

# Franklin Delano Roosevelt: Address to Congress Requesting a Declaration of War delivered December 8, 1941

Mr. Vice President, and Mr. Speaker, and Members of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live <sup>不名誉</sup> in <sup>なものとて残る</sup> infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and <sup>故意に</sup> deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

The United States was at peace with that Nation and, at the <sup>懇願</sup> 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 <sup>編隊</sup> squadrons had commenced <sup>開戦の</sup> bombing in the American Island of Oahu, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to our <sup>国務長官</sup> Secretary of State a formal reply to a recent American message. And while this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the <sup>現行の</sup> existing <sup>外交的</sup> diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or of 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 <sup>攻撃を仕掛けるまでの</sup> <sup>時間</sup> intervening time the Japanese Government has deliberately sought to <sup>騙す</sup> 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. I regret to tell you that very many American lives have been lost. In addition American ships have been reported <sup>魚雷攻撃する</sup> torpedoed on the <sup>公海</sup> high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.

Yesterday the Japanese Government also launched an attack against <sup>マレー</sup> Malaya.

Last night Japanese forces attacked Hong Kong.

Last night Japanese forces attacked Guam.

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Last night Japanese forces attacked the Philippine Islands.

Last night the Japanese attacked <sup>ウエーキ島</sup> Wake Island. And this morning the Japanese attacked <sup>ミッドウエー島</sup> Midway Island.

Japan has, therefore, undertaken a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific area. The facts of yesterday and today <sup>～からすれば</sup> speak <sup>自明の</sup> for <sup>理である</sup> themselves. The people of the United States have already formed their opinions and well understand the <sup>引き起こされる影響</sup> implications to the very life and safety of our Nation.

As <sup>最高司令官</sup> Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense.

But always will our whole Nation remember the character of the <sup>襲撃</sup> onslaught against us.

No matter how long it may take us to overcome this <sup>予め計画された</sup> premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win <sup>～するまで</sup> through to absolute victory. I believe that I interpret the will of the Congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the <sup>最大限に</sup> uttermost but will make it very certain that this form of <sup>背信行為</sup> treachery shall never again endanger us.

Hostilities exist. There is no <sup>看過する</sup> blinking at the fact that our people, our territory, and our interests are in grave danger.

With confidence in our armed forces- with the <sup>無制限の</sup> un-bounding determination of our people- we will gain the inevitable triumph- so help us God.

I ask *that the Congress declare that since the <sup>いわれのない</sup> unprovoked and <sup>卑劣な</sup> dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December 7, 1941, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire.*

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NOTE: The part of Italics isn't taped.