

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
211 EAST 62ND STREET
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

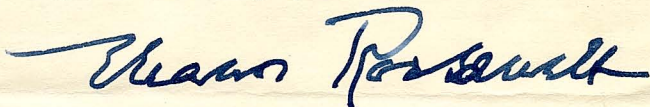
July 17, 1956

Dear Admiral Pugh:

Would it be possible for you to give the daily records kept of my husband's health from the time he came into office until his death to the Memorial Library at Hyde Park? I find that a number of historians are asking to see such records and feel it is pertinent to their work.

If you can furnish copies for inclusion in the records kept at the Library, I would be very grateful.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Eleanor Roosevelt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Rear Adm. H. Lamont Pugh
Medical Corps, Quarters A
National Naval Medical Center
Bethesda, Md.

BUREAU OF
MILITARY AND SURGERY

1956 JUL 23 11 30

2
Bedford, N.Y.
HARTON, HARRY HENRY, Captain
HENRY, CORBIE, Charles V
HENRY, VERN, H. General, Major

ALL INFORMATION

ALL INFORMATION

IN THE RECORDS KEPT AT THE OFFICE, I WOULD BE

IN THE CASE OF ANY OTHERS FOR INFORMATION
ONLY.

ALL RECORDS AND TESTS TO BE RETURNED TO THE
OFFICE IN THE HANDS OF THE OFFICER IN CHARGE TO SEE
TO THE MEMORIAL OFFICE AT THE OFFICE. I THINK
THE TIME BE SOME TIME OFFICE WITH THE OFFICE
OFFICE RECORDS KEPT OF THE OFFICE, A RECORD OF THE

WOULD BE BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE TO SEE THE
DEAR VERN, H. Major:

1956 JUL 23 1956

NEW YORK N. Y. A.
IN THE HANDS OF THE OFFICE
WILL BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE

3 N

33 ACTION

20 July 1956

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
211 East 62nd Street
New York 21, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Your recent letter relative to your husband's health records has just reached my desk.

Inasmuch as the matter in point comes within the cognizance of the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, I am forwarding it to him for appropriate action.

My term as Surgeon General expired a year and a half ago. I am at this time within ten days of my retirement from active duty in the Navy.

Sincerely yours,

LAMONT PUGH
Rear Admiral, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy

3579 South Stafford Street
Arlington, Virginia

Copy to:
ChBuMed (with basic) ✓

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Code 33

DATE: 26 July 1956

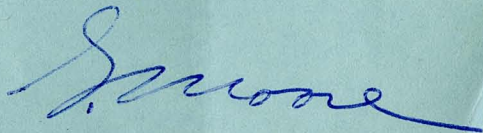
FROM : Code 334

SUBJECT: ROOSEVELT, Franklin Delano Sr.

Telephone information from USNH, Bethesda (extension 411) indicates that they have no records of any kind in this case. Although any clinical record would naturally have been retired at this date, Bethesda would still have an index card had he ever been admitted as a patient.

BUMED General Files (Code 2123) has also been contacted with negative results.

Have not yet requested NFMCC, St. Louis, to make any search. Will do so if you so desire. Would involve quite a lot of searching because of length of time, various logs and registers, etc.



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Code 3

DATE: 25 September 1956

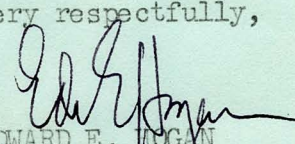
FROM : Code 33

SUBJECT: Ltr from Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt dtd 17 Jul 1956

1. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has requested that the medical records pertaining to her husband's health from the time he came into office until his death be furnished the Memorial Library at Hyde Park. No records covering this period can be located.

2. In Admiral McIntire's book "President's Physician" there is considerable material pertaining to President Roosevelt's health particularly as respects his health at the time he was a candidate for reelection in 1944. It is my understanding that he was in fact at that time rather seriously ill but was, for political reasons, represented to the public as being in good health. It seems inconceivable that no records pertaining to his health were maintained although it is entirely possible (and quite proper) that they were not transmitted to the Navy Department for custody.

Very respectfully,


 EDWARD E. HOGAN

Beane

Please have the letter to Mrs R rewritten - we owe an apology for the lateness in acknowledging the correspondence. Believe I would say that since Adm McIntire was his personal physician all.

① We should send Dr McIntire a copy of Mrs Roosevelt's letter to Adm Tugh.

② Out of courtesy we should have written to Mrs R in July stating we would make a thoro search for all records.

③ A call to Dr Harper might reveal where the records are.

These despatches
 must be in the possession of

Code 3

25 September 1956

Code 33

Ltr from Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt dtd 17 Jul 1956

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Very respectfully,

/P/ EDWARD E. HOGAN

[10, 11]
BUREAU-1
17 October 1956

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
211 East 62nd Street
New York 21, New York

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Your letter to Admiral Pugh of 17 July 1956 relative to your husband's health records has been referred by him to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. I regret the delay in acknowledging your letter but it had been hoped that some information regarding your husband's records could be furnished you.

In accordance with your request, an exhaustive search has been conducted of the files of this Bureau, of the records at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland and of naval records maintained at the Naval Records Management Center, St. Louis, Missouri. To date no records pertaining to your husband's health, more recent than the year 1915 at which time he was Assistant Secretary of the Navy, have been located. However, in view of the fact that Admiral McIntire was your husband's personal physician and undoubtedly has information concerning the location of the records you request, a letter has been directed to him soliciting his assistance in locating or furnishing these records.

I am enclosing for your information a copy of the letter which has been sent to Admiral McIntire and I want to assure you that if any records can be located, copies will be furnished you promptly for transmittal to the Memorial Library at Hyde Park in accordance with your request.

Sincerely yours,

10/1
B. W. HOGAN
Rear Admiral (MC)
Surgeon General, U. S. Navy

Encl (1)

Copy to:
Admiral McIntire



BUMED-1

17 October 1956

Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire
Executive Director
International College of Surgeons
1516 Lake Shore Drive
Chicago 10, Illinois

My dear Admiral McIntire:

The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery has received, by way of Admiral Pugh, a letter from Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt requesting that the daily records of her husband's health from the time he came into office until his death be furnished the Memorial Library at Hyde Park for their historical interest. I am enclosing herewith for your information a copy of Mrs. Roosevelt's letter to Admiral Pugh, a copy of Admiral Pugh's letter to Mrs. Roosevelt, and a copy of this Bureau's reply to Mrs. Roosevelt.

As you will note from the letter to Mrs. Roosevelt, a search of the files maintained in the Bureau, of the Bureau's general files, of the records of the Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland and of the Record Center at St. Louis has failed to locate any pertinent records.

In view of the fact that you were President Roosevelt's personal physician, you will undoubtedly be able to assist in locating or furnishing the records Mrs. Roosevelt has requested. Any information you can furnish as to the nature of the records which were maintained, their disposition and present location would be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

10/1
B. W. HOGAN
Rear Admiral (MC)
Surgeon General, U. S. Navy

Encl (3)

Copy to:
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt





INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

FOUNDED IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, INCORPORATED IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROSS T. MCINTIRE, M. D.

1516 LAKE SHORE DRIVE

CHICAGO 10, ILLINOIS

October 24, 1956

CO161

Rear Admiral B. W. Hogan, MC
Surgeon General, United States Navy
Department of the Navy
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Admiral Hogan:

Your letter of October 17, 1956, regarding Mrs. Roosevelt's request for health records has been received.

As you may remember, President Roosevelt spent no time in the Naval Hospital during the twelve years he was at the White House. We did conduct physical examinations using the laboratories at the Center and records must have been kept of those — although I have the duplicates. Then, too, we used the services of many of the staff during the first three months of 1944 when he was having recurrent respiratory infections from an unidentified virus. I have records, of course, of his progress during that time. He did not, however, require hospitalization. Naturally, I did not keep a daily record of the President's health, for we went along for many years when an annual physical was the only necessary thing that we felt should be accomplished.

I will write Mrs. Roosevelt and inquire as to just what she thinks we should give to a reputable historian who is writing on the life of the President. I can say to you that I take a very dim view of any such thing. I think if this is to be published, I should do it — for at least it will be handled by a professional man and not some person who could distort and possibly release data that could be twisted. I can see that she has been crowded by some of these people who are now in the history writing business.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire
Surgeon General, United State Navy (Ret.)

26 Oct. 1956

Code 33

Adm. Bradley asked that
a ltr to Mrs. Roosevelt be
prepared for his signature
indicating that Adm McIntire
has advised that he will
contact her regarding providing
the records she has requested.

Respy —

NJ Hanavan

2 November 1956

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

This is in further reply to your letter of 17 July 1956 relative to your husband's medical records.

A letter has now been received from Admiral McIntire indicating that he will write you in the near future concerning the records you have requested. I regret very much that the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery has been unable to locate any of your husband's records but I am sure that Admiral McIntire will be able to help you in this respect. However, if the Bureau can assist in any other respect, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce E. Bradley
Rear Admiral (MC) USN.
Acting Surgeon General

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
211 East 62nd Street
New York 21, New York

Copy to:
VADM Ross T. McIntire

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
REQUEST FOR SERVICE

CURRENT DATE

6/28/62

SEARCH REQUESTED BY

FIELD MEDICAL RECORDS BRANCH

INITIALS

S.J.

FOR CODE

790

RECORD(S) REQUESTED BY

TITLE/NAME

BUTTED

ADDRESS

WASH. D. C.

DATE OF REQUEST

MSG 402706 1603 E3

DESCRIPTION OF RECORD(S) REQUESTED

NAME (last, first, middle):

ROOSEVELT, FRANKLIN DELANO

SERVICE NUMBER:

DEPENDENT/OTHER:

PLACE OF TREATMENT:

N. H. WASH. D. C.

DATE OF TREATMENT:

18 JULY 1915

NATURE OF TREATMENT:



IN PATIENT



OUT PATIENT



X-RAY

CONDITION FOR WHICH TREATED:

REMARKS:

RESULTS OF SEARCH

☐ RECORD(S) LOCATED AND ATTACHED HERETO



SEE REMARKS

DATE

6/28/62

TIME OF SEARCH

INITIALS OF SEARCHER

S.J.

REMARKS

CLINICAL REC. FOR 1915 ARE
FILED ALPHABETICALLY TO THE
FIRST LETTER OF THE LAST
NAME AND WERE SEARCHED
WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

WE DO NOT HOLD MUSTER CARDS.
FOR N. H. WASH. D. C.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Medical Jacket of the late President Franklin
Delano Roosevelt, Sr.

DATE: 30 June 1967

FROM : Code 334

SUBJECT: Telephone conversation with Mr. Roul Tunley, writer for the Putman
Publishing Co.; information concerning

1. Telecon received this date from Mr. Tunley, indicating that he had been asked by his company to do a book on the late president. He did not desire to do the book unless he knew he was going to be able to have access to all of the President's medical records. He was attempting to locate the where-abouts of these records in order that he could discuss release of them with the family. He was provided general information concerning retirement of records and appropriate authorization for release of records. He indicated that Hyde Park did not have the desired records. He also indicated that he had contacted the White House Physician's Office and that they indicated that they did not have the records. He further indicated that he had discussed the matter with Admiral Brown and that he indicated he would try to locate the records. I later determined that he had discussed the matter with Lcdr. Peckinpaugh.

2. In reviewing the records held here, I find that we do not hold any medical records concerning treatment or examination while the president was in office. A previous search for such records was negative. Mr. Tunley was advised that no records were on file in this Bureau or at NPRC. He advised me that it was certainly odd that the records could not be located. He further advised me that he had just contacted the late president's only daughter, Arna, who is the wife of a physician and that the family does not have the records. He indicated that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt had requested the records several years ago but had not received them. He indicated that he had also contacted the wife of the late Vice Admiral Ross McIntire and she indicated she did not have any of the records.

3. Mr. Tunley further advised me that the family would be requesting the records by letter; however, he did not indicate which member of the family would be making this request or to whom the request would be directed.


D. J. BRIDEAU



7/5/67
Information
advised verbally
↓

Howard Brown
in Practice in NYC
5 July 1967
Park ave.

MEMO FOR ADMIRALS BROWN AND CANADA:

Call received this date from Mrs. James Halstead, daughter of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (tele: 291-4910). Purpose of call was to inquire of the Surgeon General where President Roosevelt's medical records are. Mrs. Halstead said her call was prompted by inquiries the family has been receiving from a Mr. Roul Tunley, writer for the Putman Publishing Company (see Code 334 memo to Medical Jacket of late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Sr. of 30 June 1967 attached).

Mrs. Halstead said the family has checked with Archives and NH Bethesda and with the widow of the late Admiral Ross McIntire, Physician to President Roosevelt. Verbal inquiry has been made to BuMed but no one seems to know where the records are.

Mrs. Halstead said her husband is a physician and the family feels that an evaluation of her father's illness should be written rather than people "guessing". Mrs. Halstead said she was with her father constantly the last year and a half of his life and she knew a Commander Bruin^(sp?) was with him constantly. Commander Bruin is an internist and is still alive. She feels the evaluation should be written by Commander Bruin and someone of his choice.

Mrs. Halstead would appreciate hearing from the Surgeon General or his Deputy re the disposition of her father's medical records.

I assured her one or the other would return her call but that it would most likely be Admiral Canada as Admiral Brown was departing shortly on an extended trip out of the country. She thanked me.

Very respectfully,
Betty
BETTY SCHILLING

6 JULY 1967

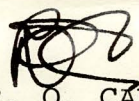
334 Retain

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Mrs. Halstead called and told a thorough search made and no records found. Doubtful that any were kept by Navy since President Roosevelt was never hospitalized at Bethesda.

Mrs. Halstead said Mrs. Ross Mc Intire told Mrs. Roosevelt that Admiral Mc Intire had destroyed all the medical records.

A Dr. Howard Bruenn, formerly in the Navy and stationed at the White House, is writing a short article on President Roosevelt's health in his later years from personal memory and notes he kept. This will be published in a Medical Historical Journal and has the blessing of the Roosevelt family.


R. O. CANADA
RADM, MC, USN