

Draft telegram, Franklin Roosevelt to Winston Churchill, December 20, 1943. During the Conference, Stalin pressed FDR to quickly name a commander for the invasion of Normandy. In December Roosevelt selected General Dwight D. Eisenhower. In this draft of a telegram to Winston Churchill, Roosevelt discusses the timing of the selection announcement. He also includes a personal note about Churchill's health.

DECLASSIFIED

By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.

By William J. Stewart

Date NOV 1971

December 20, 1943

PRESIDENT TO PRIME: # 421

Replying to your 512 of December 19, I am agreeable to an announcement on January first of selection of Eisenhower to command OVERLORD, Tedder to be Eisenhower's Deputy Supreme Commander, Wilson to relieve Eisenhower as Supreme Commander Mediterranean, this change to be made when Eisenhower reports that conditions in Italy justify the change, Eaker to command Allied Air Force Mediterranean.

I prefer to delay announcement of changes in subordinate commands until after the first of the year, ~~and until~~ *because I want to* I have opportunity to discuss it with Marshall who will return to Washington in a few days.

*I am delighted that you are really so much better and I wish I could be with you at the flower villa at Marabish. I hope you have sent for your brushes. My love to Clemmy. I feel relieved that she is with you as your superior officer.*

*Roosevelt*