I am delighted to be here, and to visit you
in this Park which was named after President Roosevelt's
Mother.

Sarah Delano Roosevelt was a very important person
in Franklin Roosevelt’s life.

When his boyhood letters were published recently,
we could see in them the fine relationship between a great
Mother and a great son.

The more we learn about the life of President Roosevelt,
the more we know he owed to his Mother.

A Park like this one is a splendid tribute,
and a reminder to each of us of what we owe our Mothers.
But sometimes, I think we Americans are too inclined to put up monuments — even living monuments like this park — and feel we have done everything we need to in repayment of a debt that never can be properly repaid.

The greatest gift we can give to our Mothers, or in their memory, is a contribution to world peace.

Sons fight wars, but it is their Mothers who suffer the most.

This is not the only reason, but it is one of the reasons, why I have said so many times — and I will say it again now — that I would rather have lasting peace than be President of the United States.
And I think the great American Mother for whom
this Park is named would agree with me.

Peace is what I have been working for
practically all my life. I started working for peace
when I saw war at first-hand.

I have never ceased to feel that peace
is within reach of mankind if we would only make the
necessary effort.

The past few years have taught us many lessons.

One of them is that there is no peace in weakness.
There can be peace in strength. But those who make
themselves strong have a duty before the whole word
to use that strength to maintain the peace - not to break it.
Strength, patience, and support for the United Nations - these things will enable the United States to keep the peace.

Peace at this time is the first step toward a just and lasting peace for all time.

There is one thing we have learned that is necessary above all.

If you believe in peace,

you must never give up trying.

I have never given up, and I never shall.

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