A Global New Deal

Lessons from FDR’s UN Projects

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“Our tragedy is that we face a looming twenty-first century crisis having forgotten and rejected the lessons learned at such cost in the twentieth’
FDR’s Global New Deal:

**UN 42-45**

1942 anti-Hitler alliance adopts formal title of United Nations
1943-48 UNWCC War Crimes prep for trials
1943 UNICFA (UNFAO) Starvation Prevention 1943
1943 UNRRA Relief and Development $4 Billion 44-48
1944 UNMFC Finance: Bretton Woods- IMF/WB- “full employment”
1945 UNO Security – UNSC, GA, World Court, recognises continuity to 42
1947 Havana Convention Free Trade- rights to the receivers of investment, regulation of finances
Declaration by United Nations January 1st 1942

...defend life, liberty, independence and religious freedom, and to preserve human rights and justice 26 States
1. their countries seek no aggrandizement
2. they desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned
3. the right of all peoples to choose the form of government
4. access, on equal terms, to the trade and to the raw materials of the world
5. improved labor standards, economic advancement, social security
6. freedom from fear and want
7. traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance;
8. all of the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons must come to the abandonment of the use of force…practicable measures which will lighten the crushing burden of armaments.

FDR and Churchill
“This act of military surrender is without prejudice to, and will be superseded by any general instrument of surrender imposed by, or on behalf of the United Nations and applicable to Germany and the German armed forces as a whole”. Surrender document

“The forces of Germany have surrendered to the United Nations” President Truman’s VE Day radio broadcast
June 14th 1942: The First United Nations Day
Honor Allies on United Nations Day

On Tuesday at 1 o'clock a large crowd of Walker County officials, Walker County citizens, W. P. A. officials and a few Cullman County officials and citizens gathered at the site of the old Parker Ferry at the Cullman-Walker County line to formally dedicate the large concrete and steel bridge recently completed through the cooperative efforts of the Walker County Commission and W. P. A.

The Parker Ferry bridge is the connecting link between Cullman and Walker counties on the Cullman-Jasper Highway. This 900 ft. bridge was built by Walker County and W. P. A. at a cost of about $168,000. The work on the bridge was started in August 1940 and was opened for traffic about Jan. 1, 1942. Cullman County did not contribute to the cost of the bridge. Walker County has had their road from Jasper to the bridge completed for several years. Cullman County has only recently un...
ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE

The United Nations Information Board has operated under that name, as one of the first United Nations organizations, since November, 1942; it grew out of an organization called the Inter-Allied Information Committee, which was created early in September, 1940. Membership of the Board is open to all United Nations and certain associated authorities; at present nineteen such nations and authorities finance and participate in its activities. Associated with the United Nations Information Board in New York is a parallel organization in London.

The purpose of the Board, and the international staff of the United Nations Information Office controlled by the Board, may be defined as follows:
THE UNITED NATIONS FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

UNITED STATES
GREAT BRITAIN
SOVIET RUSSIA
CHINA
AUSTRALIA
BELGIUM
BRAZIL
CANADA
AUSTRALIA
BELGIUM
BRAZIL
CANADA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
EL SALVADOR
ETHIOPIA
GREECE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
INDIA
LUXEMBOURG
MEXICO
NETHERLANDS
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
PANAMA
PHILIPPINES
POLAND
SOUTH AFRICA
YUGOSLAVIA
Preventing Starvation

Interim United Nations Food and Agriculture Commission 1943

A realist humanisation of security rather than a securitisation of humanitarianism

Food conference first wartime UN conference for post-war world

Designed to build public support for financial and security conferences
1942 United Nations condemn massacres of Jews in Poland.

1943 UNWCC created - leads to Nuremberg.
Reconstruction UNRRA 43-49

1% of GDP from 44 states: Disease control, Locomotives, fuel, famine relief, industrial and agricultural divisions

UNRRA
1943-1949

$4 Bn

International Staff

Soviet proposal 42

Truman shuts UNRRA in favour of Marshall Plan
Global Economic Regulation vital to conflict prevention

1944 - Group of 44 states
Correct trade imbalance
Regulate exchange rates
IMF investment/reconstruction
Regulation of financial system

2010 - 190 states
UNSC should regulate finance and corporate activity - building on terrorism and proliferation legislation
Security

UNCIO-1945 San Francisco
Apotheosis of the wartime UN
FDR seeks pre-delegated war powers from Congress

UN Reform 2010?
States allocate standby forces to Sec Gen
UNRRA style 1% GDP boost to aid

Globalise Representative Democracy: Put UN and other international reps on national ballots.
Conclusion

- UN system is realist necessity, not liberal accessory

- Financial Regulation and Free Trade in a regulated framework with Labour rights and social security was regarded as national and international security objectives

- It was effective in war and in peace despite the strains of Cold War
Research Agenda

- A book in progress - *America, Hitler and the UN*
- Importance of the Chatham House archives
- Re-evaluate strategic culture and role of FDR
- Test current architecture against WUN
- Re-assess assumptions in academic IR and international history
- Re-evaluate WW2 Military History - lend-lease

USS Franklin & Eleanor Roosevelt
DDG 80