

December 7, 1941.

PROPOSED MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS

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

The United States was at the moment at peace with that nation and was
~~still in~~ ^{still in} 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~~ ^{Dahu}

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~~

~~While~~ ^{While} ~~stated~~ ^{stated} it seemed ~~was~~ ^{was}
~~that~~ ^{that} this reply contained a statement that diplomatic negotiations
 must be considered ~~at an end~~ ^{it} contained no threat ~~or~~ ^{or} hint of ~~an~~ ^{war}
 armed attack.

It will be recorded that the distance ~~between~~ ^{of}
 Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the ~~attack~~ ^{was} deliberately
 planned ~~many~~ ^{or 70 or 80} days 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.

at the solicitation of Japan
 to continue the war

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

Yesterday, December 7, 1941 -- a date which will live in infamy -- the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

The United States was at peace with ^{that} ~~the~~ nation and, at the solicitation of Japan, was still in 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 Oahu, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to the Secretary of State a formal reply to a recent American message. While this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the existing diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or armed attack.

It will be recorded that the distance of Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the attack was deliberately planned many days or even weeks ago. During the intervening time the Japanese Government has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian Islands has caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. Very many American lives have been lost. In addition American ships have been ^{reported} torpedoes on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.

"Day of Infamy" Speech by Franklin D. Roosevelt, December 8, 1941; SEN 77A-H1, Records of the United States Senate; Record Group 46; National Archives.



Discuss The Drafts of FDR's speech

- What observations can you make about the speech notes?
- Why do you think this important speech was so short?
- What do you think the reaction was to the speech?
 - Were there any dissenters to this speech?
 - What was the mood of the Nation?
- What was the mood of Great Britain and Canada?