

Telegram, Franklin Roosevelt to Lieutenant General Jonathan Wainwright, May 5, 1942. On May 5, Roosevelt sent Wainwright the message on the right, lauding him and his troops for their 'heroic stand.' Wainwright's exhausted forces surrendered the following day.

~~SECRET~~  
BY AUTHORITY OF A.C. OF S., OPD

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
OPERATIONS DIVISION  
WASHINGTON

Date May 5, 1942 Initials

MEMORANDUM FOR THE WAR DEPARTMENT CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER:

Subject: Far Eastern Situation

The Chief of Staff directs that the following secret message in code be transmitted to the Commanding General, U.S. Forces in the Philippine Islands, Fort Mills, by the most expeditious means possible consistent with secrecy: WDWPD:

PERSONAL FROM THE PRESIDENT TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL WAINWRIGHT  
PERIOD DURING RECENT WEEKS COMMA WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING WITH  
GROWING ADMIRATION THE DAY BY DAY ACCOUNTS OF YOUR HEROIC STAND  
AGAINST THE MOUNTING INTENSITY OF BOMBARDMENT BY ENEMY PLANES  
AND HEAVY SEIGE GUNS PERIOD IN SPITE OF ALL THE HANDICAPS OF  
COMPLETE ISOLATION COMMA LACK OF FOOD AND AMMUNITION YOU HAVE  
GIVEN THE WORLD A SHINING EXAMPLE OF PATRIOTIC FORTITUDE AND  
SELF-SACRIFICE PERIOD THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ASK NO FINER EXAMPLE  
OF TENACITY COMMA RESOURCEFULNESS COMMA AND STEADFAST COURAGE  
PERIOD THE CALM DETERMINATION OF YOUR PERSONAL LEADERSHIP IN  
A DESPERATE SITUATION SETS A STANDARD OF DUTY FOR OUR SOLDIERS  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD PERIOD IN EVERY CAMP AND ON EVERY NAVAL  
VESSEL SOLDIERS SAILORS AND MARINES ARE INSPIRED BY THE GALLANT  
STRUGGLE OF THEIR COMRADES IN THE PHILIPPINES PERIOD THE WORKMEN  
IN OUR SHIPYARDS AND MUNITIONS PLANTS REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS  
BECAUSE OF YOUR EXAMPLE PERIOD YOU AND YOUR DEVOTED FOLLOWERS  
HAVE BECOME THE LIVING SYMBOLS OF OUR WAR AIMS AND THE GUARANTEE  
OF VICTORY PERIOD

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

*[Handwritten signature]*

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