

Text of President Roosevelt's Budget Message to Congress

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U. P.)—The text of President Roosevelt's budget message:

To the Congress of the United States:

The budget of the United States Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1942, which I transmit herewith, is a reflection of a world at war.

Carrying out the mandate of the people, the Government has embarked on a program for the total defense of our democracy.

This means warships, freighters, tanks, planes and guns to protect us against aggression; and jobs, health and security to strengthen the bulwarks of democracy. Our problem in the coming year is to combine these two objectives so as to protect our democracy against external pressure and internal slackness.

The threatening world situation forces us to build up land, sea and air forces able to meet and master any contingency. It is dangerous to prepare for a little defense. It is safe only to prepare for total defense.

Total defense means more than weapons. It means an industrial capacity stepped up to produce all the materiel for defense with the greatest possible speed. It means people of health and stamina, conscious of their democratic rights and responsibilities. It means an economic and social system functioning smoothly and geared to high-speed performance. The defense budget, therefore, must go beyond the needs of the Army and Navy.

It is not enough to defend our national existence. Democracy as a way of life is equally at stake. The ability of the democracies to employ their full resources of manpower and skill and plant has been challenged. We meet this challenge by maximum utilization of plant and manpower and by maintaining governmental services, social security, and aid to those suffering through no fault of their own.

Only by maintaining all of these activities can we claim the effectiveness of resources which our democratic system is expected to yield, and thus justify the expenditures required for its defense.

The National Program

In this budget I am presenting a program for 1942, carefully worked out to combine these objectives. This program, including defense and non-defense activities, will cost about \$17,500,000,000. For the same period, we expect the largest national income for the nation as a whole and also the largest tax receipts.

In addition, but essentially and rightly as a complement to this program, the time has come for immediate consideration of assuring the continuation of the flow of vital necessary munitions to those nations which are defending themselves against attack and against the imposition of new forms of government upon them.

Such a complementary program would call for appropriations and contracts authorizations over and above this budget. The sum of all these defense efforts should be geared to the productive capacity of this nation expanded to literally its utmost efforts.

The Defense Program and Defense Expenditures

Sixty-two per cent of the expenditures proposed in this budget are for national defense. No one can predict the ultimate cost of a program that is still in development, for no one can define the future. When we recall the staggering changes in the world situation in the last six months, we realize how tentative all present estimates must be.

These expenditures must be seen as a part of a defense program stretching over several years. On the basis of the appropriations and authorizations enacted for national defense from June, 1940, up to the present time plus the recommendations for supplemental appropriations and contract authorizations for 1941 and the recommendations contained in this budget for 1942, we have a program of \$28 billion dollars.

This is a vast sum, difficult to visualize in terms of work actually to be done. If we can prove that we are able to organize and execute such a gigantic program in a democratic way, we shall have made a positive contribution in a world in which the workability of democracy is challenged.

This defense program is summarized below:

Appropriations, Authorizations and Recommendations, June, 1940-1941, in Millions of Dollars

Army 13,704

Navy 11,987

Expansion of Industrial Plant 28,480

Total 52,171

Expenditures in Millions of Dollars

Defense Program 19,62

Fixed Commissions 3,478

Other Activities 3,478

Total (excluding returns from Government and other receipts) 23,578

Estimated re- turns from Government and other receipts 17,483

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