein had a previous personal relationship with the Roosevelts and was internationally known, a letter was drafted for his signature. On October 11, 1939, New Deal economist Alexander Sachs hand-delivered this letter to FDR. It led to the establishment of the Manhattan Project.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document008.pdf

Bedside note, Franklin Roosevelt, September 1, 1939

At 2:50 am on September 1, 1939, President Roosevelt was awakened by a telephone call from the American Ambassador in Paris, William C. Bullitt, who told him Germany had invaded Poland. After ordering that army commands and navy ships be notified, FDR wrote this "bedside note," documenting for posterity how he learned of the war's outbreak.

document009.pdf

Fala fan mail letter and photo, 1941

As president of Barkers for Britain, Fala received letters from around the nation, including this note (with photograph) from "Cire Noir Butler," head of the group's Austin, Texas branch.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document010.pdf

Draft No. 1 of War Message to Congress, December 8, 1941

Several hours after learning of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt dictated a short address to be delivered to a Joint Session of Congress the following day. FDR's 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. Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document011.pdf

Message to Churchill on Mussolini's Fall, July 25, 1943

FDR receives word of Mussolini's fall from power while relaxing at his Maryland retreat called Shangri-La. He immediately drafts a message to Winston Churchill. Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document012.pdf

UN organization sketch by Franklin Roosevelt, November 30, 1943

By late 1943, FDR was formulating concrete ideas for the postwar peace, including a new United Nations organization. This sketch he made during the Teheran Conference reflects his early concept of its possible structure. It includes a main body consisting of the 40 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.

document013.pdf

Message from Eisenhower to Marshall, June 6, 1944

Several hours after the start of the invasion, General Eisenhower cables this top secret progress report to Washington.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document014.pdf

American Flag is Raised on Mt. Suribachi, February 24, 1945

After five days of intense fighting on Iwo Jima, the White House receives a flash message that Marines have raised the American flag on Mt. Suribachi. Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document015.pdf

Draft of Preamble UDHR with Mrs. Roosevelt's revisions, c. 1947

Draft of Preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with Eleanor Roosevelt's handwritten revisions, c. 1947

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library Archives

document016.pdf

Draft letter, Eleanor Roosevelt to Harry S. Truman, November 13, 1947

Mrs. Roosevelt was troubled when President Truman instituted a loyalty program to remove communists and other leftists from the ranks of federal workers. In this draft letter, she expresses concern that "we are doing what the Soviets would do to in trying to repress anything which we are afraid might not command public support, in order to insure acceptance of our own actions."