

# *the* Roosevelt *review*



*Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr. (left) look on as Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel presents the Four Freedoms Medal to Mr. Jacques Delors (right), President of the Commission of the European Community*

## The New Europe and the Roosevelt Study Center

"Gratitude fills the heart when we think of the extraordinary events that have taken place in Eastern Europe during that revolutionary year 1989. Who could have foreseen these rapid and dramatic developments? Who would have believed that...the symbol of totalitarianism, the Berlin Wall, would crumble?" With these words Dr. Cornelis Boertien, Queen's Commissioner in the Province of Zeeland, opened the 1990 Four Freedoms Awards.

We at the Roosevelt Study Center in Middelburg have experienced firsthand the significance of these events. In the flurry of the preparation in Middelburg that surrounds the Four Freedoms Awards ceremony, we found that our choice of candidates and our conferences also reflect the new European spirit.


Two of our award winners, Václav Havel and László Tökés, are significant figures from countries formerly hidden behind the "Iron Curtain." Two recipients, Jacques Delors and Jonkheer Emile van Lennep, represent the efforts of western Europe to cooperate. And

lastly Simon Wiesenthal, born in Poland, living in Austria, reminds us of the difficulties of Europe's past by being our conscience today.

The excitement of this newly emerging Europe were also to be felt at the three-day conference which preceded the Four Freedoms Awards. At this conference, scholars from the East and West, former allies and enemies, were able to sit together to evaluate the impact which FDR had had on their countries' destinies.

The responsibility which the RSC carries for the preservation of FDR's ideals was underscored by Four Freedoms Medal recipient Mikhail Gorbachev in his recognition that:

*"the meaning, the memory and the lessons of Franklin Delano Roosevelt belong not only to America, but to all Mankind."*

We invite you to read further about this important year at the RSC and to join us at events planned for 1991. 

*Newsletter of  
the Roosevelt  
Study Center*

1990



*The biennial presentation of the  
Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards  
since 1982 and  
the establishment of the  
Roosevelt Study Center  
in Middelburg, the Netherlands, have been made possible  
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(PZEM)*

*"In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression....The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way....The third is freedom from want...The fourth is freedom from fear....This nation has placed its destiny in the hands and heads and hearts of its millions of free men and women; and its faith in freedom under the guidance of God."*

*FDR, Message to Congress, January 6, 1941*

# The Four Freedoms Awards

On May 19, 1990, in the presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Juliana of the Netherlands, Chancellor Franz Vranitzky of Austria and some 800 prominent guests from many countries, the Four Freedoms Awards ceremony took place for the fifth time in the impressive surroundings of the 16th century Nieuwe Kerk in Middelburg. In his address, "The New Europe: A Vision Realized," William J. vanden Heuvel, President of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, reminded the audience of Roosevelt's vision and his courage. "There is," he quoted FDR as saying, "a mysterious cycle in human events. To some generations, much is given. Of other generations, much is expected." Of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the 32nd President of the United States of America, much was expected and so in turn he gave. To commemorate his contributions to freeing a world locked in war, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute in Hyde Park, New York created the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards. These awards, which honor persons whose lifetime commitment to the principles of freedom of speech, of religion, of freedom from want and from fear, are presented in odd-numbered years to Americans in Hyde Park, New York, the former residence of Eleanor and Franklin, and in even-numbered years to international persons in Zeeland, the Netherlands, the ancestral home of the Roosevelt family.

## The 1990 Award Winners

As world-renowned historian Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. reflected on the serenity of Middelburg, he recalled that just "a half century ago the land shook under the rumble of tanks, the crash of bombs and the cries of the wounded and dying." But he continued, "Two hundred years after the Revolution of 1789 we witness an unimaginable vindication of the Declaration of the Rights of Man....These changes are extraordinary in themselves. What is equally extraordinary is that no one foresaw them...All the sages, the savants, the prophets, all the experts were caught unawares, befuddled and impotent before the perpetual astonishments of the future." Without a doubt, the year 1989-1990

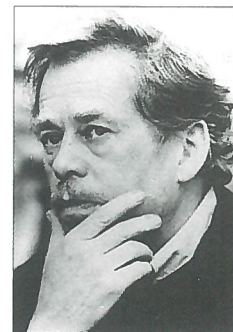


*The 1990 award winners and dignitaries, from l. to r.: Dr. Cornelis Boertien, Jonkheer Emile van Lennep, Olga Havlova (wife of Václav Havel), H.R.H. Princess Juliana, Jacques Delors, Simon Wiesenthal, and László Tökés. Below, Václav Havel*

will be recognized as a remarkable one, a year in which many things beyond ordinary expectations have been achieved. And each of the 1990 award winners is indeed of a generation of which much has been asked, and each of these persons has contributed outstandingly to the emergence of a new order in Europe and the world.

To begin with, this year's Award for Freedom of Speech was given in memory of those whose voices helped destroy the Iron Curtain. Andrei Sakharov, one of the bravest men of our time, is their symbol. A poem by Yevgeny Yevtushenko, dedicated to his memory, was read aloud by Adrian Brine.

This unique spirit is also epitomized by László Tökés, Bishop of the Reformed Church in Oradea, Romania, the recipient of the Freedom of Worship Medal, which was presented to him by Dr. Cornelis Boertien, Queen's Commissioner in the Province of Zeeland. Even as he was being praised by Ambassador vanden Heuvel as "a defender of the faith" against the draconian regime of



*continued on page 4*

Ceausescu, Mr. Tökés pricked our consciences. He admonished us that “the democratic and free countries cannot rest until every country in the world has fundamental rights and the freedom of worship.”



*Her Royal Highness Princess Juliana of the Netherlands with Simon Wiesenthal after the Four Freedoms Awards ceremony on May 19, 1990*

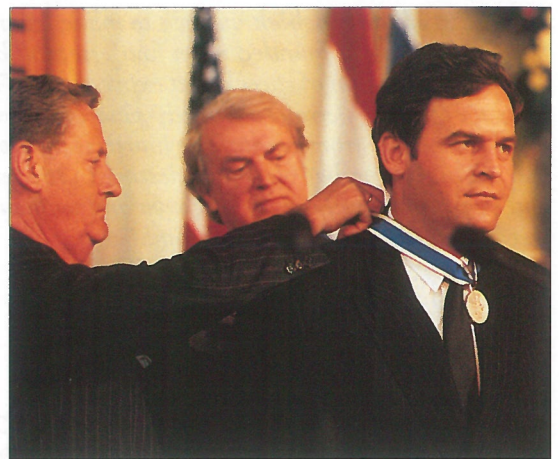
“It is the freedom from want of future generations which is at stake and for which the present generation carries a heavy responsibility,” stated Jonkheer Emile van Lennep, Secretary-General of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for 15 years from 1969 to 1984. In accepting the Freedom from Want Award from Schuyler G. Chapin and Former Ambassador Hugo Scheltema, Mr. van Lennep expressed his hope that as Eastern Europe opens up to new powerful ideas and spiritual values — “freedom of choice, of enterprise and of trade supported by freely chosen governments to support these freedoms and prevent their abuse” — that these countries will be welcomed as new members of the OECD family. In addition he implored the industrialized nations not to forget the “many hundreds of millions who lived and live in dire misery... in our own prosperous societies.”

Freedom from Fear, the fourth freedom mentioned by FDR, is, as further defined by Simon Wiesenthal, founder and head of the Jewish Documentation Center in Vienna, the freedom from “the generation of fear which is the most effective weapon of all dictatorships.” As he accepted the Freedom from Fear Award from the Mayor of Amsterdam, Ed van Thijn, Mr. Wiesenthal, who was imprisoned by the Nazis for more than four years and who with unrelenting dedication has brought some 1,100 war criminals to justice, emphasized the need to realize that “the Four Freedoms... are not a gift from the heavens; one must fight for them every day.”

#### **International Four Freedoms Medals**

The International Four Freedoms Medal was presented this year in Middelburg to two outstanding Europeans, one from the West and one from the East. Professor Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. and former Netherlands Ambassador to the United Nations Max van der Stoel presented the Medal to Václav Havel, President of Czechoslovakia, whose wife Olga Havlova accepted it on his behalf. Josef Lzicar, Havel’s spokesperson, thanked the world for the attention paid to Czechoslovakia on its way toward “a free Europe, to a just free world.”

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr. and Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers presented the second International Four Freedoms Medal to Jacques Delors, President of the Commission of the European Community, “in recognition of the resolute purpose he has shown in leading Europe to its




*Dr. Cornelis Boertien (l.) and William J. vanden Hewvel (center) presenting the Freedom of Worship Medal to László Tökés, Bishop of the Reformed Church in Oradea, Romania*



*Simon Wiesenthal (center) of the Jewish Documentation Center in Vienna receiving the Freedom from Fear Medal from Ed van Thijn, Mayor of Amsterdam (r.) and William J. vanden Hewvel.*

modern destiny.” Mr. Jacques Delors, in acknowledging this tribute, emphasized his commitment “to the strong support of the European Community for the success of the reform undertaken by the Eastern European countries.”

As befits a most unusual time, the culmination of the Four Freedoms Awards had an additional dimension this year. On June 1, 1990 in Washington, D.C. in a final ceremony at the Soviet Embassy, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev was awarded the Four Freedoms Medal (see following page).

In October 1991 the Four Freedoms Awards ceremony will be held in Hyde Park, New York. 



*The laureates on the podium in the 16th century Nieuwe Kerk in Middelburg*

## Four Freedoms Medal Awarded to Soviet President

As a climax to the historic presentation of the Four Freedoms Awards which took place in Middelburg, the Netherlands, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute honored Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev with the Four Freedoms Medal. The ceremony was held on June 1, 1990 at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C. for reasons of security and protocol.


By boldly introducing reforms in his country, Gorbachev has improved the chances for all nations to experience a better, peaceful future. As stated by Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, Gorbachev has helped bring the idealism of the Four Freedoms closer to being a reality in our own time and generation.

Professor Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. remarked that President Gorbachev "like Franklin Roosevelt during the Great Depression, [has] confronted a system in crisis and proposed [his] own New Deal under the names of *perestroika* and *glasnost*."

"Our bond with FDR's memory was forged in time of war," said President Gorbachev. "He helped all of us understand what the struggle was about and his courage, his vision, and his principles were sustained by the great victory that we won together. Today, in my



*Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev with Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C.*

country, in our own way, we are going through a development process that places before us the choice of whether we will move forward on a broad road of cultural progress and the development of human relations. If we fail, it will be terrible not only for us, but for Americans who carry forward the work of Franklin Roosevelt.... I would like to assure you that we in the Soviet Union are aware of our role and our responsibility in the world. Our people will stand tall.... We will make sure that our hopes as expressed in the concepts of *glasnost* and *perestroika* are fulfilled." 

# A Word About the Roosevelt Study Center

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Cornelis A. van Minnen  
*Executive Director*

The objectives of the Roosevelt Study Center are:

1. To provide European scholars and students of American history with research facilities, including direct access to source materials relating to the Roosevelt era in the Center's collection, and accessibility through finding aids, microform and computers to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, the Theodore Roosevelt Collection at Harvard University, as well as important collections in the Library of Congress and the National Archives in Washington, DC;
2. To provide audio-visual facilities for students and the general public on the United States in the twentieth century;
3. To cooperate with European schools and universities in the utilization of the Center's resources;
4. To offer a program of exhibits, lectures, conferences and publications related to the Roosevelt era and the contemporary meaning of the Four Freedoms.

The Roosevelt Study Center has been established by the Provincial Government of Zeeland, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute (Hyde Park, New York) and the Theodore Roosevelt Association (Oyster Bay, New York). The Roosevelt Study Center is administered by the Roosevelt Study Center for Europe Foundation. In developing its activities, the Center is supported by the Roosevelt Foundation, an advisory group of prominent American and European scholars, top government officials and representatives from the private sector.

## RSC Advisory Board of Scholars

Since the establishment of the Roosevelt Study Center much attention has been paid to building up a network of scholars both in the United States and in Europe. In order to advise the Director of the RSC with the acquisition of various historical collections of source materials on microfilm in books, and audio-visual documentaries, as well as with such activities as organizing conferences, seminars, exhibits, and so on, an advisory board of prominent historians and political scientists has been created.

The American members of the board are: Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., City University of New York; Leon Gordenker, Princeton University; Susan Ware, New York University; Frank Freidel, Harvard University; James MacGregor Burns, Williams College; William H. Harbaugh, University of

Virginia; William R. Emerson, Franklin D. Roosevelt Library; William E. Leuchtenburg, University of North Carolina; Geoffrey C. Ward, biographer of FDR; Edmund Morris, biographer of TR; Wallace F. Dailey, Curator, TR Collection, Harvard University; John A. Gable, Executive Director, Theodore Roosevelt Association; and John F. Sears, Executive Director, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute.

The European members are: David K. Adams, University of Keele, U.K.; Willi P. Adams, J. F. Kennedy Institute, Berlin, Germany; Claude Fohlen, Sorbonne, Paris, France; Detlef Junker, University of Heidelberg, Germany; and Maurizio Vaudagna, University of Torino, Italy. The Dutch scholars on this Board are Professors Rob Kroes, University of Amsterdam; Alfons Lammers, University of Leiden; and Peter R. Baehr, Universities of Leiden and Utrecht. In addition to their general advisory role to the RSC, the three Dutch board members also serve as special advisors to the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, specifically as regards research projects at the RSC. Since January 1, 1990, the RSC is affiliated with the Royal Netherlands Academy.

## RSC Board of Trustees


The Roosevelt Study Center Executive Committee has created a Board of Trustees for the RSC. The Board which will meet once or twice a year, is chaired by Mrs. N.J. Ginjaar-Maas, former State Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Science. In November 1990 the following distinguished Dutch citizens were also appointed to sit in the Board:

Mr. R.J. Hoekstra, Secretary General of the Ministry of General Affairs;

Mrs. G.W. van Montfrans-Hartman, Mayor of Katwijk;

Mr. J.N.M. Richelle, Director General Welfare of the Ministry of Welfare, Health, and Cultural Affairs;

Mr. A.A. Vermeulen, Senior Editor Foreign Affairs Television at the Netherlands Broadcasting Foundation NOS.

Companies and individuals wishing to contribute to the RSC are invited to contact Mrs. Cissy Fokker-Ort, Verdilaan 22, 4384 LE Vlissingen, the Netherlands, telephone 01184-65032 or 01180-31319. The names of contributors will be inscribed on the Center's Honor Roll. For information on the activities of the Center, please contact the Roosevelt Study Center, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands, telephone 01180-31590, fax 01180-38870. 

*Whether they liked him or not, every participant in world politics in the age of Roosevelt had to take into consideration FDR's reactions to their policies.*

# The Franklin D. Roosevelt Conference

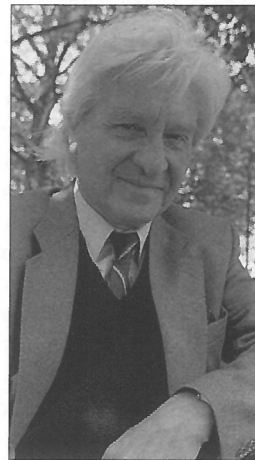
Almost 50 years to the day after the capitulation of the Dutch army to the Nazis, a group of distinguished scholars gathered at the RSC from May 16-18, 1990 for a conference entitled, "FDR as Seen by his European, Latin American and Asian Contemporaries." Forty historians and political scientists hailing from fifteen different countries shared their views on the relationships between FDR and his allies and enemies.

## Friends

While keynote speaker Professor Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. described FDR's development toward internationalism — a conviction which was influenced by Theodore Roosevelt's realism and Woodrow Wilson's idealism — other participants analyzed FDR's contact with Allied leaders, Churchill, De Gaulle, Stalin and Chiang Kai-shek. FDR's attitudes toward smaller countries such as Poland, the Netherlands, Scandinavian and Latin American countries were also examined. One of the highlights of the conference was the participation of Dr. Valentin Berezhev, Stalin's personal interpreter at Teheran and Yalta. His presence also drew significant public interest. He revealed Stalin to be an actor and a charmer, clearly concerned with how his looks would impress FDR. Berezhev also indicated that, although Roosevelt and Stalin did not entirely trust one another, they apparently did have a good working relationship.

## Foes

A second series of lectures on the foes of FDR was opened by Professor Detlef Junker of the University of Heidelberg. Professor Junker sought to reconstruct Hitler's perception of the United States and its President, chronicling how Hitler first chose to ignore the U.S. and only in 1937 began to realize that in fact the U.S. could be a potential enemy.




*Keynote speaker Professor Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. (left) and Dr. Valentin Berezhev (right), Stalin's and Molotov's former personal interpreter*

This lecture was followed by presentations on Mussolini, Franco, and Hirohito. Despite the lack of available and reliable resources on the Japanese emperor, Professor Akira Iriye from Harvard University was able to give some insight into Hirohito's attitudes.

In conclusion, Professor Leon Gordenker of Princeton University traced the legacy of FDR's internationalism through the post-war years.

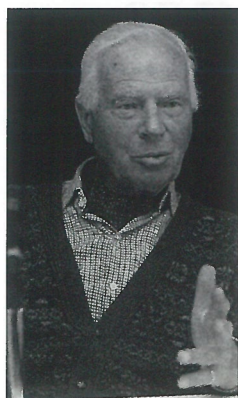
This three-day conference marked a unique moment in history because for the first time since the Second World War scholars from the East (Poland, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union) and the West were able to freely discuss in an open atmosphere the importance of FDR's policy, the ways in which his allies tried to influence him, and he them, the significance of Yalta and of the end of the Cold War. Because of the participation of formerly "closed" countries the conference provided a more balanced view on the multi-faceted Roosevelt and his impact on the entire world than was ever before possible.

Plans are underway for the papers from this major conference to be published by Harvard University Press. 



*Among the participants at the FDR Conference were (from l. to r.): RSC Director Cornelis A. van Minnen, Prof. Akira Iriye, Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, Prof. Ger van Roon, Dr. Valentin Berezhev, Professors Javier Tusell, Hsi-sheng Ch'i, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., Ivan Cizmic, Detlef Junker, David K. Adams, Lubomir W. Zyblikiewicz, Leon Gordenker, Claude Fohlen and Maurizio Vaudagna.*

# Hofstra University Dutch Studies Program




*Max Kohnstamm, former assistant to Jean Monnet, addressing Hofstra students*

From June 25 to July 28, 1990 the RSC was the site of a five-week Dutch Studies summer program co-organized with Hofstra University of Hempstead, Long Island, New York. Hofstra University was founded in 1935 and each spring holds a traditional Dutch Festival at its New York campus.

This year Hofstra decided to broaden its Dutch connection and set up an experimental program to be held in the Netherlands. The twenty-four students selected attended a course offered by Professor Douglas Brinkley on Dutch history. Professor Brinkley focused on seventeenth century paintings and Vincent van Gogh, as well as the Netherlands' role in NATO and the EEC. Professor Linda Longmire also offered a course on the political thought of Hugo Grotius.

Though based at the RSC, the summer program included field trips to Amsterdam, The Hague, Leiden, Utrecht, and Palace Het Loo in the province of Gelderland. In addition, several Dutch guest speakers addressed the students on a variety of subjects such as the Netherlands' political and educational systems, environmental policies and modern art, as well as the history of Middelburg, Zeeland. To everyone's edification, Mr. Max Kohnstamm, former assistant to Jean Monnet, Founding Father of the Common Market, gave an eye-witness report on the early days of the EEC and his views on current developments.

At a special visit to the Netherlands States-General in The Hague, Mr. J.G. de Hoop Scheffer, MP, and Mrs. G.W. van Montfrans-Hartman, Vice Chairperson of the Christian Democratic Party, offered an excellent overview of the ins and outs of contemporary Dutch politics. The Hofstra group was also the guest of Dow Benelux N.V. in Terneuzen, Zeeland, where they were greeted by Mr. Robert L. Walzel, Manufacturing General Manager, and enjoyed a tour of the plant followed by barbecue. 

*Hofstra University students visit the permanent exhibition on the three Roosevelts at the RSC. Right, Professors Linda Longmire and Douglas Brinkley*



## The Dutch Open University: Summer School America


Since 1988 the Dutch Open University and the RSC have organized a summer program for students of the Open University. The object of this program is to teach students how to use historical documents on microfilm, in literature, in film archives and in reference works.

During this six-day seminar — which was held this year from September 3-8 — two themes were dealt with:

- the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt, and
- European perceptions of the United States in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Students were able to utilize the extensive Theodore Roosevelt Collection at the RSC for researching the first theme, and the Zeeland Library was available for information on the second theme.

An evening program, which was open to the public, included the film "The Indomitable Theodore Roosevelt," an excellent documentary which gives insight into TR's life and career.

In addition to the film, there were two guest lecturers: Dr. Nico A. Bootsma (emeritus of the University of Nijmegen) who spoke about TR's foreign policy, and Dr. Pieter R.D. Stokvis (Open University), who lectured on the American perception of the Netherlands in the nineteenth century as reflected in travel accounts. Under the guidance of four tutors, twenty-four students, ranging in age from 30 to 60 and coming from all parts of the Netherlands, registered for the summer program. Based on this seminar, students are required to select one of the two themes and write a paper for which they will receive university credits. 



Since 1987 the Lawrence J. Saunders Awards have been presented annually by the Roosevelt Study Center for the most outstanding essays on American history written by Dutch university students.

## The 1989 Lawrence J. Saunders Awards

On October 26, 1989 the third annual Lawrence J. Saunders Awards ceremony took place at the Roosevelt Study Center. A jury of three eminent Dutch historians, specialists in American history, were asked to evaluate the essays submitted by Dutch university students. Professor Rob Kroes (University of Amsterdam), Professor Alfons Lammers (University of Leiden), and Dr. Maarten van Rossem (University of Utrecht) judged the five essays on U.S. history as follows:

*1st prize:* Martinus Pennings, "Norman Podhoretz, American Neo- Conservative";

*2nd prize:* Pietheijn Burmanje, "The Dutch Calvinist Press and the Social-religious Development of Dutch Immigrants in the U.S., 1850-1855";

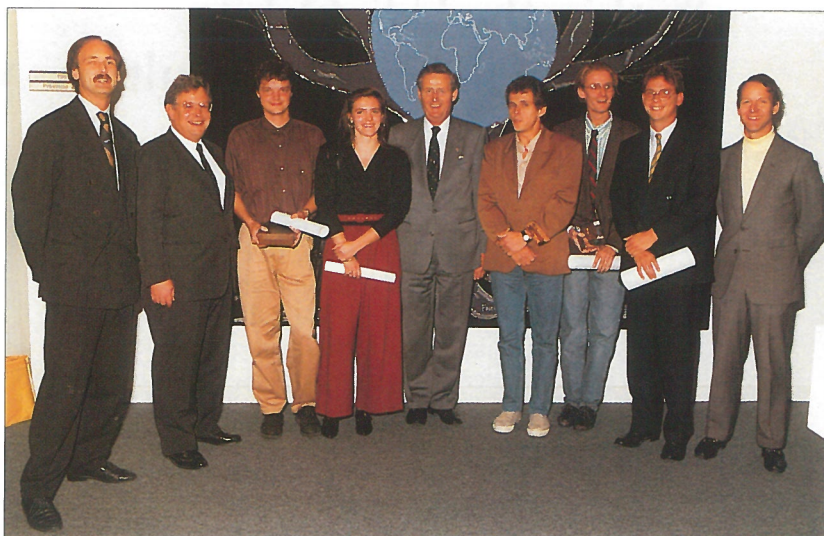
*3rd prize:* Bas de Vries, "Andrew Young's Role in President Carter's Foreign Policy";

*4th prize:* Els van der Leeuw, "A Magna Charta for All Men Everywhere. Eleanor Roosevelt and the United Nations, 1945-1952";

*5th prize:* Diederick Kraaijeveld, "I.F. Stone, Gadfly of the American Press".

Replicas of Theodore Roosevelt's 1905 Inaugural Medal were presented to the award winners (graduates of the Universities of Amsterdam and Leiden) by Theodore Roosevelt IV, the great-grandson of President TR, and Steven R. Saunders, former Assistant U.S. Trade Representative and member of the Executive Committee of the Theodore Roosevelt Association. Mr. Saunders established this awards program in memory of his father, Lawrence J. Saunders (1917-1981), who was a frequent visitor to the Netherlands and held a deep affection for the Dutch people.

Among those in attendance at the awards ceremony were Dr. Cornelis Boertien, Queen's Commissioner in the Province of Zeeland, and a delegation from the Theodore Roosevelt Association consisting of forty people from thirteen American states.




*The 1989 award winners with Queen's Commissioner in the Province of Zeeland Dr. Boertien (center), Theodore Roosevelt IV (right) and at the left RSC Director Cornelis van Minnen and Steven R. Saunders*

### Theodore Roosevelt Association in the Netherlands

In honor of their 70th Annual Meeting and Dinner and in commemoration of Theodore Roosevelt's 131st birthday, a delegation from the Theodore Roosevelt Association visited the Netherlands from October 25-29, 1989. This was the first time that the association celebrated these events at a venue outside of the United States.

The meeting and dinner took place in the picturesque Town Hall of Veere in Zeeland. TRA Executive Director Dr. John A. Gable took the opportunity to present to RSC Director Cornelis A. van Minnen an eighteenth century Dutch Bible which had belonged to the Roosevelt family in America for several generations. This historic Bible is a valuable addition to the Roosevelt Study Center collection.

Among the highlights of the TRA tour of the Netherlands were the welcome dinner in Amsterdam attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Christina and her husband Mr. Jorge Guillermo and a visit to the cradle of the Roosevelt family in Oud-Vossemeer, Zeeland. 

*Steven R. Saunders (r.) and Theodore Roosevelt IV at the Saunders Awards ceremony*


*A three-day conference organized by the Netherlands American Studies Association (NASA) and the Belgian-Luxembourg American Studies Association (BLASA) with the Association for Canadian Studies in the Netherlands was held from June 6-8, 1990 at the RSC.*

## Within the U.S. Orbit: Four Small National Cultures vis-a-vis the United States

This three-day conference examining the American influence on various smaller countries was opened by Ron Clifton, the U.S. Cultural Attache in London. Mr. Clifton expressed his opinion that the United States has become a cultural influence despite itself. Unlike economic influence which can be hindered by trade barriers, cultural penetration is difficult to block. A clear example is the decline of Canadian television which is unable to compete with cheaper American productions.

In four sessions the American influence on Belgium, Canada, Denmark and the Netherlands, as well as a presentation by a Hungarian scholar about his home country, were discussed. Plenary sessions dealt with

literature, language, law, education, media, the reception of the 1920s and American movies. Although the United States still remains a model for many countries, the possibility of cultural influence depends on the existence of cultural concepts similar to the American symbols, like "Main Street". As the world grows more homogeneous, it is likely that American culture will be adopted to an even greater extent, providing of course that the American symbols remain attractive.

Some 50 scholars from the above-mentioned countries attended the conference, and the publication of the papers presented is being prepared by the Netherlands American Studies Association. 

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*The newly established Four Freedoms Foundation in the Netherlands, in cooperation with the RSC, organized a three-day conference on the "New Europe" from September 24-26, 1990.*


## Future European Architecture: A Common European House?

Fourteen distinguished speakers from a variety of international organizations, including NATO, WEU, OECD, Council of Europe, EFTA, European Parliament and the

Commission of the European Community, as well as the U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands and scholars from Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union gave their views on the "New Europe" at a conference entitled "The Future European Architecture: A Common European House?". The subjects under discussion ranged from economic cooperation, and defense and security matters to human rights. More than 60 persons, primarily students from the Netherlands, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Hungary, Sweden, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Israel and the United States attended this event.

*Secretary General of the Western European Union, Dr. Willem F. van Eekelen speaking on "a common European house."*



The newly created Foundation hopes to interest young people in using the "Four Freedoms" as a basis for creating democracies everywhere. Throughout Europe similar organizations are being established with the aim to provide a platform for a Pan-European dialogue. The RSC hopes to become the venue of these European Four Freedoms organizations. 

# Just Published



On April 4, 1990 at the Peace Palace, the Honorable J. M. Ruda (left), President of the International Court of Justice, was presented with the first copy of the RSC's new publication, *Human Rights in a Pluralist World*, by its editor-in-chief, Professor Jan Berting (right).

## **Human Rights in a Pluralist World. Individuals and Collectivities**

Professor Jan Berting, Editor-in-Chief

To mark the fortieth anniversary of the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" in 1988, the Netherlands Commission for UNESCO in cooperation with the Roosevelt Study Center organized a conference on human rights, both as individual rights and rights of collectivities such as states and peoples. Participating at this conference were some fifty experts from all over the world with practical experience in the domain of human rights. Their expertise included a wide range of disciplines such as constitutional and international law, philosophy, sociology and political science.

The proceedings of the conference have been published as the tenth volume in the Roosevelt Study Center Publications series. The book (280 pages, hardcover) analyzes the perception of human rights within different cultural, religious and socio-economic systems. Director General of UNESCO Federico Mayor writes in the foreword that "this highly informative compendium of views concerns a topic that is as controversial as it is central to contemporary political preoccupations."

## **The Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards 1990**

Contained in this eleventh volume in the RSC Publications series are the speeches delivered at the Four Freedoms Awards ceremony in Middelburg on May 19, 1990, by Cornelis Boertien, William J. vanden Heuvel, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., László Tökés, Emile van Lennep, Simon Wiesenthal, Jacques Delors, and Václav Havel.

# A Look Ahead

*Upcoming events at the RSC in 1991*

## **Dutch students of American history visit the RSC and attend the 1990-1991 Lawrence J. Saunders Awards ceremony, February 22**

Students of American history from six Dutch universities will visit the RSC for a day-long program which includes viewing film documentaries, and receiving information about available source materials and suggestions for research projects. They will also attend the Saunders Awards ceremony, at which prizes are presented for outstanding essays on American history written by Dutch university students.

## **NASA Conference on Multiculturalism and the Canon of American Culture, June 5-7**

For the third year in a row the RSC will host the annual conference of the Netherlands American Studies Association (NASA). The 1991 conference will explore the tensions between various sub-cultures and the cultural mainstream in the United States as exemplified in intellectual debates, politics, legislation, college curricula as well as in literary self-exploration in recent American writing by members of cultural minorities.

## **Hofstra University Dutch Studies Program, June 18-July 20**

Given the success of the summer 1990 Hofstra University program at the RSC (see page 8), a similar Dutch Studies Program has been scheduled for the summer of 1991.

## **Exhibit on Black America in the 1930s, June-July**

In cooperation with the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York City, the RSC is preparing a photo exhibit about African Americans during the era of the Great Depression and Roosevelt's New Deal. The photographs taken by James Van Der Zee and Prentice Herman Polk depict scenes of daily life in rural and urban settings, group portraits, as well as significant historical moments and personalities.

## **Summer School America, September**

Since 1988 the Dutch Open University and the RSC have organized annually a six-day seminar on American history and the European perceptions of the United States for Open University students (see page 8). This event will again take place in 1991.

## **Geri Joseph Lecture, November**

The RSC, in cooperation with the Geri Joseph Foundation of Minneapolis, Minnesota and the United States Embassy in The Hague have tentatively invited former Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole, U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills and Supreme Court Justice Sandra O'Connor to deliver the 1991 Joseph Lecture at the Peace Palace. The Joseph Lecture Series, named after former U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands Geri Joseph, was started in the early 1980s. Henry Kissinger and Vernon E. Jordan were the first speakers. In 1989 Max M. Kampelman, Ambassador and Head of the U.S. Delegation to the negotiations on Nuclear and Space Arms in Geneva, 1985-1989 spoke at the Peace Palace.

## The Immigrant Letter Project

Letters written to family and friends are an invaluable source of understanding immigrant life. Such correspondence often reveals the struggles and triumphs of assimilation, the thoughts of pioneers, the living conditions in the settlements and so on. For that reason the RSC is involved in a nationwide campaign to collect letters written by Dutch immigrants to the United States and Canada. Via a multitude of media — radio, newspapers, historical journals, genealogical societies — the RSC is stimulating the people of Zeeland to send us photocopies of such correspondence. Dr. Herbert J. Brinks of Calvin College,

Michigan, is supervising the project and preparing this collection for researchers.

### *To be Published*

#### **Franklin D. Roosevelt as Seen by his European, Latin American and Asian Contemporaries**

This book records the proceedings of a most stimulating conference on "FDR as Seen by his Contemporaries," which took place at the RSC in May 1990.

## Roosevelt Study Center Publications

The Roosevelt Study Center has published in its series "Roosevelt Study Center Publications" (edited by Cornelis A. van Minnen) the following volumes:

#### *No.1 The Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards 1984*

Speeches delivered on the occasion of the presentation of the Four Freedoms Awards in Middelburg on June 23, 1984 (Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., William J. vanden Heuvel, et al.). Middelburg, 1985. dfl 14.75

#### *No.2 FDR's Place in Past and Present: An Evaluation Forty Years After his Death*

Lectures delivered in Middelburg on April 12, 1985, by J.W. Schulte Nordholt and Leon Gordenker. Middelburg, 1986. dfl 11.75

#### *No.3 The Many-sided Theodore Roosevelt: American Renaissance Man*

A lecture delivered in Middelburg on December 3, 1985, by John A. Gable. Middelburg, 1986. dfl 9.75

#### *No.4 The Roosevelts: Nationalism, Democracy and Internationalism*

Lectures delivered by David K. Adams, Carl-Ludwig Holtfrerich, Edmund Morris, and Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. on the occasion of the inauguration of the Roosevelt Study Center on September 19, 1986. Middelburg, 1987. dfl 32.50

#### *No.5 The Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards 1986*

Speeches delivered on the occasion of the presentation of the Four Freedoms Awards in Middelburg on September 20, 1986 (Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., William J. vanden Heuvel, et al.). Middelburg, 1987. dfl 14.75

#### *No.6 A Bouquet from the Netherlands*

Liber amicorum presented to Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. on the occasion of his seventieth birthday (contributions by Rob Kroes, Alfons Lammers, Cornelis A. van Minnen, J.W. Schulte Nordholt). Middelburg, 1987. dfl 32.50

#### *No.7 The Decolonization of Indonesia. International Perspectives*

Lectures delivered at the Roosevelt Study Center on September 2, 1987, by Pieter J. Drooglever, Leon Gordenker, Joop J.P. de Jong, and Soedjatmoko. Middelburg, 1988. dfl 29.50

#### *No.8 The Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards 1988*

Speeches delivered on the occasion of the presentation of the Four Freedoms Awards in Middelburg on June 4, 1988 (Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., William J. vanden Heuvel, et al.). Middelburg, 1989. dfl 14.75

#### *No.9 The European Democratic Left and the Atlantic Alliance*

(Co-edited with Rio D. Praaning). Proceedings of an international conference held in Middelburg on June 24 and 25, 1988, attended by politicians and researchers from Western Europe and North America. Middelburg, 1989. dfl 19.50

#### *No.10 Human Rights in a Pluralist World. Individuals and Collectivities*

(Co-edited with Jan Berting, Peter R. Baehr, et al.) Proceedings of an international conference on human rights held at the Roosevelt Study Center on June 1-3, 1988, sponsored by UNESCO, the Netherlands Commission for UNESCO and the Roosevelt Study Center. Published by Meckler (Westport, Connecticut / London, 1990) dfl 59.95

#### *No.11 The Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards 1990*

Speeches delivered on the occasion of the presentation of the Four Freedoms Awards in Middelburg on May 19, 1990 (Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., William J. vanden Heuvel, et al.) Middelburg, 1990. dfl 14.75

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All prices include postage and handling.

The Roosevelt Review has been sponsored by a grant from Dow Benelux N.V.



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