

Roosevelt Points to 'Victory' in Address To Congress

WASHINGTON.—The text of President Roosevelt's annual message to Congress follows: Mr. Vice-President, Mr. Speaker, members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives: The 78th Congress assembles in one of the great moments in the history of this nation. The past year was perhaps the most crucial for modern civilization; the coming year will be filled with the fiercest conflict yet with high promise of better things.

We must appraise the events of 1942 according to their relative importance; we must exercise a sense of proportion. First in importance in the American scene has been the inspiring proof of the great qualities of our fighting men. They have demonstrated these qualities in adversity as well as in victory. As long as our flag flies and our Republic stands, Americans will honor the soldiers, sailors and Marines who fought our first battles of this war against overwhelming odds—the heroes, living and dead, of Wake and Bataan and Guadalcanal, of the Java Sea and Midway and the North Atlantic convoys. Their unconquerable spirit will live forever.

RUSSIAN JOB GREAT

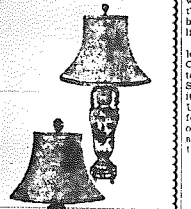
By far the largest and most important development in the whole strategic picture of 1942 were the events on the long front in Russia: first, the impossible defense of Stalingrad; and second, the offensives by the Russian Army at various points which started in the latter part of November and which still roll on with great force and effectiveness. The other major events of the year were the series of Japanese advances in the Philippines, the East Indies, Malaya and Burma; the stopping of the Japanese in the Mid-Pacific, the South Pacific and the Indian Ocean; the successful defense of the Near East by the British counter attack through Egypt and Libya; the American-British occupation of North Africa. Of continuing importance in 1942 were the unending, bitterly-contested battles of the convoy routes, and the gradual passing of the superiority from the Axis to the United Nations.

The Axis powers knew that they must win the war in 1942 or eventually lose everything. I do not need to tell you that our enemies did not win their war in 1942.

In the Pacific area, our most important victory in 1942 was the air and naval battle off Midway Island. That action is historically important because it secured for our communications lines stretching thousands of miles in every direction. In placing this emphasis on the Battle of Midway, I am not unduly proud of our successful actions in the Pacific. In the air and on land and at sea—especially those on the Coral Sea and New Guinea and in the Solomon Islands. But these actions were essentially defensive. They were part of the delaying strategy that characterized this phase of the war. During this period we inflicted steady losses upon the enemy—great losses of Japanese planes, naval vessels, transports and cargo ships. As early as one year ago, we set a primary task: the war of the Pacific day-by-day and week-by-week destruction of more Japanese war material than the Japanese industry could replace. Most certainly, that task has been and is being performed. Our fighting ships and planes. A large part of this task has been accomplished by the gallant crews of our American submarines who strike on the other side of the Pacific at Japanese shipping right at the very mouth of the harbor of Yokohama.

We know that as each day goes by Japanese strength in ships and planes is going down and down, and American strength in ships and planes is going up and up. The eventual

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outcome can be put on a mathematical basis. That will be critical in how we present people themselves when we strike at their own home industries. We must be constantly from the air.

In the attacks against Japan, we should be aware of the people of China—whose ideals of peace are so closely akin to our own. Even today we are receiving kind-ness material into China as ever traversed the Burma Road, flying through the seventeen thousand feet high, flying blind through sleet and snow. We have overcome all these formidable obstacles, and set the equipment into China to shatter the power of the enemy. From this war, China will realize the security, the prosperity and the dignity which none has sought so ruthlessly to destroy.

AFRICAN EXPEDITION

After months of secret planning and preparation in the utmost detail, an enormous amphibious expedition was embarked for French North Africa from a United States and the United Kingdom in hundreds of ships. It reached its objectives with very small losses, and has already produced an important effect upon the whole situation of the war. It has opened to us the Mediterranean Sea, well described as the "under-belly of the Axis," and it has removed the always dangerous threat of an Axis attack through West Africa against the South Atlantic Ocean and the continent of Libya. The well-timed and splendidly executed offensive from Egypt, in the latter part of November and the same major strategy of the United Nations.

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PROUD OF RECORD

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ARMED FOR THE FUTURE

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WE CAN PRODUCE MORE

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PRODUCTION FRONT Progress Report

Our forward progress in this war has been rapid progress on the production front.

There has been criticism of the management and conduct of our production. Much of this criticism is based on the fact that it has spurred us on. It has reflected a normal American impatience to get on with the job. But we must be satisfied with anything short of miracles.

MUCH ACCOMPLISHED

I do not wish to suggest that we should be completely satisfied with our production progress today, or next month, or ever. But I can report to you with genuine pride on what has been accomplished during 1942.

OUR PRODUCTION GOALS

One year ago we set certain production goals for 1942 and 1943. Some people, including some experts, thought that had pulled some big figures out of a hat just to frighten the Axis. But we have demonstrated in the ability of our people to establish new records, that confidence has been justified.

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We have learned by the mistakes that have been made. Our experience will enable us to improve the management and conduct of our production. Much of this criticism is based on the fact that it has spurred us on. It has reflected a normal American impatience to get on with the job. But we must be satisfied with anything short of miracles.

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We are eager to face the risks inherent in our system of free enterprise. They do not want a post-war America which suffers from under-employment or unemployment. They want a post-war America which is a land of "prosperity" which will end for them in selling apples on the street. They want to avoid the bursting of the boom in 1929.

RIGHT TO WORK

When you talk with our young people, you will find that they want to work for themselves and their families; they consider they have the right to work. They know that after the last war their fathers did not gain that right. They shall get it in many ways. In our daily lives the sharp pinch of total war.

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force them back to servility and suffering and silence. The people have now gathered their strength. They are moving forward in their might and power—and no force, no combination of forces, no trickery, deceit or violence, can stop them now. They see before them the hope of the world—a decent, secure, peaceful life for all men everywhere.

ON WAY TO VICTORY

I do not prophesy when this war will end. But I do believe that this year of 1943 will give to the United Nations a very substantial advance along the roads that lead to Berlin and Rome and Tokyo. I tell you it is within the

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