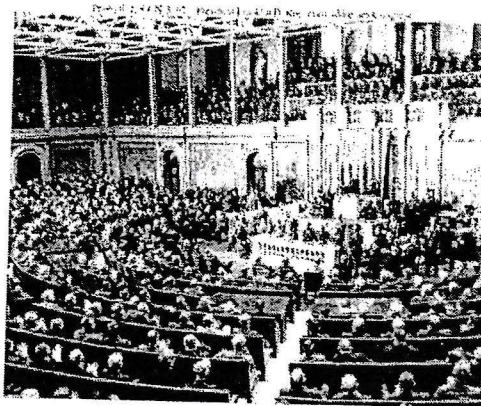


Franklin Delano Roosevelt



delivered on December 8, 1941

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

Yesterday, December 7th, 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 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...

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. I regret to tell you that very many American lives have been lost...

... I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense. But always will our whole nation remember the character of the onslaught against us.

No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory.

With confidence in our armed forces, with the unbounding determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph -- so help us God.

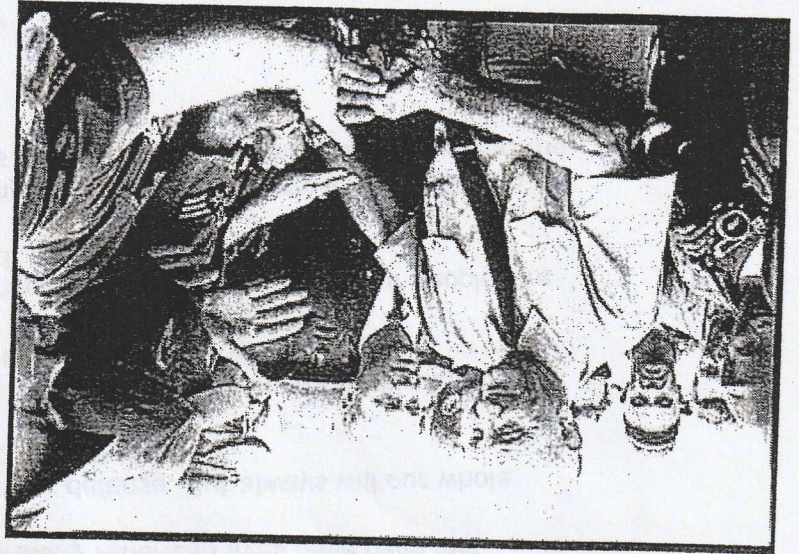
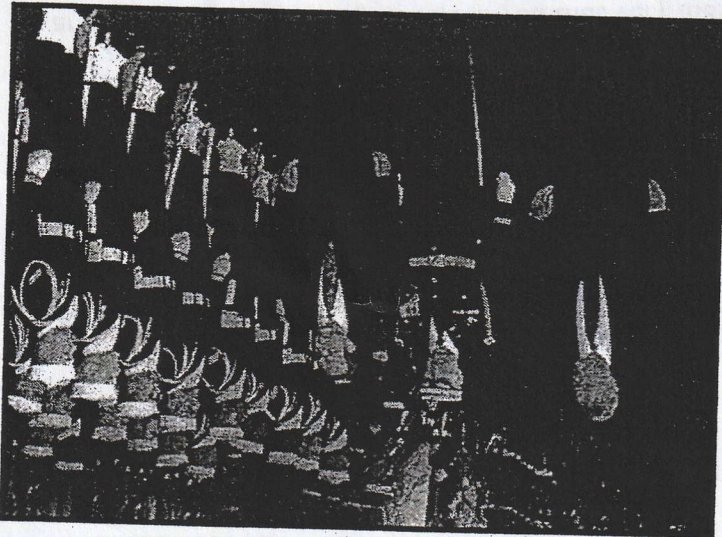
I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December 7th, 1941, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese empire.

Commander in Chief



Bush with troops

President Bill Clinton (left) and Secretary of Defense William J. Perry (right) are escorted by Col. David H. Huntoon, U.S. Army, as they inspect the troops at Fort Myer, Va., during an Armed Forces Full Honor Review and Award Ceremony on Jan. 14, 1997.



President Lyndon B. Johnson greets American troops in Vietnam, 1966

Sources:

www.vietnamwar.com/lyndonjohnsonrole.htm
www.defenselink.mil/photos/
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